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Planning & Heritage Branch
Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation
GPO Box 2454
Brisbane Qld 4001

By email: heritage@detsi.qld.gov.au

Gowrie House, 112 Mary Street, Toowoomba
Queensland Heritage Register No. 601307
Application to enter additional land in the Queensland Heritage Register

Dear Sir/Madam

The Australian Institute of Architects Queensland Chapter Heritage Committee provides the following submission in response to the application received under section 36 of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 to include additional land associated with the Betty Willis Wing within the *Queensland Heritage Register* boundary for *Gowrie House*.

The Committee acknowledges that the Betty Willis Wing forms part of the history and use of the *Gowrie House* complex. However, the Committee does not consider that the application demonstrates that the additional land and the Wing satisfy the cultural heritage criteria in section 35 of the *Act* at a level warranting their inclusion within the state heritage boundary.

The Committee's principal observations are:

1. The Betty Willis Wing was already in place when the state heritage significance of *Gowrie House* was first considered and the place was subsequently entered in the *Queensland Heritage Register*.

2. The construction, use and historical role of the Wing are already recorded in the history of the place.

3. Architecturally, the Wing detracts from the earlier *Gowrie House* building and does not make a positive contribution to the architectural or aesthetic significance of the place.

4. The historical use of the Wing, and its association with the YWCA and the provision of accommodation and welfare services, are already captured by the existing register entry. The existing statement of significance expressly recognises the use of the building and subsequent additions as reflecting changing accommodation needs and the value of the YWCA to the community.

In the Committee's view, the historical and associated values relied upon in the application are already adequately represented by the existing listing. The application does not

establish that the additional land or the Betty Willis Wing independently strengthen the place's ability to satisfy *criteria A, B or H* at the state level.

The Committee therefore does not support the proposed inclusion of the additional land and the whole of the Betty Willis Wing within the *Queensland Heritage Register* boundary.

Regards,



Luke Pendergast
Heritage Committee Chair
Queensland Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects



President
Queensland Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects