Heritage Works
building on heritage value

Case Studies
Heritage Grants
assisting private owners

Celebrating our
Newly Registered
heritage places

Western Australian
Heritage Awards
MINISTER’S FOREWORD

Heritage projects have injected millions into the State economy

These are transformational times of achievement and change for the Heritage Council, State Heritage Office and heritage generally in Western Australia.

Late last year Marion Fulker stood down from the Heritage Council after six years at the helm and 10 years as a member. I extend my thanks to Marion, who provided valuable leadership to the Council and so ably helped articulate its priorities during her time with the board.

I appointed Anne Arnold, a council member since 2008, as Chair in February and look forward to continuing to work with her as we progress our ambitious heritage agenda.

The State Government has worked steadily to progress new heritage legislation that will reflect our commitment to deliver modern legislation that is transparent, simple to operate and understand, and reflects best practice in the recognition and protection of heritage places.

That heritage is good for business has been amply demonstrated by the rejuvenation of the Old Treasury Buildings. After lying vacant for almost two decades, the buildings have been sensitively conserved and adapted as vibrant hospitality and retail spaces, including the award-winning luxury hotel, Como The Treasury.

This project has injected millions into the State economy and strong revenue continues to be generated through the businesses that have taken up tenancies in the State Buildings.

This year will see the completion of two major refurbishments from the Liberal-National Government’s Heritage Works Revolving Fund, which we launched to revitalise under-utilised Government heritage properties through conservation and adaptive reuse. This Australia-first government program aims at delivering the best possible financial returns through the conservation and sale or lease of heritage places.

I have been delighted with the outstanding work that has been achieved with the former Coogee Hotel and Post Office and the Fremantle Warders’ Cottages. A $2 million investment has seen the conservation of the iconic cottages, which will be available for sale in late 2016.

Financial returns from Heritage Works projects will fund the revitalisation of other disused heritage assets, ultimately delivering good heritage and business outcomes. These are achievements of which we can all be proud – and I can confidently say that heritage in Western Australia has never looked better.

Albert Jacob MLA
Minister for Heritage
CHAIR’S MESSAGE
A big year for heritage

It seems that with each passing year, heritage is increasingly embraced by Western Australians as part of contemporary living. We continue to see a proliferation of small bars and restaurants in repurposed heritage buildings; heritage hotels adapted into modern office spaces; impressive restoration projects, disused government buildings transformed into vibrant hospitality and retail spaces and even prison blocks converted into hostel accommodation.

Every year, the WA Heritage Awards shine the spotlight on individuals and organisations that make an outstanding contribution to heritage in Western Australia. This year saw 34 individuals and projects recognised as finalists, with 15 winners announced at the awards event.

Taking centre-stage was the remarkable restoration and adaptation of the Old Treasury Building into the elegant State Buildings, which won three awards including the prestigious Gerry Gauntlett Award for Conservation or Adaptive Reuse.

The restoration of these State Registered buildings alongside the development of the adjacent Cathedral Square has revitalised one of Perth’s most important historic civic precincts.

The Heritage Council continues to support private owners of State Registered places through its Heritage Grants Program, which last year resulted in 27 projects sharing in nearly $1.3 million in grants funding.

Having successfully championed the adaptive reuse of heritage places in recent years, the Heritage Council is now focused on supporting the growth of heritage tourism. It is clear that there is an appetite for heritage and stories to augment visitor experiences, whether in travel, accommodation or hospitality.

With its management of World Heritage listed Fremantle Prison, the State Heritage Office is exploring expanded uses and new visitor experiences at the Prison, in order to ensure a stream of revenue to secure the ongoing conservation of the Prison and its presentation to local, interstate and international visitors.

Realising the potential of the tourism industry will contribute to increased diversification of the State’s economy, and I am excited to see what opportunities will emerge for the heritage sector.

Anne Arnold
Chair, Heritage Council

HONOURING THE WORK OF OUR HERITAGE HEROES

The 2016 WA Heritage Awards featured 34 finalists in eight categories featuring people and projects in Perth and across regional Western Australia.

Over the past year—in fact, over many years—these individuals, organisations and businesses have been busy volunteering, researching, consulting, collaborating and sharing their skills and knowledge.

By any measure, they have achieved fabulous results across all areas of heritage: social history, conservation, adaptive reuse, interpretation, Aboriginal heritage, and heritage tourism.

Their enduring work has helped re-invigorate Perth’s CBD and many other locations; given communities a renewed sense of wonder and pride, and enabled people to re-discover our lost stories and re-connect with significant buildings from the past.

In many cases, the projects and personalities help generate widespread community and media interest about the importance of our heritage, and even conversations about what constitutes heritage.

The WA Heritage Awards were established in 1992 by the Heritage Council to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of such individuals and organisations.

The Heritage Council’s awards program is regarded as WA’s premier heritage event recognising and celebrating heritage champions, places and achievements.

Many projects go on to win international acclaim as part of UNESCO’s Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

Such accolades underscore the fact that our heritage is of international significance and what makes us Western Australian, with our own unique identity and past.
CONSERVATION OR ADAPTIVE REUSE OF A STATE REGISTERED PLACE

This category recognises excellence in either conservation or adaptation of a place entered in the State Register of Heritage Places. Projects are assessed against a broad spectrum of criteria including the heritage outcome, conservation practices, social and community benefits, challenges faced and partnerships demonstrated.
The State Buildings conservation and adaptive reuse project took out two major awards and a commendation at the 2016 WA Heritage Awards.

The development by FJM Property has reinvigorated the former CBD government buildings on the corner of Barrack Street and St Georges Terrace and transformed them into a mix of luxury hotel, day spa, restaurants, bars and shops.

Critically, it means the magnificent buildings, which have been vacant for nearly two decades, can now be enjoyed by the community.

In fact, that was a clear objective from the very start of the project.

At the awards night, Kyle Jeavons, FJM Property’s Development Director acknowledged the contribution of FJM Property Director Adrian Fini, saying his vision had driven the project.

“Part of our philosophy from day one was that every door that existed within the buildings would be open to the public,” explained Mr Jeavons.

In the end, the redevelopment involved lots of doors, a big project team working over eight years, and lots of passion.

The buildings, which covered some 15,000 square metres, were in a serious state of dilapidation and neglect, with damaged and leaking roofs, rotting timbers, extensive vermin damage and rising damp.

The project team scoured the world to find skilled tradespeople such as slaters from Ireland to repair the roofs.

Other key works included reinstating decorative metal lacework; reconstructing dormer windows; and restoring balconies damaged by concrete cancer.

Inside, the basements were treated to address rising damp; structural changes were made to protect against possible earthquake damage; and damaged plasterwork, archways and stairs were repaired.

Restoration techniques included the use of traditional lime mortar for brickwork; re-milling reclaimed jarrah timber for floor boards; and using breathable paint finishes to prevent brick damage and rising damp.

“When we started the project, the buildings had been empty for 19 years and the objective was to take them back to what they were in the 1800s,” Mr Jeavons said.

“We had more than 3,000 people work on this job over that eight-year period and everyone who worked on this project lived and breathed it.”

The awards judges paid tribute to the State Buildings project as an outstanding example of an adaptive reuse and conservation project on a grand scale.
The restoration and adaptive reuse of the State Buildings in the centre of Perth took more than eight years to complete, but the heritage-listed buildings were the centre of attention long before then.

The $110 million development by FJM Property has breathed new life into the city and won the prestigious Gerry Gauntlett award which honours the late Chairman of the Heritage Council of WA.

At the WA Heritage Awards, Judy Gauntlett, Gerry’s widow, recalled that the project had a gestation of some 19 years.

“During the time Gerry was Chair, I can clearly remember the many proposals that were bandied about but nothing happened,” she said while presenting the award.

“However, it goes to prove the old adage: ‘There is a time for everything’.

“The adaptation of this historic, in fact, iconic building, fulfils all our community’s hopes and expectations.

“It’s got something for everyone, from the sheer joy of wandering through the buildings out on to St Georges Terrace and looking at that beautiful garden across the road, or sampling the wonderful food and wine and then staying in the luxury rooms later.

“It draws us back to our historic past,” Judy said.

“For me, it’s the soul of the city.”

The awards judges agreed, saying the project is an outstanding example of adaptive reuse.

“Over eight years and through collaboration with adjacent owners, creative thinking and innovative solutions, FJM Property has transformed a complex site of three deteriorating, highly significant, heritage buildings, with challenging internal spaces, into a cohesive and exciting mixed-use development that has rejuvenated this historic precinct, making it once again the heart of Perth,” they said.

...the soul of the city.
CONTRIBUTION BY A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ORGANISATION

A public or private organisation whose contribution demonstrates a commitment to cultural heritage and/or heritage-related work, services or programs in Western Australia.

COLLABORATION
THE CORNERSTONE OF THE STATE BUILDINGS REBIRTH

The $110 million restoration and adaptive reuse of the State Buildings in central Perth is an inspiring story about enduring vision and collaboration.

Formerly known as the Old Treasury Building, or Central Government Offices, the State Registered buildings were designed by renowned architects Richard Roach Jewell and George Temple Poole in the 1800s.

For many years, the buildings were central to Perth’s civic heart, housing the treasury, lands titles office, Perth’s first GPO, a police court and cellblock, offices of the Premier and Cabinet, and adjacent to the Perth town hall and St George’s Cathedral.

With the ebb and flow of time, the buildings gradually became increasingly unused and ultimately stood vacant for nearly 20 years.

However, the buildings have been magnificently restored by FJM Property and re-opened as the State Buildings, offering a diverse mix of top-end retail, hotel and hospitality businesses, within the revitalised Cathedral Square precinct.

At the WA Heritage Awards, Kyle Jeavons, FJM Property’s Development Director said the project had become part of a wider approach involving Cathedral Square.

“When the Government called for the project to be put out to tender, it really just started as the Old Treasury Building, but pretty quickly, we realised that the whole precinct needed rejuvenation,” he said.

“After a short period of time, we set out to involve all the landowners around there. The shared vision and collaboration were an absolutely pivotal part of this project.

“They included the City of Perth, Mirvac, Perth Anglican Diocese, Public Trustee and of course, the State Government.”

At the awards, judges said that FJM Property has shown unwavering commitment in the face of enormous challenges in returning the Central Government Offices to the community.

“Through significant investment and collaboration with both private and public sectors FJM Property has achieved an outstanding result,” they said.
When a fire tore through the National Hotel in Fremantle in 2007, the local and broader community were as gutted as the fire-ravaged building.

Nine years on, the National Hotel has been restored, refurbished and heralded as an outstanding example of how a modern bar and restaurant can operate in harmony within a heritage building.

The landmark hotel was built in the flamboyant Federation Free style and was a symbol of 1900s gold boom affluence in the port city.

The fire damaged the hotel so extensively that the building was lucky to escape demolition.

The restoration has been a labour of love for Karl Bullers, co-owner and Managing Director of Carnegies Realty.

Karl worked closely with City of Fremantle’s heritage adviser to ensure the hotel would rise from the ashes better than ever: ceilings were replaced, floors re-laid, stained glass windows restored, and bricks were salvaged and re-used.

The National Hotel now boasts a bar and restaurant, and is planning on offering 12 heritage-style accommodation rooms in the near future.

Karl is passionate about the hotel restoration and personally conducts heritage tours of the building and history dinners featuring 1900s-themed menus.

“The future of our business is very much linked to its past,” he says, “as the shell of stories are increasingly filled in and I learn more about the events and people that shaped this amazing building.”

The awards judges said restoring the landmark hotel had involved best practice heritage conservation.

“After almost being destroyed by fire, the restoration and conservation of the National Hotel is a credit to its committed owners who went above and beyond what was expected,” they said.
In many ways, the Donnelly River Village (Wheatley) holiday cottages are a perfect example of a can-do community spirit, good heritage management and a return to simpler times.

The village is in the State Register of Heritage Places and consists of 35 timber workers’ cottages at the Wheatley townsite that was established in 1949 to house timber workers employed at the nearby Bunning Bros’ Donnelly Mill.

Six years ago, Fremantle resident Sue Hall had a novel idea and managed to inspire others to get on board.

“The idea that 35 people should purchase a block of land of 35 acres, with 35 really run-down cottages on it seemed bizarre and extreme,” Anna Catelli, the village’s chairperson, said at the WA Heritage Awards.

“But as it turned out, we found 35 people who were mad enough and enthusiastic enough to join Sue and myself, and the dream is still alive.

“The old houses each have their own character - they’re all loved by their owners, they’ve been re-roofed, they haven’t fallen down — and if we continue to look after them, they’ll be here forever.”

