



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.

The wording of this document has been adapted from South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 4.3 Developing urban institutions
- 5.2 Organising workers and work places
- 7.6.3 Policing Australia

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 403 Law and order
- 404 Community services and utilities

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

With its 'blood and bandages' stucco bands, façade lettering and the informal use of windows of different shapes and sizes within an elevation, *South Perth Police Station (fmr)* is a fine example of the Federation Free Style, and makes a formal presentation on three elevations. (Criterion 1.1)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is a notable landmark in South Perth, situated on a busy junction and having a double frontage to two main streets, Labouchere Road and Mends Street. The place has an enhanced prominence by its steeply pitched roof and striking striated style of detailing. (Criterion 1.3)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is contemporary with a group of civic buildings of similar domestic style and scale, within the immediate vicinity, which together coherently form a small town center and constitute the South Perth heritage precinct. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

* 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.

South Perth Police Station (fmr) combined both residential and policing functions, constructed during a time when the Officers in Charge of the Station were expected to reside on the premises with their families. The views to and from the place are uninhibited which enhanced its role as the centre of community surveillance. The changes to the building over time parallel the changes in the operations of suburban Police Stations and community policing. (Criterion 2.1)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) was an integral part of the development of South Perth, being the first purpose built Police Station in the area, in 1908, and is indicative of the use of the foreshore area for passive recreation which attracted large crowds at certain times of the year, and represents the continued presence of law and order in the South Perth area from its construction until mid-2003. (Criterion 2.2)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is a fine example of Public Works Department Chief Architect Hillson Beasley's influence on the development of civic buildings in the Western Australia c. 1900-1920, with Beasley being an exponent of the Federation Free Style of architecture. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

From 1908 to mid-2003, *South Perth Police Station (fmr)* provided the primary interface between law and order and community activities and as such, contributes to community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.1)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is valued by the community as part of a group of civic buildings that together form a heritage precinct. (Criterion 4.1)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) contributes to the community's sense of place through its age (94 years) and its prominence, being located on a busy road junction that is further enhanced by its steeply pitched roof and architectural detailing. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is relatively rare as a police station from the 1900s which has maintained its function of neighbourhood policing from 1903 until mid-2003. (Criterion 5.1)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is a fine representative example of Federation Free Style architecture being applied to civic buildings under the guidance of the Public Works Department Chief Architect, Hillson Beasley. (Criterion 6.1)

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is a representative example of a police station incorporating residential accommodation and neighbourhood policing in the first half of the twentieth century. (Criterion 6.2)

12. 3 CONDITION

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is in good condition, having been maintained by the Police Department over the years. The external fabric of the building is

good and there do not appear to be any structural problems. There is evidence of termite damage in the store and the kitchen although this appears to be inactive.

12.4 INTEGRITY

South Perth Police Station (fmr) has a low degree of integrity, having been closed as a police station in mid-2003.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

South Perth Police Station (fmr) is largely intact, and the extant fabric of the building retains a high degree of authenticity. After comparing archival evidence with the existing building, one can determine that the place is largely in its original form. Changes to the building that have occurred, such as the conversion of the residence into offices, demonstrates the evolution of use over time.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Key sections of the supporting evidence have been taken from 'South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan', prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002.

Key sections used are: 2.0 Documentary Evidence (pp. 17-33), 3.0 Physical Evidence (pp. 34-63), 3.0 Analysis of Documentary and Physical Evidence (pp. 64-72), Graded Zones and Elements of Significance (pp. 76-79).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence, refer to 'South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan', prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Physical Evidence, refer to 'South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan', prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a Comparative Analysis, refer to 'South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan', prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

'South Perth Police Station Conservation Plan', prepared for the Department of Housing and Works by John Taylor Architect, in November 2002.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH
