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**STEIGLITZ HISTORIC PARK  
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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**National Parks Service  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VICTORIA**

**MARCH 1996**

This 1996 plan was evaluated in 2010 and will continue to be implemented for a further five years.

This Management Plan for Steiglitz Historic Park is approved for implementation. A Draft Management Plan was published in June 1993. A total of 18 submissions were received. Copies of this Plan can be purchased from:

Outdoors Information Centre  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
240 Victoria Parade  
EAST MELBOURNE 3002

CNR Geelong Office  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Cnr Little Malop and Fenwick Streets  
GEELONG VIC 3220

CNR Bacchus Marsh Office  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
1st Floor, The Marsh Shopping Centre  
Main Street  
BACCHUS MARSH VIC 3340.

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COVER: Steiglitz Township from Gibraltar Hill in 1867 looking up Regent Street.

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## FOREWORD

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Steiglitz Historic Park is significant in the history of the gold mining era of Victoria. Steiglitz, the first auriferous quartz mining site in Victoria, flourished during the 1860s gold mining boom. Today, the township is almost deserted but a number of important buildings, ruins, mines and other relics remain.

In addition to substantial parts of the township, significant plant and bird species and important fossils occur in the Park. The Park also provides for a range of recreational opportunities, including picnicking, sightseeing, fossicking and walking.

The Plan places particular emphasis on conserving and interpreting the Park's cultural values, protecting the natural values and facilitating enjoyment and use of the Park.

I look forward to the community's support for the management of this very important Historic Park, which is a significant part of Victoria's parks system.

**The Hon Mark Birrell MP**  
Minister for Conservation and Environment

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## APPROVED MANAGEMENT PLAN

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This Approved Management Plan, prepared under section 18 of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic.), is approved for implementation.

The Plan provides the basis for the future management of the Steiglitz Historic Park. It was finalised following consideration of the 18 submissions received on the Draft Plan.

Mark Stone  
**Director, National Parks Service**

Rod Gowans  
**Acting Area Manager, Port Phillip**

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## SUMMARY

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Steiglitz Historic Park is an important component of the Parks system. Protecting its cultural and conservation values will be an ongoing focus of park management.

Sensitive management will ensure that the Park can provide enjoyment for future generations without compromising the Park's cultural and conservation values.

The Park's location between Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat, provides an excellent opportunity for cultural and nature-based tourism.

Significant management directions for the Park are outlined below.

### **Resource conservation**

- The Park and, as far as possible, other parts of the township of Steiglitz will be managed to conserve the historic and natural character.
- Historic buildings and sites from Victoria's gold mining era will be conserved and protected with the assistance of voluntary organisations.
- Significant flora and fauna will be given special protection.
- Vegetation of cultural significance will be conserved.
- Impacts from adjoining land will be minimised.

### **Park protection**

- Appropriate measures will be undertaken to protect the Park, township and adjoining land from wildfire.
- The ecological effects of prescribed burning on native plant species and fauna habitat and the impact of firewood collection will be monitored.
- Strategies to prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus into healthy vegetation will be implemented.

### **The Park visit**

- Visitor enjoyment of the Park will be enhanced by expanding walking routes, cycling opportunities and providing for fossicking and other activities compatible with the park management objectives.
- Visitor enjoyment and education will be enhanced by further development of information facilities and materials to interpret the historic features of the Park.
- A signs plan for the Park, reviewing location, style and content of existing and new signs will be prepared and implemented.
- Surveys will be conducted to better determine visitor needs and expectations.



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 Location and planning area

Steiglitz Historic Park (469 ha) lies within the Brisbane Ranges, 45 km north-west of Geelong and 100 km south-west of Melbourne (figure 1). The management plan covers the following areas:

- the Park including parts of Steiglitz township which it surrounds and the Old Cemetery adjacent to St Thomas's Church;
- the Old Steiglitz School Camp on Crown land, which was formerly the responsibility of the Ministry for Education, is now managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (CNR);
- Crown land at the corner of Steiglitz-Maude Road and De Motts Road (figure 2) and some allotments within the township (figure 3).

The plan does not cover:

- buildings and sites on freehold land within Steiglitz township, however, many conservation management strategies in the Plan are applicable;
- the Steiglitz Cemetery, which is managed by the Steiglitz Cemetery Trust.

## 1.2 Regional context

Steiglitz Historic Park and the adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park are important tourist destinations for families, day visitors and schools within the Geelong, and to a lesser extent, Ballarat and Melbourne areas.

The adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park is comparatively large in size and offers excellent opportunities for walking, picnicking, scenic drives and nature study. The Park is noted for its wildflower displays and large koala population.

Other parks and forests in the vicinity include:

- You Yangs Regional Park - managed as a multipurpose area providing for a range of

recreational opportunities and catering for large numbers of people.

- State forests - small isolated blocks to the north-west and west of the Park which are not easily accessible and attract low numbers of visitors and campers.

## 1.3 Significance of the Park

Steiglitz Historic Park makes a valuable contribution to Victoria's parks system, which aims to protect viable, representative samples of the State's natural environments occurring on public land. Parks also provide opportunities for visitors to enjoy and appreciate their natural and cultural values, and many make important contributions to tourism.

Steiglitz Historic Park is listed on the Register of the National Estate in recognition of its historic values. Steiglitz was the first auriferous quartz mining site in Victoria and flourished during the 1860s gold mining boom. The last large mine closed in 1941 and today less than 20 people reside in the township.

The Geelong Regional Commission (GRC 1981) designated the township an 'Historic Site' (map A figure 3). Bick (1985) gave the site a 'B' Classification of regional significance in a survey of sites in the Melbourne area. The buildings and mining relics at Steiglitz are significant in understanding the relationship of gold mining to the area's natural features and the role mining played in the history of the Geelong district.

Significant features of the Park are outlined below.

### Natural values

- The rugged gorge along Sutherlands Creek which is of high scenic quality.
- The occurrence of six rare and threatened plant species, five rare bird species and one rare mammal species.

## Cultural values

- Three original public buildings, sites, relics and culturally significant vegetation from the 1860s mining period.
- The Courthouse which is listed on the Victorian Government's Register of Historic Buildings.

## Tourism and recreation values

- An information display in the Courthouse which is open to the public on Sundays and public holidays.
- Well maintained visitor facilities at the Bert Boardman Recreation Area.
- Two former churches which are available for weddings and community functions.
- A fossicking zone which complements the historic gold mining theme of the Park.

### 1.4 Creation of the Park

The Steiglitz Courthouse came under the management of the National Parks Service in 1977. In 1979, 655 ha of Crown land around the township was proclaimed Steiglitz Historic Park under Schedule 3 of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic.) as a result of the *National Parks Act 1978* (Vic.) in accordance with the LCC's recommendations (LCC 1977). A further addition (15 ha) was made in 1989.

In accordance with LCC (1987), parts of the northern and southern sections of the Park (201 ha) were included in Brisbane Ranges National Park in 1995 as a result of *National Parks (Yarra Ranges and Other Amendments) Act 1995* (figure 2).

### 1.5 Legislation, LCC recommendations and guidelines

Steiglitz Historic Park is reserved and managed under the provisions of the *National Parks Act 1975*. The Act requires the Director to preserve and protect the natural condition of the Park, and its natural and other features, and to provide for the use of the Park by the public for enjoyment, recreation and education, and for research.

The recommendations of the LCC provide major direction to this Plan (LCC 1987). The LCC recommended that the area be used to:

- provide opportunities for informal recreation for large numbers of people;
- conserve and protect natural ecosystems;
- preserve buildings and other features of historic interest;
- allow fossicking to continue in designated areas.

The Park and adjacent areas fall within the Bannockburn Planning Scheme, administered by the Golden Plains Shire. Under the scheme, the Park is zoned as 'Public Open Space' and the Steiglitz township which includes private allotments is zoned as 'Steiglitz Historic Area'.

The Park is managed in accordance with CNR guidelines for the management of parks (NPS 1995) and LCC recommendations, and with other CNR plans and guidelines including Geelong Region Fire Protection Plan (CFL 1988).

### 1.6 Park management aims

Section 18 of the National Parks Act provides the main basis for management of the Park. The following management aims are derived from those sections and as such broadly govern all aspects of park management.

#### Resource conservation

- Preserve and protect the natural environment.
- Allow natural environmental processes to continue with a minimum of disturbance, and maintain biodiversity.
- Conserve features of archaeological, historical and cultural significance.

#### Park protection

- Protect human life, the Park and adjacent land from injury by fire.
- Eradicate or otherwise control exotic plants, animals and diseases.

#### The Park visit

- Provide opportunities for appropriate recreation and tourism.
- Promote and encourage an appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the Park's natural and cultural values and its recreational opportunities.
- Encourage appropriate park use and behaviour and foster a conservation ethic in visitors.

- Take reasonable steps to ensure public safety.

**Other**

- Provide for and encourage scientific research, surveys and monitoring that will contribute to a better understanding and management of the Park.
- Co-operate with local, State and Federal government authorities, the community and other interested organisations to assist in the management of the Park.

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## 2 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

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### 2.1 Park vision

The future visitor to Steiglitz Historic Park finds a unique area retaining the character of the gold mining era in combination with the surrounding natural environment. The historic buildings, mines and other relics are protected and interpreted. The cultural integrity of the town and landscape are preserved.

The Park's natural resources are complemented in the adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park.

The visitor facilities encourage a range of recreation and education opportunities with a particular emphasis on enjoyment and understanding of the Park's history and natural features. The Park is being increasingly valued as an important part in the region's tourism attractions, as its role in Victoria's gold mining history is better known. Sensitive management ensures that the Park provides enjoyment for future generations without compromising its key attributes.

The community, particularly public authorities and local government, play a valuable role in managing the Park by helping to maintain some of the historic buildings and sites and co-operating with measures to minimise the spread of Cinnamon Fungus, a major threat to natural values in the Park.

### 2.2 Management directions

#### Research conservation

- The Park and, as far as possible, other parts of the township of Steiglitz will be managed to conserve the historic and natural character.
- Historic buildings and sites from Victoria's gold mining era will be conserved and protected with the assistance of voluntary organisations.
- Significant flora and fauna will be given special protection.
- Vegetation of historic and cultural significance will be conserved.

- Impacts from adjoining land will be minimised.

#### Park protection

- Appropriate measures will be undertaken to protect the Park, township and adjoining land from wildfire.
- The ecological effects of prescribed burning on native plant species and fauna habitat and the impact of firewood collection will be monitored.
- Strategies to prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus into healthy vegetation will be implemented.

#### The Park visit

- Visitor enjoyment of the Park will be enhanced by expanding walking routes, cycling opportunities and providing for fossicking and other activities compatible with the park management objectives.
- Visitor enjoyment and education will be enhanced by further development of information facilities and materials to interpret the historic features of the Park.
- A signs plan for the Park, reviewing the location, style and content of existing and new signs will be prepared and implemented.
- Surveys will be conducted to better determine visitor needs and expectations.

### 2.3 Zoning

A Park management zoning scheme has been developed to:

- provide a geographic framework in which to manage the Park;
- indicate which management directions have priority in different parts of the Park;
- indicate the types and levels of use appropriate throughout the Park;
- assist in minimising existing and potential conflicts between uses and activities, or

between those and the protection of Park values;

- provide a basis for assessing the suitability of future activities and development proposals.

Table 1 specifies management zone characteristics and the location of these zones within the Park is shown on figure 5. The Old Steiglitz School Camp and the Crown land included in the planning area are zoned as Conservation and Recreation.

**TABLE 1 PARK MANAGEMENT ZONES AND OVERLAYS**

	ZONES		OVERLAYS	
	CONSERVATION AND RECREATION	RECREATION DEVELOPMENT	SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA - VEGETATION	SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA - CULTURAL HERITAGE
AREA/LOCATION	450 ha; 96% of Park. Areas surrounding popular park destinations.	19 ha; 4% of Park. Main visitor destinations.	31 ha; 7% of Park. Significant areas adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park and Meredith-Steiglitz-Maude Road.	99 ha; 21% of Park. Comprises cultural features within the Steiglitz township.
DESCRIPTION	Important natural values including indigenous flora and fauna.	Sites with facility development in a natural setting.	Vegetation of extremely high conservation value.	Important cultural values such as public buildings, sites, relics and culturally significant exotic vegetation from the gold mining period.
MANAGEMENT	Conservation of the natural environment and level of access managed to minimise impacts.	Managed primarily for visitor use.	Primarily managed to protect and minimise impacts on significant conservation values.	Preservation of buildings, sites, relics and culturally significant vegetation and restoration, where appropriate, and practical.
RECREATION	A range of low impact recreation opportunities in keeping with the natural setting.	A range of visitor facilities including campsites and picnic areas, and a range of recreational opportunities including fossicking.	Restricted access and recreational opportunities.	Low impact recreation focusing on the interpretation of the cultural values.

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## 3 RESOURCE CONSERVATION

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### 3.1 Geological and landform features

Ordovician sediments typified by a thick bed of slates and greywackes (a crumbly type of sandstone) underlie the area. These sediments are folded and contain gold in quartz reefs associated with granite intrusions. Tertiary sediments cap the ridges. Uplift movement of the Rowsley fault resulted in Sutherlands Creek becoming deeply incised (NPS 1976).

#### Aim

- Ensure Park developments and land uses are on landforms capable of sustaining them.

### 3.2 Vegetation

Steiglitz Historic Park, as well as the adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park and private property, provide an extensive area of natural vegetation close to Geelong. The range of plant communities reflects variations in geology, topography and past activities, and provides valuable habitat diversity. The understorey provides a significant wildflower attraction during spring.

The forest in and around Steiglitz is an open sclerophyll forest dominated by Red Stringybark. The understorey is dominated by Austral Grass-tree and the ground cover includes sedges, herbs and grasses. Appendix 1 lists the status of significant plant species recorded in the Park including threats to their survival.

#### Aims

- As far as practicable, conserve native plant communities in their natural condition, and maintain genetic diversity.
- Provide special protection for, and increase knowledge of, significant plant communities and species.
- Facilitate regeneration of indigenous vegetation on disturbed areas.

#### Management strategies

- *Manage Flora and Fauna Guarantee listed flora (appendix 1) according to approved action statements.*
- *Develop and implement a monitoring program for significant species (appendix 1).*
- *Encourage research into appropriate management strategies for significant species.*
- *Fence the small stand of Scented Bush-pea near the Bert Boardman Recreation Area to discourage off-road parking and visitor disturbance and to encourage natural regeneration.*
- *Seek the co-operation of the Golden Plains Shire to minimise disturbance to roadside vegetation along the roads through the Park.*
- *Control pest plants particularly Blue Periwinkle and Furze that threaten seedling regeneration of Yarra Gum.*
- *Liaise with the Golden Plain Shire to protect vegetation on adjoining freehold land under the provisions of the Native Vegetation Clearance Controls.*

#### 3.2.1 Vegetation of cultural significance

The presence of cultivated vegetation within the Park reflects the development of the township and contributes to the present historical setting. Several areas have culturally significant exotic vegetation, in particular, Radiata Pines, Pepper-trees, English Elms and fruit trees. Jones (1985) identified 18 vegetation units worthy of protection and enhancement (appendix 2). Locations are given for parish plans of Durdidwarrah and Steiglitz township.

**Aim**

- Retain and maintain significant exotic vegetation.

**Management strategies**

- *Conserve significant exotic or introduced vegetation (appendix 2) but control or remove suckers, seedlings and pest plants, particularly species likely to invade the Conservation Zone.*
- *Encourage listing significant cultural trees on conservation listings.*
- *Prune or remove dangerous trees. In consultation with Historic Places Section and, where appropriate, replace significant trees (appendix 2) with the same species.*

**3.3 Fauna**

Native wildlife has been significantly affected by European settlement, particularly during the gold mining era when habitat was drastically changed. As a result, some species are now locally extinct such as the Malleefowl (Campbell 1974) and some small mammal species (Conole 1984).

Current threats to native wildlife include habitat modification by exotic grazing animals such as sheep and goats, predation and interference by dogs, cats and foxes, destruction or severe modification of understorey habitat through the invasion of Cinnamon Fungus and land use practices on freehold land adjacent to the Park.

The open and mixed eucalypt species forests provide diverse habitats for 112 bird species, including several rare species; Barking Owl, Powerful Owl, Masked Owl, Painted Honeyeater and Speckled Warbler (Conole 1981; DCE 1991).

A pair of Crescent Honeyeaters were observed along Sutherlands Creek in 1978; the previous recording in the area was in 1909.

The lack of variety in the shrub layer and the general lack of physical cover in the vegetation, especially at ground level, appears to have

resulted in relatively few native mammal species within the Park (Hamilton 1971).

Eighteen species have been recorded. The Brush-tailed Phascogale, recognised as rare in Victoria (DCE 1991), is the only threatened mammal species recorded in the Park.

The permanent shallow pools along Sutherlands Creek and several dams in the Park provide an important habitat for native fish, amphibians and aquatic invertebrate fauna.

Although little is known of the native invertebrates of the Park they are of recognised importance in pollination, seed dispersal and as a food source for birds, reptiles, amphibians and smaller mammals.

**Aims**

- Protect native fauna from management and visitor activities, and maintain genetic diversity.
- Provide special protection for significant fauna, particularly from visitor activities.
- Increase knowledge on the distribution and management of significant species.

**Management strategies**

- *Manage Flora and Fauna Guarantee listed fauna (Powerful Owl, Masked Owl, Painted Honeyeater and Brush-tailed Phascogale) according to approved action statements.*
- *Encourage research and survey of significant fauna to identify their distribution and ecological requirements, and manage accordingly.*
- *Develop and implement a monitoring program for significant fauna.*

**3.4 Landscape**

Scattered buildings and relics of the mining era interspersed with exotic vegetation are key landscape elements of the Park. The extensive area of indigenous forest and interconnecting gullies along Sutherlands Creek enhance the town's appeal. The grazed adjoining freehold land on the slopes of Gibraltar Hill is a

significant part of the town's scenic quality. All land uses and land management activities affect the Park's landscape values. There is concern that threats to these values may originate from development of freehold land adjoining the Park.

### Aims

- Protect and preserve the landscape in areas of greatest scenic quality and interest.
- Recognise the historic values as well as the natural values of the landscape.
- Minimise visual impacts from management activities and development on adjoining freehold land.

### Management strategies

- *Ensure that the visual effect of works and structures (including visitor and recreation facilities) is compatible with the Park environment and impact is minimal.*
- *Protect important landscape features particularly those that can be seen from viewing sites and including major travel routes.*

## 3.5 Cultural heritage

### 3.5.1 European sites

Historic buildings and sites including those on adjoining freehold land are key elements that contribute to the cultural significance of the area and are essential for interpretation of Victoria's gold mining area within the Park.

Nine buildings and 14 major sites relating to the area's European history (appendix 3 and figure 4) have been identified as contributing to the heritage of Steiglitz (Jones 1985).

CNR does not have management authority over all of the key elements of the Steiglitz goldfield. Options available for conservation of buildings and sites on freehold land include purchase by CNR, protection under the Bannockburn Planning Scheme or co-operative agreements with landowners.

The Bannockburn Planning Scheme requires proposals involving construction, removal or

alteration works to any building, historic site or tree within the township to be referred to CNR for consultation. The overriding consideration in all works, development and planning must be the conservation of the significant historic value of the township.

### Buildings within the Park

The **Courthouse**, built in 1875, is a red brick, slate-roofed structure in very good condition. The building is listed on the Victorian Government's Register of Historic Buildings and is currently used as an Information Centre. A display of photographs and relics, inside the building, interprets the gold mining era.

**St Paul's Church of England** is a timber building with external stays. Established in 1872, it was used as a Church until 1962 (NPS 1976). The external structure of the building was restored to near its original condition in 1988 and the internal structure was restored in 1994.

