

## IAN HOCKING

Ian Hocking, one of Western Australia's best-known heritage practitioners, recently passed away after battling illness for several years. Ian had an unusual skill set – he was both a qualified architect and a planner – and was able to integrate heritage, architecture, urban design, planning and social planning in his work. From the mid-1970s, Ian worked in the Planning Department at Perth City Council before establishing his own architectural and planning practice in Perth in 1986, specializing in heritage conservation. Under Ian's leadership Hocking Heritage Studio, as the practice came to be known, completed many major conservation and urban planning projects winning wide recognition and multiple awards. Ian was a practitioner of high integrity who applied the highest standards of behavior and professional courtesy in his dealings with people. His fearless advice, while not always welcomed in some circles, led to a reputation for objectivity which made him a highly sought after practitioner for both public and private sector projects. His work on Perth Town Hall and St George's Cathedral, Perth set standards for conservation practice, the former earning awards from the AIA and the Heritage Council of WA, the latter winning the AIA (WA) George Temple Poole Award for conservation in 2008. In November 2012, Ian received the Architect Board of Western Australia's Award for outstanding contribution to the architectural professional – the State's highest Architecture accolade. Ian had a particular interest in the management of historic cities, towns and areas. He undertook heritage character and conservation planning studies of a number of towns and suburban areas in WA. As an expert heritage adviser to the West Australian government and the City of Fremantle, he dealt with many complex heritage challenges including proposals to demolish and redevelop the magnificent Goldsbrough Woolstore and the Elders Woolstores complexes. It is in large part thanks to Ian and his staff that both buildings have survived. His expertise in and enthusiasm for heritage planning practice led to Ian being accepted as an Expert member of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Historic Towns and Villages (CIVVIH). He contributed significantly to the work of CIVVIH over the last 14 years, serving a term on its Executive and undertaking World Heritage assessments of towns in China and Malaysia. Ian was widely respected by his CIVVIH peers and formed strong friendships with many international colleagues. Ian was erudite, a thought leader on heritage planning and a strong advocate for heritage conservation. He also had a warm and generous spirit.