



HERITAGE  
COUNCIL  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES Supporting Information

PLEASE NOTE: This Assessment Documentation is intended to provide sufficient information to consider the place for inclusion in the State Register. It is not intended to provide a complete record of the history of the place or its physical presentation.

### 10. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Cultural heritage significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for individuals or groups within Western Australia.

In determining cultural heritage significance, the Heritage Council has had regard to the factors in the section 38 of the *Heritage Act 2018*. It is considered that the place warrants inclusion in the State Register against the following factors relevant to cultural heritage significance:

#### 10(a) Importance in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Western Australia's history;

Together the timber-framed corrugated iron clad Boulder Police Station and Quarters and the substantial masonry Court House, demonstrate the evolution of civic buildings on the goldfields of Western Australia during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with temporary or insubstantial buildings typically replaced with permanent brick and stone structures as populations increased and towns developed (historic value).

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* demonstrates the development of Boulder and its subsequent population increase in the 1890s spurred on by the gold rush, which necessitated improved and permanent law enforcement and justice facilities to address growing crime, as well as other public offices (historic value).

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* reflects the work of the Public Works Department, namely John Grainger and Hillson Beasley, in providing public services throughout the state, in this case policing, justice and banking facilities and water supply to the eastern goldfields (historic value).

The Boulder Court House (fmr), with its 1905 extension to accommodate the Post Office Savings Bank, is associated with the provision of banking services in regional areas, and provided these services until c.2010, by which time it was known as the Commonwealth Bank. These additions are reflective of the Western Australian

government practice of reusing and adapting civic buildings for other purposes (historic value).

Boulder Court House (fmr) is associated with the administration and maintenance of the Goldfields Water Supply in Boulder in the early twentieth century, a significant scheme that was of fundamental importance to the mining industry in the eastern goldfields (historic value).

**10(b) Importance in demonstrating rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Western Australia's heritage;**

Initially conceived as a temporary solution to law and order demands in Boulder, the former Boulder Police Station is a rare extant example of a c.1890s timber-framed police station building constructed by the Public Works Department as a standard transportable building designed with adaptations for the climatic conditions of the eastern goldfields (rarity value).

Together the timber-framed corrugated iron clad Boulder Police Station and Quarters and the substantial masonry Court House are a rare extant example of what was a once common progression from temporary timber or canvas structures to substantial brick or stone as populations increased and goldfields developed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (rarity value).

**10(c) Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Western Australia's history;**

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* has potential to contribute to a wider understanding of the operations of the justice system in regional Western Australia, particularly regarding the provision of law and order services in the goldfields (scientific value).

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* provides information on the development and use of standard plans for government buildings, including police and judicial facilities, by the Public Works Department across the state, with both being relatively intact examples of their type and in this case designed with consideration of the eastern goldfield's climatic conditions (scientific value).

**10(d) Its importance in demonstrating the characteristics of a broader class of places;**

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* contains two key elements to maintain law and order in society and together represent the practices and physical elements that were established during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in the eastern goldfields to address growing crime in the region, and the subsequent supply of other public services (historic value).

Boulder Police Station and Quarters (fmr) reflects the late nineteenth century practice of incorporating residential functions with public buildings, blending civic and residential scale architectural elements in a vernacular style (historic value).

**10(e) Any strong or special meaning it may have for any group or community because of social, cultural or spiritual associations;**

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* formed part of the civic centre in Boulder and delivered necessary facilities to residents, and as such provides a significant sense of place for the local and wider community (social value).

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* is still valued by the local community being used as a meeting space for a variety of community groups, including the Goldfields Brass Band and the Eastern Goldfields Prospector's Association (social value).

**10(f)<sup>1</sup> Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by any group or community;**

Boulder Court House (fmr) is a fine example of a government building in the Federation Free Classical architectural style. The building forms an integral part of Burt Street, the main commercial street in Boulder, and with its distinct architectural expression and picturesque arrangement of gables and arched arcades, contributes to the community's sense of place (aesthetic value).

Boulder Police Station and Quarters (fmr) demonstrates an austere simplicity in its architectural scale and form and expresses a vernacular aesthetic which is quite common in regional Western Australia (aesthetic value).

**10(g) Any special association it may have with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in Western Australia's history;**

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* are both examples of the work of John Grainger and Hillson Beasley, who were members of a notable group of architects in the Public Works Department responsible for a significant number of public buildings in the 1890s and 1900s, during a period of unprecedented development in Western Australia (historic value).

The former Court House, with its 1905 Goldfields Water Supply office addition, is associated with the administration and maintenance of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, which was integral to the development of the eastern goldfields, as well as the development of agricultural areas and towns along the Scheme's route. The Court House (fmr) is also associated with the operations of the Post Office Savings Bank, later becoming the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, from 1905 to c.2010 (historic value).

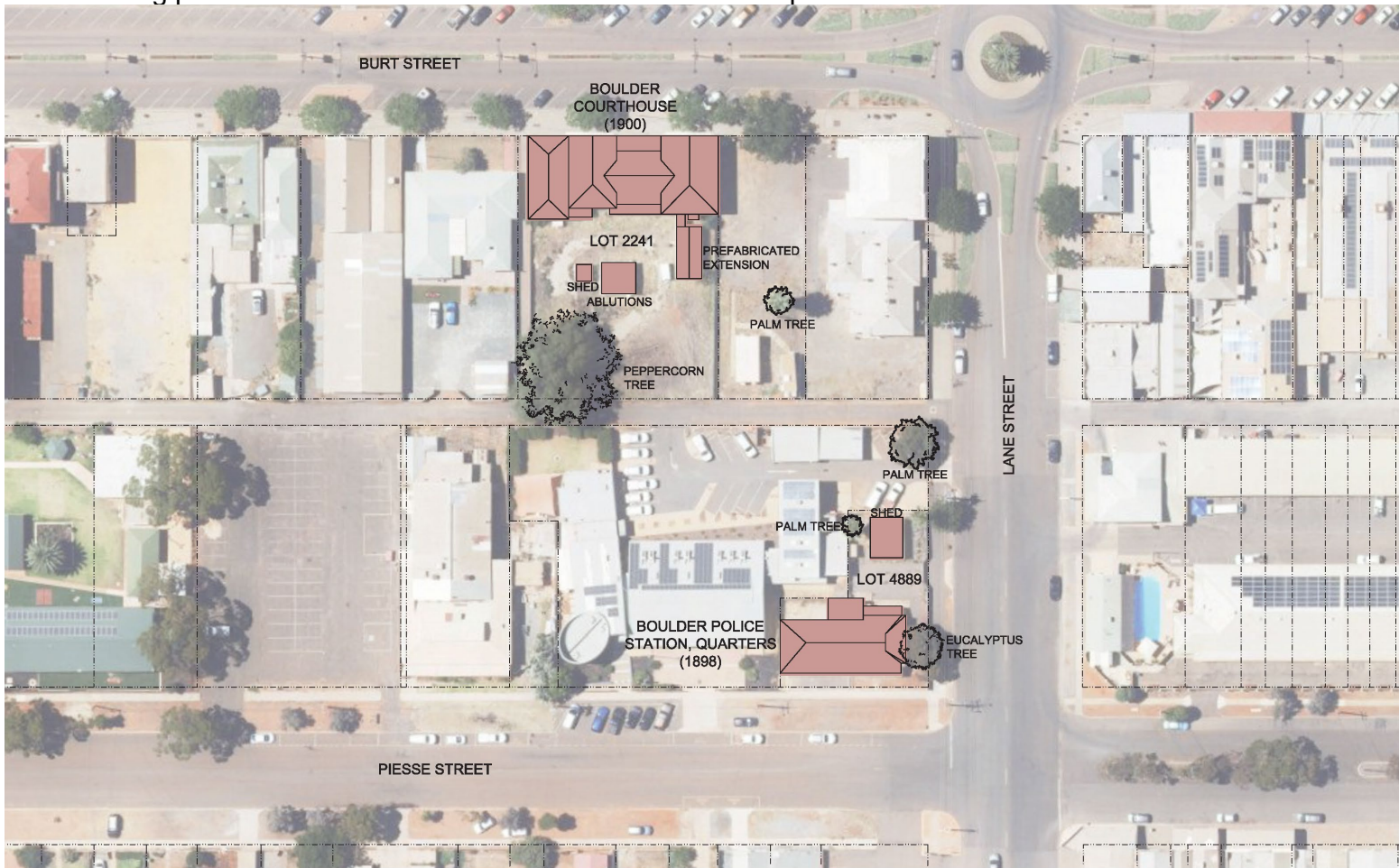
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<sup>1</sup> For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

# 11. SITE PLAN

The following plan shows all of the elements included within the place.



