Australian Government
Geoscience Australia

ICSM
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON SURVEYING & MAPPING

Gazetteer of Australia 2012

Product User Guide

National Geographic Information Group
Geoscience Australia

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For up to date information on *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* refer to the Geoscience Australia website www.ga.gov.au

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About this user guide
This product user guide sets out the fundamental concepts and characteristics of *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release*. The guide begins with general information and provides more details in later sections. The overview of data content and structure will allow you to make immediate use of the data.

The information in this product user guide was correct at the time of publication and is subject to change. Geoscience Australia assumes no liability resulting from any statements, errors or omissions in the publication or from the use of information contained in this product user guide.

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1 User information

1.1 User support/contact information

Geoscience Australia welcomes feedback on any aspect of its product or services. Please direct your comments or any queries regarding this document or data to:

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For Gazetteer data errors and omissions, please contact the Geographic Names Officer, Geoscience Australia at gazetteer@ga.gov.au

1.2 Geoscience Australia

Geoscience Australia is the Australian Government's agency for geoscience research and spatial information. It serves government and supports the community through its output areas of geoscience for urban centres, oceans and coasts, and regional and rural areas.

1.3 Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM)

ICSM was established in 1988 by the Prime Minister, State Premiers and the Chief Minister of the Northern Territory to provide leadership in surveying and mapping on a national basis through coordination and cooperation. Since that time, the Australian Capital Territory and New Zealand have joined ICSM. Prior to ICSM's establishment, the National Mapping Council (NMC) had coordinated cooperative Commonwealth, State and Territory mapping programs.

ICSM comprises of representatives from each of Australia's Commonwealth, State and Territory governments, the Australian Defence Force and New Zealand's surveying and mapping agencies. Each State and Territory has a surveying and mapping agency and Geoscience Australia, 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.

The Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia (CGNA) is a permanent subcommittee of ICSM and was formed in 1984 to coordinate Australian place naming. As with ICSM, all jurisdictions have membership on CGNA as well as Macquarie University, which has special interests in toponymic research. More information on ICSM is available at www.icsm.gov.au or contact:

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1.4 Other contributors

This product is the result of the cooperative effort of State, Territory and Commonwealth governments. The Gazetteer has been compiled, documented and packaged by Geoscience Australia on behalf of the members of the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM) using data provided through the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia (CGNA), an ICSM technical subcommittee.

Copyright in the Gazetteer of Australia resides with the relevant State, Territory and Commonwealth governments within Australia. These authorities are custodians of the data that falls within each of their jurisdictions. The contact for each custodial authority is given below:

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Western Australia (WA)
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Facsimile: +61 8 9273 7674
Web: http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au

1.5 User feedback

The custodial authorities of the data do not guarantee that the data is free from errors or omissions so public feedback is an important part of keeping the place names data complete and accurate. If you have identified any errors and/or omissions in the Gazetteer data, it would be appreciated if you could send an email to gazetteer@ga.gov.au detailing such errors or omissions.

Geoscience Australia and ICSM would also appreciate any feedback on how the Gazetteer of Australia can be improved. This feedback can be sent to gazetteer@ga.gov.au.

2 About Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release

2.1 Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release components

Your *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* data package is available in three data formats (kml, gml or database application) and each format has three components which combine to give you a complete data product. The components are:

- **Cover**
  General information on the dataset.
- **Product user guide**
  This guide describes the structure and content of *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release*.
- **gml format**
  All Gazetteer data provided in gml format
- **kml format**
  All Gazetteer data provided in kml format

  OR

- **Database application**
  The Microsoft Access database application contains all the Gazetteer data in tables as well as a search interface to enable users to search for and view the details of place names. This application requires Microsoft Access version 2003 or later to run.

2.2 The Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release product

The Gazetteer of Australia provides map-makers and the public with authoritative information on the location and spelling of approved place names. The 2012 release of the Gazetteer is the 11th edition with information held by the relevant State, Territory and Commonwealth naming authorities.

The place 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, which may not be held uniformly by the naming authorities, have not been supplied.

The State and Territory agencies are the relevant authorities responsible for place names in their respective States and Territories. The Australian Hydrographic Service is the authority for maritime place name features, while the Australian Antarctic Division provides additional information on Heard Island and McDonald Island. Geoscience Australia provides additional information for Norfolk Island, populated place names and unofficial homestead names for NSW, Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania.

2.3 Concise Gazetteer

The Concise Gazetteer of Australia is a representation of Australian place names at 1:5 million scale. The concept stemmed from the 2000 Committee for Geographical Names of Australasia (CGNA) meeting which recognised the need for the consistent use of accurate place names at a regional level. It was also seen to be a fundamental component of the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) of the Asia-Pacific region.

In 2003, CGNA recommended at the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) Conference, that the Permanent Committee on Geographic Information System Infrastructure for the Asia and the Pacific (PCGIAP) support the work of the United Nations on this initiative. They recommended that PCGIAP encourage nations in the Asia-Pacific region to develop and/or maintain a standardised and consistent approach to place naming.

In the event of the creation of a regional Gazetteer, the place names that will form Australia's contribution to this fundamental Asia-Pacific dataset have been flagged with a 'Y' in the 'Concise Gazetteer' field.

2.4 Community Geographic Domain Names (CGDN)

The field 'CGDN' allows the identification of those place names that have been identified as suitable for use with second level internet domain names and was created by Geoscience Australia on behalf of CGNA for Domain Administration Ltd. (auDA) who are responsible for regulating and setting policy on the registration of Australian Internet domain names.

Following announcements in November 2002, auDA created the following eight new second level domains for Australian States and Territories to help preserve the use of place names by their relevant communities.

- act.au
- nt.au
- sa.au
- vic.au
- nsw.au
- qld.au
- tas.au
- wa.au

The .au Community Domains Trust (auCD), was then established by auDA to facilitate the development of Community Geographic Domain Names (CGDNs), which are registered as third level domain names and incorporate the local placename where the domain structure is placename.state/territory.au - for example, bathurst.nsw.au or ballarat.vic.au. Use of the domain names is restricted to community website portals that reflect community interests, such as local business, tourism, historical information, special interest groups, and cultural events.

Placenames in the Gazetteer that have been assigned for inclusion in the CGDN list are allocated with a "Y" and were selected using records with feature codes matching LOCB, LOCU, SUB, or URBN.

More background information on second level domains for Australian place (or geographic) names is available from the auCD website at www.aucd.org.au.

2.5 Coordinate system

Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release data is available in geographical coordinates (latitude and longitude) in decimal degrees using the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94).

3 Data loading

3.1 Application formats

Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release data is available in three formats:

- **KML**
- **GML**
- **Microsoft Access database.** This database contains all the Gazetteer data in two tables and includes additional tables to support the user interface within the database. The database is compliant with Microsoft Access Version 2003 format.

