



## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

### 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

#### PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 7.5.4 Policing Australia

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

- 403 Law & order

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has aesthetic value as a good example and a competently designed and well-constructed institutional building in the *Federation Queen Anne style*. (Criteria 1.1)

The building uses a number of elements typical of the designs of the Public Works Department of this period. It is of interest in the way the *Federation Queen Anne style* has been skillfully used to achieve an appropriate aesthetic that is suited to the disparate requirements of a police lock up and a residence. (Criteria 1.1)

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has notable landmark qualities reinforced by the openness of the adjoining playing fields. (Criteria 1.3)

The openness of the site to the north of the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* reinforces the visual link between it and the Cottesloe Primary School. The *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* and the Cottesloe Primary School were both designed by the Public Works Department within a few years of each other and although built to a larger scale, the school shares many of the aesthetic characteristics of the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)*. These shared aesthetic characteristics and their original institutional uses give the site occupied by the school and *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* a precinctual quality. (Criteria 1.4)

#### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is representative of the development of the Western Australian Police Forces at the turn of the century as a result of the availability of money for public works, the huge increase in population during the gold rush period, and the suburbanisation of Perth and

\* 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.

subsequent increase in crime and civil disorder. *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* was one of six suburban police stations opened in 1908; the others being West Perth, North Perth, Perth Causeway, Victoria Park and Maylands. (Criterion 2.1)

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is associated with the development of Cottesloe and Peppermint Grove and represents the subsequent need to establish a permanent base for police operations in this suburban area. (Criterion 2.1)

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* was the first police station built in the Cottesloe and Peppermint Grove area and operated as a police station from 1908 to 1970. (Criterion 2.2)

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has associations with eminent botanist Marion Blackwell and with the operations of Blackwell and Associates, one of the first private landscape architectural firms in Western Australia. (Criterion 2.3)

The place was designed by the PWD during the period that Hilson Beasley was Principal Architect. (Criterion 2.3)

### 11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

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### 11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

The place is highly valued for its contribution to the historic character of the area and, as a result, contributes to the local and wider communities' sense of place. This is illustrated by its inclusion in the Register of the National Estate, as well as its classification by the National Trust. The importance of the place to the community has been illustrated when the WA Police disposed of the place and concerns were raised regarding its preservation. This resulted in the placement of a National Trust covenant on the property. (Criteria 4.1 & 4.2)

## 12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

### 12. 1. RARITY

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is typical of the cottage style police stations that were built in the Perth Metropolitan area at the turn of the century. It appears however that *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* may have a degree of rarity value because it seems to be the only one of these stations that is constructed using stone, which is likely to be a reflection of its location in the prestigious suburb. (Criterion 5.1)

### 12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is representative of a period in the development of the Western Australian Police Force and the construction of suburban police stations when the residential quarters for the Officer In Charge and the operations of the police station were incorporated within the one building. This is a way of life that has changed over time. (Criterion 6.2)

### 12. 3 CONDITION

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is in fair to good condition and shows few signs of deterioration. The building has benefited from a regular maintenance programme. There are some signs of damp to the ceilings in the locations

where the fireplaces have been removed but the chimneys above have been retained.

#### 12.4 INTEGRITY

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has a moderate degree of integrity because it no longer serves its original intended purpose as a police station. However the changes carried out to achieve its current use have been executed in a manner that allows the original building to be clearly understood and the only major alteration has been the removal of walls to create larger offices. If necessary these walls could be reinstated

#### 12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The original composition of the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has been compromised by the 1940 alterations to the west face of the north wing. The interior has been considerably modified during the 1990 adaptation of the place for use as professional offices, although this is a sensitive adaptation of its time with interpretation of removed elements. Most of the original fabric of the place remains intact and the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* has a low to moderate degree of authenticity.

### 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

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)*, a single storey stone and brick construction Federation Queen Anne style building, is located at 550 Stirling Highway, Peppermint Grove.

