



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 0109
2. **NAME** *Albany Fish Ponds* (1870s; 1907)
3. **LOCATION** Festing St, Albany
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
That portion of Albany Lot 1454 being part of the land comprised in Crown Land Title Volume 3109 Folio 850 as is defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No. 0109 prepared by Steffanoni Ewing & Cruickshank Pty Ltd.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Albany
6. **OWNER** The State of Western Australia.
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 14/07/2000
Permanent Entry 20/10/2000
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: -----
 - Municipal Inventory: -----
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Albany Fish Ponds, comprising one large pond and two smaller former ponds, a former barrow pit and remnants of a timber retaining wall, enclosed within a timber, iron rail and woven wire fence; has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

as the first official pisciculture enterprise for the acclimatisation of trout and other fresh water fish in Western Australia, the place has rarity value;

the establishment of *Albany Fish Ponds* was part of the international acclimatisation movement, which saw the exchange of plant and animal species between European countries and new colonies and resulted in the introduction of European species to Australia;

the place has historic significance for associations with Governor Weld who encouraged the establishment of the Fish Ponds in 1874 after a visit to Ballarat;

the place was built by convict labour in the 1870s, under the direction of Resident Magistrate Hare and is a representative example of the employment of convict labour on public works in Western Australia in the mid nineteenth century;

as the site of the first official pisciculture enterprise in Western Australia, the place has potential to yield information about this industry through archaeological investigation;

the place has contributed to Albany's water supply since 1888, firstly through a lease to the Western Australian Land Company, and subsequently from 1897 through associations with the WAGR resulting in 1907/8 in the enlargement of the top pond by the Public Works Department to create a reservoir; and,

the place is a landmark in the City of Albany as a well known site on the eastern outskirts of town which provides a continuous landscape link from the coast to Mt Melville above and as such forms a cultural environment that integrates with the surrounding landscape setting.