



# 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 significance of the place.

### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Queen's Gardens* is significant in displaying aesthetic qualities of the Picturesque style of landscape design and in particular, the Western Australian Paradise/Oasis style which is derived from it. (Criterion 1.1)

The Caretaker's Cottage is a good example of the Federation Arts and Crafts style of architecture and is an integral element of the Gardens. (Criteria 1.2, 1.3)

The spatial enclosure, form and scale of the ground surface and ponds, together with the richly varied, verdant plantings provide a cool, green oasis of intimate scale within a built up, large scale urban environment. (Criterion 1.2)

The tall perimeter trees of *Queen's Gardens* are a landmark in the East Perth townscape and are visible from upper storeys of buildings, distant from it. (Criterion 1.3)

The perimeter planting of *Queen's Gardens* and particularly the tall, mature trees, makes a positive contribution to the surrounding streets, and in the case of Plain Street, completes an avenue of planting which successfully encloses the street adjacent to the Gardens. (Criterion 1.4)

### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Queen's Gardens* is significant as the site of former clay extraction and production of bricks used in some of Perth's' most prominent historic buildings and as an example of the importance given to the provision of public parks in Perth at the end of the nineteenth century. (Criterion 2.1 & 2.2)

The development of *Queen's Gardens* as a public park reflects the period of prosperity brought about by the gold boom of the late 1800s and early 1900s. (Criterion 2.2)

---

\* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

The statue of Peter Pan, a subsequent casting of the original Peter Pan statue in London's Kensington Gardens, is significant for its association with the sculptor Sir George Frampton and with the Perth Rotary Club who gave it to the children of Western Australia. (Criterion 2.3)

The Caretakers Cottage is important for its association with the development of the Gardens and its role in accommodating the gardeners who were employed specifically to develop and care for the gardens. (Criterion 2.3)

### 11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

*Queen's Gardens* contain a wide range of plant material that has the potential to yield information on their performance and suitability for cultivation in Perth. These include the Plane Trees (*Platanus acerifolia*) along the boundaries, Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) in the north-east corner and the Oak (*Quercus sp.*) and Pecan trees (*Carya illinoensis*). (Criterion 3.1)

*Queen's Gardens* has potential to yield information on the manufacture of bricks in Perth during the mid to late 1800s. (Criterion 3.2)

### 11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

*Queen's Gardens* are highly valued by the community as a public park offering a sheltered, verdant contrast to its surrounding environment. It is a popular scenic destination for visitors. It is used as a place of passive recreation for nearby office workers and inner-city residents and is a very popular venue for wedding ceremonies. The Gardens have been a source of aesthetic delight and at times a nostalgic reminder of the English landscape to generations of Perth citizens. (Criterion 4.1)

The statue of Peter Pan is valued for its aesthetic and historical associations, as well as for its landmark value. The statue is a subsequent casting of the original statue which stands in London's Kensington Gardens. (Criterion 4.2)

*Queen's Gardens* are a widely recognised and highly valued landmark for the Perth community. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12.1. RARITY**

*Queen's Gardens* is a comparatively rare example of a public garden established in Perth at the end of the nineteenth century that retains its original site, extent and principal landscape elements intact. (Criterion 5.1)

*Queen's Gardens* is a rare example of a public park in Western Australia in the Picturesque landscape style with Paradise/Oasis style plantings. (Criterion 5.1)

The former pumphouse, including the engine, pump, gas burner and garden tools it houses, contributes to the understanding of the development of horticultural equipment and techniques. (Criterion 5.2)

### **12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Queen's Gardens* is characteristic of the Picturesque style of landscape design with Paradise style and municipal Gardenesque planting elements. (Criterion 6.1)

The Gardens are representative of growing civic pride and the importance placed on the provision of developed public open spaces close to the City at the end of the nineteenth century in Perth. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12.3 CONDITION**

*Queen's Gardens* have generally been well maintained since their official opening in 1899. Although there has been some decline and loss of trees within the lawn area the overall good condition of planting contributes to the high aesthetic value of the Gardens.

The apparently poor water quality in the ponds detracts from the aesthetic value.

The construction in 1995/6 of edges to the ponds, while functionally satisfactory, is a major detraction from the aesthetic quality of the Gardens.

