



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

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 403 Law & order

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Trayning Police Station is a small simply planned timber police station with well considered details appropriate to its functional requirements. The former Police Quarters is a good example of a simply designed timber house that displays, in their simplest form, some of the aesthetic characteristics of the Inter-War California Bungalow style. (Criterion 1.1)

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters is a group of appropriately scaled and sited civic buildings within the open landscape of a typical, small, Western Australian Wheatbelt town. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters contributes to an understanding of policing in the State, and is representative of the need to establish a permanent base for police operations in the developing Wheatbelt town and district of Trayning. The place has continuously operated as a police station from 1924 up to 2003. (Criterion 2.2)

11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters is valued by the community for its contribution to the built environment of the Trayning town site, as is

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

evidenced by its inclusion on the Shire of Trayning Municipal Inventory. (Criterion 4.1)

The importance of the role of *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters* in the law, order and safety of the local community was demonstrated by the campaign to keep the police station operating in the late 1980s. (Criterion 4.1)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1. RARITY

Trayning Police Station is rare as one of nine timber police stations built between 1900 and 1930.

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The former Police Quarters is a representative example of a Public Works Department medium sized timber house built during the Inter-War period. The building is typical of detached houses built to provide accommodation for a range of civil servants such as schoolteachers, stationmasters and district engineers. (Criterion 6.1)

12.3 CONDITION

Trayning Police Station appears to be in a very good condition. The building benefits from a regular programme of maintenance. The former Police Quarters appears to be in a sound condition, despite being unoccupied and not regularly maintained.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Trayning Police Station has high integrity as it continues to fulfil its original intended purpose. The former Police Quarters is of moderate integrity. Although no longer used as accommodation for the Officer-In-Charge this original use could, if required, easily be reinstated.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Trayning Police Station has high authenticity. The interior is remarkably intact, in particular the retention in working order of the original fixtures and fittings.

The timber ramp and the lean-to verandah covering it are very recent additions and they do not affect the original fabric.

The large area of bitumen paving in the front part of the site and the freestanding carport at the front of the building both diminish the authenticity of the setting.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Kristy Bizzaca, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Alan Kelsall, Kelsall Binet Architects.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

The place comprises the Trayning Police Station and the associated former quarters for the Officer-In-Charge, both of timber construction, which were

constructed in 1924 to plans drawn up by the Public Works Department. Very little work, mainly in the form of modernisation, has been carried out to the buildings since this time.

It was in 1867 that the first land in the Trayning district was taken up at Yarragin by Henry Twine of Newcastle. This grazing run was sold two years later to C. Adams and E. Ward, who are said to be the first settlers of the area, and by 1871 two other pastoral stations had been established. Progress of the district was slow until the 1880s and 1890s with the discovery of gold in Yilgarn and the Eastern Goldfields and increased travel through the central and eastern wheatbelt by people on their way to the goldfields. The opening of the railway to the Eastern Goldfields in 1896 encouraged further settlement along the route.¹

The development of the district was given further impetus with implementation of a land settlement scheme for redundant civil servants in 1908 by Minister for Lands and Agriculture James Mitchell. In 1909, the Civil Servants Resettlement Scheme grew to incorporate the areas of what are now Yelbeni, Kununoppin, Nungarin and Trayning, thus increasing settlement in these areas. The State Government aided the new farmers with funds for clearing the land made available through the Agricultural Bank, and then by sinking water wells in 1912. With the drought conditions of 1914 the government gave further assistance by approving the first extension of the Eastern Goldfields Water Pipeline into the district.²

The Ninghan Road Board was founded in 1912 and the Trayning town site was gazetted in this same year.³ On 10 July 1914, Reserve 15512, which comprised 4 acres and 32 perches, was gazetted for police purposes in the town.⁴ Yet, it was some ten years later that the Public Works Department (PWD) drew up the first plans for *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*.

