



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 6.2 Establishing schools
- 7.6.1 Developing local government authorities
- 7.7.3 Going to war
- 8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens
- 8.5.1 Preserving traditions and group memories
- 8.8 Remembering the fallen

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 401 Government & politics
- 402 Education & science
- 405 Sport, recreation & entertainment
- 407 Cultural activities
- 501 World wars and other wars
- 603 Early settlers

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Esperance RSL Building is a well-resolved and fine example of the Federation Arts and Crafts style, exhibiting a prominent gable roof form with decorative timber panelling and bargeboards, tall chimney, large arches and an informal arrangement of windows. (Criterion 1.1)

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial is located in a picturesque park alongside the main street in the centre of Esperance which,

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

combined with its distinctive form, makes the place a well-known landmark. (Criterion 1.2)

With its distinctive draped flag, Esperance War Memorial forms a significant sculptural element in the landscape of the surrounding park. (Criterion 1.2)

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial, together with other mature trees in the park and street plantings in the town centre, forms a tranquil picturesque setting in which the tall Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria hetrophylla*) are a prominent feature as well as a significant landmark in the town and from the ocean. (Criteria 1.3 and 1.4)

11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE

Esperance RSL Building illustrates the standard plan for school buildings erected in a regional town in the mid-1890s, when Esperance was growing rapidly in the wake of the gold boom, although unusual for its use of stone, and with some alteration to the interior of the cloakrooms in the 20th century when it served as Municipal Council Chambers and Offices (1897-1908) and Roads Board Offices (1908-66), and thereafter as headquarters for the RSL Sub-Branch. (Criteria 2.1 and 2.2)

The Norfolk Island Pines illustrate the planting of trees to beautify and shade school grounds, civic/administrative grounds and streets, and the celebration of Arbor Day by Australian communities. (Criteria 2.1 and 2.2)

The War Memorial commemorates servicemen from the town and district of Esperance who died in the World Wars, and those who served in Korea, Borneo, Malaya and Vietnam, reflecting the way Australian society has commemorated the fallen and those who served and the impact on local communities and the State. (Criteria 2.1 and 2.2)

Dempster's Station Manager G. H. Bostock was significant in establishment of a school at Esperance. Francis J. Davies drew the plan for Esperance RSL Building per a standard school plan evolved by George Temple Poole, Public Works Department Assistant Engineer-in-Chief and Architect-in-Charge (1891-96), a key practitioner of the Federation Arts and Crafts style, and it is a fine albeit minor example of Poole's work in this style. (Criteria 2.3 and 2.4)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial has the potential to contain archaeological material relating to the use of the place as a school, Municipal Council Chambers and Offices, Roads Board Offices, and perhaps headquarters for the RSL Sub-Branch. The remaining fabric of the school itself also has the potential to embody approaches to pedagogy and discipline in late nineteenth century Western Australia. (Criteria 3.1)

Additionally, the unique draped flag war memorial motif is notable as an indication of the ideological underpinnings of representations of the memorialisation of war. (Criteria 3.1)

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial in their parkland setting, which included sporting facilities in bygone days, is highly valued for social, cultural, spiritual, aesthetic and educational reasons as the first purpose built school in the town, the chambers and offices for the local

government authority for more than 70 years, and Esperance RSL headquarters since 1971. The Norfolk Island Pines have been a significant feature for more than 110 years, and the distinctive War Memorial has been the venue for ANZAC Day services for about 85 years. (Criterion 4.1)

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial, located at the heart of the main street in Esperance, is an integral and highly valued part of the town centre, and a reminder of Esperance's early and continuing history, contributing to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1. RARITY

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial has considerable rarity value as one of a small number of Federation Arts and Crafts style schools in the State, and one of only a very few 1890s schools built of granite. (Criteria 5.1 and 5.2)

The surviving 1896-97 Norfolk Island Pines are rare as the earliest surviving row plantings of this species and among a small number of surviving mature trees of this species planted in Western Australia before 1898, when the species began to be propagated at Hamel Nursery. (Criteria 5.1 and 5.2)

Esperance War Memorial is unique in Western Australia for the draped flag atop the obelisk. (Criteria 5.1 and 5.2)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Esperance RSL Building is representative of the Federation Arts and Crafts style, and the work of the Public Works Department (WA) under the direction of George Temple Poole, specifically in the design of suburban public buildings at a domestic scale. (Criterion 6.1)

The Norfolk Island Pines surrounding the Esperance RSL Building are representative of Arbor Day plantings of trees in school grounds and street plantings. On-going development of the site, including establishment of recreational facilities (i.e. tennis and croquet), is representative of the development of municipal land around council chambers and offices. (Criterion 6.1)

12.3 CONDITION

Esperance RSL Building is generally in good condition. The building has been well maintained and retains a large number of original features. There is some cracking evident within the external granite walls and the external joinery requires maintenance. However, these items could be readily addressed with an ongoing programme of repair works.

Esperance War Memorial is in good condition and is well maintained.

12.4 INTEGRITY

The integrity of Esperance RSL Building is moderate to high. The place is no longer used as a school, the purpose it was originally designed for, but retains a use that is a place of assembly.

The integrity of Esperance War Memorial is high. It was conceived as a memorial to those who died in World War I, and, as well as being a memorial to subsequent wars and conflicts, it is still used today for that purpose.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Esperance RSL Building maintains a high level of authenticity. There have been minor alterations where a new opening was cut through the internal wall between the two original cloakrooms, but overall the building maintains much of its original layout as it was when first constructed.

Apart from replacement of the plinth supporting the memorial and a replica tablet replacing a damaged original tablet (now in Esperance Museum), Esperance War Memorial retains all its original components, although relocated to a different portion of the reserve, and displays a high degree of authenticity.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Robin Chinnery, Historian, and Tom Stevens, Architect, of Howard & Heaver Architects, in 2008, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial comprises a single storey building of granite construction with an iron roof in the Federation Arts and Crafts style, built by Charles Layton in 1895-96, as the first purpose built school at Esperance; Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria hetrophylla*) planted in 1896-97; and an obelisk style War Memorial of stone and masonry construction erected in about 1922, which was relocated in 1974.

