



**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)

- 8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies
- 8.6.4 Making places for worship

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 406 Religion

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale is a group of ecclesiastical buildings constructed in a range of styles standing in a bush landscaped setting. The west end of the Church is a competently designed and built example of a small Federation Gothic style church. The east end addition is a dramatic example of late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style. The Old Rectory is a competently designed and built example of a modest house in Federation Queen Anne style. The New Rectory is a representative example of a modest c.1970s project home that displays no particular stylistic characteristics. (Criterion 1.1)

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

The construction of the Church in 1904 and the Old Rectory c.1910 is indicative of the development of the district following the opening of the South Western railway line. (Criterion 2.1 & 2.2)

The addition to the Church in 1964 reflects the growing population of Armadale due to post-war migration into Western Australia. (Criterion 2.2)

The Church is associated with prominent West Australian architect Sir J. J. Talbot Hobbs, who designed numerous public buildings and residences, including a number of Anglican churches and who was a distinguished World War One

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

soldier. Architectural firm Forbes and Fitzhardinge are also associated with the Church through their design of the 1964 extension. (Criterion 2.3)

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale is associated with early settlers in the Kelmscott-Armadale district, in particular Martin Jull, a prominent civil servant who established the Derry Nasura vineyard at Armadale and who obtained the stained glass window of St Matthew for the Church, and Church warden Thomas Buckingham Jr, who built the first Anglican church in the district at Kelmscott in 1871, and whose family was involved in agriculture and timber milling in Western Australia. (Criterion 2.3)

The New Rectory was constructed in memory of civil engineer William Lambden Owen, who retired from work as a mining warden in the goldfields to live in Armadale from 1926 to 1946, and was financed by his niece Edith Gordon, who also made significant bequests to the University of Western Australia in Owen's memory. (Criterion 2.3)

11.3 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4 SOCIAL VALUE

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale is valued by the community for its ongoing religious and social associations, as demonstrated by the restoration of the Old Rectory in 1994-95. (Criterion 4.1)

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale makes a considerable contribution to the Armadale community's sense of place for the important role it played in the early years of settlement of the district and as a reminder of the historical development of the area. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1 RARITY

The Church is a rare example of a dramatic Late Twentieth Century Ecclesiastical style extension to a Federation period church, and is an uncommon example of a church built in two stages in which each half of the building is built in a distinctly different architectural style. (Criterion 5.1)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

The Old Rectory is a representative example of a competently designed and built modest house in Federation Queen Anne style. (Criterion 6.1)

St Matthew's Church (1904) is a representative example of a small Federation Gothic style church. (Criterion 6.1)

12.3 CONDITION

St Matthew's Church is in generally sound condition.

The Old Rectory is in generally sound condition having undergone restoration work in 1994. The timber posts that sit on the low wall, which edges the verandah, are rotten at their bases.

The New Rectory is in generally sound condition.

12.4 INTEGRITY

The Church has high integrity. The building continues to fulfil its original intended purpose. Both rectories are of moderate integrity. Neither building now fulfils its original intended purpose. There is, however, compatibility between the current and the original uses and this has resulted in very little alteration of the existing fabric. Both buildings could be restored to their original uses.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The Church has moderate authenticity. While the Church has not been substantially changed since it was completed, the fabric of the original part of the church was affected by the 1964 addition. The addition caused the east wall to be removed, the door opening in the west end to be bricked in and the south windows to be partly blacked in. Plywood lining installed in 1964 has been removed.

The Old Rectory is of moderate authenticity. Alterations to the building seem to have been restricted to the addition at the south east corner and the alteration of the north and east verandahs.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentary evidence has been compiled by Irene Sauman, Historian. The physical evidence has been compiled by Alan Kelsall, Architect.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale comprises: St Matthew's Church, a brick and iron church built in 1904 in Federation Gothic style to a design by architect J. J. Talbot Hobbs with a brick and iron addition (1964) in Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style by architects Forbes and F

itzhardinge; the Old Rectory, a Federation Queen Anne style brick and iron house constructed c.1910; and the New Rectory (1976), a modern brick and tile building.

Expeditions along the Canning River were undertaken in 1829 in an effort to locate good land adjacent, as rivers provided the main transport routes at that time. The town of Kelmscott was proclaimed on 6 July 1830. Settlers in the area raised beef cattle, dairy cows, horses, goats, pigs and chickens, and grew wheat, oats, barley and vegetables in an effort to be self-sufficient. In 1836, surveyor Alfred Hillman surveyed a track from Perth to Albany. South of Kelmscott, the track branched, one branch leading to Pinjarra and Bunbury and the other to Albany. The Narrogin Inn was established at the junction of the Albany Road south of Kelmscott, about 1843.¹

In 1851, following the introduction of convicts to the colony, work began on the clearing and construction of the Perth to Albany road to turn it into more than a rough track. The new road did not exactly follow the original track, which had taken the route of least resistance through the bush. The work was carried out by convicts under the supervision of Henry Vincent, who purchased Canning Location 31 while working in the district.²

In May 1866, Thomas Saw purchased 1,950 acres (790ha) of the southeast portion of Canning Location 31, which included the Inn and the area that was later to become the townsite of Armadale.³ Kelmscott continued to be the centre of the district, with St Mary's Anglican Church and graveyard established there in 1871. St Mary's remained the only church in the district for the next thirty odd years, with only minimal growth in the district. The area to the south of Kelmscott around the Narrogin Inn, in the area that would later become the town of Armadale, remained in the ownership of several large landholders.

In 1887, the South Western railway line from Perth to Bunbury was surveyed, and construction of the line was completed in August 1893. The railway siding for the area adjacent to the Narrogin Inn was named Armadale, for one of the two Scottish towns of that name, as the name Narrogin had already been given to a

¹ Garden, F. G. *Along the Canning: A History of the City of Canning*, Western Australia, 1968, pp. 8-9; Popham, Daphne, *First Stage South: A history of the Armadale-Kelmscott district*, Western Australia, Town of Armadale, 1980, pp. 8-17. This history does not include footnotes or endnotes and few references to sources.

² Popham, Daphne, op cit, pp. 30-32; Richards, R. *The Murray District of Western Australia: A history*, Shire of Murray, 1978, p. 184.

³ Deeds of Memorial, Book 6 No. 2070, 20 May 1866 & No. 2071, 21 May 1866; Popham, Daphne, op cit, pp. 32; Erickson, Rica, *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians*, Perth, UWA Press, 1988, p. 2737.

station on the Great Southern line.⁴ During construction of the line the district flourished as farmers provided produce for the railway construction workers and their families, and employment was available in providing sleepers and gravel for ballast.⁵

In 1894, the Kelmscott Roads Board District was gazetted, which included the Armadale area.⁶ Several subdivisions of larger landholdings were opened in both the Kelmscott and Armadale districts, with settlers attracted to the area by access to the railway line and proximity to Perth. Armadale rapidly began to outgrow Kelmscott. A Mechanics Institute was built in 1896, and was used as a schoolroom until a school was built in 1899. A post office, store and the Railway Hotel had been established by c. 1900, and in December 1901, the Roads Board, which had previously met in Kelmscott, decided to 'move office' to Armadale.⁷

One of the Armadale district subdivisions in the 1890s was a section of Martin Jull's property 'Brookside' on the northeast side of Government Road (Jull Street) and covering both sides of Prospect Road.⁸ Martin Edward Jull migrated to Perth in 1886. In 1891, he accepted the post of Chief Clerk in the Department of Railways and Works. By the late 1890s, he held the position of Under Secretary for Works, during which time he was involved in construction of the Fremantle Harbour and the Goldfields Water Scheme and drafted the new Roads Board Act. From 1905 to c.1913, he was Western Australia's first Public Service Commissioner.⁹

In 1898, Martin Jull married Dr Roberta Stewart who was the first female doctor in WA. He purchased land in the Armadale district, where he established the Derry Nasura Vineyard in partnership with his brother-in-law Dr J. M. Fergusson-Stewart, introducing Cabinet Sauvignon and Malbeck wine grapes to WA. The family lived on their Armadale property, 'Brookside' (now the site of Minnawarra Park and the Armadale civic buildings). Martin Jull was a member of the Diocesan Council of the Anglican Church, the Upper Swan Horticultural Society and foundation member of the WA Cricket Association (WACA). Their daughter was the well-known writer Henrietta Drake-Brockman.¹⁰

In 1901-03, the Perth Anglican Diocese acquired Lot 19 of the 'Brookside' subdivision, at the northeast end of Prospect Road. This gave them a 0.6-acre (2,430sqm) block on the corner of Prospect Road (now Church Ave) and Jull Street as the site of a church.¹¹

Many Church of England services held in the Swan River colony in the 1830s and 1840s were conducted by lay readers in private homes. The Colony came under the Diocese of Adelaide and generally had only one or two ministers resident at any time to serve widely scattered settlements. In 1856, the Diocese of Perth,

⁴ The town of Armadale was gazetted on 26 February 1909, *West Australian Government Gazette*.

⁵ Popham, Daphne, op cit, pp. 58-59.

⁶ *West Australian Government Gazette*, 14 December 1894; Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 77.

⁷ Kelmscott Road Board minutes, 8 January 1900-4 January 1904, p. 89, SROWA, AN533, ACC 2477, Item 2; Real Estate plan of Town of Armadale subdivision of some of Thomas Saw's landholdings, c.1904.

⁸ DOLA survey plan 2037, 1898.

⁹ Battye J. S. *Cyclopedia of Western Australia*, Hussey & Gillingham, Adelaide, 1912-13, p. 419; Nairn, B. & Serle, G. (eds) *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, MUP, Melbourne, 1983, pp. 529-531; Nairn, B. & Serle, G. (eds), op cit.

¹⁰ Battye J. S. op cit;

¹¹ Certificates of Title Vol. 233 Fol. 93, 19 December 1901 & Vol. 270 Fol. 174, 8 April 1903.

covering the whole of Western Australia, was created with Matthew Blagden Hale as its first Bishop. Many areas continued to be serviced by lay readers and an occasional visiting minister.¹² The Rector of Guildford held a monthly service at St Mary's Church, Kelmscott during the 1870s to 1890s.¹³ In 1902, the parochial district of Kelmscott-Armadale was created and an acting Rector, the Rev. G. Digby Wilson, was appointed.¹⁴

