



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in September, 1991 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE

The interior of *Cummins Theatre* is substantially intact and exhibits a 1920s style of decoration. (Criterion 1.1)

Cummins Theatre exhibits architecturally significant characteristics and has a quality of design construction and detail that contributes to the aesthetic qualities of the landscape. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Cummins Theatre demonstrates the tradition of relocating buildings from the Goldfields to other areas of the State, in the early part of the twentieth century. In 1928, *Cummins Theatre* was reconstructed to the style of theatres of that time, with internal alterations to the earlier (relocated) fabric and with some additional construction. (Criterion 2.4)

11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

As a venue for the Repertory Club, *Cummins Theatre* has high significance for theatre goers in Merredin. (Criterion 4.1)

Cummins Theatre has been a focal point for a variety of cultural and recreational activities by the Merredin community since 1928, and so contributes to the community's sense of place. (Criteria 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

The place is unusually large for a country theatre and, whereas many other theatres of its kind have been altered or lost, the intactness of *Cummins Theatre* is uncommon. (Criterion 5.1)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Cummins Theatre is representative of the style of theatre architecture constructed in country towns in the 1920s, and of the importance of theatre as a form of entertainment at that time. (Criteria 6.1, 6.2)

12. 3 CONDITION

The place was conserved in accordance with the conservation plan in 1993. For a detailed discussion of the condition of the fabric of the place see Kevin Palassis, Architect, 'Conservation Plan, Cummins Theatre, Merredin' (for the Heritage Council of W. A., 30 January 1992). *Cummins Theatre* is in good condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

Cummins Theatre continues to be used for theatrical purposes. Recent conservation of the place has increased the use of the place as a theatrical venue. The current use of the place by the Repertory Club is a compatible use. *Cummins Theatre* retains a high degree of integrity.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

Little of the fabric of the place has been altered. *Cummins Theatre* retains a high degree of authenticity.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the documentary evidence, refer to the Conservation Plan by Kevin Palassis, Architect, 'Conservation Plan, Cummins Theatre, Merredin' (for the Heritage Council of W. A., 30 January 1992).

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a detailed discussion of the physical evidence, refer to the Conservation Plan by Kevin Palassis, Architect, 'Conservation Plan, Cummins Theatre, Merredin' (for the Heritage Council of W. A., 30 January 1992).

13.3 REFERENCES

Kevin Palassis, Architect, 'Conservation Plan, Cummins Theatre, Merredin' (for the Heritage Council of W. A., 30 January 1992).