



## 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)

- 3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways
- 3.2.3 Catering for tourists
- 8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens
- 8.5.3 Associating for mutual aid

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

- 202 Rail and light rail transport
- 404 Community services and utilities
- 505 Tourism

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* comprises a former railway station reserve that has been transformed into a landscaped area containing shady paths, a playground, artistic features which are unusual and easily accessible, an amphitheatre and a large central area which can be used for community activities. All of these features have been melded together to form a cohesive environment which, through the incorporation of the former railway structures and features, has retained linkages to the past. (Criterion 1.1)

Much of the artwork in *Mundaring Sculpture Park* has been designed to harmonise with the local environment, while at the same time providing street furniture and relating the story of the development of Mundaring. (Criterion 1.2)

The two metre high, timber sound sculpture, Moondae Ring (Ronald Sims), echoes the sounds of the local environment, while the innovative earth sound device by Nola Farnham, reveals through auditory means the subterranean movements of the earth. All of these elements are contained within a sculpted environment which blends existing built elements with newly planted vegetation and existing trees. (Criterion 1.2)

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* is located at the southern end of Nichol Street where it forms a green barrier between the commercial and residential sections of Mundaring. (Criterion 1.3)

\* 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.

The inclusion of the former Mundaring Station Master's House, the CWA Rest Room and the Scout Hall into the design of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* acknowledges the historical and social importance of these buildings, and successfully blends these elements with the more visually attractive sculptures and landscaped areas. All of the elements have been successfully linked together to function as a cultural precinct. (Criterion 1.4)

## **11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE**

As a former railway reserve established in 1898, *Mundaring Sculpture Park* played an important role in the development of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme, originating at Mundaring Weir, and in the development of Mundaring. The former Station Master's House, the old platform and the former railway formation are the only visible reminders of the important role played by the railways in the development of Mundaring. (Criterion 2.2)

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* includes the work of well-known and respected Western Australian artists and is a high quality and representative collection of their work over a period of time. (Criterion 2.3)

The Earth Sound Device by Nola Farnham, is considered to be highly innovative and an important development in acoustic sound design. It has been listed on the University of Melbourne's Australian Sound Design Project database. (Criterion 2.4)

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

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* has played an ongoing role in the everyday lives of the local community.

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

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* has played an ongoing role in the everyday lives of the local community, from its function as a railway station (1898 – 1954) and subsequent community meeting place for various groups: the CWA, the scouts, guides and brownies. The re-birth in 1988 of the former railway reserve as a public community park and heritage trail has given it wider appeal to a larger cross-section of the community. (Criterion 4.1)

Since the completion of *Mundaring Sculpture Park*, the place has become an important cultural venue for various festivals and craft fairs. The playground is a popular meeting place for groups of young school children and their parents. (Criterion 4. 1)

The active involvement of the local community in the development of *Mundaring Sculpture Park*, and the inclusion of historical elements in the park, enhances the local community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

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

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* is the only community sculpture park in Western Australia designed to include interactive artwork, which actively involved members of that local community in its design and continued development from 1984 to 2003. (Criterion 5.1)

### **12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

The individual elements in *Mundaring Sculpture Park* such as the playground, the CWA Rest Room, the former Station Master's House, the Scout Hall, the former station platform, the amphitheatre and the landscaped grounds, are representative examples of their kind. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12.3 CONDITION**

The overall condition of the individual elements of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* is good although some are in need of repair. The former Station Master's House is in poor condition, although repairs to the roof have ensured that the interior is now protected from further water damage through the roof. The sound sculpture 'Moondae Ring' no longer produces any sounds, although its overall condition is good. The signals on 'Second Wave' no longer move and the metal plaque is missing from the granite plinth.

### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

None of the elements that were designed for the park have been removed or altered in any way. The original intent of the overall design is clearly visible and the new sculptural pieces which have been added since September 1988 continue to enhance the design of the park. *Mundaring Sculpture Park* has a high degree of integrity.

### **12.5 AUTHENTICITY**

The elements in *Mundaring Sculpture Park* have undergone very little alteration, with the exception of Stuart Elliot's 'Tourists' which has been recast in bronze. As this group were replaced shortly after the park was opened it could be said that this piece has retained a high degree of authenticity. Overall, *Mundaring Sculpture Park* has a high degree of authenticity.

## **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

The documentary and physical evidence has been compiled by Fiona Bush, Heritage Consultant.

### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* comprises the former Mundaring Station platform (1898), the former Mundaring Station Master's House (1902), the Mundaring CWA Hall (1954), the Mundaring Scout Hall (1960s), nine pieces of public sculpture (1988 - 1995), a rotunda (1993), landscaped grounds (1988 & 1991) and a children's playground (1960s - 1996). These elements are all located on a section of the Railways Heritage Trail (1988).<sup>1</sup> The Park was officially opened on 11 September 1988 as part of the Commonwealth Bicentennial celebrations.

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<sup>1</sup> The Railways Heritage Trail was developed in 1988 as part of the Commonwealth Bicentennial Celebrations and traces the route of the Eastern Railway Line as it passes through the Shire of Mundaring. The railway was built through Mundaring in 1884. This route proved to be treacherous and a new line was constructed to the north of the original line in 1896. The line divided near Belmont with the southern loop passing through Boya, Darlington, Glen Forrest, Mahogany Creek, Mundaring and Sawyers Valley. The northern loop takes in Swan View, Hovea, Parkerville, Stoneville and Mt. Helena (where the southern loop joins the line), Chidlow and Wooroloo.

