

## SHIRE OF MERREDIN

### LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY 2023

A review of Shire of Merredin's Heritage Inventory

#### HERITAGE LIST

Categories 1 and 2

The place records are numbered in order with town places in alphabetical street order and then districts in alphabetical order.



**HERITAGE INTELLIGENCE (WA)**

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(hons)

## HERITAGE LIST

Categories 1 and 2

Category 1      **Bold:** Register of Heritage places

Category 2      Normal text

NUMBER	NAME	STREET	TOWN
2	Merredin War Memorial	Barrack Street (cnr Fifth Street)	Merredin
	<b>Merredin Railway precinct</b>	<b>45 Barrack Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Merredin Railway Station (former) &amp; <u>waterfall</u></b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Railway water tank &amp; stand</b>		
	Barrack Street Commercial Group		
7	Group of 4 shops	50 - 54 Barrack Street	Merredin
8	Shops (2)	56 Barrack Street	Merredin
9	Commercial Hotel	62 Barrack Street	Merredin
10	Modern Shoe Store (former)	68 Barrack Street	Merredin
11	Lister House (former)		
	WW2 Air Observer's Post	74 Barrack Street	Merredin
	<b>Merredin Post Office Group</b>		
<b>12</b>	<b>Merredin Post Office</b>	<b>84 Barrack Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Merredin Post Office Residence</b>	<b>2 Bates Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
15	Bills Trough	Barrack Street	Merredin
24	Maple House ((former)	9 Bates Street	Merredin
25	Shop	15 Bates Street	Merredin
26	Ochiltree Motors (former)	23 Bates Street (SE cnr Mitchell St)	Merredin
27	National Bank & residence (former)	25 Bates Street (NE cnr Mitchell St)	Merredin
<b>29</b>	<b>Merredin Fire station &amp; residence (former)</b>		
	<b>SITE No.1 Fire Station</b>	<b>28 Bates Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
30	English, Scottish & Australian Bank Ltd (former) & residence	30 Bates Street	Merredin
<b>32</b>	<b>Cummins Theatre</b>	<b>31 Bates Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
<b>33</b>	<b>Agricultural Bank (former)</b>	<b>33 Bates Street</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
34	2 shops (former)	34 Bates Street	Merredin
35	Corner shop (former)	35 Bates Street SE cnr Coronation	Merredin
36	Corner Shop (former)	36 Bates Street SW cnr Coronation	Merredin
38	RAAF mess hut (former)	64 Bates Street (cnr Princess St)	Merredin
39	HDFD station (former)	Lot 27068 Chandler- Merredin Road	Merredin
40	Hunts Dam	Lot 28779 Chandler- Merredin Road	Merredin
41	RAAF Administration Block (former)	Chegwidden Avenue (cnr Barr Street)	Merredin
42	Concrete bunkers	Cohn & Allbeury Streets	Merredin
44	North Merredin Primary School (former)	22 Coronation Street	Merredin
45	Freemasons Lodge	45 Coronation Street	Merredin
46	CWA	47 Coronation Street	Merredin
57	Mineshafts	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road	Merredin
<b>58</b>	<b>Railway Dam (Merredin Peak)</b>	<b>Lot 1451 Goldfields Road</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
59	Merredin Peak Cairn	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road	Merredin
60	SITE: original Merredin townsite	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road	Merredin
61	Goldfields Road (west and east)	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road	Merredin

<b>62</b>	<b>Railway Houses precinct</b> Odd No's 71-89 Even No's 18-36 Odd No's 29-35	<b>Gt Eastern Hway/Kitchener Road</b> Gt Eastern Hway (Todd Street) Kitchener Street Kitchener Street	<b>Merredin</b>
66	Merredin Railways Operation Bulk Wheat bins/silos SILO ART Wheat storage bins Yardmaster's office Trainmen's Barracks (former)	Lot 103 Great Eastern Highway Great Eastern Highway Lot 103 Gamenya Avenue Great Eastern Highway Great Eastern Highway	Merredin Merredin Merredin Merredin Merredin
	Goldfields Pipeline pump stations	Lot 1361 Great Eastern Highway	Merredin
67	Pump Station No 4		
68	Pump Station (1960), Pump Station (c.1990), Pump station residence (former)		
69	Merredin Research Facility	22708 Great Eastern Highway	Merredin
<b>70</b>	<b>Managers House State Experimental Farm</b>	<b>22708 Great Eastern Highway</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
74	Merredin District Hospital	37 Kitchener Road	Merredin
<b>76</b>	<b>2/1 Australian Hospital (remnants)</b>	<b>Lot 1450 Mackenzie Crescent</b>	<b>Merredin</b>
77	Merredin Cemetery	4466 Merredin-Bruce Rock Road	Merredin
80	Merredin District Hall & Road Board Office (former)	16 Mitchell Street	Merredin
82	Merredin Court House	20 Mitchell Street	Merredin
84	Pioneer Cemetery	10 Pioneer Drive	Merredin
85	Brewery House & SITE: Brewery	60 Pollack Avenue (NE cnr Brewery Rd)	Merredin
86	Harling Memorial Library (former)	Queen Street	Merredin
87	Aircraft Hangars - RAAF Stores	60 Railway Avenue (cnr Goldfields Rd)	Merredin

## DISTRICT

### Burracoppin

D3	Burracoppin Railway Dam	Burracoppin Northwest Road	
D4	Burracoppin Hotel (former)	84-88 Parkes Street (cnr White St)	
D6	Burracoppin Well No 9	Burracoppin Northwest Road	

### Hines Hill

D11	Hines Hill Cemetery	Giles Road	
D16	Hines Hill Weighbridge	Lot 88 Great Eastern Highway	

### Korbel

D19	Metchering Well no 6	Coulahan Road (west side of rock)	
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### Muntadgin

D24	Muntadgin Townsite		
D25	Muntadgin Hotel (The Munty)	11 Crossland & Smith Street	
D27	Muntadgin General Store and Post office (former)	Lot 3 Crossland Street	

### Nangeenan

D33	Nangeenan Hall (former)	29 Marley Close	
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### Nokanning

D37	Nokanning White Well	Lot 28296 Nokanning Road	
D38	Ammunition Dumps	Lot 50 Nokanning East Road	

### Totadgin

D52	Totadgin Well No7	Lot 29241 Bruce Rock Merredin Road	
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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 2**

**MERREDIN WAR MEMORIAL**

**Barrack Street (cnr Fifth Street)**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance- 'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN WAR MEMORIAL</b>		
Address	Barrack Street (cnr Fifth Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Merredin War Memorial is of historic and social significance for the recognition and commemorations of those who served Australia in times of war and conflict. Events that take place in remembrance evoke a poignant sense of place.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1952
Uses	Memorial
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	Granite
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Symmetrical, formal stepped pediment

**DESCRIPTION:**

The war memorial is located within a traffic island, with landscaped surrounds. Flagpoles flank the monument and a pathway leads to the centre and across the front of the monument. It is flood-lit from ground lights at the foot, on both sides.

The central stepped element is flanked by lower vertical elements. The memorial names the 72 service personnel from the Merredin district who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War One (1914-1918), and 22 in World War Two (1939-1945). There is a plaque commemorating those who died in later wars and conflicts.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13494
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
Statewide War Memorial Survey	Identified in 1996
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 24

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**MERREDIN RAILWAY PRECINCT**

**No. 5**

**MERREDIN RAILWAY STATION (former) and waterfall**

**45 Barrack Street**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places** 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN RAILWAY STATION (and waterfall)</b>		
Address	45 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin Railway Station is of exceptional significance as it represents the importance of the railway system in the development of Merredin, the agricultural areas and their supporting townships in regional Western Australia. It is highly valued by the Merredin community as a reminder of Merredin's past as an important railway junction that was the centre of Western Australian Government Railway's (WAGR) maintenance operations on the Eastern Goldfields Railway from 1904 to 1969. The signal cabin is an exceptional example of its type and one of the few remaining in the State. The railway station and water tower and tank (Ref No 62) are landmarks in the Merredin town and make a very significant contribution to the historic townscape and to the local and the wider community's sense of place.

**Category 1:** Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1893 +++++
Uses	Railway services
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick

Roof	Clay tiles
Other	Timber (signal box)
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Merredin Railway Station Group comprises the Water Tower and tank (refer to No. 62) and four buildings on the railway platform comprising the Signal Cabin (1913, 1915), timber and iron on a two-storey high steel stand; Refreshment Rooms with cellar (1915, 1927), brick and tile; Waiting Rooms (1920), brick and iron; the Main Station Building (1927), brick and tile.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good <b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b> With the discovery of gold in Southern Cross and later in Coolgardie- Kalgoorlie, transport was required between Perth and the goldfields. The Eastern Railway, constructed as far as Northam in 1886, was extended to Merredin in 1893, Southern Cross in 1894, Coolgardie in 1895 and to Kalgoorlie in 1897. Water was required for the railway steam engines every 50 to 60 kilometres, and supply was an ongoing problem. Merredin Peak provided a good water catchment. In 1893, the Public Works Department designed a dam at the base of Merredin Peak to collect water and gravity feed to the water tank for the steam trains. As well as servicing the goldfields, the railway opened up the district for settlers on the land. Branch lines were constructed into the new wheat growing areas. The opening of the railway loop line to Dowerin in 1911, the Bruce Rock- Quairading-York line in 1913, the Bruce Rock-Corrigin-Narrogin line in 1914, and the Narrogin-Narembene line in 1923, made Merredin a major railway junction. The station was built in 1895. To deal with the growing traffic on the lines, a Signal Cabin was constructed on the platform in 1913. By 1915, improvements to the Refreshment Rooms including the cellar. Merredin's new station buildings in 1927 were constructed using Coolgardie bricks salvaged from the Golden Gate, Hannan Street and Kallaroo Stations, on the defunct Eastern Goldfields Railway loopline. In 1961, luxury 'Scenicruiser' buses were introduced on the Perth to Narembene route, cutting one of the passenger rail services through Merredin. Between 1961 and 1964, buffet cars and better accommodation on the trains to Kalgoorlie took away the need for the refreshment rooms at Merredin; they closed. In 1968, a new station was built at Merredin on the standard gauge line and the Railway Station Group was decommissioned. In 1969, all steam locomotives were replaced with diesel, and all locomotive servicing and maintenance for the entire Government railway system was transferred to a new depot at Forrestfield. A referendum was held on whether to keep Merredin Railway Station Group and 534 'Yes' votes were recorded. The Merredin Museum and Historical Society was set up to handle the conversion of Merredin Railway Station Group into a railway museum that opened as the Old Station Museum in 1978. In 1993, Merredin Museum and Historical Society constructed a waterfall, dedicated to pioneer women, and a rose garden commemorates pioneers of the district.	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.1577
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	1999
National Trust classified	1976
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	Nos. 7, 8

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	
Registration documentation. 1999. L Gray, I Sauman.	

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**MERREDIN RAILWAY PRECINCT**  
**No.6**  
**RAILWAY WATER TANK AND STAND**  
**45 Barrack Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places**  
 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>RAILWAY WATER TANK AND STAND</b>		
Address	45 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Railway water tower and tank is an integral element of the Merredin Railway Station precinct, and a landmark on Great Eastern Highway making a considerable contribution to the aesthetic of historic townscape of Merredin, informing of the significance of the railway in Merredin. The railway water tower and tank has a significant connection with Merredin Railway Dam where the water came from to fuel the steam trains between 1893 and 1969. The association with the dam illustrates the difficulties of providing rail transport over long distances in Western Australia in the days of steam engines. Railway water tower and tank is a rare remaining example of its type and height, with signwriting that contributes to the recognisable landmark.

**Category 1:** Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1893
Uses	Water tank to fuel the steam trains; landmark
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Timber structure
Roof	

Other	Cast iron tank	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>		
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>		
<p>The tank is supported by a square grid of four bush timber posts along each edge, making twelve posts in total. The posts are original, and have new steel straps around the circumference on the lower section of the tower. The cross bracing on the tower is new timber (1997). The ladder is intact and a water pipe still connects the water tank to the Railway Dam at Merredin Peak, 2 kilometres north east.</p>		
<b>CONDITION:</b> Fair/good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>		
<p>In 1865, Surveyor Charles C. Hunt passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. He sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20acre reserve be created around the well. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. When the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak. Because of its location, about halfway between Perth and Kalgoorlie, Merredin became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt.</p> <p>The Water Tower was built in 1893, to a standard WAGR design, of which the 12 metre stand was the tallest, and the 182,000 litre tank, the largest capacity. The square steel tank is typical of the tanks constructed on the main lines. The sign writing on the tank, advertising 'Kalgoorlie Bitter' and 'Oatmeal Stout', both brewed at the Merredin Brewery in the 1920s, is a singular example.</p> <p>Steam railway locomotives required large amounts of good quality water with little mineral content. C.Y. O'Connor, recognized that the proposed railway would rely on reliable water supplies. A footbridge, approximately 125ft in length, extended out from the bank to the centre of Railway Dam, where it was supported by a tower-shaped pylon. Within the base of the tower was a stone-lined pipe well, 3ft in diameter and sunk 3ft into the bottom of the Dam. A 4-inch galvanised-iron flanged pipe carried the water up through the tower and along the footbridge to the tank at the railway siding.</p> <p>The water from Railway Dam was pumped to the water tower in the Merredin railway yard. The water tower comprised a square tank with a capacity of 40,000 gallons (182,000 litres) on a 45ft (12m) high stand. The water was gravity fed from the water tower to the railway engines.</p> <p>In the second half of the 1930s the dam was empty for periods up to six months a year so the dam's holding capacity was increased by 1.25 million gallons. During the 1949-50 drought, the railways hauled up to 455 million litres of water each week to keep the steam locomotives running. The process of replacing the steam locomotives with diesel locos was begun in the early 1950s although the dam continued for the railways until 1969, when the last steam locomotive was taken out of commission.</p>		

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage in Herit database	No. 1577 (Merredin Railway Station Group)
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	1999
National Trust classified	1976
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 6

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	
Register documentation. 1999. L Gray, I Sauman	

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**BARRACK STREET COMMERCIAL GROUP**

**PLACE No. 7**

**4 SHOPS**

**50-54 Barrack Street**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin

**CONTRIBUTION to Group:** Considerable



Place name	<b>4 shops</b>		
Address	50-56 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The 4 shops form a continuum across an expanse of Barrack Street representing early commercial development in the town, and subsequent development of some shop-fronts. They are significant for the goods and services that have been provided over the generations, particularly significant as part of the social event of the Saturday shopping era. The horizontality of the shops with the decorative stepped pediments matches the expanse of the neighbouring Commercial Hotel.

The four shops are a dominant element in the cultural environment of the Barrack Street Commercial Group, and make a significant contribution to the historic townscape, representing the early and ongoing services and retail development of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	C.1920
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	Shopfront interventions of aluminium framed glazing.
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey building spans four shops with pilasters between each of the decorative stepped pediments identifying each shop. The pediments of the three (from west to east) are the same: Rendered and stepped to a central top flat arch curve. The east parapet has a simple central triangular pediment. The suspended canopy extends along the entire frontage with a pressed metal soffit in a linear pattern. The shop fronts range in degree of alterations and interventions. The southwest shop is actual two original shops, mirrored in plan with the entry doors recessed together in the centre behind an elegant flat curve opening central on the frontage with single shop fronts to the side. The original glazed tile dado and leadlight highlight shopfront-glazing remains intact. The next shop to the east has a flat arched entry to the central entry door, and the same highlight detailing, painted over. Similarly the next shop east is a double configuration as for the east shop but with most detailing painted over.

**CONDITION:** Good    **INTEGRITY:** High degree    **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Business owners and workers who provided goods and services over the decades have not been researched, but inevitably were integral to the social and economic development of the town and district, particularly significant as part of the social event of the Saturday shopping era.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**BARRACK STREET COMMERCIAL GROUP**

**PLACE No. 8  
SHOPS (2)  
56 Barrack Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin

**CONTRIBUTION to Group:** Considerable



Place name	<b>2 Shops</b>		
Address	56 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The parapet of the shops forms a continuum across the Barrack Street representing inter-war retail development that were part of the social event of the Saturday shopping era. The horizontality of the shops with the decorative art deco influenced parapet makes a contribution to the cultural environment of the Barrack Street Commercial Group, and the historic townscape, representing part of the interwar retail development of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** ‘Heritage List’ Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1930
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	Shopfront interventions
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar- Art Deco influences

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey building spans the width of two shops (3 originally?) under a single expansive parapet with a central stepped (small) parapet. The parapet has a central understated vertical element and pilasters about the central parapet and outside walls that have detailed horizontal rendered banding.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Business owners and workers who provided goods and services over the decades have not been researched, but inevitably were integral to the social and economic development of the town and district, particularly significant as part of the social event of the Saturday shopping era.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

-

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**BARRACK STREET COMMERCIAL GROUP**

**PLACE No. 9  
COMMERCIAL HOTEL  
62 Barrack Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin

**CONTRIBUTION to Group:** Considerable



Place name	<b>COMMERCIAL HOTEL</b>		
Address	62 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Commercial Hotel is the only remaining hotel in Merredin town and a good representative example of the Federation period and the typical location opposite the railway station. It is significant for the social activities of hospitality and as a meeting place continuous since its construction in c.1912. It is a dominant element in the cultural environment of the Barrack Street Commercial Group, and a landmark identity in its own right. It makes a significant contribution to the historic townscape and represents the early associations with the railway and the development of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1912, 1972
Uses	Hospitality
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Face brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation

**DESCRIPTION:**

The two-storey building has an expansive frontage with a cantilevered veranda across the entire width. The roof is predominantly gabled, the separate front veranda roof has central and outside end flat gable detail. The face brick walls are detailed in Colonial bond (3 courses of stretcher bond to 1 course of headers) and have been tuck-pointed. The ground floor frontage has been rendered to dado height (window sills) and features a header rendered band. Two accommodation wings form a central court that has been enclosed.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Commercial Hotel is the only remaining hotel of the original two, and one of the few double storey buildings in the town. A fire in November 1978 destroyed much of the first floor.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No.1565

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

Statewide Hotel Survey

1997

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No.14



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**BARRACK STREET COMMERCIAL GROUP**

**PLACE No. 10  
MODERN SHOE STORE (former)  
68 Barrack Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin

**CONTRIBUTION to Group:** Considerable



Place name	<b>Modern Shoe Store (former)</b>		
Address	68 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Modern Shore Store (former) is a fine example of post-war influenced streamline modern architecture with stainless steel framed expansive shopfront glazing and entry doors, deep recessed double entry and terrazzo paving with the shop name. It represents post World War Two development that makes a significant contribution to the cultural environment of the Barrack Street Commercial Group and the historic townscape, of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1955
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry
Roof	Not visible
Other	Stainless steel framing, and terrazzo entry paving.
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Post war streamline modern influences

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey shop has a central double entry deeply recessed from the street frontage. The expansive stainless steel framed shop windows have a very low dado and mirror pilasters at the front edges adjoining the flanking buildings. The recessed entry is paved in terrazzo with double lines to the entry doors and the words MODERN SHOE STORE in the terrazzo. Above the shopfront glazing is gloss black wall, and a pressed metal soffit in a linear pattern to the suspended canopy. The parapet is a simple rendered rectangle.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Business owners and workers who provided goods and services over the decades have not been researched, but inevitably were integral to the social and economic development of the town and district, particularly significant as part of the social event of the Saturday shopping era.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

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Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

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**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**BARRACK STREET COMMERCIAL GROUP**

**PLACE No.11**  
**LISTER HOUSE (former)**  
**World War Two Air Observer's Post (former)**  
**74 Barrack Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
 Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin

**CONTRIBUTION to Group:** Considerable



Place name	<b>Lister House (former)</b>		
Other name	WW2 Air Observer Post (former)		
Address	68 Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Lister House (fmr), renowned for Merredin’s World War Two Air Observer Post on the roof, is a fine example of the Interwar Stripped classical architectural style. The dominant vertical form, symmetry and pediment detailing make a significant contribution to the cultural environment of the Barrack Street Commercial Group. It demonstrates the prosperity of the early 1920s period, the long-term associations as a pharmacy and the critical role in the World War Two period of history.

Lister House (fmr) is a dominant element in the Barrack Street vista, and makes a significant contribution to the historic townscape, representing the prosperity of the 1920s development of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** ‘Heritage List’ Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1923
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Uses	Millers Pharmacy (former), WW2 Air Observers Post, Atkinson's Haberdashery, retail and residence
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick, render
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	Shopfront interventions of aluminium framed glazing.
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<p>The double-storey building is vertical in form and symmetrical on the façade. The rendered facade features two symmetrical sets of timber-framed window sets of three vertical form casements with highlights. The window sets are flanked by horizontal grooved pilasters on the outside edge of the walls. The pilasters rise to double moulding of the base of the pediment where the pilasters continue to moulded cornice tops. Central on the pediment are the words LISTER HOUSE, and above that is a stepped moulded detail with a stucco bowl at the apex.</p> <p>The face brick side walls at the top step down, to match the roof line. The street level frontage is a c.1980s aluminium framed shop front and entry doors, the shopfront grazing that flanks the central entry is configured in 3 vertical panels per shopfront, replicating the form of the windows at first floor level, above the suspended canopy with geometric designed pressed metal soffit.</p> <p>There is an entry door to the covered staircase that accesses the first floor, along the west side adjoining the main building.</p>	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good <b>INTEGRITY:</b> High degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>This is one of the highest buildings in town and the roof top was chosen for an air observer's post during World War Two.</p> <p>For many years the building operated as Millar's Pharmacy, until May 1995, when the pharmacy relocated to larger premises and the vacated space was occupied by Atkinson's Haberdashery.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.13496
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 27

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**MERREDIN POST OFFICE GROUP**

**PLACE No. 12**

**MERREDIN POST OFFICE**

**84 Barrack Street (nw cnr Bates Street)**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-  
**Register of Heritage Places 'Heritage List'.**  
Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>Merredin Post Office</b> <b>SITE:</b> Telephone Line Equipment (Land Line Exchange; L.L.E.) Building		
Address	84 Barrack Street (nw cnr Bates Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
<p>Merredin Post Office is a good example of Federation Free architectural style designed by the Government architect, Hillson Beasley in 1913, with various additions. It demonstrates the growth and importance of Merredin in the establishment of dedicated postal facilities and the residence for the Postmaster. It contributes to the town and surrounding agricultural communities' sense of place, and is valued by the community for its service to the public and as a point of social contact from 1913. Being integral in the town's commercial and retail precinct, it is a landmark on a prominent corner in Merredin, typical of regional town post office locations opposite the railway station. It makes a considerable contribution to the historic townscape and character of Merredin.</p>			

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.**

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1913,1925,1965, 1995
Uses	Post office, Telephone LLE (c.1943, c.1954- demolished c.2000)
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick render
Roof	Corrugated iron, hipped with gablets and a central vent/weathercock.
Other	

<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation Free Architect 1913: Govt- Hillson Beasley Contractor 1913 : John Park Architect 1925: PWD-W. B. Hardwick Contractor 1925: A. J. Pike
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**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey rendered masonry building, located on a corner has the primary frontage facing south on Barrack Street. The original main entry through two corner arch-ways has been blocked off and relocated to the western end of the building on Barrack Street. The Barrack Street frontage is asymmetrical but balanced by the rhythm and regularity of the arched openings. Decorative headers are still evident in all the arched openings and windows, which have label moulds around the arches. The former street corner entry has been blocked by infilling the arches with windows. The same treatment has been carried out to two arches west of the central Barrack Street frontage. There have been additions under skillion roofs on the north and west sides.

**CONDITION:** Fair/good      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The first post office service at Merredin was under the control of West Australian Government Railways and the Station Master acted as Postmaster. In November 1910, George Duggan took over as Postmaster, operating the postal service from his grocery store in Bates Street. In September 1912, he resigned due to his busy grocery store. He constructed a two-room and iron building beside his store and leased it to the Postmaster General's Department for £78 a year for use as a post office until a permanent building was constructed. Merredin's first official post office opened on 1 November 1912, with Albert Iver Drake as Senior Postal Assistant in Charge.

The Post Office opened on 30 July 1913, with Albert Drake as Postmaster.

In 1925, extensions increased the size of the Post Office by more than 50%, in keeping with the original style with a wider frontage.

During World War Two, when Merredin was the site of the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot and the home of hundreds of airforce personnel, the Telephone Line Equipment (L.L.E.) was built (concrete block). Constructed in the northwest rear corner of the Post office site. Although commonly referred to as the telephone exchange, it housed line equipment and provided office space.

In 1965 more additions were made to the Post Office providing a new porch, a staff tea room, and a larger mail room. The porch was enclosed to create more public space. The extension increased the Barrack Street frontage of the Post Office by 3.7metres. The

There is a Bicentennial Plaque mounted on the corner pillar, with the following inscription:

*This classical style Post Office was opened for business on May 26th, 1913. The red brick used can be seen surrounding this plaque.  
Mr Albert Iver Drake was appointed Postmaster, working seven days a week from 7.30 am to 8.30 pm with letters being delivered every day of the week.*

The Telephone Line Equipment (L.L.E.) was demolished in c.2000.

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1578, 4035
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 25

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Register documentation 1999. L. Gray, I Sauman.

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**MERREDIN POST OFFICE GROUP**  
**PLACE No. 13**  
**MERREDIN POST OFFICE RESIDENCE (former)**  
**2 Bates Street (behind PO cnr Barrack Street)**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-  
**Register of Heritage Places 'Heritage List'.**  
 Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>POST OFFICE RESIDENCE (former)</b>		
Address	2 Bates Street (behind Post Office on NW cnr Bates Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Post Office residence is a good example of Federation Bungalow architectural style designed by the Government architect, Hillson Beasley. It demonstrates the growth and importance of Merredin in the establishment of dedicated postal facilities and the residence for the Postmaster. It is integral in the town's commercial and retail precinct, and makes a contribution to the historic townscape and character of Merredin.

**Category 1:** Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1913,1992
Uses	Residence, art gallery, cafe
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation Bungalow Architect: Govt-Hillson Beasley Contractor: T. J. Green

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single-storey domestic scale building is a red face brick construction, with a rendered foundation and a rendered cornice band around the top of the brickwork. The roof is a gambrel hipped roof with feature gables on the south and east elevations. The gable infills are roughcast with smooth rendered geometric patterned infills. The verandahs around the southeast and northeast corners have skillion roofs hipped at the corners, and separate from the main roof.

The street frontage is asymmetrical. The external appearance of the place has remained mostly unchanged except for the enclosure of the northeast verandahs. The front and south side verandah has had the timber floor removed and replaced with concrete.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** Moderate/high degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Post Office Residence appears to have been available only to a married Postmaster because when Albert Drake announced his engagement to marry a local girl it was reported that he was 'evidently bent on qualifying for occupation of the very commodious quarters erected at the new post office.'

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1578, 1566
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	1999
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.25

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Register documentation. 1999. L Gray, I Sauman



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 15  
BILL'S TROUGH  
Barrack Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>BILLS' TROUGH</b>		
Address	Barrack Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Bills' Trough is of historic and social significance as a memorial to pioneers, one of 500 around the world provided by the philanthropy of Mr George Bills of Sydney.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1927
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	Concrete trough
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	vernacular

**DESCRIPTION:**

The trough is located in a small park and protected by a timber frame. There is a wooden sign with the words "Memorial to Pioneers".

The trough is of cast concrete, in four sections - the main trough, for horses, two end supports and smaller trough that sits on the ground between the end supports, for dogs. The manufacturer's name is cast into one end of the main trough, as follows:

*Arnold 339 Beaufort Street Perth*

There is a piece missing from the curved end of the trough.

**CONDITION:** Good                      **INTEGRITY:** High degree                      **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The horse and dog water trough is one of 500 erected world-wide from the estate of Sydney business man George Bills (1859-1927). He made his fortune from the manufacture of wire mattresses and left sufficient money to fund installation of the troughs.

There was also one outside the entrance to the Hines Hill Hotel, that had relocated from its original position on the other side of the road. It is no longer evident.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13524
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
Statewide War Memorial Survey	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 53

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No. 24  
MAPLE HOUSE  
9 Bates Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin



Place name	<b>MAPLE HOUSE</b>		
Address	9 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Maple House is a fine example of the Interwar Stripped classical architectural style that demonstrates the prosperity of the early 1920s period. The dominant vertical form, symmetry and detailing make a significant contribution to Bates Street and the historic townscape, representing the prosperity of the 1920s development of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.**

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1923
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick, render
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	Shopfront interventions
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical

**DESCRIPTION:**

The double-storey building is vertical in form and symmetrical on the façade. The rendered facade features two symmetrical sets of timber-framed window sets of two vertical form casements windows, with awnings over. The windows are separated by a pair of unadorned pilasters and flanked by the same on the outside edges of the façade. The pilasters terminate with corbelled mouldings at the deeply moulded base of the pediment. The pediment is horizontal with simple pilasters and an arched detail in the centre with MAPLE on the north side and HOUSE on the south side. The central pediment is stepped to a short level top.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

-

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.25  
SHOP  
15 Bates Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin



Place name	<b>Shop</b>		
Address	15 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	
			Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Shop, 15 Bates Street is a fine example of post war influenced streamline modern architecture with horizontal parapet, vertical louvred wall to the mezzanine level, and cantilevered canopy over the aluminium framed expansive recessed shopfront and entry doors. It represents a unique post World War Two development that makes a significant contribution to the cultural environment of Bates Street and the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1970
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry
Roof	Not visible
Other	Aluminium framing to extensive glazing.
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Post war streamline modern influences

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single-storey shop evidences a mezzanine level. The symmetrical front elevation shows the horizontal detailed parapet and vertical louvred wall above the suspended canopy. Horizontal timbers span the deep and wide recessed entry space (foyer) with central expansive sliding double entry. The expansive shop windows face into the entry 'foyer' with only a narrow window and rendered masonry pilaster (side wall) on each side of the front boundary.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

-

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 26**

**OCHILTREE MOTORS (former)**

**23 Bates Street (SE cnr Mitchell Street)**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>OCHILTREE MOTORS (former)</b>		
Address	23 Bates Street (SE cnr Mitchell Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Ochiltree Motors (former) presents a unique corner response with a strong horizontal that dominates the intersection. It is a good example of a purpose designed garage and of Interwar Functional architectural style that represents the popularity of the motor vehicle, and its presence in in the development of Merredin. It makes a significant contribution to the historic the townscape of Merredin, informing of that motoring history.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1932
Uses	Garage (car servicing, repairs and fuel bowsers), Restaurant, shops
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar functional

**DESCRIPTION:**

This single-storeyed building was purpose-built as a garage on a busy intersection, addressing both street frontages with a quarter-circle driveway at the corner. Parapet walls along the street frontages have banded decorative pilasters to create five bays to Bates Street and four bays to Mitchell Street. The top of the parapet has decorative mouldings.

Windows leadlight and patterned glass around driveway; aluminium doors and windows to some shops; steel trusses in workshop at rear (Mitchell Street).

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No. 13505

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No.34

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 27**

**NATIONAL BANK, RESIDENCE (former) & GARAGE  
25 Bates Street (NE cnr Mitchell Street)  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>NATIONAL BANK, RESIDENCE (former) &amp; GARAGE</b>		
Other name	Mitchell House		
Address	25 Bates Street (NE cnr Mitchell Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

National Bank and residence (former) is historically significant for the advent of the bank in the 1920s, and the example of the Interwar Free Classical architectural design by Eales and Cohen Architects. It is a fine representative of the style and the symmetrical corner celebration makes a considerable contribution to the streetscapes of Bates and Mitchell Streets and the historic townscape of Merredin.

**Category 2:** ‘Heritage List’ Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1925
Uses	Bank and residence; T.J. Middleton, accountants (corner section) and the North Eastern Wheat belt Business Enterprise Centre (house).
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick and render
Roof	Clay tiles
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical Architect: Eales and Cohen

**DESCRIPTION:**

The building is symmetrical about the truncated corner entry with sets of three windows flanking onto the street frontages. The windows are vertical configurations, in pairs and a single arched window on the furthest end of the north and east walls. The render walls have recessed horizontal banding, moulded cornice, stepped parapets at each end above the arched windows, and a stepped pediments with a recessed moulded arch above the truncated entry with a curved concrete eyebrow over the entry. The residence is semi detached with a frontage to Bates Street. It wraps the two non street sides of the corner buildings, with a secondary street frontage on Mitchell Street with the original garage building. The residence has face brick walls and details in a more domestic Federations style. The building has four tall chimneys, with a coping near the top two in the corner section and two in the house.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No. 13480

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No. 14

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.29**

**MERREDIN FIRE STATION & RESIDENCE (former)**

**28 Bates Street MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places** 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN FIRE STATION &amp; RESIDENCE (former)</b>		
Address	28 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin Fire Stations and residence (former) comprising the original 1920 fire station, and the 1935 fire station with semidetached residence, is a rare and representative example of a fire station complex that has functioned continuously since 1920. It has been operated by the Merredin Volunteer Fire Brigade since its inception, and is esteemed by the community for its long and valuable service. The 1935 fire station with semidetached residence was built as Western Australia recovered from the Great Depression, and was among the first fire stations built in a period of intense construction of fire stations, with 18 built between 1934 and 1938. It is a rare remaining, original example of its type and period, associated with architect K.C. Duncan, designer of the majority of fire stations built in Western Australia from 1930 to 1960, and who was an office bearer and life member of the Volunteer Fire Brigades' Association. The 1935 Merredin Fire Station and residence (fmr) contributes to the community's sense of place through its operation as a fire station from 1920 to 2009, and for the distinctive presence and contribution to the Bates Street streetscape and heritage ambience of the town of Merredin.

