



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **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)**

- 4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia
- 8.6 Worshipping

#### **HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)**

- 107 Settlements
- 406 Religion

#### **11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\***

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is a fine example of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style, with its weatherboard and corrugated iron construction and simple decoration. (Criterion 1.1)

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is a prominent landmark in Boyanup, situated in a pastoral landscape viewed from both entrances from the both main entrances of the town. (Criterion 1.3)

#### **11.2. HISTORIC VALUE**

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is one of two churches in the town associated with early twentieth century regional growth illustrated by the development of the timber milling industry, farming and the railway. (Criterion 2.2)

The instigation and construction of *St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is associated with Dean Luigi M. Martelli, who purchased the land and is associated with the construction of a number of other churches and convents in the South West region, and with the Reilly family who rallied support within the town, and contributed significantly to the cost of the church. (Criterion 2.3)

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is a noteworthy example of the work of Alfred Peak, one of the town's early builders and is still used by descendants of those involved in its construction. (Criterion 2.3)

\* 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.

### **11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE**

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### **11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE**

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is very important to the Catholic community as it has provided a place of worship for early settlers and it is very highly valued for its continued religious and community use. As an indication of its importance to the local community, the place was entered in the Municipal Inventory in 1999, and was a part of the Boyanup heritage trail in 1994 to signify the Centenary celebrations for the town. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12. 1. RARITY**

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is an uncommon example of an intact Federation Carpenter Gothic style rural timber church. (Criterion 5.1)

### **12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is a good example of the churches of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style of rural church constructed in early permanent settlements in the South West of Western Australia. (Criterion 6.1)

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* represents the role of the early European settlers for their initiative to raising the funds and assisting in the construction to create a place for worship in their own community. It is this commitment of their labours both financial and physical that demonstrates the true spirit of the community. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12. 3 CONDITION**

Generally, the building is in good condition, however there is evidence of cracking to the walls and specifically the north wall of the Nave. There are also signs of moisture damage to external weatherboards.

### **12. 4 INTEGRITY**

*St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup* is still used for its original purpose and maintains a high level of integrity.

### **12. 5 AUTHENTICITY**

The church was not originally lined or sealed, with the lining occurring between 1938-1940. It is not known what the original finish was.

The altar was reversed in 1968 as a response to the Second Vatican Council in 1962, and the porch replaced at the same time. The confessional was later removed to allow for more seating. Few other alterations to the fabric of the building have occurred, and those that have occurred are primarily decorative.

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

The wording of this document has been adapted from St Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup, Conservation Plan, prepared by Kent Lyon Architects for St Louis Catholic Community in January 2001, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

Key sections used: 1.0 Documentary Evidence (p1-10), 2.0 Physical Evidence (p11-30), Analysis of Documentary and Physical Evidence (p31-36), 6.0 Graded Zones and Elements of Significance (p42)

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence refer to from 'St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup Conservation Plan', prepared by Kent Lyon Architects for St Louis Catholic Community in January 2001

#### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the physical evidence refer to from 'St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup Conservation Plan', prepared by Kent Lyon Architects for St Louis Catholic Community in January 2001

#### **13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

For a comparative analysis refer to from 'St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup Conservation Plan', prepared by Kent Lyon Architects for St Louis Catholic Community in January 2001

The place is a fine and simple representation of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style, with few modifications, the most significant of which are reversible alterations to the front porch.

Additional Comparative Information has been compiled by Lynley Forgione, Heritage Council staff.

Religious services within the Shire of Capel were originally held in the homesteads of prominent European settlers or in public buildings, due to the lack of necessary population and funding for the establishment of churches.

The religious makeup of the shire was predominantly Anglican, Methodist and Catholic, with large numbers of Irish immigrants comprising the Catholic sector. Within the regions, Dardanup was the predominantly Catholic town, and Boyanup predominantly Anglican.

There are seven churches listed in the Shire of Capel's Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places. Five of these are of timber construction and designed in a vernacular interpretation of the Federation Carpenter Gothic Style, and two of brick construction.

#### **Boyanup**

P0442 *St Louis Catholic Church* (c.1913) is one of 3 churches in Boyanup, along with St Georges Anglican Church, and Boyanup Uniting Church and hall, (originally Methodist Church) and is the only timber construction church, the other two being of brick construction.

P0444 St George's Anglican Church is the oldest in Boyanup, constructed between 1904 and 1906, of brick and tile, with Gothic influences.

P14879 Boyanup Uniting Church & Hall (Methodist Church), a brick and tile church designed with Gothic influences in a similar style to St George's, was constructed in 1955/6.

### **Carpenter Gothic Style**

*St Louis Catholic Church* is one of 5 timber construction churches within the Shire of Capel.

P0439 Seventh Day Adventist Church in Capel was constructed in 1910, and is a timber framed and weather board structure with high pitched gabled corrugated iron roof and a gabled roof porch. A classroom was added in 1910, and the church was also used by the Uniting Church.

P0435 St Joseph's Catholic Church in Capel was also constructed in 1913, and is also a timber framed and weatherboard structure with high pitched gabled corrugated iron roof and a gabled roof porch, with the addition of timber buttresses along the side of the church.

P0436 St John's Anglican Church, of weatherboard construction, was built in Capel in 1923 to replace the 1903 stone church. It has a cruciform floor plan design, and a steeple on the complex designed corrugated iron roof.

P0446 All Souls Anglican Church, in Stratham, was constructed and consecrated in 1931, and deconsecrated in 1997. It is of a similar design to St Joseph's Catholic Church.

### **Registered Carpenter Gothic Churches:**

Victorian Carpenter Gothic

P0383 St Mark's Anglican Church, Wollaston

P2237 Charles St Methodist Mission Chapel & Methodist Church, West Perth

Federation Carpenter Gothic

P0297 Anglican Church of the Annunciation, Broome

P0348 St Patrick's Anglican Church (fmr) & War Memorial, Rathmines

P0436 St John's Anglican Church, Capel

P1794 Narembeen Museum, Narembeen

P1927 St Columba's Church & Hall, Peppermint Grove

P2356 Black Range Church, Sandstone

P2548 St Peter's Church & Hall, Pindellup

P4041 St Luke's Anglican Church Group, Mosman Park

## **13.4 KEY REFERENCES**

from 'St. Louis Catholic Church, Boyanup Conservation Plan', prepared by Kent Lyon Architects for St Louis Catholic Community in January 2001

## **13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH**

The construction dates for St. Louis Catholic Church are not identified. It is presumed that the place was constructed immediately prior to its blessing and dedication in 1913, but this is not confirmed.

The double entry doors are not the originals, and are believed to have been replaced at the time of the replacement of the entry porch, but this date, and the origin of the doors, is not confirmed.

The date of the addition of the gutters and downpipes is not known.