

A close-up photograph of a person's hand with dark skin touching a textured, reddish-brown rock surface. The rock has faint, ancient-looking paintings or markings, including a prominent circular shape on the left. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the rock and the skin.

4. Management of culture and heritage values

4.1 Representation of cultural and historic heritage places in parks

Indicators

- Extent and representation of recorded Aboriginal place components in parks
- Extent and representation of historic places and historic themes in parks
- Heritage listed places in parks
- Moveable collections of historic objects

Context

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 defines an Aboriginal Place as an area (or coastal waters) in Victoria that is of cultural heritage significance to the Aboriginal People of Victoria. Victoria's parks contribute an important element to Aboriginal communities' social, spiritual, economic and physical wellbeing. While many places are physical, others have no physical form but are still significant to the living culture of Aboriginal people through their link to ancestors, traditions, language, story and ceremonies. In addition to these recorded sites, Traditional Owner organisations also know of other Aboriginal Places, including intangible places, which are not on the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR).

While many government organisations manage significant non-indigenous heritage properties, Parks Victoria manages the largest portfolio of heritage places in Victoria solely for the purpose of protecting and conserving heritage sites. The primary focus of heritage conservation work is the identification and addressing of the basic maintenance and repair requirements across all the substantial heritage structures and other higher significance places, to prevent deterioration and improve condition wherever possible. Major conservation works may be undertaken in partnership with the private sector for adaptive reuse of habitable historic properties.

Extent and representation of recorded Aboriginal places in parks

Place components are distinct cultural features within a place, with particular requirements for their accurate description and associated heritage values (Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, 2008). There are 12,073 Aboriginal place components recorded within Victoria's parks network (an increase of more than 50% from 2005). The sites recorded represent only a fraction of the actual Aboriginal cultural places in the landscape due to limited survey. It is important to recognize that while protection and conservation of physical place components such as artefact scatters and scar trees are important in themselves, they are only components of much broader cultural landscapes that recognize both tangible and intangible cultural values.

Figure 4.1.1 Number of place components within the parks network

Aboriginal Place Component	Number of components within the parks network	% of components within the parks network
Aboriginal Cultural Place	15	0.12%
Aboriginal Historical Place	18	0.15%
Aboriginal Ancestral Remains (Burial)	316	2.62%
Aboriginal Ancestral Remains (Reinterment)	2	0.02%
Artefact Scatter	4920	40.75%
Object Collection	39	0.32%
Earth Features (Total)	1588	13.15%
Hearth	786	6.51%
Mound	622	5.15%
Soil Deposit	170	1.41%
Soil Feature	2	0.02%
Unknown	8	0.07%
Low Density Artefact Distribution	216	1.79%
Quarry	97	0.80%
Rock Art	139	1.15%
Scarred Tree	4406	36.49%
Shell Midden	2029	16.81%
Stone Features (Total)	155	1.28%
Fish Trap	16	0.13%
Grinding Groove	12	0.10%
Rock Well	86	0.71%
Stone Arrangement	9	0.07%
Stone Structure	32	0.27%
Total Aboriginal Places*	12073	100.00%

*Source: Aboriginal Affairs Victoria

Extent and representation of historic places and themes in parks

The Victorian parks network contains a diverse variety of historic places and assets with 2,812 non-indigenous historic places having been recorded. In addition to many historic places occurring in national, state parks and metropolitan parks, the parks network includes 94 historic reserves representing the diversity of past land uses. The types of historic places managed by Parks Victoria are highly variable, ranging from large complex listed places such as Werribee Park, Point Nepean Quarantine Station and the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, to places such as alpine huts, lighthouses, mines, gardens, cemeteries, monuments, landscapes and shipwrecks.

Figure 4.1.2 Parks with 30 or more historic places

Park Name	Number Historic Places
Alpine National Park	177
Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park	125
Point Nepean National Park	121
Grampians National Park	108
Steiglitz Historic Park	89
Great Otway National Park	77
Wilson's Promontory National Park	75
Yarra Ranges National Park	69
Tooleen H.P.	64
Wyperfeld National Park	60
Maldon H.A.	52
Bendigo R.P.	49
Brisbane Ranges National Park	43
Werribee Park	42
Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park	39
Warrandyte State Park	39
Wattle Park	39
Baw Baw National Park	37
Dandenong Ranges National Park	35
Woodlands Historic Park	32
Albert Park	31
Little Desert National Park	31
Hepburn R.P.	30

Historic themes in parks

Historic themes that have been applied to places within Victoria’s parks are consistent with the Australian Heritage Commission’s Historic Themes Framework. This emphasises human activities and responses to the Australian environment. Many places have complex histories that can be represented by multiple themes. For simplicity these sites are assigned the dominant theme.

Figure 4.1.3 Historic places represented by historic themes across the parks network

Parks Victoria Historic Theme	% Total Sites in Parks	Number Sites in Parks
Using Resources - Mining	33.6	927
Shipping along the Coast	7.0	192
Using Resources - Forestry	6.5	178
Living in Remote Areas	5.6	155
Primary Production	5.4	148
Catering for Tourists	4.9	136
Accessing & Appreciating Natural Wonders	4.7	130
Living in Rural Areas	4.0	110
Supplying Services	3.4	94
Defending Coastal Victoria	2.9	79
Moving Goods & People	2.8	76
Organising Recreation	2.4	66
Commemorating Events	2.2	60
Settlement of Port Phillip	2.1	59
Migrating	1.6	43
Surveying the Continent	1.4	40
Disposing of Dead Bodies	1.2	33
Australian Manufacturing	1.2	32
Altering the Environment	1.1	30
Supplying Urban Services	1.0	27
Urban Institutions	0.9	25
Governing & Administering Victoria	0.6	17
Educating People	0.6	16
Eating, Drinking & Feeding People	0.5	14
Defending Australia	0.5	13
Peopling Australia	0.4	12
Worship	0.3	9
Using Resources - Fishing	0.3	9
Settlement in Rural Areas	0.2	6
Providing Communications	0.2	6
Using Resources - Hunting	0.1	4
Using Resources - Agriculture	0.1	4
Promoting Settlement	0.1	3
Using Resources - Energy	0.1	2
Living in Cities	0.1	2
Lodging People.	0.0	1
Dying	0.0	1

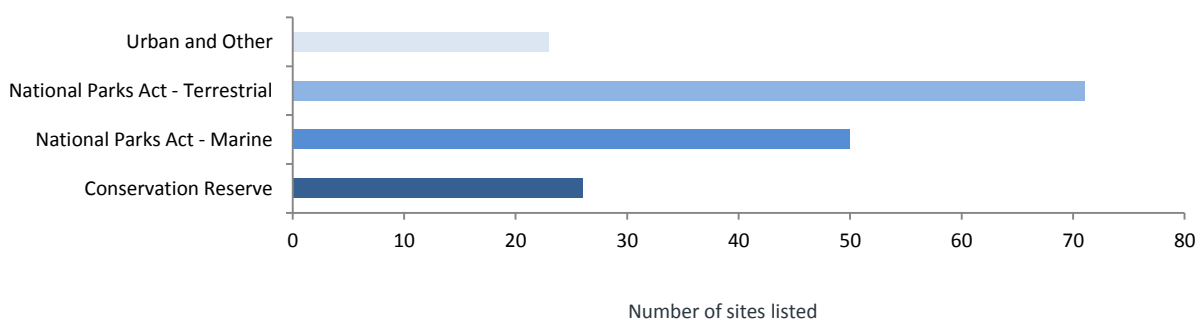
Heritage listed places in parks

In 2013, there were 177 heritage sites listed on the Victorian Heritage Register across 69 different parks. More than half of these sites reflected activities related to mining heritage. Appendix 4.1 shows the distribution of Victorian heritage listed sites across the parks network.

