



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES – ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 3.4.3 Mining
- 3.18.2 Banking and lending
- 3.23 Catering for tourists
- 6.1 Forming associations, libraries & institutions for self-education
- 8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 110 Resource exploitation & depletion
- 303 Mining (incl. mineral processing)
- 306 Domestic activities
- 308 Commercial & service industries
- 404 Community services & utilities
- 407 Cultural activities
- 506 Tourism

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, has aesthetic significance as a fine representative example of Goldfields vernacular architecture with some influence of the Federation Free Classical style evident in the façade and detailing. (Criterion 1.1)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, makes a significant contribution to the main street character of Leonora, anchoring the north-east corner of the most substantial intersection in the town, with the Shire of Leonora office on the south-east corner, Leonora Post office diagonally opposite, and the Central Hotel on the north-west corner. Of the four buildings on the Tower and Trump streets intersection, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, is the only timber framed and iron clad building. (Criterion 1.3)

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For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. A *Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. Parks, *Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, was established c.1898 to serve the growing goldfield centre of Leonora and ceased operations after the closure of the Sons of Gwalia Mine in December 1963. (Criterion 2.1 & 2.2)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, was a major provider of financial services for the mining industry, local businesses and miners in Leonora from 1898 to 1964. (Criterion 2.2)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is associated with the men who staffed the place and who, with their families, lived in a difficult environment with minimal services until the mid-20th century. (Criterion 2.3)

11.3 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4 SOCIAL VALUE

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is highly valued by the local community for its prominent location, its associations with the gold mining history of the town and its current use as a community and tourist facility and place of social interaction. (Criteria 4.1 & 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1 RARITY

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is a rare example of an 1890s weatherboard and iron clad bank building in the Goldfields region of the State. (Criterion 5.1)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora is rare as one of only few examples in the State of corrugated-iron clad bank buildings, and is the only known example to incorporate both weatherboard and corrugated iron cladding. (Criterion 5.1)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, represents the optimistic presence of a banking institution in a remote Goldfields town. (Criterion 6.1)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is representative of the early stage of bank buildings constructed in the mining areas of the State in the 1890s, most of which were of lightweight materials and the majority of which were removed as the gold was mined out or, in a few instances, replaced with more substantial buildings. (Criterion 6.1)

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, demonstrates a way of life no longer practised where the bank manager and his family lived at his place of work. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is in very good condition having recently undergone an extensive conservation program of works and adaptive use to become the Leonora Visitors' Centre and library. It continues to be maintained at a high level.

12.4 INTEGRITY

National Bank (fmr), Leonora has retained a moderate degree of integrity. Although the place no longer functions as a bank, as originally designed, it has a

public function that facilitates an understanding of the original function through the interpretation of the place.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The original structure, form and fabric of *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, remain mostly intact. Although interventions and additions are evident from the recent adaptive works, the removal of sections of the interior walls, and ablution extension at the rear, have had a minimal impact on the original fabric of the place. *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, demonstrates a high degree of authenticity of the remaining fabric.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Irene Sauman, Historian and Laura Gray, Heritage and Conservation Consultant, in April 2007 with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is a single storey corrugated iron and weatherboard clad building constructed c.1898 as the Leonora branch of the National Bank of Australasia.¹

The place is located in the district originally occupied by the Ngalia people. Their country extended from Menzies to Malcolm, northwest to Mount Ida and east to Lake Raeside and Yerilla. Their southern boundary lay where the predominantly mulga country gave way to the mallee eucalypt country of the Maduwongga group. The Ngalia were totally overwhelmed by the sudden influx of Europeans in the 1890s, as well as by the migration of other groups through their country as a result of the gold and pastoral development of the region. Today, the Mantjintjarra Ngalia people lay claim to the area as their country.²