St Matthew's Church was constructed on the site in 1904, to a design by architect Joseph John Talbot Hobbs (later Sir).¹⁵ Talbot Hobbs had arrived in Western Australia in 1887, with John Hurst, for whom he had worked as a draftsman in England. He married Hurst's daughter, Edith, in 1890, after setting up practice as an architect in his own right. Hobbs was responsible for many public buildings, as well as residences, firstly on his own and from 1905, in partnership with E. H. Dean Smith and W. J. Waldie-Forbes, as Hobbs, Smith and Forbes. Hobbs combined his architectural profession with a military career, rising from a member of the Volunteer Artillery in Surrey at the age of 19, to Lieut General in command of the Australian 5th Division in World War One.¹⁶ Talbot Hobbs appears to have undertaken the work on St Matthew's Church in his position as Diocesan architect.¹⁷

St Matthew's Church was the second church in Armadale, the first being the Congregational Church built the previous year. The foundation stone for St Matthew's Church was laid by the Bishop of Perth, Reverend C. O. L. Riley, on 1 October 1904.

Saturday, October 1st, 1904, is a date long to be remembered by the Church people of Armadale. On that day the foundation stone of the Church, on which, for years past, so much prayerful thought and labour has been expended, was formally laid by his Lordship the Bishop. The day was all that could be desired, and the gathering of Church people one of the most representative we have seen at any similar function. We noticed that very nearly every Perth and suburban Parish had at least one representative, either clerical or lay.

The Bishop and other visitors from Perth were met at the railway station by the Rector, the Rev. G. Digby Wilson, and other Church officers. The procession was formed at Armadale Hall [Mechanic's Institute] punctually at 4 p.m...

A handsome jarrah mallet, made of wood taken from the old Perth Cathedral, having been presented to the Bishop by the contractor (Mr. M. L. Lloyd), the Bishop laid the stone...¹⁸

After the service, tea was provided in the Mechanic's Institute by 'the ladies of Kelmscott and Armadale'. Many of the visitors returned to Perth on the 5.50 pm

¹² Williams, A. E. *West Anglican Way: The growth of the Anglican Church in Western Australia from its early beginnings*, Province of Western Australia of the Anglican Church of Australia, Perth, 1989; Battye J. S. *Cyclopedia of Western Australia*, Hussey & Gillingham, Adelaide, 1912-13, Vol. 2. pp. 81-87.

¹³ Buckingham, Thomas Jr, 'Memoirs of Thomas Buckingham, born 10-4-1839', Perth, typescript, [1910]; Church of England, *Yearbook*, 1876-1889, Appendix.

¹⁴ Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 89.

¹⁵ *WA Church News*, November 1904, p. 185.

¹⁶ Pitt Morison, M., 'Immigrant Architects and their work, 1885-1905', unpublished paper, Battye PR13589; Nairn, B. & Serle, G. (eds) *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, MUP, Melbourne, 1983, pp. 315-17.

¹⁷ *WA Church News*, November 1904, p. 185. No entry for this building has been located in Talbot Hobbs Ledger books, Battye Library, 2780A/1-3.

¹⁸ *WA Church News*, November 1904, pp. 185-186.

train, which had extra carriages attached for the occasion, but the Bishop and several of the visiting clergy caught a later train.¹⁹

The acquisition by Martin Jull of a stained glass window depicting St Matthew is claimed to be the reason the Church was so named. The window was in transit to Sydney when it was off-loaded in Western Australia by mistake. Martin Jull purchased the window and donated it for the Church. The place cost £573 to construct.²⁰ The contractor, Martin L. Loyd, was responsible for the addition of a Sunday School hall at North Perth Congregational Church, at the corner of Raglan and William streets, in 1907.²¹

St Matthew's Church was consecrated on 18 December 1904 by Bishop Riley.²²

At Armadale yesterday Bishop Riley consecrated the new brick church which has been erected by the local members of the Anglican community. The building is small and compact, while the interior is well finished off. Viewed from the exterior, the church is an attractive one, being well situated on a rise above the main road.²³

In 1905, the Reverend W. Gregson was appointed as the first permanent minister to serve the Kelmscott-Armadale parish.²⁴ Circa 1910, a Rectory was built beside St Matthew's Church.²⁵ The Kelmscott congregation had wanted the rectory built halfway between Kelmscott and Armadale and when they failed to achieve this, they are reputed to have declined to contribute toward the cost of the place.²⁶ The Rectory was constructed in Federation Queen Anne style.²⁷

The Kelmscott-Armadale parish was part of the Rural Deanery of Canning. W. A. B. Haynes was the Rector from 1908 to 1920, the longest serving minister in the first fifty years of the parish. James A. Howes was Rector from 1920-1923. In March 1923, the oil lamps in both St Mary's and St Matthews churches were replaced with electric light.²⁸ Rector S. T. Lindsey served the district from 1925 to 1935. During this period, the contributions in the collection plate are reputed to have grown from twopence-halfpenny a person per service to threepence.²⁹

In the 1930s, sustenance workers laboured at constructing the Canning Dam. The tent town that housed the workers for a number of years had its own school and church. St Michael and All Angels Church, Canning Dam was dedicated on 14 June 1938. When the Dam was completed in 1940, the Church was moved to a site on Brookton Highway, Roleystone and re-dedicated as St Christopher's Anglican Church on 17 August 1941, providing another place of worship for

¹⁹ WA Church News, November 1904, p. 185. No entry for this building has been located in Talbot Hobbs Ledger books, Battye Library, 2780A/1-3.

²⁰ Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 89.

