
THE RIGHT BATTERY

Location

MORRIS STREET WILLIAMSTOWN, HOBSONS BAY CITY

Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0400

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site

This facility was one of four new batteries recommended by Scratchley for improving the colony's defences. Built on the Southern edge of the Williamstown Cricket Club grounds in 1861, an earth works was first established in 1863, and was further upgraded from 1870-71 using convict labour and guns were added. The battery was poorly designed, and prisoners were engaged to bail water out of the magazine and traverse in 1874. The expansion of Heads defences led to the redundancy and gradual dismantling of battery defences in Hobsons Bay by the end of the 1870's. The site was identified by Gardiner as Military Reserve in 1877, which included the cricket ground. This facility was removed in the 1890's, along with Lighthouse and Pier batteries leaving only Fort Gellibrand. When the cricket grandstand was constructed in 1929, it was thought to have been built over the top of this site (Allom Lovell, 1987: 10, 82,83).

Leak (pers comms) maintains that part of the original battery was still evident and was incorporated into the cricket club grandstand, but an inspection failed to locate any evidence of the facility.

Hermes Number

26766

Property
Number

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>