The National Bank of Australasia was formed in 1857, during the Victorian gold boom.³ Although it was the largest bank in Western Australia when the 1890s gold boom began, the National Bank had not risked opening branches in the Goldfields until August 1894 when it opened in Coolgardie, and then only in order to protect its mercantile connections in Perth and Fremantle, who were also opening businesses on the Goldfields. The only other National Bank Goldfield branches already opened in the state were at Kalgoorlie, Mount Malcolm, Mount Morgan and Leonora.⁴

The National Bank opened in Leonora on 1 November 1897 as the Mount Leonora sub-branch of the Mount Malcolm branch. At first, Mount Malcolm's manager, J. Laughton, visited Leonora each week to deal with business there.⁵

¹ National Bank archives did not have any information on exact date of construction or builder.

² Tindale, Norman B, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*, Canberra, ANU Press, 1974; Green, Neville 'Aborigines and White Settlers in the Nineteenth Century', in Stannage, C. T., *A New History of Western Australia*, University of Western Australia, 1981, pp. 118-19, 125; *North Coolgardie Herald and Menzies Times*, Special Mining Number, 24 April 1901, p. 53; Office of Native Title (Western Australia).

³ Blainey, G. & Hutton, G., *Gold and Paper 1858-1982: a history of the National Bank of Australasia Ltd*, Macmillan, South Melb., 1983. For a more detailed early history refer to HCWA assessment documentation P01817 National Bank, Narrogin.

⁴ Blainey, G. & Hutton, G., op cit, pp. 148-53.

⁵ Notes on National Bank, Leonora, courtesy National Bank archives, Melbourne; *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1897-98.

On 16 May 1898, the Mount Leonora sub-branch became the fully operating Leonora branch under manager S.C. Magennis.⁶

A branch of the National Bank has been established at Leonora, and will be open for business next week. During the past few months an official from Malcolm has visited Leonora weekly, but the local business now demands a permanent branch, and the new arrangement will be a great convenience to the Leonora public, who have frequently been compelled to journey to Malcolm, in order to transact their banking business.

Title to the site of the Leonora National Bank building on part of Leonora Town Lot 25, on the north-east corner of Tower and Trump streets, was transferred to the National Bank in July 1898.⁷ No information on the construction of the Leonora Bank has been located, but it is considered likely that the place was built in 1898. The *Malcolm Chronicle and Leonora Gazette* reported considerable building activity in the town in that year, with carpenters fully employed on construction work. Reports in July, which described changes to the business and commercial area of the town, noted that there were two bank premises in operation, the National and the West Australian, and that 'the town presents quite a lively appearance with the number of new and substantial buildings going up'.⁸ The West Australian Bank occupied Lot 16 on the adjacent south-east corner of Tower and Trump streets.

While the Leonora National Bank had initially been established as a sub-branch of Mount Malcolm, it very quickly took over as the main branch, and then became the only National Bank branch for both towns. A letter dated 10 June 1898 from the Perth headquarters of the National Bank to S.C. Magennis, the manager at Leonora, illustrated this change and the resultant security concerns:

Dear Sir, Mr. Laughton [Mount Malcolm] has just telegraphed to me recommending that the joint management of Mount Malcolm and Leonora should be under your charge. I can see no objection to this outside the risk of one officer being left in charge of the cash and the danger of the Bank being stuck up.⁹

The Mount Malcolm branch closed 'shortly afterwards'.¹⁰

The safekeeping of gold delivered from the mines and its transport to the regional headquarters in Kalgoorlie was a major issue for bank managers in the isolated centres of the eastern Goldfields. Each delivery was made by coach with an armed police guard, accompanied by either the mine manager or bank manager.¹¹ As with other residents of the northern Goldfields, bank staff had to endure the harsh environment where temperatures reached 100°F for an average 65 days a year, fresh produce was expensive and in short supply, and illness and death associated with the heat and primitive living conditions were not uncommon. Between 1897 and 1944, Leonora National Bank had no less than nineteen managers. In 1926-27, there was a period of around three to six months when the position was unfilled.¹²

6 Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit.

7 Certificates of Title, Vol. 124 Fol. 176 & Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 25 July 1898.

8 *Malcolm Chronicle and Leonora Gazette*, 23 July, 30 July & 6 August 1898, p. 3.

9 Quoted in 'Leonora the golden', an article by Leonora National Bank manager Bill Harris, in *Nautilus*, National Bank staff magazine, 1961, pp. 56-57, courtesy National Bank archives, Melbourne.

10 'Leonora the golden', op cit.

11 Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit; Pashley, A. R. (Don), *Policing our state: A history of police stations and police officers in Western Australia 1829-1945*, EDUCANT, Cloverdale, 2000, p. 24.

12 Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit; 'Leonora the golden', op cit; Gray, Laura & Sauman, Irene, *Conservation plan for Leonora Pioneer Cemeteries*, 2006.

In 1943, the National Bank acquired the Leonora premises of the Bank of New South Wales, which had closed its branch in the town because of wartime rationalisation. These premises consisted of the 1927 brick and iron bank office and quarters on the south-east corner of Tower and Trump streets, which were built when the Bank of NSW took over the West Australian Bank and its c.1898 premises on that site. The newly acquired building was occupied by the National Bank as its Leonora bank office and manager's quarters. The following year, 1944, the former Leonora National Bank building was sold to Noel Francis William White, and rented back by the National Bank as accommodation for its staff.¹³

Noel White, the new owner of *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, was recorded on the Certificate of Title as hotelkeeper of Mount Sir Samuel. Noel's father, G.W. White, had brought him to Western Australia from New Zealand at the age of six, following the death of his mother, and they had established themselves at Lawlers where White Sr ran a store. In 1915, Noel took over the operation of the Mount Sir Samuel battery, purchased by his father. Noel married Evelyn Nairn and managed Leinster Station for the Nairn Bros, eventually acquiring it and other pastoral properties, which were run by his and Evelyn's sons, Charles and Maitland (Peter), and son in law Roland Oakover Fleay.¹⁴

In 1944, E.A. Thackrah was appointed manager at Leonora. With his family, he remained in the town for the next 16 years until his retirement, making him the longest serving manager of the Leonora branch.¹⁵ His long residence in the town may be partly explained by the new accommodation, as the former Bank of New South Wales building was more modern and considerably larger than *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*.

Bank managers and their staff were prominent in the social and community life of country towns. They came into contact with the majority of residents through their work, and socialising, particularly by the manager, was part of the job promoting the bank. Staff held positions in local community groups and were members of various sporting organisations.¹⁶

In 1960, Noel White died and the title to *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, passed to his family.¹⁷

In 1961, W.E.J. (Bill) Harris was appointed manager at Leonora. *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, was at that time occupied by bank teller Jim White and his wife. Ledger keeper Michael Limmer was the third staff member. The Bank continued to provide banking facilities for local businesses and the miners, most of whom worked at the Sons of Gwalia mine, which was the major employer for the district. A sub-branch of the Bank operated at Gwalia from 5 October 1962 to 14 February 1964, and was open on Thursdays from 11 am to 2 pm.¹⁸

¹³ Certificates of Title, Vol. 225 Fol. 9, 14 April 1943 (Bank of NSW) & Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 12 April 1944 (National Bank); 'Leonora the golden', op cit; Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit.

¹⁴ Certificates of Title, Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 12 April 1944; Palmer, Alex, *Agnew*, Hesperian Press, Carlisle, c.2000, pp. 97-99.

¹⁵ Certificates of Title, Vol. 225 Fol. 9, 14 April 1943 (Bank of NSW) & Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 12 April 1944 (National Bank); 'Leonora the golden', op cit; Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit.

¹⁶ 'Leonora the golden', op cit.

¹⁷ Certificates of Title, Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 1 March 1960 & 24 August 1981.

¹⁸ Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit.

