



## 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)

- 3.7.1 Establishing postal services
- 3.7.2 Developing electric means of communication

#### HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 206 Mail services
- 210 Telecommunications
- 306 Domestic activities

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Norseman Post Office* is a fine representative example of the Federation Bungalow style using local stone. (Criteria 1.1 & 1.2)

*Norseman Post Office* is a significant cultural element in the townscape character of Norseman for its pleasing scale and proportion and corner location. (Criterion 1.4)

#### 11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

*Norseman Post Office* was constructed in 1897, to provide postal and telecommunication services to the newly developed eastern goldfields. (Criterion 2.1)

From 1897 to 1927, *Norseman Post Office* was a repeater station on the inland telegraph line, established in 1896 to provide the eastern goldfields with a direct link with the eastern states and overseas through Eucla and Adelaide on the East-West line. (Criteria 2.1 & 2.2)

*Norseman Post Office* was designed by the PWD under Chief Architect George Temple Poole, who was responsible for many fine public buildings in the State during a period of growth from 1885 to 1896. (Criterion 2.3)

#### 11.3 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

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

#### **11.4 SOCIAL VALUE**

*Norseman Post Office* has provided a continuous postal service to the town of Norseman and the surrounding pastoral and mining district since 1897, and is important to the local community as a place of social interaction and communication and for associations with the early goldfield history of the region. (Criteria 4.1 & 4.2)

### **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **12.1 RARITY**

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#### **12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Norseman Post Office* is a fine representative example of a Federation Bungalow style of a regional post office designed by George Temple Poole. (Criterion 6.1)

#### **12.3 CONDITION**

*Norseman Post Office* is in fair to good condition. In recent times, maintenance has taken place on a regular basis, but there are some items that require attention, particularly rising damp.

#### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

*Norseman Post Office* has continuously provided a post office and residential function since it was constructed in 1897. The place has adapted to the development of those functions with minimal alterations to the structure or fabric. It has a high degree of integrity.

#### **12.5 AUTHENTICITY**

A significant amount of the original fabric of *Norseman Post Office* remains. The place has a high degree of authenticity.

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Irene Sauman, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Laura Gray, Conservation Consultant.

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

*Norseman Post Office* is a single-storey stone post and telegraph office with attached residence, constructed in 1897, to a design by the Public Works Department under Chief Architect George Temple Poole. The place was built by contractors Fletcher and Kent. The telegraph repeater station function of the place ceased in 1927, while the post office and residential function is ongoing.

Some of the better-watered areas in the Dundas region were leased by pastoralists in the Albany area to serve as stopping places when moving stock through the district. The Moirs established themselves at Fanny Cove and Carlingup in the 1870s. William Moir found the first alluvial gold in the district in 1890, and despite nothing further being found at the time, prospectors came to the area. Gold finds in 1892 resulted in the establishment

of the Great Dundas and Scotia mines, and the Dundas Goldfield was declared on 31 August 1893. The townsite of Dundas was laid out, and Warden Hicks took up residence there.<sup>1</sup>

In August 1894, two applications for reward claims were made. One was the Norseman, fourteen miles (22.5kms) north of Dundas, and the other was the Mount Barker, three miles (5km) east of the Norseman find. This started a new rush and the population and businesses gravitated from Dundas to a new settlement at Norseman. The first land sale was held at Norseman in July 1895, and the place was declared a municipality on 17 January 1896. Warden Hicks took up residence at Norseman in July 1896, and the townsite of Dundas was abandoned.<sup>2</sup>

The Norseman Progress League had a monthly mail service by packhorse established between Esperance and Norseman, which was soon upgraded to a fortnightly service. Any mail contact with Coolgardie at this time was by bicycle. A post office was established in Mr Robert's store on 1 February 1896, and a contract was let for 'carriage conveyance' of mail. Once the Eastern Goldfield Railway had reached Coolgardie in March 1896, the carriage mail service provided a bi-weekly delivery between Coolgardie and Norseman.<sup>3</sup> A telegraph service was opened to Norseman on 4 May 1896.<sup>4</sup>