SITE PLAN  
25/05/2023



## 12. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Lucy Hair, Historian and Heritage Consultant, and H+H Architects, in May 2023, with amendments and/or additions by the Heritage Council and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.

### 12.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)*, comprises the timber-framed, corrugated iron former Police Station, Quarters and Lockup (1898); and a complex of former government buildings constructed originally in stone as the Boulder Court House (1900) with substantial brick additions for the Savings Bank and Goldfields Water Supply (1905) on a separate land parcel.

#### **Heritage Council of Western Australia Theme (s)**

This analysis is based the Thematic History of Western Australia<sup>2</sup> (WA Thematic). The following themes, key events and phases are relevant to the history of the place:

##### Governing – Law, order & defence

- 1890s Population increase sees crime increase, especially drunkenness and prostitution on the goldfields. Violence reportedly less prevalent than in earlier gold rushes in eastern colonies. Gold stealing common, especially theft from large-scale operations. Police numbers more than double in a decade.

##### Infrastructure – Development of Settlement & Services

- 1895 Fire destroys large section of Coolgardie, especially hessian-clad buildings, resulting in greater regulation of construction in goldfields settlements
- 1890-1903 Government provides extensive infrastructure support to emerging goldfields, including water, rail, telegraph (more infrastructure, and more rapidly delivered, than eastern colonies during earlier gold rushes); also mining regulation/oversight, policing.

##### Economy – Mining & Mineral Resources

- 1890-1894 Period of pioneering, exploration, and alluvial prospecting on eastern goldfields, with rapid influx of migrants to try their luck.
- 1892 Gold discovered at Coolgardie; major gold rush ensues.
- 1893 Gold discovered at Kalgoorlie; gold rush increases.
- 1895-1903 Rapid exploitation of eastern goldfields – peak period of production.
- 1901 59,000 people living on WA goldfields (approximately 80% on Eastern Goldfields) which is 80% of total WA population.

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<sup>2</sup> 'A Thematic History of Western Australia' (incl. Framework Spreadsheet & Narratives). Prepared for the Heritage Council of WA by Clare Menck, Historian, June 2018.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder is located on Wongatha (or Wangkathaa) country. Aboriginal occupation of the district has been dated to at least 22,000 years. Prior to the arrival of British settlers, particularly before the 1890s, the area was home to at least thirteen different language groups.<sup>3</sup> Local people typically refer to themselves as Wongi which means 'to talk'.<sup>4</sup> The gold boom decimated many local Wongi groups through the spread of disease and starvation as competition for limited food and water sources arose. Many Wongi were relocated to missions outside the region.<sup>5</sup>

The discovery of gold in Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie in the early 1890s had a substantial impact on the area as well as the state. The state's population increased threefold between 1890 and 1900 as people rushed to capitalise on the discoveries.<sup>6</sup> Goldfields towns such as Kalgoorlie and Boulder developed rapidly. As described by Battye in 1913:

Boulder is a striking manifestation of how speedily a thriving town will spring into existence after goldfields of a payable nature have been located in the vicinity. Like Kalgoorlie, two miles away, Boulder speedily expanded and adopted all the modern conveniences and comforts of civilisation.<sup>7</sup>

Eastern goldfields towns including Kalgoorlie and Boulder sprang up as a series of canvas tents and hessian shanties. Although located only a few kilometres apart, the two towns were separate entities in the 1890s and for much of the twentieth century. Boulder had formed around the Brookman and Pearce's mining lease and subsequent mine, the Great Boulder Mine. The town of Boulder Municipality was formed in 1897. Town blocks sold quickly and a series of permanent buildings replaced many of the earlier temporary tent-like structures.<sup>8</sup>

#### Boulder Police Station and Court House

With an expanding population came the requirement for a police force to control any civil disorder. Riots in Coolgardie in 1897, Kalgoorlie in 1899 and Boulder in 1901 and fears of increased criminal behaviours on the goldfields, particularly drunkenness and theft, necessitated government action to provide police and justice facilities.<sup>9</sup>

With the townsite expanding rapidly in the 1890s, the government added £1,900 to the budget estimates in November 1897 for a police station, quarters, and cells at

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3 Hanson, Sue and Reynolds, Troy, 'Historical Language Names of the Goldfields, Western Australia', July 2020, <https://wangka.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Undocumented-Languages-of-the-Goldfields-Region.pdf>, accessed 10 May 2023.

4 Beddells, Stephen J., 'Incarcerating Indigenous people of the Wongatha lands in the Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia: Indigenous leaders' perspectives', Edith Cowan University Masters thesis, December 2010, <https://ro.ecu.edu.au/theses/137>.

5 Hanson, Sue, 'Languages and Dialects of the Goldfields Regions', 2017, <https://wangka.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Languages-and-Dialects-of-the-Goldfields-Region-1.pdf>, accessed 10 May 2023.

6 Edmonds, Gill and Gregory, 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', prepared for Department of Contract and Management Services on behalf of the Western Australian Police Force, May 1998.

7 Battye, J.S., *Cyclopedia of Western Australia*, Hesperian Press, Carlisle, (1913), 1985, vol II, p. 909.

8 Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, <https://www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au/towns/Boulder/>, accessed 10 May 2023.

9 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', p. 21.

#### **Register of Heritage Places**

#### **Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)**

**17 January 2024**

Boulder.<sup>10</sup> In the meantime, persons charged with offences were locked up in Kalgoorlie.<sup>11</sup>

Plans for the 'Boulder Police Quarters and Lockup' were drawn up by the Public Works Department (PWD) under the direction of Chief Architect John Grainger in September 1897, based on standard plans developed by the Department. With so many public buildings needing to be constructed in response to the population explosion created by the gold boom, it was common for the PWD to develop standard plans. Climatic conditions were considered so, 'a standard transportable station was designed for the eastern goldfields.'<sup>12</sup>

Tenders were called in early 1898 and the contract was awarded to J.W. Hill.<sup>13</sup> Construction on the Police Station had commenced by May that year and was completed around mid-July. The building was described as 'a commodious villa' although insufficient ventilation would result in the building being 'very warm in summer'.<sup>14</sup> The residential appearance of the building prompted one newspaper to call for adequate signage to denote the door to the Police Station.<sup>15</sup>

Additions were made in the early 1900s, and a third cell with concrete foundations was constructed in 1901.<sup>16</sup> It has not been determined when the fourth cell and division of the exercise yards into separate male and female yards was carried out, though there were further estimates and small contracts awarded around 1902 which may relate to the cell and yard areas.<sup>17</sup>

By 1902, there was a Sergeant, several Detectives as well as the District Officers attached to the Police Station who may have used these bedrooms as excess office space to that originally allocated.<sup>18</sup>

The Boulder Town Clerk regarded the Police Station building as 'temporary' and as early as 1902 encouraged the Premier's Department to consider constructing a more permanent building:

Almost the whole of the business premises in the central portion of the Town are substantial buildings of brick and stone. The Police Station however remains a temporary iron structure as in Boulder's early days but now quite out of keeping with its surroundings.<sup>19</sup>

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10 *West Australian*, 17 November 1897, p. 3. *Goldfields Morning Chronicle*, 18 November 1897, p. 3 and several other goldfields newspapers.

11 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 2 March 1898, p. 4 and 11 April 1898, p. 4. *Kalgoorlie Western Argus*, 14 April 1898, p. 19.

12 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', p. 21.