3.2 Description of files

Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release package contains the following files:

File name	File size Kb)	File content
Documentation		
User Guide – Gazetteer of Australia 2012.pdf	712	Product user guide
Data		
Gazetteer2012_KML.zip	17,027	List of all place names, limited attributes
Gazetteer2012_GML.zip	34,424	List of all place names
Gazetteer2012_mdb.mdb	109,032	Database of all place names

Details about available KML files

The kml files have been divided into smaller sections across the data extent to allow for faster loading times and ease of use within Google Earth. You may choose to load only the areas of interest. The kml files contain *only* the following attributes: **NAME, RECORD_ID, FEAT_CODE** and **STATE_ID.** Refer to the map and table below (Figure1 & Table 1) for further details:

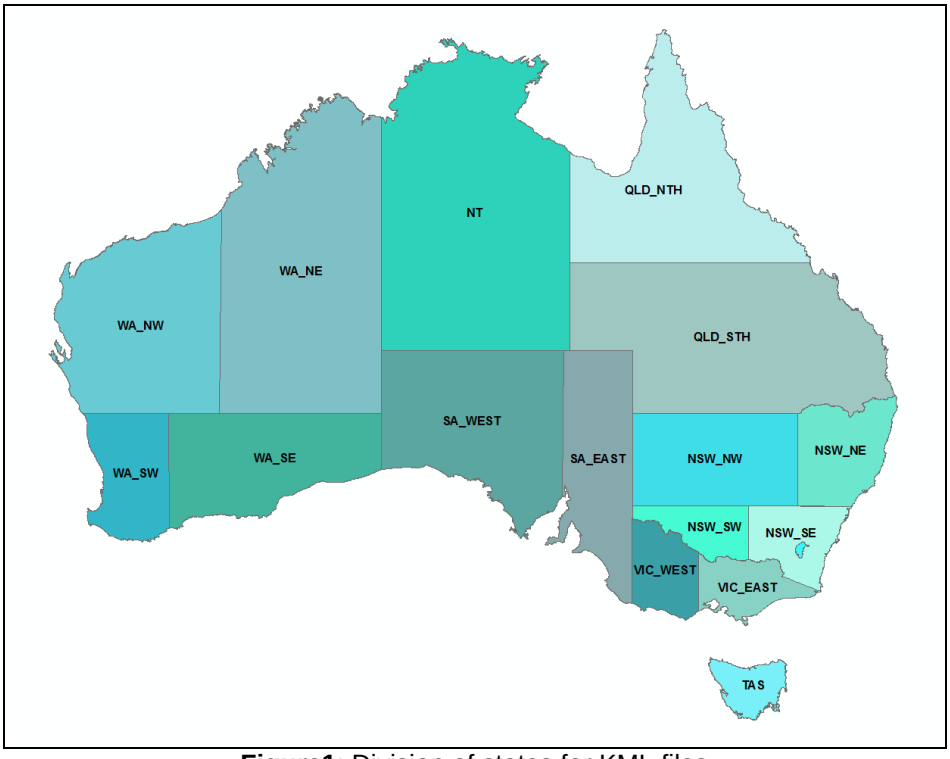

Figure1: Division of states for KML files

Table 1: Details of the KML files

State Division Name	Number of points	File size (Kb)
AAT (Antarctic Territory)	1201	938
ACT_JBT	1058	834
ISLANDS (HRD, MCD, NFK, N/A)	20439	16,282
NSW_NE	41256	37,049
NSW_NW	12842	11,158
NSW_SE	41507	37,299
NSW_SW	7167	6,402
NT	14537	11,354
QLD_NTH	18783	16,874
QLD_STH	32141	28,853
SA_EAST	51660	46,619
SA_WEST	16845	15,200
TAS	18528	14,573
VIC_EAST	25421	23,903
VIC_WEST	13286	12,013
WA_NE	8784	7,887
WA_NW	19384	17,420
WA_SE	5899	5,283
WA_SW	23654	21,245

3.3 Use of the database

The database contains two parts - the data and user interface. The data structure is described in Section 4.1.

The search interface of the database has been designed along similar design principles as the Online Gazetteer of Australia Place Name Search. The main difference is that this search interface does not link to maps showing the physical location of the place name as it has been developed for off-line searching. The following are brief instructions and tips on how to use the database, particularly the search interface.

Opening the database

Microsoft Access 2003 or a later version of the software is required to open the search interface. The database can be opened by double clicking on 'Gazetteer2012_mdb.mdb'. This will open to the database's search interface (Figure 2).

Searching

You can search for place names within the Gazetteer through three search criteria. Use one or more of these criteria and then click on 'Submit Query' to display the search results.

Place name:

Enter the whole name or start of the place name that you want to search for. This searches on place names, variant names, or place names with prefixes such as 'Mount', 'Mt', 'Cape', 'Lake', 'Spit', 'Town of', 'City of', 'Point', 'Pt' and 'The'.

You can perform a wildcard search if you would like to search for a place name by only entering part of the phrase (e.g. search 'berra' to find 'Canberra'). The following are two examples of how wildcard searches can be used to find 'Canberra' by only entering the character string 'berra':

- Place "*" before the string (e.g. *berra). "*" represents any number of characters and can be used before or after the string.
- Place "???" before the string (e.g. ???berra). "?" represents a single character and can be used before or after the string.

Place type:

To refine your search select a category from the 'Place type' picklist. These categories are the same as those used in Geoscience Australia's Online Gazetteer of Australia Place Name Search and are a broad categorisation of the feature codes within the Gazetteer. A list of the place name categories and the feature codes which they correspond to is available at Appendix B.

State:

To refine your search select a State or Territory from the 'State' picklist. This list relates to the State, Territory or External Territory in which the place name is located.

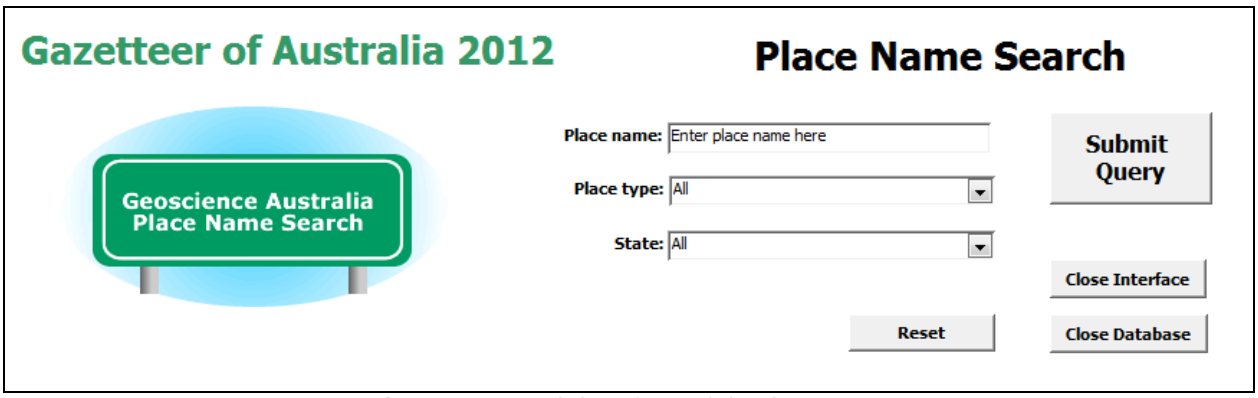

Figure 2: Search interface of database

Displaying results

If the search is successful, the results matching the criteria will be listed as shown in Figure 3, or a message saying that there were no results matching your criteria will appear.

Figure 3: Results of a place name search

In some cases, the results may not match the name entered into the place name search. This is because the place name may have one or more variant names which appear as separate records as opposed to being in the variant name field. This is due to the way that the custodial authorities contributing data to the Gazetteer manage their records. For the same reason, a complete listing of all variant names cannot be provided when users click to see further details of the place name (see Figure 4 and 4a). If this causes any confusion, refer to the 'ID' of the records to ensure that they relate to the same place name.

All the fields appearing in the search results can be sorted by double clicking on the field heading. The first double click will sort it in descending order and the next double click will sort in ascending order and so on. For display purposes, only some of the fields are displayed in the search results. To view all the fields, click on the arrow to the right of the relevant place name record and the form shown in Figure 4 will open.

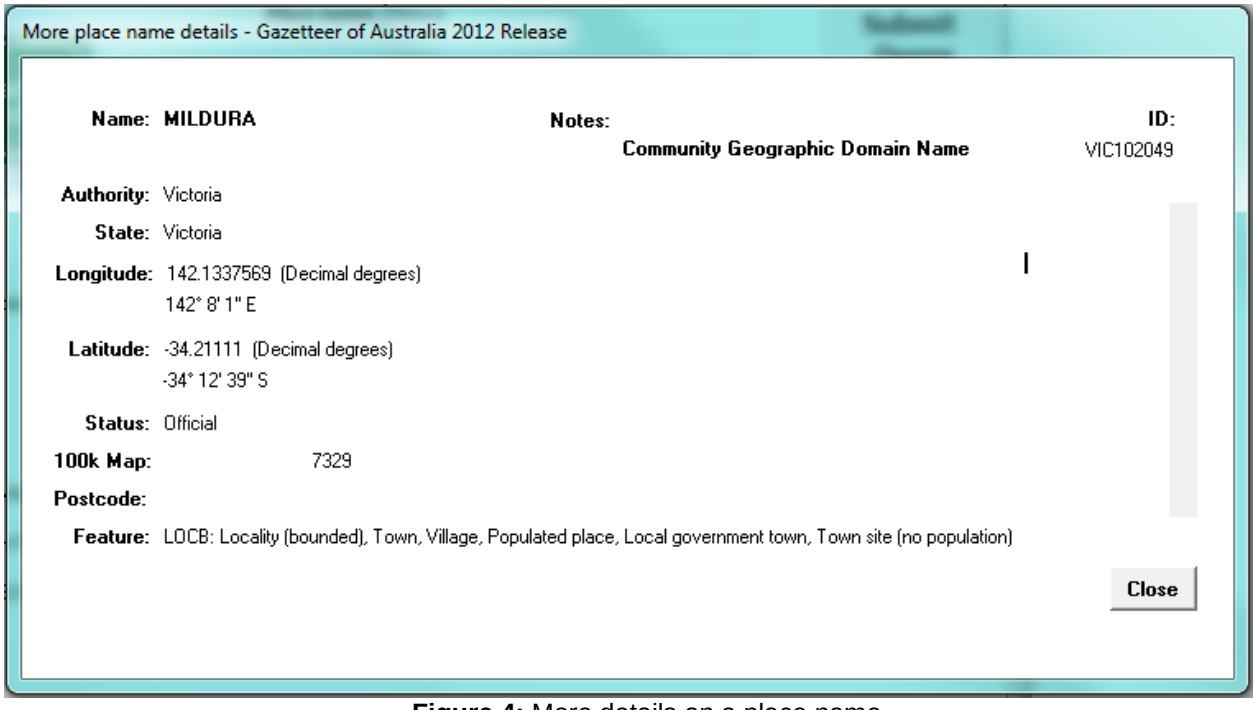

Figure 4: More details on a place name

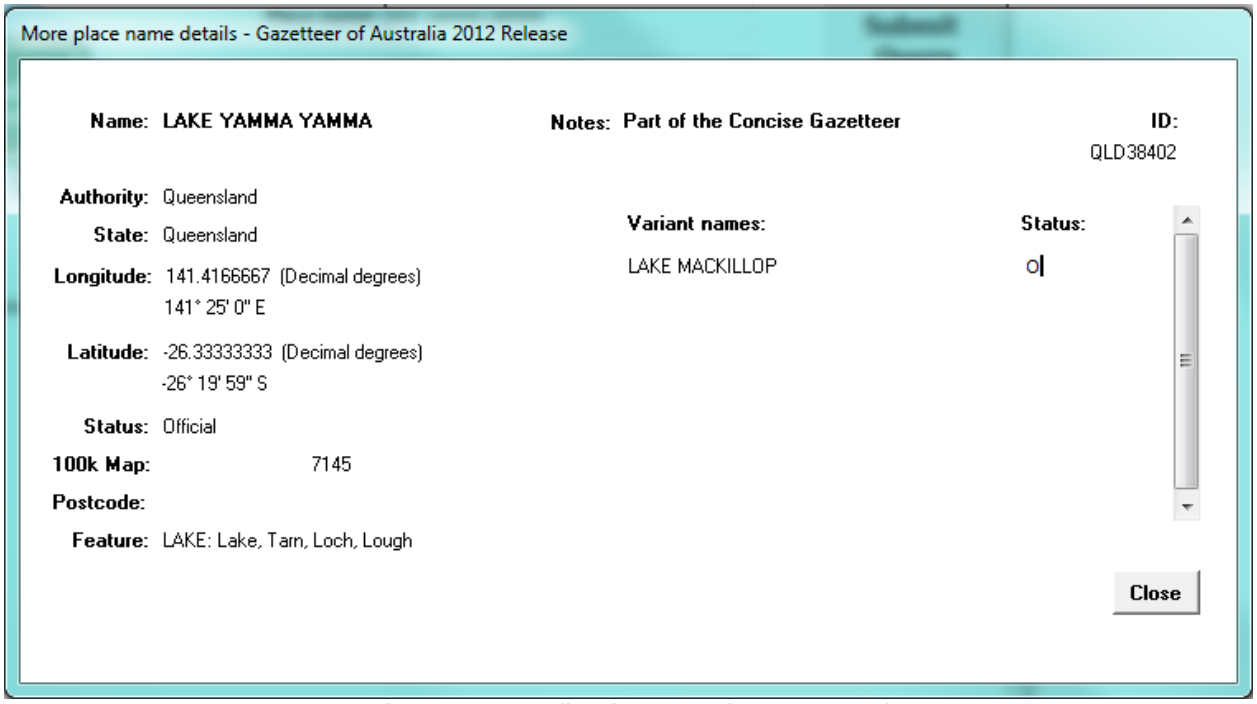

Figure 4a: Details when a Variant Name exists

The 'Notes' details on the top right of the form will only appear for place names which are part of the Concise Gazetteer; is a Community Geographic Domain Name; or, have variant names. To view the definition of these fields or any other fields on the form, hold the cursor over the relevant field. This will make a tag with the definition appear next to the cursor.

Accessing tables

The data tables can be accessed by clicking 'Close Interface' on the middle right (Figure 3). This will close the search interface and expose the database canister window. If it is not already selected, click on 'Tables' in the objects navigation bar on the left side of the screen, then open a table by double clicking on it.

Opening the search interface from the database canister window

Click on 'Forms' in the objects navigation bar on the left side of the database canister window, then double click on the form 'frmSearch' to open it.

Closing the database

To close the database, click 'Close Database' on the botton right of the search interface (Figure 2).

4 Data structure and content

4.1 Data structure

Table 4: *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* data fields.

