



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES**

### **Register Entry**

1. **DATA BASE No.** 16610
2. **NAME** *Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (1898-1903; 1953-1963)*  
**FORMER NAME (or OTHER NAMES)** The Golden Pipeline; The Mundaring to Kalgoorlie Pipeline
3. **LOCATION** Various locations along the route from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie adjacent to the Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail.
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
  1. Pt Reserve 47880 being Portion of Lot 3042 on Deposited Plan 36439 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3134 Folio 990; Pt Reserve 47880 being Portion of Lot 3040 on Deposited Plan 36439 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3134 Folio 988; Portion of State Forest Number 7, Mundaring/Sawyers Valley.
  2. Reserve 10448 Lot 13750 on Deposited Plan 195023 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3118 Folio 662.
  3. Lot 71 on Deposited Plan 41867 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3134 Folio 965; Portion Lot 2 on Deposited Plan 51377 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3140 Folio 588; Lot 500 on Deposited Plan 59025 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3144 Folio 1000; Portion of Reserve 17101 being Portion of Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 63523 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3158 Folio 678; Lot 300 on Deposited Plan 213659 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3151 Folio 401; Lots 3610 and 3611 on Deposited Plan 213659 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3147 Folioms 902 and 903; Portion Lot 4992 on Deposited Plan 218200 being part of Crown Land Record Volume 3134 Folio 900; Lots 3996, 3997, 4994 and 4995 on Deposited Plan 218200 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3134 Folioms 963 and 964 and Volume 3126 Folioms 901, and 902; Pt Lot 5000 on Deposited Plan 218201 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3126 Folio 907; Portion of Lot 377 on Deposited Plan 236093 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3012 Folio 153; Portion of Bakers Hill Town Lot 254.

4. Reserve 29930 Lot 7783 on Deposited Plan 171224 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3045 Folio 698.
5. Reserve 40494 Lot 1361 on Deposited Plan 216984 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3034 Folio 479.
6. Reserve 48460 Lot 300 on Deposited Plan 49437 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3136 Folio 963; Reserve 46725 Lot 14348 on Deposited Plan 28784 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3125 Folio 546; Reserve 38354 Lot 75 on Deposited Plan 215769 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3109 Folio 410; Reserve 3531 Lot 1589 on Deposited Plan 194046 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3108 Folio 309.
7. Portion Reserve 31433 Lot 418 on Deposited Plan 220560 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3115 Folio 23.
8. Reserve 24441 Lot 736 on Deposited Plan 162941 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3020 Folio 340.
9. Reserve 13198 Lot 1060 on Deposited Plan 31436 being the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 3128 Folio 6; Reserve 50966 Lot 340 on Deposited Plan 43049 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3136 Folio 937; Reserve 9892 Lots 2713 and 2714 on Deposited Plan 43132 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3042 Folios 376 and 377; Portion R8230 Lot 501 on DP423950 Crown Land Record Volume 3175/46; Reserve 13393 Lot 500 on Deposited Plan 56726 Crown Land Record Volume 3151 Folio 170; R50315 Lot 515 on Deposited Plan 57259 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3158 Folio 679; Pt Reserve 8228 being Portion of Lot 505 on Deposited Plan 61268 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3159 Folio 549; Pt Reserve 25155 Lot 506 on Deposited Plan 69553 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3171 Folio 494; Reserve 9892 Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 73921 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3020 Folio 753; Pt Reserve 8232 being Portion of Lot 74 on Deposited Plan 215769 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3089 Folio 960; Reserve 9730 Lot 2291 on Deposited Plan 222291 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3037 Folio 114; Portion Reserve 5342 Lot 341 on Deposited Plan 43049 being part of the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3136 Folio 938; Reserve 8231; Pt Reserve 8229; Reserve 39644 Lot 3848 on Deposited Plan 191445 being the land contained in Crown Land Record Volume 3102 Folio 45.
10. Lot 501 on Deposited Plan 302079 being the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1177 Folio 961
11. Lot 502 on Deposited Plan 302079 being the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1478 Folio 153.

together with all those portions of Unallocated Crown Land and road reserve as shown in HC Curtilage Map 16610-D.

