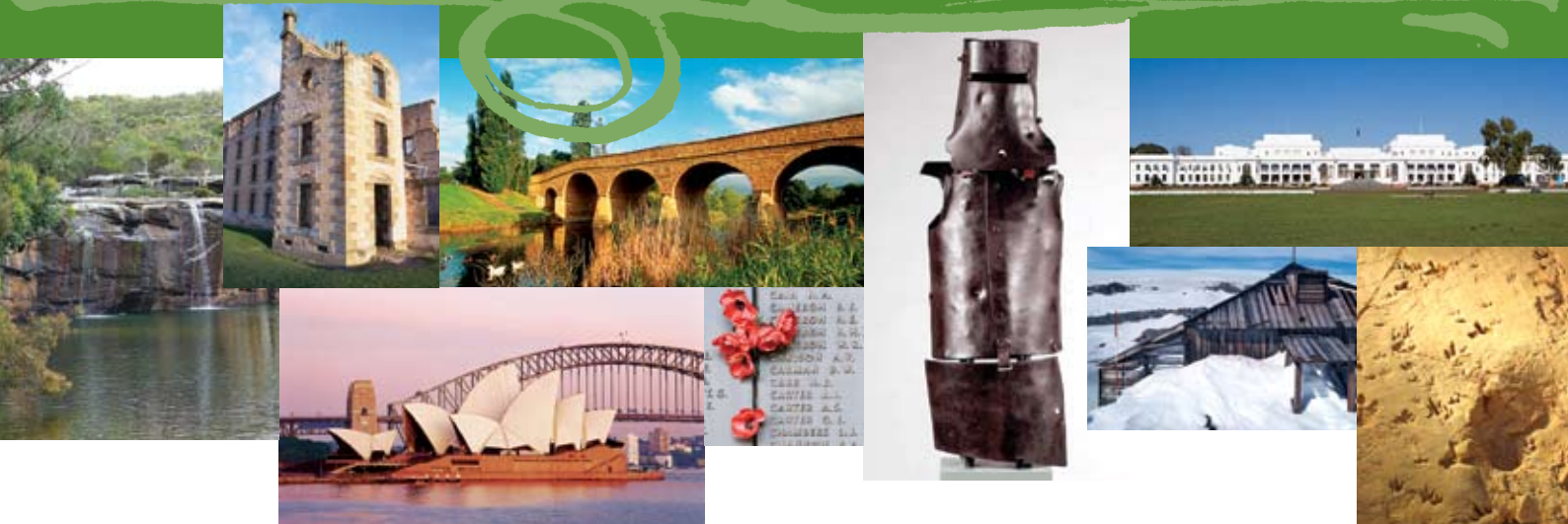


AUSTRALIA'S *National Heritage*



APPLYING THE PRINCIPLES

- What are the National Heritage management principles?
- What do the National Heritage management principles mean in practice?
- When should the National Heritage management principles be used?

INTRODUCTION

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR EXCELLENCE IN MANAGING HERITAGE PROPERTIES. THEY SET THE STANDARD AND THE SCOPE FOR THE WAY PLACES SHOULD BE MANAGED IN ORDER TO BEST PROTECT HERITAGE VALUES FOR GENERATIONS AHEAD.

The National Heritage management principles as set out in Schedule 5B of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* (EPBC Regulations) should be used when preparing and implementing management plans and management arrangements for a National Heritage place. In the absence of a management plan the principles can also guide the management of heritage values.



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WHAT ARE THE NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES?

The National Heritage management principles are set out in the Regulations (Schedule 5B) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and are as follows:

1. The objective in managing National Heritage places is to identify, protect, conserve, present and transmit, to all generations, their National Heritage values.
2. The management of National Heritage places should use the best available knowledge, skills and standards for those places, and include ongoing technical and community input to decisions and actions that may have a significant impact on their National Heritage values.
3. The management of National Heritage places should respect all heritage values of the place and seek to integrate, where appropriate, Commonwealth, state, territory and local government responsibilities for those places.
4. The management of National Heritage places should ensure that their use and presentation is consistent with the conservation of their National Heritage values.
5. The management of National Heritage places should make timely and appropriate provisions for community involvement, especially by people who:
 - a) Have a particular interest in, or associations with, the place; and
 - b) May be affected by the management of the place.
6. Indigenous people are the primary source of information on the value of their heritage. The active participation of Indigenous people in identification, assessment and management is integral to the effective protection of Indigenous heritage values.
7. The management of National Heritage places should provide for regular monitoring, review and reporting on the conservation of National Heritage values.



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WHAT DO THE NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES MEAN IN PRACTICE?

NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	HOW TO MANAGE A NATIONAL HERITAGE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES
<p>1. The objective in managing National Heritage places is to identify, protect, conserve, present and transmit, to all generations, their National Heritage values.</p>	<p>Principle 1 explains what is trying to be achieved in the management of National Heritage places.</p> <p>Effective management of heritage places requires a clear understanding of the heritage values. Managers and owners of National Heritage places need to appreciate why the place is important in the nation's history and its ongoing significance to the Australian community. The National Heritage values have been formally assessed as part of the listing process and are as stated in the official values table for the place. The official values table should be used whenever you are asked for the National Heritage values. However, this does not preclude the identification of potential new National Heritage values or other values (see Principle 3).</p> <p>Having a good comprehension of the National Heritage values will enable place owners and managers to develop an overall framework for long term conservation and protection. The best way of achieving this is to develop a management plan that broadly applies the framework outlined in the following section (<i>Developing management plans</i>). The recommended framework for a management plan provided in this publication has been developed using best practice standards. Adopting this recommended framework will contribute to the implementation of the National Heritage management principles. The success of a management plan is reliant on timely implementation. Once developed, the management plan should become part of the day-to-day management and decision-making processes for the place.</p>
<p>2. The management of National Heritage places should use the best available knowledge, skills and standards for those places, and include ongoing technical and community input to decisions and actions that may have a significant impact on their National Heritage values.</p>	<p>Principle 2 is about the skills and standards required to manage National Heritage places, which includes seeking expert advice and consulting with the community, particularly in relation to Indigenous places.</p> <p>To better understand how to manage heritage values, including natural, Indigenous and historic values the owner/manager may draw on the objectives of the heritage provisions of the EPBC Act and Regulations, and industry standards and methodologies included in documents such as <i>The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 1999</i>, the <i>Australian Natural Heritage Charter</i>, <i>Ask First: A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values 2002</i> and <i>Significance - A Guide to Assessing the Significance of Cultural Heritage Objects and Collections 2001</i>.</p> <p>These are available at: www.heritage.gov.au</p> <p>The owner/manager should also refer to state and territory management publications and other management guides.</p>

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NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	HOW TO MANAGE A NATIONAL HERITAGE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES
<p>3. The management of National Heritage places should respect all heritage values of the place and seek to integrate, where appropriate, Commonwealth, State, Territory and local government responsibilities for those places.</p>	<p>Principle 3 is about managing the National Heritage values of a place while recognising that there may be existing state/territory or local requirements for heritage management. The National Heritage values are as stated in the official values table for each place.</p> <p>Research should be conducted to identify if the place has heritage values at any other level of statutory responsibility. This should include a search of the following:</p> <p><i>National</i> National and Commonwealth Heritage places are found in the Australian Heritage Database which can be accessed from: www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl</p> <p>A check should also be made to confirm whether there are any matters of national environmental significance (NES) which need to be considered. Seven matters of NES are specifically referred to in the EPBC Act. A National Heritage place is one of these. All places of NES can be identified using the map, co-ordinate or Local Government search options from: www.environment.gov.au/erin/ert/epbc/index.html</p> <p><i>State, territory and local</i> Conduct a search of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and territory heritage lists (links to all states and territory statutory lists can be accessed from: www.environment.gov.au/heritage/index.html; • Indigenous heritage registers in your state (these are generally maintained by either a state Indigenous agency or a national park/conservation agency); • Protected species listings for flora and fauna for each state and territory can be accessed from: www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/index.html; and • Planning instruments with heritage provisions and controls such as Local Environment Plans (LEPs), Regional Environment Plans (REPs), Master Plans, Development Control Plans (DCPs) and Heritage Overlays etc.



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NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES	HOW TO MANAGE A NATIONAL HERITAGE PLACE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES
<p>3. (continued from previous page)</p>	<p>Inclusion of a National Heritage place on one or more of the above statutory lists will require that the administrative systems, processes and arrangements are incorporated into a management plan for that place. It also involves working with all levels of government to ensure that all heritage values are respected in any decisions made about the place. This principle acknowledges that National Heritage places are often already part of an existing management regime with pre-existing requirements.</p> <p>Non-statutory heritage registers and lists should also be consulted when developing a management plan for a National Heritage place. A number of non-government organisations maintain heritage databases which can be searched online or by calling directly. These lists are generally maintained by professional and community groups and are specific to a type of place. Some examples of these groups and databases include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Trust of Australia in each state and territory; • Royal Australian Institute of Architects; • Engineering Heritage Australia; • Australian Institute of Landscape Architects; and • National Shipwrecks database. <p>The management plan should be developed from an understanding of the heritage management requirements of the EPBC Act and any other heritage controls. Using a recognised and accepted methodology, it should address how the requirements fit into the existing overall management of the place. This includes on-ground management and decision-making structures. Research conducted during the preparation or review of a management plan may identify potential additional national or other heritage values. This information should be included in the management plan with a recommendation outlining whether a formal re-assessment is recommended.</p>