Prior to 1877, communications between Western Australia and the rest of the world was by sea. The undersea cable from Britain to Java had been extended to Darwin, and from there by overland line to Adelaide in 1872, but news still had to travel from Adelaide to Albany by sea. A telegraph line was opened from Perth to Albany in December 1872. The Governments of Western Australia and South Australia undertook to construct 1,500 miles of telegraph line to link Albany with Adelaide. Eight hundred miles of this route was through Western Australia around the Great Australian Bight, one of the most arid and inhospitable regions in the world. For the last 400 miles of the route, there was no permanent water. For hundreds of miles, there was no suitable place for a sea landing, with huge waves from the Southern Ocean breaking at the base of cliffs, 250 to 400 feet high.<sup>5</sup>

The East-West Telegraph line was constructed between 1875 and 1877. It required repeater stations along the route, where operators would manually boost the messages in transit. In Western Australia, these stations were built at Bremer Bay, Esperance Bay, Israelite Bay, Eyre's Sand Patch and Eucla. The telegraph stations were manned by a Telegraph Master (also referred to as a Station Master) and one or more assistants.<sup>6</sup>

There was little telegraphic traffic on the East-West line initially, and the single wire, which could carry only one message each way (duplex system), was sufficient for the time. By the 1890s, however, gold discoveries had greatly increased telegraphic business. Delays of up to a week were common as a backlog of messages developed at each station. Communication with the eastern goldfields had to go through Albany and Perth and then to Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. Improvements were required in the telegraphic

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<sup>1</sup> A *History of Norseman*, Norseman Historical and Geological Museum, [nd], 12-page booklet, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> A *History of Norseman*, op cit, pp. 1-2.

<sup>3</sup> A *History of Norseman*, op cit, p. 2.

<sup>4</sup> Notes by G. Compton Spencer, National Archives of Australia File K1209, Folder 15, Eucla Post Office.

<sup>5</sup> Stevens, G. P., 'The east-west telegraph, 1875-7', *Early Days*, Vol. 2 Pt 13, 1933, pp. 16-35.

<sup>6</sup> Stevens, G. P., 'The east-west telegraph....', op cit.

system as well as larger premises to accommodate expanded operations and staff numbers.<sup>7</sup>

The Manager of the Telegraph Department, G. P. Stevens, recommended the construction of a new two-wire telegraph line from Esperance, on the East-West line, to Coolgardie through Norseman in the Dundas goldfield, and another two-wire line direct from Eucla to Norseman. New technology introduced at this time allowed two messages to be carried each way per wire (quadruplex system). This meant that the existing East-West single-wire line and a new two-wire inland line would be comfortably able to handle the increased telegraphic traffic.<sup>8</sup>

The survey for the route of the line from Coolgardie to Esperance was conducted by surveyor Allan Raeside, who reached Esperance on 24 February 1895. Raeside drowned while swimming at Esperance on the day he arrived. His fieldbooks, found with his clothes on the beach, provided sufficient information for the construction of the telegraph line to commence.<sup>9</sup> On 23 January 1896, it was reported that A. J. Grant, surveyor of the Public Works Department, had arrived at Eucla to begin a survey of the route for the Eucla-Norseman section. He had been provided with a portable condenser and thirteen camels for the journey. Another surveyor was to start at the Norseman end of the route. The survey, estimated at 600 miles, was described as the second largest of its kind in Australia, the survey from Adelaide to Darwin for the Overland telegraph line in 1871, being the longest.<sup>10</sup>

The tender for construction of the lines was awarded to Isidore James Knight Cohn, who quoted for the work at the rate of £30-12-0 a mile.<sup>11</sup> Cohn used 150 camels to transport the materials for the Coolgardie to Norseman section, and by May 1896, he had around 500 camels and 80 men working in teams on various sections of the line. A link from the line was constructed to the Eyre telegraph station.<sup>12</sup> The new lines were strung with copper wire on iron poles, the copper wire giving better transmission than iron wire and the iron poles being able to withstand the harsh conditions better than the timber poles used on the East-West line.<sup>13</sup>

In 1896, plans for a Post Office and Telegraph Station at Norseman were prepared by the PWD, under Chief Architect George Temple Poole. New telegraph stations were also to be built on the East-West line and an extra station established on the new inland line at Balladonia, halfway between Eyre and Norseman. The West Australian Public Works Department was responsible for the design of post offices in the State until 1925, when the Commonwealth Postmaster General's Department took over the work. In

