



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.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 6.2 Establishing schools
- 6.5 Educating people in remote places
- 8.6 Worshipping

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 402 Education & science
- 406 Religion

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

With its soft orange brickwork in English bond, simple proportions, and roofscape *St Mark's Anglican Church* is a small but well resolved building in the Federation Georgian vernacular style. (Criterion 1.1)

St Mark's Anglican Church is set in a clearing and the combination of natural and regenerated bushland together with the small scale building make up a significant landscape setting. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

St Mark's Anglican Church is significant as an example of a small building built in an isolated rural district in the late nineteenth century to serve as a school and church. (Criterion 2.1)

As European settlement expanded in the Upper Warren district in the late nineteenth century, *St Mark's Anglican Church* was constructed in 1891, at the instigation of and for local families of Upper Warren district as the school for their children, and as a church. The place served as a school from 1899 to the 1920s; and as a church from the outset until the 1980s; and also as a meeting place for the local community. (Criterion 2.2)

St Mark's Anglican Church, was built under the supervision of ticket-of leave builder Jack Haines (Haynes) for local residents, at the instigation of well known local families who played a pioneering role in the development of the

* 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.

Upper Warren district, namely the Blechyndens, Clarkes, Mottrams, and Wheatleys. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

St Mark's Anglican Church is highly valued by the local community of Upper Warren, and the wider community of the Shire of Manjimup and of Western Australia, as the first church and school built in the locality in 1891; for its continued use as a school into the 1920s; for its use as a local meeting place; and its continued use as a church into the 1980s. (Criterion 4.1)

St Mark's Anglican Church contributes to the community's sense of place, having served as a school for many of the older families of the district, and as a church for more than 90 years following its completion in 1891. The use of the place for the Historic Day and for 'Back to Warren Day' is evidence of its continuing role in the life of the district and past residents of the district. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

The one room school is a type that is no longer built and there are only a small number still in existence. Most of those surviving are timber framed and clad buildings. *St. Mark's Anglican Church* is one of an even smaller number of brick versions and therefore has rarity value. The place was used as a school and church until the 1920s before it became a church exclusively and this transition from dual use to permanent use as a church is rare. (Criterion 5.2)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

St. Mark's Anglican Church is a very small but fine example of Federation Georgian vernacular style architecture. (Criterion 6.1)

St. Mark's Anglican Church is a fine representative of a one-room school that has served a range of functions for its local community. (Criterion 6.2)

12. 3 CONDITION

St Mark's Anglican Church is built on reactive soil and has suffered from continual seasonal shrinkage and expansion. This has resulted in extensive minor cracking. The place receives minimal maintenance by its small congregation. None of the maintenance has had an adverse impact on heritage values. The place is in fair condition.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

St Mark's Anglican Church was constructed as a one room school and church, and served the community as a church and school since 1891, and subsequently as an Anglican church from the 1920s to 1980s. The latter function has been retained on an occasional basis. The heritage values can be sustained by the current use. However, conservation works are required to sustain values. The place retains a moderate to high degree of authenticity.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Apart from the covering of the shingled roof by corrugated iron and then by zincalume, the installation of casement windows, and introduction of tie rods at both ends of the church, the fabric of the place is authentic. The porch represents part of the evolution of the fabric of the place and does not detract from the appearance or authenticity of the place. The place retains a high degree of authenticity.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Robin Chinnery, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Philip Griffiths, Architect.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

St. Mark's Anglican Church is an one room, brick building in English bond, with a roof of corrugated zincalume over the original shingles. It was built in 1891, under the supervision of Jack Haines (Haynes) as a school for local families.

In 1831, Lt. Preston, R. N., discovered the mouth of the Warren River; and the name of the district is derived from it.¹

In 1852, A. C. Gregory undertook the first European exploration of the Warren District. Crossing the Blackwood River, he followed the Donnelly River downstream to the coast to its mouth, before heading east and striking the Warren River three miles from the coast. He found good grassy flats six miles up the river, and a good strong stream. He went south-east to Brooke Inlet, and further explored the Warren District. In the same year, Robert and Thomas Muir made an exploratory journey to the district in search of new land.²

In 1856, Thomas and Andrew Muir took 1,000 sheep to the Warren district, to Perup and Lake Muir. Subsequently, they established themselves at Fernhill, Deeside, and Mardalup. In 1859, Charles Rose and Frank Hall took up adjoining leases 1425 and 1426; however, only Rose persisted and remained at Walgarrup.³

