

## HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

Determination Date	7 February 2019
Place/Object Name	Shortland's Bluff
Location	Hesse Street, Queenscliff
VHR Number	H2367
Category	Heritage Place

At a meeting of the Heritage Council of Victoria on 7 February 2019 it was determined that, in accordance with Section 49 of the *Heritage Act 2017*, the above place is of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria and warrants inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register. This decision was reached having considered the assessment against the Heritage Council's criteria, other information contained in the attached report and all submissions received in response to the Executive Director's recommendation.

The Heritage Council endorses and adopts the attached report for the purposes of making its decision.



**Professor Stuart Macintyre AO**  
Chair, Heritage Council of Victoria

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

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<b>Name</b>	Shortland's Bluff
<b>Location</b>	Hesse Street, Queenscliff
<b>Provisional VHR Number</b>	PROV VHR H2367
<b>Provisional VHR Categor</b>	Heritage Place
<b>Hermes Number</b>	200972
<b>Existing Heritage Overlay</b>	Borough of Queenscliffe HO58 Shortland's Bluff, White Lighthouse HO59 Shortland's Bluff, Precinct and Archaeological Site



Shortland's Bluff (2017)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE HERITAGE COUNCIL:

- That Shortland's Bluff be included as a Registered Place in the Victorian Heritage Register under the *Heritage Act 2017* [Section 37(1)(a)].

**STEVEN AVERY**  
Executive Director

**Recommendation Date:** Monday 19 November 2018

**Advertising period:** Monday 26 November 2018 – Monday 21 January 2019

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

## EXTENT OF NOMINATION

Date that the nomination was accepted by the Executive Director

16 August 2017

Written extent of nomination

All of the place known as Shortland's Bluff Lighthouse Reserve shown on the attached diagram.

Nomination extent diagram

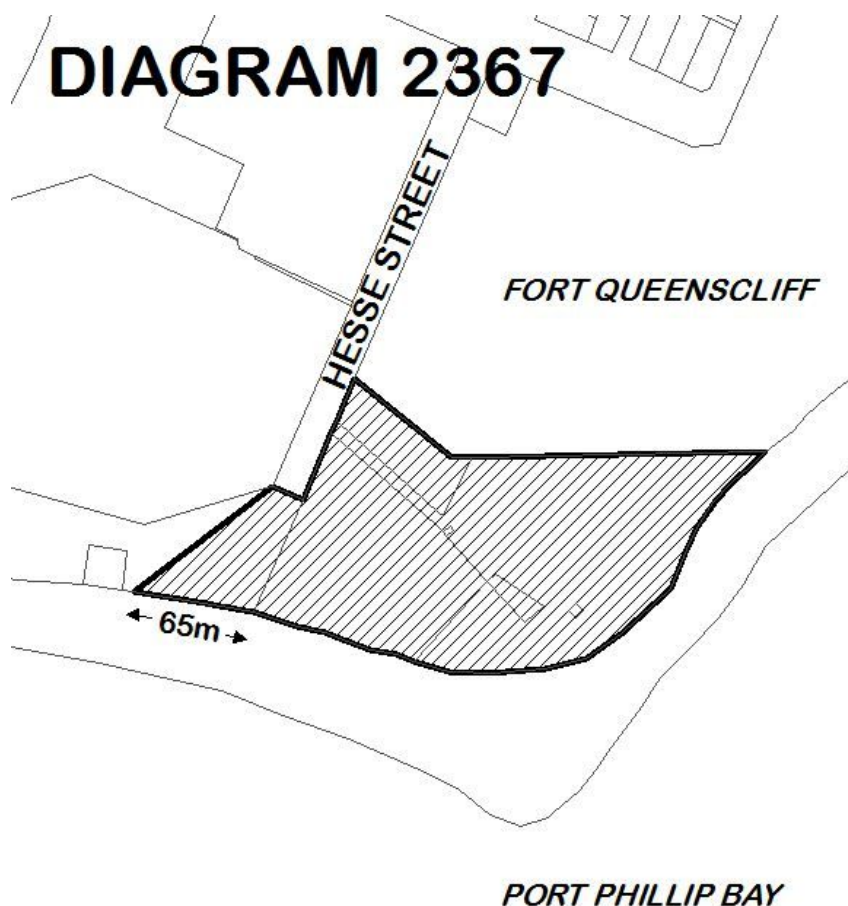


Is the extent of nomination the same as the recommended extent?

Yes.

## EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 2367 encompassing all of Crown Allotments 2039, 2040, 2041 and 2042 Township of Queenscliff, All of Crown Allotments 2C and 2D. Section 1, Township of Queenscliff, and part of Crown Allotment 26, Section 30, Township of Queenscliff.



The extent of registration of Shortland's Bluff in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 2367 including the land, all structures, landscape elements, and other features.

## RATIONALE FOR EXTENT

The recommended extent of registration includes the land known as Shortlands Bluff which has been part of Victoria's maritime navigational and defence requirements since the 1840s. It also includes the navigational aids and defence bunkers associated with the cultural heritage significance of the place. It includes sufficient land to protect views to the lighthouses and Fort Queenscliff, and views from the place to Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean.



## AERIAL PHOTO OF THE PLACE SHOWING EXTENT OF REGISTRATION



Name: Shortlands Bluff  
Hermes Number: 200972



## THE CONSIDERATION OF SHORTLANDS BLUFF UNDER THE HERITAGE ACT 2017

Ideally, the cultural heritage significance of Shortlands Bluff would be considered in association with Fort Queenscliff. Fort Queenscliff was originally part of the place now known as Shortlands Bluff. The construction of the Fort in the 1870s physically divided the two places but they have shared maritime navigation and defence histories.

Fort Queenscliff is in Commonwealth ownership and cannot be assessed under the *Heritage Act 2017*.



Shortlands Bluff is indicated in blue and Fort Queenscliff is indicated in orange.

## BACKGROUND

### WHAT IS AT THE PLACE?

Shortlands Bluff is an elevated coastal land formation located to the south of the township of Queenscliff and to the north-east of Point Lonsdale. It is accessed via Hesse Street which terminates at a circular seating area known locally as the Bullring, with three Monterey Cypress pines (*Cupressus macrocarpa* syn. *Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) around the northern edge. A large carpark overlooks the coastline, with memorials along the coastal edge. Late nineteenth century and World War II concrete bunkers are located around the east and south boundaries. A white painted bluestone lighthouse (the White (Lower) Lighthouse) is located to the east of the site and its partner lighthouse of unpainted bluestone (the Black (Upper) Lighthouse) is visible within the boundary of Fort Queenscliff. The Hume and Murray Towers are located on either side of the White Lighthouse and the smaller Fort West light is located further to the west. The Lighthouse and Towers are surrounded by regenerated bushland and open grassed areas, including remnants of the sloping formation of the glaciis or escarpment which provided protection for Fort Queenscliff.

### WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE?

#### Maritime navigation

Shortlands Bluff overlooks the entrance to Port Phillip Bay through the Heads of Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean. A dangerous waterway known as the Rip is located between the Heads. Following the establishment of Melbourne in 1836, safe passage into the Bay was essential for the growth of Melbourne and Victoria. The first lighthouse was constructed at Shortlands Bluff in 1843 and additional navigational aids were erected in the following decades. The existing White (Lower) and Black (Upper) bluestone lighthouses were constructed in 1862. The Hume and Murray Towers were constructed in 1924 and 1974 respectively and were replaced c.2012. The Lighthouses and Towers remain in use.

#### Defence

The discovery of gold in Victoria in 1850, and the perceived threat of attack generated by the outbreak of the Crimean War prompted the need to protect Port Phillip Bay. The first military battery was constructed at Shortlands Bluff by 1864. It was demolished in the late 1870s and replaced with the first section of what was to become Fort Queenscliff. Additional searchlights and gun emplacements were constructed on the east and south boundaries of Shortlands Bluff during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. During World War II defence strategies moved away from sea attack to focus on airborne threats. After 1945, Shortlands Bluff was used for defence training purposes and later as a place for public recreation.

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

This site is part of the traditional land of the Wathaurung people. The Registered Aboriginal Party for the area is the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation, trading as Wadawurrung (Wathaurung).

## STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

### WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT?

Shortlands Bluff including all of the landscape elements, navigational aids and defence bunkers.

### HOW IS IT SIGNIFICANT

Shortlands Bluff is of 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 B

Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects 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?