13 *Government Gazette*, 4 March 1898, p. 547. *Coolgardie Miner*, 9 March 1898, p. 5. *Daily News*, 9 March 1898, p. 2.

14 *Evening Star*, 2 July 1898, p. 3.

15 *Evening Star*, 5 November 1898, p. 2.

16 *West Australian*, 11 October 1900, p. 2. *Evening Star*, 12 October 1900, p. 2. *Inquirer and Commercial News*, 16 November 1900, p. 1; *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 9 February 1901, p. 6. *Evening Star*, 19 June 1901, p. 2 and 20 June 1901, p. 1; *Kalgoorlie Western Argus*, 16 July 1901, p. 16. *Evening Star*, 22 July 1901, p. 2.

17 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 10 October 1901, p. 4. *Coolgardie Miner*, 10 October 1901, p. 3. *West Australian*, 21 April 1902, p. 4.

18 SRO S36, Cons 1496, File 1902/1069, Police Barracks estimates, letter dated 27 June 1902.

19 SRO S36, Cons 1496, File 1902/1069, Police Barracks estimates, letter dated 27 June 1902.

# Boulder Police Quarters And Lockup

DRAWING NO. 3

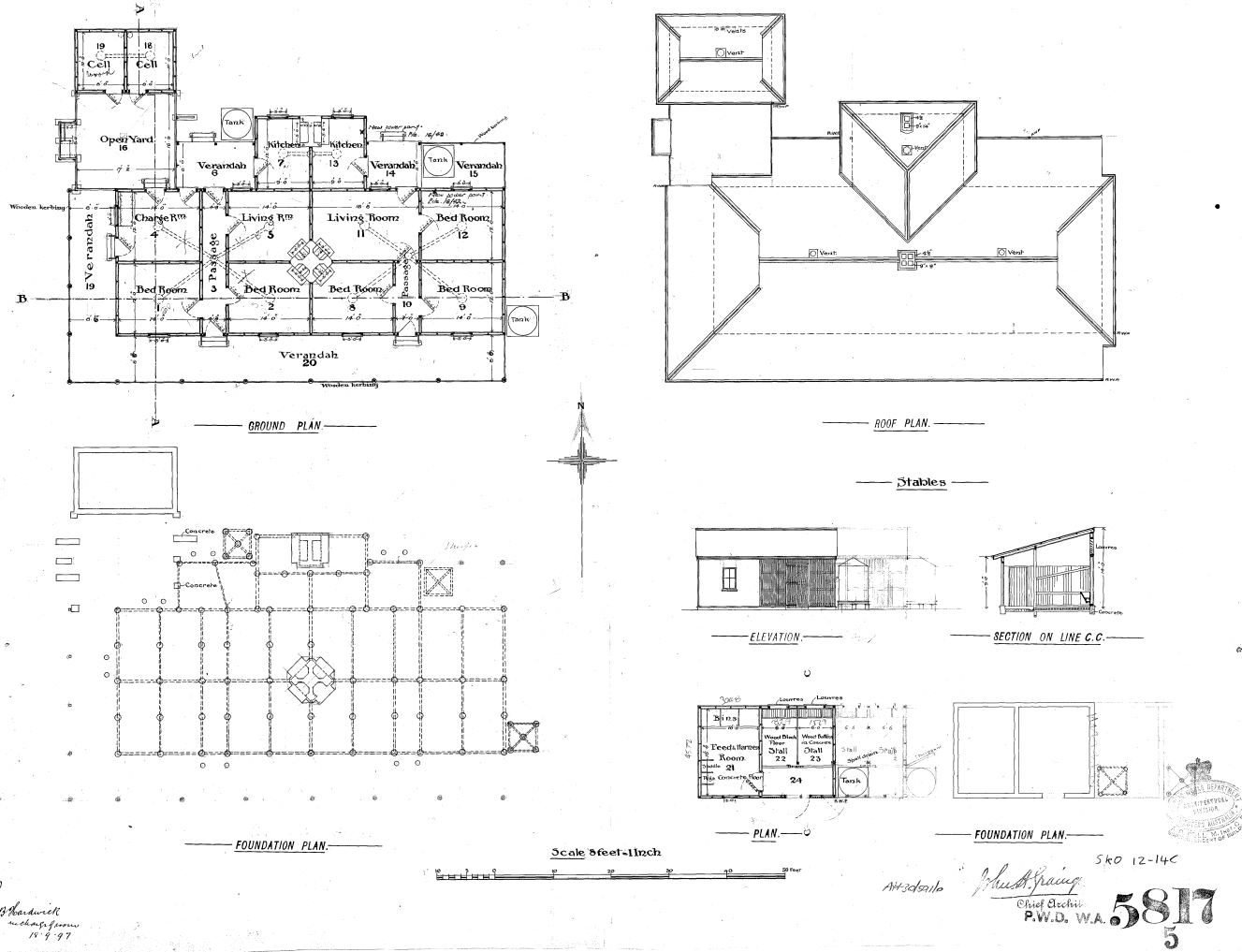


Figure 1: Boulder Police Quarters and Lockup Plans, 1897, Drawing No. 3, Public Works Department WA. Department of Finance Building Records.

Register of Heritage Places  
 Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)  
 17 January 2024



Prior to construction of a Court House in Boulder, court business was carried out either in Kalgoorlie or premises rented by arrangement. Wardens and Resident Magistrates were appointed in the goldfields from 1896 and police and court districts followed soon afterwards.<sup>20</sup> The court operated from the Workers Hall two days a month around 1898-1899 and the Mechanics' Institute was also considered as a venue for court proceedings.<sup>21</sup>

Plans for the Court House were drafted in 1899 by PWD signed by Chief Draftsman Hillson Beasley and countersigned by Chief Architect John Grainger based on a standard design, like the Police Station. The building included a main court room with space for a public gallery, magistrate's bench with an adjoining Magistrate's room and Clerk of Courts room. Public access to the gallery was via the front verandah, which led to a lobby in front of the Clerk of Courts room.<sup>22</sup> Tenders were called later that year and the contract awarded to Carrick and Ford for £1,159.<sup>23</sup> A description of the Boulder Court House in the 1899/1900 PWD *Annual Report* noted the building was constructed with stone walls, brick partitions and an iron roof.<sup>24</sup>

Burt Street was the logical location for the Court House as the principal business and retail centre in Boulder.<sup>25</sup> The land bounded by Burt, Lane, Piesse and Brookman Streets was designated a reserve for government buildings.<sup>26</sup> The Court House was to be located between the Police Station site and the Mechanic's Institute, with access from the Police Station on the south-east corner.<sup>27</sup>

Construction of the Court House proceeded quickly, and the building was officially opened in October 1900.<sup>28</sup> Court sittings were held once a month until 1904, when sittings increased to two a month.<sup>29</sup>

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20 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', p. 22.

21 SRO S76, Cons 430, File 1899-0378, Use of Mechanics Institute.

22 PWD 7170, 'Boulder Court House' drawings, SRO S399, Cons 1647, 7170. The 'quarters' do not appear on site plans after 1905.

23 *Government Gazette*, 29 December 1899, p. 4353; *West Australian*, 11 January 1900, p. 4. *Government Gazette*, 26 January 1900, p. 281.

24 PWD, *Annual Report*, 1899-1900, p. 77.

25 Thiel & Co, *Twentieth Century Impressions of Western Australia*, Hesperian Press, Carlisle, 2000 (1901), p. 532.

26 Bellingham & Co, Insurance Plans for Boulder, c.1904 and Police Department file in SRO, S76, Cons 430, Item 1899/0378.

