



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

## 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November, 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE

*Cue Public Buildings* is significant as a fine example of group of buildings designed in the Federation Arts and Crafts style by the Architectural Division of the Department of Public Works, under the direction of George T. Poole. (Criteria 1.1, 1.2)

*Cue Public Buildings* is significant for their landmark quality in the main street of the town of Cue. They provide a strong visual statement at the northern entry to the town and give a sense of closure to the Austin Street streetscape. (Criteria 1.3, 1.4)

### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Cue Public Buildings* is of historic significance for its role in providing Government public services, including postal and telegraphic, mining registration and police services to the Murchison region of Western Australia. (Criterion 2.1)

*Cue Public Buildings* is of historic significance for its association with the development of the Murchison Goldfields in the period of rapid expansion during the West Australian gold rush of the 1890s and early 1900s. (Criterion 2.1)

*Cue Public Buildings* has a close association with prominent Government Architect George T. Poole and local architect Alfred Edward Cox. (Criterion 2.3)

### 11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

*Cue Public Buildings* has the potential to yield information contributing to a greater understanding of the history of human occupation of the Murchison area, during and after the gold rush period. (Criterion 3.2)

### 11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

*Cue Public Buildings* is highly valued by the community for its continuous function as the administrative centre for the Murchison region. (Criterion 4.2)

*Cue Public Buildings*, a well known reference point in the town of Cue since the 1890s, contributes to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12. 1. RARITY**

*Cue Public Buildings* is a fine, intact example of a group of public buildings constructed to service the Murchison Goldfields area. The design of *Cue Public Buildings* is similar to the public buildings in Coolgardie and Marble Bar, but each building is distinguished by the use of available local building materials. (Criterion 5.1)

*Cue Public Buildings* represent the once vibrant centre of the Murchison Goldfields. (Criterion 5.2)

### **12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Cue Public Buildings* is a representative example of the Federation Arts and Crafts style of architecture, prevalent throughout Australia in the 1890s. (Criterion 6.1)

*Cue Public Buildings* is representative of public buildings designed by George T. Poole, and built by the Western Australian Public Works Department in the 1890s. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12. 3 CONDITION**

The condition of *Cue Public Buildings* is generally good, however, there are a problems relating to rising damp and inundation of moisture. The required works include the replacement of roof sheeting and guttering, and installation of adequate drainage around the building.

Detailed considerations of condition may be found in the Conservation Plan by Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

### **12. 4 INTEGRITY**

The level of integrity in *Cue Public Buildings* is very high due to the continuing occupation and use of the buildings providing police and post office services. The integrity is increased by the continuous use of the two residential buildings for residential purposes.

For discussion of integrity of the place, refer to the Heritage and Conservation and Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

### **12. 5 AUTHENTICITY**

Few alterations have ensured a high level of authenticity to *Cue Public Buildings*. Additions that have been made are largely of framed construction and have not interfered greatly with the original fabric of the buildings.

For discussion of authenticity of the place, refer to the Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

Attached are key sections of the supporting evidence prepared by Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For detailed discussion of the documentary evidence, refer the Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

#### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For detailed discussion of the physical evidence, refer the Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).

#### **13.3 REFERENCES**

Heritage and Conservation Professionals, 'Conservation Plan, Cue Public Buildings' (prepared for the Building Management Authority, December 1995).