AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEMES

1 TRACING THE EVOLUTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN ENVIRONMENT
The environment exists apart from being a construct of human consciousness. However, a thematic approach recognises the human factor in the natural environment, and how our understanding and appreciation of the environment has changed over time.
1.1 Tracing climatic and topographical change
1.2 Tracing the emergence of Australian plants and animals
1.3 Assessing scientifically diverse environments
1.4 Appreciating the natural wonders of Australia

2 PEOPLING AUSTRALIA
This theme group recognises the pre-colonial occupations of Indigenous people, as well as the ongoing history of human occupation from diverse areas.
2.1 Living as Australia’s earliest inhabitants
2.2 Adapting to diverse environments
2.3 Coming to Australia as a punishment
2.4 Migrating
2.4.1 Migrating to save or preserve a way of life
2.4.2 Migrating to seek opportunity
2.4.3 Migrating to escape oppression
2.4.4 Migrating through organised colonisation
2.4.5 Changing the face of rural and urban Australia through migration
2.5 Promoting settlement
2.6 Fighting for land
2.6.1 Resisting the advent of Europeans and their animals
2.6.2 Displacing Indigenous people

3 DEVELOPING LOCAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ECONOMIES
While Geoffrey Blainey conceived of Australian history as dominated by the ‘tyranny of distance’ this concept is alien to Indigenous Australians. Eighteenth and nineteenth century developments in technology made it possible to link the continent to distant marketplaces, and the incentive for almost every expedition by the first European ‘explorers’ was the search for valuable resources. Much subsequent Australian history has revolved around the search for a staple on which to base regional economic development.
3.1 Exploring the coastline
3.2 Constructing capital city economies
3.3 Surveying the continent
3.3.1 Looking for inland seas and waterways
3.3.2 Looking for overland stock routes
3.3.3 Prospecting for precious metals
3.3.4 Looking for land with agricultural potential
3.3.5 Laying out boundaries
3.4 Utilising natural resources
3.4.1 Hunting
3.4.2 Fishing and whaling
3.4.3 Mining
3.4.4 Making forests into a saleable resource
3.4.5 Tapping natural energy sources
3.4.6 Developing primary production
3.5 Grazing stock
3.5.1 Breeding animals
3.5.2 Developing agricultural industries
3.6 Recruiting labour
3.7 Establishing communications
3.7.1 Establishing postal services
3.7.2 Developing electric means of communication
3.8 Moving goods and people
3.8.1 Shipping to and from Australian ports
3.8.2 Safeguarding Australian products for long journeys
3.8.3 Developing harbour facilities
3.8.4 Making economic use of inland waterways
3.8.5 Moving goods and people on land
3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways
3.8.7 Building and maintaining roads
3.8.8 Getting fuel to engines
3.8.9 Moving goods and people by air
3.9 Farming for commercial profit
3.10 Integrating people into the cash economy
3.10.1 Assisting Indigenous people into the cash economy
3.10.2 Encouraging women into employment
3.10.3 Encouraging fringe and alternative businesses
3.11 Altering the environment
3.11.1 Regulating waterways
3.11.2 Reclaiming land
3.11.3 Irrigating land
3.11.4 Clearing vegetation
3.11.5 Establishing water supplies
3.12 Feeding people
3.12.1 Using indigenous foodstuffs
3.12.2 Developing sources of fresh local produce
3.12.3 Importing foodstuffs
3.12.4 Preserving food and beverages
3.12.5 Retailing foods and beverages
3.13 Developing an Australian manufacturing capacity
3.14 Developing an Australian engineering and construction industry
3.14.1 Building to suit Australian conditions
3.14.2 Using Australian materials in construction
3.15 Developing economic links outside Australia
3.16 Struggling with remoteness, hardship and failure
3.16.1 Dealing with hazards and disasters
3.17 Inventing devices
3.18 Financing Australia
3.18.1 Raising capital
3.18.2 Banking and lending
3.18.3 Insuring against risk
3.18.4 Cooperating to raise capital (co-ops, building societies, etc.)
3.19 Marketing and retailing