In 1890 G. H. Bostock was appointed manager of Dempster's station at Esperance Bay, as Esperance was then known.¹ In January 1891, the Bostocks agreed to board a teacher and lent a building at the station for a schoolroom. Albany Resident Magistrate R. C. Loftie sent the elderly John Michael Davis to teach 21 children from four families: the Sinclairs, Hannetts, Dousts and McGlades. Three of these families were unable to financially support a teacher, so it was proposed to establish an evening school to supplement Davis' income through teaching illiterate local residents. Although the application to the Central Board of Education for a Government School met the requirements for a new Provisional School, or alternatively a Special School, it was not granted as the school catered for only four families, all said to be employed on the one station so it would be 'practically a private school'. It was also stated there would be periods of low attendance when the children were required to work on the station, that no money was available for new schools, that it was too distant from other educational centres, and that it would be a 'great inconvenience' to supervise. A night school was also not seen as an option.² After a few months, the teacher returned to Albany.³

In late 1893, the Dundas goldfield was proclaimed.⁴ In 1894-95, Esperance being the closest port from which to travel to this goldfield, developed rapidly and its population increased to 1,500 by September 1895.⁵ In August 1894, 28 signatories (including two of the 1891 applicants) petitioned for the establishment of a Government School at Esperance, and Vivyan W. Baker advised he had been requested to take charge of the school and offered his services. He notified Plantagenet School Board the school had started with 15 children, most of whom had no previous education, charging 1s 6d per child, he was personally paying to rent a room at Lot 2 from F. J. Daw for a school room. Baker did not like the location, and suggested a school 'should be built on Gov. Reserve, between this

¹ Rintoul, John (Compiler) *Esperance: Yesterday and today*, Scott Four Colour Print, Perth, for Esperance Shire Council, Fourth Ed. 1986, pp. 36-37.

² Correspondence and application (with five of 21 names crossed out: two under three years of age, and three over fifteen) in Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, SROWA Cons. 1497 Item 1157/1894, January-April 1891; and *Emu* Vol. 9 Issue 3, Sept 2004, p. 3, which states children were aged four to nineteen years, of whom twelve were of school age.

³ Rintoul, op. cit., p. 37.

⁴ Crowley, F. K. *Australia's Western Third: A History of Western Australia from the first settlements to modern times* Macmillan & Co. Ltd., London, 1960, p. 87.

⁵ Voight, Don *Old Esperance: pictorial history 1894-1947* The Printery, Albany, 1996, p. 157; and Murray, Keith *First There Came Ships* Lamb Print, Perth, 2004, p. 45.

Block & Post Office' (i.e. Lot 19) 'or that the Gov. Block *well away from the Public House*, should be set apart', and asked if it would be possible 'to get Gov. help to erect a Building to be used as School, Institute & Church'.⁶ Such shared use was common, and the Esperance schoolroom was used for Methodist church services and Sunday School until a Church was built in 1895.⁷ Baker had no teaching qualifications but it was still considered advisable to appoint him, with Bostock to oversee and report any problems, and parcels of books etc. were sent for the school. With increasing attendances a permanent building was considered warranted. In late August, Lots 13, 14 and 15 were temporarily reserved as a school site, which Bostock confirmed would be suitable for a school site. In spring, 27 children were enrolled at the school, which continued in Daw's building though it was deemed unsuitable as no alternative was available.⁸

On 26 January 1895, the lease on Daw's building expired and an iron building (22 ft x 14.5 ft) with a small room (10 ft x 10 ft) at the rear was rented from C. Ray for the school, and enrolments increased further with the continuing influx of population. On 30 April, after Bostock recommended erection of increased accommodation, the Minister for Education gave approval for a school to be erected on Lots 13, 14 and 15, which fronted Dempster Street, the main street in Esperance, £380 having been set aside on the Works Estimate for its erection.⁹ Francis J. Davies of the Architectural Department of the Public Works Department (PWD) drew plans based upon a standard plan school building introduced by George Temple Poole, Assistant Engineer-in-Chief and Architect-in-Charge (1891-96) in 1892, for a building 30 ft x 22 ft, to comprise a gallery style classroom with a standard design fireplace and chimney piece central to the internal wall and a built-in cupboard at one side of it, with two cloakrooms (each 14 ft x 9 ft 6 in). The Esperance Bay School, to be built of local stone, on Lot 14 as shown on a plan of the townsite, was differentiated from other schools built to this plan by its detailing in the Federation Arts and Crafts design style, of which Poole was a key practitioner.¹⁰ On 31 May, tenders were called for its erection. On 21 June, Reserve 2598, Lots 13, 14 and 15, one acre 26 perches in area, was gazetted for the purpose of school site, and Charles Layton, of Albany, was awarded the contract at £734 4s 6d on 27 June.¹¹

In June 1895, Ray offered to relocate his building to the School Reserve if the Minister for Education would pay half the cost, but was advised it must be at his expense and not interfere with the new building. In early July 1895, Laurence Sinclair (who discovered gold in 1894, at the place he named Norseman after his horse), father of five children attending the school, purchased Ray's building with the intention of establishing a private school. He claimed parents were dissatisfied, requested a female teacher, and informed parents the Government School would not re-open. It was closed 12-18 July, but the sale was not finalised. Baker then re-opened it, requesting to be replaced next month, but there were further difficulties with the landlord, and the Education Department

6 Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, May-Aug 1894. Quarterly Account of School Requisites (1894-95) SROWA ACC 1203 Item 136A recorded teacher as R. W. Baker.

7 Rintoul, John, op. cit., pp. 166-167.

8 Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, Aug-Sept 1894; Admissions Register, Esperance School, 1894-1908, SROWA Cons 3932 WAS ACC1203 Item 136b; Voight, op. cit., p. 48; and *Emu* op. cit., p. 4.

9 Memos. etc. in Establishment of School at Esperance Bay *ibid*, Jan- April 1895.

10 PWDWA 3615/3, Drawing 1 to 3, 1895, SROWA Cons. 5647 Item 3615, on microfiche; and Apperly, et al, *Pictorial Guide*, pp. 140-43.

