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The Secretary
Legislative Council Select Committee on Public Land
Parliament of Victoria
Spring Street
Melbourne. Vic 3002.

Re: Port Campbell Caravan Park & Glenample Homestead

Dear Mr Willis,

I wish to make a submission to the Select Committee re Port Campbell Caravan Park owned by Parks Victoria, & Glenample Homestead leased by Parks Victoria.

Port Campbell Caravan Park

1. Parks Victoria appear to intend leasing the Caravan Park for 21 years. This long term lease may exclude the public from what should be publicly accessible land.
2. A section of Road Reserve was given by Corangamite Shire to the Caravan Park (22 May 2007). It would appear this area would have been better developed and used as a walkway/boardwalk offsetting the slope in this high pedestrian area – as shown in the Port Campbell Caravan Park Concept Plan (PCCPCP). There was no land exchange. It appears a caretaker's house was partially built on this road reserve.
3. The PCCPCP, previously exhibited for community consultation, showed walking tracks and board walks. This was something for the community and also for visitors to the town. The Port Campbell Caravan Park Master Plan (PCCPMP) appears to have erased these features. While Parks Victoria stated that this is just the first part of the process. However, if the walking trails and boardwalks are not on the Master Plan for tender, or set into a Parks Victoria contract, then they may never happen.
4. We were advised by Parks Victoria that the community's Information Center/Shipwreck Museum will also eventually go. Even if there is another Information Centre out in the National Park, it is still important for Port Campbell to have this smaller facility in town. It is also the showcase of our significant shipwreck heritage. The Information Centre appears to be replaced by a car park in the Concept Plan.
5. The Port Campbell National Parks Proposed Management Plan 1988 highlights the significance of a 'fragile wetlands'. Part of this area now has cabins.
6. The community's outdoor amphitheatre where talks and film nights have occurred in the past may be taken over with tent accommodation.
7. The PCCPCP shows a possible further infringement of public space and natural bush with a car park for a potential private enterprise hot springs facility.

This appears to be a template for privatisation of National Parks land.

Glenample Homestead

Glenample Homestead is recognised by Heritage Victoria as a significant part of Victoria's heritage (See Attachment Heritage Listing H0392). Glenample was built in 1869 by pioneer pastoralist Hugh Gibson from locally quarried sandstone, and displays information on the *Loch Ard* tragedy.

Parks Victoria has leased Glenample to various parties over the last 15 years for operation, but it is now closed. Parks Victoria website notes: "As at 13 September 2007, Glenample Homestead will closed indefinitely. It will not be available for car parking at the end of the Great Ocean Walk". While it appears Parks Victoria may accommodate requests to visit the site, it is disappointing that such a significant heritage site has been closed to the public. It appears that it has been reprioritised due to lower visitor numbers compared to higher profile sites such as the Twelve Apostles.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Marion Manifold