

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVENTORY

PLACE REFERENCE NO.: AC02

NAME: ALFRED COVE RESERVE

OTHER NAMES: --

PIN NO. (Landgate): 11652200

LAND DESCRIPTION: Pt. Reserve A35066, Reserve 35486  
Swan Locs. 9595, 9962, 11093 and 10790  
Lot 37L, B47 Swan Loc. 5519 at  
Point Waylen

LOCATION: Alfred Cove and Attadale

CONSTRUCTION DATE: Not relevant

PLACE TYPE: Natural Reserve

USE: Original Use: Aboriginal site and natural reserve  
Current Use: Natural Recreation Reserve

HERITAGE LISTINGS: - City of Melville – CPS 14 December 1999, MHI 19 December 1994, Place Ref. AC02;  
- Australian Heritage Council Register of the National Estate Place ID 17818 'Alfred Cove – Point Waylen Area' Registered 28 May 1996;  
- Department of Aboriginal Affairs Register of Aboriginal Sites Site ID 3536 'Swan River'.

ARCHITECT: Not relevant

BUILDER: Not relevant

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Not relevant

CONDITION: Relatively undisturbed and sound; some weed infestation.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Alfred Cove Reserve comprises natural and estuarine wetland saltmarsh incorporating relatively undisturbed peripheral vegetation. The peripheral vegetation includes seagrass and wildlife, both in special purpose zones for environmental protection. The Estuary is bordered on the landward side in the Alfred Cove (City of Melville) segment by a narrow foreshore strip. That strip is vegetated and abuts or incorporates a paved walkway and bicycle path linking through the Alfred Cove area to Tompkins Park and Applecross to the east and to Troy Park, Point Waylen and Attadale to Point Walter in the west.

The Alfred Cove/Point Waylen segment of the Swan Estuary Marine Park has been identified as a wildlife habitat important for a diversity of bird species and a small pocket of marshland, mudflats available to wading birds. The segment contains fossil deposits, freshwater gastropods and natural vegetation important to bird species for breeding, roosting, feeding and passage, all of which are relevant to international migratory birds and migratory birds as well as to nomadic and sedentary birds.

Alfred Cove Reserve continues west to connect directly with Attadale Reserve (including Attadale Conservation Area), Troy Park, Alfred Cove Nature Reserve and Burke Drive Dog Exercise Area, all bordering onto the Swan Estuary Marine Park within the Swan River.

## HISTORICAL NOTES:

In summer, the Beeliiar Nyoongars used Alfred Cove as a campsite for this was an area of the Wetlands which was an abundant source of yams, crustaceans, turtles and waterfowl. The Beeliiar Nyoongars would regularly burn sections of this area which kept the understorey low and was considered a useful technique for flushing out game. The Aboriginal name for Alfred Cove is Marrandungup.

Alfred Cove Reserve is located at Alfred Cove in the City of Melville, Attadale locality, at the bank of the Swan River at Alfred Cove, a reserve between Burke Drive and the River and bordered by Point Waylen and Troy Park to the north and Tompkins Park to the east. The Reserve is considered to be both diverse and interesting, containing over around 132 species of bush and water birds.

Alfred Cove Reserve forms part of the Swan Estuary Marine Park at Swan Loc. 9595 being part of Reserve A35066, Reserve 35486, and Lot 37L B47 Swan Loc. 5519.

Troy Park is named after the Hon. Michael Francis Troy MLA, Minister for Lands and Migration 1927-1930 and 1933-1939.

## HISTORIC THEME/S (HCWA THEME/S):

- Australian Historic Themes: 1.4 Appreciating the natural wonders of Australia  
7.6.10 Conserving fragile resources.
- HCWA Themes: 102 Aboriginal occupation  
409 Environmental awareness.



**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:**

Natural land and marine characteristics.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Alfred Cove Reserve is assessed to be of exceptional cultural heritage significant as a place of natural value; the Reserve is one part of the Swan Estuary Marine Park which comprises three areas – Pelican Point, Milyu Reserve and Alfred Cove – tidal flats in the Swan Canning Estuary and which are important as habitats for waders. The Reserve is important as well as for being an area which retains the only relatively natural and extensive estuarine wetland saltmarsh on the Lower Swan Estuary incorporating one of the few remaining areas of undisturbed peripheral vegetation.

Alfred Cove Reserve is significant as an important waterbird habitat where as many as 132 species of waterbirds use the area as a sanctuary and breeding ground. The Reserve is significant for conservation values, for recreational and commercial importance to the community, and as a place of value for education, natural history and research.

**SIGNIFICANT ITEMS:**

The natural and marine physical elements which characterise the place.

**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:** Considerable cultural heritage significance.

**MANAGEMENT CATEGORY:** Category A

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL CODE:** National

**MAIN SOURCES:** • 'Alfred Cove Reserve' Heritage Assessment dated September 2007 prepared by Ronald Bodycoat AM.LFRAIA for the City of Melville – and the scientific studies listed in that document at Clause 13.3 Comparative Information and at Clause 13.4 Key References.

**ASSESSMENT DATE:** 2012

**ASSESSOR:** Ronald Bodycoat AM.KSJ.LFRAIA

