



# AN OVERVIEW

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE  
THE IDENTIFICATION, CONSERVATION AND  
SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL  
HERITAGE PLACES IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



# WHO WE ARE

The Heritage Council is a statutory authority established by the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990.

The Council is a body corporate and accountable for the finances and performance of the organisation under the Financial Management Act.

The Council comprises nine persons appointed by the Governor of Western Australia on the advice of the Minister for Heritage.

The Heritage Council is responsible for fulfilling a range of functions under section 7 of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, including in summary to:

- Advise the Minister for Heritage on heritage-related matters.
- Maintain the State Register of Heritage Places.
- Provide heritage advice to referring parties and agencies.
- Provide or facilitate financial or technical assistance.
- Prevent the destruction, deterioration of, or damage to, heritage places.
- Undertake the recording, conservation and presentation of heritage places.
- Encourage public interest in, and understanding of, the cultural heritage of the State.
- Promote or provide education or training.



**ABOVE:** Brookman and Moir Streets Precinct, Perth

## How we work together

The Heritage Council is supported by the State Government's Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (the department) in carrying out its statutory functions. The department also supports the Minister and is accountable to both. The department carries out the statutory day-to-day operations, projects and service-delivery on the Council's behalf.

Delegation of responsibilities from the Council to the department occurs within the framework of a formal delegation policy that is reviewed annually. Together, we contribute to the Government Goal of Better Places: A quality environment with liveable and affordable communities and vibrant regions.

## WHY HERITAGE IS IMPORTANT

Heritage is important in understanding the story of Western Australia - its history, identity and diversity.

Heritage is diverse and consists of places such as buildings, monuments, gardens, cemeteries, cultural landscapes and archaeological sites.

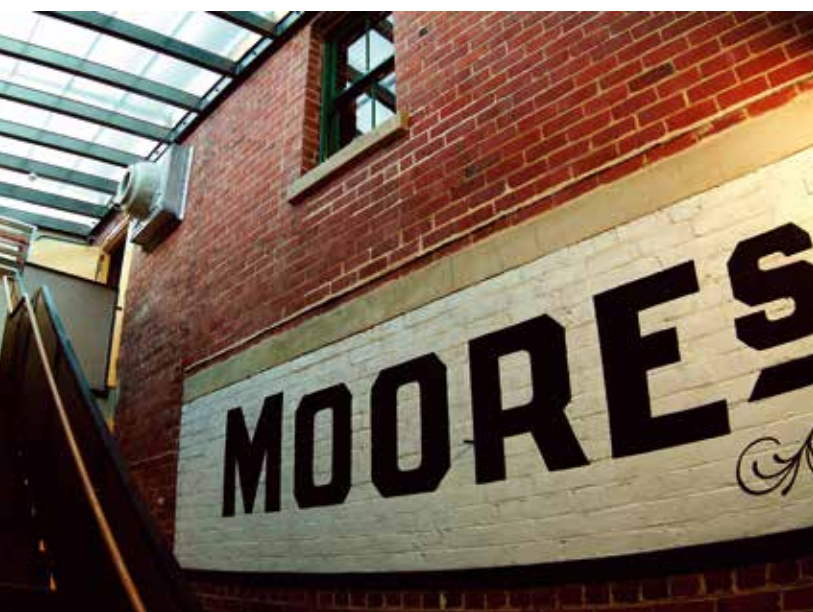
As a community, we share the responsibility to identify and protect what is important, and pass on these places to future generations so they will understand what came before them.

**Heritage is integral to the vibrant life and prosperity of Western Australia**

We work with the community to recognise and celebrate our significant heritage places and to assure their long-term viability into the future, through sensitive development and adaptation.

**We aim to work with Western Australians to recognise, conserve, adapt and celebrate our State's unique cultural heritage**

**BELOW:** Moore's Building, Fremantle



## The State Register of Heritage Places

The State Register of Heritage Places was established under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act (1990)*.

This is a statutory list of places that represent the story of Western Australia's history and development.

Entry in the State Register recognises the value and importance of a place and helps promote its conservation into the future.

Heritage places are entered in the State Register following a rigorous assessment and registration process, which includes extensive consultation with owners, local governments and other stakeholders.

