

## Vanessa Langtry

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**From:** Heritage <Heritage@des.qld.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 September 2022 1:46 PM  
**To:** BRC CEO Incoming  
**Cc:** Robyn Silcox; Joanne McAuley  
**Subject:** RE: Anzac Pool, 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg [650278]

Dear Mr Johnston

I write regarding the correspondence sent to you from the Department of Environment and Science (the department) via email on 2 September 2022, containing a notice given under section 46 *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* relating to the Anzac Pool, 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg [HRN 650278].

The heading of the notice incorrectly states that the recommendation was *Not to enter a place in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place*. As clearly outlined in the content of the notice and reflected in the Heritage Recommendation:

*On 1 September 2022, the delegate for the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) recommended to the Heritage Council that the Anzac Pool, Bundaberg be entered in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.*

The department apologises for any misunderstanding that may have arisen as a consequence of this error.

Kind regards  
Jo

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 September 2022 8:32 AM  
**To:** BRC CEO Incoming  
**Subject:** Anzac Pool, 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg [650278]  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mr Johnston

Please find attached correspondence regarding the Anzac Pool, 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg [650278].

Kind regards  
Jo



**Jo Ketter**  
Executive Officer, Queensland Heritage Council  
Environment and Heritage Policy and Programs  
Department of Environment and Science

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Category B

Level 27, 400 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane 4001

Environmental Policy and Programs acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, waters and seas on which we work and live paying respects to Elders, past, present and future.

Heritage branch works flexibly, blending work time both in the office and remotely. We can be contacted via phone, email or Teams.

- For enquiries about the Queensland Heritage Register: [heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)
- To contact the Queensland Heritage Council: [heritage.council@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage.council@des.qld.gov.au)
- Report damage to Queensland Heritage Register places : [pollutionhotline@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:pollutionhotline@des.qld.gov.au)
- For enquiries about getting approval to do development at a Queensland heritage place: [palm@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:palm@des.qld.gov.au)
- For enquires about terrestrial archaeology and underwater cultural heritage like historic shipwrecks: [archaeology@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:archaeology@des.qld.gov.au)

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Released under Right to Information Act 2009

## Notice of Chief Executive Recommendation – Not to enter a place in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place

Notice given under s.46 Queensland Heritage Act 1992

Ref: HRN 650278

Mr Steve Johnston  
Chief Executive Officer  
Bundaberg Regional Council  
e: [ceo@bundaberg.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@bundaberg.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Johnston

You are receiving this notice as the Bundaberg Regional Council is the Trustee and the local government for a place identified on the application to enter the **Anzac Park Memorial Pool (formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths), 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg** in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.

On **1 September 2022**, the delegate for the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Science (the Department) recommended to the Heritage Council that the **Anzac Pool, Bundaberg** be entered in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.

A copy of the heritage recommendation is enclosed, as are copies of the public submissions received in relation to the application.

The heritage recommendation relates to the property at 19 Quay Street, Bundaberg and comprises of:

Lot	Plan
3	B158227
2	CK3719
E	SP319098
F	SP319098

The Queensland Heritage Council, an independent body, decides whether a place is or is not entered in the Queensland Heritage Register.

In making its decision on a heritage recommendation, the Heritage Council must consider: the application to which the heritage recommendation relates, written submissions made on the application, written representations, oral representations and heritage response, if given.

The Heritage Council has 60 business days (100 business days with owner consent or if a heritage response is made) from the heritage recommendation date to decide whether a place is or is not entered in the Queensland Heritage Register. The Heritage Council has the discretion to make a decision which differs from the Department's heritage recommendation.

### Oral representation

Under the Queensland Heritage Act 1992 (Heritage Act), you may request to make an oral representation to the Heritage Council (either in person or via teleconference) about the heritage recommendation. As per section 49(4) of the Heritage Act, the Heritage Council must take all reasonable steps to comply with requests made by the owner of a place.

If you wish to make an oral representation, please refer to the enclosed Fact sheet – Oral representation to the Queensland Heritage Council for further details.

It is anticipated the Heritage Council will hear oral representations in response to the Department's heritage recommendation at its meeting in Brisbane to be held on **7 October 2022**.

A request to make an oral representation should be made on the enclosed form and must be received no later than **16 September 2022**.

#### Heritage response

If you wish to make a written response (a heritage response) to the Department's heritage recommendation, please advise the Heritage Council by **16 September 2022**. Please note that if you advise that you will be making a heritage response the date by which the Heritage Council must make a decision is extended from 60 business days to 100 business days.

The form should be posted to:

Executive Officer  
Queensland Heritage Council  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

or emailed to [heritage.council@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage.council@des.qld.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

Category B

Nicole Mulholland  
Manager  
Queensland Heritage Council & Heritage Register  
Heritage

**Enquiries:**  
Joanne McAuley  
Principal Heritage Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Category B

Date: 2 September 2022

#### Enclosed:

- The Chief Executive's recommendation
- Fact sheet – *Oral representation to the Queensland Heritage Council*
- Application Form - *Request to make Oral Representation about a Heritage Recommendation*
- Public submissions received

Under delegation from the Chief Executive, Department of Environment and Science, and under the provisions of s.44 of the Queensland Heritage Act 1992, I, Delegated Authority, Catherine Chambers:

**Recommend to Enter this place in the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place**

*Catherine Chambers, Director, Heritage*

Recommendation Date: 01-Sep-2022

Delegate Name/Position: Delegated Authority, Catherine Chambers



Figure 1: Anzac Pool, Bundaberg (Queensland Government, 2022)

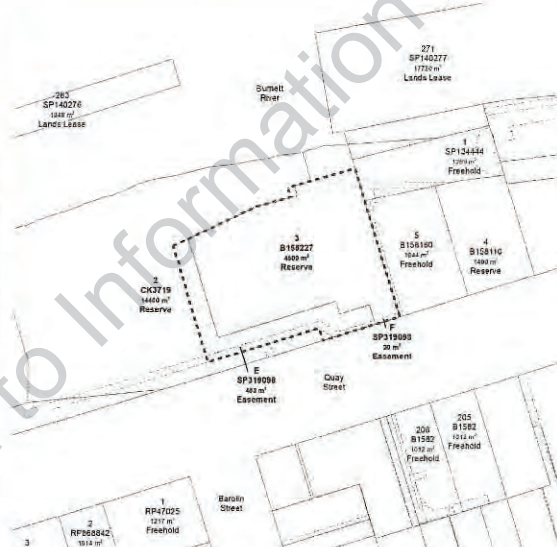


Figure 2: Proposed heritage register boundary (Queensland Government, 2022) (see attached map)

<b>Place name</b>	Anzac Pool, Bundaberg		
<b>Address</b>	19 Quay Street, BUNDABERG, 4670		
<b>LGA</b>	BUNDABERG REGIONAL COUNCIL		
<b>RPD</b>	3 B158227	2 CK3719	E SP319098

## Statement of Significance

<p><b>Criterion A</b></p> <p>The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history</p>	<p>Anzac Pool, Bundaberg is important in demonstrating the evolution of public swimming pool complexes in Queensland. Originally established in 1923 as the state's earliest known World War I memorial pool, the place was redeveloped as an Olympic pool complex (1955-56) during the peak post-war period of public swimming pool construction. It is an important representative example of a public swimming pool complex constructed in the post-war period in Queensland. The place retains a high degree of intactness and integrity in its form, fabric, and layout, when compared to extant contemporary examples.</p>
<p><b>Criterion B</b></p> <p>The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of Queensland's cultural heritage</p>	<p><i>Anzac Pool is not rare or uncommon as a Queensland public swimming pool complex.</i></p> <p><i>The place does not satisfy this criterion.</i></p>
<p><b>Criterion C</b></p> <p>The place has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Queensland's history</p>	<p><i>The history of Anzac Pool is recorded in primary and secondary sources. Further investigation of its fabric will not contribute new knowledge about Queensland's history; or knowledge that will lead to a greater understanding of particular aspects of Queensland's history; or knowledge that will aid in comparative analysis of similar places.</i></p> <p><i>The place does not satisfy this criterion.</i></p>
<p><b>Criterion D</b></p> <p>The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places</p>	<p>Anzac Pool is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a public swimming pool complex built in the 1950s and 1960s in Queensland and the evolution of this class of cultural place during the period. Demonstrating a high degree of intactness and integrity when compared to other remaining examples, the place retains its:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• central, civic location;</li> <li>• pool buildings: entrance building/caretaker's residence (1971); women's and men's dressing sheds (1956); and broadcast stand for competitive swimming (by 1965);</li> <li>• swimming pools: Olympic pool (1955); toddlers' wading pool (1955); and 25m learners' pool (1969);</li> <li>• pool water filtration systems: remnant of former aerator fountain (1955); and pool filtration shed (1969); and</li> <li>• generous, manicured, and open recreation grounds featuring formal layout, lawns, mature trees, and concrete pool concourses and paths.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Criterion E</b></p> <p>The place is important because of its aesthetic significance</p>	<p><i>Although Anzac Pool possesses attractive features, the place is not important for its aesthetic significance at a state level of cultural heritage significance. Constructed primarily in two phases (1955-6</i></p>

	<p><i>and 1969-71), the complex's architecture and landscape design are not visually cohesive and the place does not exhibit beautiful, picturesque, expressive, evocative, or symbolic attributes or qualities at a state level. In its building and landscape design and layout, and its form and scale within the greater setting, it does not exhibit strong landmark or streetscape qualities.</i></p> <p><i>The place does not satisfy this criterion at a state level, however, Anzac Pool is likely to be of local heritage significance when considered against this criterion.</i></p>
<p><b>Criterion F</b></p> <p>The place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period</p>	<p><i>Anzac Pool does not demonstrate a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period. It employed construction techniques and materials, and architectural and landscape designs that were standard for the time.</i></p> <p><i>The place does not satisfy this criterion.</i></p>
<p><b>Criterion G</b></p> <p>The place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons</p>	<p>Since 1956, Anzac Pool has continued as a place of valued customary experience, a purpose commenced with the Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths in 1923. The place has symbolically represented the past in the present for veterans, their descendants, and those who have used the pool for sport and recreational purposes. This community's strong and special association with Anzac Pool has been demonstrated through continued use by individuals and intergenerational use by families over its lifetime, as well as sustained efforts to retain the place, including: a petition to Bundaberg Regional Council, media campaigns, formation of the Friends of Anzac Memorial Pool, and submissions supporting state heritage listing.</p>
<p><b>Criterion H</b></p> <p>The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in Queensland's history</p>	<p><i>Anzac Pool does not have a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group, or organisation of importance in Queensland's history.</i></p> <p><i>The place does not satisfy this criterion.</i></p>

## History

Anzac Pool, Bundaberg, located between Quay Street and the Burnett River, opened in March 1956 and replaced an earlier World War I (WWI) memorial pool complex (1923). The place comprises: an Olympic pool (55 yards / 50.29m 1955, shortened to 50m in 1970); a toddlers' wading pool (1955); two dressing sheds (1956); a 25m learners' pool (1969); a pool filtration shed (1969, extended c1981); and an entrance building/caretaker's residence (1971), set in landscaped grounds with lawns, palm trees, a broadcast stand (by 1965), and a converted aeration fountain/gazebo (1955, converted 1971). This public swimming pool complex remained in use until April 2022.

Bundaberg is part of the traditional land of the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People.[1] Pastoral stations were established in the area from the 1850s. Bundaberg was surveyed in 1869 and developed as the centre of a major sugar-growing area following selection of surrounding land after 1868 under the 'Sugar and Coffee Regulations'.[2] Bundaberg's development as a port and service centre was boosted by growing coastal traffic and by its designation as the port for Mount Perry's copper mining. Surrounded by large sugar plantations and the site of two sugar refineries, Bundaberg became an important sugar town. The sugar plantations with their own mills and South Sea Islander workforces were eventually replaced by small farmers supplying central sugar mills.[3]

In Queensland, swimming for health, recreation, and sport has a long history. A bathing house was erected in the Brisbane River at 'the Government Garden' in 1849, while the first floating bath in the Brisbane River was constructed in 1857.[4] The first in-ground public baths in Queensland were the Spring Hill Municipal Baths, opened in 1886 [QHR 600313], and the first state school swimming pool in Queensland was opened at Junction Park, Brisbane in 1910 [QHR 650023].[5] In Bundaberg, floating river baths were constructed in 1878 on a bank of the Burnett River. E W Crow's Tantitha Street Public Baths, on the bank of Saltwater Creek, opened early in the 20th century. These were replaced by a public bathing enclosure off Harriet Island in the Burnett River, which closed during World War I.[6]

In 1923, following three years attempting to raise sufficient funds for a memorial hall, the local branch of the Returned Soldiers and Sailors Imperial League of Australia (RSSILA) decided instead that memorial baths and club rooms should be erected as a memorial to lives lost and those who served in WWI.[7] On 25 August 1923, Miss Ethel Campbell, the 'Angel of Durban' renowned for welcoming WWI diggers to Cape Town with semaphore flags as their ships entered the harbour, laid the foundation stone for a 'Memorial Baths and Club Rooms'.[8]

On 17 November 1923, the Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths, built at a cost of £2000 and funded by public subscription, were officially opened by the Mayor of Bundaberg, Alderman William Gavegan.[9] The baths were located between Quay Street and the Burnett River and immediately east of Anzac Park. The complex comprised the pool (100 x 30ft / 30.48 x 9.14m; perpendicular to the river); dressing sheds on each side, with spectator stands constructed above; a timber kiosk in the southeast corner; and reinforced concrete wall, with the words 'Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths' across its Quay Street frontage. RSSILA clubrooms were also built in the complex.[10] This was the second of Bundaberg's war memorials, the first being the digger monument unveiled in 1921 in Bourbong Street [Bundaberg War Memorial QHR 600364].

The concept of a swimming pool as a war memorial arose from a debate in Australia after WWI on the nature of commemoration. WWI memorials took a variety of forms in Australia, including honour boards, stone monuments and tree-lined memorial avenues; as well as utilitarian (useful) structures such as gates, halls, clocks and (less commonly) swimming pools. Most Australian localities decided on a monumental approach (60%), with only 22%



choosing utilitarian buildings (mostly halls) and 18% choosing the compromise position of utilitarian monuments – including a clock on a cenotaph, for example.[11] One form of utilitarian memorial rare after WWI, but more popular after World War II (WWII), was a public swimming pool, usually paid for by a mixture of municipal and tax-assisted private funding.[12] Some communities such as Bundaberg, resolved the debate by building two memorials: one utilitarian, and one monumental.[13] War memorial elements, designed to distinguish memorial pools from their non-memorial brethren, ranged from including 'memorial' in the name of the pool, to plaques, flagpoles, war-related objects on display, or trophy guns next to the entrance.[14]

In 1937, the RSSILA sold the Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths to the Bundaberg City Council for £750 and gained trusteeship of a 43 perch (1087m<sup>2</sup>) block of land, east of the Baths, as a Reserve for Soldiers' Memorial Hall (R828), where the RSSILA built a new clubhouse.[15] The pattern of swimming club meets, inter-club competitions, and regional carnivals, begun in 1924, continued at the pool.[16]

After WWII, Bundaberg City Council became interested in upgrading its swimming pool to the Olympic standard. Competitive swimming had developed during the 19th century and increased in popularity in the early 20th century. The modern Olympic Games included swimming from 1896 (men only until 1912), and in 1908 the Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) was formed to standardise the rules for swimming, diving, and water polo and to ensure the direction of Olympic Games competitions for those sports. The popularity of swimming was given further impetus by the 1924 Olympic Games held in Paris, where the Olympic standard pool length was set at 50m.[17] Interest in the Olympics and competitive swimming led to the construction of Brisbane's Fortitude Valley Baths in 1925-6, to the Olympic standard length; and Queensland's first 50m pool outside Brisbane opened in Dalby in 1936 [Dalby Swimming Pool Complex QHR 602564].[18] Australia's gold medals in swimming at the 1956 Melbourne Olympics further increased interest in the sport, and swimming pool construction.[19]

Despite swimming events of the Summer Olympics only occurring in 50m length pools, Australia's 'Olympic' pools were frequently built 55 yards (50.292m) long. This complied with Australian swimming competition distance measurements (which were in imperial) and could not be officially held in 50m pools. Across Australia, it was often argued that a 50m pool was only suitable for Olympic training, limiting its usefulness. However, some Australian Olympic pools were built 50m long, and some were built 55 yards long but with false ends at 50m length that could be removed, such as Melbourne's 1956 Olympic pool.[20] Pool width varied depending on the number of lanes but 20m was frequently cited as of 'Olympic' standard.[21] Under guidance from Australian official swimming bodies, Australia transitioned to training its swimmers in 50m length pools from the 1950s to better support their Olympic training. The country gradually transitioned to using metric as standard measurement system from 1966 onwards.[22]

Bundaberg made its first funding request to the Queensland Government for an Olympic swimming pool in 1950. However, the Council withdrew this request in March 1952 in favour of funding to improve the existing pool. Approval was granted in May 1955.[23] The successful funding request summarised the proposed works:

The old dressing sheds and timber walk way around the existing swimming pool are in poor condition and require urgent replacement. The proposal is to construct new dressing sheds in brick and a concrete concourse. The estimated cost is £6000.[24]

By July 1955, the existing pool buildings had been demolished and new dressing sheds around the northeast corner of the pool were under construction; and land had been added to the site in order to develop a lawn and gardens adjoining the pool.[25]

However, on 6 July 1955, one of the concrete walls of the Bundaberg pool collapsed without warning. This resulted from cracks in the pool walls and floor caused by fig tree roots, combined with the absence of reinforcing in the concrete. Other sections of the pool were liable to collapse. The Bundaberg City Council Engineer, Cliff S Brewer, provided the Council with an alternative proposal of replacing the existing pool with an Olympic-size pool:

The size of the existing pool while adequate for most occasions at present, even with the present population it is overcrowded at times. Consideration should be given whether a large pool of Olympic Standard should be constructed or deferred to some future date.... The minimum standard of pool in concrete, painted similar to the old pool, 165ft x 48ft (50.292 x 14.63m) wide, with a maximum depth of 11ft (3.353m) is estimated to cost £10,000 with a subsidy of £2500, loan required £7500.[26]

The Bundaberg City Council agreed and applied to the Queensland Government for funding assistance and submitted plans, which showed the new male and female dressing sheds and a new entrance/kiosk building.[27] The proposal was approved.[28]

The new complex fully replaced the 1923 Returned Soldier's Memorial Pool and its buildings. The site was enlarged westwards, after survey in 1956, to total 1ac 3prch (0.412ha). Built in 1955-6 on the site of the Returned Soldiers' Memorial Pool and additional land to its west, the pool complex was funded through Treasury loans and government subsidy, and cost £21,000.[29] . At the opening ceremony, the Bundaberg Mayor acknowledged Bundaberg City Council Chief Engineer, Brewer, saying the pool was 'a monument to the extraordinary efficiency and skill of ... Brewer who designed and supervised the erection of the pool' and was 'one of the best of the many fine jobs he has done in ... Bundaberg'.[30] The 2015 book *Hot Modernism* identifies the dressing sheds as being designed by Queensland architecture firm Cook and Kerrison, who as Cook, Kerrison and Partners later designed the entrance building/caretaker's residence. One of the 1955 blueprint plans showing details of the dressing sheds and the pool notes 'Drawn E Wallace 11/3/55', whose identity is not known, but does not appear on Rolls of the Board of Architects Queensland 1930-1980. [31]

The complex comprised a central, rectangular, 55yd, 6-lane 'Olympic' pool, ranging in depth from 3.5ft (1m) to 10.75ft (3.3m), with starting blocks and a 9ft (2.7m) and 3ft (91cm) diving board. It also included a small square toddlers' wading pool ranging in depth from 1ft 6in (46cm) to 1ft 10in (56cm) in the southeast corner of the site. The complex included a new single-storey entrance/kiosk building and two separate, single-storey, 'open-air' dressing sheds (women's and men's), all three buildings were designed in a pared-back Mediterranean or Mission Revival style with textured rendered brick walls, porthole windows and terracotta tile roof (entrance building), and an aeration fountain standing within the grounds near the entrance/kiosk building.[32] These features were set in a garden setting with large areas of lawn,[33] timber stands, and concrete concourses and paths around the pools. 'Foot pools', square shallow pools to rinse bathers' feet before entering the swimming pool, were located at the exits from the dressing sheds and strategic locations around the Olympic pool. The 1923 marble foundation stone was incorporated into the new entrance/kiosk building.[34]

Anzac Pool was officially opened on 31 March 1956 by the Mayor of Bundaberg, Alderman Frederick Harold Buss. The Olympic pool, toddlers' pool, and entrance/kiosk building had been completed and in use from 24 December 1955, while the dressing sheds were being finished.[35] At the opening, the Mayor stated:

The Council now had the basic requirements on which it could develop a pool in a garden setting which would have few rivals anywhere.... As in many southern cities, the pool has been established in a garden setting but ours is unique in that it is situated on the banks of a river and when surrounding shrubs and grass grow, future councils will

have a very fine basis on which to make improvements such as warming of the water during winter time and underwater lighting etc.... New baths have long been on the City Council's list of improvements....[36]

The Mayor also said 'the new pool would still stand as a memorial to first world war servicemen. If the RSL have thoughts of providing a memorial for the servicemen of the second world war and those of Korea and Malaya in the way of seating or some other amenity at the pool they will have the complete backing of the Council.'[37] No evidence of a feature memorialising of the pool as a World War II memorial, nor of fundraising for this purpose, has been identified.

