

Municipal Inventory Information

LOCATION

HCWA Reference Number	1573
LGA Reference Number	78/3
Name of Place	Merredin District Hospital
Location/Address	
Street Name	Kitchener Road
Suburb/Town	Merredin Townsite
Other Locational descriptor (text)	cnr South Avenue
Local Government Authority	Merredin
Map References	
Map Name	Merredin Townsite
Map Scale	1:2,000
Northing	6515800 m N
Easting	621100 m E

OWNERSHIP & LAND DESCRIPTION

<i>Owner</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone/fax</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Item No.</i>
W.A State Gov't	P.O Box 241 Merredin	08 9041 1411		
Land Description (use fields below):				
<i>Reserve No.</i>	<i>Lot/Location No.</i>	<i>Plan/Diagram</i>	<i>Vol/Folio</i>	<i>Item No.</i>
16947	344			

DESCRIPTION

Construction Date (1)	1927c
Construction Date (2)	1932, 1936, 1937, 1940, 1985
Source/Details	Plaques, Barbara Barnett "History of Merredin; HCWA
Site Type	Hospital
Use(s) of Place (use fields below):	
<i>Original</i>	Hospital
<i>Present</i>	Hospital
Associated Persons (1)	Medical Practitioner Dr Joseph Caton - Shelmerdine
Construction Materials	
<i>Walls</i>	Generally Brick, rendered above dado or base
<i>Roof</i>	Generally corrugated iron, some tile, usually hipped, sometimes with gablets
<i>Other</i>	Windows generally Timber, some Aluminium
Modifications	Buildings continually added to, much altered inside.
Condition	Good
Integrity	
<p>Although buildings are of different ages and architectural styles, generally rendered walls above a lower section of red brick and pitched roof of corrugated iron provide a degree of consistency.</p>	

Description

The hospital comprises a group of a dozen or so single storey buildings, many linked to provide garden or carparking courts. The buildings were constructed over an extended period, since the 1920s. The oldest building appears to be a ward block to the rear of the site, constructed of brick and iron, the roof being hipped with gables. This building has a timber-floored verandah on two sides, with direct access from individual rooms. The building which comprises the main entrance has a front porch with pediment above, to provide an imposing entry statement. The landscaped grounds are well maintained to give an attractive setting.

There are several wall-mounted plaques in the front porch, with the following inscriptions:

1

*This Hospital was opened by
Hugh H. Harling, Esq JP
Chairman of the Merredin Road Board
From 11th April 1929 to 9th May 1936
in the presence of
the Hon. S.W. Munsie, MLA
Minister for Public Health
on the 15th July
1936*

2

*RSL
Memorial Ward for Children
This ward was erected
at the instigation of the members of the
Merredin Sub-Branch of the RSL
to the memory of their Comrades
who fell in the Great War 1914-18
Unveiled by Brig. General A.J. Bessell-Browne CBCMG DSO VD*

Anzac Day 1932

3

*This Childrens Ward
 was erected by the efforts of the
 Merredin District Hospital Comforts Fund
 and was opened on 15th December 1940
 by
 J.H. Kendal Esq J.P
 Chairman of the Committee*

4

*Merredin District Hospital
 This re-development project
 was opened by
 the Premier of Western Australia
 The Hon. Brian Burke, MLA
 on December 3rd 1985*

5

*A plaque erected by the RSL to the
 memory of Dr. Joseph Caton-Shelmerdine,
 Medical Practitioner of Merredin,
 who died 24th July 1936*

SIGNIFICANCE

Historic theme (s)	Social and Civic Activities - Health
Statement of Significance	
	The Merredin District Hospital is of social and historic significance, illustrating local and state support for health facilities in inland country towns. The older buildings - a ward block dating from the 1920s and the main entrance of the mid 1920s, are of architectural interest. One of the buildings was previously the Nangeenan School.
Recommendation/Conservation Strategy	Recommendations relate only to the 1920's ward block and the 1936 entry building. Recognise and protect through Town Planning Scheme. Photographically document prior to any modifications or demolition.

OTHER

Bibliography

Barnett, Barbara "The History of Merredin", Teachers College Claremont
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Listing and Assessment:

<i>Assessor (s) Name</i>

<i>Assessor (s) Address/Phone</i>

Max Hipkins

WHELANS, 133 Scarborough Beach Rd, Mt Hawthorn, WA, 6016 Tel: (09) 443 1511

Film/Neg. No., date

1/13 - 24A

18/12/1995

State Register of Heritage Place

No

Classified by the National Trust

No

Register of the National Estate
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No

Local Town Planning Scheme

No
