



CITY OF VINCENT

THEMATIC HISTORY

DECEMBER 2025





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CONTENTS

4
INTRODUCTION

6
ENVIRONMENT

14
PEOPLE

34
INFRASTRUCTURE

70
ECONOMY

85
SOCIAL SERVICES

108
CULTURAL LIFE

113
ARTS &
ENTERTAINMENT

125
GOVERNANCE

134
WORKS CITED

INTRODUCTION

The City of Vincent is an inner-city local government area of Perth covering 11.3 square kilometres. It is located to the north of the Perth central business district and includes the suburbs of Mt Hawthorn, North Perth, Highgate, Leederville and parts of West Perth, East Perth, Perth and Mt Lawley.

The City first released its Municipal Heritage Inventory (MHI) in 1995, with an update in 2007 and intermittent revisions since. The MHI also served as the City's Heritage List. Additionally, the Central Perth Heritage Inventory (CPHI) documented culturally significant places within the former Central Perth Redevelopment Area, which, through the normalisation process, were granted the same protections as those in the MHI. Following the introduction of the Heritage Act 2018, the MHI was renamed the Local Heritage Survey (LHS), aligning with legislative requirements for local governments to maintain a survey of places of cultural heritage significance. The LHS provides foundational information to support consistent and strategic heritage management.

In 2024, the City engaged Hocking Heritage and Architecture to review and update the existing MHI and CPHI, forming a comprehensive LHS. This process involved assessing the documentary and physical evidence of 286 places from the MHI and 20 from the CPHI, evaluating 15 newly nominated places, assigning management categories, and revising the Thematic History and Framework. The outcome includes recommendations for places to be added to the Heritage List, ensuring the LHS reflects current heritage values and supports informed decision-making.

The City has over 40 places listed on the State Register of Heritage Places. These buildings and sites have been classified by the Heritage Council under the Heritage Act 2018 as places of highest cultural heritage significance which represent the story of Western Australian's history and development. Places of state significance in Vincent include:

- East Perth Power Station
- The Metropolitan Sewer Vents in Highgate, Lincoln Street Ventilation Stack
- Sacred Heart Church and associated buildings
- The Serbian Orthodox Church of St Sava
- Hyde Park
- Arammore Catholic College and St Mary's Church in Leederville
- The Leederville Post Office
- Drill Hall and Oddfellows Hall
- St Mary's Church Hall
- ANZAC Cottage
- Tudor Lodge 57 – 59 Chelmsford Road
- Walcott Centre, (former Government Receiving Depot) Mt Lawley
- North Perth Primary School
- North Perth Police Station
- Lee Hop's Cottage in Robertson Park
- North Perth Town Hall and Lesser Hall
- North Perth Fire Station
- North Perth Post Office
- Redemptorist Monastery and Church
- Beatty Park Leisure Centre
- Parry Street Houses, 135 – 137, 145, 147 – 149
- Sewerage Vent in Stuart Street
- Terrace Houses on Beaufort Street, 225 – 7, 235 – 241
- Bowra & O'Dea building 359 Beaufort Street
- Brisbane Street Post Office
- Loton Park Tennis Club
- Dilhorn House Perth
- Perth Oval
- Robertson Park and Archaeological Sites
- Baker's Terrace, 156 – 184 Lake Street
- Highgate Primary School
- Highgate Hill Police Station
- Lindsay Street Flour Mill and Bakery, Stables on Lindsay Street, 12 & 22, 15 – 17 Lindsay Street)
- Brookman and Moir Street Precinct
- Mackays Aerated Water Factory, 10 – 22 Money Street
- The Maltings, 33 – 35 Stuart Street
- Throssell House, 15 Throssell Street
- William Street shops, 452 – 460
- Charles Street Methodist Mission Chapel and Church
- Newcastle Street Government School
- St Alban's Church
- Silver Chain Nursing League Building

There are 24 registered places that have been classified by the National Trust as being of heritage value, with 23 of which are extant (the Norwood Hotel was demolished in 2008). While the classification does not provide any statutory protection, it provides opportunities for advocacy to support conservation and protection of the properties deemed of significance. Further, under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 1972, Vincent is home to nine recognised Aboriginal heritage sites of significance:

- Hyde Park (Boodjamooling, Third Swamp, Third Swamp Reserve) – Heritage Place 4634, Registered Aboriginal Site 3792
- East Perth Power Station – Heritage Place 3318, Registered Aboriginal Site 3767
- Robertson Park (Lake Henderson) – Heritage Place 8705, Registered Aboriginal Site 17849
- Carr Street Precinct – Heritage Place 6623, Registered Aboriginal Site 23108
- Lake Monger Velodrome – Heritage Place 18182, Registered Aboriginal Site 3323
- Stone's Lake (Birdwood Square) – Registered Aboriginal Site 3573
- Dog Swamp – Registered Aboriginal Site 3738
- Swan River – Registered Aboriginal Site 3536
- Weld Square – Registered Aboriginal Site 17848

This Thematic History is intended as a guiding document for the Local Heritage Survey of historically significant places within Vincent. It is not intended to provide detailed information about all aspects of the history of the Vincent area, nor is it designed to replace existing histories prepared for other purposes. It provides an overview of key themes and events in the Vincent area to help frame, contextualise and inform heritage planning and decision-making. It is based on an earlier version of a Thematic Framework prepared in 1995 and revised in 2013 by consultants Hocking Architects.

It has been revised in line with the Heritage Council's revised Thematic History of WA (2022) by former City of Vincent Local History Centre Senior Librarian Susanna Iuliano with research support from consultant Lucy Hair, librarian Catherine Lang and research volunteers Liz Millward and Michelle Vercoe.



ENVIRONMENT

The Vincent area is located in a chain of natural wetland and water sources north of Perth that early colonists referred to as the Great Lakes District. This area included small isolated swamps and larger interconnected lakes which drained into the Swan River at Claisebrook in East Perth. Land clearing and loss of wetlands that began from colonisation in 1829 had a major impact on the environment and biodiversity in the area.

Wetland ecosystems are an important feature of the Vincent area. Swamps are biologically diverse and productive areas that support a wide range of plant and animal species. The wetlands were also of practical, social and spiritual to the Whadjuk Noongar people who camped, hunted and moved routinely between swamps and lakes of the coastal wetlands according to the season (Green N., Aborigines & White Settlers, 1981).

Common wetland plants that are found in the Vincent area include trees such as swamp paperbarks, flooded gum and herbaceous species such as sedges and rushes (Marchant et al., 1987). The original pre-European vegetation type in the Vincent area was Woodlands, characterised by 10 to 30 metre tall Jarrah, Marri and Wandoo trees (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia, 2013).

Photographs and descriptions by early colonists provide a glimpse into what the natural environment around Perth's inner suburbs looked like in the early years of the 20th century.



Woodland in the vicinity of Kalgoorlie Street, Mount Hawthorn 1914 (COV PH03967)

TABLE 1. CURRENT AND FORMER WATER BODIES IN VINCENT

| NAME | FORMER NAMES | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|--|
| Lake Monger | Galup, Triangle Lake, Monger's Lake | Second largest remaining lake behind Lake Herdsman. The original area was reclaimed for housing, roads and parks in the 20th century. |
| Claisebrook Cove | Goongoongup, Tea Tree Lagoon, Clause's Brook, Claise Brook (Haig Park to Arden Street) | Many of the great lakes drained through to Claisebrook, which was a free-flowing seasonal brook that was dry in summer and flooded in winter. |
| Warndoolier | Banks Reserve, Walter's Brook | A small tidal inlet of the Swan River located in Banks Reserve, Mt Lawley, originally named by Governor James Stirling after his older brother Walter. ⁽⁴⁾ The brook originally flowed much further inland, and was located to the north of an open swamp, near the site of the present-day East Perth railway station. The Mt Lawley Main Drain is located at Walter's Brook, and formerly supplied stormwater to Walter's Brook Engine House at East Perth Power Station. ⁽⁵⁾⁽⁶⁾ |
| Smith's Lake (Charles Veryard stretching to Pennant and Howlett Streets) | Danjanberup, Three Island Lake, Charles Veryard Reserve | The area was part of the Leeder Estate, was farmed by Smith family and later the Gooey family who operated a market garden near the site. The estate was resumed by the Perth City Council in 1959, and was drained and subdivided for industrial and residential use. The lake was reduced to approximately 1/30 of its original size. |
| Hyde Park | Boodjamooling, Third Swamp | The wetland was made into an ornamental lake and split into two lakes in 1914. It was too deep to drain at 2 metres. |
| Lake Kingsford (Now Perth railway station) | Named for landowner Samuel Kingsford who had been given the right to drain water from it. | Lake Kingsford – near the site of the present day Perth railway station. This was one of the first lakes to be drained and filled in from the 1830s. |
| Stone's Lake (Now around Perth Oval) | Yoordgoorading, Tea Tree Lake, Loton's Paddock | Named for GF Stone, the first lessee of the land and Attorney-General. |
| Lake Poulett (Currently Birdwood Square) | Chalyeding, First Swamp | Named in honour of British cabinet member Poulett-Thomson, who served as president of the Board of Trade in the 1830s. It was later renamed Birdwood Square after Lieutenant General Birdwood who fought in the Gallipoli campaign. |
| Lake Thomson | Mew's Swamp | Partially reclaimed by Thomas Mews. Lay east of Lake and Forbes Streets to Beaufort Street, north to Brisbane Terrace and Robinson Avenue, south to Newcastle Street. Named in honour of British cabinet member Poulett-Thomson who served as president of the Board of Trade in the 1830s. |
| Lake Henderson (Now Dorrien Gardens and Robertson Park) | Boojoormelup, Lake Henderson (also incorrectly recorded as Anderson's Lake), Robertson Park | Named for Colonel Henderson, head of the Imperial Services of the colony. |



| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Lake Georgiana (now near Freeway interchange south of Lake Monger) | | Formerly located south of Newcastle across Cambridge Street, west of Loftus to west of Oxford Street. |
| Lake Irwin (now Perth Arena) | Between Coolgardie and Milligan Streets across Murray Street to Roe Street | Former lake between Lakes Sutherland and Kingsford. Named for Captain FC Irwin of the Imperial Services who acted as Lieutenant Governor after Stirling's departure. |
| Lake Sutherland | Padbury's Lake Present day Sutherland & Dyer Streets, City West | Named for Henry Sutherland, a surveyor who became Colonial Treasurer and member of the Legislative Council. |
| Second Swamp (now William Street near Perth Mosque) | | Bulwer Street east of Lake Street – across junctions of Bulwer Street with Irene and William Streets. |
| Dog Swamp | Beebeenup | Pond at north end of Charles Street |



A reconstructed map of Perth wetlands circa 1830 based on John Septimus Roe's map of 1834



The plan of Perth in 1903 with former wetlands overlaid by Margaret Pitt Morison (Bekle H., 1981)

The Great Lakes proved to be an unreliable source of water for the fledgling Perth township and colonists resorted to using groundwater extracted from shallow wells.

Once the wetlands lost their perceived value as a colonial water supply, they were regarded as liabilities restricting further growth of the city and posing flooding and drainage problems. Wetlands were also seen as sources of disease and a place of miasma, pestilence and insect infestation which needed to be eradicated (Lund, 1996).

Drainage of the swamps (or 'lagoons' as they were then called) began as early as 1833 with construction of a drain to power the colony's first water mill near present day Mill Street. Samuel Kingsford built the next mill nearby which drained water from Lake Kingsford by means of a deep open cut (WA Museum & ECU, 2023). As Perth expanded, more swamps were drained to alleviate flooding and allow for development of market gardens and town lot subdivisions (Morel-Ednie-Brown, 2008).

Convict labour from the 1850s – 1870s was used to undertake further drainage works with heavy flooding of the wetlands prompted with

construction of deep barrel drain to Claisebrook in 1873. This drain extended up to Lake Henderson (now Robertson Park) which was taken up for market gardening after it was drained. Further extensions to the drainage systems were made in the early 1900s by the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Board, now Water Corporation. (Stannage, 1979, p. 166 – 7).

By the early 1900s, the swamp system had been subsumed into the formal grid of Perth. Claisebrook functioned as an exit point for underground drains that, even today, carry water as part of the Claisebrook Catchment Area. The drain was extended from Robertson Park to Smith's Lake in the 1920s, with later further extensions north. While draining reduced or removed the surface water of the lakes, the groundwater level remains high in many areas across Vincent. In some areas such as Dog Swamp and Smith's Lake, the lakes are still visible opening to the surface (Lake, 2001). In wet winters, the scope and spread of the former wetland chain becomes more evident with the flooding of low lying areas such as Menzies Park and Britannia Reserve.

Many of Vincent's parks and reserves are former wetlands. From colonial times, many of these wetland areas were filled in as rubbish dumps and tip sites and later flattened and used as recreational reserves, sports grounds and ovals. Charles Veryard Reserve in North Perth is located on the site of the former lake known to Noongar as Danjanberup, later called Three Island Lake then Smith's Lake. The lake was progressively drained from the 1850s and used for farming and market gardening, and later partly subdivided for housing. Between the wars, the southern end of the lake was used a dumping ground for rubbish and old vehicles, which reportedly included rusted World War I tanks and armoured vehicles. Many local children in the 1940s and 50s fondly recall scavenging play materials from the wetland dumps at Smith's Lake and Lake Monger.

Some swamps, such as Boodjamooling/Third Swamp (later named Hyde Park in 1899), could not be drained and was instead modified and reinvented as a public garden. Hyde Park exemplified the 'City Beautiful' philosophy championed by William Bold, the Town Clerk of Perth from 1900 – 1944. In this period, many of the parks and reserves in and around Vincent were established and planted with lawns and exotic plant and tree species in an effort to beautify the city and promote social harmony (Stannage T., 1979).



Flooding beside the Leederville Tennis Club, Britannia Reserve July 2021 (COV PHO6346).



Perth City councillors inspecting Hyde Park (formerly Third Swamp Reserve) c 1900 (COV PHO 378)

HYDE PARK

HERITAGE PLACE 04634

Hyde Park is an Arcadian style park established from 1897 and heritage listed in 1998. It is recognised for its scientific and historic importance as a remnant of the former chain of wetlands that extended north of Perth. It is also of cultural significance to Noongar people and to early colonists, and is valued as a source of aesthetic and recreational enjoyment for the community.

There has been significant landscaping and construction works in the park since the late 19th century. Early actions included clearing the water body of reeds and planting hundreds of exotic trees. From 1897 – 1900, many hundreds of exotic trees were planted in the park including the avenue of Plane trees and the various groves of Ficus species (Moreton Bay and Port Jackson figs). Pine trees were planted around the perimeter of the park in 1912, and Jacarandas in the south east corner in 1921. The park includes some remnants of the original vegetation including Jarrah (*Eucalyptus marginata*), Flooded Gums (*Eucalyptus rudis*) and Paperbarks (*Melaleuca preissiana*). In more recent years, with declining water levels and quality, the City of Vincent have used more local native trees to gradually replace the exotic trees.

The lakes in their current form are ornamental, built upon the underlying seasonal wetland that existed before their development. In 1914, the original water body was split into two to make way for a proposed road linking Lake to Norfolk

Street. After intense public opposition, the idea of a road was abandoned by the causeway remained. The two lakes were dredged in 1915 and silt was placed in islands within the lakes.

Fish were introduced to the lake in 1915 and the park was home to many varieties of water birds (which attracted hunters during the Great Depression) as well as the oblong turtle (*Chelodina collie*). Since 2015, the City of Vincent has been working with researchers at the University of Western Australia to monitor the near threatened turtle population and find ways to increase the survival rate of young turtles.

Hyde Park is a flow through lake system in hydraulic connection with the groundwater table. The lakes are used as compensation basins for the Hyde Park drainage system operated by Water Corporation and some minor drains operated by the City of Vincent. Due to lower rainfall, the amount of stormwater run-off in the lakes has decreased in recent decades.

From the 2000s, the City of Vincent has undertaken a number of remedial measures to address the environmental health of the lakes. These have included reducing the lake size with new edging, development of a swale or 'treatment train' as a natural bio filter to improve the water quality, revegetation of the islands and landscaping and pruning of the iconic London Plane trees to minimise leaf drop which contributed to high nutrient levels in the lake sediments and water.

Growing environmental awareness in the 1980s and 1990s spurred and supported legislative changes to protect the environment. The WA Government introduced the Environment Protection Act in 1986. At a national level, the Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 was introduced to provide a framework for protect plants, animals, habitats and places of national and international importance (Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 2021).

The 1990s also saw the growth of local environmental protection groups such as the Claisebrook Catchment Group. Established in 1997 after concerns about algal blooms in the Swan River, Claisebrook Catchment Group has worked for decades to improve water quality, restore wildlife habitats and raise community awareness and involvement in natural resource management of the Claisebrook and Perth CBD water catchment areas. The group has undertaken a number of projects in partnership with Local and State Government bodies including the rehabilitation of Smith's Lake, North Perth and the wetland construction in Robertson Park (Claisebrook Catchment Group, 2023).

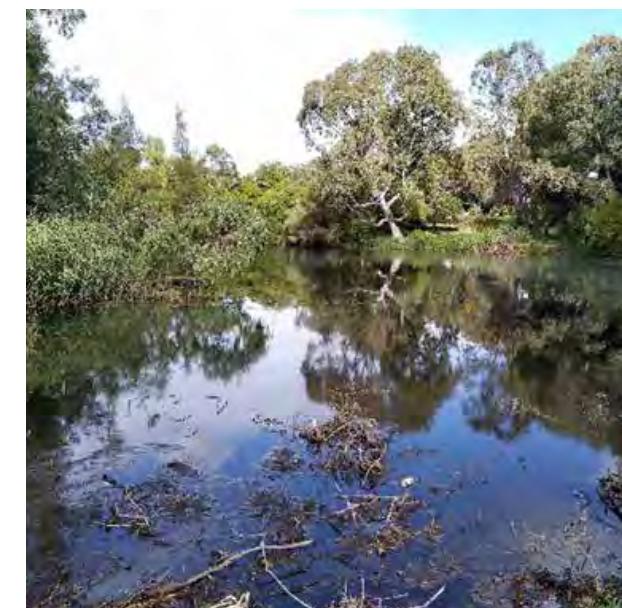
In the early 2000s, the Town of Vincent began efforts to reduce emissions as part of the Cities for Climate Protection program. In 2007, Vincent developed a Sustainable Environment Plan 2007 – 2012 which promoted local efforts to address environmental issues relating to air

quality, water management, energy efficiency, biodiversity and waste management. Since then, the City has undertaken various environmental initiatives from converting its vehicle fleet from petrol to LPG and later electricity, to promoting energy efficiency in its buildings through projects such as the installation of geothermal heating system at Beatty Park Leisure Centre in 2013. Management of waste has been another area of action. From 2008, the City introduced yellow top recycling bins. In 2021, the City oversaw the roll-out of the three-bin FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) service.

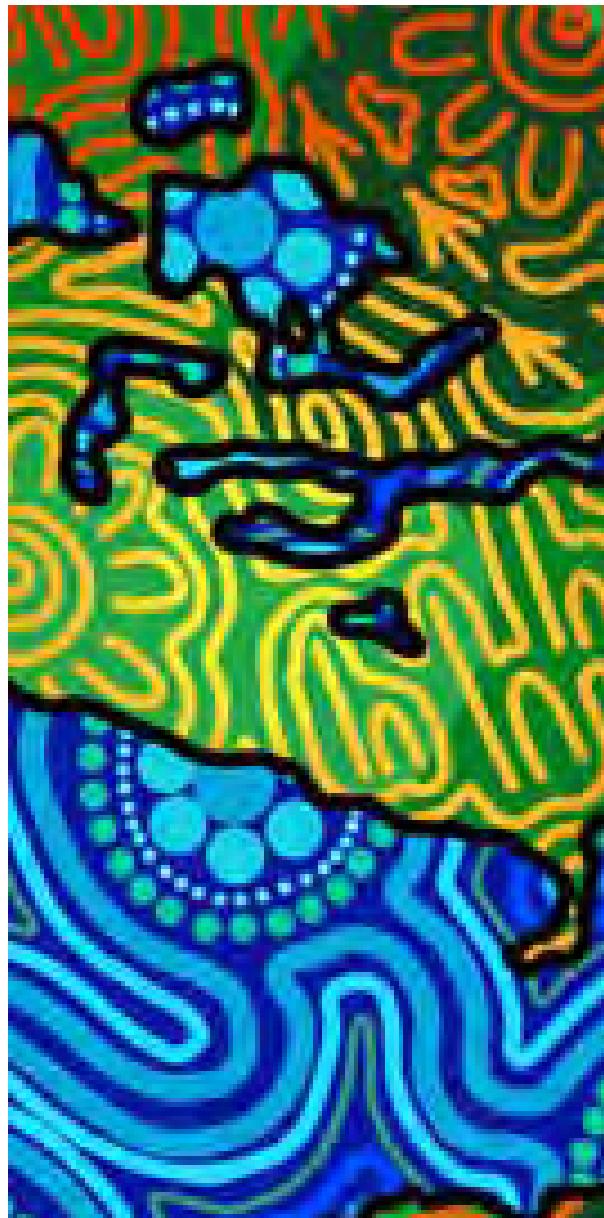
In recent years, a major environmental challenge for Perth has been the decline in average rainfall since the 1970s which has placed the City's water supply systems under pressure. Annual streamflow into Perth's dams averaged 89 billion gallons from 1911 – 1974, 45.7 billion gallons from 1975 – 2000, 20 billion gallons from 2001 – 2010, and just 13 billion gallons from 2010 – 2014.5 (Gaynor, 2020). In the face this decline, water managers have turned increasingly to the use of groundwater, desalination and more recently aquifer recharge to supply Perth's water needs (Water Corporation, 2023). The Leederville Aquifer which sits under much of the Swan Coastal Plain is a major source of groundwater in the Perth area (Department of Water, 2017).

The City has responded to the decline in rainfall in a number of ways: promoting water wise home gardens by subsidising the cost of native

plants that tolerate dry conditions for garden and verge plantings, developing verge and street tree policies that encourage the use of natives, and gradually replacing exotic street and park plantings with more drought resistant native trees and plants (City of Vincent, 2018). The City has also undertaken a number of engineering and infrastructure projects to improve water quality including remediation of Hyde Park lakes in 2013 and revegetation works at wetland and river areas such as Banks Reserve. Many drains are now being planted with reed beds and sedges as a way of rehabilitating contaminated post-industrial areas and preventing contaminants flowing into the aquifers and rivers.



Wetland at Smith's Lake North Perth, 2020
(COV PHO6503b)



Boodjar Nakolak Yanginy (Artwork showing Derbarl Yerrigan and Perth wetlands) by Jade Dolman

PEOPLE

Vincent's human history is built on a foundation of Noongar heritage overlaid with more recent British colonial institutions and multicultural migrant histories. These historical layers are reflected in the diverse mix of its resident population and in its built and natural environment.

NOONGAR HERITAGE

Noongar people have lived in the Perth region for at least 45,000 years (Turney, Early Human Occupation at Devil's Lair, Southwestern Australia 50,000 Years Ago, 2001). Noongar boodjar (country) runs from Geraldton to Esperance taking in much of the state's South West. Whadjuk Noongar are the traditional custodians of Boorloo, the specific area we now know as Perth which also encompasses the City of Vincent (Collard & Harben, Nidja Beeliar Boodjar Noonookurt Nyininy, 2009).

The Swan River and coastal wetlands are central to the Noongar creation being called the Waugal (rainbow serpent) who made rivers, lakes, swamps and wetlands and acts as the keeper of all fresh water sources (Nannup, 2003).

Both Noongar knowledge and archaeological evidence confirm that Noongar people often camped in close proximity to Waugal sites near water before and after colonisation. These swamp systems were abundant with foods such as water birds, koolya (frogs), gilgies (freshwater crayfish), yaagan (turtle), and a range of edible plants.

Noongar moved routinely between swamps and lakes of the coastal wetlands along a number of key bidi (tracks) which connected important places in the general area of present day Perth known to Noongar as Boorloo (Green N., Aborigines & White Settlers, 1981). Noongar groups would travel from inland to the coastal and river areas to hunt, camp and fish, hunt, camp and fish, particularly during the Noongar season of Kambarang (Bureau of Meteorology, 2014). They would also conduct ceremonial and cultural business and renew and forge kinship ties around these wetland areas (Harben, 2009).

Boorloo was also a place of trade. In the wetland area of present day Vincent, there were significant wilgi garup (ochre deposit) sites, particularly near Lake Monger/Galup. Wilgi was an important trading commodity for Noongar and other Aboriginal groups and there is evidence that wilgi from Perth travelled as far as the Yankunytjatjara Pitjantjatjara country that crosses the border into South Australia and the Northern Territory (Collard L., Karla Yarning, 2014).



Cultural artefacts including ochre and grindstone from Lake Monger (WA Museum Lake Monger Archaeology Collections A13352)

Another important aspect of Vincent's Aboriginal heritage is that some of the earliest encounters and relationships between Noongar and 'wam' (outsiders) occurred in the area (Moodjar Consultancy, 2022).

When the Swan River Colony was established in 1829, there were an estimated 3000 Noongar people living along the Swan and Canning rivers (National Museum of Australia, 2023).

Early 'cautious accommodation' between early British colonists and Noongar soon gave way to conflict and violence over access to land and resources (Menck, 2022, p. 21). These conflicts, together with the impact of introduced diseases and changes to traditional lifestyles caused by colonial use of land and resources saw a decline in the Noongar population following colonisation (Green N., 2020).

At the time of European colonisation, a key Noongar figure was Yellagonga whose group was displaced from the area around Spring Street

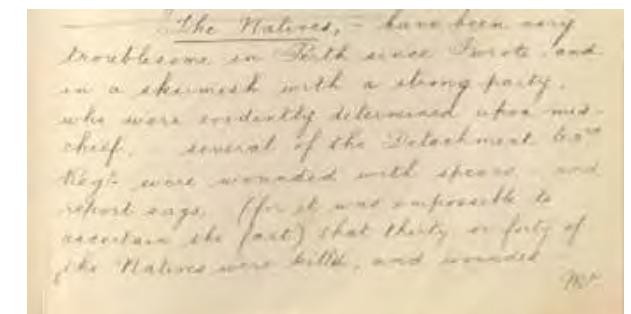
and Mount Eliza (now Kings Park) and forced to relocate to Lake Monger (then known to colonial settlers as Monger's Lake and to Noongar as Galup or Kaarlup (meaning place where one's home fire burns) (Moodjar Consultancy, 2022).

"Galup, Monger's lake, to this place, Yellowgonga removed his headquarters, after the formation of the settlement" wrote early colonist Robert Menli Lyon (Hallam, 1990).

In 1830, Monger's Lake/Galup was the site of a massacre of Noongar people noted in both colonial records and Noongar oral histories (Same Drum, 2022). Against the backdrop of increasing aggression and retaliation, a number of Noongar were killed and wounded at the lake on 3 May 1830 (University of Newcastle, 2022). Captain Irwin of the 63rd regiment who took part in what was variously described in colonial records as a 'skirmish' or 'affray', reported to Governor Stirling that the objective of the attack was "impressing a salutary dread of our superiority and arms" (Owen & Bracknell, 2022).

Noongar Elder Doolann Leisha Eatts offered this version of events as told to her by her grandmother:

"Then everything went quiet, and they heard the horses galloping away. The crept back to the camp and others who escaped were coming back as well. They found that some of their family had been slaughtered, their bodies strewn around the campsite. The troopers had shot the elderly who couldn't escape the innocent children and even some of the adults who were caught unaware. The women wailed as they gathered the bodies together and the men tied poles together to make dragging sleds to carry the bodies to the burial places at the northeast base of Kings Park." (Eatts D. L., 2014)



Extract of account of the attack of 3 May 1830 by colonist John Morgan, 14 July 1830 (Carter, 2005, p. 67 – 75)

Later in 1833, Monger's Lake/Galup was the site of more diplomatic attempts to dissuade Noongar from entering main areas of Perth. In January 1833, colonial leaders invited two Noongar from Albany to an audience with Yellagonga (Galup, 2022). It was hoped that these two men could facilitate discussions and draw on their experience of living with the strangers. This was not as easy a task as first imagined given the distance, language differences and the immediacy of change for Noongar in Perth. In 1834, a bread depot was set up at the lake to attract Noongar away from the main colonial settlement in Perth. The rations depot did not last long. Relationships soon deteriorated with Noongar discouraged from being in the area by the colonial militia (Hunter, 2006).

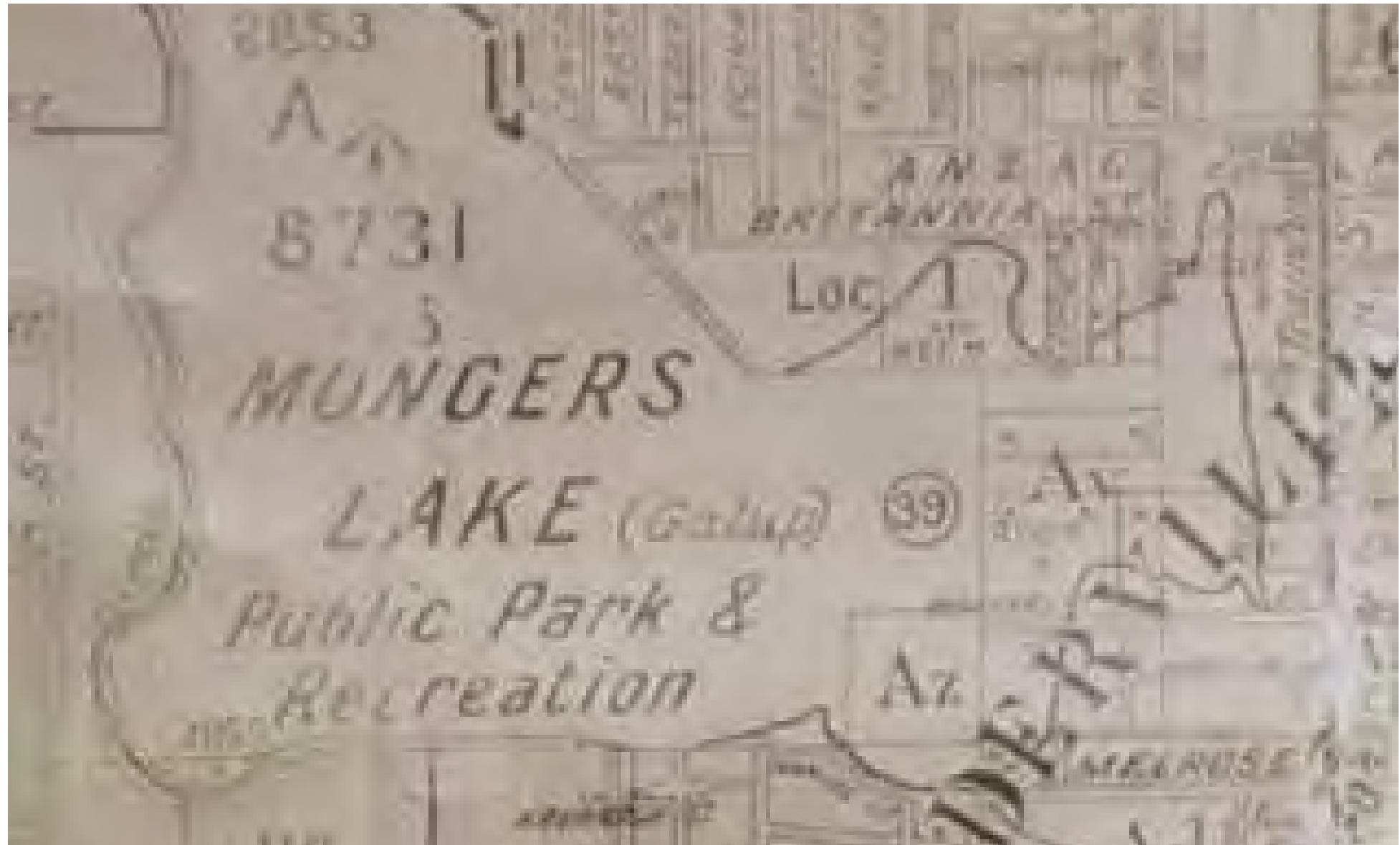
While Noongar movement through the Perth area was increasingly restricted, those who survived continued to camp and gather around the wetlands and seasonal lakes in the Vincent area. In January 1850, a large meeting of over 300 Noongar was recorded at Robertson Park, which was then known as Henderson's Lake (mistakenly called 'Anderson's Lake' in the newspaper report below). The area was known to Noongar as Boojoormeelup which means 'place of the eye' or 'place of seeing' possibly referencing its significance as a place for seeing or meeting others.

Corroboree.—On Friday evening a grand corroboree was held at Anderson's Lake, at the back of the town, by upwards of 300 natives, belonging to tribes inhabiting the country for a circuit of 200 miles from Perth. The gibberish of each peculiar dialect, and the various gestures and antics exhibited in the native dance, afforded much amusement to the spectators. Only one of the cannibals from the Northward was present, who, with the rest of the Champion Bay tribe, has since, we are informed, returned to his own district.

Corroboree at Anderson's Lake (Henderson's Lake) Perth Inquirer, 23 January 1850. (Perth Inquirer, 1850).

The meeting described at Henderson's Lake/Boojoormelup in 1850 involving several hundred Noongar travelling from great distances would have only occurred occasionally for ceremonial activities or law business. Such meetings were also opportunities for Noongar to trade, share resources, resolve disputes, educate their young, and arrange betrothals for young people (Harrison et al., 2000).

Lake Monger/Galup also remained an important camping ground for Noongar in the 19th Century. Jessie Hammond, whose grandfather had a home near the lake, recalls Aboriginal people camping there in the 1860s: *"My first knowledge of the natives (sic) was in the year of the great flood, 1862, when many natives (sic) who were cut off from the rest of the tribe by flood waters were left on the north side of the Swan River. They camped at Monger's Lake (Leederville today), close to the home of my grandfather, William Leeder. The times were very hard for the natives (sic), as, owing to the floods, they could not get fish from the river, or freshwater turtles from the lakes, and roots had always been scarce on the north bank of the river. Consequently they had to beg from the whites, and they were not shy in doing it "* (Hammond, 1933)



West Australian Bonnes 40 chain cadastral series, Western Australian Department of Lands & Surveys: CN77 40 Chain Perth, 1926. <https://slwa.wa.gov.au/pdf/maps/CN7740chain.pdf>

There is photographic, archaeological and oral evidence that Lake Monger/Galup continued to be an important Noongar camp and hunting site up until the 1940s (O'Connor, 1989) The last remembered use of the lake as a camping place by Noongar was by Bonny Layland, the son of Daglish Granny who regularly travelled from his camp in 'Native Dog Swamp' (Dogswamp) in the 1940s (O'Connor, 1989, p. 32). Further evidence of Noongar use of the lake exists in the form of several scatters of stone artefacts that have been recorded on the north eastern banks of the Lake Monger/Galup (Harrison et al., 2000).

Hyde Park/Boodjamooling is another important Noongar campsite and meeting place in Vincent (Green, 1984, p. 115). Early European colonists offered first-hand account of Aboriginal camps and gatherings in Hyde Park after 1850: *"I have seen 300 of them (Noongar) at the Third Swamp at one time, waiting for a corroboree. There were tremendous paper bark trees there and the natives used to tear down slabs of bark to make their huts."* (Kennedy, 1927)

As recently as 1978, Noongar are recorded as using Hyde Park for hunting. Historian Denise Cook records that a police patrol pulled up group of Noongar men for what they considered as being 'disorderly' in a public place (Cook, 2019, p. 22). These men had lit a fire to cook turtle caught in the lakes. At this time the area was still considered by Noongar to be: *"A main camp ... an old days living ground. Meeting place. People from York, Northam, right back through the hills came there to camp. Used to follow food and caught plenty of turtle there."* (O'Connor 1989)

In the late 19th and 20th centuries, Noongar people were pushed further to the limits of Perth and many towns across Western Australia. Under the Aborigines Act 1905, Aboriginal people were forced away from their traditional lands and restrictive conditions were placed on their visits to certain areas within towns and cities, including Perth (Haebich, Forgetting Indigenous Histories: Cases from the History of Australia's Stolen Generations, 2011). Aboriginal people could not move about freely, take on work where they could find it, buy alcohol, live unencumbered where they wanted, or care for their children with relatively little imposition from authorities (Haebich, For their own good, 1988).



