



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia
- 8.6.1 Worshipping together
- 8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies
- 8.6.4 Making places for worship
- 8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements
- 6.2 Establishing schools
- 6.5 Educating people in remote places

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 107 Settlements
- 301 Grazing, pastoralism and dairying
- 402 Education and science
- 406 Religion
- 407 Cultural activities

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Kobeelya House is a fine example of a substantial two storey residence in the Federation Queen Anne style that retains much of its original interior detailing such as tessellated flooring, stained glass windows, marble fireplaces, timber staircases and joinery. (Criterion 1.2)

The Chapel of St. Michael and All Angels constructed in 1939, is a good example of a small church in the Inter-War Romanesque style. (Criterion 1.2)

Kobeelya House has landmark status due to its scale and prominent location on high ground overlooking the town of Katanning. (Criterion 1.3)

Kobeelya, Katanning and its associated buildings are located in a rural setting that retains elements of its original function as a wealthy gentleman's estate including croquet lawns, tennis courts and landscaped gardens which contribute to the

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, R., Irving, R., Reynolds, P. *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus and Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

aesthetic qualities of the place in its present form as a religious cultural environment. (Criteria 1.3 & 1.4)

11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE

The place as a whole comprises a significant religious cultural environment that demonstrates historic associations with the provision of education for girls by the Church of England, and from 1986 to the present for its use as the centre for the Baptist Church in Katanning. (Criterion 2.2)

Kobeelya, Katanning is a reminder of the growth in wealth that occurred in Katanning in the late 1890s and early twentieth century, as the town developed into an important agricultural centre following the opening of the Great Southern Railway between Perth and Albany. (Criterion 2.2)

Kobeelya House and the Coach House were constructed in 1902 by Frederick Henry Piesse, a prominent businessman and the first Member of Parliament for the Williams area, who with his brother Charles was instrumental in the development of Katanning and surrounding districts for many years. (Criterion 2.3)

Kobeelya House, a fine and substantial two storey residence in the Federation Queen Anne style was designed in 1902 by prominent architect Edwin Summerhayes, and the 1923 additions by Hobbs Smith & Forbes. (Criterion 2.3)

11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Kobeelya, Katanning has the potential to yield information contributing to a wider understanding of the earlier use of the buildings still on the site, as well as landscape elements and buildings known to exist but no longer extant. (Criterion 3.2)

11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

Kobeelya, Katanning is highly valued by the local and wider community for its religious, educational, cultural and historic associations, including the Katanning Baptist community as a centre for religious retreats, family camps and as residential convention venue. (Criterion 4.1)

Kobeelya, Katanning has social value for former employees and students of the school and their families, many of whom are members of the Old Kobeelyan's Association, formed in 1982, and which since 2007 to the present (2015) has maintained the Coach House as a school museum. (Criterion 4.1)

Kobeelya, Katanning contributes to the local community's sense of place as evidenced by its inclusion on the Shire of Katanning's Municipal Inventory in 1996. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Kobeelya, Katanning is a rare example of a substantial two storey Federation Queen Anne style residence outside the metropolitan area. (Criterion 5.1)

Kobeelya, Katanning is a rare example of a substantial two storey former private rural residence that was adapted for use as a Church of England residential girl's school. (Criterion 5.2)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Kobeelya, Katanning is a good representative example of the type of substantial residences found on successful estates that were architecturally designed and constructed for prominent business people and landowners in the late 1890s and early 1900s in Western Australia. (Criterion 6.2)

Kobeelya, Katanning is a good representative example of a large rural residence adapted for use as a residential girls school operated by a religious teaching order. (Criterion 6.2)

12.3 CONDITION

The condition of the buildings that comprise *Kobeelya, Katanning* is varied due to the adaptation of buildings for new uses and the discontinued use of some elements. The following buildings are in fair to good condition; Kobeelya House, was re-roofed in 2012, however the enclosed verandah and lower verandah are in poor condition; the Coach House; Chapel of St Michael and All Angels; Kennedy Hall; White House (now 'The Cottage'); Transportable Classroom; Science Classrooms; Site Managers Cottage (now The Lodge); Baptist Church Office; Dining Room; Kitchen; Toilets; Rotunda and Bell, and Grounds Building.

The following buildings are in a deteriorated condition; Music Rooms; Carey Hall; Bungalow; Sheds and Outbuildings.

The grounds to the place are largely in a neglected condition with apparently minimal on-going maintenance and a number of the paddocks are subject to extensive re-growth of emergent trees and shrubs.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Kobeelya, Katanning has a moderate degree of integrity. The place currently functions as a church and a residential conference centre, with many of the buildings adapted for new uses. Although some elements are in a deteriorated condition, they are capable of conservation and adaptation to appropriate new uses.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Kobeelya, Katanning has a moderate degree of authenticity as the place has been altered and extended due to its changing function over time firstly as a residence and farming property, then a residential school and most recently as a church and residential convention centre. The original landholding has been substantially reduced and there is no longer evidence of any original farming activity. Many of the buildings have been extended and altered for new uses, however, the main residence retains much of its original detailing such as tessellated flooring, stained glass windows, marble fireplaces, timber staircases and joinery.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the Conservation Plan: *Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia*, prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007, with amendments and/or additions by the State Heritage Office and the Register Committee. The documentation for this place is also based upon a report from Landscape Architect Peter Woodward in May 2013.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Kobeelya, Katanning was originally built in 1902 as a family residence for Frederick Henry Piesse, a prominent businessman and the first Member of the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia for the Williams area, who with his brother Charles was instrumental in the development of Katanning and surrounding districts for many years.¹ Following the establishment of the Great Southern Railway between Perth and Albany, the brothers purchased land in Katanning, and built a flour mill, granary and packing sheds, a hotel and a general store. They also purchased large areas of farmland adjoining the townsite, including the future site of *Kobeelya, Katanning*.²

Frederick Piesse was elected to the Katanning Road Board in 1889, a position he held until 1896. In 1890 he became the first Member of Parliament for the Williams area, and in 1894 he was elected to the seat of Katanning. *Kobeelya*, was constructed for the Piesse family in 1902, and comprised a substantial 17 room two storey residence in the Federation Queen Anne style, which was designed by prominent architect Edwin Summerhayes. However, the family's move to *Kobeelya* was delayed when a shipment of furniture from England was shipwrecked en route.³

While in use as the Piesse family residence, *Kobeelya* became the social centre of Katanning, hosting many visiting dignitaries. Daisy Bates would visit *Kobeelya* when she was in Katanning staying at the Aboriginal reserve. The house was run with a staff of three housemaids, a gardener, and a coachman, as well as farm workers when needed. Frederick Piesse died in 1912 and his widow and daughter continued to live in the house until it was sold in 1922.⁴

In the same year, *Kobeelya* was offered to Dr. Cecil Wilson, the Bishop of Bunbury for use as a school, and the property was purchased for £5,000. The Katanning Church of England Girls School opened in September 1922, and was officially opened by the Archbishop of Perth, C.O.L Riley on 14 September that year. Prior to acquiring *Kobeelya*, the school had been held at the Anglican rectory in Katanning, and then as numbers grew, at the parish hall. With the

1 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.27.

2 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.27.

3 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.28.

4 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.28.

opening of the Kobeelya complex the school continued to expand, and at the end of its first year in operation it had 17 boarders and 5 day students.⁵

In 1923 extensions were made to the dining room and dormitories to accommodate 70 boarders and 15 day pupils, and by 1924, there were 51 boarders. Around this time fundraising efforts began for a school chapel, however the building, designed by architects Kreitmayer & Rowe, was not completed until 1939. Finances at the school were often strained and in 1947, the Company Board of Directors asked the Perth Diocesan Trustees of the Church of England to take over the running of the school, which eventuated in 1952. However, over the years, the school still maintained large debts. In early 1967, the Bishop of Bunbury decided that due to its negative financial position, the school would have to close, and telegrams were sent to advise all parents of this decision. The response caused so much concern that a group of businessmen formed to address the schools financial difficulties and the decision was temporarily reversed.⁶

By 1975, the financial situation of the school had not improved and the Chairman of the Board announced that the school would close in December that year. The announcement spurred new support for the school and a decision was made to allow the Penrhos Council and the Uniting Church to take over operation of the school. From 1978, the school became known as Kobeelya College Incorporated.⁷

