

4.0 Agency Performance – Report on Operations

4.1 Agency Performance Compared to Resource Agreement Targets

Financial Targets	Target \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variation \$'000
Total cost of services	8,064	7,008	1,056
Net cost of services	7,932	6,881	1,051
Total equity	2,934	4,654	1,720
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(2,430)	(1,200)	1,230
Approved full time equivalent (FTE)	30	29	1

Heritage Council Desired Government Outcomes and Key Performance Indicators

Desired Outcome: Conservation of cultural heritage places in Western Australia for the benefit of present and future generations

Key Effectiveness Indicators	Target	Actual	Variation
Extent to which heritage places identified as having potential State significance have been assessed	75%	75.4%	0.4%
Extent to which development approvals issued for registered places are consistent with the Heritage Council of Western Australia's advice to decision-making authorities	100%	99.7%	(0.3%)
Extent to which grant aid leverages additional investment in conservation projects	2:1	2.7:1	0.7

Key Efficiency Indicators	Target	Actual	Variation
Incidence of preliminary reviews proceeding to full assessment but resulting in decisions not to recommend Interim Registration.	6.4%	6.5%	(0.1%)
Average cost per place of maintaining the heritage register	\$192	\$175	\$17
Average cost of development referrals	\$760	\$998	(\$238)
Average cost of administering grants (per grant dollar)	11c	23c	(12c)

Please see page 92-94 for explanation of variances.

4.2 Assessment and Registration Program

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

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

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

The State Heritage Office undertakes this assessment and consultation process.

Places that the Heritage Council consider meet the criteria for registration are recommended to the Minister for Heritage. The Minister makes the decision on whether the place will be entered in the State Register.

This year, 15 new places were entered in the State Register on an interim basis and 19 places were permanently registered, bringing the total number of places entered in the State Register to 1,353.

Highlights include:

- Glentromie Farm Group, Glentromie (interim): contains rare and excellent examples of skilled craftsmanship executed by ticket-of-leave men, particularly the bi-chromatic, chequerboard brickwork in the Stables and Shearing Shed.
- Lake Richmond, Rockingham (interim) - a rare, substantial freshwater lake and important water source for Aboriginal people and colonial settlers, that also hosts a very rare and critically endangered form of Thrombolite not known to have occurred anywhere else in the world.
- Daylesford, Bassendean (interim and permanent): built for Cyril Jackson, the first inspector of Schools in Western Australia, the house is a finely detailed example of a two-storey Federation Arts and Crafts-style home.
- Ellensbrook, Grace Town (permanent): begun in 1857 and home of notable southwest colonists Alfred and Ellen Bussell, it is an excellent example of a simple, early rural European settler's residence constructed in stages using local materials such as karri, paperbark, field granite, locally quarried limestone and driftwood.

During the past two years, the State Heritage Office has reviewed and implemented major changes to the way it conducts assessments for the State Register of Heritage Places. Assessments are now principally undertaken by the Assessment and Registration branch on a case-worker model rather than through private contractors. This year, these processes were further bedded down and the case-worker model was refined to become a liaison officer model to better reflect the pro-active

Assessment and Registration Program continued

work of the officers. The change to doing more of the assessment work in-house continues to create significant efficiencies, as well as great benefits in terms of building positive relationships with stakeholders, particularly owners. It has assisted owners in understanding the real rather than the perceived impact of registration, and is a model being looked at throughout the Office as a way of better assisting owners beyond registration.

Assessment program

Any member of the community can nominate a place to be considered for entry in the State Register. This year, 18 places were nominated for possible inclusion in the State Register. Another 197 were referred through the Government Heritage Property Disposal Process, 162 of which were identified through thematic studies. Another 12 places were referred by local government due to their cultural heritage significance in municipal heritage inventories. Of the 272 places that had a preliminary review, 77 were identified as warranting a full heritage assessment. Some of these places may be assessed in groups or precincts.

There are a significant number of places that have been assessed for the State Register but where stakeholder consultation is ongoing. Conscious of the need to provide certainty to owners and other stakeholders, the Heritage Council took the strategic decision this year to focus on these places rather than initiate a large number of new assessments. Determinations were made on 27 of these pre-existing assessments and, after further investigation and reconsideration, the Heritage Council's Register Committee determined that 13 places did not meet the threshold for the State Register.

In 2012/13, 14 places were recommended to the Minister for interim registration, of which 11 were approved by the Minister and one was deferred. Nineteen places were recommended for permanent registration, all of which were approved.

For a full list of places registered during the year, see [Appendix I](#) and [II](#).

Assessments and Registrations 2009/10 to 2012/13

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Places assessed	32	43	32	41
Places registered (interim)	15	16	20	15
Places registered (permanent)	39	14	29	19
Total Registered as at 30 June 2013	1304	1,318 ^a	1,338	1,353

(a) Two places were removed from the State Register in 2010/11.

Amendments to Registration

No amendments were made to permanently registered places during the year.

Places not interim registered

The Minister declined to interim register the Collie Group Home, Collie and St Francis Xavier Group, Quairading. The Minister subsequently approved registration of St Francis Xavier Church and Presbytery.

Legal challenges to registration

There were no legal challenges to registration.

4.3 Government Heritage Property Disposal Process

The State Government is the largest single owner of heritage places in Western Australia and sets the standard for observing good heritage management and conservation practice.

The purpose of the Government Heritage Property Disposal Process (GHPDP) policy is to identify and assess the heritage value of State Government property under consideration for disposal, and to provide relevant protection where appropriate.

The policy applies to all State government agencies, organisations listed in Schedule 1 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*, and Government Trading Enterprises. These agencies are required to notify the Heritage Council if they intend to dispose of a property, which is:

- more than 60 years old
- listed on an existing heritage list such as a local government inventory
- displays other evidence of potential heritage significance.

The agency is required to notify the Heritage Council of the proposed disposal at least four months beforehand. Disposal includes the demolition, sale, transfer or lease of a property outside of the State Government sector (the transfer or lease must be for at least 10 years).

This year, 197 places were referred to the Heritage Council through the GHPDP and had a preliminary review. Of these, 42 were identified as warranting full assessment for possible entry in the State Register.

Three full heritage assessments were undertaken by government agencies as a result of previous GHPDP referrals.

To assist government agencies with referrals under GHPDP, the State Heritage Office developed the GHPDP Toolkit, which was launched in July 2011. Containing a range of information and guidance on the process, the Toolkit aims to make the process of referring places clearer and easier to understand. Presentations on the Toolkit were made to more than 10 key government agencies during 2011/12.

Presentations to other government agencies that hold significant assets continued during 2012/13, and follow-up meetings with those agencies presented to in previous years began. Having been in circulation for nearly two years, the content of the Toolkit has also been reviewed and updated. Together, the presentations and the Toolkit have resulted in a significant increase in awareness and compliance with GHPDP requirements.

In June, a GHPDP Education Program was created to establish a recurrent liaison program with State government agencies and Government Trading Enterprises to improve heritage asset planning and management into the future.

Government Heritage Property Disposal Process continued



Former Butter Factory and Managers Residence, Narrogin (1919, 1932, 1941)

Two important pieces of our South-West dairy history have been reunited in the State Register highlighting the importance of the Government Heritage Property Disposal Process.

The former Butter Factory and Manager's Residence in Narrogin once played an important role in the expansion of the State's dairy industry in the years immediately after World War I, when most of WA's butter factories were established.

