



**HERITAGE  
COUNCIL**  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES – Permanent Entry**

1. **DATA BASE No.** 03957
2. **NAME** *Pinjarra Massacre Site (28 October 1834)*  
**OTHER NAMES** Battle of Pinjarra Memorial Park (Reserve 31032 only)  
Pinjarra Battle Memorial Area
3. **LOCATION** McLarty Road, along Murray River
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**  
Lot 301 on Deposited Plan 42796, being Reserve 31032 and the whole of the land contained in Crown Land Title Volume 3135 Folio 545.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Shire of Murray
6. **OWNER** The State of Western Australia.  
(Management Order: Shire of Murray)
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**

• Register of Heritage Places:	Permanent Entry	18/12/2007
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted	25/09/1997
• Register of the National Estate:	Interim	30/06/1992
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**  
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9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**  
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10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

*Pinjarra Massacre Site*, a memorial site, comprising an area of vacant land with a number of large trees and natural bush on the west bank of the Murray River, including Polly Island, and a monument commemorating the massacre has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place is part of the site where the Bindjareb Nyungars were killed in the attack by a group of Wadjellas (white Europeans) on 28 October 1834, and is of exceptional significance, to the both Nyungar community and the wider community, as an important part of contact history;

the place is representative of many sites, recorded and unrecorded, where armed conflict occurred between Nyungars and European settlers in the early years of the Swan River Colony, as a result of the displacement of the Aboriginal peoples from their traditional lands and attempts by

European settlers to secure the expansion and development of Western Australia. It is distinguished as the one most known and recognised;

the place has the potential to yield further information about the massacre and in particular about possible burial sites;

the place has, through a recognition of its history, significant potential to contribute to the process of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

the place has associations with important Nyungar leaders, such as Gcalyut, a prominent resistance leader of the Bilyidar Bindjareb Nyungars, and Nunar, a senior man of the Bindjareb Nyungars, and others; and,

the place has associations with those European settlers who took part in the attack, among whom numbered such important members of the Swan River Colony as Governor James Stirling, J.S. Roe, Thomas Peel, one of the largest landholders in the Mandurah-Murray District and a main protagonist in the conflict with the Bindjareb Nyungars in this region, and Captain Ellis, with his special group of mounted police and a detachment of the 21<sup>st</sup> Regiment.

It is important to acknowledge that *Pinjarra Massacre Site* does not include the entire area of the massacre but has to be regarded as representative only, as the actual events of the massacre took place over a much larger area.