27 PWD Plans, 'Boulder Court House', SROWA WAS 399, CONS 1647 Item 0170.

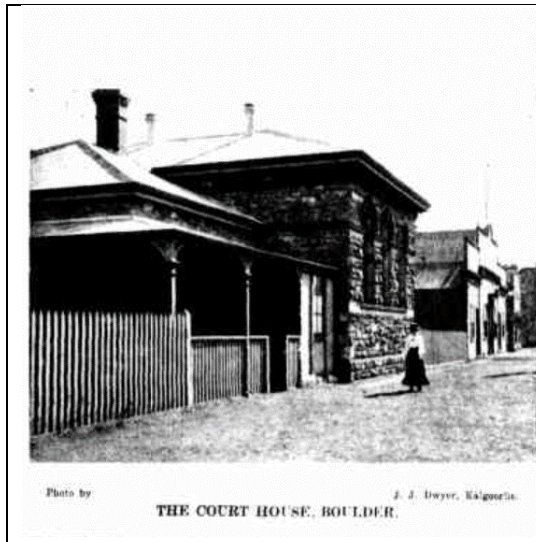
28 *Evening Star*, 10 October 1900, p. 3.

29 Wise Post Office Directories, Legal Directory entries.

## Register of Heritage Places

### Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)

17 January 2024



**Figure 2. The Court House, Boulder, 1902. This is the Court House before the 1905 additions.**

Photograph taken by J.J Dwyer, Kalgoorlie. *Western Mail*, Perth, 25 December 1902, p. 43.

After the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (GWSS) was completed in 1903, a series of districts were created to maintain the scheme, including levying water rates. A GWS office was proposed for Boulder as part of the water supply network to accommodate office space for an engineer, foreman and clerks.<sup>30</sup> Initially known as the Post Office Savings Bank, the State Savings Bank began operating in Burt Street as early as 1903.<sup>31</sup> The Savings Bank quickly became a popular facility with 4,000 depositors in Boulder by 1910.<sup>32</sup>

Substantial additions to the Court House were drawn up by the PWD in 1905 to incorporate the GWS office and Savings Bank.<sup>33</sup> The Court House became the central portion of the building with two new wings, with the GWS Office to the west and the Savings Bank to the east. The modest public verandah was filled in as a colonnade connecting the entrance to both the Court House and the bank. A similar colonnade was replicated on the GWS side as part of a new brick façade for the building. A new, larger Clerk of Courts room was added while the original room was converted into a smaller 'female witness' room. Both the bank and GWS office had strong rooms and various offices and public spaces.<sup>34</sup> The additions were to be made in brick, and a new brick façade was constructed over the stone frontage of the existing Court House.<sup>35</sup> Tenders were called in early 1905 and the contract was awarded to T.J. Carrick for £2309.<sup>36</sup>

30 Hartley, Richard, *River of Steel: a history of the Western Australian goldfields and agricultural water supply, 1903-2003*, Bassendean, Access Press, 2007, pp, 136-143.

31 'Advertising: State Savings Bank Notice of Removal', *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 6 November 1906, p. 6.

32 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 19 February 1910, p. 4.

33 The Post Office Savings Bank was renamed the Government Savings Bank in 1906 and State Savings Bank of Western Australia in 1926.

34 PWD 11253, 'Boulder Police Court: Additions for Savings Bank and Goldfields Water Supply, SRO S399, Cons 1647, 11253.

35 Ian Molyneux and Associates Architects, "Report on an Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance and a Conservation Plan for the Former Boulder Court House, Boulder, Western Australia", February 1992, p. 7.

36 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 24 February 1905, p. 7. The tender advertisement appeared in multiple local newspapers; *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 18 April 1905, p. 4.



By 1912, there were 18 police officers stationed in Boulder.<sup>37</sup> Extensive damage to many Boulder buildings occurred during the race riots in January 1934 when rioters targeted buildings owned by foreigners.<sup>38</sup> More than 200 additional police were sent to Kalgoorlie and Boulder in the days immediately after the riots.<sup>39</sup> After the race riots, applications for those who suffered loss of property were heard in the Boulder Court House.<sup>40</sup> By 1943-44, court sittings had been reduced to once a month.<sup>41</sup>

By 1948, but possibly earlier, a wash house had been added to the Police Station. The original stables as well as the toilets along the lane were still in situ and, other than the additional cells, was largely as originally constructed. One of the rooms on the station side had been converted into an additional bedroom for the police quarters with access off the living room. A new reserve on the portion of land on which the stables was located was created in 1957 for the Police and Citizen's Boys Club. The stables may have been demolished around this time to accommodate playing courts.<sup>42</sup> The Police Cells, included in the 1897 PWD drawings, are likely to have been demolished after 1963, which was their last appearance in historical aerial imagery.<sup>43</sup> It is unclear at this time (2023) whether the foundations of these cells remain extant under the current structure.

In 1961, the original toilets along the laneway were replaced with a brick toilet block located in the centre of the site.<sup>44</sup> The Boulder GWS office closed in the 1960s and its functions were transferred to Kalgoorlie.<sup>45</sup>

A new double garage was added behind the police quarters in 1973.<sup>46</sup> New purpose-built facilities for the Road Traffic Authority were constructed in 1978 on the site of the former stables and the area originally reserved for the Police and Citizens. Vehicle safety was an element of policing responsibilities from 1975 and the co-location of police stations and vehicle inspection facilities was common.<sup>47</sup>

By the 1970s, Boulder was considered by many to be a district of Kalgoorlie. While the town had always maintained its own identity and range of community services, increasingly policing and court facilities were provided as part of the Kalgoorlie district. In July 1977, the Boulder Court House closed and the facilities were relocated to Kalgoorlie.<sup>48</sup> The Boulder Police Station became a 'day' station

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37 SRO S76, Cons 430, Item 1913/6175.

38 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 30 January 1934, p. 4.

39 *Daily News*, 31 January 1934, p. 1.

40 *Norseman Advertiser*, 28 September 1935, p. 8.

41 *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1910-1949.

42 'Boulder Police Station and Quarters: repairs and renovations' drawing c.1948, courtesy Department of Finance.

43 Public Works Department drawing, Boulder Police Quarters and Lockup, No. 5817, dated 18 September 1897; Landgate historical aerial photography, photo dated 7 December 1963.

44 'Boulder Public Buildings: new lavatories for office and public use', dated 13 September 1961, SRO S399, Cons 1647, PWD 11253.

45 Boulder Town Council, *Rate Books*, 1960s-1970s.

46 'Boulder Police Station: new double garage', dated February 1973, courtesy Department of Finance.

47 'Boulder Police and RTA site', dated June 1978, courtesy Department of Finance. 'Western Australian Police Service Thematic History', p. 36.

48 *Government Gazette*, 8 July 1977, p. 2105. See also *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 9 July 1977.

(reduced hours) from 1988 and closed in January 1992.<sup>49</sup> In 1989 the two towns amalgamated, creating the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.<sup>50</sup> In May 1991, the new Kalgoorlie-Boulder Police Station opened in Kalgoorlie confirming Kalgoorlie as the central point for policing services to Boulder.<sup>51</sup>



**Figure 4. Boulder Police Station and Quarters, fronting Piesse Street, 1974.**

Photograph taken by F.A. Sharr, 21 October 1974.

Conservation works to the Court House building were carried out in the 1990s informed by a conservation plan.<sup>52</sup> The former Court House was used for community purposes, such as practice space for the Goldfields Brass Band. The Commonwealth Bank tenancy required additional space and had already made some internal alterations to integrate the former Clerk of Courts office into the banking space. Rather than making substantial internal alterations, the bank added a transportable wing to the south to increase floor space, likely before 1992.<sup>53</sup> The Commonwealth Bank still occupied the space in 2008, and the former Court House was used by for the Goldfields Camera Club and the Goldfields Brass Band.<sup>54</sup>

In 1994 the original government reserve was subdivided. The Police Station was now on Lot 4614 and reserved for the purpose of 'Police Museum' with a vesting to the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. The cell block, located on the adjacent lot (4613), may have been demolished around this time. Lot 4613 was vested in the Minister for Transport in 1998.<sup>55</sup> A new building was erected on the adjacent lot c.2000.<sup>56</sup>

In 2004, the adjacent lot acquired a portion of Lot 4614 to become Lot 4890 and came under the control of Main Roads.<sup>57</sup> Historical aerial imagery suggests the previously building was demolished and the existing building constructed between 2004 and 2006.<sup>58</sup> Part of Boulder Police Station (fmr) has been leased to the

49 Pashley, Don, *Policing Our State: a history of police stations and police officers in Western Australia, 1829-1945*, Educant, Cloverdale, 2000, p. 94.

