

## Recommendation of the Executive Director and assessment of cultural heritage significance under Part 3 of the *Heritage Act 2017*



<b>Current name</b>	Point Lonsdale Lighthouse
<b>Proposed name</b>	Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct
<b>Location</b>	2 Point Lonsdale Road, Point Lonsdale, Borough of Queenscliffe
<b>Date Registered</b>	20 August 1982
<b>VHR Number</b>	VHR H1517
<b>Current VHR category</b>	Registered Place
<b>Proposed VHR Categories</b>	Registered Place, Registered Archaeological Place, Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place
<b>Hermes Number</b>	1693



Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct (August 2019)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE HERITAGE COUNCIL:

To amend the existing registration for VHR H1517 in accordance with s.62 of the *Heritage Act 2017* by:

- Including land and clarifying the extent of registration
- Updating the statement of significance and converting it to the current format
- Including Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place
- Amending the Heritage Act Categories
- Changing the name of the registration
- Revising the permit policy and permit exemptions in accordance with s.49(3) of the Heritage Act.

### Reasons for the proposed amendment:

The Point Lonsdale Lighthouse was included in the Register of Government Buildings in 1982. Only the lighthouse building was registered at this time, and no land was included. Additionally, no other buildings or structures in the vicinity of the lighthouse were registered. The proposed changes in this amendment will ensure that other significant buildings and features are included in the registration. It will also include land to protect the cultural heritage significance of the place. It is also proposed to update the statement of significance, change the name of the registration, include objects integral to the place and revise the permit policy and permit exemptions.

The existing registration documentation is provided at Attachment 1 of this report.

**STEVEN AVERY**

**Executive Director**

**Recommendation Date:** 16 September 2019

**Advertising Period:** 20 September 2019–18 November 2019

This recommendation report has been issued by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria under s.37 of the *Heritage Act 2017*.

## AMENDMENT BACKGROUND

An application to amend this registration was accepted by the Executive Director on 28 June 2019.

### Including land and clarifying the extent of registration

The Point Lonsdale Lighthouse was included in the Register of Government Buildings in 1982. At this time, only buildings could be registered, not the land the buildings stand on, land surrounding buildings or land that contributes to the protection or understanding of the place. Heritage Victoria is undertaking a program of including land in early registrations to ensure these places are adequately protected and to improve consistency with current registration practices. It is proposed that land is included in the extent of registration. Additionally, at the time of registration, only the lighthouse itself was registered. Clarifying the extent of registration will ensure other significant buildings and features in the precinct are registered.

### Updating the statement of significance and converting it to the current format

The existing statement of significance is in an earlier format. It is proposed to revise it and update it to the current format.

### Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place

With the passage of the *Heritage Act 2017* it has become possible to include objects integral to a place in a registration. It is recommended that Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place are included in this registration, being the objects related to the operation of the Foghorn that are currently in the Foghorn shed.

### Amending the Heritage Act Categories

It is proposed the Heritage Act Categories are amended from Registered Place to Registered Place, Registered Archaeological Place and Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place.

### Changing the name of the registration

It is proposed the name is changed from 'Point Lonsdale Lighthouse' to the 'Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct' to better reflect the significance of the place.

### Revising the permit policy and permit exemptions

It is proposed the existing permit exemptions are revised to provide clarity around works that can be carried out without the need for a permit application to Heritage Victoria.

