

WESLEY MISSION HALL (FMR), NORTH PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Wesley Mission Hall (fmr)
Other names	St Nikola Macedonian Orthodox Church Methodist Church Hall
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	27563
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	69 Angove St
Locality	North Perth
Survey	LOT: 55 D/P: 1823
Vol/folio	2053/4
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Considerable Very important to the heritage of the locality. High degree of integrity/authenticity.</p>
Management category	<p>Category 2 Conservation of the place is highly desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The former Wesley Mission Church has aesthetic value as a simple example of the Federation Gothic style.</p> <p>The recently constructed church in a traditional style is a landmark in the streetscape for its scale and location in a prominent position.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the development of North Perth in the early 20th century and the provision of spiritual and social services to the community by the Wesleyan and later Methodist Church.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the Macedonian Community who have been active in providing a wide range of services and facilities to their own, and the wider community.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the wave of migration of Macedonian peoples in the 1960s and 1970s which lead to the dynamic growth of the Macedonian Community facilities and services, particularly in North Perth.</p> <p>The place has social value for the members of the community who attended the former Methodist Church until the 1960s and the subsequent members of the Macedonian Orthodox Church who have attended this church and contributed to the construction of the new church alongside it.</p>

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

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	c1903, 2014-2024
Walls	Painted brick
Roof	Corrugated sheet metal
Architectural Style	Federation Gothic Late 20th Century Immigrants' Nostalgic

Physical description	<p>The original single storey church building is rectangular plan form with a steep pitched gabled roof. A small entry porch with a shallower roof pitch adjoins the front of the building. Evidence of the original Federation Gothic style can be seen in the gothic arch window treatment on the main elevation and the gothic arched windows on the side elevations.</p> <p>The front entry porch has been adapted with the central door and rounded arched windows on either side defined in bricks detail. All of the external brickwork is painted and the ground treatments are typically brick paved,</p> <p>The new church under construction is built from concrete blocks with red brick used to define the outlines of windows, doors and decorative elements. The roof includes several domes clad in lead and the flat planes of the roof clad in terracotta tile.</p> <p>The boundary of the block is marked with a brick pier and metal palisade fence.</p>
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CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	Moderate

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The building which is now the location of the Macedonian Orthodox Church was built c1900 as the Wesley Mission Hall. The architect or builder of this church have not been determined. Information from the Wise's Post Office Directory records that the Wesley Mission Hall was recorded in Angove Street from 1900.

By the 1930s, it was referred to as the Methodist Church and it was served the local Methodist community. The North Perth region was well served with churches as can be seen in the 1924 Sewerage Plan of the area which shows Churches in Woodville Street, two in View Street and the Charles Street Church not too far away.

In 1949, the church was still providing to the community under the name of Methodist Church. In the late 1950s, a church hall was constructed on the triangular shaped portion of the lot, with the main entrance facing the junction of Angove and Albert Streets.

This property was acquired by the Macedonian Community probably in the early 1960s although further research is needed to determine the date of acquisition.

The Macedonian Community of W.A. (Inc) has its origins linked to the periods of emigration following World Wars I and II. The first Macedonian migrants came to Australia in the 1920's after World War I. Initially these pioneers were "pecalbari" meaning fortune seekers who came to Australia to better themselves economically and to return to their families in Macedonia. These plans were soon changed with the beginning of World War II and the Civil War in Aegean Macedonia with most of these pioneering Macedonians seeking refuge in Australia. Once these wars had concluded the process of family reunions began and tens of thousands have since made Western Australia their new home and have made significant contributions to

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

the economic, social, cultural and sporting fabric of Australia and Western Australia in particular.

The first formal Macedonian organization of "Edinstvo" or "Unity" was formed in 1941. Edinstvo served as a precursor to the Macedonian Australian Community of Perth, Western Australia which was formally registered in October 1964 and is now called the Macedonian Community of W.A. (Inc.).