Provision of public swimming pool complexes in Queensland's towns and cities became popular by the mid-20th century and peaked during the 1950s and 1960s, with at least 49 known to have been built in Queensland during the period.[38] Some served as utilitarian war memorials. While each pool complex was individually designed, most included an Olympic-sized or 25m swimming pool; an entrance building; separate changing facilities for men and women (some with partly open-air roofs, which was believed to kill germs and aid in the drying process); and an open, landscaped site, typically with pathways, lawns, trees, and bench seating. Many also incorporated a shallow wading pool for toddlers. Some, like Bundaberg City Council Olympic Pool, included diving boards.

At least eight public swimming pool complexes were built in Queensland between 1950 and late 1955 (before Anzac Pool was completed in early 1956). These were: Tobruk Memorial Baths in Townsville, (1950) [QHR 601575]; Blue Pacific Pool, Nambour (1950; demolished); Normanton Pool (1951); Aramac Jubilee Memorial Swimming Pool (1952); WJ Lang Memorial Olympic Swimming Pool, Kingaroy (1953); Mitchell Memorial Swimming Pool (1955); Langlands Park Memorial Pool, Stones Corner (1955); and Cunnamulla Swimming Pool (1955).[39]

In 2022, of the 49 known public pool complexes built in Queensland in the 1950s and 1960s, 12 have been demolished or considerably altered through substantial change. Of the remaining 37, evidence suggests only 12 retain a level of intactness, with original/early complex components extant and legible. Most complexes were altered after the period through modernisation and other upgrades, such as: replacing one or more of the pools in the same or new location, altering the original pool by widening it, or changing the pool wall by providing ramp access; adding shade structures, lagoons, waterpark structures (slides), and buildings in the grounds, replacing open lawn areas; or demolishing and replacing, or substantially modernising the entrance buildings and dressing sheds. Of the known public pool complexes built in the 1950s and 1960s in Queensland, the peak period of the construction of this type, Bundaberg's Anzac Pool is one of the more intact examples.[40]

Public pool buildings from the 1950s and 1960s in Queensland were often constructed from robust materials like brick and concrete, dressing sheds/change rooms typically had high levels of ventilation including 'open-air' sections with no roof, and incorporated 'foot pools' for rinsing bathers' feet prior to entering the main pool. In line with contemporary architectural trends, most pool buildings from the 1950s and 1960s were typically designed in expressive architectural styles, such as Modernism (such as at 2nd World War Memorial Pool, Rockhampton, 1960 or Mackay Memorial Swimming Centre, 1963), Moderne (such as Tobruk Memorial Baths, Townsville), and Mediterranean or Mission Revival (as at Bundaberg).[41]

Soon after Anzac Pool's opening, Olympic Squad coach Frank Guthrie of Sydney described it as one of the finest in Australia for training and racing purpose.[42] Olympic and Commonwealth swimmers have trained at the pool, and a world record was established there in 1960 when Rosemary Lassig broke the world record for the 100m breaststroke.[43]

From the mid-1950s to early 1960s, Bundaberg experienced an economic and building boom with numerous civic improvements. A town plan was developed in 1954 and numerous civic works were undertaken in this period.[44] The further development of the Bundaberg swimming pool complex reflected this growth.

In 1964 and 1967, the Bundaberg City Council applied to the Queensland Government for funding for construction of a learners' swimming pool with a filter, and an ornamental fountain to be located on the western end of the pool, at an estimated cost of \$20,000.[45] A third application in February 1968, excluding the fountain, was successful.[46] The Council proceeded with a filtration system to handle both the learners' and main pools, which required alteration to the existing method of pool water circulation (1955 aerator fountain) and of the concourse, plus a larger filter. A tender from Water Treatment Pty Ltd was accepted.[47]

The new learners' swimming pool was officially opened on 1 November 1969 by the Mayor, Alderman Clifford John Nielsen, as was a plaque on the wall of the new filtration plant building. The combined cost of the filtration plant and the learners' pool was about \$32,000.[48] The filtration plant building was located at the eastern end the learners' pool, comprising a reinforced concrete holding tank and an adjacent undercover plant area. The construction work was carried out using day labour.[49]

By the time of the opening of the learners' pool, Bundaberg City Council had decided a residence was needed for the swimming pool operator, who spent long hours at the pool. In February 1968, the Council requested funding from the Coordinator General of Public Works to alter the existing entrance/kiosk building to provide a residence in brick above it.[50] This did not receive approval. Early in 1970 the Council again applied for funding for a residence, with plans and specifications for an office, café, and caretaker's residence; at an estimated cost of \$25,000. The application was approved after the estimated cost was revised to the more realistic amount of \$30,000.[51] The tender for the 'erection of a two-storey brick and reinforced concrete building' was advertised in February 1970, but no tenders were accepted.[52] Revised specifications were prepared and fresh tenders called in May 1970[53] for 'Erection of a Two Storey Brick and Brick Veneer Building with Timber construction First Floor, comprising Café, Office and Residence at the Olympic Pool, Quay Street, Bundaberg'.[54] The successful tenderer was JB & LR Murchie for \$37,984.[55]

Designed by architecture firm, Cook, Kerrison and Partners, the new two-storey entrance building/caretaker's residence was opened on 1 February 1971 by Bundaberg City Council Mayor, Alderman CJ Nielsen. The building replaced the 1955 entrance/kiosk building, at a cost \$40,000.[56] At its front public entrance was a small recessed plaza and mounted on its front wall in large raised metal letters was 'BUNDABERG CITY COUNCIL OLYMPIC POOL'. Below this were the 1923 marble foundation stone from the Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths, the 1956 plaque from the earlier entrance/kiosk building, and a new plaque commemorating the 1971 opening. The ground floor accommodated a small ticket office, office, and kitchen, servery window to the pool grounds, and a generous indoor café seating area. The caretaker's residence included a single car garage on the ground floor and a front garden enclosed by diamond shaped breezeblocks with an internal stair up to the first floor. The first floor was exclusively for the caretaker's residence and included three bedrooms, one bathroom, a generous laundry and breeze-block enclosed drying court, and an open-plan kitchen, dining and living room, wrapped by a narrow balcony on three sides with a spiral stair on the north down to the pool grounds.[57]

Harold Morton Cook (1901-1968) and Walter James Ernest Kerrison (1902-2000) formed the Brisbane-based architecture firm, Cook and Kerrison, in 1939. Between 1962 and 1978 the firm operated as Cook, Kerrison and Partners. After Cook's death and Kerrison's retirement, it became Perry Bland Kennerson Loynes Pty Ltd (1978-1981).[58] The firm employed many

architects and was at times a large firm handling many jobs.[59] Cook and Kerrison's built work was diverse, including private residences, offices, churches, banks, and King's College at University of Queensland, St Lucia.[60]

Other changes to Anzac Pool have occurred since its redevelopment in 1955-56. By 1965, a 'broadcast stand' had been added at the eastern end of the Olympic pool. The pool was shortened to the official Olympic length of 50m in 1970, in time for the start of the 1970-1971 swimming season.[61] At this time the 1955 decommissioned aerator fountain was altered and converted into a gazebo.[62] The pool filtration shed was extended c1981 by the addition of a brick plant room.[63] The diving board and spring board were removed by 2007.[64] Other alterations have occurred, including removal of all of the concrete foot pools, removal of the timber stands, concourse lamps, and bench seats, and closing in of windows on the dressing sheds and replacement of their roof sheets. After 2008, 'ANZAC POOL' was painted on the entrance building/caretaker's residence and after 2014 the 1971 metal letter sign was removed from the same building.[65] From c1968 until 2021, a WWII era, 25-pounder artillery piece was located near the pool entrance.[66]

Since 1956, Anzac Pool has been an important and much-used facility for the local community. Veterans have continued to use the pool for therapeutic purposes and value the ongoing Anzac association. Generations of children have learned to swim at the pool complex; competitive and lap swimmers have trained there, while many members of the Bundaberg and district community have also enjoyed the amenity. From 1956 to 1983, both Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club and Fairymead Amateur Swimming Club (later Fairymead Swim Club), shared the pool for training and competitive swim meets. Both held club nights, and together hosted meets with clubs from within the Wide Bay Burnett Region[67] and from beyond the region,[68] as well as Wide Bay (regional) Swimming Championships,[69] and Bundaberg's City of Charm carnivals from 1973-1982.[70] Fairymead Swim Club relocated to the newly opened Norville Park Pool in 1983. Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Anzac Olympic Pool with the 'Anzac Park Pool Anniversary Bash' on 1 April 2006, which was approved and supported by the Bundaberg City Council, featured a jumping castle, free sausage sizzle, with donations to Legacy.[71]

Bundaberg's Anzac Day commemorations centre on Bundaberg War Memorial, sited in the intersection of Bourbong and Barolin streets. In the past, returned servicemen attending the Anzac Day Dawn Service assembled outside the memorial baths, while in 2022, marchers assembled outside the Bundaberg RSL building, before proceeding west along Quay Street, past Anzac Pool and Anzac Park, via Barolin Street to the Bundaberg War Memorial for the service.[72] Anzac Pool is listed as a war memorial on three online war memorial databases.[73]

Anzac Pool closed permanently at the end of the swimming season in April 2022. BRC has contracted the demolition of the Anzac Pool complex and intends to replace it as part of a broader redevelopment of the adjacent Anzac Park.[74] The Anzac Pool's community swimming function will be replaced by a new Regional Aquatic Centre at another location in Bundaberg.

## Description

Anzac Pool, Bundaberg (1956) is located on the northern edge of the Bundaberg CBD. It stands on the northern side of Quay Street, within a strip of parkland along the high southern bank of the Burnett River. The place comprises a complex of buildings, pools, and landscaped areas and retains a high degree of intactness and integrity in its form, fabric, and layout, when compared to extant contemporary examples.

Features of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- central, civic location;
- pool buildings:
  - Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (1971);
  - Women's Dressing Shed (1956);
  - Men's Dressing Shed (1956);
  - and Broadcast Stand (by 1965);
- swimming pools:
  - Olympic Swimming Pool (1955, shortened 1970);
  - Toddlers' Wading Pool (1955); and
  - 25m Learners' Pool (1969);
- pool water filtration systems:
  - remnant of Former Aerator Fountain (1955, excluding its conversion to a gazebo, 1971); and
  - Pool Filtration Shed (1969, excluding its extension in 1981); and
- generous, manicured, and open Grounds featuring formal layout, lawns, mature trees, and concrete pool concourses and paths.

#### Setting & Streetscape

The pool stands well back from Quay Street, with a bitumen car park running between the complex and the street. A row of mature palms (planted by 1965) runs along the pool's southern boundary within the complex, and the two-storey Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence extends out from this boundary towards Quay Street. On the complex's western side is Anzac Park, a public park of lawns and trees including an avenue of palms, outside the pool complex. On the complex's northern side is a steep bank down to the river, with a narrow walking path and native trees. On its eastern side is a two-storey, masonry Returned and Services League's club building, separated from the pool by a vehicle alley.

#### Site Layout & Circulation

The site is large and an irregular shape, roughly as long as it is wide. Its entrance is near its southeast corner, from Quay Street, through the two-storey Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence. Passing through the building, patrons enter the open pool grounds, which is surrounded by a tall chain-link fence on most of its boundary.

Immediately north of the Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence is the Former Aerator Fountain, and east of the building, in the southeast corner of the site, is the Toddlers' Wading Pool. At the centre of the large grounds is the rectangular Olympic Swimming Pool, surrounded by a concrete concourse and lawn areas. The Broadcast Stand is located at the pool's east end. East of this is the long, narrow Women's Dressing Shed and to its north is the separate Men's Dressing Shed – these are almost identical buildings oriented 90 degrees to each other. To the north of the Olympic Swimming Pool is the 25m Learners' Pool, added within an original lawn area, and east of the Learners' Pool, behind the Men's Dressing Shed, is the Pool Filtration Shed.

#### **Pool Buildings**

##### Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (1971)

The Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (1971) is a two-storey, masonry building fronting south to Quay Street. In a Late-20th Century Modernist architectural style, it has square block-like building forms, angled balcony balustrades, and features materials

including face bricks, split face concrete blocks, and concrete breezeblocks. The building is the main public entrance to the pool complex and its ground floor accommodates a small ticket office at the entry, main office, kitchen, and a café and separate servery that open out into the pool grounds. The residence is separated from the pool functions internally. It includes a single-car garage and a walled front garden with front entrance hall and stair up to the first floor. The first floor is exclusively the residence and includes three bedrooms, one bathroom, a generous laundry and private breeze-block enclosed drying court, and an open-plan kitchen, dining and living room, wrapped by a balcony on three sides.

The building is substantially intact with only minor changes including: the demolition of its rear external spiral stair and the breezeblock section of the residence's garden wall; and modernisation of its first floor kitchen.

Features of the Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- face brick and split face block walls, breezeblock garden wall (remnant), breezeblock feature walls enclosing the first floor drying court, pebblecrete feature columns, and prominent balconies with enclosed, angled balustrades of flat sheet;
- flat sheet eaves and fascias, and flat, metal sheet-clad roof;
- tall metal flagpole near front entrance, and one marble foundation stone (1923), and two wall-mounted 'plaques' on front wall (1956, and 1971);
- original aluminium-framed windows: sliding, fixed, and glazed and metal blade louveres, roller shutter at servery;
- original doors: metal garage tilt-a-door, aluminium-framed glazed sliding and fixed patio doors, glazed hinged doors, and flush-face hinged internal doors;
- internal layout of lightweight internal partitions;
- internal flat sheet wall and ceiling linings, and white and blue vinyl tile floor linings;
- kitchen fitout of ground floor, its white and blue laminate cabinetry, and ceramic tile splashback;
- internal stair to first floor and its clear-finished wall mounted handrail;
- bathroom fitout of first floor, its coloured ceramic floor and wall tiles, shower and bath, and glass shower screen;
- original built-in white laminate joinery of first floor including wardrobes, sewing bench in laundry, and other cupboards;
- original ceiling lights of first floor; and
- evidence of removed original fabric including breezeblock garden wall, rear spiral stair, and main sign made of raised metal letters on front wall.

Features of the Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original features including: steel and metal-sheet caretaker's garden wall (replaced original breezeblock garden wall); signs including painted name 'ANZAC POOL' on fascias (added after 2008); metal bar front gate of public entrance (replaced original of different design in same location); entrance gate into residence courtyard (opening is original); first floor kitchen fitout; floor coverings including vinyl planks and carpets; and electrical services including lights, and air conditioning.

### Women's Dressing Shed & Men's Dressing Shed (1956)

The Women's and Men's Dressing Sheds are two free-standing, single-storey, brick buildings. Almost identical, they are long and narrow, rectangular in plan, and accommodate change rooms and ablutions. Their brick walls are relieved in regular intervals on the long sides by engaged piers with scrolled capitals and the walls and piers have a textured render. Their roofs are timber-framed gables built without a central ridge section so that the interiors of the sheds are open to the sky.

The Women's and Men's Dressing Sheds are considerably intact with some change to original features, including: replacement of roof sheets, fixtures, and fittings; and infilling of the foot pools and windows.

Features of the Women's Dressing Shed and Men's Dressing Shed of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- concrete floors and their in-built, internal spoon drains for shower areas;
- brick walls with engaged piers with scrolled capitals, and textured render (exterior and interior), and smooth render of scroll capital;
- exposed timber-framing of posts with stop-chamfered corners and roof with central open section;
- interior layout of solid partitions including central changing sections and flanking cubicles for toilets and showers, and central partitions;
- original timber benches, wall-mounted on timber brackets;
- wall-mounted timber peg rails;
- evidence of original foot pools in-filled with concrete, and evidence of closed-up original windows; and
- metal 1969 Learners' Pool opening plaque wall-mounted to the Men's Dressing Shed's western side.

Features of the Women's Dressing Shed and Men's Dressing Shed not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original features including: timber-framed lean-to enclosure on northern end of Women's Dressing Shed; corrugated metal roof sheets (replaced original 'super-six' corrugated roof sheets to a shallower corrugation profile); removal and closing-up of all windows (original windows were small high-set louvres); cutting back of eaves rafters and roof of Men's Dressing Shed (northern side); screens infilling open gable end wall apices; concrete in-fill of foot pools at exits; steel stirrups of original internal timber posts and their new concrete footings; additional modern interior bench seats; sanitary fixtures and fittings including toilets, sinks, and showers; metal cubicle doors; and electrical services including lights.

### Broadcast Stand (by 1965)

The Broadcast Stand is a small, freestanding cubicle building at the eastern end of the Olympic Swimming Pool. It is set higher than the ground, reached via a short timber stair, and is a masonry and timber-framed structure with a skillion roof. It has windows on all sides to view the pool and surrounds.

The Broadcast Stand is highly intact.

Features of the Broadcast Stand of State-level cultural heritage significance include:



- masonry and timber-framed structure with a skillion roof or metal sheets;
- lower walls with textured render and diamond breezeblock vents, and upper walls clad with ribbed metal sheets;
- timber stair;
- windows: timber-framed, fixed and awning-hung (facing pool); metal-framed louvres to sides;
- timber-framed, glazed door;
- single-room interior;
- timber board-lined floor, and flat sheet-lined walls and ceiling with timber cover strips; and
- early/original timber bench along pool-facing wall.

Features of the Broadcast Stand not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original fascia-mounted timing clock.

## **Pools**

### Olympic Swimming Pool (1955, shortened 1970)

The Olympic Swimming Pool is the central feature of the pool grounds. It is a large, rectangular, concrete, in-ground pool shell, untiled, with its deep end at the east. It includes a discernible section of concrete wall (1970) at its western end that has been added to shorten the pool from 55 yards (50.292m) to 50m.

The Olympic Swimming Pool is highly intact with only minor change including: demolition of its foot pool, diving boards, and ladders.

Features of the Olympic Swimming Pool of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- six-lane concrete pool shell with built-in scum gutters, untiled, and shell walls which extend as a distinctive 'lip' above the level of the surrounding ground;
- shortening of pool by adding a concrete wall section in east end of shell;
- concrete starters' blocks (east end); and
- narrow concrete concourse (all sides), the concrete of which was replaced c1969, likely when the foot pool was demolished.

Features of the Olympic Swimming Pool not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original modern ladders, shell linings, and markings.

