

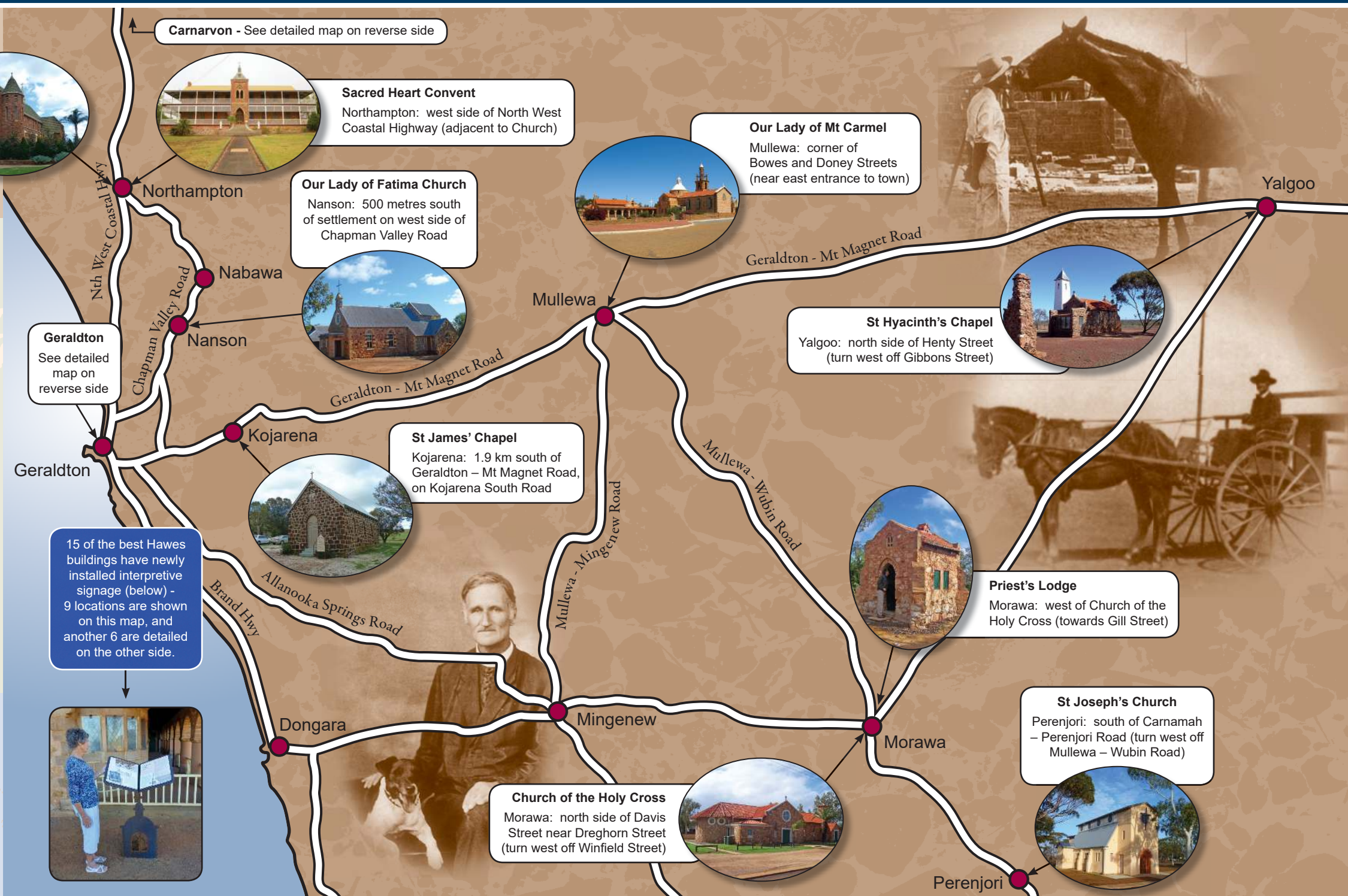
Monsignor John Hawes

Monsignor John Hawes, also known as Reverend Hawes or Dean Hawes, came to the Mid West in November 1915 to serve in the vast Geraldton Diocese. He had only just completed his training as a Catholic priest, having originally been ordained into the Anglican Church. He was a qualified architect and a skilled artist and sculptor – and over the next 25 years he left an indelible mark on this region.

For much of his time in the region he was stationed in Mullewa, where his most personal of work can be found in the Church of Our Lady of Mt Carmel and priest-house. His architectural output was extraordinary. His work includes many of the regions distinctive and beautiful buildings, from the grand St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Geraldton to the tiny Chapel of St Hyacinth in Yalgoo.

Hawes was a man of the people, and was widely loved and respected. He was an excellent horseman and rode far and wide to visit his parishioners or attend to current building projects. He was also very fond of dogs and for many years was accompanied everywhere by his beloved fox terrier, Dominic.

