

6.1 THE GRAMPIANS (GARIWERD)

Significant Landscape

Character Type	6	The Grampians
Character Areas	6.1	The Grampians Ranges
	6.2	Grampians Surrounds

The Grampians (Gariwerd) mountain range is an iconic feature of Victoria.

Notable viewing locations:

Numerous viewing locations are available across the Grampians Ranges. See views paper on p.186 for a list of the most popular and accessible.

Major viewing corridors:

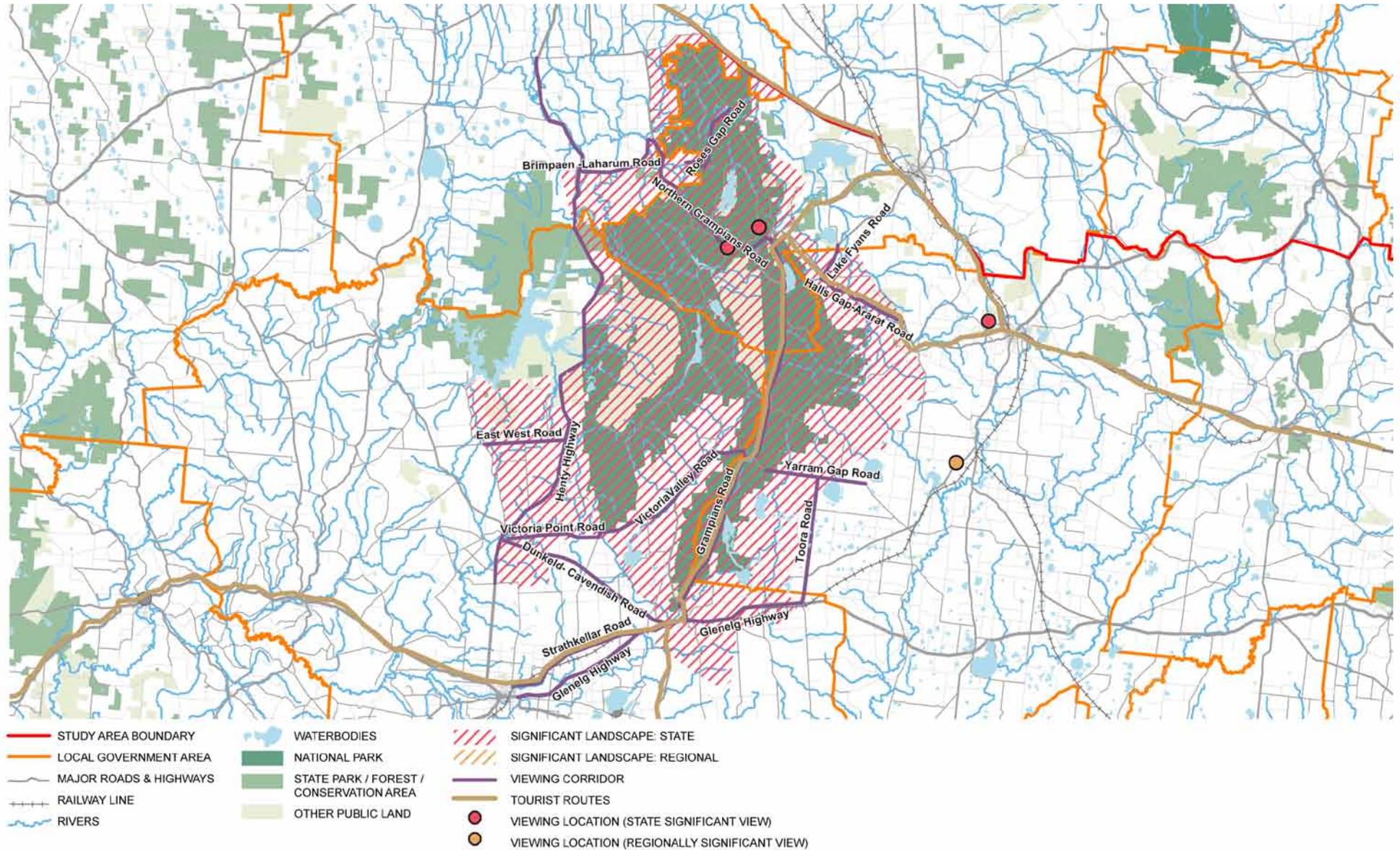
- Glenelg Highway
- Toora Road
- Grampians Road
- Northern Grampians Road
- Henty Highway
- Dunkeld - Cavendish Road
- Victoria Point Road
- East West Road
- StrathKellar Road
- Victoria Valley Road
- Roses Gap Road
- Halls Gap-Ararat Road
- Lake Fyans Road
- Yarram Gap Road
- Watgania Road

