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) Sydney and Melbourne. Canberra was named in 1913 , from an Aboriginal term believed to mean meeting place , and an international competition to design the city was won by the American architect Walter Burley Griffin. Development of the site was slow and although parliament was first convened in the capital in 1927 , it was not until after the World War Two that the dream of a national capital began to reach fruition ( 实现 )。 In 1957 the Menzies ( 孟席斯 , 罗伯特戈登 , 1894-1978澳大利亚政治家 , 曾两度任职总理 ) Government created the National Capital Development Commission , to establish Canberra as the seat of government and generally spruce ( 打扮、装饰 ) the place up a bit. Over the next 20 years it was full steam ahead - bridges were built over a hypothetical lake , then a year later the lake followed ; the Mint , the National Library , the Botanic Gardens and the Carillon sprang up ; the civic centre was packed full of offices , shops and theatres. Throughout the 60s the public service became Canberras major industry , with departments shifting to the capital from all over the country , bringing with them hordes of happy families in search of a quarter-acre block to call their own. In line with its reputation as a planned city , Canberras growth was less than organic - rather than filling in the city centre and letting suburbs sprawl around it , the NCDC oversaw the setting up of satellite towns to the north and south. Woden , to the south , was set up first , then Belconnen to the north. In the 70s they were followed by Tuggeranong , and in the 80s Gunghalin. Since Federation the ACT had been under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government , with

no local government of its own. In a 1978 referendum ( 公民投票 ) Canberrans had voted no to self-government , but despite this in 1988 the Federal Government passed four bills to make the Territory self-governing and in 1989 the first Legislative Assembly was elected.

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