



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)

- 8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens
- 8.1.4 Enjoying the natural environment

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 111 Depression and boom
- 405 Sport, recreation, and entertainment
- 506 Tourism

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

The managed bush, picturesque topography and geological features of *John Forrest National Park*, contrasts dramatically with the developed areas of the park that are in a large part modeled on the notion of a 'fairy village' and the remnants of the railway formation. The juxtaposition of these elements is often picturesque and has a high order of aesthetic value. (Criteria 1.1 and 1.3)

The recreation area created around the park's natural water features of Jane Brook, Glenn Brook and Mahogany Creek, based on the notion of a 'fairy village' with landscaped terraces and paths, and timber framed timber clad shelters of rustic design, was innovative in Western Australian park design. (Criterion 1.2)

The individual components of the developed central recreation area, together with remnants of the Eastern Railway Deviation, including formations, bridges and a tunnel, and the surrounding bushland create a distinctive cultural environment with a rustic theme. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Established in 1900, *John Forrest National Park* was the first national park

* 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.

in Western Australia, and the fourth in Australia. (Criteria 2.1 and 2.4)

John Forrest National Park was the only National Park with a direct railway connection (until 1966) which, together with its location close to Perth, made it readily accessible to large numbers of visitors, and as a result the place developed as a popular recreation area and day-trip destination from Perth. (Criterion 2.2)

The earliest manmade landscape features and plantings at *John Forrest National Park* were established as a result of an important project providing employment to sustenance workers during the Great Depression at *John Forrest National Park* and Yanchep National Park, under the administration of the State Gardens Board, and financed through the philanthropy of Sir Charles and Lady McNess. (Criterion 2.2)

Subsequent landscape works are representative of the period post World War Two when economic expansion led to development of parks and gardens. (Criterion 2.2)

Eastern Railway Deviation which runs through *John Forrest National Park*, was constructed under the guidance of C.Y. O'Connor, in his role as Commissioner for Western Australian Railways and was a successful endeavour in the 1890s to turn Western Australia's floundering railway system into an ongoing, viable economic prospect. (Criterion 2.2)

The philanthropy of Sir Charles and Lady McNess financed the first landscape works at *John Forrest National Park*. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

John Forrest National Park is highly valued as an outdoor recreation area by the community of Western Australia and by tourist visitors for aesthetic reasons, and for social and cultural reasons as a favored recreational area for more than 100 years. (Criterion 4.1)

John Forrest National Park is recognised and valued as the premier national park in the State and is one of the most frequented due to its close proximity to Perth throughout the twentieth century, and as such contributes to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

The 'fairy village' section of the picnic area, including the terraces, paths, bridges and pools, of which the early shelter structures were part, is a rare cultural feature in Western Australia, originally developed in accordance with philosophies of parkland management that no longer guide national park conservation. (Criteria 5.1 & 5.2)

The Swan View tunnel near the western side of *John Forrest National Park*,

is the only railway tunnel constructed in Western Australia. It contrasts with the sections of underground railway in Perth and Subiaco and on the Joondalup line having been created in recent years by a cut and fill technique rather than tunnelling. (Criterion 5.1)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The creation of *John Forrest National Park* is representative of an international movement begun in the first half of the nineteenth century, when nature reserves were set aside by governments as recreational facilities for the public's enjoyment. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

Roads and paths are generally kept in good order. Other features that were very much a part of the 'fairy village' theme have suffered from a lack of thoroughgoing maintenance and some elements such as picnic shelters, stone walling and seating are in need of a systematic program of conservation works. Isolated features that are prone to vandalism such as the Rotary lookout, have been badly damaged. There is evidence of weed infestation of sections of the managed bushland. The overall impression of the place as a whole is a park that is struggling to achieve high levels of maintenance. Overall the place is in fair condition.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Overall, *John Forrest National Park* has a high level of integrity. The individual components have varying degrees of integrity. While only remnants of the *Eastern Railway Deviation* remain, the original purpose of the railway route, tunnel, bridges, and the developed area features are clearly apparent. The extent of regrowth timber indicates the degree to which the place was logged. Some facilities, such as Rocky Pool have been closed.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The place exhibits a moderate to high level of authenticity.

As with many landscapes, *John Forrest National Park* is in a constant state of change. The park was logged through into the 1950s, and much of the bushland is either re-growth, or part of rehabilitation programmes. The remnants of the railway tunnel and associated formation, the deviation and its formation have a high level of authenticity. The paths, roads and buildings have continued to evolve and much of the original fabric has been lost. However, the original layouts, path routes, the swimming pool, stone steps and a number of shelters are of original fabric. The Canary Island Palm near Jane Brook may be the only early period planting to have survived.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Robin Chinnery, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Philip Griffiths, Architect. The assessment prepared for the *Eastern Railway Deviation* compiled by Fiona Bush (2002) was used as the basis for the railway components in this assessment.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

John Forrest National Park comprises a national park, about 2,676 ha. in area. The initial reserve, centred on Jane Brook and Glen Brook, was declared in 1898, and the place was proclaimed Greenmount National Park as an A-class reserve in 1900. The major landscaped area has been centred around Jane Brook, Glen Brook and Mahogany Creek, and has been successively developed since the early 1930s, the subsequent main periods of development being the 1950s and 1960s. Built features include bush shelters constructed of timber, with concrete floors and iron roofs, tearooms and park office building, gate house, bridges, three toilet blocks in the vicinity of the swimming pool, tavern, together with other minor structures. Other features are those associated with *the Eastern Railway Deviation* and the National Park Station.

In 1881, the first stage of the Eastern Railway was opened between Fremantle and Guildford; the second stage to Chidlow's Well (Chidlow) in 1884; and the third stage, to York in 1885. The route between Midland and Lion Mill (Mount Helena) was of concern due to the steep gradient and sharp curve. In 1893, tenders were called for the construction of a deviation route, 12 miles and 60 chains in length, that followed along the contours of Blackboy Hill, the Darling Range and Jane Brook, but was mistakenly named for Mahogany Creek. The works included the Swan View Tunnel, the only railway tunnel constructed in Western Australia.¹

In 1895, the Reserves and Parks Act was passed. It was followed by the Land Act of 1898, providing some degree of future security for parks and reserves in Western Australia.²

In 1896, the Eastern Railways' railway line over the Darling Range was opened. Railway travelers saw the beauty of the scenery and the waterfalls, and the profusion of wildflowers in spring. Whilst the railway brought notice to the area of the future national park, over some 70 years of operation it also brought windblown seeds blown from the wagons, leading to weed infestations that competed with the indigenous vegetation.³

In 1898, on the recommendation of the Surveyor General, H. F. Johnston, the Government of Western Australia set aside an area at Greenmount, on

¹ Eastern Railway Deviation HCWA Place No. 02660, Draft Assessment, June 2002, p. 7. See this document for further information about the railway deviation.

² Hunter, John 'Places of National Importance' in *Landscape* (CALM Publications, Department of Conservation and Land Management, Spring 2000) p. 19.

³ Duxbury, George 'Premier Park' in *Landscape* op. cit., pp. 24-25.

the edge of the Darling Range, for public utility.⁴ In 1899, the Permanent Reserves Act ensured the future of such reserves.⁵

On 19 November 1900, the reserve at Greenmount, an area of about 1,500 hectares, was proclaimed a a-class reserve national park. Known as Greenmount National Park, it was the first national park in Western Australia, and the fourth in Australia.⁶ In the same year, Serpentine Falls was reserved for public recreation.⁷

The concept of national parks originated in the first half of the nineteenth century, when American artist George Catlin wrote of his concerns for wilderness areas in the United States in the face of westward expansion. He proposed that such areas might be protected “by some great protecting policy of government ... in a magnificent park ... a nation’s park, containing man and beast, in all the wild freshness of their nature’s beauty!”⁸ Subsequently, in 1864, Yosemite Valley was donated to California by the United States Congress, to be preserved as a State park. In 1872, it was reserved as ‘a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people’.⁹ Administered by the Department of the Interior, it was the first designated national park in the world.¹⁰ In 1879, Royal National Park was declared in New South Wales, the second national park in the world.¹¹

In its first 30 years, there was little development of the Greenmount National Park as a park and recreation area. For part of this period, the place was managed by the Greenmount Roads Board, which had limited finances available to carry out any works in the park, other than the construction of the road into it. In early 1911, the Roads Board inquired of the Lands Department whether anything could be done in the way of beautifying the west end of the National Park, near the York Road, ‘but no funds were available to implement the proposal.’¹² In the pre World War One period, requests by the Roads Board to have 1,000 acres of the Park thrown open for closer settlement were unsuccessful.¹³

⁴ *ibid*; and Jenkins, C. F. H. *The National Parks of Western Australia* (National Parks Authority of Western Australia, 1980) p. 10.

⁵ Hunter, John *op. cit.*

⁶ Goldstin, Wendy (ed) *Australia’s 100 years of National Parks*, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Sydney, 1979. ; *Government Gazette* 19 November 1900. Note: the area of the park has been increased at various dates through the twentieth century from as early as 1905. (*Government Gazette* 31 March, 8 September and 10 November 1905 The additions have not been documented in this assessment, other than that which added the portion of the Eastern Railways Deviation, and similarly with regard to any excisions, as they have not occurred in the central recreation area, nor had any significant impact on it.

⁷ Hunter, John ‘Places of National Importance’ in *Landscape op. cit.*, p. 18.

⁸ Quoted in Hunter, John ‘Places of National Importance’ in *Landscape op. cit.*, p. 18.