Loss of canopy trees and the recent pond edging also detracts from the esteem in which the Gardens are held by the community.

### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

The overall layout remains intact and the majority of planting, the bridges and the gazebos are appropriate to the original landscape style. Mid 1990s pond edging, some planting and isolated areas of brick paving are inconsistent with the original design intent but these treatments are reversible.

The Gardens continue to be used and managed for their original function as a public park. Recent planning and design studies recommend that the Gardens be retained for this purpose.

*Queen's Gardens* have a high degree of integrity.

### **12.5 AUTHENTICITY**

The extent of the Gardens and their principal design elements comprising the chain of irregularly shaped ponds, perimeter planting of lush, richly textured trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, which visually and spatially enclose the Gardens and the verdant lawns, are retained from the original layout. The shape of the ponds has undergone a series of changes and the landform has been smoothed out, resulting in a simpler, less dramatic but still varied and attractive landscape. The nature of plants is that they develop, mature, decline and are modified, removed and replaced over time. However, the majority of large, mature plants in *Queen's Gardens* appear to be either those planted during its early establishment or are appropriate replacements. Some 1985-1996 plantings, particularly the Conifers, some Palms and 'cottage style' plants are inappropriate to the original style of the Gardens.

With the exception of the statue of Peter Pan, the gates, the former Caretaker's Cottage and a small shed in the centre of the Gardens, most structural elements are of comparatively recent origin.

Because the overall layout and majority of plantings are original or appropriate, but the landforms and majority of structural elements are not, *Queen's Gardens* is of only moderate authenticity.

### 13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary and physical evidence has been compiled by Philip Palmer, Landscape Architect.

#### 13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

*Queen's Gardens*, formerly East Perth Park and East Perth Clayfields Reserve, comprises the area of public open space bounded by Nelson Crescent, Hay Street, Hale Street and Plain Street in East Perth. *Queen's Gardens* is a public park in the Picturesque/Paradise/Oasis style <sup>1</sup> and was opened to the public in 1898.<sup>2</sup>

Until the late 1800s and the prosperity brought by the gold boom in Western Australia, the city of Perth had evolved slowly and with little provision for developed public parks. The principal parks and gardens of Perth in the second half of the nineteenth century were the Public Gardens, the grounds of Government House and Victoria Park on the banks of the Claise Brook on the eastern outskirts of the city.<sup>3</sup>

Prosperity brought by the gold boom, the granting of self government in 1890, the influence of social and planning ideals from overseas and a growing desire to emulate the more established cities of the eastern states, led to the rapid provision of space, and to a lesser extent, of funding for public parks, gardens and recreation reserves close to the city.<sup>4</sup> The development of *Queen's Gardens* was part of this process.

The site occupied by *Queen's Gardens* was Government Reserve T1159.<sup>5</sup> It was used by the public for recreation including sporting events and horse racing until 1860, when it was recognised that the clay soil was suitable for brick making. The land was leased to James Brittain who excavated the clay for bricks that went into the construction of many of Perth's most important buildings including the Town Hall, the Cloisters and the Barracks. At this time the place was known as the East Perth Clayfields Reserve.

Protests against the use of the brick pits were made between 1880 and 1890, and it was finally resolved, after the Perth City Council had partially filled the clay pits to form ponds, to transfer the site to the City of Perth for the purpose of establishing a botanic garden. The site was opened to the public on 9 October 1898, and was officially opened and named *Queen's Gardens* by Alexander Forrest, MLA, Mayor of the City of Perth, in 1899.<sup>6</sup> *Queen's*

---

<sup>1</sup> Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees*, Australian Heritage Commission Technical Publications Series No. 2 Canberra, Australian Government Printing Service, 1991, pp.15, 17, 62.

<sup>2</sup> Perth City Council *Mayor's Report 1898-1899*.

<sup>3</sup> Richards, O. 'A fairer Athens and a freer Rome: historic public gardens in Perth, WA' in *Heritage Australia* ACT, Australia Council of National Trusts, Winter 1982, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1982, pp.66-69.

<sup>4</sup> *ibid*, p.67.

<sup>5</sup> Original Plan Perth 18/30: nd (c.1890), courtesy of DOLA.

<sup>6</sup> *The West Australian*, 11 October 1899, p. 3.

*Gardens* were immediately popular for social events, including Sunday afternoon recitals by the Perth City Band.<sup>7</sup>

A picture of the Opening Ceremony in 1899, reveals a clearly man-made landform in which flat areas around the central ponds and the perimeter of the site were connected by abrupt slopes. The ponds had short, steep, grassed edges. Much of the site was covered with mown grass into which trees (dark, dense conifers and open branching types) had been planted. A closed picket fence extended along the northern and eastern boundaries, with a shed in the north-east corner. The Gardens were furnished with slatted timber benches and rustic bridges. Photographs from the early 1900s reveal the progressive growth of planting, particularly the perimeter trees and shrubs which, by 1909, provided dense screening and spatial enclosure to the site. Weeping Willows (*Salix babylonica*) beside the ponds, upright Conifers (including Norfolk Island Pines, *Araucaria heterophylla*) and Palms, island beds and borders of flowering herbaceous plants featured in the landscape. The ponds retained grassed edges and rustic bridges.

The site, comprising approximately 3.3 hectares (8 acres, 2 roods, 37 perches), was officially granted to the 'Mayor and Councillors of Perth... upon trust solely for purposes of a park' on 21 January 1902.<sup>8</sup> Appointed to oversee the Council's new acquisition was a resident gardener-caretaker, who initially lived in a converted shed in the grounds. In 1906, a caretaker's cottage was erected by contractors Messrs. E. C. Clark & Sons of Leederville.<sup>9</sup> On completion, the gardener Mr Rewdavey and his family moved into the cottage, which was situated in the north-east corner of the garden.<sup>10</sup> Circa 1914 new entrance gates were erected and 8 new bridges constructed in place of previous ones. After electric lighting was installed in 1924, use of the Gardens extended into the evenings. New entrance gates were considered again c. 1926 but were 'put in abeyance pending arrival of suitable designs from the Old Country'.<sup>11</sup> Circa 1927, new gates, fabricated by Malloch Bros., Perth, were fixed at the corner of Hay and Plain streets, replacing the original entrance towards the eastern end of Hay Street.<sup>12</sup> By the 1930s, the landform of *Queen's Gardens* appears to have been smoothed out, with the former abrupt slopes being replaced by much more gentle and subtle undulations.

A further addition to the park was made in 1929 when the Perth Rotary Club presented the Perth City Council with a replica of the famous statue of Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens. The reproduction, produced by the sculptor of the original statue, Sir George Frampton and autographed by the creator of Peter Pan, Sir J Barrie, was a gift to the children of Western

---

<sup>7</sup> The Perth City Band performed in different parks and gardens around Perth every alternate Sunday.

<sup>8</sup> Certificate of Title Vol. 235, Fol. 102, courtesy of DOLA.

<sup>9</sup> The contract for the building is contained in File 93/61, Records Section, Perth City Council.

<sup>10</sup> Over the years, the cottage has been regularly occupied.

<sup>11</sup> City of Perth, *Mayor's Report*, 1905-1906; 1914-1915; 1926-1927; 1927-1928.

<sup>12</sup> The entrance gates were moved due to complaints from the Police that large numbers of people visiting the gardens caused traffic congestion in the area.

Australia to mark the centenary of the State.<sup>13</sup> The statue was placed in *Queen's Gardens* in June 1929 on the condition that it could be removed by its donors after a period of six months. However, it was not removed and in February 1933, it was agreed that the statue should remain permanently in *Queen's Gardens* and control of it was transferred to the Perth City Council on the provisions that it be relocated to a new site further west and closer to the ponds, so that it would be in similar surrounds to the original statue (this necessitated removal of a grotto and regrading of the ground); that a crazy paving footpath be installed around it; the layout of the garden in the vicinity be altered in accordance with a plan prepared by the City Gardener; that *Queen's Gardens* continue to be efficiently fenced to deter vandalism; and that the statue would receive proper care and attention.<sup>14</sup> In October 1933, a special ceremony was held in the park to celebrate the relocation of Peter Pan to the new position near the lake in the west of the gardens.<sup>15</sup>

During the years of World War II, many children's parties were held in the park, particularly around Christmas. Special events were also held to raise funds for various war projects.<sup>16</sup> After the War, *Queen's Gardens* continued to be a popular tourist attraction, along with Kings' Park and Perth Zoo. The Gardens were well known for their diversity and the quality of horticultural displays. The community also utilised the open spaces of the park for family and social occasions. In the 1960s, the Gardens became a popular venue for wedding ceremonies and photography.

