



**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)

- 4.1.2 Making suburbs
- 8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
- 8.13 Living in cities and suburbs

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 104 Land allocation and subdivision
- 111 Depression and Boom
- 306 Domestic activities
- 605 Famous and infamous people

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Throssell House, Perth, is a fine example of a well-designed Federation Queen Anne style residence, which retains most of its original external features and the intended qualities of internal spaces. (Criterion 1.1)

Throssell House, Perth makes a positive contribution to the surrounds of Hyde Park, being one of a number of historic houses that make up the historic Gold Boom context of Hyde Park and its surrounds, and provides a visual and historic connection between the suburban development and the development of an important suburban park in the context of Perth. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Throssell House, Perth was constructed c.1905 as part of the suburban residential development associated with the expansion of Perth and its outlying suburbs, such as North Perth, which occurred largely as a result of the discovery of gold in Western Australia in the 1880s and 1890s and the huge increase in the State's population due to the gold rushes. (Criterion 2.1)

Throssell House, Perth was constructed in the vicinity Hyde Park subsequent to the formalisation of plans for the establishment of the public park, when the

* 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Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

subdivision and sale of large Perth Towns Lots in the area was promoted to attract wealthy Perth citizens who were interested in establishing villa homes or businesses in the area. (Criterion 2.2)

Throssell House, Perth is named after the original landowner of the area, the Hon. George Throssell, a prominent businessman, politician and the second Premier of Western Australia (15 February 1901 to 27 May 1901), who owned the land prior to the residence being constructed. (Criterion 2.3)

Throssell House, Perth was designed by architect George W. McMullen and constructed for owner and occupier Richard Sparrow, an attorney who was widely respected in the Perth community. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Throssell House, Perth is valued by the local community for its contribution to the built environment of the Town of Vincent, which contributes to this community's sense of place, as evidenced by its recent inclusion in the Town of Vincent Municipal Heritage Inventory. (Criterion 4.1 & 4.2)

DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Throssell House, Perth is a fine example of Federation Queen Anne style architecture and illustrates the standard of accommodation to which the more affluent citizens of suburban Perth aspired in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (Criterion 6.1)

Throssell House, Perth is representative of suburban subdivision and of the desire to live in a place with a high degree of amenity, as evidenced by its elevated position and views over Hyde Park and of the City. (Criterion 6.2)

12. 3 CONDITION

The place has been well maintained and reflects its values. Cumulative works have resulted in the loss of some original fabric and its replacement and augmentation with reproduction material. There is some deterioration of pointing, cracking that appears due to settlement, and evidence of a number of historic roof and roof plumbing leaks. Overall, the place is in fair, to good condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

The original intent is readily legible and the place has continued in use as a residence or shared house, with only a brief interruption, since its completion. Each of the major stages of development is reasonably readily distinguishable, so that the evolution of the residence is reasonably apparent. Overall, the place retains a moderate to high degree of integrity.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

Much of the original fabric remains in place and intact. The place was designed and built to superior standards and, although there has been some loss of detail, the underlying aesthetic and spatial qualities of the original design intent remain intact. Some of the rooms have had detail added to enrich them and these embellishments make the place look more decorative than was originally intended. Some detail has been lost and some rooms have been altered for alternative uses. Most of this change has occurred in the late twentieth century. Fabric losses include: lath and plaster ceilings in some locations, original bathroom fittings and kitchen fittings, the original staircase to the loft, openings to link rooms together and the like. Introduced fabric includes: replacement fittings and fixtures for the services rooms, reproduction fire boxes, mantles, surrounds and hearths, light fittings, switches and power points, pavings and fences, and landscape materials. The fabric that remains in the original 1905 section of the residence is substantially authentic. All of the original outbuildings have been removed. Overall the place retains a moderate, to high, degree of authenticity externally and a moderate degree of authenticity internally.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The wording of this document has been adapted from 'Throssell House: Conservation Plan' prepared by Considine & Griffiths Architects with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for Quentin and Julie Summers and the Heritage Council of Western Australia, in March 2005, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

Sections Used: Documentary Evidence pp.1-13, 16-18; Physical Evidence pp.19-20, 27-32, 42-43, 46-49, 51, 53-56, 58-60; Analysis of Documentary and Physical Evidence pp.61-62, 65-68.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the documentary evidence, refer to 'Throssell House: Conservation Plan' prepared by Considine & Griffiths Architects with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for Quentin and Julie Summers and the Heritage Council of Western Australia, in March 2005.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the physical evidence, refer to 'Throssell House: Conservation Plan' prepared by Considine & Griffiths Architects with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for Quentin and Julie Summers and the Heritage Council of Western Australia, in March 2005.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a discussion of the comparative information, refer to 'Throssell House: Conservation Plan' prepared by Considine & Griffiths Architects with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for Quentin and Julie Summers and the Heritage Council of Western Australia, in March 2005.

The Federation Queen Anne style architecture style was used as the primary method of comparison between this place and other residences constructed in the same period. This Federation Queen Anne style of architecture became popular for residences during the end of the nineteenth century and into the pre World War I era.

There are thirty-six single-storey houses on the Heritage Council Data Base in the Federation Queen Anne style constructed either partially or fully in stone. Eleven of these are on the State Register of Heritage Places. All eleven are located in the metropolitan area and retain most of their original external features. They are *Samson House* (00869) Fremantle, *Belvedere* (03452) in Cottesloe, *Woodlawn* (00805), *Aldgate* (00802) and *Knocknagow* (00805) all in East Fremantle, *Fothergill Street Precinct* (09241) in Fremantle; *Holmesdale* (01688) and *Leithdale* (08554) in Darlington, *House* (3848) in Mount Street Perth and *The Terraces* (02043) and *Nurses Memorial Centre* (02665) both in the City of Perth. Apart from *The Terraces* and the residences in *Fothergill Street Precinct* all these former residences are slightly or substantially larger than *Throssell House*.

The Mount Lawley residence *Annesley* (08035), also on the State Register is comparable to *Throssell House* in style but uses brick instead of stone construction.

The comparison to two-storey residences built in the Federation Queen Anne style was not considered to be relevant as the original construction of *Throssell House* was single storey. The second storey belvedere is a much later addition.

Throssell House is a fine example of a Federation Queen Anne style

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

'Throssell House: Conservation Plan' prepared by Considine & Griffiths Architects with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for Quentin and Julie Summers and the Heritage Council of Western Australia, in March 2005.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH