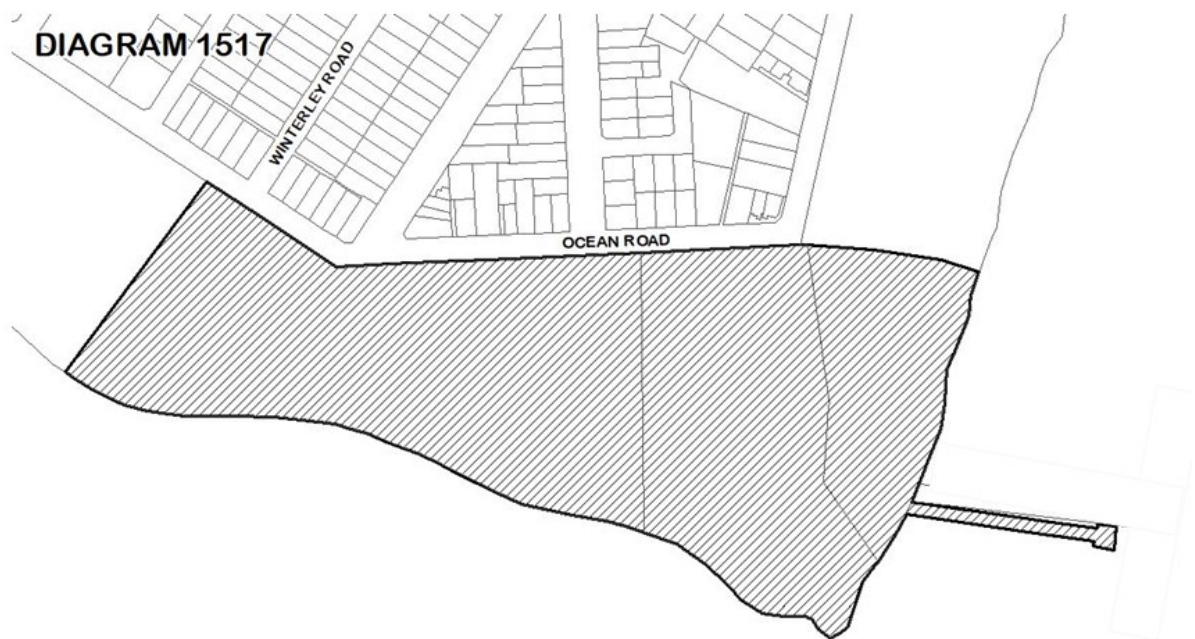
## DIAGRAM SHOWING MAIN FEATURES



- 1 Infra-red emplacement (c1941)
- 2 Jetty (c1890s)
- 3 Rocket shed (c1890s)
- 4 Searchlight emplacement (1914)
- 5 Scend shed (1941)
- 6 Foghorn shed (1928), which contains Registered Objects Integral to the Place being:
  - a. 2 x Air tanks
  - b. Gardner petrol paraffin engine
  - c. Timing mechanism
  - d. Compressor
  - e. Foghorn
- 7 Lighthouse (1902)
- 8 Searchlight emplacement (1914)
- 9 Buckley's Cave
- 10 Signal mast (1951)
- 11 Engine shed (c1914)
- 12 Fire/Light Directing station (1914 and 1941)
- 13 P1 huts (c1942)
- 14 Gun emplacement (1942)
- 15 Engine shed (c1941)
- 16 Gun emplacement (1942)

## RECOMMENDED EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

1. All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1517 encompassing all of Crown Allotments 2007, 2008 & 2009, at Queenscliff, Parish of Paywit, and parts of Crown Allotment 2002 at Queenscliff, Parish of Paywit; Crown Allotment 29C Section 3 at Queenscliff, Parish of Paywit; and Crown Allotment 2007 Parish of Paywit.
2. All the objects listed here integral to and located at the place in the Foghorn shed:
  - a. 2 x Air tanks
  - b. Gardner petrol paraffin engine
  - c. Timing mechanism
  - d. Compressor
  - e. Foghorn



The extent of registration of Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 1517, including but not limited to the land, all buildings and structures (including the exteriors and interiors), ruins and historical archaeology, Jetty, Buckley's Cave, roads, paths, Registered Objects Integral to the Place and other features.

The registration also includes all fixtures and fittings attached to the building at the time of registration.

The recommended extent is the same as the nominated extent.



## AERIAL PHOTO OF THE PLACE SHOWING PROPOSED REGISTRATION



### RATIONALE FOR EXTENT

The proposed extent of registration includes buildings, structures, ruins and archaeological features and deposits related to Point Lonsdale's role in defence and maritime navigation and rescue. It includes sufficient land to protect the cultural heritage significance of the place.

It is proposed that the objects related to the operation of the Foghorn are included in the registration as Registered Objects Integral to the Registered Place. They date from the 1920s when the current Foghorn shed was constructed and are integral to the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place.

## CHANGE OF HERITAGE CATEGORY

### Current category

Registered Place.

### Proposed categories

Registered Place, Registered Archaeological Place, Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place

## CHANGE OF NAME

**Current name:** Point Lonsdale Lighthouse

**Proposed name:** Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct

It is the Executive Director's view that the name should be changed to better reflect the significance of the place beyond the lighthouse building.

## BACKGROUND

### WHAT IS AT THE PLACE?

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct lies on the western point of the Port Phillip Bay Heads. The Heads form the entry from Bass Strait to Port Phillip Bay, and the stretch of water between Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean (the Rip) is characterised by dangerous ocean conditions. The landscape of the point consists of coastal dunes and limestone sea cliffs. The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct lies a short distance to the south of the Point Lonsdale township and is accessed via Point Lonsdale Road. It contains a range of buildings and other structures related to the point's role as a strategic location in both defence and maritime rescue and navigation. Four military P1 huts lie to the west of the access road. A small car park and turning area lie at the base of the dune. The World War I red brick Engine shed is sited at the southern end of the car park. The Lighthouse lies on the extremity of the point atop the headland and is the dominant built feature of the area, viewed from both land and sea. A Foghorn shed, Scend shed (containing devices for monitoring ocean conditions), and two concrete World War I Searchlight emplacements lie in the immediate vicinity of the Lighthouse. Buckley's Cave is part of the limestone sea cliffs at the base of the Lighthouse. To the east of the Lighthouse are the red brick Rocket shed, Jetty and concrete Infra-red emplacement. To the west are the Signal mast, Fire and light directing station, World War II Engine shed and two concrete World War II gun emplacements.

### WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE?

In the early decades of the nineteenth century, escaped convict William Buckley lived with Wadawurrung people at various locations on the Bellarine Peninsula. He is widely thought to have sheltered in the cave on the point which overlooks the entry to Port Phillip Bay. The promontory at Point Lonsdale provided an obvious location for the placement of navigational guidance structures for ships making the treacherous entry to Port Phillip Bay. A signal on the point was manned from 1852. The importance of the place to the defence of Port Phillip Bay was recognised by it being made a Battery Reserve in 1861. The first timber lighthouse was erected in 1863. Lighthouse keeper's quarters (demolished) and a Telegraph station (demolished) were also constructed in the 1860s. In 1884, a weatherboard Foghorn shed (demolished) was constructed. In the 1890s, the Jetty and Rocket shed were constructed to aid in the rescue of survivors from ships wrecked off the point. Construction began on the current Lighthouse in 1901 using reinforced concrete and it was first lit on 20 March 1902. The outbreak of World War I prompted the construction of defence structures such as the Searchlight emplacements, a Directing station and Engine shed. Further defence structures were constructed in response to the commencement of World War II. The Point Lonsdale defence camp was erected consisting principally of military P1-type huts, which initially accommodated the 7 Australian CRE (Works) – an engineering unit. An area was set aside on the east side of the Point Lonsdale Road for the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS). At the height of the war, there were fifteen camp

buildings at Point Lonsdale. A small group of Italian Prisoners of War was interned at the camp towards the end of the war. In 1946, the service personnel social and benevolent organization Toc H applied to use the camp buildings as holiday accommodation for children of former members of the services. One of the concrete emplacements was converted to a Scend shed. In 1951 an octagonal structure housing the signal station and observation room was built around the base of the Lighthouse. The Lighthouse and Scend shed still perform navigational functions. The remainder of the precinct is utilised for recreational purposes.

