



ELLENSBROOK

Brief - annotated bibliography/ historical sources review

This brief has been prepared to assist in the selection and engagement of a historian to undertake research relating to *Ellensbrook* situated 12km north of Margaret River in the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Park approximately 290km south of Perth. It is arguably one of the most significant within the portfolio of heritage places managed by the National Trust, largely as a consequence of its highly layered and complex histories.

The history of *Ellensbrook* attests to both the amicable and frequently volatile relations between Aboriginal people and the early colonists. It offers the unique potential to explore these relationships, to redress an imbalance in the telling of these histories and to contribute to the process of reconciliation.

The place is one that tells stories of the natural world and how this environment has been shaped by human intervention. It represents patterns of use that have been replicated throughout the south west and is positioned to tell a broader story of land uses in the region.

Comprehensive historical research can assist in this process by documenting and revealing primary sources and material evidence that survives. The annotated bibliography/ historical sources review will provide the baseline data for the National Trust's team to support its work across a range of disciplines.

The National Trust has received a grant from Lotterywest to undertake conservation and interpretation works combined with education and community engagement activities at *Ellensbrook*. The annotated bibliography will be used to guide the development of key themes and more detailed research for each of these inter-related programs. The project will be carried out over the 2016/17 financial year.

Scope of Works

The National Trust seeks to engage a historian to carry out research that will be utilised to support all aspects of the *Ellensbrook* project. A range of topics relating to the heritage values of the place should be interrogated, particularly those articulated in the Statement of Significance. The final output of the project is twofold - to produce an annotated bibliography/ historical sources review of material that relates to the place and its heritage values; and to produce a general summary history of *Ellensbrook*.

Emphasis should be given to primary sources and be broad in scope including archival material such as diaries and correspondence, photographs, illustrations, moveable heritage and oral histories. Given the nature of the project, reference quality copies of images will be required (naming appropriate details of source, copyright, date etc) and where possible moveable heritage (in private and public collections) that is provenanced to *Ellensbrook* should be identified (for the purposes of study, not acquisition).

Statement of Significance

The Conservation Plan for Ellensbrook (2004) states the place has exceptional cultural heritage significance because:

- The place is an excellent and rare representative of original settlement in the Margaret River district and with the pioneering development of dairy farming and sheep and cattle grazing in the Augusta-Margaret River area in the colonial period;
- The place has association with the Bussell family and other pioneer settlers at Augusta and Busselton;
- The place reflects pioneer building techniques and the use of local materials;
- The place has association with the pioneering development of tourism in the Augusta-Yallingup area;
- The place demonstrates the nature of domestic and agricultural working life in the colonial period and early 20th century in the south-west of the state and points to the particular role played by women in the rural economy;
- The place demonstrates changing land-uses from pre-settlement to the present time as well as the application of changing government policy and land regulations in the 19th and 20th centuries;
- The place demonstrates the functions and processes of natural physical systems and for specific features which include: the coastal dunes; caves and waterfall; geologic formations of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste Ridge; Ellen Brook indigenous flora and fauna.
- The place is significant as a cultural landscape which demonstrates the successive impacts of Aboriginal and white settlement on the natural environment;
- The place has visual landscape that is assessed as having a high aesthetic quality;
- The place has Aboriginal associations which include the archaeological site; Meekadarrabee legend; waterfall and cave; Aboriginal people linked with building and working on Ellensbrook and Ellensbrook Farm Home for Aboriginal children.

Project Timetable and Reporting

The annotated bibliography/ historical sources review will commence on the appointment of the historian. It is anticipated the project will be carried out during August and September 2016. A detailed timeline will be developed once the historian has been appointed.

The historian will liaise as required with the National Trust's project team. Meetings will be held to discuss the brief and provide access to material held by the National Trust. As the project progresses, meetings will be held as required to obtain feedback on early findings and to gain further direction or clarification as required.

The National Trust collection comprises images, conservation and associated plans but little primary source documentation.

Selection Criteria

It is expected the historian will:

- Be able to meet the timeframes
- Have prior experience with similar types of research projects
- Have knowledge and understanding of the history of the south west region
- Provide an initial plan of how the research project will be approached
- Quote an overall price for the project including travel and any other disbursements
- Have professional indemnity insurance

The National Trust will use the criteria listed above as the basis for the selection of the historian for this project.

Lodgement of Submissions

Your submission should be clearly marked, "*Historian – Ellensbrook Project*", and arrive at the National Trust no later than 9am WST on Monday 25th July 2016.

Mail: National Trust of Australia (WA)
PO Box 1162
WEST PERTH WA 6872

Email: trust@ntwa.com.au