



HERITAGE
COUNCIL
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 00017
2. **NAME** *Camfield House* (1858; 1910s)
FORMER NAMES Albany Native Institution; Annesfield
3. **LOCATION** 172 Serpentine Road, Albany
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lot 30 on Deposited Plan 26141, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 1147 Folio 331.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Albany
6. **OWNER** Ray Athol Stephen
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 14/12/2001
Permanent Entry 20/09/2002
 - National Trust Classification: Recorded 11/06/1973
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: Adopted 23/09/1999
 - Register of the National Estate: -----

8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Camfield House, a brick and iron residence constructed in 1858 comprising a single-storey section in Victorian Georgian style and a two-storey section in Victorian Rustic Gothic style, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place was occupied as the Albany Native Institution from 1858 to 1871, and is representative of a wider attitude in the mid-nineteenth century toward instructing Aborigines in European civilization and Christianity;

the place is one of a small group of places surviving from the early period of Albany's development. It reflects the growth of the town as the principal port in Western Australia in the nineteenth century, and contributes to its ongoing importance as a prominent historic town;

the place is a rare structure combining residential and institutional functions, which was constructed specifically for the housing and education of Aboriginal children;

the place, with its two separately constructed wings, provides good examples of both the Victorian Rustic Gothic and Victorian Georgian styles. The steeply pitched gabled roofs, gabled fascias and timber finials create aesthetic skyline features, and together with the English bond brickwork and decorative timber gable ends give the place considerable aesthetic significance;

the place is closely associated with Resident Magistrate Henry Camfield and his wife Anne, who constructed the building in 1858 as schoolroom and accommodation for the Native Institution, after housing the Institute in their own home from 1852 until at least 1858;

the place has some landmark quality situated on a slope of Mount Melville overlooking the city and set well back on a large, terraced site allowing uninterrupted views of the house from the north; and,

the place contributes to the local community's sense of place by its historical associations and its streetscape value as a substantial mid 19th century building on a corner site.

A freestanding garage at the southeast corner of the site is of low significance.