



## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

**DRAFT – Register Entry**

1. **DATA BASE No.** 25872
2. **NAME** Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr), Floreat (1962)
3. **LOCATION** 1 Stadium Drive, Floreat
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Portion of Lot 230 on Deposited Plan 73849 being the land contained in Strata Plan 68420.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Town of Cambridge
6. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
  - Register of Heritage Places: -----
  - National Trust Classification: -----
  - Local Planning Scheme – Heritage List: Adopted 27/11/2018
  - Local Heritage Survey: Category 2 27/11/2018
  - Aboriginal Sites Register: -----
7. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION OF THE ACT**  
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8. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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9. **STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr), Floreat (1962)* is a three-storey pale-brick building in the Post-War International style, refurbished in 2016. Originally used to display results for sporting events at the former Perry Lakes Stadium, the place has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the only element remaining from the once expansive Perry Lakes Stadium complex, the centrepiece venue purpose-built as part of Perth's hosting of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, the scoreboard has historic value for its association with one of the most significant events in WA in the post-WWII period (Factors A and B);

the scoreboard is valued for its association with the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, which had a significant impact on the state through infrastructure development and tourism. The Games form part of Western Australians' social memories of the 1960s, marking the State's 'coming of age' through hosting a major event on the international stage (Factors A and E);

as part of one of several purpose-built facilities constructed in anticipation of the Games, the scoreboard represents the investment made toward showcasing WA on the international stage in the post-WWII period and the demands placed on host nations in preparation for international sporting events reflecting the shift to providing new facilities for major events rather than adapting existing (Factors B and D);

the original scoreboard technology developed by South Australian E.T. Both was the first of its kind in Australia. First used for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, the technology was an innovative approach to scoring, utilising lightbulbs and a switch system to display results and messages to spectators, replacing traditional manual score display methods (Factors B, G, and H);

the place is associated with the over-1000 athletes and officials representing 35 competing countries at the Games, including the four Western Australians who won gold medals for athletic events at Perry Lakes Stadium, and high-jumper Percy Hobson (NSW) and boxer Jeff Dynevor (QLD) who were the first Aboriginal athletes to win gold medals at a Commonwealth Games (Factor G);

a prominent landmark on Stadium Drive, the design of the scoreboard building represents the functionalist approach to architecture in the mid-twentieth century and is a good example of the Post-War International style that was widely used in the construction of infrastructure associated with the Games and during this period (Factor F);

Perth's hosting marked the establishment of the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, held prior to the events of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Separate Games were held between 1962-1974 and in 2002, para-sports were integrated into the Commonwealth Games schedule (Factor A).

The surrounding apartment complex buildings (2016) within Lot 230, in which the scoreboard building is common property, are not included in the curtilage and have no cultural heritage significance.



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES** **DRAFT – Supporting Information**

PLEASE NOTE: This Assessment Documentation<sup>1</sup> is intended to provide sufficient information to consider the place for inclusion in the State Register. It is not intended to provide a complete record of the history of the place or its physical presentation.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that the following entry refers to Aboriginal people who are now deceased.

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present. In particular, we recognise land and cultural heritage as places that hold great significance for Aboriginal people.

### **10. THE PLACE**



Figure 1: *Perry Lakes Scoreboard* from Stadium Drive, Floreat (January 2026).

<sup>1</sup> The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment of P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex completed by Robin Chinnery, Historian and Philip Griffiths, Architect, in October 2006, with amendments and/or additions by the Heritage Council and the Department.

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr), Floreat* (1962) is a three-storey brick building in the Post-War International style. The place is the only element remaining of the once expansive Perry Lakes Stadium complex, constructed as part of Perth's hosting of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

