

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)

- 8.7 Honouring achievement
- 8.8 Remembering the fallen
- 8.1.3 Developing public parks & gardens

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

• 501 World Wars & other wars

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

The combination of the original World War One Donnybrook stone memorial cenotaph in the Inter-War Stripped Classical style and marble statue of a soldier is aesthetically appealing. (Criterion 1.1)

The park is designed in the Geometric style, with Bunbury War Memorial being flanked from either side by two palm trees, then a semi-circular hedge with six posts linked by chains, five flagpoles and circular garden beds behind, which together with trees and other memorials are symmetrically placed. The overall effect of the layout is to emphasise the landmark quality of Bunbury War Memorial. (Criteria 1.2 & 1.3)

The white painted stone Bunbury War Memorial provides a landmark on the intersection of Stirling and Victoria Streets and has a striking appearance when approached from the Bunbury CBD. (Criterion 1.3)

11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE

Anzac Park, Bunbury has broad associations with the development of Bunbury since the 1880s and 1890s, which resulted in the consolidation of Bunbury as 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.

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Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

principal port and the minor capital of the southwest region, being a permanent memorial of a scale befitting a large regional centre. (Criterion 2.1)

Since its unveiling on Armistice Day, 11 November, 1924, up to the present day (2006), *Anzac Park, Bunbury* had been the focus of Anzac Day and other commemoratives services in Bunbury, and has also become the location of additional memorials to specific events and peoples. In 1953, additional plaques listing the names of servicemen and servicewomen who died in World War Two were added to Bunbury War Memorial. (Criterion 2.2)

The place has associations with the Bunbury sub-branch of the Returned Servicemen's League, individuals such as General Sir Newton Moore who gifted funds towards its construction, and the families of the approximately 200 local residents who fell in the line of duty during World Wars One and Two and to whom the memorial pays tribute. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Since 1924, *Anzac Park, Bunbury* has been the Bunbury focus for Anzac Day and other commemorative services such as Armistice Day. (Criterion 4.1)

Bunbury War Memorial serves as a reminder of Bunbury's, Western Australia's and Australia's involvement in World Wars One and Two and commemorates the Anzac spirit, thus contributing to the national identity and demonstrating to those who participate in wars that they will not be forgotten. It is part of a national recognition of the sacrifices of participants in wars. (Criterion 4.1)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Bunbury War Memorial is a rare example in Western Australia of a war memorial featuring a marble soldier statue standing with arms reversed and head bowed in the classic military funeral pose, on top of a cenotaph. Cenotaphs are unusual in Western Australia, and other memorial statues in the State feature soldiers on duty and are cast from bronze or concrete. (Criterion 5.1)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Anzac Park, Bunbury demonstrates the widespread cultural expression of Western Australian communities at the end of World Wars One and Two to commemorate those lost in the wars by building individually designed war memorials. (Criterion 6.1)

12.3 CONDITION

Anzac Park, Bunbury is in good condition.

The place is maintained on a regular basis by Bunbury City Council.

The gardens are generally in good condition.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Anzac Park, Bunbury has high integrity as it is currently used for its original purpose as a war memorial and public park.

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The viability of the place to continue as a park in the long term is high. The viability of the place to remain a war memorial will continue to depend on how current and future generations value the memorials erected by past generations.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

There are few accretions overlain on earlier fabric. These have included the replacement of the trench mortar with the marble statue of a soldier, more recent memorials that have historic and social value, as well as low-grade bins, seats and other park furniture.

The finish of Bunbury War Memorial surface is painted. It is understood that originally it was not white, but unpainted Donnybrook stone.

There is no surface physical evidence of a fishpond that was later filled in and bricked over. Subsurface investigations have not been carried out.

Anzac Park, Bunbury retains a high degree of authenticity as a memorial site that dates from the 1920s and 1930s.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Kent Lyon, Architect, and Kris Bizzaca, Historian, in May 2004, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Anzac Park, Bunbury comprises Bunbury War Memorial, constructed in 1924 in the Inter-War Stripped Classical style and subject to additions in 1930, situated in a landscaped park setting on the corner of Stirling and Parkfield Streets in Bunbury.

