



**Marion Scrymgour**  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

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## **HERITAGE LISTING FOR TERRITORY SPOTS**

Environment and Heritage Minister Marion Scrymgour today announced the Heritage Listing of two important sites in the Northern Territory – including one of the Territory’s most successful sheep stations of its time.

The two sites are Wimmera Home, in the Victoria River region, and Avon Downs pastoral station.

Wimmera Home was built in 1923 following several serious malaria epidemics. “It provided medical care to the isolated settlers, drovers, bagmen, and Indigenous people in the Victoria River region,” Ms Scrymgour said.

“The home is testament to the work of the Reverend John Flynn and the Australian Inland Missions vision and commitment to the area.”

Ms Scrymgour said the building had changed little internally and externally since it was constructed.

“The two storey building is an excellent example of a building designed for the humid tropics.

“Wimmera Home was also an important communication link for the Australian Inland Mission Sisters and the isolated population when a pedal powered radio was installed in 1932.”

Avon Downs Pastoral Station was established in 1882, and in its time was one of the Territory’s most successful sheep stations.

“Avon Downs is highly significant to the Territory and contains well preserved reminders of our early sheep and cattle farming days.

“It is also important for its association with some of Australia’s early pioneering explorers and settlers of the Barkly Tableland.”

Ms Scrymgour said 13 places within the site were declared as heritage, and include the stone kitchen foundations, overshot dam, meat house and men’s quarters.

The NT Government is committed to heritage conservation, and every year provides \$1 million for the repair and maintenance of government owned heritage places each year.

**Photos attached.**

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