Mount Eliza Apartments

71 Mount Street, Perth WA 6000

Krantz & Sheldon

Designed: Not known  Completed: 1964

History & Description

Affectionately known as the “thermos flask” this finned rocket-like tower, located on a prominent scarp top site, between Kings Park and the Swan River, was an instant landmark and remains one. At the time it was considered controversial as a modernist imposition on a notable environment. The plan fans out from the central lift core, restricting circulation to the centre, and maximizing the spectacular 180 degree views. These apartments were one of the first in Perth to provide a secure curtilage, requiring residents to provide entry to visitors.

Krantz and Sheldon, was the successor practice of Harold Krantz Architect. The Harold, and his son David, pioneered and specialised in apartment designs through the range of economical low rise apartment to luxury medium to high rise apartments, using a variety of construction techniques, from the 1930s into the 1980s. 71 Mount Street marked the change in generation from Harold to David Krantz.

Statement of Significance

The location and distinctive modernist design of 71 Mount Street made it a landmark from all approaches, particularly when seen from the Perth Foreshore and the Mitchell Freeway. The place is an accomplished and site specific modernist design. Krantz and Sheldon were highly influential in the development of flats and apartment housing in Perth, for a half century from the 1930s into the 1980s.

Criteria Applicable

N2. Significant heritage value in exhibiting a particular aesthetic characteristics.

N6. Significant heritage value in demonstrating a high degree of technical achievement of a particular period.