In September 1886, Governor Sir Frederick Napier Broome suggested the name 'Cottesloe' for the crown land that was about to be subdivided between Perth and Fremantle. This name was taken from the title Baron Cottesloe of Swanbourne and Hardwick bestowed upon Thomas Fremantle, brother of Captain Charles Fremantle, in 1874.<sup>1</sup>

Although the route for the Perth-Fremantle Road, which was eventually constructed by convict gangs in the 1860s, lay through the Cottesloe area, very little settlement had taken place up until the early 1890s. This remained the case even after Governor Broome had opened the Eastern Railway, Fremantle to Guildford railway line, in 1881 thus allowing for more permanent settlement of the area. By 1893, there were still only six fixed residents in Cottesloe.<sup>2</sup>

Growth of the area was greatly contributed to in 1895 when the Western Australian Government granted £100 to the improvement of the Perth-Fremantle road and £100 toward its ongoing maintenance. This made Cottesloe, and also Buckland Hill and Mosman Park, more accessible for both residents and holidaymakers.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ruth Marchant James, *Heritage of Pines: A History of Cottesloe*, Town of Cottesloe, Second Edition, 1992, pp. 3 & 15.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, pp. 10; *In Retrospect 1897 - 1907*, Brochure by F. A. Moseley, St Columba's Manse, cited in Marchant James, op. cit., p. 15.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid, p. 12.

It was largely as a result of the wealth generated by the State's gold boom in the 1880s and 1890s and its beachside location that Cottesloe developed as a prestigious suburb. In the late 1890s, the elaborate residences and holiday cottages of the State's prominent families were constructed in the emerging town.<sup>4</sup> Among those who built holiday homes or lived in Cottesloe were; Attorney General, the Hon Septimus Burt, KC at *Tukurua* (1896), General Bank Manager of Western Australia H. D. Holmes at *Le Fanu* (1897), and F. D. North CMG at his residence Catlidge (now demolished).<sup>5</sup>

The huge increase in population associated with the discovery of gold also contributed to this suburbanisation of Perth. This growth and the subsequent increase in crime and civil disorder, the availability of money for public works as well as self-government had a significant impact on the development of the Western Australia Police Force.<sup>6</sup> In 1892, Western Australia's Police Act was passed.<sup>7</sup>

By 1906, the Police force had grown from 207 men in 1890 to 492, approximately 300 of these having joined in the last six years.<sup>8</sup> The regulation and expansion of the Police Force led to plans to establish a number of police stations throughout metropolitan and regional areas.<sup>9</sup>

In the *Police Gazette* dated 23 May 1900 there is a notice of transfer for 'Second Class Constable C. Turner, No. 465, from Perth to Cottesloe, 18-5-1900'.<sup>10</sup> No record was found of a police station operating at this time in Cottesloe. It is likely that Turner was in fact what was known as a foot constable; the name given to police officers who covered their allotted area on foot.<sup>11</sup> This appears to have been quite common during this period, North Perth also had a foot constable prior to the construction of its police station in 1908.<sup>12</sup>

In the early 1900s, constables and sergeants were required to daily patrol hotels, the railway station, beaches, the river and other areas within Cottesloe, Buckland Hill, Peppermint Grove and Freshwater Bay. This area was covered on foot or bicycle, and occasionally even on horseback.<sup>13</sup>

Tenders were not called for the erection of *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* until 10 January 1908.<sup>14</sup> A separate contract was let on 17 January 1908 for the purchase and removal of the existing building on the reserve for *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)*.<sup>15</sup> A plan of this residence, included in the contract

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4 Ibid, pp. 7 & 15.

5 Ibid, Chapters 7 & 18.

6 Edmonds, L. (Centre for Western Australia History), 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', prepared for CAMS on behalf of the WA Police Service, May 1998, pp. 21 - 22.

7 Ibid, p. 21.

8 Ibid, p. 22.

9 Ibid, pp. 21 - 22.

10 *Police Gazette*, No. 21, 23 May 1900. In 1901, one Charles Turner is listed as having resided at Webb Street, Cottesloe; however, it is not known whether this person was actually the police constable. *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1901.

11 Lawrence, R. M. (Senior Constable), *Police Review 1829 - 1979*, Police Department Public Relations Branch, Government printing Office, 1979, pp. 27 - 28.

12 North Perth Police Station HCWA Assessment Documentation, prepared by HCWA Staff and Laura Gray in association with Gillian O'Mara, March 1997.

13 Marchant James, op. cit., p. 38.

14 *Government Gazette*, 10 January 1908.

