

HOUSES, 54-66 LINCOLN STREET HIGHGATE



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Houses, 54-66 Lincoln Street
Other names	Police Cottages
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	8721
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	54-66 Lincoln St
Locality	Highgate
Survey	
Vol/folio	
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	Considerable Very important to the heritage of the locality. High degree of integrity/authenticity
Management category	Category 2 Conservation of the place is highly desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.
Statement of significance	<p>The place is a fine group of intact Victorian Georgian detached single storey residences from the 1890s.</p> <p>The place is a good, intact representative example of houses built north of the original townsite of Perth during the Western Australian Gold Boom, reflecting the sudden increase in population in Western Australia and the resulting rapid expansion of residential accommodation</p> <p>The place is associated with the development of Highgate Hill and forms part of a streetscape that contributes to the local community's sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Residential: Single Storey Residence
Current use	Residential: Single Storey Residence
Other use	Governmental: Police Quarters

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	c1897
Walls	Brick Painted Brick
Roof	Corrugated Metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Victorian Georgian
Physical description	A row of seven identical single storey single fronted detached cottages with hipped roofs and bow verandahs supported by timber posts or verandahs altered to form skillion roofs. The verandahs of the houses are constructed to the street boundary and the picket fence forms a balustrade to the verandah. The houses are set close together. Rhythm of repetitive form and scale and front fences.
Condition	Good
Integrity	Good
Authenticity	Good

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Lincoln Street is part of the Highgate Hill subdivision, one of the first suburbs on the north side of Perth. The suburb was developed by surveyor Charles Crossland in 1874 and named for his birthplace in London. Highgate Hill comprised a small, isolated cluster of homes erected along the east side of Beaufort Street. Although the area was only approximately a mile (1.6km) from Perth and one of the first subdivision areas in the area, residential growth was slow. Highgate Hill did not begin to develop as a community until the 1880s.

The seven cottages at Nos 54-66 Lincoln Street were built on Lot 140 and are known to date from 1892 when the WA Trustee Co. was recorded as the rateable owner. They were occupied at that time. The original owner of the land was Horace Stirling in 1884 and he was followed by Mrs Murphy who owned it with a group of other people in 1888.

In 1892, it was sold to a company (name unclear) and then the WA Trustee Co. was the rateable owner and from 1900 to 1904 J.D. Edgar of the WA Trustee Co. was recorded as the rateable owner. He then held it in his own name from 1905 -1917 and the following year took out joint ownership with other people. The date of construction of the cottages is estimated to be c1897 although it is possible that it was earlier. An advertisement in The West Australian in September 1896 called for 'Painters Improver wanted 5.s a day long job. New cottages, Lincoln St Highgate Hill'. It is possible this referred to the group of seven cottages.

The City of Perth rate books for 1898 list J.J. Desmond as the currently owner and the cottages were valued at £600 each. The cottages have come to be described by local usage as the 'Police Cottages'. Their proximity to the Highgate Hill police station meant that they were often rented by policemen who were stationed there. Previous research has determined that the architect was William Johnston.

Highgate Hill Police Station at No. 57 Lincoln Street, was officially opened on 1 November 1897. It consisted of a change room and two lock up cells, a cow was kept in the fenced - off back half of the Police Station block. Initially there was a sergeant in charge of the police station and he was allocated seven foot constables.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1898, the rate books list the tenants of the cottages as Richard Smith (butcher - No. 54), Augustus Healey (stereotyper - No. 56) and J.J. Desmond, the owner, at No. 58 plus a clerk, engraver, bricklayer and publican.

In 1899, Wise's Post Office Directories that Richard Smith and Augustus Healey were still there plus James Quigley (No. 60), Samuel Barton (No. 64) and John N. Mills (No. 66). No occupations were listed for these tenants of the cottages.

In 1907, four of the seven cottages were occupied by policemen, among them Constable Charles Muller at No. 62. Until 1906 when police quarters were erected, the officer-in-charge also had to find his own accommodation.

By 1932, the cottages had become cheap rentals, with most of the occupants women, among them Mrs Alice O'Leary and Mrs Phoebe Forster (both at No. 54), Robert William Johnston (No. 58), Mrs Elizabeth Hayes (No. 60), Mrs Irene Stanton (No. 62) and Mrs Mary Lamb (No. 66). Numbers 56 and 62 were vacant.

In 1949, the last year of the Wise's Post Office Directories were printed, the occupants were Vic McCauley (No. 54), Mrs Hepburn (No. 56), Mrs Rose I. Frazer (No. 58), Herbert Jones (No.60) Mrs A. Young (No. 62), Robert A. McHenry (No. 64) and Eric Gatti (No. 66) and at that time only three of the listed occupants were women.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century indicate that the form and extent of the original cottages have not changed significantly although it is clear that some have been extended to the rear.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic development	
	Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
	Governing: Law, Order and Defence	
Associations	William Johnston	Architect
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006	
	Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	
	The West Australian, 14 September 1896, p. 8.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



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