

= Percy Henn =

Reverend Canon Percy Umfreville Henn ( 21 January 1865 in Manchester , England ? 25 February 1955 in Perth , Western Australia ) was a clergyman and teacher in England and later Western Australia . He is best known for his time as Headmaster at Guildford Grammar School and later for the building of the Chapel of SS . Mary and George .

Henn gained his BA in 1887 and MA in 1890 from Worcester College at Oxford University . He taught at various schools until 1900 , when he became a missionary in Western Australia in country towns . In Western Australia Henn married Jean Elliott and had four children . After further religious work in regional WA , he moved to Guildford , Western Australia and became a leading force behind Guildford Grammar School 's Guildford Grammar School Chapel and preparatory school . He died in 1955 at age 90 .

= = Early years = =

Henn was the tenth child of Rev. John Henn and his wife Catherine , née Holcroft . Born in Manchester , England in 1865 , he was educated at Christ 's Hospital , London as a Bluecoat Boy and then at Worcester College , Oxford on a scholarship . Henn considered taking holy orders after gaining two qualifications : a BA ( 1887 ) and a MA ( 1890 ) .

= = Early career = =

Henn decided , before taking on a spiritual career , that he would become a teacher . He began his career as an assistant master at Hurstpierpoint College , West Sussex ( one of the Woodard Schools , a series of eleven schools founded by Nathaniel Woodard ) . There , he became interested in education through religion , and became an ordained priest in 1891 . He then became Chaplain at Hurstpierpoint in 1892 . Henn became recognised as a teacher when he became a founding headmaster at Worksop College in Nottinghamshire ; however he resigned in 1899 amidst differences with a new superior who disagreed with Henn 's philosophy of a school grounds with beautiful buildings dominated by a chapel .

= = Looking abroad = =

In January 1900 , Henn arrived as a missionary in Perth , Western Australia . After a short spell in Kalgoorlie , he moved to Geraldton as rector ( parish priest ) . On 3 April 1902 , in Geraldton , Henn married Jean Elliott and they eventually had four children together . Henn became a rector in Northam for three years ( 1902 ? 1905 ) , signifying the end of his missionary term . He returned to England and became organising secretary in the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in the dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester .

= = Return to Western Australia = =

= = = A Chapel for Guildford = = =

In 1910 , Henn returned to Perth to take up the position of Headmaster of Guildford Grammar School . His task was to oversee the first attempt by the Church of England at secondary education since 1873 . His first thought for the new school was the provision of a chapel . To him , a Church school without a chapel was " like the play of Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark . " Henn immediately sent out a circular entitled " A Church of England Secondary School for Western Australia . " This circular fell into the hands of one Cecil H. Oliverson , whom Henn eventually persuaded to pay the full cost of the Chapel , the Chapel of SS . Mary and George .

= = = Relations with Christ Church Grammar School = = =

In 1918 , Guildford Grammar School and Christ Church Grammar School were placed under the same ruling council . Henn became a member immediately ; however , Christ Church did not gain representation until 1920 . In 1918 , Henn suggested that Christ Church Grammar School 's oval be widened and made a first @-@ class playing field .

= = = Guildford Preparatory School = = =

In 1912 , a Cecil Priestley was temporarily employed by Henn as a member of the Guildford Grammar School staff . It seems today that he conceived the idea of a Guildford Preparatory School . Henn was enthusiastic about this , however the Guildford Preparatory School did not integrate with the main Guildford Grammar School until 1921 , when it became Guildford Grammar Preparatory School , and Priestley resigned from his position as the Head of the Prep School around this time .

Henn became canon of St George 's Cathedral , Perth in 1921 . He has a Guildford Grammar School house named after him , Henn 's House , founded 1927 .

= = 1925 ? death = =

Henn left his job as Headmaster at Guildford Grammar School in 1925 and returned to England . However , he could not be kept away from Western Australia and returned again to become founding warden of St. Georges College , within the University of Western Australia . Henn retired permanently to Perth in 1933 and died in 1955 , age 90 . Henn 's ashes reside in the Guildford Grammar School Chapel , with a stone slab to commemorate this situated on the north side of the sanctuary .