### Toddlers' Wading Pool (1955)

The Toddlers' Wading Pool is a shallow, in-ground, concrete pool shell, roughly square, with a wide concrete stair at its northern end. It is highly intact with only minor changes, including the extension of its originally narrow concrete concourse over its southern lawn, and addition of a shade sail over the pool.

Features of the Toddlers' Wading Pool of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- concrete pool shell, untiled, with built-in, wide, concrete stair at northern end, and shell walls which extend as a distinctive 'lip' above the level of the surrounding ground.

Features of the Toddlers' Wading Pool not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original fabric shade sail and its metal posts and fixings, concrete ground slabs around the pool and over original small lawn area south of the pool, shell linings and markings, and small shed (c1971) at southern end of Toddlers' Wading Pool area.

#### Learners' Pool (1969)

The Learners' Pool has been added into what was originally a lawn area on the north side of the Olympic Pool. It is a rectangular, concrete, in-ground pool shell, untiled, with its deep end at the east.

The Learners' Pool is highly intact and has had only minor changes.

Features of the Learners' Pool of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- four-lane concrete pool shell with built-in scum gutters, untiled, and shell walls which extend as a distinctive 'lip' above the level of the surrounding ground; and
- original narrow concrete concourse (all sides).

Features of the Learners' Pool not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original modern ladders, shell linings, and markings.

#### **Pool Water Filtration Systems**

##### Former Aerator Fountain (1955, excluding its conversion to gazebo in 1971)

The Former Aerator Fountain stands just north of the Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence. It incorporates parts of an original aerator fountain (1955, which originally aerated the pool water after it had been drawn from the bore and chlorinated). It is not intact and has been decommissioned, altered, and converted into a gazebo (1971). The fountain was originally surrounded by a large octagonal basin, which has been demolished and replaced with a concrete plinth.

Features of the Former Aerator Fountain of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- octagonal concrete dome and central concrete fountain pillar.

Features of the Former Aerator Fountain not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- all fabric relating to its decommissioning and conversion to a gazebo including: addition of timber-framed octagonal roof clad with metal sheets, surrounding timber perimeter posts, concrete plinth, and concrete around fountain over original lawn areas.

##### Pool Filtration Shed (1969, excluding its extension in c1981)

The Pool Filtration Shed comprises a single-storey building of two small, attached parts: a reinforced concrete pool water holding tank (1969); and a single-storey, lean-to, brick extension (c1981) accommodating filtration plant equipment, which replaced an earlier plant area (likely roofed and open-sided) in the same location. The shed stands adjacent to the north side of the Men's Dressing Shed at its western end. The 1969 section is intact.

Features of the Pool Filtration Shed of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- 1969 section comprising reinforced concrete holding tank structure (1969), unroofed, with textured render exterior walls.

Features of the Pool Filtration Shed not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- c1981 section including all internal plant equipment and fixed, steel access ladder to

adjacent holding tank.

### Grounds

The Pool Grounds are spacious and feature a large L-shaped lawn south and west of the Olympic Swimming Pool, and mature palms (planted by 1965) including a row along the southern boundary. The grounds are considerably intact with minor changes including removal of the original concourse lamps, stands, and bench seats.

Near the front entrance to the site (southeast corner) are a concrete bike rack and a concrete plinth (likely c1968), shaped for and used to mount a WWII-era artillery piece (removed 2021).

Features of the Grounds of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- open lawn wrapping south and west of the Olympic Swimming Pool;
- mature palms (likely *Archontophoenix alexandrae* and *Syagrus romanzoffiana*) along southern boundary and west of Olympic Swimming Pool, and mature pine tree in north-western corner of site;
- concrete plinth for artillery piece at southeast corner; and
- concrete bike rack near front entrance.

Features of the Grounds not of State-level cultural heritage significance include:

- non-original features including: concourse lamps, bench seats, and planters; modern small chemical store structure at west end of site; and modern pool equipment, hoses, and signs; and
- all other vegetation not mentioned and surrounding fences at boundary of site.

## Illustrations



Figure 3: Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (1971) from Quay Street (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 4: Northern elevation of Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (1971) from within the pool grounds (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 5: Pool Grounds looking north from Entrance Building/Caretaker's Residence (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 6: Former Aerator Fountain (1955) converted to a gazebo (1971) (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 7: Toddlers' Wading Pool (1955) (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 8: Olympic Swimming Pool (1955) (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 9: Olympic Pool (1955), Broadcast Stand (by 1965), and Dressing Sheds (1956) (Queensland Government, 2022)



Figure 10: Interior Men's Dressing Shed (1956) (Queensland Government, 2022)

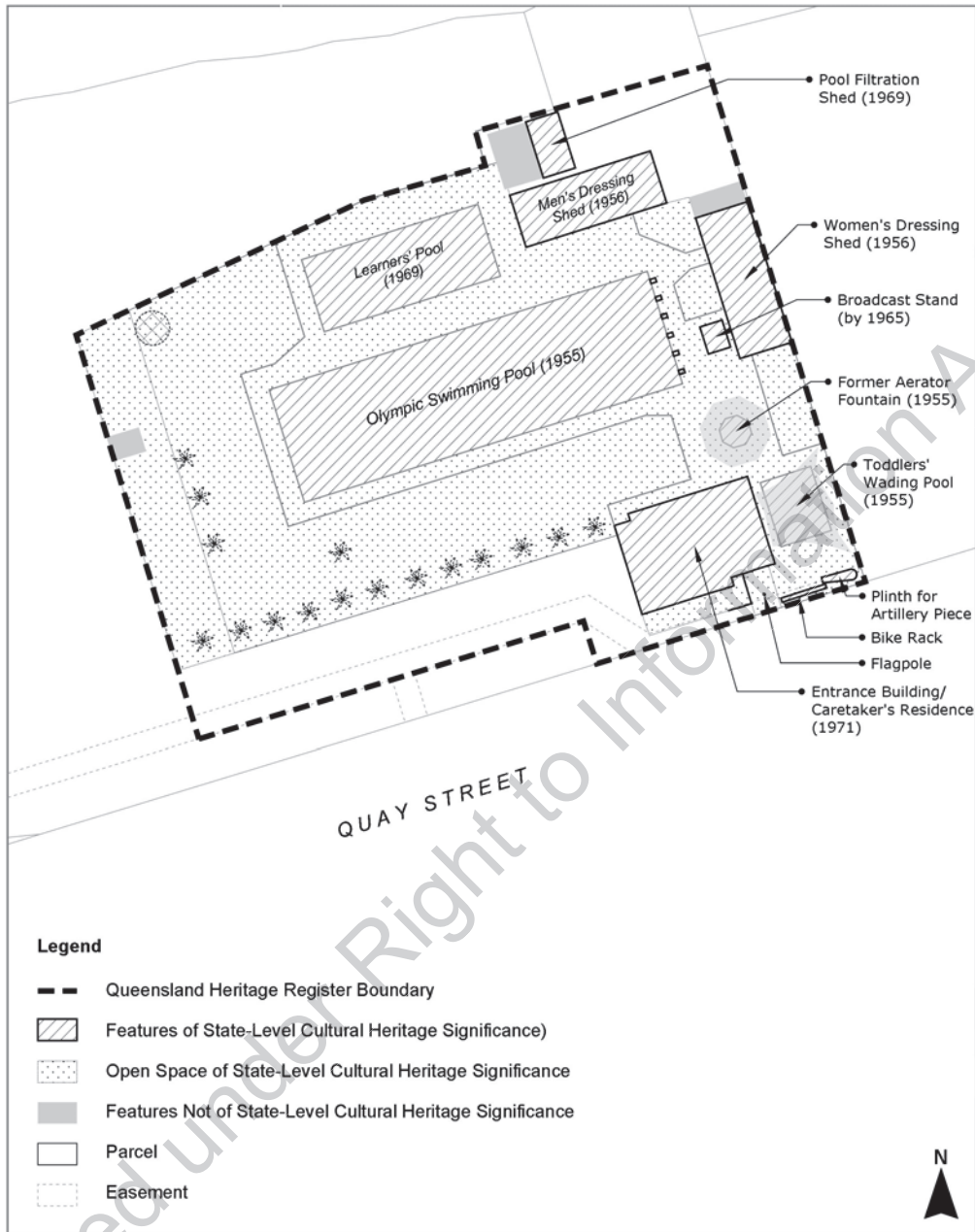


Figure 11: Learners' Pool (1969) (Queensland Government, 2022)

Released under Right to Information Act 2009



Plans



**650278 - Anzac Pool, Bundaberg  
 Site Plan**

Date created: 29/08/2022  
 © The State of Queensland, 2022

Figure 12: Site Plan (Queensland Government, 2022)

## Proposed heritage register boundary

The heritage register boundary contains part of Lot 3 B158227 (including easement F SP319098) and Lot 2 CK3719 (including easement E SP319098). The heritage boundary follows the lot boundary for its eastern extent, follows the lot boundary and easement boundary for its southern extent, is offset 7.5m from the lot boundary for its western extent, and follows the lot boundary for part of its northern extent, with the exception of the northwest corner that runs between the lot vertices on its northern side and is offset 3m from the lot boundary on its western side.

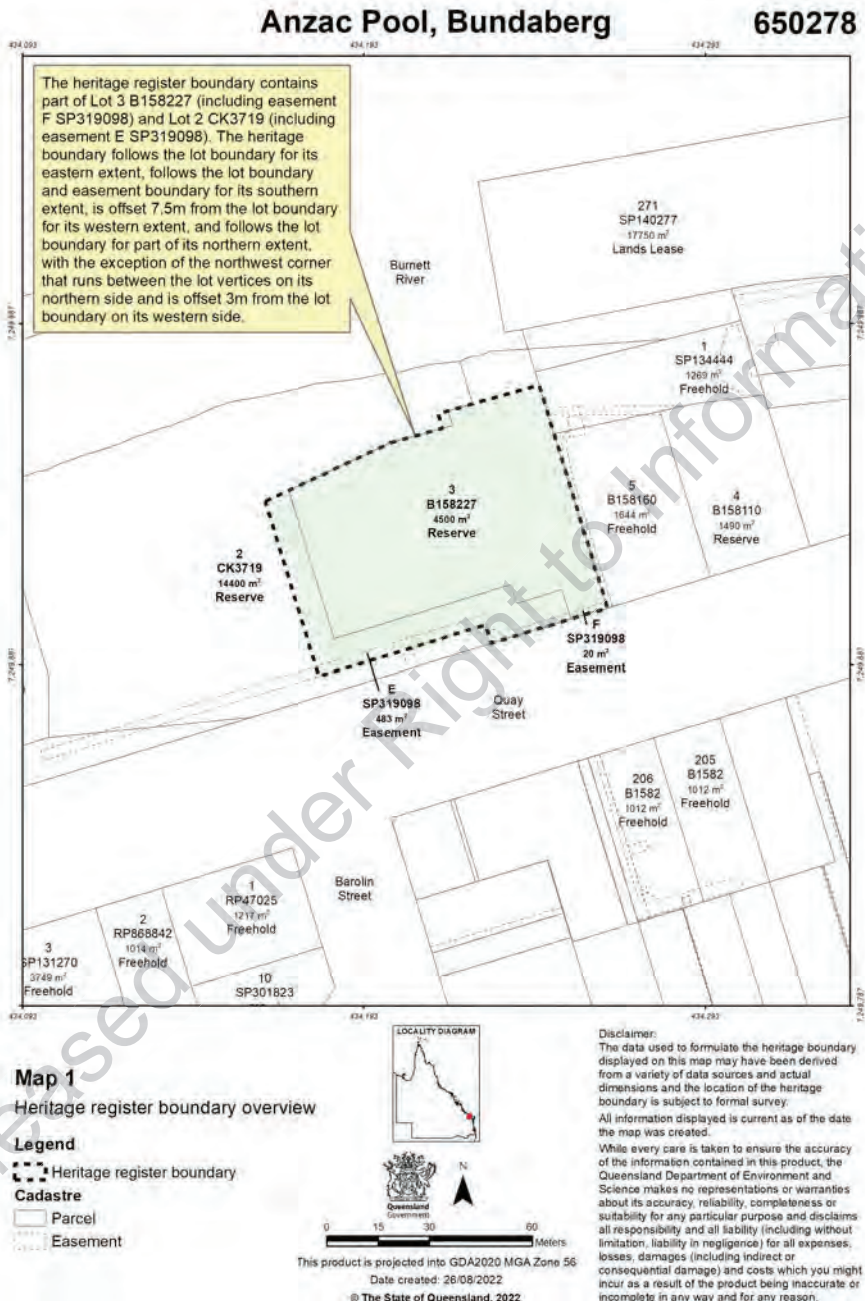


Figure 13: Proposed heritage register boundary, Map 1 (Queensland Government, 2022)

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- [3] 'Bundaberg Central State School', QHR 601533; 'Sugar in the Wide Bay Region', DERM, c.2008, pp.3-4.
- [4] 'The Bath', *Moreton Bay Courier*, 10 March 1849, p.3; 'Domestic Intelligence', *Moreton Bay Courier*, 14 February 1857, p.2, and 18 April 1857, p.2. The 1857 floating timber bath was moored to the river bank at South Brisbane, almost opposite the end of Queen Street, and was 75ft by 24ft (23m by 7m) cited by QHR 650250 Mackay Memorial Pool.
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Hampson conclude that 'Queensland's post-war memorial pools increasingly adopted a key role in building local communities. Enjoying oneself in a public pool became thought of as a way to not only construct Queenslanders' physical and mental fitness, but also as a civic responsibility: to commemorate those who have given their lives (and bodies) to preserve this quintessentially Australian way of life' (p.192) cited by Mackay Memorial Pool QHR 650250.

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- [31] QSA, ITM2296865, 'Plan of Proposed Improvements to Bundaberg Baths: Details of Dressing Sheds and Children's Pool' (blueprint) signed 'Drawn E Wallace 11/3/55'; Alice Hampson and Janina Gosseye, 'Healthy Minds in Healthy Bodes: Building Queensland's Community, One Weatherboard at a Time', in J Macarthur, D Van Der Plaats, J Gosseye and A Wilson (eds.), *Hot Modernism: Queensland Architecture 1945-1975*, London: Artifice books on architecture, 2015, p. 254; Alice Hampson, Pers. Comm., 9 Aug 2022; Donald Watson, *Rolls of the Board of Architects Queensland, 1930 – 1980*, The University of Queensland Library, 2017 The initials E.H.W. (possibly E Wallace) appear on a site plan for the new swimming pool complex provided to the Lands Department circa July 1955. (Res827 file, Resources, Bundaberg Land Agent's Office, Bundaberg.)
- [32] QSA, ITM2296865, Plans.
- [33] 'New Baths Open for Holiday Swimming', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 13 Dec 1955, p.2.
- [34] 'Baths' garden will have few rivals', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2 Apr 1956, p.6.
- [35] 'New Baths Open for Holiday Swimming', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 13 Dec 1955, p.2.
- [36] 'Baths' garden will have few rivals', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2 Apr 1956, p.6.
- [37] 'Baths' garden will have few rivals', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2 Apr 1956, p.6.
- [38] DES, 'Comparative analysis of Queensland public pool complexes', 2022.
- [39] DES, 'Comparative analysis of Queensland public pool complexes', 2022.
- [40] DES, 'Comparative analysis of Queensland public pool complexes', 2022.
- [41] DES, 'Comparative research of war memorial pools in Queensland', 2020; Macarthur et al, *Hot Modernism*, pp.251-258; R Apperly, R Irving and P Reynolds, *A pictorial guide to identifying Australian architecture: styles and forms from 1788 to the present*, Sydney: Angus & Robertson in association with Mead & Beckett, 1989, pp. 214-217 cited by QHR 650250 Mackay Memorial Pool.
- [42] 'Praise of Swim Pool Appreciated', *Bundaberg News*, 27 Apr 1956, p.5.
- [43] 'Olympic-scale pool where Rosemary Lassig broke the world record for the 100m breaststroke in 1960.' (Nolan, Bundaberg, p. 223.); 'Michelle Pearson', in Bundaberg Hall of Fame, *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2013, p.36 cited by 650275 Anzac Park Memorial Pool Application; '29 Swimming Records Broken in Wide-Bay Titles', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 1963 in Eric Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club: The First Fifty Years*, Eric Cullen, Bundaberg, 2006, p.14.
- [44] Nolan, *Bundaberg*, pp.220, 223. Bundaberg had overtaken Maryborough as the regional centre of the Wide Bay-Burnett region during the interwar period. (St John's Lutheran Church, Bundaberg QHR 602815.)
- [45] QSA ITM2296876, Coordinator General of Public Works, Bundaberg City Council: Application for inclusion of works in the 1964/65, 14 Feb 1964; Application for inclusion of

works in the 1967/68 Loan Programme, 9 Feb 1967. The work was intended as a 1967 Centenary Project.

[46] QSA ITM2296876, Coordinator General of Public Works, Bundaberg City Council Application for inclusion of works in the 1968/69 Loan Programme, 13 Feb 1968.

[47] QSA ITM2296876, Coordinator General of Public Works, Letter from R G Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to Director of Local Government, 31 Jul 1969.

[48] 'Pool for Learners opened by Mayor', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 3 Nov 1969, p.4.

[49] QSA ITM2296876, Coordinator General of Public Works–Bundaberg City Council–Residence for Swimming Pool Operator, Letter from Director of Local Government to Town Clerk, Bundaberg, 14 Feb 1969.

[50] QSA ITM2296883 Application for Inclusion of Works in the 1968-69 Loan Programme, 13 Feb 1968. A plan was attached but is missing; 'Pool for Learners opened by Mayor', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 3 Nov 1969, p.4.

[51] QSA ITM2296883 Letter from RG Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to Under Treasurer, The Treasury, 14 Jan 1970; QSA ITM2296883 Letter from LD Thomas for Under Treasurer to Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council, 3 Feb 1970; QSA ITM2296883 Application for Inclusion of Works in the 1970-71 Loan Programme, 13 Feb 1970.

[52] *Bundaberg News Mail*, 14 Feb 1970, p.15; QSA ITM2296885 Coordinator General of Public Works–Bundaberg City Council–Caretakers Residence and Improvements to Buildings–Bundaberg Swimming Pool, Letter from RG Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to The Under Treasurer, The Treasury, 17 Feb 1970.

[53] QSA ITM2296883 Ltd from R G Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to Under Treasurer, The Treasury, 27 Apr 1970.

[54] *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2 May 1970, p. 16.

[55] QSA ITM2296885 Coordinator General of Public Works–Bundaberg City Council–Caretakers Residence and Improvements to Buildings–Bundaberg Swimming Pool: Letter from RG Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to The Under Treasurer, The Treasury, 18 Jun 1970; Letter from LD Thomas for The Under Treasurer, The Treasury to Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council 22 Jul 1970; Letter from R G Crane, Town Clerk, Bundaberg City Council to The Under Treasurer, The Treasury, 31 Jul 1970.

[56] 'Official Opening of Pool Block', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 2 Feb 1971, p.12.

[57] Drawing: 'Proposed Office, Café and Caretaker's Residence', Cook Kerrison and Partners, January 1970, drawn R.G.L.

[58] <[https://www.architecture.com.au/archives/news\\_media\\_articles/vale-robert-arthur-land](https://www.architecture.com.au/archives/news_media_articles/vale-robert-arthur-land)> , accessed 7 Jul 2022 ; <[https://digitalcollections.qut.edu.au/3617/2/PUB\\_LINKS1998April\\_FIN\\_20150521.pdf](https://digitalcollections.qut.edu.au/3617/2/PUB_LINKS1998April_FIN_20150521.pdf)> accessed 7 Jul 2022.

[59] Employee Tom McKerrell recalls it being one of the top three largest firms in Brisbane during the 1960s. (<<https://qldarch.net/architect/interview/2539?time=2326&architectId=305>> accessed 7 July 2022.)

