## After 1980, several significant developments took place regarding the Polish settlement at Polish Hill River in South Australia:

- 1. **National Monument Recognition (1980)**: In 1980, the Polish Hill River site was officially recognized by the Australian government as a national monument. This status marked a turning point for the preservation and commemoration of the Polish heritage in the area.
- 2. Polish Christ's Society (Chrystusowcy): The Polish Christ's Society, or Chrystusowcy, became involved in the Polish Hill River site, supporting numerous religious activities for the local Polish community. This organization helped to maintain the connection between Polish traditions and the religious life of Polish descendants in the region.
- 3. **Jubilee Missions (1975)**: In 1975, the Polish priests **Fr. Mirosław Gębicki** and **Fr. Stanisław Wrona** organized Jubilee Missions for Poles in Polish Hill River as part of the Holy Year celebrations. This drew attention to the site as a religious and cultural hub for the Polish community in South Australia.
- 4. Federation of Polish Organizations in South Australia: The Federation of Polish Organizations in South Australia assumed responsibility for maintaining both St. Stanislaus Church and the museum. The museum housed various artifacts and archival materials related to the early Polish settlers in Australia.
- 5. Opening of Polish Hill River Museum (1988): On October 9, 1988, the Polish Hill River Museum was officially opened. The museum comprised three small rooms that were once used as a school, sacristy, and living quarters. The museum's exhibits were dedicated to the pioneers' memorabilia, historical documents, and photographs.
- 6. **Expansion of Historical Exhibits**: Following the museum's opening, various displays were added, including a room featuring the history of Polish immigration, organized by **T. Murawski** and a room devoted to Polish pioneer memorabilia. Historian **Lech Paszkowski** also published research on Polish Hill River, expanding historical understanding of the settlement.
- 7. **Growth of Polish Hill River Property**: The **Polish Educational Society** and the **Polish Association of South Australia** purchased an additional **nine acres of land** surrounding the Polish Hill River site. This expansion contributed to the further development of the settlement into a broader Polish heritage center.
- 8. **Restoration and Picnics**: By 1989, the church had been repainted and restored. Polish community events, including regular picnics, were held twice a year, drawing hundreds of attendees for religious services, meals, and museum visits.
- 9. Commemorations and Celebrations:
  - 1993 Meeting: A key meeting of the Reconstruction Committee of the Church-Museum was held with representatives of Polish organizations to plan further exhibitions, including one on 19th and 20th-century Polish emigration.
  - **150th Anniversary (2006)**: In 2006, Polish Hill River celebrated the **150th anniversary** of Polish settlement in South Australia. A range of events took place, including a picnic, Mass, and a museum exhibit. Attendees included Polish clergy, such as **Bishop Ryszard Karpiński**, and a large group of

Polish descendants.

- 10. **World Youth Day Pilgrimage (2008)**: In **2008**, 120 Polish youth and 14 Polish priests, some from Dąbrówka in Greater Poland (the original home of the settlers), participated in a pilgrimage to Polish Hill River as part of the **World Youth Day** celebrations in Sydney.
- 11. **10th Anniversary of the Museum (2009)**: The museum celebrated its **10th anniversary** in **2009**. Special events were organized, showcasing Polish heritage and efforts to preserve the legacy of Polish settlers.
- 12. **Polish Military Memorial**: A memorial was erected in **Sevenhill** to honor Polish soldiers who participated in both World Wars. Several Polish names, such as Borowski, Polomka, and Kozłowski, were inscribed on the monument.

In the years following 1980, the Polish Hill River site continued to grow in importance as a center for Polish culture and heritage in Australia, marked by ongoing preservation efforts, commemorations, and community events.