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<p>4. The management of National Heritage places should ensure that their use and presentation is consistent with the conservation of their National Heritage values.</p>	<p>Principle 4 is about how the place is used and how it is presented to the public. Use and presentation should not have an adverse impact on heritage values.</p> <p>In developing a management plan, the owner/manager should identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the National Heritage place is used, and any proposed changes to the use of the place. Proposed changes may include disposal of the property, subdivision or re-development; • How the place is interpreted and how it will be presented to and accessed by the public, ensuring that proposals are sympathetic to and/or appropriate for the heritage values of the place; • Any known or anticipated pressures on the National Heritage values of the place, taking into consideration current and future threats including those that originate outside the place; and • Any constraints on the management of the place, including operational requirements that may affect its National Heritage values. <p>Identifying and describing these factors will ensure the conservation of heritage values by assisting with the development of policies that co-ordinate heritage management obligations, interpretation, access and operational requirements.</p>
<p>5. The management of National Heritage places should make timely and appropriate provisions for community involvement, especially by people who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Have a particular interest in, or associations with, the place; and b) May be affected by the management of the place. 	<p>Principle 5 is about involving the community in decisions affecting the place. This is usually achieved via the consultation phase of a management plan but can also occur as part of the EPBC Act referral process.</p> <p>In developing a management plan for a National Heritage place, the owner/manager should seek to identify and involve the people or groups who have an association with it.</p> <p>It is important to involve stakeholders in formal consultation processes to inform them about management decisions and policies for the place. Consultation and liaison can help ensure that all important issues are considered in management and that protection and conservation of the heritage values is achieved.</p>

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<p>6. Indigenous people are the primary source of information on the value of their heritage. The active participation of Indigenous people in identification, assessment and management is integral to the effective protection of Indigenous heritage values.</p>	<p>Principle 6 establishes that the best way to understand and to manage Indigenous heritage values is to involve the traditional owners and other relevant Indigenous people with rights and interests in the place.</p> <p>In developing a management plan for a National Heritage place, the owner/manager should seek to involve and facilitate consultation with Indigenous people, particularly for the management of places that have, or for the identification and assessment of places that potentially have, heritage values of significance to Indigenous people.</p> <p>Where relevant, management policies to ensure access for Indigenous people to maintain traditional practices, including caring for country, should be developed and implemented. Policies relating to accessing places or sites with Indigenous heritage values, including access for the general public, should be developed in consultation with relevant Indigenous people.</p> <p>An investigation of the Native Title status of the place is recommended. Further information can be obtained from the National Native Title Tribunal at: www.nntt.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx or by telephoning 1800 640 501.</p> <p>The publication <i>Ask First: A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values</i>, developed by the former Australian Heritage Commission in 2002, is also a useful resource.</p>
<p>7. The management of National Heritage places should provide for regular monitoring, review and reporting on the conservation of National Heritage values.</p>	<p>Principle 7 is about ensuring that a system of regular review, reporting and accountability is in place through a regular revision of the management plan.</p> <p>In the day-to-day management of the place and in developing a management plan, appropriate monitoring procedures should be prepared for reporting on the condition and protection of the National Heritage place. This may involve establishing baseline information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The condition of those elements that represent heritage values; • The maintenance of the place; and • All actions that could impact on the place. <p>A heritage register or database established to record all actions and changes affecting the place may be the most effective means of compiling this information.</p>

APPLYING THE PRINCIPLES

WHEN SHOULD THE NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES BE USED?

These principles should be used when preparing, implementing and reviewing management plans. In the absence of a management plan, they should guide the management of heritage values of a place.

Where a National Heritage place is owned by the Commonwealth, the agency responsible is required to manage the place in accordance with the National Heritage management principles.

For other owners, the Commonwealth Government will use its best endeavours to assist place managers and owners to reflect the National Heritage management principles in a management plan and existing management practices.

The information provided above has been prepared to assist the owners and managers of NHL places to understand the expectations of the Australian Government once a place is included in the NHL. It should not be used as a substitute for a direct reference to the applicable legislation.



