



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.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 7.5.4 Policing Australia
- 4.1.2 Making suburbs

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 403 Law & order

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

The Police Station and Residence is a fine example of a limestone and timber cottage, which utilises elements of the Federation Arts & Crafts style, and is surrounded by an 'English' style cottage garden. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is representative of the development of the Western Australian Police Force at the end of the 19th century, as a response to the increase in population during the gold rush period, and the suburbanisation of Perth. (Criterion 2.1)

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is associated with the development of Claremont and Cottesloe, representing the need to establish a permanent base for police operations in this district. (Criterion 2.1)

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables was the first police station built in the Cottesloe area and operated as a police station from 1896 to 1956. (Criterion 2.2)

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables was designed by the Public Works Department during the period that George Temple Poole was Principal Architect, and William Hardwick was a draughtsman, and represents a fine example of Poole's work. (Criterion 2.3)

11.3 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is likely to contain archaeological deposits in sub-floor spaces, and within its surrounds, that have the potential to contribute important information about policing in Western Australia during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and the lives of serving Police Officer's and their families. (Criterion 3.2)

The form of the structural elements and their layout at *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* has the potential to provide important information about the organisation of policing in Western Australia, particularly during the late nineteenth century (Criterion 3.2)

11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables has been valued for its contribution to the character of the area since the 1930s and, as a result, contributes to the local and wider communities' sense of place. (Criterion 4.1 & 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1. RARITY

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is rare as an intact two storey metropolitan Police Station/Residence with adjacent Lock-up and Stables constructed during the 1890s. (Criterion 5.2)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The Police Station and Residence portion of *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* is representative of the nineteenth century practice of situating the Police Residence within the Police Station itself. (Criterion 6.2)

The Lock-up and Stables portion of *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* is representative of the standard design for such elements by the Public Works Department during this period. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

The condition of both Claremont Police Station and Residence, and Claremont Lock-up & Stables is good. Both buildings are inhabited and have been well maintained.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Claremont Police Station displays a moderate degree of integrity. The place is now a private residence, which is compatible with its original use of policeman's residence, although it is no longer used as a Police Station.

Claremont Lock-up & Stables has a low level of integrity. The place is no longer used for its original purpose of incarceration and stabling of horses, but the form of the original building is readily apparent.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Claremont Police Station displays a high degree of authenticity. The most substantial change is the extension and enclosure of the rear verandah to form a kitchen. The fireplace and external door of the office have been modified and an archway introduced. Other minor changes include the dormer window in the former tank room, and bathrooms have been updated.

Claremont Lock-up & Stables displays a moderate degree of authenticity. The original floor plan and external form of the building are legible and most rooms retain their original fabric. The modification of the building to create a dwelling has resulted in the loss of the original toilets, stables and tack room and the large extension on the south east corner has diminished the modest scale of the original building.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Lynne Farrow, Heritage Architect, and Eddie Marcus, Historian, in June/July 2013, with amendments and/or additions by the State Heritage Office and the Register Committee.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Before 1864 the land route between Perth and Fremantle was a sandy track reliant on a river crossing by horse barge at Minim Cove. The track then came past the Half Way House – near the site of the present Albion Hotel in Cottesloe – and from there through the present-day Karrakatta Cemetery and Kings Park to Perth.¹

In 1864 construction started on the first Fremantle traffic bridge and the Perth–Fremantle track was upgraded and re-routed so that it more closely followed the present line of Curtin Avenue.² In 1872 the road was declared a highway and in 1881 the Perth–Fremantle railway was opened.³

From the late 1870s some portions of land along the oceanfront were reserved for public use to cater for the area's growing appeal as a holiday destination. However, little permanent settlement occurred, with the few buildings constructed being temporary rental accommodation to service visitors.⁴

Cottesloe was officially named in 1886 when the land was subdivided. The name was taken from the title of Thomas Fremantle, '1st Baron Cottesloe, of Swanbourne and Hardwick', who was Chief Secretary of Ireland in the mid-19th century. Prior to subdivision, Cottesloe was a vacant tract of Crown land between Perth and Fremantle containing a few homesteads and some industries, such as stone quarrying and lime and coal burning.⁵

The opening of the railway line in 1881 made the area more attractive and accessible to prospective residents. Even so, by 1893 there were only around twenty families listed in the Post Office Directory as living in Cottesloe.⁶

It was not until the gold discoveries of the 1890s that residential development began in Cottesloe.⁷ Between 1890 and 1900, the population of Western Australia increased more than threefold from 48,502 to 179,967.⁸ By 1904,

¹ Edmonds, Leigh, *The Vital link: A History of Main Roads Western Australia 1926-1996* (UWA Press, 1997)

² State Heritage Office assessment *Fremantle Traffic Bridge & Ferry Capstan Base* (2007)

³ Edmonds, *Vital Link*

⁴ Marchant James, Ruth, *Heritage of Pines: A History of the Town of Cottesloe, Western Australia* (1977), pp. 3, 15, 16; Erickson & Taylor with Philip Griffiths, 'Town of Cottesloe Municipal Inventory' (1995), pp. 7-9

⁵ Marchant James, *Heritage of Pines*, p. 3. Thomas Fremantle was the elder brother of Captain Charles Fremantle, whose frigate, *HMS Challenger*, was the first ship to arrive at the Swan River Colony in 1829