Field	Description	Field width/type	Field break
Record ID	Unique identifier for each feature	12 char text	12
Authority ID	Custodian State or Territory	3 char text	15
State ID	State or Territory that the feature falls in	3 char text	18
Name	Name of the feature	255 char text	108
Feature Code	Code indicating the type of feature	4 char text	112
Status	Indicates if the name is authorised	1 char text	113
Variant Name	Variant or alternative name	150 char text	213
Postcode	Postcode of the locality	4 char text	217
Concise Gazetteer	Indicates if the feature is included in the Concise Gazetteer	1 char text	218
Longitude	Longitude in decimal degrees	9.5 char num	227
Latitude	Latitude in decimal degrees	9.5 char num	236
100K Map	1:100 000 scale map reference	4 char text	240
CGDN	Indicates if the place name can be used in the *state*.au second level domains by community website portals that reflect community interests	1 char text	241

Database application

The Gazetteer data within the Microsoft Access database application are contained within tables. These tables have a simple structure (Figure 5) which is designed for storing, searching and viewing the place name data. Unlike the user interface component of the database (in Section 3.3), these tables can be accessed through other applications such as Microsoft Excel by importing the data.

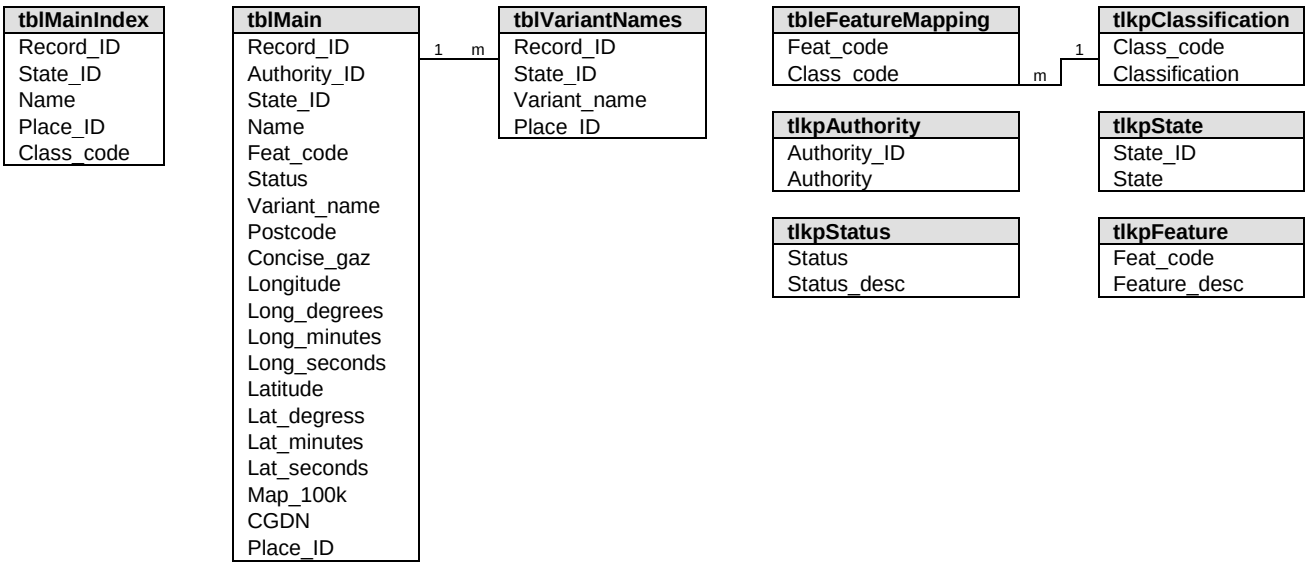

Figure 5: Table structure of database

The main relationship among the tables is between the main table (tblMain) and the variant name table (tblVariantName) in order to relate the variant names to each place name record. The purpose of the index table 'tblMainIndex' is to make querying more efficient and to enable searching on variant names and place names with prefixes such as 'Mount' and 'Cape'.

In addition to these main tables there are a number of look-up tables (i.e. tlkp*) which serve to display the Gazetteer data more clearly to users. These look-up tables are for the feature codes, state, authority, status and classification fields. The content of each table and other database objects (i.e. queries and forms) within the database are briefly described in Table 5. The values within the look-up tables are detailed in the data dictionary in Section 4.2.

Table 5: Database objects

Name	Object type	Description
tblFeatureMapping	Table	Table mapping the feature codes to the classification codes
tblMain	Table	Main table containing all the Gazetteer data
tblMainIndex	Table	Index table to support the search interface
tblVariantName	Table	Table containing all variant names
tlkpAuthority	Table	Look-up table for authority names
tlkpClassification	Table	Look-up table for classification codes
tlkpFeature	Table	Look-up table for feature code classifications
tlkpState	Table	Look-up table for state names
tlkpStatus	Table	Look-up table for status of place names
qryDetails	Query	Query to display all the place name details in frmDetails
qrySearchResult_partA	Query	First part of the query for displaying the search results
qrySearchResult_partB	Query	Second part of the query for displaying the search results
frmDetails	Form	Form showing all details of a selected place name
frmSearch	Form	Main search form
fsubResults	Form	Subform within frmResults displaying the results of the search
fsubVariant	Form	Subform within frmDetails listing the variant names of the place name

4.2 Data dictionary

Table 6: Attribute field table of *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release*

Attribute field	Description	Field type & Size	Attribute field values	Notes
RECORD ID	The identifier for each record. The preceding characters indicate the originating authority of the record (eg. the 'SA' in 'SA0024754' stands for South Australia).	Text (12)	For data provided by GA, the first character indicates the area or feature that the record refers to. This includes: GA = *Geoscience Australia*	Record IDs are not unique since some custodial authorities use the same Record ID to identify variant names if they are supplied as separate records.
AUTHORITY ID	The authority that provided, and is custodian of the place name records.	Text (3)	AAD = *Australian Antarctic Division* ACT = *Australian Capital Territory* AHO = *Australian Hydrographic Service* GA = *Geoscience Australia* NSW = *New South Wales* NT = *Northern Territory* QLD = *Queensland* SA = *South Australia* TAS = *Tasmania* VIC = *Victoria* WA = *Western Australia*	
STATE ID	The State or Territory that the feature is located in.	Text (3)	ACT = *Australian Capital Territory* NSW = *New South Wales* NT = *Northern Territory* QLD = *Queensland* SA = *South Australia* TAS = *Tasmania* VIC = *Victoria* WA = *Western Australia*	For place name records provided by State and Territory custodial authorities, this has the same value as the 'Authority ID' value. However, it is different for records provided by Geoscience Australia (ie. Authority ID = GA) and the Australian Hydrographic Service (ie. Authority ID = AHO).

Attribute field	Description	Field type & Size	Attribute field values	Notes
			JBT = *Jervis Bay Territory* NFK = *Norfolk Island* HRD = *Heard* MCD = *McDonald Islands* N/A = Not applicable. Applies only to AHO features	
NAME	The place name supplied by the custodial authority.	Text (255)		When the first part of a name is the same as a feature code, such as *Mount Kosciuszko* or *Lake Ginninderra,* the name is often reversed in order, ie. *Kosciuszko, Mount* and *Ginninderra, Lake.* However, when the name is that of a populated place it is represented as it is spoken. When a name starts with 'The', such as *The Cobblers*, the name is sometimes supplied as spoken, else the order is reversed, such as in *Big Gibber, The.*
FEATURE CODE	The type of geographical feature that the name represents, for example the name of a mountain, dock or forest.	Text (4)	The feature codes and the features that they represent are provided in Appendix C.	Please note that not all feature codes are captured and maintained uniformly by all custodial jurisdictions.
STATUS	The status of the place name as approved by the custodial authority.	Text (1)	H = *Historical name* * O = *Official status* U = *Unofficial status* M = *Mapped 250k*	The process required for a name to become official varies with each State and Territory. For details on this Process contact the relevant custodial authority from contact list in Section 1.4. * Historical names have only been included where the custodial authority maintains a register of historical names and where the inclusion of the historical name will not cause confusion with the current or official name.
VARIANT NAME	The alternative or previous name for the geographical feature.	Text (150)		Please note that there is no consistency in how alternative or previous names are listed by various authorities. For example, they can either:

Attribute field	Description	Field type & Size	Attribute field values	Notes
				• be listed as separate records, with the same Record ID; • appear as separate records with different Record IDs but the corresponding names are included in the 'Variant Name' field; or • appear with the same Record ID and Name values but different entries in the 'Variant Name' field.
POSTCODE	The postcode of the area that the feature is located in.	Text (4)	blank = *No assigned postcode*	Postcodes have been assigned only when this information was supplied by the jurisdiction.
CONCISE GAZETTEER	A flag to indicate if the place name is contained in the Concise Gazetteer.	Text (1)	Y = *Yes (It is part of the Concise Gazetteer)* N = *No (It is not part of the Concise Gazetteer)*	Please refer to Section 2.4 for further details.
LONGITUDE	The longitude of the position of the feature given in decimal degrees using the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94).	Number (9)	These coordinates are given to five decimal places of a degree (approx. 1 metre) but this does not indicate the absolute accuracy of the location and should not be used as an accurate location.	Some features may only be recorded with the accuracy to the nearest minute of longitude and latitude (or approx. 1.8 km). In addition, some coordinates may represent the centre of the geometric feature (eg. suburb or locality) which might not be a true representation of the population centre of the locality. Given these limitations, care should be taken when using the coordinates provided for each feature.
LATITUDE	The latitude of the position of the feature given in decimal degrees using the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94).	Number (9)		
100K MAP	The number of the 1:100 000 Map Sheet that contains the feature.	Text (4)	blank = *No assigned map number.* *ie. offshore features outside the extent of the 100k Map Index*	
CGDN	Identifies place names that can be used in the act.au, nsw.au, nt.au, qld.au, sa.au, tas.au, vic.au and wa.au second level domains and is restricted for usage by community website portals that reflect community interests.	Text (1)	Y = *Yes (Can only be used by community website portals)* N = *No (Can be used by anyone)*	Consists of LOCB, LOCU, SUB and URBN features.

5 Data quality information

5.1 Lineage

The Gazetteer of Australia was compiled using data provided by each of the State and Territory place naming authorities, the Australian Hydrographic Service, the Australian Antarctic Division and Geoscience Australia.

The 'Name', 'Status', 'Variant Name', 'Longitude' and 'Latitude' fields remain as provided by each of the custodial authorities.

The following modifications and additions have been made to other fields by Geoscience Australia during the Gazetteer production process:

- Inclusion of prefixes to values in the 'Record ID' field indicating the authority which provided them; and
- Mapping of some non-compliant feature codes to Gazetteer feature codes;

The Gazetteer has also been value-added by the inclusion of the following fields:

- 'State ID' to indicate the state/territory or administrative area the feature falls in;
- 'Map_100k' to indicate the 100K map sheet that the feature falls in;
- 'Concise Gazetteer' to indicate place names that form Australia's contribution to the Composite Gazetteer of South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific. Features selected are determined by each of the State and Territory place name jurisdictions; and
- 'CGDN' to indicate place names eligible for use in Community Geographic Domain Names.

5.2 Positional accuracy

The longitude and latitude of the position of each place name feature are given in decimal degrees and are compatible with the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94). These coordinates are given to five decimal places of a degree (approximately 1 metre) but this does not indicate the absolute accuracy of the location. Some features may only be recorded with the accuracy to the nearest minute of longitude and latitude (approximately 1.8 kilometres).

5.3 Attribute accuracy

The following attribute checks have been undertaken on individually supplied data from custodial authorities prior to further processing by Geoscience Australia:

- Deletion of all leading spaces;
- Changing of all multiple internal spaces to single spaces;
- Ensuring all attribute fields are present for all records;
- Ensuring all records have the same number of attribute fields present; and
- Ensuring all fields contain at least a space.

5.4 Logical consistency

Data quality and checking procedures have been developed by Geoscience Australia to ensure that the supplied data from the custodial authorities is complete and consistent. These have been applied consistently to all the data as described below. As a result, all fields comply with the specified field length and character type and are populated with valid attributes. Also, all place names are represented as a coordinate pair stored in decimal degrees to five decimal places.

Quality checking of the data included:

- Initial data checking to ensure compliance to agreed minimum standards and appropriateness of data for further processing;
- Format and attribution checking through a variety of tools during the consolidation and formatting of Gazetteer data. This includes the use of FME scripts to identify invalid feature codes and correctly map them to official Gazetteer feature codes. This process was also used for the 'Status' and 'Authority ID' fields; and
- Verifying place name coordinate positions by spatially checking that features lie with State and Territory boundaries.

5.5 Completeness

The place names in the Gazetteer are a subset of the complete information sets held by each of the State and Territory place name authorities, the Australian Antarctic Division, the Australian Hydrographic Service and Geoscience Australia. All fields for all records have been populated with the exception of the 'Variant Names' field which is not a mandatory field.

Appendix A: Metadata

Note: This dataset description is metadata (data about data) which describes the actual dataset in accordance with the ANZLIC (Australia New Zealand Land Information Council) Core Metadata Guidelines.

Custodian

Custodian: Geoscience Australia is the custodian of the *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* product. The respective State, Territory and Commonwealth governments and authorities are custodian of the information which falls within each authority's jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction: Australia

Description

Abstract:

The National Gazetteer contains the authorised place names covering Australia's land and offshore areas. The 2012 release consists of 374 619 place names and each record includes the following fields:

- Record ID: Unique identifier for each feature;
- Authority ID: Custodian State or Territory;
- State ID: State or Territory that the feature falls in;
- Name: Name of the feature;
- Feature Code: Code indicating the type of feature;
- Status: Indicates if the name is authorised;
- Variant Name: Variant or alternative name;
- Postcode: Postcode of the locality;
- Concise Gazetteer: Indicates if the feature is included in the Concise Gazetteer;
- Longitude: Longitude in decimal degrees;
- Latitude: Latitude in decimal degrees;
- 100K Map: 1:100 000 scale map number reference;
- CGDN: Indicates if the place name can be used in the *state*.au second level domains by community website portals that reflect community interests.

Geographic bounding box:

North bounding latitude: -9.5°
South bounding latitude: -80.5°
East bounding longitude: 170°
West bounding longitude: 45°

Data currency

Beginning date: Not Known

Ending date: 2013-01-01

Dataset status

Progress: Complete

Maintenance and update frequency: Annual

Access

Stored data format:

DIGITAL - mdb Microsoft Access database Access Geographic GDA94
DIGITAL – kml Keyhole Markup Language Geographic GDA94
DIGITAL – gml Geographic Markup Language Geographic GDA94

Available format type:

DIGITAL - mdb Microsoft Access database Access Geographic GDA94
DIGITAL – kml Keyhole Markup Language Geographic GDA94
DIGITAL – gml Geographic Markup Language Geographic GDA94

Data quality

Lineage:

The Gazetteer is compiled annually by the Geospatial and Earth Monitoring Division of Geoscience Australia, on behalf of the Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia (a committee of the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping ICSM). Data is sourced from the relevant State and Territory jurisdictions (ACT, NSW, NT, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC, WA) along with various Australian Government agencies (Australian Antarctic Division, Australian Hydrographic Service, and Geoscience Australia).