The Report of the Commissioner of the Police in 1922 stated: 'With the gradual development of the South-western portion of the State and the Wheatbelt, the time is not far distant where police protection will be required at many more centres in those areas.'⁵ In that same year, it was said that police stations were urgently required in the wheatbelt towns of Nungarin, Wongan Hills and Kulin.⁶ By 1923, a police station at Trayning was also under construction.⁷

In 1923, a site plan of the proposed police station and quarters for the Officer-In-Charge (OIC) shows that it was initially proposed to construct the

¹ Mulcahy, M., 'Duri-iring: An outline of the development of the Trayning district with an emphasis on the contribution of Catholics', typed manuscript, Grayland Teacher's College, 1968, pp. 3 & 4; Whelans Consultants + Tanya Suba, 'Shire of Trayning Municipal Inventory', July 1997, n. p.; Bizzaca, K. & Considine & Griffiths Architects, 'Conservation plan for Railway Hotel (fmr), Coolgardie', prepared for Larry James & Tracey Evans, December 2000, pp. 2 - 4.

² Mulcahy, op. cit., pp. 6 - 9.

³ 'Shire of Trayning Municipal Inventory', op. cit.

⁴ *Government Gazette*, 10/7/1914.

⁵ Report of the Commissioner of Police, for the year ended 30/6/1922, p. 4, in *Votes & Proceedings*, 1922/1923, Vol. 2.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Report of the Commissioner of Police for the year ended 30/6/1923, p. 3, in *Votes & Proceedings*, 1923, Vol. 1.

buildings on the west of Reserve 15512 facing Twine Street.⁸ It is not known why the place was completed in its current position. However, from the title of the amended block plan, it would appear that the change occurred at the recommendation of the local PWD Supervisor (sic).⁹

Tenders opened for the construction of the Trayning Police Station on 23 February 1923.¹⁰ There is no mention of the police quarters being part of the contract in the *Government Gazettes* at the time, but the plan set shows the residence was part of the building contract. Tenders were offered again in April 1923¹¹ and, on 25 May, it was announced that Geo. H. Gamel had been awarded the contract at a cost of £1,564.¹²

The amended block plan of the place shows *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*) as constructed. The western portion of the reserve was the police paddock with the remaining eastern section dedicated to buildings associated with the police station. Facing Sutherland Street, behind an open picket fence, were the police station to west and the OIC's quarters to the east. The northern part of this block served as a horse paddock enclosed with a post and rail and contained a timber stable, comprising two stalls and a saddle and feed room. Other outbuildings included a washhouse (still extant), and water closet to the rear of the quarters and several water tanks.¹³

It is interesting to note that the plan of the police station appears to have been changed at some stage. The original drawings record a small rectangular timber building incorporating an office and two cells, and an adjoining enclosed exercise yard for prisoners.¹⁴ In comparison, the later block plan shows an L-shaped building, which had a slightly larger office to the front and cells in the rear section.¹⁵ A standard PWD plan was used for the OIC's quarters. Of timber construction, the residence comprised three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and a rear verandah with bathroom and storeroom.¹⁶

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters was opened in January 1924 at a total cost of £1,721/11/0.¹⁷ One mounted constable manned the police station at Trayning and Constable Page was the first police officer appointed in the town. He is believed to have been transferred from Mullewa to the

⁸ Trayning Police Station, 26/2/1923, PWD22444, located at DHW Plan Room.

⁹ Trayning Police Station, Amended Block Plan Compiled from Supervisor's (sic) Sketch PW154/23, 16/10/1924, PWD 22444, located at DHW Plan Room.

¹⁰ *Government Gazette*, 23/2/1923.

¹¹ *Government Gazette*, 19/4/1923.

¹² *Government Gazette*, 25/5/1923.

¹³ Trayning Police Station, Amended Block Plan Compiled from Supervisor's (sic) Sketch PW154/23, 16/10/1924, PWD 22444, located at DHW Plan Room; Trayning Police Station, Elevations and Floor Plans of Quarters, Stable and Cells, 7/2/1923, PWD 22444, Drwg No. 3.

¹⁴ Trayning Police Station, Elevations and Floor Plans of Quarters, Stable and Cells, 7/2/1923, PWD 22444, Drwg No. 3.

¹⁵ Trayning Police Station, Amended Block Plan Compiled from Supervisor's (sic) Sketch PW154/23, 16/10/1924, PWD 22444, located at DHW Plan Room.

¹⁶ Trayning Police Station, Elevations and Floor Plans of Quarters, Stable and Cells, 7/2/1923, PWD 22444, Drwg No. 3.

