

MADDINGTON HOMESTEAD

**709. Mr P. ABETZ to the Minister for Heritage:**

Maddington Homestead, which was one of the earliest residences in the Canning district, has unfortunately fallen into disrepair. Could the minister please tell the house what is being done to protect and preserve this building?

**Mr G.M. CASTRILLI replied:**

I thank the member for Southern River for the question and his interest in heritage matters. This building was constructed in the early period of settlement—in 1836 in fact—and the Maddington Homestead was placed on the Register of Heritage Places in September 2001. That property was sold to overseas investors in May 2003. However, a destructive fire and subsequent vandalism to the property have led to a real deterioration of and extensive damage to that property, and the Heritage Council has recommended options to the owner to rectify its condition and provided \$20 000 to the owners in 2007-08 for some conservation work. Some limited stabilisation work was carried out and some fencing erected around the property. However, the work that was carried out was not adequate in the opinion of the Heritage Council.

The City of Gosnells is very supportive of the conservation of that property, as is the community, and in June this year the Heritage Council recommended to the City of Gosnells that it serve a notice of repair on the owner. A meeting with the owners was held in July to examine options for conservation. I authorised a conservation order to be advertised in August and 50 submissions were received, of which 47 supported the conservation order. The Heritage Council is working closely with the City of Gosnells, and I sincerely hope that that conservation order will lead to some positive heritage outcomes for that building.