²¹ North Perth Congregational Church technical drawings, 1903-c.1950, Battye Library, Map Stack, 47/15/6.1-6.6.

²² Doncaster, Edward, 'Historical record of all buildings used for public worship in the Diocese of Perth, 1953', Battye Private archives ACC 668A.

²³ West Australian, 19 February 1904, p. 4.

²⁴ Johnston, Rosemary, *To Work is to Pray: A biography of the Reverend James Abner Howes (1866-1934)*, WACAE Churchlands, June 1986.

²⁵ The date given for construction of the Old Rectory in secondary sources varies between 1909 and 1913. The exact date has not been ascertained.

²⁶ Popham, Daphne, op cit, p.

²⁷ It has not been ascertained that Talbot Hobbs was the architect of the Old Rectory, but it is possible. Queen Anne style residences were his trademark, and he designed a number of rectories in association with his churches.

²⁸ Johnston, Rosemary, op cit; Doncaster, Edward, op cit.

²⁹ Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 90; Doncaster, Edward, op cit.

Anglicans in the immediate area.³⁰ The parish had an active Mothers' Union and Sunday school during the 1930s to 1950s.³¹

On 21 December 1952, Reverend W. B. Churchill was appointed Rector of the Kelmscott-Armadale parish.³²

In going to Kelmscott-Armadale he has undertaken a work which could fully occupy the energies of at least two men. The parish covers a wide area of country along the Albany and Bunbury roads, with scattered settlements extending down to the coast. There are seventeen centres where services have occasionally been held, and many more schools where religious instruction should be given. The rector urgently needs the help of an unmarried priest, with sufficient experience to work without much supervision. Such men are not easy to get, but I hope that we shall find the right man. It would be an ideal place for a young man to gain experience of work in the country.³³

The population of the district increased during the post-war period, with the baby boom and migration. Many of the migrants who settled in the district were from a British and Anglican background. St Christopher's Church, Roleystone was enlarged in 1955, and in 1958, the Kelmscott-Armadale parish was subdivided to form the Parish of Kelmscott-Roleystone and the Parish of Armadale. St Mary's Church, Kelmscott was renamed St Mary in the Valley, in reference to its location at the bottom of the Roleystone hills. The Kelmscott-Roleystone parish was appointed its own Rector.³⁴

By the early 1960s, St Matthew's Church was unable to accommodate the growing congregation of the parish, but unlike their counterparts in Kelmscott, who demolished their 1871 Church in 1963 and built a new church on the site, the Armadale parishioners decided to enlarge their church. Architectural firm Forbes & Fitzhardinge designed a modern addition to the 1904 Church.³⁵ The firm of Forbes and Fitzhardinge dates from at least 1956, when it was responsible for a new porch for St Luke's Church, Cottesloe, and was possibly established in the early 1950s. John B. Fitzhardinge was in partnership with J. Herbert Eales and Eustace Cohen in the late 1930s and 1940s, and H. T. Forbes was practising on his own in the 1940s.³⁶

For some reason, work on the addition to the Church progressed slowly. In October 1963, it was reported:

After some delays work is again proceeding on St. Matthew's Church, Armadale, and it is expected to complete it before Christmas. This Church will present many unusual features. The present building which is square will become the sanctuary and the new building, triangular in shape, will become the nave and chancel. The walls of the new section will be curved to present a wave like effect. The steel alloy roof will sweep in three directions, each rising to a point the highest of which will be 45 feet. The Church will seat 250 but provision has been made for a future gallery to seat a further 60.³⁷

³⁰ Popham, Daphne, op cit, pp. 136-137.

³¹ *West Australian Church News*, 1 March 1926, p. 9; 1 August 1927, p. 24; 1 June 1947, p. 12; photograph of Sunday School group in front of Old Rectory, c.1930.

³² *West Australian Church News*, February 1952, p. 3.

³³ *West Australian Church News*, February 1952, p. 3.

³⁴ Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 90.

³⁵ Health Dept Register of Public buildings, No. 1874, Plans for St Matthew's Church, Armadale, Forbes & Fitzhardinge, March 1963.

³⁶ *Wise's Post Office Directories*; Pitt Morison, M., op cit.

³⁷ *The West Anglican*, October 1963, p. 1. The proposed future gallery was not constructed.

The new section of St Matthew's Church was dedicated by Archbishop G. Appleton at a 9.30am service on Sunday 12 April 1964.³⁸

St Matthew's Church had been aligned east-west on the site, facing west down Jull Street, with a porch and double entry doors in the west wall.³⁹ The addition was designed as a new front, but was attached to the east end of the Church, effectively turning it around and giving it a frontage to Prospect Road. The double entry door opening in the west wall was bricked in and the west wall became the rear of the structure.⁴⁰ As part of the work undertaken at the time, the interior of the 1904 Church section perimeter was lined with plywood to about 2.4 metres from the floor. The plywood was fastened to battens attached to the walls about 30cm apart in a grid pattern.⁴¹

The Diocese acquired Lots 18 & 20 adjoining the Church site (Lot 19) and in 1964, these were amalgamated with Lot 19 to create Lot 44, the site of St Matthew's Church and Lot 45, the site of the Rectory.⁴² In 1976, a New Rectory was built on Lot 45, fronting Jull Street, and the Old Rectory was occupied as the administration centre for the parish.