The development of the town of Mundaring was directly linked with the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme.<sup>2</sup> Prior to this, the area was only sparsely settled by Europeans. European settlement in Mundaring was also closely tied with the construction of the Eastern Railway line. The first stage of this Railway linked Fremantle with Guildford and was completed in 1881.<sup>3</sup> The second stage of the Eastern Railway extended the line further east, from Guildford to Chidlow's Well (Chidlow), and was completed in March 1884. Stage 2 passed close to what became Mundaring. Four stopping points were initially established along the route: Greenmount, Smith's Mill, Sawyers Valley and Chidlow's Well.<sup>4</sup> Due to the steepness of this route in certain sections, a deviation was constructed to the north of this line in 1896. Originally known as the Mahogany Deviation, this new route diverged from the Eastern line at Bellevue and rejoined the line at Mt. Helena. The Deviation became the main east-west rail link and the original southern route became known as the Mundaring loop.<sup>5</sup>

Peter Gugerl was the first European to move into the district. In 1882, he purchased 120 acres on which he established a vineyard and orchard which he called 'St. Bernard'.<sup>6</sup> His agricultural venture flourished and he became a major wine producer. Produce was initially carted down to Smith's Mill (Glen Forrest) where it was placed on the train. In the meantime, sawyers had also moved into the district, although it was not until 1889 that a sawmill was established. The presence of the sawmill finally prompted the allocation of a siding near Gugerl's property in 1891. Two years later it became a regular stopping place known as Gugerl's Siding.<sup>7</sup>

Mundaring had been surveyed early in 1898; however, initial land sales were slow. Once work on the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme commenced in 1898, men looking for work began drifting into an area on the southern side of the Eastern Railway (in the area of present day Mundaring) and an encampment gradually developed. The first work for the Pipeline necessitated constructing a spur line from the Eastern Railway line down to the reservoir site on the Helena River. The government surveyor, Mr Hartung, re-surveyed the area of land between the Railway line and the York Road, sub-dividing the land into town lots. Hartung suggested the name 'Mundaring' and the town was gazetted in May 1898.<sup>8</sup> The spur line was completed in June 1898.<sup>9</sup> Once completed, Gugerl's railway siding was moved to the junction between the Eastern Railway and the Mundaring Weir Spur line and re-named Mundaring Station. The station was officially opened on 11 July 1898.<sup>10</sup> All materials required for the construction of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme passed through Mundaring on their way to the Weir. Mundaring's first Post Office opened in July 1898 and less than a year later, the Mundaring Hotel opened in April 1899.<sup>11</sup>

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2 Elliot, I., *Mundaring, a history of the Shire, Shire of Mundaring*, Mundaring, 1983, p.111.

3 Elliot, p. 35

4 Elliot, p. 42

5 See HCWA Assessment: Eastern Railway Deviation Nos. 2660 and 2663.

6 Elliot, p. 112

7 Elliot, p. 113

8 Elliot, p. 110

9 Quicke, E., *Mundaring Weir among the Hills, history, scenic drives, views*, Mundaring & Hills Historical Society, Mundaring, 1996, p. 2.

10 Gray, L. & Rogers, P., Station Master's House (former), Mundaring, Conservation Plan, prepared for the Shire of Mundaring, 2001, pp 7 - 8.

11 Elliot, pp 116 - 117.

Public interest in the hills as a tourist destination had grown with the completion of the second section of the Eastern Railway in 1884.<sup>12</sup> Day trippers came to view the wildflowers and take in the fresh air. The publican of the Mundaring Hotel, John Chipper, took advantage of this interest. In 1901, he advertised the Mundaring Hotel as an ideal holiday resort where the 'unbridled splendour of nature in its raw state' could be appreciated whilst at the same time, the traveller did not have to walk far to Mundaring Station.<sup>13</sup> Tourism soon extended down to the Weir, with the publican at the Reservoir Hotel travelling up to Mundaring to meet the train at Mundaring with his buggy.<sup>14</sup>

### **Mundaring Station Master's House**

A stationmaster was first appointed to Mundaring in December 1897. However, it was to be five years before accommodation was built for him and by that time the position had been filled by three different men. Tenders for the construction of a Station Master's House at Mundaring were called in April 1902, together with houses at Parkerville, Chidlow's Well, Wooroloo and Mokine. Ernest Coombe was the successful tenderer for all five buildings with a tender of £2,957.<sup>15</sup> The original plans for the Mundaring Station Master's house have not survived. The Western Australian Government Railways General Appendix and Working Timetable of 1912 lists Mundaring's railway facilities as Goods Shelter, 22' loading bank, siding room for 57 wagons, 200' platform for passengers and gents and ladies' toilets. By 1920, a fruit shed was added to the station buildings.<sup>16</sup> Minor works were carried out on the Station Master's House in 1924 which included the verandah being enclosed with lattice work and a picket fence erected around the grounds of the house.<sup>17</sup>

Once the Goldfield Water Supply was completed (1903), tourists continued to be attracted to the Weir, particularly in early spring to look for wildflowers and watch the Weir overflow. The Western Australian Government Railways took over the running of the Weir line and included a tourist train during periods of heightened tourist activity. The line was also used by the families living at the Weir who were employed at the pumping stations.<sup>18</sup> However, traffic on the line began to decline during the depression years and this also coincided with the commencement of a bus service. The Mundaring Weir branch line was discontinued in 1952 and in 1954 trains ceased operating on the main Mundaring loop.<sup>19</sup> However, the state government did not officially close the line until 12 March 1965.<sup>20</sup>

Meanwhile, the Station Master's House was leased to John Caporn in 1953. He later purchased the house from the government although the land continued to be leased from DOLA. John and his wife Madge lived in the house until 1999. A shower and interior toilet were installed in the rear of the house during the 1990s.<sup>21</sup> The Shire of Mundaring took over the lease of the

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12 Elliot, p. 42.  
13 Elliot, p. 117.  
14 Elliot, p. 139.  
15 Gray & Rogers, pp 10 - 11.  
16 Gray & Rogers, p. 13.  
17 Gray & Rogers, p. 13.  
18 Elliot, p. 143  
19 Elliot, p. 51.  
20 Gray & Rogers, p. 17.  
21 Gray & Rogers, p. 17.

house in April 2000 in anticipation of leasing the building to a community group. In August 2001, a Conservation Plan was prepared for the building. In 2003, the Shire of Mundaring plans to construct a toilet block on the southern side of the house and the building will be occupied by the Mundaring and Hills Historical Society. Restoration works have recently been carried out on the building which has involved replacement of the roof cladding and repairs to the front verandah.<sup>22</sup>

