



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)

- 6.2 Establishing Schools
- 6.3 Training people for workplace skills
- 6.4 Building a system of higher education

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 402 Education and Science
- 411 Institutions

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Both the Claremont Primary School (1893) and the former Claremont School of Art (1903) are competently designed examples of domestic scaled school buildings that have developed from single roomed schools to larger complexes over a number of development stages in an integrated manner through a consistency of style, form proportion, materials and detailing. (Criterion 1.1)

Claremont Primary School Precinct comprises an important component of the Claremont Town Centre, it continues the visual qualities established by the adjacent Claremont Park and is a strong visual component anchoring both the Bay View Terrace and Princess Road streetscapes. (Criterion 1.3)

Claremont Primary School Precinct contains a number of buildings which are visual reminders of the development of education in the State and which together represent the diverse role of the Claremont site in the development of teacher education and in the provision of primary, secondary and tertiary education at various times over the past century. Together these represent a unique cultural environment. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

Claremont Primary School Precinct comprises a group of buildings that have provided a wide range of educational facilities since the construction of the

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert & Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1995.

first school buildings on the site in 1893. The place has provided primary, secondary and tertiary education including domestic science education, specialist art education and teacher training through links with the adjacent former Claremont Teachers' College. (Criterion 2.1)

The establishment and rapid expansion of *Claremont Primary School Precinct* from 1893 mirrors the settlement and growth of the Claremont district as a popular, and relatively affluent, residential area in the early years of the twentieth century. The place has served as the first government built school in the district from 1893 to the present. (Criterion 2.1)

Claremont Primary School Precinct was associated with the Claremont Teachers' College from its inception in 1902, particularly through the establishment of the Model Country Schools set up in pavilion classrooms to train teachers to work in rural schools, and for its role as a 'Demonstration' school. (Criterion 2.2)

Claremont Primary School Precinct was one of only six metropolitan schools established as a Central School for the purposes of higher education in 1909. (Criterion 2.2)

Claremont Primary School Precinct was the site of the Claremont School of Art from 1968 to 1999 and was the training ground and exhibition venue for numerous prominent contemporary West Australian artists during that period. (Criterion 2.3)

The place has associations with Kim Beazley Snr. and Dorothy Tangney, teachers at Claremont Central School in the 1930s and 1940s, both of whom later entered Federal Parliament. Kim Beazley Jnr, Leader of the Federal Opposition, was a student at the school. (Criterion 2.3)

The development of the school as a Central School in 1909 reflected the philosophies of Cecil Andrews, Inspector-General of Education from 1903 to 1929. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Claremont Primary School Precinct is highly valued by the teachers, students and parents who worked at, attended or have been involved in the development of the various educational facilities on the site from 1893 to the present. (Criterion 4.1)

Claremont Primary School Precinct is valued by the arts community of Perth for the contribution of the place to the education in the visual arts field from 1968 to 1999. (Criterion 4.1)

Claremont Primary School Precinct has been an important focus for the Claremont community in its role in public education in Claremont since its establishment in 1893 and therefore contributes to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1. RARITY

Claremont Primary School Precinct is unique in Western Australia for the provision of a range of educational opportunities including primary, secondary and tertiary education, specialist art education and teacher training on the one site since its establishment in 1893. (Criterion 5.1)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Claremont Primary School Precinct is a representative example of the pattern of growth and development of Government schools in Western Australia. That is, in its extension from a single classroom school to a complex site in response to student needs and teaching requirements. (Criterion 6.1)

The pavilion classrooms at *Claremont Primary School Precinct* are representative examples of single classroom rural schools used for training purposes by the Claremont Teachers' College. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

The buildings on *Claremont Primary School Precinct* site are generally in good condition as a result of ongoing maintenance. The Claremont Primary School is in very good condition due to continual use and maintenance. The former Claremont Art School buildings, including the former painting studio, are in sound condition, but are currently unused and are not maintained.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Claremont Primary School Precinct has high integrity as it is currently used for its original educational purposes. Buildings not currently in use are capable of restoration and for continuing educational or community use.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Claremont Primary School Precinct has moderate to high authenticity. Although the buildings have been developed and extended since first construction in 1893, the changes have resulted from the requirements of ongoing educational use.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been prepared by Carmel Gosper, Researcher and the physical evidence has been compiled by Annabel Wheal, Graduate Architect. The assessment has been edited by Rosemary Rosario, for Heritage and Conservation Professionals.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Claremont Primary School Precinct (from 1893) comprising two main school buildings, various free standing classrooms, toilets and ancillary buildings, is set amongst mature trees on a site of approximately two hectares at the intersection of Bay View Terrace and Princess Road in Claremont.

The two main structures are the Claremont Primary School (from 1893) addressing Bay View Terrace and formerly known as Claremont Government School (1893-1904), Claremont Senior School (1904-1909)

Claremont Central School (1909-1937), Claremont Demonstration School (1937-1946), Claremont High School (1946-58) and Claremont Primary School (1958- present); and the former Claremont School of Art (from 1903) addressing Princess Road and formerly known as the Claremont Infants' School (1903-1958), an annexe of Hollywood Senior High School, (1958-1964), Claremont Technical College (1964 - 1981) and the Claremont School of Art (1981 - 1999). Other structures include the former Paint Studio located on the north eastern corner of the site, formerly the Claremont Household Management Centre (from 1908) and the Domestic Science Centre (from 1945), two pavilion classrooms (pre 1924), various classrooms, two sports stores, toilet blocks and recent buildings associated with the Claremont School of Art including a sculpture studio (1985).

The development of the site reflects the changes of use which have resulted from the growth of the Town of Claremont and from changes in education philosophy and practice generally.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1881 Fremantle - Perth railway line opened, and Claremont began to develop.¹
- 1893 Claremont Government School (Claremont Primary School building) established on present site.²
- 1896-8 Four classrooms added to Claremont Government School.³
- 1897 Teacher's Quarters built.⁴
- 1901 Sixth classroom added and reorientation of Claremont Government School towards Bay View Terrace.⁵
- 1902 Claremont Teachers' College built on nearby site.⁶
- 1903 Infants' School (former Claremont School of Art building) built.⁷
- 1904 Claremont Government School renamed Claremont Senior School and additions of two new classrooms and hall.⁸
- 1905 First additions to Infants' School constructed.⁹
- 1908 Claremont Household Management Centre built.¹⁰

¹ Geoffrey Bolton & Jenny Gregory, *Claremont: A History*, UWA Press, Nedlands, 1999, p. 39-43.

² Education Department of Western Australia (EDWA) Annual Report 1893, p. 6.

³ Public Works Department of Western Australia (PWDWA) Annual Report 1896/97, p. 79 & 1897/98, p. 95.

⁴ PWDWA Annual Report 1897/98, p. 124.

⁵ C. John Shepherd, *DEM - Claremont Primary School 1893-1993: Celebrating 100 Years*, Claremont Primary School, Parents & Citizens Assoc., 1993, p. 21.

⁶ EDWA Annual Report 1902, p. 4.

⁷ PWD Drg 9576, 1903, cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art Building (Old Claremont Infants' School)*, Building Management Authority, March 1994; EDWA Annual Report 1903, p. 39.

⁸ Shepherd, op. cit., p. 27.

⁹ PWD Drg 12032, 1905 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.

¹⁰ EDWA file 'Claremont Household Management Centre' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 1765/15, SRO; EDWA Annual Report 1908, p. 11.

- 1909 Claremont Senior School renamed Claremont Central School for the purpose of high school education.¹¹
- 1910-5 Various Additions to Central School, Teacher's Quarters and Infants' School.¹²
- 1914 First pavilion classroom built.¹³
- 1920s Model Country Schools operated at Claremont Central School in pavilion classrooms.¹⁴
- 1935-9 Infants' School underwent a program of renovations.¹⁵
- 1937 Claremont Central School became the Demonstration ('Dem') School.¹⁶ Claremont Parents' and Citizens' Association formed.¹⁷
- 1941 Additions to Household Management Centre.¹⁸
- 1946 Reorganisation of secondary education, and Central School reclassified as High Schools.¹⁹ Claremont Central divided into Claremont High, Claremont School and Claremont Infants'.²⁰
- 1946 Remodelling and additions to Household Management Centre, and improvements to Grounds.²¹
- 1948-9 Major additions and alterations to Infants' School including the removal of the original 1903 structure.²²
- 1951 Alterations and additions to Claremont High School (Claremont Primary School building).²³
- 1958 Claremont High School closed when Hollywood High built, although Hollywood students attended Claremont until building works were completed. Claremont Primary School opened.²⁴
- 1964 Former Infants' School becomes Commercial Studies Centre for Claremont Technical School.²⁵
- 1966 Teacher's Quarters demolished.²⁶

¹¹ EDWA Annual Report 1909, pp. 10-11.

¹² Infants' School: PWD Dwgs 1537, 1910 & 16809, 1912 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.; EDWA file 'Infants' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 4908/14, SRO. Teachers' Quarters: PWD Dwg 1088-27. Central School: PWD Dwg 1088-23 & 1088-39, Shepherd, op. cit., p. 40.

¹³ PWD Dwg 7983/14, in EDWA file 'Infants' AN45 Acc 1629 item 4908/14, SRO; EDWA Annual Report 1914, p. 9.

¹⁴ EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1497 Item 23/24, SRO.

¹⁵ Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p 173; PWD Dwg 28864 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.

¹⁶ Shepherd, op. cit., p. 85.

¹⁷ Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 173.

¹⁸ EDWA Annual Report 1941, p. 19.

¹⁹ Jenny Gregory & Lisa Smith, *A Thematic History of Public Education in Western Australia*, Centre for Western Australian History, 1995, p. 42.

²⁰ EDWA Annual Report 1946, p. 5.

²¹ PWDWA Annual Report 1947, pp. 12, 37.

²² PWD Dwg 31451, 1948 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit., & p. 4; EDWA Annual Report 1949, p. 23; PWDWA Annual Report 1947/48, p. 11 & 1948/49, p. 11.

²³ EDWA Annual Report 1951, p. 29.

²⁴ EDWA Annual Report 1958, p. 9; Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 205; Shepherd, op. cit., p. 152.

²⁵ *ibid.*

- 1968 Fine Arts course introduced at Claremont Technical College (fmr Infants' School).²⁷
- 1975 Alterations to Claremont Primary School to develop a new library.²⁸
- 1980 Alterations to Claremont Primary School to develop a new administration and practical area and landscaped reading court.²⁹
- 1981 Claremont Technical School becomes Claremont School of Art.³⁰
- 1991 Primary School reroofed to replace asbestos sheeting.³¹
- 1994 Heritage Assessment for the Claremont School of Art Building (Infants' School).³²
- 1999 Claremont School of Art (fmr Infants' School) closed.³³
- 2000 Heritage Assessment commissioned for *Claremont Primary School Precinct*.

HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT

History of Development of Claremont to 1900

The arrival of convicts, and with them the Pensioner Guards, in the Swan River Colony in 1850 marked the beginning of European occupation of the Claremont area. Originally known as 'Butler's Swamp' after early landholder John Butler, the district became established after the arrival of Pensioner Guards, who were given half-acre lots along the shore of Fresh Water Bay. Humble Street (Bay View Terrace) and Pensioner Row (Victoria Avenue) were two of the earliest streets surveyed in the area.³⁴

In 1853 a convict depot was established near the present-day Claremont Police Station for the purpose of building the Perth-Fremantle Road (Stirling Highway). Convict road gangs were based at the depot in the 1850s and 1860s, resulting in the establishment of basic commercial services.³⁵

In the late 1870s, the land around Fresh Water Bay began to attract attention, particularly with the opening of the Fremantle-Perth railway line in 1881. The name 'Claremont' was chosen in 1880 by Stock and Station Agent James Morrison, wanting to market the land to a class of people who may not have been attracted to a place called 'Butler's Swamp.' Claremont Station was built in 1886, and the commercial centre of Claremont subsequently developed along Bay View Terrace to Stirling Highway.³⁶

²⁶ Shepherd, op. cit., p. 158.

²⁷ Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 205.

²⁸ Shepherd, op. cit., p. 160.

²⁹ PWD Job No. 6/65/2, Drg A3 & A4, April 1980.

³⁰ Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 205.

³¹ Shepherd, op. cit., p. 165.

³² *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art Building (Old Claremont Infants' School)*, Building Management Authority, March 1994.

³³ Conversation with Claremont Primary School Principal, Roger Fitzhardinge, May 2000.

³⁴ Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 16-19.

³⁵ *ibid.*, p. 24.

³⁶ *ibid.*, p. 39-43.

Development of Education in WA to 1899

In the early years of the Swan River Colony, those children that were educated in the Colony attended either colonial schools or Catholic institutions, both of which became established after 1846.³⁷ There were few teachers in the Colony, and standards were low, with little control over the content of the curriculum.³⁸

The *Elementary Education Act, 1871* made education compulsory in Western Australia, and required that teachers adhere to a prescribed curriculum.³⁹ The Central Board of Education controlled overall administration. The system changed as a result of the gold rushes of the 1890s. The population of the State quadrupled,⁴⁰ placing immense pressure on the education system. In 1893, the Education Department was established in place of the Central Board, which centralised control and was responsible for providing many new government schools. In 1899, the *Education Act* made education at government schools free for children between the ages of six and fourteen.⁴¹

Development of Educational Institutions in Claremont 1829 – 1893

The first school for the Claremont area, known as the ‘Fresh Water Bay Public Mixed School,’ was established in 1861 in the building that now functions as the Claremont Museum.⁴² Prior to that, lessons for local children were held in the house of Mistress Ann Herbert from 1851.⁴³

The Fresh Water Bay School was built by government and convict labour. It closed in 1879, reopened in 1881, and closed again in 1883, due to the low number of enrolments.⁴⁴ In 1889, a new school, known as Claremont Government School, opened in a more substantial convict building in the park near Bernard Street. After a few years, the condition of this building was such that only half the students attended class. In the latter half of 1892 plans proposed the construction of a new school and Teacher’s Quarters on the corner of Humble Street (Bay View Terrace) and Princess Street.⁴⁵

Development of Claremont Primary School 1893 - 1899

The 1893 the new Claremont Government School was opened.⁴⁶ The building comprised one classroom with a verandah along the front (southern elevation), Teacher’s Quarters at the rear, and washrooms on either side of the Teacher’s Quarters. The total cost of construction was £495/19/6. In 1893 the first headmistress, Miss Brown, had 40 students. The number of students steadily increased due to the economic boom of the 1890s. In August 1896, works were contracted to a T. Game at a cost of £1.012.6.6 to carry out additions to the school.⁴⁷ Further additions were constructed by a J. A. Hall for £516.16.3 the next year.⁴⁸ Altogether, additions included the

37 C. T. Stannage, ed, *A New History of Western Australia*, UWA Press, Nedlands, 1981, p. 554-555.

38 Gregory & Smith, op. cit., p. 2-3.

39 Stannage, op. cit., p. 563-565.

40 *ibid.*, p. 233-234.

41 Gregory & Smith, op. cit., p. 7-12.

42 It opened as the Claremont Museum in 1975.

43 Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 30-31.

44 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 2-3.

45 *ibid.*, p. 3-5.

46 EDWA Annual Report 1893, p. 6.

47 PWDWA Annual Report 1896/97, p. 150.

48 PWDWA Annual Report 1897/98, p. 188.

construction of three additional classrooms, the extension and conversion of the original classroom into a hall, a washroom and two verandahs.⁴⁹

By the end of 1897 enrolments numbered 246, and a separate Teacher's Quarters was built on the eastern side of the school, fronting Princess Street.⁵⁰ By now it had become increasingly obvious that the land set aside for the school in 1892 was not sufficient for its needs. The Secretary for Education sought permission from the Claremont District Roads Board for use of land adjacent to the school on Bay View Terrace. This request was refused, and instead the Roads Board offered acreage along Princess Road (Reserve 141), despite the fact that the position of the new Teacher's Quarters would split the site in two.⁵¹

In 1898, the school had 270 students and five teachers, and a fifth classroom was added.⁵²

Development of Education in WA 1900 – 1914

Cyril Jackson, Inspector-General of Education from 1897 to 1903, oversaw the implementation of the 'New Education' in Western Australia. This movement involved education reform using psychological, philosophical and administrative ideas, which focussed on the child's individuality. To ensure a ready supply of quality teachers trained in all concepts of learning and methods of instruction in the revised curriculum, Jackson established Claremont Teachers' College, with residential accommodation for sixty students.⁵³

Cecil Andrews succeeded Jackson in 1903, and was responsible for laying the foundations for secondary education programs. The private system had offered secondary education, with a curriculum for boys in the classical tradition, and limited secondary education for girls, but Jackson's 1907 report showed that only one in twelve students in Western Australia continued education beyond primary school. Jackson developed 'feeder' primary schools that allowed children to proceed to Junior Certificate level. In 1909, six of the largest primary schools in the metropolitan area became Central Schools. They provided Commercial, Industrial and Domestic courses, and a three-year Professional course leading to the Junior Certificate.⁵⁴

In the early 1900s, new building designs with a focus on ventilation, lighting and verandahs contributed to making classrooms more comfortable. Different methods of construction were developed especially for the local climate; for example, 'pavilion' classrooms were built, with sliding shutters on three sides to allow for the free current of air. These changes were related to a growing awareness of health conditions and physical welfare of children.⁵⁵

A major impact on the design on Infants' Schools in Western Australia in the years before World War One was the philosophies of Italian doctor Maria Montessori. Montessori methods were adopted rapidly by the Education

49 *ibid.*, p. 95; Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 9.

50 PWDWA Annual Report 1897/98, p. 124.

51 Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 12.

52 *ibid.*, p. 15.

53 Gregory & Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 13-17; Stannage, *op. cit.*, p. 570.

54 Gregory & Smith, *op. cit.*, p. 19-20.

55 *ibid.*, p. 23-25.

Department, including the use of wide verandahs, light furniture and open-air teaching.⁵⁶

Development of Claremont Primary School 1900 – 1914

Overcrowding resulted in the expansion of the Claremont Primary School from 1900 to 1914. In 1901 a sixth classroom was added, and the frontage of the school was re-oriented towards Bay View Terrace, rather than Princess Road.⁵⁷

In February 1902, the Claremont Teachers' College was built and opened nearby on a site bound by Princess, Bay, Agett and Goldsworthy Roads.⁵⁸ The Claremont Government School then became the official Practising School for the College. This was to be the cause of constant battles between the schools and the Education Department for more facilities.⁵⁹

Enrolments for the Primary School continued to increase, with 416 on the roll by September 1902. The Principal of the Teachers' College, Cecil Andrews, requested that a new school be constructed near the Teachers' College, however Inspector General Jackson offered to build a new Infants' School and hall on the Primary School site instead.⁶⁰ This hall and two more classrooms were built for the Primary School in 1903, with the demolition of part of the original 1893 building. The proposed Infants' School was built in 1903 by Mizen Bros., Subiaco for £969. The original building consisted of a hall, hatroom, classroom and teachers' room.⁶¹ These constructions relieved the accommodation pressures on the Claremont Government School for a short time, but the demand for places was still so high that admissions were refused, and students had to be placed on a waiting list.⁶²

The building of the Infants' School resulted in Claremont Government School being renamed Claremont Senior School to differentiate it from the Infants' School. By 1904 the site comprised the Senior School facing Bay View Terrace attended by students from Standards III – VI, the Infants' School facing Princess Road for Standards I - II, and the substantial Teacher's Quarters in between.⁶³

In 1904 the school site was finally connected to the water main, resolving a long-standing issue between the school, Education Department and Board of Health concerning hygiene and sanitary standards. In the same year, with 524 students accommodated in only 8 classrooms, a hall and shelter sheds, yet another classroom was constructed at the Senior School. The Infants' School was also overcrowded, with 56 students in Year 1 alone.⁶⁴ Another classroom and a verandah were added to the Infants' School in 1905.⁶⁵

The matter of overcrowding was finally resolved with the approval for the construction of a new school to be specifically associated with the Teachers' College. It was located on the eastern boundary of the College on the corner

56 Gregory & Smith, op. cit., p. 25.

57 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 21.

58 EDWA Annual Report 1902, p. 4.

59 Based on correspondence in EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 3297/15, SRO.

60 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 22.

61 PWD Dwg 9576, 1903 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit; EDWA Annual Report 1903, p. 39.

62 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 23.

63 *ibid.*, p. 27.

64 *ibid.*, p. 28.

65 PWD Dwg 12032, 1905 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.

of Princess and Bay Roads and known as Claremont Practising School, or 'Prac,' (East Claremont Primary School). The school opened in July 1905, with three teachers and 107 students.⁶⁶ Overcrowding was further reduced in September with the opening of North Claremont Primary School (Swanbourne Primary School).⁶⁷

In 1905 there was no formal high school education in Western Australia as such. High School education was usually provided by the Standard VI teacher in conjunction with other lessons. However, by 1906, it became clear that improvements had to be made. The Central Schools system implemented in order to teach Standards VI to VIII resulted in Claremont Senior School becoming Claremont Central School in 1909.⁶⁸

In 1910, there were outbreaks of whooping cough and diphtheria, due in part to the low-lying and damp conditions of the buildings at the Claremont school. Various additions and improvements were made over the next five years to the Central and Infants' Schools.⁶⁹ These were to improve facilities for health reasons and to remedy deterioration resulting from white ants.⁷⁰ Additions to the Central School included a Science Room in 1911, now the Library.

The Claremont Household Management Centre was added to the school in 1908. Laundry Work classes (for girls) were the first classes to be taught. Repairs and improvements such as new stoves, chimney repairs, etc were carried out to this building between 1915 and 1940, which was also constantly subject to vandalism and break-ins, prompting better security and fencing to be installed.⁷¹

By 1912, the Infants' School had three classrooms and a hall, which was always used as a classroom. There were 232 children recorded on the roll. A large classroom and an extended hall were completed in 1913, at a cost of approximately £1200 by R. Chapman.⁷² Meanwhile, the Presbyterian Hall on the other side of Princess Road was rented as an extra classroom. In 1914, to help with the matter of overcrowding, the first of several pavilion-style classrooms was built at the Infants' School, costing £180.⁷³ This was used for a Montessori classroom.⁷⁴

Development of Education in WA 1914 – 1945

The First World War affected staff levels in schools in general, with many male teachers joined the defence forces.⁷⁵ The inter war period was characterised by a period of stagnation due to the Great Depression. The

66 EDWA Annual Report 1905.

67 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 30.

68 EDWA Annual Report 1909, pp. 10-11.

69 Infants' School: 1910 third classroom, [PWD Dwg 1537, 1910 cited in Fig. 7, *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.], and 1912 further additions [PWD Dwg 16809, 1912 cited in Figs. 8 & 9, *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.]. Teachers' Quarters: 1910 additions [PWD Dwg 1088-27]. Central School: 1912 additions [PWD Dwg 1088-23 & 1088-39], 1913 additions to south-east, Shepherd, op. cit., p. 40.

70 EDWA file 'Infants' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 4908/14, SRO.

71 EDWA Annual Report 1908, p. 11; EDWA file 'Claremont Household Management Centre' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 1765/15, SRO.

72 EDWA file 'Infants' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 4908/14, SRO.

73 PWD Dwg 7983/14, in EDWA file 'Infants' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 4908/14, SRO; EDWA Annual Report 1914, p. 7.

74 EDWA Annual Report 1914, p. 8.

75 EDWA Annual Report 1916, p. 8.

quality of education suffered, with increased class sizes and a halt to building programs, accompanied by a refusal to employ married female teachers.⁷⁶ Claremont Teachers' College also closed from 1930 to 1934. During the Second World War staff shortages once again affected schools. Expenditure on schools decreased to the level of maintenance only.⁷⁷

Development of Claremont Primary School 1914 - 1945

World War One affected staffing numbers at Claremont Primary School with some staff joining the defence forces, but student enrolments continued to increase. Accommodation problems resulted in further extensions to Claremont Central in 1915, however, there was little in the way of construction after this due to economic stringency as a result of the war.⁷⁸ Instead, the school once again hired the Presbyterian Hall in Princess Road at a cost of £1 per week. The hall was hired on a regular basis for several years. This prompted the building of a pavilion classroom at Claremont Central in August 1916, but, by the time it was operational, more student enrolments meant that the hall was still needed. Another three pavilion rooms were built and in use by January 1918.⁷⁹

As a rule, the Teacher's Quarters were as a rule let to the Claremont Central head teacher. However, in 1918, as the teacher had a large family, it was offered to Mr. Hill, the Head Teacher at the nearby Claremont Practising School. The condition of the house was so bad due to its low-lying situation and dampness that he refused to inhabit it, believing the health of his six children to be at stake. In 1919 major renovations and repairs were carried out to the Teacher's Quarters, and Hill and his family moved into the house in April 1919.⁸⁰

After World War One agricultural development, assisted migration, group settlement and soldier settlement schemes resulted in an increase in rural, one-teacher schools. Model Country Schools were established in order to train teachers in small, rural-style schools. A one-teacher school was set up in one of the pavilion classrooms at the northern side of the Claremont Central site, and another formed part of the Practising School site. In 1924, a pavilion classroom was built at Claremont Central, for use as a demonstration two-class rural school. Twenty-six children of all ages were transferred to the Model School, randomly chosen from Claremont Central. The model schools continued until 1930, when Claremont Teachers' College closed down.⁸¹

The onset of the Great Depression halted any building programs to the school. Woodwork and household management classes were reduced, along with staff salaries, science equipment and other resources. To add to the pressure, more students decided to stay at school after they had turned 14, as jobs were few. It was also the case that families were migrating from the country to the city in search of work, which further increased enrolments.⁸² There were 600 students enrolled at Claremont Central in 1931.⁸³

76 EDWA Annual Report 1932, p. 4.

77 Gregory & Smith, op. cit., p. 32-34.

78 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 45.

