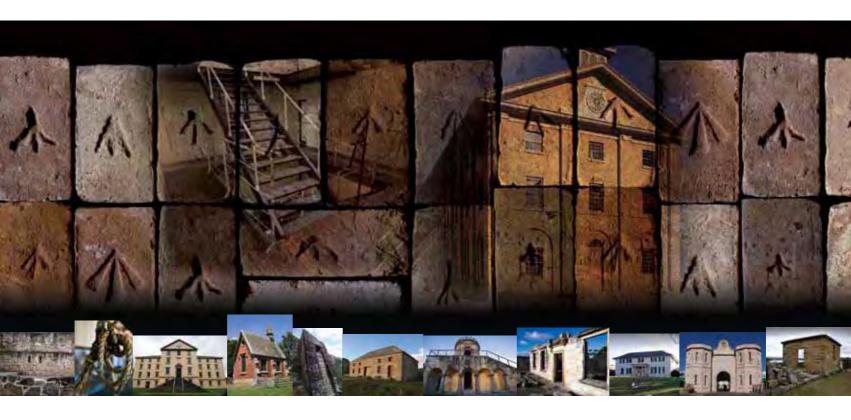
# AUSTRALIAN CONVICT SITES

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION





#### **Australian Government**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Australian Convict Sites is the name of the nominated property and comprises 11 sites across the continent of Australia. The sites are representative of the global phenomenon of convictism and its association with global developments in the punishment of crime in the modern era. The 11 sites are the pre-eminent examples of Australia's rich convict history with more than 3,000 convict sites remaining around Australia. This is unique in the world today.

The nominated sites are: Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (Norfolk Island); Old Government House and Domain (New South Wales); Hyde Park Barracks (New South Wales); Brickendon—Woolmers Estates (Tasmania); Darlington Probation Station, (Tasmania); Old Great North Road (New South Wales); Cascades Female Factory (Tasmania); Port Arthur Historic Site (Tasmania); Coal Mines Historic Site (Tasmania); Cockatoo Island Convict Site (New South Wales); and Fremantle Prison (Western Australia).

The property is nominated under criteria (iv) and (vi) for its outstanding universal significance as:

- ➤ an exceptional example of the forced migration of convicts an important stage of human history (criterion iv); and
- > an extraordinary example of global ideas and developments associated with the punishment and reform of the criminal elements of humanity during the Age of Enlightenment and the modern era (criterion vi).

In 2007 the importance of the Australian convict memory to all humankind was recognised when some of Australia's convict records were included in *UNESCO's Memory of the World Register*.

The Australian Convict Sites have a high level of integrity and authenticity and fully meet the requirements of the UNESCO Operational Guidelines to the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. A world class management system, entitled the Australian Convict Sites strategic management framework (2008), will ensure the full protection and conservation of the property. The framework comprises a ministerial agreement which incorporates legislation, conservation management plans, community engagement and a range of policies covering each of the convict sites across three levels of government. Each of the 11 sites is listed on national and State or Territory heritage registers which ensure their protection under the various laws and policies. The framework will ensure the preservation, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the heritage significance of the Australian Convict Sites.

### **KEY TERMS**

#### For full glossary see Appendix A.

#### Assignment

A system that allocated or 'assigned' convicts to work for colonial authorities or free settlers.

#### Colonial authorities

The civil administation of a penal colony.

#### Convict

A person subjected to transportation after being convicted of a crime by a judicial authority and those who re-offended before completing their sentence.

#### Convictism

The system of penal transportation and systems to manage and control convicts in the colonies.

#### Convict gangs

A form of secondary punishment where convicts laboured on public works such as roads, prisons and churches.

#### Convict 'stain'

Hostility to, embarrassment about or rejection of a country's convict past.

Emancipist (commonly known as an 'ex-convict')

A convict freed by absolute or conditional pardon after serving all or part of their sentence.

#### Exile

A person banished from their country or location of residence, usually as a result of their political or religious activities or for crimes or acts against the state.

#### Forced migration

All forms of involuntary movement of people from their home country. The main types include slavery, indentured labour and convictism.

#### Panopticon

A model prison designed by Jeremy Bentham based on a circular architectural design to maximise surveillance and control of prisoners.

#### Penal colony

A place where convicts were transported to serve out their sentences for a crime committed in their home state.

#### Penal transportation

The forced removal of convicts from their country of origin to a different country or place, usually a penal colony, in order to serve out their sentences.

#### Secondary punishment

A sentence given to punish convicts for offences committed during the journey to or after arrival in a penal colony. Punishments could include being sent to a road gang, penal station or female factory.

#### Ticket-of-leave

A form of parole available to well-behaved convicts before their original sentence expired. A ticket-of-leave allowed convicts to work for themselves until the end of their sentences.