

<b>Area:</b> Greenough	<b>Place Number:</b> 166	<b>Category:</b> 1
<b>Assessment Date:</b> 22/09/1997	<b>Last Revision Date:</b> 05/04/2005	
<b>HCWA Number:</b> 1169	<b>Asset ID:</b> MCH126991	

### PLACE DETAILS

<b>Name:</b>	Sandsprings
<b>Other Names:</b>	Sandsprings Road
<b>Type of Place:</b>	Homestead
<b>Address:</b>	Sandsprings Road
<b>Suburb:</b>	Sandsprings

### LOCATION

<b>Map</b>	Walkaway	<b>GPS</b>	6812425.00	<b>GPS</b>	301925.000
<b>Reference:</b>	N.E.	<b>Northing:</b>	0000	<b>Easting:</b>	000



#### Photo Description:

5/04/2005

Martin

Sandsprings Homestead, front facade

## SITE DETAILS

<b>Lot No.:</b>	VL 722	<b>Assess No.:</b>	61168
<b>Reserv No.:</b>	7719	<b>Vol/Fol:</b>	
<b>Dia/Plan:</b>			

## USE OF PLACE

<b>Original Use:</b>	Residence		
<b>Current Use:</b>	Residence		
<b>Ownership:</b>			
<b>Public Access:</b>	No	<b>Occupied:</b>	Occupied

## DESCRIPTION

<b>Walls:</b>	Limestone	<b>Roof:</b>	Corrugated Iron
<b>Condition:</b>	N/A	<b>Integrity:</b>	
<b>Original fabric:</b>			
<b>Modifications:</b>			

Sandsprings Homestead is a large single storey, turn of the century residence of rectangular plan form with verandahs on four sides under the main roof. The internal planning has four main rooms, two either side of a central hall together with some verandah enclosures on the ends. A kitchen and dining room with ablution facilities have been built in 1956 as a separate wing at the rear and possibly replaces an earlier facility. The entry door into the hall has a stone arch and the rooms internally have plastered walls and pressed metal ceilings. There is also an old timber framed corrugated iron clad wing at the rear of the house opposite the kitchen wing. The house is not as large as some of the more significant homesteads in the region but together with out-buildings forms a substantial complex. Adjacent to the house a small, delicately detailed stone building contains former bathroom, toilet and laundry facilities and may originally have been a dairy. On the approach into the property a large stone carriage house or barn with 2 rooms seperated by a large open space is located just off the driveway. Beyond the residence is an old stone cottage used as shearers/staff accommodation and a large stone shearing shed with vertical slits in the walls for defence and ventilation purposes is without a roof. In the paddock down from the shearing shed is an unusual "cup and saucer" drinking trough. The property also has an old family cemetery.

2004/5 Review: The building once used for shearer's accommodation consists of 2 large rooms and a verandah to the rear, one end of which is enclosed with a small stone walled room, the other end with a corugated

iron lean-to. Part of the roof is missing from the main section and totally from the verandah and lean-tos. The cemetery has headstones commemorating Catherine Frances Elizabeth Sewell, died 4 November 1868, Rose Matilda Sewell died 17 December 1891, Caleb Sewell died 15 October 1899 and Clayton Stanley Sewell died 28 February 1906.

## HISTORY

**Construction Date:** 1868                      **Source:** Gary Martin  
**Architect:** Not available  
**Builder:** Not available

The name 'Sandsprings' comes from the beautiful fresh water springs on the sand plain of the property. The property has been occupied by the Sewell family since 1854, when George Sewell came from the Chittering Valley with his wife and two children, Caleb and Ernest. The first building constructed was a large stone barn which later became a shearing shed. The Homestead was built in 1890 with Chinese labour, with some Chinese symbols imprinted on the eastern wall of the building. Sandsprings is referred to in Randolph Stow's "Merry-Go-Round in the Sea". The property covers 5,000 acres and is mainly used for mixed farming with crops and stock.

(Sources: Owner Knowledge & Geraldton Camera Club, "Homesteads of the MidWest Region of Western Australia", 1997)

## HISTORIC THEMES

**HCWA:** 100 Demographic settlement and mobility  
301 Grazing, pastoralism and dairying  
605 Famous and infamous people  
**AHC:** 8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements  
3.5 Developing primary production  
8.10.3 Creating literature

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sandsprings has high historic significance as one of the early pastoral properties taken up in the Greenough district in the 1850s and for its long association with the Sewell family. The complex of buildings, including the Homestead, outbuildings and cemetery are evidence of rural activities and have considerable aesthetic appeal which is enhanced by the use of local stone and high integrity of the grouping. Sandsprings contributes

significantly to the heritage of the Greenough district.

### MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

<b>Management Category:</b>	1
<b>Level of Significance:</b>	EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the heritage of the locality.
<b>Management Recommendation:</b>	Conservation of the place is considered essential. Any proposed change should not unduly impact on the significance of the place and be in accordance with either a Conservation Plan or Heritage Impact Statement.

### OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Bibliography:  
Photograph of Sandsprings c1880, Bain, M.A., "Ancient Landmarks", 1975, after p.112.  
Rohan, P., & Wilson, H.H., "Geraldton Sketchbook", 1976, pp. 60-1.  
Halley, E.M. & Wilson, H.H., "Roundabout Geraldton and the Victoria District", reprinted 1978.  
Geraldton Camera Club, "Homesteads of the MidWest Region of Western Australia", 1997.

### OTHER PHOTOS



**Photo Description:**

5/04/2005

Martin

view of stone building adjacent to homestead



**Photo Description:**

5/04/2005

Martin

view of carriage house



**Photo Description:**

5/04/2005

Martin

view of small cemetery



**Photo Description:**

5/04/2005

Martin

view of former shearing shed



**Photo Description:**

5/04/2005

Martin

view of stone building adjacent to homestead