



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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)

- 7.6.3 Policing Australia
- 2.4.5 Changing the face of rural and urban Australia through migration
- 8.13 Living in cities and suburbs

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 403 Law & Order
- 101 Immigration, emigration and refugees
- 107 Settlements

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is an aesthetically pleasing, fine example of the domestic scale architectural styles often used for police stations in the early twentieth-century. (Criterion 1.2)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) reflects the philosophy behind Police Station and Police Quarters design during the early twentieth-century, including the use of common, domestic scale, architectural styles that largely corresponded to established aesthetics of the community in which they were situated. (Criterion 2.2)

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) contributes to an understanding of the development of policing in Western Australia, and to the Police Service's response to the growth of Inglewood, and adjacent areas on the outskirts of the city, resulting from post-WWI immigration and the concurrent exodus from the goldfields. (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Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Research into the physical fabric, including choice in architectural style, of *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* can provide information about the philosophy behind Police Station and Quarters design in the metropolitan area during the early to mid twentieth-century. (Criterion 3.1)

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is likely to hold significance for the local community, as evidenced by their requests that additional police be provided in the area which ultimately led to the Station's construction. (Criterion 4.2)

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is likely to hold some social significance to the officers who served at the station. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is a rare and intact example of a c.1940 police station in the metropolitan area. (Criterion 5.2)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is representative of the departmental practice of using domestic scale architecture in police places during the early to mid twentieth-century. (Criterion 6.2)

12. 3 CONDITION

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is in good condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) has a high degree of integrity and, although no longer in use as a police station or residence, the former functions of the place are still readily discernible.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) retains the majority of its original fabric and retains a high level of authenticity.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on information received for a Government Heritage Property Disposal referral completed by Palassis Architects for WA Police in October 2010 and a subsequent in-house heritage assessment completed by Office of Heritage staff in November 2010, with amendments and/or additions by the Office of Heritage and the Register Committee.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

During the gold rush era (c.1890) the Western Australian economy boomed, as did its population and the 'inner city' areas of Perth grew rapidly.¹ Subdivisions to provide housing for the growing population of white- and blue-collar workers continued to develop on the city's outskirts.² Inglewood, parts of which were formerly referred to as Maylands, was developed by 'Gold Estates of Australia' during the latter part of the gold boom and the area west of the railway line was given the more salubrious name of 'Inglewood' in a bid to attract the growing business and professional classes. By 1913 the area had further expanded to the northeast and northwest.³ The primarily working-class, or 'blue-collar' suburb of Maylands, with its cosmopolitan population, continued to develop adjacent.⁴ By the 1920s local progress associations, to expedite general improvements to their district, became common and Inglewood was included amongst these.⁵

The Great Depression of the late 1920s had impacts well into the 1930s, including massive unemployment across the globe and, with the gradual realisation in its early stages that the Depression was set to continue, the Western Australian government enacted programs to create employment by undertaking public works.⁶ Following closely on the heels of the Depression, Australia was faced with World War II and, ironically, massive labour shortages and later shortages in building materials.⁷ The Police Service experienced severe strains resulting from these events along with the wider Western Australian community and were at the forefront of maintaining order in a society in crisis.⁸ Despite these pressures and the limits to its resources, the Police Service managed to grow and develop. Programs to forge stronger links with the communities they served were instigated with school visits, and initiatives such as the 'Police Boys Club' to reduce juvenile delinquency.⁹ However, little was done to upgrade living or working accommodation due to financial constraints. This is reflected in the small number of police places

1 Cooper, W.S. & McDonald, G (1999) *Diversity's Challenge: A History of the City of Stirling*. Published by the City of Stirling, Western Australia. p. 115.

2 *ibid.* p. 115.

3 *ibid.* p. 117.

4 *ibid.* p. 122-128.

5 *ibid.* p. 180.

6 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. 28.

7 *ibid.* p. 28.

8 *ibid.* p. 29.

