



ACT Heritage Council

## Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

*Heritage Act 2004*

### **20037. Aboriginal Rock Art Sites in Namadgi National Park**

Blocks 3 (part), 14 (part), 23 (part)

**District of RENDEZVOUS CREEK**

This document has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council.

This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the *Heritage Act 2004*), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the *Heritage Act 2004*, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

Information restricted under *the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register* is restricted under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

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## 37. Aboriginal Rock Art Sites In Namadgi National Park [V79]<sup>1</sup>

### Location

Namadgi National Park, District of Rendezvous Creek, Blocks 3 (part), 14 (part) and 15 (part). The sites are identified in Figure 37 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H37.

### Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The place comprises:

- a) the seven identified rock shelters which contain the rock art; and
- b) the area within a circle of 50m radius centred on each.

### Statement Of Significance

The significance of Aboriginal rock art sites can be assessed in terms of their social, historical and artistic value to the local and wider Aboriginal community, to scientific research, and for their representativeness of Aboriginal cultural heritage value, and their potential for community education.

The content and distribution of the Namadgi art sites are typical of a recurring pattern for south eastern NSW, (and much of Australia), where art sites occur in clusters. The conservation of all prehistoric sites within the complex and the complex itself, preserves the archaeological record for what is probably an inter-related suite of cultural and economic behaviours.

The sites are representative of a rare site type within the local region and are invaluable at a popular and academic level in understanding the human history and culture of the region. The art contained in these sites is crucial to any regional and national understanding of Aboriginal rock art. The art is valued by the local Aboriginal community because of its tangible and evocative connection with their ancestors.

### Specific Requirements

In accordance with s54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991* the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

The place is to be preserved in situ consistent with its heritage significance.

- i) Excavation of soil around the sites within a 50m radius shall only be approved for scientific purposes and after consultation with relevant Aboriginal organisations and where the activity is carried out under the supervision of a qualified archaeologist.
- ii) Further painting or marking of the surfaces of the rock shelters of the place shall not be permitted without prior approval by the Minister.
- iii) Remains of wasp mud nests and other insect cases shall not be removed from sites without approval and only where the activity is carried out by a qualified archaeologist.
- iv) Chipping away or defacing the paintings for any purpose shall not be permitted.
- v) Testing of pigments and natural surface deposits shall not be approved without prior consultation with relevant Aboriginal organisations .

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<sup>1</sup> [V79: Added to Heritage Places Register 30/10/1998 (Variation Number 79)]

Figure 37: Aboriginal Rock Art Sites in Namadgi National Park

