

Area: Greenough	Place Number: 132	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 23/09/1997	Last Revision Date: 09/03/2005	
HCWA Number: 1170	Asset ID: MCH127132	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Walkaway Railway Station & Goods Shed
Other Names:	Padbury Road
Type of Place:	Museum
Address:	Padbury Road
Suburb:	Walkaway

LOCATION

Map	Walkaway	GPS	6796762.00	GPS	285743.000
Reference:	Townsite	Northing:	0000	Easting:	000



Photo Description:

16/09/2004

Henkel

Walkaway Railway Station, west facade

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 46610	Assess No.:	64098
Reserv No.:	Railway Reserve	Vol/Fol:	2170/791
Dia/Plan:	159498		

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Railway Station/Post Office		
Current Use:	Museum		
Ownership:	The Trustees of the Christian Brothers		
Public Access:	Yes	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Limestone	Roof:	Corrugated Iron
Condition:	Fair	Integrity:	
Original fabric:	Largely intact		
Modifications:			

RAILWAY STATION

Located in the centre of the Walkaway townsite, the Railway Station is a Federation Free Style building designed by Government architect George Temple Poole. This large, elegantly proportioned, random rubble painted limestone building has a two storey section to the north (Station Master's residence) and a single storey section to the south (refreshment rooms) with a central extension to the east (Post Office & quarters). The station platform is sited on the west side of the building. The two storey section has a main gable roof which runs north to south and a separate flying gable which faces west. A large chimney is set above the apex of the main gable at the south end. The single storey section has a gable roof, which runs north to south and a hipped roof to the addition to the east. A small chimney is set into the apex of the gable of the main roof. The main gable roof extends to the west to form an awning over the railway platform. The awning roof is supported on a cantilevered timber frame and extends half way along the west side of the two storey section of the building. The awning has a decorative timber dragon's tooth frieze with similar infill below the roof at its ends. The central section of the west façade of the single storey section is open and forms the entryway to the platform. Entry from the east side of the building is via a concrete ramp with entry doors to the main central section and the east extension. Windows to both sections of the building are large pane timber framed and double hung.

GOODS SHED

The goods shed is located some 200 metres to the north of the Railway Station. It is a simple rectangular random rubble limewashed limestone building with a corrugated iron gable roof. There is a large corrugated iron sliding door to the south side above which a circular vent is set into the gable end. The goods crane is situated adjacent to the south side of the building.

WEIGHBRIDGE & SHED

The small timber framed corrugated iron clad weighbridge shed was totally reconstructed in 1997. It is located in between the Goods Shed weighbridge.

The buildings are in excellent condition and the place now operates as a museum. A full description of the documentary and physical evidence of the place is available, together with recommendations in a conservation plan, prepared by Considine and Griffiths in 1996.

2004/05 Review: The signal tower located to the front (east) of the building was restored in c2003.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1886	Source:	Considine & Griffiths
Architect:	George Temple Poole		
Builder:	Edward Keene		

Tenders were called for the construction of the Walkaway Railway Station in 1886 as the terminus for the Geraldton to Greenough railway line. The design of the buildings is attributed to George Temple Poole and the contract was awarded to Edward Keene. Maitland Brown, the Resident Magistrate, opened the railway line on 21 June 1887. Mr C.F. Hicks was the first stationmaster and two trains per week were scheduled. On 17 June 1895, the Midland Railway Company officially took over the new line between Perth and Walkaway. Two parties, the Western Australian Government Railways and the Midland Railway Company, jointly operated the Walkaway Railway Station and Walkaway became the point of change of locomotives. This situation prevailed until 1958 when diesel locomotives replaced steam. In the 1890s the awning above the platform was extended to the north. In 1899, the Walkaway Post and Telegraph Office opened in the Walkaway Railway Station and pre 1913 additional quarters were constructed for a postmistress. In the 1920s the Post Office lease was terminated and that area was used as accommodation for an assistant stationmaster. In 1965 the Walkaway stationmaster position was abolished and the station closed in 1966. Westrail announced its intentions to demolish the buildings, however the Walkaway Division of the Geraldton Historical Society was formed and

with the support of the local community saved the buildings. In 1972, the Walkaway Station Museum opened and the building was recorded by the National Trust of Australia (WA) in 1975. The museum now houses a collection of WAGR and Midland Railway memorabilia. A conservation plan was completed in 1996 and conservation works have subsequently taken place.

(Source: Considine & Griffiths Architects, "Walkaway Railway Station Precinct Conservation Plan", December 1996)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	200 Transport and communications 202 Rail and light rail transport 605 Famous and infamous people
AHC:	3.8.5 Moving goods and people on land 3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Walkaway Railway Station Precinct has high historic and social significance given its connection with the development of the Geraldton to Greenough and Midland Railway lines. The place has further historic significance for its association with noted Government architect George Temple Poole. The place is in good condition, has high integrity and houses a significant collection of Western Australian railway memorabilia and given this it makes a unique contribution to the built and social heritage of the state.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	1
Level of Significance:	EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is considered essential. Any proposed change should not unduly impact on the significance of the place and be in accordance with either a Conservation Plan or Heritage Impact Statement.

OTHER LISTINGS

National Trust of WA - Classified, 20/10/2000
Heritage Council of WA - Register, 01/01/1970

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Bibliography:

HCWA Database No. 1170.

AHC Database No. 009636.

Considine & Griffiths Architects, "Walkaway Railway Station Precinct Conservation Plan", December 1996.

Photographs:

GHS0648 museum (1974), GHS0938 station (1924), GHS0989 station from track (c1890), GHS1582 station from south (n.d.), GHS2983 museum (n.d.), GHS2985 upper storey (n.d.).

Additional photos inserted

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

16/09/2004

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View of West elevation from North



Photo Description:

16/09/2004
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Goods Shed