



HERITAGE  
COUNCIL  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

### Permanent Entry

**1. DATA BASE No. 03850**

**2. NAME** *Esplanade Reserve* (1881 - present)  
**FORMER NAMES** New Recreation Ground; Esplanade Recreation Ground

**3. LOCATION** Encompassed by The Esplanade, Barrack Street, Riverside Drive and William Street, Perth

**4. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY** Portion of Lot L79 on Deposited Plan 230334, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 1774 Folio 490.

**5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Perth

**6. OWNER** City of Perth.

**7. HERITAGE LISTINGS**

- Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 22/01/2002  
Permanent Entry 17/10/2003
- National Trust Classification: .....
- Town Planning Scheme: .....
- Municipal Inventory: .....
- Register of the National Estate: .....

**8. CONSERVATION ORDER**

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**9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

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**10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*Esplanade Reserve*, a 4.8 hectare public garden, originally planted in the Paradise style, featuring the Allan Green Conservatory, the Alf Curlewis Gardens and the Kiosk, and bordered by The Esplanade, Barrack Street, Riverside Drive and William Street, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place has considerable historic value as part of major reclamation work commenced in the 1880s along the Swan River foreshore to create a network of public open spaces and river amenities aimed at integrating the city environment with the river;

the place has very high historic value as the site of the Perth city Anzac Day parade and service since 1916, and the nearby Sir Talbot Hobbs Memorial has been the saluting base for these services since 1940;

the place has very high historic value as the site of the proclamation of self-government for the State in 1890, and is the site of the Allan Green Conservatory which commemorates the State's 150th anniversary of foundation. The Perth Exhibition was held at *Esplanade Reserve* in 1881;

the place is important historically as a traditional rallying point for public protest marches;

the place provides a contrasting setting for the backdrop of the city environment and with the adjacent open spaces, stretching between the Narrows Interchange and the Causeway, collectively defines the southern edge of the city;

the place is very highly valued for continuing social and cultural associations, as a venue for sporting activities, special events, performance and memorial services, as well as for its function as a public forum;

the place is a broad expanse of public open space, enclosed by some mature plantings which frame the view of the place. The Moreton Bay figs (*Ficus macrophylla*) on Barrack and William streets are of particular importance as they represent early avenue plantings;

by virtue of the names of various structures located within the place and nearby, it is associated with Alf Curlewis, Allan Green, Sir J. J. Talbot Hobbs, and Florence Hummerston;

the place contributes significantly to the Perth community's sense of place, as it links the river with the city centre; and,

the aesthetically pleasing kiosk has been situated on the site since 1928, and is of significance to various sections of the community.