



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 15867
2. **NAME** *Kalgoorlie Railway Housing Group (1902; 1948-49)*
3. **LOCATION** 2 & 4 Chapple Street & 42 - 46 Wittenoom Street,
Kalgoorlie
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lot 2066 on Deposited Plan 144443 being the whole of the land comprised in
Crown Land Title Volume: 3042 Folio: 314.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder
6. **OWNER** State of Western Australia
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 27/06/2003
Permanent Entry 23/01/2004
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Kalgoorlie Railway Housing Group, comprising brick and iron railway barracks
(1902), and three timber and tile Improved Mill type railway houses (1948-49)
displaying elements of Inter-war California Bungalow style, has cultural
heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place forms a distinct cultural environment and provides evidence
of trends in government railway accommodation spanning almost five
decades from the establishment of the Barracks in 1902, to the
dwellings built in 1949, and functioned as accommodation for railway
employees at Kalgoorlie from 1902 to 2001;

the Barracks is one of the few remaining intact and functional examples of a brick railway barracks constructed prior to the adoption of the 1904 cabin-type barracks as a standard within the railway system;

the place is a visual reminder of the importance of the railway to Kalgoorlie as its primary supply route, having been constructed during the period that the town was the major eastern goldfields rail centre from 1897 to the 1920s, and later as the junction of the standard gauge Trans-Continental and narrow gauge State lines between 1917 and 1968;

the place is an integral element within a significantly intact wider railway precinct, which includes station buildings, the railway institute, and a series of dwellings in Forrest Street, Wittenoom Street and the railway reserve which were constructed for different classes of employees;

the place was constructed as part of the statewide railway services provided in the early to mid twentieth century, in keeping with government policy to provide rail employees with accommodation in close proximity to railway stations, a practice which is being phased out;

the elements of the place are indicative of two periods of rapid growth for railway services in the State, namely the gold boom of the 1890s and early 1900s and the reconstruction and development period immediately following World War Two;

the Railway Houses contribute to the residential streetscape as a small cohesive group of residences of similar design, exhibiting features of the Inter-war California Bungalow style; and,

the place contributes to the local community's sense of place as a part of the railway history of Kalgoorlie.

The railway cabins and transportable accommodation units are of no heritage significance, nor are the aviaries or the carport on the west side.

Kalgoorlie Railway Housing Group forms part of a railway precinct with a collection of buildings in or near the railway reserve. The railway precinct in the station yard on the Forrest Street frontage includes 1897 stone & iron station buildings and platform, 1897 stone platelayer's cottage, 1897 stone and iron Station Master's house, c.1898 brick & iron District Superintendent's house, 1900 iron parcel's office, and 1920 war memorial, all of which have a high degree of significance, but have not been included in this assessment. On the opposite side of Forrest Street, the 1934 brick & iron railway institute is also of high significance. On the north side of the railway reserve, the Wittenoom Street Housing Group, constructed from 1902 to 1952 in various styles, also contributes to the precinct.