



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 1874
2. **NAME** *Fermoy House (fmr), Northam* (1897)  
FORMER NAME (or OTHER NAMES) Fermoy Private Hospital, St Joseph's Primary School Office, St Paul's Marist Brothers College, Private Military Hospital, Throssell Homestead
3. **LOCATION** 1 Lance Street, Northam
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Lot N60 on Deposited Plan 222924 being the whole of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1105 Folio 974
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Northam
6. **OWNER AT PERMANENT REGISTRATION**  
Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
  - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 24/06/2014  
Permanent Entry 21/11/2014
  - National Trust Classification: -----
  - Town Planning Scheme: -----
  - Municipal Inventory: Considerable significance 16/05/2012
  - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **ORDERS UNDER SECTION 38 OR 59 OF THE ACT**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*Fermoy House (fmr), Northam* (1897) is a large brick and corrugated iron Federation Queen Anne style residence, which has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place was built for George Throssell, Western Australia's second Premier, who played an instrumental role in Northam becoming one of the largest and most important regional centres in the State;

the place is associated with the development and growth of the Northam region in the late nineteenth century following the extension of the Fremantle to Guildford railway to Northam in 1886, and Northam becoming the terminus of the rail line to the Eastern Goldfields in the 1897;

the place is one of only a few Premiers' residences extant in Western Australia; and,

the size, grandeur and hill-top location of the place is a visual statement of the wealth, power and higher socio-economic status that George Throssell held;

the place is a substantial, well-designed and decorative example of a Federation Queen Anne style residence which features a complex roofline, tall decorative chimneys, an array of projecting bays, tuck-pointed brickwork and contrasting rendered detailing;

the place was sited on an elevated position overlooking the town of Northam to take advantage of the extensive views of the Avon Valley. This setting is an integral part of the aesthetic qualities of the place and its importance is reflected in the design of the house, with an elevated ground floor, return verandahs and a strong engagement between the main rooms and framed views through bay windows;

the place has social value for its role as a private hospital between 1913 and 1947 and as a school since 1947.

The modern school buildings, covered walkways, pavilion shelter and school tennis courts are of little significance.