



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES
PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 19855
2. **NAME** *Bull Pen Shelter Shed and Archaeological Deposits (c. 1902-1907)*
(Other Names) Bull Pen (Broome Prison), Broome Gaol, Native Cell
3. **LOCATION** 13 Hamersley Street, Broome
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Part of Reserve 2551 being portion of Lot 2828 on Deposited Plan 92172 and being part of the land contained in Crown Land Title Volume 3101 Folio 599 as shown on HCWA curtilage map 19855.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Broome
6. **OWNER AT INTERIM** State of WA (Responsible Agency: Department of Corrective Services)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Registration 06/09/2013
Permanent Registration 24/01/2014
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION 38 OR 59 OF THE ACT**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Bull Pen¹ Shelter Shed and Archaeological Deposits, comprising a rectangular 'cage-like' enclosure with low masonry walls and metal grilles extending to a timber-framed, half-hipped corrugated metal clad roof, adjacent landscape elements and archaeological deposits, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

¹ The origins of the name 'Bull Pen' are unclear. The design of the place, believed to have provided an open secure holding area for the Aboriginal prisoners during the day, probably took into account prevailing attitudes towards Aboriginal people at that time i.e. that they were 'primitive' and would cope better with incarceration if able to associate and be 'outdoors'. It is probable the name developed as a colloquial term for the place due to its open design and function as historically Aboriginal men were often viewed as aggressive and volatile.

the significance of the Bull Pen Shelter Shed extends beyond the existing Broome Regional Prison to reflect the histories of colonisation and incarceration in Broome and the Kimberley while also holding strong associations for prisoners, their families and prison officers, providing a physical reminder of the relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in the North West;

the Bull Pen Shelter Shed is the only structure remaining from the 1894-1907 establishment of Broome Prison. It represents the continuous use of the site for the incarceration of prisoners in the North West since 1894;

the Bull Pen Shelter Shed is one of only two such prison facilities of similar design dating from the early 1900s in Western Australia, which were specifically constructed to hold Aboriginal prisoners;

the wider Broome Regional Prison site provides a sense of place for residents through its location in the centre of town and as a marker of Broome's history as one of the earliest government facilities.

Support facilities adjacent to the place, including those constructed between 1980-2010, are of little significance. The partitioned cubicle in the Bull Pen Shelter Shed is intrusive.