

As per the Ordinary Council Meeting of 9 September 2021, public comment is sought for the proposed naming of Lot 12584 Eastbrook Road, Eastbrook to "Phillips Reserve"

The proposal is detailed below;

BACKGROUND:

A request has been made by the proponent to name the currently un-named Reserve 25369, Lot 12584 Eastbrook Road, Eastbrook (the 'site'), to "Phillips Reserve".

November 2021 will mark a 100 years since the Phillips family arrived and settled in Pemberton. The Phillips family would like to commemorate this occasion by recognising the family ancestors' contribution to the Manjimup and Pemberton area.

The proponent has provided letters of support from family members and a short history of Gabriel and Harriet Phillips who were part of the Group Eight on North Pemberton and Eastbrook Roads, from the Empire Land Settlement Scheme. A copy of the request and supporting letters is attached.

ATTACHMENT: 9.12.3(1)

In accordance with Council Policy 3.1.6 Naming of Shire Assets, Tree Plantings, Memorials and Plaques, the proposal is being presented to Council for initial indication of support. A copy of the Council Policy is attached.

ATTACHMENT: 9.12.3(2)

PUBLIC CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

Nil.

COMMENT (Includes Options):

The State Records Office of Western Australia advises that Group 8 was established 15 November 1921 and 2 months later Group 9 was formed. Group 8 consisted of 20 families and Group 9 consisted of 18 families. As such it is considered inappropriate for the site to be recognised by only one of the Group 8 family names.

The 'site' is a Shire managed 1,012m² heavily vegetated parcel of land sited within an area bounded by Conservation Commission of Western Australia reserve.

Location Map



Early Settlement

It is understood that the early settlers to the area known now as Eastbrook Locality, were Group No. 8 and then Group No. 9. The 'site' was vested to the Shire of Manjimup in 1959 with the current management order still with the Shire of Manjimup. The land use of the 'site' is listed as Sunday School Hall. There is currently a Manjimup Historical Society approved plaque commemorating the reserve as the site of Barronhurst School which opened in 1923.

To assist Council with guidance regards determination of the request, the following options are provided.

Options

- 1) Council approve the name Phillips Reserve for consultation. The name Phillips Reserve has passed preliminary validation by Landgate, however it is required to comply with Section 1.4.2 of the Landgate Policy – policies and standards for geographical naming in Western Australia, as it a personal name. The brief history of the name will be required to be submitted to Landgate if Council approval is given.
- 2) Refuse the application to name the un-named reserve Phillips Reserve given the site is informally known as 'Hall Site' and that given the large number of families connected to this area's history, it would not be appropriate to only recognise one family

If Council chooses Option 1), the *Local Government Act 1995* and Landgate – Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia require that the Shire publically consult with the wider community, which will include

specific consultation with the local Traditional Owner Groups, for a period of four weeks.

The Shire would like to commend the Phillips family for their initiative to recognise the site and their family's history as part of the Group 8. However, Shire Officers recommend Option 2), as the site has significance for a number of families into the district within the Group 8 and Group 9 and likely others who attended the school on the site. This option is reflected in the Officer recommendation below.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:

Local Government Act 1995 and Land Administration Act 1997.

POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Environmental: Nil.

Economic: Nil.

Social: Nil.

Yvonne Ganfield

From: Pemberley Farms
Sent: Monday, 21 June 2021 12:25 AM
To: Info
Subject: FW: Atten Yvonne Re: Naming Reserve- Phillips Reserve
Attachments: Gabriel John Phillips was born in Ballarat in 1867.docx; Gabrielle Phillips - Eric Phillips.pdf

Hi Yvonne,

As discussed last week, November 2021 will mark 100 years since the Phillips Family arrived and settled in Pemberton.

In order to mark this occasion and to recognise the contribution this family and all of their descendants have had in the Manjimup Pemberton region:

*The Phillips Family would like to request that the Shire of Manjimup support their request to name the reserve at the southern side of the intersection of Eastbrook Road and Pemberton North Road.
-34.397857769192676, 116.0692578814007*

Reserve to be named: Phillips Reserve

Gabriel John Phillips was born in Ballarat in 1867. His father had come to Ballarat from Caerphilly in Wales in 1857. His mother Elizabeth came from Cornwall to Ballarat 1856.

Gabriel and Elizabeth had ten children in Ballarat.

Gabriel with his wife Harriet and their two children left Ballarat in 1909/1910.

Gabriel and Harriet traversed Australia following opportunities as they arose.

The Empire Land Settlement scheme in the South West became such an opportunity.

