



# 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.

### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

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### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* was the longest occupied of the nineteenth century whaling stations in Western Australia, operating almost continuously for 32 years. (Criterion 2.2)

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* contributed to the economic development of Albany, with much of the outer settlement's agricultural and pastoral production oriented towards supplying whale stations and ships. The whale oil produced at the Station also contributed to Western Australian exports during the latter half of the nineteenth century. (Criterion 2.2)

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* had the longest association with a single owner/manager of any of the Western Australian whaling stations. John Thomas operated the Station for 23 years, from 1846 to 1869. (Criterion 2.3)

### 11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* includes an uncommon whale bone floor, where whale vertebrae had been trimmed and laid in a manner similar to brick paving. (Criterion 3.1)

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* is an archaeologically significant site due to its well preserved structural remains and artefact deposits. (Criteria 3.1 & 3.2)

### 11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

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\* 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.

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12. 1. RARITY**

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* provides the only archaeological remains of a nineteenth century shore-based whaling station on the southern coast of Western Australia. (Criterion 5.1)

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* provides physical reminders of a way of life no longer practiced - shore-based whaling. (Criterion 5.2)

### **12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* is representative of nineteenth century shore-based whaling activities in Western Australia, particularly of those on the southern coast. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12. 3 CONDITION**

As an archaeological site, the condition of *Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* is excellent.

### **12. 4 INTEGRITY**

As an archaeological site, the integrity of *Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* is excellent.

### **12. 5 AUTHENTICITY**

As an archaeological site, the authenticity of *Fmr Whaling Station, Cheyne Beach* is excellent.

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

Attached are key sections of the supporting evidence prepared by Jack McIlroy, 'Nineteenth Century Bay Whaling Stations in Western Australia', 1987 and Martin Gibbs, 'An Archaeological Conservation and Management Study of the 19th Century Shore-Based Whaling Stations in Western Australia', Report to the National Trust of Australia for the Heritage Commission, 1994.

Recommended that site boundaries include the point and headland, and an area with its western boundary extending 100 metres south along the high tide mark from where the sand beach meets the granite, and for 100 metres inland of this.

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the documentary evidence refer to Jack McIlroy, 'Nineteenth Century Bay Whaling Stations in Western Australia', 1987 and Martin Gibbs, 'An Archaeological Conservation and Management Study of the 19th Century Shore-Based Whaling Stations in Western Australia', Report to the National Trust of Australia for the Heritage Commission, 1994.

#### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the physical evidence refer to Jack McIlroy, 'Nineteenth Century Bay Whaling Stations in Western Australia', 1987 and Martin Gibbs, 'An Archaeological Conservation and Management Study of the 19th Century Shore-Based Whaling Stations in Western Australia', Report to the National Trust of Australia for the Heritage Commission, 1994.

#### **13.3 REFERENCES**

Gibbs, Martin, 'An Archaeological Conservation and Management Study of 19th Century Shore-Based Whaling Stations in Western Australia', Report for the National Trust of Australia for the Heritage Commission, 1994.

McIlroy, Jack, 'Nineteenth Century Bay Whaling Stations in Western Australia', 1987.

#### **13.4 FURTHER RESEARCH**

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