Shortlands Bluff is significant at the State level for the following reasons:

Shortlands Bluff is historically significant for its association with maritime navigation since the 1840s. The construction of maritime navigational aids at Shortlands Bluff assisted in the safe passage of vessels into Port Phillip Bay. This was critical for the establishment of Melbourne and the development of Victoria, particularly following the discovery of gold in 1850. [Criterion A]

Shortlands Bluff is also historically significant for its association with defence from the 1860s until the end of World War II. Defence emplacements were initially prompted by the discovery of gold in 1850 and the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1853. Additional emplacements and searchlight bunkers were constructed from the late nineteenth century until the end of World War II. [Criterion A]

Shortlands Bluff contains uncommon elements associated with maritime navigation and defence. The White and Black Lighthouses are an uncommon example of lighthouses which were designed and constructed as a pair. The concrete bunker of the see-saw searchlight is evidence of the only known example of this type of searchlight in Victoria and one of only four known examples world-wide. [Criterion B]

Shortlands Bluff is significant for containing notable examples of elements representing the classes of maritime navigation and defence. It was the location of some of the earliest maritime navigational aids and defence emplacements in Victoria. The land formation and location of the place was critical to the development of Victoria through its ability to provide safe navigational guidance for maritime vessels entering Port Phillip Bay, and as one of the places in a strategic network around Port Phillip Bay from which to defend Victoria in the event of seaborne attack. [Criterion D]



## RECOMMENDATION REASONS

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDING INCLUSION IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER [s.40]

Following is the Executive Director's assessment of the place against the tests set out in *The Victorian Heritage Register Criteria and Thresholds Guidelines (2014)*.

#### CRITERION A

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

##### STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION A

The place/object has a *CLEAR ASSOCIATION* with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life in Victoria's cultural history.

Plus

The association of the place/object to the event, phase, etc *IS EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources or oral history.

Plus

The *EVENT, PHASE, etc* is of *HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE*, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria.

#### ***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff is historically significant for its association with the development of Victoria. It has a clear association with:

- a) Maritime navigation
- b) Defence

#### *Maritime navigation*

Shortlands Bluff has a clear association with maritime navigation. It has been the location of maritime navigational aids which have guided vessels into Port Phillip Bay since the 1840s. Maritime activity was critical for the establishment of Melbourne and the development of Victoria and became even more critical when maritime traffic increased following the discovery of gold. The association with maritime navigation is evident in the physical fabric of the place through the White Lighthouse (constructed as a pair with the Black Lighthouse which is now within Fort Queenscliff), the Hume and Murray Towers, other navigational aids, the remnants of the obelisk and the setting and form of the place. The association is also evident in documentary resources.

#### *Defence*

Shortlands Bluff has a clear association with the function of defence beginning with the construction of the first battery in 1863. It has made a strong and influential contribution to Victoria as part of a defence network around Port Phillip Bay. The association with defence is evident in the physical fabric of the place through its setting and form, and through the nineteenth and twentieth century concrete bunkers. The north section of Shortland's Bluff formed the glacis, or artificial slope in front of Fort Queenscliff, sloping away from the dry moat below the Fort's wall. The association is also evident in documentary resources.

Criterion A is likely to be satisfied.

**STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION A**

The place/object allows the clear association with the event, phase etc. of historical importance to be *UNDERSTOOD BETTER THAN MOST OTHER PLACES OR OBJECTS IN VICTORIA WITH SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME ASSOCIATION.*

***Executive Director's Response***

Shortland's Bluff allows the clear association with the dual functions of maritime navigation and defence to be understood better than most other places in Victoria with substantially the same association. Its setting and form were key elements in its dual role of providing safe passage into Port Phillip Bay, and of the defence of the Bay. The proximity and relationship to Fort Queenscliff, the land formation, the uninterrupted views, both from the place, and to the lighthouse, towers and Fort Queenscliff, as well as the surviving concrete bunkers demonstrate the ongoing use of the place for maritime navigation and defence purposes from the 1860s to World War II.

Criterion A is likely to be satisfied at the State level.

**CRITERION B**

**Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.**

**STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION B**

The place/object has a *clear ASSOCIATION* with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of importance in Victoria's cultural history.

**Plus**

The association of the place/object to the event, phase, etc *IS EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources or oral history.

**Plus**

The place/object is *RARE OR UNCOMMON*, being one of a small number of places/objects remaining that demonstrates the important event, phase etc.

OR

The place/object is *RARE OR UNCOMMON*, containing unusual features of note that were not widely replicated

OR

The existence of the *class* of place/object that demonstrates the important event, phase etc is *ENDANGERED* to the point of rarity due to threats and pressures on such places/objects.

***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff has a clear association with maritime navigation and defence. The associations are evident in the physical fabric of the place.

The White and Black Lighthouses are an uncommon example of lighthouses designed and constructed as a pair and are the earliest example in Victoria. The surviving see-saw searchlight bunker is evidence of an uncommon type of searchlight which contained unusual features of note that were not widely replicated. The searchlight itself no longer survives but the concrete bunker in which it was located does. Only three other bunkers in the world are known to survive.

Criterion B is likely to be satisfied.

**STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION B**

The place/object is *RARE, UNCOMMON OR ENDANGERED* within Victoria.

***Executive Director's Response***

The White and Black Lighthouses are rare as the earliest example of a pair lighthouses in Victoria which were designed and constructed at the same time.

The see-saw searchlight bunker is evidence of the only known example of a see-saw searchlight in Victoria and one of only four known examples world-wide.

Criterion B is likely to be satisfied at the State level for:

- The White Lighthouse (as a pair with the Black Lighthouse)
- The see-saw searchlight bunker.

**CRITERION C**

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

**STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION C**

The:

- visible physical fabric; &/or
- documentary evidence; &/or
  - oral history,

relating to the place/object indicates a likelihood that the place/object contains *PHYSICAL EVIDENCE of historical interest that is NOT CURRENTLY VISIBLE OR UNDERSTOOD.*

**Plus**

From what we know of the place/object, the physical evidence is likely to be of an *INTEGRITY* and/or *CONDITION* that it *COULD YIELD INFORMATION* through detailed investigation.

***Executive Director's Response***

There is a likelihood that Shortlands Bluff contains physical evidence of earlier structures which have been removed, including navigational aids, lighthouse keepers' cottages, fencing, and other elements associated with maritime navigation and defence. The physical evidence is likely to be of an integrity and condition that could yield information through detailed investigation.

Criterion C is likely to be satisfied.



**STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION C**

The knowledge that might be obtained through investigation is likely to *MEANINGFULLY CONTRIBUTE* to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.

**Plus**

The information likely to be yielded from the place/object is *not* already *well documented* or *readily available* from other sources.

***Executive Director's Response***

The structures at Shortlands Bluff associated with maritime navigation and defence are similar to those at other locations. The knowledge that might be obtained through investigation is not likely to meaningfully contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history as the information is readily available from other sources. The see-saw searchlight bunker is of particular interest, but its construction and design is already well documented and understood through documentary sources and through the restoration of a similar bunker on the Isle of Wight.

Criterion C is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

**CRITERION D**

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

**STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION D**

The place/object is one of a *CLASS* of places/objects that has a *clear ASSOCIATION* with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, important person(s), custom or way of life in Victoria's history.

**Plus**

The *EVENT, PHASE, etc* is of *HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE*, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria.

**Plus**

The principal characteristics of the class are *EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object.

***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff is one of the class of:

- a) Places associated with maritime navigation.
- b) Places associated with defence.

Maritime navigation and defence have made a strong contribution to Victoria.

**Maritime navigation**

The principal characteristics of maritime navigation are evident in the physical fabric of Shortlands Bluff through the White Lighthouse (and the view of the Black Lighthouse located outside the recommended extent of registration), the Hume and Murray Towers and the remnant base of the obelisk.

### Defence

The principal characteristics of defence are evident in the physical fabric of Shortlands Bluff through the gun and searchlight bunkers, the land formation of the glaciis and the proximity and association of the place to Fort Queenscliff.

The principal characteristics of Maritime Navigation and Defence are also evident in the natural location and formation of Shortlands Bluff, including its elevated position, and the unimpeded views to and from the Rip, Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean.

Criterion D is likely to be satisfied.

#### **STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION D**

The place/object is a *NOTABLE EXAMPLE* of the class in Victoria (refer to Reference Tool D).

#### ***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff is a notable example of the classes of maritime navigation and defence.

Shortlands Bluff was the location of some of the earliest maritime navigational aids and defence emplacements in Victoria. It is a fine example which displays characteristics that are of higher historical relevance than are typical of other places in the class. The form and location of Shortlands Bluff was critical to the development of Victoria through its ability to provide safe navigational guidance for maritime vessels entering Port Phillip Bay, and as a place from which to defend Victoria in the event of seaborne attack.

Through its form and location, views to and from the place, the White Lighthouse and other navigational aids and remnant defence emplacements, Shortlands Bluff contains elements which display the principal characteristics of the classes of maritime navigation and defence. It is a fine example that allows the class to be easily understood and appreciated.

Criterion D is likely to be satisfied at the State level.

### **CRITERION E**

**Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.**

#### **STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION E**

The *PHYSICAL FABRIC* of the place/object clearly exhibits particular aesthetic characteristics.

#### ***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff clearly exhibits particular aesthetic characteristics through its coastal setting and its elevated form above the beach. The White Lighthouse is a landmark from the water and from the land and together with the concrete bunkers, contributes to a landscape which is both picturesque and functional in its visual qualities and atmosphere.

Criterion E is likely to be satisfied.

**STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION E**

The aesthetic characteristics are *APPRECIATED OR VALUED* by the wider community or an appropriately-related discipline as evidenced, for example, by:

- *critical recognition* of the aesthetic characteristics of the place/object within a relevant art, design, architectural or related discipline as an outstanding example within Victoria; or
- wide public *acknowledgement of exceptional merit* in Victoria in medium such as songs, poetry, literature, painting, sculpture, publications, print media etc.

***Executive Director's Response***

The aesthetic characteristics of Shortlands Bluff are appreciated and valued by the wider community. The place has been depicted in many historical and contemporary artworks by amateur and professional artists including S T Gill, Fred Kruger and Arthur Boyd. There are many places in Victoria, including other places where lighthouses are located, with similar aesthetic values. Most lighthouses are landmarks and are located in picturesque or commanding locations. They provide a striking subject for artists and many have been depicted by amateur and professional artists.

There has been no critical recognition of, or acknowledgement of, the exceptional merit of the landscape itself (such as the acknowledgement afforded to Hanging Rock). Shortlands Bluff is one of numerous coastal locations around Victoria which have similar aesthetic values that are undistinguished by any critical recognition or wide public acknowledgement of exceptional merit at the State level.

Criterion E is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

**CRITERION F**

**Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.**

**STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION F**

The place/object contains *PHYSICAL EVIDENCE* that clearly demonstrates creative or technical *ACHIEVEMENT* for the time in which it was created.

**Plus**

The physical evidence demonstrates a *HIGH DEGREE OF INTEGRITY*.

***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff contains physical evidence of equipment that demonstrates creative or technical achievement for the time in which it was created.

The see-saw searchlight demonstrated technical achievement for the time in which it was created. The searchlight itself has been removed and only the concrete bunker remains. The bunker is evidence of the existence of the searchlight, but on its own, does not demonstrate technical achievement.

The lighting components of the White Lighthouse were supplied by Chance Brothers, Great Britain, who supplied lighting components for lighthouses around the world. In 1851, they revolutionised lighthouse design by placing lighthouse lamps inside a cage surrounded by Fresnel lenses to increase the available light output.

Criterion F is likely to be satisfied at the State level.



## STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION F

The nature &/or scale of the achievement is *OF A HIGH DEGREE* or 'beyond the ordinary' for the period in which it was undertaken as evidenced by:

- *critical acclaim* of the place/object within the relevant creative or technological discipline as an outstanding example in Victoria; or
- *wide acknowledgement of exceptional merit* in Victoria in medium such as publications and print media; or
- recognition of the place/object as a *breakthrough* in terms of design, fabrication or construction techniques; or
- recognition of the place/object as a successful solution to a technical problem that *extended the limits* of existing technology; or
- recognition of the place/object as an outstanding example of the *creative adaptation* of available materials and technology of the period.

### **Executive Director's Response**

Chance Brothers supplied equipment for lighthouses around the world and many lighthouses exhibit similar technology to that of the White Lighthouse at Shortlands Bluff. It is not beyond the ordinary for the period in which it was undertaken. Chance Brothers developed their revolutionary design in 1851 and it was subsequently installed in many lighthouses globally. The lighting equipment in the White Lighthouse was installed approximately ten years after the development of the technology and does not demonstrate a breakthrough in terms of design, fabrication or construction techniques. It did not extend the limits of the technology and is not an example of the creative adaptation of the technology.

Criterion F is not likely to be satisfied.

## CRITERION G

**Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to indigenous people as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.**

### STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION G

Evidence exists of a *DIRECT ASSOCIATION* between the place/object and a *PARTICULAR COMMUNITY OR CULTURAL GROUP*.

(For the purpose of these guidelines, '*COMMUNITY or CULTURAL GROUP*' is defined as a sizable group of persons who share a common and long-standing interest or identity).

**Plus**

The *ASSOCIATION* between the place/object and the community or cultural group is *STRONG OR SPECIAL*, as evidenced by the regular or long-term use of/engagement with the place/object or the enduring ceremonial, ritual, commemorative, spiritual or celebratory use of the place/object.

### **Executive Director's Response**

There is a direct association between Shortlands Bluff and groups within the Queenscliff community. Maritime and defence activities were instrumental in the formation of the township and the activities and the Queenscliff community developed concurrently. There is strong association between Shortlands Bluff and groups within the Queenscliff community as evidenced by long term

visitation to the place, and by the recent community objection to the development of the place.

Shortlands Bluff is also valued and appreciated by recreational visitors from beyond Queenscliff. But these visitors do not form an identifiable community or cultural group. There are many other coastal locations around Victoria which attract visitors on an occasional basis. The association between Shortlands Bluff and the people who visit it is no stronger than the association between visitors and other beachside locations around Victoria.

The Queenscliff community also has a special association with Shortlands Bluff as the location for local ANZAC Day services. It is a particularly evocative site, as the backdrop is the view of the Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean Heads through which servicemen and women passed when leaving Victoria for places of conflict.

Criterion G is likely to be satisfied for the association between the place and the Queenscliff community.

#### **STEP 2: A BASIC TEST FOR DETERMINING STATE LEVEL SIGNIFICANCE FOR CRITERION G**

The place/object represents a *PARTICULARLY STRONG EXAMPLE* of the association between it and the community or cultural group by reason of its *RELATIONSHIP TO IMPORTANT HISTORICAL EVENTS* in Victoria and/or its *ABILITY TO INTERPRET EXPERIENCES* to the broader Victorian community.

#### ***Executive Director's Response***

Many townships throughout Victoria developed around processes and activities such as gold mining, transportation, ports, farming and industry. The association between the Queenscliff community and Shortlands Bluff is no stronger than the association between any other Victorian community and the location of the process or activity it developed around.

ANZAC Day services are held in suburbs and towns throughout Victoria and have a strong association with the immediate community in which they are held. Apart from services held at the Shrine of Remembrance, which attracts participants from across Victoria, no ANZAC Day event in Victoria can be elevated above any other.

Criterion G is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

#### **CRITERION H**

**Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.**

#### **STEP 1: A BASIC TEST FOR SATISFYING CRITERION H**

The place/object has a *DIRECT ASSOCIATION* with a person or group of persons who have made a strong or influential *CONTRIBUTION* to the course of Victoria's history.

**Plus**

The *ASSOCIATION* of the place/object to the person(s) *IS EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources and/or oral history.

**Plus**

The *ASSOCIATION*:

- directly relates to *ACHIEVEMENTS* of the person(s) at, or relating to, the place/object; or
- relates to an *enduring* and/or *close INTERACTION* between the person(s) and the place/object.

***Executive Director's Response***

Shortlands Bluff has a direct association with Sir Peter Henry Scratchley and Sir William Francis Drummond Jervois who advised on the design of Victoria's defence network in the 1870s and 1880s.

In 1876, Scratchley and Jervois made key recommendations for the defence of Port Phillip Bay which included Shortlands Bluff. They also made recommendations for defence networks and forts in other colonies in Australia. Shortlands Bluff has less extant physical evidence than other places associated with Scratchley and Jervois. Their achievements are better demonstrated at other more intact forts, including Fort Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct (VHR H2030), South Channel Fort (VHR H1502) and Fort Queenscliff (in Commonwealth ownership). Scratchley and Jervois designed many forts and places associated with defence across Australia. There is no evidence that the interaction between Scratchley and Jervois, and Shortlands Bluff was any closer or more enduring than with any other place they advised on and appears to be less.

Criterion H is not likely to be satisfied.



## 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 Shortlands Bluff in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 2367 including the land, all buildings (exteriors and interiors), roads, trees, landscape elements and other features.** 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

It is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan is developed to manage the place in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance.

### 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

Any works that may affect historical archaeological features, deposits or artefacts at the place is likely to require a permit, permit exemption or consent. Advice should be sought from the Archaeology Team at Heritage Victoria.

## PERMIT EXEMPTIONS (UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE HERITAGE ACT)

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).

### 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 must still 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

### Landscape

- The process of gardening, including mowing, removal of dead shrubs and replanting the same species or cultivar, disease and weed control and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- The removal or pruning of dead or dangerous trees to maintain safety.
- Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; Pruning of Amenity Trees AS4373-1996.
- Management of possums and vermin.
- Repairs, conservation, and maintenance to landscape elements, including the carpark, steps, paths, memorials, drainage and irrigation systems, edging and fences in a manner which preserves the cultural heritage significance of the place.

**Building Exteriors** (1862 White Lighthouse, navigational towers, concrete defence bunkers)

- All works required to maintain, secure and make safe buildings and structures, and to allow the ongoing use of the navigational aids.
- Minor repairs which replace like with like. 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.
- Maintenance of an item to retain its condition or operation without large-scale removal of or damage to the existing fabric or the large-scale introduction of new materials.
- General maintenance for the purpose of safety and security including the removal of broken glass, the temporary shuttering of windows and covering of holes as long as this work is reversible and does not have a detrimental impact on fabric.
- Installation or repair of damp-proofing in a manner which does not affect the fabric.
- Painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour provided that preparation or painting does not remove early paint finishes or other decorative schemes.
- Replacement of existing services such as cabling, plumbing, wiring and fire services that uses existing routes, conduits or voids, and does not involve damage to or the removal of significant fabric.
- Removal of non-original items such as wiring, antennae, aerials etc and making good in a manner not detrimental to the fabric.
- Erecting, repairing and maintaining signage (directional signage, road signs, speed signs). Signage must be located and be of a suitable size so as not to obscure or damage heritage fabric and must be able to be later removed without causing damage to the place. The development of signage must be consistent in the use of format, text, logos, themes and other display materials.



## RELEVANT INFORMATION

<b>Local Government Authority</b>	Borough of Queenscliffe
<b>Heritage Overlay</b>	HO58: Shortland's Bluff, White Lighthouse HO58: Shortland's Bluff, Precinct and Archaeological Site
<b>Heritage Overlay Controls</b>	HO58: External Paint HO59: Trees
<b>Other Overlays</b>	Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO2 – Queenscliff Lighthouse / Ocean View Car Park) Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO1 – Coastal and Foreshore Areas) Design and Development Overlay (DDO1 – Queenscliff)
<b>Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register</b>	There is a registered Aboriginal place within the recommended extent of registration.
<b>Other Listings</b>	Victorian Heritage Inventory: H7821-0031, (White Lighthouse and associated features) H7821-0119, (Obelisk Shortlands Bluff)

## HISTORY

### Maritime navigation

The township of Queenscliff was originally known as Shortland's Bluff. It was named by Captain William Hobson after Lieutenant John Shortland who had assisted in the surveying of Port Phillip in 1836. The name was changed to Queenscliff in 1854 in honour of Queen Victoria. Shortlands Bluff is located adjacent to Fort Queenscliff and both sites have shared maritime navigational and defence histories.

### Maritime navigation

The first European vessel to enter what is now Port Phillip Bay was captained by Acting Lt John Murray in 1802. The geomorphic form of the Point Lonsdale and Point Nepean Heads created a volatile and treacherous waterway known as the Rip which was difficult to navigate. Many shipwrecks occurred causing loss of life and goods, with the first recorded shipping loss occurring in 1836. Safe entrance into the Bay was vital for the development of Victoria, and even more so with the significant increase in shipping traffic following the discovery of gold in 1850.

In 1836 extensive marine surveys were completed by Lieutenants T M Symonds and H R Henry of HMS Rattlesnake under the command of Captain William Hobson. He proposed constructing lighthouses at the Port Phillip Heads. A position for the light had still not been determined by 1839 when Charles La Trobe was posted to Port Phillip as Superintendent of the District. In 1841, La Trobe recommended that a lighthouse be built on Shortland's Bluff. It was based on the design of the 1817 Macquarie Light in Sydney, the first lighthouse constructed in Australia. The first Shortlands Bluff lighthouse was operational by April 1843. Standing at a point approximately 22.5 metres above sea level, it was 13.7 metres high and built of sandstone quarried from the base of the Bluff. Its location was in the grounds of what is now Fort Queenscliff and it was demolished in the early 1860s.

In 1853 a new red and black painted prefabricated timber leading light was constructed to the south east of the site to provide shipmasters with assurance that they were sailing in the safe channel when it aligned with the 1843 sandstone lighthouse. The new light became known as the Low or Leading Light, and the sandstone lighthouse became known as the High or Upper Light. A signal mast was also erected near the sandstone lighthouse for communication with ships entering or leaving Port Phillip. In 1862 the timber Low Light was dismantled and re-erected at Point Lonsdale.

Following separation from New South Wales in 1851, gold was discovered in the new Colony of Victoria. Victoria's fledging population and the number of ships entering Port Phillip Bay increased significantly. Maritime traffic reached its peak in 1854 when 2,629 vessels entered through the Heads. In 1856 a Joint Commission of the Colonial Governments of Victoria, Tasmania, NSW and South Australia was formed to assess the adequacy of existing lights and the possible installation of further facilities. In 1859 a second Commission of Enquiry recommended establishing a defence battery of guns at the Heads. This was complicated because the sandstone lighthouse's position was needed for the battery. The sandstone lighthouse was demolished and in 1861, contracts were let for the construction of the existing pair of lighthouses known as the White (Lower) and Black (Upper) Lighthouses. The White Lighthouse is located within Shortlands Bluff and the Black Lighthouse is now located within Fort Queenscliff. Both were built of dressed basalt blocks, transported by barge from Melbourne. The Lower Lighthouse was painted white to distinguish it from the Upper Lighthouse which retained its natural black bluestone colour. These lighthouses were constructed as a pair and acted in unison with each other. As ships approached the heads, a white light showed below the Black Lighthouse, and as the ship advanced, it moved into the red sector of the White Lighthouse. While the red light was visible below the white light, the ship was in the channel and could safely enter the bay.

The contracts for the two new lighthouses were let to two Melbourne builders, C S Baillie who built the White Lighthouse and Alfred Pooley and Co. who built the Black Lighthouse. The lamps, lens and mechanisms were manufactured by Chance Brothers of Birmingham (England). From 1851, Chance Brothers became a major lighthouse engineering company, producing high quality optical components, machinery, and other equipment for lighthouses around the world. Chance Brothers pioneered placing lighthouse lamps inside a cage surrounded by Fresnel lenses to increase the available light output which revolutionised lighthouse design. The light was converted to gas in 1890 and then to electricity in 1924. Both lighthouses are now automated and unmanned. Together with additional navigational aids, the two lighthouses remain in use. Quarters for the lighthouse keepers were located adjacent to the White Lighthouse but were replaced in the 1950s. These in turn were demolished in 2010.

Additional navigational aids including the Hume Tower (constructed in 1924) and the Murray Tower (constructed in 1974) were erected to guide vessels to the eastern and western most edges of the widened channel. The Murray Tower replaced the c.1860s obelisk and both Towers were replaced c.2012. The Lighthouses and Towers remain operational and continue to guide ships into the channel through the Rip. The White Lighthouse is on publicly accessible land at Shortlands Bluff and the Black Lighthouse is now within the grounds of Fort Queenscliff.

### Defence

In 1843 a survey of the area around Swan Bay recommended a Battery Reserve at Point Lonsdale. The location of Shortlands Bluff has ensured its inclusion in almost all defence proposals.

