



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

## Permanent Entry

1. DATA BASE No. 3317
2. NAME *Mechanics' Institute, Katanning*  
(1896; 1900-04; 1906; 1907; 1928; 1952)
3. LOCATION 130 Austral Terrace, Katanning
4. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY  
Katanning Town Lot 427, being part of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 291 Folio 62.
5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA Shire of Katanning
6. OWNER Shire of Katanning.
7. HERITAGE LISTINGS
 

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	27/06/1997
	Permanent Entry	07/10/1997
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted (not inc)	00/01/1996
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
8. CONSERVATION ORDER  
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9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT  
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10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

*Mechanics' Institute, Katanning*, a single-storey brick building forming an element of the town hall complex, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

its aesthetic value as a complex history, in built form, of a number of successive building campaigns, each adopting the aesthetic mode of the day;

in conjunction with the adjoining town hall building, of which it now forms an integral part, it collectively contributes significantly to the Austral Terrace streetscape;

the place is associated with people of standing in the history of Katanning and in the wider context of the state, such as Frederick

and Charles Piesse, prominent land owners and politicians, and J. Herbert Eales, the architect;

the place has social value for its role in contributing to the education of working people in Katanning and later the wider community as it fulfilled the role of the town's lending library;

it has rarity value for its completeness, authenticity and fitting out that remains from the earliest campaigns; and.

it represents a way of life that is now comparatively rare, as mechanics' institutes, in general, have been replaced by the public library system and their social function has all but disappeared.

Elements which are not included in this assessment comprise the single-storey town hall; its later accretions to achieve a second storey; the inherited balcony to the town hall; and, finally, the additional accommodation constructed for the civic administration functions.