¹⁷ Pashley, A. R., *Policing Our State: A History of Police Stations and Police Officers on Western Australia 1829 – 1945*, Educant, Perth, 2000, p. 476; Report of the Department of Public Works and Labour, 1923/1924, p. 35, in *Votes & Proceedings*, 1924, Vol. 2.

town.¹⁸ Prior to the establishment of Trayning Police Station, an officer regularly visited the Trayning district from the Wyalkatchem Police Station.¹⁹

By 1925, Constable Symes had become the OIC at Trayning.²⁰ Constable S. B. Allanson was appointed to the position in c. 1927 and remained there up to c. 1930, at which time he was replaced by S. Dewar.²¹ From 1935/1936, Constable John Patterson was OIC at Trayning Police Station and remained there up to at least 1949.²²

In the early 1950s, several plans were drawn up for repairs and renovations to the place. In 1953, it was decided to remove the stable from its original position to a new location in between the police station and the OIC quarters where it would be converted for use as a car garage.²³ This had been carried out by 1957.²⁴ Other work in this period included the replacement of the existing post and wire fence and open picket fence with link mesh fencing.²⁵

Plans dated 15 August 1957 proposed changes to the sewerage and water disposal system to *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*. The original water closet was demolished and the timbers reused for the installation and construction of a new toilet at the rear of the residence. A water tank was also removed as part of the repairs. At the police station, the urinals and toilets, which had subsequently been added to the east of the exercise yard were modernised.²⁶

In November 1960, tenders opened for the completion of renovations to *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*.²⁷ As no further information has yet been found with regard to this work, it is not known what it comprised or indeed if it was ever carried out.

Repairs were undertaken to the residence's hot water system, including what appears to be the renovation of the existing bathroom, in late 1968. Plans of this work also show that a paved pathway had been put in place to provide access between the rear of the quarters and the laundry (washhouse).²⁸

In his *Random Recollections: A Story of Trayning*, Leslie Lee recalled it was in this time period that:

18 Pashley, op. cit., p. 476.

19 Ibid.

20 *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1925.

21 *Wise's Post Office Directories*, 1927 – 1931.

22 *Wise's Post Office Directories*, 1935/1935 – 1949; WA Electoral Rolls, Mount Marshall, 21/3/1949 & 20/11/1950.

23 Trayning Police Station and Quarters, Repairs and Renovations 1953, PWD 30/540/0, located at DHW Plan Room; *Government Gazette*, 6/11/1953. The *Government Gazette* does not appear to indicate who was awarded the contract for this work.

24 Trayning Police Station and Quarters, Sewerage and Foul Water Disposal, 15/8/1957, PWD 30/540/0, located at DHW Plan Room; *Government Gazette*, 6/9/1957. The *Government Gazette* does not appear to indicate who was awarded the contract for this work.

25 Trayning Police Station and Quarters, Repairs and Renovations, 24/3/1955, located at DHW Plan Room.

26 Trayning Police Station and Quarters, Sewerage and Foul Water Disposal, 15/8/1957, PWD 30/540/0, located at DHW Plan Room.

27 *Government Gazettes*, 18/11/1960, 25/11/1960, 2/12/1960, 9/12/1960 & 16/12/1960.

28 Trayning Police Station Quarters, Repairs and Renovations Hot Water Service, 2/9/1968, PWD 30/540/0, located at DHW Plan Room; *Government Gazettes*, 11/10/1968, 18/10/1968 & 25/10/1968. The *Government Gazettes* do not appear to indicate who was awarded the contract for this work.

We had one real old style policeman with us for many years. He ruled with an iron hand if any juvenile showed signs of delinquency he would be given a clip over the ear or a boot in the rear and told to "nick off" which he invariably did. Under such circumstances nowadays the police would be charged with assault.²⁹

He goes on to state:

This same policeman, who was a keen golfer, on one occasion found himself with a prisoner when we were due to play a social inter-club match with Nungarin. Not wishing to go without his golf he found the solution by making his victim caddy for him. He also thought that it was good for the prisoner's sole to chop wood and we often accused him of running someone in when his wood pile was running low.³⁰

Lee also recollected several times when the residence of the OIC was a show case in the town as a result of the gardening skills of the officer and/or his wife.³¹

Over the years, Reserve 15512 was gradually reduced in size primarily because of the increasing use of the motor vehicle made redundant the use of horse in police work and thus the acreage associated with grazing. In 1957, the reserve was reduced to 2 acres, 3 roods and 8 perches³², and in 1977 Lot 170 was excluded for the area.³³ This has resulted in the loss of what was the western horse paddock, which in the post World War Two period has been used for recreational purposes.