[60] Queensland University of Technology (QUT). 'Walter's drawings still win praise', *QUT Links*, Autumn 1998, V.2, No.3, p.8; 'Advertising', *Brisbane Telegraph*, 4 May 1948; 'Tenders', *The Courier-Mail*, 26 Sep 1953, p.10; 'Tenders', *The Courier-Mail*, 27 Mar 1954, p.13; 'Tender', *Morning Bulletin*, 19 Jun 1954, p.8; 'Tenders', *Morning Bulletin*, 26 Aug 1954, p.8; 'Tender', *The Courier-Mail*, 1954-09-08, p.14; 'Tender', *The Courier-Mail*, 19 Oct 1954, p.12; 'Tender', 15 Nov 1954, *The Courier-Mail*, p.15.

[61] QImagery, aerial, QAP1634242, 1 Jun 1965; *Bundaberg News-Mail. 110 Years of News* , p.16.

[62] Anzac Park Memorial Pool application HRN650278.

[63] Bundaberg Regional Council. Olympic Pool New Plant Room, plan, 1981.

[64] Bundaberg Regional Council. Survey of Grounds, plan, 2007.

[65] Bundaberg Regional Council Olympic Pool plans, 1955; DES site visit photographs, 20

July 2022: Google Maps streetview, Feb 2008 and Jul 2022; SLQ Image Number 32529-0004-0007.

[66] Bundaberg RSL sub-branch, Pers. Comm., 27 Jul 2022; Emma Turnbull, 'Refurbished 25-pounder gun displayed proudly', *Bundaberg Now*, 26 Nov 2021, <<https://www.bundabergnow.com/2021/11/26/refurbished-25-pounder-gun-displayed-proudly/>>, accessed 14 Jun 2022. The artillery piece was refurbished and relocated to outside the Bundaberg RSL sub-branch at 69-71 Takalvan Street, Millbank.

[67] Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.25; Minutes of an Executive Committee mtg held on 2 Sep 1965 in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.37

[68] 'Swim Club team', *Bundaberg News*, 1962 or 1963, n.p. reproduced in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.6; 'Visitors win swim event', *Bundaberg News*, n.d, n.p. reproduced in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.28; Minutes of the Annual meeting of the FASC held in the rooms under the showgrounds grandstand on Monday 26 August 1963 in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.29; Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.25; Minutes of an Executive Committee meeting held on 2 Sep 1965 in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.37; 'Fairymead success in shield swimming', *Bundaberg News*, 1971, n.p. in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.54; 'Bundaberg swimmers defeat Toowoomba', *Bundaberg News*, 1972, n.p. in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.62; Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.55; Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.59; 'B'berg swimmers dominated Wide Bay carnival', *Bundaberg News-Mail*, 9 Mar 1978, n.p. in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.72; 'Records fall during Charm swim carnival', *Bundaberg News Mail*, 3 Dec 1979, p.24 in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.86.

[69] Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.23; '29 Swimming Records Broken in Wide Bay Titles', *Bundaberg News*, Mar 1963, n.p. reproduced in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p. 14; 'Major Task for Host Swim Club', *Bundaberg News*, 1972, n.p. in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.64; 'Swimmers establish Records', *Bundaberg News*, 1982 in Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.96.

[70] Eric Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club: The First 50 Years*, E Cullen, Bundaberg, c2006, pp 14, 132, 50; Cullen, *Fairymead Swim Club*, p.47.

[71] Submissions received by the Department of Environment and Science from members of this community, in support of the Application for the Anzac Pool's entry in the QHR, demonstrated an strong and ongoing association with the pool by veterans, their descendants, and those who have used the pool for sport and recreational purposes; Megan Dean, 'Bundaberg's first Olympic-sized pool opened in 1956', <<https://www.bundabergnow.com/2022/06/14/bundaberg-first-olympic-sized-pool-1956/>>, accessed 20 Jul 2022; 'Community celebrates 50 years of Anzac Pool', , 14 Jun 2022 cited by QHR 650278 Anzac Park Memorial Pool Application.

[72] B R C , Anzac Day, 25 April 2022, pp.7 - 8 . <<https://www.whatsonbundaberg.com.au/downloads/file/41/anzac-day-2022>> accessed 11 Aug 2022; 'Country Centres Pay Homage to Spirit of Anzac', *The Telegraph*, 24 Apr 1937, p.13

[73] Places of Pride - a National register of War Memorials, 'Anzac Park Memorial Pool', <<https://placesofpride.awm.gov.au/memorials/264336>>, accessed Jul 2022; Monument Australia, <<https://monumentaustralia.org.au/display/90906-returned-soldiers-memorial-baths-anzac-pool>>, accessed 7 Jul 2022; and Virtual War Memorial Australia, 'Anzac Park Memorial Pool', <<https://vwma.org.au/explore/memorials/5059>>, accessed Jul 2022.

[74] 2015 Council masterplan, online source no longer available; Current masterplan, <<https://www.ourbundabergregion.com.au/redevelopment-of-bundaberg-anzac-park#:~:text=This%20project%20is%20a%20%2419,commemorating%20the%20region's%20service%20personnel>>, accessed Jul 2022.



Department of Resources

Our ref: TF49023159

8 August 2022

Chief Executive  
Heritage  
Department of Environment & Science  
GPO Box 2454  
**BRISBANE QLD 4001**

Email: [heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Chief Executive,

Re: Anzac Park Memorial Pool  
19 Quay Street, Bundaberg

Thank you for providing the Department of Resources (the department), as owner of the land, the opportunity to make representations to the Queensland Heritage Council on its considerations on whether the Anzac Park Memorial Pool (APMP) is entered into the Queensland Heritage Register as a State Heritage Place.

The department requests that the following information be considered by the Queensland Heritage Council when making its decision.

In 1938, under the *Land Act 1910* (replaced by the now *Land Act 1994*) the land on which the APMP is located was gazetted as a reserve for "Baths", which is considered a public purpose or "operational" reserve. The department appointed the Bundaberg Regional Council (then Council of the City of Bundaberg) as trustee of the reserve. It should be noted that the current *Land Act 1994* (Land Act) no longer provides for new operational reserves and in 2007, additional provisions were included to better deal with existing operational reserves.

Operational reserves are used for the ordinary service delivery functions of a State Government department, Local Government or other constructing authority. The land generally has low intrinsic community values should the service be discontinued or relocated. Operational reserves are those gazetted, under the previous land legislation, for the operational purposes for uses such as libraries, water treatment plants, depots, emergency services, schools and hospitals. The State has long-standing policies to assist Local Governments and other trustees of operational reserves, with the transition to: -

- A more appropriate freehold tenure to better manage essential operational uses; or
- Where the local government resolves the operational reserve is surplus to its needs and no longer required for a community purpose, reallocation of the use or disposal of the land on the open market.

If the Council resigns as trustee (which is provided for under the Land Act and the department has no ability to not accept resignation) or resolves that the reserve is surplus to its needs, the land and improvements will be the responsibility of the department.

16-32 Enterprise Street, Svensson Heights  
PO Box 1167, Bundaberg  
Queensland 4670 Australia  
Telephone [REDACTED]  
[www.resources.qld.gov.au](http://www.resources.qld.gov.au)  
ABN 59 020 847 551



The department has reservations about the site being entered into the Queensland Heritage Register. In the event, that the site becomes a State Heritage Place, the department will be responsible for a State Heritage Place, for which it has neither the experience nor resources to maintain. It would also encumber the land and substantially restrict the department's ability to reallocate the land to another use or purpose.

As per the Bundaberg Riverside Masterplan and its written representations, there is a possibility of Council looking to redevelop/repurpose the site. This action may require a change of purpose of the reserve, for which the department would be generally supportive of.

Should you have any further enquiries, please contact [REDACTED], [REDACTED], of the department on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 6 August 2022 3:29 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Re: Heritage Register No 650278 : Anzac Park Memorial Pool (formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

HRN 650278

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

email: [heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Executive Officer

Re: Heritage Register No 650278 : Anzac Park Memorial Pool (formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths)

I am writing to support the application for Anzac Park Memorial Pool to be placed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

[REDACTED], I would like to add valuable information with respect to Criterion A that demonstrates the place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Queensland's history. The decision by the Bundaberg community to construct a swimming pool as a memorial to participants in World War I, was unusual at that time. Many Great War memorials took the form of statues or other symbolic structures, of which the 1920-21 Bundaberg War Memorial in Bourbong Street is a fine example (QHR 600364). Therefore, in the context of World War 1 memorials, Bundaberg's 1923 Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths is a very rare instance. This was the prototype of a type of functional memorial that became the norm after World War II, examples being Tobruk Memorial Baths (QHR 601575) built 1941-1950, Yeronga Park Memorial Swimming Pool, (QHR 602462) built in 1960 and Mackay Memorial Swimming Centre( QHR 650250) built in 1963. As a piece of functional civic infrastructure, created to commemorate Queenslanders' participation in the Great War, and subsequently rebuilt as a Second World War memorial, the place has importance because of its early establishment and long continuous use, almost 100 years. Instrumental in the construction of the baths was George Stedman, who was founding secretary of the Bundaberg Swimming Club in 1915. (Bundaberg - From Pioneers to Prosperity, Neville Rackemann 1992 p.345). After enlisting in World War 1 in 1916, George was wounded in action in France in June 1918. This required the amputation of his left arm at the shoulder. He was discharged from the AIF in December, 1918. His story and contributions to the establishment of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths and the rebuilt Anzac Memorial Pool, can be read in the public submission written by [REDACTED], George's **Category B**

I also have a personal connection to the history and significance of the Anzac tradition, as my dad was a serving member of the Royal Australian Air Force in World War 2, serving in the South Pacific. Each year, on Anzac Day, my sister, myself, our children and grandchildren proudly wear his medals and all his great grandchildren are participants in the RSL initiative "Remember a Vet". (Badge attached).

The pool has served as a popular meeting and gathering place for generations of individuals, families and community and sporting groups for almost 100 years, forming a cultural and social association with the Bundaberg community. There is the connection of memory and the long-standing involvement of the people, proving relevance to Criterion G. Further to this Criterion, I am a Bundaberg resident, having lived here most of my life. The Anzac Memorial Pool has been a huge part of my life for the last 62 years, firstly as a child learning to swim, as a competitive swimmer, a recreational swimmer whilst my children attended Learn -to -Swim lessons and now at retirement, as a Masters swimmer.

At the age of 6, I joined the Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club and was taught to swim under the instruction of Mr Reg Grier, who was an Australian 110 yd freestyle record holder for many years. His wife Dorothy was the first female Queensland to represent Australia at an Olympic Games, competing in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics. Daughters Rosemary, Dorothy and Jann, were Australian representatives in swimming, with Jann also representing Australia at the Empire Games in Vancouver in 1954 and winning a bronze medal. I remained a member of the Bundaberg Club until I left to attend University in Brisbane, returning at holiday times to swim with the club. During that time, I made many lifelong friends from all over Australia and New Zealand, where, with the support of our club, we were able to travel. The many hours spent training on a daily basis at the Anzac Pool, the enjoyable weekly club nights and weekend interclub competitions throughout Queensland where all the family were involved, has left me with many beautiful memories – the musk sticks from the canteen after training, washing your feet in the foot bath as you left the change rooms to enter the pool, changing under the warmth of the sun because of the unique open air change rooms which was a feature of change rooms of the 1950's and 60's, and a visit from Dawn Fraser who was able to coach us as well as swim in a race with the club members. Those childhood memories will be with me forever.

I believe that the Anzac Memorial pool should be Heritage Listed to enable generations of families to continue the strong Anzac links, particularly with our veterans as well as build lifelong memories and life skills as many predecessors have been able to do.



[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 7 August 2022 11:02 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg (HRN 650278) Heritage Register submission [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg (650278) Heritage Register submission [REDACTED]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam


**Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg (HRN 650278)**

Please find attached my submission supporting the application to enter Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg on the Queensland Heritage Register.

All the best

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009



Executive Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

7 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg (HRN 650278)**

I am writing to support the application to enter Anzac Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg on the Queensland Heritage Register.

It is important to recognise Anzac Memorial Pool, previously known as the Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths, as a living memorial; for almost a century it has been both a memorial to Anzacs who participated in World War I and World War II and a cherished recreational meeting place for the Bundaberg community.

As the pool's foundation stone affirms, the 1923 Returned Soldiers' Baths were erected *'to the memory of those who fought in the Great War 1914-1918.'* Water is a symbol of regeneration and cleansing in many war memorials, however I would like to note the rarity at that time - nearly one hundred years ago - of constructing a swimming pool as a memorial to those who fought in the First World War. There appear to be no other examples of commemorative pools built in Queensland before the Second World War. Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool is therefore unique in Queensland history, being an early example of the adoption of swimming pools as utilitarian war memorials. It is therefore significant at a local, state and national level.

Significantly, the memorial pool was financed by public subscription, as a means of remembrance, rehabilitation and recreation. The community suffered and lost so much, we need to respect their sacrifice and keep their beloved pool safe for future generations. Veterans are one of many local groups who are grateful to the Anzac Pool: veterans and older residents have access to the quiet, restorative swimming environment they need. Marine Studies students and other scuba divers have a deep-water pool to train in. The hugely popular *Be Active Be Alive* aqua aerobics classes run by Bundaberg Council have promoted fitness for many residents. Countless Learn to Swim classes have helped scores of students and probably saved many lives. All have benefited from the historic Anzac Memorial Pool.

Anzac Pool benefits the mind, body and spirit of the Bundaberg community. The physical and mental benefits of swimming are obvious, yet crucially important too, is the spiritual and aesthetic pleasure of the pool and grounds. In her sublime book, *Phosphorescence*, Julia Baird lovingly describes the restorative, spiritual power of water. 'Swimming is a form of meditation' she writes and quotes Wallace Nichols' *Blue Mind*, highlighting the benefits of being in or near water. Water, he says "meditates you." Evidence from social media and main stream media shows our local swimming community wholeheartedly echo these sentiments in their reverence for the pool.

As a lap swimmer, I know my life is enriched by Anzac Pool; I am a healthier, happier, better person because of it. The pool transforms individual lives and this positivity ripples out to family and the wider community. When I first visited the pool, I could hardly swim 50 metres without stopping to rest. Turning sixty-three this year, in March 2022 I swam 63 kilometres for Laps for Life, raising funds for the charity Reach Out to help prevent youth suicide. I want to return to the pool next year and swim 64 kilometres....and 65 the next, until I'm swimming 100 kilometres in Anzac Pool to celebrate my one hundredth birthday.

Anzac Memorial Pool is a beautiful space. An oasis as some have called it, time out away from the heat and bustle of the city. Even though it is in the middle of the central business district there is an immediate calm, a sense of peace all about the place. Coming from the chilly UK, the change rooms were an entirely new experience for me: open to the sun, in hearing and almost splashing distance of the pool. A revelation. When you are in Anzac Pool you experience an immense feeling of freedom; being outside under blue skies and warm sun, surrounded by trees and symbolic, susurrating palm leaves. The well-tended lawn invites relaxed sunbathing, picnic and conversation or quiet reading underneath shady branches, dozing as sunshine dances on the glittering river below. A moment of tranquil rest until the pool beckons you to back to swim in its cool, energising embrace.

We need to keep Anzac Park Memorial Pool. It is a precious gift for us to treasure now and for generations to come.

Yours faithfully

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 7 August 2022 3:02 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Anzac Pool Submission

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch

Department Of Environment and Science

7.8.2022

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to express strong support for the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's ANZAC Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

I have very fond memories of Bundaberg's ANZAC Memorial Pool going back to my childhood. I grew up living at the pool where my father, [REDACTED] was lessee from 1967 until 1983. In that time, I witnessed many significant events which were held at the pool. Australian representative swimmers and coaches came to our pool to inspire and encourage regional swimmers. Amongst them were Dawn Fraser, Shane Gould, Steve Holland, Laurie Lawrence, Bill Sweetenham and Don Talbot. Meeting these athletes and coaches left a huge impression on me and were the inspiration for pursuing swimming as a career.

I learnt to swim in the ANZAC Pool and trained in the ANZAC Pool under the excellent tutorage of Tom McIntyre (World Record holder Rosemary Lassigs' coach) and my father [REDACTED]. These two coaches were responsible for coaching many successful swimmers in Bundaberg. At one stage during Dad's coaching career at the ANZAC Pool our club, the Fairymead Swimming Club, was the most successful club at the Australian Age Championships. A mighty effort for a regional Queensland club. It must be noted that our entire team consisted of only four swimmers. Such was the calibre of swimmers and coaches in Bundaberg at that time at ANZAC Pool.

It was a very proud moment for my father when I was named in my first Australian Team in 1978 to attend the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton. I was also named in the Olympic Team for Moscow in 1980 all while training under my dad in the ANZAC Pool in Bundaberg.

In 1981 I accepted a scholarship at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra and remained there until 1986 swimming under Bill Sweetenham and Don Talbot. As an Institute Athlete I swam for Australia at two more Commonwealth Games and one more Olympics winning gold, silver and bronze Commonwealth Medals and a bronze Olympic Medal. I set numerous State and National records and seven Commonwealth records. I was the first female swimmer in Australia to break the 2-minute barrier in the 200m freestyle setting an Australian record which stood for 16 years until it was broken by Susie O'Neil in 2000 just before the Sydney Olympics.

Bundaberg's ANZAC Pool also held community fundraising events and naturally generations were taught to swim in ANZAC Pool, but most importantly the bulk of our community frequented ANZAC pool as a form of recreation enhancing their social, emotional, and physical wellbeing. At times during the 60's and 70's you could walk across the heads of swimmers from one side of the pool to the other. Every person who grew up in Bundaberg during this time would have a story to tell about the ANZAC Pool. It was the social fabric which held our community together. It was and continues to be a popular meeting place for families, sporting and community groups.

Nowadays ANZAC Pool is a much calmer place, a peaceful oasis in the centre of the CBD, iconic in its design. ANZAC Pool is lined with swaying palm trees in a green grassed surround. The three pools are reflective of a swimming community's needs, gradually increasing in size and depth to cater for the growing confidence of the swimmer. Open aired, post-modernist, architecturally designed change rooms allow for the swimmer to feel the warmth of the sun on their back and hear the splashing in the pool in anticipation of taking the dive into its serene waters. The design of the change rooms is unique and is becoming increasingly scarce across our pool scape. Anzac needs to be preserved to showcase our practical architectural designs from the past.

My connections with swimmers and coaches has enriched my life and given me an appreciation of what is important, community and well-being. ANZAC Pool provides our community with the opportunity for physical, social and emotional wellbeing. We need to preserve this icon from the past for how we can appreciate what we have when we cannot see where we have come from.

I have since returned to Bundaberg after traveling the world swimming and teaching for the past 20 years. In doing so I have come to appreciate my connections with the ANZAC Pool and the swimming community in general. On returning to Bundaberg, it was time to give back to the community, I have taught swimming to yet another generation and am still swimming and coaching, as a 60-year-old, with the Bundaberg Rum City Masters Club in ANZAC Pool.

As an applicant, I would like to add valuable information with respect to Criterion A. The decision by the Bundaberg community to construct a swimming pool as a memorial to soldiers in World War I, was unusual at that time. After The Great War most memorials were symbolic structures. Therefore, in the context of World War 1 memorials, Bundaberg's 1923 Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths is unique. The functional or living war memorials became popular after World War II.

The ANZAC Pool in its present state was built in 1956, as a memorial pool, to commemorate World War 1 and 11 soldiers and replaced the 'baths' as they had collapsed. The present-day pool is reflective of functional memorials of this era. The site and Anzac Pool has historical significance in that the original baths on this site were unique as a memorial of that time, and the site has a long and continuous history as a place of swimming recreation and repatriation, almost 100 years.

Once this historical, cultural icon is gone, it's gone forever. The Bundaberg ANZAC Memorial Pool deserves to stay and be registered on the Queensland Heritage List.

Thank you for your consideration

██████████

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

11th July, 2022.