15 *Government Gazette*, 17 January 1908.

drawings, shows a simple three-roomed house. Two sheds and a fowl yard associated with the existing building were retained and adapted for reuse. (One shed was converted into a washhouse.)<sup>16</sup> The contract for the removal of the building was awarded to W. Henville on 8 February 1908 for his price of £20.<sup>17</sup>

On 28 February 1908, the tender for the construction of *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* was awarded to Charles Moore at a cost of £866/2/7.<sup>18</sup> Of limestone construction, the building incorporated rooms for the police station as well as a residence for the officer in charge. A porch with the words 'POLICE STATION' overhead led to the charge room, which in turn led to the exercise yard and two cells. The quarters comprised of three bedrooms, a living room and kitchen. The place was designed by the PWD during the period that Hilson Beasley was Principal Architect.<sup>19</sup>

Constable William 'Ginger' Lynn was recorded as the first officer in charge of *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)*, Perth-Fremantle Road in 1907/1908.<sup>20</sup> Lynn had actually replaced Constable Turner in 1906.<sup>21</sup> Other police stations that also opened at this time were West Perth, North Perth, Perth Causeway, Victoria Park and Maylands<sup>22</sup>

On 17 March 1923, local newspaper *The Western Chronicle* reported that Richard Sykes Rhodes (48) had 'called at the Cottesloe Police Station and informed the constable stationed there that he had attempted to take his own life.' After requesting medical assistance, the constable was ordered to take Rhodes to Fremantle Hospital where he was treated for his injuries.<sup>23</sup>

In 1934, Perth-Fremantle Road in Cottesloe became known as Stirling Highway. *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is listed at number 14 Stirling Highway from this time. In this year, George Drysdale was the sergeant (officer in charge) at the police station.<sup>24</sup>

A sewerage plan of the area surveyed in March 1935 shows the police station in its original form. Both the northern and the southern ends of the rear verandah are enclosed. Outbuildings include a weatherboard structure and two brick closets.<sup>25</sup>

Plans had been drawn up for alterations to *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* in October 1930. As part of the works, it was proposed to convert the front porch (northern gable) for use as a detective's office. This comprised the installation of a new timber floor, the replacement of the ripple iron ceiling with fibro, blocking the windows of what had been the front elevation, and

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16 Cottesloe Police Station PWD Plan 13548/2 & PWD Plan 13548/3, PWD Plan Set 30/13/0 (1194), 14 January 1908.

17 *Government Gazette*, 14 February 1908.

18 *Government Gazette*, 6 March 1908.

19 Cottesloe Police Station, PWD Plan 13548, PWD Plan Set 30/13/0 (1194), 14 January 1908.

20 *Wise's Post Office Directories*, 1907 & 1908.

21 Marchant James, op. cit., p. 37.

22 'Report of the Commissioner of Police', *Votes and Proceedings*, 1909 – 1910, Vol. 2.

23 *The Western Chronicle*, 17 March 1923, p. 2.

24 *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1934.

25 Peppermint Grove Road Board District, PWD Sewerage Plan 1522, Sheet No. 1186, March 1935. To the rear of house numbers 10 and 12 and the police station is a large galvanised iron stables. It is not certain to which place this was associated.

the construction and rendering of a new brick wall façade.<sup>26</sup> A verandah running from the north-western corner of the building to the exercise yard was also proposed.<sup>27</sup>

A search through the *Government Gazettes* from 1930 to 1940 provides no information about these additions.<sup>28</sup> The first mention of work carried out to *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is the letting of a tender on 19 January 1940.<sup>29</sup> This coincided with plans for the conversion of the exercise yard to an office in January 1940, including the construction of a fireplace on the southern wall of the room.<sup>30</sup> It is thought that all alterations and additions to *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* were carried out at this time.

In the intervening years since the gold boom period, the Perth metropolitan area maintained a certain level of growth until the mineral boom of the 1950s and 1960s. In this period, in the 1960s in particular, there was expansion of the Police Department and its facilities, not only in terms of increase in numbers but the growing numbers of specialised branches and departments.<sup>31</sup>

In 1968/1969, plans were prepared for the construction of a district office in Marmion Street, Cottesloe.<sup>32</sup> This was opened in 1970.<sup>33</sup> From this time, *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* appears to have been rented out by the Police Department as a residence.<sup>34</sup>

By late 1989, it became public knowledge that the Asset Management Task Force (AMT) was considering the disposal of Cottesloe Police Station by way of auction and much concern was raised with regard to the possible demolition and redevelopment of the site.<sup>35</sup> It was primarily as a result of these concerns that the place was classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA Branch) on 6 November 1989.<sup>36</sup>

