



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 0594
2. **NAME** *WA School for Deaf Children* (1900; 1903; 1905; 1909; 1935; 1949; 1958; 1964; 1969; 1971)
FORMER NAMES West Australian Deaf and Dumb Institute
Western Australian School for Deaf and Dumb Children
OTHER NAME Western Australian Institute for Deaf Education.
3. **LOCATION** 53 Curtin Avenue, Cottesloe
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Cottesloe Suburban Lot 88, being Crown Reserve 23147 and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3090 Folio 879.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Town of Cottesloe
6. **OWNER** The State of Western Australia.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	12/05/2000
	Permanent Entry	14/07/2000
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	30/09/1995
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
WA School for Deaf Children, comprising the main school building (1900; 1905; 1935; 1949; 1958), the former Manual Arts Training Building (1903), the A Y Glyde Memorial Hall (1958), the former C S Harper Memorial Library (1969), the former Superintendent's house (1964), two classroom blocks (1964 and 1971), a swimming pool, tennis courts and playing fields, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the main building has aesthetic value as a good example of a competently designed and well constructed institutional building in the Federation Queen Anne style;

the place has landmark value. The style and scale of the main building is enhanced by its location in an open setting and on the brow of a slight rise;

the place demonstrates the successful efforts of the Committee of Management and staff to provide education, technical training and boarding facilities for deaf children from 1896 until 1949, when the Government took over the responsibility for this institution;

the place was one of a number of educational, health and welfare facilities, established in the late nineteenth century by private individuals and supported by philanthropic committees. Its site on the summit of a hill near the ocean is representative of the philosophy of the time of providing a prominent and aesthetically pleasing site to both publicise the work of the place and to provide some compensation for the disadvantages experienced by these special groups;

the place has rarity value for the longevity of its association with the education of deaf children. The WA Institute for the Blind, Maylands (1895) is the only other pre-1900 institution established to provide welfare, education and health facilities for people with special needs, which is still in operation;

the different building phases of the main building were designed by three prominent Western Australian architectural firms: Wilkinson and Smith (1899), Hobbs Smith and Forbes (1905 and 1909), and Eales, Cohen and Bennett (1935), with later additions (1949 and 1957) were designed by the Public Works Department;

the main building and the attached additions built over various campaigns have a high degree of integrity and authenticity; and,

in its open landscape setting, the place is one of the few remaining areas of cultural landscapes in this part of Cottesloe and serves as a reminder of the period when the area was a holiday destination, characterised by large buildings with noticeably generous verandahs occupied large open sites, generally overlooking the sea.