

## Mount Pleasant

Mount Pleasant was called Canning Bridge up until approximately the 1940s. It was the name of a property owned by a Mr. Simpson, who came from Mount Pleasant in South Australia and settled in the area circa 1911. The suburb includes the earliest subdivision in the Melville district, William Cotton's Summertown Estate.

Mount Pleasant is bounded by part of the Canning River and the Deepwater Point area has been set aside for water related activities. Captain James Stirling of HMS 'Success' following an examination of the region in March 1827 named the river after George Canning (1770-1827), who was Prime Minister of Great Britain at that time. The Canning rises about 10km NNE of North Bannister and flows generally NW for about 100km into Melville Water, the estuary of the Swan and Canning



A319\_5 Mount Pleasant overlooking river

Rivers. The mouth of the river was discovered by Nicolas Baudin, leading a French exploration party in 1801, who, thinking it an entrance from the sea, named it '*Entrée Moreau*' after Charles Moreau, a midshipman with the party.

Rowing was one of the earliest sports conducted on the Swan River in the 1880s. This is reflected in the number of rowing clubs situated along the River's banks and to the south of Canning Bridge. Here the river foreshore provides an ideal viewing area for the many rowing races, including the annual "Head of the River" regattas organised by Perth's independent schools.

Mount Pleasant was the locality of one of the City of Melville's first general stores at 43 Bateman Road. In 1941, a Mrs. Bowers opened the first shop in Mount Pleasant and sold ice blocks and cool drinks to boy scouts and holidaymakers at Deep Water Point. In the 1950s, Mrs. Bowers had a post office and general store built on Bateman Road (once known as Bunyip Road).