In October 1989, AMT asked the Shire of Peppermint Grove to rezone *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* from 'public use' to 'commercial' so that the building could be sold.<sup>37</sup> In December, the Shire informed AMT that it would agree to the rezoning subject to a covenant being placed on the building guaranteeing its preservation.<sup>38</sup>

In February 1989, after negotiations between the National Trust and AMT, a restrictive covenant was drawn up. Chairman of the National Trust, Margaret Feilman, also recommended that the property be rezoned to 'special office use' because retail/commercial use would not be suitable for its

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- 26 Cottesloe Police Station, PWD Plan 32746/1, PWD Plan Set 30/13/0 (1194), 20 October 1930.
- 27 Ibid. Although a doorway was installed at some stage to provide access between the residence and the police station, access to the station is believed to have originally been through this side verandah.
- 28 *Indexes to the Government Gazettes*, 1930 – 1940.
- 29 *Government Gazette*, 19 January 1940.
- 30 Cottesloe Police Station, PWD Plan 29093, PWD Plan Set 30/13/0 (1194), 3 January 1940.
- 31 Lawrence, op. cit., pp. 37 – 40.
- 32 Cottesloe Police Station, PWD Plan Set 30/13/1 (1194).
- 33 Edmonds, op. cit., Appendix F.
- 34 *Subiaco Post*, 8 May 1990.
- 35 *Subiaco Post*, 24 October 1989.
- 36 HCWA Database.
- 37 *Subiaco Post*, 27 February 1990.
- 38 Letter dated 21 December 1989, National Trust Files: Peppermint Grove 9.

location and the historic character of the building. This was agreed to by the AMT and was detailed in the restrictive covenant.<sup>39</sup> This covenant was registered on the Certificate of Title in time for the public auction of the building on 26 May 1990.<sup>40</sup>

On 29 June 1990, ownership of *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* was transferred to Anthony Bowen Blackwell and Prudence Romily Benjamin, for use as the offices of landscape architects Blackwell and Associates.<sup>41</sup>

Plans for the restoration and adaptation of the place for use as the offices for Blackwell and Associates were submitted to the National Trust for approval in June 1990. In July 1990, the National Trust approved the works providing that its was carried out in a way sympathetic to the historic character of the building.<sup>42</sup>

The works completed at this time included the replacement of the existing asbestos roof sheeting, gutters and downpipes; the restoration of all verandahs; the installation of a tea preparation area; the removal of the east wall, fireplace and chimney in the former charge room; the removal of the interior wall between the passage way and former bedroom; and, the removal of the wall and fireplace between what were two bedrooms in the southern part of the former residence.<sup>43</sup> Since this time, two more interior walls and a fireplace have also been removed to create an open office area.

In April 2000, *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* continues to be occupied by landscape architects Blackwell and Associates.

## 13. 2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

The site of the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* contains one building and it now serves as the offices of Blackwell and Associates, Landscape Architects. The postal address of the site is 548/550 Stirling Highway.

### *Siting*

The site on which the building is located is bounded on the north and east sides by the playing fields of Cottesloe Primary School. The site is separated from the playing fields by a timber picket fence and on the north side it abuts a brick equipment storage building. The retail building on the lot to the south of the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is set back to provide car parking spaces.

The main façade of the building faces west on to Stirling Highway. The building is set back from the front boundary line which is defined by a brick pier and wrought iron balustrade garden wall. The building does not run parallel to this boundary line. The north west corner is set back approximately two metres and the south west corner five metres. A brick paved driveway runs from Stirling Highway along the northern side of the site to serve the staff car park that is located to the rear of the building. The front garden is divided into three areas. The central area is brick paved and the width corresponds to the length of the verandah to the building. A palm tree is located centrally within this paved area. Formal sunken gardens are situated on each side of the central paved area.

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39 *Subiaco Post*, 27 February 1990; *Subiaco Chronicle*, 6 March 1990.

40 *Subiaco Post*, 8 May 1990; *West Australian*, 12 May 1990.

41 Certificate of Title, Vol. 1881, Fol. 980.

42 Letters dated 1 June 1990 & 9 July 1990, National Trust Files: Peppermint Grove 9.

43 National Trust File: Peppermint Grove 9.

### ***External form and style, and details of each of the building(s)***

The building is approximately square in plan with a complex roof forming a series of gabled wings. The walls of the building are constructed using a combination of stone and brickwork. The roof is of red coloured Colorbond finished corrugated iron roof sheeting.