11 *Government Gazette* 31 May, 21 and 27 June 1895, pp. 769, 871, 941 respectively.

accepted Rev F. Mateu's offer to try to resolve the difficulties. The school was closed 22-25 July, while the building was being relocated to Lot 12, where Baker re-opened the school late July, before departing on 3 August, leaving it without a teacher until Amy Provis took over on 12 August. There appear to have been concerns about her suitability, but no one else was available.¹²

In July 1895, Layton (who also built the stone construction Esperance Post Office and Telegraph Office in 1895-96; now demolished) commenced building the school straddling Lots 13 and 14.¹³ On 23 July, when Baker advised the back of the building would face the street, Poole informed the Secretary for Education 'the plan used is the back portion of a standard school drawing which we have & when the whole building is complete the principal front will be toward the above street'.¹⁴ Bostock reported the school building would not be sufficiently large for the increasing school population. Poole informed the Minister for Education the school building was 'a part of a general plan now adopted for schools likely to increase. The building can be largely added to, & further accommodation will be provided as occasion requires; but the accommodation now provided is sufficient for present wants'.¹⁵ In September it was reported 'Numerous residents pray that a larger building than that proposed be erected and that quarters be provided', as that under construction was sufficient only for current enrolment.¹⁶ The Secretary for Education replied that the building being erected could accommodate 60 children and 'is only intended as part of a larger plan'.¹⁷ In December 50 children were enrolled at the school.¹⁸

By 9 January 1896, the school building was completed and furnished. The 'old building' was removed from the grounds, and the school opened under Amy Provis on 20 January, with 52 children enrolled.¹⁹ Esperance Bay School, the only stone construction school building erected in 1895-96, and one of a relatively small number of stone schools in Western Australia, had accommodation 'for about 40 children, with cloakrooms, &c. attached and necessary outbuildings'.²⁰ Photographs (1896) show the school and grounds, with the closets at the east.²¹

On 27 September 1895, Esperance was gazetted a Municipality. On 20 November, the first election was held at the 'Government School House' at Lot 36, where the Council held its first meeting on 5 December.²² It was resolved to apply for part Lot 19, with frontage to Andrew Street, on which to erect Council Chambers, and application was made for a government subsidy of £2,000, only

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- 12 Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, Jan-July 1895. Note: Laurence Sinclair (b. 1855, d. 1923) worked for Dempsters at Northam, then at Esperance from 1874, where he assisted in building their homesteads and wool sheds, and as a telegraph linesman (from 1879) spent some years in South Australia, before returning to Esperance. (Rintoul, John, *ibid*; and Erickson, Rica [ed] *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australia* UWA Press, Nedlands, 1989, p. 2826)
- 13 Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, *ibid*, July 1895; Esperance Town, 1903, J. S. Crawford, Surveyor, reproduced in Voight, *op. cit.*, p. 12; and Murray, *op. cit.*
- 14 Telegrams and memos. in Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, *ibid*, 23 July 1894.
- 15 Correspondence in *ibid*, 23 July 1895; and Rintoul, *op. cit.*, p. 40.
- 16 Correspondence in Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, *ibid*, Sept 1895.
- 17 *ibid*, 26 Sept 1895.
- 18 Annual Report, Education Department, 1895, in *Votes and Proceedings* 1896, Vol. 1, p. 17.
- 19 Memos etc. in Establishment of School at Esperance Bay, Jan 1896; Resident Magistrate Black declined the iron building for a courthouse as he had erected a 'commodious court and offices'.
- 20 Annual Report, PWD, 1895-96, in *Votes and Proceedings* 1896, Vol. 2, pp. 51-53.
- 21 Photograph by J.R. Rushton, reproduced courtesy P. Ruston in Voight, *op. cit.*, pp. 32-33.
- 22 Minute Book (Esperance), SROWA Cons 977 WAS 2179 Item 1, Nov-Dec 1895 to April 1896; and Voight, *op. cit.*, p. 97.

£500 of which was granted. Planning began for the proposed building as the Council wanted to erect it as soon as possible. In mid-February, the Council was advised of the grant of Lots 104-110 for inclusion in Esperance Town for the purposes of a Public Park, and the grant of part Lot 19 for Municipal purposes, and resolved to erect Council Chambers and Offices there. Mr Sharkey was to prepare plans, with Chambers 50 ft x 30 ft, and the Council was empowered to spend up to £250 for erection.²³ Henry 'Harry' C. Sims (b. Wales, 1860, d. Esperance, 1944) came to Esperance from South Australia on his appointment as the first Town Clerk and Engineer (1895-1904), and Acting Secretary of the Roads Board on condition his duties did not take him out of town.²⁴ In April, Sims was directed to interview architect Raymond Sharkey and instruct him to prepare plans for the proposed Council Chambers and offices at a cost of £150 'on lines similar' to Sims' rough sketch and to call tenders.²⁵ Sharkey designed alterations and additions to the Pier Hotel (destroyed by fire, 1910) and a residence for P. C. Riches around this period.²⁶ After the plans for the Council Chambers and offices were amended, the contract was awarded to John W. Green for £246 12s. On 23 June, the half-yearly meeting of ratepayers was held in the newly completed Council Chambers, which the Roads Board, and the Australian Natives' Association, successfully applied to use on a regularly basis.²⁷

In 1896, the school enrolment continued to grow and with 79 children enrolled and an average attendance of 73, the building's accommodation was stretched to its limits in April. It was suggested two rooms be added to cater for the many children in town not yet attending. The Council considered the school site unsuitable and offered to exchange it for an alternative site (which the Secretary for Education said was 'in the back blocks'), but an inspection visit to investigate whether it was preferable to build temporary or permanent accommodation determined the existing site was suitable, and the Chief Inspector did not recommend its transfer.²⁸ In May, the Acting Secretary for Education reported the need for new accommodation, which the Assistant Engineer-in-Chief advised was feasible, and recommended additional rooms. The Secretary for Education noted the site was satisfactory and the lots behind it could allow for expansion or provide a profit if land values in the centre of town improved and the site was sold for another one. The Council's offer was refused, approval given for a one room addition, and the Public Works Department (PWD) requested to build an infants' room with gallery, a weather shed, and fencing, noted as required in an Inspection Report in June.²⁹ PWD Plan 4670 was prepared for two additional classrooms, one at each side of the building.³⁰ In early July, with more than 100 children enrolled, to provide more accommodation a temporary galvanised iron

23 Minute Book (Esperance), *ibid*, Dec 1895- March 1896.

24 *ibid*, 7 Feb 1896; Rintoul, *op. cit.*, p. 203; and Battye, J.S. (ed) *Cyclopedia of Western Australia* The Cyclopedia Company, Perth, 1912, Fasc. Ed. Hesperian Press, Carlisle, WA, 1985, Vol. 2, p. 832.