#### **WHO ARE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS/REGISTERED ABORIGINAL PARTY(IES) FOR THIS PLACE?**

This formally recognised Traditional Owners for this area are the Wadawurrung People. The Registered Aboriginal Party is the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation, trading as Wadawurrung.

## **STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT?**

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct including all buildings, structures, objects, ruins and archaeological features and deposits related to the location's strategic role in both defence and maritime navigation and rescue. Buckley's Cave is also significant for its association with William Buckley.

#### **HOW IS IT SIGNIFICANT?**

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is of archaeological and historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

##### **Criterion A**

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

##### **Criterion C**

Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.

##### **Criterion D**

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects.

#### **WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT?**

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is significant at the State level for the following reasons:

Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is historically significant for the strategic role it has played in maritime navigation and rescue since the 1850s. The establishment of maritime navigational aids at Point Lonsdale was key in assisting the safe passage of vessels from Bass Strait into Port Phillip Bay. Safe passage through this stretch of water was important in the development of Melbourne as a major port. The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is also historically significant its role in maritime rescue and its connections to the numerous shipwrecks that have occurred off its coast. [Criterion A]

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is also significant for its associations with the military in both World War I and World War II. Its strategic location at the entry to Port Phillip Bay made it key in the defence of Victoria from potential seaborne attack. It was one of a network of strategic defence locations around Port Phillip Bay, that also includes Point Nepean and Shortlands Bluff. [Criterion A]

Buckley's Cave is significant as it is widely believed that William Buckley sheltered here. Buckley was an absconder from the 1803 camp at Sullivan Cove near Sorrento. He is a key figure in early contact between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people around Port Phillip Bay. [Criterion A]

Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is archaeologically significant for its potential to contain archaeological remains, features and deposits relating to the location's maritime and defence history. Valuable information is likely to be yielded about the place's maritime functions throughout various eras of its operation. Information is also likely to be yielded about the lives of personnel stationed at Point Lonsdale during World War I and II. [Criterion C]

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct is significant as both a notable maritime precinct and a notable defence precinct. Located strategically at the dangerous entry point to Port Phillip Bay, it contains an array of buildings and other features which demonstrate maritime navigation and rescue techniques and technologies from various eras. The Lighthouse is notable for its early use of reinforced concrete. The precinct also contains examples of a range of elements associated with the defence of Port Phillip Bay during World War I and World War II. [Criterion D]



## PROPOSED PERMIT POLICY

### Preamble

The purpose of the Permit Policy is to assist when considering or making decisions regarding works to a registered place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to making a permit application. Discussing proposed works will assist in answering questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place.

**The extent of registration of Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram H1517 including the land, all buildings and other structures (exteriors and interiors), ruins, archaeological features and deposits, roads, trees, landscape elements.** Under the *Heritage Act 2017* a person must not remove or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate, relocate or disturb the position of any part of a registered place or object without approval. It is acknowledged, however, that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future.

If a person wishes to undertake works or activities in relation to a registered place or registered object, they must apply to the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria for a permit. The purpose of a permit is to enable appropriate change to a place and to effectively manage adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of a place as a consequence of change. If an owner is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that Heritage Victoria be contacted.

Permits are required for anything which alters the place or object, unless a **permit exemption** is granted. Permit exemptions usually cover routine maintenance and upkeep issues faced by owners as well as minor works or works to the elements of the place or object that are not significant. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.38 of the *Heritage Act*) or after registration (under s.92 of the *Heritage Act*). It should be noted that the addition of new buildings to the registered place, as well as alterations to the interior and exterior of existing buildings requires a permit, unless a specific permit exemption is granted.

### Conservation management plans

The *Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Conservation Management Plan* was developed by Lovell Chen in 2010 for the Port of Melbourne Corporation and should guide future decision making about the Lighthouse and Scend shed. The *Point Lonsdale Coastal Reserve Conservation Management Plan* was developed by Daniel Catrice and Ivar Nelsen in 1998 and should be updated to guide decision making about the precinct more broadly.

### Aboriginal cultural heritage

If works are proposed which have the potential to disturb or have an impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage it is necessary to contact Aboriginal Victoria to ascertain any requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. If any Aboriginal cultural heritage is discovered or exposed at any time it is necessary to immediately contact Aboriginal Victoria to ascertain requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

### Other approvals

Please be aware that approval from other authorities (such as local government) may be required to undertake works.

### Archaeology

Ground disturbance may affect the archaeological significance of the place and, subject to the exemptions stated in this document, requires an application to be made to Heritage Victoria. If any doubt about whether works have potential to affect archaeological significance, contact Heritage Victoria's historical archaeology team first.

## **Cultural heritage significance**

### ***Overview of significance***

The cultural heritage significance of the Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct lies in the buildings and other structures, objects, ruins and archaeological features and deposits related to the place's role since the 1850s in maritime navigation and rescue and since 1914 in the defence of Port Phillip Bay.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXEMPTED WORKS OR ACTIVITIES (PERMIT EXEMPTIONS)

It should be noted that Permit Exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.38 of the Heritage Act). Permit Exemptions can also be applied for and granted after registration (under s.92 of the Heritage Act).

Under s.38 of the *Heritage Act 2017* the Executive Director may include in his recommendation categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the place or object without the need for a permit under Part 5 of the Act. The Executive Director must not make a recommendation for any categories of works or activities if he considers that the works or activities may harm the cultural heritage significance of the place or object. The following permit exemptions are not considered to cause harm to the cultural heritage significance of Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct.

### General Condition 1

All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

### General Condition 2

Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible.