Twenty Australian born families formed Group Eight, located along North Pemberton Road and Eastbrook Road, in 1921.

Gabriel John Phillips, his wife Harriet and their four children Lillian, Jack, Bill, and Stan settled at Barronhurst, just North of Pemberton.

There are many descendants of Gabriel and Harriet still living in the Manjimup region and many more throughout Western Australia and Australia.

I have attached letters in support of this proposal and short family histories from both:

- . Eric Phillips, son of Jack Phillips and Jean (Stirling) Phillips. (ten children and many children and grandchildren and great grandchildren still living and working in the region.)
- . Alan Phillips, son of William James & Gwendoline V Phillips. (six children and many children and grandchildren and great grandchildren still living and working in the region.)

I hope that it will be possible to move forward with this project in a timely manner in order to be able to mark the 100th anniversary in a substantial way.

Thanks,

Monica Radomiljac

p m

Eric Phillips

MANJIMUP WA 6258

To Whom It May Concern

I am Eric Phillips, and currently the oldest living member of the original Phillips Family who come to Pemberton in 1921. I have been asked by the wider members of my family to do this presentation on their behalf.

Our family, which consisted of my grandfather Gabriel John Phillips, his wife Harriet and their four children Lillian, Jack, Bill, and Stan, were one of 17 families that made up "Group 8" of the Western Australian Government's group settlement scheme. Group 8 consisted of mainly Australian born and bred people who were offered land to settle at Baronhurst, just North of Pemberton. The community of Group 8 came from many walks of life. Most of these families had migrated from the Eastern States to the gold fields of Kalgoorlie, moving onto to the wharfs of Fremantle in search of work, before finally settling in the South West. My grandfather was a former mine manager and was known to have many skills. He knew how to construct buildings, make and repair saddlery, had experience in horticulture and was a talented musician. Attributes that stood our family in good stead for development and survival with very little money. Many of these skills have been inherited by following generations and has also stood them in good stead. Only three families out of the original 17 remained on their locations after the onslaught of the great depression and WW2 - Bolton's, Fox's, and the Phillips's.

After the death of my grandfather Gabriel in 1937, members of the original family unit began to disperse. Lillian married Henry Stirling and returned to Victoria where Henry joined the army. Bill and Stan went also and joined the air force. My parents John Lindsay Phillips (Jack) and Jean Phillips were to remain on the family farm, from which they were able to produce and provide for their survival during this time. Food shortages developed both at home and abroad from the beginning of the depression until after WW II. At this time, the government supplied two tractors, a potato digger and other associated equipment for communal use within the district to help lift the food production of the area. Ron Littlefair was contracted to operate this equipment in Eastbrook and Lloyd Hall operated a similar service at West Manjimup. My parents grew produce that was traded for other essential necessities. But the loss of family and community was felt strongly by my father. Therefore, when people began to move back on to the land following the war, he was conscious and concerned for the welfare of his neighbours. He wanted the district to prosper, and he knew the value of having a good neighbourhood. Dairying for butterfat and particularly the growing of potatoes were products that were well known for coming from the Shire of Manjimup. The production of potatoes in particular, has contributed greatly to the development of this area. My father was numbered among the first few to introduce irrigation to the district in 1946 and for his time, he was a leading farmer. New farmers to the region often came to him for advice. Finally in the 1950's everything started to lift. Horses were replaced by tractors and work became not as physically hard as it had been for my father and grandfather. This post war period finally brought with it good times for our district, both economically and socially. Out of the great difficulties and hardships of our founding family, prosperity had finally come to fruition. My father Jack's love for this place was deeply ingrained in his blood, he was ever optimistic and had great faith in its future.

In this year of 2021, being the 100th year of our settlement in Pemberton, I along with the extended Phillips family, would like to commemorate this significant milestone of our heritage. My grandfather Gabriel was remembered to have said, that he thought they had come to this district 100 years too soon.

Your Sincerely,



Eric Phillips

Gabriel John Phillips was born in Ballarat in 1867. His father had come to Ballarat from Caerphilly in Wales in 1857. His father (Gabriel) worked initially in mining and then later in the horse transport service. His mother Elizabeth came from Cornwall to Ballarat 1856. Gabriel and Elizabeth had ten children in Ballarat.

Harriet Crowle grandparents came to South Australia in 1849. Harriet's father James Crowle, worked as a stone-mason in Ballarat. He married Mary McEvoy an Irish emigrant in 1858. Harriet was born in Ballarat 1878.

Both Gabriel and Harriet were educated in Ballarat, the Victorian government made education compulsory after 1872.

Gabriel worked in goldmining and then later with his father in the horse industry.

The Victorian economy collapsed in the late 1880's -early 1890's. There was extensive unemployment. The Gold industry in Victoria become less prominent.

Gabriel married Annie Brice Thatcher in 1891 and they had two children. Gabriel and Annie separated, and Gabriel raised the two children. Later Harriet had a role in the children's care.

Gabriel and Harriet and the two children left Ballarat in 1909/1910.

They travelled by ship to Western Australia and moved to Kalgoorlie.

Gabriel worked in the gold mining industry in Kalgoorlie/Boulder until 1914.

The gold industry slumped at this time and the great war disrupted trade.

Gabriel and Harriet moved to Fremantle 1914.

Gabriel worked in horse transport and the Fremantle wharves. They built a house along South Street (Beaconsfield – just across from the beach)

1919 – 1921 Economic disruption after the war with returning soldiers, un-employment and the Spanish pandemic.

Gabriel was 54, Harriet was 43. They had four young children; Lilian May (11), John Lindsay, (9) William James (7) and Eric Stanley (4).

The Empire Land Settlement settlement scheme in the South West became an opportunity. Twenty Australian born families formed Group Eight in 1921.

Group Eight was located along North Pemberton Road and Eastbrook Road. Barronhurst siding near Brown's Road was the rail depot initially for this group. The twenty families were expected to create a viable diary farm from Karri forest country with horses and axes!

The Phillips family successfully established a working farm. They worked together as a growing team.

Gabriel had building skills both in metal and wood and he and two others were the group carpenters and built the houses.

Gabriel shoed horses became the Group blacksmith and worked with leather. He could in fact make leather from animal hides. Later he traded horses from Bridgetown to Pemberton as motor vehicles replaced horses.

Gabriel was a musician and played for the social functions at Barronhurst School and Eastbrook Hall.

He was politically active and raised the settlers concerns to the State government including defending the settlers from the banks sequestering the butterfat income to repay debt.

He was an initial member of the Labor Party branch formed in Barronhurst joined by many of the other twenty settlers in 1929.

This was a difficult economic period 1929 – 1934 with the Great depression.

The Phillips property became viable.

Gabriel died suddenly in January 1937. He was 69. He is buried in Pemberton.

His wife Harriet died a year later in 1938.

Lillian married and joined her husband returning to his family in Victoria. They had three children – one a farmer and two teachers. -

Lillian worked in the Barronhurst school as an assistant teacher.

John Lindsay married Jean Stirling 1936 (came to Ockwell Road in 1930) and continued farming.

William went to Perth 1937 and worked as a carpenter. He enlisted in the RAAF early in 1940. In 1940 he married Gwen Galbraith/Stirling (came to Ockwell road in 1930).

Eric Stanley had been educated at Bunbury Senior High School and later became a teacher in WA.

John Lindsay and Jean Stirling remained in the district. Of their ten children – eight remained in the south west and their extended families continue to contribute to the SW and Western Australian economy.

William James and Gwen Galbraith were based in Melbourne during the war. Bill served in New Guinea during the war. After the war he worked in General Motors Holden Fisherman Bend until 1949.

1949 William and Gwen purchased back the Phillips original farm on North Pemberton Road. Their six children were all educated at Pemberton Junior High school. Gwen and Alan the two eldest attended Manjimup Senior High School. In 1959 Gwen was Head Girl at Manjimup Senior High School. 1959 their mother died and was buried in Manjimup. This family resettled in Perth 1961/1962. In 1996 the family purchased a property on North Pemberton Road/ Roche Road. A restored Group Settlers house has been erected on this property. The House was initially on deCampo Road being part of Group 65. The purpose was to acknowledge the heritage of the Group settlers.

Eric Stanley only child was educated at Bunbury, went to medical school and worked most of her life as a research pathologist. She is based in Brisbane.

All the four extended families remain actively interested in Eastbrook and Pemberton. Many descendants live and work in the Manjimup Shire.

All acknowledge the legacy of Gabriel and Harriet, their hard work, building a new community, surviving in a very difficult environment and opening the economy of the district.

Today the Eastbrook area is a vibrant diverse economy. Gabriel and Harriet Phillips shared in building the foundations. They were both purposeful, independent, resourceful, talented, and determined to build a better future for themselves and their family.

They are worthy exemplars as pioneers and deserve commemoration and honouring.

Alan William Phillips BA Dip Ed MA

Grandson of Gabriel and Harriet. Son of William James & Gwendoline V Phillips

Came to Pemberton in 1949 age seven– never really left!