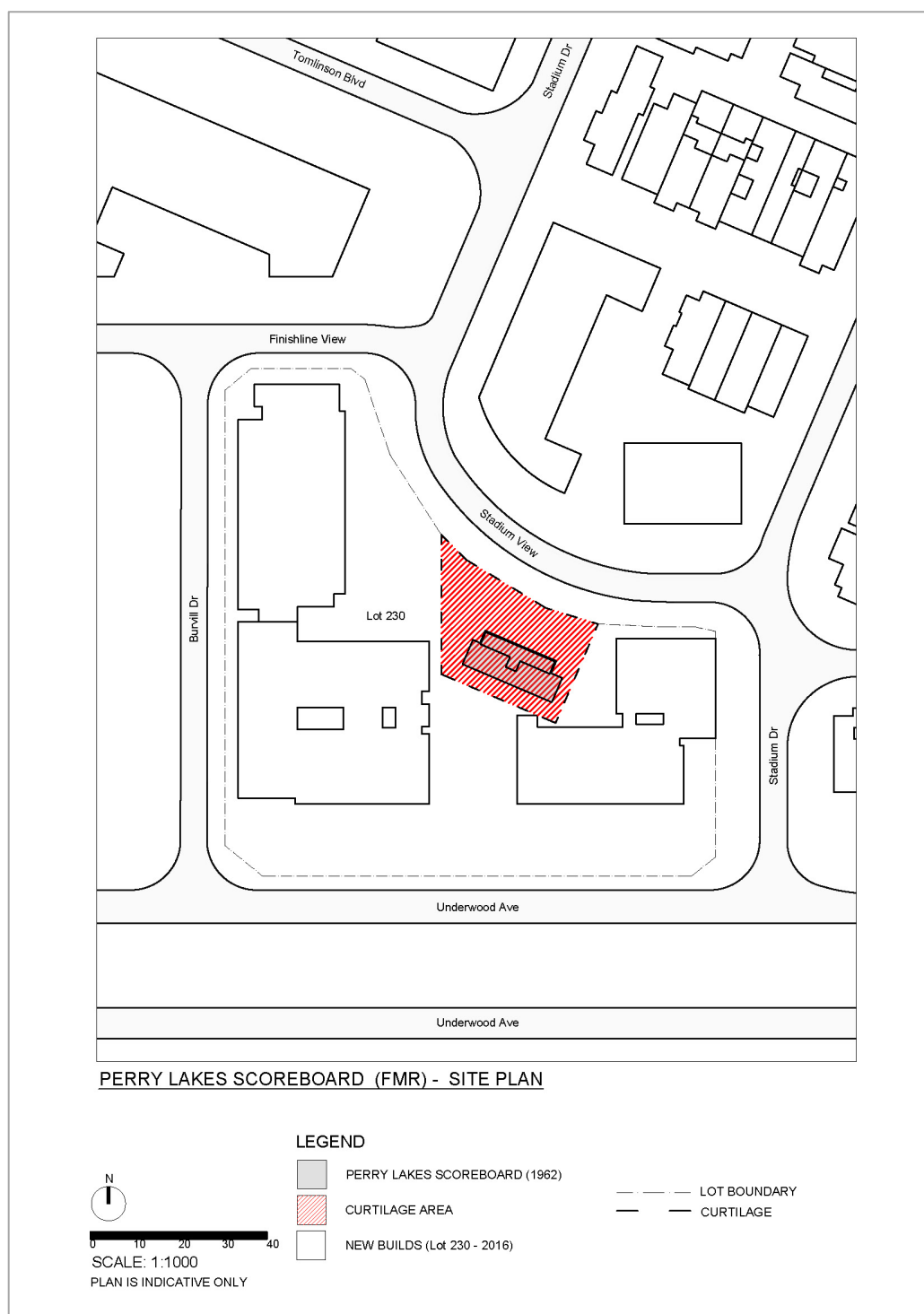


Figure 2: Site Plan of *Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* within context of surrounding apartment complex.

## 11. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

The Whadjuk Noongar people are the traditional custodians of the land on which the former scoreboard building and site of the Perry Lakes Stadium are located. The nearby bushland known as Bold Park is a registered Aboriginal site (ID20178) recognised as a significant camp and hunting place. Bold Park is also acknowledged for its plant resources, dreaming and historical associations.<sup>2</sup> Noongar people camped here and in its surrounds for thousands of years prior to British settlement and continued to through until the 1960s.<sup>3</sup>

Following the establishment of the Swan River Colony in 1829, the land eventually formed part of Henry Trigg's estate. This particular area was known as the 'Limekilns' as these were located here for Trigg's quarrying and lime burning enterprises. The land was later purchased by pastoralist Walter Padbury, who maintained the Limekilns Estate and quarrying operations until it was purchased by brothers Henry and Somers Birch in 1869. In 1880, the land was purchased by herdsman Joseph Perry (the namesake of Perry Lakes) who ran stock at the Estate.<sup>4</sup>

In 1917, Perth Council purchased the area as Endowment Land. A portion was set aside in 1925 as parkland and named Bold Park after Perth Town Clerk W.E Bold. The remaining portion was developed over a 40-year period as the suburbs Wembley Park, Floreat Park, and City Beach.<sup>5</sup>

### Commonwealth Games<sup>6</sup>

The concept of the Commonwealth Games (hereby referred to as 'the Games') is believed to have been raised by J. Astley Cooper in 1891. A predecessor of the Games was held in London in 1911 as part of the festival of the British Empire to celebrate the coronation of George V, named the Inter Empire Sports Meeting. Teams from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa competed in track and field and swimming events.<sup>7</sup>

The first official Games were held in Hamilton, Canada in 1930. Four hundred competitors representing 11 countries, including Australia, participated in events including swimming, diving, lawn bowls, wrestling, boxing, and rowing. Following the success of these Games, it was decided the Games were to be held every four years, between the years of the Olympic Games. The subsequent Games were held in London (1934), Sydney (1938), Auckland (1950), and Vancouver (1954),

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<sup>2</sup> Registered Aboriginal Site description for ID20178 Bold Park accessed via Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System, December 2025.

<sup>3</sup> 'Bold Park Management Plan 2022-2027', Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Accessed December 2025, <https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/bold-park-management-plan-2022-2027>

<sup>4</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, pp. 6-7.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> The international multi-sporting event has had different names since its inception: the British Empire Games (1930-1950), the British Empire and Commonwealth Games (1950-1966), the British Commonwealth Games (1966-1974), and the Commonwealth Games (from 1978).

<sup>7</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, pp. 8-9.



the latter two renamed as the British Empire and Commonwealth Games, reflecting that countries within the Empire were becoming independent nations.<sup>8</sup>

### Perth Hosting the Games and Perry Lakes Stadium Complex

Perth's first application to host the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Australia failed, with Adelaide chosen as the preferred location in September 1956. The decision for Adelaide to host was rescinded in April 1958, and the Perth City Council submitted a new application in June that year. As part of the bid to host, the submission included a commitment to build an athletics stadium for 52,000 spectators, an Olympic swimming and diving pool, a cycling velodrome at Lake Monger (construction already in progress at the time), training tracks at Leederville Oval, and a Games Village for athletes. The second application was successful, and Perth was chosen as Australia's host city for the 1962 Games in June 1958.<sup>9</sup>

Prior to hosting the Games, with a population of less than 500,000 people, Perth had 'almost no sports facilities of international standard' and had not staged a major international sporting event of such a scale.<sup>10</sup> The 1962 Games would also mark the first time a host nation held all events in one area with the whole program taking place 'within a five-mile radius of the heart of the city'.<sup>11</sup>

Reabold Hill (part of Bold Park) was the chosen location for the new athletics stadium. The land was dredged and deepened to establish a park near the proposed stadium. Designed by Perth Town Clerk W.A. McInnes Green, the stadium would be the centrepiece of the Games as the venue for opening and closing ceremonies, and track and field events.<sup>12</sup> The complex cost approximately £400,000 to build and comprised the Sir Thomas Meagher Pavilion, seating 3,000 spectators. Additional concrete seating for approximately 50,000 spectators surrounded the cinder track. The name 'Perry Lakes Stadium' was chosen after the adjacent Perry Lakes. All the facilities provided for athletes, spectators, officials, and the media were designed to be of a world standard.<sup>13</sup>

The Perry Lakes Basketball Stadium, adjacent to the main stadium, opened in September 1962 and hosted the Australian basketball championships the following month. Comprising two outdoor courts and an enclosed court, the latter was later used for boxing events for the Games.<sup>14</sup> The majority of the venues used for events were existing facilities. This excludes the Stadium Complex, Beatty Park Aquatic Centre, Lake Monger Velodrome, and Rowing Centre, which were purpose-built for

