

EDDINGTON, WEST PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Eddington
Other names	House, 14 Florence St
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	18002
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	14 Florence St
Locality	West Perth
Survey	LOT: 100 D/P: 413693
Vol/folio	2968/566
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 retain original fabric where feasible.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place has aesthetic value as a fine and intact example of the Federation Bungalow style which is a landmark in the streetscape.</p> <p>The place reflects the expansion and development of residential buildings for the affluent members of the community in West Perth during the early years of the twentieth century.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with Charles Sheridan and his family who built this family home and the engraving business established on the premises.</p> <p>This 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: Single Storey Residence
Current use	Residential: Single Storey Residence
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction date	C1905
Walls	Rendered Brick
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Bungalow
Physical description	<p>The single storey dwelling has a symmetrical frontage with a full width bullnose verandah. The main roof is hipped with a central feature vented gablet, and twin gables above rectangular bay windows. The gables are infilled with roughcast and detailed with vertical and curved timber battens in contrasting colour. All the gables are topped with finials.</p> <p>The central front door is recessed behind an arched opening, and features side lights and a fanlight. The windows in the bays are sets of paired double hung sashes.</p> <p>The walls are roughcast render with smooth painted quoins. The verandah is supported by half height pairs of columns on rusticated limestone plinths.</p> <p>Two wide concrete steps onto the verandah are flanked by lions on face limestone plinths. The chimneys are roughcast on a smooth rendered base with moulded details around the top.</p> <p>Small setback behind a low roughcast with moulded smooth render top fence with low steel palisades between square fluted columns.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The residence at No. 14 Florence Street has held a long and continuous association with the Sheridan family. On the death of his father in 1895 Charles Sheridan (1879-1941) was just 15 years old and was left with the responsibility of providing for his family. At the time his family lived in the little town of Eddington located between Ballarat and Bendigo in the Victorian Goldfields. At the time this small town offered little business opportunities apart from the uncertainties of gold-mining in Ballarat. In 1901, once his siblings were no longer a burden to his mother, Charles decided to try his luck in the West and moved to Perth at the age of 21.

On arriving in Perth Charles had little money but soon began an importing and indenting business. The good he sold were mostly gentlemen's accessories such as cummerbunds, hat vents and other components for tailors and milliners. An accomplished violinist, Charles also formed a chamber quartet with friends from Ballarat to play at formal occasions. Two years after arriving in Perth, Charles had saved enough money to return to Victoria to ask his childhood sweetheart, Jessie Stott, for her hand in marriage.

By 1906, Charles was well established in Perth and was living in a large inner-city residence and had bought land on the Swan River in Perth. The couple married in February 1906 and this place was their family home. The architect and builder have not been determined.

In 1913, Charles helped Ernest Austin, a jeweller, repay a gambling debt. The repayment of the debt marked the start of the company that still exists today. A small workshop was set up behind the Florence Street property for Austin to work off his debt. Before long Charles was employing additional staff and Austral Engraving and Stamping Company was open for business.

With a contract during World War I to supply military cap badges, Austral Engraving moved from being a small engraving and metal components business to a manufacturer of substance. The reputation and expertise gained by Sheridan's during World War I led to other government work, as well as jobs for sporting clubs and private enterprise.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

By the 1920s, Austral Engraving were the largest badge maker and engraver in Western Australia. The name was changed in 1924, to Sheridan's Engraving and Metal Stamping Company. While production continued behind the Florence Street residence Charles believed it to be commercial etiquette to have an office and showroom in the city in Hay Street. On leaving school both Charles' and Jessie's children, Charles junior and Doreen, entered the family business. On the death of Charles Sheridan senior in 1941 at the age of 60, Charles junior took over the family business and his sister Doreen moved to Melbourne.

World War II meant continuing expansion for the company which continued further in the Post-War period as Charles junior expanded the clientele base to rural areas. In 1953 Charles junior married Beryl Olsen and they had three boys who, as children, began helping in the workshop that still operated behind the family home. Charles junior and his wife died in 1982 and 1983 respectively and in 1984 the company's name was changed to Sheridan's for Badges and all three sons were involved in the business.

In 2007, the business was listed as Sheridan's for Badges and was still operating at the subject place where there is both a workshop and a showroom. In 2021 the business is listed as Sheridan's Badges and Engravings and operates out of Jolimont. Their website states that they are 'a third generation family firm, and are one of Western Australia's longest-running family businesses'. The company currently supplies solid copper and brass, silver and gold plated or plastic badges and plaques, spoons, key rings and other mementos to government departments, schools, sporting clubs and a variety of business organisations.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards indicate that the form and extent of the residence have changed little since that time.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic development	
	Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
	Economy: Commerce	
Associations	Sheridan Family	Owners and occupiers
	Sources	
Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006.		Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