The Butter Factory operated from 1919 to 1952, and is the only known surviving example of a complex that includes both a factory and a substantial manager's residence.

In 1955, the lot was subdivided and the Butter Factory was sold into private ownership. The fine Art Deco Manager's Residence, built in 1941, reverted to the Crown and was used by the Department of Housing.

In 2010, the Department of Housing anticipated selling the Manager's Residence and referred it through the Government Heritage Property Disposal Process. The association with the Factory, now a residential home, was rediscovered and the Heritage Council decided that both properties should be assessed together for their heritage value – a move welcomed by the Butter Factory owner.

In 2012, the Butter Factory and Manager's Residence was entered in the State Register of Heritage Places.

The Butter Factory owner is now considering buying and restoring the Manager's Residence.

Left: The former Butter Factory and Manager's Residence in Narrogin. Photographer Palassis Architects

4.4 Development Referrals and Conservation Advice

The Heritage Council provides advice to local governments and other decision-making authorities on changes or development to State Registered places, prior to works being undertaken.

Comments can also be sought in relation to the development of non-registered places but, in this case, the Heritage Council's comments are not binding.

The Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office work together to encourage sensitive development and new compatible uses of heritage places because this is the best way of assuring their future.

The Heritage Council has authorised the State Heritage Office to deal with the majority of development proposals under a delegation framework. This year, the State Heritage Office dealt with 88% of development referrals.

Major and sensitive developments are dealt with by the Heritage Council or its Development Committee.

Development Referrals

A total of 939 development referrals were determined during the year, with 88% being processed within 30 days.

While the number of development referrals remain high, it has seen a slight (4%) decrease from 2011/12. This decline is attributed to the slowdown in the building industry combined with regulations that no longer require owners to seek Heritage Council advice for maintenance and minor works. While the number of regional referrals remained constant, there was a decline in metropolitan referrals as several major projects and the subsequent referrals (including tenancy fit-outs) were completed during 2012.

The Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office were actively involved in a number of major metropolitan projects such as:

- Old Treasury Building (Government Central Offices), Perth
- Perth City Link (Perth Railway Station Main Station Building), Perth
- Elizabeth Quay, Perth
- William Street Precinct, Perth
- Perth Chest Clinic, Perth
- Brookfield Place tenancies (Newspaper House Group), Perth
- Fremantle Prison, Fremantle
- Claremont Council Offices, Claremont

The Heritage Council and State Heritage Office were also involved in several projects in regional Western Australia:

- Busselton Jetty, Busselton
- Tanker Jetty, Esperance
- Weld Theatre, Busselton
- Lord Forrest Olympic Pool, Kalgoorlie
- Old Onslow Townsite (Wheatstone LNG project), Onslow
- Chinatown Conservation Area, Broome

The State Heritage Office continued to update and review its procedures and processes to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

Development Referrals and Conservation Advice continued

Key strategic projects included:

- A policy framework for assessing development referrals to assist in consistent decision-making and increasing certainty for owners of State Registered places.
- Development of various briefs and guidelines including Best Practice for Site Preliminaries and Preparing a Heritage Impact Statement.

Proposals that may affect a State Registered place are referred to the Heritage Council under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act*. Section 11 of the *Act* requires a decision making authority to determine proposals consistent with Heritage Council advice unless the decision-making authority determines there is no feasible and prudent alternative. This may result in an approval that is inconsistent with Heritage Council advice. One such determination was made in the reporting period. The City of Swan approved the demolition of Lynwood Homestead, Middle Swan.

Development Referrals	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	%
Referrals Received	1,079	1,169	1,008	950	
Referrals Determined	1,064	1,098	981	939	99%
Referrals Determined – Registered Places	878	922	723	700	75%
Referrals Determined – Non-Registered Places	186	176	258	239	25%
Referrals Determined – Metropolitan Area	646	587	551	527	56%
Referrals Determined – Regional Areas	418	511	430	412	44%
Referrals processed under 30 days	898	939	851	830	88%
Referrals processed over 30 days	166	159	130	109	12%
Referrals determined by Development Committee or Heritage Council	147	141	148	113	12%
Referrals made under Delegated Authority	917	957	833	826	88%

Development Referrals and Conservation Advice continued

West Australian Ballet Centre (former Royal WA Institute of the Blind, Senses Foundation), Maylands (1937, 1955)

The new home of the West Australian Ballet illustrates how finding the right compatible use for a State Registered heritage building can be the key to a successful adaptive reuse project.

The Senses Foundation (formerly the Royal WA Institute for the Blind) sold the State Registered building and land in 2004. The land, which ran from Whatley Crescent through to Guildford Road, was subdivided, with three quarters developed for residential.

The 1937 building, which contained large open spaces, was initially intended to be adapted into apartments and then offices, before it was eventually sold to the City of Bayswater who leased it to the West Australian Ballet.

While the proposed residential development would have resulted in apartments with large open spaces, it would have required bigger changes to the existing fabric of the building.

Its adaptation for the West Australian Ballet proved to be the perfect fit. The existing interior layout allowed for large performance and rehearsal spaces, cafe and wardrobe functions, and open plan offices, without significant alteration to the existing fabric.

The Heritage Council and State Heritage Office worked closely with the project team to overcome the many challenges the building presented. The structure was strengthened, services were upgraded, mobility access was improved, and concessions provided for parking. Areas that had been subjected to vandalism and fire damage in 2005 were repaired. The rear lavatory block was demolished to make way for a new steel structure incorporating toilets, stairwell and a lift to improve mobility access. The new addition is clad in ice opaque white Danpalon panels.

Today, the West Australian Ballet has a state of the art facility which boasts three dance studios, a wardrobe and production department and administration offices.

The project was completed in 2012 and won the 2013 **Western Australian Heritage Award for Excellence in Adaptive Reuse: The Gerry Gauntlett Award**.

Below: The former WA Institute of the Blind building has been transformed into the new home of the West Australian Ballet. Photographer: Catherine Watts



4.5 Regulatory Orders and Agreements

Regulatory Orders

Under section 59 of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, the Heritage Minister may issue an order to provide special protection for a place.

- A 'Conservation Order' is an on-going protective order that remains in effect indefinitely, unless an end-date is specified. It requires public consultation before the Minister may issue it.
- A 'Stop Work Order' is a protective order that automatically expires after 42 days. It does not require public consultation.
- A 'Consent Order' is a protective order that only requires the owner's consent. It remains in effect for as long as the owner agrees. It does not require public consultation.

No orders were issued this year.

Heritage Agreements

A Heritage Agreement is a legally binding contract that sets out a framework for the long-term conservation and maintenance of a place.

The State Heritage Office prepared and completed seven new Heritage Agreements pursuant to section 29 of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act* and three others to replace two existing agreements, for the following places:

Place No.	Place Name
17	Camfield House, Albany
1973	Old Treasury Building, Perth
2494	Spring Park, West Swan
2596	Trayning Police Station, Trayning
2695*	House, 66 Aberdeen Street, Perth
3273	Block One, Midland Railway Workshops
3444	Old Onslow Townsite, Onslow
9173†	91 Hensman Road, Subiaco
9173†	144 Heytesbury Road, Subiaco
19926‡	Fernbrook, Busselton

*This agreement replaces an earlier agreement for the same place.

†These two agreements replace an earlier single agreement for Kensington Private Maternity Hospital.

‡This place is not on the State Register but is included on the local government heritage list.

