



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 0935
2. **NAME** *Victoria Hall* 1896/7
FORMER NAME St John's Hall (name used for lesser hall)
3. **LOCATION** 179 High Street, Fremantle
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lot 1 on Plan 1471, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 2091 Folio 973.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Fremantle
6. **OWNER** Robert William Ernest Wrightson.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 09/01/1998
Permanent Entry 07/04/1998
 - National Trust Classification: Classified 04/02/1974
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: Permanent 21/03/1979
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Victoria Hall, a double volume limestone and brick, Victorian Academic Classical building with a classically detailed stucco facade and large interior hall, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place was constructed as a parish hall for one of the most prominent churches in the City of Fremantle. The choice of the Victorian Academic Classical style for a parish hall is indicative of the prominence of the church at this time and the importance of the social role that the church played in the lives of the Fremantle community;

the place has played a prominent role in the social life of many Fremantle residents for most of its history and it is indicative of the

historic importance of community meeting halls as a primary social and recreational meeting place;

the place has strong historic and visual links to *St John's Church* (1882), which is located in the significant King's Square precinct that also includes the *Fremantle Town Hall* (1885);

the place is a visually dominant element in the eastern streetscape of High Street and one of the only remaining turn of the century buildings in this part of High Street;

the place is the only remaining building directly associated with *St John's Church* - the cottages and Rectory having been demolished;

the place is a very good example of the work of prominent architect John Talbot Hobbs and a very good example of the Victorian Academic Classical style employed on public buildings during the goldrush; and,

the place displays many fine elements, most notably the design of the facade, proscenium arch to the stage, and decorative timber panelling to an impressive, timber-lined ceiling.

Also on the site is a small limestone and brick toilet block (c. 1897) which is of some significance. Later toilet additions to the south and west of the building are of little significance. The paving surrounding the building is of little significance and there are no elements which are particularly intrusive to the significance of the place as a whole.