

<b>Area:</b> Geraldton	<b>Place Number:</b> 232	<b>Category:</b> 3
<b>Assessment Date:</b> 14/10/1996	<b>Last Revision Date:</b> 25/11/2009	
<b>HCWA Number:</b> 13327	<b>Asset ID:</b> MCH126802	

### PLACE DETAILS

<b>Name:</b>	House
<b>Other Names:</b>	97 Gregory Street
<b>Type of Place:</b>	House
<b>Address:</b>	97 Gregory Street
<b>Suburb:</b>	Beachlands

### LOCATION

<b>Map Reference:</b> 14.14	<b>GPS Northing:</b> 6813922.00	<b>GPS Easting:</b> 266336.000
		000



**Photo Description:**

13/04/2008

Tanya Henkel

House set above street level.

## SITE DETAILS

<b>Lot No.:</b>	Lot 500	<b>Assess No.:</b>	11060
<b>Reserv No.:</b>		<b>Vol/Fol:</b>	
<b>Dia/Plan:</b>			

## USE OF PLACE

<b>Original Use:</b>	Residence		
<b>Current Use:</b>	Residence		
<b>Ownership:</b>			
<b>Public Access:</b>	Restricted	<b>Occupied:</b>	Occupied

## DESCRIPTION

<b>Walls:</b>	Concrete Block	<b>Roof:</b>	Corrugated Iron
<b>Condition:</b>	Not applicable	<b>Integrity:</b>	
<b>Original fabric:</b>			
<b>Modifications:</b>	Some verandah enclosures		

Set in an elevated position, the house is of concrete block construction with a corrugated iron gambrel roof which is punctuated by a rendered, corbelled chimney. The roof extends to cover the front verandah. There is a separate gable to the front room which features timber battens to the gable end. Supported on timber posts the verandah is partly enclosed to the north-west with fibro. The house features quoining to the corners and there is a corrugated iron awning to the front room window. Entry to the house is via a series of steps leading from the footpath where a low brick wall forms the property boundary.

## HISTORY

<b>Construction Date:</b>	1908	<b>Source:</b>	Smith, K.R.
<b>Architect:</b>	Unknown		
<b>Builder:</b>	John Crothers		

The house was built c1908 by well known Geraldton builder, John Crothers for his wife, Sarah and their family. The house served as their home for many years. John Crothers (1864-1929) was responsible for the construction of numerous buildings in Kalgoorlie including the Roads Board Office, the York Hotel, the Race Course Grandstand and the Kalgoorlie City Markets. Moving to Geraldton in 1908, Crothers was also responsible for the construction of a number of buildings in the town. Furthermore, Crothers imported the first "Ideal Concrete Block" machines into Western

Australia, put them into service and actively introduced the end product to the building industry of the day. His sons, T.P. and A.E. Crothers, were co-founders of the Geraldton Building Company. (Smith, K.R., "The Birth of a Legend: the history of the Geraldton Building Company and the men and women who made it possible", GBC, 1994, p21) In recent times the house was used by the Department of Family and Children's Services.

### HISTORIC THEMES

**HCWA:** 104 Land allocation and subdivision  
603 Local heroes and battlers  
**AHC:** 4.1.2 Making suburbs

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 97 Gregory Street has considerable historic significance for its association with well known builder and Geraldton identity, John Crothers. Further the place makes an important contribution to the streetscape given its elevated position and elements of the original style, such as the corbelled chimney and quoining to corners. It is evidence of very early concrete block construction.

### MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

**Management Category:** 3  
**Level of Significance:** MODERATE SIGNIFICANCE: Important to the heritage of the locality.  
**Management Recommendation:** Conservation of the place is recommended. Any proposed change to the place 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

Smith, K.R., "The Birth of a Legend", 1994.

### OTHER PHOTOS



**Photo Description:**

14/10/1996

Suba & Grundy

View of the front (west) facade.