Camp at Lake Monger, north of Grantham Street Wembley, 1923 (SLWA 054500PD)



Prohibited area in Perth 1927 – 1954 (Initial exclusion zone in red) (State Records Office, 2019)

The Perth Prohibited Area, which was in effect from 1927 to 1954, required Aboriginal people to always carry a permit or 'Native Pass' if they wanted entry for any purpose, including work. When it was first proclaimed, the boundaries of the Perth area were not explicit and stretched well beyond the Perth CBD area to encompass most of the areas which make up present day Vincent, Cambridge and Victoria Park (State Records Office, 2019). In 1947, after a review which found the area was too large to enforce, it was reduced to the Perth CBD (South West Land & Sea Council, 2023). Until the Prohibited Area was abolished in 1954, any Aboriginal person needed a permit to enter the city after a 6pm curfew. This Prohibited Area created serious problems for Aboriginal people looking for work, travelling to and from home or having to care for family who were sick. Irwin Lewis, the first Aboriginal student at the University of Western

Australia who became one of Australia's leading Indigenous public servants in the 1960s recalls the restrictions on his movements when he worked in Perth in the 1950s: *"I had to leave work before 5.30pm. It's not like we are talking about the 1800s or 1700s. This was 1950. It was quite common to see Aboriginal people being taken across the railway line to the local police station."* (Collard, 2014)

The areas just outside the boundaries of the Prohibited Area became a hub and refuge for many Aboriginal people in the inter-war and post-war periods. East Perth was particularly important. It was a semi-industrial area with cheap housing and access to transport, medical and social services in the city as well as proximity to labouring jobs. Many Aboriginal people lived with their families in rental accommodation in semi-detached or 'row' houses common in the East

Perth area, particularly around Bennett, Royal, Brown and Kensington Streets. East Perth became home to many Noongar and other Aboriginal people from around the state who moved to Perth for work, family or health and welfare needs.

The Coolbaroo Club was an important social institution for Aboriginal people in the East Perth area in the late 1940s and 1950s. It was the only Aboriginal-run dance club in Perth and offered a place to meet and socialise at a time when Aboriginal people were effectively segregated in Perth. The Coolbaroo Club was the social arm of the Coolbaroo League which operated in Perth between 1947 and 1960 as an advocacy group for Aboriginal rights. Coolbaroo dances were held at various locations including Edward Street and later Beaufort Street near Weld Square which were outside the Prohibited Area. When the Prohibited Area was rescinded in 1954, dances were also held in the Perth Town Hall and at various other venues including the Braille Hall on the corner Stirling and Newcastle streets and even further afield to some country towns (Darbyshire, 2010). *"Noongar people used to go there from all over to the Coolbaroo Club. Mum used to go just about every weekend and we had to go along. That's how you knew all your cousins, relations, uncles and aunties. It was really good in those days...." Albert McNamara (McNamara, 2022)*



Young people at the Coolbaroo Club, February 1957. (Photo courtesy of Mandy Corunna. Shirley Corunna's Private Collection)

After the Coolbaroo League and dances ended in the early 1960s, many of the group's leaders went onto form the Aboriginal Centre and later the Aboriginal Advancement Council in the late 1960s at 201 Beaufort Street (Kinnane S., 2003). Other important Aboriginal services that were located in East Perth included the Aboriginal Medical Service, formerly at 154 Edward Street (now Derbarl Yerrigan Health Service at 156 Wittenoom Street) and the Aboriginal Legal Service, formerly on James Street then Nash Street, East Perth.

Proximity to family as well as the social, legal and health services available in the area also attracted a transient population of Aboriginal people camping in different parks and secluded areas in and around East Perth. Popular camping areas included Millar's Cave (part of Millar's timber yard off Lord Street near the present day St Bartholomew's House), the bull paddock near present day Claisebrook Cove, near Banks Reserve and the Swan River under the former Bunbury ('Bunno') Bridge and across the river

beside the dump at what was the old Goodwood Racecourse in Burswood, now Optus Stadium (Collard et al., 2017). Noongar Elder Lindsay Calyun recalls the various popular camping spots for Noongar and other Aboriginal people in East Perth in the 1950s – 1970s. *"There were a lot of camping spots – Millar's Cave, the Bull Paddock. Noongars used to camp down by the river here near the Bunno Bridge and in the laneways. Summertime this is where they'd go and they'd walk up to Beaufort Park into the old West Perth where there was the soup kitchen for the old fellas, the Noongars. So that was our footprints going up from East Perth here to Beaufort Park and have a yarn with their families because the Noongars were at the park there. Then they'd walk to the soup kitchen and have a feed at the soup kitchen and then make their way back, or they'd come down to the river – some of them used to come and camp down here."* (Calyun, 2023)



Lindsay Calyun and friends at 'Millar's Cave' 1965 (Photo courtesy The West Australian WAN 0021393)



Participants in the Moorditj Footprints project, East Perth 25 October 2020.

Weld Square on the corner of Newcastle and Beaufort Streets was another popular gathering place for Aboriginal people who continue to meet in the park today. The park is (Registered Aboriginal Site 17484) is noted for its significance as a gathering place from the 1940s. Many Elders fondly recall what was known to many as Beaufort Park as a place where bands would play in the former pavilion and Aboriginal people would meet. *"At Beaufort Park/Weld Square) they had a big gazebo in the middle and we all used to sit around there because it had a big thing undercover. A lot of fellas used to sleep there and all because it was like stairs to walk up and chairs were going right around and you could lay there and go to sleep...A lot of people used to congregate there and yarn there and sit and have our feed there. They took that away..."* (Pryor, 2023).

The continuing Aboriginal connections to Weld Square have been recognised in contemporary art work in the square and in a short documentary Our Patch made by filmmaker Mandy Corunna (Corunna, 2014).

By the late 1970s, there were fewer Aboriginal families living in the East Perth area. Many families moved to cheaper housing in Perth's outer metropolitan suburbs making way for the redevelopment of East Perth (Makin, 1970). Despite their dispersal, a strong sense of shared history and connection to the East Perth area prevails for many in the Noongar community (Jebb M. A., 2011). In 2020, Noongar Elder Lindsay Calyun and a group of former East Perth friends initiated the Moorditj Footprints project to collect and share the stories of East Perth's Aboriginal community. The project captured stories and memories of different places and formal and informal organisations in East Perth that were significant to the Noongar and Aboriginal community (Moorditj Footprints, 2023).

TO BE LET,

THE right of Sawing on 200 Acres of Land, adjoining Perth, late the property of Mr. Monger, averaging about five available Trees per acre.

ALSO.—The Dwelling House, Saw-Pit, Out-Houses, &c., &c. A portion of this Grant adjoining the Lake is well calculated for a good Garden, and also for the growth of the Vine, Orange trees, &c., &c.

The Rent will be taken in Timber. Some live Stock will be let on shares, and an arrangement probably be made to promote the culture of the Orange-tree, Vine, Hop plants, &c., &c.

For particulars, apply to

JAMES STOKES,
Perth.

Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal, 18 April 1835.

TO BE LET OR SOLD,

A VALUABLE GRANT of 200 Acres of well-timbered LAND, situate on Monger's Lake, which, from its contiguity to Perth, is well adapted for a Dairy or Stock Farm, and particularly eligible for the Timber and Sawyer's Business, for which every facility exists in covered Pits, Stores, &c. A comfortable Dwelling House, Stock-Yard, and enclosed Garden.

Apply to J. H. MONGER,
Mount Eliza.

Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal, 8 October 1836.

COLONISATION

The British established a military garrison at King George Sound (Albany) in 1826 and a permanent British colony at the Swan River in 1829. Within two and a half years, approximately 1500 colonists arrived and established settlements at Fremantle, Perth and Guildford (Menck, 2022, p. 9).

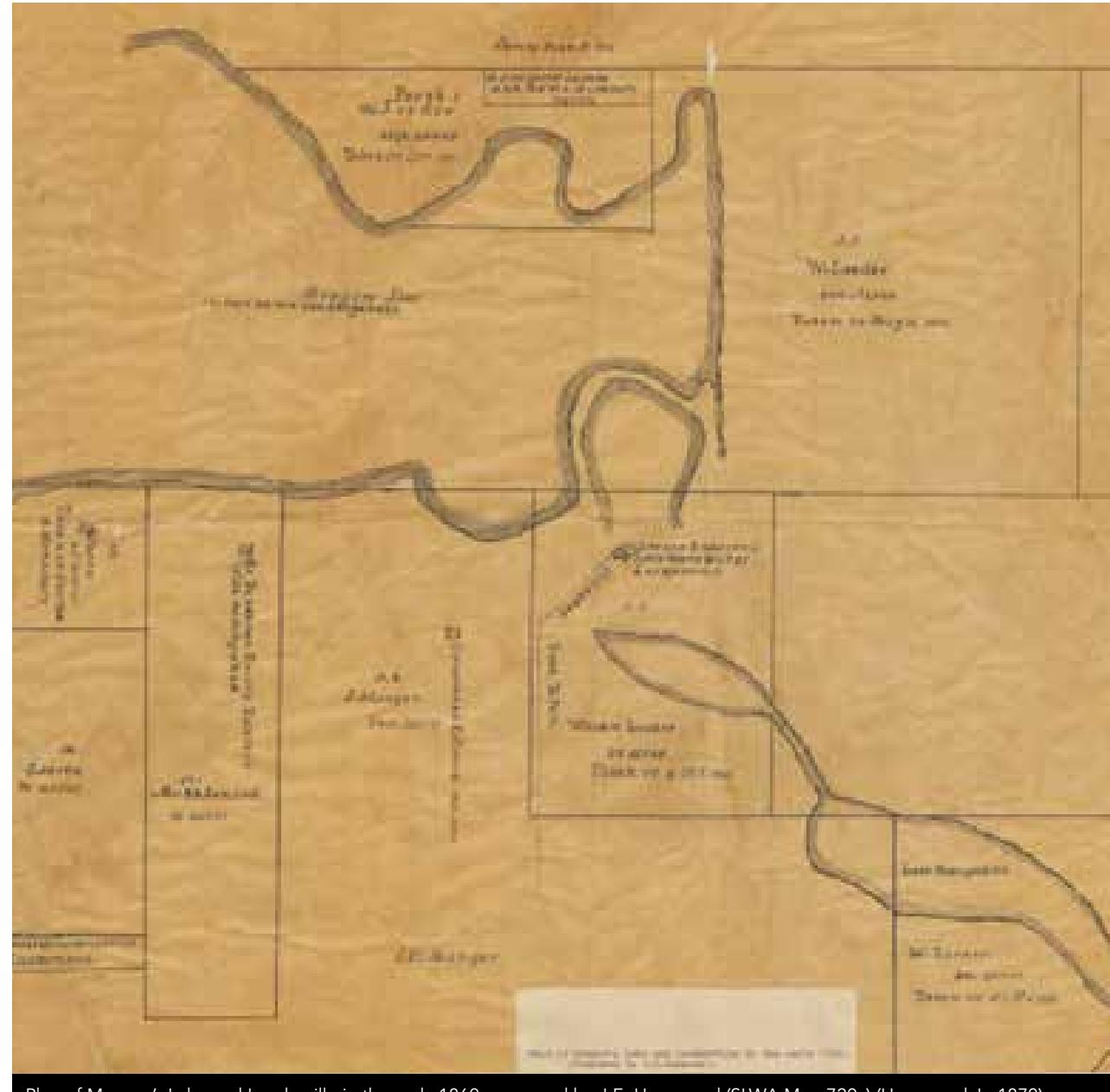
British colonisers regarded the land as 'terra nullius' – meaning land belonging to no one and began parcelling it up among settlers, government officials and military personnel. The Swan River Colony was the only British colony in Australia established on the basis of land being granted to colonists in proportion to the value of assets and labour they brought with them. Initially, 40 acres was granted for every £3 of assets invested, and 200 acres for every adult introduced. To discourage land speculation, most grants were for occupation, not full ownership, and were conditional on the land being improved within a certain time period. After 1832, land grants were abolished and crown land was sold off. Within a short period, colonists realised that good farmland was limited to a narrow corridor along the Swan and Canning rivers divided into long, thin allotments each with a sliver of river frontage (Statham, 1984).

While early colonists did not consider the wetland area on the northern side of Perth township as an ideal area for residential settlement, the supply of fresh water made it suitable for farming and market gardening. In establishing the site for the town of Perth, colonial Governor James Stirling was instructed to 'take care that a square of three miles be reserved for (the towns) future

extension'. Land in this area could only be leased for 21 years and not secured by permanent grant. However, the leasehold system did not last long and the Colonial Office soon required that town lots be sold at auction, apparently as a source of revenue (Seddon G., 1986, p. 87).

John Henry Monger (1802 – 1867) was one of the early colonial landholders in the Vincent area whose namesake lives on in Lake Monger. Monger arrived with his wife Mary in 1829 as an indentured immigrant for Colonel Peter Latour who planned a settlement scheme in the Leschenault area. The failure of the scheme freed Monger to take up 200 acres of Perthshire Location Ae abutting the lake known to Noongar as Galup and to early colonists as Large Lake or Triangle Lake where he established a sawmill and house (Nicholls, 1979). After several incidents with "natives" around the lake, including the massacre of Noongar people on 3 May 1830, Monger left the lake and put the Lake Monger property up for a lease or sale and moved to York where he was a publican, storekeeper, mill owner and sandalwood dealer (The Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal, 30 April 1836). Monger likely sold to James Stokes who subsequently let the land and buildings from 1836.

Another early colonist and land holder in the Vincent area was the namesake for Leederville, William Henry Leeder. In 1833, William was granted lot Y 19 and his wife Hannah Eliza Leeder was granted Y 18. Leeder took up adjoining land grants at Perthshire Locations Ac and Ad, to which he later added Locations 1, Ax and Ay (Perth Gazette & Western Australian Journal, 2 November 1833). William Leeder's house is marked on Jesse Hammond's hand-drawn map of the 1870s, and is shown near the south-east corner of Lake Monger. A similar L-shaped building is shown a little further east, south of Smith's Lake. In March 1843, Leeder advertised for lease his three bedroom house two miles from Perth with a stock yard and four acres of cleared garden stocked with fruit tree and vines (Perth Gazette & Western Australian Journal, 25 March 1843).



Plan of Monger's Lake and Leederville in the early 1860s prepared by J.E. Hammond (SLWA Map 720c) (Hammond J., 1870)



Map of new allotments in Perth, 1858 (State Records Office: Cons 3868 Item 301)

Thomas Mews, a boat builder and ferryman, was another early colonial landholder in the area. Mews owned an allotment between Lake, Brisbane and Beaufort Streets which included the seasonal lake known as Lake Thomson (also referred to as Mews Swamp). Thomas Mews made one of the first attempts at reclamation of wetlands for gardening (Perth Gazette, 1840).

The East Perth area by the Swan River around present day Bank's Reserve was parcelled up as Swan Locations A4 and A5 and granted to Walter Boyd Andrews (Chair of the Perth Town Trust) and Alfred Hawes Stone, the colony's first Crown solicitor. Another early land holder in the area was coachbuilder John Summers who became a Perth City Councillor.

From the 1830s – 1850s, Perth's population languished. The Swan River Colony was less bountiful than advertised and settlement schemes failed to attract new people. In the 1850s, the colony looked to convicts to change its flagging fortunes. From 1850 to 1868, Britain shipped almost 10,000 male convicts to Western Australia. Most were young English labourers of urban backgrounds with limited skills and literacy. Accompanying guards, administrators and families added a further 3500 people to the colonial population. The steady arrival of convicts and Pensioner Guards between significantly swelled the population of the colony. By the end of convict transportation, the colonial population reached 22,915 (Menck, 2022, p. 14).

To meet the greater demand for food for a growing population, market gardens were expanded and established on the northern side of the city in what is now the Vincent area.

In 1840, John Smith, a discharged Sergeant in the 21st Regiment, applied for 400 (roughly 1.6 square kilometres) of land at what was then called Three Island Lake adjacent to Location Ae the north eastern corner of William Leeder's property on the edge of Lake Monger. At that time, commissioned officers who settled in the colony were entitled to land grants, a privilege extended to non-commissioned officers like John Smith in 1837. Smith was granted just over 33 acres (130,000 square metres) and with his wife and six children, and five former convict 'ticket of leave' men, he built a farm and homestead in the area that is now Charles Veryard Reserve (Lake, 2001, p. 8). After John Smith drowned in the Swan River in 1862, the farm was taken over by his eldest son Bernard Smith. The Smith family retained a connection to the land for many years later leasing it to Chinese market gardeners. An 1858 map of the area north of the Perth town site shows town lots extending north around Thomson's Lake and Stone's Lake toward the Highgate area.

The land around Lake Sutherland, (below the present day Old Aberdeen Place north of the railway line) was first farmed by market gardener's and dairy farmers Backshall, Golding and Liddlelow before the lake was mostly reclaimed (Bold, 1939).

In the 1850s, the area around Stone's Lake was filled in and subdivided and sold as market gardens, homes and small farms. One of the early landholders was James Fox who purchased three lots and established a household, comprising a small brick house, timber and iron sheds, a well and windmill (City of Perth, 1873). One of Fox's sons also took up land on Lake Henderson in the 1890s (City of Perth, 1896).

By the 1870s, Perth was surrounded by gardens which fanned out around the central business area taking in the gardens of James Leeder on Monger's Lake, Richard Gallop's market, orchard and vineyard near today's Brisbane Street and Joseph Gallop's market garden on Cowle Street, West Perth (No. 54 Lot Y207) where he grew vegetables on the drained land that had been Boojoormelup/Henderson's Lake and is now Dorrien Gardens.

Lake Henderson was drained in the early 1870s and Joseph Gallop purchased some of the reclaimed land on Cowle Street (No.54/Lot Y207) and grew vegetables on the lake bed.



Item Swan 107 – Vicinity of Wanneroo Road locations with names of land holders, 1874 (State Records Office AU WA S236 – cons3869 Swan 107, c.1874)

The land north of Perth running off Wanneroo Road (later Charles Street) was owned by a variety of investors who owned but did not develop the land. These included Ernest von Bibra, George Throssell, survey Henry Samuel Ranford, E.P. Barrett and Thomas Farmer. Farmer was a Wesleyan Minister and a vocal temperance advocate. After he died in 1891, his wife Lydia sold part of his estate (Swan Location 653) to land developers including Solomon Herman and Thomas Whitton Williams (SRO, 1874).

Early landowners in the present day Mount Hawthorn area included Louis Beurteaux, a dentist who was granted fifty acres of Swan Location 690 in 1875. He took up another fifty acres in 1876 and was granted more land in 1877, by which time the whole district had been taken up in nine 50 acre grants. Other early landholders were M. Banks, E. P. Barrett, H. S. Ranford, E. dePonte and R. Paisley (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 65).

John Sherlock Brooking, Inspector of Plans and Surveys from 1885 and Deputy Surveyor General from 1890 – 1896 was another early land holder in the around Lake and Palmerston Streets. Brooking owned Lot N 53 on Palmerston Street, on which he later developed Lakeside and Brooking Park Estate (Perth, Ratebooks, 1884). Aside from some farms in the area, much of the land in the Vincent area was owned by undeveloped until the gold rush led population boom of the 1890s (Perth, Ratebooks, 1884).



Deering family in makeshift tent accommodation in Hyde Park, 1897. (COV PH06504)

MIGRATION WAVES – 1890s

The discovery on gold in the Eastern Goldfields in the late 1880s and early 1890s transformed Western Australia. The economic activity generated by the gold boom, in manufacturing, commercial, transport, service and building industries as well as the professions, provided better employment prospects than anywhere else. People from interstate and overseas flooded to Western Australia and the population increased dramatically (Menck, 2022, p. 106). In 1884, the population of the Perth district was just over 6000 people. It grew to 9500 in 1891 before experiencing a large increase to 44,000 in 1901. By 1911, the population reached 87,000 (Stannage, 1979, p.193).

As living accommodation in the centre of Perth became overburdened, tent cities sprang up in Perth including at East Perth and Hyde Park. In the late 1890s, hundreds of campers paid a monthly fee to the Perth City Council to live in tents and humpies on Third Swamp Reserve. By November 1896, it was noted that the duties of the city's two health inspectors included collecting and controlling rents and sanitary fees for campers at Third Swamp. The shortage of accommodation in Perth forced families like Benjamin and Amelia Deering (pictured below) to live in temporary tent accommodation in Hyde Park while they waited for more permanent housing to become available. Advertisements for camp sites in Third Swamp such as the following appeared in the local newspapers:

FIRST-CLASS Camp, suitable for family, two rooms; all conveniences. Apply George Galton, Third Swamp Reserve, top Palmersteu-st.

The West Australian, 29 December 1896.

With so many campers, local residents were soon complaining that the reserve had become "an eyesore and a menace" and lobbied to turn the reserve into a public garden (The Daily News, 28 November 1896).

The influx of migrants and newcomers created a ready market for speculative housing. The gold rush and Perth's subsequent population explosion attracted local and interstate developers and investment syndicates who bought and subdivided land in Perth to capitalise on the boom and house the growing population in suburbs fringing Perth. Land was intensively subdivided, then often subdivided again into smaller lots as investors tried to cash in and maximise returns resulting in an uneven patchwork and pattern of lots across East Perth, Highgate and Northbridge (Kelly, 1992).

OTHER SIDERS

The majority of these newcomers were so-called 'other siders' from eastern Australia. The combination of an economic depression in the eastern colonies in the 1890s and the promise of gold in WA sparked the largest permanent internal migration in Australian history. Between 1891 and 1901, almost 90 per cent of people who left the colonies of Victoria, South Australia or Tasmania approximately 64,000 people came to Western Australia. The vast majority of these 'other siders' were Victorians. By 1901, over half the people in Perth had been in Western Australia for less than five years (Stannage, 1979, p. 248). Most of the interstate migrants stayed and built homes and had families. Their influence is visible in everything from the naming of new suburbs like 'Mount Hawthorn', named by a Victorian developer after the suburb of Hawthorn Melbourne, to rise in support for Australian Rules Football, electric trams, electrification in general, and ultimately Australian Federation.

Among the many thousands of 'other siders' who came to Perth in the wake of the gold boom were the Washing brothers. Alfred, Charles, Ernest and Frederick Washing were the Australian-born sons of a Chinese father (Wah Hing) who had left his native Canton in 1854 to seek his fortune on the Victorian goldfields. Wah Hing stayed on and married an English migrant Louisa Meyers and the couple had 10 children. After the Victorian gold rush subsided, Wah Shing turned to furniture manufacturing as a new source of income starting a business in Cresswick Victoria and anglicising the family name to 'Washing'. The downturn in industry and commerce and the introduction of new restrictions on Chinese manufacturing in Victoria in the 1890s, led the family to look west for opportunity. Charles Washing came to Perth in 1898, followed by his family. Together they established and operated Washing Brothers furniture factory in a variety of locations including Lord, William and Murray Streets, moving to 321 – 333 Newcastle Street in 1924 where they remained until 1953, later relocating to Eton Street, North Perth where they traded until 1968 (Heritage Council, 2021).





Charles Washing & children Geraldine, Albert, Gwendoline & Frederick. Photo courtesy of Val Corey.

"The company was noted for the quality of their craftsmanship. They made and restored all kinds of furniture and speciality products like radio cabinets, gramophones and truck beds. They even decked out the New Oxford Theatre. All this at a time when, under the Factories Act 1904, furniture had to be stamped 'European labour only' or 'Asiatic labour' to encourage buyers to preference or blacklist manufacturers according to their race. Washing Bros prospered in spite of the racist White Australia policies which restricted further Chinese migration and tried to stop Asian migrants from working in particular industries like furniture manufacturing." David Kennedy grandson of Alfred Washing and great grandson of Wah Hing." (Kennedy D., 2021)

Immigration associated with the gold rush saw the arrival of groups from non-English backgrounds, including Chinese. About half the Chinese in Perth worked in market gardening. Stone's Lake, Smith's Lake, Second Swamp, Lakes Sutherland, Henderson and Georgiana, and the north and eastern edges of Lake Monger were all Chinese market gardening areas within the Town boundaries. The majority of the gardening lands were leased from European owners, and many of the gardeners lived in humpies or other sub-standard accommodation beside their gardens. Only a few had proper housing nearby, among them the group of gardeners who operated under the name of Hop Lee & Company on Lake Henderson, and who lived in a new cottage provided by the land owner, Dr Daniel Kenny, at 176 Fitzgerald Street (Atkinson, Chinese Market Gardens in the Perth Metropolitan Region 1900 – 1920, 1984).

NON-BRITISH MIGRANTS

With Federation came a raft of racist legislation and policies to prevent Asian migration to Australia and limit the livelihoods of existing Chinese people in Australia (Atkinson, Chinese Labour and Capital in Western Australia, 1847 – 1947, 1991). In 1901, there were approximately 1500 people of Chinese background in Western Australia. They were predominantly men living in metropolitan Perth and working in five main occupations – market gardening, laundry work, furniture making, shopkeeping and domestic service. Chinese were especially important on the various market gardens in the Vincent area from the 1890s and early 1900s onwards. The Immigration Restriction Act of 1901, which gave immigration officials the power to exclude any non-European migrants by making them sit a dictation test in any language, prevented the recruitment of new Chinese labour to augment or replenish the ageing male Chinese population in Perth.

Although new migrants from Asia or the Middle East were effectively barred entry, those who had come to the goldfields in the 1890s remained after 1900 often moving to settle in metropolitan Perth where they established businesses and cultural institutions including the Perth Mosque. Merchant and camel owner and carrier Faiz Mahomet, who migrated to Australia in 1892 from what is present day Afghanistan and established a lucrative camel carting business on the Goldfields,

helped fund the construction of the Perth Mosque on William Street in the early 1900s (Fitzgerald, 2023). Afghan cameleers were vital to supply chains and water supply on the WA goldfields from the 1890s to around the 1920s.

Among the former cameleers who settled in the Vincent area after the gold rush was Fakir 'Frank' Shah who lived at 106 Richmond Street, Leederville from the 1920s and 1940s and worked as a 'marine dealer' (bottle collector) in the area. Further along at 123 Richmond Street lived Massa and Meer Singh, also former cameleers. Massa Singh who migrated from Amritsar Punjab to Western Australia in 1896. Singh was also an amateur wrestler who took part in the 'catch as can' wrestling tournaments. He moved to Perth in the 1920s and lived at 123 Richmond Street Leederville with fellow Sikh cameleer Meer Singh until the late 1940s (SBS, 2016). Leederville residents including Ivy Baraiolo recalls the 'Afghans' of Richmond Street in the 1940s:

"There used to be an Afghan man (living) on the right...and our parents told us not to talk to them because, they would take us away! And of course we listened! (laughter). We were very, very scared, so we used to walk in the middle of the road ...the Afghan man knew what was going on and he used to come out when we children were going to school and go "boo" at us. He had a big turban on him. I can see him, very much so." (Baraiolo, 2014)

While migration from Asia was effectively curtailed from 1901 to the late 1960s, migration from the United Kingdom and continental Europe gathered pace in the 20th century. British migrants were the preferred stock for a 'white Australia' and group settlement and child migration schemes brought many thousands of new settlers from the United Kingdom to Perth and Western Australia. While Southern Europeans from countries such as Italy and Greece were not considered as desirable as British or Northern European migrants, they were allowed entry in the interest of providing labour the mines and woodlines of the goldfields. In the inter-war period, when immigration restrictions severely curtailed the entry of Southern Europeans to the United States, more migrants from Italy and Greece came to Australia (Iuliano, 2010, p. 33).

Perth and its inner suburban areas became home to many Southern and Eastern European migrants who relocated from the goldfields calling for their wives and families to join them from overseas settling in the metropolitan area. The legacy of these Italian, Greek, Macedonian and Jewish migrants in the Vincent area is evident in the built environment, as well as place names, cultural influences on commerce and retail and also in the birthplaces and ancestry of the present-day Vincent community.

The WA Italian Club at 217 – 225 Fitzgerald Street West Perth was established in 1937 as the 'Casa D'Italia' ('House of Italy') which was originally on the site next door at 219 – 221 Fitzgerald Street. During the Second World War, the Casa d'Italia was closed and many of its members were interned as 'enemy aliens'. After the war, it resumed activities and was rebuilt and expanded in 1954, and again in 1968.



POST-WAR MIGRATION

After World War II stoked fears that Australia's vast emptiness made it vulnerable to future invasion from Asia, Immigration Minister Arthur Calwell warned Australians that they must 'populate or perish'. This sparked a post-war migration drive that contributed to the doubling of Western Australia's population from 500,000 in 1947 to roughly 1 million by 1971 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2019) and saw an even greater exponential increase in Perth's metropolitan population from 170,000 in 1947 to 700,000 by 1971 (Stannage, 1979, p. 335). Existing communities, such as the Italian and Greek communities rapidly expanded along with a plethora of social organisations to support the growing communities.

The WA Italian Club grew in the 1950s and became the centre of sporting, social and cultural life for Italian migrants in Perth. It also became a hub for a variety of sub groups including the Azzurri Soccer Club, based at Dorrien Gardens adjacent to the WA Italian Club. Across the road in a small cottage that had been a former children's library on the corner of Stuart Street and Robertson Park, was the WA Italian Club's Italian Language School run by the Ursuline Sisters from the 1960s until the early 1970s (Iuliano, 2010).



Azzurri Soccer Team at Dorrien Gardens, West Perth, 1948. (COV PHO5933)



Italian language school students in their first communion dresses outside the school at 170 Fitzgerald Street, 1962. (COV PHO5936)



Greek Orthodox Church, 59 Carr Street West Perth, 1970s (COV PH01052)



Vietnamese Buddhist Temple on Money Street, Perth
(COV PHO5876)

Greek migrants also had a major impact on the Vincent area, particularly after WWII. In 1958, the Greek Orthodox community bought the former St Paul's Anglican Church and presbytery on Charles and Carr Streets and reconsecrated it The Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady Evangelismos (Yiannakis, 2002).

The special connection of migrants from the Greek Island of Castellorizo, one of the largest sources of Greek migration to Perth, is reflected in the establishment of 'Castellorizian House' ('Cazzie House') at 160 Anzac Road Mount Hawthorn which has been the headquarters and clubrooms for the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia since 1982 (Meahger, 2020).

From the 1970s, the advent of migration policies that facilitated the migration of skilled and family migrants and refugees from more varied

source countries saw new migrant communities established in the Vincent area. Particularly significant to the Highgate area has been migrants and refugees from Vietnam. Highgate Primary School has provided specialist intensive English language tuition to migrant and refugee children since the 1970s. From the 1980s, the Highgate area has been home to many Vietnamese residents and businesses as well as community organisations such as the Vietnamese Language and Culture School, which operated for decades on Saturdays at Highgate Primary School until recently.

In 1990, the headquarters of the Vietnamese Buddhist Association, the Buddhist Temple (Chua Cha'nh Gia'c) was built as a place of worship for the Vietnamese Buddhist community (Heritage Place Number 08729).



Students and teachers at the Vietnamese Language and Cultural School of WA at Highgate Primary School, 2011. (COV PH06335)



Castellorizian House, 160 Anzac Road 2020
(COV PHO6054)

CONTEMPORARY MIGRATION

In the last twenty years, Australia's population increased by just over 25 per cent to reach just over 25 million in 2021 (ABS, 2021). Overseas migration is now the main driver of Australia's population growth, accounting for more than half of Australia's population increase since 2001. Since 2001, Vincent's population has grown by 10,000 to a current population of 38,433 (Profile ID, 2023). Roughly one third of residents were born overseas, with 19 per cent having arrived in Australia five years prior to 2021 (Profile ID, 2023). While the majority of overseas born people in Vincent are from the United Kingdom, other common birthplaces of origin include China, Ireland, Malaysia, India, South Africa and the United States.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure to house, service and support Perth's population was slow to develop during the colonial period. Convict labour from the 1850s to the 1870s helped drive more public works, but civic amenities remained fairly basic until the 1880s. It was not until the influx of people and capital sparked by the gold rushes of the 1890s that investment in water, power, transport and communication services improved.

Today, many take for granted the infrastructure that delivers clean water, flushing toilets, working drains, paved streets, green parks and power at the flick of a switch. These basic services were not a given for residents in times past.

SUBURBS AND SUBDIVISIONS

Prior to the gold rush of the 1890s, Perth was slow to grow and had a relatively low housing density. The gold rush of the 1890s and subsequent population boom saw a proliferation of building which set the character for many of Vincent's homes, streets and neighbourhoods.

Land around central Perth was intensively subdivided, then often subdivided again into smaller lots as investors tried to cash in and maximise returns resulting in an uneven patchwork of lots (Kelly, 1992). The pinnacle of aspiration for most Western Australians in the early 1900s was a detached villa set on a spacious landscaped block with a yard that was offered in new suburban developments like Highgate, Leederville, North Perth and Mt Hawthorn. This suburban aspiration was noted favourably by the WA Premier Sir John Forrest at the opening of the new Leederville Post Office in 1897:

"I am very pleased to know that so close to Perth there was so much land available for cutting up for small allotments, where people could live more comfortably than in the more crowded city. If it was one thing they desired more than another it was that people should acquire land and settle down and erect homes from themselves... people did not come out from the old country to make homes for themselves and yet feel that they were tenants all their lives. It was a good thing for the state to have people attached to the soil." (The West Australian, 4 May 1897)

Developers accommodated and profited from this aspiration spruiking 'choice garden blocks', 'splendid villa sites' elevated views above and away from the city or swamps ('high and healthy') and within walking or commuting distance to the city. The model for housing development in Perth was (and arguably remains) decidedly suburban (Kelly, 1992). Development of the eight suburbs which now make up Vincent were among Perth's earliest suburbs and as such influenced the growth and character of suburban housing in Perth.

HIGHGATE

In the late 1880s, the subdivision of Highgate Hill was developed becoming one of the first suburbs on the north side of Perth. It consisted of a small, isolated cluster of homes erected on an estate which an enterprising owner had subdivided into blocks for workmen's cottages east of Beaufort Street (Burton, 1938). In 1891, Beaufort Street was paved only a short way past St Alban's Church. Beyond was open bushland and very little residential or commercial development.

The area was distinguished by a tall tree with steps and a look out known as the 'Crow's Nest' which was located on what became Mary Street. According to the newspapers of the day, the crow's nest tree was a city landmark and a popular spot for Perth residents to picnic (and apparently also drink and subsequently fight). When the tree was cut down in 1903, a contributor to the WA Record was moved to write an ode to the 'Crow's Nest Tree':

The tree that in the days gone by
Witnessed many a lover's sigh.
The good old tree that sheltered those
Who met as sanguinary foes.
Though fallen by a ruthless hand,
The spot on which it used to stand
Is cherished in the breast
of those who once their love dreams told,
The modest maid and warrior bold
Beneath the old Crow's nest.

Highgate Hill Notes. (1903, July 25). The W.A. Record (Perth, WA: 1888 – 1922), p. 16.

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article212348448>

The earliest subdivision in the Highgate area, the Mount Heart Estate, was also known as the Crow's Nest Estate. The estate was parcelled up and sold off in the early 1890s by Matthew Gibney, the Catholic Bishop of Perth from 1887 – 1910. It was advertised as having "an extensive view of a large part of the city" with lots offered for sale by public auction on easy terms at a cost of 65 pounds (today's equivalent of \$13,225 AUD). The centre of the estate was reserved as Alacoque Square named for Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, the French nun and mystic who promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The area became the heart of a Catholic precinct which included the Sacred Heart Church, Convent, school and housing for clergy and lay workers. Homes for parish members and clergy were erected near the intersection of Vincent and Beaufort Streets, including a residence for Bishop Gibney at 50 Vincent Street built in 1911 (Gibney House, Place 13033) (Heritage Council, 2022).

Highgate subdivisions included:

- **Mount Heart Estate** (1891) – east of Lincoln Street south of Vincent.
- **Bulwer Park** (1895) – bounded by Lytton Avenue (William Street), Lincoln Street, Bulwer Avenue, Bulwer Street.
- **Lord Street Estate** (c 1895) – bounded by Lord Street, Summers Street, Claisebrook, Murchison Terrace.

- **Woodley Park** (1897) – bounded by Wright Street, Harold Street, Guildford Road (Lord Street), Broome Street.
- **Highgate Hill, Perth** (c 1900) – bounded by Burt Street (Beaufort Street), Walcott Street, Curtis Street, Harold Street
- **Highgate Hill Extension** (1900) – bounded by Wright Street, Harold Street, Guildford Road (Lord Street), Broome Street.



LEEDERVILLE

Leederville, named after early colonist and landholder William Leeder, grew as a town and residential area from the 1890s. Its growth was tied to the completion of the Fremantle Guildford railway in 1881, and the influx of people and capital from the gold boom of the 1890s.

In 1890, the Monger Estate (Location "AE") covering much of the suburb of West Leederville, was subdivided. In 1891, the vast Leeder Estate was bought by developers who subdivided and sold lots in various locations from 1892. Promoted under names like Leeder Estate, Lake View Estate and Leederville Station Estate, land advertisements highlighted proximity to Perth, Lake Monger and later the Leederville train station (now West Leederville train station).

