

<b>Area:</b> Greenough	<b>Place Number:</b> 34	<b>Category:</b> 5
<b>Assessment Date:</b> 23/09/1997	<b>Last Revision Date:</b> 19/04/2005	
<b>HCWA Number:</b> 13991	<b>Asset ID:</b> MCH126829	

### PLACE DETAILS

<b>Name:</b>	St Peter's Church Site
<b>Other Names:</b>	St Peter's Church
<b>Type of Place:</b>	Site
<b>Address:</b>	Brand Highway (east side)
<b>Suburb:</b>	Greenough

### LOCATION

<b>Map</b>	Geraldton	<b>GPS</b>	2796695.00	<b>GPS</b>	279661.000
<b>Reference:</b>	S.E.	<b>Northing:</b>	0000	<b>Easting:</b>	000



### Photo Description:

Aerial Photograph - Location Map

## SITE DETAILS

<b>Lot No.:</b>	Lot 1 of Pt Lot 293	<b>Assess No.:</b>	64119
<b>Reserv No.:</b>		<b>Vol/Fol:</b>	
<b>Dia/Plan:</b>			

## USE OF PLACE

<b>Original Use:</b>	Church		
<b>Current Use:</b>	Not in use		
<b>Ownership:</b>			
<b>Public Access:</b>	No	<b>Occupied:</b>	Not Occupied

## DESCRIPTION

<b>Walls:</b>	Not applicable	<b>Roof:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Condition:</b>	Fair	<b>Integrity:</b>	
<b>Original fabric:</b>			
<b>Modifications:</b>			

The site of the original St Peter's Church is located on the east side of the Brand Highway in front of Clinch's Mill.

## HISTORY

<b>Construction Date:</b>	1864	<b>Source:</b>	R. Marchant James
<b>Architect:</b>	Fr. Lecaille		
<b>Builder:</b>	L. Leverman		

The first Catholic Mass in the Victoria District was celebrated on 8 February 1857 by Fr Venancio Garrido OSB of the Benedictine Monastery at New Norcia. In 1860 Fr Patrick McCabe arrived at Champion Bay to assume the role of the first resident priest. He commenced building the first Catholic church in the Victoria District at Greenough in 1864, but left the area before it was completed. Belgian priest, Fr Adolphus Lecaille, who took over from Fr McCabe, can be credited with laying the foundations of the Catholic Church in the district as he did much towards establishing the first catholic schools and churches in the area. Fr Lecaille completed St Peter's Church at Greenough which was blessed and opened on 12 May 1867. For many years it was the focal point for Catholic worship in the thriving Greenough region. The finished church measured 40 ft 6 in long by 16 ft wide, with 12 ft high walls made of limestone blocks set in sand and lime mortar. One window was positioned in each gable and five others were fixed into the lower walls. The mahogany (jarrah) timber roof

and flooring were pitsawn and installed throughout by local tradesman, Louis Leverman. To one side of the church Fr Lecaille added a single room for his personal use, although he rarely stayed in one location for any length of time. This small cramped area became his principal home for almost 40 years. By 1874 a choir loft had been added above the main door of St Peter's and a church bell was purchased. The bell is now located between the Greenough Convent [Place No. 46] and the present St Peter's Church [Place No. 45] in the Central Greenough Historic Settlement. From the beginning the church doubled as a school for the local children. St Peter's Church was badly damaged by the 1888 flood and was replaced in 1909 by a more substantial building erected next to the Greenough Convent, also called St Peter's.

(Source: Marchant James, R., "Cork to Capricorn: A History of the Presentation Sisters in Western Australia 1891-1991", 1996, pp.66-73 & 190

### HISTORIC THEMES

<b>HCWA:</b>	406 Religion 600 People
<b>AHC:</b>	8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions 8.6.4 Making places for worship 8.6 Worshipping

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site of St Peter's Church has very high historic significance as it was the first church to be built in the Victoria District. For many years the chapel fulfilled an important role in the religious and educational life of people on the Greenough Flats. Further the place is closely associated with Fr Lecaille who is credited with laying the foundations for the catholic church in the district. The site is also evidence of the disastrous impact of the 1888 flood on the Greenough community.

### MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

<b>Management Category:</b>	5
<b>Level of Significance:</b>	HISTORIC SITE: The site has historic significance for its previous use and its role in the historical development of the locality.
<b>Management Recommendation:</b>	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**

**Bibliography:**

Ahearn, M.E., "I Remember," 1977.

Eakins, G.C., "Memoirs of G.C. Eakins," 1976, pp. 32-3.

Marchant James, R., "Cork to Capricorn: A History of the Presentation Sisters in Western Australia 1891-1991", 1996.

**Photographs:**

GHS0041 church (n.d.)

### **OTHER PHOTOS**

No other photos