

Heritage Item #

MI Reference: 65 HCWA No: 13503	Place Name: Northam RSL Memorial Hall and Senior Citizens Centre	Other Name/s:
		Date of Review: September 2021



Address: 265 Fitzgerald Street East, Northam	Lot No: 131 Property Key: Plan Diagram: Vol Folio: 541/23 Assess No: A11138
Locality: Northam	GPS:
Current Use: Memorial Hall, Senior Centre	Original Use(s): Memorial Hall

HERITAGE LISTINGS

Listings: Statewide War Memorial Survey

CONSTRUCTION

Date of Construction: 1954

Architect / Builder:

Architectural Style: Post-War International

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**Description:**

The Northam RSL Memorial Hall and Senior Centre, located at 265 Fitzgerald Street East, is a single storey face brick building complex with a concealed corrugated steel roof designed in the Post-War International style of architecture.

The building is rectilinear in plan and has an asymmetrical front facade with a flag tower to the northern corner. The front hall is constructed from an ochre coloured 'clackline' brick with a parapet roof.

The tower extends above the parapet roof line with a curved brick column extending the height of the tower with the flag pole above. Attached below the parapet is steel lettering that reads 'MEMORIAL HALL'.

The entrance is through a set of three double timber doors with central glazing and highlights. Above the entrance is a cantilevered concrete roof supported by rendered pillars. Adjacent to the entrance is an arched recess with a Roll of Honour to commemorate WW1. There is an access ramp with a brick base and tubular steel handrails along the front elevation and a set of steps to the side servicing the Roll of

<p>Honour. There are simple rectangular windows to the western and eastern façades with tiled window sills.</p> <p>The parapet steps down along the western façade to a small wing with a server window addressing the street. Along the eastern side there is a brick lined spoon drain. The rear of the building appears to be a modern addition with a corrugated steel hip and gable roof with red face brick construction.</p> <p>The complex extends to the adjacent lot separated by Gallipoli Lane. Adjacent to the Hall is a memorial garden which features a granite obelisk and a small structure with a number of plaques dedicated to various campaigns. The structure is rendered masonry with a corrugated steel hip roof. Below the eave line there is steel lettering that reads 'LEST WE FORGET'. The structure is semi enclosed with large openings secured by steel gates. There is a detached timber gazebo structure to the rear of the garden with a statue of the 'Faceless Woman'. A building to the rear of the garden is attached to the main building by a covered walkway that leads down Gallipoli Lane to a car parking area and a small park to the south.</p>
Condition: Good
HISTORICAL
<p>Notes:</p> <p>Inscribed on a plaque at the entrance of the Hall is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"THIS HALL WAS BUILT AS A MEMORIAL TO THE FALLEN BY MEMBERS OF NORTHAM SUB BRANCH R.S.L. WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF NORTHAM BRANCH, AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION. IT WAS OPENED BY HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF W.A., Lt. GENERAL SIR CHARLES GAIRDNER G.B.E., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B. ON 29TH OCTOBER, 1954 SUBJECT TO PERPETUAL COVENANTS GIVEN TO EX SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN. THE HALL WAS GIFTED TO THE TOWN COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY OF NORTHAM FOR PRIMARY USE AS A SENIOR CITIZEN'S CENTRE, ON 30TH JUNE, 1975."</i></p>
Theme: World Wars and Other Wars
Associations: Northam RSL
Heritage Assessment or Conservation Plan: Heritage Assessment of 23-325 & 16-334 Fitzgerald Street and 1-15 & 12-18 Peel Terrace, Northam. Prepared by Greenward Consulting, June 2015.
Public Access: Yes
SIGNIFICANCE
Level of Integrity: Medium
Level of Authenticity: Medium
Statement of Significance:
<p>Northam RSL Memorial Hall and Senior Citizens Centre is of cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The place is representative of the development of Returned Services League (RSL) halls and meeting rooms across Western Australia. • The place is valued, as a Memorial, by returned service personnel and the broader community. • The place is a distinctive and good example of the Post-War International style of architecture in the main street of Northam.
Level of Significance: Considerable
Heritage Category: 2

Additional Photographs



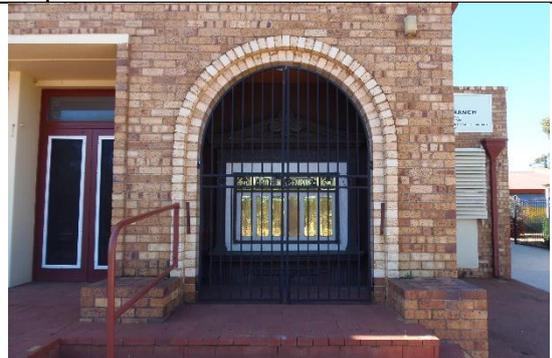
Front Façade
Source: Municipal Heritage Inventory, 2012



Lettering above entrance
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Entrance plaque
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Roll of Honour
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Adjacent obelisk and memorial garden
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Faceless woman memorial beneath timber gazebo
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Park to rear
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
September 2021



Rear of building with central laneway
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
September 2021