Australian Capital Territory

Public Place Names (Canberra Central) Determination 2020

**Disallowable instrument DI2020–227**

made under the

Public Place Names Act 1989, s 3 (Minister to determine names)

**1 Name of instrument**

This instrument is the *Public Place Names (Canberra Central) Determination 2020.*

**2 Commencement**

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

**3 Determination of place name**

I determine the place name as indicated in the schedule.

Ben Ponton

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Land Management

27 July 2020

**SCHEDULE**

## (See s 3)

The location of the public place with the following name is indicated on the associated diagram.

**Canberra Central District – Divisions of Campbell and Fyshwick**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **ORIGIN** | SIGNIFICANCE |
| **Dairy Flat Bridge** | Dairy Flat locality, known for its dairies which supplied milk to the Canberra region from 1928 to 2002. | Local name; dairy industry  The land below the slopes of Mount Pleasant to the south of the Molonglo River was known from the mid-1800s as Mill Flat after the flour mill on the Campbell family’s Duntroon estate. After the land was acquired by the Commonwealth in 1911, cadets from the new Royal Military College would walk across the flat on their way to Eastlake (now Kingston), after fording the river at a shallow crossing close to where the present-day bridge stands. Following WWI, the river flats were leased under the Soldier Settlement Scheme. Many settlers subsequently relinquished their land due to small unsustainable block sizes, poor seasons and the hardships of the Great Depression. From 1926 the Federal Government began offering larger commercial dairy leases. The change of land use led to a gradual change of name for the area to Dairy Flat. The Duntroon crossing then became known as Dairy Flat Ford. A formalised road on Dairy Flat led to the construction of Dairy Flat Bridge in 1937. The bridge allowed cattle to be delivered to the Queanbeyan abattoirs, without having to use  Scotts Crossing (near Blundells Cottage), from where cattle would frequently stray into Canberra City. When the newly constructed Lake Burley Griffin filled in 1964, it led to the retention of water in the Molonglo River. Despite being raised, the Dairy Flat Bridge was periodically inundated after heavy rain. Floods in 1974 and 1976 prompted John F King to write to  The Canberra Times;  ‘Sir, — The incidence of flooding at the Dairy Flat Bridge is a disgrace in a city such as ours.’  The National Capital Development Commission eventually took heed and the current Dairy Flat Bridge was completed in 1984. Forming part of the planned Eastern Parkway, now the Monaro Highway extension, the bridgeworks were fashioned using rock and earth excavated from the construction site of Parliament House. |