There are now 94 Heritage Agreements in place for 89 places. Some places are covered by more than one Heritage Agreement because the place includes two or more separate structures that are each the subject of a Heritage Agreement.

In 2010, the State Heritage Office began to provide assistance to local governments in the preparation of Heritage Agreements for places of local heritage significance that are not on the State Register, as permitted under section 29(2)(c) of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act*. The Heritage Council is not a party to these agreements. Rather, these agreements are between the local government and the owner of the subject place. This year, the State Heritage Office prepared one Heritage Agreement on behalf of the Shire of Busselton for Fernbrook.

4.6 Conservation Incentives for Property Owners

One of the key objectives of the Heritage Council is to promote the sound conservation, successful adaptation and harmonious development of Western Australia's heritage places.

One way in which this objective can be achieved is by providing or facilitating incentives for owners of State Registered heritage places to undertake conservation works or conservation planning activities. Since 1997, the Heritage Council has offered funding to private owners of State Registered heritage places for Conservation Management Plans and conservation works through the Heritage Grants Program. The Council also administers the Emergency Conservation Grants Program, Goldfields Earthquake Restoration Fund and assists the WA Local Government Association in the administration of the Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme.

Heritage Grants Program

The Heritage Grants Program assists private owners of State Registered heritage places by offering grants of up to \$100,000 on a matched dollar-for-dollar basis for preparation of Conservation Management Plans and the implementation of conservation works.

In March 2012, the State Government announced that the 2012/13 Heritage Grants Program would be increased by 25 per cent, with an additional \$1.046million allocated over four years. This is the first increase in the program since its inception in 1996/97 and will deliver more than \$10million in conservation works to privately owned State Registered places over the four years.

The increase resulted in 20 projects – 10 metropolitan and 10 regional projects - sharing in \$1.25million in funding this year, which will result in \$3.33million in conservation works to State Registered heritage properties. Further details of the projects can be found in [Appendix III](#).

The 2012/13 round of the program saw two applications from religious institutions citing a conscientious objection to receiving funds from Lotterywest, which offers complimentary funding programs for heritage conservation to not-for-profit groups and local government authorities. A review of Lotterywest's policy identified a potential gap in funding regarding not-for-profit groups who have a conscientious objection to receiving funds derived from gambling activities or whose projects are not funded because they do not demonstrate a significant community benefit. The Heritage Council resolved to accept applications from not-for-profit organisations provided there was evidence of a conscientious objection or the application for funding being declined by Lotterywest due to low or no community benefit.

During the year, 25 projects were completed with \$1.42million in funding released during the year to both completed and on-going projects. Of the completed projects, 21 were from previous years and four were from the 2012/13 Heritage Grants Program.

Conservation Incentives for Property Owners continued

The following four projects from 2012/13 Heritage Grant Program were completed ahead of schedule:

Old York Hospital (York Hospital Heritage Precinct), York (1896)

The owners of the landmark Old York Hospital received \$100,000 to restore the severely deteriorated sheoak shingled roof of the Federation Arts and Craft-style building, which was designed by George Temple Poole. The deterioration had dislodged shingles across two-thirds of the roof, bringing a high risk of water ingress over winter. The owners completed the works in April. The Old York Hospital is part of the town's earliest group of institutional buildings known as the York Hospital Heritage Precinct.

Belay Farm Group, Walkaway (1858-1860, 1882, c.1900, c.1920s)

After receiving an Emergency Conservation Grant to assist with the restoration of a cottage stone wall that had collapsed, the owners were allocated \$7,273 to assist in the conservation of the stone walls of the 150-year-old former stables and 130-year-old former mill. The method of construction and materials used for the cottage, stables and mill was similar and the owners wanted to utilise the same local stonemason who had repaired the cottage wall. Earlier attempts undertaken by the previous owner to protect the wall by applying and reapplying cement render to the wall had failed. The work was completed in March 2013 with the owners planning further works to the galvanised roofing and gutters, and further restoration of stonework across the buildings in the Group. Belay Farm Group is one of the few early farm complexes in the Midwest where the majority of buildings are intact and still used today.

St. Lawrence's Anglican Church, Dalkeith (1957)

The innovatively-designed St. Lawrence's Anglican Church was in need of urgent, specialised repairs to its Cordova tiled roof. Cracked tiles had allowed water to penetrate through the ceiling and damage window heads, ceiling panels, internal walls and the parquet floor. Citing a conscientious objection to receiving Lotterywest's funds, the church received \$81,600 and the project was completed in April 2013.

St. Aidan's Uniting Church, Claremont (1903, 1911, 1966, 1983, 2002)

St Aidan's Uniting Church received \$87,139 to assist in rebuilding the first pipe organ built in WA. The 134-year-old organ was installed in the church in 1911, eight years after St Aidan's was built. Over time, the limestone walls of this rare surviving example of a Federation Gothic-styled church had fretted and were causing damage to the organ. The church, which had already spent a considerable amount of money undertaking conservation works to the church and hall, had a conscientious objection to receiving Lotterywest funding. The church used the Heritage Grant Program funding to rebuild the organ and repair the walls and timber finishes. Works were completed in June 2013.

Conservation Incentives for Property Owners continued

[previous view](#)

Hobbs and Roe Boatshed, Peppermint Grove (1905)

The Hobbs and Roe Boatshed has been part of the visual and social history of the idyllic Freshwater Bay for more than a century.

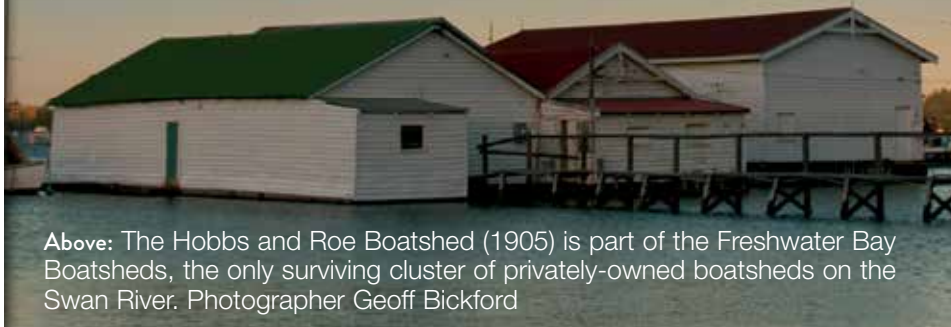
But, over the years, rising water levels had degraded the structure, threatening this fragile and rare landmark that sits on the Swan River.

The Hobbs and Roe Boatshed was a worthy recipient of the Heritage Council's 2012/13 Heritage Grants Program funding, and was allocated nearly \$99,000 to rebuild the structure and raise its deck.

The boatshed is part of the Freshwater Bay Boatsheds, the only surviving cluster of privately-owned boatsheds on the Swan River. The Hobbs and Roe Boatshed was built in 1905 by renowned architect and World War I hero Lieutenant General Sir Joseph John Talbot Hobbs and former Police Magistrate of Western Australia Augustus Roe in 1905.

Sir Joseph John Talbot Hobbs served at Gallipoli and in France during World War I and was responsible for designing many of the well-known public buildings in Perth and Fremantle, including the War Memorial at Kings Park. The boatshed is still partly owned by Sir Talbot Hobbs' descendants.

The Hobbs and Roe Boatshed was chosen as the location for the December announcement of the successful recipients of the 2012/13 Heritage Grants Program to illustrate the diversity of projects funded. The launch was attended by the boatshed owners and other successful grant recipients.