The village has become a perfect bush getaway for families and tourists.

The renovated cottages are set in the South West forests where it’s not uncommon to find tame emus, kangaroos and possums wandering around the place.

There’s a swimming lake, bike and bushwalking trails, and tennis and basketball facilities. Perhaps best of all, there’s limited phone and internet access and only one television, in the old butcher’s store.

Despite the idyllic setting, the cottage owners have been busy. As well as re-roofing the cottages, they’ve insulated roof spaces, installed more efficient wood burning stoves, restumped nearly half of the cottages, replaced beds and furniture, and planted trees and gardens in the streetscape.

At the WA Heritage Awards, the judges praised the village owners’ hands-on approach and their efforts in making it a successful tourist and holiday destination.

“As an innovative ownership model, with owners directly involved and guided by a conservation plan, it is an exemplar of good heritage management of a fragile site,” they said.
PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTION
An individual who has made a significant and ongoing contribution to heritage and has demonstrated best practice standards through their employment in the heritage industry.

FREMANTLE’S ‘WIN-WIN’ APPROACH TO HERITAGE

Alan Kelsall has been the Heritage Coordinator at the City of Fremantle since 2012 and, in that short time, is credited with having helped the port city redefine its approach to promoting its heritage.

Alan, an architect with conservation expertise in the UK and Australia, has led a significant change in attitude towards heritage and development in Fremantle.

Alan is a fervent believer that preserving heritage and sustainable economic development are complementary objectives.

His efforts have contributed to a noticeable reduction in the extent to which developers and the wider community hold onto the misconceptions that heritage is a barrier to investment and growth, and that change of any type is an inherent threat to heritage values.

Alan is renowned for his collaborative approach, working in close consultation with developers and property owners.

Some of the stakeholders he’s worked with in the business and development community have become strong advocates of his collaborative, ‘win-win’ approach to heritage conservation, planning and economic development.

Heritage projects Alan has been involved with include the refurbishment of the Esplanade Hotel; restoration of the fire-ravaged National Hotel; and the conservation/adaptation of part of Atwell Buildings.

At the WA Heritage Awards, Alan said he considered himself fortunate to be involved in the current revitalisation of Fremantle.

“The regeneration of Fremantle may still be in its early stages,” he said.

“But what has been established is an understanding that Fremantle’s heritage is a valuable asset that presents unique opportunities to create a vibrant city with an authentic character that will set it apart from other places.”

The awards judges said Alan had been instrumental in assisting the City of Fremantle to develop and deliver a new positive vision for heritage.

“By working closely with owners and the community, Alan has demonstrated how adaptation and conservation are complementary objectives that can drive economic sustainability,” they said.
RECORDING OUR TV HERITAGE FOR POSTERITY

Ken McKay has spent years preserving a part of our lives that people see every day, but possibly don’t think of as part of our heritage.

Ken started a website devoted to the early days of television in Western Australia and the people who helped make it happen.

The website - www.watvhistory.com - tells the story of local television in words, photos and video.

For young people who have grown up with the internet, it is hard to appreciate the tremendous impact TV had when those first broadcasts—in flickering black and white—started in Perth on 16 October 1959.

Ken’s website celebrates and recalls the heyday of local TV when Perth’s three TV stations made many local programs.

They included daily children’s shows, live entertainment and daytime broadcasts, and hits such as In Perth Tonight, Spellbound, and the original It’s Academic.

Those shows became the launch pad for many local and much-loved celebrities including Coralie Condon, Lloyd Lawson, Garry Meadows, Caroline Noble and Peter Harries.

Ken had a hands-on involvement with TV. He worked as a video tape operator with Channel 7 in the early 1960s, and then later with the ABC.

But he says the golden days of local TV have moved on, with much of the Dianella broadcasting precinct being developed for housing.

“It’s an interesting time because we’re watching our television studios disappear one by one,” Ken said at the WA Heritage Awards night.

“The ABC studio, which started in Terrace Road in 1960, is gone.

“Channel 7, or TVW as we called it back in 1959 - that’s been bulldozed to be replaced by housing.

“Shortly, we’re going to see STW 9 go.

“But we’ll do our best to continue the story of the industry and its people.”

Judges at the WA Heritage Awards praised Noreen’s indefatigable enthusiasm, energy and expertise in documenting Augusta’s heritage.

“She ensured best practice for materials conservation and document management, and in developing contemporary educational displays,” they said.

AUGUSTA’S STORIES LIVE ON

The late Noreen Hackett might not have been born in Augusta on the extreme tip of South West WA, but she probably knew its stories and personalities better than anyone else.

Noreen spent nearly 20 years as a volunteer with the Augusta Historical Society and Augusta Historical Museum.

The museum has drawn high praise as one of the best small museums in the world, in no small part due to Noreen’s efforts.

An English migrant with a love for history, Noreen was, at various times, the secretary and curator of the museum; and also librarian and vice-president of the historical society.

She was also devoted to keeping alive and re-telling the stories of the area’s residents.

And what fabulous stories they are.

Locals have lived through hardship, shipwreck, the ill-fated Group Settlement Scheme of the 1920s, bushfires, and the dramatic rescue of stranded whales in the mid-1980s that made international headlines.

A keen amateur historian, Noreen wrote or contributed papers on wide-ranging topics for the Augusta Historical Society’s library.

But just as important to her was preserving and sharing the stories of local fishermen, teachers, railwaymen, police and ordinary people.

Judges at the WA Heritage Awards praised Noreen’s indefatigable enthusiasm, energy and expertise in documenting Augusta’s heritage.

“She ensured best practice for materials conservation and document management, and in developing contemporary educational displays,” they said.
Fifteen kilometres west of Ravensthorpe on WA’s southern coast, a new and unique community memorial is healing the wounds and divisions sparked more than 135 years ago.

The Kukenarup Memorial and Information Site is a reminder of a violent and distressing chapter of the area’s history, but the project has been lauded as a unique Australian memorial.

The memorial relates to events in the 1880s. Details vary but the story involves white pastoralist John Dunn being speared and killed, an Aboriginal man being tried and acquitted over the death, and an ensuing massacre of Aboriginal people which resulted in Noongar families fleeing the district.

The memorial features two tall metal sculptures in the shape of an eagle’s wings that have special significance. “At a bush meeting to determine the site, two wedge-tailed eagles circled overhead,” recalled Colin Hughes, of the Ravensthorpe Historical Society, at the WA Heritage Awards.

“One of the Noongar elders explained that the Noongar belief is that the eagles look after the souls of people who have died. “The site was immediately agreed upon.”

The project, proposed by Noongar elder Carol Petterson, took eight years to come to fruition. It involved countless volunteer hours, both from members of the Ravensthorpe Historical Society and Noongar elders.

The memorial and information site was dedicated in May 2015, with hundreds of people attending the ceremony, including Noongar families who travelled from Kalgoorlie, Norseman, Esperance and Albany.
According to the Ravensthorpe Historical Society, they specifically asked that descendants of the original Dunn family be involved in the dedication ceremony.

At the WA Heritage Awards, the judges praised the Kekenarup Memorial and Information Site as a unique Australian project helping to promote reconciliation between Aboriginal people and agriculturists.

“It has been widely acclaimed by both Noongar and non-Aboriginal people as a positive and important achievement,” they said.

The SSJG Heritage Centre established in Broome by the Sisters of St John of God is a remarkable—and emotional—place, as evidenced by visitors’ comments:

“A first-class presentation and wonderful resource for Aboriginal people trying to trace their ancestry.”

“This is a must-see attraction to appreciate the early history of Broome, the coming of the Irish sisters in 1907 and the legacy they have left behind.”

Since arriving in the Kimberley 109 years ago, the sisters have worked throughout the region teaching, nursing and helping Aboriginal communities.

Their work also included caring for patients and their families at the Bungarun Leprosarium near Derby for five decades.

In part, the sisters were inspired to develop the heritage centre’s social history exhibitions in response to requests from the local community for a repository where people could access their family and historical photographs.

The heritage centre’s photographic collection contains more than 50,000 images and is accessible to the public for viewing and research.

The centre also includes the unique Bungarun Archive which includes approximately 3,500 records and photographs relating to the leprosarium.

The Sisters of St John of God Heritage Centre includes the old convent, a garden of healing, a research centre, and a room where families can meet and share stories.

At the WA Heritage Awards, the judges said the SSJG Heritage Centre’s work played a key role in reconciliation and healing.

“A powerful reconciliation tool, the centre educates visitors while providing a place where Aboriginal people are supported to heal the hurt from the past and forge a better future,” they said.
TOURISTS KEEN TO DO TIME IN FREMANTLE PRISON’S HOSTEL
It seemed a gamble at the time, but the plan to convert part of the World heritage-listed Fremantle Prison into a hostel for tourists is paying off.

“When we embarked on developing the Fremantle Prison YHA about six years ago, there were so many people who thought: ‘Who’s going to come and stay at a prison?,’” said YHA WA’s Domenic Pimpinella at the heritage awards night.

But while the jail’s previous inmates would have been striving to break out, it seems tourists are now lining up to get in.

“We’ve been running for a year now and we are nearly always at full capacity - it is absolutely incredible,” he said.

The hostel was originally the Women’s Division of Fremantle Prison and was the first prison accommodation specifically built for women in WA.

It now includes a display where guests can gain an insight into the gruelling conditions for prisoners who spent time there, including Martha Rendell, the only woman to be hanged in WA, and stories of escapes from the prison.

The hostel can accommodate 196 guests who can sleep in the former cells, if they’re brave enough, or they can choose more luxurious rooms with ensuites or even the Victorian-style guards’ cottages.

They also enjoy modern comforts such as air conditioning, wifi, TVs and bar fridges.

The new hostel has achieved worldwide coverage from media and international travellers’ forums.

YHA WA says it’s become a destination in itself.

“People come to stay at the Fremantle Prison YHA and while they’re there, they visit Fremantle,” Mr Pimpinella said.

The WA Heritage Awards judges said the adaptation of part of the prison has resulted in a world-class hostel and a standout heritage tourism product.

“It will not only act as a drawcard to attract more visitors to Fremantle but help them appreciate the significance of the World heritage-listed site and the broader port city,” they said.
INTERPRETATION PROJECT
A project that improves and enriches a heritage experience by helping visitors to develop a strong sense of understanding and appreciation of a place.

SAILMAKERS’ SHED HONOURS A PEARLING INDUSTRY

The pearling industry and its exotic sail-rigged luggers of a century ago are an important part of Broome’s heritage.

A lesser-known part of the story is the role of the sailmakers who made and repaired the sails that powered the ships.

Their story and contribution to the local economy are the subject of a special interactive exhibition at the restored, award-winning Sailmakers’ Shed, next to the foreshore at Roebuck Bay.

The exhibition honours the work of Charles E Bagge, who built the Sailmakers’ Shed in 1907 and operated his business there until 1917.

With more than 400 boats registered in Broome in the early part of the 20th century, there was considerable demand for sailmakers.

When visitors enter the shed for the exhibition, it’s as if they have entered a sail loft in the 1900s in the early days of Broome’s pearling industry.

They can learn about the history of the pearling fleets, get to know the various types of sails and how they were made, try their hand at tying different types of knots, and follow this niche aspect of Broome’s pearling history via 20 interpretive panels.

The exhibition was created by Creative Spaces design studio for the Broome Historical Society, which manages the shed.

The exhibition was first mounted in mid-2015 and re-opened to the public in June 2016.

The awards judges commended the exhibition, saying it is an exciting interpretation project that transforms the shed space into an engaging, interactive museum experience.
The Shire of Murray, south of Perth, has steadily been building its heritage profile at the WA Heritage Awards in recent years.

The Shire has been nominated for heritage awards in 2011, 2012 and twice in 2013, when it was recognised for its work in restoring the State-Registered Edenvale Homestead that had been partially destroyed by fire.

This year’s accolade, however, acknowledged its broader and more strategic approach to heritage rather than a specific project.

The Shire of Murray is one of the earliest areas of European settlement in WA and has many places of heritage significance. However, the Shire says these are coming under pressure due to factors such as land development, vacancy and neglect.

In recent years, the Shire has embarked on a series of statutory and policy initiatives to better safeguard its heritage assets, including a complete review of its heritage planning framework.

This multi-pronged approach involves:
- reviewing its Municipal Inventory of heritage places
- employing a planning officer trained in heritage conservation, and investing in staff training in heritage issues
- increasing budget expenditure for heritage management
- adopting a heritage incentive strategy that includes waiving some fees involving heritage developments
- adopting master planning strategies to better manage and promote key heritage places.