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- <sup>7</sup> Notes by G. Compton Spencer, National Archives of Australia File K1209, Folder 15, Eucla Post Office; 'Eucla, Ancient and Modern', *Transmitter*, 16 March 1898, typescript copy, National Archives File K1209, Folder 2, Eucla Post Office; Memories of Jim Hancock, op cit.
- <sup>8</sup> Notes by G. Compton Spencer, op cit; [Erickson, Rica, \*Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians\*, Perth, UWA Press, 1988, p. 2935.](#)
- <sup>9</sup> *The Eucla Report*, researched and written by L. J. Hanley, Officer in Charge, Commonwealth Archives Office, Perth, 1968, National Archives of Australia, File K30, 1967/24, p. 2.
- <sup>10</sup> *West Australian*, 23 January 1896, p. 5.
- <sup>11</sup> *West Australian*, 'The New Overland Telegraph Line', 21 March 1896, p. 3.
- <sup>12</sup> *West Australian*, 21 March 1896, p. 3; 25 May 1896, p. 6; 16 July 1896, p. 5.
- <sup>13</sup> [Lawrence J., \*Perth-Adelaide Telegraph Link: 1877\*, J. Lawrence, 1945, typescript. Lawrence was an operator at Eucla in 1897; \*Plan of Esperance Bay-Eucla telegraph line\*, Sheet 7, GWS WSD 1383, SROWA.](#)

the forty-year period from 1885 to 1925, when a large number of post offices were constructed in the State, four PWD chief architects were responsible for the designs. They were George Temple Poole (1885-1896), John Grainger (1897-1905), Hillson Beasley (1905-1916) and W. B. Hardwick (1916-1926).<sup>14</sup>

Tenders for construction of *Norseman Post Office* were called on 8 May 1896, and the place was built by Fletcher and Kent, being completed in July 1897.<sup>15</sup> An early, but undated, site plan shows the place with a separate kitchen building at the rear.<sup>16</sup> The verandahs at the rear were added after initial construction. Early photographs indicate without the bike shed, toilet and with no verandahs on the side walls.<sup>17</sup> The site plan, the c.1910 floor plan and physical evidence indicate that the room under the main roof currently used as a kitchen was part of the original construction.<sup>18</sup> *Norseman Post Office* was situated on Norseman Town Lot 48, part of Reserve 3550 comprising Lots 46-48. The Reserve was gazetted on 16 October 1896.<sup>19</sup>

The first Postmaster at Norseman was Robert William Lloyd, appointed on 1 June 1896. He remained at Norseman until 1 July 1906, and was later appointed Superintendent of the Mail Branch at Perth, and a Senior Inspector. In 1900, *Norseman Post Office* had six staff, including a telegraph boy.<sup>20</sup>

From about 1905, production on the goldfields throughout the State began to decline. In 1908, Norseman Gold Mines Ltd closed, but completion of a railway line from Coolgardie to Norseman in 1909 ensured the town remained viable as the railhead and service centre for the district. Further mine closures followed in the 1910s. In 1927, construction was completed on the Norseman to Esperance section of the railway line. With the completion of the line, the trains no longer took an overnight stop at Norseman, reducing telegraph and mail work at *Norseman Post Office*. In addition, in March 1927, the East-West telegraph lines were closed following construction of a three-strand line along the route of the Trans-Australia railway line. The telegraph connection between Esperance and Albany and Esperance and Coolgardie remained, but the closure of the Eucla to Norseman line obviated the need for *Norseman Post Office* to act as a repeater station. The place was firstly downgraded to a Post Office Grade 1 (instead of a Post and Telegraph office), and the position of telegraphist-in-charge was abolished, as were the positions of clerical assistant, postal clerk and senior mechanic. Staff positions then comprised the Postmaster and telegraph messenger, and the place appears to have been downgrade further to a Grade 3 office. In a Grade 3 office, the Postmaster was required to undertake more counter work and less managerial and clerical work.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Pope, B., Bush, F., Bloomfield, W. & Kelsall, D. *Historical and Architectural Assessment of Post Offices in Western Australia*. National Trust of Australia (WA) for the National Heritage Commission, 1993, p. 17.

<sup>15</sup> Australia Post notes, 19 March 1980, HCWA Place file 0767; *West Australian Government Gazette*, 8 May 1896, p. 761. Page 2216 of the 1896 Government Gazette, on which the acceptance was listed, is missing from the copy at Battye Library.