His artistic temperament and willingness to take on ever more projects led to a state of near exhaustion. In 1939 he left Western Australia to return to his beloved Bahamas, where he'd worked earlier as an Anglican missionary in 1908. He was 63 years old and lived out his days as a hermit on Cat Island, true at last to his cherished Franciscan ideals.



Audio CD

An audio tour CD with 17 informative and entertaining tracks detailing the life and work of Monsignor Hawes is available from Visitor Information Centres around the Mid West. It is also available from the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre 56 Cathedral ave Geraldton.

Further reading:

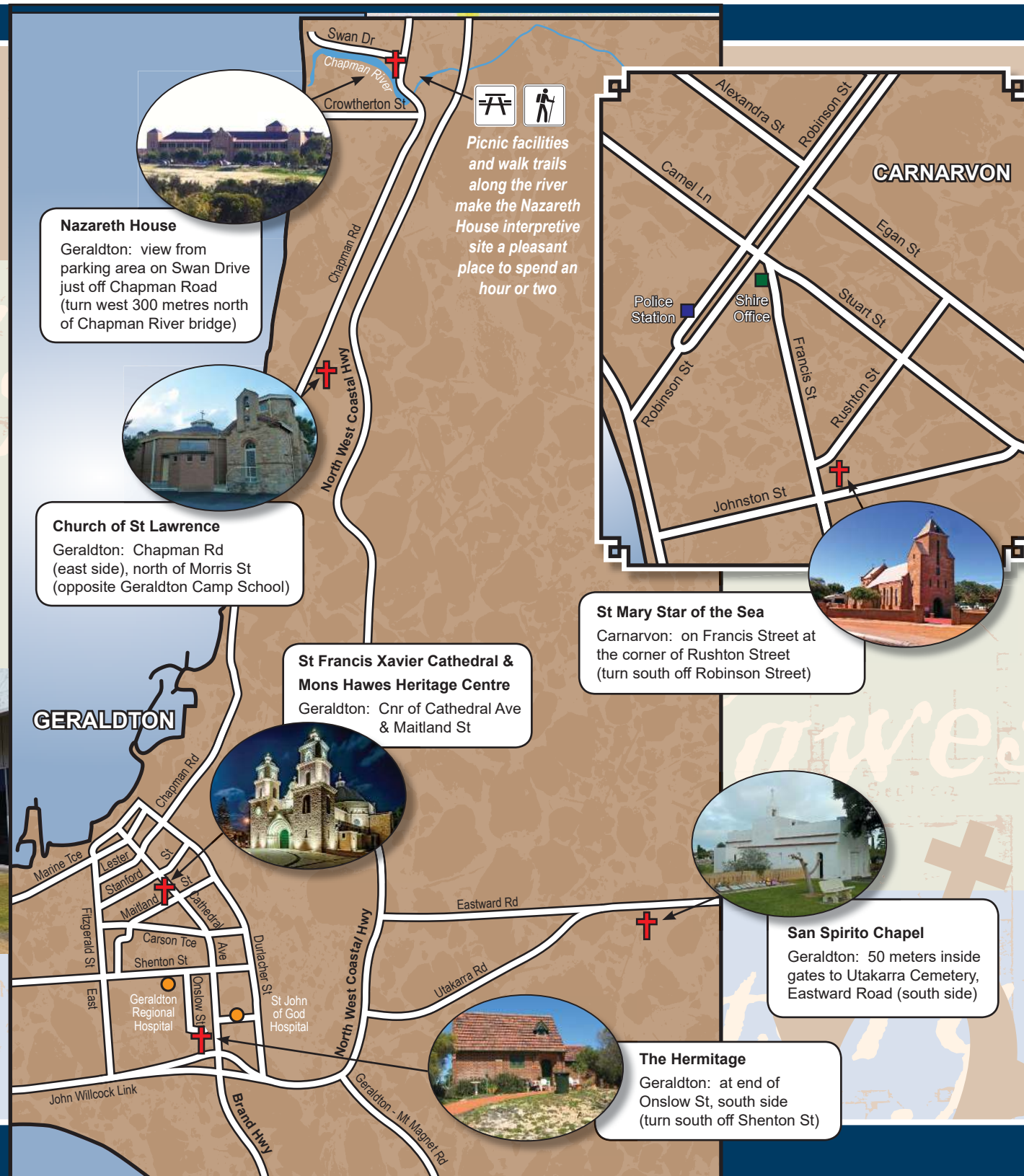
Between Devotion and Design, by John Taylor (UWA Press, 2000)
The Conscious Stone, by A.G. Evans (The Polding Press, 1984)
The Hermit of Cat Island, by P.F. Anson (Burns & Oats, 1957)

More information:

For more information about Hawes or his buildings visit **Monsignor Hawes Heritage Centre Museum** 56 Cathedral Ave, Geraldton (adjacent to SFX Cathedral)
Opening Hours: Daily 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
or visit: www.monsignorhawes.com.au



Monsignor Hawes Heritage
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The Monsignor Hawes Story

his life – his architecture – his legacy

15 of his best Western Australian buildings,
now freshly interpreted

