

City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places Place Record

Area: Mullewa Place Number: 61 Category: 3 **Assessment Date:** 07/09/2015 07/09/2015 Last Revision Date: **HCWA Number:** MCH127141 Asset ID:

PLACE DETAILS

Thomas Lintott's Grave Name:

Other Names:

Type of Place: Lonely Grave

Address: Old Pindar-Mullewa Road, approx. 1km north-west

of Pindar

Suburb: Pindar

LOCATION

Map **GPS** 11546821.0 **GPS** 2828513.00 Reference: Northing: 00000 Easting: 0000



Photo Description:

Lonely grave of Thomas Lintott surrounded by decorative metal railings

(Date: 13/08/2015, T. Henkel)

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SITE DETAILS

Lot No.: Lot 11855

 Reserv No.:
 Assess No.:
 8368

 Dia/Plan:
 Vol/Fol:
 1070/855

USE OF PLACE

Original Use: Grave
Current Use: Grave

Ownership: Not available

Public Access: No Occupied:

DESCRIPTION

Walls: Metal railings Roof: Not applicable

Condition: Poor **Integrity:** High

Original fabric: Grave surrounds

Modifications:

Located approximately 1km north-west of the small townsite of Pindar and about 60 metres north of th Old Pindar-Mullewa Road, this lonely grave is situated in a small clearing amongst the bushland. Consisiting of a rectangular concrete base with a tall decorative metal grave surround atop, the grave is not marked by a headstone or any other marker to identify who is buried there. The grave remains in a remarkably good condition considering its age, however this could also be due to its remote location which could reduce the likelihood of any vandalism or inadvertent damage.

HISTORY

Construction Date: 1926 Source: Coate, Y. & K.

Architect:

Builder: Jim & Harry Richards (railings)

This site marks the grave of Thomas Lintott who died on the evening of 9 August 1926, aged 43 years in a tragic work related accident. Lintott was a single man who worked as a camel teamster, carting wool between Meebeerie Staton in the Murchison and the small Pindar townsite where the rail siding was located. The cause of Lintott's death has been the subject of some conjecture and debate with different stories emerging from different sorces. However, a newspaper article published in the "Geraldton Guardian" on the 14 August 1926, five days after the accident,

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notes the findings of the offical Coroner's Report as follows: "Further information regarding the death of THomas Lintott, a teamster, who met with a fatal accident on Monday near Pindar, show that he left that place with a team of 14 camels attached to a wagon. the wagon weighed 3 tons, and the load totaled a further eight tons. Lintott was accompanied by a windmill hand named William McLean. After going about a mile and a half Mclean noticed the camels give a bit of a lurch, and saw that Lintott was not on his seat on the shafts. He called to the camels to stop, but as they did not he applied the brake and pulled them up. Going back along the track about a hundred yards he founf Lintott lying on the around. he was severely injured, and the wheel of the wagon had passed over the lower portion of his body, which was badly crushed. Hurrying back to Pindar McLean informer Mr. C.H. Simpson, of the Pindar Hotel, of the accident, and Mr Simpson went out in a motor car and using a small door and a mattress as a stretcher, brought the injured man back to Pindar. Dr. Hobbs and Nurse Dyer were summoned from Mullewa, but it was impossible to do anything for the man who died the same evening. He told Dr Hobbs that he must have lurched or swayed, falling to the ground, but he did not remember anything afterwards. McLean, who suffers from bad eyesight, did not see how the accident happened. It is thought that when Lintott fell from his seat the shaft camel kicked him, and he was knocked in front of the rear wheel of the wagon. The body was removed to Mullewa and an inquest was held before Mr P.R Young, J.P., Acting-Coroner, who recorded a verdict that death was due to injuries recieved by accidentially falling from the driver's seat of the wagon, the wheel of which passed over him. Meanwhile, local amatuer historian Stan Gratte notes that the decorative steel railings of Thomas Lintott's grave were made by Herbert (Harry) Richards and his son Jim at their wheelwright and blacksmith business in Pindar. The grave site is apparently located very close to where the accident occurred (Conversation with S. Gratte, 4/8/2015).

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA: 602 Early settlers

AHC: 9.7.1 Dealing with human remains

9.7.3 Remembering the dead

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The lonely grave of Thomas Lintott has historic value as the resting place of a camel teamster employed by local pastoral stations and is evidence of the dangers associated with the remotely located work. Although there is no headstone to identify the grave, the decorateive steel railing surrounds

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give the site a somewhat grander appearance than may otherwise have been expected for a worker's lonely grave.

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.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Coate, Y. & K. "More Lonely Graves of WA", Hesperian Press 2000. Gratte, S., Murchison Trip May 2002", notes held at Geraldton Library. Ref No. G 1278. Nixon, M. & Lefroy, RFB. "Road to the Murchison", Vanguard Press, p. 185. Thomas, B., "Pindar History 1873-1979: A Short History of Pindar in Celebration of the 150th Anniversary Celebration of Western Australia", 1979. "Geraldton Express", 11/8/1926. "Geraldton Guardian", 10/8/1926, p. 2 & 14/8/1926, p. 2.

OTHER PHOTOS

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Photo Description:

No headstone or grave marker to identify lonely grave. (Date: 13/08/2015, T. Henkel)

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