In the late 1850s, and through the 1860s, a number of people took up Locations in the Warren District, mostly for pastoral purposes. In this early period of development, convicts constructed roads and bridges, and ticket-of-leave men were employed as shepherds to care for the pastoralists' flocks.⁴ Circa 1865, ticket-of-leave men built 'Lake Muir' homestead, with the bricks made on site, and a shingle roof; and Rose built his homestead at Walgarrup of slab and daub with a roof of jarrah shingles.⁵ In 1866, 'Deeside' was built by ticket-of-leave men for Thomas Muir; and Walter Blechynden settled at 'Glenpennant'.⁶

¹ Evans, H. D. *Southern Sketches: A tale of the development of the Warren and nearby districts* (Dept. of Agriculture, Western Australia, 1993) Foreword. Note: The river is thought to have been named after Admiral John Borlase Warren.

² Jennings, Roger 'The History and Development of the Warren District of Western Australia, 1852-1911' Typescript in Battye Library, pp. 1-4.

³ *ibid*, p. 5. Note: Some secondary sources give the date as 1857, and some spell the name of the place Wilgarrup.

⁴ Jennings, Rodger *op. cit.*, p. 17.

⁵ Evans, H. D. *op. cit.*, p. 20.

⁶ Evans, H. D. *op. cit.*, p. 21.

In 1871, the Upper Warren district was included under the Sussex Roads Board.⁷ In the early 1870s, more homesteads were built by those who had taken up Locations in the district, including John Mottram at Peppermint Grove near the Warren River, Peter Wheatley at 'Clover Cottage', A. L. Clarke at 'Fern Hollow', and Charles Young at 'Mica Hill'.⁸ In 1876, the Upper Warren District became part of the Blackwood Roads Board.⁹

The population in the district gradually increased, and there were a growing number of families in the area by c. 1890. In 1891, four of these families, the Blechyndens, Clarkes, Mottrams, and Wheatleys, decided that a school should be built to provide for the educational needs of their children.¹⁰ A site convenient to all of them was selected, at Nelson Location 1353, and a ticket of leave builder, Jack Haines (also Haynes), was employed to supervise the building of the place.¹¹

Convicts in Western Australia (1994) does not include anyone by the name of Jack Haines or Haynes. Jack is most often the derivative of John, and John Haines is listed, as are two men named John Haynes. One of the latter was a mason granted a ticket of leave in 1864; however, he must be excluded as he died at Fremantle prison hospital in 1885. Of the two other men, John Haines was an expiree (1861), and John Haynes had been granted a Certificate of Freedom (1869), thus neither could be described as ticket of leave men in 1891.¹² Further primary research will be required to ascertain accurate details of the builder who supervised the construction of the place.

Clay was found near the site selected for the school; and bricks were made at the site of the deposit, then carted by bullock dray to the school site by Peter Wheatley, as were stones for the foundations of the building.¹³ The timber required for the building was pit sawn nearby, and jarrah shingles for the roof were split in the adjoining bush.¹⁴ The cost of all materials and the labour was shared between the families.¹⁵ The brick building, constructed in English bond, comprised one room, 15' x 18' (5m x 6m), with a fireplace and chimney at one end of the room. The floor was of jarrah; and the steep pitched roof was of jarrah shingles.¹⁶ A two rail split rail fence was erected to enclose about one acre for the surrounding grounds.¹⁷ The Inspector of Schools visited the place prior to the school opening, and reported 'This School has been sanctioned by the Central Board ... The building is a capital

⁷ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 22.

⁸ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 22. Note: 'Clover Cottage' and Clarke's residence were also built by Jack Haines, and the former is built of similar bricks to those used at the place. (Evans, H. D. 'The Anglican Church in the Warren District' typescript, p. 2. Collection of Phyll Mottram; and Oral evidence, Joan Lefroy with Robin Chinnery, site visit, 22 May 2001.)

⁹ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 22; and Jennings, Rodger op. cit., p. 16.

¹⁰ *Government Gazette* 9 July 1891, p. 524. Note: Evans gives date as 1883, and Jennings gives the date as 1871.

¹¹ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 23. Note: In 'The Anglican Church in the Warren District' p. 2, Evans states that Haines was 'engaged to undertake the construction'.

¹² Erickson, Rica and Gillian O'Mara (Ed.) *Convicts in Western Australia 1850-1887, Dictionary of Western Australians* Vol. IX (University of Western Australia Press, Nedlands, 1994) p. 230 and p. 250.

¹³ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 23.

¹⁴ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 23.

¹⁵ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 23.

¹⁶ National Trust of Australia (W. A.) Assessment, July 1987.