On 27 December 1963, the Sons of Gwalia mine closed. The miners left to find employment elsewhere with resulting closure of businesses and further loss of population. The Leonora National Bank ceased operations on 4 May 1966.¹⁹

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, continued to function as rented premises but it is not known who occupied the place during the following decade or so. In August 1981, title was transferred to Ronald and Susan Parker. Ron Parker was a prospector and he and his family occupied the place as a residence for the next 10 years.²⁰

In 1998, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, was entered on the Shire of Leonora Municipal Heritage Inventory with a recommended level two management category, to encourage the retention of the place. In 1997, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, was recorded in the Statewide Survey of Banks.²¹

In June 2003, the Shire of Leonora paid \$90,000 for both parts of Lot 25, which included *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, and a more recent cement block building on the northern section of the lot. The property was acquired specifically to house a number of essential services in the town centre. These services included the Leonora Community Telecentre, the Leonora Information Centre and the West Australian Library Service.²² The Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC) obtained funding of \$213,000 for the work under the Rural Transaction Centre Programme, which was a Federal Government initiative managed by the Department of Transport and Regional Services.²³ In its Annual Report of 2004, the GEDC reported that:

The Shire of Leonora has been extremely supportive of this project and this has been demonstrated by a significant financial contribution [\$183,000] as well as through in-kind contributions. Contract Architects have been engaged by the Shire of Leonora to prepare detailed plans for the project, which will take into consideration a number of heritage aspects associated with this project.²⁴

In September 2005 it was reported that the Information Centre was to move into the restored *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, the following month. Approximately 50 tourists a day were calling in at the Centre. The Library Service, which was also housed in the place, was reported to be well used by the locals. The new premises allowed more space, extended opening hours and new telephone and computer systems.²⁵ The Telecentre occupied the cement block building on the northern section of the site.

In 2007, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, continues to be occupied by the Leonora Information Centre and Library Service.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, a single-storey corrugated iron and weatherboard-clad building, comprises a front verandah, five main spaces and a storeroom, with

¹⁹ Notes on National Bank, Leonora, op cit.

²⁰ Certificates of Title, Vol. 153 Fol. 98, 28 August 1981.

²¹ Ball, Julia & Aris, Kelly, *Shire of Leonora Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places*, December 1997; Ball, J., Kelsall, D. & Pidgeon, J., *Statewide Survey of Banks 1829-1939*, Southern Region, Western Australia, National Trust of Australia (WA), Perth, 1997.

²² Shire of Leonora, minutes of Council Meeting, 5 April 2004.

²³ Shire of Leonora, minutes of Council Meeting, 5 April 2004; Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission (GEDC), *Annual Report*, 2004, pp. 35-36.

²⁴ GEDC, *Annual Report*, 2004, op cit.

²⁵ *Kalgoorlie Miner*, 22 September 2005, p. 4 & 19 January 2006, p. 4.

a tearoom and work area across the rear, and an ablution extension further to the rear.

Located at the major intersection in Leonora, at Tower and Trump streets, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, anchors the northeast corner, with the Shire of Leonora office on the southeast corner, Leonora Post Office diagonally opposite, and the Central Hotel on the northwest corner. *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*, addresses the main street frontage of Tower Street, with the side elevation along the south boundary onto Trump Street. The site behind the building is landscaped with concrete kerbed edges to an extensive asphalt car park, and a small fenced area in close proximity to the rear extension and rear entry porch. Vehicular access is off the right of way (ROW) along the east boundary of the site. The site slopes gently down from the ROW to the Tower Street frontage. There is a concrete block building with a gable roof immediately adjacent on the north side. It is setback with a forecourt and is several metres from *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*. It is of no heritage significance.

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is typically Goldfields vernacular architecture of timber framed construction, with a front wall clad with weatherboards, the side and rear walls with ripple iron, and a corrugated iron roof, in a simple form. However, the decorative symmetrical verandah frontage shows influences of the classical elements of Federation Free Classical style. Typical of the style is the symmetry of the frontage, and the use of classical motifs, such as the moulded pediments and cornice line valance to the exterior walls. The style epitomised the prosperity of the period and was relevant to commercial buildings, as evidenced by *National Bank (fmr), Leonora*.