### General Condition 3

All works should ideally be informed by Conservation Management Plans prepared for the place. The Executive Director is not bound by any Conservation Management Plan, and permits still must be obtained for works suggested in any Conservation Management Plan.

### General Condition 4

Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

### General Condition 5

Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the relevant responsible authority, where applicable.

### Specific Permit Exemptions

*These works and activities may be carried out provided they do not involve the disturbance of any significant above-ground or archaeological, features, artefacts or deposits.*

### Landscape

- The processes of gardening and vegetation management, including mowing, disease and weed control and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- The removal or pruning of dead or dangerous trees to maintain safety.
- Fire suppression activities such as fuel reduction burns, and fire control line construction, provided all significant historical and archaeological features are appropriately identified and protected.
- Vermin control activities.
- Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

- Repairs and maintenance to the existing carpark, bollards, access road, steps, paths, edging and post-1940s fencing, fence posts and handrails.
- Repairs to or replacement of existing directional, road and speed signs and installing new signage which does not obscure heritage fabric. Note: Interpretive signage requires a permit.

#### **Public Safety and Security**

- The erection of temporary security fencing, scaffolding, hoardings or surveillance systems to prevent unauthorised access or secure public safety.
- General maintenance for the purposes of safety and security including the removal of broken glass, the temporary shuttering of windows and doors and covering of holes provided this work is reversible.
- Works or activities, including emergency stabilisation, necessary to secure safety where a structure or part of a structure has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and poses a safety risk to its users or the public. It is acknowledged that in some instances additional damage to significant fabric may be required to stabilise and make safe. In these instances every attempt must be made to conserve and retain as much significant fabric as possible. The Executive Director, Heritage Victoria must be notified within seven days of the commencement of these works or activities.

#### **1920s Foghorn equipment**

- All regular maintenance required to keep Foghorn equipment (including the Air tanks, Gardner petrol paraffin engine, Timing mechanism, Compressor and Foghorn) in good working order.

#### **General maintenance to all buildings and other structures**

- Minor patching, repair and maintenance which replaces like with like without large-scale removal of or damage to the existing fabric or the large-scale introduction of new materials. Repairs must maximise protection and retention of fabric and include the conservation of existing details or elements. Any new materials used for repair must not exacerbate the decay of existing fabric due to chemical incompatibility, obscure existing fabric or limit access to existing fabric for future maintenance.
- Preparation and painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour, finish and paint type provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier paint schemes.
- Cleaning, including the removal of surface deposits, organic growths, plant growths and graffiti by use of low pressure water and natural detergents and mild brushing and scrubbing. No high-pressure hoses or wire brushes etc should be used.
- Preparation and painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour, finish and paint type provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier paint schemes.
- Works and activities to control of birds and vermin.
- Removal of or maintenance to existing signage.

#### **Jetty**

- Repair to and replacement of existing electrical wiring and lighting.
- Replacement of corroded fixings as required.
- Repair or wrapping of timber piles as required.
- Repair to or replacement of timber decking, handrails, joists, capping, crossheads, running beams and bearers matching existing timber type, size, and profile.

## Lighthouse

### *Exterior*

- Replacement of damaged/broken glazing and damaged/defective joinery, where replacement materials match the original and the work is consistent with the form and presentation of the existing original fabric.
- Removal of existing services such as cabling, plumbing, wiring and fire services and replacement with those that use existing routes, conduits or voids, and does not involve damage to or the removal of significant fabric.
- Repair and replacement of roofing materials and rainwater goods where damaged/broken, to match existing materials, colours and profiles.
- Minor repair and/or replacement of damaged/broken elements where replacement materials match the original and the work is consistent with the form and presentation of the existing original fabric:
  - Concrete shaft and capital tower and window frames (x8).
  - Main lantern including cast iron gallery and platform including ancillary components such as the steel safety rail.
  - Lightkeeper's Station and observation room.
  - Cantilevered platform supporting the red and green lights.
- Repairs and maintenance to the existing:
  - Modern equipment and weather monitoring devices located on roof of 1951 addition and the walkway to the base of the lantern.
  - Steel balustrades to outer edge of roof to 1951 addition and mounted on the concrete plinth between ground and first floor level.
  - Access hatch to roof of 1951 addition.
  - Navigation light (modern installation).

### *Interior*

- General cleaning of the interior provided the preparation and cleaning does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.
- Minor repair and/or replacement of damaged/broken fabric to the following interior elements, providing these are undertaken using materials, colours and details which match the original:
  - Lighthouse tower cast iron spiral staircase and associated landings.
  - Brass ventilation tubes to Lighthouse tower window openings (x8)
  - Main lantern cast iron fittings associated with the operation of the light including the central column, platform and grille enclosure.

## Scend shed

- All internal works



## RELEVANT INFORMATION

<b>Local Government Authority</b>	Borough of Queenscliffe
<b>Heritage Overlay</b>	HO84
<b>Heritage Overlay Controls</b>	External Paint: No Internal Alteration: No Tree: No
<b>Other Overlays</b>	Bushfire Management Overlay Significant Landscape Overlay Environment Significance Overlay Design and Development Overlay
<b>Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register</b>	Yes, there are Aboriginal places recorded here
<b>Other Listings</b>	National Trust Australia (Victoria) Victorian War Heritage Inventory (Radar and Gun Emplacements and Point Lonsdale Road Fortifications)
<b>Other Names</b>	Point Lonsdale Jetty Point Lonsdale Lighthouse

## HISTORY

In the early decades of the nineteenth century, escaped convict William Buckley lived with Wadawurrung people at various locations on the Bellarine Peninsula. He is widely thought to have sheltered in the cave on the point which overlooks the entry to Port Phillip Bay.

