



ACT Heritage Council

## Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

*Heritage Act 2004*

### **20010. Woolshed Creek Fossil Site**

Section 6 Block 5 (part) and , land in the Fairbairn Avenue road reservation,  
south of Block 3 Section 12

**PIALLIGO**

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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## 10. Woolshed Creek Fossil Site and Narrabundah Ashstone Locality [V26]<sup>1</sup>

### Location

District of Majura, Division of Pialligo, Section 6 (Part) and in addition, land in the Fairbairn Avenue road reservation, as identified in Figure 10 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H10.

The fossil site is in and adjacent to Woolshed Creek from a point approximately 26 metres north, to approximately 200 metres south of *Woolshed* Creek Bridge on Fairbairn Avenue between Majura Road and Morshead Drive Pialligo.

The Narrabundah Ashstone locality is on the northern side of Fairbairn Avenue at the intersection with Morshead Drive.

ACT Planning Series 1:10 000 Map 208 600 GR215310 601950.

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

A fossil bed of grey well bedded calcareous mudstones and siltstones extending from 26 metres north of the bridge to about 200 metres south of the bridge, about 150 millimetres average thickness and covering an area of approximately 0.5 hectares.

A section of Narrabundah Ashstone with an exposure in the road cutting on the north side of Fairbairn Avenue approximately 50 metres from Woolshed Creek Bridge.

### Statement Of Significance

The Woolshed Creek Fossil Site has outstanding Australian and international significance from both a historic and scientific perspective. The first Silurian fossils recorded in Australia were, collected from Woolshed Creek in 1844 by the Reverend W B Clarke. The site is rich in fossiliferous biota and has been used to interpret both time scales and the environment of the geological past. The site is a valuable educational aid for geology.

The Narrabundah Ashstone Locality is significant as it displays evidence of early volcanic activity in the Canberra Region. The section displays excellent examples of jointing and bedding and as such enhances the scientific and educational value of the Woolshed Creek Fossil Site.

When viewed as a unit the sites are representative of two totally different types of geological environments in juxtaposition; marine and volcanic.

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<sup>1</sup> [V26: Added to Heritage Places Register 09/12/1994 (Variation Number 26)]

**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 retention of the heritage significance of the place;

The following activities are not to be carried on without the approval of the Minister:

- i) Removal of fossils from the site.
- ii) The encroachment onto the site by stock.
- iii) The construction of facilities and/or trails on or adjacent to the site.
- iv) The installation of capital infrastructure and communication equipment.
- v) Excessive pedestrian traffic on the site.

**Figure 10: Woolshed Creek Fossil Site and Narrabundah Ashstone Locality**