With an ensemble of varied roof shapes, that have prominent half-timbered effect bracketed projecting gables dominating the composition, and wide verandahs with timber posts; the building is classified as being built in the *Federation Queen Anne* style. The asymmetry of the original design has, in part, been lost by later additions.

The **west façade** is composed with gabled wings to the north and south end. The wings are separated by recessed verandah. The body of the walls is of limestone in squared uncoursed rubble. The corners of the wings and the surrounds to two of the windows and the main doorway are brick dressed. The third window, which is positioned centrally within the face of the north wing, has rendered reveals. All windows have rendered sills. The finish to the face of the north wing is concrete render, executed in the style of limestone. The wings have half-timbered gables, which project slightly in front of the line of the wall, and these are supported by a series of timber corbel brackets. The upper portion of each gable has a further projection, which contains a fixed timber louvre vent. The window opening in the north wing contains two timber framed double hung sash windows that are separated by a central mullion. The south wing and the verandah have single timber framed double hung sash windows. The west wall of the verandah is set back approximately three metres from the front line of the building. There is a window set centrally within this wall and a six-panel timber entrance door is located at the southern end. The verandah floor is paved with terracotta tiles. The verandah is supported on turned timber posts.

The **north façade** has a verandah running from the west corner for approximately two thirds of this face to abut a wing that projects from the north east corner. On this façade the ridge of the main roof of the building terminates as a half-timber gable. The roof is hipped above the wing at the north east corner. Half the length of the wall of the recessed verandah is of limestone similar to the verandah on the west façade. The remainder of this wall is rendered. The wall of the projecting bay is of face brickwork in English bond. A glazed panel door is located at the west end of the verandah and a half-glazed framed T&G door provides access from the verandah to the east wing. Two timber framed double hung sash windows separated by a brick mullion are set centrally within the wall of the verandah. The verandah has concrete floor. The lean-to verandah roof is supported on turned timber posts that have square section timber balustrading between them. The window opening within the east wing contains two double hung sash windows separated by a timber mullion, similar to the windows in the north wing of the front facade.

An enclosed lean-to verandah runs for approximately three quarters of the length of the **east façade**. The verandah has a parapet at the south end and abuts a projecting wing at the north end. The roof of this wing is bounded by parapets and is set at a level approximately one metre above the roof of the verandah. The back of the verandah roof abuts the former external wall of the building. Two half-timbered gabled roofs terminate on this external wall. For most of its length the verandah is enclosed with a timber framed window-wall, with the remainder being of brick. The projecting wing in the north east corner is of brickwork in English bond.



The wall of the **south façade** is of limestone similar to the verandah of the west face. The main roof of the building terminates as a half-timbered gable on this face. A timber frame double hung sash window is located in the wall directly below the apex of the gable. A smaller window opening containing two double hung sash windows is situated to the eastern end of the façade. The wall to the rear third of this side of the building is set back approximately 300mm. The corners of the wall and window openings are brick dressed.

### ***Internal layout and details***

The interior has been altered mainly by the partial removal of walls to enable the building to be used as an office. The original locations of the removed walls have been indicated by the use of coloured concrete strips into which have been set the imprints of handcuffs and keys. Large openings have been formed by the partial removal of the walls and these are lined with steel I section portal frames.

The front door originally served as the entry to the 'residential' part of the building and at that time it opened into a corridor that led through to the rear of the building. The north wall of this corridor has been removed so that the front door now opens into a reception room that incorporates the former corridor. Two doorways lead from the south wall of the reception area into the single office/conference room that has been formed by the removal of the original dividing wall. A single doorway leads through the north wall of the reception room to a drawing office, the south wall of which has been removed linking it to the large drawing office that runs for the width of the building in a north south direction. A small meeting room occupies the west end of the north wing. The thickness of the wall separating this room from the small drawing office indicating that this is a later alteration and that this area was originally the front entry porch to the 'lock-up' section of the building. The east side of the open drawing office running the width of the building is flanked by the enclosed rear verandah and at the north end by the former retention cells. To a large extent the fabric of the former cells has been retained with only minor adaptations to form a store and a tea preparation room. The enclosed verandah has a raked ceiling and the room now serves as office space.

