



Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

INCLUSION OF A PLACE IN THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

I, Ian Gordon Campbell, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, having considered, in relation to the place listed in the Schedule of this instrument -

- (a) the Australian Heritage Council's assessment whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
- (b) the comments given to the Council under section 324G of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and

being satisfied that the place specified in the Schedule has the National Heritage value or values specified in the Schedule include, pursuant to section 324J of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the place listed in the Schedule in the National Heritage List.

Dated 18th day of September, 2006

[*signed*]

Ian Gordon Campbell
Minister for the Environment
and Heritage

SCHEDULE**STATE**Local Government Area

Name:

Location / Boundary

Criteria / Values

VICTORIA**Ararat Rural City, Horsham Rural City, Northern Grampians Shire and the Southern Grampians Shire****Grampians National Park (Gariwerd):**

About 168,880ha, Grampians Road, Halls Gap, comprising the whole of the National Park.

Criterion**Values**

- (a) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.

The Grampians are the most important area for floristic richness and endemism in eastern inland Australia, with high levels of endemism in the Christmas bush family (Cunoniaceae), southern heaths (Epacridaceae), the pea family (Fabaceae), orchids (Orchidaceae) and the pimeleas (Thymelaeaceae). The Grampians have high rates of endemism for the ash group of eucalypts (*Monocalyptus*), and grevilleas.

The Grampians are significant at a national scale for richness in terrestrial and freshwater invertebrates including beetles (Dytiscidae, Gyrinidae, Hydrophilidae and Hygrobiidae), huntsmen spiders (Sparassidae), and butterflies (Lepidoptera).

The Grampians, notably Billimina and Drual, are important for evidence of early occupation in the semi-arid zone and later temperate environments over the past 20,000 years (Bird et al.1998).

- (d) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of: (i) a class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or (ii) a class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.

The Grampians display an outstanding succession of strata, igneous intrusions, faulting and many well-preserved sedimentary structures such as cross-bedding of all scales, ripple marks and desiccation cracks.

- (e) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.

The Grampians National Park has aesthetic characteristics that evoke strong emotional responses: a dramatic landform with sweeping western slopes, craggy eastern peaks and massive sandstone cliffs that contrast with surrounding plains; extensive forests interrupted by water bodies; and rock outcrops, deeply fissured cliffs and weather-sculpted rocks that give character to the exposed sandstone. Aesthetic responses are experienced from the scenic drives and dramatic lookout points that give access to panoramic views across the park and surrounding countryside (Robin Crocker and Associates 1997, Crocker & Davies 2005, National Trust 1995).

The Grampians is important as a defining image in Australia, that has inspired numerous works by significant Australian artists in a range of media including painting (Arthur Streeton, Arthur Boyd, Eugene von Guerard, Nicholas Chevalier, and Louis Buvelot), poetry, literature, photography and film (Crocker & Davies 2005: 35).

The Grampians National Park contains the densest concentration of rock art paintings in Victoria and constitutes one of the major rock art regions of south-eastern Australia (Goulding & Schell, 2006). Billimina Shelter has exceptionally high significance, with the single largest assemblage of Aboriginal art motifs in Victoria, and a total of some 2000 definable motifs on a single panel.

The dramatic scenic landforms and the Aboriginal art features within the Grampians National Park are of outstanding value to the Australian community.

For a description of any references quoted above, and more information on each of the places please search the Australian Heritage Database at <http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl> using the name of the place.