**St Thomas's Roman Catholic Church** is a timber building built in 1878. In 1960 the building was moved to Norlane, Geelong (Sumner 1982). In 1983 it was relocated close to its original site in Steiglitz. The structure is in reasonably good condition. It is occasionally used for public functions.

### Buildings on public land

**Steiglitz School No. 1487** has been altered over the years but is still in good condition. The windows are original and, although deteriorated, the finials are still attached to the gable ends of the main roof. The original shingle roof still exists under the galvanised iron cladding. The school opened in 1874 at New Chum and was moved to its present site in 1880. The building has been incorporated into the Old Steiglitz School Camp. The building will be restored and maintained in consultation with Historic Places Section.

### Buildings on freehold land

**Scott's Hotel** is a weatherboard building constructed in the 1890s on the site of an earlier hotel, the Steiglitz Inn (Sumner 1982). The bar is still in its original form and many of the original fittings and furniture have been

retained. The water cistern is still used. The hotel is occupied as a private residence.

**Minogue's Store**, a two storey store and brick building, was constructed around 1865. The building has been restored to near its original condition by its present owner and is being used as a private residence. The building is recorded by the National Trust.

**Blacksmith's Cottage**, a weatherboard cottage, is the only one of its kind in the area. It was occupied by blacksmiths, the final one being Mr Sugg, and closed in 1944 (Sumner 1982).

The **Small Red Brick Cottage** was built around 1870. It is still used as a residence and is in good condition. The bricks used in this house are identical to those used in the Courthouse.

The **Post Office** is a weatherboard building originally built in 1865 that was known as the Second Post Office of Steiglitz. This Post Office closed in 1966 and the verandah and front wall have since been remodelled. It is currently a private residence.

#### **Sites within the Park**

The **Old Steiglitz Cemetery**, which closed in 1861, lies adjacent to St Thomas's Church. Only one headstone remains. Other sites within the Park include: **Miner's Cottage Site, Clow's House Site, Steiglitz Recreation Reserve, Crushing Machine Sites, Weichard's Mine Site, Alliance and Dreadnought Sites, Watson's Flat and Old Orchard.**

#### **Site on public land**

The **Steiglitz Cemetery** is of historical significance and the graves of miners and local residents can be identified. The Cemetery opened in 1861 and is still used. It will remain excluded from the Park and will continue to be managed by the Cemetery Trust, in consultation with CNR's Port Phillip Area and Historic Places Section.

#### **Sites on freehold land**

Sites include: **Old Doctor's Residence, Mariners Mine Site, Clifton Reef Mine Site and Quatre Bras. Engine Shaft House.**

Many cultural sites such as the Mariners Mine Site and the machinery base of Quatre Bras. Engine Shaft House are currently not protected under the Bannockburn Planning Scheme.

#### **Aims**

- Conserve and protect the Park's cultural significance including the town's cultural features.
- Interpret selected cultural places.
- Increase knowledge of the historical significance of the Park's sites and relics.
- Maintain the involvement and support of the Golden Plains Shire, residents and community groups in maintaining buildings and sites within and adjacent to the Park.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Conserve in-situ the historic sites and relics in a manner consistent with the guidelines prepared by the Australian International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and in consultation with CNR's Historic Places Section.*
- *Conserve and protect in-situ movable and portable relics and prevent removal by fossickers and other people or where there is no other option, remove relics for display elsewhere.*
- *Seek advice on the conservation of historic buildings and sites from CNR's Historic Places Section.*
- *Discourage the relocation of buildings or re-creation of buildings.*
- *Use the Courthouse as an Education and Information Centre. Restore the interior as a Courthouse using authentic furniture, where appropriate.*
- *Restore and furnish the interior of St Paul's Church of England. Permit use of*

*the building for supervised functions by community groups.*

- *Restore the interior of St Thomas's Roman Catholic Church and permit use for functions by community groups.*
- *Stabilise and restore the Miner's Shack's wattle and daub wall.*
- *Conserve relics related to mining. Ensure no material is removed from mullock heaps.*
- *Conserve and stabilise former residential and commercial building sites which are marked by levelled clearings, piles of rubble, sedimentary stone and bricks and chimney foundations.*
- *Conserve gutters, drains, embankments and fords constructed of stone within the streetscape. Maintain by regularly removing sediment and controlling erosion.*
- *Conserve water cisterns associated with former building sites. Remove rubbish and filling where appropriate and cover with mesh. Retain any artefacts recovered.*

- *Conserve the former Tennis Courts.*
- *Seek to add cultural sites on freehold land within the Parish of Durdidwarrah to the conservation list of the Bannockburn Planning Scheme.*

### **3.5.2 Aboriginal sites**

Little is known about the Aboriginal use of the Steiglitz area. Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) has not carried out any official survey and do not have any records of sites of Aboriginal significance. The disturbance of the landscape and vegetation during the gold mining era may have disturbed sites within the Park.

#### **Aim**

- *Protect Aboriginal sites of significance.*

#### **Management strategy**

- *Request AAV to survey the Park and manage sites recorded in consultation with the Wathaurong Aboriginal Community and AAV.*

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## 4 PARK PROTECTION

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### 4.1 Fire management

The National Parks Act requires the Director of National Parks to ensure appropriate and sufficient measures are taken to protect Parks from injury by fire.

The Geelong Region Fire Protection Plan (CFL 1988) outlines strategies for protecting the Steiglitz Historic Park in conjunction with the Brisbane Ranges National Park. Fire protection measures on adjacent freehold land are outlined in the Golden Plains Shire Fire Prevention Plan.

There have been no recent large wildfires in the Park. Average fire frequency is considered to be once every 30 years. The greatest perceived threat is the risk of fire entering from adjacent land, although the local community is very fire conscious. The risk of fires starting within the Park from barbecues is minor, as fireplaces are provided at picnic areas and only those facilities may be used.

Fire protection involves protecting public land and adjoining freehold land from wildfire. Current fire protection relies on rapid detection and attack, the maintenance of dams, strategic fuel-reduced strips and good access.

CNR staffs fire lookout towers at Mt Buninyong, Mt Blackwood and Mt Anakie during the fire danger period. Fire-fighting equipment is based at Anakie. CNR staff patrol the Park on days of high fire danger and weekends. Country Fire Authority (CFA) brigades are located at Meredith, Maude and Anakie.

Fuel reduction burning is undertaken to protect specific assets and fire sensitive values (figure 6). Fires from the north are a major threat, and fuel levels north of Hut Road and Alliance Track need to be monitored.

Water supply dams within the Old Steiglitz School Camp, behind the Anglican Church in the township and at the Bert Boardman Recreation Area (figure 6) are sufficient for all fire suppression needs.

In the event of a large fire, visitors will be evacuated to the community refuges (figure 6) located at the Courthouse and Bert Boardman Recreation Area.

#### Aims

- Protect life, property and Park values from injury by fire.
- Minimise the adverse effects of fires and fire suppression methods.
- Maintain fire regimes appropriate to the conservation of native flora and fauna.

#### Management strategies

- *Maintain and improve the reliability of, and access to, the existing fire water supply dams. In particular, monitor erosion of the dam wall within the township and reconstruct if necessary.*
- *Slash around picnic areas and public land within the township and community refuges and maintain cleared areas around barbecues.*
- *Maintain management tracks in a condition suitable for access by fire-fighting units (figure 6).*
- *Protect stands of rare and threatened plants from prescribed burning until each species' response to fire is known.*
- *Monitor fuel levels and the effectiveness of fuel reduction burning as a wildfire control measure.*
- *Monitor the ecological effects of prescribed burning on native plant species and fauna habitat, and to control pest plants and animals. Seek to amend the Geelong Region Fire Protection Plan as necessary.*
- *Maintain close and effective liaison with the CFA by appropriate CNR representation on Municipal and Regional Fire Protection committees.*

- *Liaise with the CFA to educate adjacent landowners on appropriate protection measures.*
- *Ensure the lessee of the Old Steiglitz School Camp complies with legislative requirements and the conditions of the lease particularly in relation to preparing and maintaining a Fire Protection Plan.*

## 4.2 Pest plants and animals, and diseases

CNR has a legislative responsibility to control exotic flora and fauna in parks and to undertake appropriate management of declared weeds and vermin.

Pest plants do not currently pose a major threat to the Park. Problem weeds within the Park mainly occur along Sutherlands Creek and include Tufted Honey-flower, Gorse, Sharp Rush, Blue Periwinkle, Caper Spurge, Slender Thistle, Soursob and Spear Thistle. Sweet Briar and African Box-thorn were common in the town's gardens during the gold mining era (Jones 1985) and have spread within the cultural heritage zone.

A few plants of Serrated Tussock, recently discovered in the Park on a site formerly disturbed from Cinnamon Fungus, have been eradicated.

Sheep and goats pose a threat to the Park as they spread weeds, graze on rare plants and modify the understorey. Foxes and domestic pets also pose a threat to native fauna. Cats and foxes, in particular, have a significant effect on native birds, small mammals and reptiles. Control of stock and feral animals is a management priority. The Black Rat, House Mouse, Rabbit and Brown Hare occur in the Park but do not pose a significant problem.

### Aims

- Control and, where possible, eradicate all pest plants and animals, and diseases.
- Minimise the impacts of control programs on native flora and fauna.
- Seek the co-operation of adjacent landholders in controlling the spread of

weeds, pest animals and diseases into the Park.

### Management strategies

- *Control pest plants within the Park in the following order of priority: Serrated Tussock, Tufted Honey-flower, Gorse, Blue Periwinkle, Caper Spurge, Soursob, Spear Thistle, Slender Thistle, Sharp Rush, African Box-thorn and Sweet Briar. Priority will be given to the control of pest plants in identified sites of natural and cultural significance.*
- *Control new occurrences of pest plants before they have an opportunity to establish.*
- *Monitor weed populations and the effectiveness of control techniques.*
- *Investigate measures for controlling and eradicating Blue Periwinkle and Soursob.*
- *Seek the co-operation of adjacent landholders to control and eradicate noxious weeds on their properties.*
- *Encourage more extensive surveys of the distribution of weeds.*
- *Liaise with Park neighbours to prevent sheep and goats from wandering into the Park.*
- *Encourage local Government to enforce regulations pertaining to wandering stock.*
- *Where practical, control foxes, dogs and cats.*
- *Promote community awareness of responsible pet ownership and the need to control stock.*
- *Destroy or remove feral bee colonies.*

#### 4.2.1 Cinnamon Fungus

Cinnamon Fungus is a water-borne fungus that causes dieback and severe damage to the vegetation. The disease poses a threat to the

populations of vulnerable, rare and significant plant species in the Park (Peters 1994). Areas disturbed as a result of the disease may be further threatened by weed invasion and soil erosion. Wildlife populations may be indirectly affected through displacement of habitat (Newell and Wilson 1993). The use of contaminated gravel in road construction introduced disease into the Park which has been spread by relocating infected gravel and soil during road maintenance and vehicle movement. Off-track activities have the potential to introduce the fungus into healthy vegetation remote from roads and tracks (see sections 5.2.7 and 5.2.10).

#### **Aim**

- Minimise the spread of Cinnamon Fungus.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Develop strategies to prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus to healthy vegetation particularly areas with susceptible, significant species.*
- *Ensure no new tracks and roads are constructed in the Park.*
- *Disinfect machinery after operation in infected areas.*
- *Where practical, prevent off-track use by vehicles and machinery and the construction of dozer trails during fire prevention or fire suppression activities.*
- *Prevent relocation of infected soil and gravel. Where practical, management vehicle tracks should not be graded. Gravel used in track maintenance must be free of Cinnamon Fungus.*
- *Where practical, avoid the transport of soil containing Cinnamon Fungus from infected sites into uninfected sites.*
- *Seek the co-operation of Golden Plains Shire to prevent the spread of disease along roadsides during grading operations.*

- *Use interpretative material and signs to inform visitors about Cinnamon Fungus.*

### **4.3 Soil conservation**

The soils within the Park are susceptible to sheet, rill and in places, tunnel and gully erosion (SCA 1981). Past mining activities have left severely eroded slopes such as Gibraltar Hill. Erosion is also evident within the vicinity of the Courthouse and Stawell Street. Dry conditions during summer and autumn often leave the topsoil devoid of vegetative cover and susceptible to erosion from wind and water run off.

#### **Aims**

- Prevent and control erosion on roads, tracks and disturbed areas.
- Rehabilitate disturbed sites with indigenous species.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Maintain adequate drainage on all roads and tracks.*
- *Rehabilitate eroded areas giving priority to areas of high visitor use and susceptibility to visual degradation.*
- *Control and redirect visitors away from areas susceptible to erosion.*
- *Encourage the Golden Plains Shire to rehabilitate eroded gullies along roads and adjacent to the Meredith–Steiglitz Road bridge.*

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## 5 THE PARK VISIT

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### 5.1 The Park visitor

Steiglitz Historic Park offers two distinctive experiences for visitors. The cultural features provide opportunities to appreciate the gold mining history of the Park and township. The natural areas surrounding the township provide opportunities for a range of nature-based recreation activities.

The Bert Boardman Recreation Area, the Courthouse and the associated short walks to the historic buildings and other cultural features are the main focus for visitors. The Crossing Picnic Area provides for day visitors as well as opportunities to explore the Park's natural features and the adjoining Brisbane Ranges National Park. The Brisbane Ranges overnight walking track provides longer walking opportunities and access to the more remote parts of the Park. Fossicking, permitted along a section of Sutherlands Creek, enhances visitors' appreciation of the Park's gold mining history. The roads and tracks provide for cycling and horse riding.

Most people visit the Park in the warmer months, especially during the Christmas and Easter holidays. Visitors include families on day trips from Geelong, Werribee, Bacchus Marsh and the west of Melbourne, and larger groups from local schools, naturalist clubs and excursion tours.

In 1994-95 the Park received 37 000 day visitors. Over the past ten years, the number of day visitors has almost doubled and there has been increasing pressure for the development of a camping area and another picnic area in the Park.

Future use is expected to continue to increase as the tourism potential of the area is realised. This will result in increased use of the Courthouse, which acts as an Information Centre, the picnic and camping areas and walking tracks.

#### Providing for the visitor

Future management will continue to focus on the existing visitor types and activities and two

visitor experiences - appreciation of the Park's cultural features and history, and nature-based recreation in a natural setting. The historic and cultural, and natural settings will be maintained. Picnic areas will be maintained at Bert Boardman Recreation Area and The Crossing, and a new picnic area will be provided adjacent to Sutherlands Creek for walkers and fossickers. Camping will be confined to designated sites in a new area to be developed for vehicle-based visitors.

The distinctive niche visitor group for the Park is visitors with a formal or informal interest in cultural heritage. Promotional programs and services will focus on this group with a secondary focus on visitors seeking a natural setting for recreation activities.

#### Aims

- Provide for visitors in accordance with the above overview of future management for visitors.
- Attract visitors interested in the Park's distinctive values i.e. cultural heritage.
- Develop an understanding of visitor profiles, patterns of behaviour, expectations and preferences.
- Minimise the effect of recreation on areas of natural and cultural significance.
- Minimise conflict between recreation activities, and between public land and private land use.

#### Management strategies

- *Provide facilities and services which highlight, but are in keeping with, the area's distinctive character (section 5.2 and table 2).*
- *Develop promotional programs and marketing links with cultural heritage groups and events in the district and in Melbourne.*

**TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF RECREATION ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	MANAGEMENT ZONES AND OVERLAYS*			
	1	2	3	4
Picnicking	Yes	Yes	No	No
Camping	No	Yes	No	No
Walking	YC	Yes	YC	YC
Bicycle riding	YC	YC	No	YC
Horse riding	YC	YC	No	YC
Fossicking	No	YC	No	No
Firewood removal	No	YC	No	No
Driving	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Orienteering/Rogaining	No	No	No	No
Rockclimbing/Abseiling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Fishing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dogs	YC	YC	YC	YC

\*

1	Conservation and Recreation Zone	2	Recreation Development Zone
3	Special Protection Area - Vegetation	4	Special Protection Area - Cultural Heritage.
Yes	Appropriate	YC	conditional refer to relevant section for details
No	Not appropriate	N/A	Not applicable

- *Establish a program to determine levels of recreational activity consistent with protecting recreational experiences and park values.*
- *Conduct visitor surveys to assess visitor profiles, patterns of behaviour, expectations and preferences.*
- *Monitor visitor use to ensure adequate provision of facilities consistent with appropriate types and levels of use including the number of visitors to the Courthouse, vehicle numbers to the Bert Boardman Recreation Area, the level of use of the camping area (when established), and numbers of fossickers and their effects.*
- *Provide facilities and access for visitors with limited mobility, where feasible.*
- *Encourage all visitors to adopt minimum impact techniques and to adhere to Codes of Conduct appropriate to their activity.*

- *Encourage visitors to respect the privacy of residents and private property.*

## **5.2 Visitor recreation activities and facilities**

### **5.2.1 Vehicle access**

The main roads in the Park are managed by the Golden Plains Shire. These include Durdidwarrah Road, Meredith-Maude Road, South Steiglitz Road, Stawell Street and William Street (figure 7). They are generally in good all weather 2WD condition and well maintained, however, sections of Stawell Street (figure 4) are badly eroded and require upgrading.

CNR managed roads and management tracks in the Park (figure 7) are in relatively good condition although Wrixon Street is degraded.

Car parking space is required near St Thomas's Roman Catholic Church and St Paul's Church of England.

**Aims**

- Provide and maintain access for visitor enjoyment and management purposes.
- Minimise the effect of the road network on the Park's cultural and natural values.

**Management strategies**

- *Ensure roads and tracks (figure 7) are properly formed and drained in line with measures to control the spread of Cinnamon Fungus.*
- *Install gates on management vehicle only tracks (figure 7) to help prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus.*
- *Close any vehicle tracks not shown in figure 4 or 7 and rehabilitate as necessary.*
- *Liaise with the Golden Plains Shire on road management in particular the upgrading of Williams Street and Stawell Street to all weather 2WD standard.*
- *Maintain signposting particularly from major roads. Clearly mark any dead-end tracks.*

**5.2.2 Day visits**

The Bert Boardman Recreation Area and The Crossing Picnic Area have picnic tables and fireplaces. The Bert Boardman Recreation Area also has toilet facilities and tank water.

**Aim**

- Establish and maintain day visitor facilities which enhance visitor enjoyment.

**Management strategies**

- *Maintain facilities in accordance with figure 7.*
- *Restrict solid fuel fires to fireplaces provided.*
- *Monitor the effect of firewood collection on the vegetation adjacent to picnic areas. If areas are becoming degraded, control the collection of firewood or remove*

*fireplaces and encourage visitors to supply their own cooking facilities.*

- *Construct a toilet at The Crossing Picnic Area.*
- *Create a picnic area accessible to walkers only, adjacent to Sutherlands Creek in the vicinity of the old pines.*

**5.2.3 Pleasure driving**

Pleasure driving is mainly confined to Shire roads and the main Park roads (figure 7). Some opportunities exist for trail-bike riding and four-wheel-driving although they are minor activities as the area presents limited challenge.

The Friends of the Brisbane Ranges have produced a self-guided car tour brochure.

**Aim**

- Provide for appropriate pleasure driving opportunities.

**Management strategies**

- *Provide opportunities for pleasure driving on roads and vehicle tracks excluding management tracks (figure 7).*
- *Control illegal off-road vehicle use through education and enforcement.*

**5.2.4 Sightseeing**

Sightseeing will be encouraged within the township. Several of the major cultural features have been identified in a self-guided Discovery Walk within the township (figure 4).

**Aim**

- Provide opportunities for sightseeing within the township consistent with the protection of cultural values.

**Management strategies**

- *Encourage pedestrian access in the township.*

- *Expand walking routes to, and interpretative material for, less visited cultural features.*
- *Construct small toilets near the Courthouse and churches consistent with the design used during the mining period.*

### 5.2.5 Camping

There is sufficient demand to warrant developing a camping area at Steiglitz and to phase out informal camping along the South Steiglitz Road Reserve.