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1920 (Original) 1935
Uses	Fire station and residence
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	

Walls	1920: timber framed and corrugated iron clad 1935: face brick and render
Roof	1920: corrugated iron 1935: hipped clay tiles
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	1920 Interwar Vernacular. Contractor- J.W. Benson 1935 Interwar Stripped Classical - Architect K C Duncan Mortimore & Thompson- Contractor

**DESCRIPTION:**

Merredin Fire Station (1935) and semi-detached residence is domestic scale with a hipped tile roof. The street frontage features a central rendered element with a stepped parapet and a more recent roller door to the appliance room. The stepped parapet features a central gable pediment, and is stepped back into the recessed opening with pilasters flanking the outer edges or the central element. Symmetrically flanking the rendered centre is the office wing on the north, and one of the two rooms of the frontage of the semi-detached residential wing. The residential frontage has a setback frontage and veranda to the south. The concrete floored veranda has a high face brick dado enclosure, and the veranda roof is a skillion extension of the main hipped roof. The exterior wall detail is face brick to head height of windows and render above that height, to the entire building. The window sills are similarly rendered. The windows on the veranda section of the residential frontage contain the original art deco leadlight in a geometric decorative pattern. The design is replicated in the two small highlight windows on the south wall of the residential wing.

The Old Fire Station (1920) is rectangular in form with a lean-to kitchen across the rear (west) and a small lean-to extension on the east end (bar area). The building is timber framed and has a high-pitched gable roof clad with corrugated iron. The walls are clad with vertical profile galvanised iron sheeting, and the windows have been replaced with aluminium framed sliding glass.

The steel framed tower has a bell and siren. There is a timber platform approximately 5m above ground level, and a vertical ladder extends to the top of the tower.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** Moderate/high degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES cont...**

In September 1912, the Merredin Roads Board had the town declared a Fire District. At a public meeting held on 9 February 1913, the Merredin Volunteer Fire Brigade was constituted. The Brigade comprised fourteen men and the Roads Board provided a shed as a 'temporary' reel house.

By 1920, the Brigade had outgrown the shed the Roads Board refused part of the town hall site, but offered a choice of Lots 115-118 on Bates Street. Lot 115 was gazetted on 30 April 1920 for the brigade station. The WAFBB called tenders and the Fire Station opened on 22 September 1920. In 1929, a practice track and turf running track were established for training and demonstrations. No new fire stations were built in WA between 1929 and 1933 as the State recovered from the Depression. In 1933, the WAFBB requested architect K.C. Duncan to provide an estimate for a similar station to Narrogin's.

After much negotiating, the original station was moved to the rear of the site and the adjoining lot acquired to accommodate the new station and semi-detached residence at the street front of the 2 lots.

Merredin Fire Station was officially opened on 19 June 1935. The building was described briefly: *The station is one of the finest in the State, with ample accommodation for the reels and ladders. On one side accommodation is provided for a married couple as caretakers and on the other provision is made for two firemen, with a large meeting room abutting on to the footpath. The old station has been removed to the rear of the block and re-floored, and will make an excellent exercise room. A look-out and bell tower 100 feet high has also been erected at the rear of the station.*

Merredin Fire Brigade continued to provide a fire fighting service to the town from its new premises and to represent the town and district at competitions and demonstrations in Western Australia and interstate. In 1957, the Brigade won the B Grade State Championship. Fire Station (1920) was used as a recreation and social venue by the Brigade.

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.1567
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	2010
Fire & Rescue Service Heritage Inventory	1997
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 20

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
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Register documentation. 2005 L Gray, I Sauman.
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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.30**

**ENGLISH, SCOTTISH & AUSTRALIAN BANK LTD  
(former) & RESIDENCE**

**30 Bates Street**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>ENGLISH, SCOTTISH &amp; AUSTRALIAN BANK LTD (former) &amp; RESIDENCE</b>		
Address	30 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The former English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd and residence is historically significant for the banking associations and association with Hendy Cowan. It is a fine example of Interwar Federation Free architecture that makes a significant contribution to the Bates Street streetscape and the historic townscape of Merredin.

**Category 2:** ‘Heritage List’ Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1928
Uses	Bank & residence, Hendy Cowan’s office, Bed & Breakfast facility.
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry
Roof	Clay tiles
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free classical

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey building has a symmetrical street frontage with a detached residence setback from the front boundary, behind a rendered wall. The central double door entry is flanked by pilaster columns with decorative scroll tops. Rectangular vertical format single windows flank the central elements. They have multi-pane highlight windows as does the fanlight above the entry doors. An expansive rectangular parapet has a horizontal moulded detail.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** Moderate degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The English, Scottish & Australian (ES&A) Chartered Bank formed in Sydney in 1853, renamed to ES&A Bank Ltd in 1893. In 1970 ES&A merged with Australia New Zealand (ANZ) Bank to form the ANZ Banking Group Ltd with 570 branches in Australia.

The Merredin Branch of English, Scottish & Australian (ES&A) opened on 31 July 1928 and closed in 1941 during World War Two.

The former bank was Hendy Cowan's Merredin electoral office for several decades.

Hendy John Cowan AO (born 25 April 1943 in Merredin) served in the Western Australian Legislative Assembly as the Member for Merredin-Yilgarn from 30 March 1974 and the Member for Merredin from 19 February 1977. He represented his electorate for a total of 27 years, including 23 years as leader of the National Party in Western Australia between 1979 and 2001. Cowan served as Deputy Premier to Richard Court from 1993 to 2001, as well as holding ministerial portfolios of Commerce and Trade, Small Business and Regional Development. Cowan retired from the Parliament on 16 October 2001, having been the Western Australian assembly's Father of the House since 14 December 1996.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.14787
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
Statewide War Memorial Survey	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 21

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**

**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.32**  
**CUMMINS THEATRE**  
**31 Bates Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 1: Exceptional significance-Register of Heritage Places**  
 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>CUMMINS THEATRE</b>		
Address	31 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Cummins Theatre demonstrates the tradition of relocating buildings from the Goldfields to other areas of the State, in the early part of the twentieth century. It has been a focal point for a variety of cultural and recreational activities since 1928, evoking a significant sense of place for generations of the Merredin community. The building and interior is substantially intact, representing one of few of the Interwar Free Classical architecture or cinemas and theatres of the period. Cummins theatre is of exceptional significance; a landmark that makes a considerable contribution to the cultural environment of Bates Street and the historic townscape of Merredin.

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.**

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1897, 1928
Uses	Theatre, Cinema, functions.
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry
Roof	Profiled sheet metal
Other	Flytower
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free classical

**DESCRIPTION:**

The front is symmetrical to the street front with the double volume auditorium set back from the single storey foyer. The expansive central entry is flanked by mirror plan shops each side that evidence gloss-tiled dados and brass framed shopfront glazing with a truncated entry adjacent to the foyer entry of expansive sets of timber framed doors. They have the original stained glass leadlight windows above. The facade is predominantly face brick with rendered pilasters and gable capping. The suspended front awning has a parapet edge that features a large curved centrepiece with the words CUMMINS THEATRE within the arch. Behind the centre arch is the first floor bio box with a gabled front. Behind the bio box is the front gable wall of the auditorium with rendered pilasters rising to the central curved pediment. Arched windows feature on the bio box (central) and the flanking auditorium wall. Buttresses from bays along the side walls of the auditorium. The fly tower extends vertically across the rear of the auditorium. The interior evidence considerable original fabric including the tiered seating, wall, ceiling and lighting details, and the stage.

**CONDITION:** Good    **INTEGRITY:** High degree    **AUTHENTICITY:** moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

There is a Bicentennial Plaque on the southern entrance pillar with the following inscription:

*This theatre was built in 1928 by James Cummins largely with bricks salvaged from old Coolgardie hotels and reputed to contain three penny-weights of gold to the ton. The stage, decking and seating came from the Tivoli Theatre in Coolgardie. The theatre was one of the first in the State to be equipped with sound projection.*

Cummins Theatre was constructed largely of pressed bricks salvaged from several old Coolgardie hotels, and according to folklore these bricks contain three penny-weights of gold to the ton. The theatre's stage, decking and seating of imported Oregon timber were originally part of the Tivoli Theatre in Coolgardie, and the fly tower is made from imported Oregon timber.

The materials and construction of the theatre was financed by James Cummins, the former owner of a Kalgoorlie brewery.

The first tenants, William and Susan Brown, had the theatre equipped for sound production when 'talkies' were still relatively unknown. At that time, only one other theatre in Western Australia and five in Australia were equipped to show sound films. 'The Singing Fool' with Al Jolson was shown on 31 October 1928, with 'Behind the Curtain' starring Myrna Loy being shown the following week.

Operated for many years as a picture theatre the building was eventually taken over by the Shire of Merredin in 1973.

The theatre was restored in 1992, when a new backstage area was added. The flytower and other upgrades took place in c.2005. It is currently used by the local Repertory Club, established in 1933, and by visiting artists.

The Tivoli Theatre is an addition on the east side.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1574
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	1996
National Trust classified	2001
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.18

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.33  
AGRICULTURAL BANK (fmr)  
33 Bates Street MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places**  
'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>AGRICULTURAL BANK (fmr)</b>		
Address	33 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Agricultural Bank (fmr), Merredin is historically significant as it was established as a direct result of the 1934 Royal Commission into the operation of the Agricultural Bank, which had been established by the Western Australia Government and was a major factor in the development of the West Australian Wheatbelt. It is a fine example of Interwar Free Classical Architectural style with some art deco detailing that makes a significant contribution to the cultural environment of the Bates Street and the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1920's, 1937, 1954, 1972, 1980s
Uses	Bank, Homeswest office, CALM office.
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry (reinforced concrete façade)
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical. Cook & Wakefield Contractors (1937)

**DESCRIPTION:**

The symmetrical frontage of the single storey building extends the entire width of the site at zero setback. The building shows evidence of at least five periods of development; 1920s two commercial buildings; 1937 alterations and single frontage; 1954 partition fitouts; 1961 ablution extensions at rear; and, 1972 rear south side extensions.

The front facade displays some detailing in the Art Deco style in the more dominant Free Classical architectural style. The street frontage is rendered on a low face brick plinth and features a central recessed foyer with flanking Tuscan columns with decorative relief capitals. Flanking the columns are two vertical pilasters also with decorative relief. The windows on each side are in sets of two and vertically configured. The simple stepped parapet features moulded cornice detailing. The original entry doors has been replaced with aluminium framed glazed doors.

**CONDITION:** Good **INTEGRITY:** Moderate/high degree **AUTHENTICITY:** moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

Following the 1887 Commission on Agriculture in Western Australia by Sir Frederick Napier Broome, advice was provided to the newly appointed Western Australian Government in 1891 that the growth of agriculture had been hampered by the high costs of clearing and improving land, forcing new farmers into costly mortgages or high-rated private loans. Western Australia's first Premier, John Forrest, responded to this report and public request for state aid in 1894 by establishing the Agricultural Bank of Western Australia for the purposes of making advances to farmers wishing to develop new farms. Due to the Gold Boom the state was experiencing an unprecedented population boost at this time, creating an urgent need for agricultural expansion to feed the newcomers.

The E McLarty, Managing Trustee of the Bank, worked closely with the Mitchell government's expansion of the Wheatbelt in the 1920s, where land and credit were made available on easy terms and the Bank had difficulty keeping pace with growth. In 1922, the government provided funds for rural premises to enable the Bank to expand. Eight rural branch offices were opened in 1922-23, with accommodation provided for staff, and more field officers were appointed.

In June 1930, during the Depression, the Bank was in possession of 493 properties that had been abandoned or had reverted due to non-payment of mortgage. By June 1934 this increased to 1,611 properties. Sales of properties took place, but they were almost invariably at a loss to the Bank. In 1934 a Royal Commission was held on the policies and management of Agricultural Bank. The report was highly critical of the Bank, was restructured in 1935. As part of this overhaul of Bank operations, it found that the accommodation at the Kellerberrin district branch was unsuitable and that Kellerberrin was not central to the region. Merredin was considered a better location, where converging branch rail lines made the town convenient for clients.

Action was taken to relocate the Kellerberrin office to Merredin. In 1936, the Bank acquired two brick premises on Bates Street (Lot 95) from stationer Henry Goodhill. They were part of a group of three commercial premises with common walls. The exact date of construction of these buildings has not been ascertained, but is likely to have been in the 1920s. The previous owner was publican Thomas Duff, with Henry Goodhill acquiring the property in 1924. In 1929, the central, and larger, of the three premises was leased to the Commonwealth Bank for five years. It was this building, and the shop premise on the south side, that the Agricultural Bank acquired in 1936.

Plans were drawn up by the Public Works Department to convert the two premises by removal of the dividing wall between the two premises and remodelling the interior. The existing strongroom was retained. .

The *Merredin Mercury* of 29 April 1937 reported: *The Agricultural Bank was officially opened in Merredin on Monday last, but although it means a great deal to the town and district, and is another step in the town's advancement.....*

Ten staff members moved to Merredin; a residence for the Bank Manager, Mr L.D. Butterfield was under construction, and two existing houses had been purchased for occupation by other bank employees.

Butterfield remained as manager until 1939. During World War 2, manpower rationalisation resulted in only one bank remaining open in many rural towns, with bank agencies and branches in leased premises closing. Merredin gained staff from the closure of the Agricultural Bank at Kununoppin and was a major banking centre and remained in operation throughout the war years, under the management of Mr M.L. Austin. The Agricultural Bank was restructured in 1945 to meet the post-War challenges of less emphasis on agricultural expansion and more on industrial development. The organisation was renamed the Rural & Industries Bank (R & I Bank) to reflect these changes.

Merredin was converted into an R & I Bank in October 1945. In 1968, new bank premises were built further west on Bates Street, and this building was vacated.

State Housing Commission's Merredin Regional Office opened 23rd November 1972, after internal alterations; brick additions were undertaken by Contractor- R.K. Ward & Co under direction of the State Housing Commission of WA' architects.

In 2005, the Department of Conservation and Land Management occupied Agricultural Bank (fmr), Merredin as one of their three district offices in the Wheatbelt region,

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No.13491, 17460

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
**Register of Heritage Places**

2018

National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 19

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
Registration documentation 2018 . L Gray, I Sauman.

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.34  
2 SHOPS (former)  
34 Bates Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin



Place name	<b>2 Shops (former)</b>		
Address	32 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The two former shops, 34 Bates Street are historically significant for association with Sam Warne and the Merredin Mercury newspaper. They are typical of 1920s Interwar Free Classical architectural style development that makes a contribution to the cultural environment of Bates Street and the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1920
Uses	Retail, accommodation - apartments
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry, render
Roof	Not visible
Other	Front veranda removed.
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single-storey semi-detached shops present two different width and configuration shopfronts. The east side shop is symmetrical with a central entry. The boarded shopfronts are angled back on a slight truncation to the centre door. The west shop has a door against the dividing wall and has a single shopfront. The parapet extends the width of both shopfronts with fluted pilasters marking the separate shops and the central triangular pediment relevant to each shop. Central on the parapet are rectangular panels of face brick. The full width front veranda has been removed. The north side wall has evidence of signwriting on the face brick.

**CONDITION:** Fair/good    **INTEGRITY:** Moderate/high degree    **AUTHENTICITY:** moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

It is possible that part or all of this building was the offices of the Merredin Mercury Newspaper after it moved from opposite the Post Office Residence in Bates Street. It is recorded as being in the "double shop front" opposite the R&I bank (Ag Bank became the R&I in 1945). The owner of Merredin Mercury, Sam J Warne, died in October 1956, and by 1958, Country Newspapers had closed it down.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.35  
SHOP  
35 Bates Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin



Place name	<b>Shop</b>		
Address	35 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Shop, 35 Bates Street is a typical example of 1920s Interwar Free Classical architectural style corner store development that makes a contribution to the cultural environment of Bates Street and the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1920
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry
Roof	Painted corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	The single-storey shop addresses both street frontages with a truncated corner entry. It is symmetrical about the corner with a low rendered-dado and shopfront windows above. The Coronation Street shopfront is boarded. Pilasters with moulder corbel tops, define the simple parapet into three bays including the truncated corner. The semi-detached residence at the rear extends along the secondary street frontage (Coronation Street).
<b>CONDITION:</b> Fair	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate/high degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> moderate/high degree

<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>
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<b>LISTINGS</b>	
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Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
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Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
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National Trust classified	
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Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-
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<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**PLACE No.36  
SHOP  
36 Bates Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin



Place name	<b>Shop</b>		
Address	36 Bates Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Shop, 36 Bates Street is a typical example of 1920s Interwar Free Classical architectural style corner store development that makes a contribution to the cultural environment of Bates Street and the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.			