⁹ Quoted in *ibid.*

¹⁰ *ibid.*

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² Minute Books, Greenmount Roads Board, 1903-16, SROWA AN 281 Acc. 1288 Items 16, 17, 18 and 19; and *ibid*, Item 18,10 January and 7 February 1911, pp. 119-120. Note: In the pre World War One period, requests by the Roads Board to have 1,000 acres of the Park thrown open for closer settlement were unsuccessful.

¹³ *ibid*, 1907-13.

Through the much of the twentieth century, most reserves were administered under the relevant sections of the Land Act (1898 and 1933) and the Parks and Reserves Act (1895-955). However, there was little coordination, resulting in a proliferation of Boards, including the Caves Board (1902-14) and the State Gardens Board (1920-56).¹⁴

During the early twentieth century and through to the mid 1950s, timber logging continued in the park, leaving a legacy of former logging tracks, tree stumps, and dieback caused by the fungi *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. Dairy cattle owned by the McGlew family were run through the park in the area of the present Glen Brook Dam, and there was an orchard in the area below the present Rotary Lookout site. Mining was also carried out in the park. The small amount of gold mining brought little success, and caused minimal damage. However, the extraction of gravel for road building wrought considerable damage before removal of gravel, stone and earth was prohibited in 1929, after the place came under the control of the State Gardens Board. Despite subsequent rehabilitation, scars remain.¹⁵

In 1926, Greenmount National Park is believed to have been re-named Forrest National Park. It is thought that this name may have been bestowed following the bequest of c. 80 hectares from the Estate of the late Alexander Forrest, explorer, Mayor of Perth, and property owner. This area, below the railway tunnel towards Rocky Pool, had been intended as the site for his retirement home.¹⁶ However, through the next two decades the park was most often referred to in publications simply as 'National Park, Darling Range'.¹⁷

In March 1926, the purpose of the reserve was changed to National Park and Reserve for Native Game.¹⁸ So far as is known, this was the earliest such reservation for the protection of native animals in Western Australia.

In 1928, the Darling Range National Park was vested in the State Gardens Board, which remained responsible for the park until 1957, when the National Parks Board was established.¹⁹ At this date, the park was still undeveloped, 'the haunt of woodcutter and vandal'. Since the early twentieth century, timber logging had been carried out in the park, leaving a legacy of former logging tracks, tree stumps, and dieback. The McGlew family's dairy cattle were run through the park in the area of the present Glen Brook Dam, and there was an orchard in the area below the present Rotary Lookout site. Mining had been carried out in the park, and the extraction of gravel for road building wrought considerable damage before removal of gravel, stone and

¹⁴ Hunter, John op. cit.

¹⁵ Duxbury, George op. cit., pp. 24-25; *Government Gazette* 22 November 1929, p. 2576; and Minute Book, Greenmount Roads Board, 1907-13, SROWA AN 281 Acc. 1288 Item 18. Note: In the pre World War One period, requests by the Roads Board to have 1,000 acres of the Park thrown open for closer settlement were unsuccessful. (ibid.)

¹⁶ Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 24.

¹⁷ *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* (Government Printer, Perth, Western Australia, c. 1940)

¹⁸ *Government Gazette* 26 March 1926, p. 634.

¹⁹ *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* (Government Printer, Perth, Western Australia, c. 1940) p. 2.

earth was prohibited in 1929, after the place came under the control of the State Gardens Board. Despite subsequent rehabilitation, scars remain.²⁰

From 1929, a scheme of improvements was begun in the park, under the supervision of the Main Roads Board.²¹ During the Great Depression, donations from philanthropist Sir Charles McNess provided funds for the employment of sustenance labour on various projects, including works at Yanchep and the Darling Range National Park. In 1930, development of the National Park as a recreation site was commenced, centred on the junction of Jane Brook and Glen Brook.²² The site was both picturesque, and had the advantage of proximity to the railway line, providing convenient access to day trippers from the city.²³

In 1930-31, a total of 400 men were employed on the project forming terraced garden beds and paths, building shelters, and constructing the road into the park now known as the Scenic Drive and the dam across Jane Brook (later a swimming pool for park visitors) to provide water storage for the gardens.²⁴

The shelters were of simple rustic design, timber framed and earthen floored, with thatched roofs of zamia fronds or rushes, and similar wall cladding. Of similar construction materials were Betty's Cottage, also referred to as Princess Betty's Cottage, and the Church.²⁵ Betty's Cottage was removed in 1982, as it was in poor condition. The popular rush clad church was re-built three times in the 1960s, the last occasion being in 1967, when it was clad in face cut timber. It was destroyed by fire in the early 1980s, and has not been re-built.²⁶ From the outset, the shelters were intended to be a distinctive attraction of the park, and throughout the park's history references recur to the 'quaint shelters', 'Those little rustic houses', and 'the rustic shelters.'²⁷ Journalist Mr. R. G. Lloyd Thomas of the London *Daily Mail* wrote enthusiastically about the 'Fairy Village' and 'its deliciously humorous architect who is creating a fairy city by a waterfall! ... a most delicious little phantasy (sic) enacted in the shadow of a virgin wilderness.'²⁸

²⁰ Duxbury, George op. cit., pp. 24-25; *Government Gazette* 22 November 1929, p. 2576; and Minute Book, Greenmount Roads Board, 1907-13, SROWA AN 281 Acc. 1288 Item 18.

²¹ *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

²² Crowley, F. K. *Australia's Western Third: A History of Western Australia from the first settlements to modern times* (Macmillan & Co. Ltd., London, 1960) pp. 262-263; and Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 25.

²³ *ibid*, p. 25; and Hunter, John op. cit.

²⁴ Duxbury, George op. cit., pp. 25-26.

²⁵ Photographs of 'Quaint Shelters' in *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* (Government Printer, Perth, Western Australia, c. 1940)

²⁶ Duxbury, George op. cit., pp. 26-27; and Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports in CALM File No. 013402F3209 Vol. 1 National Parks Picnic Areas & Camping Areas John Forrest Picnic Areas, March-June 1960, January-April 1965, and December 1967. Note: Park Superintendent Ron Waterhouse drew plans for the re-construction of the church. However, they were not implemented as the only worker available for the work refused to carry it out because of his religious views. (Ron Waterhouse, telephone conversation with Robin Chinnery, 14 February 2002.)

²⁷ Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports in CALM File No. 013402F3209 op. cit., 1960-67; and *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

²⁸ Quoted in *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

It has not been possible to ascertain whether he was referring to Louis Shapcott of the State Gardens Board who took a keen personal interest in the development of both Yanchep and the national park, and certainly would have had considerable influence on the concept of the rustic village in the park and on the design of the buildings, or some other person.²⁹ No documentary evidence identifying the designer of the shelters has been located to date.

Early photographs, in an album presented to Sir Charles and Lady McNess in 1935, show there were several basic designs employed for the shelters. All had a basic rectangular floor plan, most had a central front entry opening, with a window opening at either side of the front entry, pitched roofs of varied designs, and also variations to the exterior detailing.³⁰

Other buildings erected at the park in this period of development included the first gate house at the entry to the picnic ground. It was the wheel-house from a ship, re-located to the park and converted to its new use.³¹ The re-location of buildings and re-use of various materials at the park was typical of the practices employed by the State Gardens Board under Shapcott.

For about eight months of the Depression period, at the north-western corner of the park, another camp for sustenance workers was established. They were employed cutting firewood, which was transported by rail from Hovea Station to Perth for distribution by sustenance workers in the city.³²

In the 1930s, following the programme of improvements, the park became a popular destination for day trippers, and was considered 'a Garden in the Forest', with more than 20 miles of gravel footpaths and twelve bridges spanning the brooks. There were swimming pools at Jane Brook and also at Rocky Pool, with diving boards, landing steps, and dressing sheds provided for park visitors.³³ The picnic shelters could be hired at a cost of 2s. per day.³⁴ In 1935, photographs show views across the Jane Brook swimming pool with rock terraces rising from the brook on the south side, rustic shelters, the Church, Princess Betty's Cottage, and views by the paths etc.³⁵

Most of the park visitors came by train to Hovea Station, about two kilometres beyond the picnic area. Hovea remained the rail stop for the park until 1936, when a railway station was built especially for park visitors. Located to the west of the picnic area, it continued in use until the railway

²⁹ Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports in CALM File No. 013402F3209 op. cit., 1960-67; and *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

³⁰ Album presented to Sir Charles and Lady McNess, 1935, Battye Library Photographic Collection, 7119B Nos. 62-65.

³¹ Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 26.

³² Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 26.

³³ *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

³⁴ Keith Tresidder, Senior Ranger, John Forrest National Park, January 2002. Note: In early 2002, a post in one of the shelters still bears the signage.