#### Aim

- Provide opportunities for camping while minimising impacts of Park values.

#### Management strategies

- *Develop a camping area adjacent to the corner of Alliance Track and Durdidwarrah Road (figure 7) with provision for six campsites, a toilet block, drinking water and picnic tables.*
- *Prohibit informal camping along the South Steiglitz Road Reserve, and rehabilitate the site, where necessary.*

### 5.2.6 Fossicking

A fossicking area has been designated in the Park (figure 7). In accordance with NPS guideline 6.2.5P (NPS 1995) fossicking is restricted to the use of hand tools, which may include a pick, a shovel, a panning dish and a portable cradle. A miner's right is required.

#### Aim

- Allow fossicking in the designated area.

#### Management strategies

- *Provide visitor information on the fossicking area and guidelines for fossicking activities permitted in the Park including the requirement for fossickers to report the discovery of relics to Park staff for assessment.*

- *Monitor fossicking activities regularly and address any environmental consequences.*

### 5.2.7 Walking

Roads and management vehicle tracks are used regularly by walkers. An overnight walking track provides for bushwalking in the Park and the nearby Brisbane Ranges National Park.

#### Aim

- Provide a range of opportunities for walking while minimising impacts on Park values.

#### Management strategies

- *Establish walking routes to natural and historic features outside the township along existing roads and tracks.*
- *Convert Old Cart Track into a Category C walking track (figure 4).*
- *Provide the public with information on walking tracks.*
- *Discourage walking off-track to prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus.*
- *Maintain the section of the Brisbane Ranges overnight walking track in the Park at Category C standard.*

### 5.2.8 Horse riding

Horse riding is a minor activity in the Park. Roads and vehicle tracks open to the public are suitable for horse riding (figure 7).

#### Aim

- Provide opportunities for horse riding while minimising the impact of this activity on Park values and other users.

#### Management strategies

- *Permit horse riding on the road and track network excluding management tracks.*
- *Prohibit camping with horses within the Park.*

### 5.2.9 Cycling

There is a minor but increasing use of public roads and tracks for cycling.

#### **Aim**

- Provide opportunities for cyclists while minimising the impact of these activities on Park values and other users.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Permit cycling on the road and vehicle track network excluding management tracks.*
- *Encourage riding consistent with the Mountain Bike Code.*
- *Incorporate information for self-guided cycle touring into interpretation material.*

### **5.2.10 Orienteering and rogaining**

#### **Management strategy**

- *Prohibit orienteering and rogaining to help prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus (section 4.3).*

## **5.3 Visitor information, interpretation and education**

The Courthouse serves as an Information Centre and is open to the public on Sundays and public holidays. It attracts on average of 5750 visitors each year and serves as a focal point for school groups. A self-guided walk starting at the Courthouse provides an important interpretative aid to identify historic relics and sites within the township.

#### **Aims**

- Encourage better understanding and enjoyment of the Park and its features.
- Encourage appropriate use of the Park.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Upgrade the Courthouse display.*
- *Erect an information board at the Courthouse car park to interpret the history of Steiglitz.*

- *Promote visitor awareness by installing on-site interpretation plaques at cultural sites and providing information about existing and former buildings in the township.*
- *Update the Park brochure to include a map of the town and details of self-guided tours, cycle routes and walking tracks.*
- *Develop self-guided walks to significant natural and cultural features outside the township.*
- *Develop interpretation material on the social and religious history of the area for display in St Paul's Church of England.*
- *Liaise with historical societies and tourism bodies to promote the Park's features.*
- *Liaise with educational institutions to encourage use of the Park.*
- *Staff the Courthouse Information Centre at peak visitor times.*
- *Where practical, provide Ranger-guided interpretation activities at peak visitor times.*
- *Provide adequate visitor orientation and safety messages at key visitor nodes.*
- *Establish and implement monitoring and maintenance schedules for all interpretive facilities.*
- *Undertake regular evaluation of information and interpretation programs related to the Park.*

## **5.4 Commercial tourism operations**

Interest in commercial tour operations within the Park is increasing.

The Park's tourism potential is substantial but limited because Steiglitz is not a well known Park nor is it a well recognised part of Victoria's gold mining heritage; many Victorians associate gold history exclusively

with Ballarat. The Park is not located along any of the major road systems connecting Melbourne, Geelong and Ballarat, and does not attract interstate and international tourists.

However, the Park's cultural and natural values provide opportunities for cultural tourism and some nature-based tourism.

Activities offered by commercial tour operators currently include bushwalking, cycling, education tours, courthouse tours and fossicking. Well-organised tour groups can help minimise impacts and interpret Park values.

There is also scope for the provision of commercial tourism opportunities and services in line with the park management objectives on freehold land adjacent to the Park.

#### **Aims**

- Provide opportunities for commercial tourism operations to be provided consistent with Park management objectives.
- Ensure tourism use is sustainable and that adverse impacts on the Park's natural and cultural values are minimised.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Encourage commercial tour operations which provide high quality sustainable experiences, facilities and information for visitors.*
- *Liaise with State and local tourism bodies to co-ordinate with other regional tourism opportunities and to ensure sound tourism promotion of cultural heritage.*

- *Liaise with cultural heritage groups and institutions such as the National Trust and CAE to explore the potential for these or other organisations to establish tours of the Park.*
- *Ensure that Rangers liaise closely with licensed commercial tour operators to minimise impacts on the environment and other users.*

### **5.5 Public safety**

The experience of exploring natural areas, particularly past mining areas, poses a level of threat and risks to visitors, which may be increased by distance from emergency facilities.

The Victoria Police is responsible for search and rescue operations, which within the Park would involve CNR staff.

#### **Aim**

- Promote and encourage safe practices among visitors and staff.

#### **Management strategies**

- *Encourage visitors to seek information on any activities they intend to undertake in the Park.*
- *Cap or cover old mining shafts.*

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## 6 COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

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### 6.1 Friends and volunteers

Voluntary organisations such as the Friends of the Brisbane Ranges and the Back to Steiglitz Association play an important role in the conservation of historic buildings and sites in the Park.

Local residents have contributed towards the presentation and restoration of several historic buildings on freehold land and in the Park.

#### Aim

- Encourage volunteer involvement in managing the Park.

#### Management strategies

- *Encourage the refurbishment of historic buildings and sites by the local community and voluntary organisations.*
- *Support the Friends and the Back to Steiglitz Association.*
- *Encourage a regular forum for community involvement with park management activities.*
- *Develop and evaluate a long-term volunteer strategy which incorporates the skills and interests of volunteer groups in park management activities e.g. volunteer guides.*

### 6.2 Community awareness and Park neighbours

The residents of the Steiglitz township include both long standing and more recently arrived residents attracted by the unique mix of historic and natural environments. The next decade could see increasing pressure from development near Park boundaries.

As the major conservation land manager in this area, the Department will endeavour to provide leadership and encourage sound management practices by Park neighbours.

#### Aims

- Increase public awareness of management activities undertaken in the Park.
- Encourage conservation and sound land management practices on private land adjoining the Park.

#### Management strategies

- *Utilise local press and media to advise of pest plant and animal control programs, fire protection activities, visitor services developments and other significant management activities being undertaken in the Park.*
- *Investigate the need for and value of a special program (possibly a weekend of activities) during which locals can meet with field staff, and discuss management activities.*
- *Liaise with local community groups and landholders and, as appropriate, involve them in relevant aspects of planning and management of the Park.*
- *Apply, and encourage the application of, the Good Neighbour Policy to management issues on or near the boundary of the Park.*

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## 7 OTHER ISSUES

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### 7.1 Authorised uses

#### 7.1.1 Public utilities

An overhead powerline traverses the Crown land boundary opposite the Steiglitz Cemetery. The line runs between Steiglitz-Maude Road and De Motts Road and services freehold allotments along Butchers Road. Powercor manages vegetation near the line in accordance with their code of practice.

Steiglitz township is not connected to electricity. Houses and other buildings are either powered by small generators or solar panels. The absence of mains electricity has helped to preserve the historic character of the township. Some residents wish to remain without mains supply.

Telecom underground cables are located along the roadside reserve within the Park boundary and Steiglitz township. Although there were a number of poles and lines in the later mining period, it is desirable to keep all cables underground.

#### Aim

- Minimise the effect of existing public utilities on cultural and natural values.

#### Management strategies

- *Liaise with Powercor to minimise the impacts on vegetation near the line that traverses the block of Crown land opposite Steiglitz Cemetery.*
- *Liaise with adjacent landholders to address issues that may affect the Park should mains electricity be connected to the township in the future.*
- *Liaise with public authorities to minimise the impacts of cables, preferably by laying all future cables underground.*

#### 7.1.2 Occupancies and tenancies

A lease is held over the Government road reserve which adjoins the Park and connects

with the Meredith-Steiglitz Road within the Parish of Durdidwarrah (figure 3).

A Crown allotment (CA 1/Sec 8) within the township (figure 3) is licensed for grazing.

#### Aim

- Provide for appropriate use of the Park.

#### Management strategy

- *Issue appropriate licences, leases or consents.*

#### 7.1.3 Military training

No recent applications have been received from the Defence Forces to use Steiglitz Historic Park for training purposes. The Park is small and such activity may threaten many of the Park's sensitive features.

#### Management strategy

- *Do not permit military training in the Park.*

### 7.2 Boundaries and adjacent land

#### 7.2.1 Boundaries

Determining the status of land (i.e. Crown or freehold) in Steiglitz township is complicated. There are nine allotments within section B of the Parish of Durdidwarrah which have no contemporary title holder (figure 3). This situation dates from the end of the middle mining period when people abandoned their properties. Most titles still exist in the grantee's name on the original Crown grant. A number of allotments have been acquired through adverse possession. Several allotments are held under a good title.

#### Aim

- Consolidate into the Park all unowned or unoccupied public and freehold land with Park values within the township or on adjacent land.