### **Community Sculpture Park**

It is not known when the railway tracks were removed from the railway reserve. However, the demise of train travel in the Shire Mundaring left the district with a legacy; both the northern and southern rail routes were vested with the Shire of Mundaring in 1974. In 1978, the Perth Eastern Corridor Study (commissioned by the Western Australian government), indicated that the railway reserves had recreational potential.<sup>23</sup> The Shire commissioned Ian Brittain in 1984 to investigate the possibility of utilising the railway reserves for passive recreation. Brittain's subsequent report noted that the railway reserves had the potential for a unique experience, with controlled access, where people could appreciate the natural environment. He also recommended the development of community parks within each of the communities along the railway reserves. In particular, he noted that the area between Gugerri and Maddock Streets could be landscaped and developed to form a cultural community park incorporating a museum and an arts centre.<sup>24</sup>

Following on from the concept of a cultural community park, the Mundaring Community Park Committee was formed in 1984 as a sub-committee of the Mundaring Community Arts and Crafts Centre. Local architect Ross Donaldson, and local landscape architect Philip Palmer, were commissioned to carry out a study for the Mundaring Community Arts and Crafts Centre. Funding for this work was provided by the Western Australian Department for the Arts, Shire of Mundaring, Mundaring Community Arts and Craft Centre and the Community Arts Board of the Australian Council. Part of the study included canvassing local residents and community groups seeking their ideas on what a community park should contain. A high percentage of replies included upgrading the playground that had been established at the eastern end of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* sometime during the 1960s.<sup>25</sup>

The initial concept plan developed for the park included a new library and gallery, the retention of the Station Master's House and the Station platform, an amphitheatre, landscaped areas, ponds and parking. The playground was to remain in its location at the north east end of the park, while two buildings that had built on the railway reserve after 1955, the Scout Hall and the Mundaring CWA building, would be retained. The bridle trail that had developed along the original route of the railway was re-routed to the southern side of the reserve. <sup>26</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Information obtained from the Mundaring and Hills Historical Society, September 2002.

<sup>23</sup> Maher Brampton Associates, Railway Reserves Heritage Trail - Development and Operation Plan, prepared for the Shire of Mundaring, 2000, p. 2.

<sup>24</sup> Brittain, I., Mundaring Shire Railway Reserves - a regional study, report to Mundaring Shire Council, Oct. 1984, unpaginated.

<sup>25</sup> Donaldson Smith, Mundaring Park, the art of good community, prepared for the Board of the Mundaring Community Arts and Craft Centre Inc, 1986.

<sup>26</sup> Donaldson Smith, Mundaring Park.

An Artworks Policy was formulated by the Mundaring Park Committee in 1984 and endorsed by both the Mundaring Community Arts and Craft Centre and the Shire of Mundaring. This policy allowed for ongoing additions to *Mundaring Sculpture Park* and gave the Committee control over where the artwork would be located.<sup>27</sup>

In June 1986, the Committee was given approval to proceed with the project and it became part of the Shire of Mundaring's contribution to the Bicentennial celebrations. It was estimated that the park would cost \$20,000 to construct. Newspaper accounts from this period considered the park to be Western Australia's first sculpture park.<sup>28</sup> The start of the project was marked by a community tree planting day on 28 June 1987.<sup>29</sup> By the time of the official opening on 11 September 1988, the park contained a lawned central area and six sculptural pieces. Community involvement and working bees played a considerable role in the development of the Park and the initial six artists (the majority of whom lived locally) provided their work at cost. The artists endeavoured to provide pieces that would portray specific aspects of the Shire's history, while at the same time permitting a hands-on experience. The main piece by Hans Arkeveld, *Main Stream* incorporated a water pipe, tap and wheelbarrow, harking back to Mundaring's origins as the supplier of water to the goldfields. Four other pieces served as benches: *Missed the Last Train* (Ron Gomboc), *Tractor* (Peter Dailey), *Heads on Poles* (Richard Fry) and *Mother* (Jon Tarry). Stuart Elliot designed five tourist figures, *Tourists*. Artist Trevor Woodward, while not supplying an individual piece, designed the shape of the park.<sup>30</sup> The opening ceremony was attended by Gavan Troy, local MLA, Yvonne Henderson (Arts Minister) and Tony Jones (WA Representative of Australia Council).<sup>31</sup>

During the development of the Park, the Mundaring Bicentennial Committee had been busy designing the Railway Reserves Heritage Trail as part of the Bicentennial celebrations. The trail covered the route taken by the Eastern Railway Line where it passed through the Shire of Mundaring. (See footnote 1.) The Heritage Trail was also officially opened on 11 September, 1988 by the Minister for Heritage.<sup>32</sup>

An Artworks Policy was formulated by the Mundaring Park Committee in 1984 and endorsed by both the Mundaring Community Arts and Craft Centre and the Shire of Mundaring. This policy allowed for ongoing additions to *Mundaring Sculpture Park* and gave the Committee control over where the artwork would be located.<sup>33</sup> At the time of the opening, six sculptures had been completed: *Mother* (Jon Tarry), *Tractor* (Peter Dailey), *Missed the Last Train* (Ron Gomboc), *Mainstream* (Hans Arkeveld), *Tourists* (Stuart Elliot) and *Heads on Poles* (Richard Fry). In 1989, Ross Donaldson, Philip Palmer and Andra Kins designed an amphitheatre for the park, which incorporated the original station platform with seating arranged on the southern side. A sculpture by Alan Clark entitled *Second Wave* was located on

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27 'Artworks Policy Mundaring Park' in Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

28 *Midland Echo* 28 June 1987, p. 1; Mundaring Community Arts and Crafts Centre, Concept Plan for Mundaring Community Park, unpublished report, July 1986.

29 *Hills Gazette* 23 June 1987.

30 *West Australian*, 8 September 1988.

31 *Hills Gazette* 5 September 1988.