25 Minute Book (Esperance), *ibid*, 14 April 1896.

26 *Esperance Chronicle* 30 May 1896, p. 2; Rintoul, *op. cit.*, p. 203.

27 Minute Book (Esperance), *op. cit.*, April - July 1896.

28 Memos. etc., in *Esperance – Buildings – Recommendations* *op. cit.*, April-May 1896.

29 *ibid*, May-June 1896.

30 PWD 4670, cited in Oldham, Ray and John George Temple-Poole: *Architect of the Golden years 1885-1897* UWA Press, Nedlands, 1980, p. 169.

construction classroom, 30 ft x 20 ft, was erected 'alongside the school', where it remained from 1896, into the 1970s, as shown in photographs.³¹

In June 1896, the Mayor had suggested Lot 188 as a site for a new school with the existing school to become Town Hall and Council offices. Subsequently the Council suggested an exchange for Lots 191-196 as a new school site; and Rev. Alfred Burton urged haste in expanding the school and recommended Lots 104-109 (Andrew and Windich Streets) for a new site. At the request of the Minister for Education, Resident Magistrate Black gave his opinion on the school site. As the existing school was in the business centre, he recommended Lots 104-110, as more central to residential areas; Lots 13-15 were 'most eminently suitable' for municipal buildings, and he recommended the Council be asked to transfer £500 reserved for building a Mechanics Institute to build a new school and transfer the sites, which the Minister for Education approved and was agreed by the Council.³²

In 1896-97, a 20 ft wide metal footpath was constructed on Dempster Street between Andrew and James Streets.³³ The PWD decided to build the proposed new school similar to one in Coolgardie and £2,500 was set aside in the Estimates. In January 1897, tenders were called for the stone school (demolished 1962), to accommodate 170 children, which A. C. L. Ray built at a cost of £3,054. The old school building closed Friday, 10 September, and the school transferred to the new building, where it opened Monday, 13 September, under Thomas Hart as Head Teacher, and Amy Provis.³⁴

In March 1897, the Council decided to expend £100 in that year 'for planting trees and grasses in the Municipality'.³⁵ On 17 June, a Special Meeting agreed to celebrate Arbor Day in July, when Norfolk Island Pines were planted in Dempster Street.³⁶ Photographs (1897) show tree guards around twelve young Norfolk Island Pines by the street and the one outside the Post Office.³⁷ In October, tenders were called for erection of a Fire Station on part Lot 19, between the 1896 Council Chambers and the Mechanics Institute, which was erected, as shown in an 1898 photograph.³⁸

In October 1897, Black requested use of the iron building near the old school for a Court Room and reservation of Lot 13 for a future Court House, stating just one building would suffice for the Council. Next month, he requested the stone building on Lot 14 as well as the iron building on Lot 15, to the perplexity of the PWD as the Lots were promised to the Council. In 1898, there appears to have been some continuing confusion before the matter was resolved and Lots 13 to

31 Memos, in *Esperance—Buildings—Recommendations*, July 1896; photograph by J.R. Rushton, late 1896, reproduced in Voight, op. cit., p. 33; J.K. Dickson, c.1897, *Esperance Museum Archives* (same as Battye 67513P, attributed to photographer C.J. Davis); and *Esperance Former Library and Institute Building*, Battye Pictorial Collection, 60439P and 60440P, 15 Dec 1970.

32 *ibid*, June-July 1896; Minute Book (*Esperance*), SROWA Cons 977 WAS 2179 Item 1, July 1896.

33 Minute Book (*Esperance*) op. cit., August 1896.

34 *Government Gazette* 8 Jan 1897, p. 64; Memos etc. in *Esperance – Buildings – Recommendations* op. cit., 31 July - 7 Oct 1896, which notes the new school was completed on 9 Sept; Annual Report, Public Works Department, 1896-97, in *Votes and Proceedings* 1897, Vol. 2, p. 65, which reported completion on 9 Aug; Murray, op. cit.; Voight, op.cit., p. 97; *Emu* Vol. 9 Issue 4, Dec 2004, p. 3; and Rintoul, op. cit., pp. 179-80 (which mistakenly states the new school was built in about 1900).

35 Minute Book (*Esperance*), op. cit., 9 March 1897.

36 *ibid*, 17 June 1897; Voight, op. cit., p. 168.

37 Battye Library Pictorial Collection, 24953P and 67513P, reproduced in Voight, op. cit., pp. 44, 64.

38 Minute Book (*Esperance*), op. cit., 21 Oct 1897; and photograph C.J. Davis, Fire Station, 2 Feb 1898, reproduced courtesy Mrs Babidge, in Voight, p. 68.

15 were vested in the Council, as Municipal Endowment, in exchange for part Lot 19 and Lots 104-110.³⁹ In May 1898, Premier John Forrest visited Esperance and a formal reception was held at the Council Chambers.⁴⁰ The Mechanics Institute and Library was transferred into the iron building (1896), which accommodated the library until 1966. A new Fire Station of galvanised iron construction was built on Lot 12 and the lookout tower was re-erected, as seen in a 1903 photograph. A 1903 plan shows Lots 12 to 15 as Municipal Endowment, with the fire station at Lot 12 and 'Council Chambers' at Lots 13 and 14; Lots 104-110 are shown as School Reserve 3265; and at the corner of Windich and Leake Streets, Lot 188, is shown as Reserve 3178 for Municipal Buildings.⁴¹

In 1904 after the death of their only son, Harry Sims and his wife took their daughters to Albany, where Sims became a hotel-keeper, and was elected Mayor.⁴² A 1904 photograph shows Esperance Municipal Chambers and Roads Board Office.⁴³ The population had decreased to about 300 and fell further following authorisation of the Coolgardie-Norseman Railway (completed 1909). With insufficient population, Esperance ceased to be a Municipality on 31 October 1908, and the Road Board assumed responsibility for the town, where it continued to occupy the same building. An Inventory of Assets (1908) included 99 year leases for Lot 12 (Fire Brigade) and Lot 15 (Mechanics Institute). Esperance, which offered welcome relief from the summer heat, 'became dependent upon its tourist trade with the Goldfields'.⁴⁴

In 1910, the Road Board re-planted some Norfolk Island Pines to replace some of the earlier planting, but it is not known which trees these were.⁴⁵ In 1912, a photograph of the intersection of Dempster and Andrew Streets shows the Roads Board building and the 1896 Norfolk Island Pines in the distance.⁴⁶ By about 1915, the area behind the Roads Board Office was in use as tennis courts, as shown in a photograph with the nearly twenty year old Norfolk Island Pines inside the boundary fence.⁴⁷ A Royal Commission recommended construction of a railway line between Esperance and Norseman (completed 1927) to unlock the agricultural potential of the hinterland. In 1916, the first sod was turned, and a photograph shows the ministerial party and dignitaries outside the Roads Board Office and a Norfolk Island Pine above roof level in the rear.⁴⁸

During World War I, 78 men from the Esperance district enlisted, twenty of whom were killed in action.⁴⁹ It wrought a heavy toll on the small population. In the Lewis family, three of four brothers were killed in action, after which J. Lewis was repatriated as the only survivor to ensure the family did not lose all their sons and

39 Memos etc., in Esperance – Buildings – Recommendations op. cit., Oct 1897-Oct 1898.

40 Voight, Don, op. cit., p. 23.

41 Photograph by L. Daw, reproduced courtesy A. & T. Daw, in Voight, op. cit., p. 85; and Esperance Town, 1903, J. S. Crawford, Surveyor, for Esperance Bay Land Company, reproduced in *ibid*, p. 12.

42 Rintoul, op. cit., p. 203; and Battye, J.S. (ed) *Cyclopedia of Western Australia* The Cyclopedia Company, Perth, 1912, Fasc. Ed. Hesperian Press, Carlisle, WA, 1985, Vol. 2, p. 832.

43 Photograph by L. Daw, reproduced in Voight, op. cit., p. 97.

44 Rintoul, op. cit., p. 89; and Inventory of Assets, Esperance, SROWA Cons 843 WAS 1162 Item 2, 1908.

45 Extract from McCarthy Notes, Esperance Museum Archives.

46 Photograph courtesy Esperance Shire council, reproduced in Voight, op. cit., p. 121.

47 Photograph courtesy Esperance Museum, reproduced in *ibid*, p. 152.

48 Murray, op. cit., p. 56; and photograph, courtesy David Brown-Cooper, in Voight, op. cit., p. 156.

49 Esperance District Honour Roll, 1914-19, *RSL Building*, site visit, Robin Chinnery, November 2007. Gordon Gilmore's history of the Esperance Sub-Branch stated 78 men enlisted, with 20 killed. (News cutting, *Esperance Express*, 1979, RSL File, Esperance Museum Archives)

he could work the farm.⁵⁰ Post-war, as elsewhere in Australia, a committee was formed at Esperance on the initiative of Frank Bridges to raise funds for a War Memorial to commemorate the fallen. There was some debate as to its form, with some advocating a memorial hospital. However, some mothers of deceased servicemen favoured erection of an individual memorial, and mounted a vigorous fund raising campaign, raising more than £300. The contract was let to a Perth monumental works.⁵¹

Around 1922, concrete blocks and panels for the base, the marble tablet, and the obelisk, with a carved flag draped over the top, and the moulded victory wreaths, were transported to Esperance. Local carpenter, undertaker, plumber, painter, and ex-gunner, W. G. Hearne, assembled and erected it on 'a vacant block next to the Fire Station', at the Municipal Endowment lands a short distance from the Road Board Offices.⁵² Hearne also made the Honour Roll, 1914-19, initialled W.G.H., which he presented to the Road Board. It was displayed at the Road Board Offices and remains in situ in 2007.⁵³ A 1920s photograph shows the War Memorial, the Fire Station, already tall Norfolk Island Pines at the street front and rear boundary of the Municipal Endowment lands, and a mature tree of an unidentified species at the corner of Dempster and James Streets.⁵⁴ This may be the tree that survives there in 2007. There are believed to have been further plantings of Norfolk Island Pines at the Reserve in the interwar period, including some at the Dempster Street frontage in 1925, and in the middle of Lot Lots 12-13 in 1929.⁵⁵

In February 1933, the Esperance Sub-Branch of the Returned Soldiers League (RSL) was formed. They compiled a list of names for 'a very fine Honour Roll in the Road Board Office', and the Sub-Branch took over responsibility for care of the War Memorial, where the ANZAC Day service was held each year.⁵⁶ During World War II, many men from Esperance and the surrounding district enlisted in the services, including Private Tom Starceвич, of Grass Patch, who was awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest award for valour. Post-war, another marble tablet was added to the War Memorial commemorating the nine servicemen who died in World War II. In 1947, Esperance RSL began fund raising towards building a hall. In 1955, a hall was purchased in Perth and railed to Esperance, where it was officially opened in November 1957, and was used for many public functions until completion of the Civic Centre in 1981.⁵⁷

In 1960, the American owned Esperance Land Development Company acquired 1.5 million acres of land held by Esperance Land and Development Company, heralding major development of agricultural land and the port and other infrastructure at Esperance. Further development came with the standard gauge railway in 1974, following discovery of nickel at Kambalda.⁵⁸

50 Honour Roll, *ibid*, and Merv Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, site visit, November 2007.

51 Gordon Gilmore, *op. cit*.

52 Photograph, in War Memorial File, recollections, p. 6, and Merv Andre, Curator Esperance Museum, typescript, in RSL File, Esperance Museum Archives.

53 Merv Andre, *ibid*; and site visit, Robin Chinnery, Nov 2007.

54 Photograph looking across Dempster Street, Esperance Museum Archives.

55 Maryann Lankester, Secretary, Esperance Bay Historical Society to Michael Archer, CEO, Shire of Esperance, 6 Nov 2006; and Dorothy Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, Nov 2007.

56 Gordon Gilmore, *op. cit*.

57 *ibid*; and Rintoul, *op. cit.*, pp. 177-79, including the citation for Starceвич's V.C., and p. 248.

58 Rintoul, *ibid*, pp. 211-15.

In 1966, the new Road Board Offices were completed. The 1896 building was vacated, and it was leased to the Esperance RSL for 21 years in return for the lease of their land and the hall in Andrew Street for the same period. The RSL agreed to the place being used to accommodate the library until completion of the Frank Collett Library in late 1970, which officially opened 15 January 1971.⁵⁹ A 1966 photograph shows the place shortly before the library was transferred from the iron building, and it was unchanged in late 1970, when front and rear views show the 'former library and Institute' with the tall mature Norfolk Island Pines (1896-97).⁶⁰ Subsequently, the iron building was removed from the site, and was reportedly in use as the Civil Defence building in 2004.⁶¹ In 1971, the RSL made its permanent home in the 1896 former school, and it became known as the RSL Building,⁶² which the National Trust (WA) Classified in June 1973.⁶³ The hall area of the building was leased to a ballet school in the 1970s.⁶⁴

The proximity of the War Memorial to Dempster Street had been a problem following establishment of angled parking bays. In 1973, after the Croquet Club vacated its site at the corner of Dempster and James Streets, the Council agreed to a request from the RSL to relocate the Memorial there, about 40 metres from its original site. In early 1974, volunteers from Esperance RSL and the Port Authority, under the supervision of Council Engineer V. S. Krolys, used Council equipment to relocate the Memorial. It sustained some damage to the base, and was left at the present site instead of nearer the corner of Dempster and James Streets as had been intended. A busy bee by RSL members cleaned up the building and the Reserve, which was named Memorial Park. Krolys was guest of honour at the ANZAC Day reunion after the service at the Memorial on 25 April.⁶⁵ A suggestion by P. Arlidge to enlarge the Honour Roll in the hall to include those who had served in conflicts since World War II was adopted, assistance was sought from State headquarters in compiling names, and a call for names was advertised. An offer from boys at Esperance Junior High School to make 'an entirely new honour board' was accepted, and a design 'by the high school' was approved.⁶⁶ In 1979, Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and Mrs Fraser attended the ANZAC Day service at the War Memorial, drawing a record crowd. The new Honour Board, with 45 names, was 'placed in position on the eastern wall of the Hall'.⁶⁷ Merv Andre, Shire President and long term President of Esperance RSL, who had served with the RAAF in Korea, was the only Western Australian recipient of a national RSL Anzac of the Year Award in 1986, when five were awarded. Later, Theo Daw, Citizen of the Year at Esperance in 1986, who was Treasurer of the Esperance RSL for 30 years, also received an RSL Anzac of the Year Award.⁶⁸

59 Historical notes at *RSL Building*; and Battye Library Pictorial Collection 4820B; and commemorative plaque, Frank Collett Library, site visit, Robin Chinnery, November 2007.

60 Battye Library Pictorial Collection 60440P and 60439P.

61 *Emu* Vol. 9 Issue 3 September 2004, p. 7.

62 Typewritten information 'RSL Rooms', in RSL File, Esperance Museum Archives.

63 Esperance RSL Building, National Trust (WA) Assessment, June 1973.

64 Merv and Dorothy Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, November 2007.

65 Gordon Gilmore, news cutting *Esperance Express*, 1979, RSL File, Esperance Museum; and Merv Andre, long term president of Esperance RSL, conversation with Robin Chinnery, Nov 2007.

66 Gordon Gilmore, *ibid.*

67 *ibid.*

68 Merv Andre 'The Council was my Life' in *Faith, Hope & Reality: Esperance 1895-1995* Esperance Shire Council, 1995, p. 201; Rintoul, *op. cit.*, pp. 237-39; and Certificates of Service, *RSL Building*, site visit, Robin Chinnery, Nov 2007.

In 1981, after the Shire and the RSL agreed to an exchange of freehold land, part of Lots 13 and 14, the site of the RSL Building, were excised from the Municipal Endowment land to become Lot 809, Reserve 37013. On 4 August, the Crown Grant was registered, and the Reserve was gazetted on 7 August.⁶⁹ A plan shows Reserve 37013, Hall Site, 1001 square metres in area, and Reserve 6206, Municipal Endowment, Lots 12, part Lots 13 and 14, and Lot 15, a total area of 5272 square metres.⁷⁰ Subsequently, the RSL erected a new toilet block east of the RSL Building.⁷¹

In 1991, Shire of Esperance's Town Planning Scheme included the RSL Building. This had been included in the Municipal Inventory in 1996, which also included the Norfolk Island Pines planted in 1896-97, two sugar gums and an unidentified eucalypt near the building, believed to have been planted around the same period, and the War Memorial.⁷²

In 1998, Esperance RSL applied to the Department for Veterans' Affairs for a grant of \$7,800 'to bring the memorial up to standard'. They received only \$2,000, but the Shire Council contributed \$5,000 and voluntary labour by RSL members saved \$800.⁷³ The Memorial was suspended on steel beams while the three tier foundation was removed by jackhammers and a new foundation was poured and fixed in the old base. A cracked marble plaque, which had some letters missing, was removed to the Museum for safe-keeping, and a replica made and fixed to the Memorial. New metal plaques were added to the Memorial to commemorate Korea, both war (1950-53) and peacekeeping (1953-56), Borneo (1964-66) and Vietnam (1962-73). A tapered flagpole was obtained and erected; floodlights were installed; a paved forecourt and pathways were installed; and rose bushes were re-planted.⁷⁴

