

City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places Place Record

Area: Greenough Place Number: 1 Category: 3

 Assessment Date:
 12/11/1997
 Last Revision Date:
 28/01/2005

 HCWA Number:
 3752
 Asset ID:
 MCH126677

PLACE DETAILS

Name: Felix Devlin's Cottage

Other Names: Devlin's Hill

Type of Place: Ruin

Address: Jandonal Road (south side)

Suburb: Rudds Gully

LOCATION

Map Geraldton **GPS** 6803833.00 **GPS** 272745.000

Reference: S.E. Northing: 0000 Easting: 000



Photo Description:

14/04/2005 Gary Martin View of the cottage ruins

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SITE DETAILS

Lot No.: CG X6

Reserv No.: Assess No.: 63192

Dia/Plan: Vol/Fol:

USE OF PLACE

Original Use: Residence
Current Use: Not in use

Ownership:

Public Access: No Occupied: Not Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls: Limestone Roof: Not applicable

Condition: Fair **Integrity:**

Original fabric:

Modifications: Original roof reclad

Ruin of a four roomed stone cottage which had a verandah at the front (north) facing the road. The building has a lean-to to the rear. The walls are rendered and the corrugated iron roof has collapsed.

2004/5 Review: The stone cottage has suffered further deterioration. The original stone chimney has collapsed and shrubs are growing out of the ruins.

HISTORY

Construction Date: 1872 Source: D. Paparella

Architect: Not available Builder: F. Devlin

This ruin was originally used as a residence. It survives from the time of the second allocation of 23 lots for Pensioner Guards in 1870-71. Felix Devlin was one of the Pensioner Guards who settled on the Greenough Flats. Pensioner John Kelly was also allotted land nearby where he built a cottage. [Place No. 7] See also McNeece's Cottage. [Place No. 8] (Source: Suba, T., "The Greenough Front Flats Bibliography of Local Sources and Table of Heritage Places", 1994)

The following information was kindly supplied by Dot Paparella, the great granddaughter of Felix Devlin: "Built by Felix (Sandy) Devlin with help of ex convicts in 1872. Felix served with the British Army's 86th Foot during the

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Indian Mutiny and Crimean War, where he was wounded. He arrived on the convict ship the 'York' in December 1862 with his wife Sarah and son Michael. After living in the Guard Barracks in Perth and Fremantle for a short time, they were ordered to take convicts to Geraldton to help build bridges and other public facilities. When the main work was completed in the early 1870s, the Pensioner Guards were granted one block of ground for every 7 years of service in the British Army. Felix was allocated 2 x 20 acre blocks and 1 x 14 acre. He purchased an extra lot. One block was on the edge of Devlin's Pool. The property is presently owned by Felix's Granddaughter, Edith Page." Devlin used his land for pasture for his cattle and to grow hay for his working horses. There was a large stone barn nearby in which he housed his horses.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA: 104 Land allocation and subdivision

302 Rural industry and market gardening

603 Local heroes and battlers

AHC: 2.4.2 Migrating to seek opportunity

2.4.4 Migrating through organised colonisation

3.5.1 Grazing stock

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ruin of Felix Devlin's Cottage has considerable historic significance for its association with the Pensioner Guards who settled on the Greenough Flats in the 1860s and 1870s. Although in poor condition, the place is representative of the simple style of construction that was prevalent in the area at this time. Furthermore, the cottage is evidence of the use of local materials.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category: 3

Level of Significance: MODERATE SIGNIFICANCE: Important to the

heritage of the locality.

ManagementConservation of the place is recommended.Recommendation:Any proposed change to the place should not

unduly impact on the heritage values of the place and should retain significant fabric

wherever feasible.

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OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Bibliography:

Feilman, M., "Greenough Historical Survey of the Front Flats", 1977 (1). Suba, T., "The Greenough Front Flats Bibliography of Local Sources and Table of Heritage Places", 1994.

Correspondence from Dot Paparella, 12/12/1997.

HCWA Database No.03752.

Photographs:

GHS6225 cottage ruin (1988).

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description: 14/04/2004

Henkel

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