



## GET THE FACTS - HERITAGE INFORMATION SERIES

### 33. THE NATIONAL & COMMONWEALTH LISTS

The passage of the heritage legislation through Parliament in September 2003 culminated in the establishment of a National Heritage List and a Commonwealth Heritage List. The National Heritage List records the natural, Indigenous and historic places with outstanding heritage value to Australia. To be eligible, such places must have values or characteristics that have special meaning for all Australians. They need to show important aspects of the history of the continent and are required to reflect the diverse experience of its human

occupation. In terms of built heritage, the criteria for nomination are; the place must have 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 place must have outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia's natural or cultural history; the place must have outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of

Australia's natural or cultural history; the place must have outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons; the place must have outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history.

Some say that the threshold criteria are impossibly high.