Overall Significance Rating: State (or higher)

A detailed significance assessment is provided over the following pages.



Landscape Significance Map



Aesthetic Values

AESTHETIC VALUES				
	Source	Description	Aesthetic Values Rating Considerations (i.e. exemplary, iconic, scarce)	Level of Significance
LANDSCAPE FEATURES	Survey	<p>The Grampians (Gariwerd) is a visually dramatic landform feature that comprises the southern-most arm of the Great Dividing Range. The jagged escarpments of the Grampians rise sharply from the surrounding pastoral plain.</p> <p>Other landscape elements that make up the ranges include the sweeping western slopes, the craggy eastern peaks, massive sandstone cliffs, forests, water bodies, rocky outcrops and weather-sculpted rocks.</p> <p>In the context of Victoria, a visually stunning mountainous landscape of this kind, rising sharply from the surrounding flat landscape, is a rare and iconic feature. For this reason, the Grampians are so often termed ‘dramatic’, and evoke a strong emotional response for many viewers.</p> <p>A large number of artists have drawn inspiration from the Grampians and surrounds in a variety of media, including painting, poetry, literature, photography and film. Of Australia’s most important and notable landscape painters who have represented the Grampians in their work are Arthur Streeton, Arthur Boyd, Eugene von Guerard, Nicholas Chevalier, and Louis Buvelot.</p>	The Grampians is an iconic landscape that is both exemplary and scarce within Victoria.	Exceptional (State)
EDGES OR CONTRASTS	Survey	<p>The flat topography of the pastoral land exacerbates the visual presence of the peaks of the Grampians that rise sharply from it, creating a stark and dramatic contrast between these two landscape elements.</p> <p>Also notable is the contrast between the landscape elements that make up the Grampians ranges themselves. In addition, the existence of remnant stands of vegetation, particularly the River Red Gums, provides another contrast with the pastoral landscape.</p>	The contrast of the rugged mountains with the surrounding flat plain and the presence of remnant River Red Gums make this an iconic and exemplary importance within Victoria.	Exceptional (State)
COMPOSITION	Survey	Numerous ‘picture postcard’ views and viewing experiences are available both towards The Grampians, and from within the National Park. The peaks of the Grampians provide a dramatic termination to numerous views and vistas from the surrounding landscape.	There is a wealth of scarce, exemplary and iconic views towards and from the Grampians which are unique within Victoria.	Exceptional (State)
OVERALL AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE RATING				State (or higher)

Other Cultural Landscape Values

HISTORIC	
Source	Description
Parks Victoria Desktop Research	Aboriginal artefact scatters, earth mounds and scarred trees occur throughout the area. The Grampians National Park has almost 80% of Victoria's Aboriginal Rock Art sites.
Parks Victoria Desktop Research	The Grampians were so named by Major Thomas Mitchell in 1836 when he traveled through western Victoria. Since European settlement, the Grampians and surrounds has been an important area for farming, mining, the timber industry and as a source of water for surrounding farmland. Later in the nineteenth century, as the railways were introduced and the appreciation of natural landscapes grew, the Grampians became a popular tourist destination.
National Heritage List National Trust	The Grampians are listed as a nationally significant landscape due to their historic, environmental, social and aesthetic significance.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State, or higher

ENVIRONMENTAL / SCIENTIFIC	
Source	Description
IUCN Parks Victoria	The Grampians National Park is a protected area on the IUCN list Category II (National Park) and protected by National Parks Act 1975, Schedule 2B.
Victorian Planning Provisions	The Grampians are noted as a State significant landscape within the State Policy of all planning schemes.
Ararat and Northern Grampians Planning Schemes	The landscape character of the Grampians Surrounds and parts of the Black Ranges (south of Stawell) are protected under the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO1).

Ararat and Northern Grampians Planning Schemes	Locally significant watercourses, water bodies and wetlands, protected by Ararat Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2). Native vegetation which characterises the Halls Gap and Lake Bellfield area are protected by Northern Grampians Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1) and Design and Development Overlay (DDO1). Significant vegetation is also protected by Ararat VPO1 & VPO2.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State, or higher

SOCIAL	
Source	Description
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	Gariwerd is the traditional country of the Gunditjmarra people to whom it holds social, cultural and spiritual significance. The waterbodies, distinctive natural features and places of ecological value within this area are likely to have high Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity.
Tourist Information Parks Victoria	The Grampians National Park and surrounding area offer a wealth of recreational opportunities that include learning about Aboriginal heritage, bushwalking, camping, nature study and rock climbing. The National Park includes many walking tracks to lookout points and waterfalls. The area has long been a favourite holiday destination for many people from around Victoria, and beyond.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State, or higher

OTHER	
Source	Description
Desktop Research	The Grampian's role as a major tourist destination is a significant contributor to the local and regional economy and visitor attraction to Victoria
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State, or higher

Landscape Significance Map

Aesthetic Values

AESTHETIC VALUES				
	Source	Description	Aesthetic Values Rating Considerations (i.e. exemplary, iconic, scarce)	Level of Significance
LANDSCAPE FEATURES	Survey	The Black Range is a broken ridgeline that sits independently to the west of the northern arm of the Grampians Ranges. The topographical relief is much lower than the Grampians, with Mount Byron rising to over 500 metres. The landscape is blanketed in vegetation.	The thick vegetation cover is scarce in the surrounding pastoral context.	High (Regional)
EDGES OR CONTRASTS	Survey	The thick vegetated cover of the Black Range contrasts with the cleared surrounding paddocks. There are a large number of scattered River Red Gums and dense remnant roadside vegetation in the periphery of the ranges which creates further textural contrast within the landscape.	The Black Ranges are an iconic landscape that is associated strongly with the identity of the surrounding area and the nearby Grampians Ranges.	Moderate (Local)
COMPOSITION	Survey	The Black Range sits low on the horizon and generally forms a low backdrop to views, with the foreground being composed of cleared pastoral land containing scattered Red Gums.	The outlook of pastoral land with the ridgeline on the horizon is a distinctive landscape feature of the area.	Moderate (Local)
OVERALL AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE RATING				Regional

Other Cultural Landscape Values

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
Parks Victoria	Aboriginal artefact scatters, earth mounds and scarred trees occur throughout the area.
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	Mugadgadjin and Burrunj rockshelters with Aboriginal rock art, Black Range State Park, identified in Gib Wettenhall's <i>The People of the Gariwerd</i> (1999).
Southern Grampians Shire	Rocklands Reservoir is listed in the Southern Grampians Heritage Study as being of historical, social and scientific significance.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	Regional - State

ENVIRONMENTAL / SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
National Trust Horsham Planning Scheme	The Black Range is a component of the Grampians landscape which is classified by the National Trust. The scenic qualities of the landscape are protected under the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO3).
Parks Victoria	The Black Range State Park provide a habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna.
Horsham Planning Scheme	The area is protected as a water catchment source, under the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO4).
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	Regional

SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	Burrunj is the traditional country of the Gunditjmara people to whom it holds social, cultural and spiritual significance. The waterbodies, distinctive natural features and places of ecological value within this area are likely to have high Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity.
Tourist Information Parks Victoria	The area includes significant opportunities for learning about Aboriginal heritage. It is widely popular for camping, bushwalking and nature appreciation and the reservoir provides opportunities for fishing.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	Regional - State