



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 9727
2. **NAME** *Royal Flying Doctor Service House & Office (1955)*
FORMER NAME Royal Flying Doctor Service Base, Derby
3. **LOCATION** Clarendon Street, Derby
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lot 519 on Diagram 20400 being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 2111 Folio 127
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Derby/West Kimberley
6. **OWNER** RFDS Western Operations
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 26/05/2006
Permanent Entry 19/01/2007
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: 1/12/1995
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Royal Flying Doctor Service House & Office, comprising two timber framed, asbestos and iron single-storey buildings constructed in 1955 in the north west Vernacular style and a house (c. 2000) on the south-eastern corner, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

as part of a nation-wide network of Royal Flying Doctor Service bases, the place made a significant contribution to the betterment of life to people living in remote parts of the West Kimberley over a 46 year period by providing communication channels and medical assistance;

the place is associated with the late Reverend John Flynn, whose work was integral to the formation of Aerial Medical Service and thus to the subsequent formation of the RFDS;

the place provides a source of information and a site for research into the layout, function, type and positioning of radio station buildings that were used to communicate within a network of outposts situated on pastoral stations and other remote localities;

the place was an important point of call for station people, dignitaries, and travellers who visited Derby, and, from the mid-1960s, has been an important tourist attraction;

the place was the first broadcast School of the Air, a programme which has provided children, who reside in remote locations in north Western Australia, access to education since 1955; and

the place is valued not only by the local community but also by the people who either contributed to or are appreciative of the critical link it provided between towns and remote localities;

The house (c. 2000) on the south-eastern corner of the RFDS land addressing Fairbairn Street has little significance and is not part of this assessment.