

Chapter 5
Cultural Heritage and
Visual Amenity



*European
Heritage*

*Aboriginal
Heritage*

*Visual
Amenity*

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Cultural Heritage and Visual Amenity

Objectives

To conserve the cultural heritage values of the Perisher region and archaeological sites in the National Park through increased site assessment and visitor education.

To ensure that existing and future development does not compromise the visual amenity and sense of place of the surrounding National Park.

Targets - Nil

There are no specific targets for these objectives however it is important that you educate your members and visitors on the importance of protecting cultural heritage and maintaining visual amenity in the Perisher Range Resorts.

Cultural heritage is the environment, objects and places that we inherit from the past and pass on to future generations to use, learn from and be inspired by. Cultural heritage resides as much in intangible values as it does in physical form including stories, poems and music. Just as people shape landscapes, landscapes also shape people. The Perisher Range Resorts have been the scene of innumerable human experiences. Some of these have survived as legends or anecdotes, others are remembered within buildings or place names such as Perisher, Blue Cow and Smiggin Holes. The Perisher Resorts are also influenced by Aboriginal culture and historical land uses including grazing, scientific research and the building of the Snowy Hydro Scheme.

European Heritage



Environmental Risk — *Degradation of the heritage value of lodges within the Perisher Range Resorts.*

EMS Requirement — *You should be aware of the heritage values of your lodge and the measures that need to be taken to protect its heritage.*

If you are not already aware of the heritage values of your lodge you should undertake to gather this information and record it or reference its location in the lodge notes at the back of this chapter. You should also be aware that any renovations or changes to your lodge will require approval from the Department of Planning (DoP). In determining consent conditions the DoP take into consideration the proposed impacts on heritage values.

MORE INFORMATION

- If you would like to obtain more information on the heritage values of your lodge contact the NPWS Liaison Officer.
- The Perisher Historical Society has recently been established in recognition of the rich and colourful ski history of the Perisher Range Resorts. The society is collecting oral histories, old photographs, articles, skiing equipment and other snow related memorabilia. A membership form is provided at the back of this chapter if you are interested in joining the society.

Aboriginal Heritage



Environmental Risk — *Degradation of Aboriginal heritage items and sites.*

EMS Requirement — *Report any findings of Aboriginal objects to NPWS immediately.*

Under section 86 of the NSW *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1979* it is an offence for a person to take possession of or remove an Aboriginal object that is in a national park unless it is in accordance with a permit. It is also an offence under section 90 if a person knowingly destroys, defaces or damages or knowingly causes or permits the destruction of an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place. This offence has a maximum penalty of 6 months imprisonment.

EMS Requirement — *Educate staff and guests about the cultural heritage values of the PRR.*

Your lodge education program should consider issues, such as:

- Information about Aboriginal and European heritage items and sites, including stories of Aboriginal 'country'
- Responsibilities for reporting the discovery of new items or sites.

MORE INFORMATION

- The *Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management (2006)* provides valuable information regarding cultural heritage values of the park (www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/nature/knppom.pdf).
- A copy of the publication 'Interpretation and Aboriginal Heritage Snowy Mountains Region, Kosciuszko National Park 2000 - 2007' can be found in the appendices at the back of this chapter.
- The book 'The Aboriginal People of the Monaro': A documentary history compiled by Mike Young can be purchased at the Snowy Region Visitor Centre in Jindabyne.

Visual Amenity



Environmental Risk — *Degradation of the visual amenity of the Perisher Range Resorts.*

EMS Requirement — *For any maintenance or upgrades to your lodge ensure that the impact on visual amenity is taken into consideration and that your lodge blends in with the natural environment.*

FACTS

The Perisher Range Resorts Master Plan sets visual guidelines and development controls for any new development including:

- The height of lodges should fit within the local tree canopy, and lodges should not break the skyline when viewed from the valley floor
- Lodges should blend with the natural environment when viewed from a distance
- Natural materials such as timber and stone should predominate
- Vegetation used for landscaping should only be endemic native species.

YOU ALSO NEED TO CONSIDER

- Remember - You must have development consent from the Department of Planning (DoP) before making any changes to your lodge.

Lodge Notes



Use the space below to record whether your lodge is **located in an area of Aboriginal significance** or has **European heritage values** and any resulting restrictions or requirements.



Appendices – Cultural Heritage & Visual Amenity

- Perisher Historical Society Inc.
 - Launch Letter July 2008
 - How it Began
 - Membership application form
- Interpretation and Aboriginal Heritage: Snowy Mountains Region Kosciuszko National Park 2000-2007.