



**Harry Marwood c.1912**

(Courtesy Bev Russell)

**M**arwood, Henry (Harry) Marmaduke (1873-1929) was born at Riversdale Road in Hawthorn, Melbourne on 16 May 1873. Harry was the youngest of nine children born to importer Matthew, and Mary Anne Marwood of Melbourne. Following the early death of Matthew at South Yarra in January 1877, Harry gained a step-father and further family stability when his mother married Dr Gerald Featherston in 1878.

Harry attended the Melbourne Church of England Grammar School, leaving in 1888 to study architecture. Some of his initial training was obtained in the office of prominent Victorian architect Charles D'Ebro, whose firm had designed Fremantle Town Hall (1887). By 1894 Harry was favorably mentioned in the results of a student competition. However the 1890s were a disastrous economic period in Victoria, and most architectural practices had little or no work. Consequently the younger architects were forced to seek alternative employment, or to move to more prosperous locations.

Harry married Blanche Coleman of St Kilda on 12 September 1895, and they had a son Albert George in 1896. In this context Harry found himself struggling to 'make ends meet'. In 1901 Blanche sued for divorce on the grounds of desertion. It was alleged that following marriage the couple had lived with her parents, until Harry was told that he 'had to form a home for his wife, or leave the place', whereupon he left for Western Australia. A *decree nisi* with costs and custody of the child was granted.

Harry's eldest brother John Frederick Marwood had been in WA for some time, and had married at Geraldton in 1895. The support of his brother and the gold boom employment opportunities in WA may have been one of number of reasons for Harry leaving Victoria for the west coast. In 1898 Harry was one of a number of architects listed in practice in Geraldton, in 1900 he was at Mount Magnet, and in 1901 at Cue.

As opportunities in the Murchison Goldfields declined, Harry turned to Perth for employment, and in December 1903 it was announced that 'Mr Austin Bastow, architect, St. George's Terrace, Perth, has taken into partnership Mr H.M. Marwood, a gentleman

who gained considerable experience in Melbourne under Mr D'Ebro, the talented architect of the Federal capital.' Designs of the partnership Bastow & Marwood include two-storey residential shops in Hay Street, Subiaco, cottages in Railway Road, Subiaco, and additions to a Presbyterian Church, also at Subiaco. The major and most prestigious project for the firm was the Hassell residence in Hay Street, West Perth, valued at over £5 000.

Ultimately the union was not successful, as Bastow soon advertised that the partnership had 'expired' on 14 December 1904. Indeed, it was reported that Bastow removed Marwood's name from the sign board at the Hassell's house, and in 1905 a description of the building was published under the heading 'a Palatial Residence', attributing the design to Bastow. Marwood wrote to the local journal, and the next edition included Harry's letter declaring that 'I am solely responsible for the architecture of the residence in question, the same having been designed by me whilst a partner ...'

Harry Marwood married Norma Camilla Maria von Meyern at Perth in February 1904, but in 1905 he was brought before a court charged with bigamy, as the *decree nisi* from his previous marriage had never been made *absolute*. It appears that the necessary legal procedures were eventually cleared, allowing Harry and Norma to marry again at Geraldton in 1908. The couple's first child Gordon Marmaduke was born in New Zealand when Norma returned to be with her family during 1906, followed by Hector Marcus (1911), Pauline Norma (1912) and Beatrice Dudley (1919), all born at Geraldton.

Harry was initially very successful in his second period at Geraldton. Probably introduced to the parish by his brother John, in 1908 he designed Holy Trinity Church at Northampton. In 1910 Harry called tenders for shops and offices in Marine Terrace, Geraldton for J.G. Smith, and a shop adjoining for J. Johnston; a residence for W.B. Fallowfield; a large residence at *Yanget* for Alex Grant; two-storey additions to the Geraldton public library; additions and alterations to the Esplanade Hostel for L. Goldberg; a residence in Elwes Street (later renamed Cathedral Avenue), Geraldton for Sir Edward Wittenoom KCMG; and note was made of much residential work in progress - with plans being prepared for a two storey coffee palace, a large warehouse, large shops, and many further residences.