The New Rectory was financed by part of a 1973 bequest from Miss Edith Gordon 'to fittingly commemorate the memory of her late uncle William Lambden Owen', who with his wife, had raised her. William Owen was a civil engineer who had been a mining warden at various gold mining towns, including Menzies, and recorded his experiences in the 1933 book *Cossack gold: the chronicles of an early goldfields warden*. He purchased part of 'Brookside' from the estate of Martin Jull in 1922, and renamed the place 'Minnawarra'. The Owens occupied the homestead on William's retirement in 1926. William Owen died in 1946 and his wife in 1947 and Edith Gordon inherited Minnawarra.⁴³ A plaque mounted near the front door of the New Rectory states:

This Rectory was built
to the glory of God
and
in memory of
WILLIAM LAMBDEN OWEN
Dedicated 10th October 1976
by the Most Rev. G. T. Sambell
Archbishop of Perth
Rector Rev. F. Buchanan.⁴⁴

Edith Gordon also bequeathed money to the University of Western Australia for construction of the Law Faculty Moot Court and for a William Lambden Owen postgraduate scholarship in engineering.⁴⁵

By the mid 1970s, the Church site was in the centre of a developing town, and parking in the area was limited. Residential development had expanded

³⁸ *The West Anglican*, April 1964, p. 3.

³⁹ Photographs from Jull family album, c.1904 and 1920s, courtesy History House Museum, Armadale.

⁴⁰ Health Dept Register of Public buildings, No. 1874, Plans for St Matthew's Church, Armadale, Forbes & Fitzhardinge, March 1963; physical evidence.

⁴¹ Information provided by Reverend Newbold, Armadale parish. This lining has recently been removed, leaving screw plug holes in the brick walls.

⁴² Certificates of Title Vol. 1283 Fols. 554 & 555, 7 May 1964.

⁴³ Biographical material on William Lambden Owen, History House Museum, Armadale.

⁴⁴ Photograph of plaque in Biographical material on William Lambden Owen, op cit.

⁴⁵ Biographical material on William Lambden Owen, op cit.

westward as the population of the district continued to increase with almost continuous housing between Kelmscott and Armadale. In 1976, the Diocese purchased land in West Armadale for future expansion of Church facilities.⁴⁶

In 1994, the parish considered building a new parish hall on Lot 45, and demolishing the Old Rectory, which, while considered structurally sound, was in need of a considerable amount of work. Armadale City councillor and architect, Terry Holton, recommended restoration of the building and assisted the parish in preparing a submission for a heritage grant.⁴⁷

The exterior of the Old Rectory was restored with community donations and some interest-free loans from members of the congregation, while the Lotteries Commission granted \$7,000 towards the restoration of the interior. The work entailed: reinstating the original kitchen, installing new toilets and removing the rear kitchen and toilet addition; replacing the rear verandah; restoring the front verandah; repointing of the lime mortar where necessary; patching of the lath and plaster ceilings and installation of a plaster cornice at wall junctions; better drainage around the foundations to prevent further cracks in the walls caused by the expansive clay soil; and complete rewiring and painting. Total cost of the work was \$50,000.⁴⁸

The Old Rectory continued to be used as a parish centre hosting literary, art, craft and music activities, bible study, social and welfare programmes and committee meetings.⁴⁹ By the late 1990s, the Armadale Anglican parish had begun establishing new community facilities on its West Armadale landholding. The Old Rectory was leased out as offices and part of the New Rectory was occupied as a cafe, with the remainder used as the parish office. In 1997, St Mathew's Church and the Old Rectory were entered on the City of Armadale Municipal Heritage Inventory, with a recommended level 'A' management category. The New Rectory was not included in the Inventory.⁵⁰

In 1999, Lots 44 and 45 were amalgamated into Lot 200, with an area of 4,641 square metres.⁵¹ Changes to the road network in Armadale have made the northeastern end of Prospect Road part of Church Ave, so that the site has frontages to Prospect Road, Church Ave and Jull Street.

Development of the site is planned, which would involve removal of the 1963 Church addition and restoration of the 1904 section of St Matthew's Church, removal of the New Rectory, reclamation of the Old Rectory for parish use when the current lease expires, and development of the remainder of the site for retirement units, which would include memorial gardens, landscaping and a new entrance from Jull Street. St Matthew's Church (1904), once restored, would continue to be used as a place of worship, but would not be the main centre for the parish.⁵²

46 Popham, Daphne, op cit, p. 158.

47 *Comment News*, 17 January 1995, p. 10.

48 Nomination for Heritage Council Conservation and Property Value Award, November 1994, HCWA File P08774; *Comment News*, 17 January 1995, p. 10.

49 Nomination for Heritage Council Conservation and Property Value Award, op cit.

50 O'Brien Planning Consultants, *Municipal Heritage Inventory for the City of Armadale*, 1995, Entries A01 and A30.

51 Certificate of Title, Vol. 2174 Fol. 994; Register No. 200/D97853.

52 Information provided by Reverend Newbold, Armadale parish.

In 2003, the Old Rectory continues to be occupied as solicitor's offices, the cafe and parish office occupy the New Rectory, and St Matthew's Church continues to be used for worship services.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale contains three freestanding buildings. St Matthew's Church was built in two phases and this has resulted in the two ends of the one building being distinctly different from each other. The west end of the brick and iron church is Federation Gothic style and the east end is Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style. The Old Rectory is a Federation Queen Anne style brick and iron house. The New Rectory is a brick and tile building that has the appearance of a 1970s project home. The buildings stand in a semi cultivated bush-like setting.