³⁵ Album presented to Sir Charles and Lady McNess, Battye Library Pictorial Collection, 7119B. Note: similar views remained popular photographic subjects through the 1930s, as in *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit. See also Battye Library Photographic Collection 816B/B6711-B6714, 816B/B6763-B6768 and BA351/33-34.

line was closed in 1966.³⁶

By 1939, in addition to the facilities for day trippers, a timber weatherboard cottage had been erected close to the National Park Scenic Drive, not far from the eastern exit gate, for letting to those who wanted to stay at the park for longer periods. The State Gardens Board recognised that there was 'a greater present need' for tearooms.³⁷ It was hoped that 'a more modest tea-rooms' might be built than that which had been begun in the 1930s, but not completed due to lack of funds, pending the opportunity in the future to complete the building first envisaged, and to add to the attractions of the park by constructing tennis courts and other amenities.³⁸

In 1939, a map of the national park shows rock terraces built on the slope leading down to the swimming pool on Jane Brook. The area west of Glen Brook to the south-west is shown as thickly wooded, and farther west as timbered slopes. The map shows National Park Scenic Drive and the entry road to a carpark for buses and a carpark for cars, located in proximity to the picnic ground and tearoom. Paths and tracks are shown including along both sides of Glen Brook and Jane Brook, to Hovea Falls and to National Park Falls, to the rock features named Bulldog Rock, Elephant Rock, Table Rock and Lion's Head Rock, to the lookout, and to the entrance gate. There are 11 shelters: five adjacent to a path at the south side of Jane Brook, two adjacent to a path at the north side of the brook, two in the vicinity of Bulldog Rock, and one at the west side of Glen Brook, to the south of the church, and one in the area to the south-west of the National Park Siding. Other structures that are part of the rustic theme include the Church (picnic shelter), Princess Betty's Cottage, and the Dream Well. There are three Ladies' Lavatories, one Gents' Lavatory, one Ladies' Dressing Shed, and one Gents' Dressing Shed.³⁹

A promotional booklet, *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* drew attention to the special attractions of the park, including 'Distinctive Wildflowers', which in spring provided 'a glorious display ... throughout the vast area. Lifting royally above the green is the rich violet hovea, followed by the blue leschenaultia, while the hillsides are showered with green wattle.⁴⁰

In the period 1939-44, a number of buildings were re-located to the park from the Zoological Gardens, South Perth, including 'at least one set of toilets', and a work shed/work shop, formerly the monkey enclosure, which was consequently referred to as the 'monkey hut.'⁴¹ The former monkey enclosure was dismantled when a new workshop was built in early 1957.⁴² Pat Edwards (nee De Atta), daughter of the park superintendent, believes

³⁶ Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 26.

³⁷ *The State Gardens Board: Twenty Years Progress and Policy 1919-39* (Government Printer, Perth, n.d.) p. 16.

³⁸ *ibid.*

³⁹ Plan in *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

⁴⁰ *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* op. cit.

⁴¹ Duxbury, George op. cit., pp. 26-27. Note: the gate house was removed in the late twentieth century. (Keith Tresidder, Senior Ranger, conversation with Robin Chinnery, January 2002.

⁴² National Parks Board Minutes SROWA Cons. 5849 Item 1, December 1958-May 1959.

that the tea-rooms were also re-located from the zoo in this period; however, another source records that the tea-rooms were believed to have been re-located from Canning Dam.⁴³ In the 1940s, a photograph shows the swimming pool, terraces and tearoom, with two pine trees of medium height.⁴⁴

In 1944, a shelter, similar in design and construction to the earlier shelters, was erected at the north side of Jane Brook, about half way along the path by the swimming pool to serve as a First Aid Post for the St. John's Ambulance Association.⁴⁵

Due to the nature of their construction materials, the shelters were prone to termite attack, highly flammable, and also subject to weather deterioration, thus both repairs and replacement were necessary from time to time. In 1947, there were 11 shelters in the park including the First Aid Post, four of which had been erected in the previous two years, indicating that only seven of the original 1930s shelters were extant.⁴⁶ It is most likely that the new shelters were built on or in the vicinity of the original shelters, and of similar in design and construction, as Pat Edwards recollects shelters in much the same areas in the 1930s and through the immediate post World War Two period.⁴⁷ The practice of building replacement shelters in the same vicinity was continued through the twentieth century, although a number of the later shelters did not adhere to a similar design.

The State Gardens Board was aware that after little work in the park during the war years, some up-grading of facilities was required. In 1947, inquiries were of zoos in the Eastern States as to the possibilities of obtaining platypus to introduce into the brook at the park as an attraction. The PWD was requested to draw up plans and specifications for the installation of septic tanks in the park, and the Minister for Lands was approached to obtain assistance from the Minister for Works to re-form and bitumenise the National Park Scenic Drive; however, the projects were delayed until the mid 1950s, due to the continuation of war-time restrictions on building and materials.⁴⁸

In July 1947, because a number of national parks had been established in Western Australia, the State Gardens Board recommended that the national park at Greenmount be identified by a new name, Forrest National Park. After further consideration, in late 1947, the park was officially re-named John Forrest National Park, after Lord John Forrest, surveyor and explorer,

⁴³ Pat Edwards (nee De Atta), conversation with Robin Chinnery, 15 February 2002; and Memo. Managing Secretary National Parks Board in National Park Leases SROWA Cons. 5777 WAS 2283 Item 0245155F320 (Created 1958) 30 January 1969, p. 80

⁴⁴ Photograph, 1940s, no source details, in Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 25.

⁴⁵ State Gardens Board Minutes, SROWA Cons. 5849 Item 2, 8 February 1944, p. 18; and Pat Edwards (nee De Atta) conversation with Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 11 February 2002.

⁴⁶ Hobson to Mr. Adair, and annotation in CALM File No. 013402F3209 Vol. 1 National Parks Picnic Areas & Camping Areas John Forrest Picnic Areas, February 1947, p. 1.

⁴⁷ Pat Edwards op. cit.

⁴⁸ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 8 July 1947-February 1955. Note: the project had first been suggested by the Secretary as a suitable work for the post-war period in 1943. (ibid, 8 June 1943, p. 9)

first Premier of Western Australia, and Member of the House of Representatives after Federation. The public announcement of the change was scheduled to be made at the opening of the Forrest Centenary Celebrations.⁴⁹

In September 1948, approval was given to the declaration of the road inside the National Park as a public road, and it was duly gazetted as such.⁵⁰ In November, approval was given for the construction of one new rustic bridge, for clearing a footpath from the main entrance gates to the swimming pool, and for clearing and forming a road on the north side of the swimming pool.⁵¹

In March 1950, a permit was issued by the State Housing Commission for the supply of building materials for the addition of living accommodation to the tearoom at *John Forrest National Park*. On completion, it was leased to Miss De Atta, who operated the tearoom, and she and her father took up residence.⁵² This building serves as office accommodation for the park rangers in 2002.⁵³

In September 1950, approval was given for the purchase of a pair of platypus from Healesville in Victoria. They arrived in March 1951, and were released into the brook, a glimpse of them being eagerly sought by many West Australian visitors to the park in the 1950s, before they disappeared.⁵⁴ In the early 1950s, in addition to visitors to the park who travelled by train or private motor transport, following a request from the State Gardens Board, the Tourist Bureau introduced special half day tours to the place in spring.⁵⁵

In the mid 1950s, 'shrubs etc.' were planted at the park, probably in the area in proximity to the carpark, tearooms, and picnic areas.⁵⁶ Following a request from the Park's Superintendent, Mr. De Atta, 50 flowering gums (species unrecorded were supplied and planted in mid-winter 1956, under the supervision of the Government Botanist, Mr. Gardner.⁵⁷ In the same year, green, black, red and green, yellow and bi-colour kangaroo paws, cat paws, and different coloured Morrison were planted in prepared plots. Works implemented included construction of about 400ft. of cemented stone garden walling and the approach to the small bridge.⁵⁸ At this period, about three dozen mature pine trees, believed to have been planted in the early 1930s, were growing on the left hand side of the road through the park from

⁴⁹ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 8 July 1947, p. 68; and Under Secretary for Lands to Under Secretary Chief Secretary's Dept., in National Parks-Control-J. Forrest Control (1947-74) Vesting & Naming SROWA Cons. 5777 WAS 2283 Item 012223387F320, 4 August 1947, p. 1.

⁵⁰ State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., 14 September 1948, p. 88.

⁵¹ State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., 9 November 1948, p. 95.

⁵² State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., March- September 1950, pp. 131-141.

⁵³ Site visit by Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 1 December 2002.

⁵⁴ State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., 13 March 1951, p. 151.

⁵⁵ State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., June-August 1951, pp. 159-162.

⁵⁶ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 17 April 1956. Note: Water was drawn from the metropolitan main at the eastern entrance to the park via a one inch main; however, pressure was very poor and supplies insufficient to permit watering the plantings. A suggested solution was to install a pump to make use of water from the swimming pool. (ibid.)

⁵⁷ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., April- September 1956.

⁵⁸ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., July 1956, pp. 313-314.

Entrance No. 1. Board members considered that they 'looked foreign, or out of place among the trees and vegetation of local character' and the pines were removed in the late 1950s.⁵⁹

Through the 1950s, *John Forrest National Park* was a popular picnic destination, especially in the spring when the wildflowers were in bloom. There were some 80-90 wood-fired barbecues in the picnic area. There was also an ever-present risk of fire. On 25 February 1957, a fire in the vicinity of the Jane Brook swimming pool burnt out c. 100 acres of the park, and one shelter was destroyed. In the latter part of the twentieth century, gas and electric barbecues have been installed, reducing the risk of fire.⁶⁰

In 1957, the State Gardens Board was superseded by the National Parks Board of Western Australia, under the Minister for Lands.⁶¹

Through the late 1950s, the 1960s and into the 1970s, further improvements were made to the place, in particular in the recreation area, including more stone walling, terracing and garden beds, bridges over Jane Brook, and plantings of wildflowers, as well as planting of 225 *Darwinia citriodora* in experimental plots near the brook to the west of the tearoom, 'to further investigation of the Government Chemical Laboratories'.⁶² Facilities were also developed at Rocky Pool opening the way for increased of that area, which continued to be popular for many years, until continued vandalism forced the decision to remove facilities from this area and to close it to vehicular access in the late twentieth century.⁶³ (See Appendix for details of the various improvements.)

