



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.

The wording of this document has been adapted from Bowling Club Pavilion Conservation Plan with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 3.4.3 Mining
- 8.1.1 Playing and watching organised sport
- 8.9.2 Remembering public spectacles
- 8.10.5 Advancing knowledge in science and technology

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 209 Technology and technological change
- 402 Education and science
- 405 Sport, recreation and entertainment

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

With its simple form and strong charm, *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* is a fine example of a small scale timber structure in the Federation Filigree style. (Criterion 1.1)

The small scale and hipped concave roof of *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* contribute to its picturesque quality, adding to the townscape value of Coolgardie, which is one of eight historic towns designated by the National Trust in Western Australia. (Criterion 1.1 and 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion is a direct consequence of the discovery of gold near Coolgardie by Bayley and Ford in 1892, the declaration of the field in 1892, and the subsequent mass migration to this area by people eager to strike a claim of their own. The discovery of gold and the burgeoning town at Coolgardie signalled the further exploration and settlement of the remainder of what became known as the Eastern Goldfields area. (Criterion 2.1 and 2.2)

* 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.

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion is associated with the Western Australian Mining and Industrial Exhibition held in Coolgardie from 21 March 1899 to 1 July 1899, the primary purpose of which was to promote interest in the mining industry of the Eastern Goldfields and Western Australian industry as a whole. (Criterion 2.2)

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion is associated with Coolgardie's development as the mining, business and administrative centre of the Eastern Goldfields and is representative of the growth of social and recreational activities and facilities. In particular, *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* is associated with the establishment of the Coolgardie Bowling Club in 1907.

From 1907 up to the mid to late 1970s, *The Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* served as the clubroom for the Coolgardie Bowling Club, which was established in 1907 and continues to operate in April 2002. (Criteria 2.2 & 2.3)

Although the scale of *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* is modest when compared to other buildings constructed during the gold rush period, the ornate details and finishes of the small structure indicate a level of craftsmanship typical of this more opulent time. (Criterion 2.4)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion contributes to Coolgardie's communities' sense of place, primarily due to its associations with the Western Australian Mining and Industrial Exhibition in 1899 and its long association with the Coolgardie Bowling Club, beginning in 1907. (Criterion 4.1 and 4.2)

The listing by the National Trust of Australia (WA) and the inclusion of the place in the Shire of Coolgardie's Municipal Inventory are also a measure of social significance. Coolgardie is one of eight historic towns designated by the National Trust in Western Australia. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion has rarity value as the only remaining building from the 1899 Western Australian Mining and Industrial Exhibition. (Criterion 5.1)

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion has rarity value as one of a small number of small kiosk structures in Western Australia. (Criterion 5.2)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion is a rare example of a small timber kiosk purpose built for an exhibition in the late 1800s. (Criterion 6.1)

The ornate, as opposed to utilitarian, design of the kiosk is representative of the opulent nature of the Coolgardie gold boom. (Criterion 6.1)

12. 3 CONDITION

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion is in poor condition, and this is primarily due to its lack of substructure and support, a lack of consistent maintenance and poor

repairs. The removal of the substructure has resulted in the pavilion racking to the south and west. The insertion of the double swing doors has also resulted in deterioration to the original fabric, with the removal of interior lining and a section of bottom plate. Most of the roof sheets are loose, much of the exposed timber frame is splitting, and the cast iron finial panel has been removed.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion has ceased to be used for its intended purpose. Its subsequent use as a storage facility for the Coolgardie Bowling Club has brought about change, but allowed the original intent of the form and internal space to remain legible. Unfortunately the double swing doors have hindered the aesthetic value of the structure on the east elevation.

Although *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* is in poor condition and several elements have been crudely replaced, the design intent is still clearly visible. The integrity of the place is moderate.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Although much of the repairs to *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* have resulted in the replacement of original fabric with non-matching materials, the majority of the fabric is original material. Invasive investigations have not been undertaken, so that the original colour scheme, which differs to the present scheme, is unknown.

Although a practical solution to an immediate need, the insertion of the double swing doors detract from the elegant elevations of the pavilion and weakens its resistance to racking. As the west elevation demonstrates the original form of the east elevation, there is enough evidence to allow the removal of the doors and reconstruction of the timber hatches to match the original.

The authenticity of *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* is moderate to high.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Supporting evidence has been taken from 'Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion Conservation Plan', prepared by Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd together with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for the Shire of Coolgardie in July 2001.

Key sections used: 1.0 Documentary Evidence (p1-16), 2.0 Physical Evidence (p17-33), 3.0 Analysis of Documentary and Physical Evidence (p34-37), 6.0 Graded Zones and Elements of Significance (p43-49).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence refer to 'Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion Conservation Plan', prepared by Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd together with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for the Shire of Coolgardie in July 2001.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Physical Evidence refer to 'Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion Conservation Plan', prepared by Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd together with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for the Shire of Coolgardie in July 2001.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a Comparative Analysis refer to 'Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion Conservation Plan', prepared by Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd together with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for the Shire of Coolgardie in July 2001.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

'Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion Conservation Plan', prepared by Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd together with Kris Bizzaca, Historian, for the Shire of Coolgardie in July 2001.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

No documentary evidence has been found regarding the original construction of *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion*, in particular its place of origin. Local history has it that the structure was part of an exhibit that originated from France or Belgium for the purposes of display at the Western Australian Mining and Industrial Exhibition in 1899. There is no evidence to support or refute this notion.

Although it was removed from the exhibition grounds as part of a contract in 1901, the location of *Coolgardie Bowling Pavilion* between this time and its erection at the bowling club in 1907 is unknown. It is possible that the structure remained in storage during this time period.

The date of the modification of the east elevation's 'kiosk service' hatched into double doors, as well as other repairs to the structure are unknown.