⁶ Erickson & Taylor, 'Municipal Inventory', p. 9

⁷ Marchant James, *Heritage of Pines*, pp. 3, 15, 16

⁸ Appleyard, R. T., 'Western Australia: Economic and Demographic Growth 1850-1914', in C. T. Stannage (ed.), *A New History of Western Australia* (UWA Press, 1979), p. 219

the Government had borrowed £15 million to spend on public works.⁹ With significant wealth now present in the colony, Cottesloe's attractive beachside and riverside location resulted in it becoming one of the more prestigious suburbs of Perth.¹⁰

The growth of the town of Cottesloe was also accelerated when, in 1895, the Government granted £100 to the improvement of the Perth-Fremantle Road and a further £100 toward its ongoing maintenance. This road improvement resulted in Cottesloe being much more accessible and attractive to potential permanent residents as well as still holding its appeal for holidaymakers.¹¹

From the middle of the 1890s there was an increase in arrests and reported crimes, especially for drunkenness and burglary.¹² This brought with it an anxiety of crime being 'rampant throughout the city',¹³ and a criticism of the police for failing to control law-breaking. The Commissioner of Police found it easy to blame the increase on the 'floating population' and the 'influx of criminals' from the Eastern States.¹⁴

There was a rapid expansion in the size of the Police Force from 207 officers in 1890 to 448 in 1898.¹⁵ Between 1888 and 1905, 72 new stations were opened throughout the State.¹⁶ From 1895 to the end of the century, the following stations were constructed in the Metropolitan Region:

- Claremont 1895
- Highgate Hill 1897
- North Fremantle 1897
- Fremantle 1897
- West Perth 1897
- Leederville 1898
- Beaconsfield 1898
- Subiaco 1898
- East Fremantle 1899

Police buildings comprise three main elements – places to live, places to work and places to detain people.¹⁷ Changes over time in how these elements were

⁹ Appleyard, 'Western Australia', p. 222

¹⁰ Marchant James, *Heritage of Pines*, pp. 7, 15; State Heritage Office assessment *Kulahea* (2003), p. 3

¹¹ Marchant James, *Heritage of Pines*, p. 12

¹² Edmonds, L., with A. Gill & J. Gregory, 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', prepared for CAMS on behalf of the WA Police Service (May 1998), p. 22

¹³ 'The Police and Crime', *West Australian*, 8 June 1898, p. 3.

[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/3214084?searchTerm=crime
rampant&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1897-01-01|||dateTo=1899-12-01|||advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/3214084?searchTerm=crime+rampant&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1897-01-01|||dateTo=1899-12-01|||advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)

¹⁴ 'Report of the Commissioner of Police', *WA Parliamentary Votes and Proceedings*, 1897-98, p. 5; *WA Parliamentary Votes and Proceedings*, 1905-06, pp. 4-5; both cited Edmonds, 'WA Police Service', p. 22

¹⁵ *Source Book of Australian Criminal and Social Statistics*, p. 147, cited Edmonds, 'WA Police Service', p. 22

¹⁶ Edmonds, 'WA Police Service', p. 50

¹⁷ Leigh Edmonds, in association with Andrew Gill & Jenny Gregory, *Western Australian Police Service Thematic History*. Centre for Western Australian History, University of Western Australia, 1998. p. 56.

integrated are evident in their physical fabric.¹⁸ Prior to World War I police residences, police stations and lock-up facilities tended to be closely related, often situated in the same building. However, by the early twentieth century these distinct functions began to be separated and this is evident in the built fabric. Policing and detention became segregated from accommodation with the separation of these functions being largely complete by the 1950s. In metropolitan areas the practice of providing accommodation for officers was phased out. However, in regional areas accommodation continued to be provided until at least the mid-twentieth century with the residence usually located on an adjacent block.¹⁹ *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* reflects the pre-WWI practice of incorporating a Residence and Police Station in the same building.

In 1887, Reserve 1212 at Claremont, comprising Cottlesloe Lot 96, was set aside for the purpose of Public Utility.²⁰ This was subsequently changed to Police Purposes in 1895.²¹ The original area of the reserve was 2 acres 2 roods 17 perches (1.05 ha), but it was subsequently reduced to 2 acres 17 perches (0.85 ha) by the excision of ½ acre (0.2 ha), comprising Lot 182, the subject of Reserve 14635 held in fee simple by the Western Australia Fire Brigades Board, in trust for the purposes of a Fire Station.²² Lot 1 on Diagram 71008 (formerly Lot 182) is the location of P2664 *Claremont Fire Station*, which is a permanent entry in the State Register of Heritage Places.

It is probable that the location for the Police Station was selected as a consequence of the construction of the 'Osborne Hotel and Pleasure Gardens' in 1894.²³ The hotel and gardens (located between Osborne Parade and Anstey Street on Bindaring Parade, Claremont) quickly became a popular weekend resort for residents of Perth, particularly in connection with trips by river boats, which landed their passengers at the foot of the Hotel.

Tenders for *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* were called in November 1895 by Henry Whittall Venn, Director of Public Works.²⁴ Research undertaken for this assessment was not able to confirm the identity of the architect for the project. However, the design has been attributed to George Temple Poole who was senior Government Architect from 1885-97, holding various titles such as Colonial Architect and later on Assistant Engineer in Chief under C. Y. O'Connor. Temple Poole presided over the construction of the great number of government buildings constructed during these years and

18 Leigh Edmonds, in association with Andrew Gill & Jenny Gregory, *Western Australian Police Service Thematic History*. Centre for Western Australian History, University of Western Australia, 1998. p. 56.

19 Leigh Edmonds, in association with Andrew Gill & Jenny Gregory, *Western Australian Police Service Thematic History*. Centre for Western Australian History, University of Western Australia, 1998. p. 56-57.

20 *Government Gazette*, 8 April 1887

21 *Government Gazette*, 9 August 1895

22 Certificate of Title, Vol. 903 Folio 159

23 'Claremont Police Reserve 1212 (Fire Station) General File, Cons 3454 Item 61/4074, SROWA

24 *Government Gazette*, 15 November 1895; 'Classified Advertising', *West Australian*, 4 December 1895, p. 3. [http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/4539587?searchTerm=venn police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1895-11-01|||dateTo=1896-12-01|||advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy|||category=Advertising](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/4539587?searchTerm=venn%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1895-11-01|||dateTo=1896-12-01|||advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy|||category=Advertising)

is deemed to have had a great influence in their design.²⁵ The plans for the place are signed by William Hardwick, but the design cannot unequivocally be attributed to him as he may have simply been the draughtsperson responsible at the time.²⁶

In December 1895 it was announced that the tender of Paterson & Taylor was successful for the construction of *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables*, at a cost of £1,311 2s.²⁷ The buildings, completed in April 1896, were described in the PWD's annual report:

Claremont Police Station & Works – This building is erected on the North side of the Perth–Fremantle main road, on a block at the corner of Parry Street; and is of two storeys, containing six-roomed quarters for the officers, stable, and two cells, and the usual appurtenances. The date of completion was 24th April 1896...²⁸

In the estimates for 1896-97, £500 was allocated for work at Claremont police quarters, but it is not currently known what further work was needed, or if it was carried out.²⁹

The Police Station was designed as a two-storey building demonstrating elements of the Federation Arts and Crafts style. The ground floor consisted of an entrance door under a verandah, which led to a lobby containing stairs to the first floor. A door at the west of the lobby led to the office with a fireplace in the northwest corner of the room, while a door to the north led to the living room. West of the living room was the kitchen, with the fireplace in the southwest corner. The laundry and bathroom were located north of the kitchen. The first floor had three bedrooms and a linen closet.³⁰

The Lock-up and Stables, as constructed, had three cells to the south, together with an entrance lobby, lavatory and two earth closets, while at the north end of the building was the stables and coach house.³¹

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables was not opened until 8 August 1896, when Mounted Constable Ernest Huxtable took charge of the district, and was to reside at the new Police Station.³² Huxtable remained in charge of

25 Oldham, Ray & John, *George Temple-Poole: Architect of the Golden Years, 1885-1897* (UWA Press, 1980)

26 'Claremont Police Station and Lock-up', Cons 1647 Item 04054, SROWA; State Heritage Office assessment *Northam Senior High School* (2007)

27 *Daily News*, 11 December 1895, p. 3; 'Government Gazette', *West Australian*, 10 February 1896, p. 3; Pashley, *Policing Our State*, pp. 140-41

28 'Report of the Public Works Department 1895-96', *Votes & Proceedings* (1896), p. 49

29 'The Estimates – 1896-7', *West Australian*, 29 August 1896, p. 6

30 Drawing 2, 'Claremont Police Station and Lock-up', Cons. 1647, Item 04054, SROWA

31 Drawing 3, 'Claremont Police Station and Lock-up', Cons. 1647, Item 04054, SROWA. Note that the Lock-Up was built as a mirror image of the original PWD plans. The reason for the changes are not currently known.

32 'News in Brief', *Daily News*, 7 August 1896, p. 2.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/84467781?searchTerm=huxtable&searchLimits=exactPhrase||anyWords||notWords||requestHandler||dateFrom=1896-08-01||dateTo=1896-09-01|||-advstate=Western+Australia||sortBy>

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables until 1902, when he was promoted to be in charge of 'the mounted men and probationers':³³

The Claremont police station is recognised as one of the plums in the service... There were many married constables and their wives who sighed for the chance of settling down in the cosy little suburb. The fortunate officer to secure the position is Constable [James] Harris, who for some considerable time has been in charge of the Causeway station. While there he has done excellent work, and in connection with the East Perth shooting case was complimented by judge and jury for bravery.³⁴

In 1911, tenders were called for repairs and painting for 'Claremont and Freshwater Bay Police Station' and 'Claremont Police Station and Quarters'.³⁵

By the 1920s, it was clear that *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* was not in the best location to serve the needs of the residents of Claremont, especially since it was located in Cottesloe. Senior Constable Fogarty, in charge at Claremont Police Station from 1912, repeatedly urged in his annual reports that a more central site in Claremont be purchased for a Police Station. He recommended that the two sites at Claremont – *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* and the other Station in Victoria Avenue – should be sold, and a more convenient block of land be secured.³⁶

In the 1920s, the connection between the Osborne Hotel and the Police Station was recalled:

The real reason why the head police station was located in the Cottesloe municipality was undoubtedly due to the fact that the Osborne Hotel, with its pretty gardens, was doing a roaring Sunday trade when the gold boom was at its zenith, so a lock-up close handy was deemed advisable by the guardians of law and order.