The promontory at Point Lonsdale, overlooking the treacherous entry to Port Phillip Bay, necessitated the establishment of maritime navigational guidance structures. In 1852, when shipping increased as a consequence of the gold rush, a tidal signal station was operated by a Signal Master. The signal operators were involved in the rescue of survivors for numerous shipwrecks. Residences for the signal operators were constructed from the 1850s. A weatherboard Rocket shed (demolished) was erected to aid in shipwreck rescues in 1860. The area's strategic defence interest was recognised when it became a battery reserve in 1861.

The first lighthouse was erected in 1863 when the former timber leading light at Shortlands Bluff was relocated to Point Lonsdale. Lighthouse Keeper's quarters and a telegraph station (both since demolished) were also constructed in the 1860s. In the 1880s, a weatherboard foghorn shed (demolished) and additional lighthouse keepers' accommodation (demolished) were constructed. The Jetty and Rocket shed were added in the 1890s to assist in the rescue of survivors from wrecked ships. Construction began on the concrete Lighthouse in 1901. The Lighthouse was designed by the Public Works Department and was erected by contractors Coates Brothers using reinforced concrete, a notable early use of the technique. It was first lit on 20 March 1902. The timber lighthouse was removed in 1912.

The outbreak of World War I prompted the establishment of defence structures in the vicinity of the Lighthouse. Two Searchlight emplacements, a Directing station and Engine shed were constructed in 1914. In 1928 the current Foghorn shed replaced the original. Further defence structures were erected in response to the commencement of World War II. A new concrete emplacement, now the Scend shed, was constructed in 1941 and two gun emplacements and a fire directing emplacement were added in 1942. The Point Lonsdale defence camp was erected consisting principally of P1-type huts, which initially accommodated the 7 Australian CRE (Works). An area was set aside on the east side of the Point Lonsdale Road for the Australian Women's Army Service (AWAS). At the height of the war, there were fifteen camp buildings at Point Lonsdale. Towards the end of the war, some of the structures accommodated Italian Prisoners of War. In 1946, the service personnel social and benevolent organization Toc H applied to use the camp buildings as holiday accommodation for children of former members of the services. In 1951, an octagonal structure

housing the signal station and observation room was built around the base of the Lighthouse. The Lighthouse continues to function and the Scend shed houses functioning navigational equipment. The remainder of the precinct is utilised for recreational purposes.

### **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct lies on the western side of the Port Phillip Bay Heads, on the southern extremity of the Bellarine Peninsular. The Heads are the entry from Bass Strait to Port Phillip Bay, and the stretch of water between Point Lonsdale and Pont Nepean (the Rip) is characterised by dangerous ocean conditions. The landscape of the point consists of coastal dunes and limestone sea cliffs. The Point Lonsdale Maritime and Defence Precinct lies a short distance to the south of the Point Lonsdale township and is accessed via Point Lonsdale Road. It contains a range of buildings and other structures related to the point's role as a strategic location in both defence and maritime rescue and navigation. Four remaining P1 huts (c1942) lie to the east of the access road. A small car park and turning area lie at the base of the dune. The World War I red brick Engine shed (c1914) is sited at the southern end of the car park. The Lighthouse (1902 and 1951) lies on the extremity of the point atop the headland and is the dominant built feature of the area, viewed from both land and sea. A Foghorn shed (1928), Scend shed (1941), and two World War I Searchlight emplacements (1914) lie in the immediate vicinity of the Lighthouse. Buckley's Cave is part of the limestone sea cliffs at the base of the Lighthouse. To the east of the Lighthouse are the red brick Rocket shed (c1890s), Jetty (1890s) and concrete Infra-red emplacement (1941). To the west are the Signal mast (current 1951), Fire and light directing station (1914 and 1941), World War II Engine shed (c1941) and two World War II gun emplacements (1942).

#### Objects integral

Objects integral to the place are objects dating from the 1920s related to the sounding of the Foghorn. These are located in the Foghorn shed and are: two large air tanks, painted black; a Gardner petrol paraffin engine; Timing mechanism; Compressor and Foghorn. All are operational and the Foghorn is sounded on special occasions (2019).

#### Archaeology

Archaeological features and deposits related to the operation of the place dating from at least the 1860s are known to exist throughout the precinct. These include building remains and cisterns/wells. Further archaeological investigation has potential to reveal more information about the operation of this strategic location from the earliest years of its use for maritime navigation and rescue. It may also reveal information about the lives of those who lived and worked there since the 1850s. There is potential for additional archaeology to be found at the place related to the use and abandonment of defence encampments at the place in World War I and World War II, including artefacts and other material.

### **INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS**

Intactness – The intactness of the place is good overall. There has been change across the site as it was adapted to suit changing needs, and in response to the harsh environmental conditions, but much significant fabric remains in place. The Scend shed was originally a World War II emplacement and has been highly altered to perform new functions. The P1 Huts have been reclad and altered to different degrees. Much of the fabric of the jetty has been replaced over time (August 2019).

Integrity – The integrity of the place is very good. The cultural heritage values of the place can be easily read in the extant fabric (August 2019).

### **CONDITION**

The condition of the place varies. The condition of the Lighthouse, Foghorn shed and Jetty is generally very good. The Rocket shed and Engine shed exhibit some deterioration but are in fair condition. The World War I

and II concrete structures are deteriorated and their condition is generally poor but one structure has been recently restored. The condition of the P1 Huts appears to be generally poor (August 2019).

**KEY REFERENCES USED TO PREPARE ASSESSMENT**

Catrice, Daniel and Nelsen, Ivar (1998), *Point Lonsdale Coastal Reserve Conservation Management Plan*

Duncan, Brad (2006), *The Maritime archaeology and maritime cultural landscapes of Queenscliffe: a nineteenth century Australian coastal community*, PhD thesis, James Cook University.

