

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVENTORY

PLACE REFERENCE NO.: BN04

NAME: WORKSHOP – Leighton Panel and Paint

OTHER NAMES: Rambler Charabanc the Suburban Bus Co.  
Fitzgerald and Son Panel-beaters  
Barry Fitzgerald & Son Smash Repairs

PIN NO. (Landgate): 11481605

LAND DESCRIPTION: Lot 401, D/Plan 46345  
Certificate of Title Volume 2610 Folio 503

LOCATION: 3 Point Walter Road, Bicton

CONSTRUCTION DATE: c. 1925

PLACE TYPE: Industrial workshop

USE: Original Use: Charabanc Depot and Bus Company Depot  
Current Use: Motor vehicle workshop

HERITAGE LISTINGS: - City of Melville – CPS 14 December 1999, MHI 19 December 1994, Place Ref. BN04.

ARCHITECT: Not identified

BUILDER: Not identified

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Between the Wars Industrial

CONDITION: Sound – refurbished and modernised.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The building retain the original bulk and scale, but now in a refurbished presentation; single-storey, gabled roof clad in corrugated metal sheeting on original timber trusses; the street elevation now with masonry wall areas rendered and painted, and the gable above clad in horizontal corrugated metal sheeting replacing the original vertical sheeting. A lean-to section along the north side retains earlier metal exhaust flumes. The building is set back a short distance from the street with earlier large doors replaced with metal roller doors.

**HISTORICAL NOTES:**

The building originated on site as the starting point of the Rambler Charabanc (motor coach and seated carriage) transporting people from Canning Road (now Highway) to Point Walter recreation area on the Swan River. The operation was replaced by the Suburban Bus Company which operated in tandem with river ferries servicing the site, until the demise of Point Walter as a very popular picnic location until late in the twentieth century when private car access saw a resurgence in the popularity of the site. The Bus Company was run by Melville identity and Mayor, Freeman Ronald Carroll.

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

- Australian Historic Themes: 4.1.2 Making suburbs  
4.2 Supplying urban services.
- HCWA Themes: 203 Road transport  
404 Community services and utilities.

**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:**

Masonry and corrugated metal walling, corrugated metal roof covering, metal roller doors.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The place is significant as an early twentieth century workshop and depot for the public transport linking Canning Road and Point Walter, contributing to the development of residential areas in Bicton along the route.

**SIGNIFICANT ITEMS:**

Any original fabric of the building, the setback from the street boundary, and use as a motor vehicle depot and workshop since instigation in c. 1925.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Considerable cultural heritage significance.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Category A



**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL CODE:** Local

**MAIN SOURCES:** • City of Melville documentation.

**ASSESSMENT DATE:** 2013

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

