



City of
Greater Geraldton
a vibrant future



HERITAGE STRATEGY 2023 - 2028



The City of Greater Geraldton respectfully acknowledges the **Yamatji Peoples** who are the **Traditional Owners** and **First People** of the land on which we stand, the **Nhanhagardi, Wilunyu, Naaguja** and pays our **respect** to the **Elders** past, present and future for they hold the **memories**, the **traditions**, the **culture** and **hopes** of the **Yamatji Peoples**.

Acknowledgements

This document is a review of the CGG Heritage Strategy 2017-2022 commissioned by the City and prepared by the National Trust of Western Australia, 2017.

All images credited to the City of Greater Geraldton unless otherwise noted.

Image Right: Aboriginal Banksia Ball, 1972, courtesy Abdullah Family.

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1. INTRODUCTION

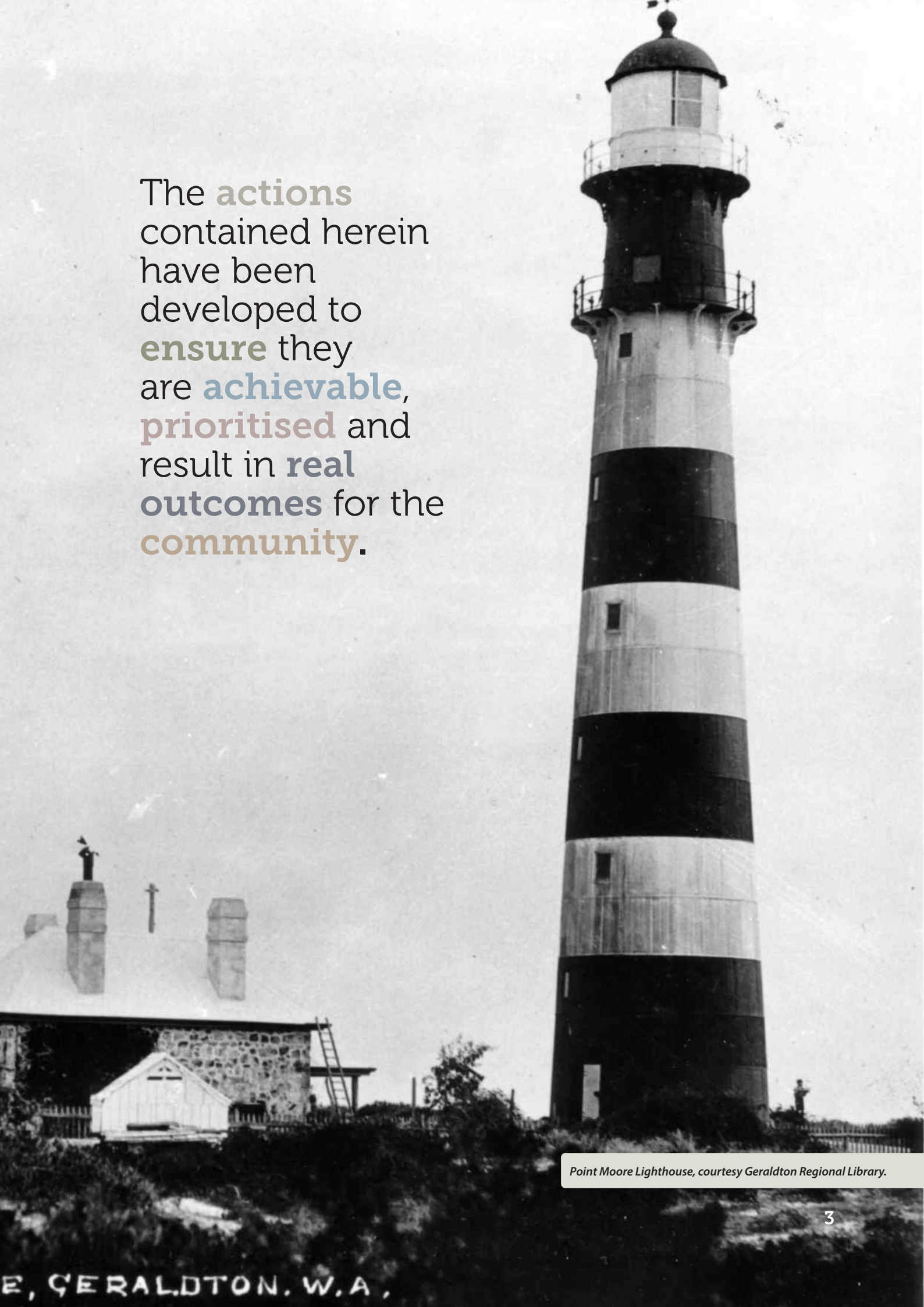
The City of Greater Geraldton in the Midwest of Western Australia is responsible for significant natural, historic and Aboriginal heritage. From identification and management of heritage places, to encouraging the recording of local histories and ensuring Aboriginal culture is recognised and promoted, it is important the City of Greater Geraldton has a clear strategy to enable these values to be looked after.

The first Heritage Strategy for the City was adopted in 2013, following which a second was adopted in 2017. Many of the actions and aims in the Strategy were implemented and achieved. This new Strategy assists the City to determine priorities and ensure efficient use of resources for heritage over the next five years.

The actions are connected to and complement the City's overall vision and reference has been made to related policy and strategic documents. Consultation with City staff and community representatives has also determined the direction of this Strategy and identified the challenges and opportunities for future action. Importantly, the actions contained herein have been developed to ensure they are achievable, prioritised and result in real outcomes for the community.

The management of heritage is shared within the City of Greater Geraldton, with the Libraries, Heritage and Gallery Team primarily responsible for the implementation and monitoring of this Strategy along with the support of Council and other relevant City departments and officers.

The **actions** contained herein have been developed to **ensure** they are **achievable**, **prioritised** and result in **real outcomes** for the **community**.



Point Moore Lighthouse, courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

1.1 VISION

The Vision for the City of Greater Geraldton is:

*"It is 2031, Greater Geraldton is the home of the regional capital city in Western Australia. Vibrant public places and spaces support our enviable lifestyle. We will be a recognised leader in the protection of our natural environment and our people will thrive and prosper. We will celebrate our cultural heritage and history. We support business growth through industry diversification, education and employment opportunities. As an inclusive community, we will strive for equal rights and access for all. We will face challenges by working together in unity with integrity and creativity. We will achieve this on the foundation of open and collaborative leadership."*¹

¹ City of Greater Geraldton, Strategic Community Plan 2031, p11

The CGG Heritage Strategy will protect, conserve, promote and celebrate our natural, historic and Aboriginal heritage by providing clear aims and prioritised actions.



1.2 WHAT IS HERITAGE?

“Heritage gives us a sense of place and can help provide us with direction for the future. It can be something that is valued by a single person, or it can contribute to a wider group’s sense of identity.”²

Heritage is something inherited from the past and valued enough today to leave for future generations. Heritage encompasses natural, historic and Aboriginal tangible and intangible elements. Heritage is expressed through places – buildings, landscapes, public parks and gardens, archaeology, infrastructure, monuments and public art. It is also represented in objects, artefacts, archives, photographs, maps, drawings; as well as our traditions, events and celebrations, people’s memories, artist’s expressions, Dreaming stories and the more subtle marks of past people and their cultures.

Heritage is intrinsic to a community’s history, environment and culture. It should not be viewed in isolation, removed from normal planning or policy processes or seen as a burden or an obstacle. Rather, the acknowledgement, conservation, management and interpretation of heritage values can result in economic, social and environmental benefits for communities.

² City of Greater Geraldton, Local Heritage <https://library.cgg.wa.gov.au/heritage/local-heritage-links.aspx>



Margaret Maru, Australia's first iron ore shipment, March 1966, courtesy J. Sewell.

1.3 GREATER GERALDTON'S HERITAGE

With a population of approximately 40,000 people, Greater Geraldton spans an area of 12,600 square kilometres with the City of Geraldton as its administrative centre. Geraldton was proclaimed a municipal district in 1871, later amalgamating with the Shire of Greenough and more recently with the Shire of Mullewa to form the City of Greater Geraldton in 2011.

The region's Aboriginal people have lived in the area for over 40,000 years and consist of the various groups who collectively form the Yama(t)ji. This includes the Wilunyu/Amangu people, Naaguja people, Wadjarri people, Nanda people, Badimia people as well as the Martu people from the Western Desert.³

With a landscape spanning the coast to the desert, the outstanding Houtman Abrolhos Islands is an area of natural significance with 122 islands located 60kms off the coast and stretching over 100 kms, teeming with marine and bird life. The notorious *Batavia* shipwreck and subsequent mutiny is also associated with this place when in 1629 the Dutch East India Company ship was deliberately steered off course, before being wrecked off the Morning Reef. This site is a nationally registered heritage place, and related to some of the earliest European activities in Australia.

Geraldton was originally surveyed around 1850 with mining and pastoralism supporting the establishment of the town and settlement of surrounding areas including the Greenough Flats. The first town jetty constructed later that decade provided an early port for the region. Construction of port facilities began in 1857 with subsequent upgrades as the region grew.⁴ Geraldton is an important service area for the region's industries including mining, pastoralism, fishing and tourism.