In 1982 following a reunion to celebrate Kobeelya's Diamond Jubilee, a group of former students formed the Kobeelya Historical Society in a bid to preserve the school's history. After 4 years, the group had gathered enough information to publish a book titled *Kobeelya 1922- 1982- Nemo Sibi Vivat*. Unfortunately, the publication of the book coincided with the closure of the school in 1986, due to a recession in the farming community. Following its closure, the school complex was sold to the Katanning Baptist Church, and the Kobeelya Historical Society found themselves in possession of a large amount of donated memorabilia with no school to house it in. The group then changed their name to the Kobeelya Museum Association and set about establishing a museum to house the collection.⁸

In 1986, *Kobeelya, Katanning* was purchased by the Baptist Union of Western Australia as their church facilities in Katanning were becoming over-crowded. Kobeelya was therefore used as a place of worship and community activities.⁹

The Baptist Union made a number of changes to the function of the various buildings at *Kobeelya, Katanning*. This included converting the Dining Hall into a worship centre and meeting hall, which was renamed "Kennedy Hall." The

⁵ 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.28-29, 33.

⁶ 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.29.

⁷ 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.29.

⁸ Kobeelya website. www.kobeelya.com Accessed July 2012.

⁹ 'Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia Conservation Plan', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007. p.30.

boarding house, originally known as “St Faith’s”, was converted into a Sunday School and Youth Activities centre and renamed “Carey Hall.” The building was later used as a storage space. The Science Classrooms were utilised as a teaching space by Edith Cowan University and TAFE, as well as by the Baptist church. In 2013/2014 these rooms were further renovated and the space is currently used as a multi-function facility. The kitchen from the former Home Economics building was relocated to former classrooms and staff room to form a caretaker’s accommodation, known as “The Lodge.” Kobeelya House was converted into the Kobeelya Conference Centre, serviced by a new Dining room that was formed from the remainder of the Home Economics room adjoined to former classroom space. The conference centre is used by a number of community groups for workshops and meetings, as well as for short term accommodation.¹⁰

Other changes included sealing the driveway and car park and the addition of the Barbeque, Rotunda, a children’s playground and pizza oven. The swimming pool was removed due to replacement cost and security restrictions.¹¹

In 1988, the Kobeelya Museum Association opened their first museum in the Old Roller Flour Mill in Katanning. As this site was not a long term option, the Association approached the new owners of the school site, the Katanning Baptist Church to see if a suitable building could be found within the school grounds to house the collection. The Baptist Church offered the Association the use of the Coach House, and funds were raised to restore the place to a suitable standard to house the collection. The Kobeelya School Museum was officially opened in 2007 by the Honourable Terry Waldron MLA, and the place is still run and maintained by the Old Kobeelyan’s Association.¹² The loft of the site is also used as a radio broadcast station.¹³

In 2012, Kobeelya House was re-roofed with the aid of a Lotterywest grant.

In 2015, Kobeelya is known as the Kobeelya Conference Centre and is used by the Baptist community as a place of worship, a conference centre, and a venue for camps and community outreach programs.

For a full discussion of the documentary evidence refer to ‘Conservation Plan: Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia’, prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007, and amended in September 2007, pages 26-78.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Kobeelya, Katanning is located in a prominent position on high ground overlooking the town of Katanning. The place comprises a substantial 17 room two storey residence in the Federation Queen Anne style (1902) which has been altered and extended over time, a Coach House (1902), associated sheds and outbuildings (1902) and a collection of separate classrooms, dining room, kitchen and quarters (1920s to 1980s), set in grounds of 10.34 hectares. The landscape retains some of the earlier tree and garden plantings.

¹⁰ *pers.comm.* Martin Livsey, 29 September 2014

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² Katanning Accommodation, <http://katanningaccommodation.com.au/kobeelya-school-museum-history> accessed May 2015.

¹³ *pers.comm.* Martin Livsey, 29 September 2014

Kobeelya House is a two storey building with two storey verandas wrapping around the north west corner and the northern elevations of the building. A tower with the name Kobeelya above the ground floor archway is a prominent feature of the front elevation. The tower incorporates a small room, which was originally used as a bedroom. The plan of the building is asymmetrical and is well detailed to the principal elevations, and unembellished to the rear. Original internal details include, stained glass windows, a cellar, panelled timber doors and timber joinery, elaborate plaster cornices and ceiling roses, tessellated tiled floors to the ground floor entrance hall and timber floors on all levels. The building was re-roofed with the aid of a Lotterywest grant in 2012. The enclosed verandah and lower verandah are in poor condition.

