



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 2474
2. **NAME** *Mechanics' Institute, Guildford* (1865; c1880)
FORMER NAME Swan Mechanics' Institute
3. **LOCATION** Meadow Street, Guildford
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Guildford Town Lots D and 193, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 1295 Folio 311.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Swan
6. **OWNER** Shire of Swan.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	02/06/1998
	Permanent Entry	29/09/1998
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	11/06/1973
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:		-----
• Register of the National Estate:	Permanent	21/03/1978
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Mechanics' Institute, Guildford, a Free Gothic brick building with a high pitched corrugated iron gable roof, a single-storey gable frontage and a two-storey section behind the hall proper, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place is a fine example of Richard Roach Jewell's vernacular Free Gothic architectural style, and exhibits his distinctive polychrome brickwork. The place is a significant element in the Meadow Street streetscape and contributes to the character of Guildford;

the place was the first public hall built in Guildford and is valued for its various roles as meeting place, public library and museum

and for its continuing social associations as a venue for community based activities;

the place is a physical reminder of the Mechanics' Institute ethos, which was to promote the educational and cultural development of communities throughout Western Australia and elsewhere. Once prolific, the majority of Mechanics' Institutes have been replaced by the public library and adult education systems and their social function has all but disappeared; and,

the place is associated with persons prominent in the historical development of the Guildford district and the State, such as Governor Hampton, W. L. Brockman, and Doctors Waylen and Viveash.