



HERITAGE  
COUNCIL  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 2404
2. **NAME** *Cygnnet Cinema* (1938)  
**OTHER NAME(S)** *Como Theatre*
3. **LOCATION** 16 Preston St, Como
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Lots 1, 2 and 3 on Diagram 5661, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificates of Title Volume 51 Folio 139A, Volume 51 Folio 140A and Volume 51 Folio 141A.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of South Perth
6. **OWNER** C. J Stiles, N. M. Crossing, and C.J. Anderson
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
  - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 19/08/1994  
Permanent Entry 30/06/1995
  - National Trust Classification: 02/05/1988
  - City of South Perth Planning Scheme No. 5 25/09/1986
  - Register of National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*Cygnnet Cinema* has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place is a demonstration of the new functional approach to cinema design in Perth in the late 1930s. The combination of one projection unit for both indoor auditorium and outdoor picture garden was a innovation of the period;

the place is a fine example of the Inter-War Functionalist style;

apart from being the first purpose-built sound cinema in the suburbs immediately south of the city, the place is rare as the least altered of the 1930s suburban cinemas of Perth that are in operation;

the place is closely associated with Western Australian cinema pioneer James Stiles, and cinema architect William Leighton;

the siting and distinctive form of the place has established *Cygnets Cinema* as a Como landmark; and

the place is valued and continues to be used by the community as a place of cinema entertainment.