There was little change to the physical layout of *Queen's Gardens* until the mid-1960s, aside from the replacement of the bridges in the 1950s. The rustic bridges were replaced by more geometric cross-braced timber structures which had a gently arched footway over the water. Works in 1965 resulted in smoothing out the landform between the main gates and the south-west and north-west ponds and the removal of some older trees.<sup>17</sup>

Major redevelopment of the Gardens commenced c. 1985. A local newspaper article in 1986 described the recently completed 'up-grading' of *Queen's Gardens*, which included the removal of trees in poor condition and their replacement with new stock, some being of species previously planted there and others which were selected for colour, form, rarity and botanical interest; re-introduction of and relocation of annual display beds; new shrubs and herbaceous planting; re-paving of pathways; and construction of a gazebo.<sup>18</sup> Several commemorative trees were planted in the Gardens at this time. In 1986, six cherry trees (*Prunus* sp) donated by Western Australia's sister state, Hyogo Prefecture in Kobe, Japan were planted to mark the fifth anniversary of the sister state relationship. In

---

<sup>13</sup> For details of the donation of the Peter Pan statue, see Perth City Council File G10/10, Records Section, Perth City Council.

<sup>14</sup> City of Perth, *Mayor's Report*, 1932-1933.

<sup>15</sup> *The West Australian*, 20 October 1933, p. 22.

<sup>16</sup> See City of Perth File 93/61, Records Section, Perth City Council.

<sup>17</sup> Perth City Council, 'Queen's Gardens File', 24 May 1965.

<sup>18</sup> Perth City Council, File 944.11, c.1986.

1988, Amnesty International planted several trees to commemorate political prisoners who had disappeared in Chile.<sup>19</sup>

Both the State Planning Commission Perth Central Area Policy Review, 1993 and the City of Perth Landscape Strategy, 1995 recommend that *Queen's Gardens* be retained in their present form.<sup>20</sup> Work to *Queen's Gardens* in 1995/6 has centred on the ponds, the edges of which are now retained by timber log walls surmounted by dressed timber coping.

*Queen's Gardens* continues to be used as a public park. The Caretaker's Cottage is occupied by the curator and his family.

### 13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

*Queen's Gardens* is a public park located in East Perth and bounded by Nelson Crescent, Hay Street, Hale Street and Plain Street. It is situated at the base of a low hill which rises up to the north. The East Perth Cemeteries are located at the apex of this hill. Beyond the roads which surround the gardens, are a public carpark to the north; buildings housing various government authorities and services to the south; the Western Australian Cricket Association grounds to the east; and a small public park and senior citizen's centre to the west. The rising landform to the north is surrounded by tall buildings which overlook the Gardens. The buildings along Hay Street directly opposite the Gardens are long and low in scale. However, taller buildings further to the south-east and south-west are dominant forms. The tower lights of the WACA Grounds are striking elements which are conspicuous from most parts of the Gardens. Buildings to the west are domestic in scale and are surrounded by trees, shrubs and lawn which compliment the Gardens.

The Gardens are Picturesque in overall layout with elements of the Paradise/Oasis and Gardenesque styles in their planting.<sup>21</sup>

They comprise a series of central ponds of irregular shape surrounded by open undulating lawns into which specimen trees and groves, shrubbery and display beds are set. A dense belt of tree, shrub and herbaceous planting extends around the perimeter of the site and is edged and separated from the central lawns by a gently curving pathway. The main public entrance to the Gardens is through a set of wrought iron gates at their south-west corner. Other entries are provided at the north-west corner and along the northern and southern edges. A service entry is located in the north-east corner together with the former caretaker's cottage, a service building, public lavatories and a small nursery/gardener's yard.

---

<sup>19</sup> Perth City Council, File Q/1/3.

<sup>20</sup> State Planning Commission, *Perth Central Area Policies Review*, Perth, State Planning Commission, 1993, p.102; Blackwell Associates Pty Ltd, *City of Perth Landscape Strategies*, Perth, 1995, p.52.

