

Place No:
Cold Comfort Farm, WOORREE

Management Category
3



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place Name:	Cold Comfort Farm
Previous Place Number:	GR177
Other Names:	Jade Cottage
Place Type:	Individual Building or Group

SITE LOCATION	
Street Address:	2 Tobin Way
Locality:	WOORREE
Location Detail:	cnr Rowan Road
Assessment No:	67354
Survey:	Lot 184, D054857
Reserve:	
GPS Coordinates	6815867mN; 271466mE

HERITAGE LISTING		
State Heritage Office ID:	13942	Parent HCWA ID (if applied):
State Heritage Register:	No	
Other Listing:		
Local Heritage Survey:	Municipal Heritage Inventory Initial Assessment 09/12/1997 Municipal Heritage Inventory Last Assessment 15/11/2004	

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of Significance	MODERATE SIGNIFICANCE: Important to the heritage of the locality.
Management Category	CATEGORY 3 Conservation of the place is desirable. Any proposed change to the place should be in sympathy with the heritage values of the place.
Statement of Significance	• This place has historic value for its association with the development of the land adjacent to the Chapman River in the mid 19th century for pastoral use. • The place has historic value for its association with the Bennett, Sewell and Grant families who made a significant contribution to the development of the pastoral industry in the region. • The place has historic value for its association with the establishment and development of transport routes in the region. • The place has historic value for its association with the diversity of facilities adapted for use by the military during World War II. • The place has aesthetic value as a rare demonstration of a simple stone cottage in the Victorian Georgian style in a rural setting.

PLACE USE	
Original Use	Farming: Homestead
Current Use	Residence: Single Storey Residence
Other Use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction Date	c1890s;
Walls	Limestone
Roof	Corrugated Iron
Architectural Style	Victorian Georgian
Physical Description	This simple stone building, has a steeply pitched corrugated iron gable roof with stone capping to the gable ends. There are timber framed fibro clad lean-tos to the north and south elevations. The western gable has a stone chimney. To the rear of the cottage is a cement brick building which once functioned as a dairy. It has a corrugated iron gable roof with a verandah to the north supported on metal poles and a brick enclosure to the south. The place is located in a densely planted property that makes viewing of the property difficult. A post and rail fence defines the front property boundary.
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION	
Previous research has determined that this place was originally owned and built by 'Mr Bennett'. This is likely to be Charles Bennett (1822-1882) a stonemason, plasterer and small farmer. He and his wife Bridget Teresa Nevin (1836-1892) had six children, and at least two of the boys established 'Bennett Bros' building company which built many of the prominent buildings in Geraldton. It is believed this place was built c1890 and then transferred to George Sewell, probably George Ernest Sewell (1866-1935) who designated his occupation as a grazier and was a leader in the local community through many roles including Mayor of Geraldton. It was previously proposed that that Cold Comfort Farm was originally used as a coaching station to change horse teams enroute to Mullewa. Further research may resolve this query.	

The property was later transferred to local pastoralist Alexander Edwin Grant (1887-1961) who established a stud farm on the property and built the concrete block buildings c1925.

During World War II these buildings were used by the army. A main residence was constructed to the North of Cold Comfort Farm in 2005.

The origin of the names 'Cold Comfort Farm' and 'Jade Cottage' is not known.

Historic Themes:	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Infrastructure: Transport and Communications Economy: Rural Occupations.	
Associations	Bennett family George Sewell Alec Grant	Owner and builder Owner and occupier Owner and occupier
Sources:	City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places 2019. Landgate Aerial Photographs, 1996-2025. Erickson, Rica 'The Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians', 1988, UWA Press, Vol 1, p. 195.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



PREVIOUS HERITAGE SURVEYS



Municipal Heritage Inventory 2004

Place No:
Woorree Homestead, WOORREE

Management Category
4



PLACE INFORMATION		
Place Name:	Woorree Homestead	
Previous Place Number:	GR175	
Other Names:		
Place Type:	Individual Building or Group	
SITE LOCATION		
Street Address:	22 Tamarisk Way	
Locality:	WOORREE	
Location Detail:		
Assessment No:	68057	
Survey:	Lot 757, D051707	
Reserve:		
GPS Coordinates	6817091mN; 271586mE	
HERITAGE LISTING		
State Heritage Office ID:	13940	Parent HCWA ID (if applied):
State Heritage Register:	No	
Other Listing:		
Local Heritage Survey:	Municipal Heritage Inventory Initial Assessment 09/12/1997 Municipal Heritage Inventory Last Assessment 24/02/2015	

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of Significance	SOME SIGNIFICANCE: Contributes to the heritage and/or historical development of the locality.
Management Category	CATEGORY 4 Conservation of the place is desirable. Any proposed change to the place should be in sympathy with the heritage values of the place.
Statement of Significance	- This place has historic value for its association with the development of the land adjacent to the Chapman River in the mid 19th century for pastoral use. - The place has historic value for its association with the du Boulay and Rowan families who made a significant contribution to the development of the region through business and community work. - The place has some aesthetic value for the remains of the formal garden established in the early 20th century by Florence Rowan.

