

OLD STREET SIGN AND SEMI-DETACHED DWELLING, PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Old Street sign and semi-detached dwelling
Other names	
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
State Heritage Office ID:	18025
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	189 Lake St
Locality	Perth
Survey	LOT: 2 STR: 33289
Vol/folio	2115/113
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Moderate</p> <p>Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place.</p>
Management category	<p>Category 3</p> <p>Conservation of the place is desirable.</p> <p>Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place, and original fabric should be retained wherever feasible.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The former street sign has aesthetic value for its demonstration of former fonts and signage style.</p> <p>The former sign has historic value for their demonstration of former methods of street signage, particularly in built up areas.</p> <p>The former street sign has social value for its continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Transport/Communications: Road Residential: Conjoined Residence
Current use	Transport/Communications: Road Residential: Conjoined Residence
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	c1908
Walls	Brick
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Architectural Style	N/A
Physical description	<p>Street sign: Early street signs were enamelled metal, in various colourways and with a variety of type faces. The signs are artefacts of their period and gain significance by remaining in location. Early street signs also remain at 2 Dangan Street and 114 Bulwer Street.</p> <p>Semi-detached dwelling: The single storey semi-detached dwelling at No. 189 is a mirror pair to No. 191 constructed in the Federation Free Classical style of architecture. The face brick dwelling has a single room frontage and a gabled roof concealed behind a partially moulded polystyrene parapet with a polystyrene pediment above. The pediments are not original, believed to be constructed some time later to mimic the pediment on the semi-detached duplexes adjacent at Nos. 193 - 195 Lake Street, Perth. The parapet features a precast console bracket with a precast ball motif on top.</p> <p>The dwelling at No. 189 Lake Street has a corrugated colourbond roof. A photograph of the dwelling taken in 1997 reveals it to have tile roofs at that time. Both dwellings feature two brick chimneys located on the southern and northern elevations of the dwellings respectively.</p>

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Physical description	<p>A rendered brick and metal rail fence delineates No. 189 from the street with a brick paved court yards with some plantings behind the fence. The dwelling features a bullnose verandah held up by turned timber posts separated by the party wall. A photograph taken of the dwelling in 1997 indicates that the bullnose verandahs were constructed after this time. The fenestration of the dwellings is simple and symmetrical with the front entrance positioned adjacent to the party wall featuring a set of two narrow window aluminium sliding windows with rendered decorative sills and skirts, addressing Lake Street. A rendered string course runs along the facade of the two dwelling, one at sill and one at above window height.</p> <p>Plans dated 27 February 1997 suggest that the internal layout of the two dwelling is identical to that at No. 191 Lake Street, with a hallway extended along the party wall of the dwelling, featuring floorboards running in an east - west direction, high skirtings, moulded cornices and a ceiling rose. Two rooms project to the north of the hallway, with a fireplace located on the dividing wall in the front room. A timber panelled door leads from the end of the hallway into the lounge room area. The lounge room leads into the kitchen area with the kitchen facilities located on the southern wall and an additional room and a bathroom projecting to the north of the kitchen area. The subject dwelling is located along Lake Street on the corner of Hope Street.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Street sign: Modern street signs are attached to metal poles and previously tall timber poles made from strong south-west timbers were used. Such poles were erected specifically for the purpose. Early street signs were attached to the side of the residence which occupied the street corner site. Remaining signs attached to residences are also located at 2 Dangan Street and 114 Bulwer Street.

Semi-detached dwelling: The discovery of gold in Western Australia in the 1880s and the subsequent Gold Boom of the 1890s saw Perth's population increase four-fold from 9,500 in 1891 to 44,000 in 1901 and 87,000 in 1911. A shortage of space in the city led to people moving out of the central area and creating tent 'suburbs' and a demand for rental accommodation close to the city heightened. Continuing demand for housing led to several new subdivisions. Amongst the new subdivisions was 'Central Park Estate' was developed in 1892 at Lake Thompson and houses were erected along William, Newcastle, Lindsay, and Money Streets, and several shops along Newcastle and William Streets. Others also carried out in the area included that undertaken by the Colonial Finance Corporation between Brookman, Moir and Lake Streets, and Forbes Road, the subdivisions 'Westralia' in 1895, 'Norwood' in 1896 and the 'Brooking Park Estate' also in 1896. The block that the subject dwelling and street sign erected, No. 189 Lake Street, were part of the latter subdivision.

During these Gold Boom years of the 1890s this area of Perth was substantially redeveloped with existing lots being further subdivided for housing and commercial development. A survey of the Wise Post Office Directories indicates that there was a range of commercial and residential properties that developed along Lake Street from the 1890s onwards between Newcastle Street and Brisbane Street. Some commercial properties on the western side of the street included the West Australian Boot Manufacturing Company (No. 117), the Newcastle Club Hotel located on the corner of Newcastle Street, and a grocery store on the corner of Church Street, amongst single and semi-detached residential dwellings. The commercial properties are still in extant today, however many have since been converted to alternative uses including residential grouped dwellings, a backpackers, and an office respectively.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Other commercial developments in the area included The Northbridge Hotel, formerly the Royal Standard Hotel, which was constructed circa 1897 on the corner of Brisbane Street, coinciding with the development of the residential estates in Brookman, Moir and Lake Street, initiated by the Colonial Finance Company. This mix of commercial and residential development was characteristic of this area of Perth and created a diversity of residents including shop keepers and trades people and home occupations such as dress makers and music teachers, together with professionals and the 'managerial class'. This diversity within the social fabric was demonstrated through the diversity in housing type. For instance the Colonial Finance Corporation, a typical property investment company, became the sole proprietor of part of Suburban Lot 28 with the intention of building a housing estate, within the area bounded by Lake Street to the west, Cicely Street (later known as Robinson Avenue) to the north, Wellman Avenue to the east and by Forbes Road to the south.

The City of Perth rate books indicate that the subject place was owned by Fergus Arundal of Fremantle in 1898 and that he also owned Nos. 187, 191 and 193. The 1908 Wise's Post Office Directories indicate that the resident was Mrs Isobel Holmes. There were five houses in her street block at that time and the occupations were listed for some of the residents. At No. 193 there was a businessman and No. 203 was a tailor and on the opposite corner at No. 187 there was a builder. In 1925 the resident at the subject place was Albert W. Langford and Arthur J. Langford was next door at No. 191. In 1949, the last year of the Directories, the resident was Jackson Kingsley. In 2008 there were three dwellings within the strata subdivision; namely the subject dwellings at No. 189 (Lot 2) and No. 191 (Lot 1) and the new dwellings at the rear of these two, at No. 2A (Lot 3) Hope Street, Perth.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards show the aforementioned addition of the residence at the back of the subdivided block in 2002-2003, as well as the replacement of the roofing of the subject place and No. 191 in the late 1990s, and again at No. 189 in the early 2000s. The form of the semi-detached dwelling has changed little since the aerial photographs began. The street sign is still visible from the Hope Street side of the residence.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION	
Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic development Cultural Life: Domestic Life Infrastructure: Transport and Communications
Associations	
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