The Geraldton Library holds Marwood's sketch plan of 1910 for a 'brick cottage at Hinton near Geraldton for Sir Edward Wittenoom KCMG', but it is not known if an archive of Marwood drawings exists, nor has a comprehensive search of local newspapers been made to identify the extent of Harry's work in the Mid-West Region. The family home 'Kia Ora' (a Maori greeting, be well/healthy) was on Marine Terrace in Geraldton, and by 1911 Harry's office was at Wittenoom's Buildings, also on Marine Terrace. In that year he

designed a stone and brick hotel at Mullewa for Owen McKenna, a warehouse in Eleanor Street (later renamed Chapman Road), Geraldton for Dalgety & Co, a two-storey concrete hotel at Roebourne, and the St George's Buildings. Remnant portions of his splendid *Federation Free Classical* facade to the landmark St George's Buildings completed in 1912 on the north-east corner of Cathedral Avenue and Marine Terrace are now incorporated into a commercial building. The Grantown Guest House (Isles Building) in Marine Terrace, Geraldton is another of his designs remaining to grace the commercial district of the City.

In 1913 Marwood's commercial work at Geraldton continued, with two-storey additions and extensive alterations to the Club Hotel. In early 1915 note was made of a proposed hotel at Meekatharra for W.J. Bortwick, and in the same year Harry designed the men's quarters and shearing shed at Dandaraga Station, a 1 000 000 acre property near Sandstone, but due to the privations of the First World War in 1914-1918, work became more and more difficult to procure.

Harry enjoyed some recreational pursuits, and in 1918 he was a rear-commodore at the Geraldton Yacht Club. It is noted in *Memories of Champion Bay or old Geraldton* that: 'The second one [library] was burned down and shortly afterwards a photographic studio built on the spot, and Harry Marwood the architect combined his work with photography.' Thus Marwood had dual interests and occupations, and accordingly was better placed to deal with fluctuations in the amount of work available to him. As late as 1926 he was advertising that he wanted to buy a 'stereoscopic (twin lens) camera for films or plates'.

In poor health, Harry moved to Perth in the early 1920s, and registered with the Architects Board of Western Australia in April 1923. Based at an office in Barrack Street, he continued with domestic projects, including a bungalow in Vale Road, Mount Lawley for Mrs G.M. Buttsworth (1924); a residence in Sixth Avenue, Maylands for J.W. Boulton (1927); and a bungalow at Coode Street, South Perth for D.F. Vincent (1929).

Harry died aged 56 at Perth on 8 October 1929 of diabetes and hypoglycaemia, and was buried at Karrakatta. The *Geraldton Guardian and Express* of 14 October 1929 noted that Marwood 'who died last week in the Perth Hospital, practiced his profession of architect for many years in Geraldton, where he has many friends who will regret his passing. He was amongst the many young men from Victoria who arrived at Geraldton shortly after the discovery of gold at Cue and other places on the Murchison, and for a few years divided his time between the port and various inland centres, finally settling at Geraldton. Amongst the many other buildings he designed and supervised in Geraldton are Grantown House and St George's buildings, and numerous private residences.'

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*W.A. Mining, Building, and Engineering Journal* [WAMBEJ], 19 December 1903, p.18 (with Bastow)

WAMBEJ, 19 December 1903, (2 two-storey residential shops Hay Street Subiaco, for H.T. Hardey); 13 February 1904, p.26 (2 cottages Railway Road Subiaco for Cecil Dent)

WAMBEJ, 18 June 1904, p.19; 9 July 1904, p.19; 6 August 1904, p.18; 25 February 1905, p.20; 6 May 1905, p.19; 13 May 1905, p.20 (residence West Perth for John Hassell)

WAMBEJ, 17 December 1904, p.23 (Presbyterian Church Subiaco)

*The West Australian*, 9 January 1905, p.1 (expiry of partnership with Bastow)