APPENDIX 1
3.20 Informing Australians
3.20.1 Making, printing and distributing newspapers
3.20.2 Broadcasting
3.21 Entertaining for profit
3.22 Lodging people
3.23 Catering for tourists
3.24 Selling companionship and sexual services
3.25 Adorning Australians
3.25.1 Dressing up Australians
3.26 Providing health services
3.26.1 Providing medical and dental services
3.26.2 Providing hospital services
3.26.3 Developing alternative approaches to good health
3.26.4 Providing care for people with disabilities

4 BUILDING SETTLEMENTS, TOWNS AND CITIES
Although many people came to Australia in search of personal gain, they realised the need to co-operate in the building of safe, pleasant urban environments. Australian urbanisation and suburbanisation have special characteristics which set them apart from similar phenomena elsewhere in the world.
4.1 Planning urban settlements
4.1.1 Selecting township sites
4.1.2 Making suburbs
4.1.3 Learning to live with property booms and busts
4.1.4 Creating capital cities
4.1.5 Developing city centres
4.2 Supplying urban services (power, transport, fire prevention, roads, water, light and sewerage)
4.3 Developing institutions
4.4 Living with slums, outcasts and homelessness
4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia
4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities

5 WORKING
Although a lot of what we call work is related to the economy, most of it is not undertaken for profit. A great deal of the work done in the home is neither paid nor counted as part of the national economy. Some of the most interesting recent social history written about Australia concerns work and workplaces.
5.1 Working in harsh conditions
5.1.1 Coping with unemployment
5.1.2 Coping with dangerous jobs and workplaces
5.2 Organising workers and work places
5.3 Caring for workers’ dependent children
5.4 Working in offices
5.5 Trying to make crime pay
5.6 Working in the home
5.7 Surviving as Indigenous people in a white-dominated economy
5.8 Working on the land

6 EDUCATING
Every society educates its young. While European education places a great emphasis on the formal schooling system, education encompasses much more.
6.1 Forming associations, libraries and institutes for self-education
6.2 Establishing schools
6.3 Training people for the workplace
6.4 Building a system of higher education
6.5 Educating people in remote places
6.6 Educating Indigenous people in two cultures

7 GOVERNING
This theme group is as much about self-government as it is about being governed. It includes all the business of politics, including hostility to acts of government.
7.1 Governing Australia as a province of the British Empire
7.2 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy
7.2.1 Protesting
7.2.2 Struggling for inclusion in the political process
7.2.3 Working to promote civil liberties
7.2.4 Forming political associations
7.3 Making City-States
7.4 Federating Australia
7.5 Governing Australia’s colonial possessions
7.6 Administering Australia
7.6.1 Developing local government authorities
7.6.2 Controlling entry of persons and disease
7.6.3 Policing Australia
7.6.4 Dispensing justice
7.6.5 Incarcerating people
7.6.6 Providing services and welfare
7.6.7 Enforcing discriminatory legislation
7.6.8 Administering Indigenous Affairs
7.6.9 Conserving Australian resources
7.6.10 Conserving fragile environments
7.6.11 Conserving economically valuable resources
7.6.12 Conserving Australia’s heritage
7.7 Defending Australia
7.7.1 Providing for the common defence
7.7.2 Preparing to face invasion
7.7.3 Going to war
7.8 Establishing regional and local identity
8 DEVELOPING AUSTRALIA’S CULTURAL LIFE

Australians are more likely to express their sense of identity in terms of a way of life rather than allegiance to an abstract patriotic ideal. One of the achievements of this society has been the creation of a rich existence away from the workplace. While some of the activities encompassed in this theme are pursued for profit – horse racing and cinema, for instance – their reason for being is the sheer enjoyment of spectators. While many people could not pursue careers in art, literature, science, entertainment or the church without being paid, those activities do not fit easily into the categories of economy or workplace.

