

CREATIVE SPACES



PIONEERS' PATHWAY

Interpretive Recommendations

Issued 06 June 2019

General Recommendations

Signage

Redesign and update all roadside and information signs. This was a recommendation provided in a previous report and we would suggest this is still undertaken.

The use of roadside trail markers is probably no longer required and we would suggest these are removed and not replaced.

Any new signage should reflect the updated logo.

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

Develop a Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker as a way to reassure the visitor that they have arrived at the correct location.

An elegant solution to this could be in the form of a brass site marker that is added to existing signage.

Brochure

Update the existing Pioneers' Pathway brochure and map highlighting the selected stories for each site.

Interpretation Theme

The main them for the interpretation should be on the unusual stories, and/or local characters and not just the history of the area (which can be discovered elsewhere).

Additional Interpretative Activities

Provide symbols at each location to be collected by the visitor as 'rubbings' on a brochure / paperwork supplied at site.

Hand cranked or solar powered, exterior grade audio posts at set locations adds another layer of stories at a site. These audio units are easy to update and extremely robust. Up to 8 tracks of approx 1-2 mins each can be uploaded onto the unit.



Existing signage to be updated



Existing signage to be removed



Create a brass or brass-looking Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker to install at each location.



Hand cranked audio unit



Brass rubbings could create opportunities for a keepsake as part of the trail

Newcastle Gaol Museum, Toodyay

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to the main sign museum and or another at the entry to the building.

Interpretation Opportunities

The Goal Yard would be a great location for the addition of an exterior-grade audio unit. Visitors could sit and listen to oral histories or other stories that link to existing displays.

This could take the form of a non-intrusive solar powered or hand cranked unit (mounted to a bench or post) that sits adjacent to existing fence posts.

Interpretive Story Focus

Initial discussions focused on the Moondyne Joe story for this site. If the audio unit were to go ahead, it would be important not to replicate the material already on display within one of the cells - or at least consider a new way to present the information (ie. a re-enactment etc).



Brass Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker to be displayed at a prominent location close to the entrance



Solar powered audio unit installed into a bench seat



Hand cranked audio unit



Suggested location for installation of audio interpretation within the gaol yard

Slater Homestead, Goomalling

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to the main sign at the entrance and to the proposed interpretive sign close to the car parking area.



Exterior Interpretive Opportunities

The site could benefit from a small number of interpretive signs, explaining to the visitor the previous use of each building. These signs could be freestanding (or wall-mounted where appropriate) with elegant and slender proportions, in keeping with the standards set by the conservation of the buildings. Timber or a timber-look substrate would be suitable and non-intrusive in the landscaping. We would suggest that each building plus the two sites with building remnants are interpreted.

Additional signs adjacent to the carpark and the tearooms could provide information about the conservation works undertaken and the Slater Family.

Interpretive signage should match the graphic style of the entrance sign.

Interior Interpretive Opportunities

Interpretation in some of the interiors would enhance the experience and assist in telling the story of the site.

We recommend the Creatures Gallery be removed from the schoolroom and be replaced with an interpretive display. We believe this would be more in keeping with the heritage nature of the site. This display could take the form of a re-creation of the schoolroom, or interpretive panels featuring the Slater Family or other pioneers from the district. More unusual stories would fit the theme of the Pioneers' Pathway.

The tearooms could also be another location for interpretation - utilising the existing picture rail.

The accommodation areas should be free of interpretation.



Example of a slender, freestanding interpretive sign



Possible locations for interpretive signs throughout the site. The wall mounted sign for the barn could use existing holes - otherwise a freestanding sign would be suitable. (Please note the locations are indicative only and some buildings have not been represented.)



Example of a re-created school room display



Hand cranked audio unit could be utilised on site playing interviews with the Slater family.

Stewart Street, Dowerin

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to Rusty's new plinth and the proposed window displays.



Rusty the Tin Dog

Create a dramatic entry statement to the main street by repositioning Rusty the Tin Dog to direct visitors into town. Positioned on a high stone plinth, Rusty would be visible on approach from all directions.