50 Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, <https://www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au/timeline/>, accessed 10 May 2023.

51 Parliamentary question, 13 June 2001, <https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/pq/qsearch.nsf/9780751810d06b5848256c2300087758/3e9bc1fdbe0df7c948256af500255a42?OpenDocument>, accessed 10 May 2023.

52 City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Local Heritage Survey, place record 047.

53 The transportable building was included in the Conservation Plan by Ian Molyneux and Associates report on Boulder Court House, 1992.

54 Based on a site inspection of the place 2008-2009.

55 Crown Land Record Volume 3103 Folio 403 (Cancelled); Crown Land Record Volume 3103 Folio 402 (Cancelled)

56 Historic Aerial Imagery, 2000.

57 Certificate of Title Volume 2575 Folio 810.

58 Historic Aerial Imagery, 2004 and 2006.

Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association of WA since this time.<sup>59</sup> The building was also previously used as at the Transport Centre and the Eastern Goldfields Volunteer Task Force.<sup>60</sup>

In April 2010, a 5.0 magnitude earthquake caused damage to many buildings in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area, particularly to buildings along Burt Street. The former Court House sustained some localised damage, mostly cracking to some of the detailed finishes in the rooms.<sup>61</sup>

By 2016, the former Court House was advertised for sale after being vacant for several years.<sup>62</sup> The building did not sell and remains in State Government ownership (2023).<sup>63</sup> In 2023, the former Court House is being used by the Goldfields Brass Band and other community groups and part of the former Police Station is occupied by the Eastern Goldfields Prospectors Association.

## 12.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

*Boulder Police Station, Quarters and Court House (fmr)* is a discontinuous precinct comprising a single-storey timber and corrugated iron former Police Station building (1898) and a single-storey steel-framed shed (c.2007); and a single-storey masonry and corrugated iron Federation Free Classical style Court House building (1900; 1905), and associated outbuildings including a brick ablutions block (c.1961), a prefabricated extension (post-1963), and a shed (post-1963).

### Siting

The former Police Station is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Piesse Street and Lane Street, Boulder. The current lot is L-shaped, with the former Police Station building setback approximately 3 metres from Piesse Street and 5 metres from Lane Street. The rear yard extends to the northeast of the building and currently accommodates a single-storey steel-framed shed (c.2007) set within an asphalt hardstand. The setting predominantly consists of hard paved surfaces and gravel to the perimeter of the building, excluding an established palm tree to the rear of the lot and eucalypt tree facing Lane Street.

The former Boulder Court House is located on the south side of Burt Street, a commercial street, and is immediately adjacent to a single-storey brick and iron building to the west, currently the Boulder Infant Health Centre, and a vacant site (Lot 70) to the east.

There is no apparent visual or physical contextual link between the two sites, albeit that the two mature palm trees in the rear of the Police Quarters yard appears similar to the scale and age of a similar specimen in Lot 70, and these trees can be seen from each location.

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59 Crown Land Title Volume LR3134 Folio 118.

60 City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Local Government Heritage Inventory, place record 193.

61 City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Local Heritage Survey, place record 047.

62 *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 1 June 2016.

63 Certificate of Title, vol. 3034, fol. 616.



**Figure 5. Streetscape view of Boulder Police Station & Quarters (fmr) looking west along Piesse Street.**

The building fronts Piesse Street. Adjacent is the Main Roads WA Boulder office.



**Figure 6. Streetscape view of Boulder Police Station & Quarters (fmr)**

View is looking north along Lane Street towards Boulder Court House (fmr). Note the three distinct palm trees that are located across the original Government lots for the Police and Court House.



**Figure 7. Exterior view of Police Station & Quarters (fmr) from Piesse Street**

The site is fenced with 1800mm high garrison-style fencing to Piesse Street boundary and 1600mm high corrugated steel fencing on steel posts and rails to the east, west and north boundaries.



**Figure 8. View of outbuilding in rear yard of Police Station & Quarters (fmr) looking north towards Court House. Note the three matching palm trees.**

The rear yard extends to the northeast of the building and currently accommodates a single-storey steel-framed shed (c.2007) 6m x 8m in size, set within an asphalt hardstand and flanked either side by tall and established palm trees. There is also an established eucalypt tree on the east side of the building.



**Figure 9. View of rear lot of Police Station & Quarters (fmr) looking south**

Aside from the three trees (not visible in this view), there is no soft landscaping and the setting consists of hard paved surfaces and gravel to the perimeter of the building.



**Figure 10. Streetscape view of Boulder Court House (fmr) looking east along Burt Street.**

Established street trees along Burt Street partly obscure the front façade of Boulder Court House (fmr), which is built with nil setback to the street boundary.





**Figure 11. Rear view of Boulder Court House with nearby ancillary buildings**

The rear yard is generally overgrown with grasses and invasive immature trees that are growing at the base of walls and on horizontal windowsills. Notable features include a prefabricated extension, a shed, and a brick ablutions block, and a mature peppercorn tree.



**Figure 12. Outbuildings and mature peppercorn tree in rear yard of Court House lot.**

There are three outbuildings at the rear of the site; a free-standing brick ablution building (c.1961 - pictured); a prefabricated extension attached to the rear of the bank tenancy (post-1963); and a small timber-framed shed clad in corrugated iron (post-1963 - pictured). There is a mature peppercorn tree to the southwest corner of the site.

Note palm trees in background, which are located on the Boulder Police Station & Quarters site.



**Figure 13. Adjoining vacant site (Lot 70) on east side of Court House, with mature palm tree.**

The Boulder Court House (fmr) is located on the south side of Burt Street, the main commercial street in Boulder, and is located adjacent a vacant site (Lot 70) to the east, which adjoins the two-storey masonry & iron Boulder Post & Telegraph Office located on the corner of Burt Street and Lane Street.

### External Form - Police Station & Quarters (fmr)

The former Police Station & Quarters comprises a vernacular style single-storey timber and corrugated iron building with a prominent hipped roof extending to cover an encircling verandah. The windows are typically timber-framed multi-pane vertical sash windows in variable condition.



**Figure 14. East tenancy entry and modified posts**

The simple rectangular form, its symmetrical façade, vertically-proportioned windows and lack of artifice are characteristics of the Victorian Georgian style, albeit rendered in timber-frame and corrugated iron instead of traditional masonry. The original timber decking has been replaced with concrete slabs.

The external walls are clad in short sheets of painted corrugated iron laid horizontally, fixed with flathead nails, with painted timber trims to corners and junctions.



**Figure 15. North elevation verandah of the Police Station.**

The wall cladding shows evidence of previous patching and repair, particularly where external openings have been infilled or windows relocated. The walls also include high level wall vents, some of which have been sealed over.

The timber-framed roof has a distinct hipped form with hipped gables at the east and west ends that incorporate vented gable grilles. The original hipped roof form to the Kitchen projection on the north (as evident on archival plans) has been replaced with a simple skillion roof form, most likely undertaken when the brick fireplaces and chimneys from these rooms were removed. The roof retains the central brick chimney, as well as one vent associated with the vented ceilings. The roof sheeting is a more contemporary replacement, comprising corrugated iron profile laid in long sheets with tec screw fixings.

The gutters are also modern square profiles, with rolled cappings to the ridge and barge boards. Rainwater downpipes, where they still exist, are typically steel round pipes. All the rainwater goods are in poor condition.



**Figure 16. View of fence diving east and west tenancies of the Police Station**

The verandahs are incorporated under the main roof and extend across the north south and west elevations, comprising square painted timber posts supported on stirrups, that are set into concrete decking.

The verandah posts are regularly spaced except at the eastern end of the north elevation, where additional posts were added to facilitate the partial enclosure of the verandah with solid balustrade infill (no longer extant).



