



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 2450
2. **NAME** *Perth Modern School* (1910-13; 1917; 1920-22; 1938-41; 1950; 1958-63; 1966; 1969-72; 1975; 1979; 1986; 1997, 2001)
3. **LOCATION** Roberts Road, Subiaco
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
 Perth Suburban Lots 443, 448 and 449, being Crown Reserve 8899 and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Title Volume 3044 Folio 377.  
  
 Perth Suburban Lot 441, being Crown Reserve 8806 and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Title Volume 3060 Folio 500.  
  
 Swan Location 12610, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 2116 Folio 324.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Subiaco
6. **OWNER** The State of Western Australia (Reserves 8899 & 8806)  
 TVW Telethon Institute for Child Health Research (Loc 12610)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	16/04/1992
	Permanent Entry	14/12/2001
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	08/03/1977
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	28/02/1995
• Register of the National Estate:	Permanent	21/03/1978
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
*Perth Modern School*, a two-storey, brick and tile Federation Arts and Crafts style building (entrance hall, administration and classrooms - the 'west building'), a two-storey brick teaching block in the Post-War International style (the 'east building'), a Post-War International style gymnasium, a former caretaker's residence, and a general storage building all of brick construction, two timber framed weatherboard (and part asbestos) clad manual training buildings (one of them a former gymnasium), together with associated war memorial, entrances, pathways, frontages, forecourts, playing fields and

mature plantings and gardens, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the school played an important part in the development of public secondary education in Western Australia and is associated with the education of numerous persons who later rose to prominence within Australian society;

the 'west building' has exceptional aesthetic characteristics, particularly its external architecture and the architecture of its hall and foyer. The former gymnasium is important for the detailing and spatial quality of its former hall space and particularly the cruck framing used in its construction;

the place is important in relation to its former role as a special school for scholars and the many achievements of numbers of its students; the school produced the first Rhodes Scholars in Western Australia. The school has throughout its history been at the forefront of educational developments;

the place opened in 1911 as the State's first government funded secondary high school, with entry through a Secondary Schools Scholarship examination or the Modern School Entrance Examination. It remained a scholarship school until 1959 when it became a comprehensive school, in line with other government secondary schools;

the place demonstrates the demand for educational opportunities in secondary government schools from 1911 to the present day;

the 'east building' and the gymnasium are fine examples of the Post-War International style, of a grand scale and confidently sited;

the place retains its connection to many former students who maintain a sentimental attachment to the school; and,

the place is important for its role in the advancement of scientific education in Western Australia.

The 1970 library building and the 1997 technology centre have little cultural heritage significance and the 1980 prevocational building is considered to be intrusive.