

Historic building transformed into creative hub

4 August 2016

- Heritage-listed former freight goods shed, within the Claremont train station precinct, opens as Perth's newest cultural landmark

A historic yet dilapidated freight building in Claremont has been given a new lease of life as a community cultural centre thanks to a collaborative effort between Liberal National Government agencies, local government and a not-for-profit group.

Officially opened today by Premier Colin Barnett, the Goods Shed, on the corner of Shenton Road and Claremont Crescent, will deliver space for exhibitions, workshops, artist residencies, cultural events, a community garden and a coffee shop.

Mr Barnett said the building's redevelopment was made possible through the collaborative efforts of not-for-profit arts group FORM, and the State Government's land development agency LandCorp, as well as the Public Transport Authority, Department of Lands, Lotterywest and the Town of Claremont.

"Goods sheds were once common but many have been lost because new uses were difficult to find for these types of basic structures," he said.

"However, this one has survived and remains an integral part of the State Registered Claremont Railway Station precinct, the earliest intact station precinct in Western Australia."

The project cost more than \$1 million, with LandCorp contributing more than \$600,000 to facilitate the restoration and fit-out of the repurposed building. Lotterywest provided a grant of \$133,515 to support the construction of outdoor facilities on the grounds of the Goods Shed, including seating, shading, meeting spaces, paths and gardens.

Acting Lands Minister Mia Davies said the transformation of the building was the first stage in implementing the vision for LandCorp's broader Claremont on the Park development and would provide a new community amenity for new and long-term Claremont residents.

"FORM's creative vision has created a new cultural landmark in the Town of Claremont that will be a fantastic community asset," Ms Davies said.

"From master-classes to educational outreach programs for schools, The Goods Shed is set to be a centre of imagination and innovation."

Lotterywest

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Fact File

- Built in 1887, the building was originally used for the loading and distribution of goods from trains on the Perth to Fremantle rail line
- FORM Building a State of Creativity Inc is a not-for-profit, membership-based cultural organisation established as an incorporated association in 1968 that develops and advocates for excellence in creativity and artistic practice in WA
- LandCorp's Claremont on The Park is evolving into a contemporary activity centre offering a variety of transport, jobs and housing choices with a unique sense of place around the Claremont Oval. The development will include a series of interconnected areas of landscaped public open space in addition to the Claremont Oval, and the re-alignment of Shenton Road

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