



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

The wording of this document has been adapted from 'Conservation Plan for Bishop Kelly's Cottage, Cue' prepared by John Taylor Architect for the Bishop of Geraldton in October 1999, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 6.2 Establishing schools
- 8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
- 8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 406 Religion

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is a good example of a late Victorian Georgian style residence in an isolated location. (Criterion 1.1)

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is a landmark in the town of Cue as a distinctive Flemish and stretcher bond brick building with mature plantings. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is the last remaining element of the historic Catholic precinct in Cue, which was centre for the Geraldton Diocese from 1904 to 1910. (Criterion 2.2)

Bishop's Cottage, Cue demonstrates the development of Cue as the administrative and service centre for the Murchison region in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. (Criterion 2.2)

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

Bishop's Cottage, Cue has long term associations with the Catholic Church, having been occupied continuously as the Cue presbytery from 1904 to 1979. (Criterion 2.2)

Bishop's Cottage, Cue was built for Bishop William Kelly, first Bishop of the Geraldton Catholic Diocese, who officially occupied it between 1904 and 1910 as his primary place of residence, and who established many of the Catholic schools and churches in the Murchison region. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is highly valued by the Catholic community for its religious associations as the residence of Bishop Kelly from 1904-1910, as demonstrated by the repurchase of the place in 1996 for by the Geraldton Diocese after being sold in 1979. (Criterion 4.1)

Bishop's Cottage, Cue contributes to the local community's sense of place as the last remaining element of the historic Catholic precinct in Cue. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is rare as an early twentieth century brick residence in the inland Midwest region of Western Australia. (Criterion 5.1)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is a representative example of a small church presbytery in rural Western Australia. (Criterion 6.1)

12. 3 CONDITION

Bishop's Cottage, Cue is in sound condition. There is some evidence of termite damage, and some of the roof timbers are sagging slightly. Some of the brickwork is fretting and gutters are in poor condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

Bishop's Cottage, Cue retains a high degree of integrity, as it has always been used for its original intended purpose as residential accommodation. The original function of the building can be read in the existing fabric. The place is vacant in 2003.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

Bishop's Cottage, Cue retains a moderate degree of authenticity in that the original structure largely remains. Those elements that have been lost are

the timber detailing along the front verandah, and the original cladding material, if any, of the lean-to section at the back.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Supporting evidence has been taken from “Conservation Plan for Bishop Kelly’s Cottage, Cue” prepared by John Taylor Architect for the Bishop of Geraldton in October 1999.

Key sections used are: 2.0 Documentary Evidence (pp. 19-31), 3.0 Physical Evidence (pp. 50-52, 59).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the documentary evidence refer to “Conservation Plan for Bishop Kelly’s Cottage, Cue” prepared by John Taylor Architect for the Bishop of Geraldton in October 1999.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the physical evidence refer to “Conservation Plan for Bishop Kelly’s Cottage, Cue” prepared by John Taylor Architect for the Bishop of Geraldton in October 1999.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Additional Information –

There are 44 presbyteries on the HCWA database. Of these, 11 are listed as individual buildings, not as part of a group. There are 18 presbyteries listed in rural locations. The only five that are Registered are part of a church and/or convent/school group. Five of these 44 presbyteries were built in a comparable time frame, and none are Registered and all are part of a larger church and/or convent/school group, except 1590 St Joseph’s Presbytery, Mingenew (1905; Classified, RNE). *Bishop’s Cottage, Cue* is a representative example of a small church presbytery in rural Western Australia.

Of the 1671 places in the Midwest region listed on the HCWA database, 117 are brick constructions built before 1910. Of these, four are located in Cue. Other houses in the mid-west in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century were generally constructed of local stone or of lighter weight materials such as corrugated iron on a timber frame. *Bishop’s Cottage, Cue* is therefore rare as a brick construction building from the early twentieth century in the Midwest of Western Australia.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

“Conservation Plan for Bishop Kelly’s Cottage, Cue” prepared by John Taylor Architect for the Bishop of Geraldton in October 1999.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

The dates of construction of the toolshed and laundry/store to the north of the cottage have not been determined.