¹⁷ Evans, H. D. 'The Anglican Church in the Warren District' typescript, p. 2. Collection of Phyll Mottram.

one. A well ought to be sunk, and a closet erected.'¹⁸ His recommendation was followed, and the well was sunk at a short distance from the building, with two timber slabs as a cover.¹⁹ It is extant in 2001.

On completion of the place, the Upper Warren School was opened on 1 July 1891, with Kate Logue as schoolmistress, and an enrollment of four boys and 14 girls.²⁰ The cost of the teacher's salary was shared among the children's parents, and each of the four families who had initiated the school boarded the teacher for three months at a time.²¹

From the outset, the place served as both school and church, and the first wedding was celebrated there on 14 September 1891, when the Reverend J. Brand married Charles Simpson and Emily Reeve, both of Deeside.²²

On 8 July 1891, the site of the place was declared a reserve (Reserve 1849) for church and school site, Church of England.²³ The Reserve was 10 acres in area, bounded on the west side by the road from Belbarrup to Wheatley's farm (Location 66), on the north and south by lines extending east from the above road and passing four chains north and four chains south 'from the schoolroom now being built', about one and a half miles northward from Location 66, and on the east by a line to include the area.²⁴ A road way to the place was made from Wheatley Coast Road, which is shown as a closed road on the current diagram of the Reserve.²⁵

An entry porch, of jarrah weatherboard construction, 2m x 2.5m, was added at an unknown date to provide shelter for the children arriving at the school.²⁶

On 1 May 1892, a school was opened at Dingup in the Upper Warren district, with Fanny Logue as schoolmistress.²⁷ The Dingup school building was also built to serve as both school and church, the Church of Saint Thomas, and was also built by Jack Haines of local soapstone, quarried by Thomas Giblett.²⁸

In 1893, the Homestead Act was passed, by which it was possible for potential settlers to select a free homestead farm, to a maximum of 160 acres, provided

18 Report of the Central Board of Education for the year ending 31 December 1891 in *Votes and Proceedings* 1892, p. 33.

19 Site visit by Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 22 May 2001.

20 Report of the Central Board of Education for the year ending 31 December 1891 in *Votes and Proceedings* 1892, p. 1, p. 8, and p. 16.

21 *ibid*; and Jennings, Rodger *op. cit.*, p. 18.

22 Evans, H. D. *op. cit.*, p. 23.

23 *Government Gazette* 9 July 1891. Note: information from Steve Burgess, DOLA, May 2001, is that the Anglican Church has a 999 year lease from 1901. The file on the place is being reviewed, and further information may be available at some future date. The National Trust of Australia (W. A.) Assessment stated the place was leased by the Diocesan Trustees, Bunbury, for 999 years from 14 February 1904.

24 *Government Gazette* 9 July 1891.

25 Oral evidence from Phyll Mottram and Joan Lefroy with Robin Chinnery at the place, 22 May 2001; and Crown Land Record Vol. 3085 Fol. 558.

26 Notes by Frank Sharr on reverse of photographs, 1 April 1982, HCWA File 1511.

27 Report of the Central Board of Education for the year ending 31 December 1892 in *Votes and Proceedings* 1893, p. 7, p. 15, p. 43.

28 'The Anglican Church in the Warren District' *op. cit.*, pp. 2-3; and site visit by Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 22 May 2001.

the selector resided there and improved it for a period of seven years.²⁹ More land could be selected under Conditional purchase.³⁰ The Homestead Act encouraged a new wave of European settlers to the district.

In 1896, the Upper Blackwood district broke away from the Blackwood Roads Board, and formed the Nelson Roads Board, which included the Warren district and Bridgetown.³¹

In 1898, the railway reached Bridgetown; and twelve years later, in 1910, the railway reached Manjimup.³² The extension of the railway improved transport to the district, and encouraged further development.

The place continued to serve as both school and church until the 1920s, when a new school was built and use of the place for that purpose ceased. The school desks were converted to pews by removal of the desktops, and remained in use at the place.³³ They are extant at the place in 2001.

