



Appendix

This chapter contains additional detailed information to supplement the main text of the report.

Glossary of conservation terms

The *Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS charter for places of cultural significance)* defines a number of terms which are used in a standardised way in conservation practice in this country.¹⁴⁰ These terms, wherever they occur in this report, have the meanings defined in the charter:

Place means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. *Cultural significance* is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, records, *related places* and *related objects*. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

Fabric means all the physical material of the *place* including components, fixtures, contents, and objects.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the *fabric* and *setting* of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves *restoration* or *reconstruction*.

Preservation means maintaining the *fabric* of a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration means returning the existing *fabric* of a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction means returning a *place* as nearly as possible to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material into the *fabric*.

Adaptation means modifying a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.



Compatible use means a use which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

Setting means the area around a *place*, which may include the visual catchment.

Related place means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.

Related object means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.

Associations mean the special connections that exist between people and a *place*.

Meanings denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses.

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

Queensland Heritage Register statement of significance

This is the section of the *Entry in the Heritage Register* that deals with the cultural heritage significance of the Old Museum Building:

Old Museum Building is a place of cultural heritage significance and satisfies one or more of the criteria in s.23(1) of the Act as evidenced by, but not exclusive to, the following statement of heritage significance, based on **criteria: a, b, d, e, g & h**:

Designed and built as an exhibition hall in 1891 and then converted to a museum, the Old Museum is significant as a symbol of nineteenth century scientific, industrial and agricultural innovation. The size and the style of the building epitomise the enthusiasm and celebration of exhibitions during the Victorian period and the peak of Brisbane's 1880s building boom. The building is important as one of only two exhibition buildings built during the nineteenth century still standing in Australia.

The building is important as a symbol of the Queensland Museum for 86 years and for demonstrating the evolution and development of the public museum. The building's fabric records the typical form of the nineteenth century museum.

The Concert Hall has played an important role in the artistic life of Queensland and is significant for its constant use for cultural purposes. The venue is an important surviving civic auditorium, that demonstrates the development of choral and orchestral music performance in Brisbane from the 1890s to the 1930s. The hall also



has an association with the development of the Queensland Art Gallery.

The Old Museum is an important example of work by the well-known architect G H M Addison, that demonstrates his skill in design and adaptation to the circumstances of the building's brief and its time. The building represents the confidence of the 1880s economic boom and is among the most substantial public works built during that period.

The use of polychrome brick, with maximum effect, its form, scale and detail contribute to the considerable aesthetic significance of the building which in turn reflect significantly on the visual character and quality of its surroundings.

The building and its grounds are important for the role they have played in the community as a place of recreational activities firstly with the Acclimatisation Society gardens in 1863, more firmly with the Exhibition Building, and then the Museum at which time the gardens were considered an integral part of the whole complex.

Chronology

This is a short list of some of the more important events in the development of the building and its site, set out in chronological order. All of the events are mentioned in the main text of the report, and have been collected here for ready reference.

- 1824 Moreton Bay Penal Establishment founded – the beginning of European settlement on the Brisbane River.
- 1827 Australian Museum established in Sydney
- 1842 Brisbane opened to free settlement – the end of the convict era.
- 1851 Great Exhibition held in London.
- 1861 National Art Gallery established in Melbourne.
- 1862 Queensland Museum founded by the Queensland Philosophical Society.
- 1863 Acclimatisation Society of Queensland established, and granted 32 acres of land at Bowen Hills – the Old Museum Building was later built on part of this land.
- 1871 Government assumed responsibility for the Queensland Museum.
Acclimatisation Society's garden seen as a place of public instruction and recreation.
- 1875 National Agricultural & Industrial Association established.
- 1876 First Brisbane Exhibition Building opened by the National Agricultural and Industrial Association, on land leased from the Acclimatisation Society.
Brisbane Intercolonial Exhibition.
- 1879 Purpose-built building erected for Queensland Museum in William Street, Brisbane.



- 1881 Land resumed for construction of the Sandgate railway line.
- 1886 G H M Addison, architect, arrived in Brisbane.
- 1888 First Exhibition Building destroyed by fire.
Design competition for a new exhibition building won by G H M Addison.
- 1889 G H M Addison prepared amended exhibition building design including a concert hall.
- 1890 Acclimatisation Society surrendered another nine acres for exhibition ground.
Economic depression began in Australia.
National Association and Acclimatization Society Act settles dispute by handing land over to National Association.
- 1891 Exhibition Building (Old Museum Building) constructed.
- 1892 Concert hall organ installed.
- 1895 Queensland National Art Gallery established.
- 1896 24,000 people visited the Queensland Art Gallery.
- 1897 Queensland International Exhibition.
Queensland Government took over the Exhibition Building from National Agricultural and Industrial Association.
- 1899 Tenders called for the *conversion of the Exhibition Building for the Queensland Museum*.
- 1901 Queensland Museum opened to the public in the converted exhibition hall.
Caretaker's cottage erected.
Boundary wall and fence along Bowen Bridge Road and Gregory Terrace completed.
- 1910 Caretaker's cottage extended for use by Curator.
Dissecting room erected in the grounds.
- 1911 Library properly established in the museum.
- 1919 Museum acquired the World War I German tank *Mephisto*.
- 1929 Bert Hinkler presented his Avro Avian to the Queensland Museum.
- 1930 New Brisbane City Hall opened.
Exhibition Concert Hall modified to house the Queensland Art Gallery.
- 1940s Air raid shelter constructed.
- 1962 Ducted ventilation installed in Art Gallery.
- 1973 Spirit store built.
Caretaker's cottage demolished.
- 1974 Art Gallery moved out - Museum took over the whole building.
- 1987 Queensland Museum collection and operations moved to a new building in the Queensland Cultural Centre.
- 1989 *Old Museum Building conservation study* prepared.
- 1996 First stage of adaptation completed.
- 1999 Second stage of adaptation completed.



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Notes