<sup>16</sup> Site plan of Reserve 3550, c.1897, National Archives File PP828/1, 1975/781.

<sup>17</sup> Letter to HCWA from owners, Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03.

<sup>18</sup> Floor plan, PWD [16--], c.1905, National Archives File K1209, Norseman 1850-1969; Floor plan, BBW 2126, 1949-1963, National Archives File PP828/1, 1975/781.

<sup>19</sup> DOLA Reserves Index Enquiry, Reserve 3550.

<sup>20</sup> National Archives File 1209, Norseman, 1850-1969.

<sup>21</sup> *A History of Norseman*, op cit, p. 3; Gunzberg, A. & Austin, J., *Rails Through the Bush*, Light Railway Research Society of Australia, Melbourne, 1997, p. 207-208; National Archives

By 1934, mining prospects were improving, with several small mines under development and Western Mining Inc and Norseman Gold Mines Ltd employing around 350 men. The general population was approximately 1500 to 1700 and postal business was increasing. In October 1934, the staff comprised the Postmaster, acting postal clerk, acting postal assistant and acting telegraph messenger. Postal revenue doubled from £580 in 1931-32 to £1157 in 1933-34 and in 1935, *Norseman Post Office* was regraded as a Grade 2 Post Office.<sup>22</sup>

In 1936, a contract letter delivery service was requested, as the facilities at *Norseman Post Office* could not deal with customers collecting mail at the twice-weekly mail delivery. The letter delivery service was begun on 1 March 1939. An extra telegraph messenger was employed at this time, as terminating telegraphic traffic was increasing. On 30 January 1940, staff comprised a Postmaster Grade 3, senior postal clerk Grade 1, two postal clerks, a postal assistant Grade 1, and two telegraph messengers.<sup>23</sup>

In 1959, renovation work at *Norseman Post Office* included a complete revamp of the post office area, and included new counter, writing slope, posting slips and floor coverings.<sup>24</sup> Painting and repairs were also carried out to the quarters at this time. The work was done by the Midland Painting Service for £3,225.<sup>25</sup> The installation of septic sewerage and two toilets attached to the place, to replace the earth closets on the back boundary, was also undertaken. A major wall was removed, possibly in the 1940s or 1950s which originally separated the public space from the telegraph equipment. New support beams were added in the ceiling cavity for structural support at this time.<sup>26</sup>

Additions to *Norseman Post Office* proposed at this time, and which comprised five rooms for a telephone exchange and depot on the Ramsay Street frontage, were not constructed. A telephone exchange and depot was instead built on the adjoining lots of the Reserve in 1961.<sup>27</sup>

The chimneys and mantelpieces serving the corner fireplaces have been removed and covered with masonite at some time.<sup>28</sup> The original mantelpieces in the current lounge room and kitchen are intact. A window from the public area into the mailroom was filled in during the 1970s. This window was used for handing out mail to customers on the outside of the post office.<sup>29</sup>

In 1984, Reserve 3550 was cancelled and Lots 46-48 were placed on separate titles for disposal.<sup>30</sup> In 1993, title to *Norseman Post Office* was transferred to Jacqueline Ann Wilson, and in 1996 to Graham and Miriam Menadue. *Norseman Post Office* was given a management category A rating on the Shire

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File K1184, 259/1, staffing 1926-1950; Information of telegraphist R. Pitcher, 1966, National Archives file K1209, Folder 15, Eucla.

22 National Archives File K1184, 259/1, op cit.

23 National Archives File K1184, 259/1, op cit.

24 The counter from the 1959 renovations was, at some stage, shortened and moved to the rear wall. Letter to HCWA from Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03

25 National Archives File K1209, Norseman, 1850-1969, op cit; floor plans, 1905 and 1949-63.

26 Letter to HCWA from owners. Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03

27 Department of Works plan 11326, [late 1950s]; floor plan BBW 2126, 1949-1963; physical evidence; National Archives File PP828/1, 1975/781, 1958-1980.

