



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Permanent Entry

1. **NUMBER** 2664
2. **NAME** *Claremont Fire Station*
3. **DESCRIPTION OF ELEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY (GENERAL)**

The station is a large two storey red brick building with an asbestos roof replacing the original iron. One wing, of which the walls have been rendered and painted white, is entirely separate, with its own entrance and internal staircase, and served as living quarters for the chief of the fire station and his family. The fire engines were housed centrally on the ground floor, with two large wooden doors for exit. The area immediately above was used for staff recreation. It has a wooden floor below by a circular iron staircase, now removed to the Fire Station Museum in Murray Street. The main staff entrance was by a door on the eastern side, set in leadlight windows. From this a wooden staircase leads to the floor above which in addition to the recreation hall contains a number of smaller rooms, including a kitchen, for use by the firemen on duty - several of these rooms have fireplaces. A wooden balcony runs across the northern side. The building is in good condition. It has been vacant since the opening in 1988 of the modern station at the rear (National Trust).

4. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Cottesloe
5. **LOCATION** 441 Stirling Highway, Claremont  
Lot 1 D 71008 C/T 1930/808
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 building is historically important as it served the surrounding area of Claremont, Cottesloe and Peppermint Grove from the time of its completion in 1914 until replaced by the adjacent new building in 1988. From c.1906 the area was served from volunteer posts in Claremont, Cottesloe, Cottesloe Beach and Peppermint Grove, and volunteers continued for a while to assist the staff of six full-time and two part-time officers listed for Claremont in the Fire Brigades Annual Report for 1915. The building is also interesting as an example of the practice at that period to provide a home (in the wing on the western side) for the officer-in-charge and his family. This is in addition to accommodation upstairs for officers rostered for night duty. The building has a striking facade

and is attractively situated at a high point on the curve of Stirling Highway and was adjacent to the old Claremont Police Station.

The place has also been assessed by KTA Partnership, Architects, in the course of preparing a report of the Cultural Heritage Significance with the following statement of significance:

**RELATIVITIES:**

The significance relates to the building on the place and is of high degree relative to the general significance of the buildings in the State of Western Australia and the Town of Cottesloe. Its inclusion is necessary to a comprehensive Register of the cultural heritage of the State.

**AESTHETIC:**

The building is of intrinsic aesthetic merit and of significance in the aesthetic aspects of the architectural history of the State and Towns of Claremont and Cottesloe. It is an important component of an aesthetic roadscape to the Stirling Highway from Fremantle to Perth.

**HISTORIC:**

The building is important evidence of the result of the gold boom at the turn of the century and one of the latter buildings before the First World War. It is of particular relevance as a Public Service building.

**SOCIAL:**

As well as being the community service building for fire fighters and their equipment it was also used as a place where the community could meet for dances. The trolley buses used to travel from Perth along Stirling Highway and then do a U-turn outside the Fire Station before returning to Perth.

**8. REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES  
(DATE OF GAZETAL)**

Interim Entry 3/7/1992

Permanent Entry 9/7/1993

**9. CONSERVATION ORDER**

**10. HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

**11. REFERENCES**

National Trust Assessment Exposition