

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LADY, WEST PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady
Other names	St Paul's Anglican Church (fmr) Greek Orthodox Church of Evangelismos
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	8599
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	59 Carr St
Locality	West Perth
Survey	LOT: 105 D/P: 79298
Vol/folio	1908/237
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 Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady is a major adaptation of an earlier large Anglican Church, that was purchased and extensively changed to suit the worship needs of the local Greek community.</p> <p>The current church demonstrates the contemporary requirements of the hierarchy of the Greek Orthodox Church, for a place of worship. The church houses an historic icon of the Annunciation of Our Lady, from which it takes its name.</p> <p>The church has social value as it is well known and valued by the Greek community of Perth.</p>

PLACE USE

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

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction date	1916; 1958; 1970
Walls	Rendered masonry
Roof	Terracotta Tile Copper sheeting
Architectural Style	Late 20th-Century Immigrants' Nostalgic
Physical description	A large Orthodox church built over two major campaigns. The church features those elements which were required of Greek Orthodox churches - a domed lantern over the crossing topped with a Greek cross, a pair of open towers with domed roofs, topped by Greek crosses, flanking the west façade, a semi circular apse on the sanctuary east wall. In the towers and west façade the original windows were replaced with concrete panels incorporating regular patterns of circular coloured glass windows. The walls are heavily rendered. The church stands in isolation within a paved landscape and the boundary of the lot is defined with palisade fencing atop a limestone wall.
Condition	Good
Integrity	High
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Carr Street was named after G. J. G. C. Carr, Merchant of Perth. His business was on the site of the AMP Buildings in Perth. He was also Chairman of Perth City Council about 1872. It was originally known as Leeder Street, having been named after William John Leeder, an early colonist, and it appeared on the Land's Department's 1858 plan. The name changed to Carr Street around 1902.

The church building on the corner of Carr and Charles Street was originally St Paul's Anglican Church built in 1916 to a design by architect George Herbert Parry and constructed by contractors Singleton and Pitman. The first Rector Reverend Lloyd Wilson (BD) was instrumental in fundraising to enable the construction of the church. He was followed by Reverend George R. Holland in 1920. In 1949 Reverend C. A. Walsh was in situ. He later became a Canon and transferred to St Luke's in Cottesloe.

In the 1920s and 1930s Greek migrants to Perth, many of whom came from the island of Castellorizo (Megisti), settled in Northbridge. They established the Church of St Michael and St Helene in Parker Street in 1936 with funds raised from within the Greek community. Following World War II, a new wave of migrants came from Greece. Many of these were also Castellorizian, and among them was a family who had brought a religious icon within them. This was the Icon of the Annunciation of Our Lady, which had originally been installed in the church of that name in Antifelo in Asia Minor, only kilometres from Castellorizo. Following the Greco-Turkish War of 1921 the Icon was removed to Castellorizo where it remained for 25 years before being brought to Perth.

The new Greek migrants wanted another church, where the icon could be installed. In March 1958, a committee established for the purpose purchased the Anglican Church of St Paul's and its presbytery (No. 125 Charles Street). Following some alterations to the building the first liturgy was held in the new Church of the Annunciation of Our Lady on 6 December 1958 and the Church was consecrated on 9 August 1959. Very Rev. Christophoros Manassis became the foundation priest at the Church and served up until 1975 when he retired.

During Father Manassis' service, it was decided that a proper Greek Orthodox Church should be built. Therefore the former St Paul's Anglican Church was demolished, and on June 14 1970, the foundation was laid for the new Church.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Later that year, Dec 19 1970, the new Church was finally consecrated and since then the church has not changed significantly.

The building was extensively renovated in 1970 so that it took on stylistic features typical of Greek Orthodox churches.

In the following years, the two houses next to the Church, in Charles Street, were bought to cater for the needs of the community as well as those of the Hellenic Christian Ladies' Union and the Greek Orthodox Youth League of WA. A school was established in 1971 in a transportable building in the church grounds. The residence on the west side of the Church, at No. 59 Carr Street was later purchased for the use of the Greek School.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards indicate the aforementioned extensive renovation of the Church as well as the demolition of the southernmost residences at No. 121 in the late 1980s and the subsequent building of the semi-detached structures in their place, allowing for six new residences.

In the late 1990s both the northernmost building that sits directly south of the church had new roofs installed. 2017 saw the grounds between the buildings remodelled into parking areas and grassed areas. There have been no visible changes since then.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Cultural Life: Religion Peopling WA: Demographic Development	
Associations	George Herbert Parry Rev Brian Lloyd Wilson Very Rev Christophoros Manassis Very Rev Archimandrite Efstathios Kondilios Very Rev Archimandrite Damianos Karavanatzis Rev Father Antonios Papadokolakis Very Rev Father Sotirios Vlahopoulos	Original Architect First Rector of St Pauls Church Parish Priest 1958-1973 Parish Priest 1970-1974; 1976-1977 Parish Priest 1975 Parish Priest 1977-1982 Parish Priest 2002-2004
Sources	The West Australian, 12 June 1916, p. 6. Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024. Church of Evangelismos - The Annunciation of Our Lady website https://evangelismos.com.au/	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

