

Area: Greenough	Place Number: 119	Category: 5
Assessment Date: 30/09/1997	Last Revision Date: 24/02/2015	
HCWA Number: 11054	Asset ID: MCH127077	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Railway Gatekeeper's Cottage (Fmr) Site
Other Names:	Aujoro/Desmond's Cottage
Type of Place:	Site
Address:	Short Road (west side)
Suburb:	Walkaway

LOCATION

Map	Walkaway	GPS	6799041.00	GPS	284550.000
Reference:	S.W.	Northing:	0000	Easting:	000



Photo Description:

30/04/2004

Lancaster

Front (north) facade of cottage

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 0 of Pt VL 100	Assess No.:	63923
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Rifle Range		
Current Use:	Site		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	No	Occupied:	Not Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Limestone	Roof:	Corrugated Iron
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			

Now demolished the following paragraph describes the building as at 2005. Located immediately adjacent to the railway line this simple stone cottage had a steeply pitched corrugated iron roof with eaves overhang. The roof extended to cover the front (north) verandah which was enclosed with concrete blocks and louvre windows. The front facade of the cottage featured pointed stonework with brick arches over windows and doors. Concrete render had been applied to the lower walls. There was a large bay window to the right of the central doorway while other windows were timber framed and double hung. The cottage had a corbelled brick chimney. A small concrete block extension had been added to the west side of the cottage.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1886	Source:	G. Martin
Architect:	Not available		
Builder:	Not available		

The railway cottage was one of several built in 1886 when the Government Railway was constructed between Geraldton and Walkaway.[See Place No. 114] It was built as a gate-keepers residence, however gates were never installed at the road-rail crossing. Instead the cottage was originally occupied by a railway employee. The cottage was inundated in the 1888 flood. By 1932, the cottage was considered

superfluous to requirements and offered for sale. It was purchased by Robert and Josephine Desmond in 1934 and continued to be occupied by members of the Desmond Family up till 2005.

(Source: Gary Martin)

Vacant for several years, the cottage was subsequently demolished.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	200 Transport and communications 602 Early settlers
AHC:	3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Railway Cottage, now known as Aujoro, had considerable historic significance for its connection with rail transport in the district from the 1880s. The building was characteristic of other railway houses in the area, being one of several built at the time. It had a high degree of aesthetic appeal given its use of local stone, its simple and compact form and its built features such as the corbelled chimney and bay window.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	5
Level of Significance:	HISTORIC SITE: The site has historic significance for its previous use and its role in the historical development of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Proposed development may need to have regard to possible archaeological evidence remaining on the site. Recognise and interpret the site if feasible. This may be achieved through a variety of methods including, but not limited to, signage, public art, paving treatment and landscaping as well as design treatment of any new development which reflects the former use of the site.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Bibliography:

HCWA Database No. 11054.

"Gatekeeper's House (fmr)", HCWA Register of Heritage Places, June 2002.

OTHER PHOTOS

No other photos