
WILLIAMSTOWN LANDING PLACE



Williamstown Landing Place
Williamstown Aug 2003 001



Williamstown Landing Place
Williamstown Aug 2003 002



Williamstown Landing Place
Williamstown Aug 2003 003



Williamstown Landing Place
Williamstown Aug 2003 004

Location

130-140 NELSON PLACE WILLIAMSTOWN, HOBSONS BAY CITY

Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0615

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site	<p>The site has great archaeological potential and significance relating to early settlement and subsequent activity. It was one of the earliest landing places for the settlement, and one account describes the area as being a flotsam trap that resembled a rubbish dump after material was carried there at high tide. Possible State Significance.</p> <p>An open drain was shown running through this area in 1892, which was covered over in 1905, and is still evident today. The rest of the reserve was reclaimed in 1909. Many relics exist within the current park, including the Nelson anchor, the tide gauge house (which formerly stood on Breakwater Pier H1088), a bandstand (built in 1903) and water fountain (H1733).</p>
Other Names	COMMONWEALTH RESERVE,
Hermes Number	13924
Property Number	

History

The eastern end of Commonwealth Reserve was used as an early landing place to unload stock as early as 1836, and was probably near or on the subsequent site of Gem Pier. This led Governor Bourke to recommend the installation of quay facilities here in 1837. Around that time, Nelson Place was occupied by primitive wharves, substantial warehouses, blacksmiths, carpenters, merchants, watermen, pilots and customs officers who occupied structures built of split timber and bark. Originally there was only a narrow strip of land between the Road and the high water mark, until the foreshore land in this area was reclaimed by the Melbourne Harbour Trust from 1879-1881 to create the Commonwealth Reserve.

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/>