Despite having been proclaimed a townsite in 1841, as well as being the principal port of the southwest and the capital of the Wellington district, the population of the Bunbury area was still low in the 1870s. At this time, only 300 people lived in the town and approximately 2,000 in the district itself.¹ The Bunbury area had this modest growth primarily because of the low levels of agricultural and mineral production in the hinterland, inadequate transport and communication lines, and the lack of development of the port facilities.² With the availability of public monies and the increased population as a result of the gold rushes in the 1880s and 1890s, funds were provided for the construction of the Perth to Bunbury railway line, which opened in 1893, and works to the Bunbury Harbour. The larger population and therefore market base also ensured the opening up of the district's agricultural areas.³ These factors contributed to the development of the town itself as the minor capital for the region and subsequently the provision of further public and commercial services.⁴

The growth of Bunbury continued through to the 1910s, at which time the outbreak of World War One caused an economic decline not only for the town and the state but Australia as whole. The War's impact on world markets was such that local industries in the district such as timber and wool fell into a decline. As with other towns, the labour force and overall population was also significantly affected when many men joined the Australian military forces.⁵

By the end of World War One in 1918, 123 men from Bunbury had died during the hostilities. The casualties included men who served at Gallipoli and Bullicourt, Poziers and Morlancourt in France.⁶

In their history of Bunbury, A. J. Barker and M. Laurie write:

Inevitably there were starkly contrasting experiences for different families. The House family of Gibson Street, Bunbury, lost two sons, while eight other family names appear twice or more on the memorial. On the other hand, there were probably several families who shared the good fortune of Mrs Louise Mills of Clifton Street, whose two sons both survived, despite involvement at the front.⁷

The concept of the erection of a memorial to commemorate those locals who died during World War One is said to have been first raised in Bunbury in 1919.⁸ This

¹ Barker, A.J. & Laurie, M., *Excellent Connections: A History of Bunbury 1836 – 1990*, City of Bunbury, 1992, p. 104.

² Ibid, pp. 121, 132 - 133, 135.

³ Ibid, pp. 135, 140 – 144, Ch. 5.

⁴ Ibid, Ch. 4.

⁵ Ibid, pp. 200 – 205.

⁶ Ibid, p. 204.

⁷ Ibid, 204.

⁸ 'City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', prepared for the City of Bunbury, 2001, B161.

was part of an Australian-wide trend to honour and remember those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country in war through the erection of monuments. This was particularly prevalent after World War One at which time national identity and pride, the legend of the Anzac and the creation of the Anzac Day memorial service, were at the forefront of community sentiment.⁹

However, it was not until April 1924 that the following announcement was made during the Anzac Day services at the Council Chambers:

During a few brief remarks, Mr C. Woods, President of the R. S. L., announced that at last Bunbury would definitely have its own war memorial. The local branch of the League had determined upon it, and now work was to be commenced almost immediately. (Comments of approval.) He felt certain that when it was complete it would be a beautifying asset to the town and also a monument to be proud of, since it would serve as a continual reminder of the spirit that ushered in Australia's fame almost nine years ago.¹⁰

It is possible that the delay of some five years between the inception and the construction of the war memorial was due to prolonged negotiations between the Bunbury Council and the Department of Public Health regarding the excising of a portion of Bunbury Hospital site on Victoria Street for use as a small park on which a war memorial could be erected.¹¹ Newspapers at the time also report that various schemes for the war memorial were proposed and considered prior to the decision to build a cenotaph.¹²

Bunbury War Memorial was unveiled on Armistice Day, 11 November, 1924 by Colonel N. M. Brazier. After the two minutes silence, introductory speeches were made by Mayor of Bunbury, Mr George Clarke, and President of the R. S. L., Mr F. D. Slee, and then an Australian flag was released by Col. Brazier to uncover the memorial and memorial tablets.¹³ The Bunbury branch of the R. S. L. funded the construction of Bunbury War Memorial with money from its Trust Fund and also relying on public subscriptions.¹⁴

It is worth noting that neither the war memorial nor the grounds of the small park were completed at the time of the unveiling. Despite this, it had been decided that Armistice Day would be an appropriate time to unveil the memorial tablets.¹⁵

Further to this, no name had yet been given to the small park on which the memorial was built. The name seems to have been suggested by R. S. L. President Mr Slee, who during his address on the day, stated: 'As they had heard, the ground was to be laid out as a park, and he trusted that it might be known as Anzac Park.'¹⁶

Photographs of Bunbury War Memorial at the time of its construction show a stone cenotaph with a central column and two smaller columns on either side on a stepped plinth. The World War One memorial tablet was located on the central column with two bronze wreaths on the smaller sections. An Australian Defense

⁹ See Richards, O., 'War Memorials in Western Australia', Perth, 1996, pp. 1 – 9.