32 Ord, Lee, Day in the Park, Mundaring Community Arts and Craft Centre Inc., 1988.

33 'Artworks Policy Mundaring Park' in Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

the eastern side of the amphitheatre to form an entry statement. This piece was finished in February 1990. The amphitheatre was completed in December 1991.<sup>34</sup>

Prior to the completion of the amphitheatre, the status of the Mundaring Park Committee changed in June 1990 to that of an Advisory Committee to the Shire of Mundaring. Representatives on the committee were drawn from the Mundaring Community Arts Centre, the Mundaring Ratepayers Association, local councillors, local artists and the original concept designers.<sup>35</sup> During April 1991, the Committee began the development of a 5 Year Development Plan for the park. Questionnaires were sent out to various community groups and input was also sought from local residents.<sup>36</sup>

Vandalism of the sculptures was to become an on-going problem and during 1989 Stuart Elliot's *Tourists* were damaged. The figures were temporarily removed and remade as bronze castings.<sup>37</sup> They were reinstalled in 1990. In 1991, the Shire found it necessary to place a fence around Hans Arkeveld's *Mainstream* as the fibreglass 'tap' was constantly requiring repairs.<sup>38</sup> During 1991, the Advisory Committee resolved that the artworks did not have to be permanently displayed.<sup>39</sup> As part of this policy, it appears that Richard Fry's *Heads on Poles* was removed sometime prior to July 1992. The sculptures were insured in July 1992 and the value of the pieces noted in the Minutes of the July 1992 meeting of the Advisory Committee. Richard Fry's piece is not included in this list.<sup>40</sup> This sculpture, which was originally located on the edge of the central lawned area is no longer on display.

A sound sculpture was commissioned in April 1991. Ron Sims developed the sculpture *Moondae Ring*, which was officially unveiled on 18 February 1992. The wood for the sculpture was provided by the local hardware store. The sounds recorded for the sculpture were supposed to be evocative of the natural sounds found around Mundaring.<sup>41</sup>

In July 1992, the name of the new park was formerly noted as being the 'Mundaring Community Sculpture Park.'<sup>42</sup>

Proposals for the construction of a rotunda were first raised in December 1991. During 1992, these plans were finalised and a location chosen at the western end of the park. The construction of the building was undertaken by Midland TAFE students. A central, brick fireplace was built by students of Eastern Hills Senior High School. The structure was completed in September 1993 and the completion celebrated with a BBQ for all those involved in the construction of the feature.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Information pamphlet on the Mundaring Community Park, produced by the Mundaring Community Park Committee, December 1990.

<sup>35</sup> Information pamphlet on the Mundaring Community Park, produced by the Mundaring Community Park Committee, December 1990.

<sup>36</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, April 1991 - August 1992.

<sup>37</sup> Information pamphlet on the Mundaring Community Park, produced by the Mundaring Community Park Committee, December 1990.

<sup>38</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 20/2/1991.

<sup>39</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 4/9/1991.

<sup>40</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 22/7/1992.

<sup>41</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, February 1991 - February 1992.

<sup>42</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 22 July 1992.

<sup>43</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, Oct. 1992 - September 1993.



The Shire of Mundaring requested permission to erect a brown tourist sign in November 1992. The Department of Arts supported the Shire in their request, noting in a letter to Main Roads that 'the park is unique in Western Australia in that it has involved community in the developments in the park including the wonderful artworks which are an important attraction'.<sup>44</sup> The Shire received permission to erect a sign in February 1993.<sup>45</sup>

In 1994, artist Nola Farnham received a Community Environment, Art and Design grant from the Australia Council to develop an environmental earth sound sculpture, referred to in the park as *The Earth Sound Device*.<sup>46</sup> The artwork involved placing a seismometer in the ground which could then relay earth tremor signals to a sound system.<sup>47</sup> The piece was completed by March 1995.<sup>48</sup> This new work was considered to be quite innovative at the time and it is currently listed on the University of Melbourne's Sound Design database.<sup>49</sup>

The one feature still missing from the initial concept plan was a children's playground. A playground area was set aside in 1960 at the north eastern end of the park. The area was gradually equipped with playground equipment, but the Shire of Mundaring often received complaints about the standard of the area and the equipment.<sup>50</sup> Efforts to improve the playground commenced during the 1990s as part of the overall design of *Mundaring Sculpture Park*. During 1994, local sculptor Nic Compton designed an innovative adventure playground and invited comments on the re-development of the playground from the local community and community groups. While the design was highly innovative it failed to proceed due to lack of funds. Eventually the Shire purchased manufactured playground equipment which was installed in 1996.<sup>51</sup> The park has become an important component for the local community and is regularly used by families for picnics and family entertainment. The playground is a popular meeting place during the school holidays for young children and their parents.

Since *Mundaring Sculpture Park* was officially opened in September 1988 it has become home to the annual Mundaring Arts Festival. This festival commenced in 1990 and has been held each year in April. This festival showcases local artists and community groups.<sup>52</sup>

Mundaring Sacred Heart School held their first annual school craft fair in the park in March 2001.<sup>53</sup> This fair was again held in 2002.

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44 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

45 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

46 On the Australia Sound Design Project Website, ([www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/web/biogs/P000311b.htm](http://www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/web/biogs/P000311b.htm)), the installation is referred to as a 'Subterranean Listening Device'. As the Advisory Committee, and the plaque next to the installation, refer to the piece as 'The Earth Sound Device', this name will be used in this assessment.

47 Subterranean Listening Device, Nola Farnham, [www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/web/biogs](http://www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/web/biogs).

48 Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, Dec. 1990 - March 1995. This Committee was formed in June 1990 and replaced the Mundaring Park Committee.

49 [www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/site/about.html](http://www.sounddesign.unimelb.edu.au/site/about.html).

50 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

51 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

52 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91). Consultant is a resident of the Shire of Mundaring and has attended these festivals regularly.