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- <sup>8</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, p. 10.
- <sup>9</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant entry in the State Register Documentation for P18182 Lake Monger Velodrome (fmr), pp. 14-15
- <sup>10</sup> *A Pictorial Record of the VIIth British Empire and Commonwealth Games Perth Western Australia November 22 to December 1, 1962*, p. 9.
- <sup>11</sup> 'Empire Games', *The Beverley Times*, 12 August 1960, p. 6, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article202797412>
- <sup>12</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, pp. 9-10.
- <sup>13</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, pp. 12-13, 16.
- <sup>14</sup> Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, pp. 15-16.

the Games.<sup>15</sup> A Games Village in City Beach was also constructed to house competitors and officials.<sup>16</sup>

### Scoreboard

In September 1961, the Perth Council announced it was purchasing an electronically operated results board (scoreboard) for use at the Perry Lakes Stadium. Designed by South Australian E.T Both, the 36 ft x 27 ft scoreboard was originally built for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. The scoreboard contained around 14,000 light globes and was operated by a switch to select the letters and numbers to be displayed.<sup>17</sup> This electronic method was a new approach to scoring and allowed results and messages to be clearly displayed throughout the stadium, as opposed to writing scores on a chalkboard or flipping numerical cards.<sup>18</sup>

City of Perth working drawings (1962; see Figure 3) show the building was designed with three floors and a roof deck for spectators. The first and second floors had two balconies on both the east and west elevations for additional viewing. The ground level contained several amenities including a post office, service and storerooms, and toilets.<sup>19</sup>

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- 15 Although the velodrome was originally proposed as a venue for the cycling community and construction was already underway, it was rolled into the proposal to host the 1962 Games. Does not warrant entry in the State Register Documentation for P18182 Lake Monger Velodrome (fmr), p. 13.
- 16 'Getting Ready to see the Games Next Year?', *The Beverley Times*, 16 June 1961, p. 4, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article202799902>; Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant entry in the State Register Documentation for P18182 Lake Monger Velodrome (fmr), p. 16.
- 17 'Ted Both scoreboards used for David Cup tennis in hometown Adelaide and at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics', *Adelaide AZ*, Accessed October 2025, <https://adelaideaz.com/articles/ted-both-scoreboards-used-for-david-cup-tennis-in-hometown-adelaide-and-at-the-1956-melbourne-olympics->
- 18 'Life of a Scoreboard', Cambridge Library, 20 August 2014, <https://cambridgelocalstudies.wordpress.com/2014/08/20/life-of-a-scoreboard/>
- 19 Ibid.

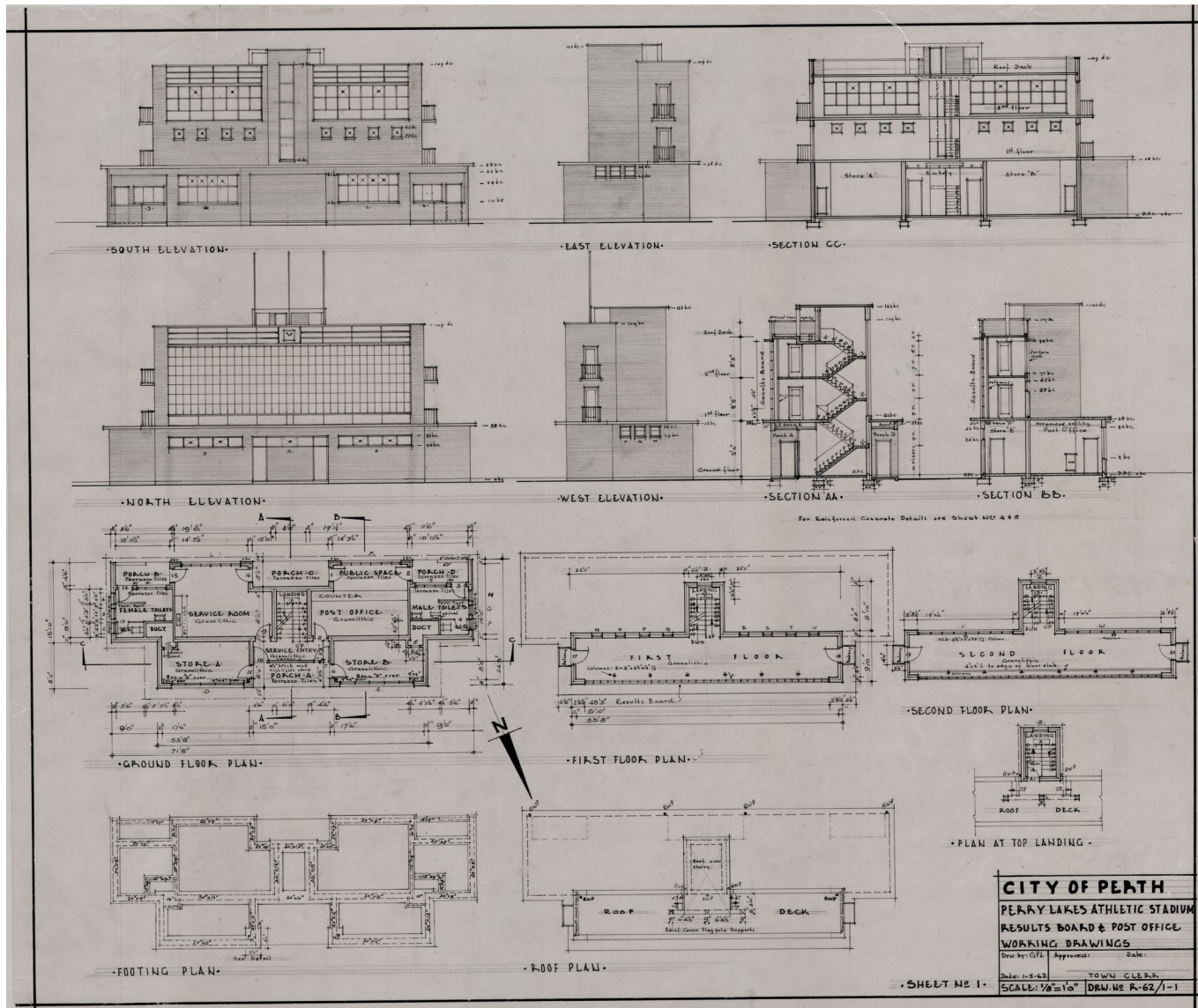


Figure 3: Perry Lakes Athletic Stadium Results Board & Post Office Working Drawings, 1 May 1962. Courtesy of Town of Cambridge.



