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# FORT GELLIBRAND OFFSHORE ARTEFACT DEPOSIT

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## Location

BATTERY ROAD WILLIAMSTOWN, HOBSONS BAY CITY

## Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0616

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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### Interpretation of Site

Taylor (pers comms) has reported discovering multiple mortars, tampions and other debitage underwater on the sand areas in the area approximately 200 yards off Fort Gellibrand and the cricket ground. The mortars are approximately 12 inches long and 2 inches diameter, with "fins on the end". The tampions are made of heavy brass, but are highly fragmented. Taylor has also found extensive artefacts scatters in this region (black glass sherds, "broken lamp brass, Chinese urns ceramics" and decklights).

These relics are similar to those reported to the author by Peter Ferrier at Queenscliff in front of Swan Island Battery (Duncan, In Prep). These finds are probably associated with the the 1870s defence network stationed in this area (see H1811, H7822-0400).

This was the only example reported of heavy gun tampions in this area, and reflects the strategic importance of the area as part of Port Phillip Bays Defence network.

Other Names WILLIAMSTOWN BATTERY, MORTARS, OBTURATORS AND DEBRIS,

Hermes  
Number 26768

Property  
Number

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*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/>*