



# Heritage Watch 2011

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## Heatley Hall, Townsville Showgrounds



Why we're watching	Heatley Hall was already in need of maintenance when damaged by Cyclone Yasi early in February 2011. Ten months later, repairs to ensure its continued existence as a hall are needed.
Significance	Heatley Hall is significant as a purpose-built exhibition building, an integral element within the heritage listed Townsville Showgrounds. In its former role as a dance venue, Heatley Hall has significance for social and entertainment reasons.
What you can do	Contact the Mayor of the Townsville City Council. Explain your concern about the state of repair of the building. Be positive. So much of the history of Townsville can be read in its fabric. Contact the Queensland Heritage Council regarding its state.
History/ Description	Townsville Showgrounds was commenced in 1882 and has remained in use since that time. Constructed as an exhibition hall in 1939 to a design by JG Rooney, Heatley Hall became one of the largest dance venues in North Queensland. It also hosted a ball to welcome Princess Alexandra on her visit in the late 1950s. Lighting and ventilation are provided by three lantern lights along the ridge of each of the building's two gables. The design features timber buttresses and galvanised corrugated iron cladding. The street access was modified from its original decorative façade to a flat sheeted wall, the damage to which can be seen above.
Local Government Authority	Townsville City Council
Links to other information regarding the site	Contact details for the Mayor of Townsville City Council can be found at <a href="http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/council/councillors/Pages/councillors.aspx">http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/council/councillors/Pages/councillors.aspx</a> Contact details for the Queensland Heritage Council are at: <a href="http://www.qldheritage.org.au/contact-us.php">http://www.qldheritage.org.au/contact-us.php</a> Read more about its heritage significance at: <a href="http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/chims/basicSearch.html">http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/chims/basicSearch.html</a> Search for place ID 602650