The town of Mullewa was gazetted in 1894 to support pastoral leases and receive grains produced in the wider region. Monsignor John Cyril Hawes, a priest and architect was responsible for designing several buildings throughout the region including the Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Mullewa and the impressive St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Geraldton.

The sinking of HMAS *Sydney II* during World War II by the German HSK *Kormoran* is Australia's greatest maritime tragedy and remained a mystery for 66 years, until both ships were located 200km off the coast in Shark Bay in 2008. The HMAS *Sydney II* Memorial was built in Geraldton in 2001 and is a Monument of National Significance and a moving tribute to those who died.

As the capital of the Midwest region, Geraldton and the surrounding district has an active community and a distinct history which reflects its resilience, determination and fortitude.

³ City of Greater Geraldton, Aboriginal Culture, <https://www.cgg.wa.gov.au/community-our-community/aboriginal.aspx>
⁴ Mid-West Ports, History, <https://www.midwestports.com.au/our-port/history-of-the-geraldton-port.aspx>

2. PROVISIONS AND FRAMEWORK

2.1 CURRENT STATUTORY PROVISIONS

The Planning and Development Act 2005, Heritage Act 2018 and the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (transitioning to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021 in 2023) provides the statutory framework for heritage and planning in Western Australia. As well, State Planning Policy 3.5 Historic Heritage Conservation specifically 'applies principally to historic cultural heritage including heritage areas, buildings and structures, historic cemeteries and gardens, man-made landscapes and historic or archaeological sites with or without built features.'

The City of Greater Geraldton operates under one local planning scheme being *Local Planning Scheme No. 1*. The aims and activities of this Strategy support these legislative frameworks and the City's statutory obligations. Other important reference documents include:

City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places (Local Heritage Survey)
(3 volumes)

Heritage Council of WA Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter), 2013

National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries (Version 1.5, 2016)

City of Greater Geraldton Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
Conservation Management Plans

2.2 COMMUNITY STRATEGY

This Heritage Strategy supports the City's current Strategic Community Plan 2031. In particular, heritage falls under the Community category, "Our culture and heritage is recognised and celebrated. We are creative and resilient. We can all reach our full potential".⁵

⁵ City of Greater Geraldton, Strategic Community Plan 2031, p12



Interpretive signage on the northern and southern loops of the Mullewa Drive Trail tell fascinating stories from the past.

3. OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

3.1 OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Greater Geraldton has a number of opportunities and potential to build upon the actions and initiatives which have been developed and promoted in previous years under earlier versions of the City of Greater Geraldton Heritage Strategy.

The City has experienced and professional staff delivering heritage services both internally to the City and externally to the community. The CGG Heritage Advisor provides advisory services for owners of heritage places and City Officers. The Heritage Advisory Committee acts as a conduit between the community and Council.

The City has a good level of historic information available publically including a comprehensive Local Heritage Survey; excellent online communication of information on heritage and local history and a dedicated local history collection at the City's Library.

Grants provided both by the City (i.e. the Community Grants Program) and via external sources provide opportunities to support one off or ongoing projects. The City owns and manages three heritage buildings which are utilized as community museums: Bluff Point Lighthouse Keepers Cottage; Greenough Museum and Gardens and the Walkaway Station Museum.

Awareness and appreciation of Aboriginal heritage can be further enhanced and is supported by the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*, the City's Reconciliation Action Plan and other external programs including Storylines with the support of the State Library of Western Australia.

There are opportunities to work more closely with the tourism industry and operators to enhance existing experiences and attractions. With the Abrolhos Islands and wildflower season attracting large amounts of tourists, particularly in post COVID times, increasing the awareness of associated historic and Aboriginal heritage can be prioritised. The Yama(t)ji Drive Trail for instance allows visitors and locals to experience the natural landscape as well as learn about the region's Aboriginal culture and history.

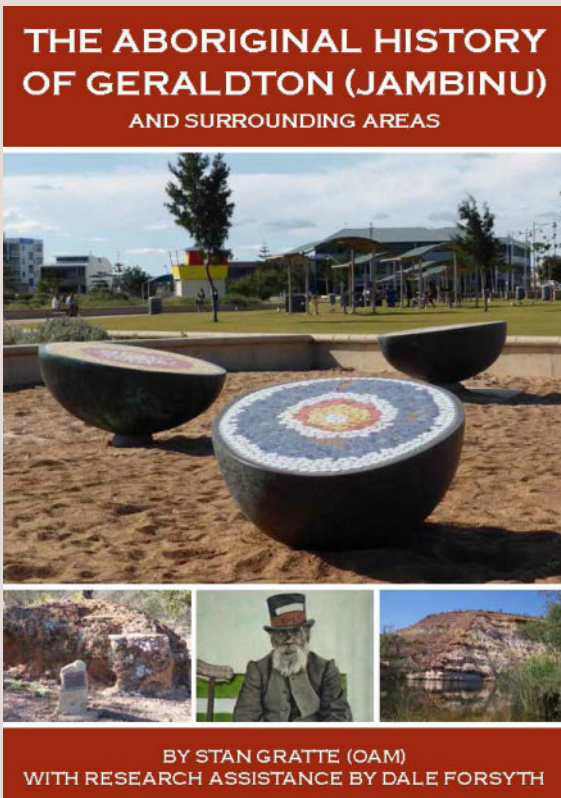
The Bimarra at Ellendale Pool, Walkaway, courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

3.2 CHALLENGES

Economic downturn may have a marked impact on heritage related activities. In addition, the number and variety of heritage sites across the City means that the scope is extensive.

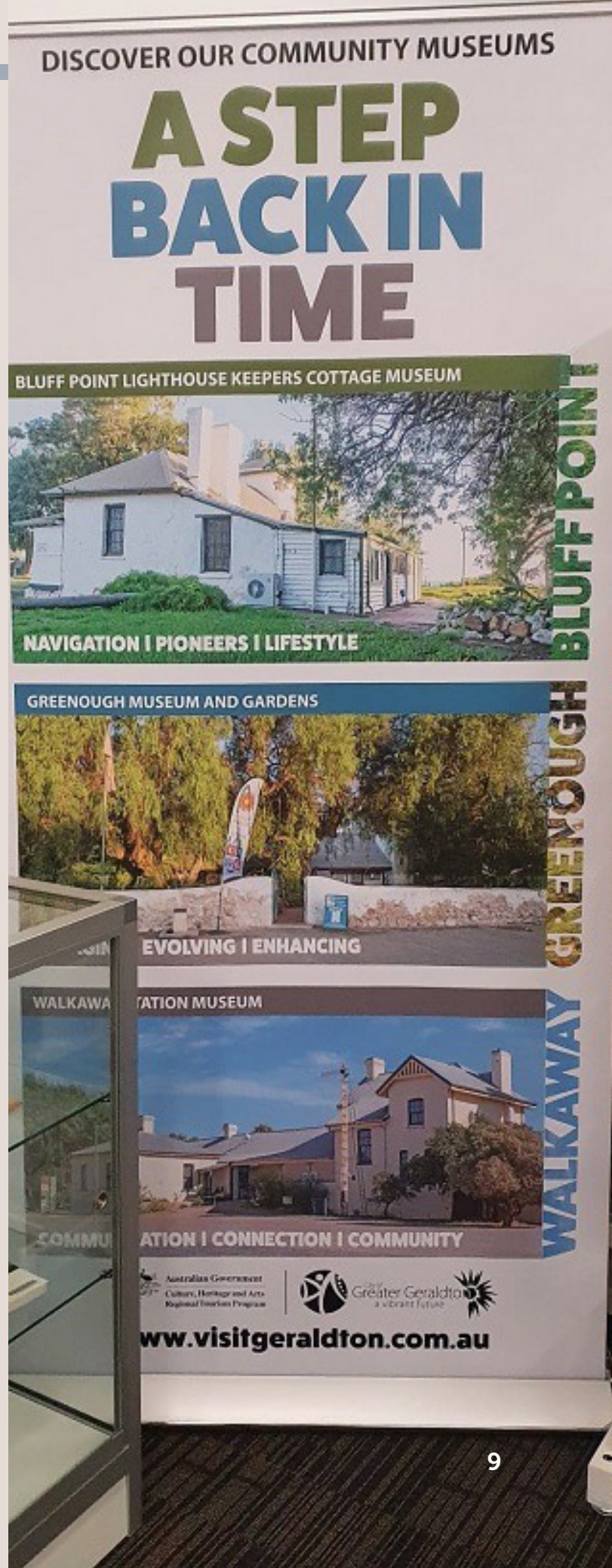
It is essential to ensure that any proposed actions are achievable within available resources. The prioritisation of actions, which in turn offer sustainable outcomes, may assist with addressing this challenge.

Greater Geraldton is widely known for its natural landscapes with wildflower season a particularly popular time of year. The district's history and cultural heritage is less well known. Increasing awareness for both locals and visitors is a challenge which requires effective communication.



Above: "The Aboriginal History of Geraldton (Jambinu)" booklet which is accompanied by the Yamaji Drive trail brochure.

Right: Community Museums promotional banner, 2022.



4. HERITAGE STRATEGY: AIMS AND ACTIONS

This Heritage Strategy has been developed in accordance with the City of Greater Geraldton's priorities and Council policies. A number of prioritised actions, based around the themes of knowing, protecting, supporting and communicating have been developed to assist the City to achieve heritage-related goals and provide an outline of activities to enable resources to be effectively directed.

