

**Item name:** Homestead - Blackwood**Location:**

Temora

**Address:****Planning:** Southern & Western**Suburb/nearest town:** Temora 2666**Local govt area:** Temora**State:** NSW**Parish:****County:****Other/former names:****Area/group/complex:****Group ID:****Aboriginal area:** Wiradjuri**Curtilage/boundary:****Item type:** Archaeological-Terrestrial**Group:** Farming and Grazing**Category:** Homestead Complex**Owner:** Private - Individual**Admin codes:****Code 2:****Code 3:****Current use:****Former uses:****Assessed significance:** Local**Endorsed significance:**

**Statement of significance:** A very significant site, historically, of a large homestead complex, typical of the pioneering era, with all the outbuildings that were required to maintain self sufficiency. It was created by a German family, away from the main area (Trungley Hall) where most German families settled. Some of the structures were built in stone, in a style found in South Australia, making these unique in the Temora area.

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**Historical notes of provenance:** By contrast with the homesteads where space is described either by initial planning or by the additive process, there are a number of interesting homesteads, particularly in the Riverina, where space is not described but rather the various buildings exist in space without it being defined in any way. Among such examples are Moira, Willurah, Tubbo, Kooba and Monaro vale in the Riverina; Blackwood near Temora, and Lansdowne on the outskirts of Goulburn. (with photo on page 23 of "Homesteads of Southern New South Wales 1830-1900" by Maurice Cantlon, 1981). From "The Obst Pioneers and their Descendants in Australia, 1845-1991". John Obst came to Duck Creek (Trungley Hall) in 1903 to help a friend with the farm work and had a good harvest after the drought the previous year. John informed his father Gottlob in South Australia about the good season they had so his father asked him to look for a farm in the district. John selected for his father a portion of Mimosa Station in the Parish of Beaconsfield (1400 acres), now owned by George Cameron, and 1500 acres in the Parish of Northcott, now owned by the Grant family. Gottlob and another son, Reinhold, travelled to Temora and purchased the land, naming it "Blackwood". It is assumed that Reinhold purchased his farm at Sebastopol at the same time, as the records say he purchased the property before his arrival in the district. Gottlob sold his farm at Hungry Hill (now Northern Lights), near Murray bridge, in 1906, and the family set out for Temora, with the men driving the heavy wagons with horses, farming equipment and tools. Gottlob's daughter, Agnes, drove a light covered wagon containing their food and cooking equipment. His wife Auguste and children, together with other wives and children migrating at the same time, travelled by train via Melbourne. Gottlob and his sons cleared the land of trees and prepared the land for farming. Reinhold was the family's self-taught stone-mason and builder, who built the home and sheds. The family worked hard and created a self contained, diversified, productive and picturesque property. They milked cows, reared a lot of pigs and kept poultry, which was their main source of income, only doing some wheat farming. They planted their own orchard and grew fruit and vegetables for drying, preserving and jam making. There was plenty of fruit and vegetables for sale, which would be loaded into a wagonette for door to door sales in Temora. It was not unusual to see thirty or more people around the table for Sunday dinner, the table decked in white linen for the guests. The cellar on "Blackwood" contained shelves of bottled fruit, flagons of wine, tins of honey, hams, bacon and numerous types of sausages. The influx of German settlers especially in the early 1900's were often involved with the Lutheran Church and Gottlob Obst was a foundation member of St John's Church, dedicated on 26th March, 1909, at Temora. Gottlob made the pews and donated a number to the church building. Auguste was a qualified nurse and practised midwifery for many years, assisting many mothers in the birth of their children. Gottlob died suddenly after he and his wife had been shopping in Temora, selling eggs and butter as well. On his way home he felt ill, so he told his wife to take charge of the horses. When he arrived home he went to his bed to lie down while his wife prepared a cup of tea. When she returned he had passed away. After his death, in 1916, Auguste and her sons continued to work on "Blackwood" farm until it was sold. Auguste passed away 17 years later in 1933, but she had retired from farm life six years previously, living with her son Adolph in their home named "Nathalie" in De Boos Street, Temora. Of the buildings on the farm, there was the main dwelling c1906 that was made from timber milled on John's place, with verandahs on two sides. This house was moved in 1951 to Springdale. Another building to the east of this consisted of a stone dining room next to a weatherboard kitchen. To the south was a stone building with a boys' room on top and a cellar underneath and an underground well was on the east side of the building. There was also a tennis court, blacksmith's shop, piggery, stallion shed, horse shed with harness room, chaff room and stalls, chaff cutter, dairy, buggy and sulky shed, grain shed and poultry run. The remnants of the farm buildings are the cellar and boys' room, remains of the dining room with the oven, smokehouse, shed and feed trough.

**Themes:** National theme  
4. Settlement  
3. Economy

**State theme**  
Accommodation  
Pastoralism

**Local theme**

**Designer:**

**Builder:** Reinhold Obst, (son of Gottlob Obst) a self-taught stone-mason and builder.

**Year started:** 1906

**Year completed:** 1906

**Circa:** No

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**Physical description:** This is the site of the Blackwood homestead, with remnant structures still in place, most collapsed, with associated artifacts scattered across the site. Some of the buildings were of weatherboard (from timber milled nearby), local brick, and of stone construction, unique in this area, being of a style found in South Australia where they came from.

**Physical condition  
level:**

**Physical condition:  
Archaeological  
potential level:**

**Archaeological  
potential Detail:**

**Modification dates:**

**Recommended  
management:**

**Management:** Management category

**Management name**

**Further comments:**

**Criteria a):  
[Historical  
significance]**

**Criteria b):  
[Historical  
association  
significance]**

**Criteria c):  
[Aesthetic/  
Technical  
significance]**

**Criteria d):  
[Social/Cultural  
significance]**

**Criteria e):  
[Research  
significance]**

**Criteria f):  
[Rarity]**

**Criteria g):  
[Representative]**

**Intactness/Integrity:**

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References:	Author	Title	Year
	Maurice Cantlin		1981
	Martha M. Nitschke and Ronald A Nit	The Obst Pioneers and Their Descendants in Australia, 1845 -1	1991
	Baden Reinhold	"Blackwood".	2006

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
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Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
	LOT	B		DP	180585

**Latitude:****Longitude:****Location validity:****Spatial accuracy:****Map name:****Map scale:****AMG zone:****Easting:****Northing:****Listing: Name****Title**  
Heritage study**Number****ListingDate****Data entry:** Data first entered: 27/01/2006

Data updated: 23/03/2011

Status: Partial