



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 3130
2. **NAME** *Mt Margaret Mission Hospital (ruin)* (c.1897/1900; 1931-36)
3. **LOCATION** Mt Margaret Aboriginal Community, via Laverton
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
That part Weld Location 21, being part Crown Reserve 19837, and being part of the land comprised in Crown Land Record Volume 3085 Folio 903 as is defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No. 3130 prepared by Steffanoni Ewing & Cruickshank Pty. Ltd.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Laverton
6. **OWNER** Aboriginal Lands Trust.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 20/10/2000
Permanent Entry 05/01/2001
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Mt Margaret Mission Hospital (ruin), a relocated, timber framed, corrugated iron clad, former mission hospital building in a ruinous state, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:
 - the place is important as the first hospital to care for all indigenous groups on the goldfields;
 - the place is held in high regard for social, cultural and spiritual reasons by the local Wongi people as many were born there in the first western style maternity ward available to Aboriginal people;
 - in this place, Aboriginal women were helped by the establishment of maternity and labour wards and, in so doing, contributed to the reduction of extremely high infant mortality of the area;

the place is important for its associations with all the many Wongi people who helped build the settlement and relocate and re-construct the hospital. The place is valued by the local community for its associations with Matron Mildred Murray and Sadie Canning;

the hospital building was relocated from Mt Morgans to Mt Margaret by the United Aborigines Mission movement, under the direction of Rod Schenk, who founded the settlement at Mt Margaret Common in 1922. The United Aborigines Mission movement was founded in Sydney in the late 1890s;

the place is a rare surviving example of its type, based on the iron fly-over roof structure which was used in the building of late nineteenth century hospitals in the goldfields; and,

the place is a good representative example of an early hospital ward building built in circa 1897-1900 specifically associated with the eastern goldfields area.