



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 1837
2. **NAME** *Morby Farm Cottage, Northam (1836)*  
FORMER NAME (or OTHER NAMES)
3. **LOCATION** 70 Katrine Road, Northam
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Lot 600 on Diagram 55127 being the whole of the land in Certificate of Title Volume 1515 Folio 100.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Northam
6. **OWNER AT PERMANENT REGISTRATION**  
Shire of Northam
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
  - Register of Heritage Places: Interim registration 19/02/2016  
Permanent registration 26/03/2019
  - National Trust Classification: Classified 05/05/1980
  - Town Planning Scheme: -----
  - Municipal Inventory: Exceptional Significance 25/02/1998
  - Register of the National Estate: Permanent 28/09/1982
8. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION 38 OR 59 OF THE ACT**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
*Morby Farm Cottage, Northam (1836)*, a simple single-storey random-stone and corrugated iron farmhouse in the Victorian Georgian style with some Victorian Regency detailing, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:
  - the place is rare as one of Western Australia's oldest surviving residences, and was the first house to be constructed in Northam;
  - the place was home to the first settler in the Northam district, and was also the first church, the first school, the first courthouse, the first retail outlet and the first postal centre;

the place is representative of the historic practice of early Western Australian settlements where private homes were also the location of multiple civic activities;

the place is significant as the first farm to be established in the Northam district. It produced the district's first dairy in the 1830s and was a very early producer of butter sending it to market in 1835;

the place is associated with John Morrell, the first colonist to settle in the Northam district. Morrell's journey from England and his subsequent settlement in Northam tells a rich story of early colonial life; and,

the place retains rare original window panes, frames and doors, brought to Western Australia from England by the original owner in 1830.