



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Interim Entry

1. **NUMBER** 2347
2. **NAME** *Post and Telegraph Office*
3. **LOCATION** Pearl Street, Cossack
4. **DESCRIPTION OF ELEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY (GENERAL)**

The Post and Telegraph Office is the oldest building in the town of Cossack. It was originally two storeyed with a metal roof and was constructed from local shell limestone. It has been restored to a two storey building. The Bakehouse is on the same site and is included in this description

5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Roebourne
6. **OWNER**
7. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE (ASSESSMENT IN DETAIL)**

The place has been assessed by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and has been entered in the Register held by that body as a classified building with the following statement of significance:

The stone structures and buildings still in existence are a reminder of an important colonial port during the period 1872 until the transfer of the port to Point Samson.

The place has also been assessed by the Australian Heritage Commission and has been entered in the Register of the National Estate with the following statement of significance:

The stone structures and buildings still in existence are a reminder of an important colonial port during the period 1872 until the transfer of the port to Point Samson.

The place has also been assessed by the Building Management Authority in the course of preparing a conservation proposal for the buildings at Cossack with the following statement of significance:

### CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Soundly constructed under adverse conditions, the buildings demonstrate robust yet sophisticated detailing of brick, stone and concrete.

Surviving documentation shows a high level of recognition of the cyclonic conditions, with well detailed and executed holding down devices.

### DEMONSTRATION OF A WAY OF LIFE

The buildings are representative of typical government buildings of the late 1800's to the turn of the century. They demonstrate the activities of the port and

reflect civic and social needs of the developing community at Cossack during this period.

#### **HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Cossack was the first port in the North West of Western Australia. It was officially named in 1871 by Governor Weld on his visit in HMS Cossack. The buildings demonstrate the town's historical role as a port of Roebourne (linked by tramway) and surrounding areas involved with pearling, pastoral and mining industries.

#### **TOWNSCAPE**

The grouping of civic buildings shows how scale, form and fabric are tools for establishing relationships between the buildings and their setting in order to reinforce the quality of both.

#### **SCARCITY/UNIQUENESS**

The buildings represent the last remaining physical evidence of the townsite which demonstrates its cultural and historical significance in the history of Western Australia.

#### **8. REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES (DATE OF GAZETTAL)**

Interim Entry 24/3/1992

#### **9. CONSERVATION ORDER**

#### **10. HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

#### **11. REFERENCES**

National Trust Assessment Exposition  
Register of the National Estate