28 Physical evidence.

29 Letter to HCWA from owners. Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03

30 DOLA Reserve Index Enquiry. Reserve 3550, indicating Reserve cancelled; Certificate of Title Vol. 1675 Fol. 295, Lot 48 only, 7 September 1984, owner Australian Postal Commission.

of Dundas Municipal Heritage Inventory, adopted on 14 August 1995.<sup>31</sup> The current Australia Post fit-out was carried out after 1996. This included the conversion of the doorway, which led to the former postmaster's office, into a cupboard.<sup>32</sup>

Unlike many early goldfield towns, Norseman has survived largely due to its service role for the surrounding pastoral region and because of its position at the junction of the Coolgardie-Esperance and Eyre highways. It is the major gateway to the State for road traffic from Adelaide, and provides free showers, toilets and barbeques for travellers. Gold mining activity has increased in the district in recent years.<sup>33</sup> The place continued to operate as a post office throughout the twentieth century.

Since February 2002, *Norseman Post Office* has been in the ownership of Mark Thompson and Joanne Russell. An Australia Post facility occupies the post office section of the place and the owners reside in the residential section, including the former postmaster's office.<sup>34</sup>

### 13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

*Norseman Post Office* is located on the northeast corner of Prinsep and Ramsay streets in the town of Norseman. The intersection is marked by a roundabout with freestanding sculpted corrugated iron camels. The street parking is angled along Ramsay Street. In that vicinity, under the PO verandah roof, is a public telephone box, the post office boxes built into the PO wall and a large air conditioning unit on brackets attached to the wall. The remainder of the Ramsay Street frontage, towards the rear of the site is a 1.8 metre high colorbond fence. The rear yard along the Ramsay St boundary is grassed and planted with shrubs and flowers. On the west side of the residential section, fronting Prinsep St, is the former telephone exchange building, not included within the curtilage of *Norseman Post Office*.

*Norseman Post Office* displays characteristics the Federation Bungalow style. Typical of the style, the place is a ground-hugging, single storey, verandahed building with simple massing and broad roof planes, constructed of natural materials. The main elevations are well proportioned.

*Norseman Post Office* comprises the post office and associated functions, and the former postmaster's residence, with a separate freestanding laundry building at the rear of the building, in the vicinity of the bathroom, and a freestanding garage structure at the rear of the site.

*Norseman Post Office* is a single-storey face stone construction with a corrugated iron roof. The roof is hipped with skillion extensions. The hipped roof is clad with corrugated iron that has subsequently been painted. The paint is flaking off the roof surface. The street front verandah roofs have been painted on the undersides. Original galvanised gutters and downpipes are mostly in place. Only one chimney is evident, a painted face brick corbelled chimney at the rear on the south side.

The face stone is regular in shape and laid in random coursing with rendered quoins. The stone is white line pointed on all elevations, although much of the line-work is not clearly visible. The verandahs around the two street

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31 Hocking Planning & Architecture, *Shire of Dundas Municipal Heritage Inventory*, 1995.

32 Letter to HCWA from owners, Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03.

33 [\*Western Australia: Country cities and towns street directory\*, UBD, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, 2000, p. 330.](#) |

34 DOLA Reserves Index Enquiry, Reserve 3550; Certificates of Title Vol. 1675 Fol. 295 & 1967 Fol. 765.



fronts and three sides of the court are included under the main roof, at break pitch, and supported by 0.100 metre square timber posts in metal stirrups.<sup>35</sup> The street front verandahs are cement paving slabs and other verandah floors are concrete with some cracks evident.

The footprint of *Norseman Post Office* is predominantly a 'U', with street front verandahs on the north and west sides, and an open court between the rear wings of the otherwise connected post office and residence. The post office entry is a double door across the truncated street corner. It provides entry into the postal hall with the mailroom on the left, along the Ramsay St frontage, and access to the rear verandah and court. Along the left side of the verandah are a storeroom and an ablution facility. On the right, on the other side of the small courtyard, is an enclosed verandah in the residential section. Residential entry is an unobtrusive recessed door on the Prinsep St frontage. The entry is central to flanking windows, within a broader street frontage. The door opens into a corridor with one room on the left and three rooms on the right (west) before opening onto an enclosed verandah with another three rooms on the right, including the bathroom and enclosure at the far end.

On the east end of the Ramsay Street north wing, is a small asbestos clad extension (bike shed) with a face brick ablution area behind it on the south side. The residential verandah at the rear has been enclosed with a timber framed asbestos clad dado and aluminium framed sliding glass windows. The ceiling is lined on the rake with asbestos sheets and the verandah floor in that vicinity has been laid with ceramic tiles. The court area has a pergola roof structure with fabric covering to provide shade protection.

The residential entry and other external doors are four-panelled flush doors with multi-paned fanlights above. The external mailroom entry doorway has been moved from a central position to the eastern side of the room. The post boxes now occupy the doorway's original position.<sup>36</sup> The main entry doors are c.1950 fully glazed doors in timber frames with chrome handles. The windows generally are timber framed double casement sashes comprising nine panes to the upper sash and two panes to the lower sash, although the main windows flanking the truncated entry, on both street frontages, have sidelights. The windows at the rear of the postal hall have painted glazing on the lower panes. The interior doors are the original four-panelled doors with original hardware. A door in bedroom three has been boarded over on the postal hall side to form a cupboard. The other door opening on that wall has been infilled.

On the interior, the original timber floorboards are covered in vinyl or carpet, although the Postmaster's residence floorboards have been replaced. The timber skirting boards and architraves are in place. The walls are hard plaster and decorative air vents are in place high on most walls. Most of the rooms have plasterboard ceilings with deco design cornices, although some rooms with no cornices are perhaps the original lathe and plaster ceilings.

The post office is fitted out with a standard Australia Post shop fitout and counters. Original timber shelves remain in place in the storerooms and pantry, and there are more recent air conditioner vents on the underside of the ceiling in the postal hall. The back-to-back truncated corner fireplaces in

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<sup>35</sup> The original decorative stop chamfered posts were replaced as evidenced by a photograph from 1938. Letter to HCWA from owners, Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03

<sup>36</sup> Letter to HCWA from owners, Jo and Mark Thompson 18/3/03.



bedrooms 1 and 2 and the postal hall have been boarded over, although the original arched fireplace is revealed in bedroom 3 (originally the Post Master's office). The fireplaces in the kitchen and living room each have original timber mantelpieces in place, and the Metter's wood stove remains in the kitchen. The kitchen has a c.1950s fitout. The bathroom is currently being restored, but reveals a c.1970s fitout that includes ceramic mosaic floor tiles.

*Norseman Post Office* is generally in good condition. There is evidence of serious rising damp with fretted mortar and damp stone, particularly on the Ramsay Street frontage but also the Prinsep Street front wall and the north wall of the kitchen. The place shows some evidence of change, in the removal of walls and blocking of doors in the postal hall, the addition of the bike shed and ablutions, court roof structure and installation of c.1970s toilet facilities. *Norseman Post Office* has retained a high degree of integrity. The place is mostly intact, and demonstrates a high degree of authenticity.

The asbestos clad laundry structure is of little heritage significance, and the garage at the rear of the site is of no heritage value.

### 13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Because of its original function as a telegraph office as well as a post office, *Norseman Post Office* has larger operational areas than many post office buildings designed under the direction of George Temple Poole between 1885 and 1896. The office area has been described as virtually identical to the Leonora Post and Telegraph Office (1897) (Place 1476), which is understandable as this building served a similar function as an important telegraph station at the northern end of the Kalgoorlie-Leonora railway line.<sup>37</sup> Hamelin Pool Post and Telegraph Station, Shark Bay (Place 11720) is another of the larger places, currently used as a museum.

A number of Poole's country post offices were superseded early in their life because of the small post office space provided. Examples were at Narrogin (1892, demolished 1961) and Beverley (1893, site Place 8800), where the second post offices were constructed between 1910 and 1913. Examples of goldfield post offices designed by the PWD under George Temple Poole, and which are listed on the State Register, are *Coolgardie Post Office & Associated Buildings* (Place 569, constructed 1894), *Cue Public Buildings* (Place 629, constructed 1895), and *Southern Cross Post Office* (Place 2808, constructed 1891). Other examples of his post offices on the State Register include *Government Buildings, Marble Bar* (Place 814, constructed 1895), *Old Albany Post Office* (Place 30, constructed from 1868), *Moora Post Office & Quarters* (Place 1601, constructed 1896), *Pingelly Post Office* (Place 2252, constructed 1893), *Roebourne Post Office* (Place 2334, constructed 1887), *York Post Office* (Place 2855, constructed 1895) and *Toodyay Post Office & Residence* (Place 2576, constructed 1897).

### 13.4 REFERENCES

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### 13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

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<sup>37</sup> Information from HCWA Place file 0767.  
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