



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20053. Mt Franklin Chalet and Precinct

Blocks 2 & 4

District of COTTER RIVER

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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.

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53. Mt Franklin Chalet And Precinct, Namadgi National Park [V117]¹

Location

District of Cotter River, Blocks 2 and 4 as identified in Figure 53 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H53.

Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The place comprises (refer to Figure 53a):

- a) the Mt Franklin Chalet building;
- b) the remains of a vehicle powered tow rope; and
- c) the ski runs, small huts, walks and gateway.

Statement Of Significance

Mt Franklin Chalet was built in 1938 as the ACT's first ski lodge. It is the oldest surviving club-built ski lodge on the Australian mainland and is evidence of downhill skiing in the Brindabellas, an activity that is no longer conducted there. The Chalet, associated huts, a stone gateway, ski runs, and the remains of a vehicle powered tow are tangible evidence of the nature of Australian skiing in the period 1936 to 1963. The place reflects the recreational activities of Canberra Alpine Club (CAC) members over this period. The CAC, which built and still maintains the Chalet, played a prominent role in ski development in the region and the Chalet remains important to the Canberra ski fraternity.

Specific Requirements

In accordance with s.54(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 reflect the conservation policy for the place:

The place is to be conserved and appropriately maintained.

It should also be noted that the place is included in Public Land and subject to a Plan of Management.

i) Building including alterations and additions

Ski Chalet Building identified in Figure 53a

- a) External alterations and additions to the existing building, including alterations to internal and external finishes, shall reflect and complement its architectural style and historical development.
- b) Minor external alterations and changes may be made to the building where, in the opinion of the Heritage Council, the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place.
- c) External additions or alterations may be permitted to the existing building, but only if it can be demonstrated that the additions or alterations will not detract from the significance of the place.

Other Significant Elements identified in Figure 53a

- d) The fire place remains at Bill Ginn's hut site shall be conserved in an undisturbed state as a ruin.
- e) The Shelter Hut shall be conserved and maintained.
- f) The steel tow poles, car body and motor on the Slalom Run shall be conserved in situ.
- g) The stone gateway shall be conserved and retained in situ.

ii) Demolition

- a) Subject to (ii)(b), demolition of the buildings and significant elements identified in Figure 53a shall not be permitted, other than in exceptional circumstances, including circumstances where the building is structurally unsound and beyond economic repair or where there are significant public health and safety reasons to warrant demolition. Demolition shall not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that there is no prudent and feasible alternative.

¹ [V117: Added to Heritage Places Register Numbers 53 to 59 15/09/1999 (Variation Number 117)]

- b) The demolition of original building fabric of buildings identified in Figure 53a may be permitted in the context of permissible alteration of, and/or additions to, existing buildings.

iii) **Landscape**

- a) Wombat Walk shall be kept clear of fallen branches and clearly marked and maintained as a walking trail.
- b) Wood Run shall be kept clear of vegetation and maintained as a walking track to the summit of Mount Franklin.

Figure 53: Mt Franklin Chalet and Precinct: Location

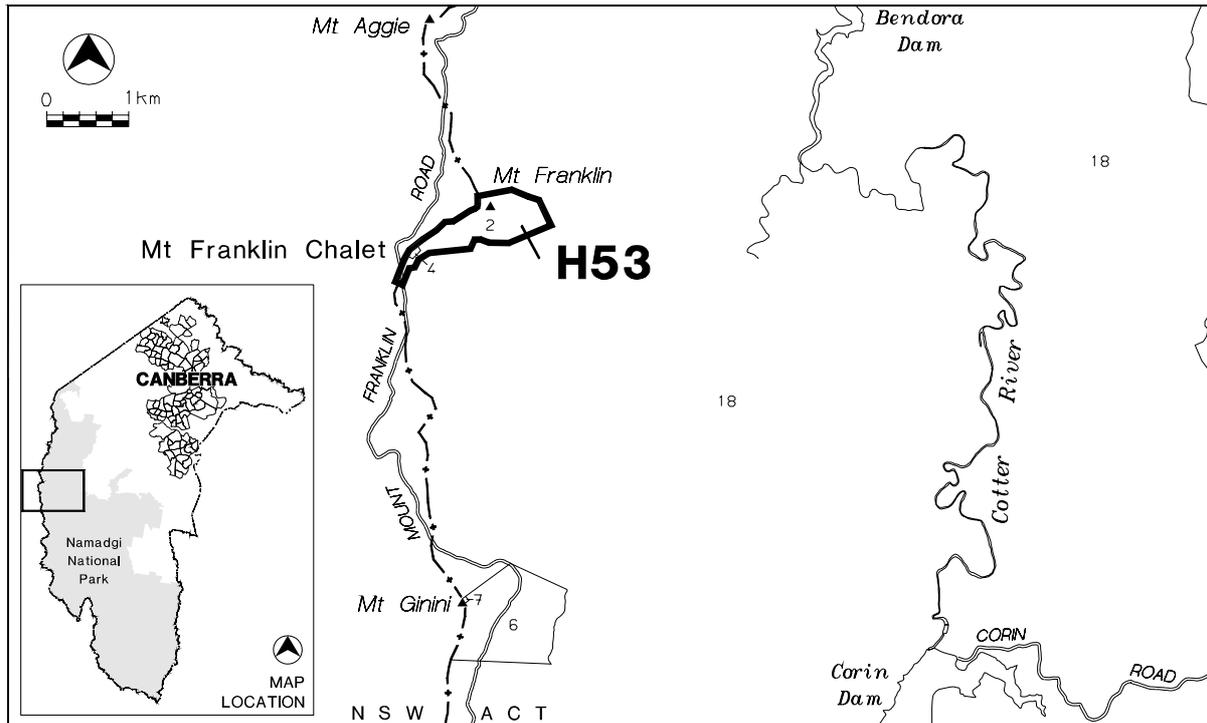


Figure 53a: Mt Franklin Chalet and Precinct: Significant Features

