

Area: Mullewa	Place Number: 9	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 10/02/1995	Last Revision Date: 11/11/2011	
HCWA Number: 1662	Asset ID: MCH126495	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Masonic Lodge Fmr
Other Names:	Freemason's Hall
Type of Place:	Hall
Address:	43 Jose Street, cnr Molster Street
Suburb:	Mullewa

LOCATION

Map	Mullewa	GPS	6842274.86	GPS	354386.620
Reference:	Townsite	Northing:	0000	Easting:	000



Photo Description:

20/09/2011

T. Henkel

North and west elevations of the Masonic Lodge Fmr.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 77	Assess No.:	85
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	899/15
Dia/Plan:	222859		

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Masonic Lodge		
Current Use:	Hall		
Ownership:	City of Greater Geraldton		
Public Access:	No	Occupied:	Not Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Stone	Roof:	CGI
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			

Located on the south-west corner of Jose and Molster Streets and set back from both street frontages, the Mullewa Masonic Lodge is a simple rectangular building of local random stone construction built in the Victorian Georgian style. The hipped corrugated iron roof features Dutch gable vents to the east and west and is punctuated by a concrete block chimney to the western roof-scape. Typical of Masonic Lodge construction, the windows are set high up in the walls under the eaves. There is only one access door which enters the ante room on the north façade. There is feature red brick quoining to the corners of the building and to the window and door surrounds. A Foundation Stone is located to the lower eastern side of the northern wall addressing Molster Street and has the following inscription: "Mullewa Lodge No. 105, W.A.C. This tablet was unveiled 5th April 1926 by Wor Bro T. Molster. Rev Henry Vine P.G. Chaplain D.C. Contractors – D. Blackwell, S. Pedesen." Internally, the main meeting room remains furnished and decorated for masonry activity, while the ante room is used for storage. The building has timber floor boards throughout, with carpet covering the main room floor. There is a small concrete block toilet to the rear (west) of the building. (Refer to the conservation plan for a detailed description of the building.)

HISTORY

Construction Date: 1926 **Source:** Foundation Stone
Architect:
Builder: D. Blackwell & S. Pedersen

On 30 March 1921 a group of men from Mullewa met at the home of the Anglican Minister, Rev. Henry Vine to discuss the formation of a Masonic Lodge in the town. Rev Vine went on to become the Foundation Master of the new Lodge which was sponsored by Geraldton Lodge No. 3. The Archbishop of Perth, Charles Owen Leaver Riley officially opened St Andrew's Anglican Church on 16 November 1921, and then the day after he officiated at the consecration and dedication ceremony of the new Lodge (Mullewa No. 105). Monthly meetings of the Lodge were held in the church until they could obtain their own premises. Work commenced on the construction of the Mullewa Masonic Lodge in October 1925, with building contractors Messrs D. Blackwell and S. Pedersen appointed as the builders having submitted a tender for 900 pounds. The Lodge was built on land donated by Mr Thomas Molster and was opened on Easter Monday 5 April 1926. By the 1980s Mullewa suffered a declining population which was also reflected in the dwindling membership of the Mullewa Lodge. The use of the building as the meeting place of Lodge 105 ceased in 1993 with the last meeting held on 12 July. Since then the building has been used for storage purposes. (Refer to the conservation plan for a detailed history of the building.)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA: 400 Social and civic activities
408 Institutions
AHC: 8.5 Forming associations

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mullewa Masonic Lodge has high historic value for its role in the lives of some Mullewa community members since 1926. The place is rare as a Masonic Lodge with furniture and fittings largely intact, and having a high degree of authenticity with only minor alterations since its construction. The building contributes considerably to the built environment of the Mullewa townscape.

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

Heritage Council of WA - Register, 01/01/1970

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Mullewa Townsite Heritage Trail; Barden, W.D., "Mullewa Through the Years 1861-1961", Mullewa Road Board, 1961; Keeffe, B., "Eastward Ho: To Mullewa and The Murchison", Mullewa Shire Council, 1995; Sherwood, B., "Conservation Plan of Mullewa Masonic Lodge", 2004.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

20/09/2011

T. Henkel

Foundation Stone located on the northern wall.



Photo Description:

20/09/2011

T. Henkel

North and east elevations of the corner building.