53 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

The amphitheatre is used annually as the venue for Christmas carols and the Mundaring Performing Arts Society have also used the theatre for some of their performances.<sup>54</sup>

The Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee disbanded in November 1998.<sup>55</sup> The Mundaring Community Arts Centre continues to play a major role in the development of public art in *Mundaring Sculpture Park*. In January 2003, it is anticipated that artwork will continue to be added to the park as required.<sup>56</sup>

### **CWA Rest Room**

A branch of the Country Women's Association was formed in Mundaring in March 1938 with twenty-two founding members. The meetings appear to have been held in the Mundaring Lesser Hall. A Younger Set was formed in July 1938. This group disbanded in December 1940. The parent branch went into recess in April 1942 'til happier days'.<sup>57</sup>

The Country Women's Association was formed in Western Australia in 1924 and by March 1925, four country branches had been formed.<sup>58</sup> The main aims of the association were to improve the welfare, conditions and life of country women, provide assistance when necessary and generally to keep women, who would otherwise be isolated, informed about the world outside their immediate environs. To help achieve these aims one of the association's main goals was the construction of a Rest Room in country towns that could be used by women and children when they came into town. These rooms not only functioned as a place where women could feed and change their babies, but also as places for social inter-action and education.<sup>59</sup>

At the end of two years, twenty-nine branches had opened, including Younger Sets, which were formed to meet the needs of girls and younger women.<sup>60</sup> The association developed rapidly and a magazine was launched in 1934 to help inform the women of the association's activities. A cookbook was released in 1936.<sup>61</sup> The association was also instrumental in developing the concept of training women to take over the job of men in agricultural areas during World War Two.<sup>62</sup>

At the peak of its popularity the Country Women's Association had 330 branches (1965) with a total membership of 12,250 women (1956).<sup>63</sup>

The Mundaring Branch restarted on 11 June 1948 with fifteen founding members. Once again meetings were held in the Lesser Hall.<sup>64</sup> The group met every month and a Younger Set was formed in November of the same year.<sup>65</sup> During 1949, the Branch actively commenced seeking a building which they could use as a Rest Room. After several discussions with the

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54 Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

55 Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 12/11/1998.

56 Information obtained from Lyn Harkins, 16 August 2002.

57 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, March 1938 - April 1942.

58 Erickson, R., Gobbings, B. & Higgins, L., *Her Name is Women*, Country Women's Association of Perth, Perth, 1974, pp 2 - 3.

59 Erickson, Gobbings & Higgins, L., p. 103.

60 Erickson, Gobbings & Higgins, L., p. 5.

61 Erickson, Gobbings & Higgins, L., pp 8 - 9.

62 Erickson, Gobbings & Higgins, L., pp 12 - 13.

63 Erickson, Gobbings & Higgins, L., p115.

64 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 11 June 1948.

65 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 23 November 1948.

Mundaring Roads Board and the Railways Department, they leased a small block of land, from the Railways Department at the eastern end of Mundaring Railway Station.<sup>66</sup> The Branch took possession of the land in July 1950.<sup>67</sup>

Through the efforts of the President, Mrs Rochester, the area was fenced and a 'ti tree' hedge planted around the boundary of the property in May 1951.<sup>68</sup> A shed was transported to the site sometime during 1951 and the minutes rather cryptically state that the women proposed altering the shed after they had purchased some timber. The 'room' was to be enclosed to form a kitchen.<sup>69</sup> A building fund was established and the proceeds from the various local stalls that the CWA often manned and other fund raising activities were placed into this fund. In October 1952, a motion was passed requesting permission from the Roads Board to construct a Rest Room 25 feet by 15 feet of wood and asbestos with a brick fireplace. Permission was obtained and the materials were ordered in July 1953.<sup>70</sup>

The women held their first meeting in their new Rest Room in May 1954. The building was officially opened by the District Vice President, Mrs Meadowcroft, on 24 June 1954, the branch's sixth birthday. Members from Mt. Helena, Parkerville, Glen Forrest and Darlington CWA branches attended.<sup>71</sup>

Over the years the Rest Room has been used by other community groups, such as a gospel group, a kindergarten during the 1960s and also the Mundaring branch of the Red Cross. The Red Cross branch still use the building for their meetings.<sup>72</sup>

Once the former railway lands were vested in the Shire of Mundaring, the land on which the CWA Rest Room was located came under the control of the Shire. The development of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* saw the CWA Rest Room become a component of the park. At the time of the development of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* the provision of public toilets does not appear to have been considered. In 1990, the CWA agreed that the public could have access to the CWA's toilet if it was maintained and up-graded by the Shire. The Shire installed a new cistern in February 1991.<sup>73</sup> In 1993, the CWA approached the art teachers at Eastern Hills Senior High School to enlist their assistance in designing and painting a wall mural for their building. They were able to secure funding from head office provided they co-ordinated with the Mundaring Community Arts Centre. Local artist, Linda van der Merwe was commissioned to design the mural and the youth of the community were invited to come and assist with the execution of the work. The mural was completed by March 1994.<sup>74</sup>

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66 Minutes of Younger Set, Mundaring CWA, 23 March 1950.

67 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 25 July 1950.

68 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 9 June 1951.

69 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 29 August 1950, 9 June & 27 September 1951.

70 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 30 October 1952 - 30 July 1953.

71 Minutes of Mundaring CWA, 24 June 1954.

72 Minutes of Mundaring CWA; Information obtained from Maureen Tie, September 2002 and also Margaret Rudwick, 23 December 2002.

73 Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 31/7/1990 & 20/2/1991.

74 Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 26/8/1993; 25/11/1993 & 24/2/1994.

In January 2003, the CWA building continues to be used as a meeting place for the Mundaring branch of the CWA and the Mundaring branch of the Red Cross.

### **Scout Hall**

The present building represents a gradual expansion of a small building that was first commenced in the 1960s. The building is currently home to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mundaring Scout group and is also used by the Girl Guides and Brownies. The first stage of the building was a small asbestos cement structure built on a stone foundation.<sup>75</sup> It is not known when the later additions were made.

The presence of the scouts in the community park led to the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee inviting a representative from that group to attend their meetings in 1990.<sup>76</sup> It was through the efforts of the Scouting representative that the Rotunda was constructed as it was thought it would be of great benefit to the scouts and guides.<sup>77</sup> The scouts agreed to assist with landscaping around their hall and planted a number of seedlings at the western end of the park during June 1995.<sup>78</sup>

In January 2003, the Scout Hall continues to be used by scouting groups.

