



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.

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

The railway station building has a landmark quality due to its large size and prominent location overlooking Piesse Street. (Criterion 1.3)

With all its component parts constructed of similar materials and scale, *Yalgoo Railway Station Group* forms a precinct of railway buildings and facilities. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Yalgoo Railway Station Group has a close association with the expansion of the Midwest Region due to the success of the Murchison and Yalgoo goldfields at the end of the nineteenth century. (Criterion 2.1)

The design of the railway station building and the fact that it was the largest on the Murchison line reflects the confidence the Government of Western Australia had in the development of the town and region. (Criterion 2.1)

Yalgoo Railway Station Group is representative of the late nineteenth century work of the Public Works Department, under the direction of Chief Architect John Grainger, when infrastructure works were occurring at a rapid rate in an attempt to keep pace with the rapid influx of population and the need to transport mineral ore, livestock and other goods. (Criterion 2.2)

11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

* 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.

Yalgoo Railway Station Group is highly valued by the community of Yalgoo and surrounding districts for its amenity value as a recreational venue (c.1998) for a variety of social and community activities. (Criterion 4.1)

The distinctive design, prominent location and historical associations of *Yalgoo Railway Station Group* contribute to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1. RARITY

The Yalgoo railway station building is the best preserved railway station on the former Murchison line. Those at Mullewa and Cue are in poor condition and the station buildings at Mount Magnet and Day Dawn have been demolished. (Criterion 5.1)

Yalgoo Railway Station Group is important as a late nineteenth century railway complex with four complete structures that illustrate the layout operation of the railway station. (Criterion 5.2)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Yalgoo Railway Station Group is representative of the solid and distinctive style of public design produced by the Public Works Department, under the direction of Chief Architect John Grainger, at the turn of the century. (Criterion 6.1)

12.3 CONDITION

Yalgoo Railway Station Group is in sound condition. Maintenance appears to have been undertaken on a regular basis, although the masonry requires attention.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Yalgoo Railway Station Group has a moderate degree of integrity. Although the place is no longer used for its original purpose, its use as a community facility is compatible with the original intention of the place as a public building.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Yalgoo Railway Station Group retains a high degree of authenticity and the minor changes to the interior demonstrate the evolution of the place.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Attached are key sections of the supporting evidence prepared by John Taylor, Architect, 'Conservation Plan for The Yalgoo Railway Station (former), Yalgoo, Western Australia', (prepared for the Shire of Yalgoo, March 1997).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the documentary evidence, refer to John Taylor, Architect, 'Conservation Plan for The Yalgoo Railway Station (former), Yalgoo, Western Australia', (prepared for the Shire of Yalgoo, March 1997).

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the physical evidence, refer to John Taylor, Architect, 'Conservation Plan for The Yalgoo Railway Station (former), Yalgoo, Western Australia', (prepared for the Shire of Yalgoo, March 1997).

13.3 REFERENCES

John Taylor, Architect, 'Conservation Plan for The Yalgoo Railway Station (former), Yalgoo, Western Australia', (prepared for the Shire of Yalgoo, March 1997).

13.4 FURTHER RESEARCH
