

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 48	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 29/10/1996	Last Revision Date: 02/10/2009	
HCWA Number: 13235	Asset ID: MCH126715	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	War Memorial
Other Names:	Cnr Chapman Road & Forrest Street
Type of Place:	War Memorial
Address:	Cnr Chapman Road & Forrest Street
Suburb:	Geraldton

LOCATION

Map Reference: 15.15	GPS Northing: 6814995.00	GPS Easting: 266946.000
		000



Photo Description:

31/07/2007

Rod Milne

War Memorial in front of Birdwood House.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 1118	Assess No.:	11714
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	War Memorial		
Current Use:	War Memorial		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Yes	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Granite	Roof:	Not applicable
Condition:	Not applicable	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			

The War Memorial is located on the street corner in the forecourt of "Birdwood House". Set at 45 degrees to the corner, the location is footpath.

The polished granite memorial is of cenotaph format, being rectangular in cross-section (plan), with stepped base and rising over four metres high. Simple, polished, stone crosses and banding, together with brass memorial plaques and inscriptions is all the decoration that adorns the main column. A low, pyramidal cap overhangs the top of the column forming a cornice or corbelled effect. The column is supported on four graduated steps, the lower three of which are of rock faced ashlar granite which provides contrast in texture for the smooth finish of the memorial itself.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1935	Source:	"Geraldton Guardian & Express"
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Wilson, Gray & Co		

On Sunday, 1 September, 1935, the War Memorial was unveiled by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir James Mitchell, while the State President of the R.S.L., Mr A. Yeates, performed the official opening of Birdwood House. ("Geraldton Guardian & Express", 3/9/1935)

The war memorial, erected at the same time as Birdwood House, was constructed of granite from the Darling Ranges. Along the lines of a Cenotaph, the memorial stands 4.25m high, on a base 3.25m x 2.4m x 0.6m and was hewn from a single block of granite weighing over 3 tonnes in the rough. (Burns, A.C. "Brief History of the Returned Soldiers")
 The bronze plaque bears the following inscription: "Lest We Forget. To the memory of those who died in the Great War, 1914-1918. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the setting of the sun and in the morning we will remember them." The memorial is the work of Messrs Wilson, Gray & Co., Ltd., Perth. ("Geraldton Guardian & Express", 3/9/1935)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	501 World wars and other wars 603 Local heroes and battlers
AHC:	7.7.3 Going to war 8.8 Remembering the fallen

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Geraldton War Memorial has very high historic and social significance for the Geraldton community as a place of remembrance and assembly. It has high aesthetic significance for its contribution to the street scape and the setting for "Birdwood House".

RECOMMENDATION:

The War Memorial should be conserved and its setting and context with "Birdwood House" protected.

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

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

"Geraldton: a photographic history", Geraldton Regional Library, 2004.
"Geraldton Guardian & Express".
"Geraldton Guardian".
Burns, A.C., "Brief History of the Returned Soldiers Association", 1987.
GLLSCVF - G1299A.
GLLSPC - Buildings (Miscellaneous) & Geraldton (General).
"Pictorial Souvenir of Geraldton, WA".

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

29/10/1996

Suba, Callow & Grundy

War Memorial in front of Birdwood House.