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is timber framed, on stumps, although they are not visible. The hipped gambrel roof is clad with short sheets of corrugated iron roof cladding. The hipped roof extends to form a skillion over the former rear verandah where the kitchen and work area are located, and further extends over the small rear entry porch. There is a single face brick corbelled chimney evident towards the rear. The front verandah is a separate skillion roof with matching gabled pediments on the outer edges. The rear extension has a skillion roof high at the rear and is pitched down to meet the gutter line of the rear verandah. The roof has a single decorative metal vent on the ridgeline and flat tin decorative elements on the front corners of the ogee gutters.

The pediments are detailed in moulded timbers and feature small flat tin decorative elements on the apex. The verandah is supported by stop chamfered square timber posts in pairs for the flanking pediments, and single narrower plain posts the remainder. The pediment posts are further detailed on boxed bases and decorative top collars, with vertical grooved detailing on each side of the posts between the chamfers. The balustrade along the front boundary is a replica of the original. It has spaced timber rods honed to points at the top. There is a gate of the same construction in the vicinity of the main entry at the south end of the frontage. The verandah has a timber deck floor. The external front and two side walls feature a framed cornice line valance on the exterior walls. The valance frame is curved out to the gutter board detail, and the ripple iron valance is detailed in vertical configuration and painted a complementary colour to the remaining external walls. The front wall of the building is detailed in simple shiplap weatherboards while the remaining external walls show the original ripple iron sheeting, in horizontal configuration. The external walls have been painted. The windows are mostly timber framed double hung sashes and have vertical steel bars fitted on the interior.

The floor plan is a rectangle. Entry off the full width front verandah leads into the Information Centre, an expansive room across the width of the building. The Information Centre extends along the south side of the building where it is evident that a wall has been removed to form the administration area. A counter faces the Information Centre area and front door and a connection along on the north side of the counter adjacent to the children's library on the north (left). The connection opens onto a juncture where a corridor to the left leads to an entry door on the north side, the access to the children's library on the left of the corridor, and the adults' library on the right. From the corridor juncture, there is a small storeroom on the right, and a short distance to the left in the corridor, where an arch is located, above door height, is an opening to the right that leads into the south room of the adult's library, which is set up as a reading room. Continuing ahead and flanked by the adults' library rooms on both sides is the kitchen. The kitchen extends to the right, with the library work area to the left. The kitchen then opens into the rear extension with ablutions to the left and ahead of a small foyer with the rear access through a door on the right.

The interior displays a significant degree of original fabric in the tongue and groove timber floorboards throughout, the flat battened wall linings with horizontal format below a dado border and vertical configurations above the dado line, and similar battened ceiling linings. The ceiling to the kitchen and library work area is raked and lined with ripple iron that has been painted. Sections of walls between the two adults' library rooms, and between the adults' and children's library rooms flanking the north-south corridor have been removed and detailed to retain the original doorway openings in situ with architraves in place. The new openings are detailed in simple timber elements informing of the later intrusion. A section of the wall on the south of the children's library has been glazed with three vertical panels. The remaining doors are the original four panel doors, and the front and external north door both have a glazed single upper panel, and fanlights above with vertical bars. The arched fireplace and simple bracketed mantelpiece in the south adults' library room remains in situ. The kitchen has a recent contemporary fitout, including ceramic tiled floors, while the original stove with tiled alcove and simple bracketed mantelpiece remains in situ. The rear extension comprises a contemporary ablution fitout with gyprock walls, ceramic tiled floors, ceramic tiled walls to the wet area and new four panel doors.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

There are 262 banks in the HCWA database, which includes all banks listed in the 1997 Statewide Banks Survey. Only 20 of this 262 are noted to include weatherboards in their construction, although many have no construction material identified. Not all of these places were constructed as banks, and very few continue to operate as such.

