

## Place No. 37 Nickol Bay Hospital



Nickol Bay Hospital, 1982

Courtesy Shire of Roebourne Local History Office, 2005.1538

| LOCATION                           |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Name of Place                      | Nickol Bay Hospital, Karratha                                |
| Other Name (1)                     | Karratha Hospital  |
| Other Name (2)                     |  |
| Location/Address                   |  |
| Street Number                      |  |
| Street Name                        | Millstream Road  |
| Suburb/Town                        | Karratha   |
| Other Locational descriptor (text) | mE 481050 mN 7705817<br>Longitude: 116.818 Latitude -20.7472 |

| OWNERSHIP & LAND DESCRIPTION |                  |              |                |          |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|----------|
| Owner                        | Address          | Phone/fax    | Status         | Item No. |
| WA Country Health Service    |                  | 9143 2333    |                |          |
| Reserve No.                  | Lot/Location No. | Plan/Diagram | Vol/Folio      | Item No. |
| RES 37084                    | 2898             | P215006      | LR3149/<br>932 |          |

| LISTING AND ASSESSMENT                  |           |
|---|-----------|
| HCWA Reference Number                   | NEW ENTRY |
| State Register of Heritage Places:(Y/N) | No        |
| Classified by the National Trust (Y/N)  | No        |
| Register of the National Estate (Y/N)   | NO        |
| Local Town Planning Scheme (Y/N)        | No        |
| <b>Management Category</b>              | <b>B</b>  |

| DESCRIPTION           |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Construction Date (1) | 1981 |
| Construction Date (2) |      |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Site Type (Place Type)   | Individual Building or Group   |
| <b>Use(s) of Place</b>   |  |
| <i>Original</i>  | HEALTH: Hospital   |
| <i>Present</i>   | HEALTH: Hospital   |
| <i>Other</i>   |  |
| <b>Construction Materials:</b>   |  |
| <i>Walls</i>   | 2. BRICK<br>201 Common Brick<br>299 Other Brick<br>4. EARTH<br>499 Other Earth |
| <i>Roof</i>  | 6. METAL<br>613 Zincalume  |
| <i>Other</i>   | 3. CEMENT<br>399 Other Concrete  |
| Condition  | Good   |
| Integrity (how much of the original fabric is intact?):  | Complete   |
| <b>Physical Description</b>  |  |
| <p>The design of the hospital building had to take into account the severe environmental conditions that can occur in the region. In addition, the building was to serve a post-disaster function in the event of a destructive cyclone and these criteria imposed constraints on the final design of the structure. As such the building faces inwards and the external walls are sheltered by high earth wall banks, which provide shelter during cyclone, reduce the need for heavy structural components and also serve to insulate the building. The banks are planted with rock gardens, creepers and small bushes.</p> <p>There are a series of internal courtyards, and other areas are grouped into function related zones. The building was designed with solar panels to provide hot water and therefore conserve energy.</p> |  |
| <b>History</b>   |  |
| <p>In mid 1980 the Western Australian Government announced a competition calling for consortiums of consultants and contractors to design, construct and commission a fully equipped hospital, with the potential to expand to a larger number of beds if required. Fourteen consortiums submitted proposals and two of these were selected to proceed to the next stage.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>A contract was awarded to the successful consortium in early December 1980; the consortium was led by the contractor Concrete Constructions (WA) Pty Ltd, together with Pearce Thomas Consultants Pty Ltd, architects and Health Facility Planners. Construction started on the hospital building in 1981.<sup>2</sup></p>  |  |
| <b>Archaeology</b>   |  |
| There is little potential for archaeology at this site.  |  |

**SIGNIFICANCE**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Historic theme (s)</b>   | 1. DEMOGRAPHIC SETTLEMENT AND MOBILITY<br>107 Settlements<br><br>4. SOCIAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES<br>404 Community services and utilities |
| <b>Statement of Significance:</b>   |   |
| <p>The hospital has social significance for the community of Karratha as a place of care, convalescence, birth and death. The hospital demonstrates an association with the health and wellbeing of the Karratha community. The hospital is historically significant for its connection to the growth of the town of Karratha. The distinctive earth walls contribute to the aesthetic value of Karratha, appearing as it does to sit within the landscape of the Karratha Hills.</p> |   |

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>ASSOCIATIONS</b>        |   |
| Architect/Designer (1)     | Concrete Constructions WA – head of construction consortium |
| Architect/Designer (2)     | Pearce Thomas Consultants Pty Ltd                           |
| Other Associated Person(s) |   |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>OTHER</b>      |  |
| <b>References</b> |  |
| See endnotes      |  |

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| MHI 1996        | Identified on Review List                |
| MHI Review 2012 | Site assessed, Place Name Record created |

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<sup>1</sup> Nicol Bay Regional Hospital, Karratha (Karratha Public Library)

<sup>2</sup> Nickol Bay Hospital