The Shire also actively works with volunteers and community groups on heritage projects, both by making the heritage assets available to the community, or by jointly managing projects like the Edenvale complex with community groups.

At the awards night, Shire President Marie Reid paid tribute to the efforts of councillors, staff and community members, saying they’d done a sensational job.

“The Shire has worked exceptionally hard to protect our heritage assets as well as establishing a strong framework to safeguard them for current and future generations,” she said.

The awards judges praised the way the Shire worked with, and on behalf of, the community.

“The Shire has not only adopted a system-wide and integrated approach to heritage, it has directed valuable resources to, and increased budgets for, heritage management and conservation,” they said.
CONSERVATION OR ADAPTIVE REUSE OF A STATE REGISTERED PLACE
This category recognises excellence in either conservation or adaptation of a place entered in the State Register of Heritage Places. Projects will be assessed against a broad spectrum of criteria including the heritage outcome, conservation practices, social and community benefits, challenges faced and partnerships demonstrated.

RESTORED WORKERS’ COTTAGES
a labour of love

If you ever wanted an example of a successful community approach to conservation, it would be hard to find a better one than the Brookman and Moir Streets precinct in the City of Vincent.

Over a decade, home owners, council staff, builders, heritage consultants and architects have rolled up their sleeves to work, individually and together, to preserve the precinct’s workers’ cottages.

It was a project that spread by example.

Some of the homes had been in a poor or dilapidated state, including one which was unfit for human habitation.

Once that was restored, the owner of the property next door was so inspired that despite original intentions to demolish his own cottage, he instead launched into a full restoration.

In 2006, the 58 properties contained within the precinct were included in the State Register of Heritage Places.

Since then, owners of 25 of the properties in the precinct have taken the opportunity to restore and adapt their homes for contemporary living, undertaking works such as re-stumping, re-roofing, and repairing large, structural cracks.

Sixteen of the properties were restored with the help of heritage grants from the Heritage Council of WA.

At the awards night, the City of Vincent’s Joshua O’Keefe, paid tribute to the residents and owners.

“This heritage precinct gives our city a unique flavour and we’ll do our very best to continue to preserve the heritage values of the area and stories of the cottages.”

At the awards, the judges commended the project saying the award is dedicated to past and present owners, their heritage consultants and the City of Vincent.

“It’s an inspirational story of how individuals can work together, by sharing knowledge and encouraging others, to restore and adapt their 1890s workers’ cottages, thus returning this significant streetscape to its original state,” they said.
For more than 80 years, the former Denmark District Hospital was the healthcare hub for generations of Great Southern residents. But in recent years, the hospital itself was in a bad way and experienced a near-death experience—with calls for its demolition—until the local community and Shire of Denmark stepped in. It’s now been revived, refurbished and has become a vibrant community, arts and cultural centre. The former hospital now houses a variety of groups including the Denmark Community Resource Centre, Denmark Arts Council, the Denmark Over 50s Association and other community groups. H+H Architects was appointed to undertake the refurbishment works after the Shire and local community had adopted an adaptive reuse strategy. Key objectives were to retain and conserve the significant heritage elements of the hospital and create flexible, useable spaces. The buildings had been vacant for several years and the $1.1 million project involved replacing the entire roof, fixing termite-damaged timbers and repairing extensive vandalism. The facility is now known as the Morgan Richards Community Centre, in honour of the doctor who helped build the original hospital. The awards judges said the project is an exemplar of a community-driven project. “It not only saved the hospital buildings from neglect but restored and adapted the site into a cohesive and vibrant community, arts and cultural precinct for the town,” they said.
LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR OUR HERITAGE

Over the past 30 years, stonemason Martin Colgan has carved a reputation for himself as a passionate craftsman and builder dedicated to conserving, restoring and adapting WA’s heritage buildings.

In that time, Martin and the company he founded, Colgan Industries, have worked on countless heritage projects, winning numerous awards.

Prominent projects Martin has worked on include St George’s Cathedral, Government House, Fremantle Train Station, rebuilding the State War Memorial obelisk and restoring the ornate altar at Beagle Bay Mission.

Martin learned his craft more than 50 years ago in the UK, through an apprenticeship in stonemasonry and bricklaying.

Over the past three decades, he has built on those skills and is renowned for sharing his knowledge with architects, builders, tradespeople and apprentices.

Martin retired in 2014 but remains active on the board of Colgan Industries. He has passed on his passion for heritage to his sons, Nathan and Daniel, who now run the family business.

The special judges’ award he received is named after the late Professor David Dolan, the esteemed former councillor with the Heritage Council of WA.

At the awards night, Christine Lewis, Professor Dolan’s widow, said Martin is both passionate and inspirational about his work and stonemasonry.

“He is actively keeping the trade skills alive that are so necessary to the conservation of our heritage,” she said.

Due to a long-held commitment, Martin was not able to attend the awards event but his wife Dot—who has worked alongside him —said that he was humbled by the attention.

“Martin always stated a company is only as good as the people who work for you. Colgan Industries now employs approximately 40 people, and many of them have been with us from the beginning,” Dot said.

“There are many churches and landmark buildings that Martin has worked on, and it always gives the family a buzz to see, and have recognised, what their Dad has done throughout the State.”

The awards judges praised Martin’s skills, saying he had left a lasting legacy through his work on many award-winning heritage projects.

“He has shared his passion, skills and expertise with those he has employed, trained and collaborated with over the past 30 years,” they said.
THE JUDGES’ AWARD: THE PROFESSOR DAVID DOLAN AWARD

The Judges’ Award is awarded to an individual, organisation or project that has displayed an outstanding contribution to heritage.
AT THE 2016 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE AWARDS

Networking

Erin, Judy and Simon Gauntlett

Yen Nee Goh, Hocking Heritage Studio, Kathryn Colgan, James Mason, Nathan, Dot and Daniel Colgan

Marion Fulker, Heritage Councilor Brad Pettitt, Adrian Fini and Gail McGowan

Sarah Keenan, Helen Mary Martin, Sr Pat Rhatigan from the Sisters of St John of God Heritage Centre, Broome

Heritage Minister Albert Jacob, FJM Property’s Development Director Kyle Jeavons and Heritage Council Chair Anne Arnold

Judy Gauntlett presenting the Gerry Gauntlett Award for Conservation and Adaptive Reuse to Kyle Jeavons representing The State Buildings project

Cr Dot Newton, City of Wanneroo and Margaret Cockman
BACKGROUND | Wandoo Country, an artwork by Monique Tippett, made from the original seating at Perry Lakes Stadium.

Paul Garbett, Brad Pettitt and Alan Kelsall (winner Professional Contribution category) from the City of Fremantle

Cr David Morrell, Shire President, Shire of Denmark

Gail McGowan, Norma and Max Kay, Julian Donaldson

Anne Catelli, Chair Donnelly River Village, winner Public/private Organisation

Christine Lewis and Heritage Minister Albert Jacob with Nathan, Dot and Daniel Colgan who accepted the Professor David Dolan Award on behalf of winner Martin Colgan.

Colin Hughes and Madeleine Norman, Ravensthorpe Historical Society

Bill Brosnan from Brookman-Moir Streets Precinct (winner Conservation and Adaptive reuse category) and Nathan Colgan.
The State Register of Heritage Places is a statutory list of places that represent the story of Western Australia’s history and development. Entry in the Register is reserved for places of State cultural heritage significance and is the highest recognition at the State level. With more than 1,353 places already in the State Register, another 12 places were added this year. It was a celebration of diversity with the new registrations including some early Art Deco flats, a skateboard park, a former fish cannery, a 200-year-old boundary tree and a series of water catchment dams.

Entry in the State Register does not mean a place cannot be adapted to meet contemporary needs. The sensitive development and new compatible uses of heritage places is encouraged because this is the best way of assuring their future.
The East Perth Power Station, decommissioned in the early 1980s after 70 years of service, remains an iconic industrial building that speaks volumes about its pivotal role in the modernisation of Perth.

The place is considered one of Western Australia’s most significant industrial heritage complexes as it includes the first centralised power station in the State, built to meet the growing energy needs of the Perth metropolitan region. It was also a crucial influence in raising living standards in WA.

The riverside site was chosen because coal could easily be delivered by rail and the condensing plant required enormous quantities of cooling water that could easily be drawn from the Swan River. In this early period, the suburb of East Perth was the city’s major industrial area.

The 1916 power station was one of Perth’s major utilities and East Perth’s biggest industrial workplaces, employing around 400 workers. It was a male-dominated workforce, with skilled maintenance and operational workers, as well as the coal shovellers who moved massive amounts of Collie coal.

It was noisy, dirty, hot and dangerous work but the workers were proud of their employment and felt a strong sense of responsibility towards their roles. The workers who kept the station operating told tales of power shortages and of their determined efforts to keep the lights on and the city’s industries, businesses and transport functioning.

“If the power station stops, Perth stops,” one past worker said.

The Turbine Hall building’s cavernous interior still retains significant remnant machinery and equipment including one of the most comprehensive collections of steam turbine generating units. This equipment illustrates five different stages of power generation technology used in the 20th century and is unique in Australia and possibly even rare on an international level.

The history of East Perth Power Station hums with fascinating stories of the people who worked there; the local residents who lived in its shadow; and an emerging modern city that hungrily consumed the electricity generated by the station.

In recent years, the Metropolitan Redevelopment Authority has been undertaking site works to repair and stabilise the buildings to lay the groundwork for East Perth Power Station to take on new uses in the future.

The power station represents an integral part of our State’s industrial heritage that lay at the heart of Perth’s expanding power needs and the beginnings of the South West power grid. It has been recognised for its central role in underpinning the fabric of life in 20th century Perth by its permanent inclusion in the State Register.
A fishy tale involving ex-army tanks and a Tiger Moth plane has been celebrated through the heritage listing of the former Esperance Fish Cannery.

The Esperance Fish Cannery was established in the late-1940s by Daniel Samuel Hunt, an ex-water policeman and contractor, who set up a number of fish canneries throughout Western Australia, particularly in the South West.

The Esperance cannery building took just one week to build and was opened for business in December 1948. The main room included a sloping concrete floor, which allowed the entrails from the fish to be tipped out and hosed straight into the sea.

But this was no ordinary post-war business. Hunt was an enterprising businessman who took advantage of the Commonwealth sale of army vehicles after World War II, and put them to innovative use transporting the catch across rough, inaccessible coastal terrain and back to the fish cannery.

Esperance locals became accustomed to Hunt’s ex-army tanks and trucks rolling down the beachfront and dragging in the nets.

Hunt also hired a former RAAF pilot to fly a Tiger Moth to spot schools of fish from the air. Ex-army camouflage nets were also used to haul in the fish to the transporting tanks and trucks.

The cannery was part of a much larger initiative of the State Government to encourage settlement and the development of industries in regional WA.

After World War II, the Government quickly realised that WA was very vulnerable to attack, with much of its population and production centred in Perth. It therefore provided support to people wanting to establish industrial businesses in the regions.

Hunt also established canneries in Albany, Geraldton and Hopetoun, which were held up by the WA Parliament as an excellent example of the successes of this project.

Fish canning was once a vitally important industry in Western Australian. It was a convenient, tamper-proof method of fish storage, allowing local fish distribution across the vast state and into remote regional areas.

It is likely that Esperance Fish Cannery functioned much like Hunt’s others canneries around the State. The fish were canned in their own juices with salt. The can was then vacuum crimped to take out the air, sealed and cooked with steam. The canned fish was then transported via rail to Perth.

However, Esperance’s cannery is one of only a few known to survive today, as the local fish canning industry has all but vanished from WA.

Even though the cannery only operated between 1948 and 1950, the simple building is very much part of Esperance’s story. After strong local interest to see the building adapted for community use, it was converted into the Cannery Arts Centre in 1984 and is managed by the Shire of Esperance.

**ESPERANCE FISH CANNERY (PS056)**
**PERMANENT REGISTRATION | 9 February 2016**
Caring for future generations
at the Lady Mitchell Memorial Child Health Centre

The care of children and the need to reduce infant mortality became integral to the community’s growth and wellbeing.

With the end of World War II, Western Australia experienced a population boom as childbirth rates soared and European immigrants began arriving in large numbers. The care of children and the need to reduce infant mortality were imperative to the community’s growth and wellbeing. So the government responded with a major initiative to develop a network of maternal and infant welfare services across the State.

One by one, small specialised child health clinics started to emerge in suburbs and towns, especially in the rapidly growing rural areas.

One such clinic was the Lady Mitchell Memorial Child Health Centre in Bunbury. The clinic was built in 1952 by William Bennett and Associates to serve the expanding suburbs of South Bunbury.

The Lady Mitchell Memorial Child Health was originally intended as an infant health care centre with an attached residence for the attending nurse. The work in the clinic included weighing babies, monitoring a child’s health, discussing the child’s development and teaching mothercraft.

The building was named after Lady Clara Mitchell, wife of former premier and Governor of Western Australia, Sir James Mitchell, who had strong links with Bunbury and the South West. The building is aptly named for Lady Mitchell who worked tirelessly for the benefit of the Bunbury community.

The centre’s cultural-heritage value is largely due to the role it played in the community’s social history, providing essential services to mothers and children over the decades. To this day, it continues to operate in its designed capacity.

The building was designed in the Post-War International style, and has changed very little since construction. The floor plan and many of its original features still remain intact.

The modern building is regarded as a rare and highly authentic example of the work of William Bennett in his role as the honorary architect for the Infant Health Association.

Generations of women and children have benefited from the services provided at the Lady Mitchell Memorial Child Health Centre, which remains an important resource as a child health clinic in the Bunbury region.

LADY MITCHELL MEMORIAL CHILD HEALTH CENTRE (P5682)
INTERIM REGISTRATION | 8 January 2016
The former Bassendean Fire Station, built in 1934, stands in testament to the community spirit that centred on its volunteer fire brigade.

With more than 105 years of rich history in the Bassendean community, the volunteer brigade responded to fire emergencies and enjoyed a tradition of competing in the annual Volunteer Fire Brigades’ State Championship games.

This trailblazing fire brigade earned a reputation as one of the State’s most successful competitive volunteer firefighting brigades, winning state and national championships on multiple occasions. They were awarded the title of State Champion Team an impressive 23 times.

When the station closed in 2013, it was full of trophies, medals, plaques and photographs celebrating more than 100 years of the brigade’s achievements.

The brigade was initially set up in 1911 and operated out of the old Roads Board building near the present day Bassendean Oval. Then known as West Guildford Fire Brigade, it changed its name in 1922 when West Guildford was renamed Bassendean.

In 1934, a new fire station was built for the brigade on donated land in Parker Street. This land was the highest point in Bassendean, giving the firefighters a good view of any fire.

Like many other fire stations across the State, the Bassendean Fire Station was built to a standard design by the State’s Brigade architect Kenneth Duncan, who also served as a volunteer fire fighter and was made a life member in 1937.

The site included the single-storey fire station building, associated outbuildings and a ladder training tower.

At the opening ceremony of the new fire station, the Minister in Charge of Fire Brigades highlighted the brigade’s fine record in inter-brigade contests and recalled that on one occasion the Bassendean brigade had won every single event on the program.

The brigade was a large part of the local community, often hosting fundraisers, dances and dinners at the station building. In 1935, the brigade made headlines when it held a mock wedding to raise money, with the firemen dressing up as the bride and bridesmaids and women dressing up as the groom and groomsmen.

In 1966, the Bassendean brigade became staffed by permanent career firefighters who worked alongside the volunteer brigade.

The Bassendean Fire Brigade operated from the station for 79 years, until services were relocated to Kiara and Bassendean Fire Station was closed in 2013.

The affection by which the memory of Bassendean’s volunteer brigade and fire station is held was evident by the strong local support for the heritage listing of the station.

Although the building is currently vacant, the community is contemplating its future and is keen to see it find a new contemporary use.
East Perth Chemistry Centre, an unsung contributor to our State’s economic development

An unassuming single-storey, salmon-brick building with three distinctive porthole windows sits quietly on a busy corner in Plain Street, East Perth.

From 1942 until 2009, the site was home to the State Government’s laboratories, an organisation that developed ground-breaking solutions for some of the challenges faced by burgeoning industries that came to define our State’s economy.

This scientific branch of the Western Australian Government was originally established in the 1890s and later became known as the Chem Centre. Having moved between locations in Perth and Fremantle, the 1940s saw the ‘Government Chemical Laboratories’ move to a purpose-built, progressive building in East Perth.

The Chem Centre’s scientific analysis work was instrumental to the development of Western Australia’s mining, manufacturing and agricultural industries, as well as contributing to the protection of the environment and public health in Western Australia.

Inside the centre, scientific staff provided free testing of mineral samples from private companies as part of a government policy of supporting the development of the mining industry, thereby facilitating the mineral boom of the 1960s and 1970s.

They also processed samples from various government agricultural stations to identify nutrient deficiencies in WA soils, which enabled the development of highly efficient fertilisers for the agricultural industry.

The 1952 Materials Science Building was recently added to the State Register to represent the work of the wider scientific complex which has since been demolished.

This particular building is significant not only for the historic and scientific associations, but also for its architectural merit, as it is an excellent example of the early influence of the international Modernist movement in our State’s public works.

The Functionalist architectural style was chosen for the Material Science Building as the new building advocated progress through science and technology.

The Materials Science Building is a fine example of how 1930s European Functionalist style was applied to Australian buildings, through the work of architects such as Dudok.

The Chem Centre has since relocated to Bentley. The future of the site will see the heritage-listed building integrated into a new development in the evolving East Perth precinct.
The aim was to reform offenders,

Australia’s first planned maximum-security reformatory for boys

Before the former Riverbank Detention Centre in Caversham became a boys’ reformatory in the 1960s, the property was one of the earliest land grants in the Swan District.

It was settled by prominent businessman Edward Hamersley and his descendants for a century, from 1837—a mere eight years after the Swan River Colony was founded—through to the 1940s.

The property, named Pyrton, later became part of a market garden.

But the main aspect of this site’s cultural heritage significance relates to the insights it offers into child welfare practices in WA, particularly for teenage offenders.

In the late 1950s, part of the estate was bought by the Child Welfare Department which then built the Riverbank Detention Centre.

Riverbank was opened in 1960 and is regarded as the first such building in Australia to be consciously planned as a maximum-security reformatory for boys.

The department said the aim of Riverbank was to reform offenders aged between 13 and 18, not just imprison them.

“There is an emphasis on teaching the young offenders work skills. The complex had an arts and crafts building/gymnasium, metalwork and timberwork workshops, a chapel, swimming pool, and an olive orchard and paddocks.”

“The purpose of this institution is not merely to protect the public by the secure incarceration of the inmates, but also to treat those inmates that their anti-social attitudes are changed and they learn to accept their proper law-abiding role in the community,” it said at the time.
not just imprison them...

The centre consists of a secure walled compound with buildings arranged around a large quadrangle. It could accommodate up to 30 boys in single cells or cabins that could be locked at night.

By the 1970s, more than 200 boys a year were sentenced to Riverbank, with the average age being 15-and-a-half years.

Not much is known about the inmates—with one notable exception.

The late Bon Scott, who became the lead singer of the band AC/DC, spent nine months at Riverbank in 1963 on various charges including stealing petrol and giving a false name to police.

The harsh experience is reported to have made him determined to avoid a future life defined by crime.

The reformatory closed in 1997 but due to overcrowding in WA’s adult prison system, it was then used for several years as a jail to accommodate vulnerable adult prisoners. It later served as a Community Work Management Unit, before finally closing in 2015.

Northam founded in Morby Farm Cottage

Hope for a new pastoral life in the Swan River Colony

The stone and corrugated iron farmhouse close to the Avon River in Northam tells a story of the unbridled optimism of an English settler in the new Swan River Colony.

Morby Farm Cottage was built by John Morrell, a carpenter by trade, but a man with the ambition to become a farmer in the new colony. The cottage is the first house to be built in Northam, and one of Western Australia’s oldest surviving residences.

Today, Morby Farm Cottage stands as a testament to the hard work and ingenuity of the Morrell family, one of our State’s earliest European colonists and founders of the agricultural sector in the Northam region.

In 1830, little over a year after the Swan River Colony was established, John Morrell set out for Western Australia with his wife and family.

Such was their optimism at building a new pastoral life that Morrell brought with him from England a large supply of agricultural machinery, carpentry tools and even window frames, panes and doors, by which to build his new farmhouse.

John Morrell first landed in Fremantle, but by 1832 he set out from Fremantle to claim the 4,600 acre land grant for which he was eligible. Morrell followed the track to York and then cut his own road beside the Avon River to present day Northam.

By 1836, Morrell had established Northam’s first farm and built Morby Farm Cottage using locally sourced materials to augment the supplies he brought from England.

The cottage was instrumental in early colonial life in Northam and as the settlement grew the cottage served as the town’s first church, school, courthouse, retail and postal outlet.

The building is now a museum for the Shire of Northam. The cottage, which opens each Sunday, allows visitors to stand in the shoes of this founding family, read their diaries, absorb the detail of the Morrell family heirlooms exhibited throughout the house and discover how lives were lived in days gone by.

The cultural and heritage significance of Morby Farm Cottage, Northam was recognised in the 1980s with its classification by the National Trust and most recently, by its addition in the State Register of Heritage Places.
The year 1935 saw a record year of construction in the Nedlands district, with the largest development being the Captain Stirling Hotel, on busy Stirling Highway.

In conjunction with other buildings such as The Maisonettes and the Windsor Theatre, the Captain Stirling Hotel has become an important component in a ribbon of Inter-War buildings built along the Stirling Highway streetscape, which now contribute to the unique character of Nedlands.

The Captain Stirling Hotel was built for Senator Edward Bertram ‘Bertie’ Johnston, a prominent political figure during the first half of the 20th century. Johnston owned several hotels in the metropolitan area as well as significant investments in rural WA.

The building was designed by the architectural partnership of George Herbert Parry and Marshall Clifton in the uncommon Inter-War Spanish Mission style.

The Captain Stirling Hotel continues to be a favoured watering-hole for locals, University of WA students, sporting clubs and those just passing along the well-travelled Stirling Highway.

The 1930s also saw an increased reliance upon motorised transportation, particularly along major routes such as the Perth to Fremantle Road, which was renamed Stirling Highway during this period. With the growth of car traffic, new hotels began to emerge on highways, away from their traditional locations along railway routes.

With the growth of car traffic, new hotels began to emerge on highways, away from their traditional locations along railway routes.

A stirring example of an Inter-War watering hole
With its terracotta tiled roof, loggia and decorative parapet entrance, the Mediterranean architecture of the hotel was identified as a ‘suitable style for Perth’s climate and ambience’.

As the popularity of the new hotel grew, many local events were held there including dinners, dances, and political meetings.

Senator Bertie Johnston died in 1942 and the Captain Stirling Hotel transferred to his estate. It still remains with the Johnston family today.

During the 1980s, the Captain Stirling Hotel was taken over by Marie Louise Wordsworth, daughter of Senator Johnston. She restored its exterior and had the interior redesigned by architectural firm Overman & Zuideveld.

The Captain Stirling Hotel in Nedlands continues to be a popular venue with commercial bars on the ground floor and accommodation on the first floor. And in keeping with tradition, it continues to draw strong patronage from local university students.
There was a time when small country halls were the heart and soul of small communities across Western Australia. The local hall was the place where a bride and groom married in front of their friends, significant family events were celebrated with fervour, debutantes waltzed their way into adulthood and where it became customary to attend the community dance every Saturday night.

The charming Pithara Hall and Supper Room was no exception. It served as the focal point of social activity in the town of Pithara since 1931 and has hosted a good old fashion soiree or two, as well as weddings, sporting functions, church services, meetings, concerts and the fondly recalled movie nights.

Pithara, the small wheatbelt town in the Shire of Dalwallinu, was originally settled with the ambition of developing the area into a wheat growing region. The town was established alongside a railway line that enabled farmers to transport their harvest.

The attractive Pithara Hall and Supper Room was a notable building on Great Northern Highway, situated near the former bank, the Co-operative store and the Pithara tavern. These buildings became the core of the bustling town centre that was driven by agriculture.

During World War II, a munitions dump was established near Pithara and an armoured division was stationed within the town.

Three army camps were based around Pithara, and the hall and supper room was co-opted as a military hospital. A red cross was installed on top of the building and a group of tents was erected at the rear of the hall to accommodate some of the armed service personnel stationed within the town.
The town of Pithara continues to support the local farming community and hosts a large number of visitors in spring when wildflowers bloom in the region.

Today, the town has very few residents, so these historic buildings embody the history and nostalgia of Pithara.

"People don’t live in houses any more - what with the cost of everything and servants, and taxes and the children wanting so much"

The Sixth Journey (Serial), The Daily News, 17 October 1931

Most people who notice the eye-catching Art Deco block of flats on Thomas Street opposite Kings Park are probably unaware of its link with one of the State’s most flamboyant and controversial mining entrepreneurs.