Above: The Hobbs and Roe Boatshed (1905) is part of the Freshwater Bay Boatsheds, the only surviving cluster of privately-owned boatsheds on the Swan River. Photographer Geoff Bickford

Emergency Conservation Grants Program

The Emergency Conservation Grants Program (ECGP) assists private owners of State Registered heritage properties, or places under assessment for entry in the Register, with urgent professional advice or funding for stabilisation works following unanticipated destructive events. Projects are recommended for funding through the Regional Heritage Advisory Service or during the assessment process by the State Heritage Office. The program has a limited budget and as a result does not open funding rounds.

Three new projects were funded under the ECGP this year:

10 Kelly Street, Pemberton (1913-1951) and Sandilands, Busselton (c.1840s)

The individual owners of 10 Kelly Street, Pemberton and Sandilands, Busselton applied for funding under the 2012/13 Heritage Grants Program. On review of the applications submitted, it was determined some initial planning would best be undertaken before implementing any works. Internally, there was also a need to test the Conservation Management Strategy brief and as a result both owners were offered a Conservation Management Strategy, with the \$9,331 cost funded in full by the Heritage Council. Both Conservation Management Strategies were completed and feedback was provided by the author of the documents on the appropriateness and performance of the brief, which has now been incorporated into a revised brief. It is proposed that the revised brief again be tested, with the potential to include funding of Conservation Management Strategies under the Heritage Grants Program.

Conservation Incentives for Property Owners continued

[previous view](#)

No. 10 Kelly St is part of the Pemberton Timber Mill Workers' Cottages Precinct, a rare collection of relatively intact timber mill workers cottages built between 1913 and 1951, while the 1840s wattle and daub homestead Sandilands is one of the oldest existing structures in the region.

Belay Farm Group, Walkaway (1858-1860, 1882, c.1900, c.1920s)

When a wall of one of Belay Farm's stone cottages unexpectedly collapsed, the owners consulted their regional heritage advisor for advice on how to restore the wall and prevent further damage. The heritage advisor made contact with the State Heritage Office, ultimately resulting in a dollar-for-dollar grant of \$3,980 being offered for the State Registered property under the Emergency Conservation Grants Program. Following consultation with the State Heritage Office, the owners used a local stonemason who undertook specialised repairs at minimal cost, achieving a positive conservation outcome for the cottage and preventing the remaining walls from collapsing.

Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme

The WA Local Government Association (WALGA) offers assistance to owners of heritage listed places through the Heritage Loan Subsidy Scheme. The scheme offers a 4% subsidy on the interest paid on loans established to undertake conservation works, claimable once per year for up to five years. The maximum claimable subsidy is \$2,000 per year. The Heritage Council provides a top up of \$35,000 to the scheme in times of high demand and also provides ongoing administrative support.

There are currently 25 loans receiving a subsidy under the scheme. Two new applications were received and approved for the subsidy this year.

In recent years, very few applications have been submitted under the scheme resulting in a high level of reserve funds being held by WALGA. A comprehensive review of the scheme has been commissioned with the outcome of the review to be known in early 2014.

State Government heritage commitments

The Heritage Council, through the State Heritage Office, administers funding committed by the State Government for heritage specific projects. These projects are usually allocated their own funds and are therefore managed outside the Heritage Grants Program and Emergency Conservation Grants Program budgets. As a general rule, these funding commitments are not on-going.

Goldfields Earthquake Restoration Fund

Following a magnitude 5.0 earthquake in the Kalgoorlie-Boulder area on 20 April 2010, Premier Colin Barnett announced \$5million in funding to assist owners of damaged properties with repairs to their heritage listed buildings.

At the request of the Premier, the Hon Colin Barnett MLA and the then Minister for Heritage, Hon G M (John) Castrilli MLA, the State Heritage Office developed an operating framework for the Goldfields Earthquake Restoration Fund. The funding was offered through four grant streams:

Conservation Incentives for Property Owners continued

- Emergency Relief Grants provided owners with assistance with the cost of minor immediate repairs to make the building safe.
- Earthquake Restoration Grants provided assistance to owners to return a heritage building to its condition prior to the earthquake, where costs were not met by an insurer. Owners were required to make a substantial contribution.
- The Conservation Improvement Program allowed for grants of up to \$250,000 to undertake additional works and required a financial contribution from the owner.
- The Preferred Work Grant provided funding where a heritage architect appointed by the Heritage Council recommends work to improve the heritage outcome.

All funding rounds have now closed for expressions of interest.

At the close of this year, 51 projects have been completed and 12 remain ongoing. A total of \$1.27 million in funds were released during the year. There were three new commitments to grants this year and three variations were made to existing grants. Details are found in [Appendix IV](#).

The standing allocations at the end of the year are as follows:

Category	Committed Amount \$'000
Emergency Relief Grants	62
Earthquake Restoration Grants	916
Conservation Improvement Grants	2,030
Preferred Work Grants	14
Administrative costs*	250
Professional services*	250
Committed funds	3,522
Uncommitted funds	1,542

* Expenses partially funded through recurrent funds.

Palace Theatre, 127 Burt Street, Boulder (1937)

The Boulder Promotion and Development Association applied under the Goldfields Earthquake Restoration Fund's Conservation Improvement Grants stream for assistance to replace the Palace Theatre's front doors and windows to match the original Art Deco-style and colour.

The Palace Theatre was one of the few purpose-built buildings constructed during the 1930s in Kalgoorlie-Boulder and is a landmark in the historic Burt Street Heritage Precinct.

A grant of more than \$37,000 was offered to assist with the works and cover the costs of the heritage consultant.

In undertaking the works, the original front doors were found under paneling and restored. The mesh covering the windows was also removed with the works having a striking visual impact on the façade.

The works undertaken have enhanced the beauty of the 1937 Art Deco building, which has been used by the local community as a theatre, drop-in centre, skate rink and recreational sports centre. It is currently hired out to community and private groups for activities, including cinema shows and children's birthday parties.

4.7 Local Government Services Program

Local Government Services

The objective of the Local Government Services unit is to support the work of local governments in identifying and protecting local heritage places, and providing input for broader strategic planning.

Support is given in the form of advice, education and workshops, guidelines, online resources and submissions on local planning issues.

Local governments are integral to the management of heritage issues for the wider community. They can increase the understanding and conservation of local heritage through the identification of heritage places in municipal inventories, adoption of policies and strategies under a local planning scheme, and celebration of heritage through trails and walks, open days and other community activities.

Working alongside the State Heritage Office, local government support in heritage matters is critical to recognising and managing change for heritage places.

Heritage in urban planning

Under section 79 of the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, amendments to local planning schemes are referred to the Heritage Council for advice.

The State Heritage Office also makes submissions on any urban planning proposal that has the potential to impact on the State's heritage places.

This year, the Local Government Services unit provided responses and submissions on 126 urban planning proposals.

The Department of Local Government's Integrated Planning Framework now requires local governments to produce Strategic Community Plans to identify long term visions, values, aspirations and priorities. These documents can be used to implement heritage strategies, which are part of the local government management toolkit to identify priority projects and work areas.

Heritage Planning and Management Seminar

The Heritage Planning and Management Seminar is the main training and development activity run each year by the Heritage Council, through the State Heritage Office. It is targeted towards local government and aims to attract both officers and elected members.

The 2013 seminar was held in the historic surroundings of the State Registered Cottesloe Civic Centre, co-hosted by the Town of Cottesloe, Town of Mosman Park and the Shire of Peppermint Grove.

The two-day seminar featured site visits and talks on the rise of suburban heritage, its protection, community involvement and celebration. More than 40 representatives attended the seminar from across the State.

Local Government Services Program continued

Western suburbs host 2013 Heritage Seminar

This year's Heritage Planning and Management Seminar was co-hosted by the Town of Cottesloe, Town of Mosman Park and the Shire of Peppermint Grove. It was a two-day event which also featured an additional half-day 'Heritage 101' program for those new to heritage or wishing to brush up on some of the basics.

Hosting the seminar in the Western suburbs provided the ideal backdrop to the Seminar's theme of 'Suburban Heritage – towards 2031'. WA's residential areas and small towns are home to the great majority of the State's local heritage places. The seminar looked at how we can identify and celebrate this suburban heritage, while guiding our communities to ensure future generations will be able to share these special places.

A highlight of the seminar was the variety of speakers presenting on local and international topics. Visiting Dutch historian Hans van den Brink spoke about his experiences using history and heritage to inform city planning responses in Amsterdam. TPG Senior Heritage Planner Marc Beattie

spoke about the role of Building Preservation Trusts in leading Scotland's community heritage projects and using heritage to inspire a sense of place in small towns and suburbs. Mr Beattie is a full member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (UK) and his past roles included overseeing community-led projects to rescue heritage buildings at risk.

The setting of the Cottesloe Civic Centre was also noted by many delegates as being instrumental in the success of the seminar, providing an appropriate venue for the discussion of heritage matters.

In conjunction with the seminar, the Shire of Peppermint Grove hosted an oral history evening in The Grove Library. Cr Dawne Horrex shared her experiences of growing up in the area and her later involvement on the Shire Council. The event was open to the public and seminar delegates. Presenting a public face to the seminar was important in highlighting to the local community that their local governments were taking an active role in heritage matters.



Background: The Heritage Planning and Management Seminar was held in the State Registered Cottesloe Civic Centre



Local Government Services Program continued

[previous view](#)

Regional Visits

Maintaining an understanding and awareness of heritage issues throughout the State is important in informing Heritage Council advice and strategic direction.

Meeting with local governments and their communities provides first-hand information, and helps to foster positive relationships with each of the groups and agencies that participate.

A visit to Beverly provided an excellent opportunity to engage with and develop relationships with elected members and officials from an area that features a high concentration of heritage places, including 10 State Registered places.

The Heritage Council, along with State Heritage Office staff, also visited Esperance where meetings were held with a range of State government agencies, local government and community groups including the Shire of Esperance, the Esperance Goldfields Development Committee, Esperance Heritage Committee, and the Esperance Historical Society. The groups highlighted that there was general confusion over the roles of the Heritage Council of Western Australia and the National Trust of Australia (WA). The impact of the SuperTowns program on Esperance was also discussed. A number of site visits were carried out during the trip, including to the State Registered Tanker Jetty, Bijou Theatre and Dempster Homestead, as well as the Esperance Goods Shed, Old Cannery, Esperance Cricket Ground, and the OTC Wireless Station.

Regional Heritage Advisory Service

This year has seen the review of the existing Regional Heritage Advisory Service. The review found that this service is not the most efficient way of delivering training and support to local governments, and that local governments should be the base for delivering heritage advisory services to local communities, with funding and other support provided by the State.

From July 2013, local governments will have access to a panel of consultants offering heritage advisory services. The panel is independent of the State Heritage Office and the Heritage Council, and will operate under the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) preferred supplier program.

To support regional local governments that can demonstrate a need for funding, the Heritage Council has established a subsidy program that will meet up to 50% of the costs of an established heritage advisory service and up to 75% of the costs of a service within its first three years.

The framework and operation of heritage advisory services is generally informed by the guidelines drawn up by the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand.

Since announcing the new approach to heritage advisory services, the State Heritage Office has received approximately 25 applications for a subsidy. Of these applications, 10 are from local governments looking to establish a new service.

4.8 Strategic Projects

InHerit – opening the doors to heritage

inHerit is an online database, launched in July 2013, that brings together information on more than 23,000 State and local heritage places in WA with most entries featuring full descriptive information, images, spatial mapping and street view functions.

It is the first time that local government heritage lists have been available centrally online.

inHerit also allows local governments to create, edit and publish their records about heritage places. It is free to use, requires no software installation and allows for secure, long-term online storage for data.

inHerit was built by the State Heritage Office with assistance from the City of Fremantle and Lotterywest. It was developed following stakeholder consultations that highlighted the need for an online presence for local government listings because most were kept in book form and were underutilised and highly inaccessible.

The real estate industry, in particular, indicated that online access to heritage listings was important to real estate agents, and it was also felt that a combined online database would help home owners and buyers understand the different heritage listings.

For this reason, **inHerit** was officially launched at a seminar for real estate agents at the State Theatre Centre, co-hosted by the Real Estate Institute of WA (REIWA). Speakers included the then Heritage Minister, the Hon. G M (John) Castrilli MLA, Heritage Council Chair Marion Fulker, REIWA President David Airey, State Heritage Office Executive Director Graeme Gammie and REIWA Councillor and Dethridge Groves Real Estate Principal Hayden Groves. Speakers presented on a range of subjects including

the different types of heritage listings, how to market heritage properties, and how to use **inHerit**.

inHerit was further promoted at the WA Local Government Association Annual State Conference and the Local Government Managers Association State Conference, as well as through various industry and general magazines and newspapers.

Since the launch, the focus has been on the further development and enhancement of **inHerit**. The State Heritage Office is working to ensure that mapping of State Registered and local government municipal inventory places in **inHerit** is complete and accurate. This mapping will provide a link with Landgate's Interest Enquiry system to enable Landgate to provide information on cultural heritage places to property professionals.

inContact with heritage specialists

inContact is a new online heritage directory which puts owners, State and local governments, and other stakeholders in contact with businesses that provide specialist heritage services.

It was developed by the Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office following a review of the previous Directory of Heritage Consultants, which existed as a PDF document downloadable from the website.

Strategic Projects continued

The previous directory was restrictive. It opened once a year for applicants, listed individual consultants rather than businesses, and required applicants to submit projects and references for review. Consultants were also required to hold minimum qualifications and to have worked in the industry for a minimum period. The directory was developed in the early days of the Heritage Council and had not kept pace with the growth in the heritage industry, and the range of services now offered. It required a large amount of staff time to review applicants and gave the misleading impression that listed consultants and their work were endorsed by the Heritage Council.

The Heritage Council requested that a new online version be created that would operate purely as a listing service, giving businesses more flexibility and providing the opportunity to build capacity within their own organisations. In turn, this would create more choice of heritage specialists for owners, local and State government departments, and other stakeholders.

It was also acknowledged that some stakeholders, such as owners, only required the services of a specialist occasionally, and the directory should cater for their needs, as well as emphasising the importance of getting professional expertise when undertaking a heritage project.

To meet these objectives, a new online database was developed that allows businesses to join at any time and manage their own listing data without the cumbersome reviewing and publication processes. It provides the opportunity for businesses to include a general description of work experience, services provided, professions employed, qualifications, memberships, and a link to their website, all within a single listing.

The need to simplify and expand the previous service categories resulted in the introduction of new planning, design and local government service types. In consultation with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, a new service type for Indigenous heritage was also included.

inContact is easy to use by the general public not familiar with heritage terms by allowing them to search by profession, service provided, region and business name. It provides a glossary of professions and the services they provide, a handy checklist offering tips and suggestions to engaging a heritage business, and information on adapting heritage places.

inContact removes any ambiguity about the relationship between businesses and the Heritage Council, and clearly advises that people need to make their own assessment of the skills and expertise of the chosen business before entering into a contract.

inContact was launched in June, with a communication campaign aimed at driving listings, as well as informing and educating industry stakeholders. The campaign targeted specialists from the old directory via direct mail and focused on media and key stakeholder outreach to raise awareness of the new directory. Businesses were encouraged to list by 28 June 2013 as the old directory ceased on 1 July 2013.

More than 50 businesses are currently listed on the directory covering all categories, including architects, engineers, planners, historians, arborists, and interpretation specialists.

The State Heritage Office will promote **inContact** more widely to owners of heritage properties, local and State governments, other stakeholders and to the general public from July 2013.

Strategic Projects continued

[previous view](#)

Business systems

In 2012, the Heritage Council commenced planning for the decommissioning of the Office of Shared Services. To create efficiencies in the adoption of new finance and human resource systems, the Council is working with the Department of Racing Gaming and Liquor, Department of Local Government and the Equal Opportunity Commission to form an agency cluster. The cluster concept includes shared capital and human resources for the delivery of finance and human resource services across all agencies in the cluster. The Heritage Council, along with other cluster agencies, is scheduled to adopt new systems in late 2013.

The State Heritage Office is also replacing the core heritage business system which has become out-dated and expensive to support, and does not meet the needs of the Office and stakeholders such as owners, State agencies, local governments, historical groups and the real estate, development and construction industries that rely on access to heritage place information.

Education and Training Program

The Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office is working towards the implementation of a new, centrally managed education and training program for 2013/14. This project is intended to:

- Promote consistency and high standards in local governments' heritage identification and listing practices.
- Build capacity in heritage planning and management in local and State government agencies.
- Develop awareness of opportunities and mechanisms for reviving heritage places subject to disuse and neglect.
- Improve the availability of information about the sustainability and economic benefits of heritage conservation.
- Promote improved heritage training and education opportunities in Western Australia.

The education and training program will be focussed around local government, but also notes the capacity to work through partners and third parties to deliver training, and to use education to bring wider awareness and understanding to owners, developers and other stakeholders.

The project has been split into two stages. The first stage is to identify audience groups, existing education providers, education gaps and potential partners in delivering a training program, as well as the development of an education program. This first stage is now complete, and the State Heritage Office is looking to pursue the second stage next year. The second stage will cover the delivery and assessment of the education and training program.

Strategic Projects continued

Introduction to Building Conservation

Heritage professionals participated in a week-long 'Introduction to Building Conservation' course as part of an ongoing program to build skill levels within the heritage industry.

The course was presented by internationally renowned heritage consultant David Young OAM, an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Universities of Canberra and Melbourne, and was based on his very successful 'Summer School' series. The course consisted of theory sessions, a practical 'lime day', and site visits. The focus was on traditional building materials (stone, brick, mortar, plasters and renders, wood and metals), and covered the following topics:

- weathering, decay and corrosion mechanisms
- best practice repair and conservation
- dealing with rising damp and salt attack
- repointing mortar joints
- termites and other bio-deterioration of timber
- corrugated roofing and galvanic corrosion of metals

The course, organised and hosted by the State Heritage Office, took place at the World Heritage Site Fremantle Prison in November 2012. It was fully subscribed with 20 professionals from various backgrounds taking part, some travelling from regional areas including Katanning and Toodyay.

A highlight of the course was the practical 'lime day'. Stonemason Tony Graneri assisted Assoc Prof Young with the preparation and running of the lime day, which provided many opportunities for participants to take a hands-on approach to mixing traditional lime mortars and repointing sections of limestone wall at the rear of the prison.

As part of the program, Assoc Prof Young also presented a free evening talk on Norwegian Wood to about 50 interested professionals. He provided a fascinating insight into how traditional heritage structures are conserved and managed in Norway.



The feedback from the participants at the end of the course was very positive, with most indicating that they would be interested in participating in similar courses. The State Heritage Office is now talking to Assoc Prof Young about future courses and research projects to support traditional conservation approaches in Western Australia.

Above: Stonemason Tony Graneri (foreground) and Assoc Prof David Young prepare a traditional lime mortar as part of the 'Introduction to Building Conservation' course at Fremantle Prison

4.9 Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion

Under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, the Heritage Council is responsible for promoting public awareness of our cultural heritage.

The State Heritage Office undertakes these functions on behalf of the Heritage Council through a range of public and media events, marketing and publications, and other promotional activities.

2013 Western Australian Heritage Awards

The *Heritage Council's Western Australian Heritage Awards* is the premier event in Western Australia's heritage calendar.

The awards were established in 1992 by the Heritage Council to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of individuals and organisations to heritage in Western Australia.

It showcases excellence in revitalising heritage places, setting standards for future interpretation, conservation and adaptive reuse of places on the State Register of Heritage Places. It also recognises those individuals and organisations that have been instrumental in elevating the value of heritage, securing its place in the future development of Western Australia.

The awards are used to promote heritage success stories through the media and stakeholder internal and external publications, and to engage with heritage owners and other stakeholders such as heritage professionals, local governments, heritage tourism operators, and community groups.

It is now being used to showcase WA heritage projects in the Asia-Pacific region following cooperation between the Heritage Council and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

In 2012, agreement was reached that Heritage Award winners and high commendation recipients would be shortlisted for nomination, with Heritage Council endorsement, for the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. In the first year of this agreement, Northbridge's William Street Revitalisation Project won the UNESCO Award of Honourable Mention. It is only the second WA project to be honoured in the UNESCO awards after the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Mullewa received an Award for Distinction in 2004 following its conservation and restoration.

The UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation recognise excellent achievement in successfully conserving or restoring heritage buildings and properties in the region. Award winners span a wide range of conservation projects from private residences to palace complexes, serving as a catalyst and source of inspiration for private individuals and institutions in conserving cultural heritage throughout the region. The awards are announced in August each year.

The 2013 Western Australian Heritage Awards was held on 16 April 2013 at the State Theatre Centre during Australian Heritage Week. The event was attended by 280 guests, including award finalists.

Of the 50 finalists, 25 individuals organisations and outstanding heritage projects were honoured from Albany to Broome.

The historic town of Toodyay dominated the awards, winning three out of the 11 categories including outstanding contribution by a

Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

volunteer, outstanding heritage practices by a local government and outstanding interpretation project. The win illustrates the passion and commitment embedded in the community to recognising and celebrating its heritage.

In addition, five of the award winners: Kulahea in Cottesloe, Heritage Buildings at Brookfield Place in Perth, the West Australian Ballet Centre in Maylands, Sailmaker's Shed in Broome and The Rocks in Albany have all been shortlisted for nomination at the 2013 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.

The Heritage Awards received extensive media coverage in regional and community newspapers as well as Channel 9, Sunday Times, ABC Radio, 6PR Nightline and The Way We Were. In total, there were 55 media articles and interviews on the award finalists and winners, equating to an advertising space rate of \$42,211 and reaching a cumulative audience of more than 1.74million people.

For the first time, the State Heritage Office utilised an online awards portal for award entries, event RSVPs, and to promote the finalists and winners. This portal significantly reduced the number of staff hours required to run the awards, including judging by the Heritage Council. It also increased the professionalism of the awards, making it easier for people to lodge their nominations and to receive information about the awards.

The 2013 Western Australian Heritage Awards winners and high commendations were:

Outstanding voluntary contribution to heritage by an individual

Winner: Jenny Edgecombe, Toodyay Historical Society

High Commendation: Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO, WA Museum

Outstanding contribution to heritage by a professional in the heritage industry

Winner: Katrina Chisholm, Claremont

High Commendation: Ian Hocking, Shenton Park

High Commendation: Leigh Barrett, City of Bunbury

Outstanding contribution to heritage by a community-based organisation

Winner: Western Australian Indigenous Tourism Operators Council

Winner: Historical Society of Cockburn

High Commendation: Newdegate Historical Society

Outstanding contribution to heritage by a public or private organisation

Winner: Dome Coffees Australia

High Commendation: Lotterywest

Outstanding heritage practices by a local government

Winner: Shire of Toodyay

High Commendation: City of Vincent

Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

Outstanding conservation of a residential place

Winner: Kulahea, Cottesloe

High Commendation: The Rocks, Albany

Outstanding conservation of a non-residential place

Winner: Heritage Buildings at Brookfield Place
(Newspaper House Group & Perth Technical College), Perth

Winner: Edenvale, Pinjarra

High Commendation: Sailmaker's Shed, Broome

Outstanding interpretation project that enhances a place

Winner: Newcastle Gaol, Toodyay

High Commendation: Wireless Hill Centenary Exhibition, Ardross

High Commendation: Rottnest Island 'Open House and After Dark'

Outstanding heritage tourism product

Winner: Two Feet & a Heartbeat: Guided Walking Tours

High Commendation: Rottnest Island Heritage Week 2012

Excellence in adaptive reuse: The Gerry Gauntlett Award

Winner: West Australian Ballet Centre, Maylands

High Commendation: The Office of the Premier and Cabinet
Room, West Perth (the former Hale School)

Outstanding newcomer: The Professor David Dolan Award

Winner: Andrew Bowman, Carnamah Historical Society



Background: Edenvale, Pinjarra was the joint winner of the Outstanding conservation of a non-residential place

Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

Celebrating the diversity of our heritage projects

From a complex multi-million dollar city development to a small scale regional local government project - the scale and diversity of WA's heritage projects were celebrated at this year's WA Heritage Awards.

The **Heritage Buildings at Brookfield Place** and **Edenvale** were joint winners of the award for outstanding conservation of a non-residential place.

Brookfield restored the former Newspaper House, WA Trustee and Royal Insurance buildings, the largest intact heritage streetscape on St Georges Terrace.

The Heritage Award judges said the development is an outstanding example of how State Registered buildings can be extensively revitalised and integrated into a contemporary setting.

"These once dilapidated heritage buildings are at the forefront of this sophisticated development, enlivening central Perth and reinstating this significant streetscape as one of the best commercial addresses in town," the judges said.

In comparison, the Shire of Murray spent \$900,000 restoring the 125-year-old Edenvale homestead, which had been extensively damaged by fire in 2009.

The judges said the project is an excellent example of a small community-based conservation project that, through a high level of professional input, has achieved outstanding results.

"The focus on interpretation in the design and construction phases has resulted in a building that clearly retains its sense of history and heritage, while providing a modern meeting, exhibition and event space," they said.

The restoration of Broome's Sailmaker's Shed received a high commendation with the judges stating that the conservation is a great example of government and local community saving a simple structure from demolition to enable the unique cultural legacy of the State's pearling heritage to continue to be told.

Below: Before and after photographs of the restoration of Heritage Buildings at Brookfield Place. Photographs by Palassis Architects and Peter Bennetts



Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

Dome Café: 'Where others have seen problems, we have found opportunity'

When accepting the [WA Heritage Award for outstanding contribution to heritage by a public or private organisation](#), Dome Coffees Australia CEO Nigel Oakey gave a very personal insight into how his approach to heritage was shaped by a childhood incident.

In his acceptance speech, Mr Oakey told how he watched the destruction of an entire city while growing up in Hong Kong.

"A seminal moment for me was, as a 10-year-old, standing next to my grandfather who was a towering man, and his favourite building in the whole of Hong Kong was the Hong Kong Club, where he had met his wife, got married, had parties with his children, and where I had my christening celebration.

"And I stood holding his wrinkly old hand and saw my grandfather cry for the first time, as together we watched wrecking balls tear into the building.

"He said one thing to me that, on reflection has driven us over the past 10 years in this particular direction, he said: 'Son, they have only seen the problem, and missed the opportunity'.

"And I think of Dome's 12 listed heritage projects and that, on reflection, is really where we have tried to work from. Where others have often seen problems, we have found opportunity.

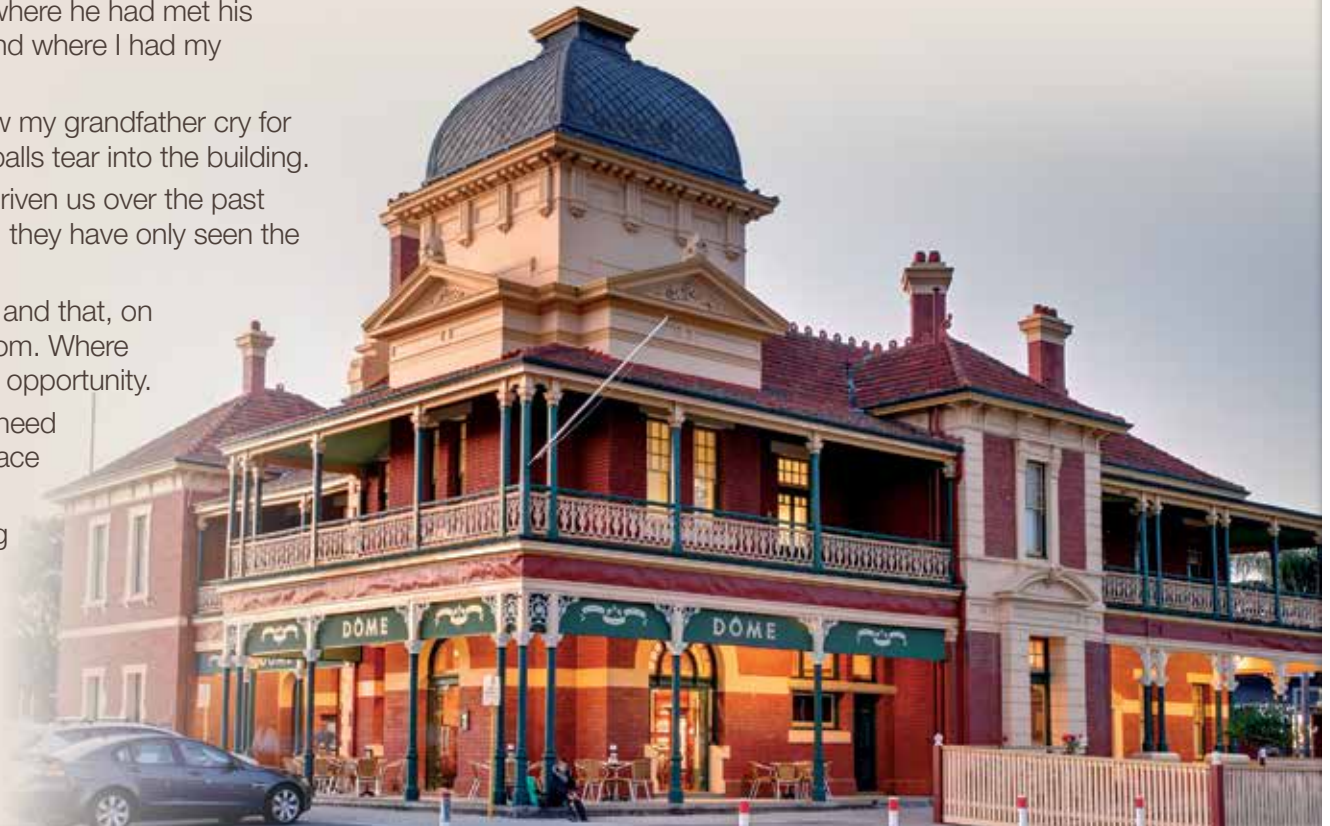
"Where others have found derelict buildings that need to be dealt with by developers, we've become place makers.

"It's been a journey that has been more rewarding than I could ever have imagined and, in a way, I've got heritage to thank for helping us to really re-think what our business is all about – which is about place making for communities."

The Heritage Award judges said Dome's commitment to adapting heritage listed places, as part of its business focus, is an outstanding example for other private organisations to aspire to.

"Dome has provided a lasting benefit to the community by revitalising 12 State Registered and six locally listed buildings, ensuring they remain an integral part of the vibrant life of Western Australia," the judges said.

Below: Dome Coffees Australia head office in the Old Peninsular Hotel, Maylands



Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

[previous view](#)

Heritage Matters and other publications

In January, the State Heritage Office developed a monthly electronic newsletter in order to provide more timely and relevant information to owners, stakeholders and the general public.

The electronic newsletter replaced the bi-annual printed Heritage Matters magazine, producing savings in production costs and staff time. It also provides more flexibility allowing for links to the State Heritage website, external websites, and to view television news stories and interviews on State Registered places. For the first time this year, the electronic newsletter allowed the State Heritage Office to inform owners and stakeholders of the winners of the Western Australian Heritage Awards the day after the evening event.

Called **Heritage Matters eNewsletter**, each edition contains a mix of news items including new additions to the State Register of Heritage Places, and heritage seminars, events and incentives. The newsletter is also used to further relationships with industry partners, such as local governments and membership groups, by promoting their news and events.

It was decided that a yearly printed edition of Heritage Matters was still required to cater for owners and stakeholders who would prefer to read a hard copy magazine, and for distribution at specific events. This magazine will focus on the stories behind our WA Heritage Award winners, the yearly grant recipients, and all places entered in the State Register during the financial year. This high quality magazine will act as a keepsake for owners of newly registered places and Heritage Award winners. It is also envisaged that the magazine will have a long 'shelf life' and would be the type of product that stakeholders will happily promote to a wider audience.

Two new publications were produced this year to promote best practice conservation and adaptation work. The two-part Heritage-in-Action brochure series covers residential and adaptive reuse projects. The brochures provide examples of how owners and developers have met the challenges of adapting places into contemporary living and work spaces, and illustrate the type of works that will be supported by the Heritage Council. A third brochure covering small commercial developments is in progress. The brochures are used by the Assessment and Registration team during their stakeholder negotiations with owners of places that are being assessed for the State Register, and by the Development and Incentives team.

A brochure called Buying and Selling Heritage Listed Residential Properties was produced to assist the real estate industry when dealing with common questions related to State and locally listed places. This brochure was unveiled at a seminar, co-hosted by the Real Estate Industry of WA, to launch **inHerit**, the online database of heritage places.

The State Heritage Office also produced a documentary on the discovery of a 145-year-old road. It was the first time that the office has attempted such a venture.

The Corporate Communications unit continued to assist other branches with the review, updating and publication of a range of communication material including the Development Framework. This policy framework is used to promote consistent decision-making on development proposals by the Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office, and to increase certainty of outcomes for owners of State Registered places.

Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

[previous view](#)

Other activities

The State Heritage Office continued to develop strong relationships with the media and delivered a pro-active media program that resulted in extensive exposure throughout the year.

Highlights include:

- a regular segment on 6PR's The Way We Were
- prime time television coverage of the Convict Road Discovery, Heritage Award winning residence Kulahea, and development of Swanbourne Hospital.

The State Heritage Office continued to partner and develop relationships with organisations from the heritage and cultural heritage sector; tourism; local government; State government agencies and redevelopment authorities; legal fraternity and the real estate industry to raise awareness of and to promote heritage. In-kind sponsorships, promotions and speaking opportunities were provided to:

- Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA) and Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology Conference
- National Archaeology Week
- National Environmental Law Association (WA) State Conference

Convict Road Discovery

In August 2012, City East Alliance road building contractors discovered an unusual series of large wooden discs beneath layers of road surfaces during Perth's Great Eastern Highway upgrade at Belmont.

City East Alliance immediately contacted the State Heritage Office, which swung into action to build a team of archaeological and heritage consultants to visit the site.

What they discovered was a 20m stretch of a 145-year-old road, likely to have been built by convicts. This type of road construction was known as 'Hampton's Cheeses' after controversial Governor of Western Australia John Hampton who proposed the use of wooden discs as a road base. Hampton's Cheeses were made from sections of tree trunks about 30cm thick and up to 90cm in diameter and were used along major roads and highways around Perth.

The State Heritage Office worked with City East Alliance, the WA Museum and the City of Belmont to safely excavate five salvageable pieces including a 5m long kerb. The work was completed within three days to ensure minimal disruption to the works on the highway, one of Perth's major arterial roads. The City of Belmont is restoring the remnants to display them in a future exhibition at the Belmont Museum.

During the excavation, the State Heritage Office arranged for a still photographer and cameraman to record the significant discovery. The footage was later made into a documentary, which is available on the State Heritage website. The documentary, produced in-house, has attracted 1,681 page views on the website, and is one of the most popular pages. The documentary received coverage on Channel 9 News, The West Australian, and 6PR.

Background: Remnants of the convict road



Community Engagement and Heritage Promotion continued

Ministerial support

The management of heritage properties continues to be an important issue within the community. The State Heritage Office and the Heritage Council play an important role in providing advice and information to the State Government and the Minister for Heritage.

During the year, the State Heritage Office received and completed 146 requests from the Minister for Heritage for briefing notes, advice on parliamentary questions, and draft replies to correspondence.

Heritage Tourism

The Heritage Council and the State Heritage Office continued to promote heritage tourism as outlined in the Heritage Tourism Strategy.

The Office aimed to raise the profile of heritage tourism as a viable niche market and, through visitations, to promote the ongoing conservation of WA's built heritage.

During the year, partnerships were maintained with the Tourism Council WA, the Forum Advocating Cultural and Ecotourism (FACET), Heritage Perth, Museums Australia (WA) and the Young Australian Tourism Association to assist in achieving these goals.

The State Heritage Office also supported and promoted the Australian Government initiated Australian Heritage Week (13-21 April 2013) and the National Trust's Western Australian Heritage Festival (18 April to 18 May 2013).

Highlights include:

- Sponsorship of the Tourism Council Western Australian Tourism Awards
- Ongoing inclusion of heritage tourism category in the Western Australian Heritage Awards, which highlighted outstanding heritage tourism products in the WA market.
- Participation in Heritage Perth Heritage Days through the presentation of 'Disasters in Building Conservation – 10 Things not to do' lecture by renowned heritage consultant David Young OAM.