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### Management strategies

- *Continue to add unoccupied allotments with natural or cultural values to the Park.*
- *Prepare a schedule of Crown land (figures 2 and 3) within the Parish of Durdidwarrah and Steiglitz township for possible incorporation into the Park.*
- *Prepare a proposal to close any unused and unformed road reserves that are no longer required and add these to the Park.*
- *Liaise with the Golden Plains Shire to make CNR a referral authority for any planning permits on land adjoining the Park.*
- *Liaise with the Golden Plains Shire to ensure that legislation and planning controls for adjacent freehold land complement management of the Steiglitz Historic Park.*

### 7.2.2 Old Steiglitz School Camp

The Old Steiglitz School Camp is currently being leased to the Barwon Older Adults Recreation Network. The camp complex has sleeping accommodation for approximately 50 people, a large kitchen, common room, toilets, showers and a good water supply.

#### Aim

- *Ensure that management of the camp is consistent with park values and encourage use by visitors to the Park seeking group facilities.*

#### Management strategies

- *Liaise with the lessee of the Old Steiglitz School Camp to enhance the Park's interpretation opportunities and visitor experiences.*
- *Encourage co-operation by the lessee of the Old Steiglitz School Camp in upgrading and maintaining the self-guided nature trail adjacent to the camp.*

## 8 IMPLEMENTATION

A three-year rolling implementation program will be prepared for the Park to ensure efficient implementation of this Plan. Priority management strategies are identified in table 3 as an initial step in this process.

**TABLE 3 PRIORITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY	SECTION IN PLAN
<b>Resource conservation</b>	
Seek to make CNR a referral authority for planning permits within the township and land adjoining the Park.	3.5.1, 7.2.1
Incorporate Crown land within the Parish of Durdidwarrah and Steiglitz Township into the Park.	7.2.1
Incorporate unused and unformed road reserves that are no longer required into the Park.	7.2.1
<b>Park protection</b>	
Undertake fire pre-suppression measures around park facilities, the township and community refuges.	4.1
Investigate methods to control and eradicate Blue Periwinkle and Soursob.	4.2
Develop strategies to prevent the spread of Cinnamon Fungus into uncontaminated areas.	4.2.1
<b>The Park visit</b>	
Install visitor interpretation plaques to promote visitor awareness of the Park's cultural features.	5.3
Prepare and implement a signs plan for the Park reviewing location, style and content of existing and new signs.	5.2, 5.3
Revise and update printed interpretive material describing cultural resources and recreational opportunities.	5.2.7, 5.2.9, 5.3
Develop an interpretative display on the social and religious history of the area for display in St Paul's Church of England.	5.3
<b>Monitoring and research</b>	
Conduct visitor surveys to assess visitor profiles and patterns of behaviour to assist in Park management.	5.1
Monitor fossicking activities and any environmental effects.	5.2.6
Develop a program to monitor and determine management requirements for significant flora and fauna.	3.2, 3.3
Encourage more extensive survey of the distribution of weeds.	4.2
Monitor the effect of firewood collection on the vegetation adjacent to picnic areas.	5.2.2

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## APPENDIX 1 STATUS OF SIGNIFICANT PLANT SPECIES

SPECIES	THREATS	STATUS*
<i>Grevillea chrysophaea</i> (Golden Grevillea)	Road works; Cinnamon Fungus	significant
<i>Eucalyptus yarraensis</i> (Yarra Gum)	Track maintenance; Stream bank erosion; Weed infestation	rare
<i>Olearia pannosa</i> (Velvet Daisy-bush)	Roadworks; Cinnamon Fungus; Grazing; Insect damage to seed	vulnerable <sup>#</sup>
<i>Prostanthera decussata</i> (Dense Mint-bush)	Cinnamon Fungus, Illegal grazing	rare
<i>Pultenaea graveolens</i> (Scented Bush-pea)	Roadworks; Cinnamon Fungus; Illegal grazing; Visitor pressure	vulnerable <sup>#</sup>
<i>Rhagodia parabolica</i> (Fragrant Saltbush)	Roadworks	rare

\* Victorian conservation status from Gullan et al. (1990)

<sup>#</sup> listed on Schedule 2 under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (Vic.)

## APPENDIX 2 VEGETATION OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

TREE NUMBER*	SPECIES	LOCATION
V1	<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Stawell St
V2	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	CA. 3, Sec 12
V3	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	CA. 7, Sec 6
V4	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Stawell St
V5	<i>Malus</i> spp./ <i>Pyrus</i> spp. (2)	CA. 3 & 4, Sec 8
V6	<i>Ulmus procera</i> (2)	CA. 6, Sec 17
V7	<i>Ulmus procera</i> (2)	CA. 1, Sec 9
V8	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	CA. 70a, P/DURD
V9	<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	CA. 1, Sec 18
V10	<i>Ulmus procera</i> (2)	CA. 1, Sec 18
V11	<i>Schinus molle</i> & <i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	CA. 9, Sec 18
V12	<i>Schinus molle</i> (3)	CA. 2, Sec 6
V13	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	CA. 4, Sec 11
V14	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	CA. 10, Sec 11
V15	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> ssp. <i>globulus</i>	CA. 2, Sec 23
V16	<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	Watsons Flat
V17	<i>Acacia elata</i> (2)	CA. 13, Sec B
V18	<i>Pinus radiata</i> (2)	New Chum Hill

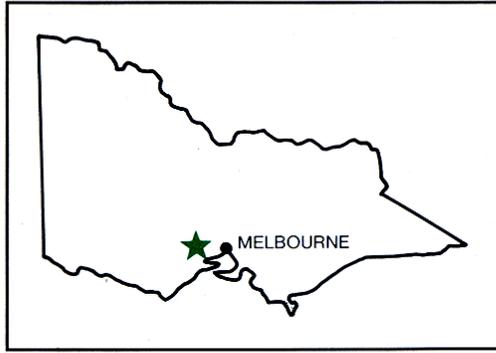
\* Tree number as identified by Jones (1985)

### APPENDIX 3 BUILDINGS AND SITES OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

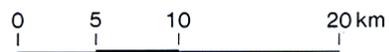
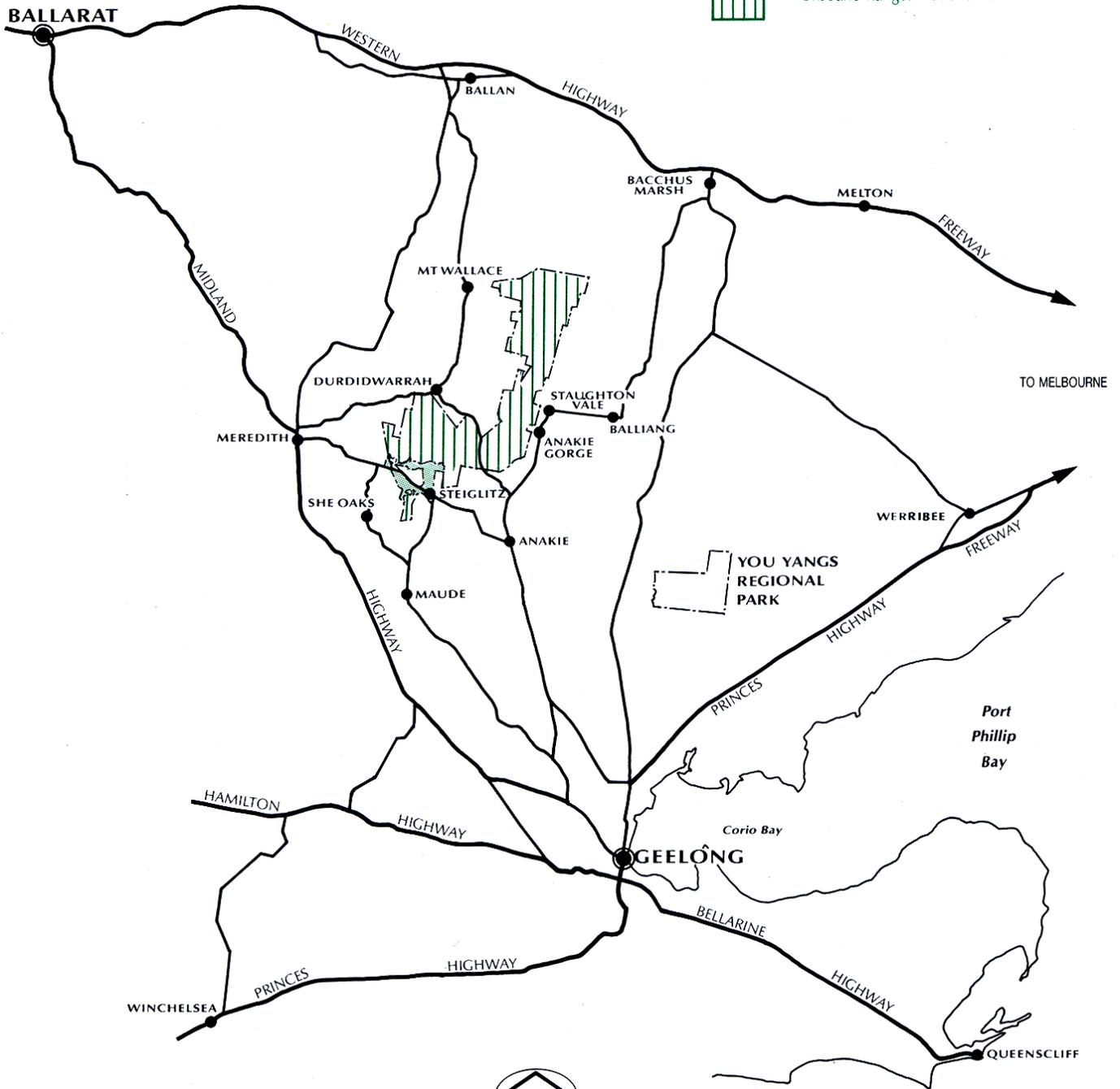
BUILDING OR SITE NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION <sup>+</sup>
<b>Buildings within the Park</b>		
B1	Courthouse	CA 5, Sec. 16
B2	St Paul's Church of England	CA 3, Sec 18
B3	St Thomas's Roman Catholic Church	CA 3, Sec 13
<b>Building on public land</b>		
B4	Steiglitz School No. 1487	Educat. Pur. Res.
<b>Buildings on freehold land</b>		
B5	Scott's Hotel	CA 2-4, Sec. 10
B6	Minogue's Store	CA 2-4, Sec. 8
B7	Blacksmith's Cottage	CA 5, Sec. 17
B8	Small Red Brick Cottage	CA 7, Sec. 23
B9	Post Office	CA 10, Sec. 18
<b>Sites within the Park</b>		
S1	Miner's Cottage Site	CA 2, Sec. 24
S2	Clow's House Site	CA 9-11, Sec. 6
S3	Old Steiglitz Cemetery	Res. Sec. 13
S4	Steiglitz Recreation Reserve	
S5	Crushing Machine Sites	Boxing Reef Gully
S6	Weichard's Mine Site	
S7	Alliance and Dreadnought Sites	New Chum Hill
S8	Watson's Flat	Watson's Gully
S9	Old Orchard	CA 8, Sec. 23
<b>Site on public land</b>		
S10	Steiglitz Cemetery	Steiglitz-Maude Road
<b>Sites on freehold land</b>		
S11	Old Doctor's Residence	CA 6, Sec. 22
S12	Mariners Mine Site	CA 54
S13	Clifton Reef Mine Site	CA 45J
S14	Quatre Bras. Engine Shaft House	CA 64

