

Our Heritage

World Heritage List



UNESCO's World Heritage List recognises and protects sites that have outstanding universal value. This means the places on

the List are important to all people of the world, irrespective of the country in which they are located.

Each of Australia's World Heritage sites is outstanding in its own right, and collectively they present an amazing diversity of places and values. Comprehensive legal frameworks are in place across all levels of government to maintain Australia's World Heritage sites to an exceptional conservation standard.

National Heritage List

The Australian Government's National Heritage List recognises and protects our most valued natural, Indigenous and historic heritage sites. It is a snapshot of the nation's most important places.

The List reflects the story of our development, from our original inhabitants to the present day, Australia's spirit and ingenuity, and our unique, living landscapes. Each place in the List is assessed by the Australian Heritage Council as having national heritage values that can be protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. In this way, we can sustain our heritage for future generations.

PHOTOS: DEWHA

For further information visit www.heritage.gov.au



Australian Government

Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens



World & National Heritage Lists

www.heritage.gov.au



The Royal Exhibition Building and surrounding Carlton Gardens were designed for the Great International Exhibition of 1880 in Melbourne. It is the only major 19th century Palace of Industry exhibition building in the world to survive substantially intact. It was inscribed on the World Heritage List on 1 July 2004, and included in the National Heritage List on 20 July 2004.

An enduring monument to the international exhibition movement

- The international exhibition movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries was significant for its role in the global dissemination of goods, technologies, values and ideas, setting trends that became the foundation for today's modern world.
- Each exhibition was temporary and most buildings were not designed to remain once the exhibition came to an end. However, the Royal Exhibition Building was conceived as a permanent structure that would have a future role in the cultural and economic activities of the growing city of Melbourne.

A rare 19th century Palace of Industry survivor

- The Royal Exhibition Building in its garden setting is a rare surviving example of the international exhibition movement.
- It is the only 19th century exhibition building in the world to have remained in use as a Palace of Industry, still in its original landscaped setting.

A place of scale and grandeur

- The building boasts many of the important features that made international exhibitions so dramatic and effective, including a dome, giant entry portals, versatile display areas, axial planning and complementary gardens and viewing areas.



National historic value

- The grand opening of the first Australian Federal Parliament on 9 May 1901 was held at the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens.
- A few months later, the Australian flag was unveiled in the building and flown above the dome.
- It has outstanding national historic value for its role in the defining event of Federation.

A national treasure, the Royal Exhibition Building is now in the care of Museum Victoria.