



Nomination for Heritage Award Saved from a Bin

Adelaide



TRASH OR TREASURE: Sidney and Leigh Jacobs in the "man cave" where the drawings, inset, were kept.

Picture: JAKE NOWAKOWSKI

The Advertiser reported on 17 June 2019 that "Rare architectural drawings of South Australia's Parliament House have been found in Melbourne and are being painstakingly restored". This find was the result of Melbourne retiree Sidney Jacobs looking through hard rubbish in 2011 which had been dumped on a nature strip in Port Melbourne. He found two metal canisters containing the drawings, which were probably from the 1930s. He bequeathed them to the SA Parliament Research Library and paper conservator Anthony Zammit is considering the next steps.

Their presence in the hard rubbish may have coincided with the privatisation of the South Australian Department of Housing and Construction in the 1990s, when a large number of drawings and other historic material were disposed of. This was much to the despair of staff in the Department, some of whom had saved, through various methods, precious drawing that they were able to rescue.