

National Trust of Australia



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Historic signs to be erected at Canberra's heritage places by National Trust.

The Chief Minister, Mr Jon Stanhope, will launch the ACT National Trust's historic signs project at Dirrawan Gardens, Reid on Saturday 28 June at 2pm. Also included in the launch will be a new self-guided walking tour brochure of Reid.

The launch signifies the first phase of a National Trust project, 'Heritage Places', which will erect new heritage signs at historic places within Canberra.

The project has been funded by the ACT government through the ACT Heritage Grants Program.

National Trust Heritage Officer, Dr Peter Dowling said, "The signs cover a wide-scope of Canberra's human history and will enable residents and visitors to better understand our historic past which is all around us."

Signs to be launched on Saturday include two important Aboriginal places in Gungahlin which were used to obtain stone for the manufacture of a wide-range of implements.

The Trust will also be placing signs at the site of an early rural homestead, Athllon, in Tuggeranong; the ruins of a former convict's home at Amaroo; the site of two former school houses where children of the early rural community were taught; the Old Coach Road at Mulligans Flat, which once provided a vital link to the rail head at Gundaroo during the nineteenth century.

"Another sign will be placed in Fyshwick which hides a secret. In 1918, during the final year of World War I, an internment camp was built and covered much of the commercial district. The residents were mainly German and Austrian nationals who had come from other internment camps in Australia and from the British colonies in the Pacific", Dr Dowling stated.

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