



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 15744
2. **NAME** *John Curtin College of the Arts* (1943; 1954-58; 1963; 1968; 1969; 1987)
OTHER NAMES John Curtin Senior High School
3. **LOCATION** Ellen Street, Fremantle
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Fremantle Lot 2053, being Crown Reserve 17035 and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3037 Folio 644.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Fremantle
6. **OWNER** The State of Western Australia.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	28/08/2001
	Permanent Entry	23/11/2001
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	18/09/2000
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
John Curtin College of the Arts, a State Government Senior High School comprising a group of buildings including Manual Arts (1943), Classrooms, (1954-1958), Canteen (1963), Science Block (1968), Library (1969) and Performing Arts (1987) and an oval on the site of the former Skinner Street Cemetery, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the Manual Arts building on the site is a fine example of a government designed Inter-War Functionalist style educational building;

the school oval was constructed on the site of the former Skinner Street cemetery, the principal cemetery for the Fremantle district from 1852 to 1899, the northern wall of which is still extant;

the place was the first government built secondary school in the south-west metropolitan region and one of the first four post World War Two secondary schools built in the State. As such, its establishment in 1956 represented the Education Department's focus on secondary education following World War Two;

the central portion of the site was the location of anti-aircraft batteries, forming part of the network of defenses known as Fortress Fremantle during World War Two;

the place has been an important focus for the Fremantle community in its role in secondary public education since 1956;

the place has provided specialist dance education since 1976 and is the leading secondary school for dance education in the State; and

the place was named after John Curtin, Prime Minister of Australia from 1941-1945, in recognition of his contribution to the area as the Federal Member for Fremantle.