

Area: Mullewa	Place Number: 30	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 10/02/1995	Last Revision Date: 06/03/2012	
HCWA Number: 6105	Asset ID: MCH126583	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Mullewa Railway Station
Other Names:	Lot 208 Maitland Road
Type of Place:	Railway Station
Address:	Lot 208 Maitland Road
Suburb:	Mullewa

LOCATION

Map Reference: Mullewa Townsite	GPS Northing: 6841736.07 0000	GPS Easting: 354401.000 000
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Photo Description:

20/09/2011

T. Henkel

West façade of the Mullewa Railway Station with platform at left.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 208	Assess No.:	1096
Reserv No.:	24735	Vol/Fol:	LR3098/957
Dia/Plan:	181432		

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Railway Station		
Current Use:	Craft Centre		
Ownership:	Western Australian Government		
Public Access:	Yes	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Weatherboard	Roof:	CGI
Condition:	Not applicable	Integrity:	
Original fabric:	Largely intact		
Modifications:			

Located on the southern edge of the townsite and on the south side of the railway line, the Mullewa Railway Station is a timber framed building clad with weatherboards sited immediately adjacent to the platform which extends approximately 30 metres to the east and west. The long rectangular station building has a low pitch gable roof which extends over the platform on the north side of the building. There is a cantilevered awning to the west elevation. Most windows are timber double hung sashes. Refer to the HCWA Register Assessment for a full description, including interiors.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1915	Source:	HCWA RHP Documentation
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Unknown		

In December 1892, tenders were called for the construction of the Geraldton to Mullewa railway and by late August 1894, the railway line had reached its terminus, with the first train arriving in Mullewa on 12 November 1894. The original railway station, constructed in 1894, was located on the north side of the railway tracks, immediately adjoining Gray Street. In addition other railway buildings and structures were

erected in the near vicinity, including a station master's residence, goods shed and sidings. While Mullewa remained the head of the line the town flourished with a burgeoning population, however in December 1895, the contract for the construction of the railway from Mullewa to Cue was awarded with work commencing promptly. This had an immediate impact on Mullewa with teamsters and their families relocating to the head of the line, followed in turn by shop keepers and others. More activity on the railway occurred in 1912 with the extension of the Wongan Hills line to Mullewa opening in March 1915. The new line required an additional area of land for railway purposes, with further houses erected to accommodate railway workers during this period. The works also included the original railway station being relocated to the south side of the tracks to better serve trains coming in from the south. The layout of the station building was similar to the standard plans that were common in this period, and comprised the station master's office, refreshment rooms, ladies' hall, booking office and parcels' room. In June 1957, Reserve 24735 was designated for railway purposes. Meanwhile the costs of rail transport rose and passenger numbers declined. The Mullewa Railway Station closed in 1974. The Mullewa-Meekatharra line closed in 1978 and thereafter passenger services declined, with the line to Pindar only used on a seasonal basis for grain transport. As a consequence many of the buildings associated with the railway precinct were either demolished or removed. The Shire of Mullewa leased the railway station building which has since been used as a local Arts and Crafts Centre.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	202 Rail and light rail transport
AHC:	3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mullewa Railway Station has high historic value for the important role it played in facilitating growth of the town and district. Further the place illustrates the development of the Northern Railway, particularly the railway centre at Mullewa. The remaining buildings and structures of the Rail Precinct provide evidence of the once substantial railway station complex and, given they are located on high ground, provides for a significant visual landmark. The station building is a good example of railway architecture of the period and forms an integral part of the railway precinct which includes the Goods Shed, the Water Column and the Water Tank. The place is held in high esteem by the local community and continues to fulfill an important social purpose today.

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

Heritage Council of WA - Register, 22/04/2005
Shire of Mullewa - Town Planning Scheme, 15/08/1986

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

HCWA RHP Documentation; Gray, L., "Conservation Plan for Mullewa Railway Station Group", 2010; Barden, W.D., "Mullewa Through the Years 1861-1961", Mullewa Road Board, 1961; Keeffe, B., "Eastward Ho: To Mullewa and The Murchison", Mullewa Shire Council, 1995.

OTHER PHOTOS



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North east corner of the railway station building looking west along the platform.