A Shire of Trayning meeting on 15 February 1988 was visited by a delegation from Western Australian Police Department, who formally advised the Council of long-rumoured plans to close the one man *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters* by the end of 1988. The reasons for this being the lack of work due to low crime and accidents and the age and inadequacy of the existing buildings. The Police Department proposed that the Wyalkatchem branch would service the Trayning area.³⁴

This announcement was met with a strong community reaction against the move and the Shire of Trayning and members of the district subsequently implemented a letter and petition campaign.³⁵ In May 1988, the Council was informed of the Police Department's decision to rescind their plans for the closure of *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*. Due to support from local Members of the Legislative Assembly and Council, the Shires of Nungarin and Wyalkatchem as well as large numbers of the local community, the Department had reviewed the duties of Trayning police officer and had increased the responsibilities to include road patrols and to provide assistance to other stations in the area.³⁶

On 16 February 1990, Reserve 15512 was vested in the Commissioner of Police.³⁷

²⁹ Lee, L., *Random Collections: A Story of Trayning*, no publisher listed, Western Australia, n. d. [c. 1978], p. 51.

³⁰ Lee, op. cit., pp. 51 & 52.

³¹ Lee, op. cit., p. 52.

³² *Government Gazette*, 22/11/1957.

³³ *Government Gazette*, 6/9/1977.

³⁴ 'Ningham News Inc', a newsletter printed voluntarily in Trayning, 18/2/1988.

³⁵ 'Ningham News Inc', a newsletter printed voluntarily in Trayning, 18/2/1988, 3/3/1988 & 21/4/1988.

³⁶ 'Ningham News Inc', a newsletter printed voluntarily in Trayning, 5/5/1988.

³⁷ *Government Gazette*, 16/2/1990.

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters was included on the Shire of Trayning Municipal Inventory on 17 June 1998.

In February 2003, Trayning Police Station continues to be used as the local Police Station. The former Police Quarters which had been used as temporary accommodation by a Shire employee for around two years has been vacant for about a year.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters were constructed in 1924 to plans drawn up by the Public Works Department. Both buildings are of timber and iron construction and remain largely intact

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters are situated on the north side of Sutherland Street. The street is the first to the north of the railway reserve, which divides the township, and runs in a east west direction parallel with the railway line.

Apart from two wheat silos the railway reserve is unoccupied. One of the silos is the lower type with a gabled roof and with both walls and roof faced with corrugated iron sheeting. The other silo, which is the landmark structure in the town, is the vertical type typical of those found in small wheatbelt towns. It is constructed of concrete and has the form of abutting cylindrical chambers. The silos are sited towards the east end of the town, just slightly to the east of *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters*.

The main street in the town, Railway Street, forms part of the Goomalling to Merredin Road. The road runs along the south side of the railway line. The few shops and civic buildings in the town are congregated around the intersection of Railway street and the Bencubbin to Kellerberrin Road.

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters faces south, across Sutherland Street, towards the railway reserve. Sutherland Street is a single lane street edged with gravel. The street verge is of gravel planted, along the north side, with a regularly spaced row of eucalyptus.

The site containing the *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters* is divided by a fence running north south. The front boundary of the site has a tubular steel post and rail cyclone wire fence.

Trayning Police Station is located about 20 metres in from the front boundary line. The front part of the site is almost completely bitumenised and provides a driveway to the garage at the side of the police station and access to the double carport in front of the building.

Trayning Police Station is the main building on the site. A free-standing garage measuring about nine metres by five metres is situated to the east of the building. The front face of the garage aligns with the back of Trayning Police Station. The garage is of the same type of construction as Trayning Police Station with weatherboard walls and a corrugated iron skillion roof.