8.1 Organising recreation
8.1.1 Playing and watching organised sports
8.1.2 Betting
8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens
8.1.4 Enjoying the natural environment
8.2 Going to the beach
8.3 Going on holiday
8.4 Eating and drinking
8.5 Forming associations
8.5.1 Preserving traditions and group memories
8.5.2 Helping other people
8.5.3 Associating for mutual aid
8.5.4 Pursuing common leisure interests
8.6 Worshipping
8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies
8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
8.6.4 Making places for worship
8.6.5 Evangelising
8.6.6 Running city missions
8.6.7 Running missions to Australia’s indigenous people
8.7 Honouring achievement
8.8 Remembering the fallen
8.9 Commemorating significant events
8.9.1 Remembering disasters
8.9.2 Remembering public spectacles
8.10 Pursuing excellence in the arts and sciences
8.10.1 Making music
8.10.2 Creating visual arts
8.10.3 Creating literature
8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings
8.10.5 Advancing knowledge in science and technology
8.11 Making Australian folklore
8.11.1 Celebrating folk heroes
8.11.2 Myth making and story-telling
8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
8.13 Living in cities & suburbs
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements
8.15 Being homeless

9 MARKING THE PHASES OF LIFE

Although much of the experience of growing up and growing old does not readily relate to particular heritage sites, there are places that can illustrate this important theme. Most of the phases of life set out below are universal experiences.

9.1 Bringing babies into the world
9.1.1 Providing maternity clinics and hospitals
9.1.2 Promoting mothers’ and babies’ health
9.2 Growing up
9.2.1 Being children
9.2.2 Joining youth organisations
9.2.3 Being teenagers
9.2.4 Courting
9.3 Forming families and partnerships
9.3.1 Establishing partnerships
9.3.2 Bringing up children
9.4 Being an adult
9.5 Living outside a family/partnership
9.6 Growing old
9.6.1 Retiring
9.6.2 Looking after the infirm and the aged
9.7 Dying
9.7.1 Dealing with human remains
9.7.2 Mourning the dead
9.7.3 Remembering the dead

AAV THEMATIC LIST OF POST-CONTACT

ABORIGINAL PLACES/SITES

1 ASSOCIATIONS WITH PASTORALISTS/FARMING/RURAL INDUSTRY
1.1 Properties where initial contact with pastoralists occurred
1.2 Properties where people are known to have worked
1.3 Properties where people are known to have lived/camped
1.4 Properties where people visited to obtain regular supplies of food/clothing/utensils (other than Honorary Correspondent depots)
1.5 Properties where people are known to have frequented for purposes other than above (or if nature of particular association is unknown)

2 ASSOCIATIONS WITH SETTLEMENTS/TOWNS
2.1 Places where people camped/lived around towns
2.2 Places where people congregated around towns (stores, parks, houses etc.)
2.3 Shops/industries/places where people worked around settlements/towns
2.4 Places where people obtained regular supplies of food and goods (not B.P.A. depots)
2.5 Places where people participated in settlement/town activities
2.6 Other facilities used/frequented by people

3 ASSOCIATIONS WITH FORESTS (NOT KNOWN IF ASSOCIATION ORIGINS IN PRE-CONTACT PERIOD)
3.1 Places where people worked in forest industries
3.2 Places where people lived in forests

4 PLACES WHERE PEOPLE INDEPENDENTLY CONGREGATED/ FREQUENTED/TRAVERLED
(not known if association originates in pre-contact period)
4.1 Living camps away from towns and properties
4.2 Ceremonial and formal meeting places
4.3 Places of recreation (played sport, holidays, get togethers)
4.4 Historical travelling routes
4.5 Places where people procured food and/or raw materials
### 5 Government Administration of Resources for Aboriginal People

5.1 Protectorates
5.2 Government stations
5.3 Locations where Native Police were housed/camped/worked
5.4 Properties/locations of Honorary Correspondents to the Board for Protection of Aborigines
5.5 Locations of Board for the Protection of Aborigines depots
5.6 Places where Aboriginal Affairs have been administered by the government
5.7 Schools
5.8 Housing/shelters
5.9 Hospitals/houses for sick people

### 6 Associations with the Church

6.1 Missions
6.2 Schools
6.3 Churches

### 7 Land Reserved for Aboriginal People

7.1 Land reserved for general Aboriginal population use
7.2 Land reserved for specific individuals/families

### 8 Places of Conflict

8.1 Places where Aboriginal people were killed/assaulted/threatened by Europeans
8.2 Places where Aboriginal people were killed/assaulted by other Aboriginal people
8.3 Places where Europeans were killed/assaulted/threatened by Aboriginal people
8.4 Places where Aboriginal people were imprisoned

