

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
HERITAGE OBJECTS ACT 1991
DISALLOWABLE INSTRUMENT
NO. 35 OF 1995

The Heritage Objects Act aims to identify and protect objects which have value to the ACT, are held in the ACT and which are government owned.

In particular subsection 9 (2) of the Act states that the Minister shall, in writing, determine the criteria for the assessment of the heritage significance of objects. The criteria were determined by instrument No (9) of 1992.

This disallowable instrument revokes the following criterion (ix) of the criteria for the assessment of the heritage significance of objects :

An object which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural and cultural history, by virtue of its strong or special association with research or teaching or by providing evidence of a past type locality or benchmark site.

The ACT Heritage Council recommends the change to the wording, but not the intent, of criterion (ix) so that it would be more applicable to the assessment of objects.

The criteria were adapted from Schedule 2 of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991* titled Criteria for the Assessment of the Heritage Significance of Places.

In its place a new criterion (ix) is determined as follows:

An object which has provided, or is likely to provide, information that will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of the natural or cultural history of the ACT by virtue of its value or potential value as evidence or for research or teaching.