Other notable buildings on the site include;

- The Coach House (1902) which originally included a stable with a hayloft over, with attached servant's quarters. In 1967, the building was converted for use as classrooms, and in 2007, it was converted again for use as a school Museum by the Old Kobeelyan's Association. This has resulted in substantial changes to external and internal finishes and the original form of the building cannot be accurately determined.
- Music Rooms (1927) - a single storey red face brick and iron building located south of Kobeelya House, which includes 7 small music practice rooms.
- Site Manager's Cottage (1928) – now known as 'The Lodge', the place comprises a single storey residence, adjoining the two storey former science classrooms, both constructed in face brick, with an iron roof. The building was originally constructed as a single classroom and extended to three, with rooms at the western end comprising four staff bedrooms and a bathroom. In 2010, the place was converted to accommodation and was renamed 'The Lodge' at this time.
- Anglican Chapel of St Michael and All Angels (1939) - comprises a small dark red brick church in the Inter-War Romanesque style with a pitched roof clad in Marseilles pattern terracotta tiles. A square brick tower is located above the vestry, with louvered vents on the top section. The main entrance has brick arches, and the six nave windows are all glazed with stained glass. In 2012, the place is in fair condition due to conservation of the building by the Old Kobeelyan's Association.
- Dining Room (1924) – a former classroom block constructed in face brick with an iron roof. The external bays feature decorative brickwork above the concrete lintels over the windows. The original verandah has been enclosed. Internal fireplaces have been bricked up and chimneys removed.
- Carey Hall (1936) – constructed as a boarding house for students, and converted for recreational purposes in 1978. The external brickwork comprises a face brick dado with rendered and painted brickwork to the roof level. Internally, the accommodation consists of one large space, with the former dormitory at the northern end, a recessed entry porch and two small formerly for staff. The verandah has been enclosed and the chimneys removed.
- Kennedy Hall (1954) – a single storey brick cavity building with a high roof clad in Marseilles pattern terracotta tiles. The building was originally

constructed as a dining hall and kitchen for the school. It was refurbished in 1997, and the former kitchen was altered to a foyer and a porch was added to the northern side of building. The western end of the interior incorporates a stage, and the place is now used as the Katanning Baptist Church. In 2012, the building is in a fair condition due to the completion of damp coursing on the majority of the building.

Other associated buildings on the site include; Bungalow (1954), which in 2012 is in a deteriorated condition due to water damage resulting in a break in through the roof. There are plans to repair the place in 2013. Baptist Church Office (1970), White House (now called The Cottage) (1967), which was significantly upgraded in 2011, Toilets (now in fair condition), and various Sheds and Outbuildings. Finally, there are two commemorative bells at the site, the first located at the Rotunda and the second opposite Kennedy Hall. The latter bell was bought in 1903 for the former Baptist Church in Katanning.

It should be noted that the function of many of the buildings at *Kobeelya, Katanning* have changed over the years as the place developed in response to changing needs and circumstances.

For a full discussion of the physical evidence refer to 'Conservation Plan: Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007, and amended in September 2007, pages 88-104.

The place has a key location within Katanning, located at the end of the main street (Clive Street/ Kobeelya Avenue) and having a commanding prospect over the town and its rural hinterland. The elevated topography of the site combined with the boundary plantings provide a substantially treed backdrop to the site, this landscape strongly reflecting the former boundaries of the place. This includes former site plantings such as the unusual street verge boundary on Kobeelya Avenue, significant remnant vegetation which is now outside of the property. The place as a whole comprises several distinct fenced and tree edged paddocks, sports facilities, car parks, as well as lawn and tree plantings associated with the buildings.

There do not appear to be any plantings within the property that predate the construction of the building although *Eucalyptus wandoo* (Wandoo) on the adjacent golf course could be remnant vegetation.

The trees that appear extant from the original phase of construction include *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob) and *Quercus spp* (Oaks), relatively unusual exotic species. Both are slow growing species and feature on the lawn area fronting Brownie Street, as well as acting as an avenue to what is anecdotally the former driveway, currently located within the southern verge of Kobeelya Avenue. This verge runs in a gently curving avenue from the property for a full block to Adam Street and predates the current road construction. The *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob) trees on the property are in a relatively immature form, and it appears that these trees are the result of regrowth from the original trunks that have been cut down near the base (a practice known as coppicing). Other plantings that appear to date from the original building are found in an informal scattered arrangement to the lawn at the front of the house and include: palm trees- *Washingtonia robusta* (Cotton Palm and *Phoenix canariensis* (Canary Palm) planted directly in front of the building together with *Lophostemon confertus* (Queensland Brush Box), *Brachychiton populonenum* (Kurrajong). Other less significant plantings include *Melia azedarach* (White Cedar), *Cedrus spp* (Cedar), *Citharexylum spinosum*

(Fiddlewood) and *Callitris preissii* (Rottneest Cypress). These largely exotic trees are commonly associated with significant rural residences and tend to survive due to an ability to withstand shortages of water and summer heat.