¹⁰ South Western Times, 29/4/1924.

¹¹ See South Western Times, 28/3/1925; South Western Times, 13/11/1924.

¹² South Western Times, 13/11/1924.

¹³ South Western Times, 13/11/1924.

¹⁴ South Western Times, 8/5/1924.

¹⁵ South Western Times, 13/11/1924.

¹⁶ South Western Times, 13/11/1924.

Forces badge was installed on the plinth base. A semi-circular fence incorporating small balustrading and a chain link enclosed the memorial itself.¹⁷

The first Anzac Day service to be held at *Anzac Park, Bunbury* was at 10am on 25 April 1925. Wreaths and flower tributes were placed at the base of Bunbury War Memorial and the ceremony was presided over by Mayor Mr Skewes, Mr Slee and Reverend Dundas. The 'Last Post' was played by Bugler Wallis.¹⁸

At the Anzac Day service held in 1926 it was reported that the works to the park had still yet to be carried out:

Around that memorial it was hoped to make a beauty spot so that the deeds of those who went overseas would be commemorated no only on the anniversary of their achievement, but would be commemorated through out the year.¹⁹

Newspaper reports indicate that the delay to beautification was due to Council not being able to fund the work. There was some controversy when Council attempted to get a grant for the improvements from the State Government; however, the initial agreement made during the land dealings was that only a limited amount (approximately £20) would be given towards the park. It was eventually decided that Council would wholly fund the works, especially as the R. S. L. had already spent approximately £800 on the memorial itself.²⁰

The first public holiday for Anzac Day was held in Bunbury in 1927. The services involved a march by members of the Light Horse Brigade, local Boy Scouts and the Bunbury Band.²¹

It was during the late 1920s that a trench mortar was placed on top of Bunbury War Memorial. This is said to have been 'a war trophy allocated post WWI to the town of Bunbury'. This was removed by early 1930.²²

In 1930, the first Anzac Day Dawn Service was held at *Anzac Park, Bunbury*. (At the time, it was reported that this type pf service was becoming increasingly popular as it commemorated the dawn landing at Gallipoli.)²³

The services on 25 April 1930 also marked the completion of Bunbury War Memorial by the unveiling of a life-sized marble statue of an A. I. F. infantryman located atop the stone cenotaph. The figure was unveiled by President of the local R. S. L. branch Mr Gillet and dedicated by the Anglican Bishop of Bunbury.²⁴ The event was described in the *South Western Times* as follows:

After an address by the Mayor of Bunbury, the President of the local sub-branch of the R. S. L. performed the unveiling ceremony. As he released the cord which allowed the flag to fall away and disclosed to view the figure surmounting the memorial, the assembly stood in silence for two minutes, which was broken by "Reveille", sounded by Bugler Wallis. The "Recessional was sung, and after the Bishop of Bunbury had dedicated the memorial wreaths from the public bodies and citizens were placed in position... and the sounding of the "Last Post" concluded the ceremony.

¹⁷ Photographs in *Bunbury: 'I Remember When' – A pictorial stroll down memory lane*, A Community Project, South West Printing & Publishing, Book 5, November 2000, pp. 10 & 14.

¹⁸ South Western Times, 28/4/1925; South Western Times, 25/4/1925.

¹⁹ South Western Times, 27/4/1926.

²⁰ South Western Times, 28/3/1925, 23/4/1925, 27/4/1926.

²¹ South Western Times, 26/4/1927.

²² Information and quotation from Photographs in *Bunbury: 'I Remember When' – A pictorial stroll down memory lane*, op. cit., p. 10; 'City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', op. cit., B161.

²³ South Western Times, 26/4/1930.

²⁴ South Western Times, 26/4/1930.

The members of the R. S. L. and the public marched past the memorial in formation before breaking away. 25

During Mr Gillet's speech, he gave special thanks to General Sir Newton Moore about whom he said that it 'was mainly through his generosity that this structure has been completed.'²⁶

The year 1939 saw the outbreak of World War Two and again Bunbury, as with other towns, was affected by a decrease in population due to enlistment and economic decline.²⁷ During the war, Bunbury residents served in the Royal Australian Navy, the Royal Australian Air Force, the 6th A. I. F. Division, the Medical Corps, and locally in the Forestry Division and the Railway Construction Unit. By the end of World War Two 68 people from the town had been killed in action.²⁸