A male and female toilet are housed in a free-standing block standing to the east of Trayning Police Station. The building sits on a raised concrete plinth. The walls are lined with asbestos cement sheets and it has a corrugated iron skillion roof.

A steel construction, open, double carport stands in front of the west half of the front of the building.

The remnants of the chook run remain at the rear of the site.

Trayning Police Station is a simply designed, almost utilitarian, building that does not display strongly any of the aesthetic characteristics of a particular style.

Trayning Police Station has an 'L' shaped plan deriving from the two component parts of the building. The western section contains the office and extends about 2.5 metres forward of the front of the eastern part of the building, which contains the two lockup cells. An exercise yard runs across the back of the building.

The main (south) façade has two parts of equal width. The projecting west bay contains a centrally located timber framed double hung sash window. Metal security mesh has been fixed across the face of the window. The building can be entered by one door only and this door is reached by a timber ramp. The ramp runs in an east west direction in front of the east part of the front façade. The door is in the east side of the projecting part of the office bay. The ramp and the lean-to roof that covers it are very recent additions.

The door is timber framed with a solid core flush ply leaf and fanlight over. The new lean-to roof runs across the fanlight. The fanlight is not glazed but is instead filled with solid timber sheeting. The east side of the front façade contains a single high level, top hung, timber framed awning sash and bars are fitted to the frame on the outside face of the window. A painted timber 'POLICE STATION' sign is fixed to this part of the façade.

The east façade is symmetrically composed and contains the windows of the two cells. The windows are set at high level and are timber framed top hung awnings. Bars and security mesh are fixed to the inside face of the windows.

The rear (north) façade of Trayning Police Station is obscured by the full height corrugated iron faced wall that runs across the rear of the building and encloses the exercise yard.

The west façade contains the brick chimney stack for the fireplace in the north west corner of the building. The one window in the facade is just south of the chimney stack.

Trayning Police Station is of timber construction raised on timber stumps about 400m above ground level. The walls are faced with painted timber weatherboarding.

The building has a medium to low-pitched hipped roof covered with corrugated iron sheeting, painted green. The roof is complete with ogee profile guttering and includes two roof vents with flues and cowls, located above the cells.

The soffits of the eaves are lined with spaced timber battens.

The chimney is of red coloured face brickwork with a corbelled top. Where the chimney stack forms part of the wall it has been painted to match the weatherboarding.

The office of Trayning Police Station is a rectangular room entered from the outside through a door in the east wall of the room. The other door in the room, also in the east wall, leads through to the passageway serving the cells.

There is a fireplace in the north west corner of the office with a plastered surround and a bracketed jarrah mantle. The fireplace has been bricked-in and now houses a wall safe.

The walls and ceiling of the room are lined with painted, v-jointed tongue and groove timber boarding. The skirtings and cornices are timber quarter-round trims. The timber floors are covered with carpet. The office is divided by a lightweight laminate-faced counter.

The door leading to the cell area is a two panel solid timber type with flush beads edging the panels. The cell side of the door is faced with steel sheeting fixed by equably spaced bolts in the door leaf. A heavy-duty barrel bolt, complete with hasp and staple, is fixed to the face of the office side of the door leaf. The timber architrave has a splayed profile.

The cell area comprises two cells and a passageway. The passageway runs in a north south direction for the width of the building and leads to the door in the north wall that opens into the exercise yard. The doors to the cells open into the east side of the passage. The passage has a timber floor of 135mm wide jarrah boarding. The walls and ceiling are lined by v-jointed tongue and groove jarrah boarding with a varnished finish.

A low level vent, that includes an opening flap, serves the cell in the south east corner of the building and opens into the passage.

The door opening to the exercise yard and the cells contains an openable fanlight. The glazed fanlights are top hung timber framed awnings. Bars are fixed to the inside of the fanlight frame. The doors are the same as the office door except that the cell doors have an observation hole set within a steel frame. The frame houses a sliding cover panel.

The cells now serve as stores and contain free-standing timber shelves. The finishes to the cells are the same as the finishes in the passage. The ceilings include perforated steel covers fixed below the roof vents.

The exercise yard is lined on three sides by walls faced on both sides by corrugated iron fixed vertically. Steel mesh supported on timber joists spans the top of the exercise yard.