<sup>21</sup> Picturesque gardens are characterised by a combination of irregular, 'natural' landscape elements and decorative man-made features to provide focal points such as towers, rustic bridges, shelters and cottages. The Paradise and Oasis styles are often based on Picturesque layouts and feature the use of natural looking water features and lush, richly textured plantings, often of tropical and subtropical origin, to produce a luxuriant, verdant space that contrasts with, and is separated from, the natural surrounding environment. Ramsay, op. cit. passim.



The irregular form and layout of the ponds, paths and perimeter beds which together with plant masses and undulating landform, screen the Gardens from their surroundings and contrive a series of changing views from within, are the principle elements of the Garden's Picturesque style. The wide variety of plant material, of which all but a few are introduced species, is richly textured and lushly coloured, creating an enclosed oasis around the ponds. This lush, oasis effect is the objective of the Paradise/Oasis style, and is intended to provide a cool, verdant retreat from a harsh surrounding environment.<sup>22</sup> Although originally developed as a response to the natural environment of Western Australia, it is just as valid offering escape from a predominantly built one. Island display beds, border planting and specimens contribute a typically municipal Gardenesque decoration to the Gardens.<sup>23</sup>

The Gardens are secured by a black linkmesh fence with matching gates to the north and south, all dating from the period 1985-1996. The original imposing wrought iron gates denote the main public entrance at the intersection of Hay and Plain Streets. Apparently recent wrought iron lettering "Queens Gardens 1899" has been bolted to the fence top on the left hand side of the gates. A pair of Washington Palms frame this entry point within the Gardens.

A curvilinear path of recent brick paving provides a circuit around the perimeter of the Gardens and forms an edge to the boundary planting.

The boundary planting of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants is dense, lush and varied. London Planes (*Platanus acerifolia*) are the predominant tree, forming a distinct avenue along Plain Street which is duplicated on the opposite side of the road. Other trees include Figs (*Ficus*), Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), acacias (*Acacia* sp), Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Bunya Pines (*Araucaria bidivillii*) and various Palms, including Washington Palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Senegal Date Palm (*Phoenix reclinata*), American Cotton Palm (*Washingtonia filifera*) and the Cabbage Palm (*Livistona australis*). The Plane Trees (*Platanus acerifolia*) along the boundaries, Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) in the north-east corner and the Oak (*Quercus* sp.) and Pecan trees (*Carya illinoensis*) are important landscape elements as they have the potential to yield information on their performance and suitability for cultivation in Perth.

Shrub and herbaceous plants are predominantly tropical and sub-tropical in origin and appearance, including hibiscus (*Hibiscus* sp), Beefsteak plant (*Acalypha wilkesiana*), bamboo (*Bambusa* sp), Mirror Bush (*Coprosma repens*), Royena (*Royena lucida*), and Bromeliads. Recent plantings are conspicuous because of their type and arrangement, including drifts of 'cottage' style plants and beds of Conifers. The boundary planting isolates the Gardens from its surroundings and presents a green wall to the surrounding streets and footpaths from which only glimpses of the Gardens are possible.

---

<sup>22</sup> Ramsay, J., op cit, p.17.

<sup>23</sup> ibid.

The lawns, now gently undulating, encircle the ponds and provide a series of open spaces which flow into each other. A relatively few large, mature trees remain within the lawn areas, notably Figs, Conifers, and Palms. While they provide some shade and punctuation of the space, the lawn areas are predominantly open.

The pond edges were modified in 1995/6 by the construction of timber retaining walls in place of the original steep grassed slopes leading down to the water. While the basic layout of the pond remains the same, this construction has radically altered their appearance and the ambience of the whole Gardens. The timber edges are a series of short, straight segments creating angular definition to the pond shapes. The water level is approximately 400mm below the top of the edge with resultant exposure of the retaining walls. Laterite rock ramps provide physical access to the ponds, but their harsh edge treatment visually separates them from their surroundings. The result of these treatments is that the angular edge definitions are a visually dominant element within the Gardens. While they may be functionally satisfactory, their appearance is brutal and inconsistent with the original style of the Gardens.

The ponds support dense growth of Water Lilies (*Nymphae* sp). The water is brown-green in colour, with visible algae and debris in it.

Bridges over the ponds are of recent steel and timber construction. While clearly contemporary in design, they are simple and graceful in appearance.