The slender, three-storey building at 103 Thomas Street, Subiaco, was constructed by the General Construction Co, owned by mining entrepreneur Claude de Bernales. The company also built London Court Arcade and Piccadilly Theatre and Arcade.

De Bernales was involved in gold mining in and around Kalgoorlie, but his empire started to crumble in 1939 with some of his companies suspended from the London Stock Exchange amid claims of mismanagement and unpaid tax.

Built in 1937, Attunga Flats has now been added to the State Register of Heritage Place as a rare and intact example of an Inter-War Art Deco style block of flats.

What is distinctive about the block of flats is that it was designed as a slender tower, whereas previous flats around Perth were usually designed to look like a single, large residence so they blended in with the more traditional style of housing.

The building of such flats also represented changing attitudes to housing in Perth.

By the 1930s, a growing population and demand for cheaper forms of housing closer to the city led to the introduction of flats as an alternative form of housing.

Flats particularly appealed to middle-class single professionals and young married couples who wanted to live close to the city but could not afford to buy or rent a house on a suburban block.

Attunga Flats has six curved balconies that look out to Kings Park and an eye-catching zig-zag frieze near its roof.

The building has been continuously used as flats since it was built, and retains many of its original fittings and fixtures such as doors, fireplaces, and kitchen and bathroom features.
From the beginning of the Swan River Colony, it was accepted that the Government would bear some responsibility for the provision of medical and hospital services.

Royal Perth Hospital has been the premier site of health care in Western Australia since the building of the Colonial Hospital in 1855. As such, it is one of Australia’s oldest hospital complexes still in continuous use.

The State Registered Royal Perth Hospital Precinct includes the original Colonial Hospital, the ornate Administration Building (1896), Kirkman House (1909) and the later Cancer Clinic (1930), as well as smaller structures that were essential to the operation of a well-run hospital, such as the Old Kitchen (1909).

The gardens to the south of the Administration Building and the magnificent Moreton Bay Fig, planted around 1900, are also important components of the precinct and have provided a peaceful oasis for patients and their families over the years.

The continual development of the site reflects changes in medical practice, and also government policy towards the provision of health care. And many of these changes are actually reflected in the buildings included in the registration.

When early colonists settled in the Swan River region in the 1830s, a hospital marquee was erected where patients were treated by a dedicated surgeon. However, these early conditions soon proved completely inadequate.
Between the 1830s-40s several hospitals opened and closed, some very temporary and others in buildings that had been adapted for this new purpose. But the make-shift conditions of these hospitals spurred the then Governor to establish Western Australia’s first purpose-built hospital.

Construction of the hospital was initially delayed due to a shortage of manpower and materials. But the arrival of convicts to the colony in 1850 and their deployment on the construction of public buildings changed this situation and the Colonial Hospital was finally completed in 1855.

For a long time, there was a fundamental philosophical difference between the government, which believed that the hospital care was primarily for the poor and destitute, and the colonial surgeons, who believed the hospital should be for the wider public good.

In 1894, Premier John Forrest introduced the Hospital Bill, making it clear that public hospitals would be maintained by government funding, with additional revenue provided through public subscription.

Over time, professional nursing became recognised as an important aspect of successful patient care, and in 1896, a two-year nursing certification program was introduced at the hospital. Because the practice at that time was that nurses should be accommodated where they worked, purpose-built nurses’ quarters were added to the site. Completed in 1909, Kirkman House was named after Annie Kirkman, the first nurse to become certified through the hospital’s program.

The significance of Royal Perth Hospital precinct is more than just the bricks and mortar. It includes the people associated with the hospital since the early days of the colony - the doctors, nurses, administrative staff, voluntary workers, benevolent contributors, board members, architects and its patients and their families.

The heritage listing of this place will ensure its stories continue to be told and that the buildings and gardens will be enjoyed by future generations.

The Royal Perth Hospital Museum and Heritage Perth run regular walks and tours recounting the remarkable stories and hidden secrets of the Royal Perth Hospital Precinct.
ROOTS OF A FLEDGLING COLONY

“…a tree near said left bank, distinguished by having four forks and four vertical notches.”

Transcript of land transfer 1838

A rare surviving Boundary Tree, still growing on the banks of the upper Swan River, is a tangible reminder of the beginnings of the fledgling Swan River Colony and the work of both Governor James Stirling and Surveyor-General John Septimus Roe.

State Heritage Office Director of Assessments and Registration Dr Penny O’Connor said it was rare for a tree to receive State heritage status.

“The State Register is for places of cultural heritage significance and it is unusual for individual trees to be recognised. However, this 200 year-old surviving tree is rare as a marker of a place associated with our earliest colonial land grants,” Dr O’Connor said.

The tree is a large flooded gum growing on the southern banks of the Swan River, in Amiens Crescent, Baskerville.

This site was within an area first visited by James Stirling while exploring the Swan River in 1827. He travelled upstream of the Swan River musing:

“…we reached a spot where…we there found unsurmountable obstructions to further our progress…

Here on a high bank we pitched our tent; the richness of the Soil, the bright foliage of the Shrubs; the majesty of the surrounding trees, the abrupt and red coloured banks of the River occasionally seen, and the distant view of the blue summits of the Mountains, from which we were not far distant, made the scenery around this spot as beautiful as anything of the kind I had ever witnessed.”

Stirling returned as the first Governor of the Swan River Colony in 1829. Within a few months of landing, he and Surveyor-General John Septimus Roe travelled back to this point on the Swan River with a group of settlers.

This tree was one of a number marked by Stirling and Roe as the boundary points between the the first rural land grants provided to settlers of the colony.

Swan Location 4 was transferred to settler Captain William Shaw, who named the area ‘Belvoir’, while Swan Location 5 was initially granted to agriculturalist William Tanner who later returned to England. Tanner’s lot passed through several hands before it was purchased by one of our early pioneers, Eliza Shaw, in 1846.

In the years that followed, the Baskerville area was developed but the Boundary Tree stood as a constant marker between Swan Locations 4 and 5.

The tree was identified by University of Notre Dame Australia archaeologist Dr Shane Burke and local historian Harold Loton, who nominated the place to the State Register.

Bushfires, lightning strikes and development of the area have taken a toll on the native flooded gum. Despite this, it is still putting forth fresh green branches and, as intended the tree still marks the boundary between these early colonial lots in Baskerville.

Dr O’Connor said the State Heritage Office was working with the Department of Parks and Wildlife to help the tree live longer.

“Eventually all trees die so we need to acknowledge that, at some point in the future, the tree won’t be there anymore, but we will then look for other ways of recognising this significant boundary marker,” she said.

BOUNDARY TREE, SWAN LOCATIONS 4 AND 5, BASKERVILLE (P2511) PERMANENT REGISTRATION | 22 April 2016
The 1960s saw an emergence of modern, innovative and creative architecture in Perth that began to challenge traditional design ideas. One such building was a six-storey, purpose-built office building in West Perth. This 1968 building was one of Perth’s first solar-passive commercial buildings.

Designed by prominent architectural firm Summerhayes and Associates, the building was constructed for the Western Australian Farmers’ Co-operative Bulk Handling Group (CBH), which occupied the building until 2003.

The CBH building was designed in the Late Twentieth Century International Style and was one of the first in Western Australia to use concrete brise-soleil (French for ‘sun-breaker’). These architectural features are ideal for the Western Australian climate, allowing low winter sun into a building while keeping the hot summer sun out.

The architects incorporated this clever external design element to the building through large projecting ‘shades’ that surrounded the exterior glass windows. This feature influenced the internal building temperature and encouraged natural light into the interior space of the building.

The building, overlooking Harold Boas Gardens, received a Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA) Bronze Medal Award citation in 1969. It was subsequently included in the 1988 RAIA World Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture.

This award-winning building was purpose built as the central headquarters for the CBH Group from 1968 to 2003. The Co-operative, founded in 1933, is responsible for the State’s bulk handling of grain. The organisation is paramount to the agricultural sector and is central to the history of grain production in Western Australia.

The inclusion of this contemporary building on the State Register of Heritage Places is a reminder that heritage is not just about older buildings but includes all dimensions of the history and development of this State, including technical innovation.

The building is now owned by Warrington Property which is planning to refurbish and adapt the building for future use.
Ingenious rock structures that provided a valuable inland water source

During the 1890s, thousands of settlers travelled into the remote, dry centre of Western Australia in search of gold. This was a time when fortunes were made and the discovery of this precious resource placed the government under extreme pressure to provide much needed water in the vast, often inhospitable inland area between Perth and Kalgoorlie.

Previously, expeditions had traced a safe route of passage to Coolgardie with water wells and soaks along the way, but these were not enough to sustain the growing railway work crews and settlers that travelled the inland route to seek their fortunes.

The government of the day responded and drew on the ingenuity of Public Works Department engineers WH Shields, C Jobson and Engineer-in-Chief, CY O’Connor to devise a series of water catchment dams linking the Goldfields to the coastal settlement.

The Railway Rocks Catchment Dam Group was an ingenious natural water catchment infrastructure that provided an invaluable inland water source to railway work crews during the gold rush era in Western Australia. They also provided good quality water to the steam trains themselves, which would have corroded if they had used the salty bore water in their boilers.

The system created was a myriad of stone catchment walls and stone-paved creek channels encircling granite domes that directed water run-off into larger purpose-built holding dams. Each structure was considered and built using the natural contours and waterlines of the local environment. By taking advantage of the natural landscape, this infrastructure was cost effective, environmentally viable and yielded enough water to sustain remote settlements along the Goldfields railway line.

The structures in this group were built from 1894 to 1897 at Bodallin and Yellowdine in the Eastern Wheatbelt. The water collected was used to supply the steam locomotives and supplement water for stock, horses and travellers during the boom years.
State Heritage Officers undertook four field trips to survey the locations of some of the early water systems developed in Western Australia including the Railway Rock Catchment Dam group and also the earlier wells established by Charles Hunt in the 1860s. The majority of these water sources are still located within reserves managed by the State Government.

Tracking down the location of the wells and soaks and catchments involved months of work that included researching early maps, government gazettes and Hunt’s original journals.

These outback field trips gave staff a sense of the many challenges early explorers faced in an inhospitable inland environment, including the ferocity of extreme elements.

“One of the days was so hot, walking on the stone surfaces of the granite dome actually melted the soles of our boots,” said Moss Wilson, Senior Heritage Officer on this project.

Today, these sites still display remnants of permanent settlements including a rare stone bread oven, all of which provide a window into the lives of the workers and men who passed through the area.

The catchment systems at Yellowdine and Bodallin are popular tourist spots along the great Eastern Highway and still collect and channel water into the dams.

This method of water catchment is an important early feat of engineering and human endeavour. The innovative method was so successful that it opened up pastoral lands and settlements in the eastern Wheatbelt, and was used in other remote parts of the country.
Albany’s Snake Run slalom influences international skateboarding

People skated the same way they surfed...

Australia’s first purpose-built skate ramp, the Snake Run Skate Park in Albany, has been recognised for its influence on the global skateboarding community by being included in the State Register.

When the skate park was officially opened in February 1976 by American skateboarding champion Russ Howell, it captured international attention. Thought to be the world’s first community-built skate park, it quickly became a pilgrimage destination for generations of skateboarders internationally.

The genesis for the skate park came from a group of Albany high school students who raised $3,000 in three months to build the skate park in 1976. Impressed with the enthusiasm of the students, Albany Council donated $10,000 and the land for the development of the park.

From these humble beginnings, the ‘Snake Run’ rose to international prominence when the world skateboard champion of the day, Russ Howell, launched the track, describing it as “the best track I’ve ever seen”. The skate park went on to host Australia’s first National Skateboard Championship in 1979.

Skateboarding WA head Ben Bowring said it was amazing that the track existed today and that it remains an important track for the skateboarding community as it embodies the early style of ‘slalom’ skateboarding, where people skated the same way they surfed.

When designing the Snake Run, the passionate Albany teens took cues from their love of surfing and developed a track that followed the natural topography and contours of the land, weaving, bending and turning like one giant wave.

Very few tracks were constructed in this slalom style, making it rare on an international level. It was a skating style that quickly fell out of fashion as soon after, tracks were built using more vertically-based designs.

The 140 metre-long concrete track was designed to suit all skating levels as it wound its way down the base of Mount Clarence.
The modest slope down the track’s centre ensured beginners couldn’t travel too fast. The steeper section at the start and banked bends enabled skaters to attempt a variety of tricks and get vertical on fast rides.

The track continues to test even the most experienced skaters among the professional circuit who make the pilgrimage to Albany to experience the legendary Snake Run.

Russ Howell thanked Albany for being a leader in the sport and said that the Snake Run laid the groundwork for the direction that skateboarding would evolve – out of the flats and onto the walls where skateboarding began its vertical motion.

In 1976, he took photographs and film footage of the Snake Run back to America for reference and much of the track’s design was incorporated in early US skateboard parks.

“Albany’s skate track has a great legacy as the first track in the world that had a modern bank design to it, you can actually surf those walls,” he said.

“It is important to maintain Snake Run, and celebrate its foundations and influence on many other skate tracks around the world.”

In February 2016, the State Government became the first in Australia to heritage list a skate park, making the Albany Snake Run Skate Park only the third heritage-listed skate park in the world.

This coincided with the 40th anniversary of the Snake Run, which saw the City of Albany and Perth International Arts Festival celebrate the occasion with a huge community event.

A crowd of more than 2,000 enthusiasts, including seven of the original teenagers who rallied the community and designed the park, came to celebrate the 40th anniversary event.

The celebrations included the return of skateboarding legend Russ Howell who, at 66, became the oldest skater to conquer the Snake Run.

The Snake Run was given a new coat of graffiti paint, a massive gunmetal grey snake that sinuously adorns one of the main bends on the run. The crowds watched on as skaters showcased their grinds, flips and ollies, and carved up the fast, steep run that embodies the Albany Snake Run Skate Park.

“It was a very special day,” Mr Bowring of Skateboarding WA said.

“A huge thanks to the City of Albany for having the foresight 40 years ago to support skateboarding and building this amazing skate park that is now heritage listed and part of our State’s story.”
ANCHORED IN HERITAGE, STRIDING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The World Heritage listed Fremantle Prison is one of only 11 sites that make up the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Property. It is the only World Heritage listed building in Western Australia and the most intact and authentic convict site in Australia. Embodying links with convict transportation and its impact on the development of penal philosophies of incarceration, punishment and reform, Fremantle Prison is an incredible heritage asset for the people of Western Australia.

Fremantle Prison is looking to the future and planning more ways for the public to access and experience the Prison. Fremantle Prison is currently in the final stages of developing and implementing a new website with mobile phone functionality and a new optimised search engine, as well as an online facility for visitors to book tours and purchase tickets.

Fremantle Prison is continuing to update and improve its guided tours program. One major enhancement for 2015-2016 is a new motion-activated projector in the Prison’s Crown Theatre, showing evocative footage of the Prison from 1991 for visitors on the Torchlight and Great Escape Tours.
BUILDINGS AND STORIES SAFEGUARDED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Fremantle Prison has the responsibility of preserving and managing its World Heritage listed buildings for future generations. This year, the Prison focused on heritage planning and developed a 10-year Building Conservation Works Schedule. This comprehensive plan prioritises conservation needs across the entire Fremantle Prison site according to the state of degradation and heritage significance of each structure. With this tool and ongoing funding, Fremantle Prison can ensure the site remains intact for future generations.

This year’s major conservation project focused on the restoration of the East Workshops. The Blacksmiths and Carpenters shops were the first buildings built by convicts on the prison site, and the area between them and the perimeter wall remained an open yard for 110 years. Once these extremely significant buildings are restored, Fremantle Prison will open them up as new areas for visitors to experience.

Fremantle Prison also looks after a major State Collection of artefacts related to the site’s convict and modern prison history. Almost 430 objects were accessioned into the Fremantle Prison Collection this year, including 10 donated objects and more than 400 objects found on-site. Of the 10 donated objects, of particular interest was a painting by ex-prisoner ‘Peg Leg’ donated by Coralie Smith, as well as a limestone baptismal font made in 1892 by Fremantle Prison inmates and donated by St Andrew’s Presbyterian Church.

In February, Fremantle Prison hosted the largest function ever held on the prison site. The sold-out concert, Far From Folsom featured Tex Perkins singing Johnny Cash’s famous performances at Folsom and San Quentin prisons in the late 1960s. Fremantle Prison welcomed 2,354 concert-goers onto the Main Parade Ground to enjoy a great night of entertainment set amongst a unique prison backdrop.

HERITAGE TOURISM

This year has been one of Fremantle Prison’s most successful since opening as a heritage tourism site in 1992. It was also its busiest year with 200,387 visitors passing through its gates in 2015-2016.

Fremantle Prison was recognised by the tourism sector for its efforts in preserving and promoting WA heritage. The Prison was ranked as the seventh best landmark attraction in Australia by travel website TripAdvisor in the 2016 Traveller’s Choice Awards, listed among iconic Australian attractions like Sydney Harbour Bridge and Port Arthur. The list is based on millions of reviews submitted by travellers to the website over the past 12 months.

Fremantle Prison was also recognised at the 2015 Western Australian Tourism Awards, winning both the Major Tourism Attraction and Cultural Tourism awards.
The 2015-16 Heritage Grants Program saw nearly $1.3 million in heritage grants shared between 11 metropolitan and 14 regional projects, contributing to $2.73 million in conservation works to State heritage listed properties across Western Australia.

The Heritage Council’s Heritage Grants Program assists private owners of State Registered places to undertake urgent conservation works or develop conservation related documentation. It allows for grants of up to $100,000 through a competitive application process. Owners are required to match funds to the projects.

The Government values the contribution that private owners make to conserving State Heritage places and is committed to providing advice and support to promote the long-term viability of our State’s heritage.

In 2016-17, the Heritage Grants Program celebrates 20 years of helping private owners of State Registered places and, during this time, has funded more than 700 projects amounting to $17 million.

For more information on the Heritage Grants Program, contact the grants team at grants@stateheritage.wa.gov.au or visit stateheritage.wa.gov.au
The landmark Great Southern Roller Flour Mill, better known as the Dingo Flour Mill, is well known for the four-storey red dingo emblazoned on the silo cladding facing the Indian Ocean and Stirling Highway.

The iconic image has become a part of our Western Australian identity to such an extent that numerous myths abound in relation to its origins. Mona Rankin recently came forward to confirm that her father, Les Nash, drew and painted the original dingo on the silo in 1940. Mona, who was nine years-old when her father painted the dingo, recalls that it took her father about a week to complete the task.

Les first sketched the dingo on graph paper, and then used the gridded panels on the silo to guide his large-scale transfer of the design onto the silo itself. The sign has never had to be drawn again but has been repainted several times over the years. However, the salt-laden winds have aged the building’s corrugated sheeting to an extremely brittle state and it now needs more than a lick of paint.

An $82,564 grant has helped with recladding the silos in the traditional corrugated sheeting and repainting the famous red ‘DINGO FLOUR’ sign, ensuring that this much treasured icon of North Fremantle remains in place for generations to come.

Clontarf campus on Manning Road, Waterford, is home to a collection of heritage buildings built between 1901 and 1973, as well as some more recent additions. Clontarf has been associated with education throughout its history, and remains so today.

A lack of regular maintenance over time has caused severe deterioration of some of the structures on the site. The classrooms and gymnasium in Building Three needed work done to the ceilings, west wall and parapet along with drainage works. The handball court also required restoration.

Building One also needed urgent works to correct the collapsing ceiling in the stairwell and to stabilise cracking to the window heads and lintels in the tower.

A $95,700 heritage grant has helped to undertake urgent conservation work to ensure the spaces can continue to be used well into the future.
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST, PERTH

Neighbouring the landmark Swan Barracks Arch at the top of St Georges Terrace in Perth, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, is a bold Inter-War Art Deco-styled building that was acclaimed as “a beautiful example of the modern trend in architecture” when first built in 1939, and was noted for its creative design and innovative features.

While the original Sunday School building was lost to the extension of the freeway in the 1960s, the original church building escaped unscathed at the time. However, the freeway works have contributed to structural cracking in multiple areas of the building.

The Church commenced a restoration program in 2010 but limited funding has seen the repairs undertaken in stages, according to the severity of the cracking present.

This year’s grant of $21,869 will assist with final crack repairs and the conservation of defective plasterwork to the interior, leaving the building structurally stable.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 11595
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Palassis Architects

DUNCRAIG HOUSE, HEATHCOTE HOSPITAL, APPLECROSS

Duncraig House, within the picturesque grounds of the former Heathcote Hospital in Applecross, has been successfully adapted into apartments.

Unfortunately the original wrap-around verandah has been lost and some of the asbestos ceilings are dilapidated, requiring careful replacement.

The owner was awarded a $69,198 grant to reinstate the original verandah and repair the ceilings and deteriorated finishes. The grant will also assist in improving drainage from the verandah to ensure there are no future issues with damp.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 3289
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Hocking Heritage Studio
LEXBOURNE HOUSE (FMR), WEST PERTH

The owner of the elegant two-storey Federation Free Style Lexbourne House on Colin Street, West Perth, is compiling a Conservation Management Plan and undertaking identified conservation works to protect Lexbourne's elaborate balcony structure.

A top-to-bottom restoration is underway with works including re-laying loose or defective roof tiling and repairing piers, lintels, beams, balcony decking and structural timbers to the verandah. Repairs are also being undertaken to window and door joinery, partial gutter replacement and paint/render conservation.

The Conservation Management Plan and works are being assisted by a $64,725 grant to help ensure that future management of the place is well-guided and that the 103-year-old building retains its statement two-storey Corinthian columned verandah.

MALTINGS PLANT (FMR), PERTH

Damage caused by mismatched roof materials at the former Maltings Plant on Stuart Street in Perth prompted the owners to apply for a heritage grant. Now residential, the former industrial complex comprises several buildings constructed between 1899 and 1949 where grain was malted for beer production. The Maltings Plant closed in August 1998.

To help the owners with identification and prioritisation of conservation works, $12,662 was awarded towards updating the Conservation Management Plan to guide future works and help ensure the buildings are properly conserved.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 2905
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Palassis Architects
THE OWNER ...

Little did Bliss Brosnan realise that renting a cottage in Perth’s Brookman and Moir Streets Precinct in the early ‘90s would see her eventually buy her own run-down cottage in the same area and embark on a full restoration. The historic precinct is an almost intact example of 19th century Federation Queen Anne ‘working class’ residences, built between 1897 and 1898, in the wake of the population boom following the gold rush.

In 1998, Bliss chanced upon a man putting up a home-made ‘For Sale’ sign at 28 Brookman Street. Before too long, the cottage became ‘home’.

“When I bought the cottage, I knew it would need quite a bit of work,” Bliss said. “I started with the obvious things that urgently needed doing – I re-roofed the cottage and sorted out the damp course.”

With the precinct being included in the State Register in 2006, Bliss was able to access advice from the State Heritage Office, and financial support through the Heritage Council’s Grants Program.

“Despite knowing I had access to all this support and advice, I was still daunted at the prospect of embarking on a full restoration,” Bliss said.

Finally in 2014, armed with more information about what would be involved in a restoration, and with the support of Annabel Wills Architecture, the works started.

Bliss successfully applied for a heritage grant in 2014 to structurally stabilise the cottage and restore the original façade.

“I can’t believe I put it off for so many years – it was such an easy process, especially with the support of a heritage architect, who helped with my grant application.”

Once the work started, it took only five months to complete the bulk of the work.

Building contractor Colgan Industries took the opportunity to train their apprentice on a range of different building skills.

“It was such a happy worksite – the tuck-pointer celebrated his 70th birthday onsite; the radio was always on and the workers would sing along. The neighbours never complained.”

THE HERITAGE ARCHITECT...

When heritage architect Annabel Wills first met Bliss Brosnan, owner of 28 Brookman Street, they shared some exciting conversations about the potential to restore Bliss’ cottage. However, the timing was not right for Bliss and the project took a back-seat for several years.

But eventually, all the ducks lined up and Bliss contacted Annabel again to take on and manage the restoration project.

“The cottage certainly presented a challenge – there were enormous cracks in the walls, problems with rising damp, uneven floors and door openings that were so warped that doors would not close. The ceiling had also fallen down in places,” Annabel said.

“But we worked with an excellent builder, and together we just chipped away at the things that needed fixing.

“When faced with a challenging task like 28 Brookman, it’s often about over-riding the hesitation and inertia and giving the owner the confidence to undertake the project, knowing they are part of a team that will support them throughout the process.

“Once we started work, the passion and increasing sense of achievement provided the momentum to see the project finalised with a great outcome,” Annabel said.
In fact, Bliss’ neighbours at 26 Brookman became increasingly interested and caught up in the enthusiasm and passion of the heritage restoration work.