By April 1961, the area of the park had been increased to 3,468 acres, comprising Reserves A2994, A2995, A7537 and A8164.⁶⁴

In May 1961, the National Parks Board requested the Public Works Department to make a survey and estimate the costs for a dam to be constructed on Glen Brook, and it was subsequently built.⁶⁵

In May 1963, the PWD completed construction of the weir and gauging house on Jane Brook, above the swimming pool.⁶⁶

In the late 1960s, eight new shelters were erected, six being of tubular steel

⁵⁹ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 27 July 1956, pp. 322-323; and Managing Secretary's Report, National Parks Board Minutes SROWA Cons. 5849 Item 1, 10 December 1957.

⁶⁰ Managing Secretary's Report, State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., February-March 1957, and March-April, p. 370 and p. 378; and Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 26.

⁶¹ *Government Gazette* 22 March 1957, p. 913; and Hunter, John op. cit., p. 20.

⁶² State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 1956-58, pp. 313-378, quotation from Managing Secretary's Report, Jun-July 1957; National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., 1957-80; and Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports and Minutes Board meetings, in CALM File No. 013402F3209 Vol. 1 op. cit., 1958-61.

⁶³ National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., January -December 1961; and Dave Briggs, John Forrest National Park, telephone conversation with Robin Chinnery, 2 December 2002.

⁶⁴ Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports and annotations in CALM File No. 013402F3209 op. cit., March-July 1960, and September-October 1961; and National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., April- October 1961.

⁶⁵ National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., 12 May 1961.

⁶⁶ Managing Secretary's Report in National Parks John Forrest Swimming Pools CALM File 013404F 3211, 8 May 1963, p. 2.

frame asbestos clad, as at Yanchep, and two hexagonal timber framed shelters designed by R. J. Ferguson, Consultant Architect to the Board.⁶⁷ (See Appendix for details.)

On 16 May 1969, subsequent to a request from the National Parks Board, the Swan View tunnel and portions of the Eastern Railway Deviation comprising Swan Locations 3731, 4936, 8204 and 8399, and the closed road abutting the northern boundary of Swan Location 4936, were added to *John Forrest National Park*.⁶⁸

In 1971, a new ticket office was built of mixed stone with a Marseilles tile roof, at the entrance, to a design by Robin Kornweibel from R. J. Ferguson's practice.⁶⁹

In 1973, improvements were made to the existing tearooms, and proposals considered for the building of a modern tearooms.⁷⁰ However, it was not until October 1977, that approval was given for the building of a licensed restaurant at *John Forrest National Park*, and the restaurant/tavern was duly built to the south-east of the recreation area.⁷¹

In the mid 1970s, following the introduction of orienteering in Western Australia, *John Forrest National Park* proved a suitable and popular place for this activity. The Orienteering Association of Western Australia produced orienteering maps of the park.⁷²

In March 1975, the National Parks Authority was transferred from the Department of Lands to the Department of Conservation and Environment. In 1976, following the passing of the National Parks Authority Act, the Board became the National Parks Authority.⁷³

Circa 1976, eight of the earlier timber framed shelters were extant, of which four remain in 2002. /The sites of two of the others at the northern side of Jane Brook are still discernible.⁷⁴

In the late 1970s and early to mid 1980s, *John Forrest National Park* was the most heavily used national park in Western Australia after Yanchep, popular with both local and interstate visitors, with around 58,000 visitors per annum in 1984.⁷⁵ A brochure produced shows paths in the main area

⁶⁷ Extracts from Minutes, Managing Secretary's Reports, Inspection Reports, and annotations in *ibid*, October-December 1964 to December 1966; and Minutes National Parks Board in *ibid*, September 1966-December November 1968, pp. 51-97.

⁶⁸ *Government Gazette* 16 May 1969, p. 1466.

⁶⁹ Superintendent's Report et al in *ibid*, October 1971, pp. 105-113; and Plan for ticket office, signed R. Kornweibel, 28 January 1970; and correspondence, 1970-71, in Accommodation and Services-Dept. Buildings-John Forrest National Park Construction, SROWA Cons. 5777 WAS 2283 Item 022448F1802/2 (1969-81).

⁷⁰ *The West Australian* 21 August 1973, p. 5; and correspondence in CALM File National Park Leases John Forrest Old Tearooms SROWA Cons. 5777 WAS 2283 Item 024515F 320, 1973-74.

⁷¹ *The West Australian* Eastern Section, 13 October 1977, p. 3.

⁷² Orienteering Association of Western Australia Orienteering Maps of John Forrest National Park, Battye Library Map Collection, B/7/26 (1975) and B/7/20/1 (1979).

⁷³ Hunter, John op. cit., p. 19 and p. 21.

⁷⁴ Keith Tresidder conversation with Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 11 February 2002.

⁷⁵ Jenkins, C. F. H. *The National Parks of Western Australia* (National Parks Authority of Western Australia, 1980) p. 10; and Superintendent Waterhouse to Exec. Director CALM in

and leading to the falls, picnic and barbecue areas, parking areas, and buildings, other than the shelters, including the ticket box at the entrance, toilets and change rooms, workshop, tea-rooms, the recently constructed restaurant/tavern, with the staff cottage and garage set at some distance. Mahogany Creek Dam is shown, and on Jane Brook, the gauging weir, swimming pool and dam wall, as well as bridges across these watercourses and Glen Brook. Trees are shown clustered along the northern part of Mahogany Creek and the eastern section of Jane Brook extending as far west as the children's playground. There are some groups of trees along the northern side of the swimming pool and on past the dam wall, in the vicinity of the tearooms, the south-eastern picnic and barbecue area, parking areas and toilet blocks. Other landscape features are not shown.⁷⁶

In 1980, a description of the park noted that the flora was typical of the Darling Scarp, including *Eucalyptus marginata* jarrah, *Eucalyptus calophylla* marri and *Eucalyptus wandoo* wandoo interspersed with *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, *Dryandra*, *Banksia* and *Acacia*, and that the wildflowers were a major attraction to the place in the spring.⁷⁷ By this period, the area of the park was 1577 hectares.⁷⁸ Further additions in the late twentieth century have increased the total area to 2,676 hectares.⁷⁹

In autumn 1984, two workers employed under a CEP grant of \$7,039 built four new shelters.⁸⁰

In 1985, the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) was formed, and National Parks came under its administration. With ever increasing numbers of visitors, it was considered imperative that the Ranger has an office within the main picnic area. The quarters attached to the former tearoom were turned to use utilised as office accommodation for the Ranger.⁸¹

In 1988, the route along the Eastern railway Deviation was developed as a heritage trail, for use by walkers and cyclists, as part of the Heritage Trails Network established as a Commonwealth Bicentennial Project.⁸²

In September 1992, CALM produced a Draft Management Plan for John Forrest National Park. The Recommendations included ensuring that management decisions regarding the conservation and restoration of places of historic interest in the park should adhere to the principles of the Burra Charter, continuing to protect the historic buildings within the park,

CALM File Accommodation and Services- Dept. Buildings- John Forrest National Park Construction SROWA Cons. 6083 WAS 2283 Item 024488F180, 8 August 1985.

⁷⁶ Plan prepared in 1978 in 'John Forrest National Park, Western Australia' (National Parks Authority of Western Australia, n.d.)

⁷⁷ Jenkins, C. F. H. op. cit.

⁷⁸ Jenkins, C. F. H. op. cit.

⁷⁹ Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 24.

⁸⁰ Correspondence and Memoranda in CALM File No. 013389F3203 National Park Development John Forrest Vol. 1, 6 April 1984.

⁸¹ Ron Waterhouse, conversation with Robin Chinnery, site visit, February 2002.

⁸² Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 27; and O'Brien, A. V. 'Heritage Trails in Western Australia, The Western Australian Heritage Trails Network' (n. d.) p. 2.

and ensuring that 'any cultural sites, buildings and structures considered worthy of statutory protection are recommended to the Heritage Council of WA.'⁸³ The Management Plan 1994-2004 reiterates these recommendations.⁸⁴

Weeds and non-indigenous species of plants that were invasive, including bamboo and watsonia, the latter originally planted in the park, have been a problem in the post World War Two period as they compete with the indigenous vegetation.⁸⁵

In 1997, the place was included in the Municipal Heritage Inventory for the Shire of Mundaring.

In 1999, 'John Forrest National Park Building Record' shows the buildings and paths extant in the main developed area of the park around Jane Brook and Glen Brook. There were 16 shelters, three toilet blocks, the former electric station that was not in use, the tavern, and the tearooms and park office. The plan shows the weir at Jane Brook and the dam on Glen Brook, with numerous small bridges and crossing points across each brook. An extensive network of paths leads through the area from the car-parks.⁸⁶ Around this period, repairs were made to the bridge over Jane Brook near Hovea Falls, including replacement of the railway sleeper decking which had rotted.⁸⁷

In January 2002, Considine & Griffiths, Architects, with Robin Chinnery, Historian, were commissioned to complete a heritage assessment of the shelters. It was not possible to ascertain without doubt whether any of the pre 1950 shelters are extant; however, four shelters (nos. 6, 14, 15 and 16 on CALM's plan) were determined to be the oldest surviving shelters and may pre date 1950. The various shelters continue in use.⁸⁸

In 2002, the suburban sprawl extends to the western edges of the park, in contrast with its relatively remote location from Perth at its inception and in the first half of the twentieth century. The main landscaped area of *John Forrest National Park* in the vicinity of Jane Brook, Glen Brook and Mahogany Creek retains the swimming pools, terraces, bridges, paths, garden beds, shelters and carparks that have been documented above. The garden beds are not planted with wildflowers as in the 1950s and 1960s to provide a spring display, but rather with shrubs that require less intensive management, as the labour force available is small and the budget likewise. The place continues in use for its original purpose, as a national park. The park, along with the John Forrest Heritage Trail, is regularly used for recreation, including its use by walkers, horse-riders, and cyclists.⁸⁹ Between July 2001 and June 2002 there was an estimated 98 000 visitors

⁸³ 'John Forrest National Park Draft Management Plan' (CALM, September 1992) pp. 49-50.

