

WEST AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE AWARDS 2010

The Heritage Council of Western Australia held its annual West Australian Heritage Awards ceremony on Thursday 10 June and Heritage Perth is delighted to have received a 'Special Mention' in the category of 'Community-based or Non-profit Organisation.' More importantly, two buildings in the city precinct won awards for 'Conservation and/or Interpretation of a Place on the State Register of Heritage Places.' The 'Residential' award was given to the Archbishop's Palace, Victoria Square (joint winner with a property in Claremont), and the 'Non-residential' award was won by the GPO Building in Forrest Place. The awards showcase excellence in revitalising heritage places, setting standards for future interpretation, conservation and adaptive reuse of places on the State Register of Heritage Places. For further information, please go to www.heritage.wa.gov.au



ARCHBISHOPS PALACE REVITALISED

The Archbishop's Palace forms part of a precinct of nineteenth century ecclesiastical buildings belonging to the Roman Catholic Church. The Palace is held in high regard by members of the Roman Catholic community as the seat of power for the Archbishop of Perth and for the Diocese of Perth. In 1986, His Holiness, the Pope was accommodated in the Archbishop's Palace during his visit to Perth. The Palace retains this importance even though for many years, the Archbishop resided elsewhere.

The first Archbishop's Palace was designed by James Manning for Bishop Serra of Perth, and was completed in 1859. It was a simple, plain, three storey building with a shingle roof. In the 1920s, architect M.C. Cavanagh designed extensions to the east end of the building and recast the whole building in a classical manner. Retaining that style, a church was added in the 1930s. Since then, little other work has been done but it remains one of the oldest surviving Episcopal residences in Australia.

Recent conservation work was undertaken to return the Palace to its original glory and create accommodation befitting an Archbishops residence. Lead architect, Alistair Ravenscroft of Philip Griffiths Architects who were responsible for overseeing the work said, "Though substantial, the project is in essence, the refurbishment of a private house which has been done to improve the facilities and comfort for its current and future residents."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ATTENDS TASMANIAN HERITAGE TOURISM CONFERENCE



Executive Director, Richard Offen, recently visited Tasmania where he had been invited to be a keynote speaker at a heritage tourism conference. "Tourism Tasmania and Heritage Tasmania were looking for a speaker whom they considered to be

leading the way in promoting heritage as a positive tourism asset. They found our web site and decided that Heritage Perth fitted the bill perfectly," explained Richard.

"It was extremely flattering and a great affirmation of the work we are doing," said Heritage Perth's Chairman, Dario Amara. "To be described as an 'extremely dynamic heritage organisation' and to be invited to present our work at such an important conference marks a real coming of age for Heritage Perth and demonstrates the high regard in which our Executive Director is held by other heritage practitioners." Not one to let the grass grow under his feet, Richard made a whistle-stop tour of Tasmania, managing to fit in a visit to the Port Arthur Convict Settlement, where he met with the Director of Conservation and Infrastructure. He also visited Hobart's premier hotel situated in a superbly converted former jam factory dating from the 1820s. The success of this adaptive reuse of a heritage building highlighted the potential for similar projects with buildings in Perth. Richard also met with the Tasmanian National Trust who run a very progressive Community Heritage Program. "Tasmania is crammed full of beautiful heritage places," said Richard. "Hopefully, the result of the conference will be a much more strategic approach to marketing the island's heritage as a vital ingredient in any visit."

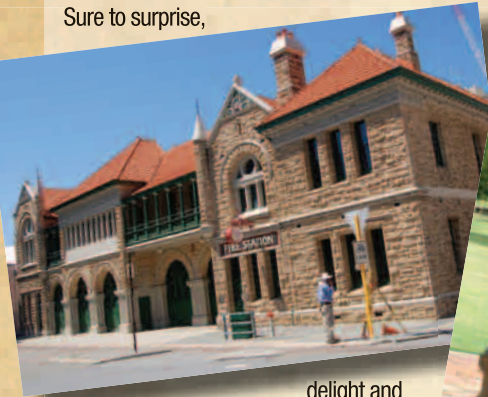


a future for our past
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HERITAGE PERTH HERITAGE DAYS

The success of the inaugural Heritage Perth Heritage Day was acknowledged by the receipt of a Merit Award in the recent City of Perth 2010 Heritage Awards, announced 3 August 2010. This award reinforced our decision to develop this year's program to extend over two days. The second annual Heritage Perth Heritage Days will be held on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 November 2010. The expanded program features over 25 venues in the City of Perth heritage precinct and offers the entire family access to places and events that are not usually available to the public. Sure to surprise,



delight and excite, there will be trails to follow, tours to take, presentations, talks and debates to attend and enticing live performances to see, and that's just on Saturday! How much of Perth's heritage can you discover in two days?