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* was placed on the Shire of Mundaring's Municipal Inventory in 1997.<sup>79</sup>

## **13. 2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

*Mundaring Sculpture Park*, contains the former Mundaring Station platform (1898), the former Mundaring Station Master's House (1902), the Mundaring CWA Hall (1954), the Mundaring Scout Hall (1960s), several pieces of public sculpture (1988 - 1995), a rotunda (1993) landscaped grounds (1988 & 1991) and a children's playground (1960s - 1996). These elements are all located on a section of the Railways Heritage Trail which follows the line of what was once the southern loop of the Eastern Railway Line. The Park was officially opened on 11 September 1988 as part of the Bicentennial celebrations.

*Mundaring Sculpture Park* is located at the southern end of Nichol Street on the edge of the central business district of Mundaring. The site is bounded by Jacoby Street to the north, Maddock Street to the east, Phillips Road to the south and Guger Street to the west. Nichol Street bisects Jacoby Street approximately half way along the length of the park. The Mundaring Hall is located on the north west corner of Nichol Street while on the north east corner is the Mundaring Hotel. The southern side of the park is bounded by a residential area, while the eastern and western sides represent the continuation of the Railway Heritage Trail.

The route of the former railway line bisects the site east - west and there are secondary paths which run through the site approximately north - south. A prominent feature of the park are the numerous mature trees on the northern and southern side of the park (at the eastern end). These trees include pines, plane trees and a variety of eucalypts. Numerous, younger trees are clustered randomly along the northern and southern edges of the

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<sup>75</sup> Information obtained from Maureen Tie, September 2002.

<sup>76</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 17/12/1990.

<sup>77</sup> Mundaring Community Park File, Ja1Res. 31196, Vol. 1 (1/1/84 - 11/91).

<sup>78</sup> Minutes of the Mundaring Community Park Advisory Committee, 16/3/1995.

<sup>79</sup> Bruce Callow & Associates, Shire of Mundaring Municipal Inventory, 1996.

former railway line and some have also been planted down the centre of the former line, at the eastern end, creating two distinct paths.

A central lawned area lies opposite the terminus of Nichol Street. The area directly opposite the southern end of Nichol Street is a cleared open space with a backdrop of mature eucalypts and native plants. On the southern side of this area are four large, roughly squared logs which bear the name of the park 'Mundaring Community Sculpture Park'. Just to the west of these logs is an exit point for one of the north- south pathways. The former Mundaring Station Master's House lies on the western side of the cleared area.

The amphitheatre and former railway platform lie to the west of the lawned area and south of the former Mundaring Station Master's House. The Scout Hall is located on Nichol Street to the west of the former Mundaring Station Master's House. The rotunda is to the south west of the Scout Hall amongst young saplings and native plants. The sculptures are spread along the paths at the eastern end of the park and near the amphitheatre.

### **Former Mundaring Station Master's House**

The former Station Master's House faces east towards the open clear area at the southern end of Nichol Street. The house sits on a small block of land which is fenced on the northern and western sides. A rough sapling fence runs across the eastern boundary and supports a grape vine. Several roses, a hibiscus plant, a few geraniums and a rosemary bush have survived in the front garden. The southern boundary is defined by dense plantings which include Rottneest pines and various native wattles. Old fruit trees remain on the southern, western and northern sides of the house.

The former Station Master's House is a red brick and iron structure with a simple stylistic form, most readily identifiable with Victorian Georgian. The front verandah has a skillion roof, the main roof is hipped. Three brick chimneys with corbelled tops rise above the line of the roof. The brick walls are stretcher bond, with the three lowest courses laid with alternating rows of headers and stretchers.

The front façade has a central door, with fanlight and sides lights, flanked by two pairs of double hung sash windows. The southern façade has one double hung window towards the rear of the house (west), with two smaller double hung windows at the western end. The northern façade has two double hung windows, both towards the rear of this façade. The western façade features brick walling at the northern end, with asbestos cement cladding on the southern half. A door and two windows are located in the asbestos section.

The interior is divided into four rooms with a central corridor. The central corridor terminates in a skillion-roofed area, which has a kitchen on the northern side and a store room and bathroom on the southern side. The rear door lies directly opposite the corridor and is set into the asbestos cement wall. The area between the kitchen and the storeroom and bathroom would previously have been an open area under a rear skillion roof. It is not known when this rear area was enclosed.

The interior features hard plaster walls, timber floors, and battened plaster board ceilings to most rooms. Original features such as architraves, door and window joinery and timber fireplaces remain in situ.

The roof and front verandah of the building have recently been reclad with zincalume sheets and the front verandah has been rebuilt and laid with new boards. All guttering and downpipes are new.

The rest of the building is in fair to poor condition although it appears to be structurally sound. The lower sections of the walls show evidence of rising damp on both the exterior and interior sides. The brickwork below the western most window on the northern façade has been damaged. The window frames on the northern, southern and western sides are in poor condition. The asbestos cement sheeting needs to be re-painted or replaced and the windows and door in this wall are all in poor condition.

In the interior there is evidence of previous termite damage to the floor and there is evidence of falling damp on the chimney breast of two of the rooms. The ceilings are in fair to poor condition. One of the ceilings has buckled due to water ingress at an earlier stage.

The original layout of the building has been retained, although there have been minor alterations to the rear section. A high percentage of the original fabric has been retained.

