



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Register Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 2170
2. **NAME** *Gloucester Park* (1929, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s)
FORMER NAME Brennan Park, Perth Trotting Course
3. **LOCATION** Nile St, Trafalgar Rd, Nelson Cres &, Waterloo Cres, East Perth
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lots 754 and 755 on Deposited Plan 204381 being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1208 Folio 242.
Lot 765 on Deposited Plan 206703 being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1302 Folio 801.
Lots T15-T21 on Deposited Plan 223273, Lots P3, 30, 31, 569 and 570 on Deposited Plan 41439, Lot 410 on Deposited Plan 254216 and Lot 411 on Deposited Plan 100131 together being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1138 Folio 363.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Perth
6. **OWNER** Western Australian Trotting Association
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 17/04/2003
Registered 28/01/2021
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: Category 1 (entrance Enclosure tote) 31/03/2000
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
 - Aboriginal Sites Register -----
8. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION OF THE ACT**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gloucester Park, a harness racing sports ground comprising the Trotting Track, Main Entrance and Forecourts, Enclosure Totalisator, Leger Totalisator, Switch House, Birdcage, Birdcage Entrance, Birdcage Kiosk, Stalls, Grand Stands, Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), and other associated buildings and plantings surrounding the Track, enclosed in a masonry and chain link mesh Perimeter Wall, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place has operated as the State's principal harness racing venue, and as a venue that provided first-class facilities and technical achievements at an Australia-wide level, from 1929 to the present, and of the two purpose built harness racing grounds established in the Perth metropolitan area is the only one remaining in operation;

the Enclosure Totalisator and Leger Totalisator provide important evidence of the housing and use of automatic mechanical calculating devices in the first half of the twentieth century. The Western Australian Trotting Association in East Perth had the first installation of this device in Australia;

the early and original buildings and elements within the place, including the Main Entrance, Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), Enclosure and Leger Totalisators, Birdcage Kiosk and Switch House together with the Track as the organising design element, collectively form a cultural environment of historic built elements;

the arcaded Main Entrance on Nelson Crescent is valued for its Free Classical detailing and impressive scale and, with its backdrop of Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) and generous forecourt, has become a considerable landmark in the vicinity. The Free Classical detail of the nearby Switch House reinforces that of the Main Entrance;

the Enclosure and Leger Totalisators, with their three-storey towers and symmetrical facades displaying characteristics of Federation Arts and Crafts style, collectively form a cultural environment of historic built elements which both individually and collectively have landmark value;

the evidence of the early and original development of the place is associated with individuals and organisations including James Brennan, J. P. Stratton, and the Committees and members of the Western Australian Trotting Association. Later developments are significant for their association with Sir Frank Ledger and the Western Australian Trotting Association; and,

the place is highly valued by the community as a landmark and social gathering place, which contributes to its sense of place, and also by the Western Australian Trotting Association, harness racing fraternity and by the community at large for the place's continuous use as a harness racing and betting venue since 1929. The Totalisators, Main Entrance, and plantings, particularly the Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), contribute to the community's sense of place as a landmark and social gathering place.

The steel barrel vaulted colonnade, the childcare centre playground and metal-framed and clad enclosure behind the west wing of the Enclosure Totalisator are intrusive.