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch

Department of Environment and Science,

GPO Box 2454. Brisbane. Qld. 4001.

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: ANZAC Memorial Pool in Bundaberg, Qld.

This pool has a strong social and cultural association with the community. It is a visual reminder. A true memorial.

It is outrageous that current Council are demolishing to make way for some kind of water amusement park.

The pool enjoys a strong following of swimmers and there is only one other pool in Bundaberg. I do not know where the ANZAC pool people will be able to swim.

This is a popular meeting place for individual and families. Please read the history of the dedication.

Thanking you.





[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 8:51 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: HRN 650278 re: Anzac pool Bundaberg

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 July 2022 7:24 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** HRN 650278 re: Anzac pool Bundaberg

( This is the same letter I wrote to the council to try and make them see sense)

Good Morning,

I am writing to you in a last ditch effort to SAVE OUR POOL. Yes, I have a history of many mornings swimming up and down this pool being coached by some wonderful men who were all dads of the kids in the pool, who were part of the Bundaberg Lifesavers at the time, volunteering their precious time before they all headed off to their respective jobs in the community. Those were the days before it became a business that a lot of families in town cannot afford to give their children those vital lessons! Yes, I have MANY fond memories made at swimming club and being billeted out at swim meets and yes it was a huge part of my life, but this is more than that...this is HISTORY of our town. It is an ANZAC MEMORIAL, it is an iconic part of Bundaberg which next year is 100 years old, and not only that it is listed in the "Places of Pride" in the National Register of War Memorials, that has to mean something councillors. I'm sure you are all aware of this however I honestly cannot believe you would want to demolish it. I often wonder about all this historical places around the world and think imagine if a group of people sitting around a table thought, "Hey, let's knock it down and build something modern, which will cost millions of \$, and do the same thing but look pretty!" We would have no history.

My question to you all is...Why can't we fix what we have, modernise it like the Tobruk pool and others around some cities incorporate a water park if you have to or build that elsewhere, like perhaps where the spinnaker USE to be...I am sure you could come up with a better plan which would cost millions of dollars less than demolishing a perfectly good pool to build another ( at some point in time....who knows when that would get done) and listen to the people who voted you guys in. This site needs to be respected, it is land that has a history and I believe only to be used for bathing purposes. We need this to stay for our people. So I ask you to Please have another think about what you are about to do, don't ignore us, and do the right thing. It really would be disrespectful to alot of people, past and present to knock it down for the sake of a place to sit and perhaps listen to some music. I'm sure you can come up with another plan which incorporates our much loved Anzac Pool, to modernise (but leave the dressing sheds the structure that they are now and we all loved) and to spend less of our hard earned money for no reason. Please think of the history and our community before you go ahead with your plans.

Thankyou for listening,

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 8:51 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Submission of support for Heritage Listing of Anzac Memorial Pool

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 July 2022 12:56 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Submission of support for Heritage Listing of Anzac Memorial Pool

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am writing to express my unwavering support for the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

The Anzac Memorial pool is situated on the banks of the Burnett River in very close vicinity to the town centre. It provides a beautiful, peaceful oasis for our town and its people. Its gardens reflect the subtropical beauty of this region, with palm trees and lawns. Its architecturally designed historic change sheds, (circa 1959) add an element of a bygone era with its open air link to the sun and sky.

Historically, Anzac Memorial Pool is a living memorial and a link to Bundaberg's past community members who returned from World War 1. Next Year the site will have commemorated the Anzacs, as was intended, for 100 years. In my opinion, this link needs to be respected and retained for generations to come.

Anzac Memorial Pool was, until closure by the Council, frequented by many Bundaberg locals who learnt to swim there and had continued to enjoy lapping and keeping fit in its quiet unhurried surroundings. Many schools, including Bundaberg East State, where my children went to school, have conducted their Learn to Swim classes there for decades. Its quiet waters offered a sanctuary for Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

I, along with many other Bundabergians, have a strong sense of attachment to our Pool. I am a member of the FaceBook group Bundaberg - Remembers Our Anzac Pool, which was formed to preserve our icon.

Please Heritage List our Anzac Memorial Pool.

Yours sincerely  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 8:52 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Submission

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 July 2022 3:03 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Submission

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

12 July 2022

**SUBMISSION: ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - Heritage Register Number 650278**

The Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science  
Dear Sir/Madam

This is a submission supporting the proposed Heritage Register inclusion of Bundaberg's ANZAC Memorial Pool.

Bundaberg is lucky to have the iconic ANZAC pool. This facility holds a special place in local history, at so many levels. To be a tribute to the original efforts of returned WW1 veterans, in need of restorative health measures after the horrors of WW1 is a rarity to be treasured. Not bulldozed for the sake of another water park clone in a revamped generic riverside precinct.

The pool's setting is idyllic, by the Burnett River with tropical surrounds. It has been an essential part of local history for residents and visitors. Generations of residents have learned to swim here, competed in school and club swimming carnivals, launched national and international swimming careers, spent school holidays engaged in active recreation and maintained good health through lap swimming.

Its ready access from the city's business district has proved a boon to city workers and visitors, looking to cool off or fit their laps in before/after work or during lunch breaks and visits to the city.

The open air dressing pavilions are practical, historic, easily maintained because of good air flow and increasingly scarce across Australia's poolsape.

The ANZAC memorial pool in Bundaberg truly is an icon. Please ensure it is included on our Heritage Register.

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 10:02 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: HRN 650278

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 10:00 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** HRN 650278

Dear Team:

I am writing to support the application for the Bundaberg swimming pool/centre to be placed on the Heritage List.

I lived in Bundaberg as a child and swam in local and regional championships at this pool. It even felt like it was ready for listing back then, as it was iconic and a big part of our lives.

I remember also attending ANZAC days in the pool, and swimming during those days with many enjoying the holidays. I am sure many WWII and WWI veterans (and their families) have fond memories of those days.

It is still an iconic and beautiful part of Bundaberg. I always make a point of visiting the centre when I get to Bundaberg.

After spending some time in Europe recently, I saw how valuable these sorts of centres can become, as they are integrated into developments. History can not be replaced, and either can this beautiful pool/centre.

Feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this further.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 10:19 AM  
**To:** [Redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Support Bundaberg Town Pool  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support Bundaberg Town Pool\_.docx

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**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 10:14 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Letter of Support Bundaberg Town Pool

Good morning

Please find attached a letter of support to heritage list the "Town Pool"  
In addition to my family connection to the pool the personal attachment to the Pool for everyone of us who grew there is significant and unique.  
We all share a connection to that venue, and it would be a shame to lose a conduit to our past and as we age our history.

Kind regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

13<sup>th</sup> July 2022

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern

At the age of 28, George Stedman, enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force. He left behind his wife Annie and 4 children. George fought for 2 years on the Western Front until on the 6th of June 1918, when he received a gunshot wound to his left arm and shoulder. His arm was amputated at Whipps Cross Military Hospital, in England, 9 days later.

Invalidated out of the army, George came home to Bundaberg to Annie and the kids. George Stedman was my [REDACTED].

I can only imagine what those first few years after WW1 would have been like for him but in 1923, George was instrumental in the building of the Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths "erected to the memory of those who fought in the Great War 1914 - 1918".

Secretary of both the Patriotic Committee and the Bundaberg Repatriation Committee, my [REDACTED] worked hard to support returned ANZACS.

Amputee soldiers were encouraged to swim, and George saw the opportunity to create a memorial with a dual role - remembrance and rehabilitation. He continued to serve his community, becoming the secretary of the first Bundaberg Swimming Club, and was later awarded Life Membership of the Qld Amateur Swimming Club. George also came to the aid of returned servicemen after the Second World War.

The history and significance of the Anzac Memorial Baths, as they were called in George's day, will be a story of 100 years next year. That is something to be preserved, at all costs. It's a unique memorial with a very rich history. I urge the Queensland Heritage Council to acknowledge this precious memorial to the Anzacs and add it to the Qld Heritage Register. It was a legacy of my [REDACTED] and others and must be protected.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

[REDACTED]

Executive Officer

Heritage Branch Department of Environment and Science

[heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Reference: HRN 650278

Dear Executive Officer,

I write to express my ongoing distress at the future facing the ANZAC Memorial swimming pool in Quay St, Bundaberg.

Many of our hearts were broken at the suggestion and seemingly steam rolled decision by council to demolish our pool, beloved to lap swimmers, kids learning to swim, clubs, water aerobics classes and more.

I started lap swimming here many years ago and there is an incredible after work lap swimming atmosphere. The sunsets, the parrots overhead at dusk, the lap swimmers camaraderie, are all memories that contribute to an amazing quality of life here in Bundaberg. For lap swimmers after work it's a zone of mental recovery and relaxation. It's also in the middle of Bundaberg, a great location for people to come together from any direction.

The pool is iconic and sacred to many of us, memories of childhood learning to swim, the weekends, and starting the ANZAC parade March from outside the pool. Situated next to the RSL club, it cannot fail to serve as a reminder to all of us the intention of the dedication of the pool in the first place.

It is unfathomable to me that this memorial is to be demolished. It's disrespectful to our service men and women to just disregard a memorial erected in their name.

It makes me think of heritage architectural sites like the Spring Hill baths, a fantastic facility which also shows that some icons of the past should remain with us.

It has been mentioned that the proposed development will serve the community better, it sounds like an eyesore to me, which will not serve a mixed generation of people in our community.

Thank-you for your consideration of this letter

Sincerely [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13/07/22

**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 8:52 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: e HRN 650278

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 4:29 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** e HRN 650278

This letter is to express my concern regarding the ANZAC swimming pool in Bundaberg CBD being destroyed to make way for a water park. In the last few years Bundaberg has several iconic land marks, they closed down the Agricultural show ground in the town centre where the yearly Bundaberg show had neem for around 100yrs to make way for medium density housing, then they destroyed the Indoor roller skating rink which was the largest undercover rink on the eastern sea board and wiped out the local roller derby events and team by doing so, and now they want to fill in the ANZAC pool for another \$\$ money making scheme. As a rate payer and Bundaberg citizen I truly think the respect for our ANZACS who the pool was named after, the respect for role the pool has served in its history and the location of the pool need to be preserved. How many cities are so lucky as to have a 50m Olympic style pool right on the river edge in the CBD ? I truly think the motivation for this linked to private profiteering and really will not benefit the public overly. In summer months that pool has a bustling intake of kids playing and swimmers training . Why mess it up ? The pool fits in perfectly with the landscape and culture of Bundaberg life style .

[REDACTED]  
Concerned resident

Released under Right to Information Act 2009



[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: ANZAC Pool

-----Original Message-----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 11:37 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** ANZAC Pool

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch,  
Department of Environment and Science,  
GPO Box 2454, Brisbane. Qld. 4001.

I am writing in support of the heritage listing application for the ANZAC pool in Bundaberg, Qld.

This is a memorial pool and should be retained. My father was a 6th Division soldier who volunteered and served nearly four years overseas. You would probably know the history of the 6th Division.

Not only is this a memorial to those who served in this war but also the ANZACS from WWI.

It is a pool used every day in summer. It is a visual and living memorial. It is widely used all through summer.

Thanking you.

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 July 2022 8:24 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: ANZAC pool

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 July 2022 4:58 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** ANZAC pool

## Submission re Heritage Listing of ANZAC Memorial Pool, Bundaberg

HRN 650278

### Criteria A

The ANZAC pool has provided the community of Bundaberg with a special place of commemoration, together with a place to relax and swim, within close proximity to the CBD.

It is a Memorial pool and should remain as recognition of those who served for us.

### Criteria G

The pool has provided many of the local schools, clubs and individuals, a place where they can learn to swim and further their swimming endeavours for many years. Olympians and many state and national record holders at junior, senior and masters swimming levels have, and still use the pool for training purposes.

In summary, we feel the ANZAC Memorial Pool at Bundaberg is worthy of heritage listing.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 July 2022 8:13 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: SUBMISSION: ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - Heritage Register Number 650278

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 13 July 2022 4:45 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** SUBMISSION: ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - Heritage Register Number 650278

13 July 2022

**SUBMISSION: ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - Heritage Register Number 650278**

The Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science

Dear Sir/Madam,

Queensland has so few physical historical markers left of which we can be proud, and yet the people of Bundaberg, and wider Queensland, have to fight to protect a remaining tangible memorial to those who served their community, their state and their nation in not one, but two world wars.

The Bundaberg ANZAC Park Memorial Pool is not just a concrete swimming hole or yet another increasingly homogenous modern water park. It is a homage to Queensland and to local residents who fought physically, metaphorically and emotionally to construct an active memorial. Its tangible value is in the very site on which it sits; in its mid-century modern aesthetic; in its representative continuum of life through growing palm trees; and in its utility as a multi-generational site of active human agency which has long complemented Bundaberg's evolving built environment.

Of arguably greater significance however, is its intangible value to the community as an emotive link between the present and the past. For local residents, past and present alike, the ANZAC Park Memorial Pool stands in situ as a very personal memorial to ancestral names of those whose bodies would never be repatriated back to home soil and in names, past and present, involved in its construction. The pool holds these memories in perpetuity but, unlike a monument or a headstone, they are constantly and actively evolving memories which capture the spirit of Queensland and the local community over time.

Once this cultural icon is gone, it's gone - and no modern city water park, or some disrespectful, condescending token-effort to retain the 'ANZAC' name can replace what would be lost. The Bundaberg ANZAC Park Memorial Pool deserves no less than to take its rightful place amongst Queensland's Heritage Listed municipal memorial swimming pools.

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]



This email has been checked for viruses by AVG antivirus software.  
[www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 July 2022 8:34 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Anzac Park Memorial Pool (formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths)—Heritage Register application

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

I am absolutely thrilled that this incredible piece of our region's history is being considered for heritage listing.

I was born in Bundaberg, raised here and spent all of my years of primary and secondary schooling here. I love our town and local community with a passion. I have very fond memories of attending the Anzac pool with my mum, who is an avid swimmer, as a child and I also remember doing all of my school swimming lessons at this great pool throughout my primary and secondary years of education. I've attended birthday parties and many other celebrations at this wonderful facility.

I moved to Townsville to complete a bachelor of Pharmacy and I remember attending the Tobruk memorial baths regularly as a tranquil place to study, relax and unwind and enjoy time with friends. It is such an important piece of history there and hence the heritage listing of the pools - exactly what should happen in Bundaberg.

I moved back home to Bundaberg after finishing my Bachelor degree because I knew Bundaberg was the place I wanted to start a family of my own. Now I have two beautiful young children and in summer we regularly attend the Anzac Pools in Bundaberg to swim, relax and enjoy time together as a family.

This beautiful piece of our Bundaberg history and heritage is worth saving. It is important to our community. It is a wonderful reminder of those who served our country at war and sacrificed so much so that we could continue to enjoy the incredible beauty Australia has to offer, this being just some of it.

Please save our history. Save our pool.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]

## Heritage

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 15 July 2022 9:01 AM  
**Subject:** Heritage Register Number 650278 - Saving Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

To Whom it may concern

Please see attached.

Kindest regards

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**Heritage Register No 650278**

**To whom it may Concern**

I [REDACTED], [REDACTED] of the George Stedman (detailed below) hereby give my genuine support for the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool being Heritage Listed.

As you will learn from the following account George gave his heart and soul for the Returned Soldiers, the R.S.L. and the swimming community of Bundaberg and beyond.

George Stedman was a Queenslander who enlisted to fight for the AIF in WW1. He was instrumental in the foundation of a utilitarian war memorial providing a place for commemoration and valuable community resource for Bundaberg.

The piece in italics was written by a third party to put his story more eloquently than I could.

[REDACTED] of the Stedman family to live in the Bundaberg Region.

I urge you to give this matter your utmost priority and consideration.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]  
Passionate Historian

**“George Stedman** enlisted on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1916 (age 28yrs 1 month) with the 26<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was discharged in 1918 after losing his left arm and suffering the effects of mustard gas during action in France. He returned home to renew the fight for the “battlers” – jobs for ex-servicemen.

His activities towards providing amenities for Servicemen embrace 2 World Wars and included the raising of £916 for the Australian Wounded Soldiers fund by means of a Paddy’s Market and Social dance in the Queens Theatre in 1915, while similar work in WW2 as secretary of the Bundaberg Patriotic Committee and later as Secretary of the Bundaberg Repatriation Committee assisting hundreds of returned men with their entitlements until the R.S.L. took over the responsibility. George was known to have many badges from the Limbless Soldiers Association.

**George Stedman** lobbied for the building of the **Memorial baths next to the R.S.L.** in Quay Street, later to be rebuilt as the Olympic Pool. The Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club was formed during February 1915 with George, the founding Secretary and served in this role until 1950 (**35yrs**). He was later President and then Patron. George was also a life member of the Queensland Amateur Swimming Association. George was Secretary of the Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club at the time of Grand Inter-City Carnival held over the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> December 1915.

George was also a member of the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Labour Leagues and the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia”.

*“There are many drivers that trigger a passion in people to dedicate a huge slice of their lives to community service.*

*For George Stedman it was the brutal experiences of the First World War which, rather than embitter him, inspired George to seek a better future for fellow servicemen.*

*Returning from the war, George was a driving force in the establishment in 1923 of the original Bundaberg Memorial Baths adjacent to the RSL in Quay Street. The site was later redeveloped as Bundaberg’s Olympic Pool and is now known as the Anzac Park Pool.*

*George Lionel Stedman, a fruiterer who lived in Goodwin Street with his wife Annie Elizabeth and their four children, enlisted in the First World War in 1916 at the age of 28.*

*A wound received in action in France in June 1918 required the amputation of his left arm at the shoulder. He also suffered the debilitating effects of a mustard gas attack.*

*After recuperating in an English hospital George returned to Australia and was discharged from the AIF in December 1918.*

*The current Council proposal to redevelop Bundaberg’s Anzac Park and the adjacent swimming pool areas has prompted Childers history buff Scott Stedman to seek acknowledgment of the role George played in agitating for the original 1923 baths.*

*“George Stedman was my [REDACTED] and there is so much more to his life’s story than his involvement with securing public baths for the Bundaberg community,” [REDACTED] said.*



*“George recognised a need to help fellow servicemen and his activities as Secretary of the Bundaberg Patriotic Committee and Secretary of the Bundaberg Repatriation Committee assisted numerous returned servicemen across two world wars until the role was absorbed by the RSL,” [REDACTED] said.*

*“There is no doubt George was a fervent patriot and prior to his enlistment in 1916 he organised fund-raisers to assist Australian wounded soldiers.*

*“One of these events was a Paddy’s Market and Social Dance at the Queen’s Theatre in 1915. That event raised the impressive sum of 916 pounds.”*

*[REDACTED] said George Stedman harboured a great passion for swimming and was founding Secretary of the Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club in February 1915.*

*“He served in this role for 35 years later taking positions as President and Patron. It was of little surprise that he was later awarded Life Membership of the Queensland Amateur Swimming Association.*

*“However, it was his belief in the value of public baths, both from recreational and therapeutic aspects, that saw George lobby intensely for the construction of the Memorial Baths.”*

*“George Stedman suffered war injuries that may have encouraged others to fade into the background of community life,” [REDACTED] said.*

*“Instead, George presented himself ‘front and centre’ as an advocate for other servicemen and later as a man dedicated to promoting the sport of swimming and the use of pools for public leisure.”*

*“There is no doubt George paid a hefty price for serving his country but he never let disability diminish the role he knew he could play within his community.”*

[Redacted]  
**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 16 July 2022 12:08 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** ANZAC Memorial Pool - Bundaberg

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

To whom it may concern,

As a local with my own business and strong ties to the Bundaberg community, I believe our ANZAC Memorial Pool should be preserved for future generations to enjoy. I also believe this is the opinion of the vast majority of local residents even if many will not take the time to voice it.

I hope, I trust, the right decision will be made.

Regards,

[Redacted signature block]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 July 2022 12:46 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Support for Heritage Listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool: Ref HRN 650278

I would like to submit my support for the heritage listing of the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool. Ref HRN 650278.

