

WELD SQUARE, PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Weld Square
Other names	Moreton Bay Fig Trees
Place type	Urban Park

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	8522
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Perth Draft Inventory 31 Dec 1999 Classified by the National Trust Classified {Trees}

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	180 Beaufort St
Locality	Perth
Survey	LOT: 1271 D/P: 30904
Vol/folio	2221/9
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	The place has aesthetic value as an open planted square in an urban location and is representative of public parks established in Perth prior to 1900. The place was set aside by Governor Weld as public recreational space in 1873. Weld was responsible for the creation of a number of recreational parks in Perth during his term of office 1869-1875. The place has been a site of ongoing association for the local Noongar community.

PLACE USE	
Original use	Park/Reserve
Current use	Park/Reserve
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	1873-1899; 2011-12
Walls	N/A
Roof	N/A
Architectural Style	Park/Reserve
Physical description	Grassed park bounded by Beaufort, Newcastle, Parry and Stirling streets. Contains several mature Moreton Bay fig trees, pine trees, several palms and several native trees. The only built form is a salmon brick toilet block with metal deck roof. The southern half of park is grassed and low shrubs in garden beds.
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	Moderate

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Governor Frederick Weld officially gazetted Weld Square as a public recreational space in 1873. Weld held office from 1869-1875 and was responsible for the establishment of several parks in Perth.

By the turn of the twentieth century the park had been planted with a variety of trees, including Moreton Bay and Port Jackson Figs. A fountain was built in the centre of diagonal crossed paths, and flowerbeds were planted through the park.

The parkland had been a site of importance for the Noongar community and continued as a meeting place for the Noongar people.

In 1925, a bandstand was built and the park was used for performances and public meetings.

In 1980, the original fountain and pathways were removed.

In 1996, the Northbridge Tunnel Development threatened the park and a tree management strategy (including relocation of trees) was put in place.

In 2011/12, new pathways, street furniture and lighting, a small basketball court and play equipment were installed as well as new perimeter landscaping.

The place is still a public park and is regularly used as a meeting place for local Aboriginal people.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Social Services: General Social Services Cultural Life: Recreation - Arts, Culture and Entertainment Cultural Life: Recreation - Sport
Associations	
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.

ARCHIVAL IMAGES



Aerial photograph 1976, SLWA image b2453421_1.



View from Newcastle St 1919, SLWA image b2216203_1



Weld Square 1912, SLWA image b4302924_2.



Weld Square 1912, SLWA image b4302924_1.