



AUSTRALIA'S *National Heritage* PLACES

THIS IS AUSTRALIA'S LIST OF PLACES WITH OUTSTANDING HERITAGE VALUE TO OUR NATION. IT IS THE NATIONAL HERITAGE VALUES OF A PLACE THAT ARE RECORDED IN THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST, AND IT IS THESE VALUES THAT ARE PROTECTED BY LISTING.

A place may have natural, Indigenous or historic values, or a combination of all three. Anyone can nominate a place with outstanding heritage values for inclusion in the National Heritage List. So important are the heritage values of these places that they are protected by Australian Government laws and through special agreements with state and territory governments and with Indigenous and private owners.

NATURAL HERITAGE

Our natural heritage comprises the components of the natural environment that have aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance or other special value for future generations, as well as for the present community.

Places in these lists may have diverse values. They may feature exceptional species richness, or form a unique snapshot in time, or they may show spectacular geological features. The places that feature these important values may be owned by the Australian Government or state or local governments, by businesses, voluntary or other organisations, or by private groups or individuals.

INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage is an important part of Australian heritage. Evidence of the occupation of Australia by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people dates back more than 60,000 years. As well as historically important, Indigenous heritage is of continuing significance, creating and maintaining continuous links with the people and the land.

Places that hold great meaning and significance to Indigenous people include: places associated with Dreaming stories depicting the laws of the land and how people should behave; places that are associated with their spirituality; places where other cultures came into contact with Indigenous people and places that are significant for more contemporary uses.

HISTORIC HERITAGE

Our Historic heritage gives us understanding and conveys the stories of our development as a nation, our spirit and ingenuity. Historic places tell us about the society we have formed in Australia over the past few centuries, and provide us with a tangible link to past events, processes and people.

Historic heritage can include buildings, monuments, gardens, landscapes, archaeological sites, and many other types of places which embody aesthetic, historic, scientific or social values.