One comparable place is entered into the Register: P01938 *Bank of New South Wales (fmr) Perenjori* (1935), which is now a residence. Fourteen other weatherboard banks are noted in the database, many of which have very limited information. These are: P00329 R&I Bank, Shackleton (Bruce Rock) (1923); P01373 National Bank of Australia, Kellerberrin (1910) weatherboard and brick construction; P01419 National Bank & Quarters, Koorda (no date; see below re National banks); P02603 Bank of New South Wales & Quarters, Kunonoppin (1915); P02743 Bank of New South Wales & Quarters, Ballidu (1928); P03738 Union Bank (fmr) Ravensthorpe (1906, closed 1918; see below re Goldfields banks); P04870 Bank of New South Wales & Quarters, Dangin (1934); P05894 South Kuminin Store (originally a bank, no date); P06005 Bankwest Ongerup

Branch (originally a house, 1918); P06879 Ray Coxon's House, Yealering (Wickepin) (originally Union Bank, 1930) includes fibro with weatherboard; P06917 Tearooms, Kulin (originally a shop/ bakery, 1915, now a bank); P08786 Old National Bank, Darkin (1925, now a shop); P08949 Haselby's Residence (originally a bank, 1912); P10621 National Bank & Quarters, Kondinin (1923, now a residence). These examples demonstrate that weatherboard bank buildings were often built in small towns, particularly in the Wheatbelt.

None of these weatherboard banks also include corrugated iron wall cladding. Two other banks in the database are noted as having corrugated iron wall cladding: P13776 House, 236 Sixth Street, Wonthella (Geraldton) (originally a house, now a bank, no date) and P16071 Old National Bank & Quarters, Williams (1910, now the Williams Club).

Apart from the more substantial brick bank buildings in the major Goldfield towns of Kalgoorlie, Boulder and Coolgardie, the two former bank buildings in Leonora and two in Ravensthorpe are the only remaining bank buildings located in the HCWA database for the Goldfields region. Of these four, *National Bank (fmr), Leonora* and the former Union Bank (fmr), Ravensthorpe (P03738) are both timber and iron constructions. Union Bank (fmr) has a timber facade with parapet fronting a banking chamber, which appears to have been added to an existing weatherboard clad residence. The place is now a residence only.²⁶

The HCWA database lists 44 National Bank buildings throughout the state, with at least 11 of these appearing to have been constructed prior to 1905. Of these, the National Bank building at Woodanilling, is a small timber structure built as a receiving office in 1913 (part of P02755 National Bank & Hotel, Woodanilling), while the timber bank building at Koorda (P01419) is of similar size and form to that at Leonora, and also located on a corner lot.²⁷ Two National Bank buildings are on the State Register: P01817 *National Bank, Narrogin* (1906) and P14788 *National Australia Bank, Northam* (1940), both of which are substantial brick structures. The only place currently on the State Register in Leonora is the timber and iron *Station Master's House* (P15851).

National Bank (fmr), Leonora, is representative of the proliferation of bank branches in the State in the 1890s, when the majority of newly established branches were in mining areas. The Federation Classical style was the most popular form for bank buildings at that time. By 1910, the number of mining towns with a bank branch had begun to decline as gold yields decreased and the emphasis for expansion shifted to the agricultural districts. By 1920, the number of mining towns with at least one bank branch had decreased from 17 to 10.²⁸

National Bank (fmr), Leonora is rare as one of only few examples of corrugated-iron clad bank buildings, and is the only known example to incorporate both weatherboard and corrugated iron cladding.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

No key references.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

²⁶ Ball, J., Kelsall, D. & Pidgeon, J., *Statewide Survey of Banks*, op cit, entry 113 B1.

²⁷ HCWA database and assessment documentation. The Koorda and Woodanilling buildings are not listed in the *Statewide Survey of Banks*.

²⁸ Ball, J., Kelsall, D. & Pidgeon, J., *Statewide Survey of Banks*, op cit.