5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA**
- Shire of Cunderdin
  - Shire of Merredin      Shire of Mundaring
  - Shire of Kellerberrin      Shire of Northam
  - Shire of Tammin      Shire of Westonia
  - Shire of Yilgarn      Shire of Coolgardie
  - City of Kalgoorlie –Boulder

6. **OWNERS AT REGISTRATION**

1. State of Western Australia; Vested in Conservation Commission of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (DBCA); Lessee Telstra Corporation Ltd.
2. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Department of Education, Management Order to the Minister for Education.
3. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
4. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage; Management Order to the Shire of Mundaring; Lessee Eastern Hills Arts & Crafts Inc.
5. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage; Management Orders to the Shire of Merredin & National Trust of Australia (WA)
6. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency National Trust of Australia (WA)
7. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency National Trust of Australia (WA); Management Orders to the Shire of Cunderdin & National Trust of Australia (WA)
8. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Public Transport Authority
9. State of Western Australia; Responsible Agency Water Corporation
10. Giles, Marina and Schnierer, Mark Brendan
11. Jorgensen, Jens Vilhelm

7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

- National Heritage List      22/06/2011
- Register of Heritage Places:      Registered      08/12/2022
- No 1 Pumping Station      04/05/2001
- No 3 Pumping Station      02/07/1999
- Railway Water Tower, Cunderdin      28/08/1992
- No. 6 Steam Pumping Station (fmr)      28/08/1992
- Old Pumping Station      25/06/1993
- Mundaring Weir Hall      22/01/2002
- Mundaring Weir Hotel      20/06/2003
- Mount Charlotte Reservoir      14/12/2001
- Karalee Reservoir, Rock Catchment & Aqueduct      14/12/2001
- National Trust Classification:

• No 1 Pumping Station	Classified	11/06/1973
• No 3 Pumping Station	Classified	02/09/1974
• No. 4 Steam Pumping Station	Classified	02/03/1992
• Old Pumping Station	Classified	06/09/1982
• Toorak Hill, Goldfields Water Supply Reservoir	Classified	11/02/2002
• Mundaring Weir Hall	Classified	09/07/2001
• Mundaring Weir School & Quarters (fmr)	Classified	14/05/2007
• Karalee Reservoir, Rock Catchment & Aqueduct	Classified	12/03/2001
<u>Heritage List</u>		
• No 1 Pumping Station		08/03/2016
• Mundaring Weir School & Quarters (fmr)		08/03/2016
• Mundaring Weir, Gardens and Village Precinct		08/03/2016
• Mundaring Weir Hall		08/03/2016
• Mundaring Weir Hotel		08/03/2016
• Mount Charlotte Reservoir		18/04/1997
• Toorak Hill, Goldfields Water Supply Reservoir		15/04/2003
<u>Municipal Inventory:</u>		
• No 1 Pumping Station		22/04/1997
• No 2 Pumping Station - Site of		22/04/1997
• No 3 Pumping Station		31/12/1996
• No. 4 Steam Pumping Station		16/04/1999
• Old Pumping Station		27/07/1995
• Mundaring Weir School & Quarters (fmr)		22/04/1997
• Mundaring Weir, Gardens and Village Precinct		22/04/1997
• Mundaring Weir Hall		22/04/1997
• Mount Charlotte Reservoir		09/07/2001
• Karalee Reservoir, Rock Catchment & Aqueduct		16/05/1997
<u>Register of the National Estate:</u>		
• No 1 Pumping Station	Permanent	21/03/1978
• No 3 Pumping Station	Permanent	21/03/1978
• Old Pumping Station	Permanent	11/08/1987
• Mundaring Weir, Gardens and Village Precinct	Indicative	
• Mundaring Weir Hall	Indicative	
• Mount Charlotte Reservoir	Indicative	
<u>Aboriginal Sites Register</u>		
• 3010 Mt Charlotte	Registered	
• 3758 Helena River	Registered	
• S00093 Cunderdin	Lodged	
• 20837 SX09	Lodged	
• 22675 Mundaring Weir Corroboree Grounds (Booralyn)	Lodged	
• 32761 Roundhead/Ngumarn	Lodged	

## 8. ORDERS UNDER SECTION OF THE ACT

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## 9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT

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## 10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The *Goldfields Water Supply Scheme*, extends in a discontinuous precinct across the 560km linear water pipeline, commencing at Mundaring Weir (1902, 1951) in the Helena Valley and terminating at Mount Charlotte Reservoir (1902) in Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Comprising six extant original Steam Pump Stations (1902) at Mundaring, Cunderdin, Merredin, Yerbillion, Ghooli and Dedari; the sites of two demolished Steam Pump Stations (1902) at O'Connor and Gilgai; Reservoirs and Tanks (1902, 1911, 1924, 1932) at O'Connor, Sawyers Valley, Bakers Hill, West Northam, Cunderdin, Merredin, Yerbillion, Ghooli, Bronti, Gilgai, Koorarawalyee, Dedari, Toorak, and Bullabulling; second generation Electric Pump Station at Merredin (1954), pump community buildings associated with the Mundaring Weir Village (1898-1909), Mundaring Weir Hotel (1898; 1906), Karalee Reservoir, Rock Catchment & Aqueduct (1897), ancillary structures; equipment and machinery, archaeological sites; and small discontinuous portions of the main pipeline conduit associated with the construction and operation of the Scheme from 1902 to the present, *Goldfields Water Supply Scheme* has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place demonstrates exceptional technical achievement as one of the longest overland pipeline schemes attempted in the nineteenth century, both in Australia and the world, and was recognised as an outstanding engineering achievement;

the construction of two reservoirs connected by a 560km below-ground pipeline, supported by eight steam pump stations and associated infrastructure, utilised new technology, and exceptional engineering and architectural design;

the success of the scheme was pivotal in the growing confidence and economic importance of the State, in creating employment opportunities and shaping local patterns of land use, farming, transport, and education, and was fundamental to the continued success of goldmining in the Eastern Goldfields;

the place has exceptional value in demonstrating the historical importance of the provision of water to settlements along the route from Mundaring to the Eastern Goldfields, and enabled the continued development of the Western Australian mining industry;

In providing a continuous and reliable water supply to the Eastern Goldfields, the place was the foundation of the successful development of agriculture in the Wheatbelt region throughout the twentieth century as part of the Comprehensive Water Supply Scheme, which allowed for the development of long-lasting townships and communities along the route and for people to permanently settle inland;

the construction and operation of the Pipeline had considerable importance in contributing to the sense of place for the people of Western Australia, and visitors to the State, as a highly valued tourist destination, the educational, cultural and aesthetic aspects of which are appreciated by history and engineering enthusiasts and teachers to this day;

individual elements of the place, including the existing interpretation associated with the Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail, museums, archaeological sites and remaining buildings and infrastructure, collectively

have exceptional potential to communicate the history of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme and its importance to Western Australia;

the design of the eight original Steam Pump Stations by renowned architect George Temple Poole, was intended to demonstrate the social and political importance of the place, and this is still evident in the Pump Stations remaining at Mundaring, Cunderdin, Merredin, Ghooli, Yerbillon and Dedari which form a discontinuous group of industrial buildings of considerable architectural refinement;

the place is highly valued as a tourist destination with educational, cultural and aesthetic aspects appreciated by history and engineering enthusiasts, teachers, Western Australians and visitors to the State. Individual elements of the place, including the existing interpretation associated with the Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail, museums, archaeological sites and remaining and remnant buildings and infrastructure, collectively have exceptional potential to communicate the history of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme and its importance to the Wheatbelt, the Eastern Goldfields and Western Australia;

many of the individual components within the place have individual landmark qualities in their rural and country town settings. Collectively they form a significant precinct that is recognisable across the changing landscape from the Perth Hills, the Wheatbelt and Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia;

the place is associated with a number of notable figures in Western Australian history, including the Scheme's designer CY O'Connor, State and Federal politician Lord John Forrest, the Director of the Public Works Department HW Venn and former Superintendent of Public Works, architect George Temple Poole, who each contributed to the successful completion of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme; and

the place is an exceptional example of applied science, technical excellence and innovative design, reflecting the ongoing ingenuity and innovation demonstrated by the talented and committed engineers employed by the Goldfields Water Supply Branch, Public Works Department and other iterations of the Water Corporation in the provision of water in the State. The longevity of the scheme is associated with innovators Mephan Ferguson, James Couston, engineers Norman Fernie and Reg Keating, and Frank Mather.

The majority of the above ground pipeline conduit running adjacent to Great Eastern Highway *en route* from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie is not included in the curtilage of this place. The later tanks located adjacent to the 1911 tanks at Koorarawalyee and Bronti are of little significance.