

METHODIST CHURCH (FMR), MOUNT LAWLEY



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Methodist Church (fmr)
Other names	Church Restaurant Forrest Park Methodist Church
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	2427
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	41 Walcott St
Locality	Mount Lawley
Survey	LOT: 134 D/P: 692
Vol/folio	1567/82
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	Considerable Very important to the heritage of the locality. High degree of integrity/ authenticity.
Management category	Category 2 Conservation of the place is highly desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.
Statement of significance	<p>This former Methodist Church, is a fine and notable example of Inter War Gothic architecture that is a landmark on Walcott Street. It was a grand and confident gesture in the future at the time of its construction during the Depression.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the Methodist Church which was active and important to the Mount Lawley community in the 20th century, and for its demonstration of the growth of the region in this period.</p> <p>The place had an important social value to the community and members of the Methodist Church which operated on this site since 1929 and from this building from 1935 until 1982 and, while not currently serving its intended use, the social value has continued for many who recall using these buildings for religious and social activities.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Religious: Church, Cathedral or Chapel
Current use	Health: Other
Other use	Commercial: Restaurant

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	1933; 1982
Walls	Brick Stone
Roof	Corrugated Metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Inter War Gothic
Physical description	<p>The imposing gable fronted brick structure with stone quoins and tracery was constructed with Gothic design elements including arched windows and doors, and buttresses at the sides.</p> <p>The windows feature fine stone tracery and stained glass lead lighting. The great stepped gabled north wall features tripartite doors and windows, divided by mullions that rise to Gothic finials. A louvred decorative ventilator, at the centre of the gable, surmounts the composition.</p> <p>Vestries and meeting rooms are formed into a two storey wing at the rear of the Church, which gives the appearance of a transept.</p> <p>The church is grander than a comparable Interwar Methodist Church by the same architects in Shenton Park, now St. Matthews Anglican Church, at the corner of Onslow and Derby Roads. In a prominent location on the side of the hill overlooking a park, it is set back from the street behind a low brick wall.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	Moderate

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The ecclesiastical building on the corner of Walcott and Curtis Streets was constructed in 1933, as the Forrest Park Methodist Church, the name taken from the park that is bordered by the two streets.

At the time of the construction in 1933, a church hall named 'Wesleyan Hall', which was constructed circa 1929, already existed at the rear of subject lot, to the immediate southwest of the proposed church. The Wise's Post Office Directories list the subject lot as 'Wesleyan Hall' between 1930 and 1934 and later as 'Forrest Park Methodist Church' from 1935.

The church was designed by architectural firm Powell, Cameron and Chisholm 'on perpendicular Gothic lines'. The builder was John Hawkins & Sons, and construction costs were £2,483. The church, which measured 38 ft x 48 ft, was designed to seat 250 people, with provision for a choir, two vestries and an organ loft. Forrest Park Methodist Church was officially opened on 1 July 1933 by Mrs R. Hocking.

A Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage & Drainage Department (MWSSD) Plan dated 1953 illustrates that the weatherboard church hall was extant at the rear of the brick Methodist Church in that year. A two-storey flat, with two brick garages at the rear, were located to the immediate northwest of the church. These two adjacent buildings are both no longer extant.

Following the amalgamation of the Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches to form the Uniting Church in 1977, the new body had an oversupply of churches. Surplus buildings in the Mount Lawley Parish were disposed of, among them the Forrest Park Methodist Church which was de consecrated, prior to its conversion for use as a restaurant in 1982.

The conversion was undertaken by Colin Rule Christou & Associates for the then owner Keppel Nominees. As a result of the conversion, various alterations and additions has been undertaken at the subject place included the construction of a new alfresco deck area and the widening of the mezzanine level. Since that time there have been minimal changes to the form or extent of the building although the hardscaping around the building has been altered to accommodate changes in use.

In 2024, the place is used as rooms for health professionals.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION		
Historic theme	Cultural Life: Religion Economy: Commerce	
Associations	Powell, Cameron and Chisholm John Hawkins & Sons Colin Rule & Associates	Architects Builders Architects
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006 Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



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ARCHIVAL IMAGES



Forrest Church, 1935. Courtesy SLWA image 013188PD