### **CWA Rest Room**

The CWA Rest Room is located at the eastern end of the park on the corner of Maddock and Jacoby Streets. It sits in a small yard enclosed by a wire fence with a cyclone mesh double gate. There are mature pine trees on the northern boundary. The building is a small, timber framed structure clad with asbestos cement sheeting which sits on timber posts. The gable roof is clad with corrugated galvanised iron. On the southern side is a chimney made from flat metal sheeting with a round flue. The main entry is on the eastern side. A single concrete step is located immediately in front a centrally placed ledged and braced timber door. A single timber handrail lies to the south of the concrete step. An aluminium awning is located above the door. Above the awning is the circular CWA motif. Aluminium sliding windows are located on the southern and northern sides. An additional door can be found on the northern side of the building at the western end. Two concrete steps lead up to this door, which has a pair of timber hand rails on either side of the concrete steps. At the rear of the building is a weatherboard section which has a skillion roof. This section has fixed, four paned timber windows on the northern and southern sides. At the rear of this section is a single toilet and washbasin. The toilet can be accessed from the park without having to come into the CWA yard.

The eastern, northern and southern exterior walls have been covered with murals that represent women in a variety of roles. The southern wall bears the information that the mural was funded by the CWA, designed by Linda van der Merwe and painted by community volunteers and members of the Mundaring CWA in February 1994.

The interior is divided into two rooms. The front door gives immediate access to the main room. At the western end is an opening that provides access to a narrow room which contains a kitchen. The kitchen is in the weatherboard section of the building. The interior walls are clad with asbestos cement sheeting and the ceiling is plasterboard. There is a brick fireplace in the southern wall at the western end of the room. The floor is timber boards covered with carpet.

The building appears to be in good condition and has retained a high degree of integrity. Apart from the aluminium sliding windows all features appear to be original.

The weatherboard section of the building may be part of the shed that was moved to the site in 1951.

## Playground

This is located at the eastern end of the park facing Jacoby Street. The southern side of the playground is defined by a raised embankment, which represents the former bed of the railway line. The playground has a large lawned area on the northern side, which is shaded by several mature trees which include plane trees, pine trees and native eucalypts. Playground equipment has been placed towards the southern side of the playground and is shaded by the trees. This equipment consists of swings, a tic-tac-toe game, a flying fox, slide and adventure play area. Barbecue facilities have been placed at the eastern end of the grassed area.

## Sculptures

### Mother (Jon Tarry)

Travelling from Maddock Street in a westerly direction along the northern pathway, the first sculpture encountered is *Mother*. The piece also functions as a seat. The sculpture features a large, stylised head and neck with the face stretching up towards the sky. An arm, ending in an open palm, stretches out at a right angle from the head. In the slight curve between the neck and the palm is a flat area that forms a seat. The seat faces west. The sculpture is constructed from brown coloured cement over a steel frame. A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed.

The piece has not been altered and appears to be in good condition.

### Tractor (Peter Dailey)

This sculpture lies to the south of *Mother* on the southern pathway. This piece also functions as a seat. The artwork is in the form of a tractor which has its rear section submerged into the ground, leaving the front engine section, front wheels and scoop above ground. The 'engine' section is constructed from steel and the two 'wheels' are made from moulded bricks. The 'scoop' is located at the end of two universal beams and is also steel construction. The 'scoop' forms the seat which is lined with wooden planks. The sculpture faces west and is painted pale blue (the brick wheels are not painted). A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed.

The piece has not been altered and appears to be in good condition.

### Moondae Ring (Ronald Sims)

This sculpture lies slightly to the north west of *Tractor* near a mature eucalypt. The piece is a sound sculpture. The artwork is made of wood and is composed of two separate elements: a vertical standing piece and a pair of curved pieces with upright lengths of timber rising up from the base of the curved pieces. The vertical component is made from upright timber slabs sandwiched together to contain a sound mechanism which is activated by rectangular plastic pads set into the northern face of the piece. Runic style letters have been carved into the wood above these buttons. The piece sits on a concrete plinth.

The companion piece takes the form of a stylised boat, the 'hull' is defined by a pair of curved timber pieces set parallel to each other. Two timber posts have been positioned at the base of the curved pieces and rise up to meet an enclosed metal box with a perforated base. (This box appears to be the speaker for the sculpture.) The upright posts give the appearance of rigging

and a mast. The words 'La Vérité' and Le Rêve are carved in stylised letters on the outer faces of the curved pieces.

The timber has been left with a natural finish. The area in which the sculpture is located is defined by a stone paved area composed of granite stones. A curb of stones has been placed around the base of the tree.

A metal plaque has been attached to the concrete plinth and it records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed.

The woodwork and stone paving are all in good condition. However, while it is possible to depress the buttons, no sounds can be heard. The sculpture does not appear to have been altered.

#### Missed the Last Train (Ron Gomboc)

The sculpture lies directly to the west of *Moondae Ring* at a point where the southern east - west path meets with one of the north - south paths. This path lies adjacent to the lawned area. The sculpture also functions as a seat. It is composed of a life sized, standing figure of a clown, made from cement. A suitcase, with a hat, has been placed next to the man. In front of the man is a lamp post that has been fitted with a timber seat. The lamp post is steel construction. Both the lamp post and seat have been painted. The seat and the man face north west.

A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed. The full title of the piece is: 'Goodbye cruel world I'm off to join the circus but I missed the last train.'

There are some cracks in the cement work on the figure, but these appear to be superficial. The sculpture is in good condition and has not been altered.

#### Mainstream (Hans Arkeveld)

The sculpture lies to the north west of *Missed the Last Train* near the same north - south pathway. The piece has a passing resemblance to an anthropomorphic, four legged animal. The 'head' is represented by a tap, the 'body' is a steel pipe, which has had a variety of tools welded to it. At the rear of the body is a wheelbarrow. The 'legs' are timber trestles, which support the 'body'. A circular brick 'pad' lies directly beneath the tap. The artwork sits on a brick paved area and is surrounded by metal fence. A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed.

The sculpture is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered. The fence is not original.

#### Tourists (Stuart Elliot)

This artwork lies on the northern edge of the park, to the north east of *Mainstream*, in a small grove of trees. The sculpture is composed of five figures approximately one metre high, dressed in brightly coloured clothing. There are three females and two males standing in two rows, facing into the park (south). The figures, made from bronze castings are rather squat. All of the 'tourists' are wearing prominent sunglasses and hats. The women have pith helmets and the men baseball caps.

A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed. It has been placed between the two front figures.