St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale is situated at the east end of the block that is edged by Jull Street on the north side, Church Street on the east side and Prospect Road on the south. The site is near the eastern edge of the administrative and commercial centre of Armadale.

The Church stands towards the northeast corner of the site. The front of the Church faces east. A footpath runs between Church Street and the east boundary of the site. In places, the roadway is 1200 mm higher than ground level and in these sections a retaining wall runs along the rear edge of the footpath. The Church is separated from the rear edge of the footpath by a narrow forecourt about three metres deep. A set of steps rises from the south end of the forecourt to connect with the footpath.

The Old Rectory, which now serves as solicitors' offices, stands towards the back of the site near the mid-point of the west boundary. There is a gap of around twenty metres between the west end of the Church and the east face of the Old Rectory. The New Rectory now serves partly as the administrative offices for the Church and partly as a café.

There is a slight fall across the site from south to north. There is a low embankment along the northern edge of the site.

The site is informally landscaped as mainly a grassed area planted with native trees. The planting includes a row of jacarandas (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*) along the north boundary.

St Matthew's Church

The Church was built in two phases in clearly distinct styles. The west end of the building contains the sanctuary and is Federation Gothic style the east end or nave is Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style. The long axis of the Church runs in an east/west direction. The roof above the west end of the Church is gabled whereas the roof above the nave has a wing like form, which may be a truncated hyperbolic parabola. Both parts of the building are of red coloured face brickwork.

The west wall of the Church is gabled with a pair of angle-buttresses at the corners. The buttresses rise in two stages with rendered offsets and terminate at the wall plate level of the side walls. The west wall is divided horizontally by a moulded rendered stringcourse. The level of the stringcourse coincides with the sill of the east window that is located centrally in the upper part of the wall. The window consists of a group of three lancets separated by brick mullions. The pointed arch heads of the openings are rendered and include rendered hood

mouldings. A roundal opening with a rendered surround is located near the apex of the gable and contains a fixed timber louvered vent.

There is evidence of a former centrally-located double-width door opening, with a rendered lintel in the lower part of the wall. A rendered plinth runs around the base of the western part of the building.

The roof extends about 600 mm beyond the west wall and the bargeboard is triangulated by a bracketed collar tie set in the upper part of the gable. The eaves are lined with spaced timber brackets. The roof is covered with galvanised corrugated iron sheeting laid in short lengths with a rolled ridge cap and timber gable cappings. There is a gablet vent located centrally in the north and south sides of the roof. The west part of the roof has an ovolo profile pgi gutter.

The north façade of the original part of the Church is divided into three equal bays by buttresses that rise to line with the apex of the lancet windows that are centrally located within the east and west bays of the façade. The wall is divided horizontally into three by the moulded stringcourse that runs at mid height and coincides with the sill level of the windows. The second stringcourse is set at the impost level of the lancet window arches. It continues around these openings as a hood mould. The lancet windows are edged by rendered dressings. The central panel of the wall contains a blind opening complete with a rendered pointed arch.

The south façade was originally similar to the north façade apart from the fact that all the bays contained windows. This façade was substantially altered by the addition of a lean-to vestry in the form of a simple block. The roof abuts the wall of the sanctuary just slightly above the mid level of the wall and this has caused the window opening to be shortened.

The east end of the Church is almost completely glazed. The façade is divided into three parts and comprises a centrally placed porch flanked by the glazed screen, which forms the end of the nave. The porch, which extends about five metres in front of the general line of the building, is designed as an attached block with a very low-pitched gable roof. The side walls of the porch are of brick. The east wall consists of a screen of fixed glazing in aluminium framing which contains the main entrance doors. The doors are a set of flush ply panel double doors.

The two glazed screens that make up the east wall of the nave are both divided into a structural steel grid with three columns and two beams. The grid is further subdivided by the aluminium framed fixed glazing.

The north and south faces of the building match. Both walls are set at an angle so that in plan they splay out towards the back of the space to give the nave a fan shape. The side walls are divided into five equal bays by the structural grid. Each bay consists of a panel of brickwork contained by steel columns. Each panel of brickwork forms a cymoidal shape, in plan. The concave and convex curves of the panel are arranged to give the overall wall a stepped format in which each panel of brickwork is offset from the next. Each offset contains a north facing, full height window. The window openings are contained by the pair of steel columns that support the roof beams and engage the panels of brickwork.

The joint between the original and the later parts of the building is achieved by a 1200 wide full height glazed screen that includes a set of double aluminium framed glazed doors.

The nave roof is covered with metal decking and has pressed galvanised iron fascia guttering.

As with the exterior of the building, the interior is divided into two clearly distinct parts that are completely different in architectural style. The western third of the Church houses the sanctuary and is in the Federation Gothic style. The nave was built in the 1960s in the late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style.

The floor of the sanctuary is divided into two parts by changes in level. The front edge of the sanctuary is raised one step above the floor level of the nave. A pair of altar rails is set slightly in from the step. A second step runs across the sanctuary just in front of the freestanding altar. The area of lower floor is carpeted to match the nave. The upper area has a timber floor.

The altar is of timber and the front panel is enlivened with foil decoration.

