

AUSTRALIA'S *Commonwealth Heritage*



KEY PUBLICATIONS

- The Burra Charter
- Australian Natural Heritage Charter
- Protecting Natural Heritage: Using the Australian Natural Heritage Charter
- Ask First: A Guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values

INTRODUCTION

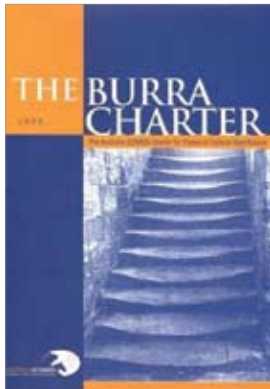
THE KEY PUBLICATIONS LISTED BELOW ARE REGARDED AS GUIDELINES FOR BEST PRACTICE HERITAGE MANAGEMENT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT COMMONWEALTH PLACE MANAGERS REFER TO THESE KEY PUBLICATIONS WHEN PREPARING PLANS AND POLICIES FOR ANY HERITAGE PLACE.

The conservation philosophies presented in these guidelines have been developed to achieve sustainable and appropriate heritage outcomes.



KEY PUBLICATIONS

THE BURRA CHARTER



The *Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (1999) is widely recognised as the standard for heritage conservation best practice in Australia. It defines basic principles and procedures for the conservation of important places. While it is not a Commonwealth statutory document, the *Burra Charter* is a key reference for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

ICOMOS, the International Council on Monuments and Sites, is primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of conservation. It is a non-government professional organisation formed in 1965. It is closely linked to UNESCO with national committees in some 100 countries with the headquarters in France.

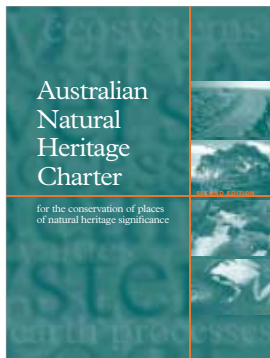
Australia ICOMOS was formed in 1976. The *Burra Charter* was adopted by Australia ICOMOS on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted in 1981, 1988 and 1999. It is important to use the most recent form of the *Burra Charter*. The *Burra Charter* provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance, and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

The *Burra Charter* is available to download from:

↳ www.icomos.org

The Illustrated *Burra Charter* is available for sale from Australia ICOMOS located at Deakin University in Melbourne. Email austicomos@deakin.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HERITAGE CHARTER



The *Australian Natural Heritage Charter: for the conservation of places of natural heritage significance* was first adopted in December 1996 and was revised and updated in 2002. The Charter was published by the former Australian Heritage Commission and was developed and reviewed by a national steering committee made up of representatives of the Australian Committee for IUCN (World Conservation Union), the Australian Heritage Commission, Environment Australia, the Australian Local Government Association, the University of Sydney, the University of NSW, the Environment Institute of Australia, the Indigenous community and environmental consultants.

The Charter was specifically developed to provide ethical and practical approaches to assist in the conservation of heritage values. It offers a framework for making sound decisions for managing and restoring natural heritage places based on the ecological processes which occur in natural systems.

It also provides a process that can be used to support and implement local, state and territory, national and international policies, agreements, strategies and plans. It does not replace statutory obligations.

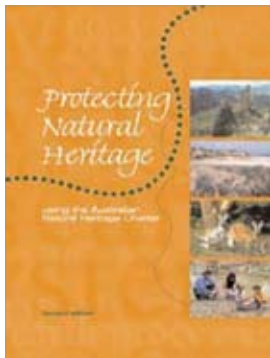
The Charter relates closely to the general structure and logic of the *Burra Charter*. The similarity of these documents enables them to be used together for places that have both natural and cultural values.

Available to download from:

↳ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/publications/commission/books/australian-national-heritage-charter.html

KEY PUBLICATIONS

PROTECTING NATURAL HERITAGE: USING THE AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HERITAGE CHARTER

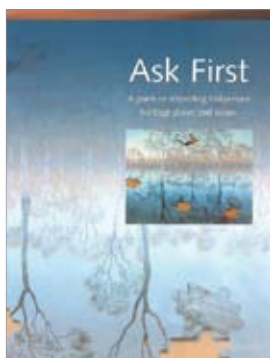


Protecting Natural Heritage: Using the Australian Natural Heritage Charter was developed by the former Australian Heritage Commission in 2003. Protecting Natural Heritage includes a list of conservation definitions from the Australian Natural Heritage Charter which define terms which appear in italics in the Articles; a step-by-step guide to planning the conservation of natural heritage places; case studies showing how these steps have been applied, and interpretation and definition of Articles in the Charter. Drawing on the Charter, it gives you the tools needed to make sound decisions for managing and restoring natural heritage places.

Available to download from:

➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/publications/commission/books/protecting-natural-heritage.html

ASK FIRST: A GUIDE TO RESPECTING INDIGENOUS HERITAGE PLACES AND VALUES



Ask First: A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values was developed by the former Australian Heritage Commission in 2002. It contains a set of consultation guidelines to help developers, researchers, cultural heritage professionals and other land users deal with issues relating to the identification, management and use of Indigenous heritage places and values.

Ask First: A guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values complements the *Australian Natural Heritage Charter* and the *Burra Charter*. However, unlike those documents, it focuses on allowing the relevant Indigenous people to determine the significance of places in accordance with their culture before moving to achieving agreements between parties on how places and heritage values should be managed.

The document builds on earlier work undertaken in the 1990s by the then Department of Communication and the Arts, and was developed with regard to protocols for Indigenous heritage management developed by Indigenous communities and organisations, and with input from industry, heritage practitioners, Commonwealth and state governments and an Indigenous Focus Group.

Available to download from:

➤ www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/publications/commission/books/ask-first.html

Heritage publications are constantly updated. Therefore, please be aware when using any of the references that they may contain some information which is no longer current.