The ANZAC Memorial Pool in Bundaberg is an iconic, a beautiful space in the middle of the CBD and borders the banks of the Burnett River. It was originally built next to the RSL building by return service men and has been part of the Bundaberg community ever since. I believe strong links like this to the ANZACS should be preserved.

I have strong links to the Bundaberg Surf Lifesaving Club which has just celebrated it's 100 community service and part of that celebration was a reminder that the original members of the Club was formed from swimmers and service man who trained in that pool.

I was an active swimmer in the 70's and 80's and I was remaindered many times by my family that this was a special pool built to act as reminder of the sacrifice people of the Bundaberg community had made.

I learned to swim in the first place in the toddler pool and then spent many hours six days a week training in the pool beside the champions of the community and then after my competition days were over I spent many hours helping and training the next wave of champions.

I participated in many swimming carnivals and met many champions of Australia and the World at that complex. People like the Konrad family, Dawn Fraser and Steven Holland and swam with and against people like Larry Sinstock from Maryborough and Bundaberg's Michelle Pearson trained with me in her young days. I have great memories and meeting Laurie Lawrence at the pool and as I was growing up it was the summer place to be in Bundaberg and I spent many hours with mates and friends at the pool.

War memorial pools have been maintained in many communities in Queensland and so they should be.

The smell of chlorine, thongs everywhere and breeze blowing down the river just to ease the heat of summer. Let's remember the noise of children laughing and having fun. This pool has also served as something of a right of passage to the young with just about every school child has spent some time at learn to swim classes. The diving boards, which had to be removed for safety were also a reminder of how not to jump into the pool. Please respect the will of our original return service man who wanted this to serve the community and bring fun.

The signage at the pool, at the time, greeted us all with a clear reminder of the original memorial to our return servicemen and while it may need some redevelopment it should be retained as an iconic connection for our community and can remain as a beautiful and fitting tribute to all who fought in conflicts. It has ideal placement currently next to the RSL Club and next to the Anzac Park with a direct short walk to the memorial in the centre of the main street. It is a gift and should be maintained to remember that gift.

It is so depressing that one of our current Councillors has called this beautiful area a "blight on the CBD"

Thank You  
[REDACTED]

Sender :



07. 18. 2022

To: Minister for Environment  
Queensland Government  
Ms Meghan Scanlan.

REFERENCE : HRN650278

Dear Miss Scanlan,

I am in my eighties, with six generations of my Family having resided in the Bundaberg District.

My Family History is of very special interest to me and I've noted many who have served and sacrificed for our wonderful country. One relative in particular, [REDACTED] was killed at Passchendaele, Belgium and his bones trampled into the ground there. My cousin [REDACTED] father and five brothers all went to serve and 4 of those six boys died during or soon after as a result of war injuries.

These are just a few of the many brave soldiers that our ANZAC MEMORIAL POOL was built to honour. It has such heartfelt special significance for so many people in this town.!!

Please, please protect and SAVE our Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool for Heritage listing and please please STOP the demolition by the Bundaberg City Council.

It makes no sense what ever to demolish a perfectly functioning facility !! With the ever increasing numbers/needs of this district we need more pools not less. !! Plus we don't have exorbitant amounts of money to spend unnecessarily -there are far more urgently needed necessities in this town for the Council to spend sensibly on, if we are going to be realistically honest ?.

As a child I rode my push bike from the then one teacher Branyan School to swimming lessons at Anzac Pool (1950s) and later while attending B.S .H. School achieved my Bronze Medallion for Lifesaving (1957). I hear that at least 2000 children next year will be severely inconvenienced if this pool is demolished as it won't be replaced straight away.

My Family and I believe that it is extremely important that this pool be "SAVED" not demolished.

Please, please SAVE our treasured and very meaningful historical Site---our

"ANZAC MEMORIAL POOL "

"LEST WE FORGET "

Every appreciation from one of the Friends of the Bundaberg ANZAC MEMORIAL POOL.

Sincerely,



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 18 July 2022 11:09 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Anzac Park Memorial Pool - Heritage Register Application

To whom it may concern,

When I heard that our almost 100 year old Anzac Memorial Pool was to be demolished to make way for a parkland I was devastated. Everything happened so quickly with no public consultation & little time to 'Save Our Pool'

I am 62 years old & have been swimming competitively since I was 7. I remember so much about this amazing part of Bundaberg's history built high, dry & safe on our Burnett River bank. Majestic palm trees, unique residence, circular rotunda & open air dressing rooms.

I still swim and train at this pool regularly. My children & grandchildren love this pool. When I walk in I have a sense of calm. Even on stressful days when I swim I leave feeling relaxed & always think about my childhood. When I was 13 years old, a friend & I stood on a dressing room bench & poked a 2 cent piece under a wooden rafter. I have checked recently & it is still there, hidden safely away. That was almost 50 years ago.

This Anzac War Memorial also touches my heart in another way. In memory of our service people that fought & died for our country. My Grandmother's brother was born in 1921. He was killed in action 1943 at just 22 years of age. This memorial should be preserved & protected in memory of what it was built for. To tear it down would be desecrating a sacred place.

Thousands of people each year enjoy this beautiful pool & surrounds. We are proud of its architectural style & historical significance. It should be preserved for our future generations to enjoy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind Regards,  
[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 July 2022 6:26 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Anzac Park Memorial Pool (1956)

Dear sir madam,

I am writing in regard to the Anzac Park Memorial Pool. This pool is a part of our history and a valuable recreational facility. It has been used by the community for over 60 years and is still popular. Built to last and pleasing to the eye unlike most modern structures. The position is perfect and the site has ample seating. There are not many examples of postwar memorial pools remaining to allow this one to be demolished would be a crime. This pool and its buildings must be preserved. Many sporting groups and families use the facility, countless children have learned to swim there. Lastly and most importantly this pool was built as a memorial to our Anzacs and should remain for as long as it can maintained to a reasonable standard which it still is. This pool is worthy of heritage listing.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 July 2022 10:33 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** HRN 650278

Executive Officer

It's a very sad day for Bundaberg when our Councillors who are our Representatives turn a blind eye on how much the Anzac Memorial Pool means to so many Residents of our City and Surround's. Bundaberg's Council dose not seem to have any consideration for our towns Heritage. The Pool has been part of any child who was raised in Bundaberg, we all have great memories and have made Lifelong Friendships.

This is why our Pool has to be saved and restored, it has an incredible History which I am sure you are aware of. Anzac Pool is just not a swimming pool it's a Memorial to very brave Australian Soldiers. As a child I was always told the story it was built for returned soldiers and families, to enjoy the peace and relaxation of the surroundings and the beautiful clear water. Having lived in Bundaberg all my life ( 73 Years ) I would like to see the Pool preserve for future generations to enjoy the tranquility of the Site.

The Anzac Memorial Pool has been part of Bundaberg's Heritage for the last 99 years. Please give this request lots or consideration, so it can be repaired back to its former glory and it's importance to Bundaberg's Heritage. Thank you.

“ WE WILL REMEMBER THEM : LEST WE FORGET “

Sent from my iPad

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

Executive Officer,  
Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science.

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my support for the Heritage listing of Bundaberg's ANZAC Memorial Pool.  
HRN650278

My name is [REDACTED]. I am Bundaberg born and bred. I remember going to the old RSL hall when I was v [REDACTED], Wynn Baker, did catering for weddings there. I used to look out at the original po [REDACTED] w [REDACTED] ut the back of the RSL Hall.

I was born in 1947. My brother, sister and I all learnt to swim at the Anzac Pool. [REDACTED] George Gallagher, worked at the Regional Board with Reg Grier. Reg and his wife o [REDACTED] were both Australian swimming champions and trained kids for the Bundaberg Swimming Club. That swimming club was their life. Reg would pick up any child who was keen to swim and take them to and from training in the Regional Board work truck.

We were a very strong club and competed against Nambour, Gympie, Maryborough, Gladstone, and the other club in Bundaberg, Fairymead. We were often away with swimming. Danny Mahoney was our best swimmer. Others were Dawn Cawte and Garry Clements. I swam in the state swimming championships for Bundaberg State High. I made the finals of 110 yard butterfly at the Valley Pool in Brisbane. I've still got the certificates.

Reg Grier had a lot of other men who worked at the Regional Board involved as time keepers, handicappers and on other official duties. My [REDACTED] was involved in that.

I remember the lessee of the pool was Mr Rollston.

One of the regional board men who became involved was Tom McIntyre. He was a professional coach. I had heard that he couldn't swim. Tom was the coach of the famous Rosemary Lassig who set world records for breast stroke and went to the Rome Olympics in 1960.

I was woken up every morning at quarter to six and I'd ride my bike down to the pool from Coleman St. Tom McIntyre would be there training Rosemary. Rosemary trained in her own lane twice a day.

I'd go back in the afternoon and train from five till six. Tuesday night was club night for the Bundaberg Swimming Club. Fairymead had theirs on Thursday night. Sunday was our day off.





These are some of my penants. I've kept them for 60 years. They're the only thing I've kept. That was probably the most important part of my life. I take my grandchildren to the pool. They love playing on the inflatables and it means a lot to me that they can swim in the same pool that has such special significance to me.

Swimming was just so strong in those days. It was a very close community and I made friends from all over Queensland. Some I'm still friends with.

Many people would feel the same way as I do. The Anzac Memorial Pool is a big part of Bundaberg and Queensland history and should be protected.

Your sincerely,



Released under Right to Information Act 2009

HRN 650278.

To Whom It May Concern,  
I am writing regarding the  
closure of Anzac Pool  
Bundaberg Qld. I have  
been going to that pool  
since I was 6 yrs old,  
then taking my son and  
later my grandchildren.  
I am now 72 yrs old, it  
should be left alone not  
knocked down lots of  
people still use it plus  
schools teaching students  
how to swim. I am hoping  
it can be saved.

Quality Print at an Affordable Price



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 25 July 2022 11:36 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** REF:HRN650278

ATT: EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HERITAGE BRANCH  
Department of Environment and Science

I am writing in support of the listing of the Bundaberg ANZAC Memorial Swimming Pool Queensland Heritage.

**Bundaberg ANZAC Memorial Pool.**

The pool was the centre of my life growing up in Bundaberg and a major source of inspiration for me to create my dream of becoming an Olympian. It was the pool where we gathered to greet Shane Gould in her red bathers on her tour of Australia after winning her record breaking swag of Olympic Medals. It was the pool where Des Renford, "The King of the Channel" stopped to shake our hands after one of his many channel swims - I recall an older, big man and thinking it must be best to have some protection in such cold water for a long time. It was the pool that nearly every record, in every stroke, in every distance had Michelle Pearson's name next to it. For us younger ones, it was our driving ambition to see our names in the record books. Our little group from Bundaberg did just that often and we're proud to win the Queensland medley relay in record time.

It was the pool that gave me the physical and mental strength to go on and represent Australia in three sports, Queensland rep or medalist in 5 sports and finally reach my sporting dream of being an Olympian in 1996.

It is the pool that continues to inspire our Bundaberg youth to great things with its long history of famous people and accomplishments seen and remembered as we drive past each day.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 July 2022 12:57 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Support for Bundaberg community pool

[REDACTED]  
Executive Officer, Heritage Branch

Department Of Environment and Science  
25.7.2022

Good morning,

I am writing to express strong support for the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278). I have a love of these Anzac Memorial pools going back to my early days, growing up at the Tobruk Memorial Pool on The Strand in Townsville, where [REDACTED], was manager.

We lived above the pool. In 1956 I witnessed the Olympic champions who trained there in preparation for the Melbourne Olympics. I watched the greats - Dawn Fraser, Lorraine Crapp, Murray Rose, Jon Henricks, and Queenslander, David Thiele.

In 1960, the 18 year old breast stroker from Bundaberg, Rosemary Lassig made history, setting a world record at Tobruk Memorial Baths over 220 yards. She'd set a world record at Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool over 110 yards just a few weeks before.

I knew Rosemary Lassig's coach, Tom McIntyre and in both of them I recall a common internal trait - a determination and a will to win. The experience of meeting people like them inspired me to follow a career in coaching in which I have had a high degree of success.

What must be said is that the pools were mostly used by the 'ordinary' citizens but what was extraordinary was the reverence that they had had for their pool as a memorial to those who'd served this country.

I urge the Heritage Committee to add Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool to the Heritage Register. It has a special significance as a national monument to all those who have served this country, and intrinsic social value to its community and to this state. The pool is an icon of another era and needs to be preserved for the generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

**Queensland Heritage Register Application 650278**

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm writing to support the application to enter the Anzac Park Memorial Pool in Bundaberg in the heritage register. I commend this nomination to you and to the Queensland Heritage Council.

The applicants have set out a clearly justified case that the place meets the criteria for entry in the register. I support what they have written, and would like to stress two of the §35 criteria that I think are particularly relevant.

Under criterion *a*, the *historical value* criterion, I think the place has value because—as a public swimming pool built and dedicated as a war memorial in 1923—it is such an early example of a utilitarian war memorial. Utilitarian memorial structures like this were commonly built after World War II, as Professor Inglis documented in *Sacred places: war memorials in the Australian landscape* (Melbourne: MUP, 1998) 352–358, but were not typically built in response to the Great War. Although the fabric of the place was rebuilt in the 1950s, its use—as a public swimming pool dedicated as a war memorial—has been continuous since 1923. I also note that the original marble foundation stone, laid by Ethel Campbell in 1923, is still in place.

Criterion *g*, the *social value* criterion, deals with the place of the pool in the hearts of community members. Measuring this kind of significance is not so much the domain of expert historians, architects or archaeologists as some other kinds of significance. Evidence of the community's emotional connection with the pool is to be found in discussions in the media—in social

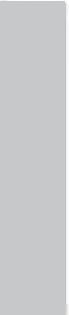
media as well as in print and on the air—so I suggest that your department, and the heritage council, pay attention to that evidence.

Yours sincerely



20 July 2022  
22011L001.docx

Released under Right to Information Act 2009



**From:** [Redacted]  
**Sent:** Friday, 29 July 2022 4:19 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Re HN650278

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

>> To whom it may concern

>>

>> Re: support for Anzac memorial Pool heritage application

>>

>> The ANZAC memorial pool is a place of immense significance in the cultural and social fabric of the Bundaberg region.

>>

>> It's physical presence in the city centre is a powerful reminder to all who see it of the community's war and military history over many generations.

>>

>> Unlike many memorials the pool is a optimistic, dynamic site which honours past history while looking to the future. The pool is a place of social connection and community wellbeing that should be retained as the heart of the city centre.

>>

>> Indeed, to allow the pool's demolition in the name of "progress" would be a backwards step for the Bundaberg region. Not only do we lose a unique ANZAC memorial, we would also lose nearly a century of swimming history. Everything from learn to swim classes to world records have been facilitated by the ANZAC memorial pool. It has been an integral part of the Bundaberg region's culture of swimming which arguably is equally as significant in the heritage and history of Australia, as the history of the ANZACs.

>>

>> The pool's connection to these two strands of our history and heritage make it a worthy addition to the heritage register

>>

>> Sincerely

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 31 July 2022 2:59 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** submission for Heritage listing: Anzac Memorial Pool Bundaberg

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

30/07/2022

To: The Executive Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science.

Re: **SUBMISSION : ANZAC PARK MEMORIAL POOL : HERITAGE REGISTER NO: HRN650278**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am presenting this submission to support the application for the inclusion of the Bundaberg Memorial Anzac Pool on the Heritage register.

The location of the Anzac Memorial Pool in the Bundaberg CBD by the Burnett River is the ideal location to highlight its importance as a registered War Memorial for all to see.

It is a significant reminder of the ANZAC legacy and returned WW1 soldiers were responsible for the pool's inception in 1923. It was gifted to the city of Bundaberg and is a living memorial.

As a previous Councillor for eleven years on the Burnett Shire Council ( amalgamated with Bundaberg Council in 2008) I understand the importance of preserving memorials and heritage sites which the community have a strong attachment to. I witnessed first hand the community's passion and determination to retain such sites/buildings.

Over the past 100 years, Anzac Memorial Pool has been the venue for teaching generations of children to swim. As a qualified swim teacher and owner of a learn to swim business for nearly forty years, I cannot under estimate the importance of this valuable asset in the centre of town catering for : recreational swimming, clubs, training as well as the ever important school swim programs. In the hot summer months it's extremely popular on weekends and holidays with Bundaberg families especially due to it's convenient location and relaxed outdoor environment. How many towns are fortunate enough to have such a pool in close proximity to all residents?

There is no guarantee that after this pool is demolished, the Council would incorporate it's war memorial status and history into the new re-development. Their plans do not include a new pool on this site to cater for everyone.

Once a memorial is demolished it is gone forever and it's memory is lost to past and future generations.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 1 August 2022 6:58 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Letter supporting Heritage Listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool

Re: Letter supporting Heritage Listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool at 19 Quay Steeet, Bundaberg, Qld 4671 RERERENCE HRN 650278

I refer to the application to have the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool heritage listed.

In support of the application the following submission is provided.

I was born and reared at Gin Gin, Queensland. It is my home town although I now live in Brisbane. I am now 74 years of age. Like numerous Bundaberg and surrounding district children I as a young child learnt to swim at the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool.

This pool has been a focal point of use by the Bundaberg and surrounding community for its life time. It has been used for swimming lessons, training, recreation and competition swimming. It is part of Bundaberg and surrounding districts proud heritage and history.

The history underpinning the establishment of the pool, it's use by prominent swimmers in the past and in general it being an iconic historical place for the surrounding communities supports the heritage listing of this pool.

The story of World War 1 Veteran George Stedman and the associated honour and respect must be acknowledged in considering this heritage application. Once it is understood there is overwhelming evidence of the need to preserve this pool in the name of honour and respect to our armed services personnel - what they fought for - and what they have left behind as a legacy for future generations. In further support of this assertion it must be noted that the Australian War Memorial have listed the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool as 'A Place of Pride'. It is submitted it would be highly disrespectful to fail to preserve this pool and not acknowledge and accept the Australian War Memorial's listing and the proud contribution of War Veteran George Stedman (RIP) to its establishment. It's linkage to Anzacs must be accepted and respected.

I have read information regarding the George Stedman Story. George Stedman's descendant family should be consulted to ascertain the full story of how his actions underpin the establishment of this Pool. My understanding of it is that '....It was the brutal experiences of the First World War which, rather than embitter him, inspired George to seek a better future for fellow servicemen.

Returning from the war, George was a driving force in the establishment in 1923 of the original Bundaberg Memorial Baths adjacent to the RSL in Quay Street.

The site was later redeveloped as Bundaberg's Olympic Pool and is now known as the Anzac Park Pool.

George Lionel Stedman enlisted in the First World War in 1916 at the age of 28.

A wound received in action in France in June 1918 required the amputation of his left arm at the shoulder. He also suffered the debilitating effects of a mustard gas attack.

After recuperating in an English hospital George returned to Australia and was discharged from the AIF.

George Stedman harboured a great passion for swimming and was founding Secretary of the Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club in February 1915.

He served in this role for 35 years later taking positions as President and Patron. It was of little surprise that he was later awarded Life Membership of the Queensland Amateur Swimming Association.

It was his belief in the value of public baths, both from recreational and therapeutic aspects, that saw George lobby intensely for the construction of the Memorial Baths.

George Stedman suffered war injuries that may have encouraged others to fade into the background of community life.

Instead, George presented himself 'front and centre' as an advocate for other servicemen and later as a man dedicated to promoting the sport of swimming and the use of pools for public leisure.

There is no doubt George paid a hefty price for serving his country but he never let disability diminish the role he knew he could play within his community.....'

As stated his descendant family should be consulted to confirm the highly respected and honourable story of how George Stedman's story and actions underpin this Pools establishment and history.

The Pool also has a proud history of association with champion swimmers including Rosemary Lassig and Michelle Pearson. This proof history further adds to evidence supporting the pool's heritage listing.

It is a beautiful place on the banks of the Burnett River and in close proximity to Bundaberg CBD.

There is high level sentiment amongst the community of Bundaberg and surrounding districts that this pool be preserved and not demolished having regard to it's proud history and it is submitted that it be heritage listed to preserve and maintain this iconic historical place in Bundaberg.

Yours Faithfully

[REDACTED]



1 August, 2022  
 Executive Officer,  
 Heritage Branch  
 Department of Environment & Science  
 GPO Box 2454  
 Brisbane, Q4001

**Heritage Register Number (HRN) 650278 – Anzac War Memorial Pool – Bundaberg – submission**

I write in full support of the heritage listing of the Anzac Memorial Pool in accordance with the criteria provided.

I provide my support as a community advocate of 50 years, as the recipient of an Order of Australia for “*service to people with disabilities, particularly through advocacy and advisory roles and to the community of Bundaberg*”, as the State winner for Queensland (small business), a national finalist in the Telstra Awards (1998) and as a Paul Harris Fellow in “*appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world, especially to the people of Bundaberg and people with disabilities.*”

My support for the heritage listing is also based on my professional and academic role as an elected Councillor for the Bundaberg City Council (1997-2008) during which time I also held the portfolio responsibility for Planning & Development (2004-2008) and was responsible for bringing down a new Town Plan. Additionally I held State & National roles in the creation of Social Plans and Action Plans for ageing Australians, as well as being one of two Queensland members working to develop the National Framework for Women in Local Government.

More importantly I am the wife, sister, daughter-in-law, niece, aunt, granddaughter and great-grand-daughter of veterans (on both sides of the family) who have paid the price – and continue to pay the price - for overseas combat. I hold a second academic degree in Local Government, and know that the consultation processes used by the Council in this instance have been deeply flawed. Compilation of an application for heritage listing has been well under way for many months in the lead-up to the centenary of our iconic Anzac Pool. I fully support their work.

My husband is a life member of the local RSL Club, as is my brother. My husband & I are regular attendees at their functions and assist in a voluntary capacity where we can.

I understand that this application must be based on its heritage value, but I also know that the veterans here are deeply distressed that our Council has placed economic gain above the contribution by this group /organisation to Queensland’s history and the lives of Queenslanders of all ages and cultures for the past 99years.

Whilst Criterion G has been singled out by the applicants, I believe that Criterion H is equally, if not more significant. The veterans have a sense of ownership of this space – which is why the current proposal has created distress and, in my husband’s case, increased issues with PTSD. Having lived throughout my whole life, even as a child, with the aftermath of overseas combat I feel that Criterion H singles out a group with a special place in Queensland history. Bundaberg Airport was a crucial RAAF Flying Training School commissioned in 1941- the Anzac Pool is, and always has been a “living memorial” of that history of unselfish service.



I also believe there is an important aspect of the Bundaberg War Memorial Pool that should be considered as a unique value of this local icon. As well as studying the criteria for this application I have also studied the criteria for the Mackay and Townsville heritage listed pools.

Both of these listed War Memorial Pools are based on the coast. Bundaberg is not. The early settlers here did not have easy access to the ocean. The River was important for access to the ocean, business and enjoyment. Travel to the ocean was not possible for the majority of the citizens. The establishment of the Baths in 1923 provided a convenient and safe space for educational, social and safe swimming for the citizens.

The demolition of the Anzac Pool destroys almost 100 years of history as the proposed development provides no "living memorial" as was the intent of the dedicated site almost 100 years ago. The proposed re-development gives preference to commercial facilities, not heritage, not history and not the veterans. There is no replacement swimming pool just a zero-depth space when we already have 2 of those in other play facilities.

The Council library has this film listed as heritage film. It captures the history and heritage.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZNz0rfcyXI>

The veterans have been silenced, and the process of consultation is deeply flawed. This veteran took the salute, formally, in the Regional Anzac Day Parade this year. :-

[https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-11-02/bundaberg-anzac-park-development-veterans-against/100584724?utm\\_campaign=abc\\_news\\_web&utm\\_content=link&utm\\_medium=content\\_shared&utm\\_source=abc\\_news\\_web](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-11-02/bundaberg-anzac-park-development-veterans-against/100584724?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web)

The Anzac Pool had an old gun positioned just near the entrance. Children over the years (including my 4) scrambled all over it. This is where their Dad spent much of his youth before joining the Army and he would take them to early morning training before school to learn to swim. They loved hearing tales about how he and his mates spent time at the Baths. For them this opportunity existed because of the soldiers, and their Dad, Grandad and Great-Grand-dad had been part of that. With no car, a disabled child and no access to the beach, this is where we had picnics on hot summer school holidays, using a patchy bus service to get there. Our children were taught to value history. This pool is where our marginalised, the elderly & disabled now feel safe & secure. I advocate for them as a special group.

That gun has now been refurbished and recently (2021) re-positioned as shown in Council's media release

<https://www.bundabergnow.com/2021/11/26/refurbished-25-pounder-gun-displayed-proudly/>

My husband and I proudly attended this historic event.

I firmly believe that the Bundaberg Anzac War Memorial Pool meets the criteria for heritage listing and provides the Heritage Council with the opportunity to single this Pool out as being amongst, if not, the oldest, being regional, and not coastal, and adding to the war history, along with our airport and heritage listed monument. Ours is not post World War 11 – it is Post World War 1- a Pool that should be preserved as a symbol of national pride, and practice. Its' history is one of SERVICE for a century. Surely that should be preserved, not bull-dozed for commercial gain.

Thank you for your favourable consideration of how this Pool fits so well with the criteria listed.

Yours sincerely

1 August 2022

Executive Officer,  
Heritage Branch  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

By email: [heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Maam,

**Heritage Register Number: 650278**  
**Anzac Park Memorial Pool (formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths)**  
**Heritage Register application.**

The President and Management Committee, on behalf of members of the [REDACTED], wholeheartedly support the submission HRN 650278

The Anzac Park Memorial Pool, upgraded from the original design due to structural and community need, as detailed in the submission, came into being as a memorial to the men and women who served in the First World War. These brave Australians faced death and suffering in order that their family and fellow Australians may live in peace.

We believe that as a dedicated war memorial it should be preserved and continue to provide the community with a facility encouraging a healthy lifestyle while commemorating those who would lay down their lives for Australians to live as a nation in peace.

Our members are also concerned that any dedicated Australian war memorial could be demolished as is proposed by the Bundaberg Regional Council for the existing Anzac Park Memorial Pool as part of the council's redevelopment plan for Anzac Park.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2 August 2022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Minister for the Environment

Hon Megan Scanlan

REFERENCE HRW650278

Dear Ms Scanlan

My name is [REDACTED]. And I strongly support the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool.

I object to the demolition of the Bundaberg Anzac Swimming Pool and a replacement being built in another area at a huge cost. The present pool is very central to Post Office, Banks etc and boosts the flow of people circulating in town which is also a plus. When the Bundaberg Regional Council made this decision my thinking is, it was not the voice of the people.

I am astonished and astounded that something erected to remember the price of peace and honour those who made the supreme sacrifice "their lives" should be torn down. The era, the time it was built had a meaning for all of us living in Bundaberg.

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

The current swimming pool is situated next to the RSL which is appropriate, and a park overlooking the Burnett River. It is a very pleasant location for families to enjoy the pool.

Early citizens of this town had a vision for the future as well as remembering the past. I at the age of almost 96 years head a 6<sup>th</sup> generation family and are very proud of living here and see it prosper and grow. Please do not tear it apart by sacrificing our history. I am the granddaughter of an early councilor and the grandniece of an early mayor of this town, who held these positions when the Burnett Traffic Bridge was opened. My 95 years of life have seen many changes but for all the better of this town. Volunteers take guided tours pointing our places of interest and their history.

My family have lots of tales to tell. One hundred and twenty three years in a family owned business in the main street makes us feel very proud and still support with a voice what made this town what it is.

Yours faithfully

\_\_\_\_\_

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022

The Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP  
Minister of the Environment & Science  
GPO Box 5078  
BRISBANE Q 4001  
Email: [environment@mininsterial.qld.gov.au](mailto:environment@mininsterial.qld.gov.au)

Copy to: [heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

**Re: Heritage Listing Application HRN: 650278**

I write this submission to contribute towards members of the Bundaberg community's application, to have our Anzac Memorial Pool, a well known landmark space of beauty and calm, heritage listed. It is situated along the banks of our Burnett River in between the local RSL Club and the Council's Anzac Park which is within the scope of our CBD. Our War Memorial is in the main street of the CBD and this whole area just hums with activity on ANZAC Day.

The Park and Pool area has the ANZAC spirit feel to it knowing that young men took off into the unknown to form part of the allied expedition to fight for our glorious country. The pride they took in that name continues to this day. The Pool and its surrounds was constructed in their honour, a place of solace for our many returned soldiers as a good majority of them preferred to keep the horrors of war to themselves.

The Council erect a wonderful piece of artwork to commemorate Anzac Day alongside the Pool's fence line, so they must know and feel the cultural heritage significance of this area of the city themselves, so their plan to demolish the site and replace it with a water park just seems reprehensible. Whether they plan to keep other physical features that have contributed to the place's cultural worth, I cannot say.

Bundaberg has had an Action Park back in the past which included water park features but after a few years it closed up, never to re-open again. This could be a suitable site for the council's water park. The land is situated about equal distance from the beach and the CBD. If not, they could construct it on their chosen sight to build a planned international swim pool.

Bundaberg was once labelled the retirement city, not sure whether we still have that title but does indicate a little of the future usability of an international pool build. Therefore we have a significant city landmark worthy of heritage listing versus a Water Park. We leave it in your hands Minister.

Yours sincerely

Executive Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science  
26 July, 2022

Re: Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

[REDACTED]  
27.7.2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is [REDACTED] and I was born in Biggenden. There was no pool there and the only place to swim was in the creeks. I never did learn to swim and was always scared of the water.

It didn't affect me at all until I went to QLD Teachers Training College at Kedron in Brisbane in 1956 and 57. We were expected to go to swimming classes at Ithaca Pool to learn to swim. When that was on I went to the pictures in Adelaide St. My friend answered when my name was called at the pool. In return for the favour she did for me, I did her sewing.

My first three schools after graduating were Biggenden, Dallarnil and Kandanga. None of them had pools. Children in country Qld often didn't learn to swim. It's hard to imagine now but it was very common then.

My next appointment was South State School in Bundaberg in 1963. The school had its own small pool where the pupils were taught to swim. I had to tell the head master, Lionel Brown, that I couldn't swim. He was a good boss and arranged for my class to be taken for swimming lessons by another teacher.

One of the students I particularly remember from South State School was **Category B** [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was a very good swimmer. Her **B** [REDACTED] Nita Cunningham became the mayor of Bundaberg in 1991 and later State member for Bundaberg.

Because I didn't swim and was terrified of the water I never went to Anzac Memorial pool. That was until my son was born. I took him to play in the paddling pool when he was a toddler. I had to rely on my stepchildren who were older and could swim to help to supervise him. I took my eyes off Ian for a second one day. He got out of the Baby Pool and jumped straight into the deep end of the big pool which was eleven feet deep. If it hadn't been for my step daughter Jocelyn, it could have ended in tragedy. Jocelyn dived straight in after him. When she pulled him out he said, "That's was fun" and jumped straight back in.

It was a terrifying experience, one I will never forget. I froze. I couldn't even call out. Right then and there I went to the office and booked Ian in to learn to swim.

He became a good swimmer and my children often went there on weekends to meet their friends. They played a lot of sports but just went to the pool to have fun. It was always crowded with kids on weekends.

It's taken for granted now that everyone can swim but in my day many of us growing up in the bush never learnt and lived with a real fear of the water. It was brought to the fore when we had our children.

Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool served a very important role for local children learning to swim. Some of them have gone on to become champions, but most of them are people who can swim

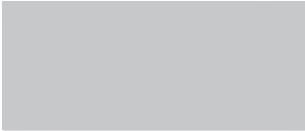


*well enough to be able to enjoy the water, something I could never do. Things have evolved so much now in terms of children being 'water safe' and from a very early age.*

*I thought it was important to remind you of a time not so long again when it wasn't like that. It was a very different time, and part of our history.*

*I strongly support the heritage listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool.*

*Yours sincerely,*



Released under Right to Information Act 2009

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Department of Environment and Science  
GPO Box 2454  
BRISBANE QLD 4001  
[heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Executive Officer,

I am writing regarding the application for the Anzac Park Memorial Pool to be added to the state Heritage Register (reference HRN 650278).

I have reviewed the application and support the addition of the Anzac Park Memorial Pool to the state heritage register. I understand that this submission should address the cultural heritage criteria. In addition to the points made in the application, I would apply criteria G *the place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons*. Places of Pride, the Australian War Memorial's national register of war memorials, includes the Anzac Park Memorial Pool.

I understand the pool stands on the site of the original Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths. These baths were constructed with funds raised by public subscription and opened in 1923. The wide spread public support for a commemorative project is indicative of the national sentiment at that time. For families who lost a loved one overseas, having a local memorial was fundamental to their mourning.

The Australian War Memorial's mission is *leading remembrance and understanding of Australia's wartime experience*. The Returned Soldier's Memorial Baths, and now Anzac Park Memorial Pool are a physical manifestation of that wartime experience and the community response to the end of war, the return of leisure activity and the need for local, physical memorials for those lost from that community. Any change to the site should be carefully considered with respect to the 100 years of history held there.

I look forward to hearing the outcome of the application.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 August 2022 2:30 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of support for Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. HRN650278  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 August 2022 2:25 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Letter of support for Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. HRN650278

Dear Sir/Madam,

I made a submission yesterday by email. I have corrected some of the details after consulting with my [REDACTED] – such as the year we moved to Bundaberg, the distances of some of the races and my [REDACTED] swimming statistics.

I have made these corrections and submit an updated letter of support for the Heritage listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

31.7.22

Executive Officer,  
Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science  
[heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)  
4.8.2022

Dear Executive Officer,

I am writing to give my strong support for the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

My family and I have a long and strong connection to what we knew as The Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths when we came to Bundaberg in 1951.

My parents [redacted] were champion swimmers. They met at the Valley Pool in Brisbane. My mother, [redacted] was from Brisbane. An Australian champion breaststroker, she went to the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, the first female swimmer from Qld to do so. At one time [redacted] held world records for 100 and 200 metres breaststroke. Her father, [redacted] was also a world record holder in the 1 mile backstroke. He was an amputee swimming against abled body swimmers. He was also lessee of the Valley Pool.

My father, [redacted], was an Australian champion freestyler and held many Australian records. He represented Australia in 1927 in Japan. His Australian record for the 110-yard freestyle stood for 21 years. The story goes that when [redacted] was a child in Brisbane his father gave him £20 and said "Go and ask Frank Springfield for some lessons". Frank was a Brisbane swimmer who represented Australia at the Olympics in 1908. Frank said, "I can't take your money. I am an amateur. Keep the £20 and I'll teach you for free. When you retire, you pass on your knowledge for free".

When we came to Bundaberg and my father started teaching swimming and coaching for the Bundaberg Swimming Club at the Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths, he did it all free of charge as he promised Frank Springfield he would.

Every morning Dad picked up a whole group of kids in the work truck and took them to the pool to train and then dropped them home after. As the numbers increased, Dad got the other parents involved. He'd give them a group and tell them what to do. One of them was Tom McIntyre, a fellow worker from the Bundaberg Regional Board. Tom could not swim but with my father's instruction, went on to train Bundaberg girl, Rosemary Lassig to 2 world records in breaststroke, and a place in the Australian Olympic team in 1960. Rosemary won a silver medal in Rome.

Tom McIntyre became a professional coach and he passed on his knowledge to Bill Pearson, whose daughter Michele went on to swim for Australia.

For a time, my mother [redacted] and Thelma McIntyre, Tom's wife, became lessees of the Baths at a time when no one else could be found, so that we could continue to swim.

Our father, [redacted] trained two of my sisters, [redacted], and [redacted], and me. [redacted] swam in the 1948 Australian Championships, [redacted] was Australian junior champion for 2 years aged 13 and 15, and swam at the Australian Championships 7 times from 1951 - 1956. Then along came Lorraine Crapp. At 14, I was Australian junior and senior champion breaststroker. I was selected in the Australian team for the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Vancouver Canada in 1954 where I came fourth in the 220 yd breaststroke final and won bronze in the 330yd medley relay with Diane Knight and Olympic Champion and world record holder, Lorraine Crapp. I was the youngest competitor on the team and the youngest competitor at The British Empire and Commonwealth Games.

Notably, Lorraine Crapp came to Bundaberg to swim in a special event in 1956. She set a record for the Baths that night and raced against a young Rosemary Lassig.

My sisters and I achieved our swimming successes training in the Bundaberg Soldiers Memorial Baths under our coach and father [redacted]. Dad taught three generations of Bundaberg children to swim in that pool and coached hundreds in the Bundaberg Swimming Club. It was a very vibrant scene especially on "Club Night" every Tuesday when we competed against others club members. When he retired in 1970, the Mayor of Bundaberg, Cliff Nielson, named a street after him.

I believe my father made a very important impact on swimming in Bundaberg, in Queensland and nationally, first as a swimmer and then as a swimming instructor and coach. He passed on the knowledge that was passed to him and has influenced the lives of thousands in Bundaberg and far beyond.

In the year 2000, The Queensland Museum took an oral history from me about my family's life in swimming. I presented them with all of my swimming memorabilia including my Bronze medal from The British Empire and Commonwealth Games, 1954. There was an exhibition of the items that I presented the museum. At that time they informed me that our family had more champion swimmers than any other in Australia, something I am extremely proud of.

*Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool has very special importance in all of this. Swimming culture was a very strong feature of life in Bundaberg, is intrinsically linked to Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool and has state and national significance. It is a very important part of Bundaberg history. I strongly support the Heritage listing application.*

Yours sincerely,



Released under Right to Information Act 2009

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

1.8.2022

Executive Officer,  
Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science  
[heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I strongly support the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

I have swum there for 65 years and am the second generation of my family to serve in the Australian Defence Force. My grandfather served in WW1 and my father served in Milne Bay during WW2 when he was wounded by an enemy grenade. He was permanently incapacitated and after the war had to give up farming in North Queensland. He and Mum brought their children to live in Bundaberg. I started at Bargara State School when I was 9. School swimming lessons were at the Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths. All 8 of us learnt to swim there.

I was the only one of the family who kept swimming. I joined the Fairymead Swimming Club and was coached by Mr Wilkinson. He did a lot of work on my backstroke and I went on to compete at Widebay Titles. They were very happy times, I was part of a group of good people who have remained my friends over all these years. As well as training in the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool, we would go back on Saturday mornings with other Fairymead Swimming Club members and teach kids to swim.

At 17, in 1964, I volunteered for the Navy and did a tour of duty of Vietnam. It was a badge of honour to defend this country. After my navy service I joined the army and served in Vietnam again. In all I did 6 years in the Australian Defence Force. When I came home it was a very tough time. Many in the community turned their backs on us. I suffered from the effects of my experiences in Vietnam and from the attitudes many people had towards us after the Vietnam War.

Typical of a woman of her generation, my mother acknowledged little about what was happening to me. Just once my father walked into the backyard where I was sitting on the grass and said, "I know what you're going through."

I went from job to job until I was given a job in Bundaberg by a WW2 veteran. I was well looked after by him. It was during these times I sought solace in Anzac Memorial Pool. I could find peace and serenity there at a time when my thoughts were very troubling. It's was the familiar place of my childhood and I felt safe there as I did laps. I also used it as rehabilitation from physical injury.

I have always been aware that it was an Anzac Memorial. As I swam I had a sense that the pool was the legacy of men with courage and a code of conduct that set the standard for the way I should conduct myself at a time of adversity. Like "Mates for Mates" say, with mates behind you there's power to move forward. As a young vet swimming in that pool I had the sense that the soldiers who'd gone before were there for me. That means a lot.

