



# REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

## 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in September, 1991 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE

*Oakabella* operates as a coherent visual whole and the stone structures contribute to the aesthetic harmony of the group and create visual complexity. The buildings, individually, are simple structures which contribute to the whole. (Criterion 1.1)

*Oakabella* is particularly important in the way it relates to the land and local climatic conditions, and demonstrates a culturally modified landscape associated with the buildings. (Criterion 1.3)

Together with *Knockbrack (The Bowes)*, *Willi Gulli* and *Trevenson* homesteads, *Oakabella* is one of a group of farm homesteads of a similar type and construction, in close proximity to each other in the Northampton district. (Criterion 1.4)

### 11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

*Oakabella* demonstrates the rural expansion in the State and, in particular, the Northampton District, in the 1860s and 1870s. (Criterion 2.1)

*Oakabella* has a close association with the Drummond family, who first held the lease, and also with the Jackson family, who have lived there over eighty years. (Criterion 2.3)

*Oakabella* demonstrates technical innovation in the longitudinal design of the place, the evolution of differing building materials through time, and the sensitivity to the climatic and site requirements of its location. (Criterion 2.4)

### 11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

With particular reference to the shearing shed, *Oakabella* has a capacity to contribute to the wider understanding of aspects of the human occupation of the district because of the intact shearing layout, pens and equipment. (Criterion 3.1)

### 11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

As a large and substantially intact homestead of the mid-nineteenth century, *Oakabella* makes a contribution to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12.1. RARITY**

The intact and complete nature of *Oakabella* is rare. The place has the capacity demonstrate a way of rural existence that is now uncommon. (Criteria 5.1, 5.2)

### **12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

*Oakabella* demonstrates the principal characteristics of a substantial rural homestead during the settlement and development in the Northampton district in the mid-nineteenth century. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12.3 CONDITION**

*Oakabella* is, generally, in sound condition although individual components range from a ruin to those of good condition. For a discussion of the condition of the place, refer to Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995), Section 2, pp. 4-30.

### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

*Oakabella* is currently tenanted and used for residential purposes - a use which is compatible with the place. For a discussion of the integrity of the place, refer to Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995), Section 2, pp. 4-30.

### **12.5 AUTHENTICITY**

Despite changes in use over time, and the degradation and modification of some of the components of the place, *Oakabella* retains a high degree of authenticity.

For a discussion of the authenticity of the place, refer to Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995), Section 2, pp. 4-30.

### **13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE**

#### **13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the documentary evidence of the place, refer to Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995), Section 2, pp. 4-30.

#### **13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE**

For a discussion of the physical evidence of the place, refer to Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995), Section 2, pp. 4-30.

#### **13.3 REFERENCES**

Considine and Griffiths Architects Pty Ltd: 'Four Homesteads. Oakabella, The Bowes (Knockbrack), Willi Gulli and Trevenson. Northampton District.' (Conservation Plans for the Northampton Historical Society Inc. Property Management Committee, Revised January 1995).