



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)

- 2.4 Migrating
- 3.4.4 Making forests into a saleable resource
- 3.14.3 Using Australian materials in construction
- 8.6.4 Making places for worship

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 101 Immigration, emigration and refugees
- 304 Timber industry
- 406 Religion
- 501 World Wars and other wars

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

St Joseph's Church is valued by the community for its aesthetic characteristics as an example of Australian ecclesiastical vernacular, with Gothic stylistic references. (Criterion 1.1)

The cottage is valued by the community for the aesthetic characteristics of its simple, vernacular construction, which characterises the whole of the town. (Criterion 1.1)

St Joseph's Church and Cottage has aesthetic value as it provides a terminus for the northern vista along the Barrington Knight Road. (Criterion 1.3)

St Joseph's Church and Cottage has aesthetic value as a component of the historic timber mill townscape of Yarloop, which is characterised by weatherboard and ironclad buildings of a utilitarian design. As such the place is an important component of a cultural environment. (Criterion 1.4)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

St Joseph's Church has historic value as it demonstrates strongly the use and development of a community church from 1906 to the present. (Criterion 2.1)

* 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.

St Joseph's Church and Cottage has historic value as it is associated with Millars' Timber Company. Millars made a significant contribution to the economy of the state, which was the largest timber company operating in Australia in the early twentieth century. (Criterion 2.2)

The cottage demonstrates aspects of Yarloop's changing economic circumstances, particularly the revival of the timber industry following the depression. The cottage was one of a number transferred from other mill towns to accommodate a growing number of workers (Criterion 2.2)

St Joseph's Church has historic value as it has a strong association with the Italian community of the area. Large numbers of Italian migrants were to settle in the shire of Harvey during the post-war period. (Criterion 2.3)

St Joseph's Church is significant for its association with Father John Fahey DSO who was the only serving chaplain at Gallipoli to receive a combat medal (The Distinguished Service Order). (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

St Joseph's Church is highly valued by the local Catholic community who have continued to use the place for worship and major life events such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. The formation of the St Joseph's Church Committee in 1982 to care for and maintain the building is indicative of local regard and support for the place. (Criterion 4.1)

St Joseph's Church and Cottage is important for its contribution to the community's sense of place, being a component of the historic timber mill town of Yarloop. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

St Joseph's Church has a low to moderate degree of rarity in that a number of similar purpose built timber churches erected at the turn of the century have either been demolished and replaced by a larger church, or are no longer used as a place of worship. (Criterion 5.1)

St Joseph's Church is unusual in that it has two additional rooms at the rear of the building with one having been used as the resident priest's living quarters. (Criterion 5.1)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

St Joseph's Church is typical of the purpose built timber churches erected in Western Australia around the turn of the century. Yarloop's All Saints Anglican Church follows is a similar building, (Criterion 6.1)

The cottage, built to accommodate mill workers, is representative of the modest timber cottages dating from the early twentieth century to the inter-war period which were erected to house timber mill workers. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

The church building is generally in good condition, having been subject to regular maintenance.

The cottage is in poor to fair condition. The current state of the cottage can be largely attributed to an extended period of vacancy and neglect. There is evidence of deterioration to both external and internal finishes. Failure of the timber structure is evident in a number of places.

12.4 INTEGRITY

The church continues to be used for its original purpose and as such it has retained a high degree of integrity. Modifications to the fabric have not adversely affected the significance of the place.

The cottage is currently vacant, however the building could be restored to its original purpose with comparative ease. The cottage therefore has a moderate to high degree of integrity.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The church has a moderate to high degree of authenticity. There have been some modifications to the façade and to the internal finishes and fittings.

The cottage has retained much of its original fabric and as such has a moderate to high degree of authenticity. Modifications to the fabric of the cottage include the removal of the original verandah, re-cladding of some weatherboards, and the addition to the rear porch.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Supporting evidence has been taken from: Palassis Architects, 'St Joseph's Church and Cottage, Yarloop, Conservation Plan', for The St Joseph's Church Committee on behalf of The Bunbury Diocesan Trustees, 2001.

Key sections used: Documentary Evidence (p19-40), Chronology (41-43), Physical Evidence (44-62), Analysis of Documentary and Physical Evidence (63-71).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence refer to Palassis Architects, 'St Joseph's Church and Cottage, Yarloop, Conservation Plan', prepared for The St Joseph's Church Committee on behalf of The Bunbury Diocesan Trustees, 2001.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the Physical Evidence refer to Palassis Architects, 'St Joseph's Church and Cottage, Yarloop, Conservation Plan', prepared for The St Joseph's Church Committee on behalf of The Bunbury Diocesan Trustees, 2001.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a discussion of the Comparative Information refer to Palassis Architects, 'St Joseph's Church and Cottage, Yarloop, Conservation Plan', prepared for

The St Joseph's Church Committee on behalf of The Bunbury Diocesan Trustees, 2001

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

Palassis Architects, 'St Joseph's Church and Cottage, Yarloop, Conservation Plan', prepared for The St Joseph's Church Committee on behalf of The Bunbury Diocesan Trustees, 2001.

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Further research is warranted in order to establish the sequence of development of the church and the cottage, when and why the church name was changed from St John the Baptist to St Joseph's, and to establish the place from which the cottage originated.