Lovell Chen (2013), *Point Lonsdale Lighthouse Conservation Management Plan*

## ADDITIONAL IMAGES



2019, view of precinct from entry road with Lighthouse and World War I Engine shed visible.



2019, World War II Infra-red emplacement.



2019, Rocket shed and Lighthouse.





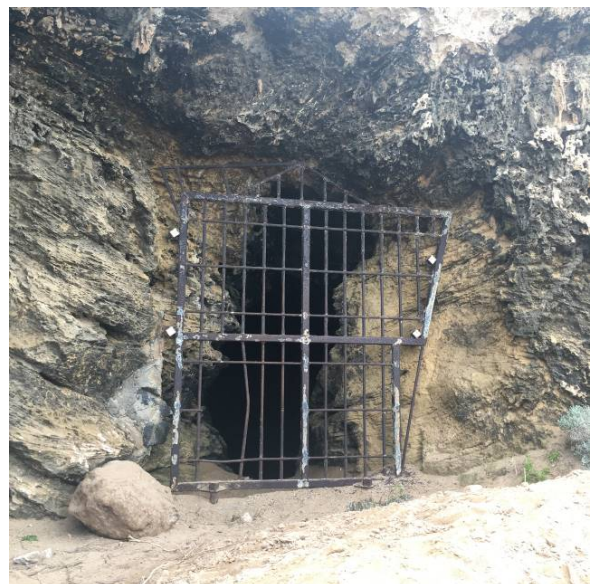
2019, Jetty.



2019, World War I Searchlight emplacement.



2019, Scend shed.



2019, Buckley's Cave.





2019, Foghorn shed.



2019, Lighthouse.



2019, Fire/light Directing station.



2019, ruins of telegraph station/quarters.



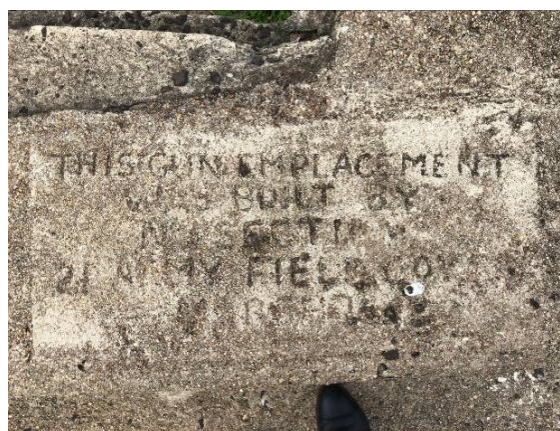
2019, East gun emplacement.



2019, West gun emplacement.



2019, artillery storage, West gun emplacement.



2019, inscription in concrete of gun emplacement.

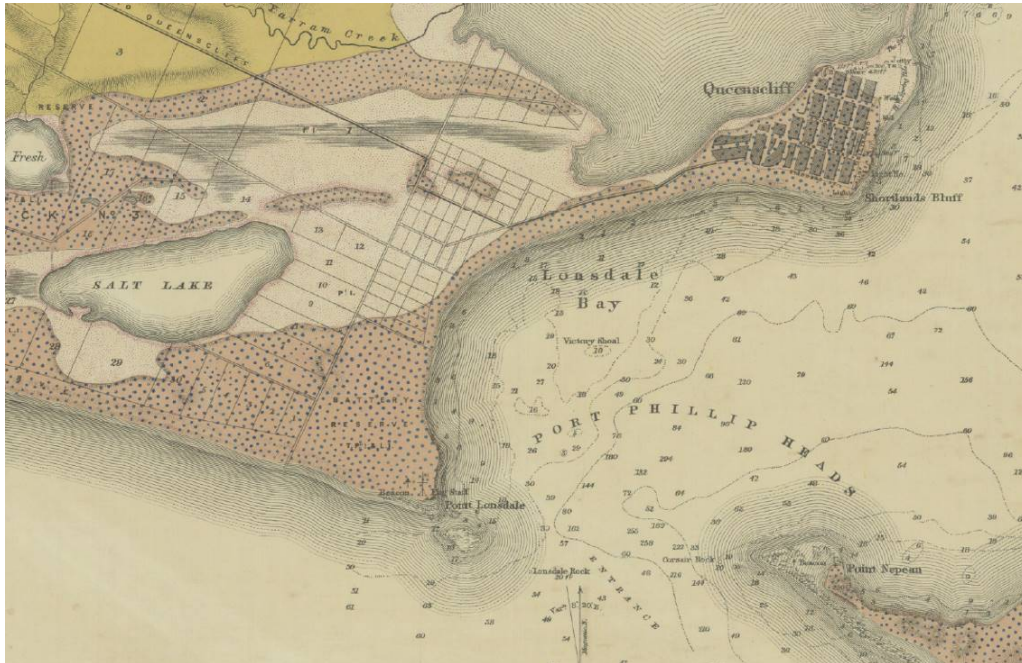


2019, one of the four P1 Huts.