The various service buildings in the Gardens are generally inconspicuously hidden within the perimeter planting. The perimeter path runs very close to the more recent pink brick and blue tile office/store, former caretaker's cottage and the public conveniences, which have expanses of concrete and bitumen paving around them.

The Caretaker's Cottage is situated in the north-east corner of the Gardens. It is of ornamental, domestic design in the Federation Arts and Crafts style. The Cottage is a single storey, rendered brick building with tiled gabled roof, tall tapered chimneys and prominent eaves. While the low porch at the front addresses the Gardens, the Cottage's siting behind low shrubbery and beneath mature trees integrates it into the overall setting. There is a small grassed backed garden area with garden beds to the north of the cottage enclosed by a brick fence. There is a combination of brick paved and concrete paths around the Cottage.

Internally, the layout of the cottage comprises four rooms, which are arranged two to either side of a central passageway. There is an enclosed porch and bathroom to the rear. An extension has been built to the north-west, constructed of rendered brick with a tiled gabled roof set at a slightly lower level than the roof of the original structure. The extension comprises a bedroom opening out of one of the front rooms and a laundry with access from the back garden. A steel framed carport with a metal roof and metal gates has been attached to the end of the extension. The Caretaker's Cottage remains substantially intact and generally retains a high proportion of original fabric. The extension is clearly distinct from the original fabric of the cottage. Overall, the building is in good condition and has been well maintained.

The former pump house is located in the centre of the Gardens and is dominated by the tall, large palms growing next to it. The structure is timber framed with horizontal painted weatherboard cladding. The hipped roof has Marseilles profile terracotta tiles, ogee profile gutters and a round down pipe. Internally, the building is unlined with a concrete floor. It contains a 'Gardner Denver' diesel engine and pump, the dates of which have not been ascertained, and a variety of old garden tools. A charcoal burner is attached to the shed. In 1998, the old pump house is used as a storage shed for garden equipment and is generally in good condition.

The public toilet block and adjoining work shed are located within the perimeter shrubbery on the northern boundary. Built in the 1960s, these two buildings are constructed of salmon coloured bricks with grey roof tiles, typical of the domestically scaled and detailed municipality buildings of that period. A flat metal sheet connects the two at eaves level. The work shed has a metal roller door at one end and a concrete ramp leads to the disabled toilet. Overall, these buildings are in good condition. Also in the north-western corner, the utilitarian storage shed houses the irrigation pump and equipment. This single room, masonry building is well hidden by surrounding plant growth, including the Ivy (*Hedera helix*) which has been encouraged to clothe its walls. The building is in good condition.

The octagonal gazebo, constructed in 1986/7, is of steel frame and orange tiled roof construction on a raised concrete platform. The bulk of the concrete platform intrudes into the Gardens, whereas the superstructure is open and allows views through it.

The bronze statue of Peter Pan sits in isolation on its circle of sandstone crazy paving within an open area of lawn. The single letter 'R' is set into the paving to commemorate its donation by the Perth Rotary Club. The statue is almost four metres high, and comprises the fictitious figure of Peter Pan blowing his pipes, standing on top of a rocky outcrop from which fairies, animals and other creatures emerge.

Post mounted lanterns of black finished aluminium construction are located along the pathways. Although of reproduction style, they are of simple form and detail. Floodlighting installed in the 1985-1996 period has been discretely located among tall plants.

Seats and bins are of steel frame and timber slat construction. The seats are based on a simple, elegant design from the early 1900s. Some seats have rectangles of recent brick paving beneath them.

With the exception of some trees (see below) the planting and structural fabric appear to be in good condition.

Some older trees (notably Fig and Weeping Willow, *Salix babylonica*) around the ponds appear to be in very poor condition. Many of the young trees that were planted in the lawn area in the 1985-1996 period are also in poor condition and show severe burning of their leaves.

The water quality within the ponds is visually poor.

In most other respects, *Queen's Gardens* are well maintained.

### 13.3 REFERENCES

Australian Heritage Commission Data Sheet

Thompson Palmer Pty Ltd, Landscape Architects, et al, 'Queen's Gardens, Perth: Conservation Plan, Part 1: Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance', prepared for the City of Perth, March 1998.

**13.4 FURTHER RESEARCH**

-----