

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 72	Category: 2
Assessment Date: 29/10/1996	Last Revision Date: 20/10/2009	
HCWA Number: 1054	Asset ID: MCH126837	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr (RC)
Other Names:	350 Chapman Road
Type of Place:	Church
Address:	350 Chapman Road
Suburb:	Bluff Point

LOCATION

Map Reference: 15.19	GPS Northing: 6817989.00	GPS Easting: 267742.000
	GPS Northing: 0000	GPS Easting: 000



Photo Description:

13/04/2008

Tanya Henkel

Original stone section of the 1937 church.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 40	Assess No.:	20393
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Church		
Current Use:	Church		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Restricted	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Stone/Concrete Block	Roof:	Tile
Condition:	Not applicable	Integrity:	
Original fabric:	Stone section to east side.		
Modifications:	New 1970 church addition.		

The original small, stone built, St Lawrence's Roman Catholic Church, designed by Father Hawes has now been diminished by a large brick church in the grounds of St Lawrence's Catholic Primary School in Bluff Point. The new, octagonal church built in 1970, completely dominates the small chapel and is totally unsympathetic to the original church building. Some effort has been made to integrate the old chapel into a vestry behind the sanctuary of the new church but without any visual clues internally of what lies behind. The chapel, with a north south orientation, is visible at the rear (east side) of the new church (with an east west orientation). The bell in its bellcote remains above the original entry door and a central octagonal tower, with tiled roof, drops light into the centre of the chapel through small arched windows.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1937	Source:	GLLSCVF
Architect:	J.C. Hawes		
Builder:	E. Boschetti		

Designed by Priest-Architect John Hawes, the original church building was built from stone donated by Frank Green and taken from his Narra Tarra property in Chapman Valley. Built for a cost of £1,209, the contractor for the construction of the church was E. Boschetti. St. Lawrence's was

opened and blessed by the Bishop of Geraldton, the Most Reverend Dr. J.P. O'Collins on 8 August, 1937. (GLLSCVF - Churches G614)
 John Hawes was responsible for the design of a number of buildings in Geraldton including the Chapel of San Spirito, St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, the Hermitage, and Nazareth House.
 In 1970 much of the original stone church was demolished and a large brick extension was built by builders, P.J. & S.J. Clancy. The largely rebuilt church was opened on 6 December, 1970. (Foundation stone)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	406 Religion 605 Famous and infamous people
AHC:	8.6.4 Making places for worship

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original Hawes stone Chapel of St Lawrence's Roman Catholic Church has high aesthetic and historic significance for its associations with Father Hawes and the development of the Catholic Parish outside the town centre. However its significance is severely compromised by the church.

RECOMMENDATION:

At an appropriate time in the future, redesign of the "new" church should take place to better integrate the original chapel. Unsympathetic, adjacent elements, such as the church toilets should be modified or relocated. Adjacent school bus and vehicle parking should be relocated so that the old chapel is better expressed and appreciated.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	2
Level of Significance:	CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE: Very important to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is highly recommended. Any proposed change 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

Feilman & Associates, "Survey of Places of Historic and Landscape Significance in Geraldton", 1977.

GLLSCVF - Churches G614.

GLLSPC - Buildings (Churches).

"The First Hundred Years".

"Cathedral Chronicle", Jan, April & Sept, 1937.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

29/10/1996

Suba, Callow & Grundy

View looking north to original section of stone church.