In 1895, Leederville was declared as a Roads Board District and became a Municipality in 1896. The crown land between Vincent and Richmond Streets was designated Government Reserve 884 which was to become the site of Leederville's oval, post office and primary school, with the section east of Loftus Street the site of Perth's Sanitary Depot, later Beatty Park (SRO, 1894). Many public and commercial buildings were constructed in the 1890s including Leederville Primary School (1894), Leederville Post Office (1897), the Leederville Hotel (1897) and the Leederville Police Station (1898). In 1900, development in Leederville was further hastened by the construction and operation of a tramline from the city. Electrification for the tram network opened the way for local businesses and industries to benefit from electric power and fuel further growth.

Early Leederville housing subdivisions included:

- **Leeder Estate** (Locations AX) ca (1890), sales from 1893 – east of Loftus Street and bisected by Newcastle Street.
- **Leeder Park** (1892) – east of Oxford Street and south of Redan Street (Vincent Street), on the south-west corner of Oxford Street, which included The Avenue, now part of the shopping precinct.
- **Frogmore Gardens** (2nd Leeder's Estate), (1894) – east of Oxford Street, north of Norfolk Street (Melrose Street) and south by Redan Street (Vincent Street).
- **Leeder Estate** (3rd Subdivision) (c 1890) – bounded by Monger's Lake (Lake Monger), Government Road (Anzac Road), Lonsdale Street (Loftus Street), Richmond Street.
- **Leederville North Estate** 1893 covering part of Tennyson, Byron, Marian, Shakespeare and Lonsdale (Loftus) Streets, in which Jesse D. Leeder had an interest as well as his own residence on Marian Street.
- **Leederville** (1895) (subdivision of lots 62 – 65) west of Loftus street south of Vincent, north of Leeder Street (Carr Place).
- **Montrose Estate Leederville** (1895) (Area bounded by Oxford Street, Marion Street Tennyson Street, bisected by Rae Street.

- **Auckland Estate** (1896) – west of Oxford Street, intersected by Beavers Street.
- **Leederville Station Estate** (1896) – West Leederville – bounded to the east by Kimberley Street.
- **North Leederville** (1896) – Bounded by Oxford Street, Government Road (Anzac Road), Lonsdale Street (Loftus Street), Marian Street.
- **Bellevue Estate** (c 1900) – bounded by Government Road (Anzac Road) and Britannia Road.
- **Lake View Estate** (1902) (south of Monger's Lake, Ruby Street (Ruislip) dissected by Glencoe Street West Leederville).
- **Springfield Estate Leederville** (1903) bounded by Britannia Road and Oxford Street, dissected by King Street and Edward Street, area south of Government Road (Anzac Road). Advertised for auction in local newspapers from 1903.

The advertising for Springfield Estate Leederville was particularly persuasive and descriptive in expounding the benefits of land in Leederville:

"You cannot go wrong in buying a block or more... This commanding estate is within easy distance of the Perth Town Hall and is situated in the rising suburb of Leederville at the top end of Oxford Street and can be reached every few minutes by an excellent tram service and it also has the advantage of a good macadamised road. Water can be obtained a few feet from the surface and the soil is garden land of first class quality...." (SLWA Maps 33/20/167, c 1900)



Map of Leederville showing original location numbers,
c 1920 (SLWA 33/15/1a)

NORTH PERTH

Farmland was subdivided into housing lots in the North Perth area from the late 1890s. The earliest subdivisions were carved out from land in Swan Location 653 which covered the area between Charles and Fitzgerald Streets around Angove Street. The land had been owned from 1881 by Thomas Farmer (after whom Farmer Street was later named after) who had been a Wesleyan Minister and a vocal temperance advocate. After he died in 1891, his wife Lydia sold part of his estate to land developers including Solomon Herman and Thomas Whitton Williams who began selling blocks in the area.

Selling former swampland required clever marketing. The developers gave the subdivisions fancy names such as Toorak and Woodville Estate and the land was advertised as being "high and healthy" with "elevated and salubrious villa sites splendidly situated within a 1/4 mile of Perth" (SLWA Map 33/20/126b, 1891). Proximity to good roads and transport was also a selling feature. The tram network which ran from the city to North Perth from the early 1900s to 1958 was an important feature in the suburb's early development.

North Perth subdivisions included:

- **Woodville Estate** (from 1891) – south of Farmer Street, west of Parker Street (later Woodville Street), north of Albert Street (Subdivisions 51 and 52 of Swan Location 653) (The Daily News, 31 October 1891).
- **Forrest Hill** (1891) west of Fitzgerald Street, south of Government Road (later York Street), south of Walcott Street, north of Alma Road. Streets in this estate were named after WA Premier Sir John Forrest and his first five cabinet ministers, Shenton, Burt, Marmion, Venn and Robinson (Bolton G., 1997, p. 22 – 23).
- **Christmas Hill Woodville** (1895) – north of Farmer Street, east of Wanneroo Road (later Charles Street) south of Mary (later Waugh) Street includes Magnolia and Mignonette Streets.
- **The Percy Estate: Toorak & Woodville** (1897) – east of Wanneroo Road (Charles Street) between View Street and Albert Streets, inclusive of Vine, Peach and Olive Streets (Subdivision of Swan Locations 647 and 653).
- **The Percy Extension: Woodville** (1896) – triangle of land east of Wanneroo Road (Charles Street), south of Angove and north of Albert Street (part of Swan Location 653).
- **Christmas Hill No. 2** (1900) – extension of Christmas Hill Estate with lots south of Angove Street.
- **North Perth Estate** (1900) – east of John (later Leake) Street, south of Alma Road, west of Walcott Street, north of Grosvenor Road. Offered for sale by Perth Land Agency.
- **Highgate Hill North Perth Estate** (1901) – same area as North Perth Estate but offered for sale by Pet & Co agents.
- **Merredin Park Estate** (1901) – area west of Charles Street and east of Government Road (Fairfield Street), north of North Beach Road (Scarborough Beach Road) dissected by Hobart Street.
- **View Park** (1902) – area west of Fitzgerald Street and east of Parker (Woodville) Street south of Farmer and north of Naomi Street.
- **Lakeside Estate North Perth** (1905) – west of Charles Street near Smith's Lake.
- **Lurline Park** (1906) – west of Wanneroo Road (Charles Street) east of Auckland Street, north of Robinson (later Gill) Street and intersected by Loch Street.
- **North Perth Town Sites** (1908) – between Oxford and Shakespeare Streets and North Beach Road (Scarborough Beach Road) and Government Road (Anzac Road).
- **North Perth Municipality** (c 1905) – Pet and Co. lots for area east of Fitzgerald, south of Walcott and York Streets and north of Chelmsford Road),
- **City View, Roslyn, Paddington and Lurline Park Estates** (191) area west of Charles and south east of Walcott Street, north of Government Road (York Street) and No 4 Avenue (Northam) and south of Douglas Street (Shows Location).
- **Monastery Grounds Estate North Perth** (1910) – area north of Vincent Street south of Park Street, Park Street (Calverton), between Camelia and John (Leaked) Street.
- **North Perth Estates** (Stanley Park, Tennyson Park and Lurline Estates) (1928).



Plan of the Municipality of North Perth, c 1910 (State Library of Western Australia)



The Percy Estate, Toorak & Woodville,
1897. (SLWA 55/14/55)



North Perth Town Sites, c 1908 (SLWA)

MT HAWTHORN

Most of the land in the Mt Hawthorn area was unsurveyed vacant Crown Land until the 1870s. After construction of a road connecting North Perth and Herdsman Lake, land in the area was offered for sale in the 1870s and taken up by various investors including Perth dentist Lois Beurteaux who owned several hundred acres in the area from 1875. While land in the area was sold in the 1880s, subdivision and construction did not take place until the late 1890s.

In 1899, the Intercolonial Investment Land and Building Company of Sydney carved up Swan Location 660 and established Merredin Park Estate in a triangle east of Wanneroo Road (now Charles Street) and north of North Beach Road (Scarborough Beach Road). This estate, which crossed the boundary of Mt Hawthorn and North Perth, featured streets named after cities in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. A number of the streets of the subdivision were later renamed, such as Dublin (Shakespeare), Wellington (Dunedin), Brisbane (Haynes) and Adelaide (Eton). Advertisements for Merredin Park Estate spruiked the 'splendid mansion and villa sites' and featured an illustration of the nearby landmark Wanneroo Hotel (later named the North Perth Hotel) which stood on the corner of Wanneroo Road and North Beach Road from 1899 until 1962 (Merredin Park Estate SLWA Map 55/15/15, 1901).

Mt Hawthorn got its name from the 'Hawthorn Estate' subdivision dating from 1903. One of the investors in the syndicate, Ballarat-born land and estate agent James Hicks, explained, *"I named it Hawthorn, after a visit to the suburb of Hawthorn in Victoria, because I considered that what Hawthorn was to Melbourne, our estate was to Perth. The estate sold well and a very fine residential suburb was thus established. All the streets were named by me, and the names of the owners were perpetuated by naming a street after each one."* (*The West Australian*, 22 September 1938).

Hicks also gifted three acres of land on Oxford Street to the Perth Tramway Company as an inducement to run trams to the edge of the new Hawthorn Estate linking to the privately owned Osborne Park Tram Service which operated in the area to the north. Advertisements for Mount Hawthorn subdivisions emphasised the area's elevation, views to the city and its proximity to public transport.

Mt Hawthorn subdivisions included:

- **Merredin Park Estate** (1899) – east of Wanneroo Road (Charles Street) dissected by Hobart Street.
- **Merredin Park Estate** (1901) – with streets renamed covering the same area as the earlier subdivision of Merredin Park Estate.
- **Hawthorn Estate** (1903) – between Green Street and North Beach (Scarborough Beach) Road between Fairfield and Coogee Streets. The original street names Mosey, Hicks and Wittenoom were named after members of the investment syndicate who developed Hawthorn



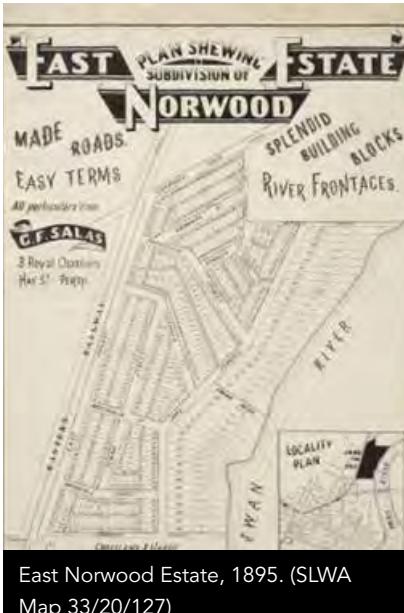
Hawthorn Estate, 1903. (State Library of Western Australia Map 33/15/41)

Estate were later renamed to Fairfield, Flinders and Coogee Street to harmonise with the existing street names south of North Beach (Scarborough Beach) Road.

- **Randwick Heights** (1903) – former Swan Location 739 west of Matlock Street, between North Beach (Scarborough Beach) and Green Street.
- **Merredin Park Estate 2nd Subdivision** (1906) – west of Charles Street to Mosey (Fairfield) Street south of Green Street and north of North Beach Road.
- **North Perth Town Sites** (1908) – between Oxford and Shakespeare Street, north of Government (Anzac) and North Beach (Scarborough Beach) Road dissected by Wilberforce Street.
- **Ambleside Estate** (1910) – area near Lake Monger north of Ambleside (Anzac) Road and south of North Street (Purslane Street) between West Street (Lynton Street) and East Street.



Norwood Perth, 1892. (NLA <https://trove.nla.gov.au/work/31908217>)



East Norwood Estate, 1895. (SLWA Map 33/20/127)

EAST PERTH

The opening of the Perth to Guildford railway in the late 1880s stimulated residential development in the East Perth area. In 1884, East Perth had 112 houses with 600 residents, set amongst fruit and vegetable gardens, paddocks and investment properties. By 1894, it had 245 houses and 1300 residents, but by 1904 it had increased more than fourfold to 1066 houses and 6000 occupants (Kelly, 1992, p. 96).

The 1890s were a period of intensive subdivisions in East Perth on both sides of the railway line. In 1892, the West Australian Norwood Estate Company subdivided part of former Swan Locations A4 and A5 to form lots sold as part of the Norwood Estate north of Summers Street east of Lord Street (then Guildford Road).

In 1895, the area between East Parade, Summers Street, Joel Parade and Gardiner Street was subdivided and sold as East Norwood and Westralia Estates. The subdivision was carried out by the Perth (WA) Estate Company directed by engineer and mine owner Zebrine Lane who invested his mining profits into land development in Perth. The homes in these Norwood and East Norwood estates attracted more affluent buyers and tenants than the more polluted, industrial area which developed in East Perth around Claisebrook around the same time. Claisebrook was home to factories, saw mills, foundries and brickworks alongside poorer quality housing which attracted battlers and more transient people. The area was also close to the Perth sewage works, the source of noxious odours carried across the suburb on easterly winds.

East Perth subdivisions included:

- **Norwood Estate** (1892) – area around Summers Street and Lord Street.
- **East Norwood Estate** (1895) – bounded by the Eastern Railway, Guildford Road, Stanley Street, Mitchell Street, the Swan River, Summers Street.
- **Claisebrook Park** (1895) – bounded by Claisebrook Road, Brown Street.
- **East Norwood Estate** (1902) – further development of the area bounded by East Parade, Guildford Road, Stanley Street, Mitchell Street, Swan River, Summers Street.
- **East Perth** (1900) – Bounded by Water Street (Royal Street), Claisebrook Road, Wittenoom Street.
- **City Property East Perth** (1900) – bounded by Edward and Parry Street.
- **City Property** (1904) – bounded by Hill Street, Goderich Street, Bennett Street and Hay Street.

WEST PERTH

Subdivision in the West Perth area produced a social mixture with expensive spacious elevated lots close to the city's services and near Kings Park attracting residents of a higher social status. This contrasted with cheaper lots on the lower lying land north and south of the railway line. North of the line, Newcastle Street became one of the main streets largely due to the tram service established along its length linking the West Perth area to central Perth. Most of the houses were built on the north side of Newcastle Street, with a more commercial focus on the south side.

In the 1890s, lots were offered for sale in the subdivision (Location AX) in the area south of Vincent Street and east of Oxford Street, including Carr and Cowle Streets. Smaller blocks were developed in the Florence Street area on which terrace dwellings and worker's cottages were built. Shops and factories also dotted the area. In the late 1890s, several bakers and a flour milling business set up on Cleaver Street, and Herbert Stone's box manufacturing company was established in Fitzgerald Street (south of Lawley Street) in 1896. Around the same time, the Commonwealth Hotel (now the Hyde Park Hotel) was built on the corner of Fitzgerald and Bulwer Streets in 1898.



East Norwood Estate, 1895. (SLWA Map 33/20/127)



West Perth subdivisions included:

- **Altona Estate** (1895) and (1900) – area bounded by Altona Street, Ord Street, Colin Street, Brooking Street (Kings Park Road).
- **West Perth City View Estate** (1895) – bounded by William Street (Southport Street), Sanders Street (Oxford Close), Railway Parade.
- **West Perth Station Estate** (1895) – area west of Marquis Street.
- **West Perth Station Estate** (1896) – area east of Charles Street and north of Sutherland Street.
- **Crown of West Perth** (1896) – area between Colin and Outram Street.
- **City Property Heights of West Perth** (1900) – bounded by John Street, Fitzgerald Street.
- **Delhi Park, Delhi Square** (1900) – east of Havelock Street and north of Douro (Wellington) Street.
- **Colin Grove Estate** (1901) – north of Kings Park Road between Colin and Havelock Street.
- **City Property West Perth Estate** (1903) – north of Railway Street (Railway Parade).
- **West Perth Heights** (1914) – south of Wellington Street between Colin and Havelock Streets.
- **College Reserve** (1910) – area bounded by Carr Street, Newcastle Street and Cleaver Road.

MT LAWLEY

In 1901, developers Copley and Robinson established the first of the Mt Lawley estates. The subdivision dispensed with the typical rectilinear grid and streets were aligned sympathetically with the topography. The estate was intended to be prestigious aimed at middle class professional residents, competing with estates in West Perth. The establishment of the Mt Lawley Train Station in 1907 and the extension of the tram network from North Perth into Mt Lawley in the period from 1904 – 1909 encouraged residential and commercial growth in the area. The developers of the Mt Lawley Estates paid the Perth Tramways Company a subsidy to construct an extension along Walcott Street from the Beaufort Street line. The Gold Estates Company also subsidized the northern extension of the Beaufort Street line to their estate at Second Avenue (Kelly, 1992, p. 165).

Mt Lawley subdivisions included:

- **Mt Lawley** (1901) and (1910) – area north of Walcott Street south of Hillside between Clifton Crescent and Guildford Road.
- **The River Estate Mt Lawley** (1910) – between Gardiner and Packenham Street dissected by Joel Terrace beside the Swan River near present day Banks Reserve.
- **Mt Lawley No. 2** (1911) – area north of Walcott Street, south of Hillside between Clifton Crescent and Guildford Road.

- **Ellesmere Estate Mt Lawley** (1912) – area beside the Swan River east of Guildford Road dissected by Ellesmere Road. Includes 'Killeen', the home of Mt Lawley real estate developer RT Robinson.
- **Mt Lawley No. 3** (1924) and (1930) – area now incorporating much of present day Menora-bound by Adair Parade, Bradford Street, Fitzgerald Street (Alexander Drive), Walcott Street.



The River Estate Mount Lawley (SLWA Map 57/6/55) c 1910

PERTH

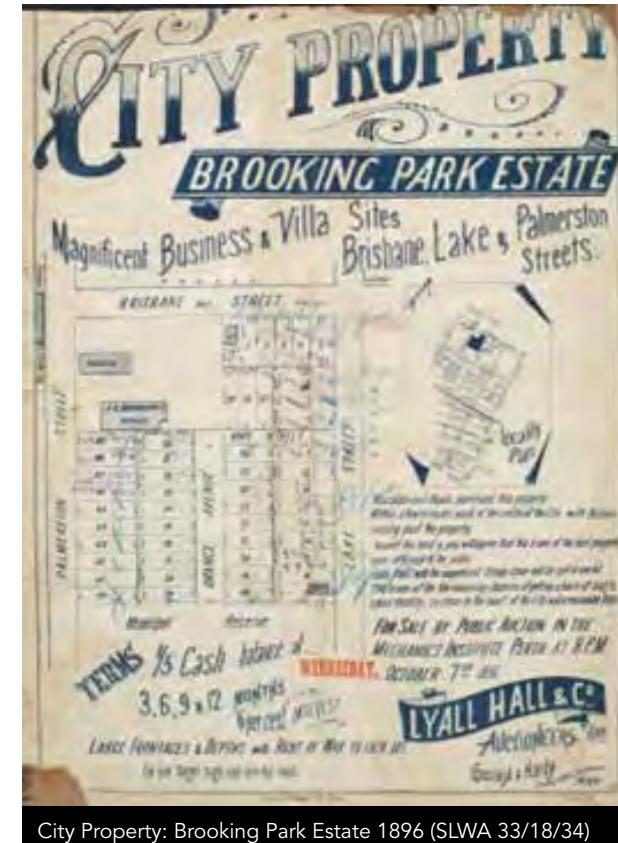
At the beginning of the 1890s there were few houses as much of Perth was still scrubland. The 1890s Gold Rush brought a huge influx of prospectors to the State, many of whom became permanent settlers. Perth's proximity to the City (further improved by the Barrack Street Bridge in 1894) made the area attractive to settlers, but the excessive demand caused a tent City to develop in Hyde Park.

Demand for housing in the 1890s led to several new subdivisions. Central Perth Estate was developed in 1892 at Lake Thompson. Houses were erected on William, Newcastle, Lindsay and Money Streets and several shops along Newcastle and William Streets. Another subdivision was carried out by the Colonial Finance Corporation between Brookman, Moir and Lake Streets and Forbes Road, where factories were interspersed with worker's cottages.

During this period, there were also further housing subdivisions in the area directly north of Perth around Brisbane Street. In 1892, an estate owned by Harry Anstey was opened up on part of the land that had originally been Lake Thomson. The estate was situated between Brisbane and Newcastle streets and included part of William, Money and Lindsay Streets. A number of semi-detached and single residences were constructed in Lindsay

and Money Streets, with residences and shops on Newcastle and William Streets. Newcastle Street had a number of boarding houses along its length at a time when there were many single men arriving from the eastern states and overseas (Sauman and Gray, 2000).

Edging further west, the Brooking Park Estate was advertised for sale in 1896. Bounded by Palmerston, Brisbane and Lake Streets, its selling point was its proximity to the City and buses and a 'magnificent orange grove' covering nine building lots fronting Lake Street (SLWA, 1896). The presence of the orange grove no doubt accounted for a Street in the subdivision being named Orange Avenue. The land occupied by the orange grove was originally Suburban Lot 1. A bus route along Brisbane Street was another selling feature of the estate.



City Property: Brooking Park Estate 1896 (SLWA 33/18/34)

Another land developer in the area was William Brookman, mining entrepreneur and Perth Mayor 1900 – 1901 (Giles, 1979). Brookman's speculative land company, the Colonial Finance Corporation, developed a housing estate on Lake, Moir and Brookman Streets in 1897. This estate was also a result of the reclamation of Lake Thomson. Baker's Terrace, a row of fifteen two-storey terrace houses, was built on Lake Street for middle class residents, and some thirty duplex pairs were constructed on Moir and Brookman Streets for working class occupants. The duplexes were of more modest size and design than the terrace houses, but standard of workmanship was similarly high. The estate reflected social mores of the time, with the middle

class residences in a prominent position and the smaller streets behind, although the occupations of the residents in 1900 only partially reflected this distinction. The City of Perth rate book listings for Brookman Street show such occupations as miner, accountant, baker, civil servant, engine driver, inspector, painter, lamplighter, government house orderly and barman. In Baker's Terrace, the occupations are listed as importer, hotel proprietor, contractor, traveller, widow, clairvoyant and labourer. By mid-1901, Brookman's finances were in disarray, due largely to his lavish lifestyle, and he gradually sold off his numerous properties (Stannage, 1979, p. 215 – 6).



Properties in the Brookman and Moir Street Precinct (2 – 28 Moir Street, 1 – 32 Brookman Street and 40 Forbes Street) are heritage-listed recognised for the almost complete example of late 19th Century modest scale residential buildings. The homes were mostly in Federation Queen Anne style using a single basic design of housing (Heritage Council, 2016) (Heritage Place 03992).



Brooking Park Estate, ca 1900 (SLWA 55/13/21a)

HOUSING

Within these various housing subdivisions and estates, developers and individual land owners built predominantly free standing houses on individual blocks.

At the peak of the gold rush inspired population boom of the 1890s, some small builders and investors, anticipating the establishment of built up neighbourhoods similar to inner city areas in Sydney and Melbourne, built cheaper semi-detached cottages in Highgate, Leederville and parts of North Perth and West Perth.

Carr Street in West Perth features a number of duplexes built for working class residents from around 1907 (Heritage Council, 2022). Another example of semi-detached houses are the more decorative and ornate Federation Italianate style row houses on 14 – 22 Church Street Perth, constructed from 1899 for slightly more well-off to working and middle class residents (Heritage Council, 2018).

The most significant surviving example of row housing in the Vincent area are the 15 double-storey brick and iron terrace houses at 156 – 184 Lake Street, Perth (Baker's Terrace). The properties make up the longest terrace of its type in Western Australia. They were built in the Federation Filigree style in 1897 as part of the new housing estate built by the Colonial Finance Corporation. The terraces were heritage-listed in the 1990s and were recognised for their scale and rarity and their contribution to the streetscape and character of the area (Heritage Council, 2018).

The number of terraces, row and semi-detached houses built in Perth was minor compared with other Australian capital cities. The availability of relatively cheap land close to the city reduced the financial incentives to build higher density housing. The suburban dream of a free standing house on a garden block in the suburbs was within reach of even the working class labourers and artisans who were settling in Perth (Kelly, 1992, p. 146). The main building styles for homes constructed in the Vincent area from the late 1800s to the present are highlighted below.



Row houses at 14-22 Church Street Perth, 1996
(COV PHO00140)

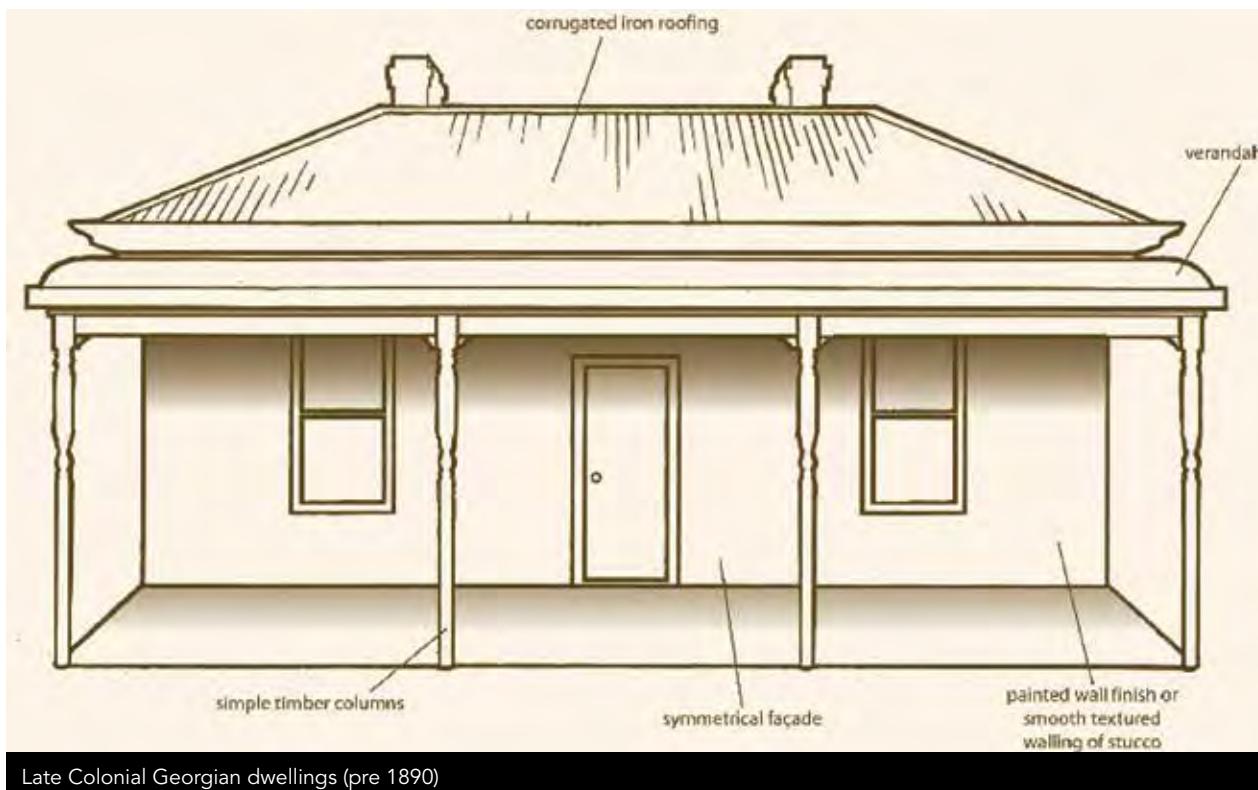


Baker's Terrace Lake Street, 1984 (COV PHO3395)

EARLY HOUSING STYLES (PRE 1890)

From establishment of the Swan River Colony in 1829 until the 1890s, the quality of housing in Western Australia suffered due to lack of readily available building materials and shortage of skilled labour. Early houses were generally constructed using locally available building materials such as brick, limestone, hessian, corrugate iron and weatherboard.

Domestic architecture in Perth prior to the gold rush of the 1890s was characterised by 'making do'. The majority of early residences were simple two room or four room buildings constructed in mud brick with a thatch roof and calico for windows. Beyond the mud brick variety, the symmetrical Georgian rectangular house was regarded as adequate for local needs.



Key characteristics:

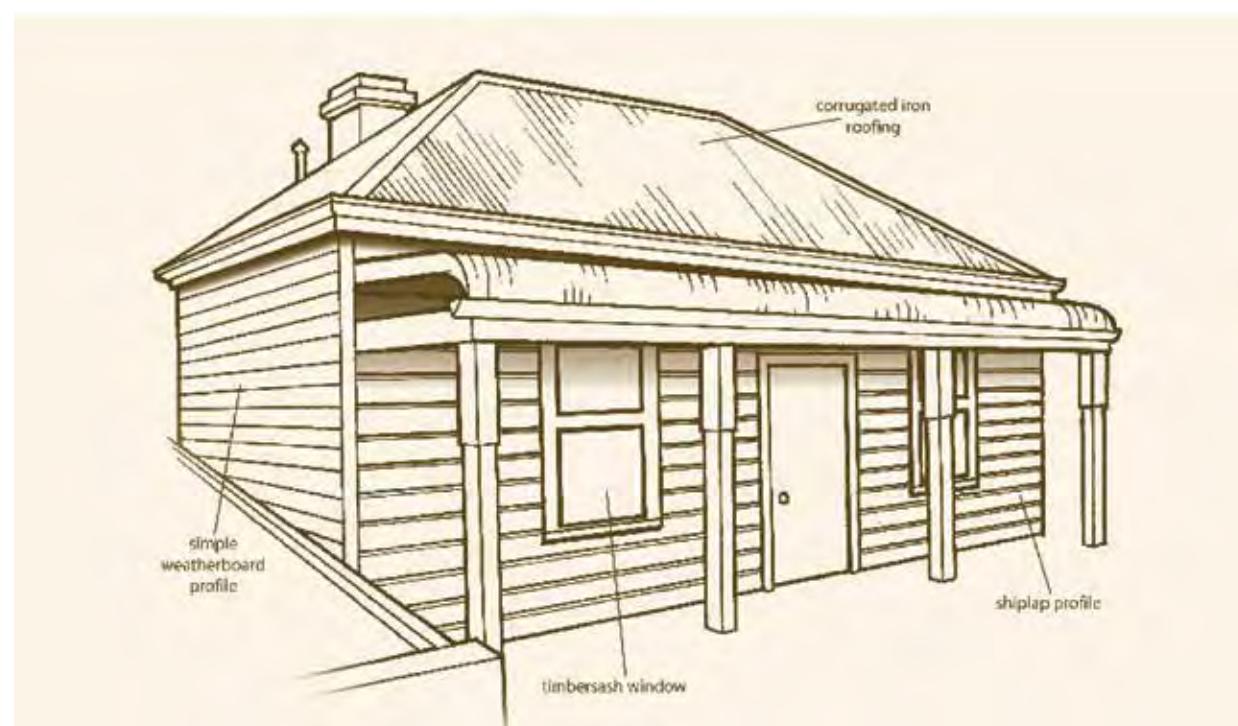
- Square symmetrical structure with plain solid brick walls often painted white or yellow.
- Central front door with windows placed symmetrically either side.
- Veranda erected around the dwelling to protect the principal rooms from sun.
- Veranda is usually a lower pitched extension of the main roof.
- Minimal roof overhang.
- Use of simple double-hung sash windows.
- Restrained interiors with simple detailing.
- Layout comprising a rectangular block bisected by a passage of 1 to 2.5 metres commonly divided by a decorative arch.
- Drawing and dining rooms in front, bedrooms behind and kitchen and scullery in a lean to at the back.
- Fireplaces placed in the side walls or back to back in central dividing walls.
- Flooring generally wide, pit sawn boards with tongue and groove edges.
- Plaster and lathe walls with plaster cornices and ceiling roses.

The gold boom of the 1890s resulted in an increase in temporary dwellings and also spurred a flurry of building activity, some of it unregulated. In response, Perth's Building Act was amended in 1896 so that it applied to all dwellings in the Perth area, not just the central city. The Council also regulated construction standards to determine building materials, height, space, and floor area of new dwellings. The amendment meant that many of the wooden houses erected in less salubrious parts of Perth were considered substandard (Stannage, 1979, p. 290).

Many houses were owner-built, although local builders such as Thomas Scott Plunkett capitalised on demand and built many homes in the area in this early period (Stannage, 1979, p. 215 – 216). The building company developed by carpenter Thomas Scott Plunkett and continued by his son Charles and grandson, also Thomas Scott built many homes in Mt Hawthorn after World War I, developing large areas of the suburb. After World War II, the Company concentrated on War Service and Workers Homes Board residences in the area (Sunday Times, 9 August 1998, p. 40).



Holland family at 38 Schafer (now Galway) Street Leederville, 1907 (COV PHO1965)



WEATHERBOARD DWELLINGS

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, weatherboard houses were a common housing choice with a significant number of timber houses built in the Mt Hawthorn, North Perth and Leederville areas. Timber housing was a more affordable housing option. In the early 1900s, a weatherboard house could be built for half the cost of a brick home (Kelly, 1992, p. 108). However some local councils, including Perth and North Perth, considered timber housing to be a fire hazard and inferior to brick and moved to declare 'brick areas' where timber homes were not allowed such as east of Kalgoorlie Street in Mt Hawthorn. Nonetheless, numerous timber houses were constructed in Mt Hawthorn in the 1920s and 1930s.

Key characteristics:

- Modest structure of simple design with no ornamentation.
- Hipped roofs of corrugated iron.
- Full width veranda or no veranda.
- Timber sash windows placed in the middle of each room often flanking a central doorway.
- Various timber size and profiles were used including Simple Feather Edged, Shiplap, Fake Ashlar.
- Inside moulded skirtings and architraves.
- Ceilings often unadorned with cornices (if any) limited to front rooms.
- Walls clad with timber lining boards and or plaster.

FEDERATION HOUSES

In the period from 1890 to 1915, distinctive domestic style of Australian architecture emerged in cities around Australia gathering pace around the time of Federation. The distinctive Federation style of architecture was an Australian adaptation and interpretation of trends in British, European and American architecture. Federation styles included Federation Queen Anne (c 1895 – 1915) characterised by ornate, asymmetrical forms with wide verandas, red brickwork and painted timber detailing. The Federation Queen Anne style features distinct rooflines often with gables, dormers, conical elements and tall chimneys covered in slate or terracotta tiles. While not the dominant style, there are many surviving examples of Federation Queen Anne style homes and buildings in Vincent.

However, the Federation Bungalow (1890 – 1915) is a much more common Federation era housing style in the Vincent area.



Dilhorne House at 2 Bulwer Street built in 1897 in Federation Queen Anne style (Heritage Place 02168)



Anzac Cottage, 38 Kalgoorlie Street Mount Hawthorn, constructed 1916 (COV PHO1977)

FEDERATION BUNGALOWS

Federation Bungalows were an Australian version of the English Edwardian house. The style was a step away from the fussier Federation Queen Anne homes towards a simpler, more robust style that better reflected the aspirations and budgets of the unpretentious, respectable working class residents who lived in suburbs like North Perth and Mt Hawthorn in the early 20th century (Apperly, Irving & Reynolds, 1989).

Key characteristics:

- Usually free standing single storey with verandas ornamented with turned timber or cast iron columns, balustrades or a frieze.
- Usually tuck pointed red brick with stucco detailing.
- Broad simple roof plane often with projecting gable and battens painted in dark colours.
- Terracotta tiles or painted corrugated metal roofs with wide eaves.
- Round or multi-paned and coloured casement sash windows, often with lead lights featuring Australian flora or fauna.
- Standard rectangular plan of parlour, best bedroom(s) and hallway built in brick with additional bedrooms, kitchen, eating and service areas in weatherboard at the rear.
- Elaborate cornices, ceiling roses, fireplaces, mantles, skirtings and moulded architraves in the 'good' front rooms for public viewing and less elaborate finishes beyond the hallway arch separating the public and private spheres of the house.



23 Fairfield Street Mount Hawthorn, 1924 (COV PHO2243)

INTER-WAR HOUSING

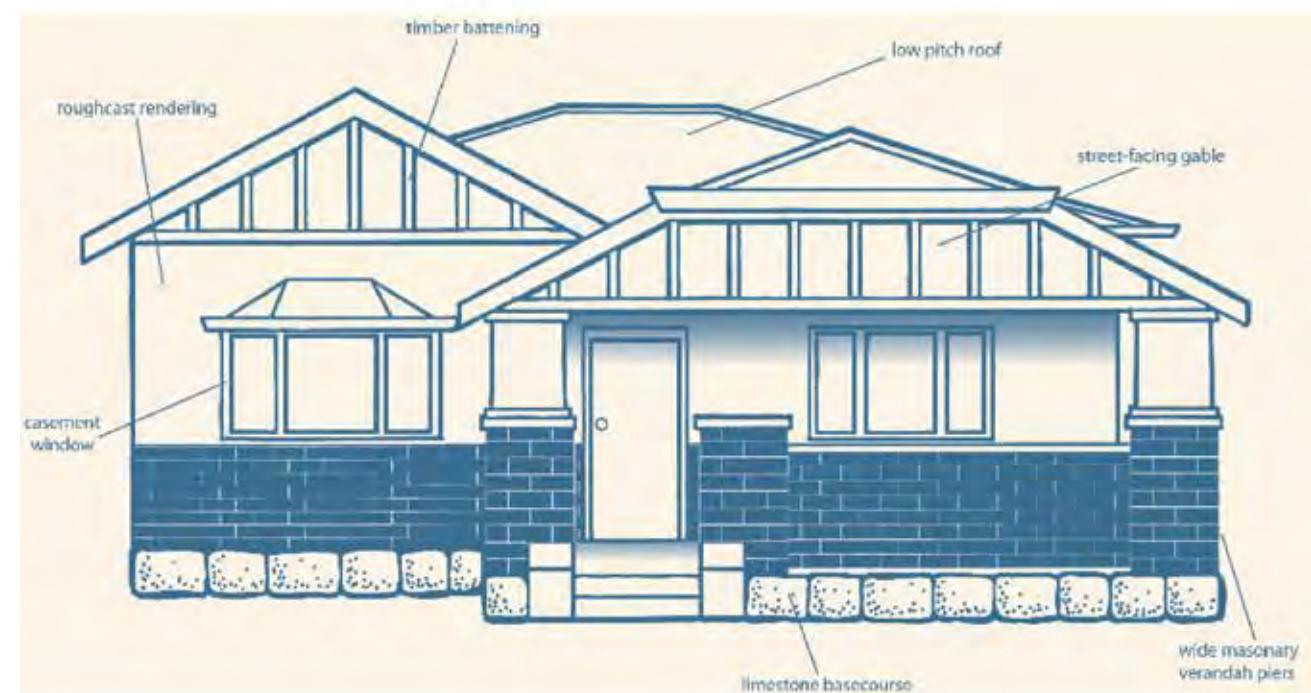
By 1905, the peak of the gold boom had passed but building continued at a steady pace, slowing during World War I and picking up again in the 1920s. In this period, government attention turned to public housing. In 1911, Perth had the highest rental costs compared to all Australian cities (Stannage, 1979, p. 246). In 1911, the Scaddan Labour government established the Workers' Homes Board (the forerunner to the State Housing Commission, now Housing Authority) to try and meet the housing needs for workers with limited means (who earned under £400 per annum) and ease the problem of limited supply (Sharp, 1993, p. 23).

After World War I, the Commonwealth also established the War Services Homes Board to provide homes for returned servicemen (Sharp, 1993). Workers and War Service Homes were erected all over the state including in the suburbs of Leederville, Mt Hawthorn and North Perth (The West Australian, 25 May 1939). The City's building surveyor's report for 1931 records the approval of timber dwellings on Lots 394 and 395 Birrell Street, and Lots 66 and 67 East Street Mt Hawthorn for the Workers Homes Board (Perth, Correspondence File, 62/1932, 13/1949 and 57/1938, 1932, 1938, 1949). Mt Hawthorn was also a popular location for war service homes after World War I. Victoria Cross recipient Thomas Leslie 'Jack' Axford lived in a War Service Home on Harrow Street, Mt Hawthorn from the 1920s until his death in 1983.



INTER-WAR CALIFORNIAN BUNGALOWS (1920s – 1945)

A popular housing style in the inter-war period was the Californian Bungalow. This style marked the advent of American influences in housing styles. The free-standing single storey bungalow was low slung, planned for a casual lifestyle and earthy in character embracing craftsman principles and natural materials and finishes (Irving, Apperly, & Reynolds, 1989, p. 206) The Californian Bungalow style is prevalent housing style in the Vincent area, particularly in the suburbs of Mt Hawthorn and North Perth.



Key characteristics:

- Free standing single storey houses with informal lawns and gardens.
- Earthy character often embracing natural materials and finishes.
- Low pitched roofs with horizontal lines and terracotta tiles.
- Exposed rafters and purlins projected from the roof.
- Brown brick, roughcast or pebble dash render or rendered walls painted in off-white, beige or cream colours.
- Heavily built veranda posts, often pylon shaped and tapered upwards from a wide base.
- Double hung or casement windows with panes in small rectangles or diamonds featuring Art Nouveau or arts and crafts patterned stained glass.
- Hallway dividing best rooms at the front and kitchen and laundry at rear.
- Timber panelled walls in dark timber to lower half of wall.
- High waisted timber doors, skirting boards, architraves in dark wood.
- Brown, olive, grey and cream wallpaper and Kalsomine paint.
- Peacock blue and deep pink upholstery, furnishings and carpets.

During the years of the Great Depression in the 1920s and early '30s, many local residents converted their homes into boarding houses or partly self-contained flats by adding a granny flat or kitchenette with gas stove to one or two rooms, with common use of a shared bathroom and laundry. George Finley, who lived at 310 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth with his family in the 1920s, built and lived in a granny flat at the rear of the property during the 1930s and 1940s after his family returned to London in search of better job opportunities during the Great Depression (Fraser, 2019).



57 Matlock Street Mount Hawthorn, 1946 (COV PH00923)



George Finley in his granny flat at the rear of 310 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth 1940s (COV PH05714)

FLATS

It was not until the mid-1930s that flats and apartments became a popular alternative to the traditional suburban house. Flats were attractive and more affordable housing option for single city workers or couples without children who wanted to live close to their workplaces and leisure activities in the city. However, flats were also viewed negatively with claims that they were responsible for falling birth rate and would turn residential areas into slums (Gregory & Gothard, Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia, 2009, p. 372).

In the inter-war period, higher density residential flats were developed in the Perth, Mt Lawley, West Perth and East Perth areas. Between the 1930s and 1960s, architect Harold Krantz,



Advertisement for the Fredora Flats, The West Australian, 19 November 1938

working in partnership later with Robert Sheldon, designed many flats in what became the Vincent area including the Fredora flats on the corner of Stirling and Parry Streets East Perth constructed in 1938 (The West Australian, 19 November 1938).

The Mayfair Flats at 83 Carr Street, West Perth, were designed by modernist architect W.G. Bennett in the Interwar Moderne style with art deco elements. The two-storey flats were built around 1936 at a time when 'flat life' and flat conversions were becoming more popular in Perth (Heritage Council, 2018). One of the early residents in Apartment 1 was Amedeo Re, the Fremantle-born and Italian-educated son of Sicilian merchant Giuseppe Re, patriarch of the Re family who went on to establish the long lived food import and retail business in the Perth area. From 1933 – 1940, Amedeo was employed as a clerk in the Perth offices of the Italian Vice-Consul. Re and his Italian born wife and children lived in Apartment 1 at 83 Carr Street until their hasty departure back to Italy to avoid potential internment during the war years which were fraught for many Italians in Western Australia. Amedeo and his family eventually returned to Perth where he recalled his early living arrangements in an interview: "The apartment house's name was Mayfair...in Carr Street. They were very nice apartments, only four. I was very happy there. We had a nice garden. We could move around and there was a garden at the front of the house. So the kids could play." (Re, 2007).

POST WAR HOUSING

Following World War II, the combined effects of demobilisation and the post-war baby and immigration boom that was part of the national drive to 'populate or perish', saw demand for housing at an all-time high. The housing shortages that existed prior to 1939 were exacerbated by the lack of home building during the war years and post-war shortages in building and construction materials (Sharp, 1993, p. 50). With demand outstripping supply, overcrowding was common as families, particularly migrant families, cohabited in homes that they adapted with makeshift extensions and divisions of existing dwellings.

Factories operated in residences, old stables and open sheds as a result of a shortage of suitable other premises or materials to build them. Perth City Council issued many orders in the late 1940s and early 1950s for the removal of timber outbuildings, or illegal additions, or prosecuted for unlawful conduct of a business in a strictly residential zone. Some of the inner-city suburbs experienced significant changes in their residential character as a result of the influx of European immigrants. Houses were renovated and remodelled in a style which has been referred to as 'immigrant nostalgia' meaning the recreation of styles reminiscent of architectural styles of features from the country of origin.

POST-WAR BUNGALOWS (1945 – 1960S)

Houses built after the post-war period represent a broad spectrum of diversity. While most of the original housing stock in Vincent's suburbs date from the early 1900s Federation era or inter-war period, in the post-war period, new modern styles of architecture sprang up in pockets throughout the suburbs in low lying areas where they had been no previous building (such as around Charles Veryard Reserve in North Perth) when older buildings were demolished or when blocks were subdivided to create additional lots. Today these 'mid-century' homes are having a stylistic resurgence and are inspiring new construction.



The Rubini family outside their home at 21 Wasley Street, Mount Lawley 1960 (COV PHO1360)

Key characteristics:

- Hipped, gabled roofs with a low lying gable of around 30 degrees.
- Flat roofs in more contemporary designs with Marseilles pattern roof tiles.
- Plain brick walls and chimneys with minimal exterior decorative elements.
- Asbestos cement sheeting for lining interior walls and ceilings.
- Double or triple room frontages.
- Plain timber or aluminium windows and prominent window walls.
- Open plan living areas with well-lit functional interiors incorporating space for appliances.
- Breakfast nooks and stools along an 'island bench' incorporated into the kitchen design.
- Cornices and ceiling panels featuring waves, zigzags, sunburst and stylised plant forms.
- Linoleum, cork, terrazzo, ceramic tiles and vinyl flooring.
- Use of plastic laminates, Laminex, Formica and bright easy care materials.
- Windows dressed with venetian blinds.



WATER

Early colonists relied on the limited and seasonal water supply from swamps, springs, lakes, rainwater tanks and groundwater wells. Drainage followed the natural lay of the land, often flooding lower lying areas. Accompanying the problem of finding water was the disposal of sewage, which ended up in cesspits contaminating the groundwater and causing public health problems such as typhoid. In 1878, the Surveyor General addressing a public meeting on the sanitary situation in Perth proclaimed that Perth's two great wants were "first, earth closets and, second, a supply of good water" (Stannage, 1979, p. 177).

The need for safe public water supply became more urgent as Perth's population increased rapidly in the late 1890s. However, there was disagreement between the colonial government and the various town councils about who was responsible for public water supply. In 1889, the Perth City Council signed a contract with Melbourne based private syndicate to build and operate a water supply scheme piped from a reservoir in the Darling Ranges to a service reservoir on Mt Eliza, Perth. The Victoria Dam opened in 1891 and the City of Perth Waterworks Company began a scheme to supply water to the Perth homes. As the city's population surged, the company struggled to keep up with demand. After widespread complaints, the service was taken over by the government run Metropolitan Water Works Board in 1896 (Frost, 2016, p. 38 – 40).



Figure: Map of Perth town site, 1875 (State Records Office: Cons 3868 Item 289)

In this period, the Government's priority was development of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme. While investment in the urban water supply and sanitary services was limited, water rates were increased (to 2 shillings per 1000 gallons, double the cost of water in Melbourne or Sydney) to fund improvements to the quality of quantity of water supply. The Board made improvements to water purification, extended mains, increased in the size of catchment reservoirs and drilled artesian bores throughout the metro area to supplement the water supply with groundwater from the Leederville Aquifer. A series of pumping stations were established, including the Loftus Street Pumping Station on the corner of Newcastle and Loftus Street constructed in 1906 (City of Vincent, 2007). Demand for water outstripped supply and shortages continued throughout the inter-war period. The construction of the Canning Dam in the 1930s using the Sustenance Relief Scheme labour facilitated a reliable water supply for Perth into the 1940s and 1950s.

Management of wastewater gradually evolved from cesspits, to twice weekly collection of 'night soil' from back lanes to septic tanks and finally to sewers transporting the waste to a treatment plant. From 1894, Perth City Council provided a twice-weekly pan service with 'night soil' carted to a depot at Reserve 884 (the present day site of Beatty Park) and Reserve 954 (near

Walcott Street). Construction of Perth's sewerage main began in 1906 and by the end of 1910 almost 500km of sewerage pipes had been laid (Frost, 2016). The historic plans drafted to guide installation of Perth's sewerage system are a valuable historic resource available via Retromaps (State Records Office, 2020) The Claisebrook Sewage Treatment Works, established from 1906 on Burswood Island opposite Claise Brook

(now the site of Optus Stadium), treated the raw sewage with bacteria in filter beds before discharging into the Swan River (InHerit, 2006). Complaints about the smell, pollution and the algae in the river led to the eventual construction in 1926 of the Sewerage Treatment Works in Subiaco, with an ocean outfall. The Claise Brook sewage treatment site was closed by 1936 (Lund, 1996).



Water Supply, Sewerage & Drainage Dept Workers outside the pumping station and depot on the corner of Newcastle & Loftus Streets, Leederville 1912 (COV PH0084)

LINCOLN STREET VENTILATION STACK

In 1941, the Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Department erected a 38 metre tower to vent acidic fumes from the Perth sewerage system into the air to prevent corrosion of pipes. However, the polluted air did not vent upwards but dispersed through the system leading local residents to complain of unpleasant smells. Residents jokingly called it a 'monument to Hitler' because of the stench. After only four weeks of operation, the sewer connection was cemented over and rendered non-functional. The art deco style tower, built by the Public Works Department under direction of Chief Engineer Russell Dumas, came to be known locally as 'Dumas' Folly.' During World War II, the tower was used by police for their central wireless antennae and by the Commonwealth Department of Defence as a secret communications centre. In 1952 the chamber room at the base of the tower was converted to a laboratory for the chemical analysis of sewerage. By the 1960s and 1970s, plastic-lined pipes were installed and the sewerage system was completely sealed. The tower continued to be used as an antenna mast for police wireless communications until 1975. It was State Heritage listed in 2007 (State Heritage Place 03137).

By 1947, two thirds of Perth homes were connected to a sewer, the remainder still used septic tanks or a pan system (Frost, 2016, p. 43). Almost all homes in Perth had running water, although working class houses were often limited to one tap in

the combined bathroom-washhouse from which residents carried water in and out of the main house. Over the next decades, older homes were retrofitted with indoor plumbing and new homes were built with more elaborate plumbing to accommodate labour saving appliances such as washing machines.

Suburban and industrial expansion in the post-war period, coupled with high temperatures and post-war power shortages which put some pumping stations out of order, led to sporadic water restrictions throughout the 1950s. In response, the State Government encouraged installation of private bores to reduce the demand on scheme water and it initiated the damming of the Serpentine River (completed in 1961) to help increase metropolitan water supply. In the 1960s, dams still supplied 88 per cent of Perth's water. The remaining 12 per cent came from groundwater supplies. By the 1970s, the state government took actions to conserve water through restrictions and education programs and turned increasingly to groundwater to supply Perth's water (Water Corporation, 2023). By the 1980s, only 65 per cent of Perth's water came from dams with the remainder from groundwater. Since then, Perth's water supply has become increasingly diversified with construction of two seawater desalination plants in Kwinana (2005) and Binningup (2011) and development of systems for aquifer recharge with treated wastewater from 2011. Today, water supplied to homes in the Vincent area derives from varied sources: 35 per cent desalination, 36 per cent groundwater, 26 per cent dams and 1 per cent groundwater replenishment (Water Corporation, 2023).

Leederville has a special connection to water supply and management in the state for two reasons. It gives its name to the aquifer which supplies much of Perth's groundwater (Department of Water, 2017). Secondly, the John Tonkin Water Centre built on Newcastle Street Leederville, in 1972 is the headquarters of the Water Corporation which manages the state's water resources. The site has had a continued association with water management in Perth since the early 1900s when it was the location for the former the Metropolitan Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage Board pump station, maintenance sheds and depot storage (City of Vincent, 2007).



Lincoln Street Ventilation Tower, 2001 (COV PH05725)

POWER

The earliest sources of power for lighting and heating in colonial times were wood, whale oil, kerosene and xanthorrhoea resin extracted from grass trees (Boylen & McIlwraith, 1994). The first larger scale power supply in Perth was gas made from coal. The Perth Gas Company was a private company (with shareholders including the Mayor of Perth George Shenton) won a contract with the Perth City Council to supply gas to streets, businesses and residents in the late 1880s. By 1889, there were over one hundred gas lamps in the city as far north as Brisbane Street and west as Colin Street (Stannage, 1979, p. 282).

At a time when other cities around Australia were developing electricity infrastructure, Perth remained dependent on gas and was slow to electrify. After protracted negotiations in the 1890s, Perth Gas Company ended up with both power monopolies for the City of Perth – gas and electricity. Most of Perth's first suburbs took their power from the Perth Gas Company and later the Perth City Council which acquired the company and its monopoly over the area within a 5 mile (8 km) radius of the centre of the city (Boylen & McIlwraith, 1994).

The growth of new suburbs such as Leederville hastened the development of electricity in Perth as they provided a fresh marketplace where gas infrastructure was not already entrenched, the new suburbs were filled with new arrivals from the eastern states used to the convenience of electricity, and their growth was tied to new electric tram routes (Boylen & McIlwraith, 1994, p. 25). In 1905, the Perth Gas Company provided electricity to the Leederville Hotel, the first building in the area to electrify. A new era of progress and prosperity for the district was ushered in when the Leederville mayor flicked the light switch on at the hotel's grand re-opening in January 1905 (The West Australian, 3 January 1905).

The switch from gas to electricity was piecemeal over several decades in Perth delayed by protracted commercial and political negotiations (Layman, 2011). The West Australian Government and Perth City Council each bought up various utility companies and, after much negotiation, they merged their interests to plan a central, large-scale power station supplying the entire metropolitan area. With easy access to coal and water through the adjacent railway and Swan River, the East Perth site was ideal. Construction began in 1914 and by 1916, Australia's first state-owned, public power station began operation.

EAST PERTH POWER STATION

STATE HERITAGE PLACE 03318

East Perth Power Station played a vital role in the economic development of the state from the 1920s to the 1950s by generating cheap, reliable power for homes and local industry. The location was chosen because it was central to the metropolitan area, close to the railway line to enable coal deliveries and close to the Swan River to facilitate cooling systems. Work began on the Power Station in 1913 initially built to the 40 Hertz system, which differed from the 50 Hertz Australian standard (the system was later converted to the 50 Hertz in the 1950s). The power station played an important role as a major employer in working class East Perth, and it fed Perth's growing appetite for electricity in the inter-war period. The station was extended in 1939 to facilitate greater power generation and got through World War II with no serious supply failures. However, coal strikes and faltering

systems in the post-war period led the state government to scope and develop alternative power supplies and systems. East Perth Power Station generated all of Perth's power until 1951, when the larger South Fremantle Power Station opened. The East Perth Power Station continued operating but was not as vital to metropolitan and state power supplies. Following its closure in 1981, it was classified by the National Trust in 1997 and included on the Vincent Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1999. In the early 2000s, researchers at Murdoch University led a project to collect stories from former workers and local residents about the history and impact of the East Perth Power Station (Layman, 2011). It was State Heritage listed in 2016 and was recognised for its social, historic, aesthetic and scientific heritage values.



East Perth Power Station, 1936 (COV PHO1929)

In homes, the uptake of electricity in Perth homes in the first few decades of the 20th century had been mainly for lighting. Gas and wood remained an important source of power for cooking and heating. According to the 1947 Census, less than 2 per cent of Perth households used electricity for cooking, 38 per cent cooked on gas stoves and 58 per cent cooked on wood or coke (coal) stoves (Commonwealth Census of Australia, 1947). Gas has remained an important part of Perth's domestic power landscape in the inter-war period. The East Perth gasworks were built in Trafalgar Road East Perth in 1924 built on the site of the earlier Perth Gas Company plant. In the 1930s, stove manufacturers heavily marketed gas cookers to Perth housewives arguing they were "one of the essentials of the modern kitchen" and offering easy hire purchase plans (The Sunday Times, 6 March 1927).

Up until the 1950s and 1960s, wood continued to be an important fuel source for domestic homes in the Perth area. There were wood yards and fuel merchants throughout the Perth and Vincent area including: Charles Brittain at 60 Coogee Street Mt Hawthorn, Jack Napier at 494 Charles Street, North Perth. and two generations of the Bryant family with Richard Bryant in Duke (later Aberdeen Street) West Perth and Jack Bryant at 125 – 7 Buxton Street, Mt Hawthorn. Local residents recall the importance of the wood supply to fuel their stoves for cooking and copper boilers for washing day:

"There were no electrical gadgets. I remember mum – she had five kids – and when she got her first washing machine I would have been about 12, so that would have been back in the early '50s. So she had four or five kids at that stage before she got a washing machine. Before that it was all the boilers, the copper and the hand wringer and the two troughs and all that sort of thing. The stoves were all and the heating was all wood, we had open fireplaces both in the lounge and the living room... The hot water was all those paper burners, chip burners. That was the only hot water we had in the place because your stove was on all the time so you just put the big pot on for hot water for anything. So yes, electricity really wasn't used for anything except probably towards the end. I think, we might have had a hot water system in the kitchen, just one of those instant ones, and the fridge. They were about the only electrical appliances." (interview with Keith Ingram, 2007)

By the 1960s, electricity had become an unremarkable essential commodity in domestic homes powering refrigerators, televisions and washing machines. The rapid post-war growth in demand and spread of the electricity grid beyond metropolitan area led to commissioning of fuel sources other than coal to provide electricity. The Kwinana Oil Refinery was established in 1954 and natural gas from Dongara was piped to Perth in the early 1970s, the same time the East Perth gasworks was closed. Gas continued to be a major source of power with the development of the North West Shelf in the 1980s. From 1945 to 2006, the State's power generation and distribution was managed by the State Electricity Commission (later known as State Energy Commission of WA). Since 2006, power generation and distribution in Western Australia has been managed by different state owned companies such as Western Power, Synergy, Alinta, Verve and Horizon Power.



Jannetje Freese in the kitchen of 228 Anzac Road Mount Hawthorn with gas stove, c 1930 (COV PHO2041)



Bryant family children on the Bryant wood yard delivery truck on Buxton Street Mount Hawthorn, 1942. (COV PHO5260)

ROADS

Roads are vital for the exchange of ideas and goods. For thousands of years, Noongar people followed key 'bidi' or tracks in the area connecting Noongar people between camps and other places of residence to specific areas along the river and wetlands to hunt and conduct ceremonial and cultural business (Grey, 1841).

For many decades after colonisation, the Swan River remained the most effective transport link. Unpaved sandy roads and rough bush tracks were the only routes into Perth for outlying colonists who would walk or use horse drawn drays to travel to and from Perth. Some basic road construction was carried out by convict labour in the 1850s and 1860s, but most road works in the Vincent area were not undertaken until the 1890s.

From the 1870s, responsibility for road construction and maintenance lay with local road boards under the Municipalities and Local Roads Boards Act 1871. Local councils had jurisdiction over roads, drains, public buildings, ponds, fences and sanitation. As the name suggests, the most important task of the boards was to construct and maintain roads.

Early roads in the wider Perth area were managed by the Perth District Road Board whose limited revenue was reflected in the lack of road construction for many decades. In 1895, the Leederville Road Board was gazetted and in 1899 the North Perth Roads Board formed to help

progress development of services and basic infrastructure including roads in their burgeoning residential and commercial areas. In this period, many roads were financed by private citizens and land developers.

From around the early 1900s, some tracks were block paved with circular blocks of wood sawn from the trunks of trees felled by the wayside. Important thoroughfares in and out of the city, such as Fitzgerald and Beaufort Streets were top-dressed with gravel from the late 1870s and later macadamised to carry tram lines. By 1900, Wanneroo Road, a major thoroughfare that connected Perth to the market gardens and dairy farms scattered along its length up to the Wanneroo area had been block paved with timber as far as the 14 mile peg, roughly 20km from the CBD (The West Australian, 4 November 1944). The stretch of Wanneroo Road from Vincent Street to Walcott Street was renamed Charles Street in 1901, named for Captain Charles Fitzgerald the former Governor of Western Australia from 1848 – 1855.

Many of the streets in the early estates established in the Vincent area in the 1890s were owned and maintained by the developers and had been named by them. In the mid-to-late 1890s, the Perth City Council took over control spurring a flurry of street renaming and introduction of numbering for houses and other buildings. Street names were standardised so that the same street passing through a number of estates had the same name for its whole length, or at least most of it. For example,

in 1897, the street known as William Street in the city and Hutt Street immediately north of the railway line, became William Street along its entire length. (Stannage, 1979, p. 289). The consolidation of the inner suburban local governments of Leederville and North Perth into the Perth City Council in 1914 also saw another burst of street re-naming in an effort to remove duplication of street names within the Perth area.

The construction of the Perth electric tram network in the early 1900s hastened road improvements in the Vincent area. Before the tramlines could be laid, roads had to be prepared to provide a firm base for tracks. While many roads in the Perth and Vincent area were gravelled, some such as North Beach Road (renamed Scarborough Beach Road from 1947) were constructed from jarrah planks laid on sand, across which the tram lines were run like railway tracks over sleepers. This early construction method can be glimpsed and felt today on the ridged patch of Scarborough Beach Road near the intersection of Green Street in Mt Hawthorn.

Horse drawn transport remained common on Perth roads up until and beyond the 1920s. While the first motor car arrived in Perth in 1894, it was not until after World War I that cars became a more common presence on Perth streets. In 1918, there were 2538 motor vehicles in Western Australia. A decade later in 1927, there were 25,270 – 10 times as many (Edmonds L., The Vital Link, A History of Main Roads Western Australia, 1997). The increase in motor vehicles changed the standards expected for major

roads. While new motor vehicles could drive on almost any road a horse and cart could travel, they were most efficient on good, smooth roads.

Cars increased the demand for macadamised (gravelled and compacted) roads and the need for better management and funding of road construction and maintenance. The Main Roads Board was established in 1926 funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments to upgrade and extend Western Australia's roads and bridges. Its headquarters were in Marquis Street, West Perth, with district offices throughout the state (Main Roads WA, 2023). During the Great Depression, the Main Roads Act came into effect established the Main Roads Department which provided sustenance work in road construction throughout the 1930s.

More cars on the road posed major problems streets not designed for heavy traffic flows. Loftus Street was partly widened in 1926 to relieve pressure on Charles Street which had been carrying the majority of through traffic at this time. In 1940, Loftus Street was able to take more through traffic by extending Green Street to Charles Street, and London Street to Wanneroo Road (City of Perth, 1952). Traffic pressure on Charles Street continued with Perth City Council concerned that new buildings were being constructed too close to the roadway to enable future widening. In 1941, a building line was declared and new shops were set back 10 feet, and new residences 30 feet, on the eastern side of the street.



Road building across Smith's Lake linking Bourke & Charles Streets, North Perth October 1939. (SLWA 226486PD)



Construction of Mitchell Freeway extension at Leederville Parade, 1975 (COV PHO2577)

In the post-war period, the car became even more prevalent and funding and support for Main Roads increased further to meet demand. In the 1950s, the Plan for Metropolitan Region, Perth and Fremantle 1955 (commonly referred to as the 'Stephenson Plan' after one of its authors Professor Gordon Stephenson) proposed a vastly extended road network to cope with the future growth of Perth. Among the new proposed highways to make travel around Perth faster and more efficient was the road connecting the Narrows Bridge (completed in 1959) to the north side of Perth. It was initially called the Western Switch Road and renamed the Mitchell Freeway (after former WA State Premier and Governor Sir James Mitchell) in 1963. The work proceeded in stages throughout the late 1960s and early 1970s. The first extension of the Mitchell Freeway which took the freeway to Vincent Street and split the suburb of Leederville in two began in 1974 and opened to traffic in March 1976. The extension significantly altered the townscapes of Leederville and West Perth with residential and industrial buildings demolished and streets cut off on both sides of the freeway path (Edmonds L., *The Vital Link: A History of Main Roads Western Australia*, 1997, p. 259 – 261).

Decades later another major road construction project impacted on the suburbs of Northbridge, East Perth and Perth. Construction began on the Graham Farmer Freeway in the 1990s and officially opened in April 2000. The east-west bypass of Perth's central business district comprised of the freeway itself, the Northbridge Tunnel and the Windan Bridge. The freeway was named after high profile football star of the 1950s – 1970s Graham 'Polly' Farmer, who began his career with the East Perth Football Club. The construction of the Graham Farmer Freeway and resulted in road widening and upgrading of Loftus Street as a major access road to the new traffic system. It further cut the East Perth area into northern and southern areas.

The northern part came under the jurisdiction of Vincent, which was formed as a new Council after the de-merger of Perth City Council in 1994 (Gregory, *City of Light: a history of Perth since the 1950s*, 2003, p. 317).



The former East Perth Locomotive Depot (Rail History Association Image) 1960s. (Railheritagewa.org.au)

TRANSPORT

Roads are vital for the exchange of ideas. While the reliance on roads and vehicle transport has shaped much of the present day Vincent area, the historic development of public transport networks was an important driver for development of the Vincent suburbs in times past.

The construction and completion of the Fremantle to Guildford railway line in 1881 was a major spur for development north of the city. The railway construction moved the focus of the city away from the Swan River which has been the primary transport artery, and encouraged settlement to the immediate west, north and east. While the railway line initially cut Perth in half, the completion of the Barrack Street Bridge in 1894, followed by the Horseshoe Bridge across William Street in 1903, reconnected the northern and southern sections of Perth and facilitated development to the north (Stannage, 1979, p. 289).

In 1917, the WA Government Railways established the East Perth Locomotive Depot (known as the 'East Perth loco sheds') along Summers Street which remained in operation until the end of the steam railway era in the early 1970s. The depot accommodated a power house, steel tanks, engine sheds and railway lines. Its location was an important factor in the development of the nearby East Perth Power Station (which required easy access to rail shipped coal). The depot also served as a major spur for residential housing for the workers and the development of commerce and services to local residents and visitors.

After the closure of the East Perth Locomotive Depot in the 1970s, the site continued to be an important part of Perth's metropolitan and regional transport network. In 1970, the Indian Pacific, which travels from Sydney to Perth via Adelaide, made its inaugural stop at the East

Perth Loco Depot on the 26 February 1970 after completion of the gauge conversion projects which enabled cross continental rail journeys without switching gauge. In 1976, the Westrail Centre (later called the Public Transport Centre) was built to serve as the passenger terminal and administration headquarters for Westrail. The five storey landmark building was designed by architectural firm Forbes and Fitzhardinge in the late 20th century brutalist style. The building won awards for interior architecture and was included in the City of Vincent's Municipal Inventory in 1995 and classified by the National Trust in 1996 (State Heritage, 2018).

Electric trams and trolley buses provided another major impetus for residential and commercial development in the Vincent area in the first half of the 20th century. The Tramways Act 1885 gave any municipality the power to authorise construction and maintenance of street tramways within its boundaries (Culpeffer-Cooke, Gunzburg, & Pleydell, 2010). A privately owned London-based company, Perth Electric Tramways Ltd entered into contracts with various councils to develop and construct the first tramway routes in and around Perth.

The first tram service in Perth began on 28 September 1899 travelling from East to West Perth. On 2 October 1900, the first tram route to the north of the city commenced from the Esplanade via Barrack and Beaufort Street to Bulwer Street and Walcott Street. The Leederville line, a single track branch off Beaufort Street which travelled west along Newcastle Street to Loftus Street opened on 23 January 1901 with further extensions to Oxford Street in August, and Government Road (later called Anzac Road) in December 1901. The North Perth line, extending the Bulwer Street line via Fitzgerald Street to Forrest Street, opened on 6 December 1906. The North Perth tram line was extended to Angove St in 1910, and to the Charles St terminus in 1929. The Mt Lawley – North Perth line was opening on 21 March 1910 as a single track extension of the Highgate line west along Walcott Street to York Street (Culpeffer-Cooke, Gunzburg, & Pleydell, 2010, p. 49).



Arrival of the Indian Pacific at the East Perth Railway Terminal, 26 February 1970.



Public Transport Centre, West Parade Perth, 2016

The development of a comprehensive tramway network allowed the workers to travel quickly and easily to their place of employment from suburbs such as Leederville, North Perth and Mt Lawley. Proximity to the tram network was a major selling point in real estate subdivision advertisements spruiked by various developers.

Just before World War I, the State Government bought the tramways and operated the Tramways Branch as part of the WA Government Railways (WAGR). The oldest lines were rehabilitated and new lines were constructed to South Perth, Claremont and Maylands. In the 1920s, private bus services such as the Scarborough Bus Company

were in stiff competition with the State-run trams. The Scarborough Bus Company began service in 1927 as a result of a private petition arising from the State Government's refusal to continue buses beyond Osborne Park. Its headquarters were on the corner of Brady Street and North Beach Road (later Scarborough Beach Road) and it offered several daily services to Scarborough which were especially popular in the summer months. (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 106 – 107). Other private companies included the Victoria Bus Service (which ran through West Perth along Charles Street and Wanneroo Road into North Perth) and the Daffodil Motor Service which ran from Perth to Mt Hawthorn.



North Perth children celebrating the extension of the tramway on Fitzgerald Street North Perth, 19 December 1906 (COV PH06521)

The WAGR responded by bringing in electric trolley buses which relied on fixed overhead power supplies but offered more flexibility than trams in routing. The first trolley bus service opened in October 1933 servicing East Perth to West Leederville.

Passenger numbers for trams and trolley buses increased during World War II hastened by the introduction of private fuel rationing. To cope with demand for public transport, the Tramways Branch introduced motor bus services to supplement the trams and trolley bus services. After the war years, there was a transition from trams and trolley buses to trains and buses. Trams stopped running to Mt Hawthorn and were replaced by trolley buses in 1952. Trams to Mt Lawley were replaced by motor buses in 1953. The remaining Newcastle Street and William Street tram sections also closed in 1953 leaving only the Subiaco, Inglewood and North Perth Tram lines open. The last number 22 North Perth tram rattled down Angove Street on 1 February 1958 (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 176). In 1962, the Scarborough Bus Service also stopped operating in the Mt Hawthorn/Joondanna area after the company was bought out by the Metropolitan Perth Passenger Transport Trust (MPTT). The trolley buses operating in the Mt Hawthorn area transitioned to motor buses in 1963 and the last East Perth trolley buses stopped service in 1969 (Culpeffer-Cooke, Gunzburg, & Pleydell, 2010, p. 278).



Trolley bus travelling east along Newcastle Street Leederville, 1959 (COV PHO3148)

The 1970s saw the further consolidation of car culture in Perth with the closure of the Fremantle-Perth railway in 1979. After public backlash and a change in government, the line reopened in 1983 and trains were converted to electric in 1986. Passenger numbers increased and new suburban railway lines were opened in subsequent years with the opening of the Perth to Joondalup line in 1992 and the Perth to Mandurah line in 2007. (Bolton G., 2008, p. 177). In December 1992, a new railway station was constructed in Leederville at the southern end of Oxford Street in the median strip of the Mitchell Freeway. The platforms were extended and in 2012 a double ended turn back siding was opened to improve resilience of the Transperth network during service disruptions (PTA, 2011 – 12).

Cars remain the dominant form of transport in the Perth and Vincent areas. While there have been various proposals for integration of light rail or 'trackless trams' on major arteries such as Fitzgerald Street (City of Vincent, 2012), the State Government has prioritised renewed investment in rail infrastructure connecting Perth to outer metropolitan areas through its METRONET program since 2017 (Govt of Western Australia, 2023). At a local level, initiatives relating to active transport and take up of private electric vehicles have taken priority. Whether public transport in the inner suburbs of Perth comes full circle back to trams, as has been proposed in various research and planning papers, remains to be seen (Scheurer, 2020).



The last tram in Angove Street, North Perth, 1 February 1958 (COV PHO1055)

COMMUNICATIONS

The movement and sharing of information in a place as remote as Western Australia was once completely dependent on transport networks. In early colonial times, communications were slow and irregular with mail transported on ships to Albany then carried overland to Perth. Until Federation in 1901, postal services were regulated by the WA Governor who appointed postal officials and issued stamps.

Perth's first General Post Office opened on St Georges Terrace in August 1890. Post offices and outlets in the Vincent are followed soon after. The Brisbane Street Post Office was built in 1896 in a distinctive 'arts and crafts' style designed by Public Works Department Chief Architect George Temple Poole. The building incorporated a residence for the post master or post mistress as was frequently the case given that postal services were one of few socially accepted employment roles for women in that time. It was originally called the North Perth Post Office but was renamed in 1897 when the Perth North-West Post Office (later known as Northbridge Post Office) was built on the corner of Aberdeen and Brisbane Streets. It operated as a post office for decades until (date) when the building was sold and converted to commercial premises in 1994. It was classified by the National Trust in 1994.