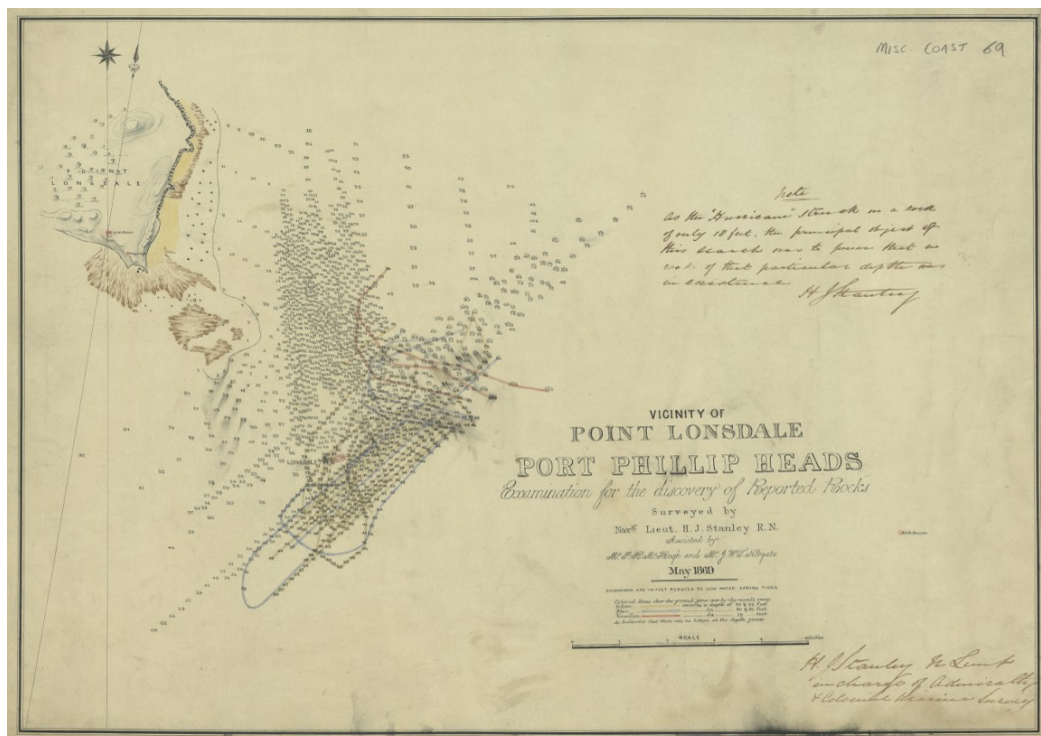


Three of the four P1 Huts.  
Source: [www.therip.com.au](http://www.therip.com.au)

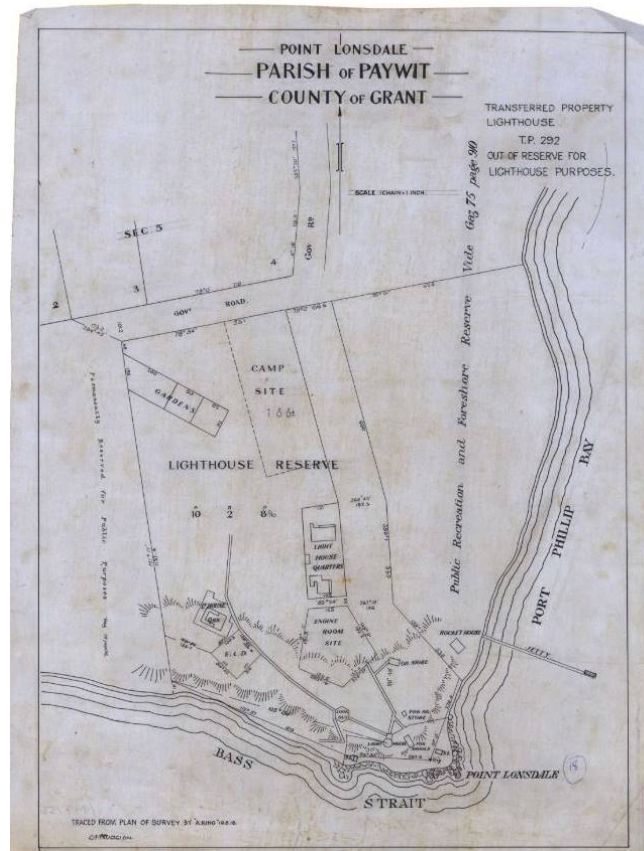




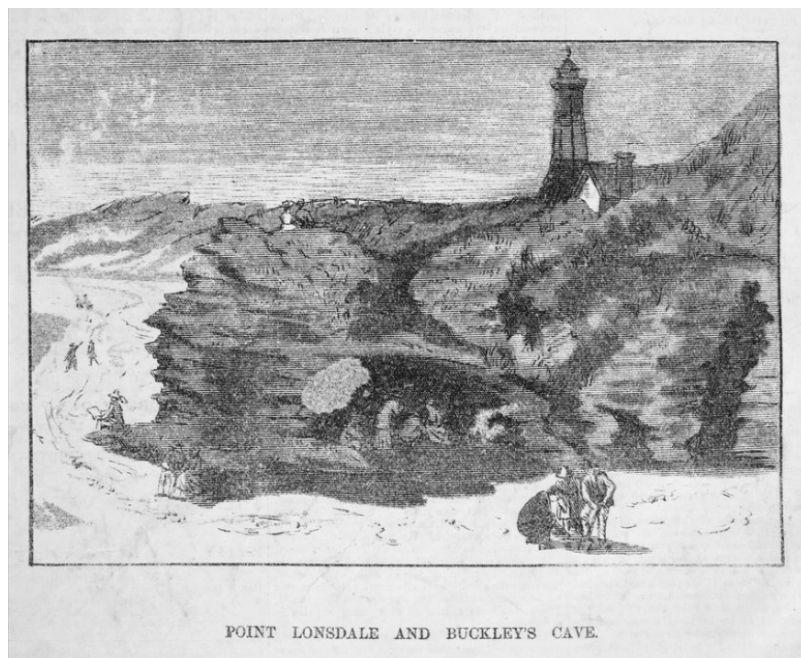
1863, detail of geological survey showing beacon and flagstaff.  
Source: Public Records Office of Victoria



1869, survey showing flagstaff (signal mast) and original location of timber lighthouse.  
Source: Public Records Office of Victoria