Figure 4.1.4 Parks with multiple sites on the Victorian Heritage Register

Park name	Number of Victorian Heritage Register sites
Werribee Park	41
Grampians National Park	25
Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park	20
Alpine National Park	17
Grant H.A.	14
Kurth Kiln R.P.	14
Cape Nelson Lighthouse Reserve	7
Cape Schanck Lighthouse Reserve	7
Hepburn R.P.	7
Maldon H.A.	6
Yarra Valley Parklands	6
French Island National Park	4
Plenty Gorge Parklands	4
Bendigo R.P.	3
Creswick R.P.	3
Point Nepean National Park	3
Cape Liptrap Coastal Park	2
Cassilis H.A.	2
Gabo Island Lighthouse Reserve	2
Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park	2
Greater Bendigo National Park	2
Holden F.R.	2
Snowy River National Park	2
Walhalla H.A.	2

Figure 4.1.5 Number of Victorian Heritage listed sites in parks



Parks with National Heritage Listing

The National Heritage List, established under the Commonwealth Environment and Biodiversity Protection (EPBC) Act, includes natural, historic and Indigenous places of outstanding heritage value to the nation. The Victorian Parks network includes 14 parks, one port facility and one waterway that fall within seven places of National Heritage Listing.

Figure 4.1.6 Parks with national heritage listing

Park	National Heritage Listing
Alpine National Park	Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves - Alpine National Park
Avon Wilderness Park	Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves - Avon Wilderness
Baw Baw National Park	Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves - Baw Baw National Park
Mount Buffalo National Park	Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves - Mt Buffalo National Park
Snowy River National Park	Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves - Snowy River National Park
Aire River W.R.	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Bay of Islands Coastal Park	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Great Otway National Park	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Port Campbell National Park	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Port of Port Campbell	Great Ocean Road and Scenic Environs
Mount Eccles National Park	Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape - Mt Eccles Lake Condah Area
Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park	Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park
Grampians National Park	Grampians National Park (Gariwerd)
Port Phillip	HMVS Cerberus
Point Nepean National Park	Point Nepean Defence Sites and Quarantine Station Area

Moveable collections of historic objects

The Movable Cultural Heritage collection comprises both individual objects and collections of objects, of cultural value, either in their own right or in association with a heritage place, activity or people. It includes original furniture, decorative art, contemporary art, historic paintings, drawings and sculptures.

By 2013 more than 13,200 moveable objects had been catalogued across the parks network from 36 collection sites (1.2% of parks) and > 3,000 are still to be catalogued.

Figure 4.1.7 Movable heritage in parks

Collection Site	Objects catalogued 2013	Estimated number of objects to be catalogued
Werribee Park	4010	60
Days Mill & Farm	3420	200
Kurth Kiln	1326	—
William Ricketts Sanctuary	1052	—
State Coal Mine	953	—
Mount Buffalo Chalet	782	—
Andersons Mill	579	—
Castlemaine	288	—
Coolart Wetlands and Homestead	198	50
Wilson's Promontory Lightstation	167	—
Maldon State Battery	95	—
Gabo Island Lightstation	95	—
Cape Otway Lightstation	78	—
Parks Victoria Art Collection	76	—
Nyerimilang Heritage Park	74	—
Glenample Homestead	65	—
Woodlands Homestead	61	—
Tarra Bulga National Park	61	—
Parks Victoria History Collection	54	—
Collins Settlement Site	53	—
Wattle Park Chalet	36	—
Steiglitz Historic Park	32	6
Cape Nelson Lightstation	32	200
Cape Schanck Lightstation	28	—
Greens Creek Battery	25	1300
Port Campbell Rocket Shed	16	20
Point Hicks Lightstation	16	—
O'Shannassy Lodge	16	100
Heathcote Powder Magazine	13	—
Buchan Caves Reserve	13	—
Wilson's Promontory National Park	11	30
Kinglake National Park	10	—
Cann River	9	—
Serendip Sanctuary	2	—
George's Creek Powder Magazine	2	50
Point Nepean Quarantine Station	1	10
Browns Coolstore	1	20
Petty's Orchard	—	1000
TOTALS	13750	3046