In 1949, the Bunbury R. S. L. expressed its disappointment at the poor public response to the fundraising appeal to refurbish and update Bunbury War Memorial. By the former it meant the addition of tablets commemorating those who had died in service during World War Two.²⁹

By 1953, the World War Two memorial tablets had been added to Bunbury War Memorial and were unveiled by A. H. Boulter. Mr Boulter was a local businessman and also the only Honorary Member of the Bunbury R. S. L. Branch at this time.³⁰ The two memorial tablets were erected on either side of the larger World War One memorial on the two smaller sections. The two bronze wreaths originally located there were relocated to the stone plinth on either side of the Australian Defense Forces badge.³¹

A 1953 photograph of *Anzac Park, Bunbury* provides evidence of the landscaping at this time. The semi-circular chain link and balustrade fence enclosing Bunbury War Memorial can be clearly seen and around the perimeter of this is a small hedge. Within this area and around the base of the memorial is a lawn with two small circular-shaped shrubs on either side of the structure. To the rear, the remainder of *Anzac Park, Bunbury* comprises another lawned area, some mature plantings and two palm trees, which frame Bunbury War Memorial.³²

The 1953 photograph also indicates that there was a ground depression directly to the rear of the memorial.³³ Documentary evidence states that this was a fish pond that was later filled in and bricked over by the Bunbury Council.³⁴

On 3 June 1961, a plaque and monument were unveiled at *Anzac Park, Bunbury* in honour of early settlers Helen and John Scott, who are attributed to the founding of Bunbury in 1838, and their descendants.³⁵

²⁵ South Western Times, 26/4/1930.

²⁶ South Western Times, 26/4/1930.

²⁷ Barker & Laurie, op. cit., p. 268.

²⁸ Ibid, p. 269.

²⁹ Ibid, p. 328.

³⁰ 'City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', op. cit., B161; Photograph of Bunbury War Memorial 1953, Battye Library, 010948D.

³¹ Photograph of Bunbury War Memorial 1953, Battye Library, 010948D.

³² Photograph of Bunbury War Memorial 1953, Battye Library, 010948D. A 1942 aerial of *Anzac Park* indicates that the majority of this planting had been established by this time. (Photograph of Bunbury 1942, No: 011638, <u>www.awm.gov.au</u>, 23/5/2004.)

³³ Photograph of Bunbury War Memorial 1953, Battye Library, 010948D.

³⁴ City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', op. cit., B161; *Bunbury: 'I Remember When' – A pictorial stroll down memory lane*, op. cit., p. 10.

Two other memorials were placed in *Anzac Park, Bunbury* in subsequent decades. The first, a bronze plaque of a piece of granite, was donated by the USS Lockwood to the people of Bunbury on 22 October 1977. The plaque acknowledges the 'hospitality and friendship' of the community during the ship's visit to the town between 17 to 23 October 1977.³⁶ The second memorial is a granite and concrete bench. This was presented to Bunbury on 25 November 1986 by the W. A. Branch of the Rats of Tobruk Association.³⁷

The land on which *Anzac Park, Bunbury* is located actually remained in State Government ownership up to the 1980s. On 31 October 1986, Reserve 39632 was granted in trust to the City of Bunbury as a municipal building and car park.³⁸ The Bunbury branch of the R. S. L. maintains the war memorial on behalf of the community.³⁹

In the intervening years, various works undertaken to *Anzac Park, Bunbury* have included the installation of brick paving, electric lighting and flag poles, and the planting of two palm trees within the semi-circular area around the memorial. Bunbury War Memorial has been painted white and the original large Australian Defense Forces badge has been replaced by a smaller badge and a bronze plaque commemorating Australian Servicemen and Servicewomen who died for the nation. It appears that most of this work was carried out in the 1990s.⁴⁰

On 25 April 1992, the Garden of Peace Memorial was unveiled at *Anzac Park, Bunbury*. Dedicated by the Bunbury R. S. L. and the Bunbury community, the memorial aspired to perpetual peace, harmony and tolerance.⁴¹

In 2004, *Anzac Park, Bunbury* continues to be used as the main site for the City of Bunbury's services for Anzac Day and other commemorative events such as Armistice Day.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Anzac Park, Bunbury comprises Bunbury War Memorial, prominently located in Anzac Park facing the length of Victoria Street at its intersection with Stirling Street. Bunbury War Memorial has been constructed in the Inter-War Stripped Classical style. The park also contains several other memorial structures (including the Scott Family and Garden of Peace) that are landscaped with lawns, trees and garden beds, which are used both as a park and as a place of remembrance.

