

WAS KARREN ONE OF THE SISTERS?

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ABSTRACT*

The Borenore karst is located on the north-western slopes of Mount Canobolas, near Orange, New South Wales. This impounded karst has a surface expression of about 1500 hectares and is largely private property apart from an area of 69 hectares managed by the Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust. The karst is developed on Silurian limestones that have been metamorphosed into a marble prized for its colour and fossils. The marble was used extensively for public buildings, mainly in New South Wales in the early 1900s.

One prominent feature on private property in the south-western corner of the area is an outcrop of limestone resembling the tower karst “bluffs” at Chillagoe and elsewhere. The outcrop is known as “The Sisters” – the name is perhaps derived from two occupants who allegedly lived in a cave in the bluff around the turn of the 19th century. The outcrop also exhibits karst features that may give evidence on the more recent geomorphic history of the Borenore area.

If the feature can be considered geomorphologically important what then are the management implications for the owner and how do we negotiate for its conservation?

* Full paper not provided.