But here the authorities made a mistake, for the Osborne was so well conducted that the lock-up had very few occupants. When the slump set in, the Osborne Hotel found another owner in the head of the Roman Catholic denomination, who purchased the buildings and turned it into a delightfully situated convent.³⁷

In 1901, the Hotel became the Loreto Convent School, and the building was demolished in 1990. However, the Hotel's bell tower remains extant becoming

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- 33 'Claremont Police Station', *Daily News*, 29 March 1902, p. 3.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/80865472?searchTerm=Claremont police station&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||dateTo|||anyWords|||notWords|||dateFrom|||requestHandler|||I-advtitle=275|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/80865472?searchTerm=Claremont%20police%20station&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||dateTo|||anyWords|||notWords|||dateFrom|||requestHandler|||I-advtitle=275|||sortBy)
- 34 'Claremont Police Station', *Daily News*, 29 March 1902, p. 3.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/80865472?searchTerm=Claremont police station&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||dateTo|||anyWords|||notWords|||dateFrom|||requestHandler|||I-advtitle=275|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/80865472?searchTerm=Claremont%20police%20station&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||dateTo|||anyWords|||notWords|||dateFrom|||requestHandler|||I-advtitle=275|||sortBy)
- 35 'Advertising', *Daily News*, 25 April 1911, p. 4.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/81748367?searchTerm=Claremont police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1911-01-01|||dateTo=1911-12-01|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy|||I-category=Advertising](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/81748367?searchTerm=Claremont%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1911-01-01|||dateTo=1911-12-01|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy|||I-category=Advertising)
- 36 'A Claremont Curiosity', *Sunday Times*, 21 October 1923, p. 5
- 37 'A Claremont Curiosity', *Sunday Times*, 21 October 1923, p. 5.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/58075602?searchTerm=Claremont curiosity&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1923-01-01|||dateTo=1923-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/58075602?searchTerm=Claremont%20curiosity&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1923-01-01|||dateTo=1923-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)

what could be termed a 'folly' when it was subsequently relocated to Northbridge.³⁸

In 1935, the original shingle roof was removed from *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* and replaced with corrugated iron.³⁹ Two years later, there was community concern that *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* was in danger of being decommissioned:

Until recent years this old-English, tiled-roof villa was a landmark on the main road from Perth to Fremantle. With geraniums growing at its front door it looked like an old English village cottage, except for the label on the front gate: 'Police Station'.

Then the shingles went and Commissioner Dave Hunter or somebody with rare good taste decided to roof it with galvanised iron and had this roof painted a verdant green – and the police station at Claremont looked more pleasant and inviting than ever.

Visitors from overseas used to go into ecstasies about it. It was the pride of the local inhabitants. It brought envy to people who copied its green roof, and rejoiced.

But now, we understand, the police are to vacate it for a station to be built near Bay View-terrace. And who wants a police station in Bay View-terrace? Nobody ever breaches the peace in Claremont.

Still, the old English police station is to go.

Really, Claremont should object in the name of all that is artistic, homely and picturesque.⁴⁰

After being forced to vacate premises at the Claremont Showgrounds, in July 1947 the Chairman of the Claremont, Cottesloe and Nedlands Police and Citizens Boys' Club sought permission to erect a former army hut in vacant land next to *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables*.⁴¹ Although the Police Commissioner, J. Doyle, agreed to this, Cottesloe Municipal Council⁴² did not consent on planning grounds, stating that they would not permit a hut to be erected in a brick area.⁴³

In 1949 the Municipal Council adjacent to Cottesloe, Claremont, formally requested that the Police Station be relocated along the Stirling Highway closer to the Claremont tram depot. The Acting-Mayor, Councillor E. F. Sherwood, claimed: 'We have no police station in Claremont at all. It is really

38 State Heritage Office files 03003 & 03319

39 'After 40 Years', *West Australian*, 7 February 1935, p. 18.

[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/32826669?searchTerm=after 40 years&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1935-01-01|||dateTo=1935-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/32826669?searchTerm=after%2040%20years&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1935-01-01|||dateTo=1935-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)

40 'Claremont's Police Station', *Sunday Times*, 7 March 1937, p. 17.

[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/58819645?searchTerm=Claremont police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1937-01-01|||dateTo=1937-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/58819645?searchTerm=Claremont%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1937-01-01|||dateTo=1937-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)

41 'Claremont Police Reserve 1212 (Fire Station) General File, Cons 3454 Item 61/4074, SROWA

42 Despite being referred to as 'Claremont' Police Station, the place is situated within the boundary of the 'Cottesloe' Municipality.

43 'Club Cannot Erect Hut', *Daily News*, 26 June 1947, p. 8.

[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/83745978?searchTerm=Club Cannot Erect Hut&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1947-01-01|||dateTo=1947-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/83745978?searchTerm=Club%20Cannot%20Erect%20Hut&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1947-01-01|||dateTo=1947-12-31|||l-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)

at Cottesloe. If you ever look for a policeman in the main street I guarantee you will never find one.⁴⁴

However, requests by the Council for a new police station were turned down by the Minister for Police on the grounds that there was an urgent need for materials for homes, hospitals, schools and other police buildings in the country.⁴⁵

It was not until 1954 that plans were finally prepared for a new police station at 288 Stirling Highway, near the Claremont Council chambers. Even so, the Minister for Police announced that the station could not be built during the coming year because of the urgent demands of other parts of the State that still had no police station.⁴⁶

After the new Police Station was constructed in the late 1950s, *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* was inspected by architects William G. Bennet & Associates to ascertain its suitability for conversion into a Police Boys Club. The report noted that the Police Station was constructed centrally on the site and was of stone construction to the first floor level and of timber framework to the upper storey. All the rooms were small, and even removing the two major cross walls, there would still only be sufficient space for 'a ping pong table, darts, and similar minor activities'.⁴⁷ The report also noted that demolition of the Lock-up and garage might allow for the construction of a Hall, but that the siting would not be ideal.

Despite this negative conclusion, in November 1960 Cottesloe Lot 325, as the site was now known, was transferred to the Federation of Western Australian Police and Citizens' Youth Clubs.⁴⁸ Perhaps predictably, the premises proved inadequate for club use and it was sold as a private residence to geologist Robert Alexander McTavish in 1962.⁴⁹

The property was transferred again in 1974 to artists, Ronald and Joanna Macfarlane-Reid.⁵⁰ The stables appear to have been converted at this time into a workshop for sculpture, since in 1980 a newspaper article described the building as: 'the former stables, open at end, are now a workshop from which a passage leads to two tiny cells, complete with barred windows, bolted doors and peepholes'. The same article describes the house at that time as having a winding staircase and the room that was once the charge room serving as a

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- 44 'Claremont Police', *West Australian*, 11 January 1949, p. 10.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/47637189?searchTerm=Claremont police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1949-01-01|||dateTo=1949-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/47637189?searchTerm=Claremont%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1949-01-01|||dateTo=1949-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)
- 45 'Police Station at Claremont', *West Australian*, 14 February 1950, p. 4.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/47829162?searchTerm=Claremont police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1950-01-01|||dateTo=1950-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/47829162?searchTerm=Claremont%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1950-01-01|||dateTo=1950-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)
- 46 'Police-Station Plans Drafted', *West Australian*, 24 June 1954, p. 12.
[http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/52950850?searchTerm=Claremont police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1954-01-01|||dateTo=1954-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy](http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/52950850?searchTerm=Claremont%20police&searchLimits=exactPhrase|||anyWords|||notWords|||requestHandler|||dateFrom=1954-01-01|||dateTo=1954-12-31|||I-advstate=Western+Australia|||sortBy)
- 47 'Claremont Police Reserve 1212 (Fire Station) General File, Cons 3454 Item 61/4074, SROWA
- 48 Certificate of Title, Vol. 1238 Fol. 54
- 49 Certificate of Title, Vol. 1238 Fol. 54
- 50 Certificate of Title, Vol. 1238 Fol. 54

second lounge with leadlight door replacing the former heavy wooden door, the rest of the house being much as it was eighty years prior.⁵¹

In 1985, the place was sold again to three people, including Ian James Williams, a police detective.⁵²

The land was subdivided in 1990 (into Lots 11 and 12, renumbered as 137 and 139 Grant Street) and the Lock-up and Stables subsequently adapted to become a residence.⁵³ The former stables and coach house located at the north side of the Lock-up were converted to a bedroom, and the original projection containing earth closets turned into an entrance hall. The three cells became a bathroom, walk in wardrobe and a store room. A large extension around the southeast corner of the building was constructed to add a kitchen-dining room, a living room, a laundry, a toilet, and a two car garage.⁵⁴

In 2014, both the former Police Station & Residence, and former Lock-up & Stables are used as residences.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is located at 139 and 137 Grant Street, respectively, in a triangle of land that is bounded by Grant Street to the north, Parry Street to the east and Stirling Highway to the south. The buildings originally faced Stirling Highway and the formal front entrance of Claremont Police Station remains facing the highway. The present access is from Grant Street, which was originally at the rear of the property.

The two buildings are located on separate lots, with Claremont Police Station to the east on Lot 11 (597 m²) and Claremont Lock-up and Stables to the west on Lot 12 (658 m²). The only other building on the site is a pre-painted corrugated steel garage, which is set obliquely on the site about 6 metres to the east of Claremont Police Station.

There is a landscaped verge on Grant Street about 25 metres wide, which is mainly planted with lawn interspersed with a variety of mature trees and shrubs, and the gardens of the two properties are similarly landscaped, which obscures parts of the facades. A long concrete drive has been constructed across the verge of Grant Street to the boundary in front of the steel garage of Claremont Police Station and a high red brick wall has been constructed on the Stirling Highway boundary of both properties.