The non endemic-South Australian *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (Sugar Gums), were extensively planted to define much of the boundaries of the place, and while significant in size could have been planted while the property was used as a school. In particular, a significant number of these trees line the playing field/cricket pitch boundary north west of Kobeelya House.

The paddock areas are deteriorated with sections of broken fencing and extensive weed and scrub regrowth. The former school horse paddock north of Kobeelya House contains no current evidence of stock and demonstrates extensive growth of emergent wattle and sheoak scrub. The southern-most paddock within the property is used for hay cropping. The dirt track/firebreak running inside the boundary around this section of the property appears little used with obstructions from fallen branches and trees.

The boundary between the golf course and the property is fenced and most of it is edged with a dirt vehicular track. The vegetation on the golf course side of the fence is a similar random mix of trees and long grass as found in the paddocks and other boundaries, notably *Casuarina spp* (Sheoaks) *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (Sugar Gums). However, most of the gums in the golf course appear significantly younger than those within the curtilage of the place. Plantings between the fairways within the golf course include a similar range of species.

There is no physical evidence of a former orchard on the site. There is no physical evidence of extant grapevines or any form of cultivated production. There are sections of former paddock fencing in the northern section of the property.

The remnants of school activities within the property include the relocated roundabout, the asphalt tennis courts and the playing field. The school swimming pool has been removed from the site and grassed over.

A number of intrusive minor plantings and hard landscape elements such as a rotunda, chess board, globe and pizza oven are more recent additions to the central garden.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For a discussion of the comparative analysis refer to 'Conservation Plan: Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007, and amended in September 2007, page 152.

Additional comparative information

There are 79 two storey residences in the Federation Queen Anne style on the HCWA database. The majority of these places are located in the metropolitan area, with the exception of the following six places which are located in regional areas. Only one of these six places (Bay View) is comparable to Kobeelya in terms of scale:

- 01878 Byfield House, Northam (1904) – a two storey brick and tile residence, with an imposing tower, and a high level of ornamentation, situated on three lots in a suburban setting.

- 05025 Bay View, Esperance (1903) – a substantial two storey Federation Queen Anne design style stone residence with granite foundations, and a corrugated iron roof. The residence retains most internal features, including a fine teak timber staircase, pressed metal ceilings and leadlights.
- 04297 Whispering Pines, Albany (1890-1915) – This house was originally a single storey stone building constructed between 1900-1905. It was extended c1916 when an upper floor of hand-made bricks was added in the 1980s- in keeping with the original stone structure
- 05671 House, Bunbury (1920) – a two storey brick and iron residence, with timber second storey in the Federation Queen Anne style.
- 05724 House, Stirling Street, Bunbury (1907) - a two storey residence of brick, timber and asbestos construction, designed by F.W Steere. The first floor was previously half timbered and the front entrance is shaded by a verandah under a separate roof.
- 15494 McKenzie House, Albany – a two storey brick and iron residence which has been converted into two flats. On an elevated position overlooking Princess Royal Harbour.

There are many other substantial 2 storey residences in varying architectural styles located in rural towns throughout Western Australia. Many were constructed in the late 1890s and early 1900s during a period of growth and optimism, brought about by the discovery of gold and the opening of the railways, which eventuated in the expansion of the agricultural sector.

Edwin Summerhayes

Edwin Summerhayes had an ongoing professional relationship with the Piesse family. As well as Kobeelya House (1902), he designed houses in Clive Street Katanning for two of F. H. Piesse's sons (1905), the two storey F. & C. Piesse commercial building also in Katanning (1901). In 1913, the partnership of Summerhayes and Boas designed the two-storey *King George Hostel* (P1339) in Katanning for the Piesse family, to house single workers.

Summerhayes also designed properties for the Piesse family in Wagin, including P2631 CA Piesse Store, Wagin, and P02634 *Buttericks Building, Wagin* (1906).

Other relevant works by Edwin Summerhayes include the 1928 extension and redevelopment of the P2642 *Wagin Town Hall*, and the 1924 two-storey, P2155 *Rechabite Hall*, William Street, Northbridge.

Anglican Girls Schools

There are no Anglican girls' boarding schools, or former boarding schools located in regional areas on the Register. There are other places on the database described as Convent Schools in regional areas, but there is insufficient information about some of these places to determine if they operated solely as girl's schools with boarding facilities. The following places are girls (boarding) schools associated with other religious orders in regional areas;

- P001 *St Joseph's Convent (fmr)* (1881-1978) a two storey Victorian Georgian brick building that once operated as St Joseph's School for Young Ladies, and also offered boarding facilities.

- P1229 Priory Lodge & Grounds, Dongara (Dominican Sisters) – currently being assessed for the RHP. Comprises two substantial two-storey buildings, in the Victorian Filigree style. The place is the only known extant example of former hotel purchased and adapted by a religious order for use as a convent and school.
- P4125 Roman Catholic Church Group, Toodyay – a substantial group of church buildings dating from 1860 in a variety of architectural styles. The place included a girls boarding school which operated from 1902. – currently being assessed for the RHP.
- P00259 St Brigid's Convent, Bridgetown, a two-storey brick and iron residence with two-storey wrap-around verandahs, in the federation Filigree and the Federation free style, constructed in 1904, The place operated as both a day/boarding school for girls. – In the assessment program.

There is one other large house in Katanning that was converted for use as a school.

- P3420 Coleraine (fmr), originally 'The Bungalow,' a single storey brick residence built in the Federation Bungalow style in 1906 for Katanning's Resident Magistrate and Resident Medical Officer, Dr. F House. When House left Katanning in 1929, the building was converted into a Grammar School for boys (although not attached to the Church of England). The place was closed in 1934 and was converted into a private hospital and later into a residence.

School Chapels

A search of the State Heritage Office database for places with the keyword 'school' and 'chapel' returns 32 entries, 14 of which are listed in the RHP. The places that are comparable to the Chapel of St Michael & All Angels at *Kobeelya, Katanning* as regional school chapels include:

- P379 *Convent of Mercy Group (fmr)* (RHP): comprises a two storey brick convent and chapel complex established at Bunbury in 1897 by the Sisters of Mercy. Parts of the convent were designed by architect M Cavanagh and the place is considered significant for its role in Catholic education and for its landmark quality.
- P1332 *Reidy House* (RHP): comprises a two storey classically planned brick convent and school established at Katanning in 1929 by the Institution of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions. The place is an eclectic example of Inter-war Romanesque style designed by architect M Cavanagh, and the place is also significant for its role in Catholic education and its role in the streetscape of Katanning.
- P1672 *Christian Brother's Agricultural School Group* (RHP): comprises the Central Building, Saint Mary's Convent (fmr) and Saint Mary's Chapel, established at Tardun in 1936 by the Christian Brothers. The Central Building and Chapel were designed by priest-architect C Hawes, and the complex is

considered significant as demonstrating the Catholic history and for its role in the Child Migrant Scheme.

- P1762 *Fairbridge Village* (RHP): a village-like collection of pise, timber brick and masonry buildings, constructed 1921-1938 in the Inter-war Old English style by the Child Emigration Society. The place includes the Church of the Holy Innocents, designed by Sir H Baker. The place is considered significant as an example of the child migration scheme and the cottage system of child welfare.
- P8546 *Parkerville Children's Home and Cemetery* (RHP): a complex of buildings established at Parkerville in 1903 as a residential child care facility by the Community of the Sisters of the Church. The place includes the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels, and is significant for its history of child care, particularly the 'cottage' system and the involvement of Sister Kate Clutterbuck.

Kobeelya, Katanning is a rare example of a substantial two storey Federation Queen Anne style residence outside the metropolitan area that was adapted for use as a Church of England residential girl's school, and as a regional school that included a chapel. There are other residential schools on the database in regional areas, but these are associated with other religious orders and were generally purpose built.

13.4 KEY REFERENCES

Conservation Plan: Kobeelya Conference Centre, Katanning, Western Australia', prepared by Ronald Bodycoat Architect and Denise Cook Historian for the Baptist Church Union of WA, Katanning in April 2007, and amended in September 2007.

13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH
