



## 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)

- 3.26 Providing Medical Services
- 4.3 Developing Institutions
- 7.7.3 Going to war
- 9.3.2 Bringing up children

#### HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 404 Community services and utilities
- 501 World wars and other wars

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is a good example of the Federation Bungalow style, comprising rock-faced limestone walls, high-pitched, corrugated Colorbond roof with half timbered gables and a distinctive corner turret feature, and verandahs on two sides of the house. (Criterion 1.2)

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is a local landmark with vistas to the ocean. (Criterion 1.3)

As one of a small number of similar houses constructed around the turn of the twentieth century in Cottesloe, *Lady Lawley Cottage* forms part of a pleasing visually-linked cultural environment. (Criterion 1.4)

#### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Lady Lawley Cottage* was constructed in 1903 specifically as a convalescence home for children, which operated at little cost to parents, and as such is significant in the development of institutional care for young and disabled people in Western Australia. (Criterion 2.1)

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is one of a suite of convalescence facilities established by philanthropists in Cottesloe, in close proximity to the seaside, due to the perceived health benefits of such a location. (Criterion 2.2)

The place was used as a convalescent home for women personnel from the Australian Women's Land Army and the Merchant Navy during World War

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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.

Two, at which time it was known as the John Nicholson Convalescent Home for Service Women. (Criterion 2.2)

The place was constructed at the suggestion of Lady Annie Allen Lawley, wife of Sir Arthur Lawley, who was Governor of Western Australia from 1901-1902, and named in recognition of her assistance to various charitable movements within the State, and at her suggestion. (Criterion 2.3)

### **11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE**

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### **11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE**

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is associated with the Australian Red Cross Society, which has managed the place since 1944. (Criterion 4.1)

The place is important for the many children who have received care through its facilities, for their families and carers, and for the staff and community volunteers who have been involved in the place. (Criterion 4.1)

*Lady Lawley Cottage* contributes to the community's sense of place, having provided care for children, particularly those with disabilities, for almost one hundred years. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is rare as a house constructed specifically for the health care of children and still used for this purpose. (Criterion 5.1)

### **12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is representative of residential architecture in the Cottesloe area around the early twentieth century in style, form and materials. (Criterion 6.1)

### **12. 3 CONDITION**

*Lady Lawley Cottage* is in excellent condition, as a result of conservation works in 2001-2002, which capitalised on the ongoing maintenance that had been undertaken to operate the place as a functioning health-care facility. Modifications have been made to the original building through progressive additions and alterations to external details and finishes.

### **12. 4 INTEGRITY**

*Lady Lawley Cottage* has a high degree of integrity. In 2002, the building is being refurbished to continue in its original function and use.

### **12. 5 AUTHENTICITY**

*Lady Lawley Cottage* has a moderate degree of authenticity.

In 2002, a sympathetic two-storey addition was completed to the north of the building, linked to the northwest corner of the cottage.

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

Supporting evidence has been taken from: Lady Lawley Cottage, Cottesloe: Heritage Assessment', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat in September 2000, '.

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the documentary evidence, refer to Ronald Bodycoat, 'Lady Lawley Cottage, Cottesloe: Heritage Assessment', September 2000, pp.7-10.

Early additions and alterations to the northern side were carried out in the character of the original building. Subsequent major additions to the north, south-east and western sides of the building in 1924 and 1964 were not carried out in a style sympathetic to the original and compromised the presentation of the original building.

In 2001, the Australian Red Cross received \$1 million from the Government of Western Australia for the redevelopment of the site. The redevelopment includes renovation of the original cottage, removal of earlier extensions, restoration of some earlier detailing, such as turned verandah posts, and the construction of a two-storey addition to the north of the cottage. The project was completed in June 2002 and official commissioning of the building is planned for April/May 2003 to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cottage. The place currently continues its function as a health care facility.<sup>1</sup>

#### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the physical evidence, refer to Ronald Bodycoat, 'Lady Lawley Cottage, Cottesloe: Heritage Assessment', September 2000, pp.10-13.

#### **13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

For a discussion of the comparative evidence, refer to Ronald Bodycoat, 'Lady Lawley Cottage, Cottesloe: Heritage Assessment', September 2000, pp.13-14.

#### **13.4 KEY REFERENCES**

Ronald Bodycoat, 'Lady Lawley Cottage, Cottesloe: Heritage Assessment', September 2000.

#### **13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH**

Further research is needed to discover the original architect and builder for the place.

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<sup>1</sup> Letter to the Minister for Heritage, Hon G.D. Kiereth, 9 Feb 2001, on HCWA file P 0596; site visit June 2002.