LEEDERVILLE POST OFFICE

HERITAGE PLACE NUMBER 02203

In 1897, the Leederville Post Office on the corner of Vincent and Oxford Streets was built to a similar design under the direction of Public Works Department Chief Architect John Harry Grainger. The foundation stone, made from Meckering granite, was laid by the Minister for Posts & Telegraphs Edward Wittenoom on 3 May 1897. A time capsule lead box containing, current newspapers, a Government Gazette, Year Book, postage stamps and working drawings of the building, was placed behind the stone. In 1999, the contents of which were unearthed and donated to the Vincent Local History Collection. In the early years of operation, the Post Office looked like a house with chimneys and open fireplaces. Over the years, the building was altered with the post office extending into the residential section as the district developed. Mail and telegrams were delivered twice daily by postmen and telegram boys on push bikes covering a large area. Telegram messenger Les Beckham recalls:

"We had an enormous territory to cover: Loftus Street/London Street right down to the bottom end of Joondanna where Dog Swamp is right across through to Main Street, down where Glendalough is where the Little Sisters' of the Poor place is, Anzac Road and all in that general area, Mt Hawthorn..." (oral history with Les Beckham, City of Vincent Local History Collection OH124)

Postal services operated until the 1990s when Leederville's postal requirements eventually outgrew the building and a new postal facility was provided in a new building adjacent at 288 Vincent Street. The building was heritage-listed on the Municipal Inventory and State Register in 1995 noted for its significant position in the Leederville streetscape and social and historic value as a communication hub in Leederville during its years of operation (Place Number 02203). It has since been used for various commercial purposes including as a cafe and restaurant (Heritage Council, 2018).



As North Perth was still developing as a suburb in the early 1900s, it did not have the residential or commercial density to justify the establishment of an official post office. Instead, postal services were offered at agencies in local shops. North Perth got its own postal and telegraph service (in the form of a receiving or allowance office) from a shop on the corner of Angove and Parker (later Woodville) Streets in 1902. The first postmistress, Miss Elizabeth Watson, also ran the corner shop which served as a hub for exchange of information and goods and also as a contact point for medical support or locating people or employment in the early days of North Perth.

In 1916, North Perth got its first official Post Office on the corner of Leake and View Streets, opposite the North Perth Town Hall (Owen, 1958) (Heritage Council of WA, 1998). The North Perth Post Office operated until 1996 when a new office opened on the corner of View and Fitzgerald Streets, closer to the main business and shopping area. The original building became an Australia Post administrative centre and was heritage-listed in 1998. See North Perth Post Office (Heritage Place Number 02215).



ECONOMY

AGRICULTURE

As previously highlighted, the Vincent area sits in a wetland chain that, from colonial times, provided freshwater for farms and market gardens. Early farmers in the area such as William Leeder and John Smith kept poultry, dairy cattle and farmed vegetables on the margins of Lake Monger and Smith's Lake. From the 1850s – 1870s, the arrival of convicts helped drain and reclaim some of Perth's wetland areas for use as market gardens to feed Perth's growing population. The lakes, swamps or former swamps provided fertile peat soils and easy access to the water table suited to intensive small, scale agriculture (Atkinson, Chinese Market Gardens in the Perth Metropolitan Region 1900 – 1920, 1984, p. 39).

By the 1870s, Perth was surrounded by gardens which fanned out around the central business area taking in the gardens of James Leeder on Monger's Lake, Richard Gallop's market, orchard and vineyard near today's Brisbane Street and Joseph Gallop's market garden on Cowle Street, West Perth (No. 54 Lot Y207) where he grew vegetables on the drained land that had been Boojoormelup/Henderson's Lake (now Dorrien Gardens). In the 1880s, commercial vegetable growing in Perth was the domain of European settlers, many of whom were large landowners who employed seasonal labour. This began to change in the 1890s with increasing numbers of Chinese labourers working in metropolitan gardens.

By the early 1900s, the labour intensive small scale cultivation of vegetables and fruits for the local Perth market was dominated by Chinese market gardeners. Many of the gardeners were

from the rice, fruit and vegetable growing Chinese province of Guangdong and were familiar with small scale, labour intensive agricultural practices. Due to the Immigration Restriction Act 1901, people of Chinese origin already in Australia (who were predominantly single or unaccompanied men) could not bring their families out, nor could they own land outright as land ownership was restricted to British subjects or aliens whose governments had reciprocal agreements with the British government. Most Chinese market gardeners in the Vincent area leased their land and farmed cooperatively with other Chinese men in groups of two to 10 (Atkinson, Chinese Labour and Capital in Western Australia, 1847 – 1947, 1991, p. 42). Chinese market gardeners sold their produce door to door from horse drawn carts. They continued to do so after the opening of the Perth City Markets in 1897 as council by-laws initially prohibited Chinese people from renting stalls.

Chinese gardeners were later able to sell their produce in Perth markets, although restrictions on selling produce to government agencies continued (WA Museum, ECU: Landgate, 2023).

In 1899, the Western Australian Post Office Directory listed Chinese Gardens on Bourke Street between Oxford Street and Monger's Lake. By the early 1900s, market gardens began to appear throughout Leederville including on Oxford, Newcastle and Vincent Streets. The smaller streets off Oxford Street including Muriel Place, Bouverie Place and St Johns Road (which was later renamed Bennelong Place) all had Chinese gardens, many of which operated until the 1930s.



Wing On with delivery horse and cart and local children
Clayton Brennan and Craig in Mount Lawley, 1947.
(COV PHO1079)

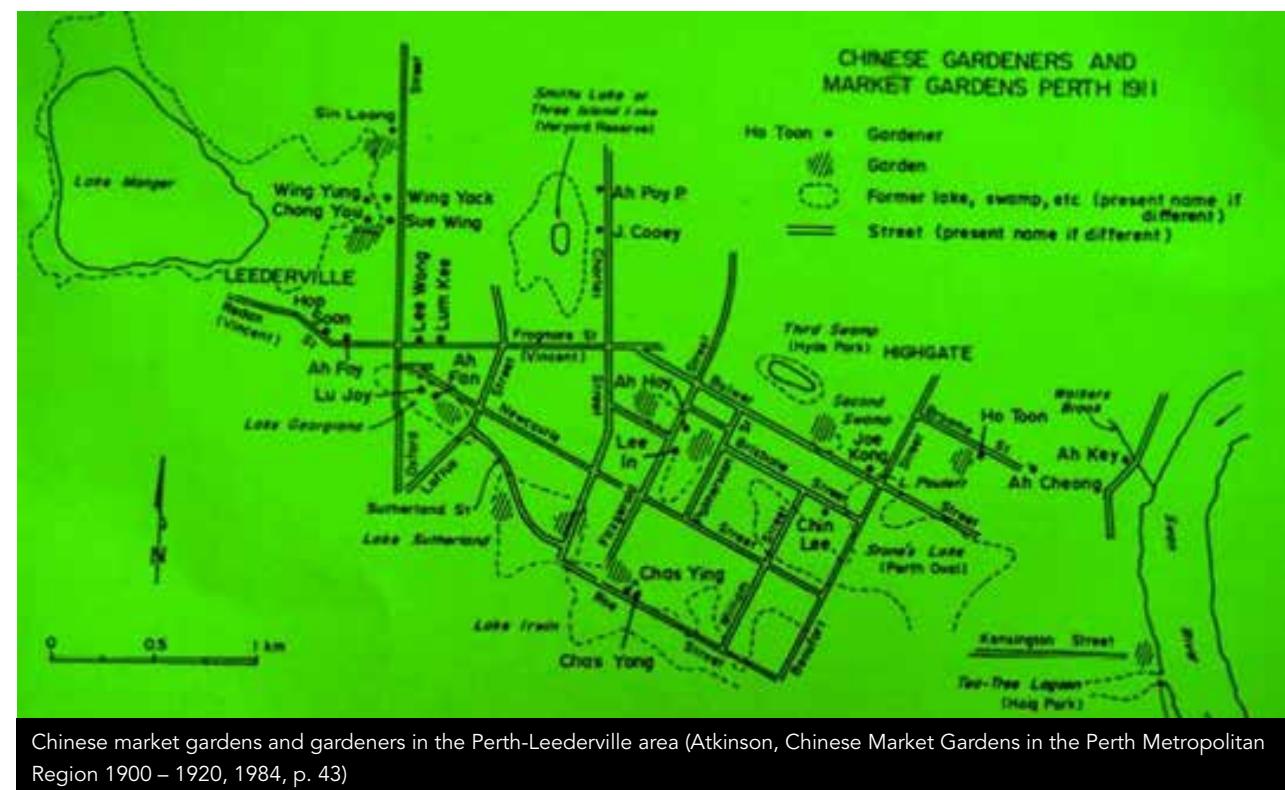
Anti-Chinese policies and sentiments had often impacted on their lives and livelihoods. Some local residents were against the traditional Chinese methods of gardening and tried to close them down. In 1910, the Australian Natives Association suggested to the Perth City Council to implement a compulsory government purchase of all Chinese gardens in Perth. The idea was dropped following a change in government, but the notion persisted.

By 1928, there were still 13 Chinese market gardeners listed in Leederville and North Perth areas who were the subject of intense scrutiny by the Australian Natives Association who regularly petitioned Perth City Council for removal of Chinese tenants and 'shanties' around the gardens under the Health Act (Perth City Council, 4 February 1929). In 1928, the Leederville Progress Association argued the Chinese gardens should be resumed because the "progress of that part of the district was being retarded owing to the presence of these gardens, which are considered to be a menace" (The Mirror, 26 January 1929).

Gradually as demand for land for buildings and parks grew, the Chinese market gardeners were pushed out of the Leederville and North Perth area. Their wares and services were increasingly replaced by southern Europeans who established market gardens in outlying areas.

such as Spearwood and Wanneroo. Technological changes such as irrigation systems and fertilisers meant that more marginal land could be used for growing food. There were few Chinese gardeners left in the Vincent area by the 1950s. The continued development of Leederville, hastened by infrastructure building for the 1962 Empire Games and the construction of the Mitchell Freeway, contributed to the decline in land available for market gardening.

Today, the early Chinese presence and the gardeners' influence on the development of areas in Leederville and North Perth lives on in the stories and recollections of former residents immortalised in the 'speaking rock' at Smith's Lake Reserve on Kayle Street North Perth which highlights the presence of Chinese market gardens in the Vincent area.



MANUFACTURING

Prior to the population boom of the 1890s, there was little manufacturing activity in Western Australia beyond cottage industries such as milling flour, saw milling, brick making, tanning, brewing and wine-making (Menck, 2022, p. 29). With the influx of people and capital in the 1890s, a wider range of manufacturing companies were established or expanded, often protected by import tariffs on interstate goods. When these tariffs were gradually removed after Federation, the local manufacturers who survived and thrived were those processing local primary produce for exports or factories producing goods with high transport costs, such as building materials. By World War I, there were over 990 factories in the state employing 19,000 workers. Many of these factories were located in and around central Perth and its inner suburbs which today make up the Vincent area.

East Perth was a particular hub for commercial manufacturing and light industry attracted to the East Perth area, because of its proximity to Perth, distance from residential areas, and access to water and the Claisebrook drain (Gregory, *Obliterating History: The Transformation of Inner City Industrial Suburbs*, 2008). From as early as the 1850s, noxious industries, such as the government slaughterhouse, tanneries, soap works, laundries, sawmills and foundries were established in the area (Stannage, 1979). The building of the railway in the late 1880s further spurred industrial development in the area. Over the next half century, East Perth was home to timber yards, brickworks, a tram and loco depot and all kinds of factories alongside smaller businesses like dressmakers and commercial laundries. The East Perth Power Station, which operated from 1916 to 1981, was a key industrial site in the area as was the East Perth Gasworks. By the 1960s, many of East Perth's factories had

moved to new light industrial areas on Perth's outskirts. Site specific factories such concrete batching plants remained, but even these are now being relocated to make way for inner-city residential developments.

Manufacturing was not restricted to the East Perth area. Leederville, West Perth, North Perth, Mt Hawthorn and Highgate were also home to a range of light industrial enterprises that were scattered in and amongst residential areas. These included: food processing factories (Plaistowes and Swan Brand Pickles), drinks manufactures (Golden West, Mackays, The Maltings), bakeries, dairies (Brownes and Cartwrights), furniture manufactures (Washing Brothers, Kotsoglu) timber and brick yards (sand excavation for the manufacture of sand bricks was situated on two lots on Shakespeare Street, near Harrow Street), footwear and clothing factories (The Boot Factory, Sekem).

Mount Hawthorn: North Perth Brickworks was a sand excavation and brick yard making sand bricks were located on North Beach Road (Scarborough Beach Road) near Shakespeare Street in the 1920s. The state-owned timber yard was on the opposite side of the street. Major manufacturing companies in the Vincent area included:



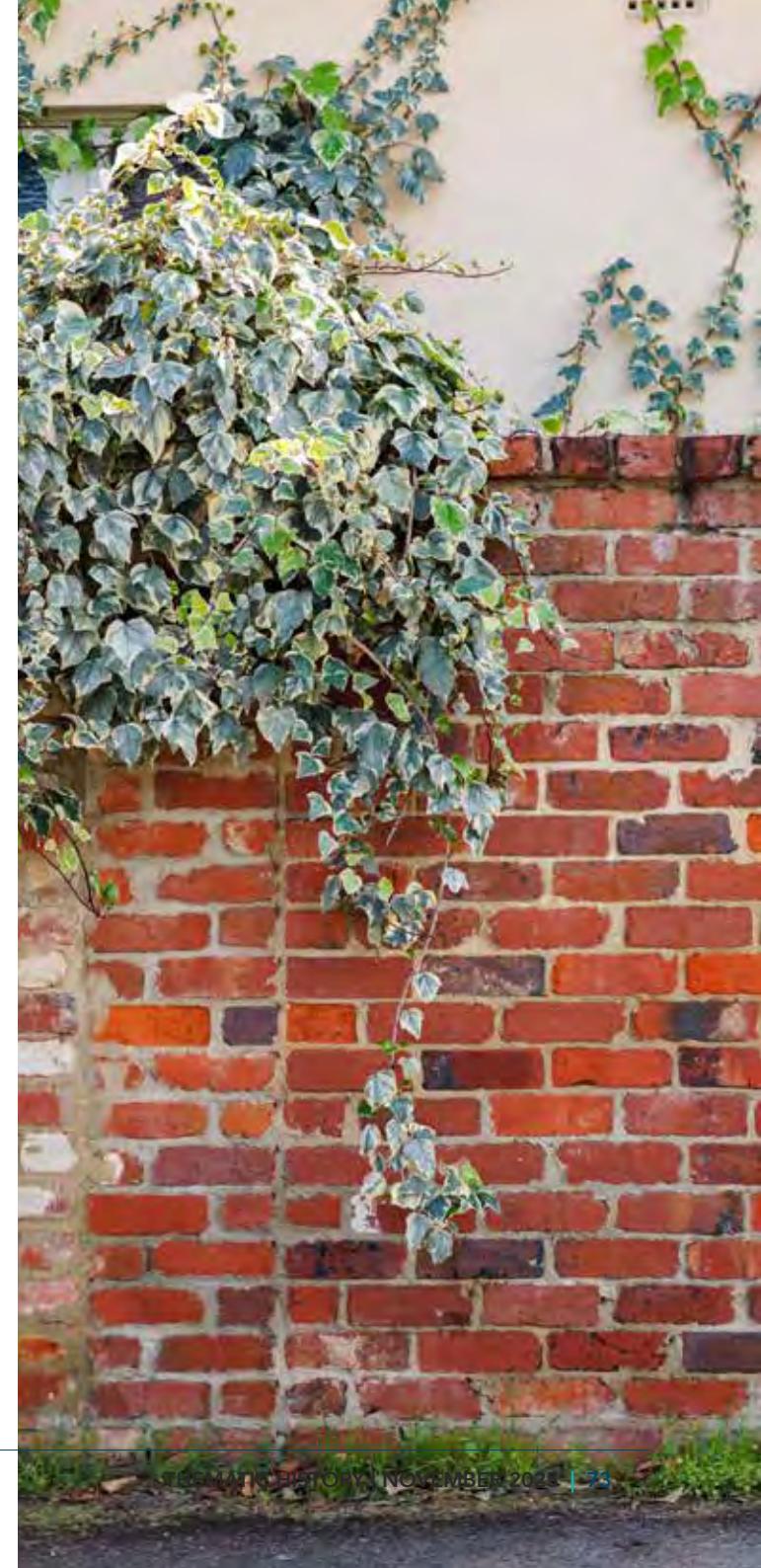
View of East Perth from St Anne's Hospital in Mount Lawley, 1970 (SLWA)

Golden West (Leederville)

Golden West began operating around 1896 at 41 Fitzgerald Street near the corner of James Street (now Farinosi & Son's Mitre 10 hardware store). In 1906, founder James John Wallis moved the factory to a new and larger premises on what was then Leeder Street (now Carr Place). The Golden West factory covered a broad area between Carr and Newcastle Streets with space for tanks to capture rainwater used in the soft drinks manufacturing, as well as stables for the horses and carts used for deliveries. Golden West produced a variety of soft drinks and cordials including strawberry creaming soda, kola beer, lemonade, fruit cocktail and the intriguing mystery flavour 'Space-O' advertised as giving a "boost for spacemen". The family-run business was handed down to James Wallis' son Ernest, and his son Ronald James also followed in the family business as a cordial mixer. The company employed many generations of local workers including Michael Hatzistavridi who started work at Golden West from 1952 until after it was bought by Coca Cola in the 1960s and became Gest soft drinks (a combination of the names Golden and West). The business eventually moved to a factory in Kewdale. The Leederville factory closed in 1972 and was redeveloped in 2018 as an apartment complex whose design evokes the bubbles of the soft drinks once produced on-site.



Golden West Aerated Water Company building and delivery trucks at 197 Carr Street Leederville, c 1950s (COV PHO1493)





Brownes Dairy at 299 Charles Street North Perth lit up for 'milk week' 1958. (COV PHO0174)

Brownes Dairy (North Perth)

Edward Browne set up a dairy farm in Shenton Park in the 1880s. In 1915, he purchased the Wholesale Farmers Co-operative Dairy Company in Charles Street North Perth and renamed it Brownes Dairy. Browne set up a depot in Brunswick Junction to address transport difficulties and lack of refrigeration. Edward's sons Robert and Walter joined the business and the company expanded and modernised its factory producing ice cream and other dairy products. In 1962, Peter's Ice Cream Company purchased Brownes Dairy although Robert and Walter Browne stayed on as directors. In 1981, Peter's moved production to a new site in Balcatta and the Charles Street premises were closed in 1998.



Swan Brand Pickle jar labels (City of Vincent Local History Centre Collection)

SWAN BRAND PRODUCTS (567 NEWCASTLE STREET WEST PERTH)

Swan Brand Products, owned by Thomas Tandy, began in 1922, on the corner of Wellington and Marquis Streets West Perth originally selling 'aerated waters' (soft drinks and cordials). In 1926, Tandy moved his factory 567 Newcastle Street and Swan Brand products expanded their line to include pickles, sauces, vinegar and fig conserve. Swan Brand Products continued production into the late 1950s and was a major producer and exporter of sauces and pickled products providing income for local Western Australian farmers and employment for local factory workers.

Lyons & Hart (West Perth)

This company was located at 358 Newcastle Street began making galvanised iron products such as sanitary pans, tubs, buckets, rubbish bins and water tanks. The plumbing company became SW Hart in 1935 and later patented the name Solahart manufacturers of solar hot water systems (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 223).

Harris, Scarfe & Sandovers (West Perth)

491 Newcastle Street near the corner of Golding Street was a factory for Harris, Scarfe and Sandovers Ltd which made hardware and machinery (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 223).

Sheridan's (West Perth)

In 1913, Charles Sheridan set up his friend jeweller Ernest Austin in a small workshop at the rear of his family's home at 14 Florence Street, West Perth.

He set up the Austral Engraving and Stamping Company which expanded rapidly during World War I after it won the contract for military hat badges which led to further government work. In 1924, the company name changed to Sheridan's Engraving and Metal Stamping Company. Charles Sheridan Jnr took over the company after his father's death in 1941 and the factor expanded again during World War II supplying orders for military and naval badges. In the post-war period, the company grew further making badges for schools, sports clubs and government (including porcelain licence plates and street signs. A third generation of Sheridan family took over the business in the 1980s changing the name to Sheridan's for Badges, and later Sheridan's Badges & Engraving moving to Jersey Street, Jolimont.

Goode Durrant & Murray Ltd (Perth)

Good Durrant and Co. began manufacturing shirts, trousers and clothing from a factory at 34 Palmerston Street, Perth in 1908. In 1924, it also established the Lion Boot Factory at 13 Church Street. In the 1930s, the company merged with the South Australian branch of the company to become Goode Durrant & Murray. By the 1940s, the company employed several hundred workers and advertised itself as "Western Australia's largest apparel manufacturing factory" (Peterkin, 1942, p. 207). The factory operated until 1966 (trading under various names including Federal Clothing Factory, Goodura Boot Factory). In 1997, the Palmerston Street and Church Street factories were converted into the Rialto Terrace apartments.



Employees of the WA Boot Manufacturing Company at 117 – 127 Lake Street Perth, 1920s (COV PH02358)

West Australian Boot Manufacturing Company (Perth)

First established in King Street, Perth, the WA Boot Manufacturing Company moved to 274 – 280 Newcastle Street and built a new factory at 117 Lake Street, circa 1913. The company people and produced over 1000 pairs of boots a year with production boosted by military orders during World War I. By the 1920s, the company employed over 125 employees including men and women. The business was later sold to Comfort Wear Slipper Company and continued making shoes in the factory until the 1980s. The buildings were listed on Vincent's Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1995 and were redeveloped into an apartment complex in 2000. The building was recognised for its heritage value as a surviving element of a major manufacturing operation and employer in the district (Place 08717).

Mackays Aerated Waters

James Thomson and Francis McKay established Mackay & Co. aerated water and cordial manufacturer at 10 – 22 Money Street, Perth in 1928. Thomson, who bought out his partner, grew the business producing a range of popular and exotic cordials and soft drinks from ginger beer to 'chilli punch'. The factory doubled in size during World War II after it won a contract to supply soft drinks to the armed services. In 1966, Coca Cola bought out Mackay and Co. and the factory was closed. The building was leased in the 1970s to Skipper's Transport, then to a recycling company before becoming the headquarters for the East Perth Redevelopment Authority. The building was included on the Municipal Inventory in 1995 and State Register in 2008 recognised for its heritage value as a rare example of a Functionalist-style light industrial building of the inter-war period which reflects the commercial development of Perth during the 1920s (Place 08728).



Mackays aerated waters fleet of trucks, 1932 (COV PHO2272)

Herbert Stone Box Manufacturer (239 – 241 Fitzgerald Street)

Herbert Stone Ltd produced cardboard boxes and cartons for a wide range of customers. The business was established in 1896 originally in Aberdeen Street, then Edward and Duke Streets before moving to a purpose built factory at 239 – 241 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth in 1922. The business operated on this site until the early 1960s. As the photo of the factory opening in 1922 indicates, most of its employees were women. The present day site is beside the WA Italian Club which has owned the building since the 1980s.



Workers at the Herbert Stone box manufacturers Fitzgerald Street Perth (SLWA 007064D)

COMMERCE & SERVICES

Vincent's suburbs have long been home to a diverse range of retail shops and businesses from grocers to garages, barbers to butchers. These shops and services were established throughout the suburbs, often concentrated on the main streets or on prominent corners close to residential housing. They serviced a growing population of residents who shopped locally and frequently in an era before widespread availability and use of refrigeration and cars. Many stories of former shops and businesses in Vincent are outlined in detail in *Early Businesses in Vincent* (Davidson & Laurie, 2010). Some of these businesses are highlighted below in the context of their place in the particular commercial strips which developed in the main town centres.

OXFORD STREET – LEEDERVILLE

Commercial development of the southern end of Oxford Street near the intersection with Newcastle Street (known formerly as Leeder Street) began in the late 1890s. The commercial strip was originally more extensive with Oxford Street running all the way down to Woolwich Street. Leederville's connection to Perth's electric tram network in the early 1900s opened the way for businesses like the Leederville Hotel, established in 1897, to grow. By 1900, businesses in the area

included a bootmaker, butcher, tobacconist, baker and laundry. When the Leederville Municipality was combined with North Perth and subsumed into the greater Perth City Council in 1914, the list of businesses had grown further to include a blacksmith, chemist, several confectioners, dressmakers and drapers, newsagent and stationer and even a music teacher (*Wise's Post Office Directories, 1914*). Two long-term businesses on Oxford Street were Venables engineering and the Panegyres fish shop. Various other businesses came and went reflecting Perth's changing retail culture over the decades. From grocers to fishmongers, hardware stores and hairdressers, the street has been home to a vast range of shops and services since it was developed as a commercial hub in the late 19th century.

The changing businesses on Oxford Street reflected the post-war changes in Perth's retail culture, from full service grocers and corner shops to self-service grocers and chain stores such as a Woolworth's variety store (which opened at 123 Oxford Street in 1958) and Tom the Cheap Grocer at 112 Oxford Street. The construction of the Mitchell Freeway in the 1970s, which cut Oxford Street and Leederville suburb in half, impacted on local trade. This disruption was compounded by increasing competition from shopping centres in Perth's new suburbs. By the 1980s, trade along

the Oxford Street commercial strip was in the doldrums. Redevelopment of the strip in 1987, and the refurbishment of the New Oxford cinema (renamed the Luna) in the 1990s revitalised the strip, attracting new businesses particularly cafes and restaurants catering to cinema goers. In recent times, the redevelopment of the Leederville Hotel Precinct and the construction of new residential and business developments (such as the ABN group headquarters) has spurred another round of commercial renewal and change on the Oxford Street strip.



Opening day of Woolworths Variety Store Oxford Street Leederville, 1958 (COV PH04061)

Leederville Fish Supply

From 1918 until the late 1980s, the Panegyres family established and ran the Leederville Fish Supply at 125 Oxford Street. Brothers Apostolos (Paul) and Michael Panegyres were migrants from the Greek Island of Castellorizo who previously sold fish door to door before opening their distinctive blue and white-tiled Oxford Street shop which sold fresh fish, prawns, crabs and crayfish as well as fish and chips. After World War II, the business was continued by Michael and his sons Peter and Leo who took it over in the late 1950s to 1977. Although the business was no longer run by the Panegyres family, it continued operating as a seafood and fish and chip shop (Leederville Fish Supply) renamed Sweet Lips in 1994, until 2019. Nuthin Fyshy vegan fish and chip shop operated from the site from October 2021 until its closure in June 2023.



Sweetlips fish and chip shop, 2006 (COV PHO3241)

Venables Engineering & Service Station

Jack Venables was a skilled engineer who began set up an engineering workshop in Brown Street, East Perth (Venables & Bartley) which he later operated from his home at 28 Richmond Street, Leederville. Jack and his wife Clara established their machinery, hardware and motor manufacturing, sales and servicing business at 99 – 101 Oxford Street. The building was a former electricity substation converted into a workshop. Jack managed the engineering side of the business and wife Clara handled all the financials. The front of the building was originally leased to Clara's mother, Maria Bartz, and the National Bank. The company grew to service the growing car culture installing a petrol bowser in 1923. In 1929, the Venables purchased land on the corner of Woolwich and Oxford Streets and established one of the area's first service stations. In the 1930s, they purchased a tow truck and employed a full-time driver to collect wrecked vehicles. During World War II, the engineering workshop was declared a munitions site and John was 'manpowered' to work for the war effort making, among other things, heel and toe plate for soldier's boots. After the war, John Venables helped found the Leederville Chamber of Commerce in 1956. Venables Service Pty Ltd operated until 1974 when the premises on Oxford Street was demolished to make way for the Mitchell Freeway. The Venables hardware shop run by son Geoffrey Venables (Venables & Lawrence Pty Ltd) moved to 103 Oxford Street and continued trading until 1999.



Venables Service Station & Garage at 95-97 Oxford Street, 1931 (COV PHO0347)

BEAUFORT STREET – PERTH, HIGHGATE & MOUNT LAWLEY

Beaufort Street was gazetted in 1893 and named for Captain Francis Beaufort, Hydrographer to the British Admiralty. It was top-dressed in 1870s to allow for horse and cart traffic, then further improved 1890 and early 1900s when it became a major artery in and out of the city in Perth's nascent tram network.

One of the early businesses in the lower end of Beaufort Street was the Beaufort Arms Hotel on the north-west corner of Newcastle and Beaufort Streets across from Weld Square. It was built in 1889 for Sir Henry Parker, former Mayor and State Member for Perth in the early 1890s. It was later renamed the Beaufort Hotel, and from 1981, the Lone Star Saloon (which also included backpacker accommodation) before it was demolished in 1997 to make way for the Northbridge Tunnel development. In the late 1890s, other businesses developed in the area around Weld Square including grocers, wine and produce merchants, chemists, tobacconists, furniture dealers, fruiterers, tailors and another hotel – The Brisbane Hotel built in 1898 on the corner of Brisbane and Beaufort Streets.

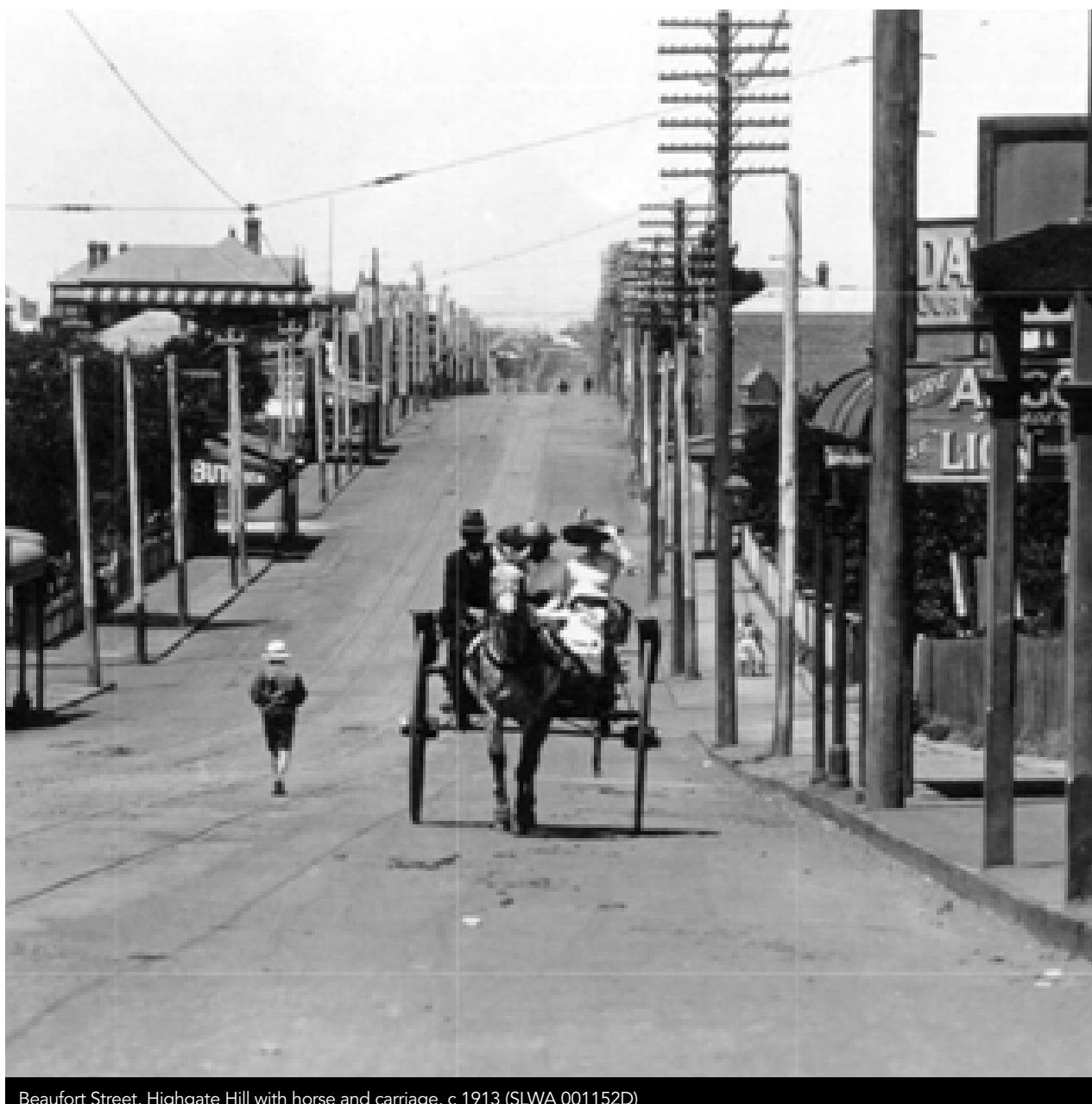
Lung Cheong Laundry: 191 – 193 Beaufort Street

The Manchester Dye Works, Lung Cheong Laundry at 191 – 193 Beaufort Street, Perth was built from 1896 and was designed by architects James & Michael Cavanagh in the Federation Free Classical style of commercial buildings. The place reflects the expansion and development of residential and commercial buildings on the city fringes during the rapid population increase of 1890's gold boom and the early years of the 20th century. This pair of shops appears on the early c.1895 Water Map of the City of Perth. Lung Cheong's Laundry operated at No.193 and the Manchester Dye Works at No. 191. Post Office directories indicate the building continued to be used for these purposes for a number of years. In 1990, Alice Bolland taught music at No. 193 (then No. 213), possibly in rooms rented upstairs. In 1935 – 36, the premises were used for mixed businesses. Con Gourdes, a fruit seller, is listed at No. 191. A change of use to live music venue the Ellington Jazz Club in 2009 which involved the adaptive reuse of the site, whose heritage significance has been retained through refurbishment works which respect the original fabric (Place 15786). Development further north along Beaufort Street in the Highgate area also dates from the 1890s with landmark buildings such as the Queens Hotel at 520 Beaufort Street, established in 1898. The introduction of the tram service promoted construction of roads and housing, stimulating commercial growth along

Beaufort Street. By 1905, the section of Beaufort Street between Chatsworth Road and Mary Streets had developed into a retail area with a chemist, baker, bookseller, draper, confectioner, ironmonger, stationer, butcher, fruiter, wood yard, bootmaker and 'fancy repository' (an old fashioned version of a dollar store). Nestled in among the corner shops and retail businesses were manufacturers such as Turvey Brothers, a furniture making business which operated at 519 – 521 Beaufort Street from 1925 until the late 1960s.



Former Manchester Dye Works/Lung Cheong Laundry 191 – 193 Beaufort Street Perth, 2019 (COV PHO5903)



Beaufort Street, Highgate Hill with horse and carriage, c 1913 (SLWA 001152D)

The 1930s saw the extension of the tram line further along Beaufort Street into Mt Lawley and later Inglewood, hastening commercial and residential development further north of Beaufort Street. The landmark Alexander Building, constructed in 1911 on the corner of Beaufort and Walcott Streets, was refurbished in art deco style in the late 1930s. Clarke's building at 693 – 643 Beaufort Street was another art deco landmark building originally established as a wine saloon (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p.156).

By the 1940s, Beaufort Street had become a busy commercial strip with every lot north from Chatsworth Road and Lincoln Street to Walcott Street occupied by some type of business. Apart from the ubiquitous corner grocery store, there were furniture and hardware dealers, engineering works, wood yards, fuel merchants, garages, a wine saloon, radio dealer and photographer.

In the post-war period, Beaufort Street has remained a prominent commercial street with a mix of cafes, restaurants, boutiques, book stores attracting locals and people from further afield attracted by events such as the Beaufort Street Festival (2010 – 2016).

ANGOVE AND FITZGERALD STREETS – NORTH PERTH

Angove and Fitzgerald Streets developed as a commercial hub for North Perth in the late 1890s and early 1900s. Like other commercial areas in Vincent, the tram was integral to the residential and subsequently commercial growth in the area. Fitzgerald Street was first extended beyond Vincent Street in 1898 with early residents including market gardener Fred Schruth and from 1904, the Rosemount Hotel on the corner of Angove and Fitzgerald Streets. In 1905, there were three general stores on Fitzgerald Street north of Vincent Street. Trams from the city ran along Fitzgerald Street to North Perth as far as the Angove Street terminus near Daphne Street from 1906 until 1958. The lines entered Fitzgerald Street from Bulwer Street, first to Forrest Street (year), then extended to Angove and Albert Street (1906) then onto Charles Street (1927).

Between 1904 and 1911, the population in the North Perth area trebled and new business sprang up on Angove and Fitzgerald Streets to service local residents. By the 1920s, there were a variety of businesses on Angove Street and both sides of Fitzgerald Street from Vincent to Angove Streets including fruiters, grocers, butchers, confectioners, a laundry, bootmaker, a chemist, newsagent, furniture mart, a tobacconist and several barbers and hairdressers, at least

one of which doubled as an illegal betting shop. Businesses changed hands quickly, especially during the Great Depression era of the 1930s. However, two very different businesses established in the late 1920s would go onto be the longest operating businesses in the area.

Funeral Director Arthur Purslowe established his undertakers business in the mid-1920s in Guildford, expanding his premises to 20 Angove Street in 1926 (The West Australian, 14 July 1926). Next door, Cyril Collins established his bicycle shop Pal and Panther Cycles at 26 Angove Street in 1929. To keep his business afloat during the

Great Depression, Cyril offered reduced deposits and payments plans to attract customers. He later branched out to servicing engines including lawn mowers. Jim Howe, who started as an apprentice with Cyril in 1952, eventually bought the business and expanded moving across the road to 29 Angove Street in the 1980s where they built new premises in 1988. Pal and Panther operated as a family business selling and servicing bikes, lawnmowers and motorbikes until 2020 when the business (renamed 'Motorcycle Pit Stop') moved to Osborne Park.



