

NOMINATION TO THE ACT HERITAGE REGISTER

Please note that the information below represents indicative heritage values only, and not the views of the ACT Heritage Council (the Council).

This nomination is yet to be assessed by the Council against the heritage significance criteria established under the Heritage Act 2004.

Acceptance of a nomination is a preliminary, threshold step and ought not to be taken as indicative of any particular outcome concerning the Council's assessment of the nomination.

**West Portal Cafeteria
44 Constitution Avenue
BLOCK 15, SECTION 3, PARKES**

The West Portal Cafeteria and its open setting have a range of heritage values related to its history, uncommon design features and for its creative achievement.

The Cafeteria has important historical value for its association with the development of early government office accommodation in Canberra in the 1960s. The Cafeteria was part of the Anzac Park East and West Buildings complex and therefore is a representative part of the government's efforts to establish Canberra as the location for Australian Government administration in the 1960s.

The Cafeteria also has historical interest as part of the social history of the provision of food services to public servants as a substantial feature of Australian Government employment. The West Portal Cafeteria was one of at least 8 such services in the ACT in 1970, and part of a network of at least 74 services nationwide. The provision of such services by Government ended in 1988. It is one of only three surviving ex-government cafeterias and has the most physical integrity.

The Cafeteria has uncommon architectural value as a free standing and well resolved architectural composition in a uniquely integrated setting employing high quality materials such as copper, timber and stone. It employs a range of architectural features such as exaggerated horizontal planes, large overhanging timber lined eaves and a large extent of glazing in a restrained, proportionate and harmonious way.

The Cafeteria is associated with the development of the Anzac Park East and West Buildings which, as office buildings for Government departments, were a key component in the development of Canberra and as part of the general effort to consolidate Canberra as the location for Australian Government administration in the 1960s following the formation of the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC).