



City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places Place Record

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 173	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 30/10/1996	Last Revision Date: 19/11/2009	
HCWA Number: 3940	Asset ID: MCH126814	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	HM Customs Office and Residence
Other Names:	7-9 Francis Street
Type of Place:	Office/Residence
Address:	7-9 Francis Street
Suburb:	Geraldton

LOCATION

Map Reference:	14.15	GPS Northing:	6814336.00	GPS Easting:	266108.000
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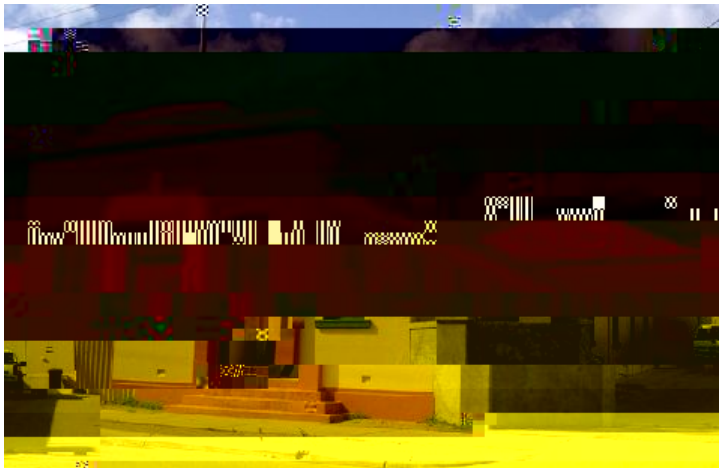


Photo Description:

6/08/2007

Rod Milne

Front facade of the HM Customs Office.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lots 22 & 23		
Reserv No.:		Assess No.:	20095 & 20096
Dia/Plan:	95780	Vol/Fol:	2140/670 & 671

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Customs Office & Residence		
Current Use:	Customs Office & Residence		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Restricted	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Brick (Rendered)	Roof:	Tiles/CGI
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			
<p>The H.M. Customs Office is of the Inter-War Art Deco style whereas the adjacent residence reflects more the Inter-War Mediterranean style. The office has a rendered front facade and parapet which screens a long tiled roof. The building sits right on the front boundary with the footpath. Stepped rendered architraves accentuate the double entry doors which are recessed into a small porch and raised up four steps to form a plinth. Over the doors a highlight adopts a "Union Jack" motif with its intersecting mullions. A single double hung window sits either side of the entry. The windows have small mullions forming a narrow margin of glass around the edge, which intersects to form a square in each corner of the sash. The office is basically a long rectangular building behind which is a warehouse or bond-store. Although the corrugated iron roofed bond-store is rendered and painted to match the main building it has a much older style and form and possibly pre-dates the office. Inside the office are 'standard issue' Commonwealth Government office interiors and furniture. Some early photographs are displayed on the walls which illustrate its original setting etc.</p> <p>The adjacent residence is of painted, rendered brickwork, orange tiled roof and has an arched entry porch giving its predominant Mediterranean character which is in contrast to the adjacent office. This may suggest separate times for construction albeit during the Inter-War period. The</p>			

rendered walls and arches of the residence have a certain blandness possibly indicating a loss of some of its former detailing during latter maintenance alterations or "modernisation" when re-rendering and re-painting may have occurred. The combination masonry pier and timber picket fence along the street boundary is a recent addition.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1935	Source:	Register Documentation
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Unknown		

The HM Customs Office building was built in 1935. (Photographic evidence in office)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	201 River and sea transport
AHC:	3.8 Moving goods and people

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The H.M. Customs Office and Residence have high aesthetic, historic and social significance for Geraldton. The place provides a reminder of the importance of the port and therefore customs in the daily lives of people and the region. The buildings are of a style and period not heavily acknowledged.

RECOMMENDATION:

Care should be taken not to diminish the original character of either buildings in any future alterations or additions.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Conservation Plan or Heritage Impact
Statement.

OTHER LISTINGS

Heritage Council of WA - Register; 08/01/1999
Australian Heritage Commission - Register; 01/01/1970

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Conservation Plan, Palassis Architects

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

6/04/2009

Tanya Henkel

Customs House



Photo Description:
30/10/1996
Suba, Callow & Grundy
Warehouse evident to rear.