

Place No. 59 St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, Karratha



St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church, Karratha (Courtesy of the National trust (WA))

LOCATION	
Name of Place	St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
Other Name (1)	
Location/Address	
Street Number	1483
Street Name	Samson Way
Suburb/Town	Bulgarra, Karratha
Other Locational descriptor (text)	485170 mE, 7707365 mN (MGA94 Zone 50) Longitude:116.8576 Latitude: -20.7333

OWNERSHIP & LAND DESCRIPTION				
Owner	Address	Phone/fax	Status	Item No.
Trustees of the Diocese of North West Australia	1483 Samson Way Bulgarra			
Reserve No.	Lot/Location No.	Plan/Diagram	Vol/Folio	Item No.
	1483	P181411	1476/944	

LISTING AND ASSESSMENT	
HCWA Reference Number	NEW ENTRY
State Register of Heritage Places:(Y/N)	No
Classified by the National Trust (Y/N)	No
Register of the National Estate (Y/N)	No
Local Town Planning Scheme (Y/N)	Yes
Management Category	C

DESCRIPTION	
Construction Date (1)	1977
Construction Date (2)	
Site Type (Place Type)	Individual Building or Group
Use(s) of Place	
<i>Original</i>	RELIGIOUS: Church, Cathedral or Chapel

<i>Present</i>	RELIGIOUS: Church, Cathedral or Chapel
<i>Other</i>	
Construction Materials:	
<i>Walls</i>	2. BRICK 201 Common Brick
<i>Roof</i>	6. METAL 613 Zincalume
<i>Other</i>	11. TIMBER 1105 Weatherboard
Condition	Sound
Integrity (how much of the original fabric is intact?):	Complete

Physical Description

The building was constructed of chocolate brown brick, with zincalume on the roof. There are side windows set at an angle to prevent direct afternoon sunlight entering the building and also to direct morning sun towards the front of the building and near the sanctuary of the church. The building includes a small hall area, office, kitchen, storeroom and toilets. The church was designed to seat 100 people and further provision has been made to accommodate more seating if required; the internal walls can be easily removed if required. The building is fully air conditioned.

The altar, lectern and font were made by a local craftsman.

History

Construction of the church began in early 1977 and a special dedication service was held at the site on the 22 May of that year.¹ In order to raise money for the construction of the building, the Anglican Church invited residents of the area to 'buy a brick'. The initial target of the scheme was to raise \$20,000 in 12 months by selling 1000 "buy a brick" cards.²

The official opening and dedication of the new church was held on the 17 August 1977. The service was conducted by the Rev. Bill Ross, Rector of the West Pilbara Parish. The building was opened and dedicated by the Bishop of the North west, the Right Rev. H.A.J. Witt.³

It was intended that the church would be used by other churches and community organisations.

Several months after the opening of the church, on the 29 October 1977, a 30m cross mounted on a tripod was erected in front of the church building. An altar, lectern and font, all made by a local craftsmen, were installed and dedicated during Sunday morning services.⁴

Archaeology

There is little potential for archaeology at this site.

SIGNIFICANCE

Historic theme (s)	4. SOCIAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES 406 Religion
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Statement of Significance:

St Mary Magdalene Anglican Church has spiritual and social significance for the Shire of Roebourne community. The building is associated with the settlement and growth of Karratha as a town providing a place for Anglican worship.

ASSOCIATIONS

Architect/Designer (1)	Jennings Industries Pty Ltd
Architect/Designer (2)	
Other Associated Person(s)	Rev. Bill Ross Right Rev. H.A.J. Witt

OTHER**References**

See endnotes.

MHI 1996	Identified on Review List
MHI Review 2012	Site assessed and Place Name Record created

¹ *Hamersley News*, 2 June 1977

² *West Australian*, 16 August 1977

³ *Hamersley News*, 25 August 1977

⁴ *Hamersley News*, 24 November 1977