



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 3.11.2 Developing sources of fresh local produce

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 104 Land allocation and subdivision
- 310 Manufacturing and processing
- 603 Local heroes and battlers

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Maley's Mill at Greenough has considerable importance to Western Australians for its aesthetic characteristics. The place is a component of the Greenough Front Flats area which is a historic precinct. (Criterion 1.1)

It also has aesthetic value for the picturesque quality of the building located within a rural landscape – a characteristic of several places within the precinct. (Criterion 1.1)

Maley's Mill is a prominent landmark in Greenough. It is located next door to Home Cottage (Greenough Pioneer Museum) and is clearly visible from the Brand Highway. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

The place demonstrates aspects of Greenough's cultural and economic development, particularly during the earliest years of European settlement. (Criterion 2.2)

Flour milling has historic value in Greenough as the 'granary of the colony'. Western Australia's early pioneers lived out a precarious existence and many faced starvation in the 1830s and 1840s. Therefore the development of a sustainable flour milling industry proved decisive in the continuing existence of the colony throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. (Criterion 2.2)

The place has historic value for its association with three individuals who each played a significant part in the development of flour milling in Western Australia. The buildings are a monument to the entrepreneurial activity of J.

* 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.

S. Maley, one of the leading figures in the economic and civic development of the Greenough Front Flats during the latter part of the nineteenth century. The place is also associated with George Shenton who was one of Western Australia's principal landowners and also the owner of several mills throughout the colony, and with Solomon Cook who was a leading engineer in the colony. Cook also built a mill at York, and several steam ships. Both Shenton and Cook were instrumental in the establishment of the Victoria Steam Mill. (Criterion 2.3)

Both *Maley's Mill* and Home Cottage are significant as the last remaining and key components of the large landed estate and commercial holding developed by J. S. Maley in the second half of the nineteenth century. Many of the buildings that formed part of this ambitious undertaking have since been destroyed, including the Golden Sheaf Hotel, North Greenough School and the Mechanics Institute. (Criterion 2.2 & 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Maley's Mill has some potential for archaeological research. (Criterion 3.1)

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Maley's Mill is important for its contribution to the community's sense of place, being part of the early and original settlement of the Front Flats of Greenough. That the place is highly valued by the community as a place of heritage significance is demonstrated by its inclusion on the preliminary list for the draft Municipal Inventory (Shire of Greenough). (Criterion 4.1)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Maley's Mill demonstrates to some degree an industrial process (steam milling) that is no longer practised in the State. The place is a rare example of a flourmill with a co-located general store. The interior of the store is in itself rare for its authentic nineteenth century shop fittings. (Criterion 5.2)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Aspects of *Maley's Mill* are common to nineteenth century vernacular buildings and nineteenth century steam mills. Within the Mid-West Region, other examples of similar steam mills exist. *Maley's Mill* is one of fifteen largely intact Western Australian steam mills built between 1830 and 1890. (Criterion 6.1)

12. 3 CONDITION

The mill complex (including store) is generally in fair condition with some parts in poor condition. Deterioration of the roof sheeting over the store and part of the mill is resulting in further damage to the internal fabric, and some areas of masonry have deteriorated due to rising damp and inappropriate repairs. The interior fittings of the store are relatively intact but in poor condition. The yard walls are in deteriorated condition, and the stables and milking shed are in ruinous condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

The place has a relatively high degree of integrity with most of the original structure intact and its previous form known. The principal detractor from the place's integrity has been the loss of the chimney and most of the milling equipment. The opportunity does exist to reconstruct certain building elements that are in ruinous condition and the interior of the store, but at this stage insufficient information is available to allow a reconstruction of the milling equipment.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

Maley's Mill retains a considerably high degree of authenticity. Most of the existing fabric predates 1900. The roof of the mill was replaced in the mid-80s with new corrugated galvanised iron, and although the place is thought to have originally been shingled, this finish is not inconsistent with the historic character of the place.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Attached are key sections of the supporting evidence prepared by Palassis Architects, 'Maley's Mill Conservation Plan' for Peter Rudduck in May 1999.

13. 1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence refer to Palassis Architects, 'Maley's Mill Conservation Plan' for Peter Rudduck in May 1999.

13. 2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Physical Evidence refer to Palassis Architects, 'Maley's Mill Conservation Plan' for Peter Rudduck in May 1999.

13. 3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a Comparative Analysis refer to Palassis Architects, 'Maley's Mill Conservation Plan' for Peter Rudduck in May 1999.

13. 4 REFERENCES

Palassis Architects, 'Maley's Mill Conservation Plan' for Peter Rudduck in May 1999.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH
