



# AN OVERVIEW

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



# WHO WE ARE

## Heritage Council

The Heritage Council is the State Government's statutory advisory body on heritage.

The nine-member Heritage Council was established under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act (1990)*.

The Minister for Heritage appoints Council members based on their skills and expertise.

This diverse range of skills ensures that the Heritage Council is well equipped to deal with the identification, conservation and development of Western Australia's significant heritage places.

## State Heritage Office

The State Heritage Office is a State Government department that supports the Heritage Council and Minister for Heritage to identify, celebrate and promote the conservation and sensitive development of cultural heritage places in Western Australia.

The Office carries out the Heritage Council's day-to-day operations, projects and service delivery.



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

### The three core functions are to:

- Establish and maintain the State Register of Heritage Places, a comprehensive statutory list of places that have heritage value to the State.
- Ensure any development of heritage places is sensitive to its cultural heritage values.
- Promote awareness and knowledge of Western Australia's cultural heritage.

## 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, 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.

Our mission is 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 State Heritage Office 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 more than 1,350 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)

## Development referrals and conservation advice

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

The State Heritage Office 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 State Heritage Office 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 State Heritage Office to discuss any changes they are considering.

The Office 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.

Assistance is also available through the Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme, which offers a subsidy on the interest rate on loans for conservation work. The scheme is administered in partnership with the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and participating local governments.

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

## Local Government Services

The State Heritage Office's Local Government Services unit assists local governments to identify and protect local heritage places, as well as providing input to broader strategic planning issues.

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

## Heritage Advisory Service

The Heritage Council encourages local governments to provide a heritage advisory service. WALGA together with the Heritage Council has established a panel of preferred consultants to make it easier for local governments to engage a heritage advisor.

A heritage advisor supports the conservation of heritage places by assisting the local government and its community to effectively manage their heritage assets. For more information contact WALGA.

**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.

## Heritage tourism

The Heritage Council supports the Heritage Tourism Strategy, which aims to raise awareness of heritage tourism and its value in Western Australia.

The State Heritage Office works in partnership with external organisations to provide practical workshops on heritage tourism and interpretation, as well as supporting the development and promotion of heritage tourism experiences.

A dedicated heritage tourism section on the website, Explore WA Heritage, also provides information on heritage-related things to see and do in Western Australia.

## OTHER SERVICES

### Website and publications

Our website provides general information on the Heritage Council, 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 an eNewsletter and annual Heritage Matters magazine 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 23,000 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 only. 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 State Heritage Office 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



## Contact us

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