Based on poor advice previously, they were under the impression that demolition of their own run-down cottage was the only option. However, seeing the great outcomes with Bliss’ restoration, they abandoned their plan to demolish their own cottage, and have now also fully restored it to its original form with Annabel and builder, Colgan Industries.

This turn of events has saved the two semi-detached cottages from permanent separation, and helped maintain the historic integrity of the precinct.

The two projects stand in proud testimony of heritage conservation done well and have inspired other owners in the precinct to look at restoring their properties.

The precinct was a winner under the Heritage Council of Western Australia’s Heritage Awards 2016, taking out the Conservation or Adaptive Reuse of a State Registered Place category.

The judges stated that the precinct was “An inspirational story of how individuals can work together, by sharing knowledge and encouraging others, to restore and adapt their 1890s workers cottages, thus returning this significant streetscape to its original state. This award is dedicated to past and present owners, their heritage consultants and the City of Vincent.”
**SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FREMANTLE**

Fremantle's Scots Presbyterian Church, a Federation Free Gothic-styled limestone, brick and terracotta tiled building, has stood as a landmark on the corner of South Terrace and Parry Street since its construction in 1890.

Now more than 100 years old, the church has been gradually conserved over the past few years, with restoration of the badly deteriorated upper section of the bell tower taking priority.

The majority of this work was completed in early 2015, with the church turning its attention to the lower section of the tower, where the stone and brick masonry needed repointing. Minor repairs to the church's interior were also required, following works to areas where damp-affected plaster had previously been removed.

A $62,308 heritage grant has assisted with completing the restoration of the iconic bell tower.

**NEWMARKET HOTEL, HAMILTON HILL**

After being vacant for many years, and eventually put up for sale, the 1912 Newmarket Hotel finally found a loving owner in 2014. The new owner is converting the heavily vandalised and deteriorated building into a ballet studio.

The state of the building meant this was no small task, with a lot of work required before the doors could open to students.

As part of the restoration, work to repoint the façades and south elevation, along with repairs to flooring and joinery is being assisted by a $100,000 heritage grant.

The restoration and adaptation of the Newmarket Hotel will breathe new life into the building, ensuring it remains relevant, in use and connected to Western Australians for generations to come.

**24 ORD STREET, ORD & BATEMAN STREET PRECINCT, FREMANTLE**

Monaro, in Fremantle’s Ord and Bateman Streets Precinct, is a landmark two-storey Federation Filigree residence that completes a row of two-storey residences along Ord Street. The house originally presented with an ornate iron-lace, two-storey verandah, but over time, this detailing has been lost and the current structure has become structurally unsound.

A grant of $80,225 will help restore the verandah to its original appearance and make the balcony structurally sound again. This will allow the owners to once again enjoy the space which has been un-useable in recent years due to its unstable condition.
WILHELMSEN HOUSE, FREMANTLE

Wilhelmsen House on Cliff Street is one of Fremantle’s most ornate buildings, both inside and out. Built in 1902, it originally housed the headquarters of Dalgety & Co. Although it has seen many different tenants over the years, it still retains a shipping link today.

Over the years, the Federation Free Classical facades have been painted and rendered over, concealing the natural beauty of the rock-faced limestone and the contrast between the original brickwork and rendering.

Hidden beneath the layers of paint and render, the original brickwork and masonry have deteriorated, with the restoration works needing to be undertaken with exceptional care. The $100,000 grant has assisted with the careful removal of paint and repointing of the masonry, as well as repairs to the cracked upper level cornice.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 854
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Slavin Architects
The original post office in Pingelly was built in 1893, but became a residence following construction of the adjacent post office in 1918. Both buildings are listed together in the State Register of Heritage Places, having a close association and function, despite being constructed in differing styles at different points in time.

The post office buildings have retained their short sheet iron roofs, however the original Pingelly Post Office’s roof is now quite aged, with sheets beginning to lift and rust setting in.

A grant of $29,037 will help the owners re-roof the building and replace deteriorated barge boards and battens. When completed, this project will ensure that the original short-sheet roof appearance is maintained while keeping the building weatherproof for many years to come.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 2252
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Rosalie Pech Eva Architect
EDNA MAY TAVERN, WESTONIA

The 1915 Edna May Tavern sits on the intersection of Wolfram and Cement Streets in Westonia, in the eastern Wheatbelt. The single-storey timber-framed hotel was originally located in Bonnievale, a now abandoned town 14km north of Coolgardie, and was relocated to Westonia to accommodate increased demand following the development of the Edna May Gold Mine in the early 1910s. It is the last remaining hotel in Westonia and the last single-storey timber-framed hotel in the Wheatbelt.

Adding to its rarity, the tavern, which celebrated its centenary in February 2015, has continuously operated in Westonia since 1915, through times of boom and bust.

The owner-operators of Edna May Tavern were awarded a $26,400 grant to re-floor the building, removing the current particle board floor, before reinstating the original flooring, using recycled jarrah boards to maintain authenticity.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 2707
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Laura Gray

12 DEAN STREET, 10 DEAN STREET AND 4 KELLY STREET
PEMBERTON TIMBER MILL WORKERS’ COTTAGES PRECINCT, PEMBERTON

Pemberton’s Timber Mill Workers’ Cottages Precinct began as a collection of residences built specifically for those employed in the local timber mills in the early 1900s. The buildings within the precinct are all constructed from locally-sourced timber weatherboards with corrugated roofs, and all are supported by wooden stumps.

With many of the buildings now close on, or more than 100 years old, it has become vital to restump before significant damage to the supporting structures occurs and the buildings start to lean.

Three restumping projects in the precinct were awarded funding this year, with $19,637 awarded to 12 Dean Street; $17,782 awarded to 10 Dean Street; and $7,403 awarded to 4 Kelly Street to assist with completion of the works.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 11381
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Lynne Farrow Architect
1  **EMPIRE BUILDINGS**  
**STIRLING TERRACE PRECINCT, ALBANY**

The Empire Buildings were built in 1912 and are an important part of the Albany streetscape as part of the historic Stirling Terrace Precinct. The two-storey Federation Free Classical style buildings were originally built as a theatre and shops.

Currently in use as office and retail space, the owners received a $5,712 heritage grant to develop a Conservation Management Strategy that will help identify and prioritise conservation works to the 103-year-old building.

**HERITAGE PLACE #** | 14922  
**HERITAGE ARCHITECT** | H+H Architects

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2  **SAINT JOSEPH’S CONVENT (FMR), ALBANY**

The former Saint Joseph’s Convent, Albany has been heritage listed since the late 1990s and is highly valued by the local community. Built in 1881, the former Catholic convent and school is currently used as offices.

Despite being maintained during its lifetime, a range of preventative works are required to ensure the buildings do not start to deteriorate.

Works to the property include repairs to the joinery, replacement of defective gutters and downpipes, correction of drainage/stormwater discharge and repairs to masonry. A $32,667 grant has been awarded to assist with these tasks which, once completed, will ensure that the property continues to remain in sound condition.

**HERITAGE PLACE #** | 1  
**HERITAGE ARCHITECT** | H+H Architects
3 STORE, NORTHCLIFFE

The mid-1920s Store in Northcliffe is a simple timber and iron building and is one of only two remaining examples of a timber-framed store associated with group settlement in our South West. Like many others of its vintage, the short-sheet iron roof has rusted through in many areas and is in need of replacement.

To help with re-roofing the building, a $10,634 grant has been awarded on the condition that the ‘Save Our Old Growth Forrest’ sign painted on the roof is retained on site. Locals and those involved with campaigns to save old growth forests in the 1990s will be familiar with the sign, which has been visible to visitors for 20 years and holds great significance to many.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 3142
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Annabel Wills Architecture

4 WALEBING (SHIRE OF MOORA)

Established in 1851, Walebing is home to a collection of buildings that together comprise the rural station. Many of the buildings remain largely unmodified despite changes to farming operations over time.

As part of an ongoing conservation program, the owners were awarded a $51,300 heritage grant to repoint the eroded stone masonry to the cottage, kitchen stores and shearing shed. This will ensure that the walls to these buildings remain intact and serviceable for many years to come. The work will also have a striking visual impact following the reinstatement of lime mortar to the stonework.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 3268
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | John Taylor Architect

5 WHITE STAR HOTEL, STIRLING TERRACE PRECINCT, ALBANY

Albany’s White Star Hotel stands on the site of the former White Hart Inn (1870), with the two-storey Federation Filigree building erected in 1910, and additional rooms built in 1912. Named after the White Star Shipping Line that operated the ill-fated RMS Titanic, the hotel has never actually been owned by the shipping company, but was a favourite among local whaler and mariner crews because it was only a short walk from the town jetty.

The hotel demonstrates the evolution of the Stirling Terrace Precinct, with numerous modifications undertaken over the years. One modification was the removal of the original timber-framed Federation Filigree verandah in 1961 due to safety concerns associated with the posted verandahs, and replacement with a suspended awning. Unfortunately, the awning is now causing structural damage to the building’s façade.

The maximum grant of $100,000 was awarded for the reinstatement of a two-storey timber verandah, which will reduce the structural strain to the façade caused by the suspended awning and reinstate the original look of the building.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 14922
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | H+H Architects
**1. GLENTROMIE FARM GROUP, GLENTROMIE**

Glentromie Farm Group’s owners received a $7,175 heritage grant towards obtaining advice from a specialised structural engineer on the stabilisation of the group’s shearing shed and stables, which are at risk of collapse. This will guide future stabilisation works to ensure they remain a functioning part of this significant and expansive pastoral group.

The majority of Glentromie’s built structures were erected between 1860 and 1880, and the stables and shearing shed are excellent examples of Victorian Georgian farm buildings that were functional, well-crafted and designed to represent prosperity and stability.

**HERITAGE PLACE # | 12874**
**HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Now | Then Architecture Renewed**

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**2. LIVERINGA HOMESTEAD**
**(SHIRE OF DERBY-WEST KIMBERLEY)**

Built in 1908, Liveringa Homestead is perched on the top of a hill overlooking a billabong on Uralla Creek, a tributary of the Fitzroy River in the Kimberley. While the corrugated iron roof is what many would come to expect in a Federation Bungalow styled building in WA, the 18-inch thick Permian sandstone walls are a rare sight.

The homestead and station have been associated with WA’s agricultural sector for more than a century, with sheep and cattle farming as well as experimental rice cropping being hosted by the station over the years. The station also served as the first regional polling place in 1901 and was home to a RAAF unit from 1942 to 1943.

Liveringa’s corrugated iron roof has not matched the longevity of the stone walls, with the iron sheets severely deteriorated despite repairs over the years. A heritage grant of $31,325 was awarded to Liveringa to help with re-roofing this veteran of the agricultural industry, ensuring that it remains weatherproof for many years to come.

**HERITAGE PLACE # | 694**
**HERITAGE ARCHITECT | John Taylor Architect**
KOGEREENA, KOJARENA
(CITY OF GREATER GERALDTON)

Well known in the region for its diverse history and associations, Koogereena has been a working homestead since it was built in 1911.

Despite being awarded a heritage grant last year, Koogereena Homestead was unable to match funds to continue with the works. However, it has again secured a grant this year, and with greater financial certainty, has been able to proceed with the planned works.

The project has attracted $74,768 in funding to help with urgent masonry repairs to the homestead, along with the reinstatement of the original circular driveway. The project will protect the exterior walls of the homestead and ensure visitors to the homestead are greeted by the grand entry they would have seen when the homestead was built more than a century ago.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 13930
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Eastman Poletti Sherwood

KATANNING ROLLER FLOUR MILL,
KATANNING

Formerly the Premier Flour Mill, the Katanning Roller Flour Mill has largely lain dormant since its closure in 1976. Recently, DOME Café initiated a plan to adapt the building from a flour mill to an eatery and accommodation. Before this work can start, considerable conservation work needs to be undertaken at the former mill, starting with re-roofing in traditional short-sheet galvanised steel, repairing deteriorated joists and resolving damp to the basement. Window and door joinery will also be repainted and the façades investigated to ascertain the level of deterioration before restoration works are carried out.

The project will be assisted by a $100,000 heritage grant. The completed works will provide a new lease of life for the former flour mill, adding to its cultural heritage significance and ensuring it remains in use in this Wheatbelt community.

HERITAGE PLACE # | 1344
HERITAGE ARCHITECT | Hocking Heritage Studio
One of Fremantle’s most iconic heritage buildings is about to open its doors again - ready for its second century of active use following, one of the most extensive restoration and adaptation programs ever undertaken in the city’s historic west end.