It was much more than a monument and I believe that this was the intention of the returned servicemen who left this legacy in 1923. I will be forever grateful to them.

Swimming in Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool has been my saviour. My wife likens that pool to a church. Its been a constant in my life. I've swum there for 65 years. It's been different things at different times - a place to be with good friends and have fun, a place to take my children. When I need to clear my mind, it's a sanctuary, a place to seek solace. My experience is shared by other veterans who have been on active service. There are a young generation of veterans now and many of them use the pool and have described the same feeling of safety and calm.

I strongly urge the Heritage Committee to give Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool heritage status. It has been a life saver for me and as long as we keep sending young men and women to defend this country and others, it will continue to contribute to saving the lives of veterans as it has done since World War One.

Yours sincerely,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Heritage  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 August 2022 3:32 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - formerly the site of The Returned Soldier's Memorial Baths  
**Attachments:** Document ANZAC POOL Attachments.pdf

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 5 August 2022 3:27 PM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** ANZAC Park Memorial Pool - formerly the site of The Returned Soldier's Memorial Baths

Reference HRN 650278

I am writing in support of an application by [REDACTED] to have ANZAC POOL, Bundaberg, listed on the Queensland Heritage Register.

I know the applicants have had a lifelong connection with ANZAC POOL from squad swimming to Masters swimming, covering all aspects from running learn to swim classes to Olympic qualification.

I have read the ANZAC POOL Heritage Listing Application and commend the applicants on the documented research they have undertaken. It is certainly comprehensive. They have also found support from Australian icons Dawn Frazer and Laurie Lawrence, who have swum in the pool, and share our desire to protect it, as well as very substantial and sustained support from the Bundaberg and surrounding communities.

I would like to make the following points:

1. ANZAC POOL is situated on Lot 3 Crown Plan B158227, a Crown Lease. Bundaberg Regional Council are the "trustees". The purpose of the lease is "Baths". (Attached document)
2. In 2015 a Master plan for the redevelopment of Quay Street, including renovation of ANZAC POOL was announced by Council. The development of ANZAC PARK is not dependent on the demolition of ANZAC POOL.
3. In 2020 word spread that Council were going to demolish ANZAC POOL over the winter close period. Community outrage forced Council to back down. A 34 page petition demanding continued use of ANZAC POOL was presented to Council and social media went ballistic. (Attached document)
4. The conduct of this Council has been appalling. They have not engaged in genuine public consultation and they do not have the support of the Federal Member of Hinkler, Keith Pitt, the State Member for Bundaberg, Tom Smith and the State Member for Burnett, Stephen Bennett.
5. In season I swim at ANZAC POOL 4 to 5 times each week. It maintains my physical and mental health and I have become friends with many people who are there for the same reason. Among my pool friends are a group of Vietnam Vets who use ANZAC POOL for exercise and rehab. Another friend is [REDACTED], a veteran of Iraq who struggles with PTSD. (Letter attached) To them, ANZAC POOL is a quiet oasis; a place to relax and enjoy the company of others in a sunny, quiet and calm environment. This is the purpose of ANZAC POOL above all other purposes.
6. The original ANZAC MEMORIAL POOL was built by WW1 veterans and their community to support the survivors of war and remember those who did not return. Nothing has changed. My elder brother served in Vietnam with distinction as an acting sergeant. His memories stayed with him forever. I owe it to him to do whatever I can to protect our heritage.
7. I sincerely ask that Bundaberg's ANZAC POOL be given serious consideration as a Heritage Site. At an absolute minimum I would like to see interim protection given to our pool until a responsible authority can undertake a thorough investigation into all aspects of ANZAC POOL's place in our community. Our current Council has not demonstrated any capacity or willingness to do this.

Yours sincerely  
[REDACTED]

Queensland Titles Registry Pty Ltd  
ABN 23 648 568 101

Title Reference: 49023159

Search Date: 22/03/2022 10:24

Date Reserve Gazetted: 30/04/1938

Request No: 40514410

Page: 1525

#### DETAILS

Opening Ref: SG 38-12968  
Purpose: BATHS  
Sub-Purpose:  
Local Name: ANZAC PARK POOL  
Address: QUAY ST,BUNDABERG  
County (R) No: R827  
File Ref: RES 6363

#### LAND DESCRIPTION

LOT 3 CROWN PLAN B158227 GAZETTED ON 21/06/1975 PAGE 970  
Local Government: BUNDABERG  
Area: 0.450000 Ha. (ABOUT)

#### TRUSTEES

BUNDABERG REGIONAL COUNCIL GAZETTED ON 30/04/1938 PAGE 1525

#### EASEMENTS AND ENCUMBRANCES

1. EASEMENT IN GROSS No 720866229 16/06/2021 at 13:36  
burdening the land  
ERGON ENERGY CORPORATION LIMITED A.C.N. 087 646 062  
over  
EASEMENT F ON SP319098

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ADVICES

NIL

#### UNREGISTERED DEALINGS

NIL

Caution - Charges do not necessarily appear in order of priority

\*\* End of Current Reserve Search \*\*



28 February 2020



Dear 

**Re: Petition – ANZAC Pool**

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Receipt is acknowledged of your letter and attached petition dated 17 February 2020 relative to the ANZAC Pool.

I can confirm that the Petition was tabled at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 February 2020. A copy of the relevant part of the Minutes from this meeting is attached for your perusal.

Yours faithfully



Stephen Johnston  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Enc. Extract Minutes

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2 April 2022

Bundaberg Regional Council  
Bundaberg 4670

RE: ANZAC POOL QUAY STREET CLOSURE

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a 54 year old retired RAAF veteran (Afghanistan, Op Slipper 2009).

I moved to Burnett Heads last year and found the ANZAC Pool on Quay Street next to the RSL Club. I have been using the facility for exercise and rehabilitation for injuries received during my military service and loved going to this pool.

I am currently recovering from having prostatectomy surgery (prostate cancer) and went to the pool on Thursday, March 31 to buy more admission sessions, only to be told by Ian that the pool was scheduled to be closed with effect 18 April 2022.

This came as a shock to me as I knew nothing of this preposed closure. Is this facility not a commemorative facility to honour Australian veterans? I know many veterans use this pool too, and love it there.

As a client of Coral Coast Physiotherapy I also know that the providers there use the pool for hands on physiotherapy sessions. Are they aware of this closure?

This facility suits the needs of veterans. It's next to the RSL Club, is convenient an easy to access, especially for those who have disabilities and injuries as I do, including the majority of veterans who struggle with ptsd.

This facility is ideal and I am flabbergasted that such a great commemorative facility would be shut down. My question to you is where are we supposed to go? Where are the physiotherapy specialists meant to go? Surely you're not

suggesting that we try attend a facility that is busier and noisier or difficult to get into?

What about the council's responsibilities to ensure the veteran community, and we are a large community, has their needs catered for? Or do veterans lives no longer matter? I was upset to hear that the ANZAC Pool was being closed and this news definitely triggered my ptsd.

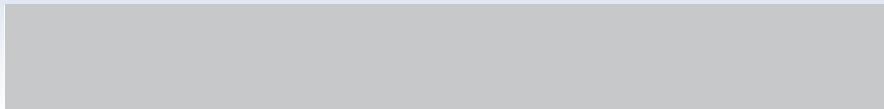
I know there are many others who are appalled at this decision and would be very grateful if council would reconsider the closure of this facility. Even if you could build a new ANZAC commemorative pool and then close the old one.

Thank you for this letters consideration.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature and name block]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009



Executive Officer, Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science  
26 July 2022

Re: Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

Good afternoon,

I strongly support the heritage listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. Pools like this one are a big part of this country's history.

I first started swimming at the age of four in the Balmain Baths in Sydney. It is similar in many ways to the original Bundaberg's Soldiers Memorial Baths with the change rooms, pavilion and diving boards. I began competitive swimming there in 1948, coached by Mr Gallagher. The Balmain Baths are now heritage listed.

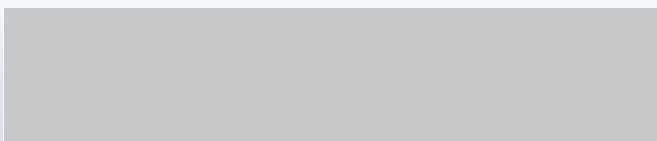
My friend and fellow Olympian, Rosemary Lassig was taught to swim and coached by Tom McIntyre at Bundaberg's Soldiers Memorial Baths. She did the hard work in that pool and was selected to represent this country at the 1960 Rome Olympics, the greatest sporting event that there is. The fact that she achieved it training in Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool is mighty. That she recorded a world record in that pool is incredible, the first Queensland woman to hold a world swimming record.

Rosemary Lassig, Marilyn Wilson, Jan Andrew and I won a silver medal in the inaugural 4 x 100m medley relay in Rome. Others who won medals at those Games were Murray Rose, Ilsa and John Konrads, and David Thiele (from Maryborough). It was in the pool that Australia made its greatest mark in Rome and Rosemary was a part of that team.

We felt honoured to represent Australia and were proud to know that kids were flocking to local pools all over the country with the dream of becoming olympians.

The most fitting tribute to Rosemary's place in state and national history will be heritage listing of this pool. Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool is a treasure, and it must be protected.

Yours in sport,



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, 6 August 2022 6:05 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** Letter to support ANZAC Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg Application  
**Attachments:** Save ANZAC Park Memorial Pool Bundaberg.pdf

Good morning

Please find my letter of support attached .

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

## Anzac Park Memorial Pool formerly the site of The Returned Soldiers' Memorial Baths

### **Letter of Support for Application**

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal to save the Anzac Park Memorial Pool in Quay Street Bundaberg.

Whilst I have listed below some of my reasons in line with the application criteria, I am passionate about this proposal because of the value this place has to the history of Bundaberg, the historic buildings and memorial plaques that surround the pools, the champions that were made there and the role it has played in bonding families and friends, and the instilling of family and community values,

#### **Criteria E**

The Anzac Park Memorial Pool was, and still is an oasis in the city of Bundaberg. Families would picnic there on the weekends and the various pools made it a safe environment for all ages. Situated in Quay Street it was a place that provided a break away from work for me on many occasions. Being in such an accessible location to the CBD it was an easy walk for lunch to be able to exercise and take some time to enjoy the river under the shade of the trees.

The pool had a lovely Queensland feel to it with extensive lawn and palm trees surrounding the pool overlooking the Burnett River. As kids, the old-style change rooms and toilet buildings made a fun place for us to play hide and seek.

This historic place holds memories for much of my childhood and that of my family and friends. Many of these people have also been a part of the RSL and to have this pool and its surrounds removed and destroyed is an insult to their memory and what they did for our country and Bundaberg as a community.

#### **Criteria G**

I remember the Anzac Memorial Pool as a child and spending every day and most weekends training with the local swimming club. This time formed values in me that have helped me to be a responsible adult and good mother, family member, friend and productive member of the community. It forged friendships that have lasted a lifetime. My family were strongly committed members of the Fairymead Swimming Club. As I read and understand the history and heritage of the club, I can see how greatly it formed a part of building the culture of inclusion and diversity that society demands today. As kids, we trained alongside members of Bundaberg Amateur Swimming Club, (I understand this club formed in February 1915) as well as general public. It was during these times that I learnt to be tolerant of others, train hard, communicate and negotiate, and be a valuable member of the community. (And all without having to use technology). I had my first job at the Anzac Pool taking Learn to Swim classes and working after school in the pool kiosk.

Fairymead Swimming Club as I knew it was very inclusive and created a family friendly atmosphere however, I understand its' origin to be The Fairymead Boys Swimming Club. This formation coincided with the opening of Anzac Memorial Pool in 1956.

At a meeting on 25 September 1957, it was decided the name of the club be changed to Fairymead Amateur Swimming Club to allow the amalgamation of the boys and ladies clubs. Both Bundaberg and Fairymead clubs shared the pool for training, and separate club nights were held. AS I grew up

and attended school in Bundaberg, we had school carnivals and Physical Education at the pool I competed in various swimming carnivals, also travelled to various towns in Queensland for interclub competitions. I swam for Bundaberg, Wide Bay and Queensland at representing Bundaberg and The Fairymead Swimming Club at Wide Bay Championships, City of Charm carnivals and QLD and Australian titles. Friendships made at the Anzac Pool as children, continue today.

Bundaberg has celebrated several local state and national swimming champions, many of whom trained at the Anzac Pool. I trained with Olympic and Paralympic swimmers including Michelle Pearson (1984 - bronze medal in 200m individual medley), Justin Lemberg (1984- bronze medal in the 400m freestyle) , Tracey Oliver (1992 – bronze medal in 50m freestyle S7, 1996 – silver medal in 50m freestyle S7), Chantel Wolfenden OAM (2004 – gold medal in 400m freestyle S7, silver medal in 100m freestyle S7, bronze in 100m backstroke S7, bronze in 200m Individual medley S7, bronze in 4x100m Freestyle 34 pts and bronze in 4x100m Medley 34 pts.)

I also believe that the pool would have been used for training and fitness/rehabilitation of many other Bundaberg representatives across numerous sports. Bundaberg is well renowned for producing great sportsmen and women and I am sure they would all have fond memories of times spent at the Anzac Park Memorial Pool.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter in support of the proposed application to save this site.

Kind regards,

█  
█

Released under Right to Information Act 2009

[REDACTED]

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]

5.8.2022

Executive Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science

HRN650278

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Heritage Listing do Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool

My late husband [REDACTED] and myself moved to Bundaberg in 1992. We had three small daughters and regularly took them to the pool on weekends. We spent many happy hours enjoying the peaceful environment on the banks of the Burnett River. The expansive lawns and subtropical gardens were a lovely place to picnic and the little girls enjoyed all three pools - the wading pool, the 25m pool and the 50m pool with the diving blocks at the deep end. They made new friends every week.

For twenty years [REDACTED] and I regularly attended the pool to do laps to improve our fitness and health. It was in a very convenient location for us coming from the east side of Bundaberg. Once again the peaceful environment suited us well. And for [REDACTED] and I it was a familiar environment, like the pools we swam in in our youth. The style of the buildings and the pool itself, from the 1950's reminded us of another time.

In the last three years I have regularly attended aqua fitness classes at Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool. It's where I connect with likeminded people, some of whom learnt to swim in that pool and share with me special memories of the place where they spent many happy days, doing laps with their friends, jumping off the diving boards and sitting in the sun. That's a special connection for them.

Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool has a special place in our hearts. As a family, we have lovely memories of the time spent there, and friendships made. It's a time capsule, representing a bygone era - a little bit of 1956 retained in the centre of Bundaberg. That is something that should be protected and preserved as the local swimming pool has been an important part of Queensland's culture for decades.

The water of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool always looked to me like a jewel in the centre of Bundaberg. I strongly support heritage listing of this local landmark.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



2.8.2022

Executive Officer,  
Heritage Branch  
Department Of Environment and Science  
[heritage@des.qld.gov.au](mailto:heritage@des.qld.gov.au)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I strongly support the Heritage Listing of Bundaberg's Anzac Memorial Pool. (HRN650278).

I am a 21 year old student at the University of Queensland. I grew up in Bundaberg attending St Patrick's Primary School and Shalom Catholic College. History was of special interest to me, especially Australian military history. In my own family, I have soldiers who have served in both world wars and Vietnam.

I know the history of what was originally called The Returned Soldiers Memorial Baths, now Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool. It is a legacy of the original Anzacs and has continued to be for 99 years a memorial to all those who have fought for this country, served as peacekeepers and done humanitarian duties. It has also been place for leisure and enjoyment.

It has special significance for this nation as I understand that as an Anzac memorial pool on this site for 100 years in 2023 it is unique in Australia.

My brothers and I spent many good days at "the pool". It was very close to our home. We did swimming lessons during the week and trained doing many laps, but on weekends we loved to go back to Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool to see our friends and to play on the "inflatables". It was good fun and good exercise. Prior to COVID, there were a lot of back packers who used the pool and we met a lot of people from different countries.

Our grandmother, and parents all learnt to swim in that pool and we loved to hear their stories and liked to think that we were following in their footsteps. My grandmother learnt to swim in the original pool and got a life saving bronze medallion in the Olympic pool in 1956. We are very proud of that. She's 81 now.

We marvelled at the stories of our father bomb diving off the high board. He looked more like a pencil in those days so I doubt he made much of a splash.

We swam with the children of people that Mum and Dad swam with. Three of them were the Wood boys, sons of Shelley Pearson, who swam for Australia at Olympic and Commonwealth Games. Bill Pearson, her father and coach watched on when we swam. I remember him telling Shelley, "Don't push them". We liked that. It made us feel pretty special and our connection with the place even stronger.

This is the kind of thing that cannot be quantified, but created strong intergenerational bonds in a community. Friends became family, and our parents and grandparents opened their hearts to our friends. We'll always be a part of each other's lives.

Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool is a beautiful setting, one that is very familiar to my brothers and me, my parents and grandparents. It is the Anzac's legacy to all veterans and to our city. It deserves heritage listing to keep it safe for the future. I for one want to be assured that it will exist for the next generation.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted Signature]

6.8.2022

Executive Officer  
Heritage Branch  
Dept of Environment and Science

HRN650278

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Heritage Listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool

My name is [REDACTED] and I grew up in Bundaberg. I am writing to strongly advocate for the heritage listing of the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool, and to express my grave concerns for the Bundaberg Regional Council's intent to demolish it. It's deeply unsettling that the words 'demolish', and 'memorial' should appear in the same sentence.

I am a past recipient of the Queensland Premier's Anzac Prize, the RSL Youth Development Program Bursary and currently working at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, Italy. I am strongly aware of the history of Anzac commemoration in Australia and I value cultural patrimony.

The pool's demolition would be violent and painful upon our community. It would also erase an important site in early Queensland's urban history.

This campaign for heritage listing is being supported by the grassroots local community, people who have lived in Bundaberg all their lives. It includes war veterans and their families, Olympic swimmers, historians and conservationists and people young and old across the globe who want to see it stay and prosper. The public outcry that has been heard since this campaign began strongly confirms the significance of this site to the people of Bundaberg, and to the history of our city.

Next year is the 100th anniversary of the pool's existence on the Quay St site by the Burnett River. The pool in its first iteration was built as per the wishes of the local Returned Servicemen's League from subscriptions to build an Anzac Memorial, and was renovated in 1956. Its demolition would set a dangerous precedent for our city whose council shows increasing ignorance of and disregard for our heritage. We wish to start a movement against the council's cold corporate agenda and advocate for the patrimony of Bundaberg.

I am writing this letter to you from the city of Venice in Italy, a country which values and protects its historical sites with pride. I fear for the future of our country, state and town when in 2022 one of the oldest historical sites in Bundaberg is facing demolition. What culture of memory and belonging to place does that foster?

Conversely, we wish to promote Bundaberg and its rich history. We hope that the heritage listing of Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool will create awareness in the community and encourage more people to use it as a place for leisure and exercise. We hope that more sites may be heritage listed in the future.

The Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool is a rare example of a utilitarian public memorial site. The people of Bundaberg have been fortunate to use this facility for almost 100 years, and we have those who served our country in war to thank for that.

Out of respect for them and for the history and future of our city, I wish to give my strong support for the application for heritage listing in Queensland of the Bundaberg Anzac Memorial Pool.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 August 2022 6:41 AM  
**To:** Heritage  
**Subject:** HRN 650278 – Anzac Memorial Pool, Bundaberg

Good Morning

I would like to submit my support for the above application.

I have lived in Bundaberg all my life. I am 78 years old and I learned to swim at this pool and so did all of my children. The site means a great deal to Bundaberg residents. It is located in a great, convenient position with lovely gardens and surroundings.

It is indeed a place of historical significance and should not be needlessly destroyed.

Regards

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Released under Right to Information Act 2009