### 9 Places Where Aboriginal People Have Died or Been Buried Since Contact

9.1 Location of individual burials outside of formal cemeteries
9.2 Location of burial grounds outside of formal cemeteries
9.3 Location of burials within cemeteries
9.4 Places where people have died

### 10 Places Linked to Significant People

10.1 Places where known ancestors were born
10.2 Monuments
10.3 Buildings
10.4 Homes
10.5 Natural features associated with significant people

### 11 Places Linked to a Significant Incident

11.1 Significant incident relating to a significant person
11.2 Significant incident relating to a number of people

### 12 Attachments to/Associations with Places Known to Precede Contact

12.1 Pre-contact food resources/areas where people continued to procure food (swamps, fish weirs, forests etc.)
12.2 Camp sites/meeting places
12.3 Spiritual places
12.4 Ceremonial places
12.5 Sources of raw materials used for making artefacts post-contact
12.6 Sources of bush medicines
12.7 Travelling routes
12.8 Burial/burial grounds
12.9 Named places

### 13 Places Relating to Self Determination

13.1 Community resource centres (co-operatives, health services, legal services etc.)
13.2 Community cultural centres (museums, keeping places etc.)
13.3 Tourism endeavours
13.4 Businesses
13.5 Government departments
13.6 Land claimed/reclaimed under Native Title
13.7 Land owned by Aboriginal people
13.8 Places related to a significant...
THE REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE (RNE) CRITERIA

CRITERION A:
ITS IMPORTANCE IN THE COURSE, OR PATTERN, OF AUSTRALIA’S NATURAL OR CULTURAL HISTORY
A.1 Importance in the evolution of Australian flora, fauna, landscapes or climate.
A.2 Importance in maintaining existing processes or natural systems at the regional or national scale.
A.3 Importance in exhibiting unusual richness or diversity of flora, fauna, landscapes or cultural features.
A.4 Importance for association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, State, region or community.

CRITERION B:
ITS POSSESSION OF UNCOMMON, RARE OR ENDANGERED ASPECTS OF AUSTRALIA’S NATURAL OR CULTURAL HISTORY
B.1 Importance for rare, endangered or uncommon flora, fauna, communities, ecosystems, natural landscapes or phenomena, or as a wilderness.
B.2 Importance in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, process, land-use, function or design no longer practised, in danger of being lost, or of exceptional interest.

CRITERION C:
ITS POTENTIAL TO YIELD INFORMATION THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF AUSTRALIA’S NATURAL OR CULTURAL HISTORY
C.1 Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of Australian natural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality, reference or benchmark site.
C.2 Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of Australia.

CRITERION D:
ITS IMPORTANCE IN DEMONSTRATING THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERISTICS OF:
D.1 Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of the range of landscapes, environments or ecosystems, the attributes of which identify them as being characteristic of their class.
D.2 Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of the range of human activities in the Australian environment (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land use, function, design or technique).

CRITERION E:
ITS IMPORTANCE IN EXHIBITING PARTICULAR AESTHETIC CHARACTERISTICS VALUED BY A COMMUNITY OR CULTURAL GROUP
E.1 Importance for a community for aesthetic characteristics held in high esteem or otherwise valued by the community.

CRITERION F:
ITS IMPORTANCE IN DEMONSTRATING A HIGH DEGREE OF CREATIVE OR TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT AT A PARTICULAR PERIOD
F.1 Importance for its technical, creative, design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement.

CRITERION G:
ITS STRONG OR SPECIAL ASSOCIATIONS WITH A PARTICULAR COMMUNITY OR CULTURAL GROUP FOR SOCIAL, CULTURAL OR SPIRITUAL REASONS
G.1 Importance as a place highly valued by a community for reasons of religious, spiritual, symbolic, cultural, educational, or social associations.

CRITERION H:
ITS SPECIAL ASSOCIATION WITH THE LIFE OR WORKS OF A PERSON, OR GROUP OF PERSONS, OF IMPORTANCE IN AUSTRALIA’S NATURAL OR CULTURAL HISTORY
H.1 Importance for close associations with individuals whose activities have been significant within the history of the nation, State or region.

WARD BOUNDARIES IN THE STUDY AREA
1869–PRESENT DAY
See following maps.