



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 00029
2. **NAME** *Melville House* (c.1873)
OTHER NAMES J.F.T. Hassell's Home
3. **LOCATION** 5-9 Hotchin Ave, Albany
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Lot 33 on Diagram 18117, being the whole of the land comprised in Certificate of Title Volume 1165 Folio 173.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Albany
6. **OWNER** Robert Norman George Reynolds and Elaine Hope Reynolds.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 16/12/2003
Permanent Entry 12/11/2004
 - National Trust Classification: Recorded 04/04/1977
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: Adopted 23/09/1999
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Melville House, a single-storey brick and iron residence and free-standing annexe, constructed c. 1873 in Victorian Georgian style, in a garden setting, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place is a good example of a single-storey Victorian Georgian residence displaying simplicity and unforced harmony in form and detail, although some modifications to the fabric have compromised the purity of the stylistic expression;

the place reflects the development and growth of Albany as the principal port in Western Australia in the nineteenth century, and contributes to the ongoing importance of Albany as a prominent historic town;

the place has landmark value, sited at the top of a large suburban lot with associated outbuildings and complementary landscaping;

the place is an example of a simple but substantial dwelling, built in the second half of the nineteenth century for John F T Hasell, with possible servant's quarters still extant, and is representative of an earlier way of life;

the place is significant for service as a private hospital from 1912 to 1922, during the ownership of Dr Thomas Robinson; and,

the place is highly valued by the local community for its associations with the early history and settlement of the Albany district, its association with the Hassell and Robinson families and Sir Claude Hotchin, and its early hospital function.

While the siting of the house within a garden setting is a significant aspect of the place, the actual elements and design layout of the existing garden are of little significance.

The lock-up Garage (c.1999) attached to the Annexe is of no significance but does not detract from the place.