HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. DATA BASE No. 3631

2. NAME *Causeway Bridges* (1952)

3. LOCATION Over Swan River, East Perth

4. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY

(Firstly) Main Roads Western Australia Bridges 914 and 932 and (secondly) that portion of Main Roads Western Australia Road No. H001 and (thirdly) those portions of the bed of the Swan River, being Vacant Crown Land as together are defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No. 3631 prepared by Steffanoni Ewing and Cruickshank Pty. Ltd.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Perth

6. OWNER Main Roads Western Australia (bridges and road).

Crown (river bed).

7. HERITAGE LISTINGS

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	30/06/1998
	Permanent Entry	30/10/1998
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	08/06/1998
• Town Planning Scheme:		----------
• Municipal Inventory:		----------
• Register of the National Estate:		----------

8. CONSERVATION ORDER

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9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT

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10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Causeway Bridges consisting of two bridges, one over the eastern channel of the Swan River between the eastern shore and Heirisson Island and the other over the western channel between the Island and the western shore and connecting roadway, has cultural significance for the following reasons:

the place consists of the first bridges in Western Australia constructed of steel and reinforced concrete materials using

advanced principles of structural analysis to produce efficient structures of lasting durability;

the place is representative of the bridge building technology of the period during which they were constructed, with its structural, balustrading and bridge pier treatment design. The 1952 bridges were also innovative in lighting design;

the place represents almost 120 years of continuous bridge building endeavour up to the completion of construction in 1952;

the place is important as the river flats presented a navigation barrier to early explorers and settlers, and from the establishment of the settlement of Perth, work was carried out at the site to improve river navigation and provide a river crossing;

the place has associations with E W C Godfrey, who designed and supervised its construction, and with the Department of Public Works and the Main Roads Department. The place also has historical associations with Surveyor General J S Roe, Superintendent of Works Henry Trigg and Major F C Irwin, who designed and modified the first Causeway opened in 1843, and with Richard Roach Jewell, who designed the second Causeway that was built by convicts and opened in 1865:

the place represents a continuous point of crossing between the eastern and western shores of the Swan River, traditionally for Aboriginal people and then for European settlers; and,

the place is part of an important road link in the history of Western Australia connecting Perth with the southern suburbs and providing access to inland areas. The place is highly valued by the community in providing a link over the river for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicle transport and access to the adjacent landscaped recreational areas.

This assessment does not include the traffic interchanges and the roadways over Heirisson Island have little heritage significance.