



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 0568
2. **NAME** *Warden's Court (fmr), Coolgardie* (1898)
OTHER NAME Government Building
3. **LOCATION** 62-70 Bayley Street, Coolgardie
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Coolgardie Lot 2231, being Crown Reserve 2446 and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3104 Folio 531.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Coolgardie
6. **OWNER** Minister for Works.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim	05/05/1992
	Permanent	04/05/2001
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	27/10/1976
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	27/07/1995
• Register of the National Estate:	Permanent	21/03/1978
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Warden's Court (fmr), Coolgardie, a Federation Academic Classical style rectangular building constructed of local sandstone in random ashlar coursing (load bearing masonry), has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place represents the period of prosperity and development in Western Australia, and in Coolgardie in particular, in the 1890s that resulted from the discovery of gold;

the place is a good example of the architecture of the gold rush period of the 1890s. The design of the building, its formal proportions and grand scale, represent the prominent position of government agencies in the developing goldfields in the late 1800s. Its presence in a largely deserted town centre provides a particular aesthetic incongruity, which

is typical of former Western Australian gold mining centres, which have long ceased to prosper;

the place, throughout its history, has accommodated the requirements of the Mining Warden in Coolgardie;

the place is associated with Warden Finnerty who held the position of Mining Warden in the town from 1894 to 1900;

the place is a landmark in the main street of Coolgardie and within the Eastern Goldfields region as a whole;

together with the former public buildings constructed in 1895, the place forms a significant precinct of government buildings;

the place is an example of a building designed by the Public Works Department under the direction of Chief Architect John Grainger;

the place is a good example of Federation Academic Classical architectural style in Western Australia in the late nineteenth century;

the place is significant in terms of the development of construction technology by the Public Works Department in Western Australia in the 1890s;

the place represents the way of life characteristic of the Goldfields in the 1890s which contrasts with the way of life of the Goldfields today;

as the Coolgardie Museum and Tourist Bureau, the place is significant to the local community and contains extensive displays depicting the development of the town as a gold mining centre; and;

the cultural significance of the place is increased by its very high levels of integrity and authenticity and its generally fair to good condition.

Some of the fabric (see attached photocopies of the schedule of significance) and the two toilet blocks have been assessed as having little significance, while the cement patching to external stone work, the brick infill to original windows on the north eastern corner of the building and the electrical conduit where it has penetrated original air vents, as well as the steel framed carport and various air-conditioning fixtures and elements are considered intrusive.