



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20060. Cuppacumbalong (De Salis) Cemetery

Section 14 Block 1 (part)

THARWA

This document has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council.

This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the **Heritage Act 2004**), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the **Heritage Act 2004**.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the **Heritage Act 2004**, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

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60. Cuppacumbalong (De Salis) Cemetery, Tharwa [V145]¹

Location

Block 1 Section 14 (part), Tharwa as identified in Figure 60 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H60

Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The features intrinsic to the significance of the place are the:

- a) raised terrace cemetery about 20 x 15 metres in area, with its inner ring of quartz stone, graves and associated landscaping; and
- b) the avenue of elms (*Ulmus procera*) which extends to the edge of Section 14.

Statement Of Significance

Sited on a dramatic spurline overlooking the confluence of the Murrumbidgee and Gudgenby Rivers, the Cuppacumbalong Cemetery is a rare example of a nineteenth century pastoral station cemetery.

The grave site features a unique construction as a raised elliptical mound with banks of local stone, reflecting the need to avoid flood damage. There are remnants of an avenue of elms which originally provided a formal link to Cuppacumbalong homestead.

Its siting reflects a favourite location of the initial person interred, Rodolph De Salis, whilst the lay-out demonstrates aspects of the social and cultural order of nineteenth century rural Australia through class separation of the graves. The cemetery has strong associations with the pioneer De Salis family and the employees of the Cuppacumbalong station, 16 of whom were interred between 1876 and 1903.

Specific Requirements

In accordance with s54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991* the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

The place be conserved and appropriately maintained as a pastoral station cemetery consistent with its heritage significance.

- i) **Cemetery**
 - a) The existing layout and features of the cemetery, including the central path, the quartz circle and the grave sites are to be conserved and alterations shall only be permitted if the changes do not diminish the heritage significance of the place.
 - b) Restoration or other works upon the existing headstones and grave furniture shall be in accordance with a conservation and management plan endorsed by the ACT Heritage Council.
 - c) Further burials shall only be permitted at the Cemetery where the deceased had a direct familial connection with the De Salis family or others already interred. Approval from the relevant ACT Government Minister is required for any burial.
- ii) **Landscape**
 - a) The remnant trees of the avenue of elms shall be retained and maintained.
 - b) The planting of trees or other plants within the raised terrace area shall only be permitted where the plantings are consistent with the heritage significance of the place.

¹ [V145: Added to Heritage Places Register 14/09/2000 (Variation Number 145)]

Figure 60: Cuppacumbalong (de Salis) Cemetery, Tharwa