Positional accuracy:

The coordinates are supplied by the various State, Territory and Commonwealth jurisdictions. Data is requested to be supplied to 5 decimal places of a decimal degree (approximately 1 metre), but this does not indicate the absolute accuracy of the location. Some features may only be recorded with the accuracy to the nearest minute of longitude and latitude (approximately 1.8 kilometres). Gazetteer references to extensive spatial features (eg. national parks) should be viewed only as a general indication of spatial location, because of the various methods that may be applied to assign a single point location to an extensive areal feature (polygon).

Attribute accuracy:

The following attribute checks and alterations have been undertaken on placename data sourced from State, Territory and Commonwealth jurisdictions:

- Field order adjusted to standard 13 fields;
- Deletion of erroneous commas and spaces;
- Duplicate records (where information is duplicated in every field) have been removed;
- State ID concatenated to Record ID to create a unique Record ID for Gazetteer dataset;
- Creation of additional fields where not supplied by jurisdiction - State ID, Authority ID;
- Creation of additional fields derived by Geoscience Australia - Concise Gazetteer, 100K Map, CGDN. In some cases jurisdictions have supplied Postcode information with their data supply - in such cases the supplied information has been used otherwise it has been left blank;
- Mapping of Feature Codes supplied to the 127 standard Feature Codes adopted by CGNA. The record is not used if no suitable mapping identified;
- A range of spatial checks performed on data;
- Ensuring all attribute fields are present for all records; and
- Ensuring all records have the same number of attribute fields present.

Logical Consistency:

Checking procedures were applied consistently to all supplied data to ensure they comply with the specified field lengths, correct number type, and are populated with valid attributes.

Completeness:

The Gazetteer data is a subset of the complete information sets held by each of the State, Territory and Commonwealth jurisdictions. For example, some jurisdictions maintain additional fields for each record such as Local Government Area, Origin of placename, UTM location coordinates etc. Records that did not meet the required attribute and spatial checks (and could not be reconciled with the relevant jurisdiction) were removed from the Gazetteer dataset. All fields have been populated except for the Map_100k, Postcode and Variant Name fields, which may contain null values where there is no data supplied or available.

Contact information

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Metadata information

Size of dataset: 109 Mb (374 619 records)

Projection and datum: Geographical coordinates (latitude and longitude) in decimal degrees using the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94).

Appendix B: Place name categories

The following table shows which feature codes relate to which place name categories when searching for place names in the Microsoft Access database application. These are the same as the categories used in the Online Place Name Search. They have been developed to enable easier searching of place names through using a short list of categories as opposed to the 127 feature codes in the Gazetteer.

Table 9: Place name search categories and related feature codes

Categories	Related feature codes
Airfields	AF
Bathymetric	BATH, CHAN, LDGE, OCEN, SEA
Bays & Gulfs	BAY, BGHT, COVE, GULF
Bores, Tanks & Waterpoints	BORE, RH, SOAK, SPRG, TANK
Built Structures	BCST, BLDG, COMM, CP, FARM, FNCE, HMSD, LOOK, PIPE, POOL, PWRL, RLWY, RSTA, RUIN, SCHL, SITE, YD
Points, Capes & Peninsulas	CAPE, ISTH, PEN, PT, SPIT
Caves	CAVE
Coastal Features	BANK, BCH, BRKW, ENTR, ESTY, LH, NAVB, SHOL, SND, STR, WRCK
Dams & Locks	DAM, LOCK
Landmarks	FRNG, MONU, TOWR, TREE
Forests & Agriculture	FRST, GRDN, PLAN
Hills & Mountains	HILL, MT, PASS, PEAK, RDGE, RNGE, SLP
Islands & Reefs	ARCH, BRK, IS, REEF
Mine & Fuel sites	GASF, MINE, QUAR
Other Landforms	CLAY, CLIF, DSRT, DUNE, PL, PLN, ROCK, SPAN
Parks & Reserves	CEM, GOLF, RESV
Ports & Docks	ANCH, DOCK, HBR, PIER, PORT
Towns & Localities	LOCB, LOCU, POPL, SUB, URBN
Roads & Trails	BRDG, CTNG, FORD, GATE, HWY, ROAD, RTRK, STOK, TRK, TUNN
Trig. Stations	TRIG
Valleys & Depressions	CRTR, DEPR, GORG, VAL
Water Bodies	INTL, LAGN, LAKE, RES, SWP, WTRH
Water Courses	BEND, CNAL, DRN, GLCR, RCH, STRM, WRFL
Administrative	CNTY, CONT, DI, HD, PRSH, STAT
Glacier & Ice	GLCR

Appendix C: Feature codes

The feature code indicates the type of geographical feature that the name represents, for example, the name of a mountain, dock or forest. Table 10 represents all the feature codes present in *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* and the features that they represent. However, this is not an indication of the features that are captured and maintained by each State or Territory. For example, the feature 'BLDG' is not captured and maintained universally by all States and Territory agencies.

An alphabetical listing by feature is supplied in Appendix D and there is a breakdown of the number of features per code and State in Appendix E.

Table 10: *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* feature codes

Code	Feature and included terms
AF	Aerodrome, Airfield, Airport, Landing ground, Airstrip
ANCH	Anchorage
ARCH	Archipelago
BANK	Bank, Bar, Sandbar (ie Coastal)
BATH	Bank, Basin, Canyon, Discordance, Escarpment, Fracture zone, Gap, Guyot, Knoll, Plain, Reef, Ridge, Rise, Saddle, Seamount, Shelf, Shoal, Spur, Terrace, Trench, Trough
BAY	Bay
BCH	Beach
BCST	Broadcasting station (radio and television)
BEND	Bend, Loop, Meander
BGHT	Bight
BLDG	Agricultural establishment, Asylum, Barn, Chalet, Coal depot, Guard house, Hotel, Inn, Institute, Museum, Observatory, Rest house, Sanatorium, Shelter, Tavern, Telephone exchange, Tower, Town hall, Warehouse, Abbey, Hut, Bell tower, Chapel, Church, Convent, Brewery, Factory, Plant, Power station, Steel works, Tannery, Winery, Works, Hospital, Prison, Pumping station, Pump, Police station, Stadium, Telegraph office, Telephone office, Fire station, Abattoir, Barracks, Bus station, Battery, Roadhouse, Mill, Sawmill, Mission, Post office
BORE	Bore, Well
BRDG	Bridge, Culvert
BRK	Breaker
BRKW	Breakwater, Groyne, Levee, Mole
CAPE	Cape
CAVE	Cave, Blowhole, Cavern , Grotto
CEM	Cemetery
CHAN	Offshore Channel
CLAY	Claypan, Clayhole, Clay pit, Clay flat
CLIF	Bluff, Cliff, Breakaway, Escarpment, Jumpup, Precipice, Buttress
CNAL	Canal, Waterway, Aqueduct, Bore drain
CNTY	County
COMM	Commune, Community centre
CONT	Continent
COVE	Cove, Inlet
CP	Campsite, Camp
CRTR	Crater
CTNG	Cutting
DAM	Dam, Weir , Catchment, Barrage
DEPR	Depression, Basin , Donga
DI	Agricultural area, County, District, Local government area, Parish, Region
DOCK	Dock, Basin, Wetdock, Dry dock
DRN	Drain
DSRT	Desert
DUNE	Dunes
ENTR	Entrance
ESTY	Estuary
FARM	Special purpose farm, Research establishment
FNCE	Fence
FORD	Ford, Crossing
FRNG	Rifle range, Rocket range, Bombing range
FRST	Forest, Wood, Thicket, Scrub, Copse, Brushwood, Glade, Grove
GASF	Gasfield (Well), Oil well
GATE	Gate, City exit
GLCR	Glacier
GOLF	Golf Course
GORG	Gorge, Ravine, Canyon, Glen, Chasm
GRDN	Garden, Vineyards
GULF	Gulf
HBR	Harbour, Haven, Roadstead, Marina
HD	Hundred, county division (historically SA and NT)
HILL	Hill, Knoll, Knob, Mesa, Sugarloaf, Lookout, Butte, Hillock, Kopje
HMSD	Homestead, Outstation, Outcamp, Woolshed, Aboriginal outstation
HWY	Highway
INTL	Intermittent lake
IS	Island, Island group, Cay, Isle, Islet, Clumps
ISTH	Isthmus, Neck
LAGN	Lagoon
LAKE	Lake, Tarn, Loch, Lough
LDGE	Ledge
LH	Lighthouse
LOCB	Locality (bounded), Town, Village, Populated place, Local government town, Town site (no