The south wall of the yard is the rear wall of the Trayning Police Station. Opening into the exercise yard is a low-level vent. The vent includes an opening flap that serves the cell in the north east corner of the building. A spy hole in the north wall of the office overlooks the exercise yard.

The east wall of the enclosure contains an open alcove for the water-closet. The alcove is divided by a partition. The urinal that used to be in one half of the alcove has been removed.

Trayning Police Station seems to have undergone very few alterations. The PWD drawing³⁸ shows a rectangular plan whereas the building plan is 'L' shaped, formed by a larger office area. It remains uncertain as to whether or not this change is the result of an alteration but the physical evidence suggest that the building type was changed before work commenced. The ramp to the entrance and the verandah roof above it are recent alterations.

Trayning Police Station appears to be in a very good condition. The building benefits from a regular programme of maintenance.

The Former Police Quarters is sited about 7.5 metres from the front boundary fence. The area between the house and the front boundary is covered with gravel. The Police Quarters is the main building on its site. A free-standing

³⁸ Trayning Police Station, Elevations and Floor Plans of Quarters, Stable and Cells, 7/2/1923, PWD 22444, Drwg No. 3.

metal shed stands in the rear yard, which was built at the same time as the Police Station as a wash house.

The Former Police Quarters is a simply designed timber house that displays, in their simplest form, some of the aesthetic characteristics of the Inter-War California Bungalow style.

The composition derives from a standard plan form of four rooms, three bedrooms and one living room, in the main body of the building with a kitchen at the rear of the building housed in a wing projecting from the rear facade.

The front (south) façade is symmetrically composed with a central doorway with a window set to either side. A verandah runs across the full width of this façade.

The verandah is of timber construction and is raised about 400 mm above ground level. The floor is of spaced boarding. The outer edge of the verandah is supported on square timber posts. The west and east ends of the verandah are enclosed by timber framed walls with asbestos cement sheeting on the outside faces.

The timber-framed door opening contains a glazed openable, bottom hinged, fanlight. The timber door is a four-panel type with flush beading.

The east façade contains four double hung sash windows, one to the bedroom which is at the front of the house; a grouped pair to the living room in the centre and one to the kitchen. The window to the bedroom is not shown on the original PWD drawing. Steel-framed sunshades are fixed above the bedroom and kitchen windows. A type of external venetian blind, which is in a very poor condition, is fixed to the living room windows.

The rear façade is asymmetrically arranged. The dominant element is the east bay containing the kitchen. The bay steps forward from the rest of the façade and the wall height of the wing is the same as that of the main body of the house. The remainder of the rear facade is the area formed by the enclosure of the rear verandah. The outer edge of the enclosed verandah abuts the side wall of the kitchen.

The red coloured, face brickwork chimney stack of the kitchen is central within the north wall of the bay. The brickwork projects beyond the face of the flanking weatherboard wall. The chimney has a corbelled top.

The one double hung sash window in the west facade is to the bedroom located at the rear of the main part of the house. Small windows light the bathroom and store that are housed within the enclosed rear verandah. A timber framed opening containing adjustable glass louvres has been added to the side wall of the front bedroom. Both bedroom windows have timber-framed sunshades.

Former Police Quarters is of timber construction raised on timber stumps about 400m above ground level. The walls are faced with painted timber weatherboarding.

The roof above the main body of the building is a medium to low pitched gambrel type with timber vents to the half gables on the west and east faces of the building. The front verandah roof is integral with the main roof and continues at the same pitch. The rear verandah has a break in pitch. The kitchen wing at the rear of the house has a hipped roof.

The roof is covered with short lengths of corrugated iron sheeting. The roof is painted green. The roof is complete with ogee profile guttering.

The soffits of the eaves are lined with spaced timber battens.

The chimney of the fireplaces serving the front bedroom and the living room is of red coloured face brickwork and has a corbelled top.

An evaporative air-conditioning unit is mounted on the main ridge of the roof.

The front door of the Quarters leads to a central corridor. Bedrooms at the front of the house open off the east and west sides of the corridor which leads through to the living room. There is no corridor in the area of the living room. The door to the third bedroom is off the west wall of the living room.

The four rooms at the front of the house all have the same finishes. The walls consist of v-jointed timber boarding to dado level and sheeting, probably asbestos cement, with cover battens above it. A coved cornice edges the flat ceilings.

Door openings have splayed profile timber architraves. Doors are four panelled. The timber floor is carpeted. There are no skirtings.

The fireplaces have plastered surrounds and bracketed jarrah mantles. The fireplaces contain gas heaters.

A door in the north wall of the living room aligns with the front door and opens on to the rear verandah. This verandah has been enclosed and serves as a vestibule. The kitchen opens off the east side and the bathroom, a small store and toilet are arranged along the west side. The toilet is housed in a later addition, which extends beyond the general line of the outer face of the verandah.

The kitchen appears to have been fitted out with built-in cupboard units in the 1950s. A gas cooker stands in the fireplace. The finishes to the kitchen are the same as those to the front part of the house, except that the floor has a sheet vinyl finish and there is an area of wall tiling above the timber wainscoting.

The enclosed verandah has painted timber weatherboarding to the walls and vinyl sheeting covering the timber floors.

The bathroom contains a bath and the walls are lined with asbestos cement sheeting. It appears to be a 1950s fit-out.

Former Police Quarters remains largely unaltered. The main change is the enclosure of the rear verandah, and the construction of an indoor toilet (1957). Also the front bedrooms have had additional windows, in both cases inserted, in their sidewalls.

The Former Police Quarters appears to be in a sound condition, despite being unoccupied and not regularly maintained.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

According to the Heritage Council database there are 47 places built for police use between 1900 and 1930. Of these, 9 police stations were built of timber. None of these are on the State Heritage Register.

Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters was one of five police stations opened in 1923/1924. The others were located at Kulin, Nungarin, Wongan

Hills and Lake Grace.³⁹ A new police station was also purpose built at Harvey in this year.⁴⁰

Of the police stations listed above, the ones at Nungarin and Wongan Hills are still extant. Plans and photographs of these buildings indicate that they were identical to the one constructed at Trayning; being timber and comprising cells, an office and exercise yard.⁴¹ The plans for the police station at Lake Grace were not amended like that at Trayning to provide for the construction of the office at the front of the building. This police station in particular indicates the original planning intention for that at Trayning.⁴² The police station at Bencubbin constructed in 1926 is also very similar construction to that at Trayning, but in the reverse plan.⁴³ This suggests that Public Works Department plans for the small country one-person stations were of a standard design with a slight variation between buildings with a rectangular plan and the slightly larger building which have an 'L' shaped plan.

Plans and photographs for the OIC's quarters also indicate the use of a standard plan for residences, which is typical for those built by the PWD. However, it should be noted that additions and alterations to the residences do vary.⁴⁴ For example a photograph of the still existing residence at Wongan Hills shows that the front verandah has been partly infilled to form a balustrade.⁴⁵

The former Police Quarters is a representative example of a Public Works Department medium sized timber house built during the Inter-War period. The building is typical of detached houses built to provide accommodation for a range of civil servants such as schoolteachers, stationmasters and district engineers.

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

No key references.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH

A complete list of officers who have served at *Trayning Police Station and former Police Quarters* has not been researched as part of this project and should be done at a later date.

The prevalence of these building types has yet to be determined.

³⁹ Report of the Commissioner of Police for the year ended 30/6/1924, p. 4, in *Votes & Proceedings*, 1924, Vol. 2.

⁴⁰ Report of the Department of Public Works and Labour, 1923/1924, p. 35, in *Votes & Proceedings*, 1924, Vol. 2.

⁴¹ Cornish, M. (comp.), 'Shire of Nungarin Heritage Inventory', prepared for the Shire of Nungarin, 1998; 'Shire of Mount Marshall Municipal Heritage Inventory', prepared for the Shire of Mount Marshall, 1995; HCWA File: PD1436; HCWA File: PD 2750; HCWA Database.

⁴² Photographs dated 5/5/1982, in HCWA File: PD1436.

⁴³ 'Shire of Mount Marshall Municipal Heritage Inventory', op. cit.

⁴⁴ Ibid; Cornish, op. cit.; HCWA File: PD1436; HCWA File: PD 2750; HCWA Database.

⁴⁵ Photograph dated 6/6/1982, HCWA File: PD2750.