



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

## 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

### PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 3.5 Developing primary production
- 3.7.1 Establishing postal services
- 3.16 Struggling with remoteness, hardship and failure
- 5.1 Working in harsh conditions
- 9.3.2 Bringing up children

### HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 104 Land allocation and subdivision
- 206 Mail services
- 301 Grazing, pastoralism and dairying
- 602 Early settlers

### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is significant for the innovation and achievement of a brick homestead planned, constructed in two stages, from bricks formed in the Tipperary mould and fired on the property. (Criterion 1.2)

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is a landmark on the Quairading-York Road. The homestead and outbuildings group north of the road form a significant rural cultural environment, and the homestead ruins (c.1880) on the south side of the road have a significant impact on the vista in which it is situated. (Criterion 1.3)

The aesthetic character of the individual places at *Korrawilla Homestead Group* collectively forms a significant cultural environment in the rural agricultural setting. The homestead's c.1870 east wing and c.1872 north wing are examples of the Victorian Georgian style in a rural setting, and demonstrate decorative variations of Flemish bond reverse tone brick work. The stables and barn, designed around a central courtyard and constructed in English bond brickwork, form a separate cultural environment closely associated with the original workings of the farm. The elements together form a significant precinct demonstrating the development of the farm from the 1870s. (Criterion 1.4)

\* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

## 11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Korrawilla Homestead Group*, formerly Green Hills Farm, is valued within the Greenhills district. The name Greenhills evolved from the name of Penny's farm and the unofficial post office was at the homestead from c.1865, through until 1891 when it became the official Greenhills Post Office. (Criterion 2.1)

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* represents an early period of agricultural settlement east of York. (Criterion 2.2)

The place is associated with the Penny family, who have been prominent members of the Greenhills community from its inception. (Criterion 2.3)

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is a significant example of one family's achievement in establishing, developing and sustaining over five generations a substantial agricultural settlement in the relatively remote pastoral area east of York, from the mid 1860s to the present. (Criterion 2.4)

## 11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Both the c.1880 site and ruins, and the 1867 site and remains, have the potential to yield further information through archaeological investigation. (Criterion 3.1)

## 11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is highly valued by the community of Greenhills for social, religious and cultural reasons as the place where a store and the Greenhills Post Office (unofficial and official) operated between c.1865 and c.1910, Anglican services were held before the church was built in 1882, social events took place in the barn, and Sunday afternoon tennis matches were held through to the 1930s. *Korrawilla Homestead Group* was the centre of the community and social gathering place, until the Greenhills Hall was built in 1895, and the town of Greenhills developed after the railway arrived in 1898. (Criterion 4.1)

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* contributes to the communities' sense of place through its continuous association with the Penny family, who are still resident in the district, and the town and district name of Greenhills that developed from the farm. (Criterion 4.2)

## 12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

### 12. 1. RARITY

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is a rare group of intact agricultural buildings dating from the early 1870s which has a high degree of authenticity and has been continuously associated with the five generations of one family. (Criterion 5.1)

### 12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Each of the places at *Korrawilla Homestead Group* is representative of its type; Victorian Georgian style, c.1870 brick and iron homestead (east wing), c.1872 brick and iron homestead (north wing); functional rural vernacular, c.1876 stables and barn, c.1880 homestead ruins, c.1890s smoke house, and, c.1930s shearing shed, in a rural setting. (Criterion 6.1)

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* clearly demonstrates and represents a range of activities associated with the way of life for five generations of the Penny

family, in wheat and sheep farming in the Avon Valley district of the wheatbelt of Western Australia. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12.3 CONDITION**

With the exception of the c.1880 homestead (ruins) which is in poor condition, the remaining buildings of *Korrawilla Homestead Group* are in fair to good condition. Works over recent years have ensured that the homestead is maintained in good condition. The barn and stables similarly are in a fair to good condition.

### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

The elements at *Korrawilla Homestead Group* with the exception of the c. 1880 ruins, clearly indicate their original design intentions. *Korrawilla Homestead Group* has been continuously in use by five generations of the same family. Henry Simon Penny occupies the north wing of the homestead. The east wing is used as occasional accommodation. The stables, barn, and smoke house are used for farm storage. The shearing shed is vacant, and the ruins on the south side of the road are a tourist attraction. In 2000, the farm comprises 3200 hectares, with 1200 hectares under crop. Overall, *Korrawilla Homestead Group* has a high degree of integrity.

### **12.5 AUTHENTICITY**

*Korrawilla Homestead Group* is intact and has a high degree of authenticity. The east wing of the homestead demonstrates the highest degree of authenticity, with minimal evidence of alteration to the original fabric. There has been some change and a verandah enclosure to the north wing, but most of the original fabric has been retained intact. Similarly, the stables have undergone minimal change. The barn has undergone change that reflects the ongoing development of its function in the farm setting. The fabrics of the ruins have a high degree of authenticity.

## **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

Attached are key sections of the Supporting Evidence prepared by Laura Gray Heritage & Conservation Consultant, 'Conservation Plan, Korrawilla (formerly Green Hills Farm)', for Henry Graham Penny and Henry Simon Penny, June 2000.

Key sections used: 1.0 Introduction (p1), 3.0 Documentary Evidence (pp 5-18), 4.0 Physical Evidence (pp 19-60), 5.0 Analysis of Evidence (pp 60-62), 9.0 The Place (pp 69), 10.0 Retention of Significance (pp 70-74).

### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the Documentary Evidence refer to Laura Gray Heritage & Conservation Consultant, 'Conservation Plan, Korrawilla (formerly Green Hills Farm)', prepared for Henry Graham Penny and Henry Simon Penny, June 2000.

### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the Physical Evidence refer to Laura Gray Heritage & Conservation Consultant, 'Conservation Plan, Korrawilla (formerly Green

Hills Farm)', prepared for Henry Graham Penny and Henry Simon Penny, June 2000.

### **13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

For a discussion of the Comparative Information refer to Laura Gray Heritage & Conservation Consultant, 'Conservation Plan, Korrawilla (formerly Green Hills Farm)', prepared for Henry Graham Penny and Henry Simon Penny, June 2000.

### **13.4 KEY REFERENCES**

Laura Gray Heritage & Conservation Consultant, 'Conservation Plan, Korrawilla (formerly Green Hills Farm)', prepared for Henry Graham Penny and Henry Simon Penny, June 2000.

### **13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH**

Further research of pre-European occupation of the area of *Korrawilla Homestead Group* by Aboriginal people would be of interest; also research into their role as pastoral workers after the farm had been established.