

JOHN ROBERTS HOUSE, NORTH PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	John Robert's House
Other names	House, 116 Angove Street
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	8584
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	116 Angove St
Locality	North Perth
Survey	LOT: 408 D/P: 39280
Vol/folio	2115/690
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Considerable</p> <p>Very important to the heritage of the locality. High degree of integrity/ authenticity</p>
Management category	<p>Category 2</p> <p>Conservation of the place is highly desirable.</p> <p>Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>This residence is a fine and uncommon example of a Donnybrook stone dwelling and an exemplar of the Federation Italianate style.</p> <p>It is a landmark in this section of Angove Street.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its associations with stonemasons John and Henry Roberts. John Roberts was the owner builder of this residence and his son Henry was a skilled tradesman well known in the Perth building community.</p> <p>The construction of this residence in the early 1900s demonstrates when this area first began to be subdivided and settled for residential occupancy.</p> <p>This rare residence has social value for its presence in the streetscape since the 1910s and contributes to the community sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Residential: Single storey residence
Current use	Residential: Single storey residence
Other use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	1910-1920
Walls	Donnybrook Sandstone
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Italianate
Physical description	<p>A modest sized single storey dwelling built of Donnybrook stone and featuring fine dressed stone detailing. The gable has a sloping parapet and is capped with a small pediment. A small circular stone vent is located above the bay window. The parapeted bay window has a fine carved stone surround.</p> <p>The dropped pitch verandah is supported by pairs of timber posts with decorative fretwork detail between each pair. It is an integral element of the residential character of the area.</p> <p>It has minimal plantings within the front setback behind a low rendered brick fence.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The house was built by John Roberts (1867-1951), a stonemason who was born in Victoria in 1867 and arrived in WA circa 1897 with his wife Jane and sons Henry (born 1895) and Albert (born 1897).

In 1897, he purchased this block in Angove Street, which also had a frontage, a narrower one, onto Farmer Street at the rear. The family lived in a one-roomed timber shed while saving enough money to commence building the house. It was built in stages in Donnybrook Stone and, with Henry's help it was completed about 1920.

John also owned land at Lion Mill (Mount Helena). When Jane Roberts died, Henry (who married Jane Cargill and moved to his own home in Mount Hawthorn, returned to live in the house with his father. John Roberts died in 1951, at the age of 83, and Henry continued to live in the house until his own death in 1978.

Henry was also a stone mason and he commenced his apprenticeship working on the Perth GPO. He was known to be a particularly fine tradesman and carver of stone and was responsible for the stonework on the Sir Talbot Hobbs memorial (Riverside Drive, Perth), McNess Memorial (formerly in the Stirling Gardens, Perth, now in Florence Hummerston Reserve, Mount Street, Perth), the Kings Park wishing well and numerous other buildings in Perth and Fremantle.

Aerial photographs indicate that the form and extent of the residence have not changed significantly since the mid 20th century. In 2002, the roof was reclad with the current corrugated metal sheeting replacing what appears to have been corrugated iron, or possibly asbestos cement.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION		
Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Cultural Life: Domestic Life Economy: Workers and working	
Associations	Roberts family	Owners, occupants and builders
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ARCHIVAL IMAGES



Henry Roberts who together with his father built the house. Courtesy City of Vincent library image 104190.



Roberts family, Angove St, n.d. Courtesy City of Vincent library image PH 104191.