



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 01902
2. **NAME** *Church & Cemetery, Gwalla* (1861)
3. **LOCATION** Gwalla Street, Gwalla
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Victoria Location 10725, being Crown Reserve 31064, and being the whole of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3074 Folio 596.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Northampton
6. **OWNER** State of Western Australia  
(vested in the Shire of Northampton)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	30/08/2002
	Permanent Entry	27/12/2002
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:	TPS No. 6	09/01/1996
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted (Cat 1)	19/04/1996
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
*Church and Cemetery, Gwalla*, comprising church ruins in a stone walled yard, and a random rubble stone walled cemetery with its associated graves and plantings, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:  
  
Gwalla Church was the first church, and the only non-denominational one, constructed in Northampton, and Gwalla Cemetery the first cemetery to be established in the Northampton district;  
  
the establishment of a non-denominational church is in itself unusual in the development of nineteenth century settlements; the provision of a non-denominational church by one man for a community is considered to be rare;  
  
once the centre piece of the Gwalla Mining Precinct and important amongst Joseph Horrock's well-remembered philanthropic work, the

place was an important development of the mine community at Gwalla, foreshadowing the eventual development of the town of Northampton;

the place comprises the only remaining visible elements of the Gwalla Mining Precinct, which played an important role in the development of Northampton and Western Australia's early mining industry, an industry that was considered vital to the on-going survival and success of the colony;

the place is associated with prominent figures in the history and development of Northampton, particularly with Joseph Horrocks, an ex-convict, convict ship's surgeon and important figure in the development of Gwalla, attempting to establish his own village and sustain its inhabitants both physically and spiritually. Many of Northampton's early pioneers, including Horrocks and Samuel Mitchell, are buried at the cemetery; and

located on high ground, the place is visually important in the Northampton landscape, having an understated landmark quality and contributing to the community's sense of place.

The new housing within the fields around the Church or across the fields which give a direct view to the Mine from the Church is considered to be intrusive.