79 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 3297/15, SRO.

80 *ibid.*

81 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1497 Item 23/24, SRO.

82 EDWA Annual Report 1932, p. 1.

83 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 80-81.

In July 1934 Claremont Teachers' College reopened.⁸⁴ This relieved accommodation problems at the Central School, which used classrooms at the Teachers' College in 1934 and 1935.⁸⁵

In 1937, the *Education Circular* gave notice that head teachers of Demonstration schools, which included Claremont Central, Claremont Infants' and Claremont Practising, were to receive an extra allowance for coordinating the sessions. Thereafter, Claremont Central became known as the 'Demonstration' ('Dem') school.⁸⁶

In 1937, the newly formed Claremont Parents' and Citizens' Association was active in fighting for better toilet facilities after an outbreak of diphtheria, during which one child died.⁸⁷

In the late 1930s, the Infants' School was severely overcrowded. Classes were alternatively held in the Presbyterian Hall, Claremont Central pavilion rooms, or at Claremont Practising School. Renovations occurred in 1935 and 1939.⁸⁸ A one-teacher Model Country School was installed in the pavilion room at the Infants' School in August 1939, with 16 students attending.⁸⁹ In 1944 this was moved to Claremont Teachers' College.

From 1929 to 1943 Dorothy Tangney, who subsequently became the first woman Federal Senator in 1943 and remained in politics for twenty-five years, taught at the school. Kim Beazley Senior also taught at the school before entering politics in 1945. His children, including Kim Beazley Jnr, the present Leader of the Federal Opposition, later attended the school.⁹⁰

During World War Two, the children at Claremont Central became involved in the war effort. Their contributions depended on the teacher's skills, and variably involved knitting, packing parcels, and performing fund-raising concerts.⁹¹ The school was affected in other ways, with slit trenches being dug in case of air raids, and regular drills for children.⁹² The air raid shelters were eventually filled in 1946.⁹³

Despite economic stringency, the Public Works Department did some repairs and maintenance to the school buildings during World War Two, however the school gardens were generally cared for by students and parents.⁹⁴ A laundry area and extensions to the cookery room were built at the Household Management Centre in 1941.⁹⁵

Development of Education in WA 1946 – 2000

In the immediate post World War Two period Western Australia experienced rapid expansion, reflected in the growing demand for schools due to increased student numbers. In 1946 there was structural re-organisation, and Central Schools were reclassified as High Schools. There was still, however, a

84 EDWA Annual Report 1934, p. 15.

85 EDWA Annual Report 1935, p. 8.

86 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 85.

87 Bolton & Gregory, op. cit., p. 173.

88 ibid.; PWD Dwg 28864 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit.

89 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1497 Item 23/24, SRO.

90 Shepherd, op. cit., p109 - 111.

91 EDWA Annual Reports 1940, p. 11; 1941, p. 7 & 1942/1943, p. 8.

92 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 104-105.

93 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 185/45, SRO.

94 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 108-109.

95 EDWA Annual Report 1941, pp. 19-20.

shortage of teachers and classrooms caused by the growing student population. Graylands Teachers' College was established in 1954 to enable the training of more primary teachers. Teachers' Colleges were later established at Nedlands (1968) and Churchlands (1972).⁹⁶

In the 1960s, wide-ranging social reform had an impact on primary education, particularly in the adoption of child-centred learning practices, and changes in the building and planning of classrooms. The unit curriculum for primary education was introduced in 1969, which required classrooms to be flexible. A massive and continuous building program for schools across the State in the 1970s was significant in reducing class sizes.⁹⁷

Since the 1980s, social and economic imperatives have required that the Education Department respond with a more diverse curriculum, designed to cater for a range of interests and abilities, and to provide a pathway to the workforce.⁹⁸

Development of Claremont Primary School 1946 – 2000

In 1946, Claremont Central was divided into Claremont High, Claremont School and Claremont Infants'.⁹⁹ Various works were carried out.

The Household Management Centre became the Domestic Science Centre, and still experienced break-ins and security problems. A letter of complaint to the Public Works Department from the Director of Education in July 1945 described that the verandahs and lavatories were frequented by drunks at night, and 'rubber protectors' were constantly found on the ground. A fence and gate around the Domestic Science Centre building were installed shortly thereafter. The grounds were also improved with the planting of lemon, guava and orange trees, and flowering shrubs in 1946. A new fence for improved security was built in 1950, though break-ins still occurred.¹⁰⁰

In 1946, a new Manual Training room was built to replace the previous one that was destroyed by a fire in 1946,¹⁰¹ remodelling and additions were carried out to the Household Management Centre, totalling £2,431.6.0,¹⁰² and the grounds around the High School were bitumenised and paved to improve drainage.¹⁰³

In 1948, the Presbyterian hall across the road was rented at £1.10 weekly for the Infants' School due to accommodation problems.¹⁰⁴ In 1948 to 1949, additions to the Infants' School included a classroom, cloakroom, teacher's room, amenities, head master's office, four stores and a verandah. During these works the original 1903 structure was removed. The total cost of works was approximately £5,500.¹⁰⁵

In 1951 extensive alterations and additions were carried out at the High School, including the installation of a Bristol pre-fabricated classroom,¹⁰⁶ the

96 Gregory & Smith, op. cit., pp. 42, 45.

97 ibid., p. 47-51.

98 ibid., p. 60-61.

99 EDWA Annual Report 1946, p 5.

100 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 185/45, SRO.

101 EDWA Annual Report 1946, p. 11.

102 PWDWA Annual Report 1947, p. 37.

103 ibid., p. 12.

104 EDWA Annual Report 1948, p. 14.

105 EDWA Annual Report 1949, p. 23; PWD Dwg 31451, 1948 cited in *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit., & p. 4; PWDWA Annual Report 1948/49, p. 46.

