



National Parks Association of the ACT Inc

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Foreword

This Oral History Project was initiated in 1996 by Reg Alder and Fiona MacDonald Brand and the Management Committee of the National Parks Association of the ACT (NPA ACT) as a contribution to the 40th anniversary of the NPA ACT in 2000. Some initial recorded interviews were conducted by Reg and Fiona in 1996 to 1998. Further interviews were recorded in late 1999 and early 2000 by Matthew Higgins, a freelance historian contracted by the association to complete the project.

This document of transcripts and statements represents members' recollections of NPA events up to and including 1999, as well as recollections by two non-members who played a role in the creation and gazettal of Namadgi National Park, the stated aim of the founders of the association.

Initial transcripts were undertaken by Judith Webster, Eleanor Stodart, Mike Smith and Annette Smith as well as others not identified on the original draft transcripts in the years to 2005. All checking, editing, and formatting of the transcripts has been undertaken by the compiler Mike Smith. Final transcripts have also been checked by Annette Smith.

Initial interview transcripts were essentially a verbatim transcription of the interview tapes. However, in the editing process some punctuation marks and sentence breaks have been added, a few unnecessary word/s or irrelevant comments deleted and occasional words added to improve readability. It is hoped this document reflects the participants' memories and recollections.

Some participants in this Oral History Project opted to give written statements rather than be interviewed. Apart from formatting, these statements are essentially as provided by the author.

All comments and/or opinions expressed in the interview transcripts or statements represent the views of the individual participants in this Oral History Project and are not necessarily endorsed by the NPA Management Committee or other NPA members.

Two appendices relating to the history of the NPA have been included in this document.

The original audio tapes of the interviews as well as digital versions (MP3 format), and versions of the document in Word and PDF formats were deposited with the ACT Heritage Library in 2011. Some additional formatting and editing was undertaken by Sonja Lenz for the Publications Subcommittee before this document was printed.