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FILES AND GAZETTEERS

GAZETTEER OF AUSTRALIA

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GAZETTEER OF AUSTRALIA

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INTRODUCTION

The Gazetteer of Australia is a fundamental dataset for use in any application that requires a place name and its location. The data is in simple format which can be imported into databases and spreadsheets for simple queries or integration into your own application

There are more than 210 000 geographic names covering Australia's land and off-shore areas. The spelling and location of these geographic names has been authorised and supplied by the relevant state or territory geographic names agency as well as the Australian Navy. The data has been compiled into a single consistent database by AUSLIG.

More than just a listing of names - each geographic name is supplied with other useful information. Its location is given in both latitude and longitude and map coordinates in metres. Also supplied is a code that indicates the type feature to which the name refers, such as locality or a mine, as well as the State of origin and any variations or alternative name.

The geographical names in this gazetteer are a subset of the complete information sets held by each of the relevant agencies. For example, the full dataset held by the Geographical Names Board of NSW contains information on the history of a name and its derivation. Also some features such as the names of roads, schools, cemeteries etc. held by the naming authority, have not been supplied. For information on the full set of names data please contact the relevant authority.

The complete Gazetteer of Australia is supplied in 25 separate files on five, DOS formatted disks.

The geographical names records have been broken up into the three themes of Land, Water and Infrastructure. These three themes are available for each of the eight States/Territories. A separate file holds the data provided by Royal Australian Navy Hydrographic Office. This approach has been taken so that you can download only the data that you need.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Each line (record) consists of 13 fields which have a fixed length and are quote delimited. Each record of data in the file contains the fields shown in the table below. More information on each of the fields is given in the following sections.

Field	Description	Field Type
1	Record Identifier	9 char
2	Name	50 char
3	Feature Code	4 char
4	Status	1 char
5	Latitude	9:5 num
6	Longitude	9:5 num
7	Easting	6 num
8	Northing	7 num
9	Zone	2 num
10	Map Number	4 num
11	State	3 char
12	Record date	8 char
13	Variant Name	50 char

1. RECORD IDENTIFIER

The record identifier is a unique alpha-numeric identifier for each geographical name in the database. The first three characters of which indicate the authority which provided the information.

Code	Authority
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
NSW	New South Wales
QLD	Queensland
VIC	Victoria
NAV	Royal Australian Navy Hydrographic Office
TAS	Tasmania
SAU	South Australia
NTE	Northern Territory
WAU	Western Australia

2. NAME

The geographical name supplied by the relevant naming authority. Some authorities have included alternate (variant) names in this field using "or" or "," to separate the various names. In other cases the variant name is indicated by record 13, variant name.

In the records provided by Navy there are instances of multiple variants for an approved geographical names. In these cases the approved geographical name appears a number of times with [2], [3] etc. added to the end of the name indicating duplicate records for this name.

When the first part of a name is the same as feature code, such as *Mount Kosciusko* or *Lake Ginninderra* the name is reversed in order, ie. *Kosciusko, Mount* and *Ginninderra, Lake*. However, this rule is not followed when the name is that of populated place.

When a name starts with 'The' such as *The Cobblers*, the name is sometimes supplied as said, other times, the order is reversed such as in *Big Gibber, The*.

3. FEATURE CODE

The feature code indicates the type of geographical feature which the name represents. For example, the name of a mountain, dock or forest. The codes and the features which they represent are given below.

Code	Feature and Included Terms	Theme	Code	Feature and Included Terms	Theme
AF	Aerodrome, Airfield, Airport, Landing Ground	INFR	DAM	Dam, Weir, Catchment, Barrage	INFR
ANCH	Anchorage	WATR	DEPR	Depression, Basin, Donga	LAND
ARCH	Archipelago	LAND	DOCK	Dock, Basin, Wetdock	INFR
BANK	Bank, Bar, Sandbar	WATR	DRN	Drain	WATR
BATH	Bank, Basin, Canyon, Discordance, Escarpment, Fracture Zone, Gap, Guyot, Knoll, Plain, Reef, Ridge, Rise, Saddle, Seamount, Shelf, Shoal, Spur, Terrace, Trench, Trough	WATR	DRST	Desert	LAND
BAY	Bay	WATR	DUNE	Dunes	LAND
BCH	Beach	WATR	ENTR	Entrance	WATR
BEND	Bend, Loop, Meander	WATR	ESTY	Estuary	WATR
BGHT	Bight	WATR	FORD	Ford, Crossing	INFR

BORE	Bore, Well	WATR	FRNG	Rifle Range, Rocket Range, Bombing Range	INFR
BRK	Breaker	WATR	FRST	Forest, Wood	LAND
BRKW	Breakwater, Groyne, Levee, Mole	LAND	GASF	Gasfield (Well)	INFR
CAPE	Cape	LAND	GORG	Gorge, Ravine, Canyon, Glen, Chasm	LAND
CAVE	Cave, Blowhole, Cavern, Grotto	LAND	GULF	Gulf	WATR
CLAY	Claypan, Clayhole	WATR	HBR	Harbour, Haven, Roadstead, Marina	WATR
CLIF	Bluff, Cliff, Breakaway, Escarpment, Jumpup, Precipice	LAND	HILL	Hill, Knoll, Knob, Mesa, Sugarloaf, Lookout	LAND
CNAL	Canal, Waterway, Aqueduct, Bore, Drain, Channel	WATR	HMSD	Homestead, Outstation, Outcamp, Woolshed	INFR
COVE	Cove, Inlet	WATR	INTL	Intermittent Lake	WATR
CRTR	Crater	LAND	IS	Island, Island Group, Cay, Isle, Islet, Clumps	WATR

4. STATUS

The written form of a geographical name approved by the naming authority is deemed to be an "official" or "approved" name. The process required for a name to become official varies with each of the states. For details on this process contact the relevant authority using the contact list at the front of this User Guide. This field has two values:

- O for official status
- U for unofficial status

5. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE

The latitude and longitude of the position of the feature are given in decimal degrees using the Australian Geodetic Datum 1966 coordinate system. These coordinates are given to 5 decimal places of a degree (approx. 1 m) but this does not indicate the absolute accuracy of the location.

6. EASTING, NORTHING AND ZONE

These fields provide the Easting, Northing and Zone for the position of the feature in metres using the Australian Map Grid (AMG) coordinates. If the AMG coordinates were not provided by the naming agency, these coordinates were calculated from the latitude and longitude.

These coordinates are given to the nearest metre but this does not indicate the absolute accuracy of the location. For example, some States have provided the data to the nearest 100m.

7. MAP NUMBER

This is the map sheet number for the 1:100 000 scale map in which the geographical name is located. These are the numbers used to identify the maps covered by AUSLIG's National Topographic Map Series. Where the geographical name is located outside the standard NTMS coverage, such as Norfolk Island, a default of 9999 is used.

8. STATE

This field indicates the State or Territory in which the geographical feature falls. Standard values such as NT and VIC are used. Names provided by the Navy may be in Australian or International waters and this is indicated by AUS or INT respectively.

9. RECORD DATE

This is the date as supplied by the naming authority. It indicates when this record was last updated. If a date has not been supplied then a default date of 99/99/99 is used. Early historical names are shown by approximate date such as *c 1884*.

10. VARIANT NAME

This is an alternative or previous name for the geographical feature.

A CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT

The Gazetteer of Australia is the result of the cooperative effort of Commonwealth, State and Territory government organizations. The Gazetteer has been compiled by the Executive Officer of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australia (CGNA) using data provided by the members of the CGNA. This committee operates as a special interest group of the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM). More information on ICSM and CGNA is given below. The collated data were documented, published and packaged by the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group (AUSLIG).

The Committee for Geographical Names in Australia

The committee for Geographical Names in Australia (CGNA) was formed in 1984 to provide a coordinating role in Australian place naming activities. Secretariat support to the Committee was provided on a rotational basis by the State Geographical Names Boards until a permanent secretariat was established within ICSM in 1993 with the support of the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group (AUSLIG).

Major achievements of CGNA have been:

- Production of the Toponymic Guidelines for Australia, a national standard on names, designators and policies for non-English names.
- Formulation of guidelines for the recording and use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander place names.

Australia is an active member of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN). Contact with international names authorities has been established enabling interchange of information on geographical naming policies and practices.

More information of the CGNA is available via the Internet on:

<http://www.auslig.gov.au/pipc/pipcmain.htm>

or contact:

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Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying & Mapping

The Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM) was established in 1988 by the Prime Minister, State Premiers, and the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory to provide leadership, through coordination and cooperation, in surveying and mapping. Since that time the Australian Capital Territory and New Zealand have joined ICSM.

Prior to 1988 the National Mapping Council (NMC), had coordinated cooperative Commonwealth, State and Territory mapping programs. The ICSM was formed to cover both surveying and mapping issues, as they relate to Government activities, to ensure continued cooperation in these activities on a national basis.

Each State and Territory has a surveying and mapping agency and AUSLIG, as the Commonwealth mapping agency, has specific national responsibilities. The Australian Army and the Royal Australian Navy also have specific national and international surveying, mapping and charting responsibilities. ICSM comprises representatives from each of Australia's Commonwealth, State, Territory and Defense surveying and mapping agencies. New Zealand is represented by its Surveyor-General.

Within ICSM the following groups carry out projects, research for, and provide advice to, the ICSM in their special fields of expertise:

- ICSM Geodesy Group
- ICSM Topographic Data Group
- ICSM Cadastral Data Model Committee
- Committee for Geographical Names in Australia (CGNA)
- Cadastral Reform

ICSM's initiatives aim to

- avoid unnecessary duplication and
- provide a consistent and modern approach to surveying, mapping and charting for national development and defense.

More information on the ICSM is available on the Internet via the World Wide Web:
<http://www.auslig.gov.au/pipc/pipcmain.htm>

or contact:

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