



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 02389
2. **NAME** *Old Mill Theatre* (1899)
FORMER NAMES South Perth Mechanics' Hall
Mends Street Hall
Miss Burnet's School
Neeamara
South Perth High School
Raith Girls' Grammar School
Raith Church of England Girl's' Grammar school
St Ann's Kindergarten and Junior School
3. **LOCATION** 429 Mends Street, South Perth
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Perth Suburban Lot 429 being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume: 574 Folio: 69.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of South Perth
6. **OWNER** City of South Perth
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 27/02/2004
Permanent Entry 13/08/2004
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: Adopted 20/12/1994
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Old Mill Theatre, a Federation Free Classical style painted brick and iron building, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place and its landscaped grounds form part of a distinct and significant streetscape along Mends Street, and can be read as an integral component of the South Perth Historic Village Precinct;

the place is a modest but pleasing example of the Federation Free Classical style, designed by the architect Henry James Prockter;

the place, built in 1899, is representative of the development of Mechanics' Institutes in Western Australia from the mid-nineteenth century, and is a rare as it was designed to accommodate the secondary function of Road Board Office;

the place is highly valued by the local community for its use as an amateur theatre from c.1946 to the present (2004);

the place is valued by the local community for its historic, educational and cultural associations, and contributes to the community's sense of place through its prominent location in the administrative, commercial, entertainment and cultural centre of South Perth from 1899 to 2004; and,

the place is associated with people significant in the history of South Perth (and Western Australia) including May Gibbs, internationally renowned illustrator and author; Henry Prockter, architect; Thelma Jean 'Jill' Hargrave, educationalist; and Constance Ord, theatre director.

The weatherboard and brick additions to the rear (east) of the place have little significance.