



City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places Place Record

Area: Greenough	Place Number: 10	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 23/09/1997	Last Revision Date: 28/01/2005	
HCWA Number: 3741	Asset ID: MCH126731	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Ironbarks
Other Names:	Company Road (west side)
Type of Place:	Homestead
Address:	Company Road (west side)
Suburb:	Greenough

LOCATION

Map Reference:	Geraldton S.E.	GPS Northing:	6800014.00 0000	GPS Easting:	274380.000 000
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**Photo Description:**

14/04/2004

Henkel

Front (east) elevation of Ironbarks

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	CG 239	Assess No.:	63173
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Residence		
Current Use:	Residence		
Ownership:	Western Australian Government		
Public Access:	No	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Limestone	Roof:	Corrugated Iron
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			

Ironbarks is sited on the west side of Company Road, close to the sand dunes and about one kilometre off Brand Highway. The place has been built in several stages commencing with a simple stone cottage c1860s. This original section to the rear has rendered stone walls with a corrugated iron roof and houses the kitchen. It features red brick quoins to corners and window openings and painted render to the window opening to the east. The front section, 1905, has a hipped corrugated iron roof to the south, which extends to cover a front verandah, which is supported on turned timber posts mounted on small masonry piers. The stone work to this section is random rubble construction with painted render to openings and below window height.

To the rear, a hipped corrugated iron roof covers an attached rectangular stone wing. Between this wing and the kitchen was a courtyard which has been roofed over with exposed metal trusses in more recent times to form a large living area. A low pitched metal deck carport on the northern side of the residence is an intrusive element and needs to be removed or rebuilt more sympathetically. To the north east of the cottage there is a small stone barn and remnants of stone walls which are in various stages of deterioration. Melaleuca trees, (*Melaleuca lanceolata*) for which it is believed the building was named, are located to the east and north east of the cottage. An old palm tree (*washingtonia robusta*) is located to the front of the building.

2004/05 Review: 1994-2005 owners Mike and Nova Piesse carried out

considerable work to the homestead including restoration of the Music Room and installation of timber floor to the living area. In 2003 the CGI shearing shed was badly damaged in a storm and has been replaced.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1861	Source:	GFF Survey
Architect:	Not available		
Builder:	Not available		

Ironbarks is the original homestead of the Brand family. The original lot of 40 acres was leased by George Brand an expieree (convict #3354) from Charles Crowther a local merchant who took up the title in 1861. Brand was joined in 1859 by his wife Isabella and their four children. The family constructed most of the buildings on the property and began farming the land and breeding livestock. The barn was completed by 1861 and was used by a visiting Wesleyan Minister, Dr Samuel Hardy to conduct a sermon on Sunday 17 March that year. George Brand was killed in a buggy accident in 1872.

John and Reuben Morrell took over the lease of the property in 1879. John married Mary Waldeck from Mt Pleasant (Place No. 29) and Reuben married Elizabeth Duncan from Raphoe (Place No. 20). After Reuben's marriage in 1888, John and Mary moved to the Island Farm (Place No. 134) at Walkaway. Reuben and Elizabeth Morrell raised eight children at Ironbarks. In the late 1890s extensions were made to the homestead with the addition of the music room. By the early 1900s, Ironbarks was one of the largest commercial producers of butter in the area. Reuben Morrell died in 1919, and eventually three of his children, Fred, Septimus and their sister Gladys took over the property. Two of them remained at Ironbarks until 1980. Septimus was then 79 and Gladys was 85. The house was then purchased by Max and Sue Sheilds. Mike Piesse bought the property from John and Pearl Marriot in 1994 and extensive conservation work was undertaken on the house. Mike Piesse sold the property in 2005.

(Sources: Geraldton Camera Club, "Homesteads of the MidWest", Ducas, I., "They Came to Greenough", p.11, King, N., "The Waldeck Story", p.76, Suba, T., "The Greenough Front Flats Bibliography of Local Sources and Table of Heritage Places", 1994 and Nova Piesse)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	104 Land allocation and subdivision 301 Grazing, pastoralism and dairyng 602 Early settlers
AHC:	2.4.2 Migrating to seek opportunity

- 3.5 Developing primary production
3.9 Farming for commercial profit

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ironbarks has high historic significance as one of the oldest surviving homesteads on the Front Flats. Further the place is associated with the Brand and Morrell families, well known early settlers in the district. The place has considerable aesthetic appeal given its picturesque setting near the Greenough River and at the foot of coastal sanddunes. The place, although altered, has aesthetic significance and is representative of the development of housing on the Greenough Flats from simple cottages to more substantial dwellings. Together with the outbuildings, walled yards and significant vegetation, Ironbarks is an important part of the built environment of Greenough.

RECOMMENDATION:

The outbuildings and walls be restored and that the surrounding Melaleuca trees, and palm tree be preserved and protected.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	1
Level of Significance:	EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	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

- Shire of Greenough - Town Planning Scheme (8), 01/01/1970
National Trust of WA - Recorded, 01/01/1970

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Bibliography:
Feilman, M., "Greenough Historical Survey of the Front Flats", 1977 (8).

Ducas, I., "They Came to Greenough". 1980.
King, N., "The Waldeck Story", 1980.
"Ironbarks: An historic homestead" The Geraldton Guardian, 11/12/1981.
Suba, T., "The Greenough Front Flats Bibliography of Local Sources and Table of Heritage Places", 1994.
Geraldton Camera Club, "Homesteads of the MidWest Region of Western Australia", 1997.
HCWA Database No. 03741.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

14/04/2004

Henkel