

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 302	Category: 5
Assessment Date: 06/11/1996	Last Revision Date: 18/12/2009	
HCWA Number: 13462	Asset ID: MCH126794	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Site of Wesley Church
Other Names:	Methodist Church
Type of Place:	Site
Address:	229-35 Marine Terrace
Suburb:	Geraldton

LOCATION

Map Reference: 14.15	GPS Northing: 6814510.00	GPS Easting: 266330.000
	GPS Northing: 0000	GPS Easting: 000



Photo Description:

Geraldton: A Photographic History
Wesley Church and Church Hall at right.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 14	Assess No.:	11555
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Church		
Current Use:	Site		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Restricted	Occupied:	Not Occupied

DESCRIPTION

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

The site now accommodates the Geraldton Cinemas Complex which was constructed in 2001.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1869	Source:	Burns, A.C.
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Unknown		

According to A.C. Burns the Wesleyan-Methodist Church was opened for Divine Service on Sunday, 18 April, 1869 by the Rev. Thomas Clarke Laurence, who was the first Methodist Minister. (Burns, A.C., "Churches in Early Geraldton", 1987, GLLSCVF - Churches) However, "The First Hundred Years: Geraldton Centenary 1850-1950" states that the church was opened by the Rev. Mr Worth, it being the first Christian church in Geraldton. This source also indicates that a manse was built to the east of the church. The Church Hall on the western end was constructed later. Built of limestone, the Wesley Church was used for worship for 93 years, however, the decision to demolish it in the early 1960s was made when the repairs needed for the building were deemed to be too expensive. The final services were held in the church on 28 & 29 July, 1962. Located on Lot 43 on the corner of Marine Terrace and Fitzgerald Street the church was demolished and a petrol station was later constructed on the site which has since been demolished. A new Methodist Church was built in

Shention Street in 1965. The site now accommodates the Geraldton Cinema Complex which was constructed in 2001. (Op Cit, Burns & "Geraldton: A Photographic History", p.88)
Note: The Champion Trail states that the Methodist Church was built in 1896.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA: 406 Religion
AHC: 8.6.4 Making places for worship

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site of the Wesley Church has historic significance given that this was the site of the first permanent christian church established in Geraldton

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

Considine & Griffiths Architects, "Geraldton Foreshore Conservation Plan",

2002 - Building 35.

Burns, A.C., "Churches in Early Geraldton", 1987.

GLLSCVF - Churches.

"The First Hundred Years: Geraldton Centenary 1859-1950".

"Geraldton: A Photographic History", Geraldton Regional Library.

OTHER PHOTOS

No other photos