The place is sited on the southern edge of the Bunbury CBD. Stirling Street, Parkfield Street and a right of way bound *Anzac Park, Bunbury* on the north, east and west sides respectively. Surrounding development includes the Teede Residence (now Senior Citizen's Centre), Bunbury City Council Central Library, Australia Post Office, commercial offices, a cafe and shops. The ground is flat. The southern portion of site houses an aviary.

⁴¹ Information from plaque.

³⁵ Information from plaque; &, Glossop, V., 'Bunbury's First Settlers', Verna Glossop, Nedlands, 2000, p. 46.

³⁶ Information from plaque.

³⁷ Information from plaque.

³⁸ *Government Gazette*, 31/1/1996.

³⁹ City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', op. cit., B161.

⁴⁰ City of Bunbury Municipal Inventory', op. cit., B161; *Bunbury: 'I Remember When' – A pictorial stroll down memory lane*, op. cit., p. 10; Photograph of Bunbury War Memorial 1953, Battye Library, 010948D; Physical evidence.

The boundaries of the place are level with the boundary streets and right of way. Land on across the right of way to the west is developed as a small carpark and open grassed area to service the needs of the Senior Citizen's Centre. The street edge contributes to the place's contained character and set the place apart from the adjacent developments.

Apart from the principal and earliest memorial at the intersection of Stirling and Victoria Streets, Bunbury War Memorial, there are four other memorials sited across *Anzac Park, Bunbury*.

The five memorials, plantings, landscape features and outlook views are described in more detail below.

ANZAC PARK, BUNBURY

The park is designed in the Geometric style with Bunbury War Memorial being flanked from either side by two palm trees. To the right and left side and south of the memorial is a semi-circular hedge with six posts linked by chains, five flagpoles and circular garden beds behind. Further behind are four circular garden beds, trees and other memorials also symmetrically placed.

BUNBURY WAR MEMORIAL

At the northern end of *Anzac Park, Bunbury*, this memorial is the focus of the place from almost all of the reserve. It comprises a central buttressed pillar type monument set on a three level podium. Beyond the brick paved concourse that encircles in a radius approximately 2.5 metres to the second level of the podium on the south side are six 1 metre tall posts linked with galvanized chains. The composition comprises elements of the Inter-War Stripped Classical style.

Materials used in Bunbury War Memorial include Donnybrook stone, alabaster, granite, brass and bronze.

Podium

The cruciform plan of the three-tiered podium covers approximately 16m² with the square central upper level covering one third of that. The first tier of the podium is painted a terracotta colour approximately 150mm above the level of the encircling red brick paving and concrete foundation level by a rock faced ashlar masonry wall of Donnybrook stone. The level to the second tier, from which the buttresses rise, is 460mm above the level of the first tier and is approximately 3400mm square with east and west sides incorporating 330mm radius arch shapes for the buttresses. The level to the third tier, from which the monument pillar rises, is 460mm above the level of the second tier and is approximately 2500mm square. Both tiers of the podium are smooth tooled ashlar masonry walls of Donnybrook stone, painted white.

The northern face of the third tier has specific features – these include:

- Gallipoli France 1914 1918 carved in relief
- Bronze Australian Defense Services emblem (centrally on panel)
- Bronze Plaque with the inscription 'This Memorial is Dedicated to the Memory of All Australian Servicemen and Servicewomen and Their Allies Who Paid the Supreme Sacrifice in the Service of Their Nation "Lest We Forget" below the Australian Defense Services emblem
- Copper wreaths set either side of the plaque

Stone Cenotaph

The height of the stone cenotaph is approximately 2.5 metres above the level of the upper podium. Constructed of dressed Donnybrook sandstone ashlar masonry (now painted white), the pillar has four sides - the principal side of which faces north to Victoria Street – and is approximately 1500mm square in plan at the base. The main shaft of the pillar rises from the paved level to lower cornice approximately 4000mm and is approximately 2500mm square. Three-quadrant arcs 150mm across at each of the four corners of the cenotaph. Buttresses are set to the east and west sides of the pillar the base has an enlarged, flattened scotia which then runs parallel up to two thirds the level of the pillar. The upper entablature (cornice) is slightly more ornate on the pillar than the two buttresses.

Statue

The height of the statue is approximately two metres above the level of the monument pillar. The figure has been sculpted from marble. The soldier figure at Bunbury is bowing its head in respect, with arms reversed in classical military funeral pose.

SCOTT MEMORIAL

The Scott Memorial comprises a granite podium, approximately one metre high set above the lawn area, with 'SCOTT' in bronze lettering fixed to the north face of the stone. Above is a slanted piece of granite with red engraved lettering also on the north face approximately 700mm high.

GARDEN OF PEACE MEMORIAL

The Garden of Peace Memorial comprises a concrete podium, approximately 150mm high set above the lawn area. Above is a slanted piece of granite with a brass plaque fixed to the south face of the stone approximately 500mm high.

RATS OF TUBRUK ASSOCIATION MEMORIAL BENCH

The Rats of Tubruk Association Memorial Bench comprises two concrete legs painted white with a granite seat and back.

USS LOCKWOOD MEMORIAL

The USS Lockwood Memorial comprises a rough-hewn piece of granite with a brass plaque fixed to the north face of the stone approximately 300mm high.

BIRD CAGE

The Bird Cage comprises a four-course high brown brick surround and black mesh fencing approximately three metres high.

PLANTINGS

Plantings include beds for annuals some of which lay fallow in May 2004 others of which were planted out and in bloom. The remainder of the reserve ground is grassed.

ROADS AND PATHS

There are two main roads accessing *Anzac Park, Bunbury*: Parkfield Street and Stirling Street. Both have paths between the roads and park.

SUBSEQUENT ALTERATION

Originally an old field cannon, a war trophy allocated post World War I to the town of Bunbury, sat on top of the memorial bas and was replaced with the alabaster soldier in 1929. An old hospital (named Parkfield Hospital) that was located on the southern portion of *Anzac Park, Bunbury* is no longer extant. An earlier fishpond, placed by the Council to beautify and highlight the memorial, has now been removed.

The sub-sections above have described fabric at the place, which was not introduced until after the first memorial was erected. There appears to be little or no overlay of fabric on pre-existing structures apart from tablets fixed to Bunbury War Memorial. Other accretions are minimal and include City of Bunbury crude concrete and timber slat benches around *Anzac Park, Bunbury*, green plastic bins, some signage and services.

Evidence of vandalism includes graffiti to the Scott Memorial.

APPEARANCE AND CONDITION OF THE PLACE

The place is in good condition overall.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

The construction of war memorials following major wars is part of an Australiawide trend to honour and remember those who had made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, and is a reflection of the value both individuals, the community and the nation place on this role. The erection of memorials became particularly prevalent after World War I at which time national identity and pride, the legend of the Anzac and the creation of the Anzac Day memorial service were at the forefront of community and national sentiment. The memorials varied in form throughout Australia but were generally represented as monuments, ornaments or in Western Australia as practical buildings. In Western Australia, soldier statues were much less prominent than in other States.⁴² A comprehensive study of war memorials in the State notes only ten such memorials in the State, of which one has been destroyed. It also noted that cenotaphs are a very uncommon memorial form in the State.⁴³

The Heritage Council of WA Database indicates that there are approximately eight places associated with war memorial monuments entered into the State Register of Heritage Places. A number of these are traditional stone obelisk monuments.

Of the eight, at least four were designed by well-known sculptor Pietro Porcelli, and two of these feature large statues of soldiers. These are:

The 1920 *Boulder War Memorial*, which is a bronze figure of an Australian soldier on a granite base. The soldier has a bare head; which is described as being held in 'a defiant attitude', and holds a rifle.

The 1921 *Kalgoorlie War Memorial* is also a bronze statue of an Australian soldier on a stone plinth; however, in this case, the figure is advancing.

Other memorial statues include the Victoria Park War Memorial, which was a cement cast figure of a soldier standing at attention (no longer extant); and, the bronze draped female 'Peace' figure at the Midland Railway Workshops (1925), both of which were also designed by Porcelli.

⁴² See Richards, O., 'War Memorials in Western Australia', Perth, 1996, pp. 1 – 9.

⁴³ Ibid. p.9.

Bunbury War Memorial differs from these examples of war memorials featuring statues because the base of the memorial is in the form of a cenotaph and the figure has been sculpted from marble, rather than cast from bronze or concrete. The soldier figure at Bunbury is standing with arms reversed and head bowed in the classic military funeral pose, rather than being featured on duty.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

No key references.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Information about who was responsible for the construction of Bunbury War Memorial (both cenotaph and soldier) and the exact date of the unveiling of the World War Two Memorial Tablets has not yet been found.