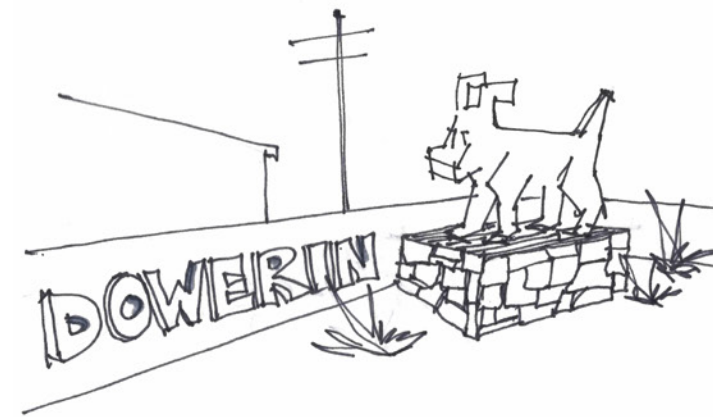
This suggested location offers scope for creating photo opportunities with ample, safe parking for visitors away from the main highway.

Interpretation Opportunities

Utilise empty shop fronts for the display of historical photographs that relate to Tin Dog Creek or other pioneers. Bay windows could also be used to create themed displays from the Museum's collection. These could be rotated every six months (or sooner if possible) to maintain interest.

Small uplights could be installed on a timer to light the display in the evening. This might create some interest if visitors are staying overnight and are in town for an evening meal.

Once the window graphics and displays have been updated it might also be a good time to update the 'Rusty's Ramble' heritage trail to reflect the new content.



Opportunity to use existing stone wall as a backdrop for a new, town sign and landscaping

Rusty to be repositioned to sit high on a new stone plinth, to be visible from the road but approached up close from carpark side



● Rusty's current location
Past entry to town, wrong side of the road from available parking

● Suggested new location for Rusty



Mock-ups demonstrating how the building could look with new graphics and signs



Example of a window display that could be undertaken in Dowerin

CBH Agricultural Museum, Wyalkatchem

Pioneers' Pathway

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to the front of the CRC building and/or the museum entry signs.



Interpretive Story Focus

We would recommend the story of John Lindsay be the focus at this site for the Pioneers' Pathway. The history of the region and the CBH Agricultural Museum is already told throughout the museum and elsewhere. By focusing on people and their unique stories it will create another connection with their visitors.

Interpretation Opportunities

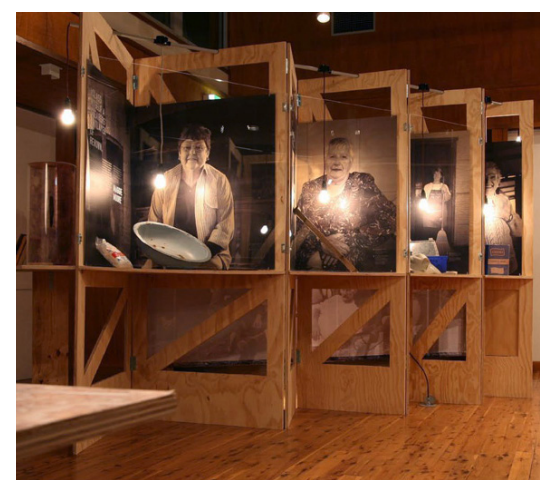
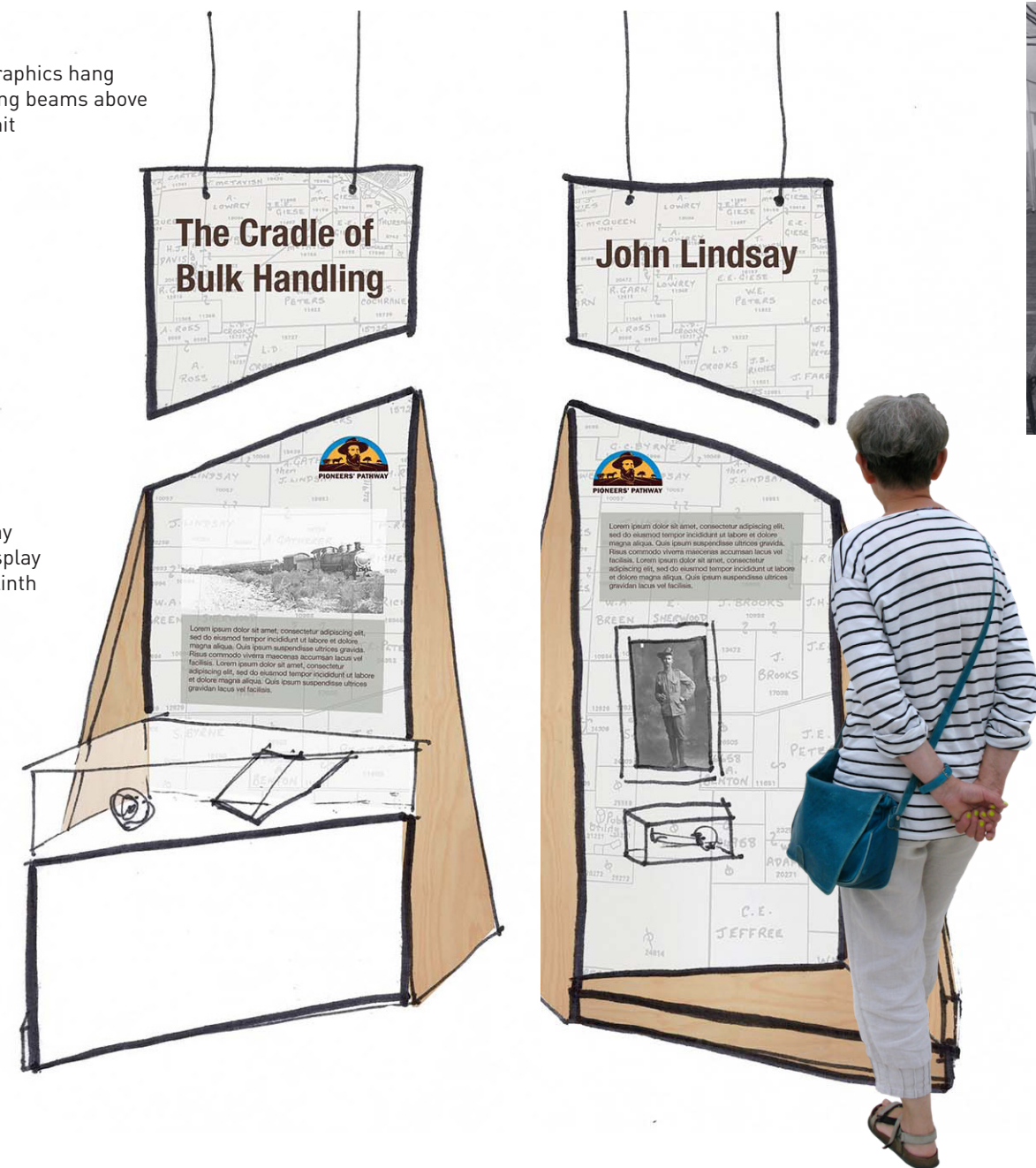
A small display focusing on John Lindsay and his pioneering days in Wyalkatchem is proposed for the foyer area in the museum. This display would be freestanding and would take advantage of the open ceiling structure to suspend a lightweight banner above. Objects that are related to John Lindsay could be displayed in a showcase alongside the freestanding unit and other items (such as framed images) could also be suspend to create interest. The map outlining the various farming families could be used as a background image.

It is hoped that a number of these small displays could be replicated over time, in a line through the centre of the foyer area. This would provide a dramatic entrance to the museum, while also highlighting the pioneers of the district.

The addition of a small screen could be introduced to the display if there were sufficient images available of the person in question. However there are already a couple of screens within the foyer area, so this would need to be taken into consideration when designing these displays.

Suspended graphics hang from the ceiling beams above the display unit

Freestanding display unit allowing for display to both sides and plinth display for objects



An example of a freestanding display in a museum that focuses on the people and also showcases some of their own objects.

Information Bay, Trayning

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to any new signage or interpretation opportunity.



Interpretive Story Focus

The story of Mrs Jean Rance and the first licensed caravan is a unique and interesting story. The original caravan has been restored but is currently in private hands.

Interpretation Opportunities

Create a freestanding, lifesize interpretation of the caravan utilising metal perforated panels. A lifesize silhouette of Mrs Rance could also be placed alongside the caravan that includes an interpretive panel.

This type of interpretation would create a great photo opportunity for visitors.

For special events throughout the year (ie. if there is a local festival) the original caravan could be displayed alongside the lifesize interpretation, which would be of interest to locals and visitors alike.

Two sided, lifesize interpretation of the caravan that belonged to Jean Rance



Opportunity to use existing stone wall as a backdrop for a new, town sign



Mrs Rance's original caravan



Suggested location of display



Examples of perforated panels (pic perf) used for interpretation.



Mangowine Homestead, Nungarin

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to entry signage. This may have to be negotiated with the National Trust.



Interpretive Story Focus

Jane Adams and her incredible story of resilience and ingenuity in such an isolated location fits in well with the Pioneers' Pathway theme.

Interpretive Opportunities

Interpretive Centre

The small interpretive centre housed in one of the buildings would benefit from new interpretive panels and possibly a new layout for the space. Currently the panels look tired but the display cases are in good condition. Potentially relocate the existing display cases to stand back-to-back in the centre of the room to allow access from both sides.

Update interpretive panels and hang using existing fixings to ensure no new wall hanging points are required.

Cellar

A small interpretive panel explaining the use of the cellar would be of interest to visitors.

Homesteads

There are many opportunities to enhance the current displays with interpretation. This could take the form of printing onto table cloths, photo frames and self supporting acrylic sheets (all freestanding). Incidental quotes or small snippets of information would be ideal.

Brochure

A brochure that visitors can use when the caretaker is not available would be useful to extend their understanding.



Hand cranked audio unit could be utilised on site if there were opportunities to interview people connected to the site.



The examples provided above are from another National Trust property, Ellensbrook. They are great images to demonstrate how interpretation can be integrated into the Mangowine Homestead.



Examples of other methods of interpretation at Wilkinson Homestead in Gosnells, that don't require fixing to the building's structure.

Cummins Theatre, Merredin

Pioneers' Pathway Site Marker

There is currently no mention of the Pioneers' Pathway at this site. This would be resolved with the addition of the Pioneers' Pathway logo to the interpretive panel and/or the window graphics.



Interpretive Story Focus

The story of Alice Cummins and her father is perfect for the Pioneers' Pathway and presents many opportunities to layer it throughout the site.

Interpretive Opportunities

An interpretation panel focusing on the story of Alice Cummins and her father, fixed to the brick wall to right of the Theatre and Tivoli Room. This panel would be the main link to the Pathway.

Another possible form of interpretation could be the introduction of the hand cranked audio unit, placed adjacent to the interpretation panel.

Window graphics

Semi-transparent graphics installed to windows to the left and right hand side of main entry, is a great opportunity to tell more of the story about the Cummins Theatre. Possible topics: collage of posters from acts that have been at the Theatre and the story of the building itself.

Walk of Fame

A 'Hollywood-style' Walk of Fame displaying well known acts that have played at the Cummins Theatre throughout it's history. This could potentially lead from the main street to the theatre.

Foyer

A large scale interpretive mural (similar to the example shown) could replace the current panels in the theatre foyer. The design could draw inspiration from architectural elements.



Obscure the view through from the street through the use of window graphics



The Cummins Theatre 'Walk of Fame'



Interpretation panel fixed to brick wall



Large scale interpretive panels in foyer to replace temporary display panels



Hand cranked audio unit