9 *ibid.* p. 29.

completed during this period (i.e. three between 1930-1945),¹⁰ and these were not commenced until the latter part of the 1930s when some buoyancy had returned to the Western Australian economy.¹¹

By 1932 there were 3,850 houses in Mount Lawley, Inglewood and Maylands¹² and the area continued to develop during the inter-war period. The community was comprised of largely wage and salary-earners, 'with tradesmen, and other blue-collar workers making up one-half of the working population and white-collar workers one-third. Most of the remainder were businessmen or shopkeepers'.¹³ The ethnic composition of Inglewood, and those suburbs not too far afield including Osborne Park and Balcatta, was influenced by the slow migration of people from the goldfields in the 1920s and 1930s, with increasing numbers of southern Europeans taking up plots for market gardens in the district.¹⁴

By 1937 the Perth Roads Board were of the opinion that the vast suburban area, particularly that west of Beaufort Street in its south east quarter which included Inglewood, was too extensive for the police currently stationed at Maylands but were unable to convince the Police Commissioner of this.¹⁵ Newspaper reports in 1930 and 1937 detail incidents in the area, such as breaking and entering,¹⁶ hooliganism¹⁷ and a shooting¹⁸ which were likely the stimulus for some of these concerns and it was noted that such a heavily populated and important suburb such as Inglewood warranted its own police station.¹⁹ Despite Road Board members suggesting that some of these incidents had been exaggerated by the media,²⁰ in 1938 *The West Australian* reported that the new station had been authorised:

New Police Station

The Executive Council has authorised the construction of a Police Station at Inglewood. The new station will contain quarters for a sergeant, offices for about three constables, cells and an exercise yard, and will take the place of the station which has been in existence at Highgate Hill for many years. The Highgate Hill station will be closed when the new station is built.²¹

The site on the corner of Beaufort Street and Eighth Avenue was gazetted as a police reserve in August 1938.²² Public Works Department plans indicate that *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* was designed during the term of Principal Architect, A.E. (Paddy) Clare, but initials on plans indicate

¹⁰ ibid .p. 29.

¹¹ ibid. p. 51.

¹² Cooper, W.S. & McDonald, G (1999) *Diversity's Challenge: A History of the City of Stirling*. Published by the City of Stirling, Western Australia. p. 241.

¹³ ibid. p. 242.

¹⁴ ibid. p. 282.

¹⁵ ibid. p. 245.

¹⁶ *The West Australian*, Tuesday 2 March 1937. p. 5.

¹⁷ *The West Australian*, Thursday 4 November 1937. p. 9.

¹⁸ *The Western Argus*, Tuesday 23 December 1930. p. 16.

¹⁹ Easton, Leonard. A. 1971. *Stirling City*. Published by the Stirling City Council by University of WA Press.

²⁰ *The West Australian*, Saturday 6 November 1937. p. 20.

²¹ *The West Australian*, Saturday 20 August 1938. p. 20.

²² Pashley, A.R. (Don). (2000) *Policing Our State: A History of Police Stations and Police Officers in Western Australia 1829-1945*. EDUCANT, Western Australia. p.255.

they were drawn by J.T.H, presumably one of his staff.²³ The station was completed in October 1940, at a cost of £1989,²⁴ and was opened in December by the Officer in Charge, Sergeant White.²⁵

The interior and exterior design of police stations has largely been determined by contemporary ideas of aesthetics, function, and location. Similarly, building materials and construction techniques reflected norms of the time aside from the need to provide cells and security. Police places adopted similar materials, techniques and aesthetics to other public buildings such as schools and hospitals.²⁶ Style and size 'conformed to community standards and expectations and rarely exceeded them'²⁷ as is evidenced by *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* which is in a style that reflects residential housing commonly constructed during the same period in this area.

Police buildings comprise three main elements – places to live, places to work and places to detain people.²⁸ Change over time in how these elements were managed is evident in the changing relationship between the physical fabric that represented these functions.²⁹ Prior to World War I these three elements tended to be closely related, often situated in the same building, but over time they have seen more separation. By approximately 1925 these elements had begun to separate reflecting modern developments in the design of police stations and residences, where policing and detention became segregated from accommodation. By 1954, when the Medina Police Station was constructed, the separation was complete but the residence was usually still located on an adjacent block.³⁰ *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* reflects this trend.

Over time the practice of providing accommodation for Officers, particularly in the metropolitan area, was phased out and quarters were often converted into office space. This occurred at *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)*, and by approximately 1990 Pashley suggests that the former Police Quarters had become the Police Station and the Station was converted into the Inglewood Regional Office while the former lockup was used as a storeroom.³¹ However, a physical inspection by Palassis Architects in

23 Public Works Department, Principal Architect [J.T.H] (1940) *New Inglewood Police Station: Five Room Residence*, PWDWA 29206, File No. 1089/38, Sheet No. 2, 5/6/1940; Public Works Department, Principal Architect [J.T.H] (1940) *New Inglewood Police Station*, PWDWA 29206, File No. 1089/38, Sheet No. 1, 6/6/1940; Public Works Department, Principal Architect [J.T.H] (1940) *Inglewood Police Station: Entrance Porch Detail*, PWDWA 29206, File No. 1089/38, Sheet No. 8, 16/8/1940; Public Works Department, Principal Architect [J.T.H] (1940) *Inglewood Police Station Quarters: Detail of Front Gable*, PWDWA 29206, File No. 1089/38, Sheet No. 9, 23/8/1940.

24 Pashley, A.R. (Don). (2000) *Policing Our State: A History of Police Stations and Police Officers in Western Australia 1829-1945*. EDUCANT, Western Australia. p. 255.

25 *ibid.* p. 255.

26 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. 47.

27 *ibid.* p. 47.

28 *Ibid.* p. 56.

29 *ibid.* p. 56.

30 *ibid.* p. 56-57.

31 Pashley, A.R. (Don). (2000) *Policing Our State: A History of Police Stations and Police Officers in Western Australia 1829-1945*. EDUCANT, Western Australia. p. 255.

September 2010 noted no alterations to the quarters that would suggest this change of function,³² so it may have simply been converted into offices.

The place has been used as a Police Station and residence (later converted into office space), since its construction. Public Works Department plans indicate only limited works have been undertaken. Repairs and renovations were proposed in 1950 but it is not clear whether any work was completed.³³ In 1966 the hot water system in the Quarters was upgraded³⁴ while the Police Station had gas heaters installed in 1973³⁵, and a new corrugated iron garage was installed at the rear of the Quarters in 1975.³⁶ In 1985 additional office ventilation was installed adjacent to the cloakroom, and a new hot water system was installed beside the cells.³⁷ Alterations and additions were again proposed in 1995 but the extent of the works completed is unclear.³⁸

Currently *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* is vacant. The place is earmarked for sale in 2010/2011.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) is located on the corner of Beaufort Street and Eighth Avenue, Inglewood. The Police Station faces onto Eighth Avenue and the Quarters on to Beaufort Street. Both buildings are domestic in scale and display the same design characteristics.³⁹ The place comprises a red brick and terracotta tile Police Station with adjacent Quarters constructed in the early days of World War II. The place displays elements of the Inter-War Bungalow, Georgian Revival, and Mediterranean styles common to the period. The surrounding area is characterised by single-storey dwellings, many of which are from the Federation and Inter-War periods.⁴⁰

Police Station

The Police Station is face red brick with a hipped terracotta tile roof and blue-painted eaves and guttering. Two red brick and white-painted chimneys are spaced evenly across the roof northeast of the ridgeline. The front entrance to the Police Station has a distinctive portico with a pediment feature supported on Tuscan style columns. The weatherboarded gable displays an embedded geometric design roof ventilator. The words POLICE STATION are carved into the brickwork/render beneath this. Red brick steps lead to the front door and portico flooring is red-painted concrete. Timber-framed doors and windows

³² Palassis Architects (2010) *Inglewood Police Station & Quarters (fmr)*, *Government Heritage Property Disposal Referral*, prepared for LandCorp by Palassis Architects, September 2010.

³³ Public Works Department (1950) *Inglewood Police Station and Quarters: Repairs and Renovations*, PWD 15/41, Dec 1950.

³⁴ Public Works Department of WA, Architectural Division (1966) *Inglewood Police Station Quarters: Hot Water Service*, PWD 15/41, PWDWA 29206, 15/08/1966.

³⁵ Public Works Department of WA, Architectural Division (1973) *Inglewood Police Station: Gas Heating*, Drawing SK. 1, 3/10/1973.

³⁶ Public Works Department of WA, Architectural Division (1975) *Inglewood Police Station Sergeant's Quarters: New Garage*, Job No. 30/14/1, Oct 1975.

³⁷ Public Works Department of WA, Architectural Division (1985) *Inglewood Police Station: Office Ventilation*, Job No. 30/14/017, 14/3/85.

³⁸ Building Management Authority of Western Australia (1995) *Inglewood Police Station: Proposed Alterations and Additions*, Drawing No. A1, Jan 95.

³⁹ *ibid.* p. 3.

⁴⁰ *ibid.* p. 3.

appear original but all have had aluminium security screens fitted. Brickwork is rendered from sill level upwards leaving an unpainted brick dado. The rear of the Police Station has a weatherboard clad enclosed verandah. A low chain mesh fence runs across the front of the police station.

The interior of the Police Station displays many of the original features and fittings. Ceilings are fibrous plaster sheet with decorative roses and cornices. Fireplaces are red brick with timber mantles. A number of details display Art Deco stylistic influences. The front reception area retains the counter and screens. The holding cell has little in the way of fittings besides a green-painted concrete seat. Electrical fittings and the kitchen fit-out are modern, and reverse cycle air-conditioning has been installed in most rooms.

A report by Palassis in 2010 notes that alterations were made to the Police Station in approximately 1995 including enclosing the rear veranda and the installation of a bathroom, upgrade to the kitchen, modification of the garage to provide access from the internal store, and the twin cells were remodelled to create a holding room and interview facility. However, post-1995 the holding room and interview facility were again modified to create one holding cell.⁴¹

Police Quarters

The Police Quarters are face red brick with a hipped and gabled terracotta tile roof and blue-painted eaves and guttering. One brick and white-painted chimney is positioned southeast of the ridgeline and another to the northeast. The Police Quarters has a geometric design roof ventilator feature, similar to the Police Station, on the weatherboarded gable of its projecting bay. Red brick steps lead to the front door and red face brick corbelled pillars flank the entryway. A simple white-painted wrought iron fence borders the red-painted concrete paved porch area south west of the entry door. Timber-framed doors and windows appear original but all have had aluminium security screens fitted. Brickwork is rendered above the sill level. The rear of the Police Quarters has a fibrous cement clad enclosed verandah. A white-painted corrugated iron garage is situated in the rear yard. A low brick wall runs around the front perimeter of the lot.

The interior of the Police Quarters displays many of the original features and fittings. Ceilings are fibrous plaster sheet with decorative roses and cornices. The fireplace is white-painted with red brick detailing. Internal skirtings, doors, and doorframes are dark timber. A number of elements display Art Deco stylistic influences. Electrical fittings are modern throughout.

Palassis note alterations were also made to the Police Quarters for which the date is unknown. These included enclosing the rear verandah and new kitchen cabinetry. However, an inspection of the photographic evidence suggests the cabinets are original.

13. 3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

The Office of Heritage database lists 11 police places constructed between 1925 and 1945. All but one of these, excluding *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)*, are outside the metropolitan area. P6088 Palmyra

⁴¹ *ibid.* p. 18.

Police Station & Dwelling was constructed in 1926 and is also characteristic of bungalows constructed at this time. The Police Station has been superseded by a c.1971 Station, but the former Station has been retained on an adjacent block. The majority of the other 10 police stations and quarters were constructed prior to 1930 and are no longer in use as police stations. Additional metropolitan police stations and quarters constructed between 1925 and 1945 may still be extant as, if sold by the police into private ownership, it is possible they have not been listed on municipal inventories or other heritage lists. However, the *Western Australian Police Service Thematic History* lists only three police places constructed between 1930 and 1945, one of which is *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)*. The other two are the Police Traffic Branch (c.1936), which is not comparable, and Mundijong Police Station (c.1934).⁴² Mundijong Police Station had not been entered in the Office of Heritage database, but information from WA Police suggests the current station was constructed c.1958. It is unknown whether any of the c.1934 elements have been retained. Mundijong Police Station, although perhaps not strictly in the metropolitan area, is still extant and functioning as a Police Station.

In addition, there may be other examples of early to mid twentieth-century Police Stations in the metropolitan area with elements from a range of time periods. Stirling Police Station comprises a c.1962 Police Station, Police Quarters (c.1928), and a Charge Room and Cells (fmr), which was also the former Police Station (c.1928). The practice of retaining police building stock and constructing additional elements on an adjacent site appears common, and earlier phases of construction are not always readily identifiable, often having been extensively modified and upgraded. However, as discussed above, the small number of Police Stations constructed between 1930-1945 suggests no further stations from this period are extant.

The above indicates *Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr)* is a rare example of an extant c.1930-1945 metropolitan police station.

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

See footnotes.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Additional research into early twentieth-century police stations in the metropolitan area that have been superseded by later police buildings, or sold into private ownership, may aid in clarifying and supporting the place's rarity.

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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. 30.