### 1962 Commonwealth Paraplegic Games

Perth's hosting of the Games also marked the first Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, held between 10-17 November 1962. The Games were conceived by Australian doctor George Bedbrook, the director of the Spinal Unit of Royal Perth Hospital. Eighty-nine athletes representing nine countries competed. Events were held at the Claremont Showgrounds (athletics) and Beatty Park Aquatic Centre (swimming). WA Governor Sir Charles Gairdner opened the Games to a crowd of over 2,000 spectators. The Australian team, with nine WA athletes, won 38 gold, 29 silver, and 23 bronze medals.<sup>20</sup> Four separate Games were held between 1962-1974. At the 1994 Commonwealth Games, athletes with a disability were included in exhibition events and in 2002, para-sports were integrated into the schedule, and the results incorporated into the total medal count.<sup>21</sup>

### 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games

The Games were officially opened by Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh, at Perry Lakes Stadium on 22 November 1962. A crowd of 50,000 spectators filled the stands at the Stadium for an 'impressive' and 'colourful' opening ceremony, which included entertainment from marching bands, including the Royal Australian Air Force band, marching and dancing girls, boy scouts and girl guides, and choir before the parade of athletes:

Wales led the parade of teams, each of which received a tremendous ovation. One-man teams from Barbados, British Guinea, Dominica, Gibraltar, Malta and St. Lucia received a spontaneous welcome... The teams were a colourful site as they assembled before Prince Philip. Australian flag bearer, boxer Tony Madigan, played his part perfectly. Ivan Lund, the Sydney fencer, took the Amateur Oath on behalf of the 1,039 assembled athletes.... As the Prince declared the Games open 2,000 pigeons soared into the sky above the Lake Perry Stadium.<sup>22</sup>

Over the course of the Games, 11 of the 35 participating countries won gold medals, and a total 91 Games records were broken. The Australian team, comprising 207 athletes, won a total 105 medals; 38 gold, 36 silver, and 31 bronze.<sup>23</sup> Four Western Australians won gold; Dixie Willis (880 yard), Joyce Bennett (4x100 yard relay), Trevor Bickle (pole vault), and Ian Tomlinson (triple

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- <sup>20</sup> International wheel-chair athletes to compete in 10 sports at Perth games', *The Beverley Times*, 18 October 1962, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page22591425>; 'Sports News in Brief', *The Canberra Times*, 12 November 1962, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article104300559>; 'Australia Wins Games', *The Canberra Times*, 21 November 1962, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article136931227>; 'Brief history of the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games', *National Paralympic Heritage Trust*, Accessed April 2026, <https://www.paralympicheritage.org.uk/history-of-the-commonwealth-paraplegic-games>; 'Para at the Commonwealth Games', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, 6 June 2017, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/para-at-the-commonwealth-games/>.
- <sup>21</sup> 'Integrated Commonwealth Games a Nod to Para-Sport Pioneers', *Paralympics Australia*, 28 July 2022, <https://www.paralympic.org.au/2022/07/integrated-commonwealth-games-a-nod-to-para-sport-pioneers/>
- <sup>22</sup> Quote from 'Dancing Girls, Pigeons, Bands – Colourful Opening for Perth Games', *The Canberra Times*, 23 November 1962, p.36, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page15951232>; '50,000 See Games Open', *The Canberra Times*, 23 November 1962, p. 1, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page15951196>
- <sup>23</sup> 'Record Games 38 Gold Medals', *The Canberra Times*, 3 December 1962, p.1, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page15951487>; 'Australia at the Commonwealth Games', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/games/>

jump).<sup>24</sup> Percy Hobson (high jump) and Jeff Dynevor (boxing) were the first Aboriginal athletes to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.<sup>25</sup> Newspapers commented on the Perth heat during the first few days, reaching temperatures up to 40 Celsius.<sup>26</sup>

The closing ceremony took place at the Stadium on 1 December 1962 and was described as exuberant and merry, with athletes in high spirits. Nine Sabre jets and three Royal Air Force Vulcans flew over the assembled athletes before Prince Philip closed the Games.<sup>27</sup>

The Games had a substantial long-term impact on Perth, with world-class permanent facilities built for the Games, and positive publicity throughout Commonwealth countries. Additional investment in preparation for the games included redevelopment of Perth Airport and completion of the Fremantle Passenger Terminal to cater for national and international visitors.<sup>28</sup>

### Post Games

From 1963, the stadium was used for various sporting activities and organisations, including athletics, soccer, and rugby.<sup>29</sup> The stadium prominently hosted soccer games between local and state teams, notably between the WA team and numerous Premier League teams in the 1970s.<sup>30</sup> It was also used by local schools and marching band competitions, and was the home of the WA Athletics Association and the Soccer Administration of WA between 1992-2004.<sup>31</sup> The Scoreboard was in use whenever required for competitions between the 1960s and 1980s, but has reportedly not been used for its original purpose since c.1996.<sup>32</sup>

In 2005, the *Perry Lakes Redevelopment Act 2005* was passed transferring all planning responsibility for the land comprising the stadium complex to the State

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- 24 'Dixie Ingram Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/dixie-ingram/>; 'Joyce Bennett Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/joyce-bennett/>; 'Trevor Bickle Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/trevor-bickle/>; 'Ian Tomlinson Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/ian-tomlinson/>.
- 25 'Percy Hobson Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/percy-hobson/>; 'Jeff Dynevor Results History', *Commonwealth Games Australia*, Accessed April 2026, <https://commonwealthgames.com.au/athletes/jeff-dynevor/>.
- 26 'Australian Gold Medals Now Fourteen', *The Canberra Times*, 27 November 1962, p.24, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article136931834>; 'England Tops Score with 6 Games Wins', *The Canberra Times*, 28 November 1962, p.1, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article136931938>.
- 27 'Record Games 38 Gold Medals', *The Canberra Times*, 3 December 1962, p.1, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page15951487>.
- 28 Ibid., p. 17.
- 29 Ibid., p. 19.
- 30 'Remembering Perry Lakes Stadium', *WA Over Yonder Celebrating Western Australia's Football Heritage*, Accessed November 2025, <https://www.waoveryonder.au/remembering-perry-lakes-stadium/>; 'Perry Lakes Stadium', *Austadiums*, Accessed November 2025, <https://www.austadiums.com/stadiums/perry-lakes-stadium>.
- 31 'Life of a Scoreboard', <https://cambridgelocalstudies.wordpress.com/2014/08/20/life-of-a-scoreboard/>; 'Remembering Perry Lakes Stadium', <https://www.waoveryonder.au/remembering-perry-lakes-stadium/>.
- 32 Heritage Council of WA, Does not warrant assessment Documentation for P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, p. 12.

