



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 03695
2. **NAME** *Corunna Downs Station and Former Wartime Airbase*
(1903, 1940s)
OTHER NAME Brockman's Station
3. **LOCATION** Salgash Corunna Downs Road, East Pilbara
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Portion of Lot 92 on Deposited Plan 238127 being part of Crown Lease 483/1968 and part of the land contained in Crown Land Title Volume 3065 Folio 322, portion of Lot 22 on Deposited Plan 53808 being part of Reserve 13672 and part of the land contained in Crown land Title Volume 3139 Folio 907 and portion of Corunna Downs Road being an unnumbered road reserve, together as shown on Heritage Council of Western Australia Survey Drawing No. 3695 prepared by Whelans and dated 25 January 2005
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of East Pilbara
6. **OWNER** State of Western Australia
(Lease: Laurence Anthony Glenn as to Lot 92 only.)
(Responsible Agency: Shire of East Pilbara as to road reserve)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	26/05/2006
	Permanent Entry	30/03/2007
• National Trust Classification:	Classified	06/07/1983
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	27/08/1999
• Register of the National Estate:	Nominated	15/10/1984
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**
Corunna Downs Station and Former Wartime Airbase, comprising Corunna Downs Station, a group of single-storey ant bed mud, off-form concrete and corrugated iron station buildings including the cemetery (1897+), homestead (1903) with Federation Bungalow style features, Pygmy date palm or cycad

(*Phoenix* or *Cycas* sp), and the runways, taxiways, revetments and base camp site of the Corunna Downs Wartime Airbase (c1940s), has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the Homestead (1903) of Corunna Downs Station is a unique building with Federation Bungalow style features constructed for North West conditions incorporating ant bed mud walls, an elevated roof for passive cooling and steel framing to prevent termite damage.

Corunna Downs Station was part of the development of the pastoral industry in the Pilbara district and demonstrates the evolution of a pastoral settlement since 1891 and the particular lifestyle for the owners and workers;

Corunna Downs Wartime Airbase is a rare example in Western Australia of a strategic Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) base established specifically as a heavy bomber base and is significant for its ability to illustrate World War II associations in the North West and as a reminder of the way of life for the forces personnel who were based there;

the various elements that comprise Corunna Downs Wartime Airbase are significant in the remote landscape of the Pilbara;

Corunna Downs Station is associated with pastoralists Dudley and Howden Drake-Brockman (1891 to 1923), Ernest Foulkes-Taylor (1924-51)

Corunna Downs Station is associated with many Aboriginal people from a number of tribal groups who worked and lived on the property and who were integral to the success and development of the pastoral industry in the North-West of the State.

The 1940s reconstructed steel framed farm buildings and concrete workers' quarters have some heritage significance and contribute to the understanding of the history of the place.