Claremont Police Station

Claremont Police Station is a two story building in the Federation Arts and Crafts style, constructed of rusticated dressed limestone at ground floor level and timber shingles at first floor level. The roof is hipped and clad with corrugated iron at a moderate to steep pitch (about 50 degrees). Distinctive features are the tall brick chimneys with moulded caps and the roofs over the

51 Register of the National Estate entry. The original newspaper article has not been located for this assessment.

52 Certificate of Title, Vol. 1238 Fol. 54

53 Office of Titles diagram 78822

54 Gerard McCann Architect, 'Additions and Alterations: The Old Lock-up, 435 Stirling H'Way, Claremont', prepared for Althea McTaggart (April 1991)

front (south) verandah and the rear (north) bathroom in a continuous steep pitch from the main roof. The first floor shingle wall cantilevers over the ground floor limestone by about 100 mm, with a moulded scotia under. Windows are timber and are primarily casement. Although the form of the windows varies, the majority are divided into 3 vertically, with a horizontal bar above the mid line. The lower panels are casement openers with a single pane of glazing. On the ground floor, the upper panels are divided into four lights (6 in the centre of the round arched front window and 9 in the stair window), and on the first floor the upper panels are a single pane of glazing. Where the windows are set in limestone they have segmented arched heads and painted concrete sills.

There is no evidence of the ridge cresting at the ridge or the vent over the front verandah as shown on the original drawings.

The front elevation, which faces Stirling Highway, is an asymmetrical two bay composition. On the west side is a two storey projection the width of a single room, with a round arched window at ground floor and a square arched window at first floor level. On the east side the roof slopes down from the ridge in a continuous steep pitch over the ground floor front verandah, which is supported on turned timber posts with a square lattice timber frieze and has a concrete floor. The front door is set on the west side of the verandah and is a 6 panel timber door with a highlight over. The central and upper panels of the door have been modified by the introduction of glazing. There is no other fenestration in this wall.

The west (side) façade is mostly two storey, with a single storey section at its north end, where the roof continues down in a steep mono pitch over the bathroom and laundry. There is an external door and small porch at the south end of the ground floor, which originally gave separate access into the Police Office. The porch has turned posts and a lattice frieze that match the front verandah. The original 6 panel timber door has been removed and the present door is a c.1930s timber door with a large lead light panel. There is a two pane window in about the centre of the ground floor and to the north, within the single storey section, are two small vertically proportioned casement windows. There is one three pane window at the upper level, located at the north side of the upper floor, over the two pane ground floor window. In the centre of the two storey section, a tall chimney rises out of the wall plane, with a small gable detail behind it.

The north façade is two storey, with a single storey projection to the west with its roof continuing down in a steep mono pitch from the main roof. A wide dormer window with a flat roof has been introduced within this roof at first floor level. The original back verandah, on the east side of the façade, has been modified and extended to contain the present kitchen. French doors and multi-lighted casement windows have been installed. At the upper level, approximately central over the kitchen roof, is a tall chimney with the gable detail behind, and which projects forward between the shingles at the upper level. There is a small vertically proportioned window to the right of the chimney.

The east façade is mainly two storey, with the spandrel of the steeply pitched front verandah roof lined with shingles at the south end. At the south side of

the two storey section is a narrow vertically proportioned window over the stairs. There is a three panel window at the north end of the ground floor with a segmented arch over. At the upper level, there is a three pane window over the ground floor window, but not symmetrically aligned.

The internal layout of Claremont Police Station is similar to its original layout, with a front entrance hall and staircase located on the south-east corner of the building, the living room to the north, and the original police office to the east. To the west of the living room and north of the office is the present dining room (the original kitchen). To the north of the dining room are a small lobby and laundry (originally a store) and the lobby leads through to a bathroom which is located on the north-west corner of the building. In the north-east corner of the ground floor, the original back verandah has been extended and enclosed to become to a kitchen.

On the first floor the stair and landing is located on the south-east corner of the building with the three original bedrooms on the other corners. A small bedroom has been created by constructing a large flat roofed dormer window on the north side of the north-west bedroom in the original tank room.

Internal finishes and details are similar throughout, with 100 mm jarrah floors, 230 mm moulded timber skirtings, plaster to walls (hard wall to ground, plasterboard to first floor) and timber windows. There are moulded cornices and picture rails to the dining room, living room and office.

Ground floor ceilings are plaster at a height of 3.2 metres. First floor ceilings are lined with timber boards and partially raking from 2.3 at the wall to 3.2 in the centre of the rooms, where they flatten out.

The three major living spaces on the ground floor (including the office) have a fireplace, as do the two western bedrooms on the first floor. The fireplace to the office has been modified by removing the mantelpiece and fire surround, and increasing the height of the fireplace to about 1.8 metres, which is intended to accommodate a fridge. The fire surrounds in the dining room and two bedrooms are painted timber, with a deep moulded surround and a shelf above supported on two fluted brackets. The fireplace in the living room is more ornate, with flat pilasters flanked by a pair of brackets to support an undershelf, and small turned balusters above each bracket supporting a further shelf above.

The entrance hall is about 1.8 metres deep by 3.6 wide, with an ornate jarrah staircase, with turned balusters and newel post, on the east side. The front door is at the west end of the south wall. There is a further door at the west side of the north wall, leading into the living room, and a door at the north end of the west wall, into the office.

The office is about 3.6 x 4 metres, with a round arched window in the centre of the south wall, an external door at the south end of the west wall, a corner fireplace in the north-west corner and an introduced arch in the north wall that opens into the present dining room.

The dining room is about 3 metres by 3.6, with a back to back fireplace in the south-west corner, a triple paned window with a segmented arched head in the centre of the west wall, and two doors; one at the north end of the east wall to the living room, and one at the east end of the north wall into the lobby.

