



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 02231
2. **NAME** *Catherine McAuley Centre* (c. 1858 - 1990s)
COMPRISING Benedictine Stables (fmr) (c. 1858, 1890s, 1990s);
 Olive Trees (c. 1858);
 Cemetery (1891-1913);
 Old School (1893, 1989), (now Martin Kelly Centre);
 St Rochs (c. 1900, 1914);
 Laundry (fmr) (c. 1910, 1970s), (now Heritage Centre),
 St Vincent's Foundling Home (fmr):
 Foundling Home (1914, 1918, 1950s, 1994);
 Kindergarten (1925, 1971, 1994);
 Nursery (1928, 1970, 1994);
 St Gerard's Hospital (1938, 1972), (now Davis House)
FORMER NAMES New Subiaco; Benedictine Monastery; St Vincent's Boys Orphanage;
 St Joseph's Girls Orphanage; St Vincent's Foundling Home.
3. **LOCATION** 18 Barrett Street, Wembley
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
 That part of Lot 100 on Diagram 97244, being part of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 2160 Folio 511 as is defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia Survey Drawing 2231 dated 05/4/2012.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Town of Cambridge
6. **OWNER** Mercycare Ltd
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places:

Interim Entry	17/12/2010
Amended Entry	01/05/2012
Permanent Entry	03/08/2012
 - National Trust Classification: (Stables) 3/11/1980
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: 12/11/1996
 - Register of the National Estate: 28/9/1982
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Catherine McAuley Centre, comprising Benedictine Stables (fmr) (c. 1858, 1890s, 1990s); Olive Trees (c.1858); Cemetery (1891-1913); Old School (1893); St

Rochs (c.1900); former Laundry (c.1910); St Vincent's Foundling Home (fmr) which includes the Foundling Home (1914, 1918, 1950s, 1994), Kindergarten (1925, 1971, 1994) and Nursery (1928, 1970, 1994); and, St Gerard's Hospital (fmr) (1938), has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the Benedictine Stables (fmr) has rarity value as it is one of few agrarian buildings dating from the 1850s still in existence in the metropolitan area and is the only remaining structure from the early Benedictine occupation of the site;

the various elements illustrate the evolution of the site from an agrarian beginning, with stables and olive groves, to a facility dealing with the needs of urban family life, and reflect the rapid development and changing social environment of Perth and Western Australia, since the 1850s;

the place contributes to the aesthetic qualities of the landscape particularly through the Old School, which has landmark value when approached from the south entrance of the site and provides a focus for the historic group of buildings at the place. St Vincent's Foundling Home (fmr) contains decorative timber work, terracotta finials and brick work with render banding.

the various elements of the place contribute to the community's sense of place;

the Benedictine Stables (fmr) and Olive Trees are evidence of the Catholic Benedictine Order who occupied the site from 1852 to 1864, and also with Bishop Serra, under whose authority the site was developed. The Old School is a reminder of the ongoing religious associations of the site;

St Vincent's Foundling Home (fmr) and Old Chapel are evidence of the work of the Sisters of Mercy, and the services to children in need which they have provided on the site since 1876;

the Benedictine Stables (fmr) and Olive Trees are a reminder of the olive oil industry conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, and which helped provide funds for the ongoing operation of the orphanage and foundling home. The olive oil manufactured at St Joseph's Orphanage won first prize at several Royal Perth shows;

the place is illustrative of the institutional approach to the care and training of children which prevailed in the late 19th century and into the first six decades of the 20th century; and,

when opened in 1925, the Kindergarten was one of the first to use the Montessori teaching method and aspects of design in Western Australia. The nursery still displays the ventilated and mosquito proofed verandah, which was considered modern at the time of construction.