+ Crown Allotment numbers refer to the plan of Steiglitz Township or Parish of Durdidwarrah.

**FIG.1  
LOCALITY PLAN  
STEIGLITZ HISTORIC PARK**



-  Highway / Freeway
-  Secondary Roads
-  Park Boundary
-  Steiglitz Historic Park
-  Brisbane Ranges National Park



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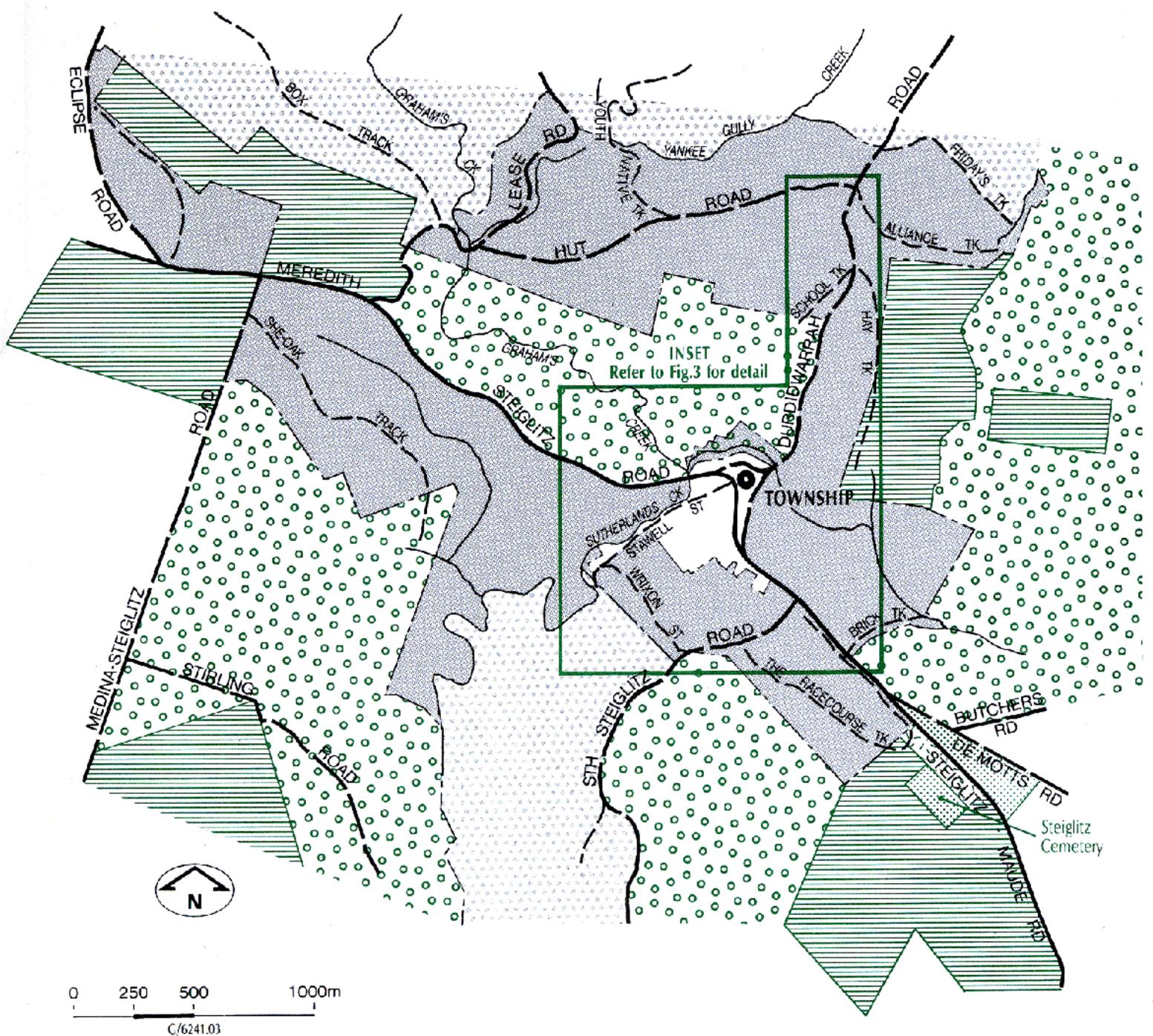
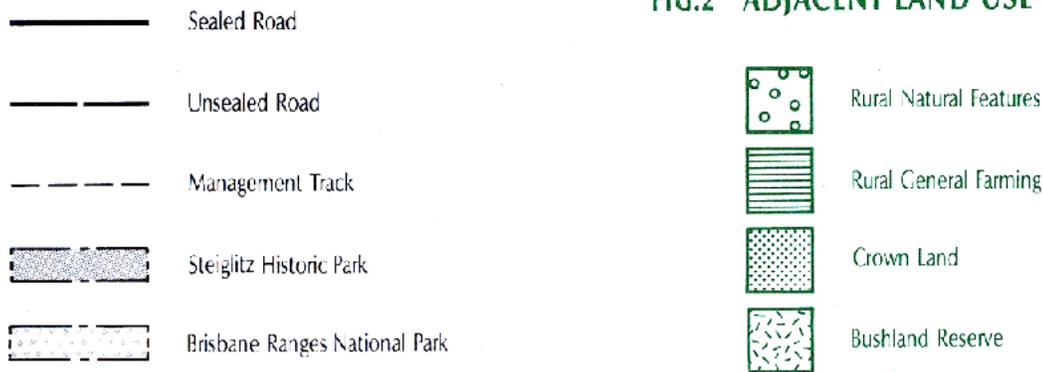
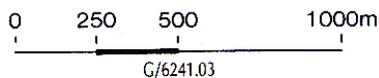
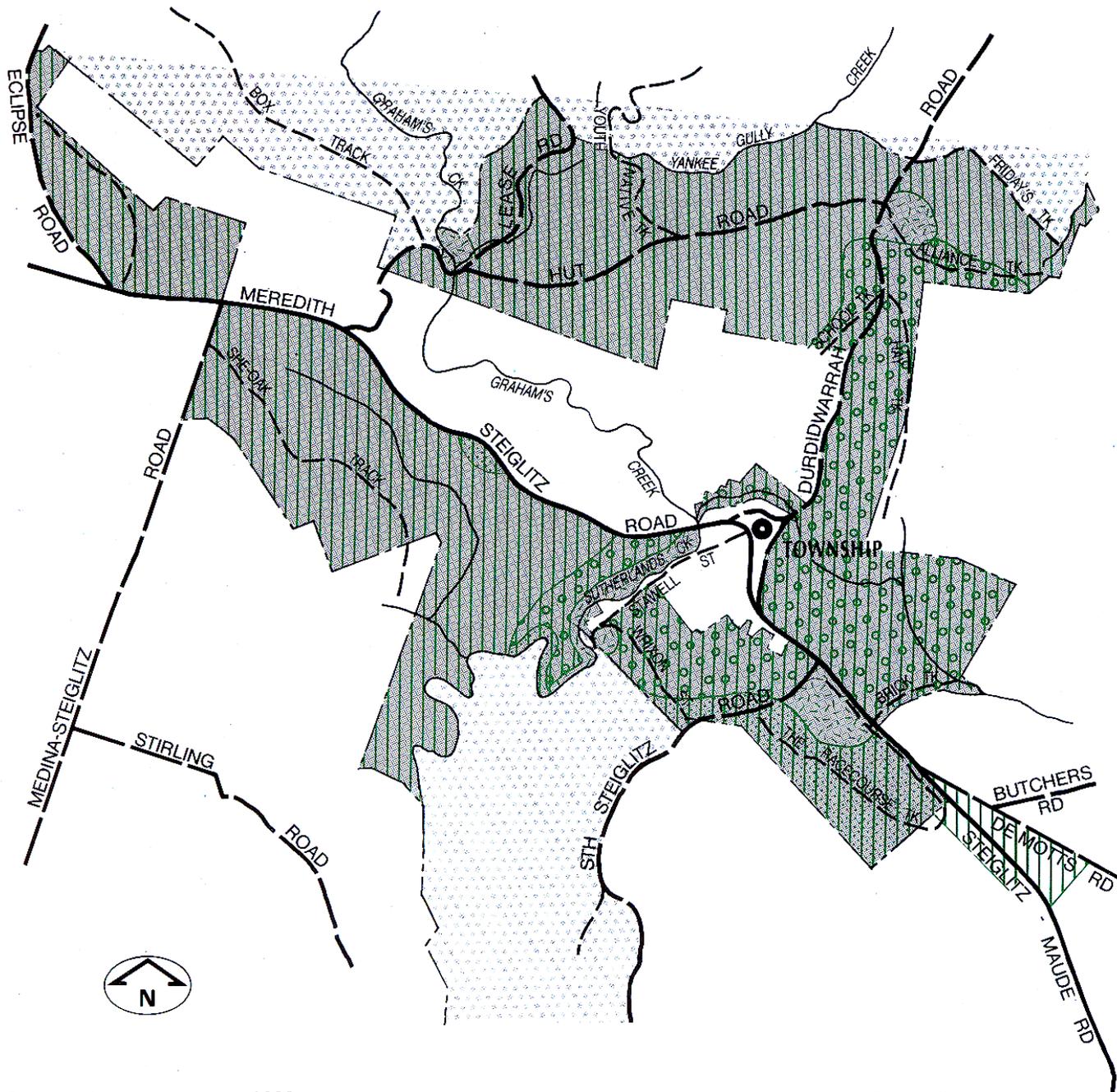


FIG.2 ADJACENT LAND USE AND PLANNING CONTROLS









**FIG.5 PARK MANAGEMENT ZONING**

**ZONES**



Conservation and Recreation



Recreation Development

**OVERLAYS**



Special Protection Area - Vegetation



Special Protection Area - Cultural Heritage



Sealed Road



Unsealed Road



Management Track



Steiglitz Historic Park

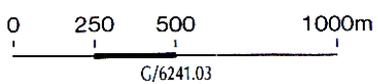
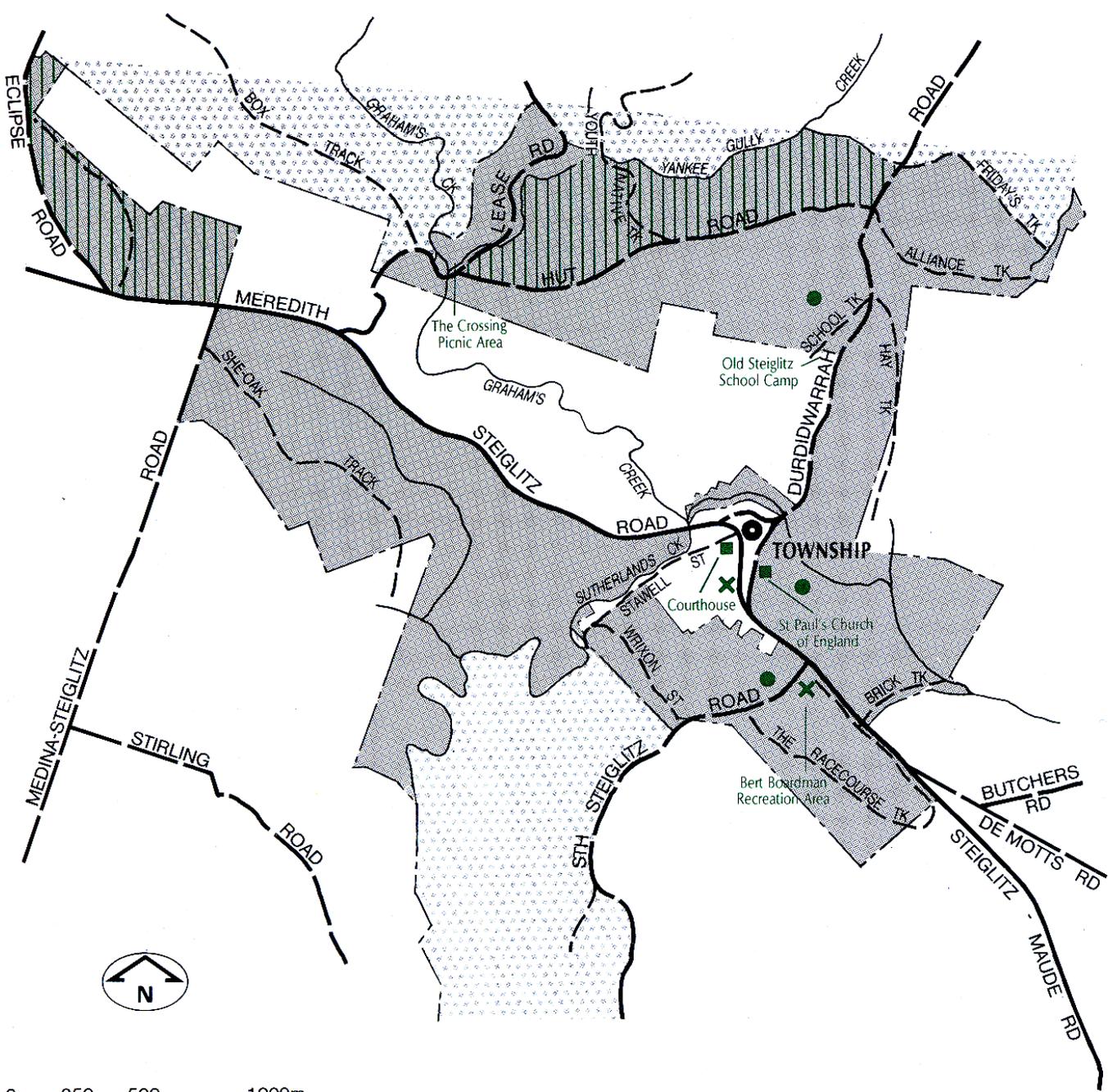


Brisbane Ranges National Park



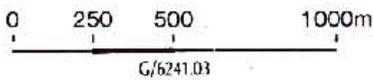
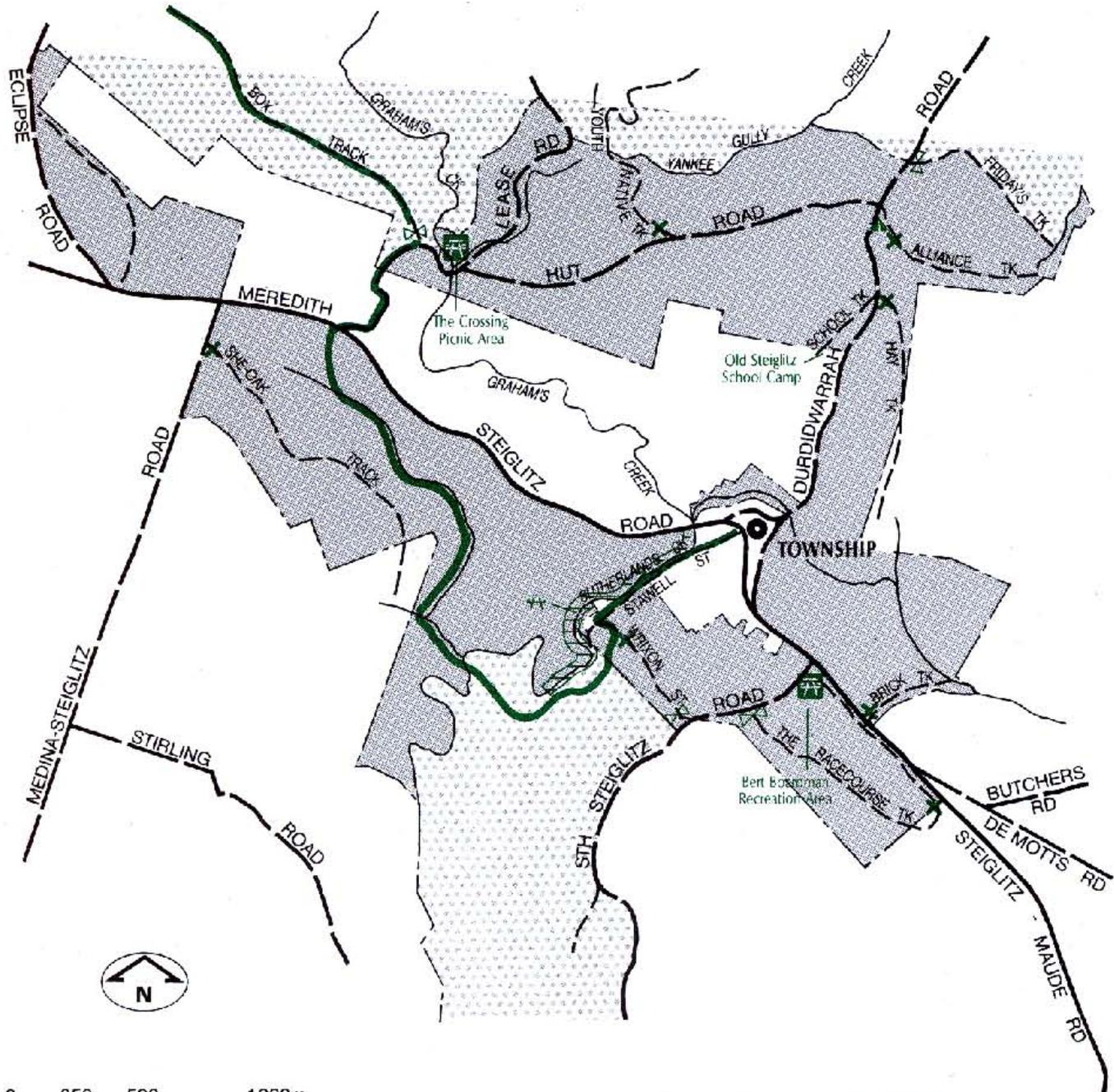
**CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Cartography by Natural Resource Systems Branch 1995



**FIG.6 FIRE PROTECTION**

- Sealed Road
- Unsealed Road
- Management Track
- Steiglitz Historic Park
- Brisbane Ranges National Park
- Community refuges in the event of a wildfire
- Dams for fire suppression purposes
- Building
- Strategic areas for fuel reduction burning



**FIG.7 RECREATION MANAGEMENT**

- |  |                               |   |   |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|
|  | Sealed Road                   |  | Existing gates                                |
|  | Unsealed Road                 |  | Proposed gates                                |
|  | Management Track              |  | Existing picnic areas                         |
|  | Steiglitz Historic Park       |  | Proposed picnic areas                         |
|  | Brisbane Ranges National Park |  | Proposed camping area                         |
|  |                               |  | Brisbane Ranges overnight walking track route |
|  |                               |  | Fossicking area                               |