Apart from the obvious removal of walls the original fabric of the interior including the moulded timber architraves and skirtings has been retained. Typically the floors are tongue and grooved jarrah. The ceilings are undecorated flat fibrous plaster reinforced with metal lathe except for the northern end of the large drawing office which is battened fibrous plaster. There are moulded plaster picture rails in the reception room and the southern end of the large drawing office. Typically the internal doors are of four panelled timber construction. Only the fireplace at the south end of the large drawing office has been retained. All other fireplaces have been removed and their original locations identified by the use of coloured concrete. The retained fireplace has an arched opening and a moulded jarrah surround with a bracketed mantelpiece.

Studded tongue and groove timber doors with barred fanlights over them lead to the former retention cells. The walls of these cells are painted brickwork and the ceilings are boarded jarrah in which are set cast iron vents. The windows are barred and have timber inserts to reduce the size of the openings.

### ***Subsequent alterations***

It appears from documentary evidence that the first alterations to the building took place in 1940 although plans had been drawn up for alterations to *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* in October 1930. The works included the conversion of the front porch, which was in the north west corner of the building, into an office. This part of the work comprised the installation of a new timber floor, the replacement of the ripple iron ceiling with fibro, blocking the windows of what had been the front elevation, and the construction of a new stone wall façade. This coincided with plans for the conversion of the exercise yard to an office in January 1940, including the construction of a fireplace on the southern wall of the room. This campaign of works also included the conversion of the exercise yard to an office with a fireplace on its south wall. The verandah that runs from the north-west corner of the building to the former exercise yard was also built at this time and it seems from documentary evidence that this served for a time as the entrance to the working part of the station.

A further alteration was made to the building while it was still serving as a police station although the date of the change cannot be substantiated by documentary evidence. In the period before it ceased operating as a police station the building was used fully for police purposes and no longer served as a police residence. The public entrance to the building was via the front door off the verandah. The former bedroom appears to have served as a reception area and a door opening was cut into the north wall of this room to connect it to the original police working and detention area.

The second series of major alterations were carried out to the *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* in 1990. These works took place after the change of ownership and consisted mainly of the removal of internal wall to provide the larger offices required by Blackwell and Associates. The works completed at this time included the replacement of the existing asbestos roof sheeting, gutters and downpipes and the restoration of all verandahs. Internal alterations included the installation of a tea preparation area within one of the former cells; the removal of the east wall, fireplace and chimney from the former charge room; the removal of the interior wall between the entrance passage way and a former bedroom and, the removal of the wall and fireplace between what were two bedrooms in the southern part of the former residence. Since this time, two more interior walls and a fireplace have also been removed to create the open office area that runs the length of the eastern side of the building.

### ***Appearance and condition of the building to date***

Generally the building is in fair to good condition and seems to have benefited from a regular maintenance programme. There are only a few isolated cases of minor cracking to some walls.

The most noticeable defect is the areas of damp to the ceilings in the locations where the fireplaces have been removed but the chimneys have been retained above.

## **13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

*Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is one of a series of 'cottage style' police stations built for the Perth Metropolitan area and the south west of the State built between the mid 1890s and World War One. The plans are characterised by the clear separation of the police working and detention areas and the police residence housed within the single building. This division of the building into

distinct public and private areas is given emphasis by the elevational treatment of the building particularly that of the front façade. At *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)*, North Perth Police Station, Subiaco Police Station and the South Perth Police Station the working part of the station was approached through a porch of more substantial appearance while the main door the residence was off a verandah of lighter construction. The Public Works Department used a similar planning device in small country Post Offices such as Dongara and Moora.

The cottage style police stations appear to have been typically of brick construction with painted rendered elements such as sills, quoining and keystones in the manner of the Federation Free Style c1890-c1915. In contrast, *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is designed in the Federation Queen Anne style c1890-c1915. *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* is an unusual example of a police station of limestone construction, which is likely to have been a reflection of its location in a prestigious area as well as in keeping with the materials used in the construction of the nearby school. The place was designed by the PWD during the period that Hilson Beasley was Principal Architect.

Other police stations that were built during the same period as *Cottesloe Police Station (fmr)* include: Marble Bar Police Station (1895); Roebourne Police Station (1896); Fremantle Police Station (1897); Mingenew Police Station (1898); Subiaco Police Station (1899); North Perth Police Station (1907); Maylands Police Station (1908); South Perth Police Station (1908); and, Victoria Park Regional Police Office (1908).

#### 13.4 REFERENCES

Dr Leigh Edmonds (Centre for Western Australian History, UWA) 'Western Australia Police Thematic History', prepared for CAMS on behalf of WA Police Service, May 1998.

#### 13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

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