

MAYFAIR FLATS, WEST PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Mayfair Flats
Other names	
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	17982
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	83 Carr St
Locality	West Perth
Survey	LOTS: 1 - 4 D/P: 7106
Vol/folio	
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Considerable Very important to the heritage of the locality. High degree of integrity/authenticity.</p>
Management category	<p>Category 2 Conservation of the place is highly desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place has aesthetic value as a fine and intact example of the Inter War Functionalist style which is a landmark in the streetscape.</p> <p>This fine block is one of the most notable of the Interwar designs of the Architect William G. Bennett, a leading modernist of the period and prominent architect in the profession.</p> <p>The place is valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE

Original use	Residential: Multistorey Residence
Current use	Residential: Multistorey Residence
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction date	1937
Walls	Brick
Roof	Terracotta tile
Architectural Style	Inter War Functionalist

Physical description

The double storey rendered and face brick building has a hipped tile roof. The front façade is symmetrical about a central entry and staircase, expressed as a vertical bay that rises to a square parapet and has a recessed window openings, interrupted by an faceted face brick balcony dado.

The opening is framed in face brick detailing. The name of the flats is on the top of the parapet, in stylised lettering. There is one room at each level, flanking the centre element.

On both floors there are six narrow horizontal bands of brickwork across the façade, within the height of the window openings. On the ground floor the windows are sets of three with a wider fixed central window flanked by casements each side. Each casement has a configuration of 6 horizontal panes of glass in a vertical format.

On the upper floor level the three configuration is a central door with four paned windows each side. The upper floor doors open onto a concrete curved corner balcony with horizontal flat steel railings. The balcony forms the roof to the porch below that is supported by slender circular columns on a curved brick dado wall. Low face brick wall with central entry. Plantings in the setback include some small conifers.

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1933, it was reported that 'flat life' was becoming more popular in Perth and suburbs, as evidenced by the construction of several blocks in and around the city. Flat conversion was also seen as a way of dealing with old-fashioned residences at this time, with a number undergoing extensive refurbishment and renovation, which often included a new facade. Other older homes were removed to make way for the new flat developments.

No 83 Carr Street is a block of four two-bedroom flats designed by architect William G. Bennett and erected around 1936. They were listed in the Post Office Directories in 1937 for the first time but all were empty at that time. The following year Nos. 2, 3 and 4 had tenants being Mrs E. Brown, Morgan Abrahams and Stan Hogg.

No. 1 was leased the following year to Amedeo Re. At that time the other tenants were Mrs Stokes, Mrs Nancy A. Harper and C. A. Gardiner. Mr Re was born in Fremantle in 1910 but left for Italy (the birth place of his parents) as a young child. He returned to Western Australia in 1932. Following his marriage, he and his Italian-born wife and children lived in flat number 1 until they left for America during World War II.

Mr Re said in an interview 'They were nice apartments, only four. We had the one downstairs, the right one and we were 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. When they were too small I used to take them over to Grandma, to play there because they had pets. We did not have any pets because where we were living we were not allowed to have them but my parents were living there in Aberdeen Street and they still had pets. My brothers were there and the children liked to stay there with them and the uncles'.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1949 the residents listed in the Wise's Post Office Directory were F. W. Simpson, J. Haynes, H. M. Giles, Albt Hateley, and were referred to as the Mayfair Flats.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards indicate that the form and extant of the residence have changed little since that time with the exception of a new roof being added in 2016. This is the only visible change in these photographs.

Historic theme	Cultural Life: Domestic Life Peopling WA: Demographic Development	
Associations	William G. Bennett	Architect
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