By far the most significant influx of Macedonian migrants to Western Australia occurred from 1950 through till 1965 with the arrival of the "Deca Begalci from Aegean Macedonia" from 1955 till 1965, being the Macedonian Child Refugees who had fled the Civil War in Aegean Macedonia between 1946 and 1949 to adjacent eastern bloc countries like Yugoslavia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia and Russia.

These younger Macedonians marked the dawn of a new era for the Macedonian Community in Western Australia and together with the older pioneering Macedonians they set upon a path of establishing the Macedonian Community of Western Australia as the most progressive Macedonian organization in the Macedonian diaspora. In the late 1960's and 1970's a new wave of Macedonian migrants began arriving from the Republic of Macedonia and they soon became involved and have also contributed significantly to the continuing development of the Macedonian Community of W.A. (Inc) and all its subsidiary components.

In 1969, the Macedonian Community Centre, located at the corner of Macedonia Place and Albert Street was opened. In the same year the Macedonian Orthodox Church of St Nikola was officially opened in the former Methodist Church. The adaptations to accommodate the new church was undertaken largely through volunteer work and donations from the community.

In c1994, a new church was built adjacent to the Community Centre in Macedonia Place reducing demand on this church in Angove Street.

In c2014, the Angove Street church hall was demolished and work began on the construction of a new St Nikola Church. The new church is still under construction in 2024 and demonstrates traditional styles and details, predominantly the domed roof structures.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

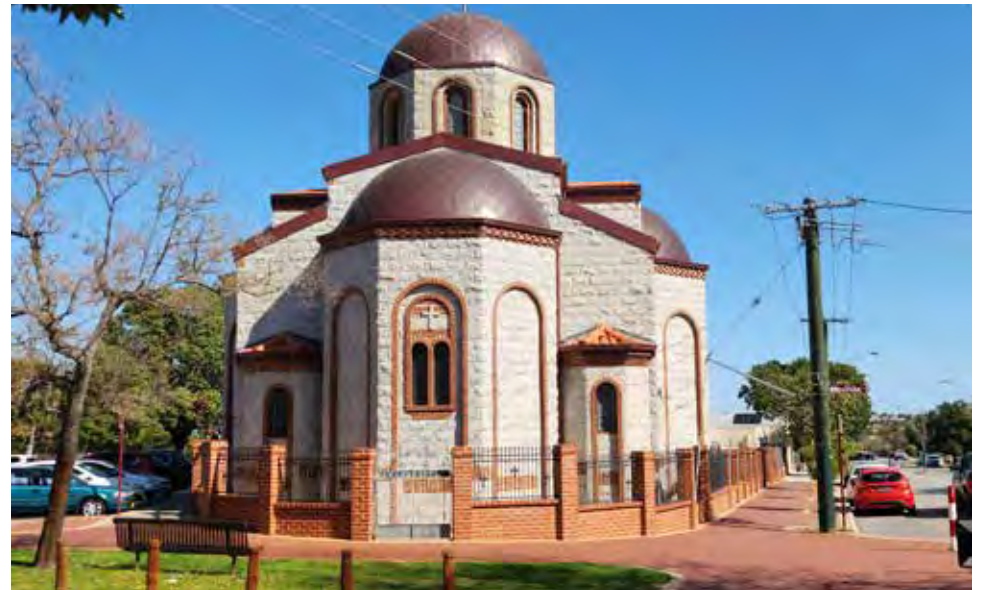
The front entry porch to the Macedonian Orthodox Church on Angove Street has been adapted to include arched window and door details.

Historic theme	Cultural Life: Religion Cultural Life: Domestic Life Peopling WA: Demographic Development International Links	
Associations		
Sources	Landgate aerial photographs City of Vincent Local History Collection Wises Post Office Directories Macedonian Community of WA website https://macedoniawa.com.au/index.php	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



St Nikola Macedonian Orthodox Church



St Nikola Macedonian Orthodox Church