**Figure 17. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View looking west along south verandah**

The external walls are clad in short sheets of painted corrugated iron laid horizontally, fixed with flathead nails, with painted timber trims to corners and junctions. The wall cladding shows evidence of previous patching and repair, particularly where external openings have been infilled or windows relocated.



**Figure 18. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View of east elevation**

The windows are typically timber-framed multi-pane vertical sash windows in variable condition. Some windows are protected with makeshift security screens (solid plywood, steel mesh, wire mesh) to protect glazing, and these have simple painted timber architraves. The window awning is a modern addition.



**Figure 19. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View of north elevation with partly infilled rear verandahs**

The portion of verandah to the rear (northeast) elevation has been infilled with asbestos sheet and modern aluminium-framed windows to convert this to an interior space.

### **Boulder Court House (fmr)**

The former Boulder Court House comprises a single storey masonry building first constructed in 1900 in stone, with subsequent brick additions constructed on the east and west sides in 1905, all designed in the Federation Free Classical style. The two distinct periods of construction are evident in the building fabric, although the final design presents as a cohesive façade that includes two arched colonnades and two gable walls on the primary north elevation.


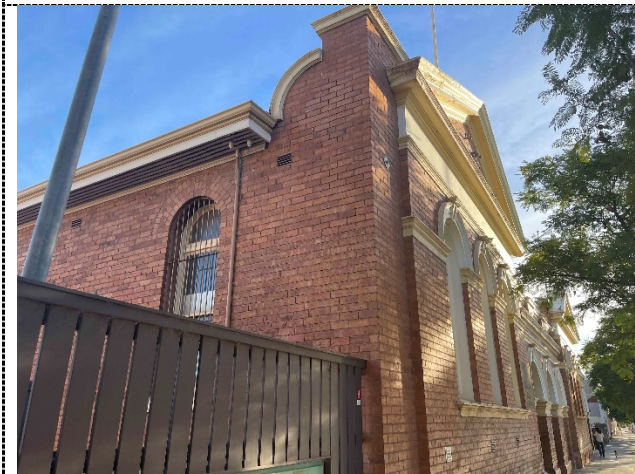
The 1900 Court House comprises the central 'Court House' gable and eastern side rooms, constructed in 1905 to accommodate the Goldfields Water Supply office, that are setback from the street behind the three-bay arched colonnade. The other 1905 addition comprises the 'Savings Bank' constructed on the west side of the Court House and presents a decorative gable elevation.



**Figure 20. Court House (fmr) - North elevation of Court House showing central 'Court House' gable flanked on either side by colonnades with classical details. The west portion was constructed for the GWS office.**

The face brick walls on the front façade are in English bond (refaced in 1905), which contrasts against the light-coloured rendered mouldings and details, which is typical of this architectural style. The external colonnade spaces are positioned either side of the central 'Court House' gable and comprise recessed spaces set behind a series of brick arched openings that abut the street.

The roof is hipped, except for the gable features, and is clad in corrugated iron with ogee profile gutters and round steel downpipes. The original brick chimneys contribute to the distinct roof line of the building, which also

	<p>features raised galvanised iron ceiling vents with Chinaman's hat cowls.</p> <p><b>Figure 21. Court House (fmr) - View of eastern colonnade</b></p> <p>The Federation Free Classical style is expressed through ornate mouldings and arched brickwork. Contrasting colours emphasise the details of the facade.</p> <p>The entry door into the Court House comprises a timber-framed four panel door with glazed sidelights and toplight.</p> <p>The original timber joinery is evident throughout the buildings, including all the fenestrations, such as the double-hung windows arranged in threes to the front gables, as well as those setback in the colonnade.</p>
	<p><b>Figure 22. Court House (fmr) - View of west elevation adjoining Infant Health Centre</b></p> <p>The building is set back from the west boundary, allowing vertically-proportioned windows and a recessed arch reveal to become features of the side elevation.</p>
	<p><b>Figure 23. Court House (fmr) - Detail view of gable to Savings Bank, north east corner</b></p> <p>The 1905 addition comprises the 'Savings Bank' constructed to the east side of the Court House. This addition presents a decorative gable elevation, including three symmetrical arched windows and other classical features including the rendered base course, moulded archways, moulded string course, decorative rendered cornices and pediments.</p> <p>The face brick walls on the façade are in common bond, with simple mouldings typical of a side elevation, and vertically-proportioned arched windows.</p>



**Figure 24. Court House (fmr) - Interior view of east colonnade showing typical finishes**

The external colonnade spaces are positioned either side of the central 'Court House' gable and comprise recessed spaces set behind a series of brick arched openings that abut the street. The interior of each recess has face brick masonry walls, concrete deck floors (with a timber access ramp to the westernmost colonnade) and mini-orb lined ceilings.

The external doors providing access into the former Bank building and the Goldfields Water Supply office both comprise a pair of timber panelled doors with fanlight above.



**Figure 25. Court House (fmr) - Exterior view of rear (south) elevation**

The original random ashlar stone walls that once characterised the building are still evident on the south elevation.

The original timber joinery is also evident in the painted timber verandah joinery to the south elevation.

***Internal layout and details***

**Police Station and Quarters (fmr)**

The building has a simple rectilinear form which is subdivided internally into two separate tenancies, both with their primary 'street' access from Piesse Street, but each also having a secondary access on the north elevation which most likely related to the original Police/public functions of the place, oriented to face north toward the nearby Court House. Each tenancy comprises a central passageway running north-south and flanked on either side by four rooms and providing access through to the north verandahs and Kitchen.



**Figure 26. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - Interior view of enclosed verandah in east tenancy**

The original verandahs have been enclosed with stud walls clad in plasterboard and the original timber decking has been replaced with concrete slabs.



**Figure 27. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - Interior view of fireplace in living room of east tenancy**

A central fireplace assembly and chimney stack provides four back-to-back chimneys for the central rooms for both tenancies.

The original fireplace mantles and surrounds have been boarded up in some instances with retrofitted gas heaters installed (pictured).



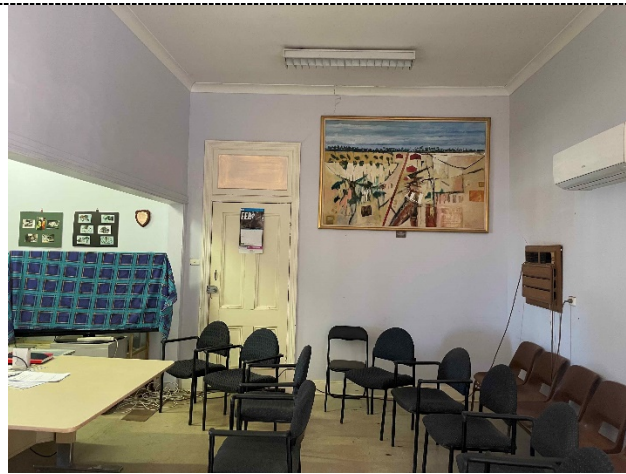
**Figure 28. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - Interior view of kitchen in east tenancy**

The easternmost tenancy retains its original internal layout of rooms, but the internal finishes are lower authenticity comprising mostly modern plasterboard linings to walls and ceilings, with standard coved skirtings and varnished timber skirtings and architraves. The kitchen fit-out likely dates from the c.1970s/80s and is of little significance.



**Figure 29. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View of passage looking north in east tenancy**

Each tenancy comprises a central passageway running north-south and flanked on either side by four rooms and providing access through to the north verandahs and Kitchen.



**Figure 30. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - Interior view of Charge Room looking west in west tenancy**

The interior of the westernmost tenancy has had walls modified to provide a more open plan configuration but otherwise retains considerable authentic internal finishes including mini-orb wall and ceiling linings, ornate painted timber trims and skirtings and ornate pressed metal vented ceiling roses.



**Figure 31. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View of Living Room looking east in west tenancy**

Mini-orb wall and ceiling linings, and ornate painted timber trims and skirtings are among the original fabric that remain intact in the western tenancy. The current kitchen fit-out is likely salvaged from another location and is c.1980s





**Figure 32. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - Detail view of ceiling in Living Room in west tenancy**

Original fabric remains, including mini-orb ceiling linings and ornate pressed metal ceiling vents



**Figure 33. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - original joinery**

Ornate timber joinery, including door frames and skirtings are an original feature that has been retained. The original timber floorboards also remain and are covered by carpet and vinyl.

### Boulder Court House (fmr) - Interior

The building has a rectilinear form with three separate tenancies comprising the central Court House (1900), the former Savings Bank (1905) and the former Goldfields Water Supply Office (1905).

#### *Court House*

The Court House is the original 1900 portion of the building and comprises a single large volume court room with the adjoining Magistrates and Witness rooms.



**Figure 34. Court House (fmr) - Court Room looking towards bench**

The Court Room is an impressive generous-volume space with the Judges Bench and Dock retained at its southern end, and the public gallery at its northern end. The room retains considerable original fabric throughout including rendered and painted walls with horizontal dado scribing, plaster ceilings with decorative vented ceiling roses, ornate skirtings and cornices as well as the timber joinery bench, dock and public gallery railing. The space is currently used as a music practice area.

Note the original timber faced windows, some of which have been clad over with protective plywood to address ongoing vandalism.



**Figure 35. Court House (fmr) - Detail view of Court Room fireplace**

The brick fireplace in the Court Room retains its arched opening and timber surround.



**Figure 36. Court House (fmr) - View Magistrates Room west door through to Bench**

Other significant fabric includes the original timber-framed windows and panelled doors, and timber joinery. The existing kitchen fitout is c.1970s, as is the vinyl flooring

### Goldfields Water Supply office

The former Goldfields Water Supply (GWS) office, east of the Court House, is accessed from the western colonnade, or also through a door on the east wall shared with the adjoining Court Room. The main room has generous proportions and represents the original public clerks counter, with the back-of-house offices located beyond, in rooms to the south.



**Figure 37. Former GWS Office - View of Engineers Office**

The former GWS office is located behind the main public office and retains original wall finishes. The floors are modern vinyl laid over timber and the fireplaces and some openings have been closed over. The existing fit-out is c1970s.

The offices have flush jointed ceilings with ornate vented ceiling roses, plain rendered walls and ornate timber skirtings and mantelpieces. All rooms retain their original timber-framed four panelled doors with toplights.

One of the windows in the Engineers Office has been sealed over with ply and the fireplace has also been sealed in this room.



**Figure 38. Former GWS Office - east wall, shared with Court House**

The east wall is random ashlar stonework that represents the original façade of the 1900 Court House. The original timber floors are retained under carpet floor coverings.



**Figure 39. Former GWS Office - west wall towards entry door**

Vertically-proportioned, timber-framed sash windows are located to the north and west walls, which are rendered and painted with scribed horizontal dados and timber picture rails above. The room retains its original timber joinery, but the ceiling and coved cornice are more contemporary replacements.



**Figure 40. Former GWS Office - Safe and Door**

There is a masonry safe accessible from the SE corner of the room, which retains its original strong door.



**Figure 41 Former GWS Office - passageway**

The offices to the rear of the building are accessed by a central passageway that has an external door at its western end. The passageway has vinyl floor coverings and rendered and painted walls with timber dados, timber skirtings and architraves to doors and windows. To the left is the former Engineers Office.

*Savings Bank*

The former Savings Bank tenancy, west of the Court House comprises a single generous-volume space with just the original Strong Room still in evidence of the

original fit-out. This space is currently being used as a meeting place for the local Brass Band.



**Figure 42. Savings Bank – view looking south west towards Strong Room**

The internal walls are rendered and painted with a scribed dado at 1600mm high and ornate cornices and wall vents retained throughout, along with the plaster ceilings with decorative vented ceiling roses. The timber floors are carpeted throughout.

Elsewhere the room retains its original timber sash windows and panelled doors



**Figure 43. Savings Bank - Interior view of Strong Room**

The Strong Room is the only remaining evidence of the original fitout of the Savings Bank. The original heavy-duty strong room door is intact, with a Chubb safe installed within.



**Figure 44. Savings Bank - View from prefabricated building (post-1963) into Savings Bank south wall**

The external door on the south wall provides access through to the transportable building installed to the rear of the Court House, which is of little significance.

### ***Outbuildings and other elements***

There was once an array of outbuildings associated with the former Police Station & Quarters including Holding Cells & Exercise yard, Wash house, Earth closets and Stables. Archival plans indicate that the original Police Station lot has been subdivided and reduced in size multiple times to accommodate other activities, including by the Police & Citizens Boys Club (1950s) and the Road Traffic Authority

(RTA) in 1978. The majority of the adjacent site is now occupied by Main Roads WA offices and this development has obscured all parts of the original lot. An archaeological assessment was not undertaken for this heritage assessment, so it is unclear whether there are any extant remains of these structures.

There are three outbuildings to the rear of the Court House, including a modern prefabricated building attached to the rear of the Savings Bank, a brick ablutions block and a timber-framed shed clad with corrugated iron, that all appear to have been constructed post-1960 and are not original fabric.



**Figure 45. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - View of outbuildings in rear yard looking north towards Court House. Note the palm tree.**

There is a modern steel-framed shed (c.2007) located to the rear of the former Police Station & Quarters, which is not original fabric.



**Figure 46. Police Station & Quarters (fmr) - View of ablution block in rear yard looking north towards Court House. Note the two matching palm trees.**

There were once an array of outbuildings associated with the former Police Station & Quarters including Holding Cells & Exercise yard, Wash house, Earth closets and Stables.

This outbuilding was constructed c.2007 and is not original fabric.



**Figure 47. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) - The proximity of the adjoining Main Roads development as viewed from the north verandah**

This adjacent site is where the location of the former holding cells were located, which were demolished sometime after 1963. The original Police Station lot has been substantially redeveloped since the place was first constructed, and the adjoining MRWA building is located in close proximity on the north and west sides of the original building. A chainmesh fence divides the sites.



**Figure 48. Court House (fmr) - Transportable building attached to rear of the Savings Bank. Note the palm tree.**

It is likely this extension was constructed after 1963 and before 1992, as indicated by historical aerial imagery and the 1992 Conservation Plan. This transportable building is not original fabric.



**Figure 49. Court House - Brick ablutions in rear yard (c. 1961)**

This brick ablutions block is one of three outbuildings to the rear of the Court House. Others include a modern transportable building attached to the rear of the Savings Bank and a timber-framed shed clad with corrugated iron (both post-1963).

### 12.3 CONDITION

Boulder Police Station & Quarters (fmr) is in fair-good condition, with evidence of ongoing care and maintenance to the place, but with deterioration as can be expected for a building of this age and construction type. Some of the window glazing is broken, but openings are protected with infill material to prevent weather ingress. Internally, the fabric is generally in good condition.

Boulder Court House (fmr) is in fair-good condition. The building has some significant rising damp issues throughout, with fretting and damage to external render and face brickwork evident, as well as damage to internal plaster finishes and timber joinery affected by damp.



**Figure 50. Police Station and Quarters (fmr) – Verandah and Roof**

The external timber verandah posts are in variable condition, many requiring localised repair where cracked or rotted at their base. Deterioration of the timber joinery to the verandah posts as well as the fenestrations is evident, with damage caused by weather exposure and lack of protective paint coatings.

The roof appears in sound condition, but the gutters and downpipes are corroded or missing in some sections.

An example of both is the corroded rainwater goods and timber joinery to the south elevation





**Figure 51. Court House (fmr) – Rear Elevation**




Some invasive weeds growing from the masonry sill are causing damage to the significant fabric.



**Figure 52. Court House (fmr) – Front Façade**

Fretted masonry. Note the loss of render to the lower plinth wall.

In some cases, render to the lower plinth wall has broken away entirely from the brick substrate.

