



**MUSEUM OF  
THE GREAT  
SOUTHERN**

**Attention editor/chief of staff**

**05 May 2025**

## **Museum seeks help to locate two historical panoramas for upcoming Albany exhibition**

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The Western Australian Museum, Curtin University HIVE, and the State Library of Western Australia are developing a new exhibition opening later this year at the Museum of the Great Southern— and they are calling on the public for help.

The team is seeking two specific photographic items to support the exhibition: a postcard featuring an image of St John's Anglican Church (circa 1890), and photographs featuring panoramic views from Mount Melville Observation Tower (also known as the "Spark Plug") from the 1970s.

The first features a panoramic view of York Street, captured from the bell tower of St John's Anglican Church in around 1890. It shows a detailed view looking east toward Mt Clarence / Corndarup, including homes and businesses that once lined the eastern side of the street. This image was originally sold as a postcard by H. Harden Bookseller in Albany. The Museum holds a duplicate version and is hoping to find an original of the postcard.

The Museum is also looking for photographs that depict the views from Kardarup / Mount Melville Observation Tower (aka the Sparkplug), built in 1977. The tower provides breathtaking views across the city and suburbs of Albany. The museum has a detailed 360-degree panorama captured from the tower in the 1980s and are seeking photographs taken from the tower in around 1977 to further extend the visual record. They are also interested in any photographs from the tower taken in the 1990s and 2000s.

Members of the public who may be able to assist are encouraged to submit information at [\*\*https://bit.ly/MOGS\\_AlbanylmageCallout\*\*](https://bit.ly/MOGS_AlbanylmageCallout)

**High-Resolution images can be downloaded via the Dropbox Link –**

[\*\*https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9r5dyphnk1wjwmvj8s3rp/AO9ajTt1KfDe8FJO1pXHF4E?rlkey=leenq09f3urza0ot1x56wn45e&st=esyxk0qj&dl=0\*\*](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/9r5dyphnk1wjwmvj8s3rp/AO9ajTt1KfDe8FJO1pXHF4E?rlkey=leenq09f3urza0ot1x56wn45e&st=esyxk0qj&dl=0)

**Interviews available on request.**

## Images:



Panoramic view from the bell tower of St John's Anglican Church, circa 1890.



Panoramic view from the Mount Melville Observation Tower in around 1985.  
Photo credit: Andrew Woods

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