



# Heritage Information

## What is Heritage and why is it important?

Heritage is important in understanding the story of both Western Australia and the local community - their history, identity and diversity.

Heritage places can be buildings, structures, landscapes and archaeological sites. Heritage places aren't just 'old' places, they can also be more recently constructed buildings or have significance as a place where a structure once stood.

Heritage listing is the formal recognition that a place has cultural heritage significance and/or is worthy of built heritage conservation. Cultural heritage significance is the aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance a place may have for present and future generations.

## Local Heritage Survey (LHS)

Local governments are required to prepare and adopt a local heritage survey in accordance with the requirements of the *Heritage Act 2018* and *State Planning Policy 3/5 Historic Heritage Conservation*. The local heritage survey (LHS) is a starting resource for local heritage planning and in itself has no statutory role.

The LHS informs the Heritage List and identifies and records places that are, or that might become, of cultural heritage significance.

Places listed in the LHS are still recommended for conservation as they contribute to the social and cultural values and history of the locality.

## Heritage List

Local governments are required to prepare and adopt a heritage list in accordance with the requirements of the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015*. The local heritage list is administered through a local government's local planning scheme and affords statutory protection to listed places.

The heritage list generally includes places identified in the Local Heritage Survey (LHS) as being **Category One (Exceptional Significance)** or **Category Two (Considerable Significance)**.

## Ownership and Public Access

The heritage list identifies each place by name and address only and does not reveal owner details.

Inclusion on the Heritage List or Local Heritage Survey does not affect ownership and/or permit public access to a private property. A recognised place remains the property of the landowner/manager and normal access arrangements remain.



### Levels of Significance

For each place deemed to be of heritage value, a level of significance and consequent category is applied. The levels of significance are taken from the Heritage Council's guidelines, with places identified as Category 1 and 2 being recommended for inclusion in the heritage list to provide a level of management through the local planning scheme.

LEVELS OF SIGNIFICANCE	DESCRIPTION	DESIRED OUTCOME
<b>Category 1 Exceptional significance</b>	Essential to the heritage of the locality  Rare or outstanding example	<b>HERITAGE LIST</b> <b>Register of Heritage Places</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The place should be retained and conserved.</li> <li>•Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.</li> <li>•Refer to Heritage Council</li> <li>•Planning Scheme provisions</li> </ul>
<b>Category 2 Considerable significance</b>	Very important to the heritage of the locality  High degree of integrity / authenticity	<b>HERITAGE LIST</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Conservation of the place is highly desirable</li> <li>•Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place</li> <li>•Planning Scheme provisions</li> </ul>
<b>Category 3 Some/Moderate significance</b>	Contributes to the heritage of the locality Some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the item	<b>NO CONSTRAINTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Conservation of the place is desirable</li> <li>•Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place</li> <li>•Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place</li> <li>•Original fabric should be retained where possible</li> </ul>
<b>Category 4 Little significance</b>	Some community interest to the history/heritage of the locality	<b>NO CONSTRAINTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Contributes to the history of the locality</li> <li>•Photographically record prior to any major development or demolition</li> <li>•Recognise and interpret the site</li> </ul>

### Development Requirements

Inclusion of a place on the heritage list does **not** prohibit development, however a development application from the Shire is required and works proposed should respect and be sympathetic to the heritage values of the place. Places listed on the State Heritage Register, generally Category 1 places, also require approval from the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage's Heritage Council.

There are some exemptions where development approval may not be needed, and any proposed development should be discussed with the Shire's Planning Services Team to determine approval and application requirements.



## **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

Currently all Aboriginal cultural heritage places, whether recorded or currently unidentified, are protected by the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2021*. The Act provides a modern framework for the recognition, protection, conservation and preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage whilst recognising the fundamental importance of Aboriginal cultural heritage to Aboriginal people.

Post contact Aboriginal heritage is relevant to the *Heritage Act (2018)* and is also identified in Local Heritage Surveys.

Further information regarding the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage can be found on the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage website: [www.dplh.wa.gov.au](http://www.dplh.wa.gov.au)

## **Further Information:**

For further information regarding the Shire's Local Heritage Survey or Heritage List or to discuss a development application for a heritage place, please contact the Planning Services Team on 9168 4100 or by email: [planning@swek.wa.gov.au](mailto:planning@swek.wa.gov.au)