Australian Government
Geoscience Australia
APPLYING GEOSCIENCE TO AUSTRALIA'S MOST IMPORTANT CHALLENGES

National Consular Missions Database
Metadata Statement

Last updated in 2012

Geocat Number: 75051

Use Constraint:

Keywords:

Consular Facilities, Diplomatic Facilities, Embassies, Consulates, High Commissions, Overseas Missions

Definition:

For the purposes of this dataset a Consular Mission is defined as: *A building which houses an official of a foreign country who has been appointed to represent his or her government's commercial interests and provide assistance to its citizens.*

Abstract:

The National Consular Missions dataset presents the spatial locations; in point format, of all known embassies, high commissions and consulate facilities/missions within Australia.

National Map of Facilities:
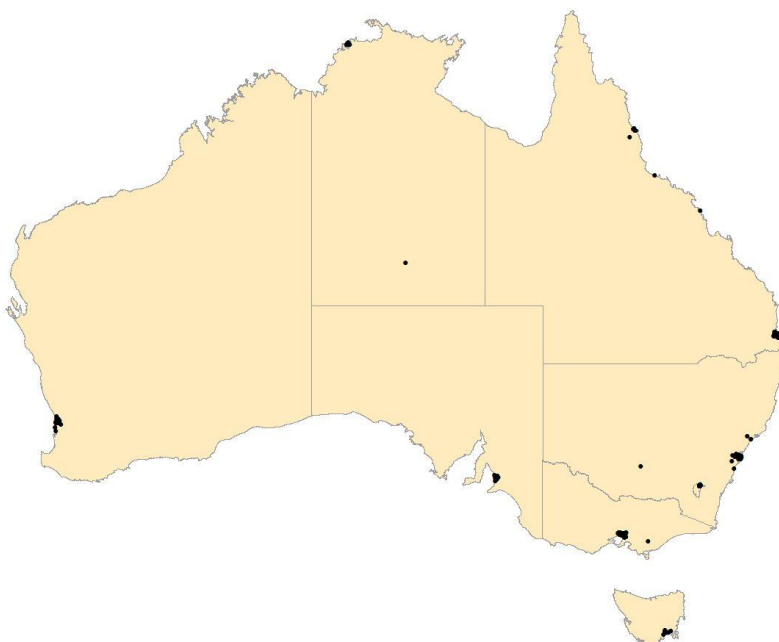
Lineage Statement:

The consular missions dataset were digitized in 2012 from the library of imagery held within Geoscience Australia. Image resolution ranged from 0.15m to 2.5m.

The first version of this database was subsequently released on the GA Website in March 2015.

Source Information:

The primary information source used to identify and attribute the consular missions was the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) website.

1. Australian Government – DFAT
    http://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/Pages/foreign-embassies-and-consulates-in-australia.aspxl

Where required, the primary information source was supplemented with publicly available information from individual consulate websites. Harder to locate features were identified and captured through collaboration with the Australian Federal Police (AFP).

Positional (Spatial Confidence) Accuracy:

Accuracy of the spatial data varies depending on the geographic location of the consular missions and the accuracy of the imagery used to digitize the feature.

The 'Spatial Confidence' attribute is a GIS specialist's estimation/interpretation of the location accuracy of the digitized feature without taking into account the planimetric accuracy of the imagery used during the process. Values range from 1 to 5 and are assigned based on the following criteria:

5	Feature positively identified from imagery (expert ID) and, along with reliable reference material, feature located with 100% certainty; or expert ID from imagery or reliable reference material and individual knowledge sufficient to be 100% certain of location
4	Feature positively identified from imagery (expert ID) but reference material insufficient to be 100% positive
3	Feature placed on location of full address / known coordinates but can't be positively identified from imagery; or feature placed on suspected location of facility identified from imagery, within a known, more general, location (such as a hospital grounds)
2	Feature placed on street / general facility site
1	Feature placed in the centre of district / town

Attribute Accuracy:

The accuracy of the attribute information is reliant upon the sources outlined above. Where required, Geoscience Australia staff sought clarification from online sources to validate information.

Logical Consistency:

Geoscience Australia used a Validation and Testing methodology to ensure the quality and compliance of the consular missions dataset.

Testing is carried out using a mixture of computer programs and proprietary GIS packages (such as ArcGIS). Many of the tests are automated, using customised computer programs. These are supported by a detailed on-screen visual inspection of the digital data against available imagery and reference material for logical consistency and attribute accuracy.

Where feature populations are small, or the validation tests are particularly important, the full population will be tested. Where feature populations are large, or a less stringent tolerance applies, a Statistical Subset or Sample (Area) test may be used. Statistical Subset tests are a random selection of features from the whole population, whereas Sample tests assess features within a selected geographical area.

Statistically acceptable procedures are adopted for tests that require sampling. The sampling procedures adopted are based on the Australian Standard AS1199-1988: "Sampling procedures and tables for inspection by attribute". The Acceptable Quality Level (AQL) is in the range of 0% to 5% against a defined technical specification.

Completeness:

All consular missions listed in the primary information sources (refer to Source Information) have been digitized.

Attribute information fields have been populated where data was available. Where there is no data available, incomplete fields are assigned a <Null> value. Attribute fields will be updated or populated during future scheduled maintenance cycles if new information or updated information is identified and publicly available.

Data Dictionary:

Attribute Name	Attribute Alias	Description
OBJECTID*	Object ID	Automatically generated system ID
SHAPE*	Shape	Geometry type (Point)
FEATURETYPE	Feature Type	Type of feature (Consulate, Embassy, High Commission)
NAME	Name	Name of the consulate
COUNTRY	Country	Home country of the consulate
GNAFID	GNAF ID	Geocoded National Address File ID (<Null>)
AFP_ID	AFP ID	Identification number assigned by the AFP for database linking purposes
SITEADDRESS	Address	Street address
SITESUBURB	Suburb	Suburb or Location
STATE	State	State or territory name
FEATURERELIABILITY	Feature Reliability	Capture date of image used to digitize feature's position
FEATURESOURCE	Feature Source	File name of image used to digitize feature's position
ATTRIBUTERELIABILITY	Attribute Reliability	Currency date of source material used to attribute feature
ATTRIBUTESOURCE	Attribute Source	Name of source material used to attribute feature
PLANIMETRICACCURACY	Planimetric Accuracy	Planimetric accuracy of imagery used to capture or digitize the feature
SPATIALACCURACY	Spatial Accuracy	Confidence rating of the accuracy of the feature's spatial location (5 high – 1 low)
METADATACOMMENT	Comments	General comments field
METADATALINK1	Link 1	A hyperlink which can be activated in an ArcMap Session to a separate document or Website
REVISED	Last Revised	The date the feature was last revised

Data Maintenance:

The next revision of this database will be determined by Geoscience Australia's work program. This timeframe ranges between 1 and 5 years or by formal written agreement with Geoscience Australia.

Known Limitations of the Data:

The National Consular Missions Database excludes the following:

1. The Syrian Embassy in Canberra – Closed in June 2012

Revision Dates and Descriptions:

February 2015	- Full metadata statement update - Added Data Dictionary on Page 3 of this document - Added Definition on Page 1 of this document - Added Geocat Number on Page 1 of this document - Changed contact email to GA client services - Added Use Constraint - Logo - © Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2014 - Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia Licence

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