Code	Feature and included terms
	population)
LOCK	Lock
LOCU	Locality (unbounded), Place name, Road corner, Road bend, Corner, Meteorological station, Ocean place name, Surfing spot
LOOK	Lookout
MINE	Mine, Goldfield, Opalfield, Shaft, Mining centre
MONU	Bench mark, Cairn, Column, Marker, Monument, Obelisk
MT	Mountain, Peak
NAVB	Beacon, Light, Buoy
OCEN	Ocean
PASS	Pass, Passage, Gap, Col
PEAK	Mountain peak, Summit, Point (inland), Rock column, Butte
PEN	Peninsula
PIER	Pier, Wharf, Landing, Quay
PIPE	Pipeline
PL	Plateau, Tableland
PLAN	Plantation
PLN	Plain, Downs, Prairie, Flat , Heath, Field
POOL	Swimming Pool, Bath House (manmade)
POPL	Populated Place
PORT	Port
PWRL	Powerline
PRSH	Parish
PT	Point, Head, Headland, Spit, Ness, Promontory, Bill
QUAR	Quarry
RCH	Reach, Arm
RDGE	Ridge, Saddle, Spur
REEF	Reef
RES	Reservoir, Pondage, Pond, Artificial lake
RESV	Reserve, Park, National park, Conservation park, Common
RH	Rockhole, Gnamma hole
RLWY	Railway
RNGE	Range, Mountain range, Hills, Mountains
ROAD	Road
ROCK	Rock, Boulder, Pinnacle, Crag, Needle, Pillar, Rock formation, Tor, Rocks (on land), Rocks (offshore)
RSTA	Railway station
RTRK	Racetrack, Auto track, Cycle racing track, Velodrome
RUIN	Ruin
SCHL	School, College
SEA	Sea
SHOL	Shoal, Shallows, Patches
SITE	Historical site
SLP	Slope, Hillside, Terrace
SND	Sound
SOAK	Native well, Soak, Soakage
SPAN	Salt pan
SPIT	Sandspit
SPRG	Spring, Pool spring, Hot springs, Mineral spring
STAT	State
STOK	Stock route
STR	Strait
STRM	Stream, Brook, Watercourse, Anabranch, Backwash, Backwater, Run, Creek, River, Gully, Rivulet, Beck, Backwater, Burn
SUB	Suburb
SWP	Swamp, Marsh, Morass, Saltmarsh, Wetland
TANK	Tank
TOWR	Tower
TREE	Tree
TRIG	Trig station
TRK	Track (walking), Path (bridle), Trail
TUNN	Tunnel
URBN	Urban area, City
VAL	Valley, Dale, Dell, Vale
WRCK	Wreck
WRFL	Waterfall, Cascade, Cataract, Falls, Rapids
WTRH	Waterhole, Lagoon, Hole, Pool, Billabong, Oxbow, Washpool
YD	Yard

Appendix D: Features in alphabetical order

Below is an alphabetical listing of features and their respective feature codes. Please note that there are some features that fall within more than one feature code (e.g. bank falls in 'BANK' and 'BATH').

Table 11: *Gazetteer of Australia 2012 Release* features

Feature	Code
Abattoir	BLDG
Abbey	BLDG
Aboriginal outstation	HMSD
Aerodrome	AF
Agricultural area	DI
Agricultural establishment	BLDG
Airfield	AF
Airport	AF
Airstrip	AF
Anabranch	STRM
Anchorage	ANCH
Aqueduct	CNAL
Archipelago	ARCH
Arm	RCH
Artificial lake	RES
Asylum	BLDG
Auto track	RTRK
Backwash	STRM
Backwater	STRM
Bank (Coastal)	BANK
Bank (Offshore)	BATH
Bar	BANK
Barn	BLDG
Barracks	BLDG
Barrage	DAM
Basin (Offshore)	BATH
Basin	DEPR
Basin	DOCK
Bath House	POOL
Battery	BLDG
Bay	BAY
Beach	BCH
Beacon	NAVB
Beck	STRM
Bell tower	BLDG
Bench mark	MONU
Bend	BEND
Bight	BGHT
Bill	PT
Billabong	WTRH
Blowhole	CAVE
Bluff	CLIF
Bombing range	FRNG
Bore	BORE
Bore drain	CNAL
Boulder	ROCK
Breakaway	CLIF
Breaker	BRK
Breakwater	BRKW
Brewery	BLDG
Bridge	BRDG
Broadcasting station	BCST
Brook	STRM
Brushwood	FRST
Buoy	NAVB
Burn	STRM
Bus station	BLDG
Butte	HILL
Butte	PEAK
Buttress	CLIF
Cairn	MONU
Canal	CNAL
Canyon (Offshore)	BATH
Canyon	GORG
Camp	CP
Campsite	CP
Cape	CAPE
Cascade	WRFL
Cataract	WRFL
Catchment	DAM
Cave	CAVE
Cavern	CAVE
Cay	IS
Cemetery	CEM
Chalet	BLDG
Channel (offshore)	CHAN
Chapel	BLDG
Chasm	GORG
Church	BLDG
City	URBN
City exit	GATE
Clay flat	CLAY
Clayhole	CLAY
Claypan	CLAY
Clay pit	CLAY
Cliff	CLIF
Clumps	IS
Coal depot	BLDG
Col	PASS
College	SCHL
Column	MONU
Common	RESV
Commune	COMM
Community centre	COMM
Conservation park	RESV
Continent	CONT
Convent	BLDG
Copse	FRST
Corner	LOCU
County	CNTY
County	DI
Cove	COVE
Crag	ROCK
Crater	CRTR
Creek	STRM
Crossing	FORD
Culvert	BRDG
Cutting	CTNG
Cycle racing track	RTRK
Dale	VAL
Dam	DAM
Dell	VAL
Depression	DEPR
Desert	DSRT
Discordance	BATH
District	DI
Dock	DOCK
Donga	DEPR
Downs	PLN
Drain	DRN
Dry dock	DOCK
Dunes	DUNE
Entrance	ENTR
Escarpment	BATH
Escarpment	CLIF
Estuary	ESTY
Factory	BLDG
Falls	WRFL
Farm	FARM
Fence	FNCE
Field	PLN
Fire station	BLDG
Flat	PLN
Ford	FORD
Forest	FRST
Fracture zone	BATH
Gap (offshore)	BATH
Gap	PASS
Garden	GRDN
Gasfield (Well)	GASF
Gate	GATE
Glacier	GLCR
Glade	FRST
Glen	GORG
Gnamma hole	RH
Goldfield	MINE
Golf Course	GOLF
Gorge	GORG
Grotto	CAVE
Groyne	BRKW
Grove	FRST
Guard house	BLDG
Gulf	GULF
Gully	STRM
Guyot	BATH
Harbour	HBR
Haven	HBR
Head	PT
Headland	PT
Heath	PLN
Helicopter Pad	AF
Highway	HWY
Hill	HILL
Hillock	HILL
Hills	RNGE
Hillside	SLP
Historical site	SITE