Currently known as Wilhelmsen House, the 1902 building reflects the grand Federation Free Classic style of the era, underscoring its status as the gateway to the young but flourishing Fremantle Port.

In the mid-1960s, the entire façade was fully rendered in a hard cement-based mortar. Unfortunately, this impervious external coating caused water to become trapped in the masonry leading to slow decay of the building fabric.

In 2013, the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), the world’s second largest container line, bought the building. This provided a unique opportunity to nurture the building into the 21st century with sensitive, modern adaptation to create a contemporary and sustainable new head office in Fremantle, at the gateway to the port.

Front-and-centre to the successful outcome of the project was a year-long, comprehensive restoration program, undertaken by Heritage Stone Restorations...
(HSR), an Adelaide-based specialist restoration company. The process was designed by Slavin Architects in close consultation with the State Heritage Office, the City of Fremantle, MSC, and with specialist brickwork conservation advice from TPG Town Planning, Urban Design and Heritage.

The lengthy process began with the delicate removal of the hard, impervious cement render primarily using hand-tools to minimise damage to the underlying substrate, already softened by years of water ingress.

Historically, the cement-based render had been applied in an attempt to prevent water ingress the building had experienced over many decades. The penetration was primarily due to poor detailing at sill and parapet levels. Unfortunately, the impervious external coating caused water to become trapped in the masonry walls and this led to internal dampness. These issues were exacerbated over time as the render cracked and de-laminated from the substrate allowing more water in, with no way of escaping externally. It became clear that removing the impervious external coatings had to be undertaken to improve the building’s long-term performance.

Following the removal of the cement-based render, the next step was to prepare the surface for tuck-pointing. This first required wrapping the exposed brickwork in a poultice to draw the soluble salt from the bricks – the result of decades of gradual water ingress in a high saline environment. Due to the high salt levels, the poultice was applied twice – with each application taking two weeks to complete.

As an example of the painstaking attention to detail, some damaged bricks were replaced with matching salvaged substitutes, while others that had become ‘hollow-faced’ were carefully removed and turned to expose a ‘fresh face’.

For the base mortar (also known as the ‘stopping’), natural earthen pigments, carefully colour-matched to the original non-hydraulic lime mortar were tried and tested extensively. The non-hydraulic lime mortar was smoothed over the edges of the bricks to act as decorative but also sacrificial protection to the historic face brick. This was essential, as the bricks had become weakened by the years of water ingress and impervious coatings that were applied.

Once the base mortar had cured, the scribed tuck-pointing was again colour-matched to the original black.

In addition to the brickwork, the limestone plinth had also been covered with the same cement-based render and paint. Removing this coating – and repointing with the original black tuck-pointing - revealed the true beauty of the original, locally-quarried stone.

“It was an absolute privilege to work on this project. It gave our team a unique opportunity not only to restore this impressive, significant building, but also to incorporate a contemporary design element that may provide a guide towards a fresh, sustainable approach to redevelopment in a heritage precinct, such as the West End of Fremantle,” said Slavin Architects Director, Murray Slavin.

Fremantle port’s gateway building at 11 Cliff Street has a long, impressive pedigree.

The elaborate, Federation Free Classical structure was originally built for Dalgety & Co and opened in 1902 to support its pastoral trading business in Western Australia.

It is currently known as Wilhelmsen House, reflecting the 25-year tenancy by the Wallenius Wilhelmsen Shipping Line from the 1970s until the late 1990s.

The building was acquired in 2013 by leading global container line, Mediterranean Shipping Company.

The restoration of the façade was part of a holistic design project carried out by Slavin Architects for the entire site which also features a contemporary, yet timeless, new regional office building.

Guest contributors: Murray Slavin, Slavin Architects
Marc Beattie, TPG Town Planning, Urban Design and Heritage

ABOVE (L-R) | Deteriorated brickwork exposed once the cement-based render was removed; Exposed brickwork was wrapped in a poultice to draw out the soluble salt from the bricks; Brickwork repointed with original black tuck-pointing.
MATERIAL ANALYSIS OF FIRE DAMAGE TO THE YARLOOP TIMBER MILL WORKSHOPS

Dr Ian MacLeod (Fellow, Western Australian Museum), assisted the State Heritage Office to assess the remains of the Yarloop Timber Mill Workshops.

The devastating fire of January 2016 destroyed a large part of the town of Yarloop and the entire building stock of the Yarloop Timber Mill Workshops, leaving the machinery and many museum objects obscured under the fire debris.

At the invitation of the Shire of Harvey, the State Heritage Office and WA Museum provided technical support to the Shire, workshop volunteers and State Government Recovery team to ensure the remaining heritage values of the workshops were recognised, protected and conserved for future interpretation, acknowledging the important connection with the town and its community.

The first phase of site clean-up involved a survey of the building envelopes so that the detail of the site and objects were not lost during recovery operations.

During the assessment of the fire debris, it became apparent that the worst of the damage was concentrated in several areas referred to as hot spots. The site closest to the seat of the fire was centred on the Chaff Store at the southern end of the site, where eucalypt trees overhung the southern boundary.

As the fire advanced, it was slowed by the open expanse of gravel at the northern boundary. Research by staff at the Department of Parks and Wildlife laboratories has shown that fires in jarrah forests can reach temperatures of 1100°C, but mostly range from 850°-950°C. At these temperatures zinc is removed from both surfaces of galvanized iron cladding. Stripped of its protective coating, the structural rolled iron responded to the rain and developed an even flash rusting across the iron sheet. The heat of the fire was enough to cause the galvanized iron sheet to distort and contort itself into a tangled mess of iron.
The Steam Workshop showed less fire damage than other structures, despite being immediately adjacent to the first hot spot. The timber structure was lost leading to the roof collapsing inward and the walls outwards. However, the zincalume roof sustained surprisingly little damage, with some corrosion and the curling up of the metal, demonstrating greater structural integrity of this building material. The objects within the building, largely heat-resistant, have survived, leaving them in a suitable state for conservation and restoration works.

Although timber roof beams had carbonised, they protected the zinc, so the pattern of timbers is seen in non-rusted areas as the thinned zinc layer was still enough to protect the underlying iron. This phenomenon indicates that these timber beams kept up their role of structural support in their charred state and fell to the floor of the workshop and continued to burn until all the charcoal had been consumed at sustained temperatures of around 350°-400°C.

Totally unexpected was the presence of jet black iron corrosion products on some of the artefacts and sections of roofing iron. The black material (magnetite), forms under very specific conditions when the iron is red-hot (between 649°C and 704°C) and there is steam and carbon monoxide in the air. The industrial formation of magnetite on steel is called the Bower-Barff process which was patented in 1876 and used in the 1890s to the 1920s to put a protective blue-black layer on steel and decorative cast iron objects.

Another temperature indicator was a pile of galvanised nails that responded in very different ways. One third of the nails are totally covered with the red-brown rust where the zinc metal was vaporised. Other nails 15 cm away have a yellow zinc oxide coating on them, while another 15 cm towards the nails are in a fused mass, held together by formerly molten zinc from the original protective coating, demonstrating the 750°-850°C temperatures it would have needed to make the zinc coating flow.

The intense heat around the strong room is seen through the partial loss of the white-wash plaster, which has been converted back to lime. Typically, this takes place above 850°C.

Melted and re-solidified glass was found across the site beneath windows, near former picture frames, and on vehicles like the tractor. Common soda glass, as used in the windows, will drip and fall at temperatures around 1150°-1200°C.

Understanding the impact of the fire on building materials and objects will assist in future interpretation of the fire history of the site.

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Unlock the value inherent in neglected heritage assets, and demonstrate the economic, social and environmental benefits of adaptive reuse

The Heritage Works revolving fund program aims to bring vacant or underused publicly-owned heritage buildings back to active use. Typically, this involves investigating the potential of a place for future use, undertaking necessary conservation work and then managing the sale of the property to the private sector.

It has completed its second year of operation, after being launched by Premier Colin Barnett in May 2014.

Among the services provided by Heritage Works are feasibility analysis, conservation planning and works; financial support (where required); project management; and support with marketing and sale.

The initiative is intended to unlock the value inherent in neglected heritage assets, and to demonstrate the economic, social and environmental benefits of adaptive reuse.

The program has completed its first project, the former Coogee Hotel and Post Office.

The Warders’ Cottages are also close to completion, with the cottages coming available for sale in late 2016.

The proceeds from the sale of these assets will fund future projects. New projects are being investigated in discussion with the property owners, to be carried out in 2017 and beyond.

The program complements the wider State Government program of land asset management and disposal, coordinated by the Department of Lands. Heritage Works effectively operates as a niche component of that wider program.
WARDERS’ COTTAGES (1851-1858), FREMANTLE

The program’s highest-priority project has been the reactivation of the Fremantle Warders’ Cottages. The cottages were built in the 1850s to house Fremantle Prison’s warders and their families.

Vacant since 2011, the Warders’ Cottages present a unique challenge to prepare them for a new chapter of active use.

Heritage Works has carried out extensive conservation works with a $2 million budget. The work has repaired 2,000 square metres of external limestone walls, taking away the harmful paint and cement wash applied during the mid-20th century. Additional works included an overhaul of the onsite drainage system, replacing the roofs, and restoring the front verandahs and awnings. The repair works have presented the cottages in a fresh light not seen for many decades.

Selected internal conservation, servicing and compliance works are also being undertaken as a final phase of work in the July-September quarter of 2016.

A fully furnished ‘show cottage’ is being fitted out, complete with appliances, light fittings, furniture, artwork, floor and window treatments and landscaping in the backyard. The aim is to demonstrate and inspire potential buyers as to how the cottages can be effectively used for contemporary living.

The cottages will be available for sale in late 2016.
The program’s other key project has addressed the conservation, servicing and town planning requirements of the former Coogee Hotel and Post Office, on behalf of site owner, Main Roads WA.

Originally acquired by Main Roads for road-widening in the 1970s, the property was leased to a tenant for a peppercorn rent from 1991 to 2015, and is now surplus to road network requirements.

The State Heritage Office completed substantial conservation works in 2016, including:

- removing intrusive extensions from the hotel and post office
- reinstating verandahs to their original form and making structural improvements
- refurbishing existing joinery and floors
- repainting externally and internally
- repairing stonework.

The former hotel and post office buildings are situated on nearly 6,500 square metres of land opposite the entry point to Coogee Beach, close to the Woodman Point recreation area, and close to Port Coogee and the wider Cockburn Coast structure plan area.

Addressing a pre-requisite to development and reuse the site, the State Heritage Office prepared a Coogee Hotel Structure Plan and presented it to the City of Cockburn for consideration. The Structure Plan introduces a zoning framework for the site (Local Centre, Mixed Use, and Residential zonings); allows for the possibility of subdivision; and provides a framework of design guidelines for any future new development.

Main Roads will offer the property for sale in the second half of 2016.
This year’s Heritage Management and Planning Seminar on 28 – 29 April proved to be the best attended regional seminar, with more than 70 participants coming from as far as New South Wales and Bunbury to hear presenters explore the theme of ‘Industrial Heritage’.

There were engaging presentations on CY O’Connor’s pipeline; the sandalwood industry; the heritage-listing of an industrial precinct, printing, maps, timber and of course, gold mining. Presenters also looked further afield and spoke of the social impacts and costs of industry – medical conditions as a result of mining activities; towns that rose out of the land and as quickly, vanished; and of course, the constant companion of working men – the sex industry.

And aptly, the conversation culminated in how heritage knowledge and stories could be captured, interpreted and curated with presentations on the WA Virtual Miners Memorial and the New Museum.

The seminar was complemented with various tours and onsite visits. An optional full-day tour to Leonora and Gwalia preceding the seminar was enthusiastically taken up, and the seminar included a tour of Coolgardie. The tour to Leonora included sections of the newly-launched Heritage Trail, a visit to Hoover House and Museum, and a guided visit to the Sons of Gwalia headframe, a wander through the fascinating miners’ settlement and a rare opportunity to visit the State Hotel, which is not usually opened to the public.

Hosted by the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the heritage-listed Kalgoorlie Town Hall and Council Chambers, there was a great mix in the delegates comprising representatives from state and local governments, business and tourism operators, heritage advisors, specialist trades people, urban planners, historians, conservation specialists and private owners who were special guests of the Heritage Council. Participants noted that the seminar was “not only educational, but a valuable networking opportunity”.

The Heritage Council is now working on the inaugural State Heritage & History Conference in May 2017, bringing together a broad program of presentations and activities from Western Australia and beyond.

To register your interest to attend or present, email lgs@stateheritage.wa.gov.au
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