Government.<sup>33</sup> Plans to redevelop the stadium complex into a new residential estate were finalised in 2008, and a new athletics stadium was built along Underwood Avenue the following year.<sup>34</sup> Demolition of the stadium complex began in 2010, and the Sir Thomas Meagher Pavilion was demolished in 2012.<sup>35</sup>

The previous use of the site was acknowledged in the redevelopment through commemorative street names and character settings for specific areas in the design guidelines, such as the 'track and field' character setting for residents located around the original running track. *Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* has also been incorporated into the housing development and is the only element that remains extant from the stadium complex. The building was refurbished in 2016 as a common recreational area within the surrounding apartment complexes. Facilities incorporated in the refurbishment include a resident's lounge, billiard room, gym, and BBQ terrace area. The electronic scoring system was removed and replaced with solar panels to emulate the original technology.<sup>36</sup>

## 12. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

### Siting

Although the scoreboard building has lost its original context of the stadium complex, it sits in a prominent elevated position along Stadium Drive, which predominantly follows the footprint of the original running track. The surrounding buildings on the lot and facing the façade are modern apartment and townhouse structures (2016) that have no cultural heritage significance. The Scoreboard building is common property within the surrounding apartment complex.

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- <sup>33</sup> 'Perry Lakes Estate Design Guidelines', *Town of Cambridge*, Last revised 21 December 2021, <https://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/Plan-Build/Planning/Planning-Rules/Activity-Centres-and-Development-Areas/Perry-Lakes-Estate>
- <sup>34</sup> 'Perry Lakes Scoreboard', Town of Cambridge Local Heritage Listing, Accessed November 2025, <https://inherit.dplh.wa.gov.au/public/inventory/details/43872568-0917-40d8-acc9-4bcf33330ff6>; 'Fond farewell to Perry Lakes Stadium', *Austadiums*, 10 December 2007, <https://www.austadiums.com/news/347/fond-farewell-to-perry-lakes-stadium>
- <sup>35</sup> 'Perry Lakes Scoreboard', Town of Cambridge Local Heritage Listing; 'Perry Lakes Stadium Demolition', *Structerre Consulting*, Accessed November 2025, <https://structerre.com.au/project/perry-lakes-stadium-demolition/>; Tayissa Barone, 'Perry Lakes stand demolished', *The West Australian*, 21 August 2012, <https://thewest.com.au/news/australia/perry-lakes-stand-demolished-ng-ya-301261>
- <sup>36</sup> 'Perry Lakes Estate Design Guidelines', <https://www.cambridge.wa.gov.au/Plan-Build/Planning/Planning-Rules/Activity-Centres-and-Development-Areas/Perry-Lakes-Estate>; 'Life of a Scoreboard', <https://cambridgelocalstudies.wordpress.com/2014/08/20/life-of-a-scoreboard/>; 'A reflection of history at Empire Perry Lakes', *The West Australian*, 31 March 2017, <https://thewest.com.au/lifestyle/real-estate/a-reflection-of-history-at-empire-perry-lakes-ng-b88432700z>



Figure 4: Photograph taken on Stadium Drive, facing southeast. The Scoreboard building is to the right and partially obscured by vegetation. (January 2026).



Figure 5: Stadium Drive (photograph taken west-facing) follows the original layout of the track from the former stadium complex (January 2026).

### Exterior

The Scoreboard building is a three-storey structure in the Post-War International style of pale brick construction to the ground level and side elevations. The roof terrace is enclosed with a glazed parapet, painted red, with a clock at its centre (not original). A concrete frame extends beyond the roof line with four flag poles. The façade has been altered with the insertion of a curtain wall with alternating double height fixed glazed windows and louvered windows at the first and second floors. Solar panels are adhered to these windows to emulate the original results board technology. There are two commemorative plaques to the front and rear elevations.

The form is a three-storey suspended slab construction. The first floor was originally formed with a cantilevered balcony, accessed via doors to the east and west, the balustrade no longer extant. Two concrete platforms at the east and west elevations are remnants of smaller viewing balconies at the second floor. These balconies are no longer accessible, and the original doors have been replaced with awning windows.

There are three ground floor porches at the rear elevation, of which two have original terrazzo tiled flooring. Each porch has two doors, with some retaining portions of the original internal granolithic flooring. A curtain wall is framed by the same red panelling to the upper floors. The upper floors are recessed at the rear from the ground floor, excluding the brick stair tower. The staircase and original light fixtures are visible through the tower windows.





Figure 6: Front elevation from Stadium Drive. The flag poles are unlikely to be original as 1962 plans and photographs show three poles (January 2026).



Figure 7: Front elevation ground floor. The doors are not original (June 2026).



Figure 8: North east view of front elevation showing former viewing platforms (June 2026).



Figure 9: Rear elevation with curtain wall detail to the upper floors (June 2026).



Figure 10: South east view of rear elevation (June 2026).



Figure 11: One of three ground level porches at the rear elevation (west). The central and west porch have the original terrazzo tiled floor. The location of the original brick partition wall (extant on the east porch, see Figure 10) is interpreted in the paving (June 2026).

### Interior

The interior has been heavily modified as a communal space for residents. The ground floor comprises two main rooms; the east portion contains a kitchenette, meeting space, and lounge area, and the west a billiards room. The original function of the building is not evident in the interior, but memorabilia and images



from the Games has been incorporated throughout the ground floor as interpretation.

The first floor has been converted into a gym and is accessed via the original granolithic staircase that has been painted. The second floor and roof are not accessible.



Figure 12: Communal recreation room located on ground level. The wall photographs are from the Games. This space was originally the Post Office and Store B as marked on 1962 drawings which has been converted into one room (June 2026).



Figure 13: Solar panels as viewed from first floor gym (June 2026).