The assessment considers a range of heritage values including the aesthetic, historic, scientific and social values of a place, in addition to its rarity, representativeness, condition, integrity and authenticity.

The department manages this assessment and consultation process.

Places that the Heritage Council consider meet the criteria for registration are recommended to the Minister for Heritage who decides if the place will be included in the State Register.

There are presently 1,370 places throughout Western Australia in the State Register.

Anyone can search the State Register by visiting [stateheritage.wa.gov.au](http://stateheritage.wa.gov.au)

## Adapting heritage places

Entry in the State Register does not mean a place cannot be changed to meet contemporary needs or adapted for a new use.

The department encourages sensitive development and new compatible uses of heritage places because this is the best way of assuring their future.

If development or change to a State Registered place is proposed, it is referred to the Heritage Council for advice, usually by the responsible local government.

The Heritage Council has authorised the department to deal with most development proposals.

Major and sensitive developments are dealt with by the Heritage Council, as the independent appointed board to provide strategic direction and decision-making.

Owners of heritage places are encouraged to contact the department to discuss any changes they are considering.

The department can provide feedback on ideas and provide practical advice on proposed developments

## Assistance to owners

A range of grants and incentives are available to encourage the conservation of our State's cultural heritage.

The Heritage Council, Lotterywest, Commonwealth Government and some local governments offer funding or incentive programs for owners of heritage places.

The Heritage Council's Heritage Grants Program provides assistance to private owners of State Registered places to undertake conservation work, such as structural repairs. Grants are available through an annual competitive application process.

Owners of State Registered places are encouraged to contact the department for further information or to find out if they are eligible for assistance.

## Assistance to local government

The department assists local government to identify and protect local heritage places, as well as providing input to broader strategic planning issues.

The department also provides education and advice on local planning schemes, heritage inventories, planning frameworks, community engagement, incentives and other heritage issues affecting local government.



**RIGHT:** Oakabella, Northampton; Former CBH Silos now Bunbury Silos Apartment Complex



## Western Australian Heritage Awards

The Western Australian Heritage Awards was established in 1992 to recognise outstanding commitment and contribution to heritage conservation and the promotion of heritage in Western Australia.

The Western Australian Heritage Awards are held annually and are widely acknowledged as showcasing excellence in revitalising heritage places, setting standards for future interpretation, conservation and adaptive reuse of places on the State Register.

## Fremantle Prison

Fremantle Prison, the State's only World Heritage listed building, is now a part of the department.

The largest and most intact convict-built prison in Australia, Fremantle Prison is now one of the State's top tourist destinations, offering a range of tours, changing exhibitions and venue for hire. Revenue pays for the conservation and maintenance of this significant site.

## Heritage tourism

The Heritage Council supports heritage tourism opportunities Statewide to stimulate the economy and promote Western Australian cultural heritage to visitors.

We work with tourism authorities, representative bodies and other stakeholders on advocating cultural heritage tourism as an opportunity to attract new visitors to the State and contribute to the Government targets for tourism and economic growth.

## OTHER SERVICES

### Website and publications

Our website provides general information on the Heritage Council, State Heritage Office, State Register, development, grants, award programs and events.

A range of publications are also available that answer common questions about the State Register, developing heritage places and other heritage issues.

We produce a monthly eNewsletter to keep you up-to-date on the latest heritage news.

### inHerit, our heritage places

inHerit is an online database that contains information on more than 25,588 State and local heritage places in Western Australia, including descriptions, images and spatial mapping.

### inContact with heritage specialists

Owners of heritage places can access the services of professionals, such as architects, engineers, historians and archaeologists, as well as builders and tradespeople through inContact, our online directory of heritage specialists.

### Library

A collection of information on heritage places is held in our library, which is open by appointment. For access please call the Librarian on (08) 6552 4000 or email [library@stateheritage.wa.gov.au](mailto:library@stateheritage.wa.gov.au).

### Heritage seminars and events

The department conducts a range of seminars and workshops that provide practical training and support to State and local governments, property owners, developers and planners.

A list of upcoming events can be found on our website.



**LEFT:** Former Midland Railway Workshops flanging workshop now the WA Police Operations Support Facility (Traffic Operations); Raffles Hotel, Applecross

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