DID YOU KNOW?

Royal Perth Hospital museum boasts the first X-Ray machine in Australia. It was used to examine patients at the hospital in the 1900s. Visit the museum during Heritage Perth Heritage Days 2010.

GARDENERS

Even if you don't have a green fingers, you are sure to enjoy a gentle meander through Perth's beautiful gardens; Stirling Gardens – WA's oldest public garden; Queens Gardens with its whimsical statue of Peter Pan; or the 3.2 hectare Government House Gardens that date from the 1850s. You can take a walking tour or 'Meet the Gardener.' Bookings are required, so please check the program.

BUILDINGS

There are some fine buildings open for the first time this year.



St Mary's Cathedral will be open after 3 years completing

the conservation and enlargement construction. Others include the 1903 Supreme Court building; Mercedes College opened in 1846 as the first Catholic College in the Swan River colony; Council House with its marvellous display of Mayoral regalia; the RSL Club of WA and the Young Australia League building including its former ballroom.

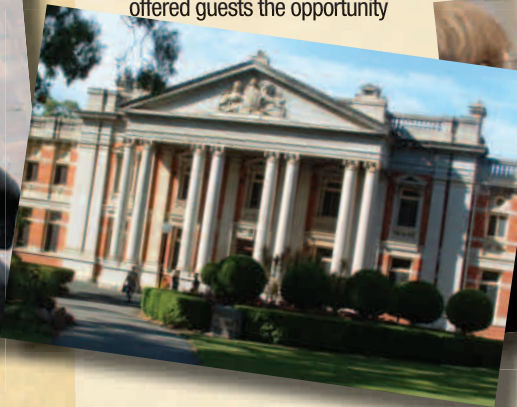
MUSEUMS

Wander up to Victoria Square and you can take a sneak peak at the new Mercy Heritage Centre

situated in the stunning Sisters of Mercy Convent on Victoria Ave. Stroll down to Royal Perth Hospital – the first purpose-built hospital opened in WA, and enter the amazing world of their medical museum. Obsolete medical equipment provides a fascinating insight into the changes in medicine over the years. From the unusual to the peculiar, the museum exhibitions include a strange chain and probe used to remove stones from the bladder. If you have any interest in medical history, the RPH Museum is a 'must see'.

FOOD

Last year, the Melbourne Hotel opened their historic rooms to the general public for viewing and also offered guests the opportunity



to purchase a 'settlers lunch' at an historic price. It was a sell-out! Hundreds of people took the opportunity to visit the hotel, reminisce and enjoy a delicious lunch complete with locally brewed ale. If you didn't get there last year, try this year but it is wise to be early. Another option this year is to buy Sunday lunch at the stunning Western Australian Club in St Georges Terrace. Founded in 1893, it is the leading business and professional persons' Club in W.A. The Club is hosting guided tours of this historic building that includes sighting the old gold vaults from the days

when the building was the ANZ Bank. The Club is also offering a rare opportunity to experience their restaurant with quality food and service to bring guests an exceptional dining experience. Bookings are essential.

FAMILY

For families, there is even more to do this year than last year. The Old Central Fire Station (opened in 1901), now the FESA Education and Heritage Centre, is hosting a museum open day with rides on vintage fire engines, displays and a spectacular water pumping competition. Just up the road, the RPH Museum will have story-telling and the



Francis Burt Law

Museum and the Local Studies Library will host activities specifically for children. Unless specified, all Heritage Perth Heritage Days activities are FREE and offer fun for all the family. For further details, please visit the Heritage Perth web-site.

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Thank you for taking the time to read the second edition of Heritage Perth News. We hope you found it interesting and informative. If you would like to receive future editions of the quarterly newsletter please go to the web-site www.heritageperth.com and follow the link to sign up to our mailing list.