



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Register Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 1973
2. **NAME** *Central Government Offices (1874-2015-)*
3. **LOCATION** Barrack Street, Perth
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Reserve 7123 being Lot 557 on Deposited Plan 73153 containing the whole of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3163 Folio 54 and shown on Heritage Council Curtilage Map P1973-0.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Perth
6. **OWNER AT REGISTRATION** State of Western Australia
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places:

Interim Entry	16/04/1992
Permanent Entry	08/01/1999
Amendment	14/06/2021
 - National Trust Classification: 11/06/1973
 - Town Planning Scheme: 20/12/1985
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: 21/03/1978
 - Aboriginal Sites Register: -----
8. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION OF THE ACT**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Central Government Offices comprises three former government office buildings; the Treasury Building, a three-storey brick and stucco building with a replacement slate roof, originally constructed in the Victorian Georgian style, and remodelled in the Victorian Second Empire style (1874-1904), the Lands Department, a three-storey brick and stucco building, with a replacement corrugated copper roof, in the Victoria Second Empire style (1893), and the Titles Office, a four-storey brick, stucco and iron building in the Federation Free Classical style (1897), occupying

over half a city block, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place has been associated with Government activities since the foundation of the Colony and demonstrates the developing role of government administration during the major period of Colonial expansion in the State, and is representative of the Colony's passage to full statehood within the Commonwealth of Australia;

the place has been a symbol of Government and a place where numerous significant public figures performed their work including; Surveyor General John Forrest (1883 to 1890), C. Y. O'Connor, 1891- 1902 Engineer in Chief, Politicians and State Premiers;

the place is a key element of the Cathedral Precinct with its mix of commercial, civic and ecclesiastical buildings which is a Perth landmark, and makes a major contribution to the streetscape quality of St. Georges Terrace, Barrack and Hay Streets;

the place contains major works by two of the State's most notable government architects, Richard R. Jewell and George T. Poole;

the buildings designed or modified by Poole are fine examples of the use of mannered classicism using the Victorian Second Empire Style, which was a comparatively rare choice of style for public architecture at the time, and the Federation Free Classical Style;

the exterior and the vestibule and stairs of the Titles Office, and the interior of the main GPO Entry Lobby and of the Postal Hall are of exceptional design excellence;

the development of the place demonstrates the history of regional operations, changes in administration systems and changes in economic circumstances in Western Australia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century;

despite successive building campaigns and having many later additions, the place retains cohesion through its use of the Victorian Georgian, Victorian Second Empire and Federation Free Classical styles and through the use of a palette of materials that was set by the construction of Jewell's Perth Town Hall;

the remnant sprung corrugated iron lost formwork ceilings evident in the basements of the former Treasury Building and Titles Office exhibit a high degree of technical achievement; and,

the place, along with the group of places comprising the Perth Town Hall, McNess Royal Arcade, St. George's Cathedral, Burt Memorial Hall, the Deanery and St. Andrew's Church, Stirling Gardens, the Old Courthouse, Supreme Court and Supreme Court Gardens, Council House and Government House and the Weld Club collectively connect West Australians with their past and contribute to their sense of place.

The David Malcolm Justice Centre (2015), Treasury Annexe building and associated landscaped forecourt and plaza, together with the 2015 roof top addition to the Treasury Building and the 2015 western façade additions to the Titles Office and Lands Department, are of little significance.