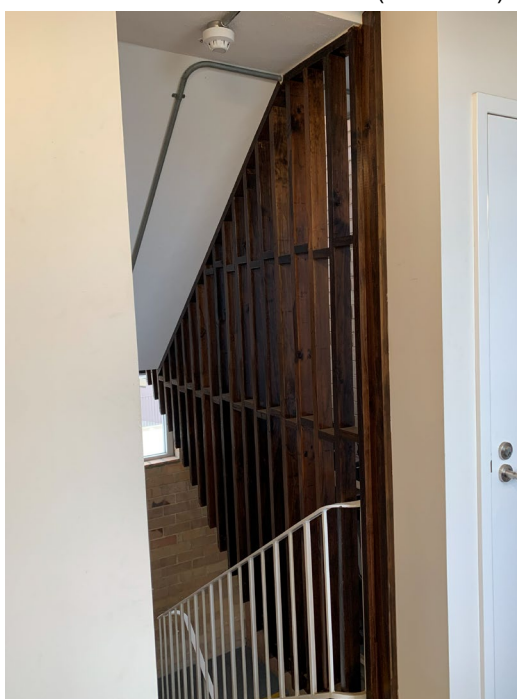


Figure 14: Stair tower panelling detail from first floor (June 2026).

### Condition

The building was refurbished as part of the redevelopment in 2016 and is in overall good condition (2026). The original function of the building is not evident in the interior, but the modifications are sympathetic and distinguishable as new fabric.

### 13. COMPARATIVE INFORMATION/THEMATIC ANALYSIS

#### Thematic Analysis

This analysis is based on the Thematic History of Western Australia<sup>37</sup> (WA Thematic). The following themes, key events and phases are relevant to the history of the place:

##### *International Links*

##### *Cultural Life – Recreation/Organised Leisure/Entertainment*

- 1961: Beatty Park Swimming Pool Opens, the second Olympic size pool in WA, and first for metropolitan area (built for Empire Games 1962).
- 1962: British Empire and Commonwealth Games held in Perth, the first major international sporting event held in WA; four West Australians win gold medals; world-class permanent facilities for many sports built for the games (such as swimming, basketball, athletics); first Commonwealth Games to include Games of the Disabled.

##### *Economy – Commerce*

- 1962: Empire Games increases international interest in WA and boosts tourism.

#### Comparative Analysis

##### British Empire and Commonwealth Games

Along with the Perry Lakes Stadium and adjacent Basketball Stadium (P9100 Perry Lakes Sporting Complex, demolished 2010-2012), other purpose-built venues for the Games include the Beatty Park Aquatic Centre (P3553 *Beatty Park Leisure Centre*), Lake Monger Velodrome (P18182) and Rowing Centre supporting events on the Canning River. The British Empire and Commonwealth Games Village Precinct (P9107) was also built to house competitors and officials. In addition, several existing venues were used, with Fencing held at the Drill Hall, Victoria Park (demolished c.1985); Wrestling at King's Park Tennis Club; Weightlifting at the South Perth Civic Centre and Lawn Bowls at the Dalkeith Nedlands Bowling Club. Road cycling took place on roads through Kings Park.<sup>38</sup>

As noted above a number of the venues which were purpose-built for the Games have since been demolished. The following State Registered place is one of the venues purpose-built for the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games which remains extant:

- P3553 *Beatty Park Leisure Centre, North Perth* (RHP) (1961) – swimming pool complex constructed in brick and concrete with a fibrous cement roof structure in the Late Twentieth Century International style, and aquatic leisure centre complex constructed in steel and blockwork with metal rods in the Late Twentieth Century Specialist style, in a park-like recreation ground setting. The place is one of the group of places built for the Games.

<sup>37</sup> 'A Thematic History of Western Australia' (incl. Framework Spreadsheet & Narratives). Prepared for the Heritage Council of WA by Clare Menck, Historian, June 2018.

<sup>38</sup> Heritage Council of WA documentation, Register of Heritage Places – Does not warrant entry in the State Register, P18182 Lake Monger Velodrome (fmr), p.33.

The place was also used as a venue for the first Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, held between 10-17 November 1962.

The following State Registered place was used as a venue, but was not purpose-built for the Games:

- P3801 *Royal King's Park Tennis Club, West Perth* (RHP) (from 1899) – an important major venue in WA for state and international tennis competitions that was used for wrestling events during the Games.

The following place, determined to not meet the conditions for entry in the State Register, was also purpose-built for the Games:

- P18182 Lake Monger Velodrome (fmr) (1958-1961) – the only international-standard velodrome in the metropolitan area used for cycle racing in the Games. A steeply sloped, oval-shaped racetrack was originally the central feature, but this was largely removed by the creation of the c.1998 rectangular sports field. Majority of the original elements have been removed including the c.1961 grandstand (demolished 2023).

The following places are not on the State Register but are also comparable for an association with the Games:

- P2184 Kings Park (Assessment Program) – the location of road cycling events.
- P18987 Swan and Canning Rivers (Assessment Program) – rowing events were held on the Canning River, with the course dredged for the Games.<sup>39</sup> The Rowing Centre that was constructed for the Games (1962) remains extant and has been modified and repurposed as a hospitality venue (2026).
- P3917 Claremont Showgrounds (Assessment Program) (from 1902) – the long-standing home of the Royal Agricultural Society that has been used for numerous events in WA, including for athletic events for the Paraplegic Games.
- P9107 British Empire and Commonwealth Games Village Precinct (fmr) (Local Heritage Survey) (from 1962) – the housing village constructed for athletes competing in the Games. Few of the original houses remain.
- P2399 South Perth Civic Centre, Library & War Memorial (Local Heritage Survey) (from 1960) – an existing venue which was used for weightlifting events.

### Post-War International Style

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard* (fmr) was constructed in the Post-War International style. This style was commonly applied to other buildings during the 1960s some of which, though not Games venues, were constructed to meet increased volume of visitors to Perth and to showcase the city due to the international spotlight. The following State Registered places comprise elements of this architectural style, and represent the forward-looking aspirations of Perth at the beginning of the 1960s:

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<sup>39</sup> 'Rowing at the 1962 Commonwealth Games', *The Beverley Times*, 27 October 1961, p. 4, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article202801102>

- P2097 *Council House, Perth* (RHP) (1960-63) – this place represents the desire for quality civic facilities in time for the start of the Games. Its simplicity of form, transparent cladding, and consistent use of refined minimalist detailing makes it a fine example of the Post-War International style.
- P3363 *Port of Fremantle Passenger Terminal* (RHP) (1961, 1962) – a steel framed two-storey structure built as port terminal facilities to support the influx of passenger traffic due to post-war immigration. Fremantle Port hosted approximately 5,000 visitors arriving for the Games, with the Passenger Terminal the centre of the port's activities, and location of a welcoming ceremony to the British Royal family.

Though not associated with the Games, the below State Registered places are also constructed in the Post-War International Style:

- P3849 *Dumas House, West Perth* (RHP) (1966) – a good example of the style that also demonstrates adaptation to the Australian environment through the use of passive sun controls.
- P14911 *ABC Sound Broadcasting and Television Studios, Perth* (RHP) (1960, 1966, 1977) – the place exhibits the simplicity of line and form typical of the Post-War International style, demonstrating the modernist ideals in architecture at the time of its construction.

### Sporting Facilities

There are 150 State Registered places associated with sport, recreation, and entertainment. The below examples are most comparable to *Perry Lakes Scoreboard* as purpose-built sporting facilities:

- P1972 *Albany Snake Run Skateboard Park* (RHP) (1976) – the oldest surviving skate park in Australia, and the second oldest in the World. It is representative of the development of skateboarding in WA, which became popular in the mid-1970s.
- P2090 *West Australian Rowing Club, Perth* (RHP) (from c.1905) – the location of the first established rowing club in WA (established 1868), that has been in continuous use since its construction c.1905 as a rowing boatshed and club house. It is significant to the development and activities of WA's rowing fraternity.
- P2170 *Gloucester Park, East Perth* (RHP) (from 1929) – WA's principal harness racing venue from 1929 to the present. There are odds display boards within the Leger Totalisator building, and an electronic dividend display board at the grassed centre of the trotting track.
- P2992 *Perth Oval* (RHP) (from 1910) – now known as Perth Rectangular Stadium. The area has been used for sporting events since 1904, particularly Australian Rules Football, soccer, and rugby, and is indicative of the institutionalisation of sport.
- P3511 *Lord Forrest Olympic Pool, Kalgoorlie* (RHP) (1938) – the first Olympic-sized pool built in WA, until the construction of Beatty Park pool in



1962, used for recreational, competitive, and to teach swimming in Kalgoorlie until it closed in 1999.

- P3536 *Loton Park Tennis Club, Perth* (RHP) (c.1905; 1922) – comprising a number of tennis courts and an associated clubhouse adjacent to Perth Oval, that demonstrates the development and social importance of recreational support in WA.
- P4177 *Albany Golf Course* (RHP) (from 1900) – an eighteen-hole links style golf course, the oldest of its type in WA.
- P7403 *Bassendean Oval* (RHP) (from 1927) – a grassed playing field and associated grandstands and entry gates which demonstrates the importance sport has played in local communities in Australia. It contributes to the local community's sense of place as a traditional venue for local and inter-sport events, and as the home ground of the WA Football League (WAFL) team the Swan Districts Football Club.
- P11923 *Subiaco Oval* (RHP) (from 1908) – served as the premier football oval in WA from the mid-1930s to 2017 and was the home ground for the AFL teams West Coast Eagles and Fremantle Dockers, home ground of WAFL team the Subiaco Football Club (from 1908-2003), and the venue for grand final games in the WAFL competition. The stadium was demolished in 2019 but the oval has been retained.

### Conclusions

While *Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* is not uncommon as a place associated with sporting in WA, it is a rare extant example of the infrastructure purpose-built for the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

## **14. FURTHER RESEARCH**

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## APPENDIX 1 - ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

This section identifies the cultural heritage values of the place. Values that make a strong contribution to the place's cultural heritage significance are also included in the Statement of Cultural Heritage Significance above. In determining cultural heritage significance, the Heritage Council has had regard to the factors in section 38 of the *Heritage Act 2018* (see **Appendix 2**). Cultural heritage significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for individuals or groups within Western Australia.

It is considered that the place warrants inclusion in the State Register against the following factors relevant to cultural heritage significance:

### (A) Historic Value - evolution or pattern WA history

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* was an integral element of the Perry Lakes Stadium complex, an international-standard sporting facility constructed as part of Perth's hosting of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, one of the most significant events in WA in the post-WWII period. The event had a substantial long-term impact on WA, heralding Perth's 'coming of age' and emergence from a small country town into the international spotlight.

The place demonstrates the role of State and Local Government in investing in new sports infrastructure to enable the State to host and compete on an international stage and was part of a network of facilities constructed or upgraded for the Games. The Stadium was the centrepiece of the Games, provided as the venue for athletic events, in which the scoreboard was used to display results, and was the location of the extravagant opening and closing ceremonies.

As an element purpose-built for the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, the place is a remnant of the significant infrastructure which contributed to an increase in tourism and development in WA.

Perth's hosting saw the establishment of the Commonwealth Paraplegic Games, held prior to the events of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games. Separate Games were held between 1962-1974 and in 2002, para-sports were integrated into the Commonwealth Games schedule.

### (B) Rarity

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* is the only element remaining from the previously expansive Perry Lakes Stadium complex, one of four purpose-built venues of which all remain extant to varying degrees, and the centrepiece of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

The former electronic scoreboard system (no longer extant) was the first of its kind in Australia, originally designed for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, where it was first used.

### (C) Scientific Value

Factor not relevant to this place.

### (D) Representativeness

As one of several purpose-built facilities constructed in anticipation of the Games, the Scoreboard represents the investment made toward showcasing WA on the

international stage in the post-WWII period. The place represents the demands places on host nations in preparation for international sporting events and reflects the shift to providing new facilities for major events as opposed to only adapting existing facilities for the purpose.

**(E) Social or Spiritual Value**

Together with the former Perry Lakes Stadium complex, former Lake Monger Velodrome, Beatty Park Aquatic Centre, and Games Village Precinct, the scoreboard building forms part of WA's cultural memories of the 1960s and the Games as a turning point for Perth's 'coming of age' through its role in hosting a major sporting event.

**(F)<sup>40</sup> Aesthetic Value**

*Perry Lakes Scoreboard (fmr)* is a prominent landmark along Stadium Drive within the surrounding residential development. The design of the building represents the functionalist approach to architecture in the mid-twentieth century and is a good example of the Post-War International style, that was widely used in the construction of infrastructure associated with the Games and during this period.

**(G) Historic Value - person, group or organisation**

The innovative electronic results system that was integral to the scoreboard's function was designed by South Australian E.T Both and supplied by his company, that was originally developed for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics.

The place is associated with the over-1000 athletes and officials representing the 35 competing countries in the Games, including the 207 Australian athletes. Four Western Australians won gold medals for athletic events; Dixie Willis, Joyce Bennett, Trevor Bickle, and Ian Tomlinson, while Percy Hobson (NSW) and Jeff Dynevor (QLD) were the first Aboriginal athletes to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games.

**(H) Scientific Value - creative or technical achievement**

The original scoreboard technology developed by E.T Both was a new and innovative approach to scoring utilising lightbulbs and a switch system to display results and messages to spectators, that replaced traditional scoring methods using chalkboards and numerical cards.

**(I) Any other characteristic it may have that in the opinion of the Council is relevant to the assessment of cultural heritage significance.**

Factor not relevant to this place.

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<sup>40</sup> 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.

## **APPENDIX 2 – FACTORS S.38 HERITAGE ACT 2018**

In determining cultural heritage significance, the Heritage Council must have regard to the factors in section 38 of the *Heritage Act 2018*. These factors, and their equivalent values are listed below. Cultural heritage significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for individuals or groups within Western Australia.

- (A) Importance in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Western Australia's history - Historic Value**
- (B) Importance in demonstrating rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Western Australia's heritage – Rarity Value**
- (C) Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Western Australia's history – Scientific Value**
- (D) Its importance in demonstrating the characteristics of a broader class of places - Representativeness**
- (E) Any strong or special meaning it may have for any group or community because of social, cultural or spiritual associations – Social or Spiritual Value**
- (F) Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by any group or community – Aesthetic Value**
- (G) Any special association it may have with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in Western Australia's history - Historic Value**
- (H) Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement – Aesthetic/Scientific Value**



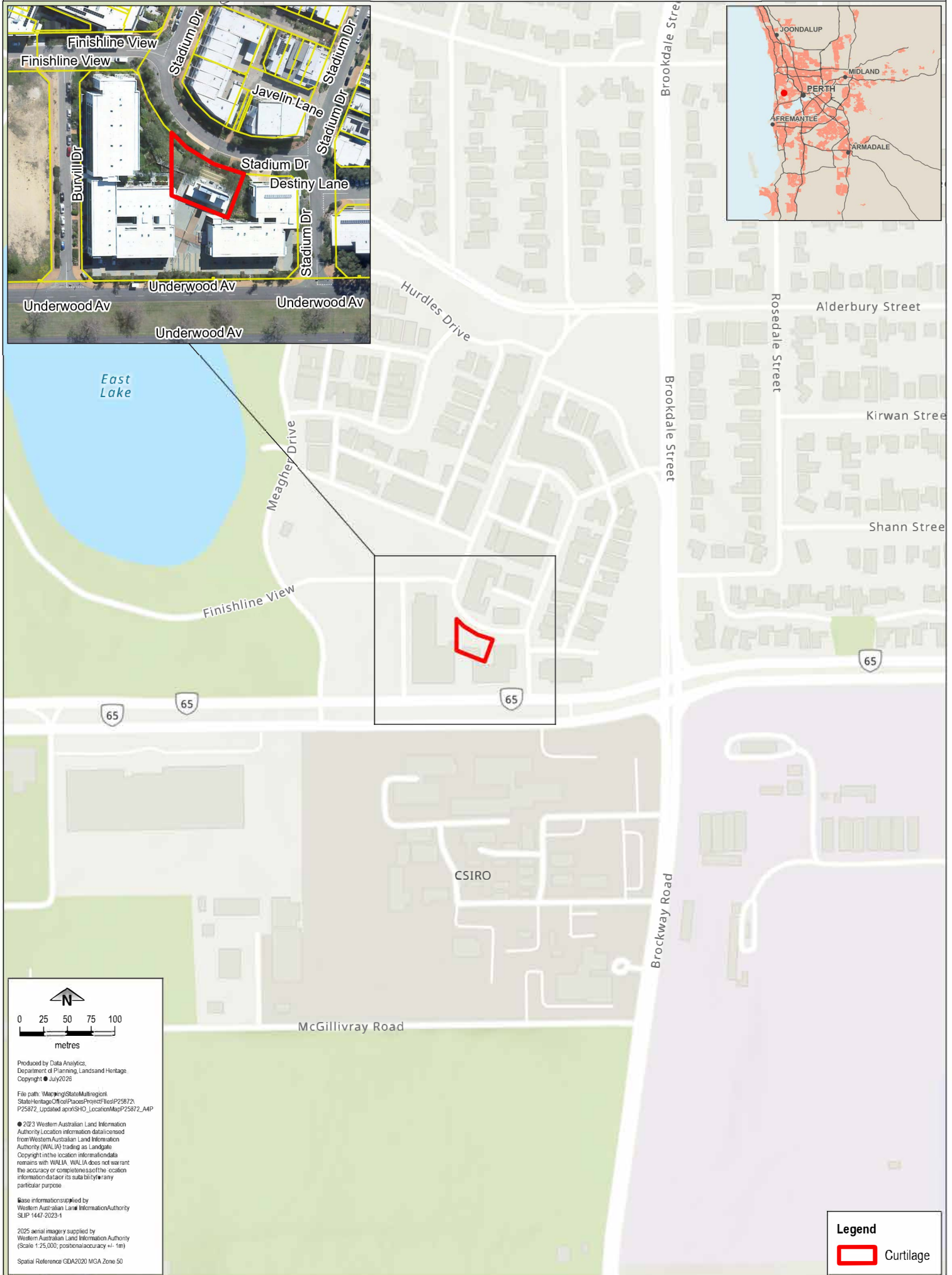
HERITAGE  
COUNCIL

## HC LOCATION MAP P25872 PERRY LAKES SCOREBOARD (FMR), FLOREAT

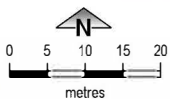
MAP 1 OF 2 PREPARED BY TONY FRETZ (GEOSPATIAL DATA CAPTURE OFFICER) 14/07/2026

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Spatial Reference GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

#### Legend

-  Cadastre
-  Curtilage