*The West Australian*, 14 January 1905, p.10 (alleged bigamy – Marwood before the court)

*The West Australian*, 5 May 1905, p.2 (brick cottage Nicholson Road, Subiaco)

*The West Australian*, 28 March 1908, p.9 (residence Elwes Street, Geraldton for Dr MacMorran)

*The West Australian*, 29 October 1909, p.3 (residence-office Durlacher St Geraldton for Mechanics Institute)

*The West Australian*, 1 June 1910, p.5 (cottage at Hinton, near Geraldton for Sir Edward Wittenoom KCMG)

*The West Australian*, 1 June 1910, p.5; *W.A. Mining, Building, and Engineering Journal*, 4 June 1910, p.22 (tender for shops and offices Marine Terrace Geraldton for J.G. Smith, and a shop adjoining for J. Johnston)

WAMBEJ, 30 July 1910, p.19 (residence for W.B. Fallowfield, large residence at *Yanget* for Alex Grant)

WAMBEJ, 6 August 1910, p.19 (two storey additions to Geraldton library, note of much residential work in progress, plans being prepared for two storey coffee palace, large warehouse, shops, and further residences)

*The West Australian*, 19 September 1910, p.5 (additions and alterations, Marine Terrace, Geraldton, to the Esplanade Hostel for L. Goldberg; residence in Elwes Street, Geraldton for Sir Edward Wittenoom KCMG)

*The Geraldton Guardian*, 21 February 1911, p.3 (tender for stone and brick hotel Mullewa for O. McKenna)

*The Geraldton Express*, 15 March 1911, p.2 (tender for warehouse Eleanor Street for Messrs Dalgety & Co.)

*The West Australian*, 1 May 1911, p.3 (tender for two-storey concrete hotel at Roebourne)

*The Geraldton Express*, 8 December 1911 (tender for St George's Buildings)

*The West Australian*, 25 September 1913, p.2 (two-storey additions and extensive alterations to Club Hotel, Geraldton, for Trustees of the Estate of Hannah Hosken)

*The Western Mail*, 8 January 1915, p.17 (proposed hotel at Meekatharra for W.J. Bortwick)

*Black Range Courier*, 16 June 1915 (Dandaraga men's quarters and shearing shed)

*The West Australian*, 5 December 1918, p.5 (rear-commodore of Geraldton yacht club)

*The West Australian*, 19 June 1924, p.1 (bungalow Vale Road, Mount Lawley for Mrs G.M. Buttsworth)

*The West Australian*, 4 July 1927, p.3 (tender for brick residence Sixth Avenue, Maylands for J.W. Boulton)

*The West Australian*, 11 May 1929, p.13 (Coode Street South Perth for D.F. Vincent)

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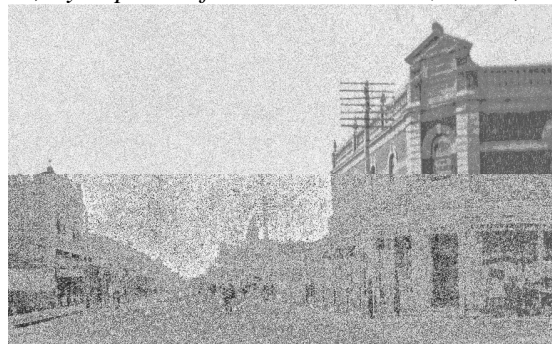
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Hassell residence *Kendenup* in Hay Street, West Perth. *Meerlinga* at the left is extant.  
(Battye, J.S., *Cyclopedia of Western Australia*, Vol.1, 1912, p.269)



Marine Terrace, Geraldton - St George's Buildings at right, corner of Cathedral Avenue.  
(Battye, J.S., *Cyclopedia of Western Australia*, Vol.2, 1913, p.976)



'Kia Ora', Marine Terrace, Geraldton – it is not known if this was a Marwood design.  
(Courtesy Bev Russell)



Grantown Guest House, Marine Terrace, Geraldton  
(John Taylor 1995)