⁸⁴ 'John Forrest National Park Management Plan 1994-2004' (CALM, 1994) pp. 46-47.

⁸⁵ Duxbury, George op. cit., p. 25.

⁸⁶ John Forrest National Park Building Record, 1999.

⁸⁷ Dave Briggs, op. cit., telephone conversation with Robin Chinnery, 16 December 2002.

⁸⁸ Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd and Robin Chinnery, Historian, Heritage Assessment Shelters, John Forrest National Park for CALM, 2002.

⁸⁹ Site visit, Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 1 December 2002; and Dave Briggs op. cit.

to *John Forrest National Park*.⁹⁰

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

John Forrest National Park comprises a national park, about 2,676 ha. in area. Built features include bush shelters constructed of timber, with concrete floors and iron roofs, tearooms and park office building, two fee stations, bridges, three toilet blocks in the vicinity of the weir, tavern, and designed landscape elements built along a 'fairy village' theme.

John Forrest National Park is located at the crest of the Darling Range escarpment about 26 kilometres east of Perth, and about seven kilometres from Midland at the top of Greenmount. The only vehicular access is from the Great Eastern Highway, though the park is almost surrounded by roads, and Toodyay Road cuts through the north-west corner of the park.

Vehicle access in the park is controlled and confined to bitumen surfaces generally un-edged roads that loop through a portion of the park in the southern portion adjacent to Great Eastern Highway. In parts the roads are concrete kerbed on either both or one side-the kerbing becoming more dominant closer to the tavern/tearoom site. The grey kerbs frequently backed by grey blue metal road chippings appear at odds with the general rust orange of the laterite gravel and coffee rock featured elsewhere. The three entries are marked by modestly scaled standard CALM timber construction signage, without entry statements. There is a limited amount of native plant material reinforcement around the entrance areas..

The external edges to the Great Eastern Highway either side of the Park Road entrances presents a cohesive woodland which in landscape form extends across the median island and to the other side of the Highway. The vehicular access road, Park Road, meanders through the managed bushland to the developed area, following along a narrow range of contour lines, while the topography in relation to the road varies, so that there are enclosed tree lined vistas along the road, and from time to time vistas across valleys in the park, and to views to the distant city of Perth. Outside the developed area, there are few built features. The Rotary lookout that opens views towards the city is one of the exceptions. The lookout is simply an expansion of the road formation on a part of the road where the land falls steeply away from the formation, opening up a significant vista. The Rotary lookout is a simply built coffee rock construction wall, capped with a cement render coping. Near the centre is a masonry construction tablet with the Rotary emblem on it and a scar where a plaque was once located. White painted steel traffic bollards stand in front of the wall-detracting from its appearance

Informal trails, together with the old railway permanent way, provide a complex network of riding and walking trails through the whole of the park. Many of the tracks are gravelled while some areas of the permanent way are still covered with ballast. The entrances to the trails are signposted and steel booms prevent vehicular traffic. It is most likely that many of the trails

⁹⁰ Vistat figures, Conservation and Land Management
Register of Heritage Places - Assessment Doc'n
17/12/2004

in the network are part of the network established during the time in which the park was logged.

There are three main brooks that run through the park, Glen Brook running from the south to the Glen Brook Dam, Mahogany Creek that runs from the south-east to the Mahogany Creek Dam, and Jane Brook that runs predominantly east to west. Mahogany Creek joins Jane Brook near the old railway trestle bridge east of the picnic area, and Jane and Glen brooks meet at the picnic area, adjacent to the old railway bridge. The earth wall dam that provides water for park use is the only notable feature on the Glen Brook, while there are several features along Jane Brook, including Hovea Falls in the east, the gauging weir east of the picnic area, the children's pool and swimming pool in the picnic area, the rapids to the west of the picnic area, and then the National Park Falls 1000m further west, and finally Rocky Pool near the western boundary of the park. The whole length of Jane Brook can be walked within the park.

Two other creeks, Christmas Tree Creek that runs through the park from the north, and Parish Creek that runs from the south east to the west, are less prominent.

Apart from the dramatic natural landforms and those created by the railway formations, a number of rock features provide visual foci within the park, including Table Rock east of the picnic area, Elephant Rock south of the picnic area, and Bulldog Rock near the current fee station.

The managed bushland could best be described as Wandoo and Marri re-growth woodland. There are areas where bushland rehabilitation is taking place also. In much of the former cleared Jarrah woodland it would appear that Wandoo is re-colonising the slopes.

The indigenous landscape appears to be a cohesive, natural community typical of the ecological type associated with higher Darling Scarp woodland- the Northern Jarrah Forest Sub Region -containing *Eucalyptus marginata* jarrah, *Eucalyptus calophylla* marri, *Eucalyptus wandoo* wandoo, *Xanthorrhoea preissii*, *Casuarina fraseriana*, and *Banksia grandis*. Indeed portions of this botanical subdistrict are preserved in the *John Forrest National Park* together with Walyunga and Avon Valley National Parks. The Jarrah to the *John Forrest National Park* has been subject to extensive logging to an extent that much of the original forest now contains immature regrowth. It is also apparent that dieback- *Phytophthora cinnamomi* has also severely affected many of the larger stands-some of these remnant trees are clearly visible alongside Park Road.

Numerous wildflora of both native and exotic extraction were planted in to various parts of *John Forrest National Park* together with the rehabilitation of native plant regeneration areas. Some of this planting is clearly restricted to specific nodes such as the *Calothamnus spp* planted at the entrance to the *John Forrest National Park* off the Great Eastern Highway and appears to be part of the original landscape character. Much of the exotic planting however, appears unnatural, to even the untrained eye, such as the *Phoenix canariensis* Canary Island Palm and *Jacaranda mimosifolia* Jacaranda adjacent to the picnic spots. Much of this planting which continued through

the 1970's is presumably based on the concept of enhanced natural landscapes which have landscape roots in the picturesque tradition. As part of the planting, a large number of *Darwinia citriodora* plants were planted in experimental plots to the west of the tearoom, 'to further investigation of the Government Chemical Laboratories'.⁹¹ The purpose of the investigation was not documented in records relating to the national park. Representatives from the Wildflower Society WA are not aware of this planting for any scientific purposes, and anecdotal evidence suggests that the plants may have been trials for ornamental purposes only.

The managed bushland could best be described as *Eucalyptus marginata* ("Jarrah"), *Eucalyptus wandoo* ("Wandoo") and *Eucalyptus calophylla* ("Marri") re-growth woodland. There are areas where bushland rehabilitation is taking place also. In much of the former cleared Jarrah woodland it would appear that Wandoo is re-colonising the slopes.

The railway route and its features

Railway features stretch through the park on a roughly east-west alignment. The railway features have been assessed in their own right under the title *Eastern Railway Deviation* (1894 - 1896), place number 02660. *Eastern Railway Deviation* comprises the Swan View tunnel (1895), a masonry and brick lined structure at the western end of the park, three steel railway bridges (1920s and 1930s), and one wooden trestle bridge (1895) enclosed in a dirt embankment with a concrete culvert, together with the remains of permanent way formations, the National Park Siding (1936), and number of wells, and scatters of ballast. The line ascends gently to the east through hilly countryside featuring natural bushland, steep ravines and waterfalls. The tunnel is situated at the end of a long cutting, approximately 1 km from the reconstructed Swan View platform. Eastward from the tunnel, the first railway bridge (Jane Brook Bridge), is situated across the Jane Brook near the point where Glen Brook enters Jane Brook in one of the main picnic areas in John Forrest National Park. It lies approximately 100 metres to the north of the Ranger's Office in *John Forrest National Park*. The second bridge (Deep Creek Bridge), lies slightly to the north of where Mahogany Creek joins Jane Brook and lies approximately 500 metres east of the Jane Brook Bridge. The third bridge lies approximately 400 metres to the east of Deep Creek Bridge, while the fourth bridge lies approximately 200 metres beyond the third bridge. All of the bridges span the Jane Brook.

The recreation related cultural features of the park are located in the picnic areas. These are arranged around the Jane and Glen brooks and the alignment of the *Eastern Railway Deviation*. The cultural features in this area include the remains of the steel and earth covered trestle bridges, gauging weir, children's pool, swimming pool, weir, bridges, paths, rock edges, steps and features, fee stations, tearooms, park office, tavern, toilet blocks, surfaced roads and carparking. The features include a range of picnic shelters as well as sites where features have been removed, such as

⁹¹ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 1956-58, pp. 313-378, quotation from Managing Secretary's Report, Jun-July 1957; and National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., May-December 1957.

change rooms and picnic shelters.

Rockwork

A key feature of the picnic area is the paths and steps constructed in or edge by random coursed rubble rock work. Other features include rock construction seats, generally built into the sides of the paths, the rock terraces to the south of the pools, retaining walls and balustrade walls. The layouts of the stone construction elements are informal and define parking areas, paths and terraces. Many of the layouts achieve a picturesque effects and fit within the notion of the 'fairy village'. The construction takes the form of large blocks of random rubble granite, with intermittent stone construction piers, and wall tops completed in smaller spalls of coffee rock in the form of a curved coping. One of the more detailed and whimsical walls is the retaining wall at the base of the lower car park to the rear of the Rangers Office which features small vertically placed decorative stones in the centre of the coping. Seats are constructed in large flat pieces of stone, with granolithic seat bottoms.

The bush gardens planted to the walled garden beds with their associated gravel paths form a suitable transition from the built environment to the 'natural' environment beyond. The planting displays however are frequently overgrown and contain species that would conflict with current attitudes towards the retention of endemic plant communities. Cultivars of native plants such as *Callistemon* 'little John' and *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon' which are used as structure planting would not be encouraged as planting introductions.

Tall overhead irrigation pipes, which still irrigate well established native garden areas also conflict with current thinking and educational aspects of native bush areas. It would appear that much of this planting has in fact been overwatered, the plants exhibiting excessive growth for their type. A number of dead plants need to be removed from these areas.

Pools

The pools comprise a concrete construction gauging weir upstream from the pools, and then a children's pool with shallow water and swimming pool with deeper water. The sides of the pools have natural rocky edges. The pools were created by constructing a low concrete weir wall, with sluice gates at the centre, a concrete plank access way across the wall and a galvanized steel handrail running the length of the weir wall. The diving board has been removed, but a steel ladder leading up out of the water adjacent to the diving board location remains in place.

Foot Bridges

There are a number of bridges that span Jane Brook and Mahogany Creek and one bridge ruin. The bridges constructed in the inter-war years make use of recycled material such as rail tracks, with concrete toppings and simple steel balustrades or rustic timber balustrades. Bridges of more recent periods near the waterfall features are concrete construction with metal handrails. Some of these bridges are in poor repair and one has been partly dismantled, leaving two sections of railway track spanning

between the abutments.

The Picnic Equipment

The picnic areas contain low key external steel and timber furniture and an assortment of gas and electric barbecues of a painted masonry base. Most of the concrete bases to the furniture now stand proud of the surrounding ground levels and the furniture itself is of a low-key if not utilitarian character.

The Picnic Shelters

There are 16 picnic shelters in a park setting along the sides of sections of the Jane and Glen brooks. The shelters are constructed of rustic timber and corrugated iron, timber framed and iron with scantling cladding, and steel frame and iron with scantling cladding and all have concrete floors. Many of the shelters are built in locations or very near locations occupied by the original shelters, while others have been built in new locations. Comparison between current mapping and the mapping in 1939/40 indicates that there is a number of locations where shelters once existed and were not replaced. The most prominent of these was the church shelter, a shelter that was located on a plateau above Glen Brook on its western side.

The picnic shelters are arranged along paths along the sides of sections of the Jane and Glen brooks, and most of them face onto the brooks, though one or two of the most recently constructed shelters (1, 2 and 4) are some way off the course of the Glen Brook and are not visually connected to it. Historically shelters were also located near feature such as Dog Rock and Elephant Rock.

The vegetation in the recreation area could best be described as *Eucalyptus wandoo* ("Wandoo") and *Eucalyptus calophylla* ("Marri") re-growth woodland, with understorey species that include *Hakea* spp., *Trymalium*, *Xanthorrhoea preisii* ("Grass tree"), *Hibbertia* spp., *Allocasuarina* spp. ("Sheoak"), *Acacia* spp. ("Wattle"), *Calothamnus* spp., *Grevillea* spp., and *Darwinia* spp. Other trees include *E. calophylla* ("Marri"), *marginata* ("Jarrah"), *rudis* ("Flooded gum") *kruseana* ("Kruse's mallee") and *leucoxydon* ("South Australian blue gum"). Other species in the area include *Dryandra* spp., *Melaleuca* spp., and *Leptospermum* spp. ("Tea tree"). Though exotics were once a feature of the plantings in the recreation area, there are few exotics remaining such as the large *Phoenix canariensis* ("Canary Island palm"). The soils are sandy with granite outcrops. Many of the paths are gravelled.

The shelters are generally located adjacent to well established and historic park paths, with some of the more recently constructed shelters being located more informally in cleared areas (Shelters 1, 2, and 4).

Descriptions of the shelters follow and are dealt with in groups to reflect the approximate period of their construction or reconstruction. As the documentary evidence indicates, that almost all structures have been subject to alteration, reconstruction, and some to extensive re-modeling.

a) The earliest shelters

The earliest shelters are 6 on the west side of Glen Brook, 14 on the north

side of Jane Brook, and 15 and 16 on the south side of Jane Brook, slightly west of 14. All are sited alongside paths and are oriented to overlook the brooks. The topography is similar in each location, with the ground falling away from the fronts of shelters and rising to the rear, allowing ground levels and leaf litter to accrete behind the structures. Though the shelters share a common rustic aesthetic, they vary in their detail. At the time of their construction they were described as part of a 'fairy village'. It would be reasonable to describe them as Inter-War Rustic Carpenter style, though this is not a standard reference term. All shelters now have concrete floors, replacing their earlier earth floors. All are framed in jarrah sapling poles of around 3" diameter, with pole girts, wind bracing, rafters and verandah posts, except for shelter 15 which has a cantilevered front awning. Each has a gabled roof, sheeted with galvanized iron, and a gabled roof porch or canopy.

These shelters have a simple rectangular plan of about 12'6" (3.8 metres) x 7'3" (2.2 metres), with a single front entrance, sheltered by a porch or canopy, flanking windows and end wall windows. Rear walls are solid construction. The rectangular windows are framed with boards and there is notching of members that indicate where there were transoms and mullions in two instances (shelters 6 and 14). The construction is simply put together with notching of members and inconspicuous nailing.

b) Early 1960s shelters

This group of shelters was largely prefabricated in mild steel sections and brought to *John Forrest National Park*. Some are located on sites of earlier shelters. When originally brought to the park, they had sawn timber girts, corrugated fibro cement wall cladding and 'longline' galvanized iron skillion roof. The shelters were divided into two logues with picnic settings. These shelters are currently numbered 4, 9, 11, 12, 21, and 22. These shelters were built in a utilitarian manner and broke with the 'fairy village' notion. These shelters have been modified though time in a variety of ways. All fibro cement has been removed from the side walls, dividing partitions within the shelters have been removed and three (shelters 4, 21 and 22) have had their skillion roofs removed and re-set with gabled roof in sympathy with the original shelters.

Since the removal of the dividing walls within the shelters, this group is slightly larger than the original shelters. The floor plan is 16'4" (5 metres) x 8'8" (2.7 metres). The floors are concreted with scars left in them by the partition that once divided the shelter, together with shrinkage grooves in a cruciform pattern. The pattern of the corrugated asbestos can still be seen at the slab perimeter, confirming that the shelter floor was laid after the walls were in place. Each has six 2.5" (60mm) painted galvanized steel poles with steel cleats for girts. Some retain sawn timber girts, while others have bushpole girts. Where roofs have been re-pitched, the roof timbers are pine cut from re-growth, while claddings are pine scantlings from Mundijong. Each shelter has two steel tube and timber slat picnic settings.

Shelters 4, 21 and 22 have concrete floors, steel tube structure, pine pole rafters, king posts, and wind bracing, sawn timber purlins, a pitched

'longline' profile gabled roof, and weatherboard gable infill. The scantling clad wall extends from the bottom rail to a mid rail and is capped by pine plate. By and large, these shelters are in good repair. Shelters 4, 21 and 22 appear to have been sited in locations that did not previously have shelters, and are not oriented to the brooks in the same manner as the earlier shelters, and are all located on the east side of the Glen Brook.

Shelters 9, 11 and 12 retain a geometry that reflects the original intent, but have been modified in similar ways to shelters 4, 21 and 22. The original roofs have been left in place as skillions and the rear walls extend up to the eaves, but in other respects they are the same. These shelters are very utilitarian in appearance.

Shelter 9 near the old railway bridge is on a site created for it and set well back from the brook's edge, on a gentle rise. It has a stepped concrete apron across the front and the riser to the step is constrained by random granite kerbs. There is a gas bottle compound to the rear of the shelter. Shelter 11 appears to be located on a former timber shelter site to the south of the Jane Brook, as the 1939/40 mapping indicates a pair of shelters at the location of the present shelters 11 and 16. Shelter 12 is located on the north side of Jane Brook and is also in the approximate location of an early shelter.

c) The R. J. Ferguson designed shelters

Architect R. J. Ferguson designed two shelters at shelter locations 17 and 20, south of Jane Brook and east of Glen Brook respectively. Ferguson's design is a piece of rustic design more akin to the 'fair village' notion than its immediate predecessors and is of a more imposing scale than any of the earlier shelters, church picnic shelter aside. These shelters are based on a hexagonal plan with sides of 5'8" (1.7m). They have a centrally supported witch's hat shaped roof, characterised by a steeply pitched top section and a lower pitched bottom section.

Originally designed to have an earth floor, the shelters have concrete floors, bushpole construction perimeter posts, rafters, girts, and wind braces. One facet is left open for the doorway, and this is flanked by two facets that are clad to a dado height to create windows. The remaining three walls are clad to the full height and have been created by fitting lapped jarrah boards, captured top and bottom by external battens. The roof has sawn timber purlins and a corrugated iron roof, with rolled hip cappings, and a timber spire extending through the roof.

d) 1984 shelters

These shelters (shelters 1, 2, 5 and 7) were built with CEP labour and each shelter differs from the others. Shelter 1 is a simplified version of the early shelters, shelters 2 and 5 are strongly evocative of the early shelters, while shelter 7 differs from all other shelters in the park and is its largest shelter.

Shelter 1 is located to the east of Glen Brook on a rise on a site that did not originally have a shelter. The shelter is a simplified version of earlier shelters with a gabled corrugated iron roof and timber dado wall with a solid rear wall. It is a simple rustic construction shelter that employs some

contemporary construction techniques.

It has a 4.8 x 3.6 metre concrete base and the shelter occupies a rectangle of 3.8 x 2.5 metres within the slab area. The structure is supported on 8 tanalith treated pine posts set on painted steel stirrups. The girts, wind bracing, and plates are made of pine poles, but the purlins are sawn timbers. The walls are clad with pine scantlings with the bark left on and the gables are clad with weatherboards. There is no seating in this shelter.

Shelters 2 and 5, both located on the east side of Glen Brook, are similar and are based on the same plan as shelter 1, but with a porch extension similar to the early shelters. Neither shelter is on an historic shelter site. There are minor differences between the two shelters. Shelter 2 has a gable roof and has a solid rear wall, while shelter 5 has a small window in the rear wall and a hipped roof. Both have painted corrugated iron roof

Shelter 7 is located near the carpark below the ticket station, alongside the east side of the Glen Brook. This shelter takes the elements of shelter 1 and then incorporates a large skillion addition on the southern side. The northern side is a gable roof structure with four rectangular windows, and the south side of the building extends to double the side of the shelter under the skillion roof, with an open southern elevation and dado height walls to the east and west. All openings and the top rail of the dado are treated in scantlings. There are two picnic settings in the shelter.

Fee stations

There are two fee stations, the earlier station located within the picnic area, and the more recent station located at the junction of Park Road and the entrance to the picnic area.

The first station is a simple rectangular building constructed in random course rubble with a hipped Marseilles pattern tiled roof, without gutters. It has a steel clad door, and two window openings and is surrounded by bitumen paving

The more recent station is a steel framed gabled roof structure that provides shelter for entering vehicles and staff, together with a small office cabin constructed in random course rubble with extensive areas of aluminium framed glazing. Kerbed road surfaces lead into brick paved rumble strips adjacent to the station and away from it towards the picnic area.

Toilets

There is a small number of toilet blocks, one of brick and tile construction near the tearooms, one of concrete panel construction near the picnic area entrance and a further block at the north side of Jane Brook.

Tearooms

The Tearooms, now the Margaret Forrest Centre, is a timber construction rectangular plan building set on stumps with timber weatherboards up to window sill level, the fibro cement lining from sill level up to the eaves. The windows are three pane casement sashes. The most striking feature of this building is the corrugated iron hipped roof, and sunhoods bracketed off the walls below the roof line. There are replacement doors and a set of

recently constructed stone steps to the main entrance.

Ranger's Office

The ranger's office is located adjacent the Margaret Forrest Centre and follows a similar pattern to it, minus the sunhood motif. The building was constructed as a quarters to the tearoom and though used as an office retains its layout intact.

Tavern

The tavern is a long low rectangular plan building with a low-pitched hip roof, and surrounding verandah. It is constructed in brick with a Colorbond custom orb roof. The place looks dark and un-welcoming from the exterior and has little aesthetic value. A period 'bush garden' frames the building.

Ranger's House

The ranger's house is located to the west of the current fee station, on the south side of the Park Road. It is set well out of view, back from the road and is surrounded by dense vegetation. The building is framed with a low-pitched roof and clad with fibro cement cladding boards.

Rocky Pool

Rocky Pool is located on the west side of the park and comprises a system of rocky banks and pools, a small concrete construction bridge, tracks, the remains of an unsurfaced carpark and the floor slab that is the only remaining evidence of the change rooms associated with the pool.

Car Parks

The off road car parks are either purpose built facilities such as at the tavern or extended road verges such as those adjacent to the Glen Brook dam. The purpose built carparks consist of two main types namely a reasonably informal, unmarked gravel surfaced area bound by low walls such as in the tavern example or a somewhat overly engineered marked asphalt car park with extensive grey concrete kerbing and planting nibs.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

John Forrest National Park was the first national park in Western Australia, the fourth in Australia, and one of the earliest in the world.

There was little development of the National Park until the Depression period, when through the philanthropy of Sir Charles McNess sustenance workers were employed on road making and other developments as noted above. Similarly, sustenance workers were employed on various works at Yanchep (gazetted an A Class Reserve in 1905, for the protection of flora and fauna and for a health and pleasure resort) including road construction, dredging of Lake Yanchep, re-named Loch McNess in honour of Sir Charles McNess, and the erection of residential facilities. Through the twentieth century, the two places experienced parallel periods of development, as the State Gardens Board and its successors developed landscaped areas at each place, in proximity to the water features. They sought to enhance the natural attractions of each place with the development of paths and garden

beds, at various periods planted with indigenous species and also introduced ornamental trees and shrubs, developed the natural water features to provide for recreational activities, provided picnic facilities etc. As additional attractions a number of animal species were introduced: koalas, trout and marron at Yanchep, and Black Swans, trout and platypus at *John Forrest National Park*.⁹²

The shelters at *John Forrest National Park* are unique in their original conception and much of their development through the twentieth century. The original concept of rustic shelters as part of a 'fairy village' attraction in the national park distinguished them from the shelters erected in any other national park in Western Australia. In the mid 1940s, the First Aid and replacement shelters were built to similar designs to the original shelters and of similar construction materials.

In the 1960s, the two hexagonal shelters designed by Architect R. J. Ferguson were erected as a trial for use in other parks. It has not been possible to ascertain whether any others were located as intended, and if so, whether they are extant in 2002. Two shelters designed and erected by Ray Orton were specifically for use in *John Forrest National Park*, and intended to fit well with the design and materials of the 1930s-40s shelters. The designs were well received and suggestions made to erect shelters to these designs at other parks may have been implemented, but it has not been ascertained whether this eventuated. The six tubular steel framed shelters were the same design and construction as shelters erected at Yanchep and at the Zoological Gardens. The asbestos cladding on some of these shelters was replaced with timber in 1984, and the roof line of some was modified also. The shelters at Yanchep are extant in 2002, and are scheduled to have the asbestos cladding removed.

The four timber framed shelters designed by R. S. Waterhouse were designed to reflect the design of the 1930s shelters, timber framed and with pitched roofs. They were unique to *John Forrest National Park*.

13.4 REFERENCES

Beautiful National Park *Beautiful National Park, Darling Range, Western Australia* (Government Printer, Perth, Western Australia, c. 1940)

Duxbury, George 'Premier Park' in *Landscape* Spring 2000

Jenkins, C. F. H. 'John Forrest National Park' in *The National Parks of Western Australia* (The National Parks Authority of Western Australia, 1980)

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Further research may reveal more information about the sites and development of shelters in the park through the twentieth century. Whilst a number of National Parks Board, National Parks Authority, and CALM files have been researched for the assessment, it has not been possible to carry out an exhaustive search.

⁹² Jenkins, C. F. H. op. cit., pp. 38-44; State Gardens Board Minutes op. cit., 1943-62; and CALM files

Further gathering of oral evidence and a wider public appeal for photographs may also yield further useful information about the place.

13.6 APPENDIX

Further detail of works carried out in the park from the mid 1950s.

In 1956-57, works implemented at *John Forrest National Park* included the construction of cement stone walling, including in the garden area to the left of the approach to the small bridge below the swimming pool and flower garden beds, as well as reinforcing sections of the bank along Jane Brook and rebuilding about 50 ft. of the stone wall on the northern side of the brook in the vicinity of the children's pool; a new bridge over Jane Brook east of the main pool, second hand railway sleepers being used in its construction; work on the swimming pool including replacement of the sluice gates and construction of a pipe from the dam to the pool; construction of a new residence for the Superintendent and the sale and removal of the old residence; and installation of equipment for the children's playground, which was donated by the Lotteries' Commission. Attempts were made to introduce trout into the dam, but with little success. Wildflowers were planted in the above-mentioned garden beds, including kangaroo paws, (including the black variety), and Morrison.⁹³

In autumn 1958, approximately 40 ft. of the stone retaining wall to Jane Brook was rebuilt, and paths were gravelled and bordered with stone; also a garage, obtained from State Building Supplies, was erected for the Superintendent's use. In June 1958, plantings in the garden beds at the park included black, red, green, and red and green kangaroo paws, cats paws, yellow boronia, *Eriostemon* pepper and salt, blue tinsel lily, yellow Morrison, *Tetralthea*, blue Leschenaultia, and pimelea white. Superintendent De Atta advised the Board that at least 1,000 wildflower plants were required for planting on the hillside near the church, and sought approval to make two trips to Muchea and Chittering Brook to obtain plants. He collected some 500 plants for the park. Subsequently, three new garden beds were developed and planted to provide a massed display of wildflowers in the spring, including one to the south of the church, and the path to the railway station was improved.⁹⁴

In 1958-59, further improvements were made to the flower beds and the graveled parking areas, and also to the recreation area in the vicinity of Jane Brook, where three stone barbecues were built and six tables and forms erected. One of the bridges over Jane Brook was re-built and painted; and 50 ft. of the retaining wall along the drive down to the tearoom was re-built by park staff. The look-out below the falls was demolished and removed, and the bridge below the falls was re-constructed and painted. Following the suggestion that a small pond on Glen Brook near the church would enhance the attractiveness of that area, inquiries were made to the

⁹³ State Gardens Board Minutes, op. cit., 1956-58, pp. 313-378; and National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., May-December 1957.

⁹⁴ Managing Secretary's Report, National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., June, August and November 1957; and National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., February-April 1958.

Engineer, Mr. Hunt, as to whether a small series of dams could be built in lieu of the proposal for a large dam investigated at an earlier date. In November 1959, the Board agreed that another garden bed be developed below the existing beds, to the left of the southern end of the footbridge over Jane Brook below the swimming pool.⁹⁵

In 1959-60, replacement lavatories of cement construction were erected by the park's staff, to a plan similar to that used at Yanchep with an extra compartment for each, at a site near the barbecue area. Subsequently the old toilet blocks in that area were removed. New workshops were built.⁹⁶

In October 1960, additional plantings were made in the garden beds in front of the tearooms. In November, a garage and engine room were completed at the tearooms, and a stone wall was built near the garage.⁹⁷ In 1961, seven new barbecue fireplaces were built in the park, four in the existing barbecue area near Glen Brook, opposite the church, and three on the northern side of Jane Brook.⁹⁸ Chatfield Industries Pty Ltd. built new toilets and change rooms near the Jane Brook swimming pool, where the building could be 'better camouflaged', and the earlier Gents' lavatories and changing rooms were dismantled and removed.⁹⁹ In 1962, a petrol and oil storage shed was built on a site below the leading hand's residence.¹⁰⁰

In 1966, six steel tubular framed asbestos clad shelters, were pre-cut and welded at Yanchep to the same plan as those at Yanchep, and then erected at *John Forrest National Park*, with concrete floors and tables fitted.¹⁰¹ Ray Orton, park handyman, drew plans for a small rectangular timber framed shelter, with the frame to be constructed of bush poles and the cladding of saw mill face cuts that could be erected cheaply at the park. The National Parks Board referred it to R. J. Ferguson, Consultant Architect to the Board, for his views as to the design and for any suggested modifications or improvements. Subsequently, Ferguson submitted his design for a hexagonal shaped, timber framed shelter, roofed with asbestos or corrugated iron, or of tile in some parks. The frame was to be of bush poles and the walls clad with face cuts, as in Orton's design.¹⁰² The Board decided to erect two hexagonal shelters as per Ferguson's design, 'a somewhat more ornate structure' which although more expensive to build, 'may perhaps add more of an air of distinction than is possible with the very simple design submitted by Mr. Orton', as a trial for their future use at

⁹⁵ Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports and Minutes Board meetings, in CALM File No. 013402F3209 Vol. 1 op. cit., 1958-60; and National Park Board Minutes op. cit., February 1958-June 1959. Note: additional barbecues have been built in the recreation area in the vicinity of the shelters and convenient to car parking at various periods since 1958.

⁹⁶ National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., March 1958 -March 1960.

⁹⁷ Managing Secretary's Reports in National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., 14 October 1960.

⁹⁸ Extracts from Managing Secretary's Reports and annotations in CALM File No. 013402F3209 op. cit., March-July 1960, and September-October 1961; and National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., April- October 1961.

⁹⁹ Managing Secretary's Reports in National Parks Board Minutes *ibid*, 14 October 1960.

¹⁰⁰ National Parks Board Minutes op. cit., June 1961-March 1962.

¹⁰¹ Extracts from Minutes, Managing Secretary's Reports, Inspection Reports, and annotations in *ibid*, October-December 1964 to December 1966.

¹⁰² Minutes National Parks Board in *ibid*, September-November 1966, pp. 51-55.

various parks administered by the Board.¹⁰³ They were erected in 1967, one south of and overlooking the swimming pool at Jane Brook, and the other 'adjacent to a large rock east of the old workshop', i.e. by Dog Rock, and completed when cement floors were laid and seats installed in spring 1968.¹⁰⁴

In September 1967, Melaleuca and Bottlebrushes were planted around the tubular steel framed shelters, which had been clad in asbestos by this date.¹⁰⁵

In late 1967, the roofs of the three new shelters were painted gun-metal grey to match the roofs of the other shelters, and the asbestos clad shelters were painted a pastel green 'to tone in with surroundings' in early 1968.¹⁰⁶

In 1968, the area below the dam alongside Glen Brook was prepared for plantings of wildflowers and shrubs, some of the latter being collected from Yanchep, although the species were not recorded. Everlastings were seeded amongst the shrubs and trees along the Scenic Drive, near the main gate, along the right hand side of the Main Drive opposite the barbecue area, and in the triangular garden bed opposite the tearoom. A walking path and new steps were constructed leading down from the tearoom to the Jane Brook swimming pool.¹⁰⁷ In mid 1968, just south of the church, an earlier rush-thatched shelter, which had fallen into a dilapidated condition, was replaced by a second shelter to Orton's design, built on the same site. The site of the earlier kiosk was cleaned up to be re-utilised for picnic purposes.¹⁰⁸

In 1969, further works were carried out at *John Forrest National Park* including the construction of new garden beds in front of the tearoom and adjacent to Parking Area No. 2 and stone walls around them, and a new walk from Glen Brook Dam over the nearby hill returning to the Scenic Drive on the north side of the dam, and installation of seven new metal barbecue fireplaces in the picnic area to the south of Dog Rock.¹⁰⁹

In mid 1971, further stonework was carried out on for the garden beds at the park, and wildflower plantings in the garden beds included kangaroo paws, pimelea, grevillea and other assorted plantings in July.¹¹⁰ Other works undertaken at *John Forrest National Park* in 1970-71 included terracing alongside Jane Brook to the north of the tea-rooms, and also in the area adjacent to the scenic drive in the vicinity of the wall of the Glen Brook Dam, and the building of at least three stone bridges across the brook. The

¹⁰³ Acting Managing Secretary to G. Edwards in *ibid*, 23 December 1966, p. 56

¹⁰⁴ Minutes National Parks Board in *ibid*, 24 February 1967, p. 60, and Work Report and Managing Secretary's Report in *ibid*, November 1968, pp. 96-97.

¹⁰⁵ Extract from Managing Secretary's Report in *ibid*, 26 September 1967, p. 74.

¹⁰⁶ Extract from National Parks Board Minutes in *ibid*, 29 September and 6 December 1969, pp. 79-80; and Managing Secretary's Report in *ibid*, March 1968, p. 84.

¹⁰⁷ Managing Secretary's Report and Superintendent's Work Report in *ibid*, May 1968, pp. 91-92.

¹⁰⁸ Extract from Board's Inspection Report in *ibid*, 28 March 1968, p. 85; correspondence and annotations in *ibid*, April-June 1968, pp. 85-92.

¹⁰⁹ Managing Secretary's Report, in *ibid*, September 1969, p. 98; and in National Parks John Forrest Swimming Pools *op. cit.*, April 1969, p. 26.

¹¹⁰ Acting Managing Secretary's Report, in *ibid*, July 1971, p. 102.

above-mentioned picnic area was established with barbecues etc., and some worn out barbecues in other areas were replaced. Toilets removed from the disused car park alongside the Government House grounds in St. George's Terrace, Perth, were re-erected near the Glen Brook Dam picnic and barbecue area.¹¹¹

In early 1973, the floor of the swimming pool was concreted, reducing the depth of the pool, and consequently diving was no longer safe.¹¹² In April, a three bay open front shed, 30 ft. x 24 ft. x 9 ft., with a gable roof, was purchased from J. Mitchell's Industries Pty. Ltd. and erected at the park.¹¹³

By 1983, some of the remaining original shelters were in poor condition, in particular the one nearest Mahogany Creek dam, and the one on the south side of the swimming pool at Jane Brook, both of which were removed around this period. Plans were drawn for four new shelters, with the intention to create new shelters similar to the original shelters, but with concrete floors.¹¹⁴ In autumn 1984, the four new shelters were built by two workers employed under a CEP grant of \$7039. Around this period, a number of young pine trees growing in the vicinity of the tearooms were felled. These were utilised for the framework of the shelters.

The new shelters erected included a large one below the barbecue area and another south of that, to the north-west corner of the southern car-park.¹¹⁵ In addition, four of the earlier steel/asbestos shelters (1964) were re-built, two of which were located above Dog Rock, and another at the southern end of the car-park.¹¹⁶

¹¹¹ *ibid*; Minutes, Managing Secretary's Monthly Reports, and Correspondence in Accommodation and Services-Dept. Buildings-John Forrest National Park Construction *op. cit.*, May 1970-April 1971, pp. 370-418; and Superintendent's Report in National Parks John Forrest Swimming Pools *op. cit.*, December 1970 and January 1971, pp. 31-32.

¹¹² Minutes of National Parks Board in National Parks John Forrest Swimming Pools *op. cit.*, 16 February 1973, p. 38.

¹¹³ Acting Managing Secretary's Report, CALM File 024487F1802 *op. cit.*, 2 March 1973, p. 452.

¹¹⁴ Ron Waterhouse *op. cit.*; R. S. Waterhouse to Director National Parks, Final Report - CEP Shelter J. F. N. P., in CALM File No. 013389F3203 National Park Development John Forrest Vol. 1, 6 April 1984.

¹¹⁵ Attachment to Report on Community Employment Program J. F. N. P. in *ibid*, 6 April 1984.

¹¹⁶ Ron Waterhouse *op. cit.*; R. S. Waterhouse to Director National Parks, Final Report - CEP Shelter J. F. N. P., in CALM File No. 013389F3203 National Park Development John Forrest Vol. 1, 21 May 1984.