Gold was discovered in Victoria in 1850 which significantly increased shipping activity. There were fears of attack on the newly wealthy colony and on the ships transporting gold, wool and agricultural produce to Britain. Forts positioned at Point Nepean and Point Lonsdale were suggested as early as 1852. However, available guns did not have the required range, and small batteries were built at Williamstown and Sandridge instead.

The perception of military threat increased with the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1853. Despite this, a defence sea wall was not constructed at Shortlands Bluff until 1860, followed by the construction of an earthwork battery (now within Fort Queenscliff) in the early 1860s. The new

battery was equipped with three 68-pounder muzzle loading cannons and manned by the Queenscliff Volunteer Artillery, comprising primarily fishermen and government employees.

Since 1854, a number of commissions and advisory committees had formulated strategies for the defence of Victoria. Two of the most influential figures in this process were Major Peter Scratchley of the Royal Engineers (who had first made recommendations for the defence of Melbourne and Geelong in 1860), and Colonel Drummond Jervis, the Director of Works and Fortifications in Britain.

In 1876, the Governors of Australia's eastern colonies asked the Colonial Secretary in London to appoint an expert military engineer to advise on their defence. The Victorian delegate travelled to London and met with Colonel William Jervis. In 1877 Scratchley and Jervis visited the defences at Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale. They recommended that four forts be built near the heads of Port Phillip Bay. In the late 1870s, Colonel Jervis' and Major Scratchley's recommendations for Queenscliff were implemented with the demolition of the 1863 battery and the construction of what is now Fort Queenscliff. This included upper and lower batteries, massive shrapnel mounds and an encircling 12ft high brick wall. In 1883 a dry moat was excavated and protective earth mounds, quarters and other buildings were completed. The land formation of Shortland's Bluff to the south of the Fort is a remnant section of the glacial, an escarpment that sloped away from the dry moat below the Fort wall, with the height and angle calculated to protect the rampart from direct fire, while allowing defenders to fire over it.

Military facilities were also constructed at Swan Island, Point Nepean, South Channel Fort and Point Franklin during this period. Crows Nest Fort with an 8-inch Armstrong BL 'disappearing gun' was constructed to the west of Shortlands Bluff by 1887. By 1890 Port Phillip was regarded as the most heavily fortified port of the British Empire south of the equator.

One of the more uncommon defence installations at Shortlands Bluff was a see-saw searchlight which was constructed in 1893. See-saw searchlights were early electric powered searchlights developed in the 1870s and used in conjunction with coast artillery. The searchlight consisted of an electric carbon lamp, capable of a strong beam for target illumination but vulnerable to enemy fire. It was protected in a concrete recessed emplacement which survives and a large mirror attached to the end of a 'see-saw' pivoting iron beam reflected the beam across the water to the target. They were difficult to operate and not entirely successful and few were built. There are only three other known surviving examples of see-saw searchlight bunkers worldwide, at Fort Victoria and Warden Point Battery, Isle of Wight and Fort Ballance, Wellington New Zealand. The former is restored, while the latter two are in poor condition.

Two defence emplacements were constructed at Shortlands Bluff during World War II, but attention was increasingly focussing on threats from the air, and sea defences were no longer the primary focus. After World War II, as Australia's needs changed, Shortlands Bluff moved away from military use and towards recreational use. A carpark was constructed by the 1940s, on the western side of Shortlands Bluff overlooking the heads and enlarged in later years. It is now frequented by visitors who look at the view from their cars or visit the beach below the Bluff.

#### Shortlands Bluff as a place of commemoration

Shortlands Bluff has been a place of commemoration for the Queenscliff community since 1917 when the Queenscliff Council made improvements at the end of Hesse St including seats dedicated 'to our boys at the Front'. In 1919, the Queenscliff Council consulted architect Percy Everett to develop plans for the area as part of the Repatriation Grants Scheme. There are no known plans, but newspaper articles describe elements such as an amphitheatre, seating and pathways down to the

beach. At the southern end of Hesse Street is a circular grassed area with three Monterey Cypress pines (*Cupressus macrocarpa* syn. *Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) on one side. This area is known as the 'Bullring', a reference to a notorious World War I training ground at Etaples, France. There are also twelve late twentieth century memorials to conflicts and lost seamen lining the carpark. The area is the location for ANZAC Day services and has strong associations with the Queenscliff community through commemorative and remembrance activities. It is an evocative site as it looks out across the entrance to Port Phillip Bay where ships departed for places of conflict.

## VICTORIAN HISTORICAL THEMES

- 02 Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes**
  - 2.2 Exploring surveying and mapping
- 03 Connecting Victorians by transport and communications**
  - 3.2 Travelling by water
- 07 Governing Victorians**
  - 7.4 Defending Victoria and Australia

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Shortlands Bluff is an elevated area of coastal land located to the south of Fort Queenscliff. It comprises a white painted bluestone lighthouse (constructed as a partner to the unpainted bluestone lighthouse within the grounds of Fort Queenscliff) and the Hume and Murray Towers and the smaller Fort West Tower set within areas of open grass and re-vegetated bushland. Remnants of the glacis of Fort Queenscliff are evident along the northern boundary. World War II concrete defence bunkers and a see-saw searchlight bunker are located above the beach in front of the carpark and on the eastern side of the site. A carpark is located along the southern boundary, with late twentieth century memorials lining the southern edge. At the end of Hesse Street, adjacent to the carpark is a circular grassed area with three Monterey Cypress pines (*Cupressus macrocarpa* syn. *Hesperocyparis macrocarpa*) lining one edge.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

There is no identified archaeology of state level significance at this place.

## INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS

Intactness –The intactness of the place is good. The place has evolved in response to technological and operational improvements and the requirements of maritime navigation and defence. Elements no longer required have been replaced or partially removed, including earlier lighthouses, navigational aids, and defence emplacements. Three concrete bunkers survive and the form of the glacis is evident in cleared areas. (July 2017)

Integrity – The integrity of the place is very good. The cultural heritage values of the place can be easily read in the extant fabric. (July 2017)

## CONDITION

The place is in good to fair condition. The condition varies across the place. The lighthouse and Hume and Murray Towers are maintained in working order, but the concrete bunkers are partially buried or in poor condition due to exposure and lack of maintenance. (July 2017)

## COMPARISONS

### Maritime Navigation

There are fourteen lighthouse and guiding lights in the VHR. Only two of these operate as pairs.

#### **The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex, Warrnambool (VHR H1520)**

The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex is of historical, scientific (technological) and architectural significance to the State of Victoria. The upper lighthouse is constructed of bluestone and was originally located on Middle Island. The lower light sits on an 1854 bluestone obelisk and was originally located on a timber tower on the beach. Both lights were moved to Flagstaff Hill in 1871. The complex also contains a chartroom, cottage, privy battery and guns and is of historical significance as a reminder of Victoria's maritime heritage and the important role played by regional ports in the process of colonial expansion. Warrnambool Bay was initially considered to provide a safe harbour but the need for navigational aids became evident soon after shipping began. The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex is of architectural significance as a fine example of Public Works Department architecture of the 1850s and 1880s. The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex is of historical significance for its intact battery and guns, a strong reminder of Victoria's wealth and determination to protect itself from the perceived threat of invasion in the 1880s. The remaining guns are scientifically (technologically) significant as physical reminders of a time when they represented advanced design in artillery.



The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex, Warrnambool.  
Left: Upper Lighthouse, Right: Lower Lighthouse.



### Leading Lights, Port Melbourne (VHR H0982)

The Port Melbourne Leading Lights are of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria. They are a rare and notable application of the Trinity lighthouse design to a navigational installation of this type. Their form, materials and placement (one in the water, of timber construction) is uncommon when most similar structures were located on land. Port Melbourne Leading Lights is enhanced by the fact that they are essentially intact and rare survivors from a range of navigational aids constructed around Port Phillip Bay before 1945. The Port Melbourne Leading Lights are historically significant as structures surviving from an important visual and functional link between Princes and Station Piers and along with these piers reflect the pattern of shipping activity during the 1920s and 1930s.



Leading Lights, Port Melbourne.

### Summary of comparisons – Maritime Navigation

Shortlands Bluff is one of the earliest locations in Victoria where maritime navigational aids were erected. It was instrumental in ensuring the safe passage of ships entering Port Phillip Bay through the Rip. There were few lighthouses which operated as pairs in Victoria and the White and Black Lighthouses at Shortlands Bluff are the only pair known to have been designed and constructed at the same time. The Leading Lights, Port Melbourne were constructed as a pair, but are not Lighthouses. They were constructed c. 1920, almost 60 years after the construction of the White and Black Lighthouses.