	<p><b>Figure 53. Court House (fmr) – North Elevation Plinth</b></p> <p>The building has some significant rising damp issues throughout, with fretting and damage to external render and face brickwork evident. Note the fretted brickwork and the exposed damp proof course to the lower brick wall.</p>
	<p><b>Figure 54. Court House (fmr) – Witness Room Interior</b></p> <p>The Court House building has some significant rising damp issues to the interior, including to plaster finishes and timber joinery.</p>
	<p><b>Figure 55. Court House (fmr) – Witness Room.</b></p> <p>Some windows and doors have been broken from vandalism and are now sealed up with infill material. An example is the damage to this original timber-framed window in the Witness Room.</p>

**12.4 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

*Boulder Police Station and Court House (fmr)* is a discontinuous precinct comprising the vernacular style former Boulder Police Station, constructed as a transportable building in 1898 from timber and corrugated iron, and the former Boulder Court House building constructed in the Federation Free Classical style in 1900 of stone, which later incorporated the Savings Bank and Goldfields Water Supply office, both constructed in 1905 of brick.

### **Police and Court Facilities on the Goldfields**

An increase in population in the goldfields saw an increase in crime, resulting in a need for law and order facilities. Police stations, lockups, and court houses, along with other government buildings, were constructed across the state often first as relatively ephemeral or temporary structures made from canvas and timber, later progressing to more substantial permanent structures from brick and stone. The below State Registered places demonstrate the development of facilities associated with law and order on the goldfields in the 1890s. Apart from one example, all are of brick or stone construction, likely having replaced earlier, less substantial structures:

- P629 *Cue Public Buildings* (1895) – comprising five attached public buildings, including a police station, station house, magistrate’s court, post office, and post office house, constructed of local white granite with corrugated iron roofing in the Federation Arts and Crafts architectural style. This place is associated with the importance of Cue as a major regional centre serving the Murchison Goldfields during the period of rapid expansion in the 1890s.
- P814 *Government Buildings, Marble Bar* (1895-1896) – designed by George Temple Poole of the Public Works Department in the Federation Arts and Crafts style, the place is associated with the early gold and tin boom of the Pilbara region. The place contains evidence of the nature of police, court, office, and postal/telegraph building arrangements during this era.
- P2770 *Yalgoo Justice Precinct* (1896-1904, 1921, 1971-73, 1999) – a group of single-storey corrugated iron clad buildings comprising the former courthouse and gaol. The place demonstrates the demand for law enforcement services associated with the gold rush population.

While the above places are all of brick and stone construction, the below places on the Heritage Council’s Assessment Program are timber and corrugated iron constructions, and reflect an early phase of development in the goldfields:

- P1450 *Old Police Complex, Laverton* (Assessment Program) – the place comprises a lockup, a timber police station, and quarters. The police station building was relocated from Mount Margaret in 1899, suggesting it was also intended to be transportable and perhaps temporary.
- P1470 *Leonora Police Station Group (fmr)* (1899-1911) (Assessment Program) – a police complex comprising a group of single-storey corrugated iron clad weatherboard buildings in a vernacular style, including a former police station building, sergeant’s quarters, male and female lockups and stables. The construction materials suggest an earlier development phase of policing services in the goldfields.

## Other Civic Buildings on the Goldfields

The Boulder Court House (fmr) handled civic disputes from its construction in 1900 to its closure in 1977. Additions in 1905 accommodated two other government facilities, the Savings Bank and the Goldfields Water Supply office. The below State Registered places were government buildings constructed in the goldfields around the same time as *Boulder Police Station and Court House (fmr)*, that also include some judicial elements. These examples are again primarily constructed of brick or stone:

- P1291 *Government Buildings, Kalgoorlie* (1896-1899) – a group of civic buildings constructed with stone facing Hannan Street, which included a warden’s court to deal with mining disputes, postal services, and telecommunications.
- P2804 *Court House & Registrar’s Office (fmr), Southern Cross* (1892) – constructed with brick and iron, this place was the first permanent government building constructed in the Eastern Goldfields and, together with the adjoining post office and quarters, and with the since demolished warden’s quarters, was part of the first government complex in Southern Cross. As a court house, this place was associated with the administration of civic and mining law.
- P569 *Coolgardie Post Office & Associated Buildings* (1894-1898) – constructed with stone and brick, this place was the location of the warden’s court in Coolgardie for a short period and is recognised for its function as a post office and providing other communication and government services to the growing Goldfields town.

## Other Extant Ephemeral/Temporary Buildings

Extant examples of what were often temporary or ephemeral buildings constructed on the goldfields across Western Australia to meet the immediate needs of the growing populations are quite rare. The following are some extant examples of places which were constructed from ‘temporary’ materials, like timber and corrugated iron, or represent the early phase of development:

- P637 *Masonic Lodge (fmr), Cue* (1899) – a two-storey, timber-framed corrugated iron clad structure that is a rare style of Masonic Lodge building in Western Australia, with the majority built during this era being masonry structures. Construction of this place is closely associated with the rapid development of Cue as the regional centre for the Murchison Goldfields.
- P1173 *Old Halls Creek Post Office Ruins* (1889) – the ruins of a single-storey mud-brick building, that was also timber-framed and had a corrugated iron roof (no longer extant), which is an uncommon construction material and style. The place is the only substantial remnant of the original Halls Creek townsite, which is associated with the first discovery of payable gold in WA.
- P1459 *Gwalia Townsite Precinct* (from 1896) – comprising the remains of a mining settlement, the style, form and construction materials of the buildings are common to the WA goldfields.

- P1302 Endowment Block (shops) (from 1900; c.1980s) (Assessment Program) – prior being granted as a municipal endowment to the local government, this was the site of shops set up by squatters, later replaced by the existing buildings.
- P16321 Broad Arrow Townsite (c. 1896) (Assessment Program) – the remains of a goldfields townsite that was predominantly a tent and tin and hessian town. The main extant substantial buildings were those associated with the railway from Kalgoorlie to Menzies, that were built to a standard design and of long wearing materials. At its peak the townsite had 8 hotels (some were small temporary structures), a cordial factory and two breweries, a hospital, and a stock exchange. The original town lots remain.

### **Regional Banking Establishments**

In 1905, a brick extension to the original Court House building was added to accommodate the Savings Bank and continued to function as a bank until c.2010. The below State Registered places are regional banks constructed of that era, and are somewhat comparable:

- P631 *Fmr Bank of New South Wales, Cue* (1905) – a single-storey Victorian Georgian style stone building with a corrugated iron roof. which was the first bank in the region. It was the first bank in the region and is representative of the expansion and prosperity in gold mining towns, where the use of solid and expensive materials contradicted with the often-impermanent nature of the industry.
- P1817 *National Bank, Narrogin* (1906; 1925; 1928; 1965-67; 1984-85) – a single-storey brick, render and corrugated iron building that was later remodelled in 1925 in the Inter-War Classical style, that emulated the residential-style design of the National Bank of Australasia's Melbourne headquarters. The place is indicative of the growth and prosperity in the Wheatbelt region following World War I.
- P2638 *National Bank, Wagin* (1904; 1912; c.1950s; c.1980s) – a double-storey rendered brick and corrugated iron building in the Federation Free Classical style, reflective of the National Bank's residential-style during the period.

### **Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (GWSS)**

Along with the Savings Bank, in 1905 an addition was added to the Court House to accommodate an office for the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme. The following State Registered places also tell the story of this scheme:

- P2530 Water Supply Office (fmr), within State Registered place P2511 *Midland Courthouse (fmr)* (1907) – a red brick and corrugated iron roofed building, also known as the Mechanic's Institute, this place was designed by the Public Works Department and constructed with the Court House in response to the demand for reticulated water supply connections when Midland Junction was incorporated into the GWSS in 1906.

- P16610 *Goldfields Water Supply Scheme* (1898-1903; 1953-1963) – a discontinuous precinct across the 560-kilometre linear water pipeline containing pumping stations, reservoirs, tanks and other structures that are associated with the provision of water to settlements from Mundaring to the Eastern Goldfields, enabling the continued development of the mining industry.

## **12. 5 KEY REFERENCES**

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## **12. 6 FURTHER RESEARCH**

Further research, and an archaeological assessment, may assist in determining whether the archaeological remains of the former cell block which was situated to the north of the Police Station and Quarters (fmr) may remain extant.