

Area: Mullewa	Place Number: 4	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 10/02/1995	Last Revision Date: 03/11/2011	
HCWA Number: 1656 & 165	Asset ID: MCH126863	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Priesthouse
Other Names:	Mons Hawes Museum
Type of Place:	Museum
Address:	Bowes Street
Suburb:	Mullewa

LOCATION

Map	Mullewa	GPS	6842130.40	GPS	355000.460
Reference:	Townsite	Northing:	0000	Easting:	000



Photo Description:

20/09/2011

T. Henkel

Priesthouse - north elevation across courtyard garden.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 11 & 12	Assess No.:	1466
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	1397/97
Dia/Plan:	886		

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Priesthouse		
Current Use:	Museum		
Ownership:	Roman Catholic Bishop of Geraldton		
Public Access:	Yes	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Stone	Roof:	Tile
Condition:	Not applicable	Integrity:	
Original fabric:	Highly intact		
Modifications:			

Constructed in the Romanesque style, the Priesthouse is located to the south east of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, addressing Bowes Street and orientated north to a landscaped courtyard. The local stone and concrete block quoining to the walls combined with the rustic exterior detailing of the Priesthouse correspond with that of the adjoining Church but on a residential scale. The main entrance faces east and consists of a single wide arched door enhanced by a recessed and moulded archway, above which is the inscribed wording "The Priesthouse". Atop this is a concrete cross. Facing north towards the courtyard is a separate tiled verandah roof in the form of a colonnade featuring eight arches, providing a linkage to the Church. A dutch gable with small arches and a white cross provides decorative detailing to this northern façade while stained glass has been used elsewhere for visual appeal. Internally the Priesthouse comprises two bedrooms, living room vestibule, kitchen and bathroom. The living area features a centrally placed inglenook fireplace on the eastern wall, expressed externally in a series of steps, the lower ones covered in clay tiles. (Refer to the Conservation Plan for a detailed description of the building)

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1927	Source:	HCWA RHP Documentation
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Architect: Mon J. Hawes
Builder: Mon J. Hawes

Following the completion of the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in 1927, Father John Cyril Hawes turned his attention to the design and construction of the adjoining presbytery, or Priesthouse. Completed in 1929, Hawes resided here until he was transferred to the Greenough Parish in November 1938. The Priesthouse ceased to be used as a presbytery in 1970 with the construction of another presbytery facing Maitland Road. In 1980, conservation works on the building began with rising damp and termite treatment carried out. The work also included the replacement of some floors, render and window treatments and the repair or reinstatement of other elements which had previously been neglected. Upon completion of this work, a museum was opened in the Priesthouse incorporating a display of memorabilia relating to John Cyril Hawes. The museum continues to operate to the present time. (Refer to the Conservation Plan for a detailed history of the building)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA: 406 Religion
605 Famous and infamous people
AHC: 8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.14 Living in country and rural settlements
8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Priesthouse is a characteristic example of the eclectic and numerous architectural works by Monsignor John Cyril Hawes, whose ecclesiastical architectural works are a prominent feature of the MidWest region. The building is very closely associated with Hawes, who designed, built and resided in the presbytery between 1929 and 1938. Used as a museum since 1980, the place is highly regarded by the local Mullewa community and is a popular tourist destination. Its style, detailing and materials correspond with the adjacent Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and together they exhibit a high degree of artistic and technical sophistication.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category: 1
Level of Significance: EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the

**Management
Recommendation:**

heritage of the locality.
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, 25/11/1994
National Trust of WA - Classified, 27/05/1974
Australian Heritage Commission - Register, 21/03/1978
Shire of Mullewa - Town Planning Scheme, 01/01/1970

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

HCWA RHP Documentation (P1656); Monsignor Hawes Heritage Trail (1988); Taylor, J., "Conservation Plan for Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church", 1996; Taylor, J., "Between Devotion and Design: The Architecture of John Cyril Hawes, 1876-1956", Nedlands: UWA Press 2000; Anson, P., "The Hermit of Cat Island", London: Burns & Oats, 1957; Evans, A.G., "The Conscious Stone", Melbourne: The Polding Press, 1984; Keeffe, B., "Eastward Ho: To Mullewa and The Murchison", Mullewa Shire Council, 1995; Barden, W.D., "Mullewa Through the Years 1861-1961", Mullewa Road Board, 1961.

OTHER PHOTOS



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T. Henkel

Main entrance showing feature archway and decorative detailing.