## **Defence**

There are six forts and battery in the VHR.

### **Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct, Point Nepean (VHR H2030)**

Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct is of archaeological, aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific and social significance to the State of Victoria. It consists of approximately 526 hectares of land with defence emplacements and Victoria's first quarantine station constructed in 1852. The Quarantine Station is highly significant, but not relevant as a comparator to Shortlands Bluff and only the defence elements will be discussed.

Point Nepean was a major part of the Victorian coastal defence system developed in the 1880s and survives substantially intact. Remaining defence buildings and structures include the gun and light emplacements, observation posts, tunnels, Pearce Barracks, Fort Pearce, Eagle's Nest and an Engine House. Navigational aids are also evident. Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct is of outstanding aesthetic significance for its landscape, its open space, some avenues and stands of trees, and its internal and external views. It is of architectural significance for its quarantine station buildings, a rare example of a building type and the only example in Victoria. Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct is historically significant for its association with defence in Victoria from the 1880s to the latter twentieth century when the site was used by the Officer Cadet school and the School of Army Health. Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct is an area of archaeological significance for a number of locations across the site including the defence exercise area. Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct is of social significance for its recreational use since at least the 1950s when community use was allowed and joint defence-community sporting activities occurred, and for the use of part of the site as a national park since 1988. It is also of social significance because of the sustained and effective broad-based community action which resulted in the entire site being set aside as public land.



Point Nepean Defence and Quarantine Precinct, Point Nepean.

**Former Fort Franklin (Portsea Camp) (VHR H1090)**

The Former Fort Franklin (Portsea Camp) is of, architectural, historical, scientific and social significance to the State of Victoria. It is historically significant as part of the extensive system of fortifications constructed in the 1880s in response to a perceived military threat. It is a rare and essentially intact example of nineteenth century fortifications and military barracks in Victoria and the barracks are the only surviving intact example around Port Phillip Bay. The Former Fort Franklin (Portsea Camp) is of scientific significance for its ability to demonstrate technical advances in gunnery and defence construction in the late nineteenth century, including the newly invented disappearing gun. The Former Fort Franklin (Portsea Camp) is of social significance for its use as the Lord Mayor's Children's Camp from the 1940s to 1995, and by the Portsea Camp, in providing holidays and health care for disadvantaged children with strong community involvement by volunteers.



Former Fort Franklin (Portsea Camp), Portsea.



### **South Channel Fort, Port Phillip Bay (VHR H1502)**

South Channel Fort is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria. It is historically significant for its association with the defence of the Port of Melbourne, and the entrance to Port Phillip and the main shipping channel. The fort was designed by Colonel Peter Scratchley and is the only known place where the Twydall principles for a defence layout were applied to an island fortification. South Channel Fort is architecturally significant for its armament, its revolutionary design using camouflage and new methods of protection against bombardment, and for its relative intactness. The disappearing or hydro-pneumatic guns are of particular significance for their early date and rarity of the 8 inch guns. The fort is also of interest for its range of vegetation which includes prickly shrubs used as a deterrent to attack.



South Channel Fort, Port Phillip Bay.

### **Summary of comparisons - Defence**

Shortlands Bluff is the location of some of the earliest defence systems in Victoria. Its location ensured it was included in all defence developments since the 1860s. While Jervois' and Scratchley's 1880s plans for the defence of Port Phillip Bay focussed more on Fort Queenscliff than Shortlands Bluff itself, the open space of Shortlands Bluff formed the glacis and protected view lines to and from the Fort. Shortlands Bluff continued to contribute to the defence of Port Phillip Bay with the construction of the 1893 see-saw searchlight and the World War II gun emplacements. The comparator defence places of Point Nepean, Fort Franklin and South Channel Fort are more substantial, but Shortlands Bluff plays a vital role in understanding the 1880s defence network around Port Phillip Bay. It also contributes to understanding the development and use of Fort Queenscliff.

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## ADDITIONAL IMAGES



2018, Looking south-east towards Point Nepean. The White Lighthouse is in the centre. The Murray Tower is on the left and the Hume Tower is on the right. Both are replacements of earlier towers.



2018, Looking east to the White Lighthouse and Murray Tower.



2018, Looking east with twentieth century memorials at right and the White Lighthouse, Hume and Murray Towers beyond the carpark.

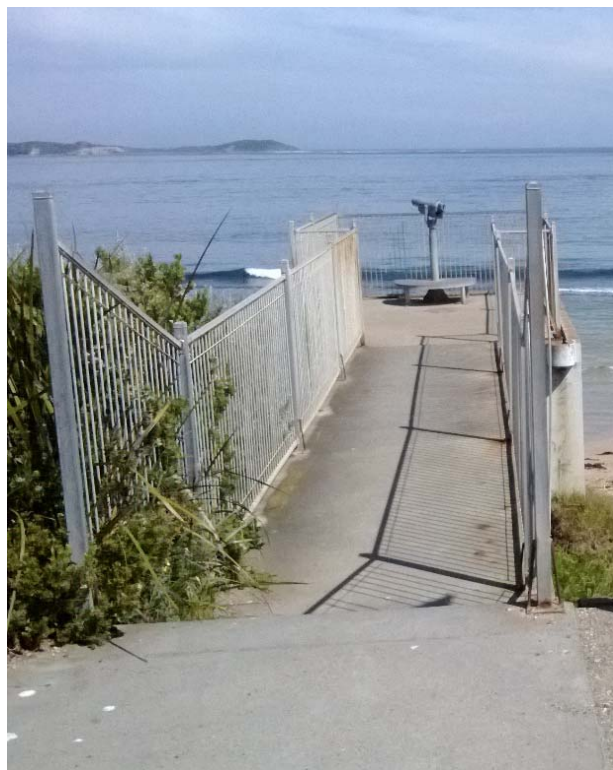


2018, Twentieth century memorials.





2018, World War II bunker on southern boundary.



2018, Walkway to top of World War II bunker from carpark. The Rip is in the distance.



2018, Concealed see-saw searchlight bunker (1890s) on the southern boundary, adjacent to the World War II bunker.





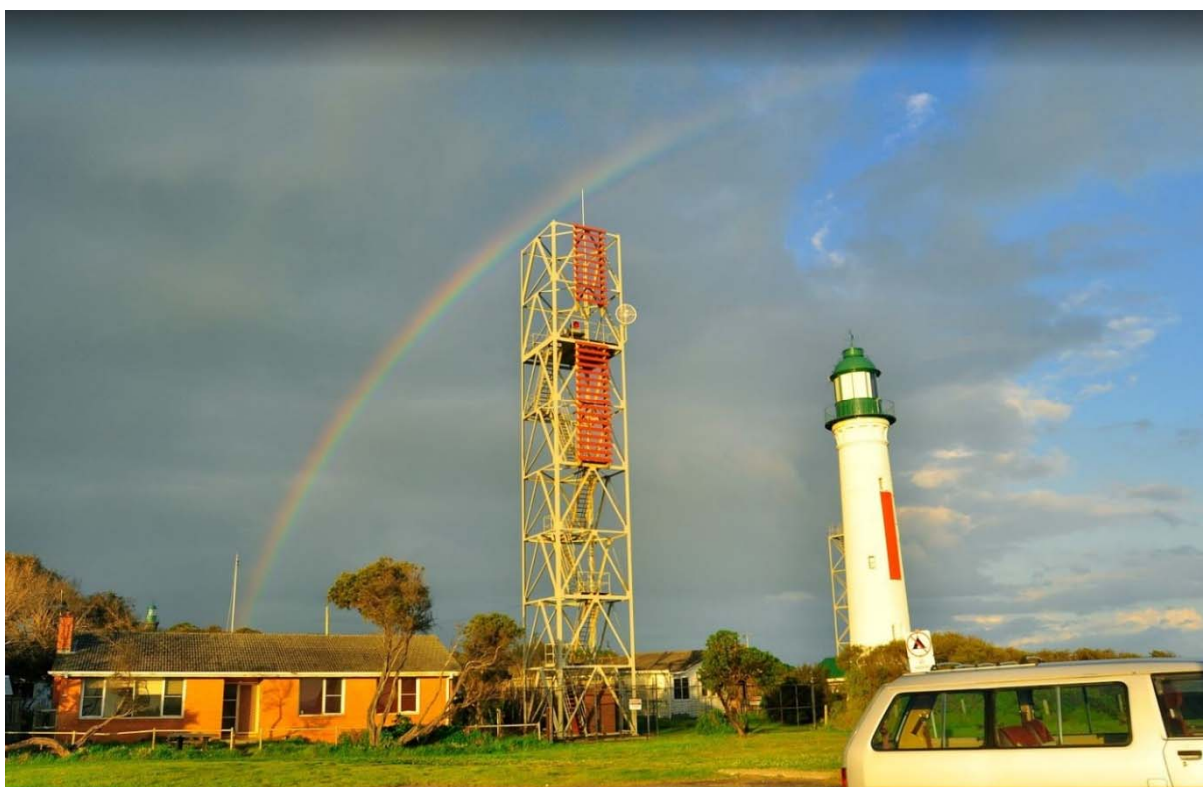
2018, Former location of the obelisk, with bricks evident on right of image.