The side walls of the sanctuary are each divided into three equal bays by the trusses that span the area. The timber trusses have curved arch-braces that extend down the face of the wall to be supported by corbel wall brackets. On each truss, the arch-brace rises to the underside of the collar tie that supports the king post. The purlins that span between the trusses are visible. The ceiling is lined on the rake with diagonally laid v-jointed Oregon boards. The side walls are capped by substantial timber cornices decorated by evenly spaced small trefoil shaped apertures.

The walls of the sanctuary are of tuck-pointed red coloured face brickwork, divided by polychromatic effect bands. The polychromatic effect is achieved by a thin cream coloured render that has been applied to the red brickwork. A two-course band runs at impost level of the arches to the lancet windows in the side wall and coincides with the sill level of west window. A second band of two spaced courses is set at the sill level of the windows in the side walls. The window openings are edged by rendered dressings.

The window openings in the side wall contain three panes of gridded obscure glazed leadlights. The central panes are fixed, inward opened, hopper vents. The lowest sash of the south windows is blacked-in in order to conceal the vestry addition.

The nave has a fan like plan that splays outward from the front. The north and south walls of the nave are divided into five equal bays by the steel portal frames that support the roof and retain the end of the panels of brickwork, which form the side walls of the building. The side walls are divided into five equal bays of brickwork that form a cymoidal shape, in plan. The panels are of face brickwork in a salmon / beige colour brick, arranged to give the overall wall a stepped format in which each panel of brickwork is off-set from the next. Each offset contains a north facing full height window.

The lower chords of the portal frames are visible and modulate the ceiling, which is lined to follow the curve of the hyperbolic parabola roof. The lining of the ceiling is of suspended acoustic strip metal tiles.

The east end wall of the Church is almost completely glazed. The façade is divided into three parts consisting of a centrally placed porch flanked by the glazed screen that forms the end of the nave.

Old Rectory

The Old Rectory is a single storey brick and iron Federation Queen Anne style house that now serves as a solicitor's office.

The building displays the broad characteristics of the Federation Queen Anne style. It has a picturesque, asymmetrical form with a dominant roof. The roof form accentuates the plan, which includes a projecting wing and a diagonally arranged corner bay window. There is a verandah attached to all four faces of the building but the run of the verandah is broken in the south east corner.

The main entrance to the building is on the east façade. The east face of the building is asymmetrical composed with a prominent wing extending from the southern third of the façade. The verandah abuts the north side of the wing and runs across the remainder of the façade. The verandah continues around the northwest and south faces of the building where it terminates against the addition that extends from the southeast corner of the building.

The east face of the projecting wing contains a centrally located window opening. The opening has a rendered lintel complete with stylised label moulding. The opening is divided by mullions and a transom and contains casement sashes. The verandah abuts the north wall of the wing. The north wall contains a single small oval shaped window. The main entrance hall is located beside the wing. The entrance door is contained within a screen that forms the end wall of the entrance hall. The screen consists of the door, a sidelight and a fanlight. The door contains four panels within stop-chamfered framing. The two lower panels are filled with V-jointed, diagonal boarding. The upper panels are replacements and consist of solid sheeting. The sidelight is half glazed with coloured leadlights with V-jointed vertical boarding in the lower panel. The fanlight is also glazed with coloured leadlights.

The single room to the north of the hall is lit by a bay window located in the north east corner of the verandah. The bay has a rectangular shape and is set on the diagonal. It has brick piers at the corner and rendered sills. The large window opening in the bay is divided by timber mullions and a substantial transom. The window is a combination of casement sashes and fixed glazing. The fanlights contain coloured leadlights.

The north façade contains the north corner bay and the remaining run of wall contains a single large window opening. The segmental arched opening contains a window divided by a central mullion and transom. The window opening contains casement sashes and fixed highlight windows.

The brickwork on the west face has been painted red. The west face of the building contains three doorways opening onto the verandah. Two of these openings contain single doors with fanlights over. The doors are half glazed and their lower sections contain two panels. The half glazing is divided by glazing bars. The third opening has been partly blocked in and contains a fixed glazed window.

The south wall of the original part of the building contains a single door and window.

The verandah, which is about 2.4 metres deep, is articulated and of partial timber construction. The outer edge of the verandah is supported by square timber posts that are enriched at their midpoints by a band of horizontal grooving. The timber fascia board is stop chamfered and a decorative frieze fringes its underside. The frieze to the bay in front of the front door has been altered to give the frieze an arched effect.

The verandah posts on the north side of the building have been shortened so that they now sit on top of a single leaf, 750 mm high wall. This wall continues around

the west face of the building. There is a centrally located opening on the west face that is approached by a set of steps.

The roof is medium pitched and is a combination of various roof shapes. The section of roof above the wing is a gambrel, above the corner bay it is gabled and elsewhere it is a hip and valley. The half gable of the gambrel contains a vent of fixed timber louvres. The gable is faced with timber weatherboarding.

The walls of the building are of red coloured, face brickwork in a stretcher bond. The chimneys have moulded render caps. The chimneys have been completely painted.

The extension that occupies the southeast corner of the building extends across more than half the south face of the building and about 1.5 metres beyond the outer edge of the verandah. The extension has a lean-to roof attached to the main roof but set at a considerably lower pitch. The south face of the extension contains two window openings with casement sashes. One of these windows is in the southeast corner. A side entrance is located in the east wall of the extension and is sheltered by a cantilevered porch of timber and corrugated iron construction.

