

Area: Greenough	Place Number: 171	Category: 4
Assessment Date: 09/12/1997	Last Revision Date: 05/04/2005	
HCWA Number: 13937	Asset ID: MCH127009	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Wicherina Dam
Other Names:	off Geraldton-Mt Magnet Road (south side)
Type of Place:	Dam
Address:	off Geraldton-Mt Magnet Road (south side)
Suburb:	Wicherina

LOCATION

Map Reference:	Eradu S.W.	GPS Northing:	6820332.00	GPS Easting:	304987.000
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Photo Description:

5/04/2005

Martin

View of Wicherina Dam looking north-west

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	CG 9726	Assess No.:	61376
Reserv No.:	17711	Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Dam	Occupied:	Not Occupied
Current Use:	Dam		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	No		

DESCRIPTION

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

Built on Wicherina Brook, this large dam was once covered in order to prevent evaporation, which was approximately 10 feet a year. However there is no evidence remaining of the large asbestos cover which eventually fell in. The pumping station is located to the east of the dam.

2004/5 Review: to the east of the main dam wall are concrete foundations and fittings of former buildings.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1927	Source:	Stan Gratte
Architect:	Not available		
Builder:	Not available		

A small earthen dam across Wicherina Brook was originally built by Davis and Percy of Tibbradden Station. In 1921, another earthen wall dam was built on the creek to form two resevoirs capable of holding 106 million gallons of water. To compensate for water evapouration, bores were drilled nearby to replenish the dams. In 1934, a corrugated asbestos roof was constructed over the lower dam. The roof covered an area of 17 acres. To reach Geraldton, water flowed through three miles of steel piping to a 300,000 gallon reinforced concrete resevoir on a high hill and then gravitated through concrete pipes to Geraldton. Wicherina Dam supplied householders in Geraldton with water until 1965. When the

Allanooka Water Supply opened in 1966 the Wicherina Dam ceased as a water supply for Geraldton. Since the 1970s water has been pumped from the dam site to Mullewa.
(Source: Bain, M.A.)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	404 Community services and utilities 300 Occupations
AHC:	3.11.5 Establishing water supplies

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wicherina Dam has historic and social significance as an essential water supply for Geraldton and the surrounds.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	4
Level of Significance:	SOME SIGNIFICANCE: Contributes to the heritage and/or historical development of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is desirable. Any proposed change to the place should be in sympathy with the heritage values of the place.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Bibliography:
HCWA Database No. 13937.
Rohan, P., & Wilson, H.H., "Geraldton Sketchbook", 1976, pp.62-3.
Halley, E.M. & Wilson, H.H., "Roundabout Geraldton and the Victoria District", reprinted 1978.
Wells, J.H., "Here-There-Not-Everywhere", 1986, p.23.
Bain, M.A., "A Life of its Own", 1996, pp.146-7.

Photographs:

GHS0227 aerial view (n.d.), GHS1711 dam roof (1935), GHS5983 under the roof (1950), GHS7084 roof (1950), GHS7599 dam (1930s), GHS7600 dam (1930s), GHS7601 dam (1930s),

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

5/04/2005

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view of shed foundations