2018, Elevated circular area known as the Bullring looking towards the Heads.



2018, Looking west across the carpark to the Bullring and cypress trees.



2010, Hume Tower and White Lighthouse.





2010, Aerial view showing c. 1960 cottages and other structures (circled in red) at the rear of the lighthouse. These are now demolished.  
Note the circular area and pathways to the left of the carpark.



c. 1960s, White Lighthouse with c.1960s lighthouse keepers' residences.  
The Hume Tower is on the left and the Murray Tower is on the right.

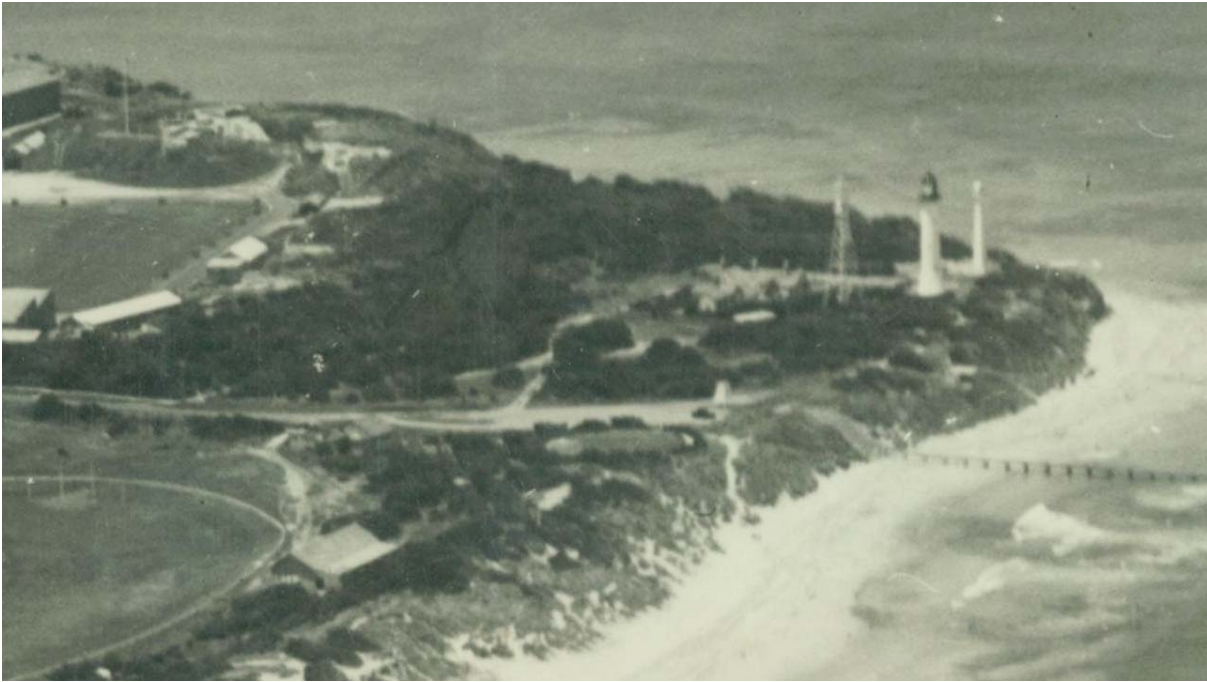


c. 1960s, From the beach below Shortlands Bluff.  
The World War II bunker is evident below the Lighthouse and Obelisk.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



c. 1960s, Carpark and seating looking out towards the Rip.  
Source: State Library of Victoria

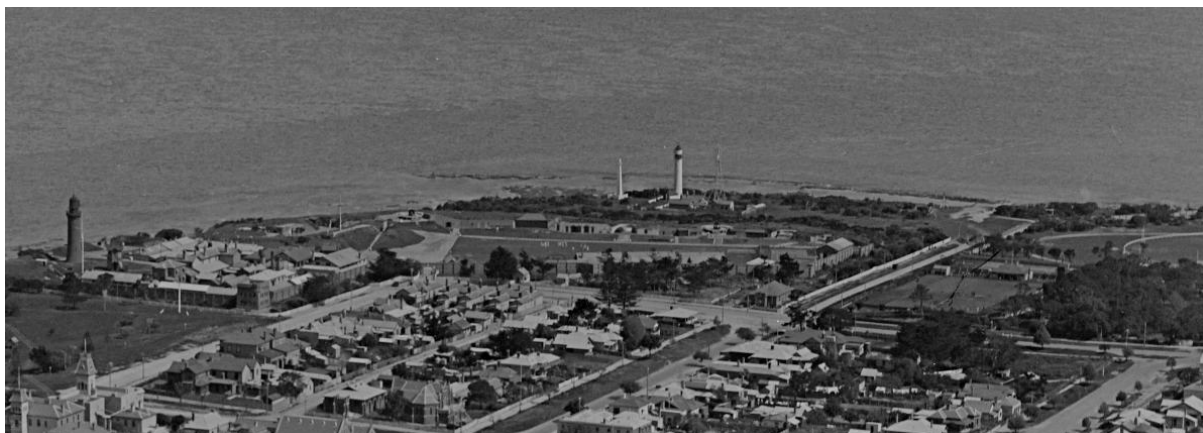




1949, Aerial view showing the elevated area of Fort Queenscliff (at the left) above Shortlands Bluff, and the Bullring in the lower centre of the image.  
Source: Airspy Collection, State Library of Victoria



1940s, Obelisk, White Lighthouse, and towers at left;  
Fort Queenscliff in the foreground and the Bullring circled in green.  
Source: Airspy Collection, State Library of Victoria



1940s, Black Lighthouse at left and Obelisk and White Lighthouse in centre.  
Source: Airspy Collection, State Library of Victoria



1940s, The form of the glacial till is evident, indicated by an arrow.  
Source: Airspy Collection, State Library of Victoria





1937, Seating and pathways, possibly part of designs by Percy Everett.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



c.1935, White Lighthouse in centre with obelisk on left and Hume Tower on right.





The comprehensive system of leading lights on Shortlands Bluff, Queenscliff, covering the entrance to Port Phillip Bay, is seen in this picture. The white Low lighthouse in line with the bluestone High lighthouse leads through the middle of the channel.

n.d., View from water showing the Black Lighthouse in the background and the Hume Tower, White Lighthouse, obelisk and other lights in the foreground. The lighthouse keeper's cottage is between the two Lighthouses.



1920s, Left to right, obelisk, White Lighthouse and lighthouse keeper's cottage.