PLACE USE	
Original Use	Farming: Homestead
Current Use	Residence: Two Storey Residence
Other Use	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction Date	1870;
Walls	Limestone
Roof	Tile
Architectural Style	
Physical Description	The current homestead is a large building located in established gardens that demonstrate some of the formal planning in scope and condition. Most prominent are the palm trees, and some other mature trees. Built of rendered stone, the house is of one storey and two storey height with a tiled roof. The two storey section features arches to the verandah and balcony. The property is enclosed in a rendered stone wall which limits views of the building.
Condition	N/A
Integrity	
Authenticity	

HISTORICAL INFORMATION	
This property, originally designated as Location 1076, was granted to the Warren family and further research may determine how developed the property was before its purchase by Arthur Houssemayn du Boulay (1843-1922). Arthur du Boulay, was a Geraldton solicitor and 'Gentleman Farmer' and prior to the acquisition of Woorree he managed his cousins property 'Moonyoonooka'. He was a prominent citizen in the district through his roles as Resident Magistrate, member of the Town Council and Mayor in 1877. He acquired the Woorree property in c1875 and built the original Woorree Homestead in 1879. Arthur du Boulay and his wife Caroline Emily Howard (1845-1919) entertained generously at Woorree and was noted as being a benefactor to the region. The couple moved to Geraldton in the late 19th century and the place was subsequently occupied by Hans Irving. In 1913, the property was transferred to Christopher Henry Joseph Rowan (1872-1950) and his family who had moved from New South Wales to the district. Chris Rowan was a successful pastoralist and pioneered the export of sheep and cattle to Saudi Arabia in the late 1960s. An item in the local press in 1929 described the beautiful gardens of the place being as a result of the enthusiasm of Florence Catherine Rowan, nee Richardson (1874-1953) the wife of Chris Rowan. The	

couple had two children, and their only daughter Lucy married Alexander Grant of Newmarracarra station, and the couple later lived at Yanget station.

The current homestead was constructed in 1950 on the site of the deteriorated original homestead, using some of the same materials as well as stone from Moonyoonooka. This is likely to have been following the death of Chris Rowan in 1950 and instigated by his son John Rowan who managed Wooree. An Italian builder was engaged to work on the house.

In 1980, the homestead was reroofed. The palms in front of the house were planted by Florence Rowan soon after moving into Wooree.

'Wooree' is believed to mean friendly spirit in the local Aboriginal language.

Historic Themes:	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Economy: Rural Occupations 605 Famous and infamous people.	
Associations	Rowan family du Boulay family	Owners and occupiers Owners and occupiers
Sources:	City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places 2019. Landgate Aerial Photographs, 1996-2025. Erickson, Rica 'The Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians', 1988, UWA Press, Vol 2, p. 901. Geraldton Guardian, 20 June 1922, p. 2. Sunday Times, 15 October 1922, p. 27.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

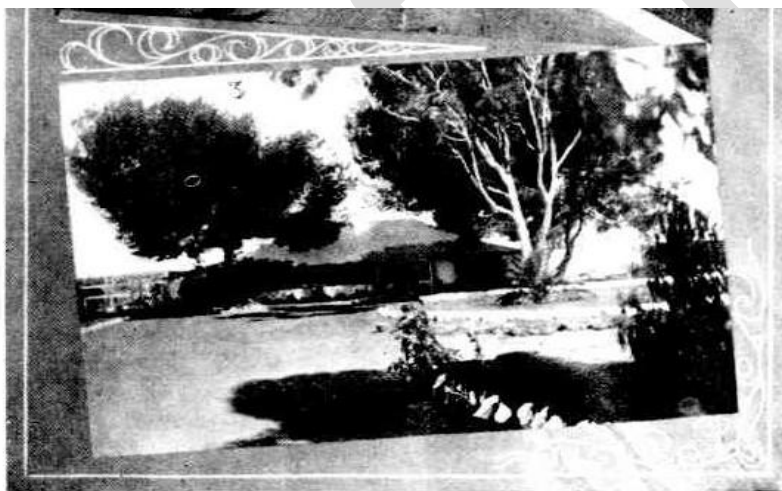


PREVIOUS HERITAGE SURVEYS



Municipal Heritage Inventory 2005

ARCHIVAL IMAGE



Geraldton Guardian and Express, 24 Dec 1929, p. 61. Woorree Homestead



Sheep from Woorree in Francis St Geraldton, 1963. City of Greater Geraldton Local History Collection, image P1017.