



31 July 2020

## **Fremantle Prison celebrates 10 years as Perth's only World Heritage Listed Site.**

Fremantle Prison will this week celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their World Heritage listing as part of the Australian Convict Sites.

Inscribed on the prestigious World Heritage List on 31 July 2010, the Australian Convict Sites, which includes 11 properties from around Australia, tell an important story about the forced migration of over 168,000 men, women and children from Britain to Australia during the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Fremantle Prison Heritage Conservation Manager, and current Chair of the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee, Luke Donegan, said, "Fremantle Prison is a monument to the development of Western Australia as we know it today."

"It is the most intact convict-built cell range in the nation and was the last convict establishment constructed in Australia."

The Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Property also includes Cockatoo Island Convict Site, Sydney, NSW (1839–69); Hyde Park Barracks, Sydney, NSW (1819–48); Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area, Norfolk Island (active 1788–1814 and 1824–55); Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta Park, NSW (1788–1856); and the Old Great North Road, Wiseman's Ferry, NSW (1828–35). Brickendon-Woolmers Estates, Longford (1820–50s); Darlington Probation Station, Maria Island National Park (1825–32 and 1842–50); Cascades Female Factory, Mount Wellington (1828–56); Port Arthur Historic Site, Port Arthur (1830–77); and Coal Mines Historic Site, Norfolk Bay (1833–48).

Fremantle Prison marks the place where the practice of forced migration through transportation ceased with the arrival of the convict ship *Hougoumont* in January 1868, and is an essential part of the Australian convict story.

From 1850 to 1868 almost 10,000 convicts were transported to Western Australia.

Convict labour was used in the construction of roads, bridges, buildings such as the Perth Town Hall and Government House, and provided much-needed labour to the farming community.

Fremantle Prison is now one of Western Australia's major cultural attractions, winning numerous national and state tourism awards, and is considered a 'must-see' attraction for visitors to Perth. The Prison offers a variety of guided tours to enable visitors to see and learn about the prison and its history.

### **Fact File**

- Fremantle Prison opened as an attraction in 1992 and welcomes approximately 200,000 visitors annually
- Fremantle Prison is the only built cultural United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage site in Western Australia and the only World Heritage attraction in Perth.
- Collectively, the Australian Convict Sites welcome over 700,000 visitors per annum