This Strategy provides an outline for current and future heritage activities in the City of Greater Geraldton. It does not dismiss or exclude any new proposed projects or initiatives considered in the future. However, these should be assessed within the parameters of the aims and actions of this Strategy.

Significant achievements delivered under the Heritage Strategy 2017-2022 include:

- * Local Heritage Survey (Municipal Inventory) reviewed, with a place record layer added to the City's Intrapmap platform.
- * Creation of interpretive signage, booklets and drive/walk trails, including War Years Drive Trail, WWI Honour Roll at the Olive Street Memorial, Greenough Pioneer Cemetery Walk Trail, 100 Years of Air Services booklet and the CBD Heritage Walk Trails.
- * Hosting the Regional Heritage Conference 2018 in partnership with Heritage Council of WA.
- * Memorial Wall constructed at Mullewa Pioneer Cemetery.
- * Local History Packs for Year 3 students created via grant from History Council WA.
- * Substantial exhibitions mounted at Geraldton Regional Art Gallery - *Town Hall 1907-1984* and *Banksia Ball 50th Anniversary*.



Aerial view of the No. 4 Service Flying Training School at Geraldton, circa 1940, courtesy of Doug Brenkley.

4.1 KNOWING

Understanding the region's history, culture and environment is fundamental to planning and managing heritage. The City will take positive steps to be informed and act as a leader for the community in developing and nurturing the connections in the community.

ACTION 1.

Ensure Elected Members and relevant City Officers are aware of heritage related subjects including the purpose and use of the Local Heritage Survey, cultural awareness training and heritage legislation. Heritage training should be included in Induction Packages for Councillors and relevant City Officers.

ACTION 2.

Encourage City officers to take part in training and networking opportunities through WALGA and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage who administer programs and activities.

ACTION 3.

Support the Heritage Advisory Committee through setting clear actions or goals for the year and encouraging diverse membership to include those with expertise or interest in natural, historic heritage and Aboriginal heritage, the arts, tourism and business.

ACTION 4.

Review and update the Local Heritage Survey (LHS) and Heritage List to ensure that the places of heritage significance included reflect the expectations of the community and aligns with the Community Strategic Plan, noting the LHS includes 3 volumes. Continue to add new information as required and deal with new nominations in a timely manner.

ACTION 5.

Investigate places of significance for Aboriginal people and develop appropriate actions to support this. This should be supported by the Reconciliation Action Plan.



Greenough Pioneer Cemetery sign featuring Resting on the Greenough by Nicole Dickerson.

4.2 PROTECTING

Understanding statutory controls and policies and adhering to best practice is vital to creating a positive environment which values and protects our region's heritage.

ACTION 6.

Ensure the management and protection of natural, historic and Aboriginal heritage values appear in all relevant Council documents by having these documents reviewed by the CGG Heritage Advisor and the City's Aboriginal Engagement Officer during the development stage.

ACTION 7.

Continue digitisation of existing archived records and consider developing a relocation plan for the existing archives across the City to a purpose-built location. Investigate funding opportunities to undertake these activities.

ACTION 8.

Source funding and partnership opportunities for the ongoing care and maintenance of City owned heritage assets and places, including grant programs (refer to 'Useful Resources').

ACTION 9.

Continue to support the Yamaji Yanda project through the State Library's Storylines program.

ACTION 10.

Connect the region's areas of natural significance by featuring these places as part of heritage activities.

ACTION 11.

Conservation Management Plans and Schedules of Works for City-owned heritage places should be regularly reviewed, prioritised and managed to ensure their conservation and to set a good example to the community.

ACTION 12.

The City should continue to pursue the adaptive reuse of built fabric at its own properties and encourage the community to undertake this action.

ACTION 13.

Continue to manage the Local History Collection based at the Geraldton Regional Library as a peak depository for local history materials, including written, audio and visual materials, civic and community archives guided by the CGG Operational Policy (OP019)



Chapman River Road Bridge, 2022.

4.3 SUPPORTING

Supporting the community to value our region's heritage through the provision of advice, sourcing of funding and the development of opportunities which encourage the appreciation of heritage.

ACTION 14.

Support community museums by providing advice towards meeting national standards and current best practice for museums, including increased disaster preparedness planning.

ACTION 15.

Maintain community grants programs in the City to provide assistance to local community groups including information on external grants available.

ACTION 16.

Seek corporate and commercial sponsorship of events and programs to support the City's heritage initiatives.

ACTION 17.

Continue to provide support to owners of heritage listed places through the CGG Heritage Advisor role who provides valued assistance and advice to owners of heritage places in the City.

ACTION 18.

Encourage stronger partnerships with external stakeholders with regard to the management of heritage sites and the promotion and celebration of our heritage stories.



Town Hall 1907-1984 exhibition, Geraldton Regional Art Gallery, 2022.

4.4 COMMUNICATING

Communicating and celebrating the region's heritage provides opportunities for the community to appreciate their history, culture and environment and to promote the region to visitors.

ACTION 19.

Promote related sites and trails through events and activities such as the Australian Heritage Festival.

ACTION 20.

Encourage the organising of Open Days and/or guided tours of local heritage sites and properties as a means of promotion.

ACTION 21.

Given the popularity of the photographic and oral history collections, consider ways to promote these resources further.

ACTION 22.

Proposals for new heritage trails and signage in the City and region should be encouraged and supported, whilst existing signs are regularly audited, reviewed and upgraded when necessary.

ACTION 23.

Vacant or underutilised commercial areas in the City offer potential to feature historic images/graphics with embedded information via QR codes or links.

ACTION 24.

Liaise with local schools to increase the awareness of heritage places available for school groups to visit.

ACTION 25.

Continue to develop connections with Aboriginal communities, undertake Aboriginal heritage public awareness talks and investigate establishing trails for sites of significance in the region.

ACTION 26.

Develop a program to recognise outstanding heritage projects in the City. An online method of requesting nominations and



presenting awards every two years would achieve this aim without substantial investment of scarce resources.

ACTION 27.

Develop heritage information including updates and 'good news' stories on the City's website and social media platforms.

ACTION 28.

Continue to collect, record and publish stories related to the region.

ACTION 29.

Promote and celebrate the City's achievements and awards in heritage.

ACTION 30.

Investigate ways of linking heritage to other local programs such as the Big Sky Readers and Writers Festival.

Commission the development of a Thematic History for the City of Greater Geraldton when resources allow. This provides a framework which can be used in guiding the LHS as well as Interpretation Strategies by identifying the major themes (e.g. agriculture, industry, migration etc.) which have shaped the region.

ACTION 32.

Investigate the possibility of developing stronger links with tourism. This may include having historic information available to visitors and cross promotion.

ACTION 33.

Continue to develop a visual and informative online presence for the Local History Collection via the Library Management System hosted by the Geraldton Regional Library.



HMAS Sydney II Memorial, courtesy of Trevor Ralph.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

This Strategy should be adopted by the City of Greater Geraldton's Council and made accessible to all stakeholders. Whilst Heritage Services Officers have primary accountability for the implementation of this Strategy, it is important that all relevant City Officers are aware of, and understand, their responsibilities and commitments for the implementation of this Strategy.

An annual progress report should be prepared and submitted to the Heritage Advisory Committee at the conclusion of each financial year.

6. USEFUL RESOURCES

GUIDES

Interpretation Guidelines - James Semple Kerr's The Conservation Plan

<http://australia.icomos.org/publications/the-conservation-plan/>

Inherit - the online database of heritage listings maintained by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage

<http://inherit.stateheritage.wa.gov.au/public>

How to Develop and Maintain Heritage Places

<https://www.wa.gov.au/service/environment/built-environment/how-develop-and-maintain-heritage-places>

The Burra Charter and associated Practice Notes

<https://australia.icomos.org/publications/burra-charter-practice-notes/>

Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places

<https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage/about/indigenous-heritage>

Australian Heritage Commission, Australian Natural Heritage Charter

https://www.vgls.vic.gov.au/client/en_AU/search/asset/1292682/0

National Trust of Australia (WA), 2007. Sharing Our Stories (Guidelines for Heritage Interpretation)

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/publications/sharing-our-stories/>



Queen Elizabeth II accompanied by Mayor C.S. Eadon-Clarke at the opening of the Civic Centre, 24 March 1963. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

APPENDIX 1

HERITAGE REGISTERS

There are several levels of heritage identification and protection in Australia including World, National, State and Local.

WORLD HERITAGE LISTING

This refers to places which are considered to have 'universal significance'. In Australia, these places are mainly natural (such as Shark Bay) but includes built heritage such as the Australian Convict Sites serial listing.

There are no World Heritage Listed places located in the City of Greater Geraldton.

NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

National Heritage places are those which demonstrate outstanding heritage significance to Australia. These can be natural, historic and Aboriginal places which are privately or publicly owned.

The *Batavia* Shipwreck Site and Survivor Camps Area 1629 (Place ID 105887) is included within this List.

COMMONWEALTH HERITAGE LIST

Commonwealth listed places are those which are owned by the Commonwealth Government and demonstrate outstanding heritage significance to Australia.

The Geraldton Drill Hall Complex (Place ID 105658) is included within this List.

STATE REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage maintains the Register which includes places significant to Western Australia. This listing has statutory authority and proposed development or works to places on the Register requires referral to the State Heritage Council for advice.

Search on Inherit for more information about individual properties.

LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY AND HERITAGE LIST

All local governments are required to maintain a Local Heritage Survey which identifies places with heritage significance relevant to that Council but provides no controls for protection. All or part of the Survey can be included within a local Council's Heritage List which does provide planning controls to manage proposed changes.

Refer to the City of Greater Geraldton for this information.

LIST OF CLASSIFIED PLACES

This List is maintained by the National Trust of Western Australia. However, 'Classification' by the Trust has no statutory authority. This listing provides acknowledgement and a record of significant natural, historic and Aboriginal places which is a valuable source of information for the Trust's educational and advocacy activities.

Over 100 places have been Classified or Recorded by the National Trust of Western Australia (including places located within the former Shire of Greenough prior to amalgamation with Geraldton).

APPENDIX 2

GLOSSARY

BURRA CHARTER

This is a document that outlines the main principles and practices that guide the conservation of significant places in Australia. It was prepared by Australia ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites), and is the widely accepted standard for heritage conservation practice in Australia. Many, but not all, of the terms in this glossary were originally defined in the *Burra Charter* (refer to 'Useful Resources' for the link to this document).

CONSERVATION

Means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It includes maintenance and may, according to circumstances, include preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation and will commonly be a combination of more than one of these.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN (CMP; CONSERVATION PLAN; CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY)

A document that details how to identify and look after the significant cultural values of a place. Its preparation is a systematic way of considering, recording and monitoring actions and decisions relating to all aspects of managing a place. There are guidelines for the preparation of conservation management plans to ensure that all important matters are considered; refer to James Semple Kerr's *The Conservation Plan* (refer to 'Useful Resources' for the link to this document).

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Something inherited from the past and valued enough today to leave for future generations. This could include buildings, landscapes, objects, traditions, stories and so on.

CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Aesthetic, spiritual, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.

CULTURAL PLACE

A site, area, building or other work valued for its cultural heritage significance, together with associated contents and surrounds.

CURTILAGE (HERITAGE CURTILAGE)

The extent of land around [a place] which should be defined as encompassing its heritage significance. There are four types of heritage curtilage:

Lot Boundary Curtilage: where the legal boundary of the allotment is defined as the heritage curtilage. The allotment will in general contain all related features, for example outbuildings and gardens within its boundaries.

Reduced Heritage Curtilage: where an area less than total allotment is defined as the heritage curtilage, and is applicable where not all parts of a property contain places associated with its significance.

Expanded Heritage Curtilage: where the heritage curtilage is actually larger than the allotment, and is predominantly relevant where views to and/or from a place are significant to the place.

Composite Heritage Curtilage: relates to a larger area that includes a number of separate places, such as heritage conservation areas based on a block, precinct or whole village.

HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

A systematic assessment that describes a place and its setting and states the significant heritage values of the place based on the criteria outlined in the *Burra Charter*.

APPENDIX 2 [cont]

HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

A document that evaluates the likely impact of proposed development on the significance of a heritage place and its setting, and any conservation areas within which it is situated, and outlines measures proposed to mitigate any identified impact.

INTERPRETATION

'A means of communicating ideas and feelings which help people enrich their understanding and appreciation of their world, and their role in it'(Interpretation Australia). Effective interpretation allows visitors to gain a greater understanding of a place based upon its significance.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

A designation applied to each Cultural Place or Area on the Local Heritage Survey that gives guidance as to how the future of that place should be managed by the owner, developer and/or Council.

MAINTENANCE

The continuous protective care of the fabric, contents and setting of the place and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

LOCAL HERITAGE SURVEY

A list of places that, in the opinion of the Council, reflect the cultural heritage of the local government area. It could be thought of as a list of the community's heritage assets, and as with any other kind of assets, it is first necessary to know what they are before they can be properly managed. The Local Heritage Survey provides no statutory protection; it simply identifies places of heritage significance within the local government area. All or part of the Survey can be included on the local government authority's Heritage List which is incorporated as part of the town planning scheme and ensures statutory protection.

PRESERVATION

Maintaining the fabric of the place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

RECONSTRUCTION

Returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state by the introduction of materials (old or new). This is not to be confused with either re-creation or conjectural reconstruction which are outside the scope of conservation under the principles of the *Burra Charter*.

RESTORATION

Returning the existing fabric to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

SIGNIFICANCE

Means the importance and meaning we place on a landscape, site, building, object, collection or installation in the past, now and in the future.

Significance is not absolute. It's about value. Different people value different things at different times in their lives. Values can be personal, family, community, national and/or international.

Significance is assessed in terms of historic, aesthetic, scientific, social and spiritual values.⁷

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A statement that clearly and concisely sets out the significant heritage values of a place, based on the criteria set out in the *Burra Charter*.

APPENDIX 3

REFERENCES

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WA Electoral Commission, *Municipal Boundary Amendments Register* (Release 2.0), 31 May 2003

Back cover: Interpretive Signage at Drummond Cove. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

Seaview Cottage

intertwined with the lives of John and Mary Drummond

The Traditional Owners of this land are the Yamaji peoples who traversed this coastal landscape for thousands of years prior to European settlement. Irishman, John Drummond subsequently viewed the potential of this land for pastoral purposes and, in his later years, for retirement with his wife, Mary.

When the property changed hands numerous times before the stone cottage was left vacant and fell into ruin. Restored in 1994 by property developers as a fitting entry statement to the Bayside Estate at Drummond Cove, Seaview Cottage remains a lasting and tangible legacy to the Drummonds.

John Nicol Drummond (b. 1816 County Cork, Ireland) experienced an interesting and varied life which included policing, pastoralism and prison. The son of well-known early Western Australian Botanist, James Drummond, he had arrived at the Swan River Colony aboard the *Formosa* in 1829. His early work life saw him join the police service, with an initial posting at York where his dual interests in the local

Aboriginal culture and language as well as the pastoral activities of the Avon Valley settlers were to shape his future life. However his early working life was marred in 1845 when Drummond was temporarily suspended for the murder of Aboriginal man Kabinger, who had allegedly murdered Drummond's younger brother.

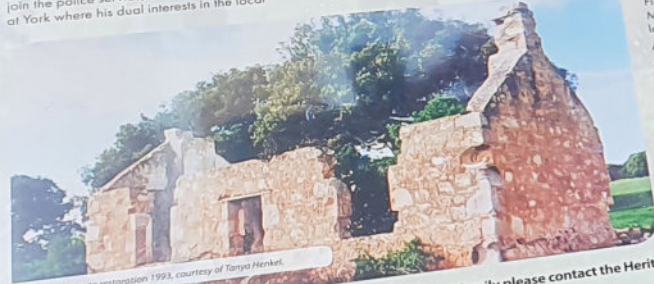
Having accompanied William Burges in 1849 to assess the pastoral potential of the country north of Champion Bay, Drummond subsequently accepted the position as Geraldton's first Chief Constable the following year; his policing career thereafter interwoven with his interest in the land. In 1851, Drummond took up an initial lease of 4,000 acres north of Smuggler's Cove (now Drummond Cove) and named it White Peak Station, before adding more land in the area to his holdings.

Meanwhile Drummond's policing career progressed. Having been appointed Sub-Prolector of Natives for the District in 1852, he rose to become Sub-Inspector of Police in 1857.

work which took him away for long periods of time throughout the region. Drummond resigned from the police force in the late 1850s rather than accepting a transfer to Albany, instead focusing his long-held interest on pastoral concerns, including the construction of the original White Peak Homestead, as well as his ongoing partnership in the nearby White Peak Copper Mine. However, Drummond suffered a dramatic fall from grace in 1877 when he was convicted of attempted murder of a local farmer. Shortly after Drummond was granted a ticket-of-leave and returned to White Peak Station, now in the employ of his brother-in-law, Robert Shaw.

John Drummond married Mary Louisa Birdsell Show in 1852. Mary had arrived in the Swan River Colony from England in 1830 with her family aboard the *Egyptian* and spent her childhood at Belvoir, Upper Swan. Shortly after their wedding Mary likely became the second European woman to travel overland between Swan River and Champion Bay (Perth and Geraldton). Tragically Mary suffered a miscarriage following a horse riding incident. In 1876 the Drummonds adopted one year old Florence Rose Brown out of tragic circumstances. Mary Drummond was held in high esteem by a large circle of family and friends.

After considering a scenic coastal location for retirement, Drummond and his wife selected Victoria Location 1051 of 100 acres on which from the local quarry. Appropriately naming their property "Seaview", the Drummonds lived here together with their adopted daughter until 1906 when, at the age of 90, John suffered what was ultimately a fatal fall and was buried in Geraldton. When her daughter, Florence Rose, married William Burges the following year Mary made the tough decision to leave her coastal home of over 25 years and move to Subiaco, where she died in 1918 at the age of 93.



Cottage prior to restoration 1993, courtesy of Tanya Henkel.

For further information regarding the history of the Drummond family please contact the Heritage Services Team at Geraldton Regional Library on (08) 9956 6659.



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