Pal and Panther 29 Angove Street, North Perth 1970 (COV PHO6160)

Bank of New South Wales – 452 Fitzgerald Street

The bank premise at 452 Fitzgerald Street was built in 1938 and was designed by prominent Perth architects Hobbs, Forbes and Partners in Inter-War Stripped Classical style. The opening of the branch in Fitzgerald Street indicated the growing economic optimism of the late 1930s, following the end of the Great Depression.

Accommodation was provided for the bank manager and the early photos show a door to the left which accessed stairs to the residential area. The Bank of NSW became Westpac which ceased operations at the branch in the 1990s. The building was listed on the Vincent's Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1995. In 1998, the building was bought by master photographer Denise Teo who undertook extensive renovations and leased the ground floor to the ANZ Bank from 2011 – 2016 (Heritage Council, 2018). The building was listed on the Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1995 (Category B) recognised for its Inter-War Stripped Classical Style and historic association with the growth of the North Perth commercial centre (Heritage Place 08707).

The post-war period saw migrants from Southern Europe living and working in the area. Small businesses such as Xanthes fishmonger, the Metxas Brothers, Kailis and Penklis, Shonis and Kalfounis reflected the changing demographics

of the area. By the early 1950s, new businesses reflected changing times with a self-serve grocery store (Charlie Carters), three dry cleaners, a paint merchant, radio dealer and refrigeration engineer. In the 1970s, a range of homes and businesses

from 391 to 427 Fitzgerald Street, including Wynne's Chemist at 423 Fitzgerald Street were purchased and demolished becoming the site for North Perth Plaza in 1977 (SRO, SROWA Perth Metro Maps, 1914).



Bank of New South Wales on Fitzgerald Street North Perth, c 1940 (COV PH03307)

Scarborough Beach Road – Mount Hawthorn

Until 1947, Scarborough Beach Road was known as North Beach Road. The first businesses on North Beach Road was a general store between Flinders and Coogee (then called Hicks and Wittenoom) Streets established in 1907. By World War I, there were a variety of businesses in and around the northern end of Oxford Street stretching along to North Beach Road. Like other commercial strips around the Vincent area, the early shops in Mt Hawthorn were a combination of food retailers with specialty services such as hairdressers, fuel (i.e. wood) and ice merchants, as well as footwear and drapery stores. The Mt Hawthorn area was especially well serviced by butchers. In the early 1960s, Mt Hawthorn had 11 butchers and one tea room. Today, the butcher shops have dwindled and the cafes multiplied (Universal Business Directories, 1960).

The impact of the car on post-war shopping habits and shops was particularly evident along Scarborough Beach Road in the post-war period when a range of smaller retail shops including (from Fairfield to Flinders Street in 1949) Mrs Sewell's drapery, Archer's chemist, Bunner's cake shop, Matheson's grocers, Christina Kongris' fish shop, butcher Edward Thomas Butcher (later Cyril Smith's Meats), draper Miss Palmer, boot repairer Les Campbell, ladies hairdresser, Chris Panegyres' fruit and green grocer shop and Allan Smith's library.

The opposite site of Scarborough Beach Road originally had houses and the Mt Hawthorn Congregational Church, which stood on the corner at 56 Flinders Street from 1904 until it was demolished to make way for John Allans Hawthorn Shopping Centre in 1959.

Built over two storeys and with rooftop parking, the department store was touted as 'brilliantly modern, big and roomy' when it opened in November 1959. Its air-conditioned ground floor, lift and rooftop parking were unique at the time for Perth stores. There was also an extensive food market on the ground floor, together with a pharmacy and Commonwealth Savings Bank agency. John Allan Ltd also sold furniture and televisions on attractive purchase agreements that made appliances accessible to the average family. However, the business folded and the Hawthorn Shopping Centre was taken over by Tom the Cheap Grocer after Allan's collapsed (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 92 – 93). The shopping centre was taken over by the Murdoch Group and redeveloped as Mt Hawthorn Plaza in 1981 with Target, and later Woolworths Supermarket as its anchor store. It was redeveloped again in 2004/2005 by the Hawaiian Group and rebadged The Mezz.



Advertisement for John Allans store in The Sunday Times,
November 22 1959.

Today, commercial retail in Vincent is a mixture of the post-1950s style shopping complexes, together with older style high street shops that were established in the early 1900s to service an earlier generation of residents. A hundred years ago, these shops provided locals with basic supplies such as food and groceries or services such as barbers and banks. Today, where they have survived the same shops provide more specialised services and leisure experiences to local residents and people from further afield who travel by car to Vincent's main commercial strips to enjoy the services or lifestyle experiences offered by the many bars, restaurants and cafes, beauty salons and fitness studios.



Scarborough Beach Road 1959 (SLWA b3598020_1)

SOCIAL SERVICES

The range of public or privately provided services to support and assist the health, wellbeing and safety and security of local communities in the Vincent area changed significantly over time. Given the proximity of Vincent's suburbs to Perth city, residents were relatively well served by a range of social services that were not as accessible in regional or rural areas.

HEALTH

In the early years of the Swan River colony, introduced infectious diseases such as smallpox, measles and influenza had severe and devastating impacts on Aboriginal communities. Infectious diseases also sporadically affected the European population, including residents of the areas that now make up Vincent.

Early public health concerns related to the 'miasma' theory, common in Europe for centuries, that damp places caused sickness. This was particularly relevant to the area of wetlands so significant to the geography of the Vincent area with swamps and wetlands seen as places that fostered disease. When real estate developers came to subdivide land in the Vincent area in the late 1890s and early 1900s, the frequent reference to the land being 'high and healthy' was a deliberate counter to the prevalent perception that wetlands were places of disease (WA Museum & ECU, 2023).

The Public Health Act 1886 created a Central Board of Health with local boards empowered to make by-laws to control infectious diseases. From 1892, municipal councils took over their local boards of health for their respective districts. The legislation was eventually consolidated in the Health Act 1911 where a Health Commissioner responsible to the Minister replaced the Central Board of Health in addressing emerging problems of public health as the population grew.

A key area of early health intervention by local councils related to water supply and poor sanitation which saw the rapid spread of diseases such as typhoid. Between 1893 and 1903, nearly 2000 people died and at least another 8000 suffered from typhoid (Gregory & Gothard, *Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia*, 2009, p. 729). An infectious food and water-borne disease, typhoid is linked to poor sanitation and overcrowding and was especially prevalent on the Goldfields. As typhoid survivors remain lifelong carriers, those who later moved from the Goldfields to Perth caused sporadic ongoing typhoid outbreaks in the city as late as the 1950s.

In Perth's inner suburbs in the early 1900s, the push to improve sanitation and waste disposal was driven largely by the threat of infectious diseases like typhoid. In North Perth, health concerns were focused around areas like Smith's Lake (which then included most of Charles Veryard Reserve) and Beatty Park, which was the former site of the Perth Sanitary Depot at which 'night soil' or 'dunny carts' deposited human waste. In 1903, North Perth got its own Local Board of Health and in 1910, successfully petitioned to move the Perth Sanitary Depot away from homes to a then more isolated bushland site in Mt Lawley (now the Mt Lawley Golf Club) (*The West Australian*, 6 February 1900). With gradual improvements in sanitation and water treatment, the threat of typhoid dissipated. However as

late as 1958, there was a typhoid outbreak in Perth linked to swimmers infected at City Beach by bacteria coming from the sewerage outfall pipe at Swanbourne.

Throughout the 20th century, the incidence of typhoid fever in Australia steadily declined due to the introduction of vaccinations and improvements in public sanitation and hygiene. Chlorination of drinking water also made a significant impact on the number of individuals affected by the disease. Better scientific understanding of the connection between water supply and sanitation and the spread of diseases with the appointment of a bacteriologist and lab testing improved the control of diseases such as typhoid, bubonic plague and later tuberculosis. quarantine provisions also helped to limit but not stop the spread of Spanish Flu in 1918/1919 which killed an estimated 12,000 – 15,000 Australians after World War I. With no vaccine or antibiotics then available, control was limited to isolation, quarantine (at Woodman Point Quarantine Station) and use of disinfectants.

Public health legislation gave councils the power to undertake a range of interventions, from seizing and destroying trespassing pigs and geese, to inspecting food sanitation, school hygiene, and the inspection of boarding houses and private hospitals. The role of health inspectors came under intense public scrutiny in the early 1900s Perth due to the trial of nurse and

midwife Alice Mitchell who ran a so-called 'baby farm' in Highgate and later in Edward Street, East Perth caring for babies of single mothers and other 'unfortunately women' for profit. In 1907, Alice Mitchell was arrested for the murder of five month old Ethel Booth. The subsequent inquest and trial uncovered the startling fact that 37 infants had died in Mitchell's care in the previous six years. The case raised concerns and questions about the medical and health inspection system that allowed Mitchell to continue taking in babies despite the many deaths, and put Western Australia's first 'Lady' Health Inspector Harriet Lenihan under intense scrutiny leading to her eventual dismissal (Budrikis, 2020). One of the legacies of the Alice Mitchell trial was a greater public focus on infant and women's health that contributed to the establishment of King Edward Memorial Hospital, the state's first maternity hospital established in Subiaco in 1916.

While the early residents had access to major hospitals such as King Edward and Royal Perth Hospital, there were also numerous private hospitals in Vincent's suburbs established from the early 1900s. These were run by nurses and midwives and included Nurse Mouritz's private hospital at 210 Stirling Street, Perth (*The West Australian*, 1 December 1903), Nurse Ashes's Maternity Hospital at 53 Wasley Street, North Perth (1914 – 1943) (*Wise's Post Office Directories*, 1893 – 1949) and Nurse Harvey's Hospital at 30 Bulwer Street, Perth (1921 – 1943).

Nurse Harvey's Hospital – Bulwer Street

Built originally as a private residence for prominent government dentist William Boxall, Harvey ran a private maternity hospital in the premises from the early 1920s until the early 1940s. Prior, Nurse Eleanor Harvey had been involved in the establishment of King Edward Hospital where she had been the inaugural matron from 1916 and had started the first training school for midwives in WA (Harvey House is named in her honour). She resigned due to family commitments and began her own private maternity hospital at 30 Bulwer Street which operated until her death in 1943. The building was demolished in 2016.

"I was born on 5 November 1931 and that was at Nurse Harvey's Hospital at 30 Bulwer Street in Perth. My parents tell me that I started being spoilt because it was the middle of the Depression and I was the only child at the hospital at the time. It was Guy Fawkes Day. My father had been at work during the afternoon so he came in the evening and held the baby in his arms. Across the road in Perth Oval there was a fireworks display going on. Between that and having the hospital to myself, my parents reckoned I was being spoiled...By 1937, when my brother was born they were a good deal busier than they had been." (Geoffrey Bolton) (Town of Vincent, 2007, p. 36).



Nurse Harvey's Hospital at 30 Bulwer Street Perth, 1930s (COV PHO1723)

Swan Maternity Hospital – Newcastle Street

Nurse Alice Stockley ran a maternity hospital at 47 Newcastle Street in 1911, moving to 590 Newcastle Street in 1913 and renamed the Swan Maternity Hospital. It was the first purpose built privately-owned maternity hospital in Western Australia accommodating up to ten pregnant women at a time. In the 1920s, Nurse Stockley opened a second general surgical hospital at 572 Newcastle Street known as St Anne's, and later the City West Private Hospital. In 1940, Nurse Stockley closed City West which was converted to flats. In 1944, she retired and sold the Swan Hospital which changed its name to the Blaich Appin Maternity Hospital and operated until 1949 when it was bought by the Department of Health and became the Perth Child Guidance Clinic Blaich Appin. The building was heritage-listed in 2009, then de-listed and sold by the Department of Health to a private owner in 2011 (Heritage Council, 2020). The building is currently leased as offices to a civil engineering company and has been significantly modified. The former hospital's brass nameplate Nurse Stockley's was recovered by a local history enthusiast at the Millar Road Landfill Facility in Rockingham and donated to the City of Vincent Local History Collection in 2018 (Heritage Place 17281).



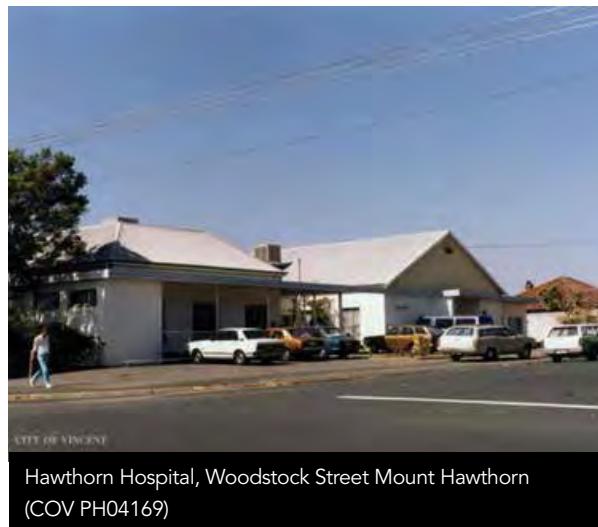
Postcard for Nurse Stockley's Private Hospital, c 1913 (COV PHO6046)



Swan Maternity Hospital at 590 Newcastle Street, West Perth, c 1930s (COV PHO2766)

Mount Hawthorn Hospital: 100 Flinders Street Mount Hawthorn (1933 – 2009)

The Hawthorn Private Hospital was built around 1909 and used as a private residence until 1933 when it was acquired by sisters and nurses Alma Jean and Irene May Thomas who converted the home to Hawthorn Private Hospital for maternity and general patients. It was bought by the Health Department in 1957 and leased as a private hospital, then used as an annexe of Royal Perth Hospital in the 1960s when it was renovated and later used for Community Health Services. From 2006 – 2009 it operated as an intermediate mental health care facility Hawthorn House (State Heritage, 2018) The building was heritage listed by the Town of Vincent in 1995 (Category B) recognised for its heritage value in demonstrating the development of hospital and health services in suburban Mt Hawthorn (Place 08708).



Casson House – Woodville Street North Perth

The longest continually running health care facility in the Vincent area is Casson House in Woodville Street, North Perth. In 1922, Susan Adelaide Casson founded the Mental Hospitals After Care and Comforts Fund Association Inc. to try and meet an urgent need for ongoing community care for people discharged from mental institutions. Susan Casson was one of Western Australia's leading female social reformers in the first half of the twentieth century with strong personal connections to many of the state's leading political and medical men and women of the day. Her interest in the welfare of people suffering from psychiatric illness was developed during her time as a member of the Board of Visitors at the then Claremont Mental Health Hospital. Since its inception, Casson Homes has continued to operate under the guidance of a member of the Casson family. Susan's work was continued by her daughter Matilda Gard, grandson John Casson and great-grandson Nick Casson. The facility has been grown from the 1920s to encompass the original property at 2 Woodville Street (purchased in 1935) which was a formerly the Bute Private Hospital until 1917, then adapted for use as a hostel.

In 1935, a hatched portion was added to the existing kitchen and in 1938, a side veranda, made of wood, asbestos and iron, was erected to the west. Wise's Post Office Directories list the building as the After Care Rest Home in 1935 and 1940, with Sister Moncrieff and Nurse L. Enright as the person in charge respectively. The building today

holds significant heritage value as an 'institutional building of Federation arts and crafts style', with a high degree of authenticity. In 1939, after public concerns from local residents citing 'yellings and shoutings of deranged persons' an second storey extension to the original building was approved. In 1942, an adjoining property at 8 Woodville Street was purchased, which was called Casson House (at a later date the two adjoined properties also became known as Casson House). There were more extensions in the late 1940s and 1950s. In 1979, St Rita's was purchased in Mt Lawley to provide specialist retirement care moving in the 2000s to Susan Casson's old family home at 25 View Street which was later expanded. For over a hundred years, Casson Homes has provided a place for people struggling to live with long-term mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, anxiety and other conditions. John Casson was interviewed in 2009 and a transcript of his interview is available online (Casson, 2009). Cat Pattison's history of the Casson family is also available in the City of Vincent Local History Centre (Pattison, 2018) (Heritage Place 17955).



Sketch of Casson House, Woodville Street North Perth.



Salvation Army conducting Sunday School in the Golden Age Post-Polio Centre, Leederville, 1950 (COV PHO2539)

Golden Age Post-Polio Centre – Leederville

After World War II, the State experienced its first serious epidemic of poliomyelitis, with outbreaks between 1937 and 1956, peaking in 1951 (Smith, 2009). Poliomyelitis is a highly contagious viral infection spread through infected faeces. Prior to the development of the Salk and Sabin vaccines in the 1950s and 1960s, polio caused permanent paralysis and sometimes death, most often in children. Between 1944 and 1954, polio killed more than 1000 people in Australia. Sporadic outbreaks of polio occurred in Western Australia in 1948 (311 cases), 1954 (436 cases coinciding with the visit to Perth of Queen Elizabeth II), and from January to May 1956 (401 cases with 12 deaths). These outbreaks taxed the Metropolitan Infectious Diseases Hospital in Subiaco/Shenton Park and Princess Margaret Hospital. They also led to the establishment of after-care support services such as the Golden Age Post- Polio Convalescent Centre for children in Leederville.

Operating from 1949 – 1959 in the former Golden Age Hotel on the corner of Alfred and Harrogate Streets, Leederville, the Centre offered nursing care, physiotherapy and school lessons for polio patients who varied in age from 16 months to 12 years old. In 1958, the hospital was converted to a training school with accommodation for nurses. The building was demolished in the late 1960s making way for construction of the Mitchell Freeway.

The Golden Age Post-Polio Centre provided the setting and inspiration for author Joan London's coming of age novel *The Golden Age* (London, 2018). The mid-century epidemic of polio looms large in the living memories of many senior Vincent residents as one of the most frightening diseases to affect Australians. Geoff Venables, who grew up on Southport Street just around the corner from the Golden Age post-polio centre for children, recalls the impact of polio.

"It is early 1950s, World War II had been ended some 5 years and economic times were still tough as the war servicemen were endeavouring to pick up their lives after the long years of firstly the depression and then war, which had taken their toll. I was 5 years old at this time and lived at 14 Southport Street not 200 metres from the Golden Age Hospital. As a child I had often walked past the hospital and saw the children in the high side cots with their leg irons. As a boy, I did not understand the ramifications of polio also there were kids at school who were referred to as 'special' or 'spastic' kids for they were different. The Queen's Australian 1954 visit was almost called off (because of polio). I attended Thomas Street State School, which was next to Perth Modern School and opposite Princess Margaret Hospital. I recall seeing the children on the hospital side from where we were waiting for a glimpse of the Queen and Duke as they drove past. In 1953, Jonas Salk's polio vaccine was introduced to the world which virtually eradicated the polio curse that had affected thousands of Australians. To think today there are those in the community that, question their rights as to immunising their children against a preventable virus." (Venables, 2018)

The post-war period saw a range of new health issues emerge in relation to urban expansion such as air pollution, waste disposal and occupational health. Growing environmental consciousness in the late 1960s saw establishment of the Environmental Protection Authority in 1971 which assumed responsibility for areas such as air pollution from the WA Health Department in the 1980s. Increasing emphasis was placed on chronic rather than infectious diseases and individuals were given more responsibility for their own health with lifestyle campaigns such as the anti-smoking campaigns, and skin cancer and life be introduced to encourage behaviour modification. Bacterial and other infective agents were not

seen as the major cause of ill health, until the arrival of HIV/AIDS in WA in the 1980s forced a re-evaluation of the nature and basis of public health. At a local level, AIDS impacted heavily on communities in the inner-city suburban areas of Vincent. This impact has been publicly recognised in the Perth AIDS Memorial in Robertson Park on the corner of Stuart and Fitzgerald Streets, Perth. The memorial, which features a reflection pool, pays lasting tribute to all those who have died from HIV/AIDS and those who have contributed to the fight against the disease through their professions or science or education (AidsMemorial.info, 2001).



Path in Britannia Reserve with physical distancing sign, 2021 (COV PH06344)

In 2016, the outdated Health Act 1911 was amended to guide the continuing role of local government in health. The Public Health Act 2016 gave local government's direct responsibility to appoint environmental health officers and obliged them to adopt a preventative approach to health by preparing a Local Public Health Plan (Berry, 2021, p. 431). The City of Vincent's Public Health Plan 2020 – 2025 prioritised smoke-free town centres, and programs that facilitate healthy eating, alcohol reduction, active communities and social activities that promote mental health and wellbeing (City of Vincent, 2020). The plan was developed prior to the COVID-19 epidemic which began in March 2020 to which the City responded by following State Government Emergency Management directives to protect public health, and with the longer term Relief and Recovery Strategy to help communities and businesses recover from the impacts of the pandemic and health directives to manage it (Vincent, COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Strategy, 2020).



Staff wearing masks at Angove Street Kitchen North Perth, 2021 (COV PH06491)

EDUCATION

From the early 19th century, primary education (for students aged six to 14) in Western Australia was provided by both government and independent schools managed under the General Board of Education. The Catholic Church played an important early role in providing education with some of the earliest schools in the colony established by the Spanish Benedictine monks and the Irish Sisters of Mercy. The Elementary Education Act 1871, drafted by the Frederick Weld the first Catholic Governor, reintroduced state aid to all private schools and set up a new Central Board of Education to supervise all schools receiving government assistance (Gregory & Gothard, *Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia*, 2009, p. 311).

The rapid population growth of the 1890s placed considerable pressures on schools. The favourable economic conditions created by the gold boom also provided resources to construct many new schools from the late 1890s. In 1895, State aid to non-government schools ceased, despite fierce opposition from Perth's Catholic Bishop Matthew Gibney. An Education Department under Minister control was established in 1897 and the Public Education Act 1899 made primary education for children aged six to fourteen free but not compulsory (Gregory & Smith, *A Thematic History of Public Education in Western Australia*, 1995).

Many of the government primary schools in the Vincent area were established during this period in the 1890s. The Leederville School on Oxford Street opened in 1894. Highgate Primary School, on Lincoln Street, opened in 1895.

In 1897, one and a half acres of land in the Toorak Estate was purchased for development of a public school, although it was a further two years before the North Perth district school was ready for students. (North Perth School: 1899 – 1989, 1989, p. 3).

Mt Hawthorn Primary School began classes in the Congregational Mission Hall on the corner of Flinders Street and Scarborough Beach Road in 1906 and moved into its current premises on Killarney Street in 1908.

From 1908, the south east corner of Forrest Park Reserve in Mt Lawley was the site of Norwood State School, which was later converted in the 1940s to Forrest Technical High School.



Highgate State School on its opening day, 1895
(COV PHO1110)



Principal Joshua Hammill and Teaching Assisting Amy Otway at North Perth School, 1899 (COV PHO6143)



Mount Hawthorn Infants school students with pioneering Aboriginal teacher May Miller preparing for the arrival of Prince Philip in Perth for the 1962 Commonwealth Games, 1962. COV PHO 4882)



Forrest Technical High School, classes 2C and 3B, 1949 (COV PH03976)

From 1908, the south east corner of Forrest Park Reserve in Mt Lawley was the site of Norwood State School, which was later converted in the 1940s to Forrest Technical High School.

With the rapid population growth, overcrowding in schools became common. Overcrowding and construction of additional classrooms was evident at Highgate Primary School from the late 1890s (Hocking Planning and Architecture, 2002). By 1921, the North Perth Primary School had a significant number of students and resources were stretched. Subsequently, in January 1922, the North Perth Infant School opened to cater for the large number of students (North Perth School: 1899 – 1989, 1989, p. 3 – 6). In 1933, enrolments at Mt Hawthorn Primary School were over 700, and classes were using nearby church halls. New rooms were built below the original school in 1933, and further additions saw the opening of the Mt Hawthorn Infant School in 1938, with 187 pupils. More classrooms were added in 1939 and 1944 (Mt Hawthorn Primary School, 1998).

During World War II, a number of Workers Homes Board residences were constructed in the area of Selkirk Street in North Perth. To cater for the educational needs of the children in this area, the Public Works Department arranged for a timber school room to be moved from Herne Hill to Selkirk Street for use as an infant's school. However because the houses in the area were brick, the residents refused to accept a timber school and petitioned the Education Department for a more solid and official school (Perth City Council, 1953). Kyilla Primary School opened in February 1945. It was originally known as 'Selkirk Street School' and was renamed Kyilla in 1946. The school began with 74 pupils and two teachers and catered to children in the expanding suburb of North Perth. Kyilla received formal status as a Primary School in 1962, and by 1974 children from 21 different nationalities were attending the school. In the 1980s and 1990s, changing demographics of the area saw enrolments fluctuate and the school slated for potential closure. In the 2000s, enrolments began to climb and by 2020, coinciding with its 75th anniversary the school embarked on an building program to replace demountable classrooms with new permanent facilities to cater for the growing population of children in the area.



Kyilla Primary Year 3 1986 (COV PHO5730)

The changing demographics of the Vincent suburbs is reflected in the expansion and development of primary schools in the area. Highgate, North Perth, Mt Hawthorn and Kyilla Primary Schools have survived and grown. Other schools such as Norwood State School in East Perth/Mt Lawley, the Newcastle Street Government School and Leederville Primary School which

closed in 1993. The former Leederville school site was taken over by the Distance Education who amalgamated with the Schools of the Air and became known as the Schools of Isolated and Distance Education (SIDE) continuing to operate from the Leederville site on Oxford Street to the present day (School of Isolated and Distance Education).

The pressure that a fluctuating population can place on local schools is most evident in the evolution of the Newcastle Street Government School at 480 Newcastle Street, West Perth. Over the course of its life, the school changed continually to accommodate local need for not just primary education, but also for secondary education needs of locals in the early 20th century.

Newcastle Street Government School, West Perth

The Newcastle Street Government School at 480 Newcastle Street, West Perth was originally built as a Church school (St John's Day School) in 1889. It became a Government Assisted School in 1890 with very limited facilities with a new school built on site in 1895 to cater for the growing population. The new Perth West Public School opened on 7 February 1895 as the Perth West Public School with 156 students, one headmistress (Miss Laurina Reid) and three part time teachers. It was built in stone and brick and located on the north side of the existing school. It opened in July 1897 and its name was changed to Newcastle Street School. A new Infants' School was opened a year later in 1898. Enrolments continued to expand and various extensions were carried out in the early 1900s. Separate schools for boys and girls were formed in 1903, but they amalgamated as Newcastle Street State School in 1908.

Various additions were made to the Newcastle Street School over the years, but enrolments decreased in the 1920s and some areas were not used and others were in poor condition. In 1926 when, due to a lack of numbers (only 384 students) and the fact that there were five other schools close by, an announcement was made that the school would be closed. Plans were drawn in 1927 for a July for a Junior Technical School Alterations were made to the Senior and Infant's schools and a blacksmith's shop was added. Facilities were also included for woodwork and drawing classes. In 1929 – 30, the school became an annexe of the Technical Education Department (TAFE), and housed the Junior Technical School. A new infant's school (which took students to Grade 3) was built on the site in 1928 known as Newcastle Street Infants, and later as the Newcastle Street Junior Primary School. Additions were made to the Perth Junior Technical College from the 1930s, 1950s and again in the 1970s when the Education Department purchased adjoining land. The Newcastle Street Junior Technical School operated until the 1990s when it leased to Edith Cowan University and used by the Academy of Performing Arts (c.2001). More recently it has been used by the Central TAFE. It was listed on the Register of Heritage Places as a Permanent Entry in 2001 (Heritage Council, 2018) (Heritage Place 02241).

In addition to a range of public and government schools, church and private schools were also established in the Vincent area from the late nineteenth century. In 1897, sisters from the Catholic Order of Our Lady of the Missions came to Western Australia from Christchurch at the request of Catholic Bishop Mathew Gibney and opened the Sacred Heart School on 25 October 1897. Classes were held in the original corrugated iron Sacred Heart church building and by the end of the first year it had 140 students. On 18 September 1898, the foundation stone was laid for a combined school and convent, the Monastery of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart opened on 22 January 1899. As Highgate Hill and the surrounding areas developed, the number of students grew. By 1912, there were 400 students enrolled at the Sacred Heart

School from kindergarten through secondary with 300 in the primary section. The foundation stone of a separate school building, the Sacred Heart Primary School, was laid by Archbishop Clune on 24 May 1914 (Heritage Council, 2018).

In 1903, the Sisters of Mercy established a co-educational school originally known as Our Lady of Perpetual Succour School Arranmore in Marian Street, Leederville. Classes and church services were held in a timber building on the corner of Marian and Shakespeare Streets at this time. (Taylor, May 1998, p. 12 – 13). The school was named after an island off the west coast of Ireland which was the birthplace of one of the founding Sisters, Mother Berchmans. The school educated both boys and girls to sixth standard and girls only in high school. In 1941, it was renamed St Mary's College. In 1942, the Christian Brothers opened Christian Brothers College (CBC) Leederville high school for boys next door to St Mary's. For over 40 years, the two schools operated separately but side by side. They amalgamated in 1986 and officially became Aranmore Catholic College offering primary and secondary education for boys and girls.

There were several other more short-lived private schools established in the Vincent area established in the early 1900s. A private school known as Ormiston College was established by Miss C.E Wilson in 1907 at 140 Palmerston Street and moved to 123 Palmerston Street on the edge

of Robertson Park, in 1913. In 1916, Ormiston House was taken over by the Presbyterian Church in WA and moved to premises at 14 McNeil Street, Peppermint Grove in 1917 (Maushart, 2015, p. 44 – 51) In 1907, St Alban's Preparatory Day School began classes in St Alban's Church hall in Beaufort Street, Highgate. The school ran for several years for children in the Highgate and Mt Lawley area who were too young to attend Perth College (State Heritage, 2010).

From 1936 – 1978, Christian Brothers built and operated Christian Brothers High School at 131 Harold Street, Highgate. It provided upper primary and secondary education for catholic boys from the Sacred Heart Primary School in Highgate and surrounding areas. In 1978, it changed its name to CBC Highgate and continued operating until 1981 for Year 11 and 12 students only (with young grades taught at CBC Bedford). From 1982, it was known as St Mark's College, Highgate. The Christian Brothers sold the school in 1988, and the building continued to operate as an English language school (St Mark's International College) until 2010 when it was sold to a developer. The original two storey red brick building at 131 Harold Street was listed on the City's Municipal Inventory in 1995 (Place 02179). It currently still operates as offices and an English language school in the foreground of a large residential apartment complex (St Mark's).

Options for private secondary schooling for girls living in the Vincent area were Sacred Heart High School in Highgate (until when), St Brigid's High School on Fitzgerald Street, which was operated until 1978, and nearby Perth College established in West Perth in 1902 before moving to Mt Lawley in 1916. Free public secondary education was established in Western Australia in the early 1900s, but unless students were bright enough to obtain a scholarship or were from wealthy families, few could afford to continue beyond elementary school education (Haynes, 1976). The most important local secondary school just outside of Vincent area was Perth Modern established in 1911.

Secondary schools in the Vincent area included Newcastle Street Junior Technical School from 1928 until the 1970s. In the 1940s, Norwood State School on Harold and Lord Streets was converted to Forrest Technical High School for boys to help relieve pressure on the crowded Junior Technical School on Newcastle Street. Technically outside of the Vincent area, but nonetheless important to former residents in suburbs like West Perth, North Perth, Highgate and Mt Hawthorn were two public high schools for girls, Perth Girls' School in Wellington Street East Perth from 1936, and Girdlestone Girl's High School on James Street, Perth. It was not until much later in 1955 that another public secondary school, Mt Lawley High School, was established to cater for young people in the area.



Newcastle Street State School 472 Newcastle Street West Perth, 1981 (SLWA b3800000_1)



Sacred Heart School classroom, 1930s (COV PHO1817)



Perth Girl's School East Perth, 1938 (COV PHO4256)

Kindergartens

While schooling before the age of six was not compulsory until 2013, free kindergarten programs for children aged four to six were promoted from the early 1900s by the Kindergarten Union of WA (known as the Kindergarten Association of WA from 1966) as a tool for social reform. Initially kindergartens were located in working class areas of Perth but as community recognition of the benefits to children grew, centres were established throughout the state.

In 1915, the Leederville Council Chamber, no longer required following amalgamation with the City of Perth, was turned into the Margaret Free Kindergarten and Nursery, a function it served for many decades until its relocation to Richmond Street in the late 1960s (City of Perth, 1943).



Children at the Margaret Free Kindergarten, 1964 (COV PHO4906)

After WWI, the Lake Street Kindergarten was established in the Stuart Street Reserve off Lake operating until the 1970s. The Kindergarten Union the main providers of kindergartens until the 1970s when control of early childhood education transferred to the Education Department (Gregory & Gothard, Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia, 2009, p. 310).

In the 1990s, the Leederville Childcare Centre (now Leederville Early Learning Centre) opened on the corner of Lofuts and Vincent Streets in 1993. Built on City of Perth Reserve land with joint State and Commonwealth Funding, the centre has been run as an independent not-for-profit community long day-care centre since 1993. Despite discussions with the then Town of Vincent to relocate the centre to the nearby Margaret Kindergarten in 2005/2006 (with the building repurposed as a regional police station), the childcare centre has remained on the same site as when it opened in 1993.



Leederville Childcare Centre, c 2000

Adult Education

An early facility for adult education in the Vincent area was the Leederville Mechanics' Institute, established in 1896, with the Leederville Mechanic's Hall built on Oxford Street in 1908 and opened in March 1909. Mechanics' Institutes first commenced in Perth and Fremantle and were soon established in other suburban and regional areas. Similar Institutes existed for Miners and Railway workers and their intention was 'to benefit the mechanics and young men of the colony, affording them an unobjectionable mode of recreation and improvement' (Heritage Council of WA, 2002).

In 1942, the proposed site for the Leederville Technical College, previously part of the Leederville school grounds on the Government Reserve, was declared (Public Works Department, 1942). The Technical School trade building was erected through the Army Training Scheme and was opened for the 1949 school year (Public Works Department, 1942). Carpentry workshops were constructed as additional apprentices were required for the war effort. After World War II, the Reconstruction Training Scheme was established to provide Associate Diploma courses and the Leederville Technical School was built to provide facilities for this purpose (Heritage Council of WA). The Perth Technical College became the WA Institute of Technology (WAIT) from 1967. From the 1970s, the Leederville campus became a branch of the Central Campus of Technical and Further Education (TAFE) (Heritage Council of WA).



Tilbrook Sisters on the steps of Leederville Technical School, 1960 (COV PHO3493)

Libraries

In the early 1900s, Leederville residents could area was home to a public reading room the Leederville Mechanics Institute to promote the 'moral wellbeing' of the people of the growing suburb (The Daily News, 4 January 1907). The first Leederville Mechanics Institute was part of the Municipal Chambers, built at another site on Oxford Street in 1898. The building quickly proved too small for both functions and a new Leederville Mechanics' Institute was built at the subject site along Redan Street (now Vincent Street) Leederville in 1908. Its life as a Mechanics Institute was short lived as the building was acquired by the Commonwealth Defence Department for military training in 1911 and became the Leederville Drill Hall (Heritage Council, 2018).

Throughout the inter-war period and early post-war period, there were private lending libraries, often housed within retail newsagencies. The former Beadle's newsagency which operated on

the corner of Charles Street and Newcastle Street from 1920 – 1947 included a bank, post-office and lending library. In 1940, there were 20 private lending libraries and book exchanges listed in the Wise's Post Office Directories in the Vincent suburbs including at a children's library at 170 Fitzgerald Street in the former cottage that stood on the corner of Stuart and Fitzgerald Streets (Wise's Post Office Directories, 1940).

In 1965, Perth City Council established the Mt Hawthorn library branch at 392 Oxford Street Mount Hawthorn which operated until the 1980s. The Loftus Street Recreation and Community Centre was opened in 1988 and the Leederville/ Wembley Community Centre moved into the building. The Loftus Centre (as it is commonly called) housed the Leederville Library and provided indoor sport and community facilities. In 2008, the Leederville Library moved next door into a new purpose built Library and Local History Centre and the old library was repurposed as a gym.



Mount Hawthorn Library, 1965 (COV PHO1348)

POLICE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

With a growing population north of the city arising from the gold boom from the late 1890s, it became necessary for a police presence in the district. As a result to the increase in crime and disorder that resulted from the population increase, the WA Police Force responded by building 'cottage style' police stations accommodating quarters for the local police officer under the same roof as the station.

Highgate Police Station, on Lincoln Street, was established in 1897, and the Leederville Police Station (not extant) was built on the Government Reserve, at the corner of Richmond and Oxford Streets, the following year in 1898. The North Perth Police Station built in Angove Street in 1908, operating as a police station with resident Officer in Charge until 1978 when it was used as a training facility, before being purchased by the Town of Vincent, and later sold to its current owners who have repurposed it as a children's day care centre (Landcorp, 2009).

