

2 July 2026

The South Australian Heritage CouncilHeritage South AustraliaDepartment for Environment and Water

GPO Box 1047Adelaide SA 5001

Via Email: DEWHeritage@sa.gov.au

RE: State Heritage Nomination for "Glenora" Stone House – Lot 16731 Karoonda Highway, Burdett (Kalparrin Community)T

To the Chair and Members of the South Australian Heritage Council, Please accept this formal submission to nominate the original stone house, known historically as "Glenora", located on Lot 16731 Karoonda Highway, Burdett, for permanent entry onto the South Australian Heritage Register. I submit this nomination proudly as a grandson of Nanna Aileen Wilson MBE, a son of Uncle Victor Wilson and Glenys Wilson, and in my own right as a Life Member, current Board Member, and 30-year veteran worker of Kalparrin Community Inc. We request entry under Criterion (g) of the Heritage Places Act 1993. This site is a sacred, living physical monument to Ngarrindjeri sovereignty, multi-generational healing, and self-determination. For over half a century, my family has stood on the frontlines protecting our mob, anchoring every single breakthrough in healthcare, land justice, and civil rights back to the hearth of this specific stone house. The Foundation of Regional Support & Ngarrindjeri Ruwe (1974–1975) The modern history of this site is rooted deeply in Ngarrindjeri values, cultural survival, and connection to Ruwe (Country). In 1974, my Nanna, Aileen Wilson, established the Lower Murray Nungas Club (LMNC) as a youth sanctuary, which quickly expanded into a vital community hub helping our mob safely navigate hostile mainstream services. Driven by a fierce cultural vision to heal our people spiritually and socially, Nanna Aileen—serving as LMNC Program Director— spearheaded the 1975 purchase of the Karoonda Highway property via the federal Aboriginal Land Fund, returning this piece of Ruwe back to Ngarrindjeri hands. Her extraordinary lifetime of grassroots leadership was officially recognized when she was awarded the MBE (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in 1982. Nanna Aileen's pioneering work was actively championed by a dedicated LMNC Board and a network of respected community elders, including Uncle Clyde Kropinyeri, Aunty Ruth Carter, and Aunty Eileen McHughes and others. The foundation of this community space was supported on the ground by early field workers like Aunty Colleen Tschuna (one of the very first field workers at the LMNC), alongside essential administrative and financial support from Nanna's trusted accountant, Jenny. Among the pioneering group who went out to physically secure and set up this healing space with my Dad Victor Wilson was Uncle Clyde Rigney and dedicated family members. Glenora: The Birthplace and Spiritual Anchor of Kalparrin The original stone house on the lot, named Glenora, was the exact birthplace where the Kalparrin Community first took off. In our Ngarrindjeri language, Kalparrin means "helping with a heavy load". That value of shared burden and collective healing was embedded into the very mortar of Glenora. Glenora was established specifically to work with our mob, offering a culturally safe rehabilitation and restoration safe space where single men and women could escape systemic hardship, rest, heal, rejuvenate, and find salvation from the

cycles of drug and alcohol addiction. It was a place where people could connect deeply back to Country, culture, and their ancestral heritage.

The Era of Uncle Victor Wilson: Frontline Justice & The MAP Program Following in Nanna Aileen's footsteps, my Dad, Uncle Victor Wilson, dedicated his entire life to carrying her vision forward, serving as Kalparrin's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for over 30 years. My Dad was an absolute giant for the Ngarrindjeri Nation, expanding Kalparrin from a local shelter into a massive regional fortress of ngarrindjeri led infrastructure, health, and justice:

- 34 Rocky Gully Road:** Purchased under his leadership to house the Aboriginal Visitors Scheme (working alongside the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement to protect and support Indigenous people in police custody) and the Arnold Gollan Waili Hostel, which provided emergency crisis shelters and long-term accommodation pathways.
- The MAP Program (RCIADIC Implementation):** Crucially linked to the Arnold Gollan Waili program, Kalparrin pioneered and operated the MAP (Mobile Assistance Patrol) program. This vital frontline service was established directly out of the core recommendations of the 1993 Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC). Kalparrin proudly and successfully ran this life-saving program for 30 years, providing a safe alternative to police custody by transporting vulnerable community members straight to the hostel's overnight crisis beds or back to the safety of family.

A Critique of Systemic Disruption: The historical tenure of Kalparrin's MAP program stands as a testament to an era when Aboriginal organizations operated with deep, mutual respect—everyone "stayed in their own lanes respectfully" and worked alongside each other. This history is further highlighted by the contrast with recent government policy, which threw the program open to an open tender process. This competitive tendering model disregarded decades of localized expertise, fracturing community cohesion by forcing organizations to compete against one another rather than collaborate as they historically had.

removing a vital, culturally safe line of defense against addiction and displacement. However, our spirit remains entirely unbroken. True to Nanna and Dad's foundational teachings, our focus remains on moving forward. We are actively transitioning Kalparrin to become entirely self-sufficient, reclaiming our independence so we no longer rely on volatile government funding to protect our people. Today, I continue to serve actively on the frontlines as a current Board Member and Life Member of Kalparrin Community Inc., bridging our historic struggles with this self-determined future.

Treaty, Sovereignty, and the Kalparrin Faith Community My Dad was a crucial national voice for Aboriginal rights. He was deeply involved with the Aboriginal Housing Authority and was an outspoken advocate for a formal Treaty and the legal recognition of King William IV's 1836 Letters Patent and Proclamation, which originally enshrined Aboriginal land rights in South Australia. His work featured prominently in "The King's Seal" documentary. Every single year on Proclamation Day, he led our people in truth-telling events, candlelit walks, and ceremonies at the old Proclamation Tree to remind the nation of those unfulfilled promises.

Deep Christian faith, spiritual restoration, and cultural identity are embedded in everything Kalparrin stands for. Alongside Uncle Kenny Sumner, my Dad built up and led the Kalparrin Faith Community, strongly supported by the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Uniting Church. Upon retiring as CEO, his devotion never wavered; he stepped into the role of Chairperson of the board and remained fiercely active in guiding our nation until his passing in 2024.

The Glenora stone house is the physical heart, the spiritual anchor, and the historical catalyst of this entire regional network. It stands as an undeniable monument to the resilience, faith, and enduring leadership of the Wilson, Rigney, Kropinyeri, Carter, McHughes, and Tschuna families. We ask that Heritage South Australia recognizes the immense social, historical, and civil rights significance of Glenora to ensure this piece of Ngarrindjeri history is protected for generations to come.

Yours in culture, faith, and solidarity,

Roy Wilson Life Member & Board Member, Kalparrin Community Inc. 30-Year Frontline Worker,
Kalparrin Community Grandson of Nanna Aileen Wilson, MBE Son of Uncle Victor Wilson and
Aunty Glenys Wilson

PHOTOS

1 - Nanna Aileen Wilson standing in the back room

One of Nanna standing in the back room at 26 Mannum Rd and Nanna and her nephew Uncle Les Kropinyeri a veteran man and remember I said Nanna's dad was Cyril Rigney a Ngarrindjeri man who insisted to go to war and died in France his younger brother Rufus Rigney also followed him and



2 - Uncle Les Kropinyeri & Nanna Aileen Wilson

Nanna and her nephew Uncle Les Kropinyeri a veteran man and remember I said Nanna's dad was Cyril Rigney a Ngarrindjeri man who insisted to go to war and died in France his younger brother Rufus Rigney also followed him and



3 - Aunty Eileen Kropinyeri & Aunty Beryl Kropinyeri

Nannas nieces aunty Eileen kropinyeri and aunty beryl kropinyeri and not sure of others but all there at the house 26 mannum rd more photos to come looking for nannas mbe presentation photo oh an for the record my mums fathers dad also went to war and returned his name was Roland Carter another great herritage story to show



4 - Aunty Ruth Carter serving icecream

Aunty Ruth carter in the kitchen serving ice cream her and aunty Dorey wilson and Aunty Laura Winslow and Aunty Isobel Norvil all played a big part in becoming the next program director after nannas death kept the lower murray nungas club vision alive up until the new building was

purchased on Adelaide rd which eventually turned into Moorundi health care the first Aboriginal community controlled health service for our Ngarrindjeri region our elders tirelessly battered for over 50 odd years of negotiations and government discussions and Uncle Les Kropinyeri went to Vietnam war for the record also now deceased



5 - Dudley Carter & Roger Rigney helping

Dudley Carter and Roger Rigney helping around the Nungas Centre 26 Mannum Rd early days



6 - Uncle Neville Gollan & Uncle George Trevorrow in background

And Uncle Neville Gollan and Uncle George Trevorrow in the background



7 - Mum Glenys Wilson in gallery

This photo is a plaque at the newly established moorundie on the opening day my mum Glenys Wilson as my Dad was Victor Wilson Nanna Aillen wilson nee Varcoe Rigney son. Nanna receiving her medal in 1982 and a photo of the original lower murray nungas club house with some community members standing out the front at 26 mannum rd murray bridge



8 - Nanna Aileen Wilson on gallery sign

Steve hemming from the south Australian muesum made these signs up in 1989



9 - Dad Victor Wilson at Kalparrin Farm on gallery sign

Next project im working on the old original home at kalparrin named Glenora and this is my Dad victor Wilson I want this old home listed next and help reparing it through grants please