The figures are in good condition. The bronze castings replace the original fibreglass figures, which were damaged by vandals shortly after the sculpture went on display.

Directly to the south of the figures are nine square concrete pads. The original function of these pads is not known and they are not associated with any sculpture. It is possible that the pads represent a foundation which was once associated with the railway line.

#### Central Lawned Area

This area lies to the west of the north - south path described above and is approximately circular in shape. The southern side of the area is enclosed by an earth mound which has been planted with grevilleas providing a secluded back-drop to the area. Around the outer edge of the lawn is a low treated pine fence composed of horizontal logs placed on short, vertical posts. Benches are located on the southern and western edges of the area. The main path bends around the northern side of the lawn before returning to its original east - west alignment on the western side.

The area is in good condition and has not been altered.

To the west of the lawn the main path continues through a cutting towards the amphitheatre. Radiata pines line the northern side of the route, with native trees and plants on the southern side.

#### Second Wave (Alan Clark)

This piece of sculpture marks the eastern entry point into the amphitheatre. The artwork resembles railway signals, which straddle the pathway. A horizontal piece creates the illusion of a doorway. A small platform is located on the eastern side of the signals. It is approached by a set of stairs. Protruding above the floor of the platform are levers, which are attached to the signals. None of the levers currently operate the signals. The platform is made from steel components with the lower area enclosed by a steel mesh. A tubular handrail total encloses the platform and continues down the stairs. The treads and platform floor are timber.

The signal component of the sculpture is constructed with tapered timber posts sitting in metal stirrups. Steel wheels form the pulleys that move the signals up and down. The signals are made from wood and glass.

A polished granite plinth is located on the south east side of the sculpture. The metal plaque is missing.

Overall the sculpture is in good condition, although it is no longer possible to move the signals. No alterations have taken place.

#### Earth Sound Device (Nola Farnham)

This installation is not particularly obvious and there is no signage to indicate its presence. It is a sound sculpture. The visible components of the piece are embedded in the rock retaining wall on the eastern side of the amphitheatre and in a rock retaining wall above the main line of the amphitheatre. This upper section is slightly screened by grevillea plants.

The artwork consists of a seismometer that is buried below the ground. This is connected to listening devices, which have been embedded into the rock walls. The two listening components are composed of two holes, one above the other, approximately 10 cm square. The upper hole is covered with a wire mesh while the lower hole is just an opening in the wall. A deep booming sound can clearly be heard from the mesh covered hole.

A small metal plaque on a plinth of polished granite records the name of the sculptor, the artwork and when it was installed. As a booming sound can be heard it is assumed that the device is functioning properly (although it is not clear what sort of sound is supposed to be heard). The device is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered.

### **Amphitheatre**

The amphitheatre has been created by developing a terraced mound along the southern side of the path. The eastern side of the mound has been retained using large, laterite boulders. This mound has then been terraced, with the terracing facing north towards the old station platform. The terraces have been retained with railway sleepers and the 'seating' has been covered with grass. Grassed areas are located on either side of the terracing. At the top of the amphitheatre, earth has been retained behind a stone wall and planted with grevilleas to create a windbreak. The land slopes gently down to the south and is planted with native bushes.

A line of railway sleepers runs along the path between the terracing and a grassed section in front of the old platform.

The platform lies above the line of the pathway. It is a concrete faced structure paved with bricks. A set of concrete steps with timber edges is located at the eastern end, while the ground slopes down gently to the level of the path at the western end.

At the western end of the amphitheatre is one of the secondary north - south paths.

The amphitheatre is in good condition and retains all of its original features. The old station platform has retained the original concrete form. The concrete paving is not original.

### **Scout Hall**

This building is located to the west of the former Mundaring Station Master's House on Jacoby Street. It is a timber-framed building clad with asbestos cementing sheeting and weatherboards. The gable roof is clad with corrugated galvanised iron. An addition on the southern side of the building is clad with a mixture of asbestos cement sheets and corrugated galvanised iron. A brick toilet block is located at the western end of this later addition. At the eastern end of the building is a gazebo with a steeply pitched hipped roof clad with zincaluminum sheeting.

The entrance to the building is located on the northern side of the building and the door is protected with a small porch with a gable roof. Aluminium sliding windows are fitted to the northern and southern walls.

The interior of the building was not inspected.

The building appears to be in fair condition and the present form has developed over a period of years.

### **Rotunda**

The rotunda lies to the south west of the Scout Hall, just to the north of the main path. It is an eight sided, open structure built of wooden posts with a steeply pitched roof clad with zincaluminum. The apex of the roof is open to permit air to escape and a conical hat sits above the opening to prevent the ingress of water. A continuous wooden slatted seat runs around the interior perimeter of the structure. The floor is a concrete. A circular, brick fire-pit lies at the centre.

The rotunda is in good condition and does not appear to have been altered.

### **13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

Individually the features in *Mundaring Sculpture Park* are not uncommon. Public art has long been a feature of our parks and public spaces, Scout Halls can be found in many suburbs and playgrounds are extremely common. CWA Rest Rooms are still present in many country towns and some suburbs and former station platforms and stationmaster's houses can be found in several Perth suburbs and Western Australia's country towns. What makes *Mundaring Sculpture Park* unusual is the concept of a community park designed to include interactive artwork, which involves members of that local community in the design of the park. Many of the artists represented in the park come from the local community.

The new development at East Perth has involved the commissioning of various pieces of artwork by a number of artists with a variety of themes, although the most consistent theme is the historical development of East Perth, from both the European and Aboriginal perspective. However, the artwork is spread over the whole of East Perth and the overall design concept appears to have been managed by the East Perth Redevelopment Authority.<sup>80</sup>

At the time of the Shire of Mundaring's application for a brown tourist sign advertising the presence of *Mundaring Sculpture Park* in 1992, the Department of Arts noted that the park was unique in Western Australia as it involved the community in the development of the park.

### **13.4 KEY REFERENCES**

L. Gray & P. Rogers, Station Master's House (fmr), Mundaring; Conservation Plan, prepared for Shire of Mundaring, August 2001.

### **13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH**

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