

## **Hope Farm**



In 1880 Hope Farm was established as a two bedroom cottage on 100 acres. The land was a gift from John Henry Monger Jr as a wedding present to Dr James William Hope and his eldest daughter Helena Aurora Monger in 1878.

The property is named after Welsh doctor James William Hope. To satisfy the colonial demand for doctors, Britain offered a number of appointments to distinguished medical collegiates. Among them was Dr James William Hope, who accepted his Western Australian appointment in 1874. The progressive Dr Hope developed interests in agriculture and his success later bankrolled two gold prospecting trips. He struck it rich with a find near Southern Cross which was named Hope's Hill.

In 1882 he was appointed Medical Officer to the Fremantle Gaol and to the Convict Establishment at Rottnest, Lunatic Asylum, Port Doctor and Medical Officer to the Town of Fremantle. He was involved with the foundation of Fremantle Public Hospital. In 1902 he was elected President of the British Medical Association (Western Australian Branch).

Dr Hope had many military interests and attained the rank of Surgeon-Major.

In 1911 the Medical Health Department was formed and he became the State's first Commissioner of Public Health. After resigning from the Public Health Department in 1915, he joined the Red Cross Society in England to help the war effort. He was posted to a base hospital in Boulogne (France), and later died of epidemic influenza a week before the Armistice was declared in November 1918.

Hope Farm has a three-bedroom guest wing built in 1907 as farm accommodation.

In 1978 Hope Farm received a makeover to what you can see today. The internal doors came from Sir James Mitchell's house in Northam which is now a heritage site. Sir James Mitchell (1866-1951), premier and governor, was born on 27 April 1866 at Paradise Farm, Dardanup, near Bunbury, Western Australia.

Hope Farm now operates as a boutique guesthouse.

Mike Bryant  
Hope Farm  
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