106 EDWA Annual Report 1951, p. 29.

relocation of the staff rooms and two new shelter sheds. In 1956, the pavilion buildings were renovated and relocated to their present position.¹⁰⁷

After the Teacher's Quarters at Claremont ceased use for teacher accommodation, the building fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1966.¹⁰⁸

Claremont High School was closed in 1958, to make way for the new Hollywood High School, however, staff and students were split between the two locations until building works at Hollywood were completed.¹⁰⁹ When the Municipality of Claremont requested the use of the Domestic Science Centre as a kindergarten, they were refused, as the building had been adapted for use as a Manual Training Centre in 1959 for Hollywood students.¹¹⁰

In 1958, the Claremont Primary School was opened, absorbing the Claremont Infants' School and primary classes from the High School. The initial enrolment was 528 students from Grades 1 to 7. For a time, students from Perth Modern School attended Claremont while building works at that school were carried out.¹¹¹

In 1964 the former Infants' School became the Commercial Studies Centre of Claremont Technical College. A Fine Arts course was introduced in 1968.¹¹² Both courses operated until 1972, when the Technical Education Department became Technical and Further Education (TAFE), and courses were restructured. Claremont Technical College then became solely a Fine Arts facility.¹¹³

From 1968, Claremont was the main centre for Fine Arts studies in the State for students wanting to enter tertiary education at a Diploma level. It was a stepping stone for entrance into Fine Arts at the Western Australian Institute of Technology (WAIT) (now Curtin University of Technology), and the two institutions enjoyed a symbiotic relationship.¹¹⁴

During the 1960s and 1970s various classrooms and art studios were constructed north and east of the former Infants' School.

Following the threatened closure of Claremont Technical College due to lack of funding, the Claremont School of Art (CSA) was created as an annexe to Wembley Technical College in 1981.¹¹⁵ The CSA Foundation was established to support the operation of the school, which received minimal funding from the government.¹¹⁶

Modifications to make the building suitable for exhibition space were carried out in 1981. These included modifying the walls and windows of the main hall to provide temporary covers on the north wall, and to permanently cover

107 *ibid.*; Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 129.

108 Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 158.

109 EDWA Annual Report 1958, p. 9; Bolton & Gregory, *op. cit.*, p. 205; Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 152.

110 EDWA file 'Claremont' AN45 Acc 1629 Item 185/45, SRO.

111 Shepherd, *op. cit.*, p. 152.

112 Bolton & Gregory, *op. cit.*, p. 205.

113 Judith Hugo, (ed.), *A Spirited Place: 25 Years of the Claremont School of Art, 1968 – 1993*, Claremont School of Art, Claremont, W.A., p. 13.

114 *ibid.*

115 Bolton & Gregory, *op. cit.*, p. 205.

116 Hugo, *op. cit.*, p. 14.

openings in the south and east walls.¹¹⁷ The Sculpture Studios opened in 1985.¹¹⁸

From 1981 to 1985 was a 'golden period' for the CSA Foundation, which provided scholarships, artists-in-residence, workshops and camps to cultivate Western Australia's artists. In 1985 the CSA Foundation left the Claremont premises, and is now the Visual Arts Foundation.¹¹⁹ The Claremont School of Art continued to operate as an annexe of Wembley TAFE until 1990, when it became part of the Central Metropolitan College of TAFE. Due to restructuring of courses, the enrolments declined.¹²⁰ The Claremont School of Art closed in 1999.¹²¹

In 1975, alterations to the Claremont Primary School included renovations to create the existing library space.¹²² There were changes to the playground area in 1977, and in 1980 works including a new Administration and Practical Area, Reading Court and landscaping were carried out.¹²³ In 1991, the Primary School buildings were re-roofed to replace corrugated asbestos sheets.¹²⁴

In May 2000 the Claremont Primary School operated from buildings constructed for the Claremont Government School from 1893 which face Bay View Terrace. The former Claremont School of Art (former Infants' School) facing Princess Road is unoccupied, as are a number of buildings at the eastern end of the site. A playground is located on the site of the former Teacher's Quarters.

13. 2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Claremont Primary School Precinct is located on a site of approximately two hectares bounded on the north by Claremont Park, on the west by Bay View Terrace, on the south by Princess Road and on the east by residential development. The site contains two main groups of buildings and several ancillary structures. The buildings on the site range in style and age and most have been used for educational purposes since their construction. The site has been used as two separate educational institutions for most of its history and has developed accordingly. On the eastern portion of the site is the current Claremont Primary School (from 1893), comprising a main school building and several ancillary structures. On the eastern portion of the site is the former Claremont School of Art (from 1903) which also comprises a group of buildings. A landscape of open bitumenised areas, shrubs, planted beds and mature boundary trees unifies the site.

Claremont Primary School Precinct site is rectangular and relatively flat. A pathway bisects the site from the south eastern corner to the north. The area to the east of the pathway is on a slight rise and contains the former Paint Studio associated with former Claremont School of Art in a building originally constructed as the Household Management Centre (from 1908). This building is oriented north overlooking adjacent playing fields. The

117 *Heritage Assessment for Claremont School of Art*, op. cit., p. 5.

118 Hugo, op. cit., p. 11.

119 *ibid.*, p. 16.

120 *ibid.*, p. 19.

121 Conversation with Claremont Primary School Principal, Roger Fitzhardinge, May 2000.

122 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 160.

123 PWD Job No. 6/65/2, Drg A3 & A4, April 1980.

124 Shepherd, op. cit., p. 165.

remainder of the area east of the path is vacant land comprising some paving slabs, rough scrub and trees.

The main entrance to the Claremont Primary School is located on the western part of the site from Bay View Terrace. The main school building is located on the north western part of the site with bitumen carparks on both the northern and southern sides of the building. A wall of limestone columns with face red brick walls is constructed on the Bay View Terrace boundary and a brick paved path flanked by rose beds leads to the main entrance. To the east of the Claremont Primary School building is a bitumenised quadrangle with painted court markings. Several large, well established trees in garden beds are located within this area which has ancillary buildings located around its periphery. Forming the eastern boundary to this quadrangle are two pavilion classrooms. Beyond these is another bituminised play area with fenced cricket nets. This play area is bounded to the east by a low steel post and mesh link fence and the public footpath which bisects the site.

A landscaped area with mature trees and garden beds is located on the south west corner of the site with a playground area with play equipment further east and adjacent to the former Claremont School of Art buildings. The playground is located on the site of the former Teacher's Quarters (no longer extant).

The former Claremont School of Art is located on the south eastern portion of the site and addresses Princess Road. There is a cyclone mesh fence with steel posts on the Princess Road boundary. The former art school comprises several buildings including the main classroom block similar in size and proportions to the Claremont Primary School. (This building was originally the Infants' School.) Several other buildings to the north and east of the main block are associated with the former art school. These include the relatively recent Sculpture Studio to the north east of the main building and two rectangular classrooms to the north (c. 1960s). Several smaller timber framed and brick structures are located to the east of the former art school with a bituminised carpark between.

CLAREMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Buildings associated with the Claremont Primary School comprise the main primary school building (from 1893), two pavilion classrooms (pre 1924), a classroom building currently used for music, four store buildings, two toilet blocks and a gardener's shed.

Claremont Primary School Building

The Claremont Primary School building is a complex structure having been extended sequentially over various stages of development. The main structure was constructed between 1893 and 1912, and remains substantially intact from this time period. Generally the external walls are painted rough cast cut stone laid in a random pattern with tuck pointed joints. There is an entry porch on the western side which is timber framed with glazed doors, with fanlights and side lights.

The roof comprises a combination of hipped and gabled roof forms relating to the progressive extension of the building. The roofs are of a medium pitch, approximately 30 degrees, clad in green Colorbond custom orb profile sheeting. There are several green metal cowls and green ogee profile gutters and round downpipes. The eaves overhang is generally approximately 300mm and battened in the traditional manner. There is a wider overhang to

windows on the eastern side of the building on each side of the entry with turned timber bracket supports. There are brick chimneys with brick corbelling.

There is an open verandah on the eastern side of the building with timber posts, roof framing and clear skylights. Adjacent to the verandah is the original school bell mounted on a timber post and still in use.

The doors are of various styles but are generally timber framed and timber paneled with glazing to the top half of the door and horizontal glazing bars. Similarly windows are of various styles relating to their period of construction. Generally these are double hung timber sashes with various glazing bars including some which have six panes to the top sash and split panes to the bottom sashes, and some split pane designs. The earlier sections of the building have vertical glazing bars whilst more recent windows have horizontal bars.

There is a 1945 extension on the south eastern corner of the building constructed of red brick with render to the main wall areas. The red brick is to the windowsills, entry porch and to the lowest three courses of brickwork. The extension has a hipped roof and a simply detailed chimney. Other details are designed to match the main building.

Recent alterations have been achieved using brickwork, which has been painted to match the existing walls. An extension to the north east corner of the building is timber framed and weatherboard clad. Although several additions have occurred to the building, the fabric of the various stages of development remains largely intact.

Internally the building comprises a central hall with seven classrooms, library, administration, toilets, change rooms, cloak rooms and staff room leading from it. There is a passage from the main hall to rooms in the 1945 section.

The hall has carpet to the floor, plaster walls and plaster to the ceiling. The roof form incorporates clerestory windows facing north and south with pivot four pane windows to each side. There are four queen trusses painted white.

Generally classrooms have flat or raked plaster ceilings, plastered painted walls with some original mouldings. The floors are carpet or linoleum over timber. The doors are mostly timber panelled with glass panels to top. Where they occur, internal windows are four-pane pivot.

There have been some alterations to rooms on the north eastern corner of the building to provide administration and toilet facilities. This has involved the removal of some walls and construction of stud partition walls internally. There have also been some alterations to open two rooms on the south eastern corner into one for library purposes. The library has a timber panelled ceiling with exposed timber trusses.

There is a brick paved learning court on the southern side of the building. Generally, the building is in good condition as a result of ongoing maintenance and repair.

Music Building

Located to the north east of the Claremont Primary School building is a free standing classroom block comprising two classrooms and a lobby, which is used for music. This is a timber framed rectangular building with a hipped roof clad in green custom orb profile Colorbond with two metal roof vents. The walls are clad with Jarrah weatherboards painted cream to windowsill height and flat fibro cement sheeting above. The windows are timber framed

double hung sashes with horizontal glazing bars. Doors are double timber framed and panelled doors, with glazing to top panels. Two timber steps lead to the entrance doors.

Pavilion Classroom Buildings

Two rectangular, timber framed pavilion classrooms dating from pre 1924 are located on the eastern side of the bitumen play area. One building is oriented north south, whilst the other is oriented east west. Both buildings are timber framed and are clad with weatherboards to the lower half of the walls and fibro cement sheets above. Each building has a verandah along one long side under the main roof. The roofs are gabled and are of CGI in short length sheets with replacement gutters and PVC downpipes. Four double hung, timber framed windows are located on the long sides of each building.

A small room is located under a skillion roof at the north end of the first building and the east end of the second. The doors are timber framed with tongued and grooved boarding. One classroom has a red brick chimney and a metal flue and the second has two metal flues. Internally the walls are painted plasterboard and the floors are carpet on timber. These buildings each comprise a classroom and a small entrance room, and are in good condition.

Toilet Blocks

There are two similar toilet block buildings. These are constructed of red brick 20 courses high with a 300mm high cream painted render capping above. A timber framed and slatted structure runs above the rendered capping and supports the roof.

The roofs are gabled, timber framed and clad with CGI in short length sheets. There are some clear corrugated sheets used for skylights. There are timber slats to the underside of the eaves overhang and no ceilings to the inside of the buildings. Both buildings have the original gutters and downpipes.

Both toilet buildings have a steel post and wire mesh link fence door to the western end and a boarded up opening to the east. The girls' toilet building has two wired safety glass, fixed pane windows to each gable end. The boys' toilet building has no windows.

Internally both buildings have concrete floors, plastered walls and toilet partitions with timber framed, flush panel doors.

Store Buildings

Four Store Buildings are located on the site around the bituminised quadrangle. These are all of relatively recent origin.

There are two identical sports stores either side of the music building. Both are rectangular, timber framed buildings with hipped roofs. The walls are clad with Jarrah weatherboards painted cream. The roof is of green Colorbond. Both buildings have concrete slab floors, two CGI roller doors and no windows.

There is a brick store with a hipped Colorbond roof, located to the south east of the Claremont Primary School Building. The store has a pair of white painted timber framed and panelled doors and a single door the same. There is one timber-framed casement window. There is a treated pine framed bike shelter with a CGI roof and a steel bike rack fixed to the timber posts adjacent.

There is a small timber framed store of an unusual shape adjacent to the boys' toilets. Rectangular in plan, the tin and weatherboard clad walls taper inwards towards the top of the structure. It has a low flat roof and a low timber framed ledge and braced door.

FORMER CLAREMONT SCHOOL OF ART

Buildings associated with the former Claremont School of Art comprise the main art school building (from 1903), the sculpture building, the store, kiln room, plaster area, four sheds and the painting studio.

Former Claremont School of Art building

The main former Claremont School of Art building (from 1903) is similar to the Claremont Primary School building in so far as it is the result of progressive development over a number of years. The building was constructed in stages from the early 1900s to the 1940s. The building is basically U shaped comprising a series of approximately eight former classrooms around a large hall, which opens onto a central courtyard area. The building is constructed of red brick with a series of gable roofs. A plinth, three courses high, with an angled rendered cap surrounds the building. A two course high rendered band runs around the building, seven courses above sill height. The entrance porch is rendered from eight approximately 600mm above ground level with face red brick below. The face brick also runs around the entrance opening. The roof to the main building is custom orb profile sheeting with brown painted gutters and downpipes. The roof to the porch is flat with a box gutter behind the parapet wall.

