

About Sloan's Cottage

This site, situated off Sloan Drive in Leda, WA, operates as a local museum for the Kwinana area. It houses an important collection of buildings and objects that tell the stories of the unique settlement, development and history of the area.

On 22nd April, 1880, George Samuel Sloan married Emma Eliza Smirk. They took up 40 acres at Cockburn Sound Location 279 vol. 27 folio 386, in 1889.

Their first residence was built on a site west of the present cottage, "Woodlands Farm". This was included in land resumed for the Kwinana New Town in 1953. The 22.66 ha. property being made a reserve in 1958. Local organizations grew vegetables on the flat ground, the bush area being leased for stock grazing. He farmed the land supplying vegetables and fruit to Fremantle Markets.

In 1911 George built the present cottage on Sloan Reserve. In 1969 the old cottage, in remarkable good condition for its age, was brought to the attention of the National Trust, the W.A. Conservation Council and the Town Planning Department agreed that the reserve and cottage showed real potential as an interesting old building and rural retreat, but lack of finance prevented any attempt to exploit the possibilities.

By 1973 the cottage was badly vandalised and was little more than a heap of dangerous rubble. The council decided to bulldoze it down, but acceded to Cr. Walter Prockter's appeal to be allowed to rebuild it. Sloan's Cottage is a fine example of what one man's painstaking efforts can achieve. In 1975 a commonwealth Grant of \$311,000 was used for electricity and water supply, a toilet block, water tank, fencing, access road and car park.