**Category 2: ‘Heritage List’** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1920
Uses	Retail
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Masonry
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The single-storey shop addresses both street frontages with a truncated corner entry. It is symmetrical about the corner with a low rendered-dado and shopfront windows above, with highlight panels. The parapet has a cornice moulding and an arched pediment on the truncation with decorative pilasters. A suspended canopy extends along both street frontages and the truncation. The semi-detached residence at the rear extends along the secondary street frontage (Coronation Street). The south side wall has evidence of two periods of signwriting on the face brick.	

**CONDITION:** Fair/good    **INTEGRITY:** Moderate/high degree    **AUTHENTICITY:** moderate/high degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

-

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 38  
R.A.A.F. MESS HUT (former)  
64 Bates Street (NW cnr Princess Street)  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>R.A.A.F. MESS HUT (former)</b>		
Address	64 Bates Street (NW cnr Princess Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The RAAF mess hut is a significant remnant of the World War Two presence in Merredin, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. It represents significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two and the football club.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1942
Uses	RAAF mess, football club rooms (Lions Den)
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	Painted corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Vernacular- functional
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Single story expansive hall with a simple gable roof.
<b>CONDITION:</b> Fair	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> Moderate/igh degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The RAAF mess hut was part of the support infrastructure for the personnel. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.

The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.

By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13518
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.47

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No.39 HFDF STATION (former) Lot 27068 Chandler-Merredin Road MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>HFDF STATION (former) also known as RADAR STATION</b>		
Address	Lot 27068 Chandler-Merredin Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
HFDF (High Frequency Detection Finding) Station (fmr) is a significant and rare (one of only seven in Australia) remnant of the World War Two presence in Merredin, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. It represents significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two and demonstrates the importance of Merredin as a central railway junction, its distance from the coast and its water supply potential from both the Pipeline and the Railway Dam.			

<b>Category 2:</b> 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.	
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1942
Uses	Communication facility, grain storage
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The facility was originally camouflaged in the midst of the bush, now in an open field. The concrete building has 3 flat roof towers 2 metres square by 7 metres high.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> ?	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Low degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF (communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.	
The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.	
By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea.	
<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.13514
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 43
Supporting Information/Bibliography	

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
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<b>No.40</b> <b>HUNT'S DAM</b> <b>Lot 27068 Chandler-Merredin Road</b> <b>MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>HUNT'S DAM</b>		
Address	Lot 28779 Chandler-Merredin Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Hunt's Dam is significant for its historical associations with the explorer and surveyor Charles Hunt, who developed a series of wells and catchments in the district.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>Between 1864 and 1866, 1865, Assistant Surveyor Charles C. Hunt recognised the pastoral opportunities of the region in a series of explorations on behalf of his patron Governor Hampton. In 1866, the third exploration was the most extensive with a party comprising 4 experienced bushmen and 3 Aboriginals and James Turner supervising 4 pensioner guards and 4 probationer convicts. The convicts were for road making and sinking wells and water storage. They passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. Charles C. Hunt sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well. They established a track that linked waterholes, dams and wells. Hunt's Dam is one of those dams. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. The area was declared Merredin Peak Reserve 2914 on 19 March 1891, but when the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak, so a new townsite was established at the railway siding. Because of its location, about halfway between Perth and Kalgoorlie, Merredin became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13532
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 57

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No. 41</b> <b>R.A.A.F. ADMINISTRATION BLOCK (former)</b>

<b>Chegwidden Avenue</b> <b>MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>R.A.A.F. ADMINISTRATION BLOCK (fmr)</b>		
Address	Chegwidden Avenue (cnr Barr Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The RAAF Administration block (former) is a significant remnant of the World War Two presence in Merredin, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. It represents significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two.			

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1942
Uses	Administration offices
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Timber framed corrugated iron clad
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Functional
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good <b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The RAAF Administration block was part of the support infrastructure for the personnel. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were despatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.</p> <p>The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.</p> <p>By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.13519
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 48

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	
<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>	
<b>No. 42</b> <b>CONCRETE BUNKERS</b> <b>Cohn and Allbeury Streets</b> <b>MERREDIN</b>	

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>Concrete Bunkers</b>			
Address	Cohn and Allbeury Streets			
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>			
Lot No		Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>				
The concrete bunkers are significant remnant of the World War Two presence in Merredin, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. It represents significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two.				

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b>
<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The concrete bunkers were part of the support infrastructure. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.</p> <p>The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refueling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.</p> <p>By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13512
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 41

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 44**  
**NORTH MERREDIN PRIMARY SCHOOL (former)**  
**22 Coronation Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>North Merredin Primary School (former)</b>		
Address	22 Coronation Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Merredin School (fmr) established in 1912, is of historical significance in the provision and development of education facilities in Merredin. It represents a sense of place for generations of Merredin students and their families. It is a fine example of a substantial regional education facility of the immediate Post World War Two period and makes a considerable contribution to the historic townscape of Merredin.			

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1912, 1949, 1954
Uses	School
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Face brick
Roof	Corrugated metal cladding
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Post War functional
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> The single storey building has an expansive frontage to Coronation Street. The face brick construction features a rendered band at window-sill height. The rectangular rendered entry protrudes from the main frontage with the words "Merredin School" across the parapet. The roof is hipped. The frontage is not symmetrical but has a balanced rhythm of window placements and four regularly spaced chimneys on the east end of the frontage, and two on the west frontage. The vertical format windows are multi-paned double-hung sashes in timber frames. The tall square chimneys are face brick with moulded corbel detailing.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate/high degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree

### **HISTORICAL NOTES**

The first Merredin school in 1907 was located halfway between the Pump (water supply pump station) and the Merredin township. Following the survey of the Merredin townsite, in 1906, it was established as the dominant town along the railway. This primary and secondary school was established in 1912. With the development of the town, another primary school was built on the south side of the line: South Merredin, and this became North Merredin School. The Parents and Citizens Association formed in 1931 and became strong advocates for the upgrade of the school. A deputation in 1932 pressed for more classrooms and that they must be brick (not cgi as were existing). Through the 1930s they continued to lobby for improvements including a domestic science class, more classrooms, a headmaster's office, and provision of transport for students in the district.

The Education Department was moving to consolidations of schools with bigger schools in the central towns. Road transport developed and bus services were introduced from Korbel to Merredin in 1945. In 1946 the Road Board introduced two more vehicles and by 1954 had a fleet of 5 buses. The Education Department agreed to 3 brick classrooms with a Headmaster's Office and staff room, officially opened on 12 October 1949.

In 1954, the school was extended to a Junior High School with domestic science and manual training centres. In 1957 a new secondary school was built on a new site and this school reverted to just a primary school. In c2012 the school function ceased and in 2016 the Merredin Regional Library relocated to the former school building.

### **LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13495
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 26

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 45  
MASONIC LODGE  
45 Coronation Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MASONIC LODGE</b>		
Address	45 Coronation Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Freemasons Lodge is of significance as a social institution that is valued by the Masonic members. The Lodge demonstrates distinctive Post-war modernist architectural influences that makes a contribution to the Merredin townscape informing of the prosperous 1950s.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1955
Uses	Meeting place
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry & painted brick
Roof	Not visible
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Post-war modernist
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	The single story painted face brick building presents an asymmetrical street frontage. The strong horizontal front with a concrete eyebrow and horizontal parapet is contrasted by vertical face brick element. The recessed porch under the flat concrete eyebrow, is supported by three slender steel posts, based on a face brick pediment.
<b>CONDITION:</b> Fair/good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The foundation stone was laid on 15 July 1955. The plaque reads:

*P.PRO.GM*

*On Friday 15h July 1955*

*In the presence of*

*W.M. Merredin Lodge No.98 W.A.C.*

*W.M. Lodge of Renown No.239 W.A.C.*

*1<sup>st</sup> P. Merrit Royal Arch Chapter No. 51 W.A.C.*

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

-

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 46**

**COUNTRY WOMENS ASSOCIATION (CWA) ROOMS  
47 Coronation Street**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>Country Women's Association (CWA) Rooms</b>		
Address	47 Coronation Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The CWA rooms represent an association with the significant institution that is the CWA. It evokes a sense of place for generations of women who have been involved in the CWA. It makes a contribution to the streetscape and historic townscape in its domestic aesthetic.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1930
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Timber framed weatherboard and fibrocement clad
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Domestic
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The single storey domestic scale building has a symmetrical frontage with central door flanked by single double-hung timber sash windows. The hipped roof forms a skillion over the full width front veranda supported by timber posts.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> High degree
<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>

<p><b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b>  <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b></p>
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<p><b>No. 57</b>  <b>MINESHAFTS</b>  <b>Lot 1451 Goldfields Road</b>  <b>MERREDIN</b></p>
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<p><b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.</p>
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Place name	<b>MINESHAFTS</b>		
Address	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Mineshafts are significant in representing the early goldseekers and their and prospecting that led to a settlement at Merredin Peak.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<b>CONDITION:</b> ?	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Low degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13522
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
Statewide War Memorial Survey	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 51

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.58  
MERREDIN RAILWAY DAM  
Merredin Peak- Lot 1451 Goldfields Road**

**Category 1: Exceptional significance-Register of Heritage Places 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.**



Place name	<b>MERREDIN RAILWAY DAM</b> aka Merredin Peak Dam; Durdgutling; Durdgutting; Hunt's Well No. 8.		
Address	<b>Merredin Peak- Lot 1451 Goldfields Road</b>		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Railway Dam is significant for the design and construction that represents innovative responses to water collection and storage in a harsh environment, including the systems associated with steam trains and the railways that are no longer practiced. It was important for its key role in the development and expansion of the Eastern Goldfields by providing a water source for travellers on the Goldfields Road, including European explorers, sandalwood cutters and settlers, and after the construction of the dam also for the steam locomotives of the Eastern Goldfield Railway line from 1895 to 1969. Its historical significance includes associations with the explorer and surveyor Charles Hunt, who developed a series of wells and catchments in the district, and with Public Works Department engineers C.Y. O'Connor, who oversaw the provision of water to the goldfields regions through the 1890s, and William Herbert Shields, who designed the dam and other similar railway water supply facilities between the towns of Northam and Coolgardie. The artificially-constructed features of the place complement and contrast with the natural environment, with low scale meandering stone catchment walls, imposing slab rock channels, a picturesque, water filled dam and raised dam embankments, providing a built aesthetic in the otherwise harsh natural goldfields landscape.

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.**

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	Well 1865; Railway dam 1895; 1896; 1901; 1939-49
Uses	Water catchment, dam, provision of water for steam trains.
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	STONE

Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Contractor 1895 stonework- railway contractor: Joseph McDowell
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
A system of water catchment and storage comprising a well (1865) and a rock catchment (1895) with channel walls constructed of stone that feed a former railway dam. The retaining wall and water channels direct runoff from the granite outcrop into the holding dam. The rock was quarried from various parts of Merredin Peak. There is a sluice gate that controls the water into the dam.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> High degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>In 1865, Surveyor Charles C. Hunt passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. He sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20acre reserve be created around the well. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. The area was declared Merredin Peak Reserve 2914 on 19 March 1891, but when the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak, so a new townsite was established at the railway siding. Because of its location, about halfway between Perth and Kalgoorlie, Merredin became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt. Steam railway locomotives required large amounts of good quality water with little mineral content. C.Y. O'Connor, recognized that the proposed railway would rely on reliable water supplies.</p> <p>A footbridge, approximately 125ft in length, extended out from the bank to the centre of Railway Dam, where it was supported by a tower-shaped pylon. Within the base of the tower was a stone-lined pipe well, 3ft in diameter and sunk 3ft into the bottom of the Dam. A 4-inch galvanised-iron flanged pipe carried the water up through the tower and along the footbridge to the tank at the railway siding.</p> <p>The water from Railway Dam was pumped to the water tower in the Merredin railway yard. The water tower comprised a square tank with a capacity of 40,000 gallons (182,000 litres) on a 45ft (12m) high stand. The water was gravity fed from the water tower to the railway engines.</p> <p>At some time, a caretaker's house was provided east of the Dam and a 'plumbers residence' was west of the Dam.</p> <p>In the second half of the 1930s the dam was empty for periods up to six months a year. Roofing was too expensive, so the dam's holding capacity was increased by 1.25 million gallons was a better and less expensive option. It was during the Depression and sustenance workers were employed; 26 men over 20 weeks in mid 1939, although works continued until June 1940.</p> <p>Railway Dam was a popular swimming spot for local children, and the servicemen and women stationed at Merredin despite the 'No Swimming' signs. During the 1949-50 drought, the railways hauled up to 455 million litres of water each week to keep the steam locomotives running. The process of replacing the steam locomotives with diesel locos was begun in the early 1950s although the dam continued for the railways until 1969, when the last steam locomotive was taken out of commission.</p> <p>In 1972, Railway Dam was transferred to the management of the PWD Country Water Supply and in 1999 the Reserve was vested in the Shire of Merredin. In 2002, the National Trust installed interpretation panels at Railway Dam, Merredin as part of the Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13523
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	2007
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.52

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
Registration documentation. 2007 L. Gray, I Sauman.

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No.59</b>

<b>MERREDIN PEAK CAIRN (HK189)</b> <b>Lot 1451 Goldfields Road</b> <b>MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>MERREDIN PEAK CAIRN (HK189)</b>		
Address	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The cairn is significant for association with Assistant Surveyor King who placed the cairn during the 1889-90 survey. It is the highest point of Merredin Peak and a survey point for the area.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1889
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	Stone
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	

**DESCRIPTION:**

Located on the highest point of Merredin Peak, it is a cairn of stones.

**CONDITION:** Good      **INTEGRITY:** Moderate degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In 1865, Surveyor Charles C. Hunt passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. He sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track (Goldfields Road) from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. Assistant Surveyor King placed the cairn during the survey of 1889-1890. He made trigonometrical surveys from the top and marked the point on his map with his initials HK and the number 189 and placed a sapling in the centre of the stone cairn. The area was declared Merredin Peak Reserve 2914 on 19 March 1891, but when the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak, so a new townsite was established at the railway siding that became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt.

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.13521
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 50

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No.60</b> <b>SITE ORIGINAL MERREDIN TOWNSITE</b> <b>Lot 1451 Goldfields Road</b>

<b>MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>SITE ORIGINAL MERREDIN TOWNSITE</b>		
Address	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The site represents the earliest settlement in Merredin where the early surveyors and later prospectors trekking to the Yilgarn Goldfields camped due to the presence of water.			

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1890
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
A datum peg that marked the corner of Lot 1 of the original townsite is marked by a slab on the 11 <sup>th</sup> hole of the golf course.	
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
In 1865, Surveyor Charles C. Hunt passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. He sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track (Goldfields Road) from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. Henry King camped at the site when he surveyed the area in 1889-90. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. The area was declared Merredin Peak Reserve 2914 on 19 March 1891, but when the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak, so a new townsite was established at the railway siding that became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt.	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13520
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 49

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No. 61</b> <b>Lot 1451 GOLDFIELDS ROAD (west and east)</b> <b>MERREDIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.

Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>GOLDFIELDS ROAD (west and east)</b>		
Address	Lot 1451 Goldfields Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Goldfields Road is significant in representing the original track between Perth and the Yilgarn Goldfields in the early 1890s, where the water sources had been identified and established by the surveyor Charles Hunt.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>		
Uses		
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>		
Walls		
Roof		
Other		
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>		
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>		
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>		
In 1865, Surveyor Charles C. Hunt passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. He sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20acre reserve be created around the well. With the discovery of gold in the Yilgarn, prospectors beat a track (Goldfields Road) from York to the north side of Merredin Peak, which was a watering and camping spot for travelers. The first Merredin townsite was established near the well. The area was declared Merredin Peak Reserve 2914 on 19 March 1891, but when the Goldfields railway line was built to Southern Cross in 1894 it passed south of the Peak, so a new townsite was established at the railway siding that became an important railway centre and a junction for lines branching out into the newly developing Wheatbelt.		

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13534
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 59

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 62**

**RAILWAY HOUSING PRECINCT**

**Great Eastern Highway (Todd Street) & Kitchener Road**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places** 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>RAILWAY HOUSING PRECINCT</b>		
Address	Great Eastern Highway & Kitchener Road (between South Avenue and Allbuery Street) 71-89 Todd Street (GEH) & 18-36 and 29-35 Kitchener Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Railway Housing Precinct is of considerable significance as a rare example of such an extensive extent of railway housing. It was constructed by Western Australian Government Railways (WAGR) between 1913 and the 1970s as a result of the development of branch lines from the Eastern Goldfields. It is integral to, and located in close proximity to the railway station precinct, including the water tower and former railway station and signal box, and the Railway Institute (site). Railway Housing Precinct is significant in Merredin's role as a major railway junction and illustrates the strong railway presence in the town. It is indicative of WAGR's former practice of providing employee housing near the place of employment and is representative of the type of housing provided for waged railway employees at different periods of the twentieth century. The precinct is important as a landmark cultural environment created by the alternating residences of similar design, in particular the Federation period style brick and iron cottages and the timber and tile residences in the Inter War Californian Bungalows, stretching along two street blocks (one block south of Allbuery Street demolished c.2005) in the east-west highway through Merredin, and makes a significant contribution to the historic townscape of the town. The Railway Housing Precinct contributes to the local community's sense of place, being an early and significant part of the town of Merredin and a reminder of the town's substantial railway history.

**Category 1:** Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1913-1915, 1947,1950, 1970s
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	1913-1915: brick 1947+: timber framed fibrocement and weatherboards

Roof	1913-1915: corrugated iron 1947+: Clay tiles, corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	1913-1915 Federation bungalows. 1947+ Inter War Californian Bungalow
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Comprises 11 brick and iron dwellings (1913-1915) 6 timber and tile Improved Mill type dwellings (1947) in Inter War Californian Bungalow style, 4 Henry Martin type timber-framed fibrocement and iron dwellings (1950) 2 timber and tile 1970s residences situated at 71-89 Todd Street and 18-36 & 29-35 Kitchener Road.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Poor/ fair/good <b>INTEGRITY:</b> High degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> Moderate/high degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b> As well as servicing the goldfields, the advent of the railway in Merredin in 1893 opened up the district for settlers on the land. The opening of branch and spur lines made Merredin a major railway junction that meant more staff were required permanently in the town. In 1911, Reserve 13267, with an area of almost 17ha was gazetted for the purpose of railway employee quarters, located on the south side of the station yard, the opposite side to the singlemen's barracks. There were considerable delays with tenders, gazettals and contracts, and meanwhile a number of married men had transferred to Merredin on the understanding that the houses were to be provided. Construction of the first 20 places took place: 10 of four rooms, nine of five rooms, and one of six rooms, all of brick. The twenty houses were numbered by WAGR as Departmental Properties (DP) 291-310. They were situated on Todd Street and Kitchener Road, on alternate lots, with a large recreation reserve situated south of Kitchener Road for the use of the residents. The brick railway houses were constructed to the standard plan for a stationmaster's residence, with some variations in the number of bedrooms. In 1927, Merredin had a new station building and refreshment rooms constructed as part of a program of construction on agricultural lines due to the increased wheat harvests. Five departmental houses, of the standard Bungalow design, were built at Merredin in 1926-1927, on Kitchener Road and Ellis Street. In the 1930s, the Railway Dam was enlarged and almost totally rebuilt by sustenance workers. In 1932, there were 31 railway houses at Merredin, and 35 applications for departmental housing in the town, the longest waiting list in the State. As part of the expenditure for sustenance work, funds were made available for the erection of 12 houses for railway employees, four of which were built at Merredin. For a number of years, there was ongoing correspondence between the Merredin Road Board, WAGR and the railway employees' unions regarding street making and drainage in the railway housing reserve. Because WAGR, in keeping with Government policy, did not pay rates on its land, the Road Board would not provide services. In 1938, twenty-five years after the first houses were built on Reserve 13267, the roads and footpaths were still unmade and there was no storm water drainage. The shortage of available railway housing following World War Two was particularly noticeable at large rail centres such as Merredin where there were 83 employees on the waiting list for housing in January 1947. WAGR initially attempted to manage construction of all the required housing with the 'Improved Mill Type' house: the 'Banksiadale' house is of 4 rooms with outer walls of fibrolite above a rusticated weatherboard dado and roof of corrugated fibrolite as corrugated iron was in short supply. Thirty were under construction and another 19 planned, being pre-fabricated in West Midland. A group of 5 houses had tile roofs from Wunderlich on alternate lots in-between 67 and 85 Todd Street. In 1950 Henry Martin was contracted. In 1950, a contract was let to Henry Martin & Co, for the construction of 14 Henry Martin type houses at Merredin. Contract no. 431, 19 December 1950, entailed the construction of eight five-room and six four-room 'timber and fibro houses' to a design approved by WAGR. Three of these dwellings were built on Todd Street on the remaining vacant sites between the existing brick houses, and nine were built on the alternate vacant sites on the north side of Kitchener Road. In the early 1950s, three-room pre-cut houses, known as Simms-Cooke houses, were imported from Britain by the State Housing Commission. WAGR planned to take about 500 of these buildings and about 35 were built at Merredin, many in Muscat, Allbuery, Gilmore, Cunningham and Endersbee streets. These were timber houses with either iron or tile roofs. Some houses were provided with galvanised iron chimneys because bricks and bricklayers were in short supply. Suitable established houses were also purchased as they became available. In 1955, new trainmen's barracks were built. In 1953, Harold Boas, of the architectural firm Oldham, Boas & Ednie-Brown, provided town-planning advice to WAGR and the municipal councils at Merredin and Geraldton, where there were large numbers of railway houses. Boas recommended that future railway housing be spread throughout the town rather than congregated in one area, as this tended to create divisions between the railway employees and other residents. In the 1980s, rationalisations, and changes in technology and services resulted in an overall decrease in Railways staff to 5,567 by 1988, and many railway houses were occupied by private tenants. WAGR divested all its employee housing by 1997, and many houses in Merredin were sold for occupation or removal. Only part of Reserve 13267 had been sewered in the 1960s, and the sections of Todd Street (57-69) and Kitchener Road (2-16) between Allbuery and Pereira streets could not be subdivided for sale until the sewerage was connected. It is likely a factor of the demolition of those places in Todd Street on c.2005.	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 15750

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	2004
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
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Register documentation 2004 L Gray, I Sauman.
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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.66  
MERREDIN RAILWAY OPERATIONS  
Lot 103 Great Eastern Highway  
MERREDIIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN RAILWAY OPERATIONS</b>		
Address	Lot 103 Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin Railway Operations represents the continuation of Merredin's regional centre for the railways that were the foundations of the development of Merredin. Various elements that comprise the operations include the Yardmaster's Office of which there are very few examples remaining in the State, the Trainmen's barracks (vacant) of the 1970s period, and more recently, the outstanding artwork on the silos as part of the regional silo art trail. Merredin Railway Operations and particularly the silos are a landmark entry from the west into Merredin that continues the railway legacy.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	Wheatbins (1966, 1969, 1978) c.1970s
Uses	Railway operations and associated activities (grain store, accommodation)
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	

**CONDITION:** Fair/Good

**INTEGRITY:** Moderate degree

**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

With the discovery of gold in Southern Cross and later in Coolgardie- Kalgoorlie, transport was required between Perth and the goldfields. The Eastern Railway, constructed as far as Northam in 1886, was extended to Merredin in 1893, Southern Cross in 1894, Coolgardie in 1895 and to Kalgoorlie in 1897. Water required for the railway steam engines was an ongoing problem. In 1893, the Public Works Department designed a dam at the base of Merredin Peak to collect water and gravity feed to the water tank for the steam trains. Merredin developed into a major junction with the railway loop line to Dowerin in 1911, the Bruce Rock- Quairading-York line in 1913, the Bruce Rock-Corrigin-Narrogin line in 1914, and the Narrogin-Narembene line in 1923. A railway station was built in 1895, and the Signal Cabin was constructed on the platform in 1913. Merredin's new station buildings in 1927.

In 1966 Merredin Depot comprising four vertical concrete cells was built to transfer grain from the narrow gauge to the main standard gauge railway line. Four more storage cells were added in 1978 to bring the total capacity to 15,000 tons. In 1969 a horizontal E type storage was built to handle surplus harvest. It is likely that the Yardmaster's office and administration building, as well as the barracks on the east side of the highway, were constructed in c.1970.

In 1968, a new station was built in Merredin town on the standard gauge line and the Railway Station Group was decommissioned. In 1969, all steam locomotives were replaced with diesel, and all locomotive servicing and maintenance for the entire Government railway system was transferred to a new depot at Forrestfield.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No. 13533 (wheat bins)

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No. 58 (wheat bins)

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 67  
PUMP STATION No.4 GOLDFIELDS PIPELINE  
Lot 1361 Great Eastern Highway  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>PUMP STATION No.4 GOLDFIELDS PIPELINE (The Pump)</b>		
Address	Lot 1361 Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>WEST MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Goldfields Pipeline is of exceptional significance to Western Australia. Of the eight pump stations along the pipeline, Merredin's No.4 Pump Station is central in the over 500 km of pipeline between Mundaring and Kalgoorlie. It is of considerable significance as part of the pipeline system engineered by CY O'Connor, and pump stations designed by former Government Architect George Temple Poole. Individually, and a part of a group, No.4 Pump Station is integral to the site's development with the 1960 electric pump station and c.1990s pump stations on the site, demonstrating the development of the pump station facilities since 1902. The outstanding architectural form and detail of No.4 Pump station is a landmark on Great Eastern Highway informing of the pipeline, pump stations and their association with Merredin.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.**

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1904
Uses	Pump station
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Face brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation Warehouse- Architect: George Temple Poole.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The pump station building is located some 50 metres from the highway. Now just the shell of the building remains, all interior machinery and fittings having been removed. The building is rectangular in plan, with door openings and arched and circular windows. The most prominent feature of northern face to the highway is an arch more than half the height of the wall. This elevation also has six sections of corbelled brickwork to support internal beams (since removed). The two end walls each contain a pair of stepped buttresses. The south wall has a flat canopy above an arched doorway, which is the most significant projection on all elevations. The interior has been stripped bare. Pilasters on internal faces of north and south walls line up with roof trusses and corbelled brick work. The concrete floor contains pits and mounting blocks where machinery was installed.

The design consisted of two rooms with a passage in between under the roof: the boiler room with a concrete floor and an engine room with a lower floor at basement level of concrete. The upper or working floor of jarrah rested on steel joints. The engines and pumps were bolted on to granite bed-stones supported by brick piers resting on the lower concrete floor. At the other end, the cylinders for the steam that powered the pumps were allowed to move freely on expansion rollers. Pulleys, tree trunk derricks and wooden rollers lifted the heavy cylinders, boilers and pumps into place.

**CONDITION:** Fair**INTEGRITY:** Low degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The richest goldfields in the 1890s were situated in hot arid regions with low rainfall and without rivers. Consequently, water governed every aspect of life. It was not only the key to gold mining and subsequent development but the commodity essential to sustain life for people and animals required to maintain supply lines for food and goods, equipment and communication in regions where at first no roads, railways or telegraph lines existed. It was in the area loosely termed the eastern goldfields that the worst possible conditions for miners occurred.

CY O'Connor was the inaugural engineer-in-chief of the Public Works Department, and acting general manager of railways in Western Australia. Upgrades of existing lines and plans for new lines were made. The search for water for the Northam-Southern Cross route was initiated by O'Connor. He was in charge of the railway and later engineered the Fremantle Port, as well as the Kalgoorlie pipeline.

C.Y. O'Connor is best known for his work on the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (1902). The pipeline carries water 530 km from Perth to Kalgoorlie. A succession of gold rushes in the Yilgarn region near Southern Cross in 1887, at Coolgardie in 1892, and at Kalgoorlie in 1893 caused a population explosion in the barren and dry desert centre of Western Australia.

On 16 July 1896, John Forrest introduced to Western Australian Parliament a bill to authorise the raising of a loan of £2.5 million to construct the scheme: the pipeline would pump 23,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water per day to the Goldfields from a dam on the Helena River near Mundaring Weir in Perth, pumped in eight successive stages through 530 km miles of 760 mm-diameter pipe to the Mount Charlotte Reservoir in Kalgoorlie. The water is then reticulated to various mining centres in the Goldfields.

Water was pumped from Mundaring Weir a short but steep way from No 1 to No 2 Pump Station. No 2's engines lifted water to a high point from where it flowed under gravity to No 3. No 3's engines pumped water on to No 4 and so on up the line until it reached Kalgoorlie. A little further and higher every time. Pump stations used water to pump water. The eight original stations generated steam for their engines. Water from the previous pump station entered a tank from where steam-powered engines drew it to deliver water into the pipeline.

George Temple Poole, formerly Chief Architect for the Public Works Department, rejoined the department to work specifically on buildings for the Water Scheme, houses for the staff as well as the pumping stations. Reservoirs built as part of the scheme served three different purposes: to act as receiving and suction tanks; to regulate flow in the main conduit and for service or storage purposes.

Steam pump station No.4, built in 1902 as part of the Goldfields water supply scheme was used until 1960 when an electrically driven station (situated nearby) replaced it.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1564
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	1982
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.35

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 68**  
**PUMP STATIONS: 1960, c.1990 & Manager's house**  
**(former)**  
**Great Eastern Highway**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
 Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>PUMP STATIONS: 1960, c.1990 &amp; manager's house (former)</b>		
Address	Lot 1361 Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Goldfields Pipeline is of exceptional significance to Western Australia. Of the eight pump stations along the pipeline, Merredin's No.4 Pump Station is central. The 1960 electric pump station superseded No.4 steam pump station, and since c.1990 was superseded by the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation pump station on the site. Together they demonstrate a particular site significance not relevant to any of the other seven pump stations along the Goldfields Pipeline. As part of a group dominated by No.4 Pump Station, the 1960 electric pump station and c.1990s pump station on the site, demonstrate the sequential development of the pump station facilities on this site since 1902. The three pump stations on one site are a landmark on Great Eastern Highway informing of the pipeline, pump stations and their association with Merredin.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1960, c.1990
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Functional

**DESCRIPTION:****CONDITION:** Fair1960 /Good **INTEGRITY:** Fair (1960) High degree (c.1990) **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

CY O'Connor was the inaugural engineer-in-chief of the Public Works Department, and acting general manager of railways in Western Australia. Upgrades of existing lines and plans for new lines were made. The search for water for the Northam-Southern Cross route was initiated by O'Connor. He was in charge of the railway and later engineered the Fremantle Port, as well as the Kalgoorlie pipeline.

C.Y. O'Connor is best known for his work on the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme (1902). The pipeline carries water 530 km from Perth to Kalgoorlie. A succession of gold rushes (1187-1893) caused a population explosion in the dry desert centre of Western Australia.

On 16 July 1896, John Forrest introduced to Western Australian Parliament a bill to authorise the raising of a loan of £2.5 million to construct the scheme: the pipeline would pump 23,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water per day to the Goldfields from a dam on the Helena River near Mundaring Weir in Perth, pumped in eight successive stages through 530 km miles of 760 mm-diameter pipe to the Mount Charlotte Reservoir in Kalgoorlie. The water is then reticulated to various mining centres in the Goldfields.

Water was pumped from Mundaring Weir a short but steep way from No 1 to No 2 Pump Station. No 2's engines lifted water to a high point from where it flowed under gravity to No 3. No 3's engines pumped water on to No 4 and so on up the line until it reached Kalgoorlie. A little further and higher every time. Pump stations used water to pump water. The eight original stations generated steam for their engines. Water from the previous pump station entered a tank from where steam-powered engines drew it to deliver water into the pipeline.

Steam pump station No.4 (Ref No.93) built in 1902 as part of the Goldfields water supply scheme and was used until 1960 when an electrically driven pump station replaced it.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.8195
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 69  
MERREDIN RESEARCH FACILITY  
22708 Great Eastern Highway  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN RESEARCH FACILITY</b> Nangeenan Experimental Farm, Merredin Experimental Farm, Merredin Research Station		
Address	22708 Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Five experimental farms were established between 1895 and 1907, and of those, Merredin is the only one still in use. It illustrates the State Government's proactive attitude to land settlement and to agricultural and technological advancement, that included various schemes developed from the late 1880s to the 1950s that encouraged to people to take up farm land, and to improve farming techniques. Merredin Research Facility has made significant contributions to agriculture in the State, and in Australia generally, with the development of improved strains of wheat, rye grass, and barrel medic and other legume crops. The Manager's House is the oldest remaining structure on the Merredin Research Facility site and reflects its first phase of development as a Research Station. Merredin Research Facility is valued by the local community for its associations with the development of farming in the district.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	Farming, sheds and houses
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	

<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>		
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Research facility comprises a range of sheds and barns for various uses, farm land, and a row of houses immediately south of the water pipeline. The former Manager's House (Ref No.96) is located some considerable distance to the south within the research facility.		
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b> <p>Agriculture in Western Australia had been led by the Agricultural Society (later Royal Agricultural Society) since the colony had first been established. In 1894, the Government established the Bureau of Agriculture, which became the Department of Agriculture four years later. One of the Bureau's first resolutions involved a request to Government to finance the establishment of agricultural colleges and experimental farms. The first Experimental Farm was established in 1895, at Hamel in the Harvey district. The main purpose of the experimental farm was to demonstrate the viability of this lower class land.</p> <p>In 1902, the Lands Department offered 'clearing contracts' as extra encouragement to prospective settlers. The scheme was first attempted at Hamel. The scheme originated as a means of relieving the ranks of the unemployed, and to enable persons with no - or very little - capital to make a home for themselves on the land. The clearing contract required the settler to clear a certain amount of land for a fixed price, paid to them monthly by the Agricultural Bank. The contract extended for two years, during which time the settler was allowed to cultivate the land for his own profit. At the end of the two-year period the settler could purchase his block, at a price to cover the amount paid to him for the clearing, plus interest. Settlements opened up in this way were known as 'special settlements'.</p> <p>They were established at Nabawa (1903), Chapman Valley and Narrogin (1904) and at Nangeenan on unselected land in the Baining agricultural area in 1905. In each area an Experimental Farm was established. The scheme was administered by the Lands Department and overseen by the manager of the local farm.</p> <p>The Nangeenan Experimental Farm was established in June 1904. Merredin State Farm Manager's House (fmr) (ref No 96) was occupied by the first manager, John Robinson. As well as overseeing the work on the Farm, John Robinson's job during the establishment of the settlement was to inspect the clearing work done by the settlers. His approval was required for payment. His method of checking that tree stumps were properly dug out was to go over the ground with a spike to make sure nothing was hidden beneath the surface. At the end of 1904, John Robinson reported that: There are 30 lots in this Settlement, ranging in area from 200 to 390 acres in extent -23 of which have been occupied by individual settlers, but, unfortunately owing to misunderstandings, seven of the settlers have left and their agreements cancelled. The whole of the cancelled and vacant lots were eagerly sought after. The first wheat crop in the new settlement was planted in 1905. One hundred and fourteen acres were planted on the Nangeenan Farm, while the eighteen contractors working on their own lots planted a total of 600 acres. In 1907, John Robinson took up another position with the Lands Department and his son, Harry, took over the position of manager of the Nangeenan Experimental Farm for a few years.</p>		

Farming methods in Western Australia were considered 'slipshod' and inefficient by Professor W. Lowrie, the new Director of Agriculture appointed in 1908. He recommended the Experimental Farms be closed as they had served their demonstration purpose and were unsuitable for experimental work. When Lowrie departed in 1911, James Mitchell, Minister at that time for both Lands and Agriculture, reorganised and decentralised the Department of Agriculture, dividing the State into three sections, each under a Commissioner. The Experimental Farms were removed from Lands Department control and placed under the Department of Agriculture. Nangeenan Experimental Farm was renamed Merredin Experimental Farm. The new purpose of the Experimental Farms was to produce pure seed wheat of standard varieties for sale to farmers, and to develop new and improved varieties of wheat which would be more prolific, disease resistant, of better milling quality and generally more suitable to Western Australian conditions than existing varieties. This work required qualified people and, in 1921, a system of cadetships was established to facilitate professional training. All Stations, including Merredin, appear to have accommodated students during their university vacations to provide practical experience. Experimental Farms were renamed Research Stations to reflect their new status. From their inception, the farms held Field Days which were well attended by farmers in the various districts. Plant breeding work carried out at the Stations made the most spectacular contribution. The wheat variety 'Bencubbin', was developed at Merredin Research Station and became the premier wheat variety in Australia. Merredin also produced a superior strain of Wimmera rye grass for pastures, and improved strains of barrel medic and other legume crops.

The buildings at Merredin Research Station were continually upgraded and increased in number as activities expanded. While the original farm buildings (not extant) were situated behind Farm Manager's House (ref No 96), new buildings were constructed about 850 metres further east. The oldest building on this later site is the barn, which dates from about the 1920s. From c.1966, one of the five houses was the manager's quarters, indicating that he did not reside at the Farm Manager's House, although employees, from Dryland Research Institute lived there.

The Dryland Research Institute was set up as an adjunct to the Research Station. It occupied an office in Merredin until the early 1980s. At that time a new building was constructed for the Institute on the Research Station, on the corner of Crooke Road, about one km east of the farm buildings.

In 1999, the manager of Merredin Research Station occupied his 1960s quarters. He is in charge of all the research carried out on the Station. Agriculture WA employs about 40 people at Merredin, the majority in advisory, research and administrative positions with only a small number still involved in farm work.

Merredin State Farm Manager's House (fmr) is unoccupied. Agriculture WA anticipate removing or demolishing the place as part of future development of the Research Station. Merredin Historical Society has expressed an interest in relocating the Farm Manager's House (fmr) to Merredin, but that did not eventuate.

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 16600
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>
Register documentation for the Managers House (fmr) 2000. L Gray, I Sauman.

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 70**

**MERREDIN STATE FARM MANAGER'S HOUSE (former)**  
**22708 Great Eastern Highway**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 1: Exceptional significance-Register of Heritage Places**  
 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN STATE FARM MANAGER'S HOUSE (former)</b>		
Address	22708 Merredin Research Facility, Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin State Farm Manager's House (former) is the oldest remaining structure on the Merredin Research Facility (Ref No. 95) site and reflects the first phase of development as a Research Station between 1895 and 1907. It is now a ruin, that was a good example of a Public Works Department standard design weatherboard and corrugated iron house, designed by the Government Architect Hillson Beasley, built in country areas in the early 1900s and represents a way of life for the Manager. It is recognised for the associations with the early occupants of the place, among them father and son, John and Harry Robinson (1904-1909) who were instrumental in the development of the Research Station and the establishment of the Nangeenan agricultural settlement. Together with its original farm buildings and tree plantings, it has been a familiar feature on Great Eastern Highway, since 1904 and is valued by the local community for its associations with the development of farming in the district.

**Category 1: Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1904
Uses	residence
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Timber framed weatherboard clad
Roof	Hipped corrugated iron

Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation bungalow
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<p>The single storey timber framed and clad house is located in a paddock, a significant distance on the south side of Great Eastern Highway, with the water pipeline parallel to the highway, preventing any direct access to the house. The original farm buildings (not extant) were situated behind Farm Manager's House. As the farm developed the new buildings were constructed about 850 metres further east. The house is roughly square in form with surrounding verandas. Sets of French doors open onto the front and both sides of the house. The house is uninhabitable and the roof has partially collapsed.</p>	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Poor- derelict	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Low degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<p>Agriculture in Western Australia had been led by the Agricultural Society (later Royal Agricultural Society) since the colony had first been established. In 1894, the Government established the Bureau of Agriculture, which became the Department of Agriculture four years later. One of the Bureau's first resolutions involved a request to Government to finance the establishment of agricultural colleges and experimental farms.</p> <p>The first Experimental Farm was established in 1895, at Hamel in the Harvey district. The main purpose of the experimental farm was to demonstrate the viability of this lower class land. In 1902, the Lands Department offered 'clearing contracts' as extra encouragement to prospective settlers. The scheme was first attempted at Hamel. The scheme originated as a means of relieving the ranks of the unemployed, and to enable persons with no - or very little - capital to make a home for themselves on the land. The clearing contract required the settler to clear a certain amount of land for a fixed price, paid to them monthly by the Agricultural Bank. The contract extended for two years, during which time the settler was allowed to cultivate the land for his own profit. At the end of the two-year period the settler could purchase his block, at a price to cover the amount paid to him for the clearing, plus interest.</p> <p>Settlements opened up in this way were known as 'special settlements'. They were established at Nabawa (1903), Chapman Valley and Narrogin (1904) and at Nangeenan on unselected land in the Baining agricultural area in 1905. In each area an Experimental Farm was established. The scheme was administered by the Lands Department and overseen by the manager of the local farm. The Nangeenan Experimental Farm was established in June 1904.</p> <p>Merrredin State Farm Manager's House (former) was occupied by the first manager, John Robinson. The place was designed by the Public Works Department of Western Australia under the direction of Government Architect, Hillson Beasley. It appears to have been constructed from one of a series of standard plans and was referred to as Cottage No. 9. A housekeeper was employed to work at Merrredin State Farm Manager's House. As well as overseeing the work on the Farm, John Robinson's job during the establishment of the settlement was to inspect the clearing work done by the settlers. His approval was required for payment. His method of checking that tree stumps were properly dug out was to go over the ground with a spike to make sure nothing was hidden beneath the surface. In 1907, John Robinson took up another position with the Lands Department and his son, Harry, took over the position of manager of the Nangeenan Experimental Farm for a few years, also residing in Merrredin State Farm Manager's House. A new kitchen built in the back veranda section in 1919, replacing the original separate kitchen building. The chimney was rebuilt using the original chimney bricks. Later repairs and renovations to the place were carried out by the PWD in the early 1950s, and involved rebuilding the back section of the house.</p> <p>A site plan of 1966 also shows five houses near the farm and research site, one of them the manager's quarters, indicating that Farm Manager's House has not been occupied by the manager since about that time. However, other Department employees, including some who worked at the Dryland Research Institute in Merrredin, occupied the place. Later renovations, begun in the 1990s, had been left unfinished and the place was vacant and deteriorating in 1999. Agriculture WA anticipated removing or demolishing the Farm Manager's House as part of future development of the Research Station. Merrredin Historical Society has expressed an interest in relocating it to Merrredin, but a number of issues forestalled that action.</p>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 9080
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	2000
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Register documentation 2000. L Gray, I Sauman.



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 74**

**MERREDIN DISTRICT HOSPITAL (Entry building & 1920s ward block)**

**37 Kitchener Road**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN DISTRICT HOSPITAL (Entry building &amp; 1920s ward block)</b>		
Address	37 Kitchener Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Merredin District Hospital 1930s entrance building and 1920s ward are of historical significance in representing the beginnings and subsequent development of health and hospital facilities in Merredin. It evokes a sense of place for generations of the community for various memories. It is a fine example of the Interwar Californian Bungalow architectural style and makes a significant contribution to the historic townscape of Merredin.			

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1920, 1932, 1934-35
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Californian Bungalow (entry)

**DESCRIPTION:**

The entry building and 1920s ward block are the subject of this record.

The entry building is a brick and render construction with a hipped and gabled corrugated iron roof with an apex vented detail. The main entry features a broad gable detail over the symmetrical veranda that forms three bays; a central and opening and flanking sides with vertical balustrade details. The bays are defined by square rendered columns. The entry protrudes from recessed flanking sides that feature sets of three vertical format windows.

**CONDITION:** Good

**INTEGRITY:** High degree

**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Merredin Road Board initiated the first hospital, removed a timber and corrugated iron building from Bulong in the Goldfields, and re-erected it in Merredin with the first patients in January 1920. There were 3 wards; a 4-bed ward for males, a 4-bed ward for females and a 2-bed ward for maternity. As demand increased, an 8-bed maternity ward was constructed in 1932. The local RSL club contributed generously to the building that was opened on ANZAC day 1932. Further additions in 1934 included nurses' quarters and medical services. The hospital officially opened in 1935. There has been considerable development since that time.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.1573
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 3

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Place record 2009 Municipal Inventory

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 76**

**2/1 AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL (ruins)**

**Lot 1450 Mackenzie Crescent**

**Category 1: Exceptional significance-Register of Heritage Places**  
 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>2/1 AUSTRALIAN GENERAL HOSPITAL (ruins)</b>		
Address	<b>Lot 1450 Mackenzie Crescent</b>		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b> (per Register documentation)			
<p>2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins) is a significant and rare remnant of a World War Two mobile hospital installation in Australia, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. It presents a rare example on Australian soil of the difficult and primitive circumstances that the Australian Army medical services had to operate under during World War Two. It represents significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two Army medical services, in particular the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS), the Australian Army Medical Women's Service (AAMWS), The Volunteer Aid Detachments (VADs) and the Australian Army Medical Corps (AAMC), and with the injured soldiers who were treated there. It forms a significant cultural landscape with a regular grid formation and rectangular concrete slabs, that contrast with the surrounding natural environment and provides information about the structure and operation of a mobile Army hospital established under wartime conditions. It demonstrates the importance of Merredin as a central railway junction, its distance from the coast and its water supply potential from both the Pipeline and the Railway Dam.</p>			
<b>Category 1: Register of Heritage Places:</b> 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.			
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1942-43		
Uses			
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	Concrete and brick		
Walls			
Roof			
Other			
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	West Australian building firm J.B. Hawkins & Son.		

**DESCRIPTION:**

Concrete and brick ground-level remains constructed as a mobile hospital for the Army. The extant physical elements of 2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), comprising 16 identifiable remnant concrete slabs of former buildings, associated septic tank remnants and drainage elements. It is located another 200 metres to the northeast of the car park entry to the Railway Dam, Merredin, nestled close to the base of Merredin Peak, on the south east side. The site is a rectangular form grid aligned on a northeast/southwest axis and a gravel track leads into and around the site following the original tracks of the grid; however, the track is not continuous throughout the grid. The grid layout is not clearly interpreted on the ground as it is terminated at a number of intersections to guide the visitor around the site. The natural environment has regenerated on the site, with mallee and other native plantings.

**CONDITION:** Poor**INTEGRITY:** Low degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

During World War 2, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.

The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions. The hospital was established and outfitted for 1,200 patients and 400 staff.

The site chosen was the unused aerial landing ground Reserve 20811 close to the railway line on Merredin Peak and adjacent to the Railway Dam. A camp was set up on the site and hospital equipment was stored in a disused flourmill.

In the absence of any Perth firm being able to 'expeditiously' provide prefabricated buildings, the Perth office of the Commonwealth Works Department let a tender in August 1942 to J. B. Hawkins & Sons for construction of: an operating theatre and x-ray block; four kitchens; six shower and ablution blocks and ten latrines for males; one shower, ablution and latrine block for females; and a meat house, laundry and boiler house. Ward accommodation was to be provided in the form of transportable army huts. The ablution and latrine buildings had concrete floors, while the other buildings constructed were designed to be relocatable. The buildings were all timber-framed and either clad with weatherboards, fibrolite sheeting or corrugated iron for the ablution blocks and roofs were corrugated asbestos.

In November 1942, the unit consisted of five medical officers, nine other officers, 34 members of the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS), eleven members of the Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs) and Australian Army Medical Women's Service (AAMWS) and 143 ORs (other ranks than officers).

In July 1943, the 2/1 AGH closed to patient intake. The threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea. The site was to be taken over by the 125 AGH with 200 beds. Approval was received to replace the tented wards with huts but this work did not go ahead. On 27 September 1943, the 125 AGH was deleted from the Order of Battle and the 200 bed hospital was cancelled, to be replaced by the 40 Australian Camp Hospital (ACH) with 90 beds.

In 1944, all work was stopped. One of the buildings was used as a youth centre for some time after the war, but the fate of the rest is not known. None of the structures remain.

In 1948, 11 acres in the southwest corner of Reserve 20811 was excised for an Aboriginal Camping Reserve.

In 2006-07, a brick ablution facility and a steel-framed pergola style shelter were erected on the Reserve, with an associated carpark and a new gravel track that leads past the National Trust interpretation panels for the 2/1 AGH site.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13516
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>	2011
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 45

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Registration Documentation 2011. L Gray & I Sauman

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 77**  
**MERREDIN CEMETERY**  
**4466 Merredin Bruce Rock Road**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
 Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN CEMETERY</b>		
Address	4466 Merredin Bruce Rock Road		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Merredin Cemetery is of considerable significance and value to the communities of Merredin town and district as a record and commemoration of generations of people who have passed away, evoking a sense of place and remembrance.			
<b>Category 2: 'Heritage List'</b> Retain & conserve.			
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>			
Uses			
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>			
Walls			
Roof			
Other			
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>			
The Cemetery entrance is defined by mature pencil pines flanking the entrance.			
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good		<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>			
<b>LISTINGS</b>			
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database		No. 13508	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places			
National Trust classified			
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009		No. 33, 38	

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 80**  
**MERREDIN DISTRICT HALL & ROAD BOARD OFFICE (former)**  
**16 Mitchell Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 1:** Exceptional significance-**Register of Heritage Places** 'Heritage List'. Essential to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN DISTRICT HALL &amp; ROAD BOARD OFFICE (former)</b> Merredin Town Hall, Clock Tower Building		
Address	16 Mitchell Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
<p>Merredin District Hall and Road Board Office (former) is a fine example of a rural civic administration building in the Interwar Free Classical architectural style designed by architect W. G. Pickering and constructed in 1925 as an addition at the front of the Merredin District Hall (1912-1975 ). The three story clock tower is a unique World War One memorial, with the clock workings designed by J. W. Benson, Queen Victoria's clock maker, as a smaller replica of his Big Ben clock in Westminster. Merredin District Hall represents the prosperity and optimism of Merredin in the 1920s, and the Roads Board and in Merredin between 1925 and 1961. It is highly valued by the community of Merredin and region as the site of the original District Hall (demolished 1975) that was a place to socialise, celebrate and commemorate, and still evokes a sense of place. The clock tower is a landmark visible from many positions around Merredin; it enhances the aesthetic of the building and the civic cultural environment that encompasses the Court House, in making a significant contribution to the historic townscape of the town of Merredin.</p>			
<b>Category 1:</b> Register of Heritage Places: 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.			
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1925, c.1993		
Uses	Civic, social and community events, road board office.		
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>			
Walls	Face brick & stucco		
Roof	Clay tiles		
Other	Clock tower		

<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free classical. Architect W G Pickering.	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>		
<p>Original District Hall (1913-1975) was timber framed and corrugated iron clad. The single-storey building with central three-storey clock tower, is a face brick construction with rendered quoins. The place is symmetrical and regular in plan. The roof is a gambrel hipped roof featuring a decorative ridge. The tower roof is hipped with no eaves overhang. The central point has a flagpole, and there is a gabled vent on each of the two sides of the tower roof. The ground floor frontage is symmetrical about the central entry. The entry has an arched pediment above the date '1925' in relief. The original timber doors have been replaced by aluminium framed glazing and a central, single entry door. Two sets of three casement windows, with fixed lights above, are set on either side of the central entry. The window sills align with a rendered band across the frontage, defining the dado line on the pilasters and cornice reveals. The corners of the building and the entrance opening have rendered quoins, with incised banding above the dado pilasters. The courses above the window heads are rendered across the entire facade. The front facade has a stone plaque on either side, centred beneath the windows. The stone on the west side is the foundation stone laid by Gerald Woolgar. The matching stone on the east side dedicates the clock in the tower to the memory of those who fell during World War One. This stone has miniature pilaster columns embedded in the wall on either side. They are the remains of the railing that can be seen in earlier photographs of the place. A concrete shield is fixed on the wall below the stone plaque. Any engraving on the shield has been eroded away. The tower is square in plan, all corners are quoined, and the central front of the tower features a rendered panel with serif lettering 'MERREDIN DISTRICT HALL'. The main feature of the clock tower is the round clock face on three facades of the tower (not on north side). The clock face is set within a rendered reveal below a deep rendered cornice line around the top of the tower walls.</p>		
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>		
<p>The Eastern Goldfields Railway came to Merredin in 1893, and through to Kalgoorlie by 1897. The Merredin townsite was surveyed in 1904, and the Roads Board gazetted in 1911. The Roads Board meetings were first held in Armstrong's Hall, and later at Hines Hill. The Merredin Progress Association protested to the Minister for Works, and in 1912 the Road Board headquarters moved to Merredin. Merredin needed both a community hall and offices for the Roads Board.</p> <p>Town Lots 120 and 121, on Mitchell Street, were selected and subsequently gazetted Reserve 13941, 'Road Board Office &amp; Hall Site.' Finances were not available so a more modest hall was built and opened on 23 April 1913 with a grand ball and banquet. The period 1920 to 1930, was one of expansion for the wheatbelt districts, encouraged by Government policies on land settlement, and higher wheat prices. The Roads Board negotiated a loan for the construction of brick offices in front of the Hall, and for improvements to the Hall itself. Included in the 1924/25 work were alterations to the District Hall. The new Roads Board building comprised a clock tower with a single-storey section on each side containing offices and Board Room. It was designed by architect George Pickering and built by local builder, James R. Parker. The foundation stone was laid by Gerald Woolgar, on 16 November 1924, and it was officially opened 20 May 1925. In 1944, two additional offices for the Roads Board were added along the east wall of the hall. The District Hall hosted movies, dances, balls, church services, weddings, amateur dramatics, conferences and meetings. In 1961, the Roads Board became the Shire Council and moved into new offices on the corner of Barrack and Queen streets. The 1913 Hall was demolished in c.1975, retaining the 1925 Road Board offices and the name "Merredin Town Hall" on the three storey clock tower. A toilet block was added at the rear following the demolition of the hall. The local RSL utilized the place as their clubrooms, but the building was in need of maintenance and repair. In the early 1990s, the Shire let the place as a doctor's surgery. In c.1993, it was refurbished by the Building Management Authority for use by Hendy Cowan, MLA as his electorate office. Merredin RSL still hold their meetings in the place.</p>		
<b>LISTINGS</b>		
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database		No.1576
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage <b>Register of Heritage Places</b>		1999
National Trust classified		
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009		No. 16
<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
Registration documentation. 1999 L Gray, I Sauman.		

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 82**  
**MERREDIN COURT HOUSE**  
**20 Mitchell Street**  
**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
 Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN COURT HOUSE</b>			
Address	20 Mitchell Street			
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>			
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin Court House has historical significance for the function and events that have taken place since 1938. It is a very fine example of Interwar Free Classical architectural style. Individually and together with the Merredin District Hall, it makes a very significant contribution to the civic cultural environment in Mitchell Street and the broader historic townscape of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1938
Uses	Court house
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry
Roof	Clay tiles
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Free Classical

**DESCRIPTION:**

Merredin Court House presents an elegant confidence in the Interwar free Classical style, the classical themes expressing the respect and historical presence of the building and its function. The symmetrical frontage is typical with the dominant protruding double-volume central entry portico flanked by single-storey recessed frontages with a single vertical format windows with pilasters framing from ground level to the horizontal moulded detail across the front. The understated parapet has a single stepped detail. The central entry portico has Tuscan columns with decorative capitals flanking the central high opening. The parapet has a horizontal moulded detail band and rises to a stepped pediment with a Coat of Arms detail above the words COURT HOUSE. The chimney is rendered and has an elegant stepped detail in its height.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

Merredin Court House was officially opened on 8 May 1938.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1579
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.17

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 84**

**MERREDIN PIONEER CEMETERY**

**10 Pioneer Drive**

**MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MERREDIN PIONEER CEMETERY (Old Cemetery)</b>		
Address	10 Pioneer Drive (bounded by Cohn and Boyd Street and Dobson Ave)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No		Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Merredin Pioneer Cemetery is significant for its association with pioneers, their families, identities and others, of all denominations, between during the early history and development of the Merredin region. It is an important record of a distinctive way of life in the records inscribed on the memorials, and the function and design with symbolism implicit in most memorials, demonstrating a way of life no longer practiced in the commemoration of the deceased. The headstones, railings and palisades, and the rustic workmanship of metal and timber commemorations are good examples of the styles, materials and workmanship of the period. Pioneer Cemetery demonstrates the characteristics of the cultural diversity of Merredin from its earliest development and makes a significant contribution to Merredin communities’ sense of place informing and commemorating the early history.

**Category 2: ‘Heritage List’** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	Cemetery
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	

**DESCRIPTION:**

Expansive Cemetery bounded by four streets with a formal entry with gates off the Pioneer Drive access, although there are gates off Cohn Street, Dobson Ave and Boyd Street.

The interpretive information is extensive and informative and identifies the various denominational areas in the cemetery that includes: Church of England (Anglican), Catholic, Church of Christ, former Army, Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian, Salvation Army, and Seventh Day Adventist.

The grave marker numbers seem to be mostly intact, and the grave sites vary significantly between humble crosses to expansive marble headstone and surrounds.

**CONDITION:** Good

**INTEGRITY:** High degree

**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES****LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No.13471

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No.1

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.85  
BREWERY HOUSE (former)  
60 Pollock Avenue  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>BREWERY HOUSE</b>		
Other name	Cummins House		
Address	60 Pollock Avenue (NE cnr Brewery Road)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	1353	Plan:	Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Brewery House is of historical significance for association with the brewery and the specific brews attributed to Merredin, James Cummins (Cummins Theatre), and social and historical for girls Boarding hostel. The site represents the brewery industry that contributed to the development of Merredin. The house is a good example of the influences of Californian Bungalow style in the Interwar period and makes a contribution to the historic townscape of Merredin.

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1928
Uses	Office, residence, boarding hostel for girl students
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Brick and render/paint
Roof	Corrugated metal sheeting
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar Californian Bungalow influence

**DESCRIPTION:**

The house and two out-buildings are in the area of the original brewery operation. The house is approximately square in plan, with a surrounding veranda. The hipped roof has gable extensions over doorways at different heights - two to the front (north facing) and one to the street (west facing). The gables are detailed in patterned pressed metal. The two outbuildings (store and garage) are face brick. The garage is located on the Pollock Avenue street alignment and has a gable roof and pressed metal gable that matches the house.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** Moderate degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

Brewery House was part of the brewery operation that produced Kalgoorlie Bitter and Oatmeal Stout as well as its own Merredin Bitter and Westland-Lager. The house was originally the office for the brewery.

James Cummins built the Cummins Theatre in 1928 – brewery connections- his daughter.

The Merredin Hostel was located here between 1951 and 1955. In 2016, a reunion of those who attended the hostel during those years was held at Brewery House. About 40 people attended the reunion, including 26 people who were students and teachers. The girls had boarded in Brewery House and the boys in a separate house near the brewery site. At meal times the boys were marched into the basement where the meals were served via a dumb waiter from the kitchen above where the girls had their meals in the adjoining dining room. In 1954 the boys' accommodation was destroyed by fire and they were relocated to the Air Force buildings and later the girls were moved there too until 1957 when a new facility was built in Caw Street and the new senior high school was opened.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.4253
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	1982
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.4

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. 86  
HARLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY (former)  
Queen Street  
MERREDIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>HARLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY (former)</b> Merredin Fine Art(s) Gallery		
Address	Queen Street		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Harling Memorial Library (former) is of considerable significance for the commemoration of local identity Hugh Harling, and in more recent times association with the Fine Arts Society. It demonstrates a striking aesthetic of Late Twentieth Century design emphasising concrete, steel and glass construction that makes a significant contribution to Merredin ‘s historic townscape, representing a substantial contemporary development of its time.

**Category 2: ‘Heritage List’** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1963
Uses	Library, Art gallery
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Cement block
Roof	Not visible
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Late twentieth century (1960-)

**DESCRIPTION:** The double volume masonry building presents a face block street frontage with a full glass wall along both side walls, with a decorative block 'shadow' wall along the north side. The street front wall has a geometric pattern of coursing of the flat face stone. The decorative block wall and glass side walls are formed in bays by I beams structures. The expansive interior has a central mezzanine (1/3) along the length of the building with the open tread staircase on the north side.

**CONDITION:** Good                      **INTEGRITY:** Moderate degree                      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

The idea of a library was an outcome of the Centenary celebrations when there were funds left over; expended on books - the nucleus of the library. Hugh Harling was a constant advocate for a library and the instigation of a glass-door bookcase in the Board room and a small collection of reference books that built up from 1929. A Library committee was formed comprising H Harling, Father Smith and FA Law. They arranged purchase of books that had been annually voted by the Board, and also made arrangements for the public use of the books. Eventually they gained associations with the Library Board.

The first Merredin "Library" was officially opened in the Board Room of the Merredin Road Board, on 11<sup>th</sup> April 1936. It then moved to the Youth Club in 1947, and W Sargeant, the Superintendent of the Youth Club, volunteered his service as honorary Librarian with 500 volumes at the time. The scheme assistance through the State Library Board ended in 1956 and a new scheme relied on principle towns servicing the other towns. Merredin Road Board partnered with Westonia, and the Library was remodeled and officially opened in a larger part of the Youth Club (RAOB Hall??), as the Harling Memorial Library, in 12 Dec 1958 as a dedication to Hugh Henry Harling. Mrs K Flemming, a World War two widow, was appointed the first professional Librarian after a course of study at the State Library.

The Library moved to this purpose built library building and retained the name of Harling Memorial Library when it was officially opened on 25 June 1963.

Hugh Henry Harling, a farmer, was an inaugural member of the Merredin Road Board in 1911. He served the Road Board for many years; 1911-1914, 1916-1941, and was Chairman of the Merredin Road Board for the following periods: 1916-1917, 1918-1919, 1929-1936. He died tragically in a farm accident in 1943. He was held in high esteem by the Merredin community and who had initiated the Library in Merredin in 1929. .

Merredin Fine Arts Society formed 16 October 1968. In 1978 they established at the Merredin Railway Museum until July 2018 when they moved to the Library building. The building is now called the Merredin Fine Art(s) Gallery, is owned by the Merredin Shire Council, and is the home of the Merredin Fine Arts Society.

*InHerit database (No. 1569) lists Harling Memorial Library as: Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (R.A.O.B.) Hall (fmr), (Harling Memorial Library, Public Library, Sisters' Quarters) Photo of a corrugated iron hall, address Coronation Street. No other information.*

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 1569
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**



<b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
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<b>No. 87</b>
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<b>AIRCRAFT HANGERS - RAAF STORES</b>
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<b>60 Railway Avenue (cnr Goldfields Rd)</b>
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<b>MERREDIN</b>
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<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.
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Place name	<b>AIRCRAFT HANGERS</b>		
Address	60 Railway Avenue (SE cnr Goldfields Road)		
Town/Region	<b>MERREDIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The RAAF aircraft hangers are very significant remnant of the World War Two presence in Merredin, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese. They represent significant associations with the servicemen and women of the World War Two.			

<b>Category 2:</b> 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.
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<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1942
Uses	Aircraft hanger
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Corrugated iron
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Massive scale curved structure approximately 120 metres long by 80 metres wide – traditional aircraft hanger structure and form. Three doors at each end provided railway access at the west end. Offices lined the long sides of the structure.
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	<p>During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The RAAF aircraft hangers were part of the support infrastructure for the personnel. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.</p> <p>The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.</p> <p>By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea.</p>

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.13517
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.46

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.D3  
BURRACOPPIN RAILWAY DAM  
Burracoppin Northwest Road  
BURRACOPPIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>BURRACOPPIN RAILWAY DAM</b>		
Address	Burracoppin Northwest Road		
Town/Region	<b>BURRACOPPIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Burracoppin Railway Dam represents historical associations with the advent of the Merredin to Kalgoorlie railway that facilitated further development in Burracoppin.			

**Category 2:** 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1897
Uses	Water supply for steam trains
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Earthen
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
As for most new settlements, the Progress Association was the voice and impetus for the development that was required, such as school, hall and the railway.	
In 1897, the railway line east from the Merredin junction to Kalgoorlie passed through Burracoppin, facilitating further development. The dam is associated with the railway due to reliance on a good water supply for the steam driven trains.	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.4271
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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<p><b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b>  <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b></p>
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<p><b>No. D4</b></p>
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<p><b>BURRACOPPIN HOTEL (former)</b></p>
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<p>84-88 Parkes Street (SE cnr White Street)</p>
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<p><b>BURRACOPPIN</b></p>
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<p><b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.          Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.</p>
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Place name	<b>BURRACOPPIN HOTEL (former)</b>		
Address	84-88 Parkes Street (cnr White Street)		
Town/Region	<b>BURRACOPPIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Burracoppin Hotel (former) is of historical and social significance as a place of hospitality and socialising for the community since 1926. It has always been, and still is, is the most substantial building in the town and a landmark that makes a significant contribution to the historic townscape of Burracoppin.

<p><b>Category 2: ‘Heritage List’</b> Retain &amp; conserve.</p>
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<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1926
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Rendered masonry
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar

**DESCRIPTION:**

The two-storey building is symmetrical in form about the truncated corner. The truncated roof features two vented gablets at the apex of the truncation and central on the Parkes Street frontage. Verandas at ground and first-floor levels wrap both street frontages. The timber posts are detailed with decorative angled brackets. The balustrade to the first-floor is a timber railing with chainmesh infill. A single storey building is semidetached on the White Street side.

**CONDITION:** Good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** High degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In 1864 a nearby granite outcrop was listed as Burancooping Rock. The name is Aboriginal in origin and is supposed to mean 'Big hill'. The Yilgarn gold rush was the impetus for the development of the town that was gazetted in 1891. Hunt built one of many of his wells at this site and it became a stopping point for those on the way to Southern Cross. The railway reached Burracoppin in 1894 and so, for a time, it was the railhead where supplies for the goldfields were off loaded.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.1582
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.D6  
BURRANCOPPING WELL NO.9  
Burracoppin Northwest Road  
BURRACOPPIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>Burracopping Well No.9</b>		
Address	Burracoppin Northwest Road (200metres north from base of rock)		
Town/Region	<b>BURRACOPPIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Burracopping Well No.9 is significant for its historical associations with the explorer and surveyor Charles Hunt, who developed a series of wells and catchments in the district.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1865		
Uses	Water source		
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>			
Walls	Stone lined		
Roof			
Other			
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>			
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b>	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>			
<p>Between 1864 and 1866, Assistant Surveyor Charles C. Hunt recognised the pastoral opportunities of the region in a series of explorations on behalf of his patron Governor Hampton. In 1866, the third exploration was the most extensive with a party comprising 4 experienced bushmen and 3 Aborigines and James Turner supervising 4 pensioner guards and 4 probationer convicts. The convicts were for road making and sinking wells and water storage. They passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. Burracopping Well No.9 is one of those sites that where Hunt sank a well. He also sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well.</p> <p>Surveyor Charles C. Hunt and his exploration team established a track that linked waterholes, dams and wells. The water sources include wells, stone lined circular shafts; dams, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water flow that was faced on one or more sides with stone; and tanks, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water source with no masonry. These definitions are not absolute as Hunt appears to have used them interchangeably.</p> <p>The water sources therefore have a variety of shapes and sizes, and while a small number are intact many others have been physically impacted by development, destruction or attempts at conservation. As a collective group, these wells physically demonstrate the water sources used by Aboriginal people, the construction method used by Hunt, and the development of subsequent water sources along the route to the Goldfields after 1890.</p>			

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.17562
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of heritage Places	

National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory	-

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. D11  
HINES HILL CEMETERY  
Giles Road  
HINES HILL**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>HINES HILL PIONEER CEMETERY</b>		
Address	Giles Road		
Town/Region	<b>HINES HILL</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Hine Hill Cemetery is a place of historical significance; a record of generations of people associated with Hines Hill and a place of reverence valued by the community.