The windows are generally white painted timber double hung sashes with six panes of glass to each sash. The building has various window styles. Windows to the southern elevation have an awning window under the sash and a row of headers above and below. The windows to the east elevation have a fixed fanlight above the sash windows and two rows of soldier course bricks above. The windows to the west elevation have a sill height immediately above the rendered band and a rendered lintel above. Windows to the north are generally double hung sashes with two panes of glass to each sash. The front doors comprise a pair of double timber doors with a fixed fanlight above. The rear (north) elevation has an unlined verandah with timber floor boards and timber posts. There is a mural painted on the eastern wall of the west wing.

Internally the rooms generally have painted plaster ceilings with a ribbed cornice. The walls are painted plaster with curved corners and a moulded dado at 1300mm above floor level. There is a painted timber picture rail to many of the rooms. Generally, the floors are carpeted over timber boards and there is a timber skirting. Many of the fireplaces have been bricked up, although some mantles and surrounds remain. Internal doors are either painted timber framed with four painted timber panels or painted flush timber with a glazed panel to the top section. A portion of the back verandah has been infilled with fibro cement sheets.

The main hall is a large room with high-level clerestory windows some of which have been painted out. The walls are painted masonry with painted plaster to the east wall. The building is in fair condition and is unoccupied.

Classroom Building

The classroom building (c. 1960s) is a rectangular face brick building with a flat roof located to the north of the main art school building. The walls are a face dark brown brick with white mortar. A concrete floored verandah is

located to the south and has a low roof supported by brown painted steel posts. Doors to the classroom building are timber framed and flush panelled and are painted white. Sliding doors run from the classrooms. The windows are aluminium double hung sash windows with an awning window below. There are aluminium highlight windows to the north.

Internally there is a suspended ceiling, with no cornice and painted walls. The floor is covered with vinyl over a concrete slab.

Sculpture Building

Located to the east of the former Claremont School of Art building, is the Sculpture Studio (1985). It is a red brick building with two large studio spaces with a hexagonal floor plan linked by a stair case and foyer space. The walls are red brick with a darker brick forming quoins at the corners. The roof is metal deck on a low pitch with the eaves exposing the steel beams of the roof structure. A steel framed porch covers the entry and a large tiled mural is located on the west wall. The front entrance has two large aluminium and glass doors and there are several roller doors on the north elevation. All windows are white, powder-coated aluminium.

Toilet Buildings

There are two early toilet buildings to the immediate north of the sculpture building. These are red brick structures with gabled roofs and concrete floors. The doors are timber framed with steel post and wire mesh link gates.

Ancillary Structures

There are various ancillary structures associated with the former art school. These include a timber-framed weatherboard and fibro cement sheet clad store building with a new corrugated zincalume hipped roof. This building has six timber framed double hung windows with timber framed awnings above. The doors are timber framed with flush timber panels.

Adjacent to the Sculpture Studio is a kiln room with timber framed weatherboard and asbestos clad walls, and a gabled corrugated metal roof.

A plaster area is located along the Princess Road boundary and comprises a brick structure completely open to the north. The roof is steel-framed structure with a metal deck roof.

Four sheds are located to the east of the kiln room and store. They are generally standard sheet metal sheds with low pitched metal deck roofs and doors.

All the ancillary structures are of recent origin apart from one of the stores, which may be a former pavilion classroom, although it has lost a considerable amount of original detailing.

Former Paint Studio

The former Paint Studio building first appears on plans in 1908 (Household Management Centre) but has been extended and extensively refurbished since that time. It is a timber framed building with Jarrah weatherboards to sill height and flat fibro cement sheets above with timber battens painted green. The building is approximately rectangular in plan with a verandah along the central section of the north elevation.

The main roof is steeply pitched (approximately 40 degrees) and extends over the north facing verandah. It has a recent white Colorbond custom orb roof sheeting and three metal roof ventilation cowls. There is a brick chimney with

a simple brick soldier course to the top. The eaves are approximately 300mm wide. There are ogee gutters and round downpipes.

Three doors open onto the verandah which is approximately 400mm above ground level. There is a concrete step on brick footings at the western end and a timber framed disabled ramp at the eastern end. The verandah floor is timber and there are 100mm x 100mm timber posts supporting the roof.

The doors are timber panelled to lower section with six panes of glass to top section and glazed fanlights above. There is a pair of double doors at the north elevation. The windows are double hung split pane sashes in timber frames.

Internally, the building has two main studios and a small ante room with a brick fireplace. Painted plasterboard walls are in a poor condition. The floor is timber boards with several concrete areas located within the floors. There is a rail of unknown origin in the floor of the eastern studio. The building is unoccupied and in fair condition.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Generally *Claremont Primary School Precinct* followed the pattern of development typical of schools in the metropolitan area constructed from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Most started as one or two classroom schools but expanded as a result of a growing student population. As new classrooms were needed these were added to the original building in a manner which followed the style and proportions of the earlier building as closely as possible. There is considerable consistency of style amongst metropolitan schools as they were all designed by the Public Works Department. The building of School Quarters on the same site as the school was a common practice in the late nineteenth century, but was ceased by the Education Department in 1910.¹²⁵

Many schools were being built around the State in the late nineteenth century. Inner suburban schools from this period that developed in a similar pattern to Claremont include West Leederville Primary School; which includes a central hall, and Osborne Park Primary School; however, this was extended around a central playground rather than around a hall. No other school is known to have two separate school complexes on the same site.

Claremont Primary School was one of only six metropolitan schools established as a Central School for the purposes of higher education in 1909. The others were Perth Boys', Perth Girls', Fremantle Boys', Princess May (Fremantle Girls'), and Midland.¹²⁶

A large number of metropolitan schools are included on Municipal Inventories and several have been entered in the Register of Heritage Places. Other metropolitan schools that have been entered in the Register are *North Fremantle Primary School (fmr)*, *Applecross Primary School (original buildings)*, *Cottesloe Primary School*, *East Perth Primary School (fmr)*, *Osborne Park Primary School*, *Subiaco Primary School*, *Guildford Primary School* and *Victoria Park Primary School*.

¹²⁵ EDWA Annual Report 1910, p. 7, as cited in *Osborne Park Primary School Conservation Plan*, Heritage & Conservation Professionals, August 1997, p. 16.

¹²⁶ Gregory & Smith, op. cit., p. 20.

13. 4 REFERENCES

No key references.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH
