



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

10006. FC18 Series of Plans

Sheets 1-6, 8-13

ACT Regional Office, Australian Archives

Sheet 7 and Reference Map
Canberra City

John Overall Offices, 220 Northbourne Avenue,

OBJECTS

This document has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council.

This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the **Heritage Act 2004**), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the **Heritage Act 2004**.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the **Heritage Act 2004**, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

Information restricted under *the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register* is restricted under the **Heritage Act 2004**.

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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY HERITAGE OBJECTS REGISTER

For the purpose of S16 of the Heritage Objects Act 1991, a citation for:

FC 18 Series of Plans of the Border of the Federal Capital Territory, with Reference Map

has been approved by the Minister for the Arts and Heritage for entry in the Heritage Objects Register.

The date of the Instrument of Approval : 18 April 1995

Enquiries about these objects and copies of this citation are available from:

The Secretariat
Heritage Council of the ACT
TUGGERANONG ACT 2901

Telephone: 207 2179 Facsimile: 207 2177

HERITAGE OBJECTS REGISTER

CITATION

FC 18 Series of Plans of the Border of the Federal Capital Territory, with Reference Map

NOMINATED BY Mr Peter Edwards, Assistant Manager, Customer Services, Land Information Office, Department of the Environment, Land and Planning

LOCATION OF OBJECTS Sheets 1-6, 8-13
ACT Regional Office, Australian Archives, Cnr Sandford St and Flemington Rd, Mitchell, ACT 2911

Sheet 7 and Reference Map
Drawer No 2 of Map Cabinet No 5, Plan Room, Ground Floor, John Overall Offices, 220 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra City

DESCRIPTION

The 13 hand drawn plans which define the border of the Federal Capital. The series is titled F[ederal] C[apital] 18 Sheets 1 to 13. The plans are drawn to the scale of 20 chains to 1 inch. The plans are accompanied by a Reference Map, which is the key to the location of each of the 13 plans.

F[ederal] C[apital] 18 Sheets 1 to 13

The description of each sheet is in two parts :

- a) Title - the information written on the plan, the square brackets contain supplementary information ;
- b) a description of the physical characteristics of the plan and secondary inscriptions.

1. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 1** Plan of the North Western Boundary of the Commonwealth Territory from Coree Trigonometrical Station to One Tree Trigonometrical Station. Survey completed 15 October 1910. Field Books Vols 69 & 71 (Territorial Boundary) and Vols 70 & 84 (Portions). Calculation Book Vol 7. Transmitted to the Director of Surveys with my letter dated 19 March 1912. P L Sheaffe Surveyor.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan includes a cross-section. The plan is signed by Sheaffe and bears the examiners initials -"A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79".
Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

2. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 2** Plan of North Western Boundary of the Commonwealth Territory from Coree Trigonometrical Station to One Tree Trigonometrical Station. Survey completed on the 7 February 1911. Field Books Vols 71 & 141 (Territorial Boundary) 84 to 86, 140, 142, & 147 (Portions) Calculation Books Vols 6 & 7. Transmitted to the Director of Surveys with my letter dated 19 March 1912. P L Sheaffe Surveyor.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan includes a cross-section. The plan is signed by Sheaffe and bears the examiners initials -"A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A

Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79".
Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

3. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 3** Plan of that part of Northern Boundary of the Commonwealth Territory between One Tree Trigonometrical Station and Greenwood Trigonometrical Station. Information for this Chart is derived from Computation Books 15 & 18. Field books 151A, 152A, 201A, 202A, 221A, 222A, 203A, 2319. This Survey was made by me personally and completed on the 23rd day of November 1911 in accordance with Instruction No 1911/3 of 22nd February. P L Sheaffe Licensed Surveyor.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan is signed by Sheaffe and bears the examiners initials "-A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

4. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 4** [From Greenwood to Cooma Railway] This survey was made by me personally and compiled on 30th day of July 1912 in accordance with instruction No 1911/3 of 22nd February. P L Sheaffe Licensed Surveyor. Note. Information for this Chart is derived from Computation Book 21 and from Field Books (221A, 284A, 291A, 301A, 315A, 475A, 1486F, TBS 15, TBS 21, TBS 25, TBS 24, TBS 22, TBS 23, 1830.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan is signed by Sheaffe and bears the examiners initials "-A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

5. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 5** [From Cooma Railway to Oaks Estate] Note. Information for this Chart is derived from Computation Book 33 and from Field Book No 474A, 475A, 496A, 497A, 594A, 2497. TBS 32, TBS 23, TBS 20, TBS 31, TBS 23. This Survey was made by me personally and completed on the 1st day of February 1913 in accordance with Instruction No 1912/1 of 16 May.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan is signed by Sheaffe and bears the examiners initials "-A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written " MC 2418 SB Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 76 x 132.5cm.

6. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 6** [From Guises Creek to Queanbeyan Racecourse] Note Information for this chart is derived from Computation Book 63 and from Field Books 1497A TBS 31, 636A TBS 36, 1017A TBS 37, 1018A TBS 30, 1020A TBS 39, 1028A TBS 40, 1029A TBS 41 This survey was made by me personally and completed on the in accordance with Instruction No 1919/1 of 16 May 1912. [Not signed].

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced by linen. The plan is not signed. It bears the examiners initials "A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written " CT 1040 6-2-76 Admin Serv 6425 15/7/76 A Archives 12-9-79 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

7. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 7** [Rob Roy to Parish of Yarara] This survey was made by me personally and completed on the 16th day of May 1914 in accordance with Instruction No 1912/1. Note. Information for this chart is derived from Computation book No 84 and from Field Books 1028A, 1029A, 1051A, 1052A, (TBS 40, TBS 41, TBS 42, TBS 51).

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is not signed. It bears the examiners initials "A L". Dimensions : 76.5 x 132.5cm.

- 8. Title:** **FC 18 Sheet 8** [Naas River to Left Hand Creek] Notes. Information from this Plan derived from Computation Books No 84 and 86. Field Books A : 1051, 1083, 1084 & 1052. This survey was made by me personally and completed on the ... in accordance with Instruction No... of the ...

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is not signed. It bears the examiners initials "A L". At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". On reverse is stamped " A2033" FS SB 307 24-5-78 S/Room SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77 x 134cm.

- 9. Title:** **FC 18 Sheet 9** [Left Hand Creek to Parish of Flinders] Note. Information for this plan derived from Computation Books 90 and 92. Field Books A 1051, 1084, 1087 to 1089. This survey was made by us personally and completed on the 28th May 1915, in accordance with instruction No 15/1 of the 19th February 1915 and No 13/1, of September 19th 1915. F M Johnston Licensed Surveyors.

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is signed by Johnston and bears the examiners initials -"A L". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". Dimensions : 77 x 133.5cm.

- 10. Title:** **FC 18 Sheet 10** [Parish of Brest to Parish of Gudgenby] Note Information for this Chart is derived from Computation Bks 92 & 110, from Field Books 1057A, 1058A, 1059A & 1089A (TBS 53, TBS 54, TBS 55, TBS 58) This survey was made by us personally and completed on the 28 May 1915 in accordance with Instruction No 15/1 of Feby 19th 1915. F M Johnston Licensed Surveyor (Under Real Property Act).

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is signed by Johnston and bears the examiners initials -"A L" with the date "12.1,1944". There are annotations in pencil throughout the plan. At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77 x 133cm.

- 11. Title:** **FC 18 Sheet 11** [Mt Kelly to Bimberi] information for this plan derived from Computation Book No 110 and Field Books A 1055.6.7.E1304. This survey was made by me personally and completed on the ...day...of...19.. in accordance with Instruction No... dated...19..Licensed Surveyor (Under Real Property Act)

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is not signed. There are annotations in pencil at top centre, centre and bottom right. At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". "Examined as to plan only A L 29/4/44". On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77.5 x 135.5cm.

- 12. Title:** **FC 18 Sheet 12** [Bimberi to Franklin] Information for this Chart derived from Computation Bks 110 & 111, from Field Books 1013A, 1022A, 1024A, 1025A, 1026A, 1027A & 1054A, 1055A, & 1300E, 1301E, 1302E. This survey was made by me personally and completed on the ...in accordance with Instruction No 1 of 19th Sept 1913 & No 2 of 16th April 1914... Licensed Surveyor (Under Real Property Act).

The plan is hand drawn in black ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The plan is not signed. At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". Annotated in pencil throughout. On reverse is stamped "A2033" and hand written "Admin Services Branch 1-9-76 8112 A Archives Survey Off 520 23-1-78 IS SP 307 24-5-78 S/ROOM SP 704 12-9-79". Dimensions : 77.5 x 135.5cm.

13. Title: **FC 18 Sheet 13** [Franklin to Coree Trigonometrical Station] [Field Book reference within plan] FB 1011 TBS 29 i55 - s54.

The plan is hand drawn in black and blue ink on heavy weight paper reinforced with linen. The "FC 18" is coloured red. The plan is not signed. At bottom left is written in blue pencil "Traced". At right "Examined as to plan only A L 29/4/44 Examined as to tabulations...". Dimensions : 77 x 132.5cm.

Reference map

Title : Commonwealth of Australia. Map of the Federal Territory. Counties of Cowley and Murray. Scale 100 chains to 1 inch. Compiled and drawn by the Dept of Home Affairs, Land and Surveys Branch, Melbourne. July 1915. Printed for Commonwealth Lands and Surveys.

The map is printed on linen backed paper. On this map have been hand drawn, in black ink, the boundaries as defined in the 13 Border Survey Plans of the ACT. Each plan is identified in orange/gold/brown/ green felt. Dimensions: 123.5 x 79cm.

CONDITION

Plans

1. Wear at edges with small tears, one of 5cm centre right , discolouration, shoe sole prints bottom right.
2. Wear at edges, stains centre right and top right.
3. Wear at edges, discolouration, corners reinforced with paper and metal staples, shoe sole prints at right of centre, white patches-suggest rubber used.
4. Wear at edges, discolouration, black ink stain at centre, stain centre right, white patches throughout-suggest rubber used.
5. Wear at edges, discolouration, stain centre, corners reinforced with paper and metal staples, white patches throughout-suggest rubber used.
6. Wear at edges, discolouration.
7. Wear at edges, discolouration.
8. Wear at edges, discolouration.
9. Wear at edges, discolouration, scattered stains.
10. Wear at edges, discolouration, stains at bottom right and centre.
11. Wear at edges, 5cm tear bottom centre, discolouration.
12. Wear at edges, discolouration.
13. Wear at edges, discolouration.

Reference Map

The paper on the map is lifting from the edges and is torn in places at the edges. Some fragments of paper are missing. Requires urgent conservation.

HISTORY

Various sites for the Federal Capital Territory (as the Australian Capital Territory was named until 1938) were considered during the years leading up to the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. It was not until 1908 that a final decision was made with the introduction of *The Seat of Government Act*, which identified the Yass - Canberra region for the Federal Capital Territory. The task of identifying the best site for the capital city was given to Charles Robert Scrivener, then District Surveyor in Hay, New South Wales.

Scrivener was born on 2 November 1855 at Windsor, NSW, the son of Charles A Scrivener. Appointed as a NSW District Surveyor at Wagga Wagga and Hay, he took up his surveying duties with the Commonwealth Government first at Dalgety, then Yass/Canberra and finally at the Federal Capital. Scrivener was awarded the Imperial Service Order in 1915; he died at Mount Irvine in 1923.

Scrivener selected an area centred on the village of Canberry and the Molonglo River. The Federal Capital Advisory Board adopted the site but did not adopt Scrivener's boundary suggestions for the Territory. The Board substituted the catchment areas of the Naas and Gudgenby Rivers for the catchments of the Queanbeyan and Gudgenby Rivers selected by Scrivener.

In October 1909 the Prime Minister and the Premier of New South Wales agreed on the area that would be ceded by the New South Wales Government to the Commonwealth.

The Federal Capital Territory came into existence on 1 July 1911 under the Seat of Governments Acts of Surrender and Acceptance .

Having selected the site for the new capital, survey of the area had to be undertaken to provide information to the Commonwealth and, specifically, to provide the base survey drawings required for the impending competition for the design of Canberra.

Scrivener and selected staff prepared the contour map of the city area and undertook surveys for water, roads and railways.

The survey and marking of the boundary between the Federal Territory and New South Wales was undertaken by a small team of Scrivener's surveyors, commencing in June, 1910. The first section of the border surveyed was from Coree Trigonometrical Station to One Tree Trigonometrical Station by P L Sheaffe which was completed by October 1910. (Refer to nomination 2, field books used for the survey of the border of the Federal Capital Territory.)

Percy Lempriere Sheaffe was born in Brisbane on 1 October 1883. He began his surveying career in New South Wales and following a brief period in Queensland Sheaffe was appointed to the Commonwealth Public Service as Senior Surveyor in 1910. Sheaffe retired from the position of Chief Survey and Property Officer, Department of the Interior in 1948. After his retirement Sheaffe was made a Life Member of the Australian Institution of Surveyors.

Frederick Marshall Johnston was born on 19 October 1885 in Perth, Western Australia. His early career was spent in W A and he commenced duty in the Federal Capital Territory on 15 January 1914. He later became head of the Lands Survey for the W A section of the Trans Australian Railway. From 1945 to 1949 he was Commonwealth Surveyor-General. Frederick Johnston died on 24 December 1963.

The survey and marking of the border was continued by Sheaffe, Johnston and other members of Scrivener's staff and was completed in 1915.

The survey information was recorded in field books which were returned to the Lands and Survey Branch of the Department of Home Affairs which had been established in 1910. The information was then converted to plan form.

By 1911 offices for the new Lands and Survey Branch had been constructed to the east of the surveyor's camp on the north side of Capital Hill. The surveyor's concrete plan archive at the

southern end of the offices was built by 1913. The building, now named Surveyor's Hut, stands today and is, at the time of the preparation of this citation, proposed for entry on the Interim Heritage Places Register.

The Lands and Survey Branch retained the plans and map, which were subsequently passed to the various sections of the Commonwealth and ACT Governments responsible for the surveying of the ACT. In 1970, twelve of the series of plans were deposited with the Australian Archives (ACT). The Australian Surveying and Land Information Group, now part of Arts and Administrative Services portfolio, are listed as the current owners of the material.

The plans define the border of the ACT and continue to be the reference documents for the subdivision of the ACT.

The map which is the key to the Border Survey Plans is used for reference to the plans.

ANALYSIS AGAINST THE CRITERIA

5 An object which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type.

The FC 18 plans are the original plans which delineate the entire border of the ACT.

7 An object which has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase in local or national history.

The plans were drawn from the information collected by Scrivener's surveying team. The association with establishment and development of the ACT and with the first surveyors of the Federal Capital is highly significant.

The plans have a unique role in the history of the ACT as they define its border.

9 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

The Border Survey Plans define the border of the ACT and remain the source of authority for all survey work within the ACT.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The plans have outstanding significance to the heritage of the ACT as they are the original plans delineating the border of the ACT.

They have a high level of significance : for their association with the establishment and development of the ACT and with the first surveyors of the Federal Capital; and as the source of authority for all survey work in the ACT.

CONSERVATION POLICY

The collection of the original FC18 series of plans and Reference Map is to be kept together. Their heritage significance is to be retained as described under the Specific Conservation Requirements.

SPECIFIC CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with Section 6 (d) of the *Heritage Objects Act 1991*, the following requirements are identified as essential to the retention of the heritage significance of the objects :

1. The original plans are not to be made available for use other than in exceptional circumstances.
2. Professionally produced copies of the plans are to be made available for day to day use.
3. They are to be held in secure storage with access limited and monitored.
4. They are to be interleaved with archive text paper (acid free) or mylar.
5. They are to be handled with cotton or latex gloves.
6. Their condition is to be monitored and any changes are to be reported to the Registrar of Heritage Objects.
7. Any change of location is to be reported to the Registrar.

RESTRICTED INFORMATION

Not applicable

PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS

Not known

REFERENCES

Australian Archives ACT Branch.

Series No A2033/1 Federal Capital Contour Plans , FC Series

Series No A110 Item No FC1911/3575 - Federal Capital - Demarcation of Boundaries;

Series No A192 Item Nos FCL21/505 - Territorial Boundary,
19/717 - Federal Territory Boundary - Blue Prints;

Series No A235 Item No NN - Department of Home Affairs Annual Report of
Lands and Survey Branch 1913;

Series No A361 Item No DSG19/467 - Territorial Boundary Survey;

Series No A657 Item No DS14/3820 - Territorial Boundary;

Series No A8001/1 Item Nos 2A - Commonwealth Territory 30 July 1912 : Gives reference
to corners. Stations on Territorial Boundary Trag (sic) - Greenwood
[Copy A], 2B - [Copy B], 14A - Federal Territory Sheet 2 Scale 40
chains to an inch [Copy B].

Series No AA 1071/658/1 Item : Box 3

Series No AA 29/8/78 Item : Folder 42

Department of Administrative Services 1983, *Annual Report 1982-83*, AGPS, Canberra, pp
74-81.

Department of Environment, Land and Planning, Museums and Galleries Unit, 1993,
Community History - Acton Project. Biographical details and photographs of early surveyors
and other employees of the Lands and Surveys Branch and their families.

Department of Environment, Land and Planning, Heritage Unit, File No 80/23366 Survey
Hut, Capital Hill.

Department of Home Affairs 1914, *Annual Report of Lands and Surveys Branch 1912-13*, Government Printer, Sydney.

Freeman, Peter and Partners Pty Ltd 1978, *Surveyor's Hut Conservation Plan* for Department of Administrative Services, Canberra.

Gillespie, Lyall 1991, *Canberra 1820 - 1913* AGPS, Canberra.

Mr R Wenzholz, Mr P Edwards, and Mr R Hulanicki of the Land Information Office, DELP.

Mr Colin Fuller, Institution of Surveyors.

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| NOMINATION NUMBER | 1 |
| DATE OF NOMINATION | 4 May 1993 |
| REGISTER NUMBER | |
| DATE OF GAZETTAL: INTERIM REGISTER REGISTER | |
| FILE NUMBER | 93/08049 |
| TYPE OF OBJECT | Manufactured |
| OWNERS | Commonwealth Government ACT Government |
| KEEPERS | FC 18 Sheets 1-6 and 8-13 Australian Archives, Canberra FC 18 Sheet 7 and reference map Land Information Office, Department of the Environment, Land and Planning |

Prepared by Pamela Fabricius
18 April 1995.