

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY

Address: Arthur Highway Dunalley 7177		UPI: 2900514	PID: 5956976
Name: DUNALLEY HALL			
Feature Type:	Structure Type: Hall	Site Feature Type: Mature trees Tennis Court	Dating: 1891-1915 1898
			Access Restrictions: Restricted
			Inspection date: October 1996 P Davies
			Style: Federation
			Grid ref: 5625 566200 5251150
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Theme: Community organisations	
Material: Timber siding Corrugated iron	Listings:		
Condition: Fair Deteriorated			
Integrity: Altered, extended unsympathetically			
National Estate Criteria:	Photograph Index: 7:15-19		
Risk: Excavation: ☐ Development: ☐ Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐			
SITE DESCRIPTION: A building constructed in at least four distinct stages located adjacent to tennis courts and an open area with a number of major tree plantings. The first building appears to be a small hall built at right angles to the rest of the buildings, on a stone base with timber siding, decorated barge boards and of small scale. Windows have been altered and buildings constructed on either side. The building has a brick chimney on a stone base and had a shingled roof. The second stage appears to be the rear building which would have been a separate building with an end door also built on a stone base. The fireplace has been added during the 1940-50 period and the interior has pine panelling. This wing is connected to the first building with a flat roofed connection. It was built around 1902 as a library for use of workers building the canal and was located behind the school. It was later moved to the present site. The third stage is the wing to the Arthur Highway, built in two stages, the building supported on piers. A small addition was added to the Arthur Highway end and used as a storeroom. A recent addition has been added to the east facing the tennis courts with a skillion roof of ordinary and non-matching construction. This wing appears to the workers hall also moved to the site.			
HISTORY: Erected in 1898, the hall was 'a very roomy one, considering the population of the district.' The plan was drawn by Mr Greenlaw of Fulham and erected by 'Messrs Hyatt, Clark, Scrimger, and one or two others'. At its opening the celebrations lasted the night through and donations raised money for furnishings. It quickly became the centre of community activity and events. A smaller hall, erected as a recreation venue for workers engaged to excavate the Denison Canal, was moved to the rear of the existing building after the canal was completed. For a brief period this hall served as the local post office. Shortly afterwards the former district library was relocated from near the school, also to abut the existing hall. This building continued to be known as the 'library' for many years. Photographs dated to 1906 show all three buildings adjoining each other and capped with shingled roofs.			
BOUNDARY: The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property and is part of the Dunalley Fish Cannery conservation precinct.			

COMMENTS:

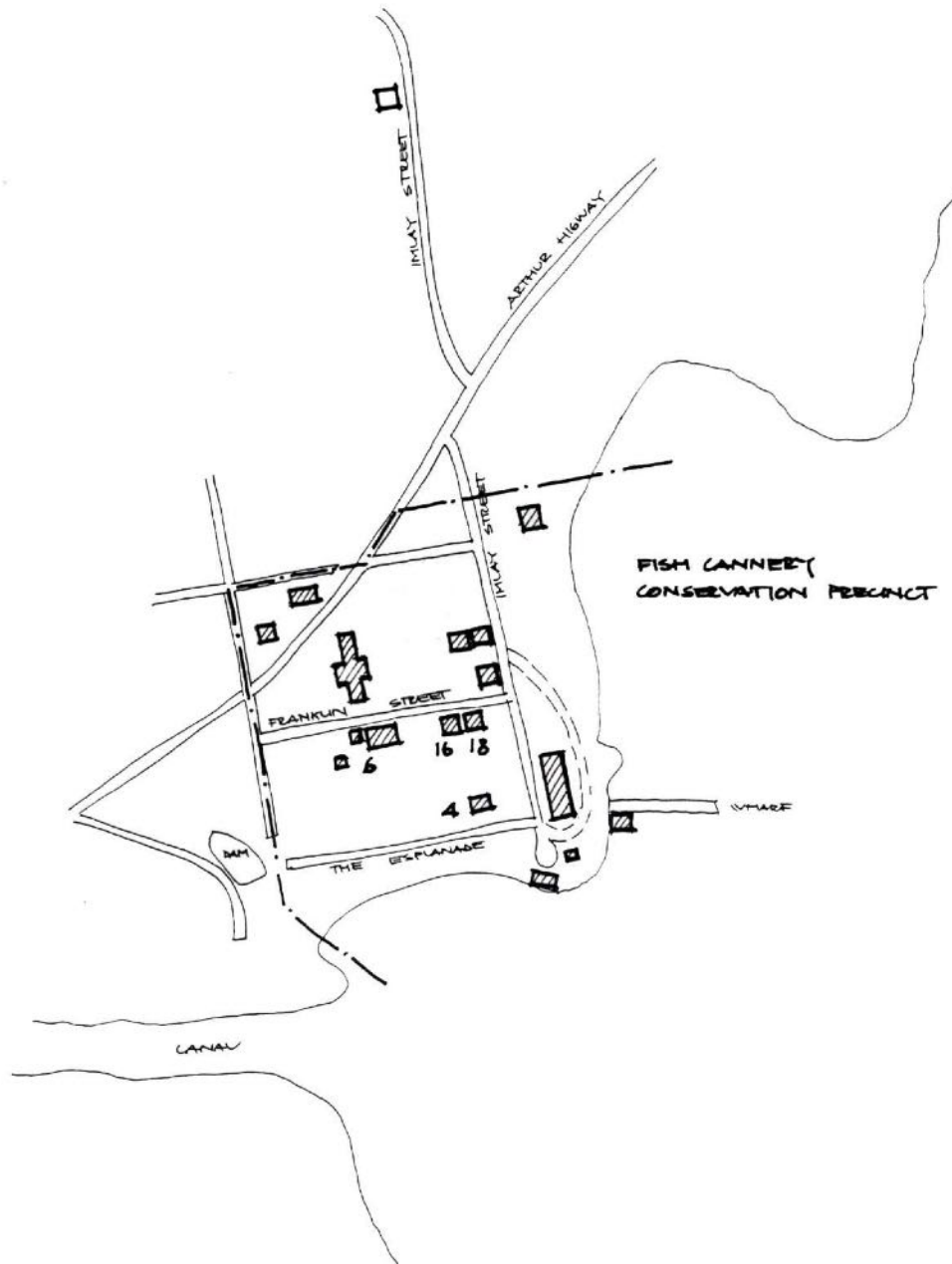
The hall demonstrates the growth in the community around the turn of the century and the early years of this century and the focus on community activity, particularly related to the intense period of construction of the canal and the initial growth that it brought to the community. The buildings demonstrate the ability to move buildings and to adapt them for ongoing use.

It should be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PREVIOUS STUDIES:

Nellie Rattenbury oral information
Sorell Historic Society files
Sorell Municipal Council photographic collection
Tasmanian Mail 30 April 1898, p30

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