Feature	Code
Hole	WTRH
Homestead	HMSD
Hospital	BLDG
Hotel	BLDG
Hot springs	SPRG
Hundred	HD
Hut	BLDG
Inlet	COVE
Inn	BLDG
Institute	BLDG
Intermittent lake	INTL
Island	IS
Island group	IS
Isle	IS
Islet	IS
Isthmus	ISTH
Jumpup	CLIF
Knob	HILL
Knoll	BATH
Knoll	HILL
Kopje	HILL
Lagoon	LAGN
Lagoon	WTRH
Lake	LAKE
Landing	PIER
Landing Ground	AF
Ledge	LDGE
Levee	BRKW
Light	NAVB
Lighthouse	LH
Local government area	DI
Local government town	LOCB
Locality (bounded)	LOCB
Locality (unbounded)	LOCU
Loch	LAKE
Lock	LOCK
Lookout	LOOK
Loop	BEND
Lough	LAKE
Marina	HBR
Marker	MONU
Marsh	SWP
Meander	BEND
Mesa	HILL
Meteorological station	LOCU
Mill	BLDG
Mine	MINE
Mineral spring	SPRG
Mining centre	MINE
Mission	BLDG
Mole	BRKW
Monument	MONU
Morass	SWP
Mountain	MT
Mountain peak	PEAK
Mountain range	RNGE
Mountains	RNGE
Museum	BLDG
National park	RESV
Native Well	SOAK
Neck	ISTH
Needle	ROCK
Ness	PT
Obelisk	MONU

Feature	Code
Observatory	BLDG
Ocean	OCEN
Ocean place name	LOCU
Oil well	GASF
Opalfield	MINE
Outcamp	HMSD
Outstation	HMSD
Oxbow	WTRH
Park	RESV
Parish	DI
Parish	PRSH
Pass	PASS
Passage	PASS
Patches	SHOL
Path (bridle)	TRK
Peak	MT
Peninsula	PEN
Pier	PIER
Pillar	ROCK
Pinnacle	ROCK
Pipeline	PIPE
Place name	LOCU
Plain (offshore)	BATH
Plain	PLN
Plant	BLDG
Plantation	PLAN
Plateau	PL
Point	PT
Point (inland)	PEAK
Police station	BLDG
Pond	RES
Pondage	RES
Pool	WTRH
Pool spring	SPRG
Populated place	LOCB
Port	PORT
Post office	BLDG
Power station	BLDG
Powerline	PWRL
Pump	BLDG
Pumping station	BLDG
Prairie	PLN
Precipice	CLIF
Prison	BLDG
Promontory	PT
Quarry	QUAR
Quay	PIER
Racetrack	RTRK
Railway	RLWY
Railway station	RSTA
Range	RNGE
Rapids	WRFL
Ravine	GORG
Reach	RCH
Reef	BATH
Reef	REEF
Region	DI
Research establishment	FARM
Reserve	RESV
Reservoir	RES
Rest house	BLDG
Ridge	BATH
Ridge	RDGE

Feature	Code
Rifle range	FRNG
Rise	BATH
River	STRM
Rivulet	STRM
Road	ROAD
Road bend	LOCU
Road corner	LOCU
Roadhouse	BLDG
Roadstead	HBR
Rock	ROCK
Rock column	PEAK
Rock formation	ROCK
Rocket range	FRNG
Rockhole	RH
Rocks (on land)	ROCK
Rocks (offshore)	ROCK
Ruin	RUIN
Run	STRM
Saddle (offshore)	BATH
Saddle	RDGE
Salt pan	SPAN
Saltmarsh	SWP
Sanatorium	BLDG
Sandbar	BANK
Sandspit	SPIT
Sawmill	BLDG
School	SCHL
Scrub	FRST
Sea	SEA
Seamount	BATH
Shaft	MINE
Shallows	SHOL
Shelf	BATH
Shelter	BLDG
Shoal (offshore)	BATH
Shoal	SHOL
Slope	SLP
Soak	SOAK
Soakage	SOAK
Sound	SND
Special purpose farm	FARM
Spit	PT
Spring	SPRG
Spur	BATH
Spur	RDGE
Stadium	BLDG
State	STAT
Steel works	BLDG
Stock route	STOK
Strait	STR
Stream	STRM
Suburb	SUB
Sugarloaf	HILL
Swimming Pool	POOL
Summit	PEAK
Surfing spot	LOCU
Swamp	SWP
Tableland	PL
Tank	TANK
Tannery	BLDG
Tarn	LAKE
Tavern	BLDG
Telegraph office	BLDG
Telephone exchange	BLDG

Feature	Code
Telephone office	BLDG
Terrace	SLP
Thicket	FRST
Tor	ROCK
Tower	BLDG
Tower	TOWR
Town	LOCB
Town hall	BLDG
Town site (no population)	LOCB
Track (walking)	TRK
Trail	TRK
Tree	TREE
Trench	BATH

Feature	Code
Trig Station	TRIG
Trough (offshore)	BATH
Tunnel	TUNN
Urban Area	URBN
Vale	VAL
Valley	VAL
Velodrome	RTRK
Village	LOCB
Vineyards	GRDN
Warehouse	BLDG
Washpool	WTRH
Watercourse	STRM
Waterfall	WRFL
Waterhole	WTRH

Feature	Code
Waterway	CNAL
Weir	DAM
Well	BORE
Wetdock	DOCK
Wetland	SWP
Wharf	PIER
Winery	BLDG
Wood	FRST
Woolshed	HMSD
Works	BLDG
Wreck	WRCK
Yard	YD

Glossary

Attribute
The descriptive characteristic of a feature. An attribute has a defined set of attribute values.

Committee for Geographical Names in Australasia (CGNA)
A permanent subcommittee of ICSM for coordinating place naming.

Datum
A mathematical surface from which heights or positions are referenced.

Feature code
A code representing the type of geographic feature that the place name represents.

Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA94)
The set of geographic coordinates based on the Geocentric Datum of Australia. It is compatible with Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Adopted in 1994 and implemented in the year 2000.

Geographical coordinates
A position given in spherical coordinates commonly known as latitude and longitude.

Geographic Information System (GIS)
A spatial database which is manipulated via a set of spatial operators or commands.

Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping (ICSM)
An intergovernmental committee established to provide leadership, through coordination and cooperation, in surveying and mapping on a national basis.

Latitude
The latitude of a feature is its angular distance on a Meridian, measured northwards or southwards from the terrestrial Equator.

Longitude
An angular distance measured east or west from a reference meridian (usually Greenwich) on the earth's surface.

Projection
Any systematic way of representing the meridians and parallels of the earth upon a plane surface or map.