1935, plan of Point Lonsdale including extant features (eg, Lighthouse, Foghorn shed, Jetty, Rocket shed) and location of demolished features (eg, Lighthouse quarters).  
Source: National Archives of Australia

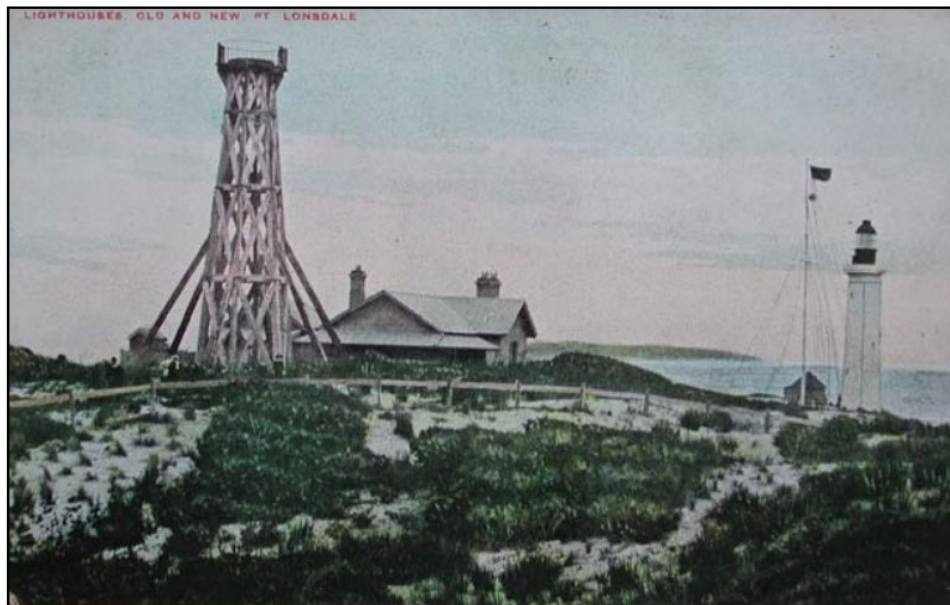


1880, timber Lighthouse, residence (demolished) and Buckley's Cave  
Source: State Library of Victoria





c1880s, timber Lighthouse and associated residences/Telegraph station.  
Source: National Gallery of Victoria



c1909, Timber lighthouse after decommissioning, residence/Telegraph station, Signal mast and concrete Lighthouse.  
Source: *The Maritime Archaeology and Cultural Landscape of Queenscliffe*





c1943, AWAS members operating range finder in Directing Station.  
Source: Australian War Memorial collection



c1943, searchlight emplacement in operation.  
Source: Australian War Memorial collection



c1950s, aerial showing building locations.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



THE ROSE SERIES P. 10832 AERIAL VIEW OF PIER & LIGHTHOUSE, PT. LONSDALE, VIC.  
c1950s, Point Lonsdale Lighthouse and surrounds.  
Source: State Library of Victoria

## **ATTACHMENT 1**

### **EXISTING REGISTRATION DETAILS**

### **TO BE SUPERSEDED BY THE FOREGOING RECOMMENDATION**

#### **EXISTING CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION**

Heritage place

#### **EXISTING EXTENT OF REGISTRATION**

Amendment of Register of Government Buildings

Queenscliffe Borough

Lighthouse, Point Lonsdale.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3093]

Transferred to the Victorian Heritage Register 23 May 1998 (2 years after the proclamation of the Heritage Act 1995 pursuant to the transitional provisions of the Act)

*There is currently no registration diagram*

#### **EXISTING STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

Describe current statement of cultural heritage significance.

#### **EXISTING PERMIT POLICY**

Describe current permit policy.

#### **EXISTING PERMIT EXEMPTIONS**

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable.

Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

#### *Exterior*

The following exemptions apply to all areas of the exterior to the Lighthouse and Foghorn buildings and are directed at their maintenances and repair. All works must be undertaken in a manner which is consistent with the existing form and presentation of the external fabric.

- \* Repair and replacement of damaged/broken glazing and damaged/defective joinery, including where replacement materials match the original and the work is consistent with the form and presentation of the existing original fabric.
- \* Cleaning, including the removal of surface deposits, organic growths, plant growths or graffiti by use of low pressure water and natural detergents and mild brushing and scrubbing.
- \* Removal of existing services such as cabling, plumbing, wiring and fire services and replacement with those that use existing routes, conduits or voids, and does not involve damage to or the removal of significant fabric.
- \* Painting of previously painted external surfaces in the same colour provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of any decorative scheme.
- \* Minor repair and/or replacement of damaged/broken elements where replacement materials match the original and the work is consistent with the form and presentation of the existing original fabric:
  - Concrete shaft and capital tower and window frames (x8).
  - Main lantern including cast iron gallery and platform including ancillary components such as the steel safety rail.
  - Lightkeeper's Station and observation room.
  - Cantilevered platform supporting the red and green lights.

#### *Interior*

The following exemptions apply to all areas of the interior of the lighthouse and are directed at its general operational requirements and the ongoing repair and maintenance of interior spaces.

- \* Minor repairs of damaged/broken fabric which utilise materials and techniques that match the original including to walls, joinery and floor finishes.
- \* General cleaning of the interior, provided the preparation and cleaning does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.
- \* Repair and replacement of roofing materials and rainwater goods where damaged/broken, to match existing materials, colours and profiles.
- \* Minor repair and/or replacement of damaged/broken fabric to the following interior elements, providing these are undertaken using materials, colours and details which match the original:
  - Lighthouse tower cast iron spiral staircase and associated landings.
  - Brass ventilation tubes to Lighthouse tower window openings (x8)
  - Main lantern cast iron fittings associated with the operation of the light including the central column, platform and grille enclosure.