In 1929, the place was dedicated as a church, St. Mark's Anglican Church, Upper Warren, and it continued to serve this use until the mid 1980s.³⁴ Replacement window frames may have been fitted at this period, as it is likely that some repairs and maintenance were carried out in readiness for the important dedication service in 1929. Services were held monthly by a visiting clergyman, and attended by many families from the district, for whom the regular services were part of their way of life.³⁵

In 1955, various works were carried out at the place in readiness for its consecration as a church, including re-plastering and painting of the internal walls, and fitting of a new corrugated iron roof leaving the original shingles beneath. St. Thomas Church at Dingup gave the small timber stand and the altar to the place at this date, as a gift to celebrate the consecration. New curtains were made for the altar and also for behind the altar to hide the chimney from view.³⁶ The organ, manufactured by Packard Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the organ stool, were donated by Stan Parsons, and had been previously owned by his aunt, a member of the Wheatley family.³⁷

In April 1982, photographs by Frank Sharr show the place in its bush-land setting. Another photograph shows the plaque erected to commemorate the building of the place, and its consecration as a church in 1955.³⁸ The plaque reads:

St. Mark Anglican Church Upper Warren

Consecrated 1955

Built by the families: Clarke - Blechynden - Mottram - Wheatley

²⁹ Crowley, F. K. *Australia's Western Third: A History of Western Australia from the first settlements to modern times* (Macmillan & Co. Ltd., London, 1960) p. 104.

³⁰ Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 30.

³¹ Jennings, Rodger op. cit., p. 16.

³² Evans, H. D. op. cit., p. 15.

³³ National Trust of Australia (W. A.) Assessment op. cit.

³⁴ *ibid*; 'The Anglican Church in the Upper Warren' op. cit.; and notes on reverse of photographs by Frank Sharr, 1 April 1982, HCWA File.

³⁵ Phyll Mottram and Joan Lefroy op. cit.; and Dorothy Pozzi, telephone conversation with Robin Chinnery, 29 May 2001.

³⁶ *ibid*. Note: the original table used as an altar was transferred to the Tennis Club; however, it has been removed from there, and its current whereabouts are unknown.

³⁷ *ibid*. Note: the stool has been temporarily removed from the place as it is in need of major repair.

³⁸ HCWA File No. 1511.

for school, social centre and church

Builder - Jack Haines (1883)³⁹

In the mid 1980s, regular church services at the place ceased.⁴⁰ In 1986, an Historic Day was held at the place, which was attended by many residents and past residents of the district.⁴¹ Various works were carried out at this period, including some repairs to plastering, the insertion of tie rods to the front and rear walls to stabilise the building, replacement of the lintel above the entry door, and repairs to the lintels above the windows.⁴² A photograph taken on the Historic Day shows the place with a red painted corrugated iron roof.⁴³

In July 1987, the place was assessed by National Trust of Australia (W. A.), and subsequently classified on 7 September 1987. The Trust Assessment reported that the place was the only remaining school building more than 100 years old in the district; that it was in good condition, and had been in use as a church 'until recently.'⁴⁴ In December 1987, the National Trust was notified that the Education Department had advised the Shire that the former Upper Warren School at Reserve 20756 had been vested in the Shire of Manjimup for the purpose of recreation and hall site.⁴⁵

On 18 September 1992, the place was placed on the Interim Register of the State Register of Heritage Places.⁴⁶

In 1993, repairs and maintenance were carried out, including the replacement of the red painted corrugated iron roof with a new corrugated iron roof, again leaving the shingles intact beneath the new roof.⁴⁷ Subsequently, a 'Back to Warren' Day was held at the place.⁴⁸

On 11 February 1994, a Memorial was registered on the place under the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990.⁴⁹

In 1997, the place was included in the Shire of Manjimup's Municipal Inventory, which was adopted on 10 July 1997.⁵⁰

In 2001, the place is maintained as far as possible by the Church Trustees. The original lectern, pews, organ, and other furniture remain at the place. The well is extant, covered with two rough-cut timber slabs. The place is valued by the local residents as a significant part of the history of the district and continues to be used on an occasional basis.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

St Mark's Anglican Church is a single room classroom brick and zincalume roof building with an attached porch in adze hewn timber and timber

39 Site visit by Robin Chinnery and Philip Griffiths, 22 May 2001.

40 Phyll Mottram and Joan Lefroy op. cit.

41 *ibid.*

42 *ibid.*

43 Photograph, 1984. Collection of Phyll Mottram.

44 HCWA File No. 1511

45 *ibid.*

46 *Government Gazette* 18 September 1992, p. 4684.

47 Phyll Mottram and Joan Lefroy op. cit.

48 *ibid.*

49 Crown Land Record Vol. 3085 Fol. 558.

50 Shire of Manjimup Municipal Heritage Inventory, 1997.

weatherboard construction, all in a Federation Georgian vernacular style, situated in a bush land setting.

St Mark's Anglican Church is located some 700 metres off the Wheatley Coast Road along a winding bush track that has re-growth timber growing close to the edges of the track. The track passes over a small creek and timber bridge and then into a clearing. There are Jarrah and Peppermint trees around the clearing, together with under-storey growth, including *Watsonia*. There is a stone cairn near the entrance with a bronze memorial plaque attached to it. Some 30 metres south of the building, there is a timber lined well with large fitches of timber for a well cover. There is no above ground evidence of the road that is indicated on the title.

The building has a rectangular plan and is constructed in soft clay brick in English bond construction, constructed over a granite random rubble foundation. There are pairs of casement windows along the long axis, and a chimney at the north end of the building, which rises 2'0" (600mm) above the ridge line. The bricks are laid in pug with lime mortar pointing, and there is severe cracking around some of the openings. To counteract the cracking and possible wall rotation, tie rods and spreader plates have been installed at the north and south end of the building.

The roof is replacement zincalume with zincalume colonial profile gutters. There are no downpipes on the east side and a single downpipe on the western side. The zincalume roofing is laid over split jarrah shingles. The windowsills and chimneys are parged with stucco. The wall plate extends beyond the end walls to carry a large barge overhang at the northern and southern ends of the building. The windows in the east and west walls are pairs of casements and these replace an earlier set of windows. Two of the windows are broken.

There is a tank stand located on the south-east corner of the building. It consists of two logs and planks with the tank removed. There is a small cross made of iron located over the main south gable.

The porch is constructed in rough-hewn timbers with painted jarrah weatherboard cladding and a zincalume roof. It is set against the brick building, but not tied to it, and this lack of connecting ties has resulted in the porch pulling away from the building.

The plan of the interior is a simple rectangle, with a single ledge and boarded entry door, with an open fireplace at the opposite end of the room. A curtain has been hung over the fireplace. There are pairs of two pane casement windows on the side walls. The fireplace has a timber surround and a granolithic hearth. The floors are laid in 6" timbers, with repair timbers in a number of locations particularly near the side walls. The skirtings are 6" reed moulded timber.

The walls are plastered, and there is evidence of severe cracking and repairs, arising from the place being constructed on reactive soils. The plaster comprises a pug layer and a lime plaster finish. There is evidence of render repairs in a number of locations. Two tie rods have been introduced to control the outward movement of the walls. The roof structure is of simple common rafter construction with collar ties on alternate rafters. The soffit is unlined, revealing the shingle roof that is not readily apparent from the exterior. There is cracking in all walls around openings and in corners.

The interior is furnished with pews, and school benches with pen trays and inkwell holder built into the top rails. There is a timber construction pulpit, altar and organ made by the Packard Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

An entry porch has been attached to the front of the building, and this is constructed of adzed studs, with sawn plates and braces. The porch is clad with painted jarrah weatherboards, and there is an arched entrance opening. The roof retains the battens that once carried shingles. Two solid pieces of timber have been fixed along either side of the porch to provide narrow bench seats. The floors of the porch are laid in 5" (125mm) sawn boards and the step into the hall is a single piece of timber measuring 7' x 8" x 10" (2.1m x .4m x .25m)

A number of changes have been made to the place. The shingle roof was sheeted over with corrugated iron, which was later replaced with zincalume. The porch was a later addition, tie rods were fixed at each end of the room at high level though opposing walls, and some surfaces were painted that would have been left unpainted at the time of construction.

The brickwork is cracking in a number of locations and there is some loss of jointing material. The entry porch is subsiding and moving away from the main hall. The entry door has a repaired lintel over it, and the work appears to have involved the removal of all the original bricks and their replacement with all new work.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

One-room schools were a common phenomenon in small country communities. Some were replaced when communities grew and larger schools were required as at Upper Warren. Others were lost when the changes in demographics resulted in the schools becoming redundant. One-room timber schools were capable of relocation and were frequently taken to other sites where they were needed. *St Mark's Anglican Church* is a less common type, being a masonry construction one room school that was designed to serve a range of purposes and eventually became a church when it was replaced by the new Upper Warren School in the 1920s. In 1892, a similar school was opened at Dingup in the Upper Warren district and was also built to serve as both school and church, the Church of Saint Thomas. Like *St Mark's Anglican Church*, *Dingup Anglican Church* was also built by Jack Haines, but on this occasion local soapstone, quarried by Thomas Giblett, was used. The latter is believed to be the only building constructed of soapstone in Western Australia.

13.4 REFERENCES

National Trust of Australia (W. A.) Assessment, July 1987

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Further research may yield further information about Jack Haines and the building of the place. Similarly, further research may yield information about the uses of the place, and alterations and/or additions, such as replacement of windows and building of the entry porch.