

ST MARGARET'S UNITING CHURCH (FMR), NORTH PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	St Margaret's Uniting Church (fmr)
Other names	Bethany Indonesian Parish St Margaret's Presbyterian Church North Perth Presbyterian Church
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	16752
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	129 - 131 Raglan Rd
Locality	North Perth
Survey	LOT: 9 D/P: 98196
Vol/folio	2166/387
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>The place has aesthetic value as a good intact example of an early twentieth century church in the Federation Gothic style, which was built and to meet the growing and changing needs of the local religious community.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the development of the Presbyterian Community in the north of Perth in the early 20th century.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with prominent architect John/James Hine.</p> <p>The church has social value for the many members of the community who have attended the place for social or spiritual events.</p> <p>This place is valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p>

PLACE USE

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

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction date	1913; 1929; 1998
Walls	Brick
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Romanesque
Physical description	<p>The building is constructed in red face brick with horizontal render highlights, both as capping to the stepped front wall and also decorative on the centre front panel of the wall.</p> <p>The church has a symmetrical façade with a gabled facade rising to a considerable height, flanked by lower parapet walls masking side aisles. The gable is capped with a cross on the apex.</p> <p>The front wall features two vertical stained glass windows. Each of the flanking parapet walls also have stained glass windows in a smaller format.</p>
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Raglan Road was gazetted on 12 October 1900. It was named after Field Marshall Lord Raglan, 1st Baron Raglan who was a general serving at the Crimean War. During this war he became well-known for his incompetence but, in spite of this, several battles resulted in an allied victory and he was promoted to the rank of Field Marshall. The 'raglan' sleeve is named after him as his uniform coat was designed to accommodate the loss of his arm at the Battle of Waterloo. Alma Road, which was also gazetted on 12 October 1990, also has connections to the Crimean War (1854-56); the Battle of Alma (fought near the River Alma) is generally known as the first battle.

The area was developed by the Perth Land & Agency Coy, the surveyors of the original subdivision were Crossland & Hardy. It was advertised as a 'magnificent estate' which overlooked 'the whole of the City'. Also included in the advertisement was the following: *Married men who wish to have a nest egg; young men who desire to put something by which will increase day by day; parents who desire to endow their children with a gift; and guardians, trustees, etc., who look for an immediate return, invest your money in this property as from its position and surroundings it must rapidly increase in value.*

St Mary's Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1913 to accommodate the growing Presbyterian community in the North Perth area. The Presbyterian Parish had held services in the North Perth Town Hall (part of P2216 North Perth Town Hall Complex) from 1903 and St Margaret's Uniting Church (fmr) at 65-637 Raglan Road (RHP 2214) from 1905, but the congregation outgrew both these building by 1913 and the church employed architect John Hines to design a new premises. The new church was planned to accommodate 500 worshippers.

The foundation stone was laid on 15 November 1913, with a ceremony performed by Rev. Prof. Adam. Although the church wasn't completed, the parish started using the church by July 1914.

In 1922, members of the church continued to increase, so a property a few streets away at 111 Forrest Street to be used as the parish Manse.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In 1929 the Mary Henderson Primary Room was added to be used as a Sunday school room.

In 1977 the Presbyterian Congregational and Methodist parishes amalgamated to form the Uniting Church.

The church is now occupied by the Indonesian Parish of the Uniting Church.

According to Wise's Post Office Directories Reverend William Cordiner was the clergyman in 1906 and in 1913 it was Reverend Alexander Crow. In 1925 it was Rev. E.C. Day and the church hall was also listed. In 1938 it was Rev. Gilbert Cameron and in 1949, the last year of the Directories, it was Reverend James Thrum.

In 1977, the Presbyterian, Congregational, and Methodist churches amalgamated to form the Uniting Church. This amalgamation resulted in many parishes having more than one church. According to the City of Perth building licence cards, a toilet block was constructed in 1977. The former Uniting Church was subsequently occupied as an Indonesian parish of the Uniting Church, reflecting the changing demography of the church and North Perth in the late 20th Century. Records indicate that extensions and alterations were made to the church, which had become known as the New Testament Church of God Bethany Congregation Inc., in 1998. At that time between 100 and 144 people attended the services held there. The extra space was needed for a Sunday School Fellowship and an area for baptisms (by immersion). The construction work was carried out by Pranoto Homes.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th to early 21st century show the extension of the church building in the early 2000s. The subject place has visibly changed little since then.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic Development. Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
Associations	John Hine	Architect
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006 Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