A police station was established in Mt Hawthorn in 1928 and was replaced with a new station and CIB complex at 82 Ellesmere Street in 1962. Similarly, a new Leederville Police Station opened in 1962 (Edmonds L. G., 1998, p. 33). These suburban stations were gradually replaced by the East Perth Lock Up and Central Police Station in 1965, and the Police Headquarters in East Perth in 1975, the Northbridge Police Complex on the corner of Roe and Fitzgerald Streets in 2013.



North Perth Police Station 2004 (COV PH01677)

Fire services and the provision of fire stations also commenced in the late 1890s. Leederville Fire Station operated from the Roads Board building before a station was constructed in Kimberley Street (now in West Leederville) in 1904, operating until a replacement Leederville Fire Station opened in McCourt Street, West Leederville in 1927 (Department of Contract and Management Services, August 1996).

North Perth's first fire station (built between 1905 and 1909) operated by the volunteer North Perth Municipal Brigade was situated on the corner of Fitzgerald and Forrest streets. The service was

taken over by the Fire Brigades Board in 1910 and a block of land adjoining the Fitzgerald Street station was purchased with the intention of enlarging the building when funds became available. In 1925, an alternative site for the station was purchased on View Street and the new North Perth Fire Station was officially opened on 16 November 1926. The Fitzgerald Street fire station reverted to the Perth City Council and was later demolished and the site redeveloped. It operated until 1956 when staff were transferred to Osborne Park. The building on View Street was used as a training centre until it was sold in 1963 to local baker Jury Tolcon who leased it

as a commercial and residential property. It was sold again in 1980 and 1990s. It was heritage-listed in the Municipal Inventory and Fire and Rescue Service Heritage Inventory in the mid-1990s and included on the State Register in 2004 (Place Number 08749).

In 2017, the Vincent Fire Station was built by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in Carr Street West Perth on the site of a former warehouse that burned down in 2012. The most recent Fire Station to open was the Vincent Fire Station in 2018 (Perth Now, 2019).



Original North Perth Fire Station with North Perth Volunteer Fire Brigade at the Forrest Street station, 1912. (COV PHO5911)



North Perth Fire Station (fmr) 21 View Street North Perth, 2018 (COV PHO5918)

PUBLIC HOUSING

In 1911, the Scaddan Labour government established the Workers' Homes Board (the forerunner to the State Housing Commission, now Homeswest) to try and meet the housing needs for workers with limited means (who earned under £400 per annum) and ease the problem of limited supply (Sharp, 1993, p. 23). However in the early 1900s, the provision of housing support was very much a community support affair with groups such as the Ugly Men's Association helping to improve or build homes for local residents, particularly the families of World War I servicemen. The most celebrated local example of community support for the housing was the construction of Anzac Cottage in 1916 at 38 Kalgoorlie Street Mount Hawthorn. Anzac Cottage is of national heritage significance in being the first memorial in Australia to recognise and commemorate the 'ANZACS' who served in World War I. Its establishment was driven by the Mount Hawthorn Progress Association who wanted to honour the ANZAC's by erecting a practical monument to house a returned soldier.

ANZAC Cottage

Following the landing of the ANZAC troops at Gallipoli in 1915, the Mt Hawthorn Progress Association formed a committee to build a practical memorial to honour the fallen soldiers.

The land was donated by a local real estate agent, James Peet and the house was constructed with donated materials by an army of local volunteers within a month of construction, with much of the exterior structure of the house completed in one day.

The heavily timbered block was cleared by about 30 volunteers using hand tools on 29 January 1916. The following week, on the 5 February, materials were brought to the site by 70 drays and 150 men in a convoy led by Emily Roberts, the "Soldiers' Queen" who ceremonially turned the first sod before (The Western Mail, 11 February 1916). Construction of the brick and tile cottage took place on 12 February 1916, supervised by builder Sidney Gibson. Several hundred volunteers contributed to the construction from dawn until dusk when, at 5pm, a flag was raised with the letters ANZAC embroidered on it. With a little daylight left, the lawn was rolled out, the fence put up and the project was declared a roaring success. The remainder of the construction work, including the interior, was completed over the next two weeks.

The building of the cottage was a notable public event. The delivery procession was watched by thousands, and met at the building site by a crowd of hundreds. The main construction attracted a crowd of 4000 onlookers, the local streets were decorated with flags and streamers, and the Police Band provided music.

A souvenir booklet was printed to mark the occasion, with descriptions of the events and the cottage, photographs and the names of many of those involved.

On 15 April 1916, the cottage was officially opened for public inspection by Premier John Scaddan and the following day the property was handed over to Private John Porter and his wife Annie. Porter was a member of the 11th Battalion of the First Australian Imperial Force and took part in the landing at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915. He was wounded on the first day. The injury subsequently causing him to returned to Australia in July 1915 as an invalid.

The title deed to the property was held by the Mt Hawthorn Progress Association as trustees, with the returned soldier and his family and descendants having the right to live there, but not to sell it. Porter and his wife lived in the cottage until their deaths in the 1960s. Some of his descendants lived in the cottage until the early 1980s.

During the 1970s and 1980s, ownership of the property and responsibility for its maintenance was disputed and it fell into disrepair. The Porters' children had moved elsewhere and the nominal owner, the Mt Hawthorn Progress Association was no longer operating. After legal disputes as to its ownership, the cottage was eventually taken over by the State Government.

In the early 1990s, the cottage was given to the Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia, Western Australia Branch (VVAWA), who coordinated the restoration of the building to its original condition, with support from local community groups and funding from Lotterywest. The cottage was reopened in April 1997.

In 2006, the cottage was donated to the Town of Vincent who leased it back to the VVAWA for a peppercorn rent. The VVAWA used it as their headquarters and a museum, with public access to the community and local schools facilitated by the Friends of ANZAC Cottage, led by Private

Porter's granddaughter Anne Chapple. In 2021, ANZAC Cottage was transferred from the City of Vincent to the National Trust of Western Australia.

ANZAC Cottage was listed on the Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1995, the National Trust Register in 1996 and the State Register in 2000 (Heritage Council, 2018) (Heritage Place 03344).

After World War I, the Commonwealth established the War Services Homes Board to provide homes for returned servicemen (Sharp, 1993). Workers and War Service Homes were erected all over the State, including in the

suburbs of Leederville, Mt Hawthorn and North Perth (The West Australian, 25 May 1939). The City's building surveyor's report for 1931, records the approval of timber dwellings on Lots 394 and 395 Birrell Street, and Lots 66 and 67 East Street Mt Hawthorn for the Workers Homes Board (Perth, Correspondence File, 62/1932, 13/1949 & 57/1938, 1932, 1938, 1949). Mt Hawthorn was also a popular location for war service homes after World War I. Victoria Cross recipient Thomas Leslie ('Jack') Axford lived in a War Service Home on Harrow Street, Mt Hawthorn from the 1920s until his death in 1983.



Anzac Cottage souvenir booklet, 1916 (City of Vincent Local History Collection)



Volunteers at work constructing Anzac Cottage, 12 February 1916 (COV PHO1007)

WELFARE SUPPORT

In the early 1900s, welfare support services were the domain of churches and charities with limited government support available. Early welfare institutions in the Vincent area included:

House of Mercy

The House of Mercy at 55 Lincoln Street, Highgate was designed by soldier/architect Sir Talbot Hobbs and was built in 1901 as a refuge for unmarried pregnant women. The kinds of prejudice that single mothers faced in the early 1900s is reflected in the following description of the refuge which appeared in the West Australian in 1926: "For girls in desperate straits, sore beset with shameful sorrow, there is in Perth a haven. At the Alexandra Home in Lincoln-street, Highgate Hill, safe shelter is offered that seeks not to reproach, but to assist materially in re-generating the shattered lives of weak-natured young women. There they are helped in every possible way. Inexperienced and ignorant young girls are also taught much that is useful, and to tend their babies in accordance with the laws of hygiene." (The West Australian, 24 September 1926)

In 1916, the House of Mercy became the Alexandra Home for Women, named for King Edward VII's widow. At the time, plans to build Perth's first maternity hospital on Lincoln Street beside the House of Mercy did not proceed, and King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women opened in Subiaco instead. The Alexandra Home for Women continued its work in Highgate assisting unmarried pregnant women and their babies in an era when there were fewer social supports available to women. In the 1940s, the work of Alexandra Home for Women expanded to include mothercraft training. In the late 1950s, having outgrown its original building, the organisation moved to new premises in South Perth and became the Ngala Mothercraft Home and Training Centre. The house at 55 Lincoln Street was demolished in the early 1980s and the land is now occupied by aged care service provider Aegis Lincoln Park (McMeekin, 2021).

Salvation Army Home for Neglected Girls, Perth (1894 – 1898) – 192 Claisebrook Road

The Salvation Army Home for Neglected Girls was established in 1894 at 192 Claisebrook Road, Perth (East Perth), for women and girls with a range of needs. The home moved to Summers Street, East Perth in 1895. In 1898, new premises were built and the home moved to Cornelie House in Lincoln Street (North Perth, Highgate).



Cornelie Home (1898 – 1903) –

79 Lincoln Street

Cornelie Home was the name given in 1898 to the Salvation Army's rescue home when it moved to North Perth (Highgate) from Perth (East Perth). It accommodated single mothers, pregnant women, elderly women and women who had been released from prison. In 1903, the maternity program transferred to The Open Door, (which later became 'Hillcrest'), in North Fremantle and Cornelie was renamed 'Graceville'.



Ugly Men's Association volunteers extending 210 Carr Street, Leederville (COV PHO2460)

Ugly Men's Association

Established in 1917, the Ugly Men's Voluntary Workers' Association Inc. was formed in response to the poverty experienced by the working classes before Commonwealth welfare programmes were implemented in the 1940s. Although Labor ruled WA from 1924 when Phillip Collier came to power and worked hard to bring about a minimum wage, times were still tough for many. The group was made up of lower-middle and working class men who volunteered to provide hands-on help and welfare in predominantly the inter-war period, and were a major force in the cultural life of Perth in the 1920s. The Ugly Men administered voluntary labour, fundraising and events with over 2000 members and 21 suburban

branches. Unlike the middle classes, the Ugly Men saw their work as 'assistance' rather than 'charity', at a time when life in Western Australia was still less than idyllic for many. Their 'Uglieland' or White City amusement park on the Esplanade was hugely popular, as was a subsequent site in Fremantle, however opposition from some women's groups and church councils imparting their moral standards resulted in its closure in 1929, "a magnet for larrikins and loafers", and the eventual demise of the Association in 1947 (Pattison, 2017). After World War I, the Ugly Men's Association renovated or extended several homes in the Vincent area, particularly in Leederville and North Perth.

Silver Chain Nursing Association – 19 Wright Street, Perth

Ten years after the Silver Chain association began to help sick children, the organisation established cottage homes for the aged initially renting a cottage at 49 Wright Street in 1916. On 3 October 1920, the first purpose-built cottage homes were opened on the subject site at Wright Street. In 1924, 18 residents from 60 – 92 years of age were in occupation. On 5 July 1926, two new wings of additional cottages were opened. The Muriel Chase Memorial Cottage was opened in November 1937 with Boas Oldham and Ednie-Brown as the Architects. A new section with four bedrooms was constructed and the kitchen and bathroom area was renovated in the same year. In 1956, the Silver Chain Nursing Association moved its administration offices to the Wright Street premises. A further wing of cottage homes was opened in May 1957 with further extensions in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1980 – 81, a major renovation was undertaken at the subject place which included the demolition of most of the Cottage Homes, except for Myola Cottage and Mead Cottage and the construction of a new aged hostel to replace the Cottage Homes (Heritage Place 11451).

Florence Hummerston Lodge – 67 Cleaver Street, West Perth

The Federation Queen Anne style house was built between 1910 and 1914 as a private residence for insurance manager John Prowse. In 1956, after extensive alterations the house was purchased by the League of Home Help for the Sick and Aged (later Silver Chain) and became its headquarters. The Foundation President was Florence Hummerston, who was also the founder of Meals on Wheels and the female Councillor at Perth City Council. The building officially opened in 1957 with part of the building becoming a centre for the Meals on Wheels meal delivery community service for seniors. In January 1963, the group purchased 61 Cleaver Street as a home for elderly men 71 was added as a home for elderly women. In 1968, they purchased 73 to provide a home for the frail aged which opened in 1969 this as the Florence Hummerston Lodge. The building was heritage-listed in 2006 and was retained and renovated as part of a major aged care redevelopment by Rosewood Aged Care Providers which opened in 2020 (Heritage Place 17990).



Florence Hummerston Lodge, 67 Cleaver Street West Perth 1978 (COV PHO5305)

Walcott Centre – 3 Walcott Street, Mt Lawley

From the early 1920s, Mt Lawley was home to a hostel for children who were wards of the state pending placement with foster parents or waiting to appear before the Children's Court. The hostel was located on the corner of Walcott Street and Lord Street and was run by the Department of Community Welfare. Over the years, it was known variously as the Government Receiving Depot, the Child Welfare Reception Home, the Mt Lawley Reception Home and later the



Mount Lawley Reception Home, 1975 (Dept Child Protection)

Walcott Centre. It stopped being a residential facility in 1984 and housed the Community Based Offenders Program until 1993. It currently houses the Central Metropolitan Youth Justice Services, run by the Department of Justice to help divert early and minor young offenders, from the formal judicial system (Heritage Council, 2018) (Heritage Place 15731).



The Sunday Times, 18 August 1935

Anawim Refuge for Aboriginal Women – Lane Street, Perth

The Anawim Refuge for Aboriginal Women was located in Lane Street, Perth from 1977 to 2007. Anawim played an important role in the provision of care and safety of Aboriginal women in the Vincent area (Choo, 2021). Another women's shelter operated from the corner of Vincent and Cleaver Streets in buildings that were a former doctor's surgery and are now the Phoenix Language Academy) in the 1970s and early 1980s.



Anawim staff and boarders, late 1970s (Photo courtesy of Christine Choo)

Aged Care

For much of the 20th century, aged care predominantly the responsibility of families. In the late 19th century, state public charities provided home assistance, reduced when Commonwealth Invalid and Old Age Pensions Act 1908 took effect. Since 1890s, voluntary organisations and churches such as Salvation Army, Methodists, Anglicans, Catholics and Silver Chain (from 1905) played significant role in aged care providing social services, home care, nursing and aged accommodation.

From the 1990s until 2017, the Multicultural Services Centre of WA (with its headquarters in View Street, North Perth) ran the Multicultural Wellness Centre from Woodville Reserve Pavilion on Farmer Street, North Perth. Participants from different ethnic backgrounds were picked up by a bus each week and driven to the centre where they were fed, took part in social and physical activities. The Multicultural Wellness Centre relocated to Morley in 2017.

Current aged care facilities in Vincent include:

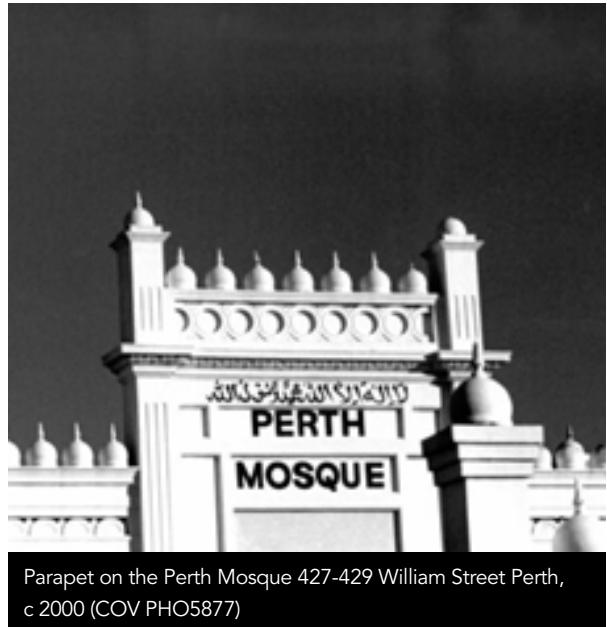
- Rosewood Aged Care – Leederville and West Perth
- Leederville Gardens Retirement Village
- St Rita's Nursing Home – Casson Homes
- Prindiville Village – Southern Cross Care 2 Alfonso Street, North Perth
- Aegis St Michael's – 53 Wasley Street, North Perth
- Aegis Lincoln Park – 21 Wright Street, Highgate
- Bethanie, West Perth – 40 Violet Street, West Perth
- Chung Wah Community Care – 1/98 Lake Street, Northbridge



Florence Hummerston Lodge at Rosewood Aged Care, Cleaver Street West Perth, 2022.



St Alban's Church Highgate, 1902 (COV PHO3025)



Parapet on the Perth Mosque 427-429 William Street Perth, c 2000 (COV PHO5877)

CULTURAL LIFE

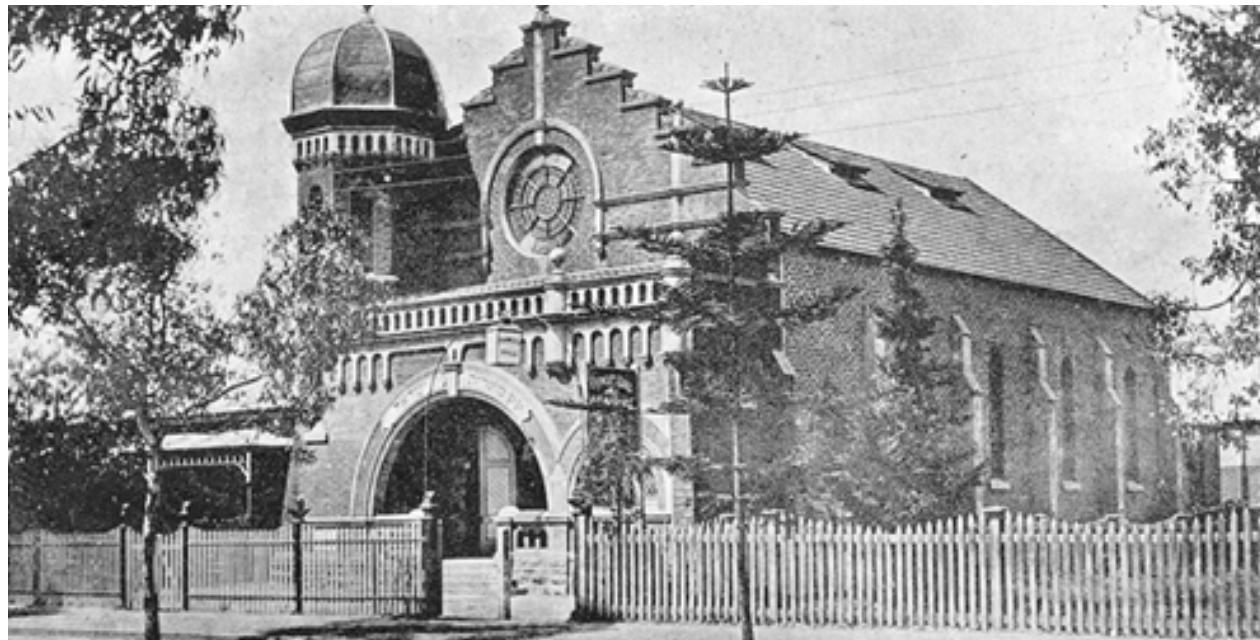
RELIGION

The Vincent area is home to many current and former places of worship, reflecting an earlier era when religion was central to politics, education, society and service provision. Almost every religious denomination established a foothold in the newly developing areas in the late 1880s and 1890s. In February 1889, the foundation stone for Highgate's St Albans Church was laid (Stannage, 1979, p. 133).

A timber Methodist Chapel was opened on Charles Street, West Perth in 1890, and a more substantial Church building was added in 1897. At the turn of the century, the North Perth Anglican parish of All Saints Woodville held Sunday school classes in Hahn's tower house, on the corner of Olive and View Streets. It also held services in Gibson Hall on the corner of Daphne and Angove Streets or in the North Perth Primary School (St Hilda's Parish, 1975). In 1904, a wooden building transported from Canning Mills was erected on the corner of Rose (later Glebe) and View streets until St Hilda's Anglican Church was constructed on the site in 1915 (St Hilda's Parish Church Diamond Jubilee 1915 – 1975, 1975).

The North Perth Congregational Church was completed in 1903, and an associated hall opened four years later. The North Perth Baptist Church held its first services in the Municipal Chambers, in February 1902. This congregation then built a church on the corner of Vincent and Fitzgerald Streets in 1904, on a tract of land held previously by the Catholic Church (Croxton, 1968, p. 10).

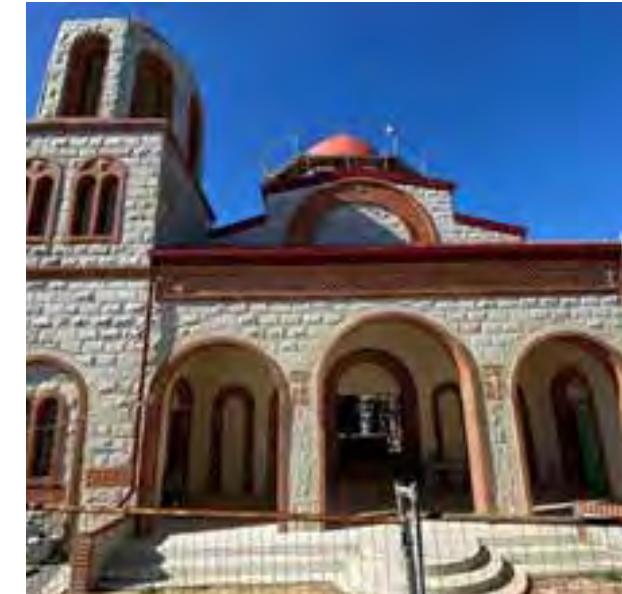
The Perth Mosque, on the corner of William and Robinson Streets, was built in 1906 with the support of the 'Afghan' Muslim population of the goldfields. 'Afghan' was a generic term used to describe several ethnic groups including Afghan, Indian, Syed, Baloch and Arab who worked mostly as cameleers and were crucial to servicing the early gold rush communities on the Goldfields. After the gold rush they moved to coastal areas in the 1900s boosting the number of Muslims in Perth. Businessman Faiz Mahomet, a Muslim from India, was heavily involved in the committee and travelled throughout the State raising funds towards its construction. The committee purchased four lots of land on the corner of William and Robinson Streets in North Perth in 1904 and 1905, and the foundation stone was in November 1905. Because of the White Australia policy, Muslim numbers declined over subsequent decades. Renewed Asian immigration from the 1970s saw the Mosque expand (Heritage Council, 2022). The Mosque was heritage listed by Vincent in 1995 recognised for its aesthetic and historic value as the first Mosque constructed in the State and its continuing use and importance for the Muslim community in Perth.



The Brisbane Street Synagogue at 117 Brisbane Street c 1906 (COV PHO6126)

The Perth Hebrew Congregation built an Orthodox Jewish Synagogue at 117 Brisbane Street in 1897. The Perth Hebrew Congregation formed in 1892 at a time when gold discoveries were attracting more immigrants to Western Australia. While there had been small Jewish communities in Fremantle and the Goldfields from earlier colonial times, at the turn of the 20th century Perth became the focus of Jewish life in Western Australia with the Brisbane Street Synagogue at its core. The synagogue was built on an acre block granted by the Lands Department just east of the corner of William and Brisbane Streets, near the Perth Mosque. Buildings on the site, which ran between Brisbane Street and Robinson Avenue, consisted of a brick

and stone synagogue that could accommodate 300 worshippers, the manse, a community hall (Prince's Hall) and five semi-detached cottages at the southern end of the block. With its circular tower and large rose window, the synagogue was a distinct landmark building in the area. The Perth Hebrew School was originally located in the Prince's Hall at the rear of the synagogue. In 1974, the Perth Hebrew Congregation moved to a new and larger synagogue in Menora and the Brisbane Street Synagogue was demolished. A smaller synagogue ('the Little Shule') at 127 Palmerston Street in Robertson Park established by the breakaway Perth Jewish Association in 1918 was also demolished in the 1970s (Mossenson, 1990).



Macedonian Orthodox Church of St Nikola under construction, 2020 (COV PHO6073)

The Redemptorist Monastery was built on Vincent Street in North Perth in 1900, and Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church opened in Egina Street in 1912. St Mary's church in Leederville was completed in 1923. The church was built on the site of the Leeder family home on the corner of Franklin and Shakespeare streets, the land having been purchased following the death of Theresa Leeder. A steeple was added to the church twelve years later. In 1926, the Leederville fire station opened. The St Cuthbert's lodge Co-masonic Temple, on Brisbane Street was constructed in 1936 and Mt Hawthorn Presbyterian congregation erected a church in Kalgoorlie Street which was opened in February 1938.



Interior of St Nikola Macedonian Orthodox Church, Macedonia Place North Perth 2023

The post-war period saw the demolition or repurposing of many former Christian churches as congregations declined in number. As older migrant communities expanded, they built new churches or expanded repurposed older churches, such as the Greek Orthodox Church of Evangelismos on the corner of Charles and Carr streets. In 1958, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese bought and refurbished the old St Paul's Anglican Church which had stood on the site from 1916. In the 1950s, the Serbian community built two Serbian Orthodox churches in Highgate and neighbouring Perth (St. Sava in Smith Street, and the Church of the Holy Trinity in Malborough Street. The Macedonian Orthodox community built two parishes, both called St Nikola within several blocks of one another, the older church on Angove Street on the site of a former Anglican hall, and the newer church on Macedonia Place, North Perth near Charles Veryard Reserve. In the 1990s, the Vietnamese community built the Chua Chanh Giac Buddhist Temple on Money Street, Perth servicing the community that had settled in Highgate from the 1970s.

TABLE 2: PLACES OF WORSHIP IN THE VINCENT AREA

| PLACE | ADDRESS | DATES | DENOMINATION/ORGANISATION |
|--|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| St. Francis Xavier Church | 19 West Pde, East Perth | Constructed from 1936 | Catholicism |
| St Bernadette's Church & Presbytery | Cnr Leeder & Jugan Streets, Glendalough | Constructed from 1961 | Catholicism |
| St Alban's Church, Highgate | Cnr of St Alban's Ave. Formerly known as 423 Beaufort Street | Constructed from 1889 to 1898 | Anglicanism |
| Sacred Heart Church | 40 – 42 Mary Street, Highgate | Constructed from 1906 | Catholicism |
| Sacred Heart Church, Halls & Presbytery (Church of the Sacred Heart, Halls & Presbyter, including Church, hall, Sacred Heart Group) | 40 – 42 Mary Street, Highgate | Constructed from 1899 | Catholicism |
| Sacred Heart Church Hall | 42 Mary Street, Highgate | Constructed from 1938 to 1939 | Catholicism |
| Serbian Orthodox Church of St. Sava | 31 Smith Street, Highgate | Constructed from 1954 to 1974 | Serbian Orthodox |
| Serbian Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity | 38 Malborough Street, Perth | Constructed from 1955 | Serbian Orthodox |
| Progressive Spiritualists Church | 388 Stirling Street, Highgate | Constructed from 1956 | Progressive Spiritualists |
| St Mary's Catholic Church | 40 Franklin Street, Leederville | Constructed from 1923 to 1968 | Catholicism |
| Former St Peter's Church & Rectory | Demolished 1959 Flinders Street, Mt Hawthorn | Constructed from 1961 to 1969 | Anglicanism |
| Baptist Church (Mt Hawthorn Baptist Church) | 94 – 98 Hobart Street, Mt Hawthorn | Constructed from 1912 to 1933 | Baptist |
| Mt Hawthorn Uniting Church (Mt Hawthorn Uniting Church & Hall, Uniting (Presbyterian) Church) | 115 – 117 Kalgoorlie Street, Mt Hawthorn | Constructed from 1938 | Now a private residence |
| Forrest Park Methodist Church (fmr), Methodist Church (fmr) | 41 Walcott Street, Mt Lawley | Constructed from 1933 | Methodist (fmr) |
| North Perth Baptist Church and Hall (fmr) (Commercial Premises) | 315 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth | Constructed from 1904 to 1922 | former Baptist Church |

| PLACE | ADDRESS | DATES | DENOMINATION/ORGANISATION |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| St Hilda's Church (Anglican) | 13 Glebe Street, North Perth | Constructed from 1915 to 1954 | Anglicanism |
| St Nikola Macedonian Orthodox Church & Macedonian Welfare Centre | 8 Macedonia Place, North Perth | Constructed from 1976 | Macedonian Orthodox |
| St Margaret's Uniting Church (fmr) (Bethany Indonesian Parish, St Margaret's Presbyterian Church) | 131 Raglan Road, North Perth | Originally Constructed from 1905, Constructed from 1913 | In 1977, the Presbyterian Congregational and Methodist parishes amalgamated to form the Uniting Church. The church is now occupied by the Indonesian Parish of the Uniting Church. |
| St Margaret's Uniting Church (fmr) (North Perth Congregational Church, Wasley Centre) | 65 – 67 Raglan Road, North Perth | Constructed from 1913 | former Uniting Church |
| Redemptorist Monastery and Church | 190 Vincent Street, North Perth | Constructed from 1903 to 1967 | Catholicism |
| Charles St Methodist Mission Chapel & Methodist Church (Uniting Church and Methodist Mission Chapel, Wesleyan Church and Chapel (fmr)) | 113 Charles Street, West Perth | Constructed from 1890 to 1980 | |
| Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady (St Paul's Anglican Church (fmr)) | 121 & 129 Charles Street, West Perth | Originally Constructed from 1916 constructed from 1970, | Greek Orthodox |
| St Mary's Church | Colin Street, West Perth | Constructed from 1980 to 2002 | Anglicanism |
| Vietnamese Buddhist Temple (CHUA CHA'NH GIA'C) | 45 Money Street, Perth | Constructed from 1990 | Buddhist |
| Perth Mosque | 427 – 429 William Street, Perth | Constructed from 1906 to 1999 | Islam |
| Liberal Catholic Church | 72 Brewer Street, Perth | | Liberal Catholic Church |
| Church of Christ | 13 Woodville Street, North Perth | | Christian Reform |
| St Nikola Macedonian Church | 69 Angove Street, North Perth | 1976 | Macedonian Orthodox |
| Macedonian Orthodox Church of S. Nikola | 8 Macedonia Place, North Perth | 1994 | Macedonian Orthodox |

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PARKS & RESERVES

One of the earliest parks in the Vincent area was Weld Square, which was made a reserve 'for public health and recreation' in 1873 by the then WA Governor, Sir Frederick Weld, after whom the park was named. In its early days, the park was known colloquially as 'the saddling paddock' (old Australian slang for a place of prostitution and sex) and was described disparagingly in the local papers as "the scene of vilest debauchery". In 1884, the "dense growth of underwood which formerly rendered it a harbour and refuge for vagabonds" was cleared by convict labour and police stepped patrols of the area in an effort to stamp out soliciting and gambling in the park (The Daily News, 29 September 1883).

In the 1890s, Weld Square was the venue for a range of sporting activities including cricket matches, rugby, 'English Association Football' (i.e. soccer) and even more obscure sports such as lacrosse. By the early 1900s, Perth City Council turned the "sandy uncared for battlefield of minor cricket and football heroes" into a fenced and gated park with walkways, garden beds and an ornamental fountain in its centre. On Sundays, the park hosted brass bands and street preachers such the Presbyterian open air 'Weld Square Tent Mission'. A steady stream of Presbyterians, Baptists, Salvationists and other Christian churches continued to conduct open air services in the park from those early days.

Along with settlement and subdivision from the 1890s, more parks and recreation grounds were established for the rapidly expanding population. William Ernest Bold, Perth's Town Clerk of Perth from 1900 – 1944, championed the redevelopment of wetlands or former wetlands into parks inspired by the 'City Beautiful' philosophy which held that the health and happiness of a city's residents were greatly enhanced by the beauty of their environment. Bold acquired land for the establishment of Birdwood Square, Hamilton Square, Dorrien Gardens, Lake Monger Reserve and Robertson Park, although most of the acquired land continued to be leased for market gardening until about 1927 – 1928 (Perth City Council, 1937).



Fountain in Weld Square, 1912. State Library of Western Australia. (P013673PD)

Hyde Park – 1897

In 1897, Third Swamp Reserve was gazetted with plans to turn it into a public garden. A year later, a timber picket fence was constructed on the park boundaries and entrance gates were installed at Lake and Palmerston streets. In 1899, Third Swamp Reserve was renamed Hyde Park after the park in central London. Politician and mining magnate William Brookman, who went on to become the Mayor of Perth, donated funds for construction of a grand three-tiered fountain built in 1899 near the Lake Street entrance. The fountain remained in the park until 1918 when, after many years of wanton vandalism, it was removed.

In the early 1900s, further work was undertaken to beautify and “civilise” the park (The West Australian, 29 April 1900). Avenues of Plane trees were planted around the park’s perimeter and a range of exotic trees replaced the native Melaleuca (paperbark) trees. The water body was made more lake and less swamp-like with edging, and water levels were topped up from the city water supply. White swans were introduced to the park, the ultimate symbol of colonial ornamentation in a land of black swans.

In 1913, a causeway was constructed cutting the lake in two. After much public opposition, the roadway access was reduced to a pathway. In the same year, a grand proposal for the construction of public swimming baths was put forward but abandoned due to cost.

In the 1940s, a cricket pitch was established in the south-west corner and the park served as a meeting place for various local cricket and football teams. During the war, the eastern part of the park (near Lincoln Street) hosted an air raid shelter that could accommodate 160 people in the event of an air-attack.

After the war, the park was a popular venue for post-war migrants enjoying leisure and companionship while promenading on the shady avenues and paths of the park. In the late 1960s, the multicultural flavour of the neighbourhood is reflected in the people and stalls of the Hyde Park Festival. In the same era, a water playground was installed on the north side of the western lake.

In the 1990s, Hyde Park was heritage listed in recognition of its value to the local and regional community as a recreation venue and for the high degree of integrity of its Arcadian landscaping style (Heritage Place 4634) (Heritage Council, 2018) Hyde Park has remained a much-loved destination for families, children, wedding parties and birdlife.



Fountain in Hyde Park, early 1900. (COV PH05642).



Hand coloured postcard of family in Hyde Park, early 1900s (COV PHO2223)

Lake Monger

While Lake Monger lies outside of the boundaries of the City of Vincent in the nearby Town of Cambridge, before the advent of the Mitchell Freeway in the 1970s, the original lake and adjoining parkland was an important recreational reserve for residents of Vincent's suburbs, particularly Leederville and Mt Hawthorn.

In 1902, the Lake Monger Board was set up to manage Monger's Lake and in July 1903, it was declared a reserve for public park and recreation. The lake was a popular picnic, boating and fishing spot, but the reserve only covered the lake area itself. There was no public land on its banks, and even some of the lake was privately owned. The Board had a grant of £200 a year, which covered everyday costs involving jetty, hire boats and caretaker but did not allow for future development (Perth City Council, 1938).

The development of the Lake Monger Reserve was slow. Chinese market gardens continued to operate around the lake and Aboriginal people were camping on the lake's edge well into the late 1920s. By 1930, Perth City Council purchased some 120 acres of land, 50 acres of which were to be reclaimed by dredging silt from the lake bed. Dredging works commenced on 13 May 1932 and by June 1933, 110,000 tons of silt had been pumped up and 12 acres of land reclaimed (Perth City Council, 1937 & 1938).

Well into the post-war period, the park beside the lake and the water body itself remained a popular playground for local Leederville children. The advent of the Mitchell Freeway cut off easy access to the lake but the construction of a footbridge over the Freeway from Britannia Reserve went some way to reconnecting local access for Mt Hawthorn and Leederville resident (Galup, 2022).



Lake Monger Postcard, c 1910 (COV PHO6130)

Robertson Park

Robertson Park, which sits between Palmerston and Fitzgerald Streets, Perth, is another of Vincent's historic parks. The present day park is located on a former wetland known to Noongar people as Boojoormelup and Goongarnulayarreenup. From the 1870s, the lake was progressively drained and the area was used for market gardening by British and later Chinese market gardeners, including Lee Hop who erected a cottage in 1903 on the south western edge of the park off Fitzgerald Street (Heritage Council, 2018) (Heritage Place 11436).

In 1913, the City of Perth acquired some of the land for future parkland. In 1917, it was renamed Robertson Park possibly after World War I English Major-General Sir Philip Rynd Robertson. Around the same time, the Perth Jewish Association bought a lot on the eastern side of the park on Palmerston Street, the site of which became a synagogue (the Little Shule) from 1918 – 1973.

In the 1920s, the City of Perth filled in and reclaimed the former wetlands and market gardens to make a children's playground and recreation reserve with tennis courts with a tennis pavilion constructed in 1928. Lee Hop's Cottage was renovated for use as a park caretaker's residence and the first caretaker moved in 1928. The 17 tennis courts on Robertson Park were officially opened in February 1929, with the children's playground opened two years later in 1931.



Robertson Park Playground, 1934 (COV PH00367)



Tennis courts on Robertson Park, 1929 (COV PH00371)

The tennis courts were exceedingly popular with the public and the revenue from court hire helped pay for maintenance of the park. The park also hosted a variety of women's sports including hockey and basketball, as well as a children's library and craft centre, leased by the Little Citizen's League in a small cottage off Fitzgerald and Stuart Streets beside the caretaker's cottage. In 1940, an outdoor theatre located between the children's library and cottage was built and housed the Perth City Band from 1940 until 1970 when Halvorsen Hall was built.

The 1970s saw the demolition of the playground pavilion, basketball courts and the children's library and theatre on Stuart Street, as well as the synagogue and Palmerston House. The original tennis pavilions were demolished and replaced in 1982. In the late 1980s, the City of Perth bought the former bottle yard property with a view to extending the park.

Following the split up of the City of Perth in 1994, management of the park shifted to the newly created Town of Vincent, who leased the tennis courts and proposed the sale of the former bottle yard land. A portion (40 per cent) of the former bottle yard land was sold for development of an apartment complex, which was completed in 2017. Part proceeds of the sale funded park refurbishment including wetland landscaping, heritage interpretation and signage and restoration of Lee Hop's cottage. The park was listed on the City of Vincent's Municipal Heritage Inventory in 1995, and State Heritage listed in 2007 (Heritage Place 08705). In 2010, its significance as Noongar meeting, camping and hunting place was also recognised with Robertson Park/ Boojoormelup being a Registered Aboriginal Site (#17849) (Hair, 2021).

In North Perth, 38 acres of parks and recreation land were added between 1914 and 1937, including Woodville Reserve, Menzies Park, Smith's Lake area, a children's playground adjoining the Town Hall, and Kadina Street. In 1928, 22 lots were acquired from the Intercolonial Investment Land & Building Co, on Cliveden Street, North Perth, for the creation of Kyilla Park (Perth City Council, 1952). Dorrien Gardens was being levelled and planted in 1936 (Perth City Council, 1937 & 1938).



Loton Park Tennis Club, 1924 (COV PH03445)



Gates at Perth Oval, 1960 (COV PH01328)



North Perth Bowling Club, Farmer Street North Perth c 1908 (COV PHO5847)



RP Fletcher Stand at Leederville oval, 1960s (COV PHO1341)

SPORT

The popular recreation grounds at the Perth Esplanade and Langley Park were supplemented by the development of Perth Oval in 1904. The site at Stone's Lake had been used for market gardening and became known as Loton's Paddock because it was owned by W. T. Loton whose residence, 'Dilhorn', overlooked the area (Bold, 1939). The place became officially known as Perth Oval in 1910 (Perth City Council, 1982). The Loton Park Tennis Club was established on the oval, on the corner of Lord Street opposite the Loton residence, and a clubhouse was built in 1917. The associated club is claimed to be the second oldest tennis club in Perth.

Perth Oval became the home of the East Perth Football Club from 1906. They operated a picture garden near the present entrance gates in the summer months from 1911 to 1921, to raise funds for the club and various charities (Bell, 1986, p. 31). Australian Rules football was promoted in Western Australia in the 1880s, against the wishes of the Governor and senior gentry who felt that cricket was far better suited to 'developing the values of the ordered society they knew and sought to conserve'. In the 1890s, many Victorians who came to Western Australia during the gold boom got involved in football and by 1900 Australian Rules was firmly established in Perth (Stannage, 1979, p. 312 – 314).

A number of organised sports clubs were established throughout the Town of Vincent during this period. The Leederville Bowling and Croquet Club officially opened in October 1907, and the Mt Lawley Recreation Bowling Club formed soon after. North Perth bowling greens and croquet lawns were established by 1910 on Woodville Reserve, followed by tennis courts in

1915. As the popularity of tennis grew a number of private, church and community courts were constructed (Perth City Council, 1938).

Leederville Oval, established in 1915, included tennis courts and cycle track as well as football facilities. The first football game was held here in July 1915. It was 1919 before any facilities were built at the ground, and that was only done when the West Australian Football League refused to allow any more games to be played until they were provided. A grandstand was built the following year, the contract going to G. Schofield of Cleaver Street for a cost of £703. The oval was also used during the war years by the military forces, for cadet drilling, the Leederville Drill Hall being only a little further west on Vincent Street (Perth City Council, 1917 & 1952).

Beatty Park

In 1962, Perth hosted the British Empire and Commonwealth Games which saw Perth take its place on the world stage with a new-found confidence and energy, and created a lasting legacy of sporting venues in Perth including specifically in the Vincent area. The Perth City Council first considered applying to host the Games in July 1956 (British Empire and Commonwealth Games Organising Council, 1964). Part of their submission indicated their commitment to build, 'an Olympic Pool and diving pool, an athletic stadium to seat 52,000 a velodrome at Lake Monger (already begun), training tracks at Leederville Oval and a Games Village (Gregory, *City of Light: a history of Perth since the 1950s*, 2003, p. 78). The Olympic Pool was originally planned for a site in Kings Park. There was a great deal of opposition to the proposed site and the aquatic centre was constructed on the Beatty Park site. It cost around £640,000 to construct the aquatic centre with an additional cost of £28,000 for filtration of water equipment (Edmonds & Wilmott, 1962, p. 11).

The British Empire and Commonwealth Games had a substantial impact on Perth. The long-term effects of the Games on Perth were numerous. Apart from the first-class sporting facilities, the publicity about Perth that was generated in countries all over the Commonwealth was generally favourable. The most important outcome of all was a new sense of confidence in Perth's ability to compete successfully on a world stage. (Gregory, *City of Light: a history of Perth since the 1950s*, 2003, p. 92)

Major redevelopment of the Beatty Park Swimming Pool was carried out in the 1990s. The two-stage project commenced in June 1993 and included a new pool on the north-eastern side with an indoor adventure playground with water slides. The newly named Beatty Park Aquatic Centre, costing \$5.75 million, was officially opened in July 1994 (Laurie & Davidson, 2012, p. 120 – 121). Another major upgrade commenced in May 2011 at a cost of \$17.5 million. It included substantial upgrades to pool heating and a new gym facility (Laurie & Davidson, 2012, p. 165 – 167) (City of Vincent, 2011 – 2012).

Beatty Park Leisure Centre/Beatty Park Aquatic Centre was heritage listed by the Town of Vincent in 1995, and included on the State Register of heritage places in 2004 (Heritage Council, 2018) (Heritage Place 03553) The heritage listing recognises its significance as an example of purpose designed public facility for the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, and its ongoing association with swimming events and water sports in the local and wider community for many decades.



Medal ceremony at Beatty Park during British Empire & Commonwealth Games, 1963 (COV PHO5733)



Swimmers at Beatty Park, 1963 (COV PHO2153)

CINEMAS

Prior to the advent of television in Perth homes in the late 1950s and 1960s, picture theatres and open-air picture gardens were a major source of popular entertainment, particularly from the 1920s with the advent of 'talkies' or films with recorded dialogue. There were many picture theatres in the Vincent area.

The New Oxford Cinema was one of the early theatres in the area opening in 1927. It had a varied program, from vaudeville and musicals to plays and films (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 41). The associated Oxford Picture Gardens, claimed to be the largest picture gardens in WA with a capacity of 2248 seated on canvas deckchairs wooden forms, was situated on Newcastle Street, almost directly opposite the Leederville Hotel. The Picture Gardens

closed in 1974. In the 1970s and 1980s, the theatre was known as the Olympia and was used for live band performances, imported foreign language films screened to migrant audiences, as well as 'blue movies'. The theatre's flagging fortunes were revitalised by an independent cinema promoter in the 1980s and renamed the Luna Theatre in the 1990s (Heritage Council, 2018).



New Oxford Theatre on Oxford Street, 1927 (COV PH03077)

Beatty Park Rosemount Theatre – North Perth

The commercial centre of North Perth also had its own theatre, the Rosemount Picture Gardens originally operating from 1919 to 1922 behind the Rosemount Hotel. In 1923, the Regent Theatre (later renamed the Rosemount Theatre) opened at 484 Fitzgerald Street across from the hotel. The theatre seated 1050 in the stalls and a further 450 in the dress circle, with a live Rosemount orchestra providing accompaniment to the silent movies. The seating featured the latest comfortable, tip up seats. Upstairs was a lesser hall, which could be hired for parties and other social events and had access to a viewing balcony.

The Rosemount Picture Gardens were reopened sometime between 1934 and 1935 by the Rosemount Theatre owners. In the 1950s, a new Rosemount Picture Gardens opened down the road at 360 Fitzgerald Street, in what is now an auto repair shop and mechanics yard. The Rosemount Theatre and associated Picture Gardens both closed in 1967. The theatre was remodelled, with the upstairs gallery turned into a bowling alley and the lower part into a hall for the Police and Citizens Club.



Opening Night of the Rosemount Picture Theatre, The Western Mail, 25 January 1923

Premier Theatre – Highgate

In 1925, the Premier Theatre began screening open air films on the corner of Stirling and Bulwer Streets. Its early history was closely connected to the East Perth Football Club, which had previously screened films at Perth Oval. In 1926, East Perth Football Club helped fund the construction of the indoor theatre which opened on the site in May 1926 (The Call, 7 May 1926). For many years, the Premier Theatre was owned and run by the East Perth Football Club Secretary Cyril Norton and his family. In 1937, the adjacent outdoor picture theatre Summer Gardens opened. In the 1950s, Cyril's son Graham Norton took over management of the theatre at a time when television was having a major impact on cinema attendance. The Premier Theatre expanded their offerings to Italian, Greek and other foreign language movies for the migrants who lived in the area (Norton, 2008). The Premier Theatre closed in 1963 and was converted into an ice skating rink and later a disco. The Summer Gardens closed in 1975 when the screen blew down in a storm. All of the buildings were demolished in 1987 and were replaced with an office building, which was in turn demolished in 2018 and replaced with a supermarket.

Another of Vincent's disappearing cinemas was the Ritz Cinema in Mt Hawthorn, corner of Oxford Street and Scarborough Beach Road, was built in 1938 on the site of the Mt Hawthorn Picture Gardens and was demolished in the 1960s (Davidson & Laurie, 2010, p. 66 and 88).



Premier Theatre & Summer Gardens, 1956 (COV PH02611)



Bus travelling past the Ritz Theatre corner Oxford and Scarborough Beach Road Mount Hawthorn, 1960 (COV PHO2989)



PUBS & HOTELS

Hotels were vital to the development of commercial town centres in the Vincent suburbs. More than just a place to drink, pubs were social and gathering places for the community providing a space for a variety of entertainments and public meetings. They also provided accommodation for visitors to Perth, often in upstairs quarters. While some hotels were established in the Vincent area from the 1870, such as the Beaufort Arms, the number flourished in the late 1890s to early 1900s when Perth was inundated with newcomers seeking their fortunes in the wake of the WA gold rush.

For years, hotels were heavily segregated places by race and gender. Women were not allowed into the main public bar in most hotels until the late 1960s. Some pubs had facilities for a 'ladies lounge' until hotels were desegregated. For much of the 20th century, hotel hours were limited by complex licensing regulations. Until the late 1960s to early 1970s, hotel patrons in Western Australia could only drink until 6pm. Workers would commonly head for the nearest pub as soon as they finished work at 5pm, where they would drink as much as possible, as quickly as possible, in the hour before the pub closed. This practice came to be known as the "six o'clock swill" and fostered an endemic culture of binge drinking, which in turn created persistent problems of alcohol-related violence around pubs in the early evening (Swensen, 2017).

TABLE 3 CURRENT AND FORMER HOTELS IN THE VINCENT AREA

| PLACE | ADDRESS | DATES | DENOMINATION/ORGANISATION |
|--|--|------------------|---|
| Leederville Hotel | 742 Newcastle Street, Leederville | 1896/7 – present | 02201 Cat A |
| Beaufort Arms (later Lone Star Saloon) | 167 Beaufort Street, Perth | 1884 – 1997 | Demolished 1997 |
| North Perth Hotel (originally Wanneroo Hotel 1900, 1904 North Perth Hotel) | 349 Charles Street, North Perth | 1900 – 1962 | Demolished 1962 |
| Vegas Hotel (built on site of the former North Perth Hotel) | 349 Charles Street, North Perth | 1962 – 1994 | Demolished 1994 |
| Rosemount Hotel | 459 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth | 1902 – present | 14915 Cat B |
| Norwood Hotel (Named changed to Jackson's Hotel 2000) | 282 Lord Street, Perth | 1897 – 2001 | Demolished 2008 |
| Oxford Hotel | 358 Oxford Street, Leederville/ Mt Hawthorn | 1900 – present | 02198 Cat B |
| Queen's Hotel | 520 Beaufort Street, Highgate | 1897 – present | 02426 Cat A |
| Tower Hotel (Originally the Club Hotel) | Corner Duke, Charles & Aberdeen Streets | 1898 – 1973 | Demolished 1973 for Mitchell Freeway off ramp |
| Mount Hawthorn Hotel (Renamed Paddington ale House 1987) | 141 Scarborough Beach Road, Mount Hawthorn | 1932 – present | 02211 Cat A |
| Knutsford Hotel | Blake Street, North Perth | 1956 – 2004 | Demolished 2004 |
| Charles Hotel | 509 Charles Street, North Perth | 1955 – present | |
| East Perth Hotel | 103 Claisebrook Road | 1896 – | Demolished 1990s |
| Brisbane Hotel | 292 Beaufort Street, Perth | 1898 – | 01964 Cat B |
| Clarke's Building/Flying Scotsman/The Elford | 639 Beaufort Street | 1934 – | 18084 Cat B |
| Commonwealth Hotel/Hyde Park Hotel | 331 – 367 Bulwer Street | 1898 – | 14914 Cat B |

The Leederville Hotel

Built in 1896 and operated since 1897, the pub has long been at the centre of social life in Leederville. The two-storey Federation style brick and iron pub was built to provide accommodation and slake the thirst of many newcomers from overseas and interstate flooding into Perth in the gold rush era.

While the original architect and builder of the pub are not known, its first owner was James Pearce who applied to the Perth Licencing Court in December 1896 "for a premises already built at the junction of Leeder, Oxford and Newcastle Streets, the place being ready for opening at once" (The Daily News, 8 December 1896).

In its early years, the pub changed hands several times and was rebuilt in 1904 into a much larger hotel "worthy of the district, compact and pretentious in aspect". The new hotel was the first building in Leederville to have electricity. A new era of progress and prosperity for the district was ushered in when the Leederville mayor flicked the light switch on at the hotel's grand re-opening in January 1905.

In 1914, the hotel was sold to the Swan Brewery Company which was Perth's most dominant beer supplier and the owner of a large portion of the city's hotels at the time.

In the period from World War I to 1926, the hotel was run by publicans Louis and Maud Cunningham who actively supported local charities and community groups, helped develop and promote other local businesses in the area such as a billiard saloon and the New Oxford Theatre built in 1927 (now Luna Cinemas).

The hotel was extensively refurbished in 1928 by the Todd Brothers and architects Hobbs, Smith and Forbes. It was altered again in 1950 with the addition of a women's toilet, despite women still being segregated from drinking in main public bars until the late 1960s.

As nearby Leederville Oval, former home of the West Perth Football Club from the 1900s to 1994, had no bar facilities in its early days, the hotel became the club and its supporters' preferred watering hole. Locals recall Cardinals footballers from the 1950s and 1960s 'training' at the pub on Friday nights before a game.

By the late 1960s, the hotel changed again as more cars and motels popped up in Perth, causing a decline in demand for short-term accommodation in inner-city pubs, including the Leederville Hotel. The hotel became home to many long-term boarders who were often single men on low incomes. One of these lodgers, "Kanga", who ran a local betting shop, lived and died in the tower bedroom of the hotel, is said to haunt the hotel.

The Swan Brewery Company sold the Leederville Hotel in 1980. It dropped accommodation over the years and the premises were remodelled by a succession of different owners.

In more recent years, its iconic beer garden and Blue Flamingo bar were popular go-to venues for locals. The pub got a new lease of life in 2021 with a major redevelopment. The new-look Leederville Hotel and adjacent Electric Lane, which is named as a nod to its early history, has breathed new life into the hotel's old bones and reconnected it to the heart of the Leederville community.

The hotel was placed on the Vincent heritage inventory in 1995 in recognition of its distinct Federation architecture and social value as a social and entertainment venue (Heritage Council, 2017) (inHerit ID 02201).

The hosting of the America's Cup yacht race in 1987 resulted in a general upgrading of recreational and hotel facilities throughout the metropolitan area. An example of this in Vincent was the rebirth of the Queen's Hotel in Beaufort Street (with an award winning renovation by architect Michael Patroni) and the Mt Hawthorn Hotel into the Paddington Ale House in 1986. While some hotels in the area were significantly refurbished from the late 1980s, others including the Vegas Hotel, the Knutsford Arms, the Lone Star Saloon (Beaufort Arms) and Norwood Hotel have since been demolished. Many of these demolished hotels were used as live music venues. The significance of these places in the development of music culture in Perth was recorded in the 'Music in Vincent' project in 2019 (City of Vincent Local History, 2019). The importance of Beatty Park as a larger scale music venue, prior to the development of the Perth Entertainment Centre in the early 1970s, also contributed to the growth of popular music culture in Perth (City of Vincent Local History Centre, 18 August 2022).



Leederville Hotel, c 1980 (COV PH06467)

GOVERNANCE

At a broad state level, government in Western Australia moved from a clique of English men administering the colony with minimal oversight or funding from Britain, to a mixed-gender party based parliament managing a state within the Federation of Australia (Menck, 2022, p. 63). Britain granted the Swan River Colony a limited form of representative government in 1870. This allowed budget priorities to reorient towards colonial rather than imperial interests resulting in expansion of transport and communications infrastructure (Menck, 2022, p. 106). Responsible Government was granted in 1890 with Western Australia becoming self-governing. In 1901, Western Australia became a founding state of Australia.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Government in Western Australia predates the granting of responsible government to the colony in 1890 and the creation of state and federal governments in Australia after 1901.

The roots of local government in Western Australia can be traced back to the Towns Improvement Act 1838, which provided for the establishment of town trusts made up of Justices of the Peace and local property owners in main centres including Perth, as well as a general roads trust to administer the rest of settled areas. While further legislation refined the role and scope of town trusts, they struggled for decades because of the marginal economy and small populations.

In 1858, Perth was designated a City Council and the Perth Town Trust formally changed its name to Perth City Council (Berry, 2021, p. 7). Loftus, Vincent and Walcott streets marked the western, northern and eastern boundaries of Perth. Immediately outside that boundary was the province of Perth Road Board.

The Municipal Institutions Act, 1871 and the District Roads Act, 1871 saw major changes to the provision of roads and other community facilities by municipalities and roads boards, laying the foundations for the modern system of local government (Berry, 2021, p.16).

Gold rush driven population growth in the 1890s and early 1900s saw a surge in the number of local governments with local residents keen to facilitate community progress. The number of local governments peaked at 147 in 1909. Among these were the municipalities of Leederville and North Perth (Gregory & Gothard, Historical Encyclopedia of Western Australia, 2009, p. 541).



Leederville

In May 1895, the section of the Perth Road District covering Leederville and West Leederville was gazetted as the Leederville Roads Board District (Western Australian Government, 1895). Less than 12 months later in 1896, Leederville became its own municipality, having sufficient property within its boundaries to provide a minimum of £300 in annual rates at a rating of not more than one shilling to the pound. (Western Australian Government, 1896). In April 1897, the population of the Leederville municipality reached more than one thousand and its municipal area was divided into three wards – north, south and central. (Western Australian Government, 1897) The first mayor of Leederville was James Stewart Bennet, and one of the first acts of the new municipal council was to offer a five guinea prize for the design of a Mechanics' Institute and a Council Chambers constructed in 1897 on the corner of Oxford and Melrose Streets, between the Leederville State School and Leederville Police Station. Behind it was the local pound, where stray horses and cattle were held, at the owners cost. After Leederville Council was subsumed into the Perth City Council in 1914, it became the Margaret Free Kindergarten until it was demolished in the late 1960s (Landgate, Map Viewer Plus, 1965).



Parliamentary visit to Leederville with Premier Moore and other politicians and councillors gathered in front of the Leederville Council Chambers on Oxford Street, 1907 (SLWA 009997PD)



Former Leederville Municipality Council Chambers remodelled for use as Margaret Kindergarten on Oxford Street, c 1930s. (COV PHO0031)



Official opening of the North Perth Town Hall (Lesser Hall)
30 June 1902 (COV PHO0484)

North Perth

North Perth, initially called Woodville and Toorak after the early housing estates, also sought greater local control over its rapidly developing area. In March 1899, the suburb was declared the North Perth Road District (Government Gazette, 10 March 1889, p. 762). In October 1901, North Perth was gazetted a municipality and its road district boundaries were extended to include the future suburb of Mt Hawthorn. The new municipality was immediately divided into three wards – east, west and central (Government of Western Australia, 1901). The council met at the North Perth Town Hall (Lesser Hall) which was built in 1902, and the main town hall built in 1910 (Heritage Council, 2016). In its heyday as a council chambers and offices, the Lesser Hall (or 'Mayoral Parlour' as it was also known) hosted fortnightly meetings where local concerns – from roads to rubbish collection – were thrashed out by councillors and residents.



Progress Associations

While North Perth and Leederville had their own short lived councils, other areas in Vincent including Highgate Hill, East Perth, Mt Hawthorn and Mt Lawley had their own 'progress associations' of residents and business people to help develop infrastructure, and facilities like parks and reserves, and promote social and cultural initiatives for local residents. The Mt Hawthorn Progress Association, formed in 1911, advocated among other things for flexibility in the use of building materials for home builders in the area (pushing to allow residents to build weatherboard homes). During World War I, the Mt Hawthorn Progress Association also famously organised for the construction of Anzac Cottage in 1915. The Mt Hawthorn Progress Association continued on into the post-war period advocating for a variety of local improvements from tram extensions to the establishment of a dedicated post office in the heart of the suburb (which was eventually built at 180 Scarborough Beach Road after many years of advocacy in 1955. In more recent years, the 'town team' movement has taken on many of the same functions as the old progress associations providing a channel for local businesses and residents to come together and advocate for local improvements.

Perth

In 1914, the City of Perth took control of all the inner-city councils, including North Perth and Leederville. This amalgamation was due largely to the influence of W.E. Bold, Perth City Town Clerk from 1901 – 1944. Concerned that administration was not keeping pace with Perth's rapid urban development, Bold moved to combine municipalities into a larger Greater Perth Authority. Bold's vision for a Greater Perth never fully came off but it did result in the amalgamation of North Perth and Leederville with Perth under the City of Perth Act 1914, with Victoria Park joining later in 1917 (Berry, 2021, p. 72).

In the inter-war period, Bold suggested the purchase of various Chinese market gardens for conversion into public parks and recreation areas (Bold, 1939). Inspired by the 'City Beautiful' philosophy which held that the health and happiness of a city's residents were greatly enhanced by the beauty of their environment, Bold acquired land for the establishment of Birdwood Square, Hamilton Square, Dorrien Gardens, Lake Monger Reserve and Robertson Park, although most of the acquired land continued to be leased for market gardening until about 1927 – 28 (Perth City Council, 1937).

In 1928, the Town Planning and Development Act was proclaimed establishing a town planning commissioner and board. The Act enabled local governments to develop town planning schemes, take land for development and borrow funds to facilitate development. All schemes required Ministerial approval, and once approved plans were published in the Government Gazette (Berry, 2021, p. 192).

In the decades following the 1928 Act, numerous applications were submitted for subdivision of existing lots in the Perth area (Perth City Council, 1942). Subdivision and building applications accelerated in the post-war era. The 1950s and 1960s were a period of suburban infill spurred by the influx of post-war migrants and wealth generated by the iron ore, gas and mineral boom of the 1950s – 1970s.

By 1962, Perth City Council had 27 members representing nine wards (WA Electoral Commission, 2003). The 1960s were a period of redevelopment which saw much demolition of older buildings and development of the Mitchell and Kwinana Freeway Systems. The overall policies for planning throughout the metropolitan region in this period evolved from the Stephenson-Hepburn report. In 1952, Gordon Stephenson was appointed as a consultant to the Town Planning Commission to prepare a Regional Plan for the Metropolitan Area of Perth and Fremantle. In the same year Alistair Hepburn was appointed Town Planning Commissioner. Stephenson and Hepburn's main task was to prepare a regional plan for Perth that would become the blueprint for Perth development. In addressing the problems of city transport and parking, the Stephenson-Hepburn Plan proposed the freeway, the relocation of the railway terminus to

East Perth and the linking of the Narrows Bridge to North Perth along Charles Street. This scheme was adopted in 1963, with the establishment of the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority. The Stephenson-Hepburn Plan set out to accommodate 1.4 million people in Perth by 2005.

Under the Metropolitan Region Town Planning Scheme Act 1963, Perth established a town planning department. In 1973, Perth submitted a draft City Planning Scheme to guide the city's development into the next century. Due to continual friction with the Metropolitan Region Planning Authority, it was not formally adopted until 1985.

Since the amalgamation of North Perth, Leederville, Victoria Park and Perth City into Greater Perth in 1914, Perth's area had increased with the establishment of the suburbs to the west, such as Floreat, City Beach and Doubleview. In the 1990s, the newly elected government of Richard Court decided to split Perth as the interest of 'dormitory suburbs' on were seen as increasingly incompatible with capital city development (Berry, 2021, p. 337).



Vincent

From 1 July 1994, Perth was split into four separate municipalities Perth City (the CBD), the Town of Shepperton (Victoria Park), the Town of Vincent and the Town of Cambridge (divided by the Mitchell Freeway). The municipality name referenced one of the main thoroughfares in the area, Vincent Street, named for colonial draftsman and surveyor George Vincent.

WHO WAS VINCENT?

George Vincent was born in Norfolk England in 1817. He served with distinction in the Royal Engineer Corps where he gained the drafting and surveying skills that stood him in good stead for his later life in the Swan River Colony. Vincent left London in 1863 with his wife Margaret and three children (John, Anna Maria and Alfred). He was appointed as a draftsman in the Survey Department a month after his arrival in August 1863. He became a licenced surveyor and valuer and quickly went on to acquire land in Parry and Edward Streets, Guildford Road and Mackie (later renamed Pier) and Stirling Streets. He lived with his family in Stirling Street in a home described in the newspapers of the day as a 'perfect museum of rare and beautiful things' filled with 'articles of vertu purchased at every Governor's sale since his arrival in the colony'. During his time in Perth he was an elected Perth Councillor for the North Ward for many years.

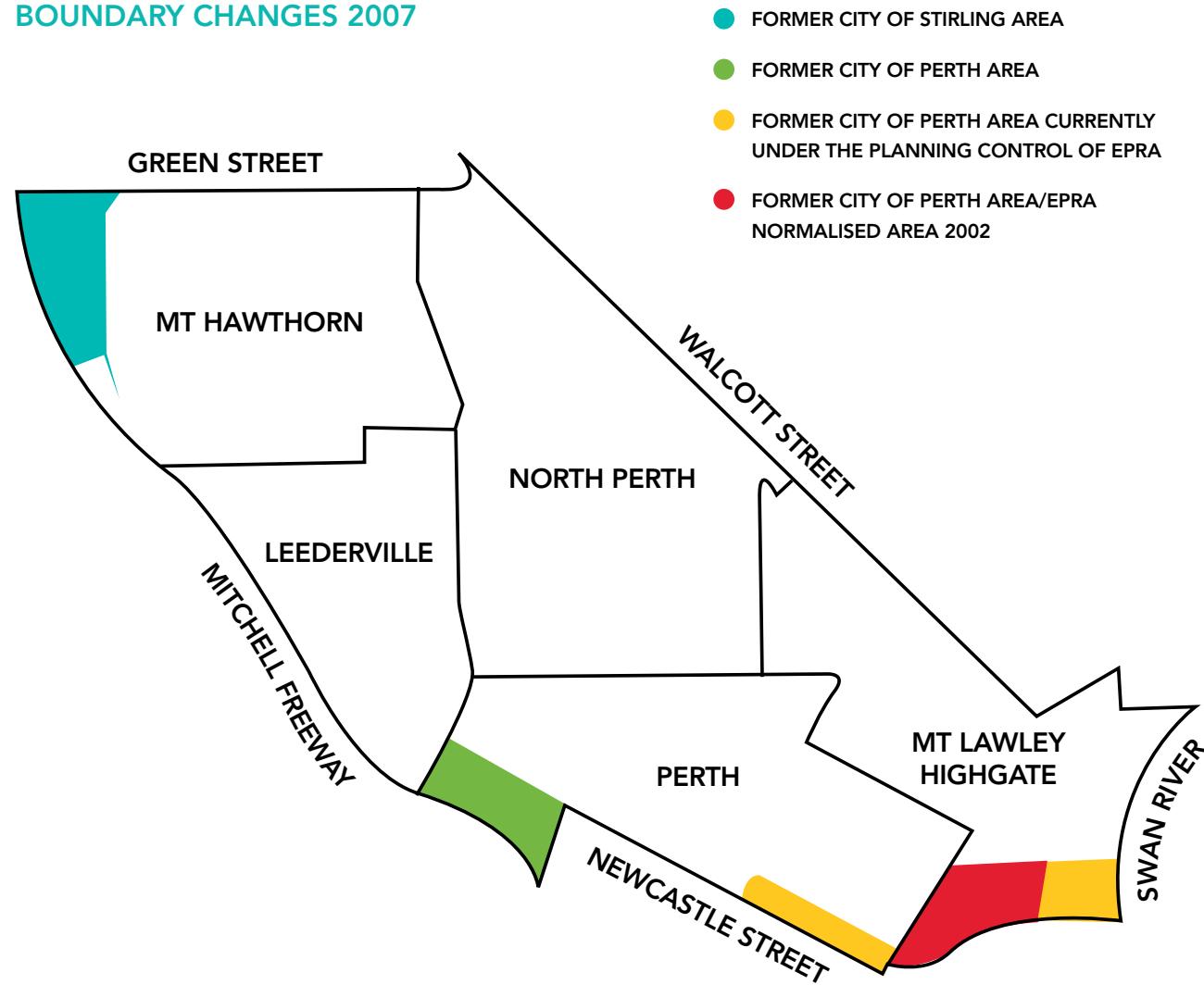
In 1889, due to ill health, George returned to England with his wife and daughter, Anna Maria. Their eldest son John died in Perth in 1868 and nothing is known of the whereabouts of son Alfred James. George Vincent died in London in 1896 followed shortly after by his wife Margaret in 1903. It was not until after the family's departure from Perth that the name 'Vincent Street' appeared officially in the Government Gazettes and post office directories in the 1890s. While there is no definitive proof of Vincent Street being named for George Vincent, the fact he owned land in the area (Town Lot Y 279) around the time Vincent Street is first mentioned in the newspapers in the 1880s makes it likely he is the namesake for Vincent Street. From the late 1890s, the area was part of the North Perth Roads District, later the municipality of North Perth which was then subsumed into the City of Perth in 1914. In 1994, Perth split into three separate council areas with Vincent (named for the major street in the area) encompassing the inner city suburbs of Highgate, North Perth, Mt Hawthorn, Leederville and parts of Perth, East Perth and West Perth.

Council offices for the Town of Vincent were constructed on the corner of Loftus and Vincent Streets. The first council elections were held in 1995 with former trade union official and City of Perth Deputy Lord Mayor Jack Marks becoming Vincent's first Mayor. The updated Local Government Act 1995 ushered in a new era for local government in Western Australia allowing councils to undertake a wider range of services for the betterment of the community and ensuring greater community participation and accountability of administration (Berry, 2021, p. 426).

In 2007, minor boundary changes were made to incorporate small pockets from City of Stirling and City of Perth into the Vincent local government area.

In July 2011, the Town of Vincent reached the population threshold of 30,000 residents and was conferred with City status (City of Vincent, 2011 – 2012). Since then, City residents have resisted various proposals from the State Government to be absorbed into either the City of Perth or Stirling following release of the Robson Report in 2012 which reviewed and recommended rationalisation of local government boundaries in Western Australia. Dissent from the community over several years (2012 – 2015) meant that the proposed amalgamations did not proceed (Berry, 2021, p. 487).

BOUNDARY CHANGES 2007



PLANNING SCHEMES

Changes to planning policies and regulations in Perth over the last century have had a major impact on the development of Vincent's suburbs. The local planning scheme, which includes the Scheme Text and Maps, sets the zoning and residential density of land and controls what types of uses can occur where. Local planning schemes operate under the Planning and Development Act 2005.

Vincent's first town planning scheme was endorsed by Council on 31 August 1998 and gazetted 4 December 1998. Other relevant planning schemes which applied to land in the Vincent area (until they were updated in 2018) were:

- City of Stirling District Planning Scheme No. 2 (Gazetted 13 September 1985)
- East Perth Redevelopment Scheme No. 1 (Gazetted 18 December 1992)
- City of Perth Planning Scheme No. 2 (Gazetted 9 January 2004)

In 2011, the Department of Planning brought in Development Assessment Panels (DAP) (local and joint covering two or more local governments) to improve planning and decision-making around large scale (more than \$10 million) development applications. Under the Joint Development Assessment Panel, a group including specialists and local councillors appointed by the state's planning minister make decisions on proposals for major projects. Critics argue that the DAP and Joint Development Assessment Panel has taken power away from local councils and communities with high rise steam rolled through suburbs without opposition. Supporters argue that the

system is necessary to address the need to provide higher density living to meet the Government's infill aspirations, set out in strategic planning reports such as Directions 2031 and Beyond (2010), State Planning Strategy 2050 and Perth and Peel@3.5million (WA Government, 2017).

The introduction of the Building Act 2011 also changed the process by which local government approved planning applications. Under the new act, building owners could use registered practitioners to certify compliance with building standards (Berry, 2021, p. 431).

In 2014, public consultation began for development of a new planning scheme in Vincent. The consultations occurred in the context of broader metropolitan and state discussions about the need for residential infill and increased housing density to address problems of urban sprawl in Perth.

Vincent's revised Local Planning Strategy was endorsed by the WA Planning Commission in 2016. It provided the long-term direction for decision-making in response to population growth and change. It provided the framework

for revision of Town Planning Scheme 1 and redefined existing zoning to create new town centres as the focal point for economic activity and higher density within five community precincts.

Town Planning Scheme 1 (TPS1) was replaced by Local Planning Scheme No.2 on 16 May 2018. The revised scheme provided more opportunities for urban infill and meet state government density targets. It allowed (with relevant approvals) medium and higher density development along the City's major roads, high frequency bus routes and in town centres. This included development along Scarborough Beach Road, Glendalough, Oxford Street, London Street, Charles Street, Fitzgerald Street, William Street, Beaufort Street, Lord Street and East Parade.

Establish low density residential areas in Mt Hawthorn, Mt Lawley and North Perth remained unchanged with some additions, extensions, rebuilds and renovations allowed for with relevant approvals. Parts of the Leederville Town Centre were rezoned from Residential to Mixed Use to encourage higher density mixed use development and further activate the town centre. The Claisebrook area was also rezoned to phase out the existing concrete batching plants and allow for medium to high density mixed use residential and commercial development (City of Vincent, 2018).



HERITAGE POLICIES

1 July 2019, the **Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990** was replaced by the **Heritage Act 2018**. Vincent has a suite of local heritage management policies and guidelines relating to the assessment, interpretation and management of heritage properties (and trees of significance) (Vincent, COV Heritage Policies, 2023).

The City manages a Local Heritage Survey (previously known as Municipal Heritage Inventory) which provides a framework for statutory protection of places identified as having cultural heritage significance to the local community. When Vincent became a municipality, the Municipal Heritage Inventory began with 155 registered places representing 270 properties. Prior to the 2024 Heritage Review, there were 298 places on the Heritage List, including 44 on the State Register. The majority of the listings were built in the Federation or Inter-War era. There is limited representation of post-war and contemporary era buildings, either homes or businesses in the existing survey.

The City also provides an avenue for protection of character or heritage through a Character Retention and Heritage Area policy under which 40 per cent of affected residents can nominate a street or portion of a street to specify guidelines to ensure new development and additions are sympathetic to the character of the streetscape (Vincent, Character Retention Areas and Heritage Areas, 2023).

The City has a number of local planning policies with the aim to identify, conserve and enhance heritage places whilst enabling development which is in harmony with its cultural heritage value. These local planning policies include:

- Local Planning Policy: Amending the LHS, Heritage List and Designating Heritage Areas
- Local Planning Policy: Assessing Cultural Heritage Significance
- Local Planning Policy: Development Guidelines for Heritage Places
- Local Planning Policy: Heritage Area Guidelines
- Local Planning Policy: Interpretation of Heritage Places
- Local Planning Policy: Character Area Guidelines

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