In November 2006, Norfolk Island Pines, Reserve 6206, Municipal Endowment, part of *Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial*, was nominated for Entry in the Register of Heritage Places. The Register Committee determined it was unlikely to meet the threshold for entry in the Register but amended the proposed curtilage for a heritage assessment of the RSL Building to include those trees at the Dempster Street frontage in front of the building.⁷⁵

In the early twenty-first century, the RSL Building continues in use by the Esperance RSL, which meets there each month, for reunions on ANZAC Day and similar occasions, and for social gatherings of local veterans and on occasion their wives, some of whom are Associate members. Wakes and weddings of members and their families have been held at the place. Esperance RSL members include a dwindling number of World War II veterans, some from Korea, and since demise of the local branch of the Vietnam Veterans most of its members have joined this RSL Sub-Branch. Memorabilia and Honour Boards are held at the RSL Building, which is used by officers of Department of Veterans

69 Certificate of Title Vol. 1596 Fol. 60; *Government Gazette* 7 August 1981; and 'RSL Rooms', in RSL File, Esperance Museum Archives.

70 Townsite of Esperance, courtesy Shire of Esperance.

71 Dorothy Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, site visit, Nov 2007. Esperance Shire Council were unable to locate any documents or plans relating *RSL Building* or the toilet block.

72 Municipal Inventory Shire of Esperance, Adopted 23 July 1996.

73 *Listening Post* Summer 1999, RSL File, Esperance Museum Archives.

74 *ibid*; Dorothy and Merv Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, site and Museum visit, Nov 2007; and email from Dorothy Andre, 12 March 2008.

75 Correspondence, Esperance Bay Historical Society, Esperance Museum Archives.

when visiting Esperance to assist local veterans, and also the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Association.⁷⁶ The area to the rear that was the tennis court is a car park. The mature Norfolk Island Pines (1896-97) and later plantings of this species remain a significant feature of the Memorial Park and the townscape. The War Memorial continues to serve its intended purpose including as venue for ANZAC Day services.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial in Dempster Street, Esperance, comprises a Federation Arts and Crafts style building, constructed in 1896, per plans drawn by Francis J. Davies of the PWD, based on a standard school design evolved by George Temple Poole; Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria hetrophylla*) planted in 1896-97; and an obelisk style War Memorial of stone and masonry construction erected c.1922, and relocated in 1974.

Esperance RSL Building is located on the eastern side of Dempster Street in the centre of Esperance close to the junction with James Street. This section of Dempster Street contains predominantly commercial buildings dating from the early to late twentieth century. There are wide pavements and large Norfolk Island Pines on both sides of the street creating an almost continual avenue along Dempster Street, the main street of Esperance.

The RSL Building is situated on the eastern edge of a small park, known as Memorial Park, approximately twenty metres from Dempster Street, close to an area of bituminised car parking. The building is surrounded by well kept lawns with a concrete path immediately adjacent to the building on the north and east elevations. A brick pathway leads from the RSL Building to a single storey stone toilet block approximately twenty metres to the north. A painted corrugated metal water tank is situated on a low concrete stand at the north-east corner of the building.

In the north eastern corner of the park, approximately forty five metres from the RSL Building, is Esperance War Memorial.

Within the park and adjacent car park are a number of groups of Norfolk Island Pines. The main groupings are a row of trees along the western edge of the park and a row of trees along the eastern edge of the adjacent car park within Reserve 6206.

The RSL Building is a small single storey granite building featuring a distinctive gable roof that is centred over the main hall of the building, extending over the ancillary spaces on the western side. There is a tall chimney on the western roof slope and decorative timber infill panels to the gables.

The building is constructed from roughly coursed granite walls with painted rendered quoins to the corners and around all door and window openings. The windows to the building are typically timber framed multi-paned awning windows with arched heads and rendered sills. There are timber panelled entrance doors at the north-west and south-west corners of the building.

Internally, the RSL Building has a main hall with two ancillary spaces (originally cloakrooms) on the western side of the hall. The main hall has plastered walls, a jarrah timber board floor and a raked, painted timber boarded ceiling with expressed principle rafters and metal tie rods.

⁷⁶ Merv Andre, conversation with Robin Chinnery, Nov 2007.

On the western side of the hall is a small fireplace with a simple timber mantelpiece. Above the mantelpiece is a large decorative Honour Board. There are additional smaller honour boards mounted on the eastern wall of the main hall. At each end of the western wall four panel timber doors lead into the smaller adjacent rooms, which contain a small kitchen and office space. These rooms have painted timber walls, timber floors covered in carpet, and a raked timber ceiling at the same angle as the roof above.

The RSL Building is generally in good condition. The building has been well maintained and retains a large number of original features. There is some cracking evident within the external granite walls and the external joinery requires maintenance. However, these items could be readily addressed with an ongoing programme of repair works.

Esperance War Memorial comprises an Inter-War Free Classical style war memorial approximately three metres tall, set on a stepped masonry plinth painted green.

The monument pillar is square in plan. Each of the four sides of the memorial is divided horizontally into two and contains recessed central faces flanked by simple pilasters. Mounted on each face is a marble plaque containing the names of servicemen who died in World War I and II. Above the bays is a pediment with AIF Rising Sun badge above which sits the top section of the memorial consisting of an obelisk, approximately 2m tall, constructed from painted rendered masonry and decorated with a carved masonry wreath and an Australian flag draped over the top of the obelisk, both of which were colour painted in the late twentieth century.

Esperance War Memorial is in good condition and is well maintained.

Within the area surrounding the RSL Building there are two prominent rows of Norfolk Pines, one on the western edge of the park and the other along the eastern edge of the car park. The rows are approximately fifty metres long, running in north-east to south-west direction and consist of a number of large mature trees planted at close centres of about seven to ten metres, that are a landmark by land and sea.

Additionally, close to the RSL Building, are several sugar gums and later plantings of Norfolk Island Pines near the toilet block and north-east towards James Street.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

School Buildings

In 1887, Superintendent of Public Works George Temple Poole, subsequently Assistant Engineer-in-Chief and Architect-in-Charge (1891-96), designed a small school at Williams, built in local stone with brick quoins. This place evolved to a standard plan for small country towns for a classroom 30 ft x 22 ft, and attached cloakrooms, to accommodate 40 children, which Poole introduced in 1892. Schools built to this plan include a brick construction school built at Narrogin in 1894, where another classroom was added in 1902, before a new school was built in 1905, when the earlier school was converted to a court house, and later the R & I Bank, which became Courthouse Museum, Narrogin, in 1975-76.⁷⁷ Similarly the stone construction *Government School, Cue*, built in 1896, had two

⁷⁷ Oldham, *George Temple-Poole*, pp. 165-67, 169; and Assessment Documentation, 01804.

more classrooms added by 1905. Its stonework has been painted, and pre-painted corrugated iron used to replace the iron roof. It continues in use as a school.⁷⁸

A search of the HCWA database returns 111 places constructed as schools in the 1890s. Thirty-four of these were constructed from stone either entirely or in part including Esperance RSL Building, which was built from granite as Esperance Bay School in 1896. More specifically, the place is one of nine schools of stone construction built between 1895-96. All but three of these are on the State Register, the others being:

- *P0644 Government School, Cue;*
- *P1642 Mt Magnet Primary School & Teacher's Quarters (fmr);*
- *P2180 Highgate Primary School;*
- *P2241 Newcastle Street Government School, West Perth;*
- P2271 Mount Barker Primary School (fmr);
- *P3230 Cossack School (Ruins);*
- P10022 Old Primary School (fmr), Southern Cross - constructed 1895, is a single storey school that now has more rooms than at Esperance but may have begun with an original building to the same standard plan, and;
- P16880 Moonyoonooka School (now demolished).

Of the above only two places; *P2180 Highgate Primary School*, and *P2241 Newcastle Street Government School, West Perth* are described as having been built in the Federation Arts & Crafts style.

P18402 Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pine Trees and War Memorial (including Esperance Bay School fmr) appears to be the only extant school built of granite between 1890-1900, with the only other granite 1890s school noted, Upper Ferguson School, Dardanup, being a site only. Esperance is also the only granite school with Federation Arts and Crafts detailing, and its stone chimney distinguishes it from other schools built to the above standard plan. P18402 Esperance RSL Building is also notable for its lack of additions and overall high level of authenticity.

Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria hetrophylla*)

The first Norfolk Island Pines were brought to Western Australia in the 1850s. By the late 1890s, a small number were well established in Government House Gardens and present day Stirling Gardens. It is not known if the mature Norfolk Island Pines extant in Stirling Gardens in 2008 date from these early plantings. In 1898, plantings of Norfolk Island Pines obtained from Sydney were potted out at the Department of Forests Nursery at Drakesbrook (Hamel Nursery), where seeds of the species were planted that year. From the early 1900s, the Nursery supplied departmental needs, and also many ornamental trees for government institutions and local government authorities, including initial plantings for Fremantle Esplanade. In 1906, Cottesloe Roads Board planted 'nearly 100 Norfolk Island Pines', supplied by Wilson and Johns, who considered them 'a most suitable Tree' for the marine environment in these districts.⁷⁹ The Norfolk

⁷⁸ Assessment Documentation, RHP 00644.

⁷⁹ Wilson and Johns to Town Clerk, in Esplanade, SROWA Acc. 1377 Item 28 (1907), 4 August 1906.

Island Pines planted at Fremantle Esplanade and Cottesloe in the pre-World War I period became a distinctive feature of their respective grassed areas and some streetscapes in the vicinity, and a significant landmark on the horizon.⁸⁰ The 1896-97 plantings of Norfolk Island Pines at *Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial* are highly significant as the earliest surviving row plantings of this species at a Reserve and, with the 1896 Norfolk Island Pine near the Post Office and that at Lot 2, they are among a small number of these trees planted in Western Australia prior to propagation of the species at Hamel Nursery.

War Memorials

In the Interwar period, local government and community organisations sought to commemorate those who had served and given their lives in World War I and many war memorials were erected throughout Australia. The Heritage Council of Western Australia (HCWA) database lists 149 War Memorials. Those Registered are *State War Memorial* in Kings Park; *Nedlands War Memorial*, erected in 1939, a rare example in Western Australia of an Art Deco style memorial incorporating a light; *Narrogin Memorial Park and War Memorial*; *North Fremantle War Memorial*; *St Patrick's Anglican Church (fmr) and War Memorial, Rathmines*; and *Canning War Memorial*, erected outside the Town Hall in 1921, which was relocated to a nearby reserve in 1956. War Memorials were often erected near to Municipal buildings or Roads Board Offices, or the local hall. Many were not originally in garden settings but have had garden or parkland landscaping added, or in some cases have been relocated to a setting of this nature. Generally there is some caution about relocating war memorials, but there are numerous other examples in the State where relocation has occurred (eg. Cockburn, Meckering, Canning).⁸¹

The obelisk form, executed in various types of stone, was not uncommon for War Memorials erected in the interwar period. Esperance War Memorial is depicted as an example of this form in the 'Inventory of War Memorials in Western Australia' together with those at Albany, Augusta, Brookhampton, Collie and Yarloop, of which Esperance, Collie and Yarloop all bear a victory wreath. However, Esperance War Memorial is unique in this State for the draped flag sculpted in stone, although this motif does occur on some War Memorials in other States.⁸²

Each of the major elements of *Esperance RSL Building, Norfolk Island Pines and War Memorial* has individual rarity value, and thus the place as a whole is of very high cultural heritage significance.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

No key references.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Esperance Shire Council was unable to locate any documents or plans relating the War Memorial, RSL Building or toilet block.

⁸⁰ Richards, Oline, *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in Western Australia* pp. 95-96.

⁸¹ Richards, Oline, 'Inventory of War Memorials in Western Australia' April 1996, Fig. 1, pp. 12, 52.

⁸² Richards, Oline, 'Inventory of War Memorials in Western Australia' April 1996, Fig. 1, pp. 12, 52.