



ACT Heritage Council

## Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

*Heritage Act 2004*

### **20095. Lees Creek Sawmill Ruin, Namadgi National Park**

Block 18 (part)

**District of COTTER RIVER**

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*.

**Contact:** ACT Heritage Council c/o Secretary PO Box 144 Lyneham ACT 2602  
**Enquiries:** phone 02 6207 2164 fax 02 6207 5715 e-mail [heritage@act.gov.au](mailto:heritage@act.gov.au)



**ACT Government**



environment ACT

Helpline: 02 6207 9777  
Website : [www.cmd.act.gov.au](http://www.cmd.act.gov.au)  
E-mail: [EnvironmentACT@act.gov.au](mailto:EnvironmentACT@act.gov.au)



ACT Heritage Council

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**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY  
INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER**

For the purposes of s. 54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*, a citation for:

**LEES CREEK SAWMILL RUIN, DISTRICT OF COTTER RIVER**

has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council, and included in an interim Heritage Places Register. This is pursuant to the ACT Heritage Council Resolution No. 47/7 made on 31 August 1998.

**Date of Gazetteal: 30 September 1998**

Background material about this place and copies of this citation are available from:

The Secretary  
ACT Heritage Council  
PO Box 1036  
TUGGERANONG ACT 2901

Telephone: (02) 6207 2166 Facsimile: (02) 6207 2200

## INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER

### CITATION

#### LEES CREEK SAWMILL RUIN, DISTRICT OF COTTER RIVER

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##### LOCATION OF PLACE:

- Block 18 (part), District of Cotter River.
  - CMA topographic map sheet 8627-11-N Cotter Dam 1:25000 grid reference 647854. The citation includes all that area proscribed by a circle of 200 metres diameter centered on the mid point between A and B. Refer Figure 1.
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##### FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place are:

- (a) the sawmill ruin; and
  - (b) its setting comprising the place as defined in Figure 1.
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##### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Lees Creek Sawmill ruin is the oldest known sawmill site in the ACT. It is significant as a rare surviving sawmill site in the ACT. It is associated with the era of steam-powered machinery and the use of animals for log hauling. It reflects the isolated nature of life at the mountain mills earlier this century and is associated with the small-scale hardwood milling industry which no longer exists in the Territory. The mill's history also reflects concerns about protecting the Cotter water catchment, a major influence on development in this substantial part of the ACT.

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##### 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 are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

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

Any action relating to these requirements is development for the purposes of the Act and will require approval prior to undertaking the activity. To undertake development without such approval may be an offence.

**(i) Requirements Relating to the Place**

- (a) The removal of existing elements identified in the map and the introduction of new materials shall not be permitted unless consistent with an approved Conservation Plan.
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## **MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The site is on Public Land and is subject to the Management Plan for the Namadgi National Park. In assessing the place for an interim Heritage Places Register, the Council recommends that the following recommendations for the site are incorporated into this Plan. This will require consultation with Namadgi National Park Management.

- (i) The place should be inspected regularly to ensure that items intrinsic to the heritage significance of the site have not been damaged.
- (ii) Weed growth should be controlled so that the site does not become overgrown.
- (iii) A discreet interpretative sign should be erected to advise visitors of the significance of the site and to remind them not to remove or damage any elements. The sign should be placed so that it is visible from Old Mill Road.
- (iv) Discretion should be used when publicising the grid reference or other information relating to the specific location of the site, owing to the vulnerability of the site to interference and theft.
- (v) A detailed recording of the site should be undertaken before the site deteriorates further.
- (vi) Should it become apparent that theft is occurring, consideration should be given to removing site materials to a safe display place.