



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 03943
2. **NAME** *Summer Hill Group* (1870s-1890s, 1940, 1961, 1964, 1970s, 1990, 2000)
OTHER NAME Old Summer Hill Precinct
3. **LOCATION** Great Northern Highway, New Norcia
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Portion of Lot 101 on Diagram 88368 and being part of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 2097 Folio 9 as is defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No. 3943 prepared by Steffanoni Ewing & Cruickshank Pty Ltd.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Victoria Plains
6. **OWNER** Paul Francis Sinclair.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 28/06/2002
Permanent Entry 20/12/2002
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: Adopted (cat. 2) 27/10/1998
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Summer Hill Group, a complex of single and two-storey farm buildings and homestead constructed of random-rubble granite and corrugated iron, constructed in the Victorian Georgian style and located in a picturesque landscape setting, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place illustrates the development of the opening up of the greater Victoria Plains District to mixed farming in one of the early pastoral districts of Western Australia, and in particular the way in which some landowners of humble origins rose to prosperity;

the random rubble stone homestead, stables, cattle barn, shearing shed and granary are fine, attractive, examples of Victorian Georgian architecture, as applied to a farm group;

the place is one of the first farming properties to be settled in the district in the 1870s and provides a contrast to the extensive 1840s pastoral properties of New Norcia, Glentromie, Walebing and Berkshire Valley;

the place demonstrates living and working conditions for pastoral and agricultural pursuits in the Victoria Plains district in the late 19th century, together with later adaptive uses for mixed farming, and has the potential to contribute to an understanding of the design and construction of a late nineteenth century farm complex; and,

the place is representative of the success of the early Marbro Settlers, who took up small holdings in these pastoral lands and built substantial farms, of these the place is possibly the only farm remaining intact, having incorporated many of the others. The place was established and run by Irish shepherd John Halligan, who developed the complex and rose to prosperity.

The following areas are considered to be of little significance: the hayshed section and the eastern skillion of the stables, and the cattle yards to the west of the stables, the dry stand areas of the cattle barn and the cattle yards to the west of the cattle barn, the shearing pens and the modern additions to the east of the shearing shed, and the modern additions to the stockyards.