**Category 2:** ‘Heritage List’ Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1902-1924
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Information panel at the entry lists the 22 burials in the cemetery. Only 4 grave sites are evident. Ashes were scattered in 1998.
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13504
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 33

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>



**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.D16  
HINES HILL RAILWAY WEIGHBRIDGE  
Lot 88 Great Eastern Highway  
HINES HILL**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>HINES HILL RAILWAY WEIGHBRIDGE</b>		
Address	Lot 88 Great Eastern Highway		
Town/Region	<b>HINES HILL</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The weighbridge is of considerable historic significance in association with the railway presence in Hines Hill from 1926. It is a rare intact example of the type and period and a landmark in Hines Hill, informing of the railway history.			

**Category 2: ‘Heritage List’** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1926
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The weighbridge comprises a small corrugated iron shed with a curved corrugated iron roof. Immediately adjacent is the scales platform with a timber decking.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree

## HISTORICAL NOTES

The railway from Northam connected through to Merredin in 1893, passing through Hines Hill (west of Merredin). There was a railway station building, a refreshment room and the weighbridge. All located opposite the Hines Hill Hotel (former). On 29 December 1912, a cyclone demolished the railway station building and blew the refreshment room from its location. It was subsequently relocated to the Merredin Station. No buildings were re-constructed at Hines Hill Railway Station. The Stationmaster's house is located on the east side of the railway line.

The plaque on the weighbridge site reads:

*Installed 1926 by Hines Hill Weighbridge*

*By 1939 successive droughts forced ownership to go  
to the railways and CBH paid fees to use the bridge.*

*Jarrah decking was replaced prior to the 1943/4 harvest.*

*In 1951 CBH purchased weighbridge for 50 pounds and  
Used until standard gauge line opened 1966-7.*

*Ron Whitehead and sons then bought the bridge paying rates to WAGR.*

*In recent years weighbridge has been maintained by  
Merredin Historical Society.*

*CBH Merredin  
M & C McGinnis  
2005*

## LISTINGS

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13501
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 32

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN</b> <b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No.D19</b> <b>METCHERING WELL No.6</b> <b>Coulahan Road</b> <b>KORBEL</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>Metchering Well No.6</b>		
Address	Coulahan Road (west side of rock)		
Town/Region	<b>KORBEL</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Metchering Well No.6 is significant for its historical associations with the explorer and surveyor Charles Hunt, who developed a series of wells and catchments in the district.			
<b>Category 2: ‘Heritage List’</b> Retain & conserve.			
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1865		
Uses	Water source		
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>			
Walls	Stone lined		
Roof			
Other			
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>			
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b>	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>			
<p>Between 1864 and 1866, Assistant Surveyor Charles C. Hunt recognised the pastoral opportunities of the region in a series of explorations on behalf of his patron Governor Hampton. In 1866, the third exploration was the most extensive with a party comprising 4 experienced bushmen and 3 Aboriginals and James Turner supervising 4 pensioner guards and 4 probationer convicts. The convicts were for road making and sinking wells and water storage. They passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. Metchering Well No. 6 is one of those sites that where Hunt sank a well. He also sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well.</p> <p>Surveyor Charles C. Hunt and his exploration team established a track that linked waterholes, dams and wells. The water sources include wells, stone lined circular shafts; dams, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water flow that was faced on one or more sides with stone; and tanks, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water source with no masonry. These definitions are not absolute as Hunt appears to have used them interchangeably.</p> <p>The water sources therefore have a variety of shapes and sizes, and while a small number are intact many others have been physically impacted by development, destruction or attempts at conservation. As a collective group, these wells physically demonstrate the water sources used by Aboriginal people, the construction method used by Hunt, and the development of subsequent water sources along the route to the Goldfields after 1890.</p>			
<b>LISTINGS</b>			
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage: inHerit database			No.17560
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage: Register of Heritage Places			
National Trust classified			
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory			-
<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>			

<b>SHIRE OF MERREDIN Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
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<b>No. D24 MUNTADGIN TOWNSITE MUNTADGIN</b>
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<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.
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Place name	<b>MUNTADGIN TOWNSITE</b>		
Address	Crossland Street		
Town/Region	<b>MUNTADGIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Muntadgin Townsite, gazetted in 1923 after the advent of the Merredin -Narembeen railway connection, established into a thriving town with General Store and Post Office, Trading company, butcher, baker, boarding house, RAOB Buffalo Lodge, CWA, RSL and Women's Auxiliary, Community Hall, and by 1930, the hotel strategically located opposite the railway siding. It is important in identifying the Muntadgin townsite's social and historical significance and sense of place for generations of locals and visitors.

<b>Category 2:</b> 'Heritage List' Retain & conserve.
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<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1923
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar period

**DESCRIPTION:**

The street layouts and many buildings including the Hotel, General Store and Post Office, Trading company, and a number of residences, as well as a 1980s community recreation centre.

**CONDITION:** Fair      **INTEGRITY:** High degree      **AUTHENTICITY:** High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In 1923, the railway branch line south from the Merredin junction on the Narrogin-Narembeen line passed through Muntadgin, facilitating further development and gazettal of the townsite at that time.

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. D25**

**MUNTADGIN HOTEL**

**11 Crossland Street (cnr Smith Street)**

**MUNTADGIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-‘Heritage List’.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>Muntadgin Hotel</b>		
Address	Crossland Street (cnr Smith Street)		
Town/Region	<b>MUNTADGIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:	Certificate of Title:	

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Muntadgin Hotel is a fine example of its period and style and represents the townsite of Muntadgin, located opposite the site of the railway station, in the main street after the Merredin–Narembeen Railway in 1923. It has significant social and historical significance for the socialising, hospitality and sense of place for generations of locals and visitors. It is important in identifying the historic Muntadgin townsite.

**Category 2: ‘Heritage List’** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1925
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Face brick
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar period influenced by Federation Filigree
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The Two-storey hotel building spans two street frontages with a truncated corner. Both frontages have first floor verandas with slender vertical balustrade and a simple valance to the ground floor veranda with angled post brackets. The face brick walls have a rendered band at the base and at window-sill level.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> High degree <b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree

**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In 1923, the railway branch line south from the Merredin junction on the Narrogin-Narembene line in passed through Muntadgin, facilitating further development. Traditionally the hotel is located opposite the railway station as it is in Muntadgin townsite.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
inHerit database

No.13510

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage  
Register of Heritage Places

National Trust classified

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009

No.39

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.D27**

**MUNTADGIN GENERAL STORE & POST OFFICE  
(former)**

**Lot 3 Crossland Street**

**MUNTADGIN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>MUNTADGIN GENERAL STORE &amp; POST OFFICE (former)</b>		
Address	Lot 3 Crossland Street		
Town/Region	<b>MUNTADGIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Muntadgin General Store & Post Office is historically significant as the first building in the Muntadgin townsite. As a central place of service and communication for the town and district it has social significance and a sense of place for generations of locals and visitors. It makes a substantial contribution to the main street streetscape informing of the historical significance of the town of Muntadgin.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1923
Uses	
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Timber framed
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Interwar period

**DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey building presents a traditional streets frontage with a central truncated recessed entry flanked by shopfront windows above a low dado. The gable roof of the main shop building is separate from the skillion veranda across the street frontage, supported by square timber posts.

**CONDITION:** Fair/good**INTEGRITY:** High degree**AUTHENTICITY:** moderate/high degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

In 1923, the railway branch line south from the Merredin junction on the Narrogin-Narembene line passed through Muntadgin, facilitating further development and gazettal of the townsite at that time. The General Store and Post Office was the first building in town.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	-
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	-

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No. D33  
NANGEENAN HALL (former)  
29 Marley Close  
NANGEENAN**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>NANGEENAN HALL (former)</b>		
Address	29 Marley Close		
Town/Region	<b>NANGEENAN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Nangeenan Hall (former) is historically significant in representing the early settlers and the perseverance of the Nangeenan Progress Association and its Chairperson Frederick Growden. It is socially significant as a place of gathering, events and celebration by generations of the Nangeenan community. It is a good example of the vernacular community architecture in the Federation period that informs of the history of Nangeenan and contributes to the country aesthetic of Nangeenan.

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	1911-1912
Uses	Community gatherings, residential
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	Stone (local)
Roof	Corrugated iron
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	Federation vernacular

**DESCRIPTION:**

The simple rectangular form of the single storey face stone building has a high-pitched hipped roof with a simple vented gablet to the front and rear. Brick quoins are evident on the corner and window and door openings. The 'front' (south) facing is symmetrical with a central pair of timber doors with fanlight above. Both side walls are the same; symmetrical with central double timber-doors and two separate windows spaced equally each side.

**CONDITION:** Poor**INTEGRITY:** Low degree**AUTHENTICITY:** Moderate/high degree**HISTORICAL NOTES**

Agriculture in Western Australia had been led by the Agricultural Society (later Royal Agricultural Society) since the colony had first been established. In 1894, the Government established the Bureau of Agriculture, which became the Department of Agriculture four years later. One of the Bureau's first resolutions involved a request to Government to finance the establishment of agricultural colleges and experimental farms.

The first Experimental Farm was established in 1895 to demonstrate the viability of this lower class land.

Land in Nangeenan originally called Baining, was first taken up by William Morris who (lot 9) in 1896, Alfred Barnett in 1897 (lot 11) and Frederick Growden in 1898 who took up lots 23 and 24, at the same time that Arthur Smith and George Mann settled on lots 18, and 16 and 17 respectively.

In 1902, the Lands Department offered 'clearing contracts' as extra encouragement to prospective settlers. The scheme originated as a means of relieving the ranks of the unemployed, and to enable persons with no - or very little - capital to make a home for themselves on the land. The clearing contract required the settler to clear a certain amount of land for a fixed price, paid to them monthly by the Agricultural Bank. The contract extended for two years, during which time the settler was allowed to cultivate the land for his own profit. At the end of the two-year period the settler could purchase his block, at a price to cover the amount paid to him for the clearing, plus interest. Settlements opened up in this way were known as 'special settlements'.

One was established at Nangeenan on unselected land in the Baining agricultural area in 1905. In each area an Experimental Farm was established, as for each of the areas. The scheme was administered by the Lands Department and overseen by the manager of the local farm. The Nangeenan Experimental Farm was established in June 1904. The farm manager's job was to inspect the clearing work done by the settlers. His approval was required for payment.

On 4 August 1904, the Nangeenan Progress Association was formed. Inaugural members included Fred Growden, and the Nangeenan Experimental Farm Manager J Robinson. The meeting was held in F Growden's chaff shed and F Growden was elected the inaugural chairman. As spokesperson for the Association, F Growden soon forwarded a list of requirements to the Government, including the need for school, hall, post office, shed at the railway siding, and he attentioned the high cost of water. By January 1905 F Growden had a meeting with the Minister. There was soon a shed at the railway siding, and enquires regarding the number of school age children, and information provided regarding construction of a hall. Nangeenan and Merredin both vied for a school, and no funds were available for a hall. The Association opened a subscription list for donations and requested same from politicians including Sir John Forrest. In 1907 the Nangeenan and Districts Farmers and Dairymen's Association evolved, but resumed to Progress Association in 1909 when the hall became the priority. They purchased bricks, then sold them and gathered and hauled stone for the hall. Nangeenan Hall opened on 9 August 1912 at the cost of 175 pounds. Having achieved considerable progress in Nangeenan, the Association folded in April 1913. Nangeenan Hall has been in private ownership for several decades.

**LISTINGS**

Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No.1581
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No. 30

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**  
**Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.37**  
**NOKANNING WHITE WELL**  
**Lot 28296 Nokanning Road**  
**NOKANNING**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
 Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.



Place name	<b>NOKANNING WHITE WELL</b>		
Address	Lot 28296 Nokanning Road		
Town/Region	<b>NOKANNING</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
Nokanning White Well is valued as an important water source for farmers and early travellers through the district. It illustrates the necessity of establishing a reliable water supply for the human occupation. It is a landmark on the Merredin Nungarin Road.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1922
Uses	Source of water
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
The white clay excavated from the well has formed a mound that is retained by timbers.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Fair	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate/high degree
<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> Moderate/high degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13511
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.40
<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN  
Local Heritage Survey 2023**

**No.38**

**AMMUNITION DUMPS**

**Lot 50 Nokaning East Road**

**NOKANING**

**Category 2:** Considerable significance-'Heritage List'.  
Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>AMMUNITION DUMPS</b>		
Address	Lot 50 Nokanning East Road		
Town/Region	<b>NOKANING</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b>			
The ammunition dumps are significant for the associations with Merredin's involvement in World War Two activities.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	
Uses	Ammunition store, grain store
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>	1941
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	
There are 49 concrete storage buildings scattered over 100 hectares. Originally camouflaged by the bush, now in the open. Some buildings are used by farmers for grain storage.	
<b>CONDITION:</b> Good	<b>INTEGRITY:</b> Moderate degree
<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b> High degree	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b>	
During World War Two, a number of military support installations were located inland along railway routes. At Merredin, the RAAF No. 10 Stores Depot, a HD/HF communication facility and the 2/1 Australian General Hospital were established and hundreds of service personnel were stationed in the town. The Ammunition dumps were integral to the support installations. The unit had been stationed at Gaza in the Middle East for two years before returning to Australia in mid-1942. In June that year, personnel and equipment were dispatched by train from Adelaide to Merredin.	
The decision to locate an experienced unit in rural WA was decided after the bombing of Broome and Darwin by the Japanese earlier in 1942 heralded the possibility of an invasion in the northwest with resulting casualties. Merredin was far enough from the coast that enemy planes could not reach it without refuelling, and as a central railway junction, the injured could be transported in from various directions.	
By July 1943, the threat to the North West had passed and the unit was ordered to New Guinea	

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 13515
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of Heritage Places	
National Trust classified	
Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory 1999, 2009	No.44

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**SHIRE OF MERREDIN**

<b>Local Heritage Survey 2023</b>
<b>No.D52</b> <b>TOTADGIN WELL NO.7</b> <b>Lot 29241 Bruce Rock Merredin Road</b> <b>TOTADGIN</b>
<b>Category 2:</b> Considerable significance-'Heritage List'. Very important to the heritage of the Shire of Merredin.

Place name	<b>Totadgin Well No.7</b>		
Address	<b>Lot 29241 Bruce Rock Merredin Road</b>		
Town/Region	<b>TOTADGIN</b>		
Lot No	Plan:		Certificate of Title:
<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE</b> Totadgin Well No. 7 is significant for its historical associations with the explorer and surveyor Charles Hunt, who developed a series of wells and catchments in the district.			

**Category 2: 'Heritage List'** Retain & conserve.

<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b>	c.1865		
Uses	Water source		
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:</b>			
Walls	Stone lined		
Roof	-		
Other			
<b>ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:</b>			
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Identified by a sign: 'Hunt's Soak'			
<b>CONDITION:</b>	<b>INTEGRITY:</b>	<b>AUTHENTICITY:</b>	
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES</b> Between 1864 and 1866, Assistant Surveyor Charles C. Hunt recognised the pastoral opportunities of the region in a series of explorations on behalf of his patron Governor Hampton. In 1866, the third exploration was the most extensive with a party comprising 4 experienced bushmen and 3 Aboriginals and James Turner supervising 4 pensioner guards and 4 probationer convicts. The convicts were for road making and sinking wells and water storage. They passed through what became the Merredin region exploring and mapping inland areas. Totadgin Well No. 7 is one of those sites that where Hunt sank a well. He also sank a well at Merredin Peak at the site of a natural spring and recommended that a 20 acre reserve be created around the well. Surveyor Charles C. Hunt and his exploration team established a track that linked waterholes, dams and wells. The water sources include wells, stone lined circular shafts; dams, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water flow that was faced on one or more sides with stone; and tanks, earth embankments or depressions capturing a water source with no masonry. These definitions are not absolute as Hunt appears to have used them interchangeably. The water sources therefore have a variety of shapes and sizes, and while a small number are intact many others have been physically impacted by development, destruction or attempts at conservation. As a collective group, these wells physically demonstrate the water sources used by Aboriginal people, the construction method used by Hunt, and the development of subsequent water sources along the route to the Goldfields after 1890.			

<b>LISTINGS</b>	
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage inHerit database	No. 17561
Department of Planning, Lands & Heritage Register of heritage Places	
National Trust classified	

Shire of Merredin Municipal Heritage Inventory	-
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<b>SUPPORTING INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>