The living room is a rectangular room about 4.2 metres by 3.6. There is a triple paned window on the east wall, a fireplace and chimney on the north wall, a door at the end of the east wall and also at the west end of the south wall.

The lobby was once external and retains the original limestone arch on its east side. There is a door on each of the south, west and north walls, into the dining room, laundry and bathroom respectively.

The laundry is a small room about 1.5 metres wide x 1.8 deep. It retains its original window on the west wall, and door on the east wall. The bathroom is 1.5 metres wide by 3 metres long. It retains its original window on the west wall and original door at the east end of the south wall. Tiles have been introduced to the floor and new fixtures and fittings introduced.

The kitchen is about 3.5 deep x 4.6 long, and the floor level is a step down from the rest of the house. The original external limestone can be seen on the south and west walls, including the projecting chimney on the south wall. An original external door at the west end of the south wall has been filled in to form a pantry. The east and north walls are timber framed and lined with pine boarding laid horizontally. The ceiling is raking and also lined with pine boards. Built in kitchen cabinets have been introduced to the north, east, and part of the south walls. There is a set of French doors at the west end of the north wall with a bank of windows adjacent (to the east) above the kitchen bench.

Lock-up and Stables

Claremont Lock-up and Stables is a single storey limestone building with a gabled corrugated iron roof in the Federation Arts and Crafts style. The limestone is dressed in a rusticated style on the north and east façades and is flat with rusticated quoins and window surrounds on the south and west façades. The roof is asymmetrical, with the main ridge running in a north-south direction, and the east side of the roof falling to a lower pitching height than the west side. The eaves project by about 450 mm.

Claremont Lock-up and Stables now faces Grant Street to the north and this façade has a single room width gable projection on its west side with an asymmetrical gable, where the east side of the roof is at a lower pitching plate than the west. A particular feature is the small louvred horizontal roof vents.

The front gable apex is lined with shingles, and a wide bank of introduced windows spans across the wall, between two rusticated limestone returns. A narrow verandah roof spanning over the windows and supported on introduced turned timber posts, is also an introduced element.

The front entrance door is in an eastern facing gable projection about four metres down the east wall, and has an awning over.

The east façade has a gabled projection at its south side, with the recessed wall of the north projection beyond. The gabled projection has a louvred panel at its apex and two small vertically proportioned 6 light casement windows with painted concrete sills. The southern window retains its original external cast iron bars. The vertical battens of the spandrel to the canopy over the front door can be seen to the north side.

At the south side of the façade is a large rendered brick extension that extends substantially around the south-east corner of Claremont Lock-up and Stables.

Most of the original south wall remains visible and is flat limestone with rusticated quoins. The louvred apex is the same as the east projection.

The west wall is also flat limestone with rusticated quoins and window surrounds. There are two nine light hopper windows at the south end (to the cells), a large multi light window that replaced the external door to the tack room, and a horizontal bank of hopper windows at the north end, in front of the vertical timber louvres to the former stables and coach house.

The internal layout is reversed from what is shown on the original ground floor plan, with the former stables/coach house (now the bedroom) located on the north side and the cells and passage on the south.

The original internal layout has been modified from its original built form, with the eastern projection, which originally contained two earth closets (one for the prisoners and one for the police officers) now converted to an entrance hall. The former lavatory (hand washing area), which opened off the prisoner e.c. (with window bars) on the south side, is now a lobby and a door has been introduced to each of its northern and western walls. The north door leads into the bedroom, formerly the coach house and stables, and which is raised one step from the lobby floor. The west door leads into the bathroom, formerly a tack and hay room. An original door in the south wall of the lobby leads into a hallway with two cells opening off its west side.

A large extension around the southeast corner of the building was constructed in circa 1991 when an opening was formed in the south end of the east wall of the passage and a kitchen/dining/living room was added there, a laundry was added on to the south end of the passage, with a toilet on its west side, and a two car garage constructed to the south of the laundry.

The entrance hall is 1.5 metres wide and 2.56 long, with the 720 mm wide front door located on the east side of the north wall. The wall dividing the two former toilets has been removed but the two small 6 light casement windows remain on the east wall, the southerly one retaining its original external cast iron bars.

The lobby to the west is 1.6 x 2.4 metres, with an introduced gothic arched and glazed door in its north wall, an introduced door on the west wall and an original doorway on the south wall.

The bedroom to the north was originally divided into two unequal divisions to form a stables and coach house. The east and west walls each contain a large, almost full width opening with a sill about 1.4 metres high. These openings are lined with vertical timber louvres that appear to be original, and glazed windows have been introduced to the external face. Each of the south, east and west walls is painted stone and a low doorway at the west end of the south wall was an original opening seen on the original south elevation. The north wall, which appears to have been open, is now lined with introduced windows. The ceiling is flat plaster with 3 jarrah joists running north-south.

The room to the west of the lobby was originally a tack room, although labelled in the original drawing as a cell, it had an external door and an opening in the north wall to the stables. This room is now used as a bathroom and has a shower in the south-east corner, a hand basin in the middle of the south wall and a toilet at the west end of the north wall. The introduced timber window on the west wall replaced a former door. The east wall was originally blank and a door has been installed into the lobby.

The passage to the south of the lobby is about 1.5 metres wide and about 4.5 metres long. The floor is concrete. The two cell doors, with raised concrete thresholds, are located on the west wall. The doors are varnished timber boards and retain their original ironmongery, including box locks, cast iron bolts with padlocks, and inspection openings. The ceiling of the passage is flat at 3.3 metres high on its west side, and rakes down on its east side.

Each of the cells is 2.15 wide and 3 metres deep. They both retain their original 100 mm jarrah floor, small 9 light hopper window, steel bars and window opening device. The walls are plastered and the ceilings are painted timber boards at 3.2 metres high.

The introduced arch at the south end of the east wall of the passage opens into the dining room of the 1990s extension. To the south of the dining room is the kitchen, and to the east of the dining/kitchen is the living room. A steep timber stair on the west side of the kitchen leads up to a mezzanine area over the kitchen and dining room, that opens up at its east side to look over the living room. The extension also incorporated a two car garage which is attached to the south of the kitchen and dining room.

At the south end of the passage, an original door leads through to the introduced laundry of the 1990s addition, which has a toilet on its west side.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

There was a rapid expansion in the size of the Police Force from 207 officers in 1890 to 448 in 1898.⁵⁵ Between 1888 and 1905, 72 new stations were opened throughout the State.⁵⁶ From 1895 to the end of the century, the following stations, three of which are entered on the State Register of Heritage Places, are representative of those constructed in the Metropolitan Region:

- P04282 *Highgate Hill Police Station, Lock-up and Quarters (fmr)* (1897): police complex, comprising a standard bungalow-style Police Station and Lock-up and a Federation Bungalow style Police Quarters, both single storey brick and iron structures. Lock-up was of two cells, with charge room, office, and verandah all round.
- P00878 *Fremantle Court House (fmr) & Police Station Complex* (1898): a complex including both single and double storey buildings including, a Courthouse (c.1890), Police Station & Lock-up (1898), and two blocks of Police Housing (1897, 1903). The Courthouse and the Police Station are single storey, have rusticated stone walls and a

⁵⁵ *Source Book of Australian Criminal and Social Statistics*, p. 147, cited Edmonds, 'WA Police Service', p. 22

⁵⁶ Edmonds, 'WA Police Service', p. 50

hipped iron roof. The Lock-up is also single storey, has rusticated stone walls and an iron roof. The Police Housing is double storey.

- P01037 *Police Station, Lock-up and Quarters (fmr)*, North Fremantle (North Fremantle Post Office) (1898): One three-room quarters, and two stone quarters of four rooms each, each having a kitchen, bathroom and store rooms. Lock-up of three cells with covered exercise yard. Stable of two stalls and fodder room. There was also a bell tower which acted as a fire alarm. The place contains both single and double storey sections.
- P20822 *Former Police Station, Quarters, Lock-up & Stables*, Beaconsfield (1898): originally two sets of single storey quarters of four rooms each, with kitchen, bathroom, store, and front and back verandahs. Lock-up of two cells, with charge room, office and a verandah. Stable of two stalls with fodder room. An additional seven sets of semi-detached two-storey quarters had been completed in December 1897. Aerial imagery (2011) suggests only two of these remain extant.
- P16597 *Subiaco Police Station* (1898): single storey quarters of three rooms, and charge and office room, kitchen, bathroom, and single constable's room, with verandah. Lock-up was semi-detached, of two cells with an enclosed exercise yard. Subiaco Police Station was considered by the Register Committee under GHPDP in September 2010 where it was resolved to be below threshold. Evidence suggests it has been substantially modified since constructed in 1898. In 2013 the place was owned by the Department of Health.
- P02204 *Old Leederville Police Station & Quarters* (1898, demolished 1988): single storey quarters of three rooms, with charge and office room, kitchen, bathroom, store, and front verandah. Lock-up was semi-detached, with two cells and an enclosed exercise yard.
- P02508 *Midland Police Station & Lock-up* (1898, demolished): quarters of three rooms, with charge and office room, kitchen, bathroom, and store, two rooms for single constables, and a front verandah. Lock-up was semi-detached with three cells and an enclosed exercise yard. Stable of two stalls, with fodder-room and buggy shed.

The above would suggest that *Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables* may have some rarity value as an extant, highly intact two storey metropolitan Police Station with Lock-up and Stables constructed during the 1890s.

Comparable places identified as having been designed by the Public Works Department under George Temple Poole in the Federation Arts & Crafts style include:

- P00483 *Claremont Post Office* (1896): comprises a single-storey painted, rock-faced, random-coursed limestone and tile roofed Post Office and former residence.
- P01045 *South Fremantle Post Office (fmr)* (1896): two-storey rendered limestone and tiled roof building. Exhibits a prominent gable roof form

with decorative timber panelling and bargeboards, tall chimneys, large arches and an informal arrangement of windows.

- P01749 *Pinjarra Post Office* (1895): comprises a two-storey brick and tile Post Office with later extensions.
- P01971 *Brisbane Street Post Office*, Perth (1896): consists of single-storey brick Post Office and Quarters, on limestone footings, under the one roof.

Claremont Police Station, Lock-up & Stables is a representative example of the PWD's Arts & Crafts design, although rare as a two storey Police Station and associated quarters. The Lock-up and Stables was of typical PWD design for such a building in the 1890s, although it lacked an enclosed exercise yard associated with some of the other Lock-ups in the Metropolitan Region.

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH
