



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20067. Aboriginal Quarry Site

Section 1 Block 8

SYMONSTON

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.

Information restricted under *the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register* is restricted under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

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67. Aboriginal Quarry Site, Symonston [V119]¹

Location

District of Symonston, Section 1 Block 8 (part) as identified in Figure 67 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H67.

Features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place

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

- a) a quarry exhibiting evidence of the procurement and reduction of fine grained feldspar porphyry cores;
- b) a hammerstone;
- c) a central concentration of flakes and other artefacts covering an area of about 16 square metres.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Aboriginal surface feldspar porphyry quarry is the only known source of this material in the Territory used by Aboriginal people. It provides substantial, tangible and highly visible evidence of a particular mode of hardstone acquisition for Aboriginal stone tool making. It also shows evidence of an early stage in the stone reduction process used by past Aboriginal inhabitants of the area. Stone was a central resource in the economy, essential in the technological and day to day life of those people. As stone has a capacity to survive long periods and shows evidence of its manipulation by Aboriginal people, the material assists in demonstrating Aboriginal occupation of the land.

The quarry is valued by the Ngun(n)awal people as a place of frequent and repeated use by their ancestors. It is demonstrative of an important part of their lifestyle which has special educational potential for their descendants and the wider community.

The site exhibits typical quarry characteristics, including the quarrying of surface stone blocks, reduction of porphyry cores into flakes and a well-used hammerstone for striking flakes from cores.

CONSERVATION POLICY

The place, comprising an area extending 50 metres from identified surface features and being at least 2000 m², is to be conserved as an occupation site within a natural setting and protected from any disturbance of the surface and subsurface area consistent with its heritage significance, in consultation with relevant Aboriginal organisations.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

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

- i) Any proposed development, including landscape work and subdivision, that would potentially impact on the Place shall be consistent with a Conservation and Management Plan prepared by the development proponent, and endorsed by the Heritage Council in conjunction with the local Aboriginal community.
- ii) Any lease applying to the Place shall incorporate the requirements of the Conservation and Management Plan. The Place is to be fenced prior to any development commencing on land directly adjacent and may be included in Public Land.

¹ [V119: Added to Heritage Places Register 05/09/2002 (Variation Number 119)]

- iii) Educational and presentational options for any part of the complex shall be considered by the ACT Heritage Council and relevant Aboriginal organisations on the basis of whether sufficient information is provided about their impacts and potential impacts upon the places.

Figure 67
Aboriginal Quarry Site, Symonston

