

5.7. Krambach

See Diagram 7 for a map of Krambach. Most of the village is in the Parish of Kundibakh, although a small section is in Wollom.

a) History of settlement

During 1853–57 the Wallamba Valley saw the beginnings of settlement, established at Kings Creek Road near present day Krambach.²⁰ The name of the village may originate from the German town of 'Krumbach'. Many other names of German origin appear in this district.

The original village was planned further east, with house lots still existing but without buildings. The village established by 1896, when there was a timber mill, creamery and flour mill.²¹

b) Village qualities

This village has a traditional linear form, located directly on The Bucketts Way. There is a strong community focus along the road through the centre, but with the schools and churches being more remote.

Krambach lies at the head of a valley, under the shadow of Krambach Mountain rising nearly 300 metres above the village. This provides high scenic quality.

Krambach has a number of heritage items: the Catholic convent and presbytery, as well as the general cemetery and gravesites near the Catholic church. The Anglican church is not listed, but it is a well-maintained old church that should be considered for heritage listing.

c) Relationships

Krambach functions as a small centre for its immediate district. It relies on other centres such as Wingham for higher order goods and services and is in the Wingham Social Planning Area. Some business is conducted with Gloucester.

²⁰ W. Birrell, *The Manning Valley, Landscape and Settlement*, p. 97.

²¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 183, 221.

d) Physical attributes

Krumbach is on a saddle, separating the drainage catchments at the heads of Khoribakh Creek to the north, and Champion Creek to the south. Each flows to the Wallamba River so Krumbach is not part of the Manning River catchment. The village is at 60 m elevation.

Rainfall averages around 1 000 mm per year, mainly February and March. Temperatures are 15° to 27°C in summer, 3° to 17°C in winter.

The village lies over sandstone beds, covering a wide area with little change in geology. Krumbach is on lateritic podzolic soils subject to erosion. These soils are low in nutrient but with relatively high mineral levels.²²

The natural vegetation community is of Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) and Grey Box (*E. moluccana*), with dry rainforest on protected slopes and gullies.



The village of Krumbach on The Bucketts Way

e) Population characteristics

²² Soil Conservation Service, *Taree District Technical Manual*, p. 5.63.

*Age structure***TABLE 6: Age structure 1991 Krambach**

Age group	No	% total	Greater Taree % total
0 – 4	12	8.5%	7.6%
5 – 19	27	19.1%	23.3%
20 – 39	36	25.5%	25.5%
40 – 54	33	23.6%	18.3%
55 plus	33	23.6%	25.3%

Krambach has generally lower proportions of young age and elderly than Greater Taree, but higher proportions of middle age groups. This results in low birth rates and population growth.

*Growth trends***TABLE 7: Population growth Krambach**

Census year	1971	1981	1991	2001	2011
Population	129	157	140	160	170
Growth per year		2.0%	-1.2%	1.3%	0.6%

Growth has been slow, as evidenced by the almost total absence of new dwellings in the village. The 12 dwelling approvals since 1989 are probably in the wider area. A slight growth is possible in the future because of lost opportunities for small rural allotments.

f) Socio-economic effects

Krambach is dependent on larger centres for its social and business needs, but has a very active local community. The hotel serves the local community as a venue, but this patronage is limited for the wider community.

g) Activities

Given the general agriculture in the district, Krambach serves to some extent as an agricultural service centre. Trucking business and repairs is evident, associated with the timber industry and other long distance road haulage.

The Krambach Country Fair is an annual event, displaying a range of rural crafts and rural lifestyles and serves as a major community function.

h) Tourism values

Krambach does not tap into the tourist market directly, but there are some tourist facilities, such as the blueberry farm, raspberry farm and arts and crafts shops. 'Alvon Deer Park' offers an additional interest for the tourist.

i) Facilities and services

Krambach has a bushfire brigade, an Anglican and a Catholic church and a large community hall. A public school is located south of the village.

The village has a swimming pool, tennis courts and a private golf course. It uses a recently developed park at Kings Creek Road for fairs and other gatherings.

Krambach has a number of small general and other stores, a post office and a hotel. A service station once operated with mechanical repairs, but this was destroyed by fire. It continues to operate selling fuel and a substantial replacement building is under construction on the site.

Krambach has reticulated water supply but not sewerage. The village and district is represented by the Wallamba Advancement Association.

j) Access

The village is at the intersection of The Bucketts Way and Avalon Road. The Bucketts Way links Taree and Gloucester. Firefly Road is another link south of the village, connecting with Firefly. The *Greater Taree Road Study* shows The Bucketts Way (MR 90) through the village as a rural arterial road in its road hierarchy. Avalon Road is shown as a collector road.

A coach stop is located at Krambach for 'Countrylink' passengers.

k) Environmental factors

Limiting factors are the nearby mountain range and relative isolation from other centres, despite the sealed road links. Topography is another limiting factor with some localised flooding occurring on land near the Creek.

l) Capacity for growth

Because of the extent of facilities within the village, it has some capacity for growth. However the council does not expect growth to increase significantly.

m) Planning strategy

Krambach has Village zoning, surrounded by the Rural General zone. Further east is a Rural Valley Agriculture and a Rural Farmlets zone.

The Village zone recently expanded to take into account many commercial buildings, formerly in the rural zone.

n) Recommendations***Subdivision and building development***

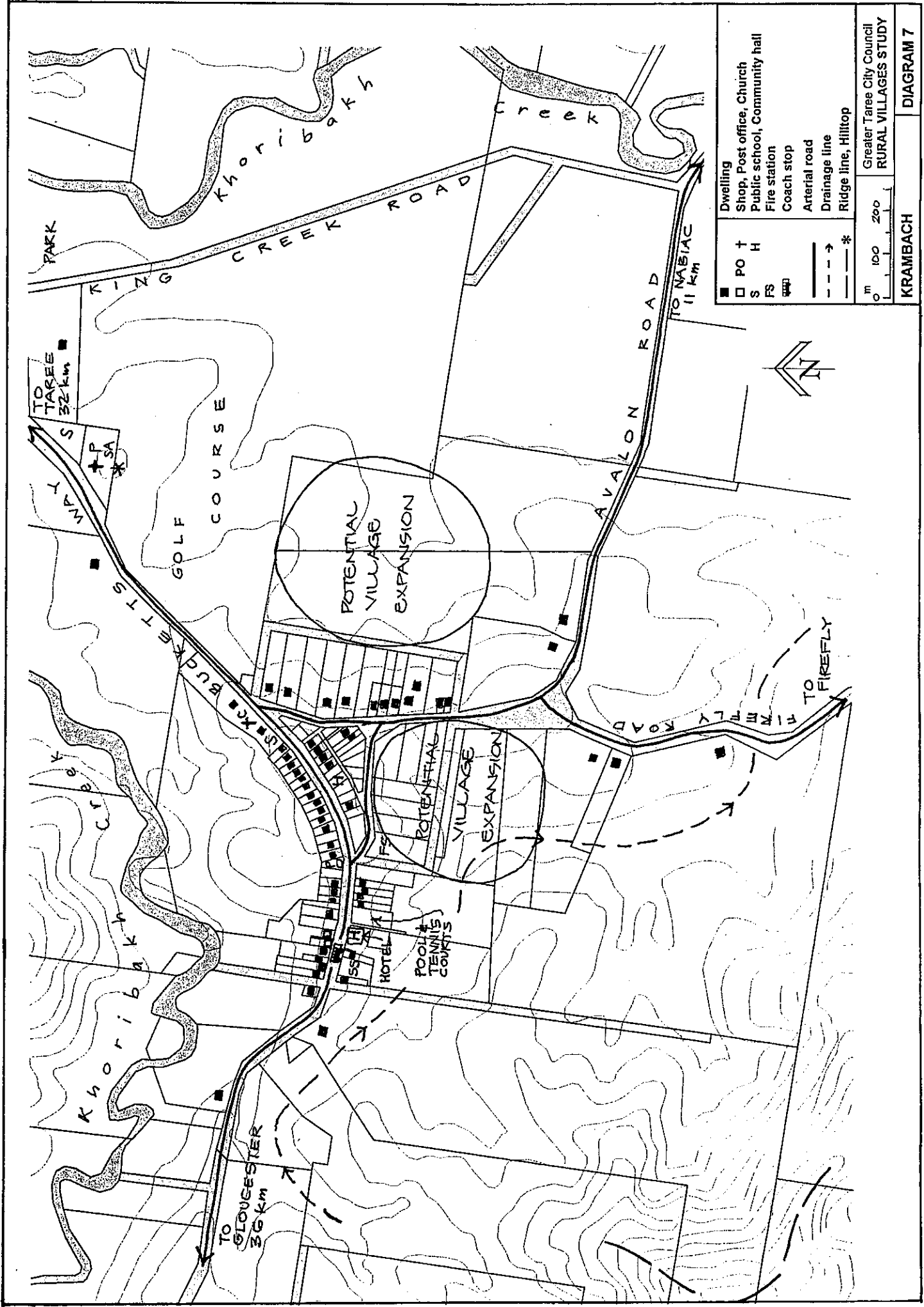
- i) The village should be expanded with any expansion to occur on the basis of residential development south of the golf course.
- ii) Development should not extend further along The Bucketts Way, but as clusters extending laterally from the existing urban centre, away from the Nabiac Road.

Village infrastructure

- iii) The informal village character should be maintained, with no kerb and gutter.
- iv) Any expansion area of the village should not be designed with the current trend for curvilinear road layout. An angular form to reflect the existing village feel would be more appropriate.

Heritage

- v) The Anglican church at Krambach should be investigated for its potential for heritage item listing in LEP 1995.



■	Dwelling
□	Shop, Post office, Church
+	Public school, Community hall
S	Fire station
FS	Coach stop
—	Arterial road
- - -	Drainage line
- - - *	Ridge line, Hilltop

TO TAREE 32 km
 TO GLOUCESTER 36 km
 TO NABIAC 11 km
 TO FIREFLY ROAD

0 100 200 m
 Greater Taree City Council
 RURAL VILLAGES STUDY

KRAMBACH

DIAGRAM 7