

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 171	Category: 2
Assessment Date: 06/11/1996	Last Revision Date: 18/11/2009	
HCWA Number: 13270	Asset ID: MCH127066	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Irish Club
Other Names:	St. Patrick's Church
Type of Place:	Hall
Address:	249 -253 Fourth Street
Suburb:	Wonthella

LOCATION

Map Reference: 16.16	GPS Northing: 6815894.00	GPS Easting: 268653.000
	GPS Northing: 0000	GPS Easting: 000



Photo Description:

2/08/2007

Rod Milne

Bullnose verandah porch a recent addition.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 251 & 252	Assess No.:	14992
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Church	Occupied:	Not Occupied
Current Use:	Club Rooms		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Restricted		

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Corrugated Iron	Roof:	Colorbond
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:	Bullnose verandah to east facade		

This small timber framed corrugated iron former church has a gable colorbond roof (re-roofed in 2003) with a lean-to roof to the south which covers a corrugated iron clad extension. To the apex of the west end of the main gable there is a timber Celtic cross. The main double timber entry doors are to the centre of the east facade with a small timber framed vent to the centre of the gable end. A bullnose verandah has been added to protect this door in recent times. Windows are timber framed with a metal security grille to the exterior. The hall has light green walls and a red roof. An ablution building was constructed to the north set behind brick walls in c1999.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1939	Source:	R. Marchant James
Architect:	J.C. Hawes		
Builder:	Unknown		

The Hall was opened in the Geraldton suburb of Wonthealla on 24 September 1939 for use as a Catholic Church. In February the following year, Sister Therese O'Brien, a member of the Presentation community at Geraldton, commenced primary school classes for local children in the new hall. By 1943 there were 20 pupils enrolled at the school and the enrollment increased following the end of the war. During the 1960s a decision was made to replace the 24 year old hall with a new building,

designed to accommodate a total of 100 pupils and 60 parishioners. In 1968, St. Patrick's at Wonthella closed and has, in recent years been used by the Irish Club. (Source: Marchant James, R., p.273-4)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	406 Religion 400 Social and civic activities 602 Early settlers
AHC:	8.6.4 Making places for worship 8.1 Organising recreation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This small corrugated iron building has high historic significance for its previous use as a catholic church and school and for its association with Priest-Architect John Hawes, who was responsible for the design of numerous other buildings in Geraldton including the St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, the Hermitage and Nazareth House. The building is a unique example of Hawes's™ work given its simple form, basic design and use of construction materials. Further, the place has social significance for its current use as the headquarters of the Irish community in Geraldton.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	2
Level of Significance:	CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE: Very important to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is highly recommended. Any proposed change should not unduly impact on the heritage values of the place and should retain significant fabric wherever feasible.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Marchant James, R., "Cork to Capricorn", Presentation Sisters, 1996.
"Cathedral Chronicle", October 1939.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

6/11/1996

Suba & Grundy

Simple corrugated iron building prior to verandah and addition.