



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**

OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 13516
2. **NAME** *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin*  
(1942-44; 1948+)
3. **LOCATION** Lot 1450 Mackenzie Cr, Merredin & Lot 1452 Goldfields Rd,  
Merredin
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Part of Reserve 20811 being portion of Lot 1450 on Deposited Plan 193673  
and being part of the land contained in Crown Land Title Volume 3029 Folio  
396;  
  
Part of Reserve 2914 being portion of Lot 1452 on Deposited Plan 219868  
and being part of the land contained in Crown Land Title Volume 3018 Folio  
219;  
  
as to those portions labelled "M" on Deposited Plan 71467.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Merredin
6. **OWNER** State of WA (management order – Shire of Merredin)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
  - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 03/06/2011  
Permanent Entry 02/12/2011
  - National Trust Classification: -----
  - Town Planning Scheme: -----
  - Municipal Inventory: Adopted 16/4/1999
  - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**  
*2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* comprising concrete and  
brick ground-level remains constructed as a mobile hospital for the Army in  
1942-43, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:  
  
the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* is a significant  
and rare remnant of a World War II mobile hospital installation in

Australia, established in response to the developing war against the Japanese;

the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* presents a rare example on Australian soil of the difficult and primitive circumstances that the Australian Army medical services had to operate under during World War II;

the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* is associated with the servicemen and women of the World War II Army medical services, in particular the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS), the Australian Army Medical Women's Service (AAMWS), The Volunteer Aid Detachments (VADs) and the Australian Army Medical Corps (AAMC), and with the injured soldiers who were treated there;

the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* forms a significant cultural landscape with a regular grid formation and rectangular concrete slabs, which contrast with the surrounding natural environment, evoking the past existence of the site;

the place is capable of providing information about the structure and operation of a mobile Army hospital established under wartime conditions;

the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* demonstrates the importance of Merredin as a central railway junction, its distance from the coast and its water supply potential from both the Pipeline and the Railway Dam; and,

the major buildings of the *2/1 Australian General Hospital (ruins), Merredin* were constructed by prominent local West Australian firm J. B. Hawkins & Son.