Source: Museums Victoria

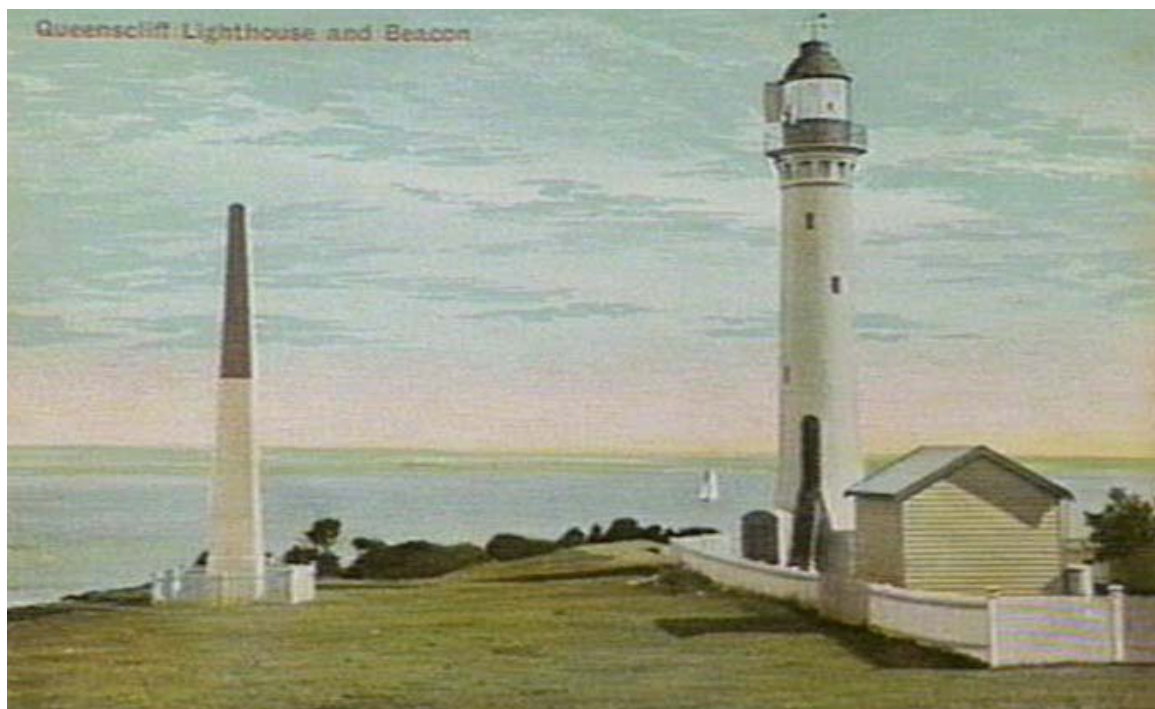


1920s, Looking east, showing paths and seating at the left.  
Source: State Library of Victoria

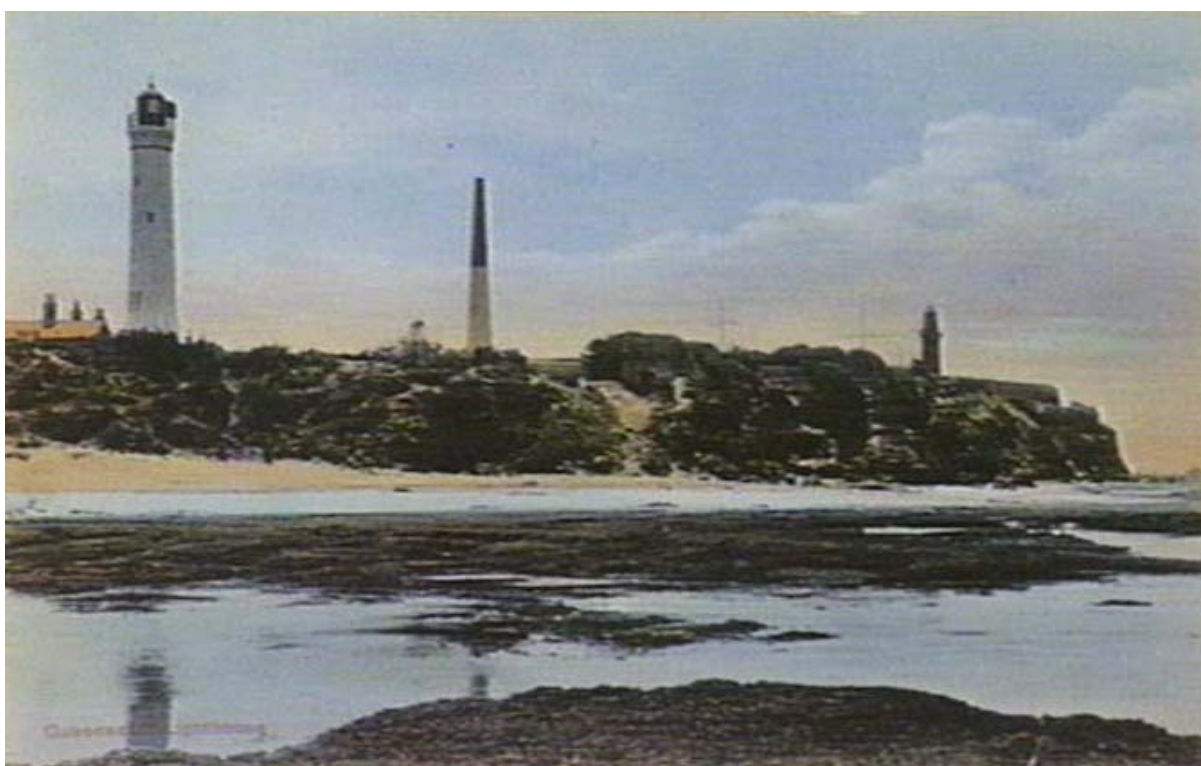


1920, Looking east, showing paths and seating at the left.  
Source: State Library of Victoria

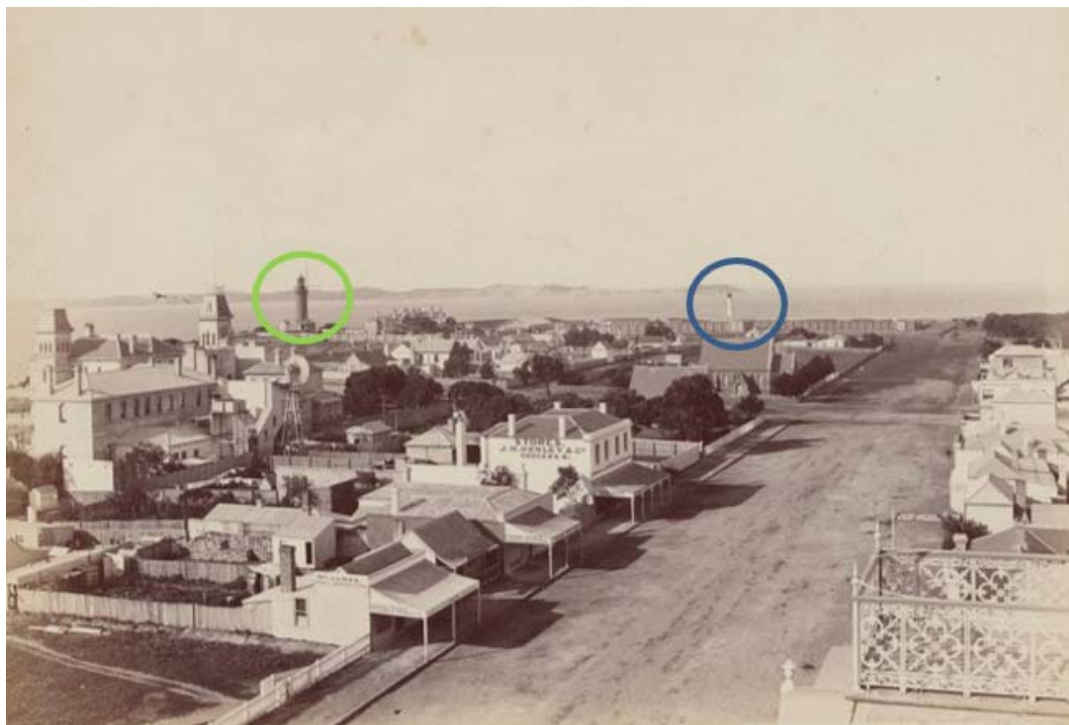




c. 1907, White Lighthouse and obelisk.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



c. 1906, White Lighthouse and obelisk. The lighthouse keeper's cottage is visible at left and the Black Lighthouse is visible at right.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



1890s, View towards Shortlands Bluff. The Black Lighthouse is circled in green and the White Lighthouse is circled in blue.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



1882, Obelisk and White Lighthouse.  
Source: State Library of Victoria





1880, Shortlands Bluff from Fort Queenscliff.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



1860s, Obelisk, White Lighthouse, and lighthouse keeper's cottage.  
Point Nepean is on the left and Point Lonsdale is on the right.  
Source: State Library of Victoria (Artist: S T Gill)



1863, New lighthouses at Queenscliff.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



1857, Shortlands Bluff.  
Source: State Library of Victoria





c. 1854, First Lighthouse at Shortlands Bluff.  
Point Nepean is on left and Point Lonsdale is on right.  
Source: State Library of Victoria



1854, Shortlands Bluff from the water.  
Source: National Library of Australia (Artist: S T Gill)