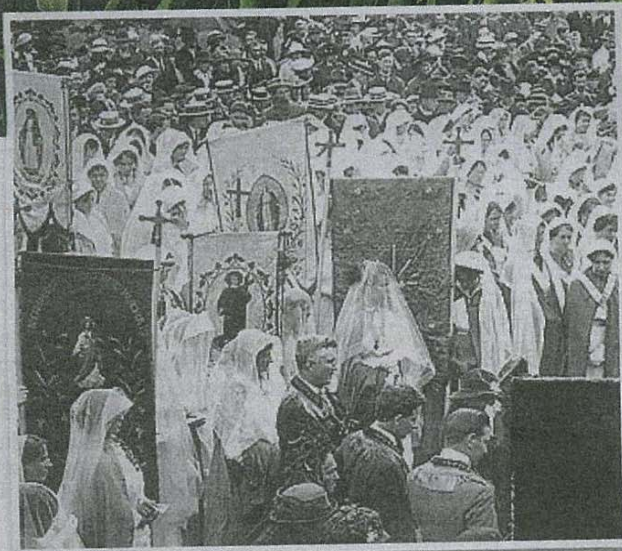


A little piece of heaven goes on the market




HOLY GROUND: Real estate agent Steve Smith at the Carmelite nunnery and, below, Carmelite nuns at a religious procession at Glen Osmond, circa 1920.

Picture: TAIT SCHMAAL

SARAH MARTIN

A HEAVENLY piece of Adelaide's history, the Carmelite Nunnery in Myrtle Bank, is for sale for the first time in its 113-year history.

The nunnery, on the corner of Glen Osmond and Cross roads at the bottom of the South Eastern Freeway, was built in 1896 for one of Adelaide's first Archbishops. In 1935, seven Sisters from the Carmelite Monastery in Victoria ar-

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rived at the property, bringing their tradition of contemplative life. The Adelaide Carmelites recently left for smaller premises.

"They (the nuns) used to live off the land there and grow their own produce, but now they don't need so

much space and have decided to move on," Leedwell Property selling agent Steve Smith said.

The Myrtle Bank Nunnery is home to nuns of the Discalced, or barefoot, Carmelite order who are part of the Catholic church and have their beginnings in 16th century Spain.

The nuns said through a spokeswoman: "The property is so central and yet so secluded. It has been

sacred to us for over 70 years and has been a place of tranquility for many who have visited during that time. We feel sure that this land, with its peace and charm, will continue to be a gift for its new owners."

Offers of more than \$8.5 million are expected.

"Such a large parcel of residentially zoned land is an incredibly unique offering in the leafy Eastern suburbs," Mr Smith said.