The main entrance door opens into a hallway that forms part of a dogleg corridor around which the rooms of the house are arranged. The entrance hall leads to the centre of the house and then joins the north end of the centrally located corridor, which serves the rooms towards the rear of the building. The junction between the hall and central corridor is marked by an arched opening. The northeast corner of the house is occupied by an office that is entered off the north side of the entrance hall. A larger office occupies the northwest corner of the building and is entered off the north end of the corridor. Another smaller office located centrally on the west side of the house, and the kitchen, which is situated in the south west corner, are both entered through doorways in the west wall of the corridor. The current reception room, which presumably was originally the living room, is entered from the east side of the corridor. A sliding door in the south wall of the reception room leads to the rear extension.

The main rooms have jarrah boarded floors, with a substantial painted moulded skirtings. The walls are plastered and the plaster ceilings have coved cornices. The doorways have moulded timber architraves. The doors are four-panelled timber.

The two main offices contain fireplaces with timber surrounds. The fireplace in the reception room has a face brick surround.

The kitchen area has a modern fit-out. It has a vinyl floor covering. A pantry is entered from the east side of the room. The former fireplace has been enclosed and cupboards now run in front of it. The kitchen has a back door that opens on to the verandah.

New Rectory

The New Rectory has the appearance of a 1970s project home. The walls are of face cream coloured brickwork. It has a low pitched roof covered with brown coloured terra cotta tiles. The front part of the house has been extended by a timber framed pergola covered with shade cloth to provide an outdoor eating area.

The buildings of *St Matthew's Anglican Church Group, Armadale* are generally in a sound condition.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

There are four churches on the State Register of comparable construction date and building materials to St Matthew's Church (1904). There are 25 churches on the HCWA database identified as Late 20th Century Ecclesiastical. None are entered on the State Register, and only *Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church*, Woodlands (Place 9849), a Catholic Church built in 1975, is recommended for entry.⁵³

The four churches built in a comparable period are:

Queen's Methodist Church, Boulder (Place 0210) is a brick church built in 1903, with few embellishments, described as more like a hall than a church. It has not been used for worship since the 1970s, but has had conservation work undertaken for use as a residence. The place is entered on the State Register and is classified by the National Trust.⁵⁴

St George's Anglican Church, Carnarvon (Place 0460) was built in 1907 in brick and iron, to a Federation Gothic design by Eales & Cohen. The place is in good condition. It is entered on the State Register and classified by the National Trust.⁵⁵

St Andrew's Church & Hall, Katanning (Place 1329) are red brick buildings. The Church was built in 1898 and the Hall in 1911. The Church is a modest gothic design with stucco details. The place is entered on the State Register.⁵⁶

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Kalgoorlie (Place 1267) was constructed in 1902. It is a tall, large-scale church designed by Cavanagh & Cavanagh, and described as 'a fine example of Federation Gothic ecclesiastical architecture'. It is typical of Catholic churches, which tend to be more ornate and exuberant than their Anglican counterparts. The place is entered on the State Register and the Register of the National Estate and is classified by the National Trust.⁵⁷

Examples of ecclesiastical buildings designed by J. J. Talbot Hobbs include *St Luke's Anglican Church Group* (Place 0401), comprising limestone Church and Rectory and timber hall, all in Federation Gothic style, built between 1897 and 1903. The group is set on a large site in a natural setting. It is entered on the State Register and classified by the National Trust.⁵⁸

Christ Church and Rectory, Claremont (Place 0491) comprises 1893 limestone Church in Gothic Revival style and limestone Rectory (1897) in Federation Queen Anne style. The place is entered on the State Register and the Register of the National Estate and is classified by the National Trust.⁵⁹

St Alban's Church, Highgate (Place 2178) was designed by Hobbs in 1889. It is a Victorian Romanesque stone building. The adjoining Rectory, designed by Hobbs in 1895, has been replaced by a block of flats. St Alban's is classified by the National Trust and entered on the Town of Vincent Municipal Inventory.⁶⁰

53 HCWA database.

54 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 0210.

55 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 0460.

56 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 1329.

57 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 1267.

58 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 0401.

59 Heritage Council assessment documentation, Place 0491.

60 Hocking Planning & Architecture Collaboration, *Town of Vincent municipal Inventory Review*, 2002.

Federation Queen Anne was a popular architectural style in the 1890s and early 1900s for domestic buildings constructed on large suburban lots, and buildings that had a residential function, such as hotels and institutions. Examples of single and double-storey residences in the style can be found in the middle-class suburbs that developed during this period such as Mt Lawley, and in country homesteads such as Telyarup, Gnowangerup, and Lynwood Homestead, Middle Swan.

No other examples have been identified in Western Australia of a Federation period church being significantly extended by the addition of a large modern phase in a distinct Late Twentieth-Century style.

St Matthew's is a fine modest example of a Federation Gothic church, and the 1964 extension is rare in the context of a Federation period church. The Old Rectory is a similarly modest example of a Federation Queen Anne style residence, as befitting the scale of the Church.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

No key references.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Further research may identify the date of construction and the architect/builder for the Old Rectory. *WA Church News* from 1905 to 1913 makes no mention of St Matthew's Rectory, and the parish did not submit any items to the Church paper during this period. A detailed study of parish records for this period may provide information regarding the construction of the Old Rectory. There was no local newspaper for the area in this period.