



Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

INCLUSION OF A PLACE IN THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

I, Ian Gordon Campbell, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, having considered, in relation to the place listed in the Schedule of this instrument -

- (a) the Australian Heritage Council's assessment whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
- (b) the comments given to the Council under section 324G of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and

being satisfied that the place specified in the Schedule has the National Heritage value or values specified in the Schedule include, pursuant to section 324J of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the place listed in the Schedule in the National Heritage List.

Dated 3 April 2006

Ian Gordon Campbell
Minister for the Environment
and Heritage

SCHEDULE

STATE

Local Government Area

Name:

Location / Boundary

Criteria / Values

VICTORIA**Mornington Peninsula Shire****Point Nepean Defence Sites and Quarantine Station Area:**

About 530ha, 1km west of Portsea, comprising an area bounded by a line commencing at the intersection of Mornington Peninsula National Park and Point Nepean Road at approximate AMG point 299220mE 5756120mN, then southerly and westerly via the Park boundary to its intersection with the coastline at approximate AMG point 298180mE 5754980mN, then westerly, northerly and easterly via the HWM to its intersection with the Commonwealth Land boundary at approximate AMG point 299300mE 5756380mN, then southerly via the Commonwealth Land boundary to the point of commencement.

Criterion**Values**

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| <p>(a) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p> | <p>Point Nepean is a broad historic landscape, featuring a considerable array of historic values relating to national quarantine and defence. Historic fabric at Point Nepean includes mid-nineteenth century archaeological remains and over one hundred year's evidence of quarantine processes and defensive fortifications, which contribute to a richly layered historic cultural landscape.</p> <p>Cheviot Beach, on the southern shore of Point Nepean, is the place from which an Australian Prime Minister, Harold Holt, disappeared whilst swimming in heavy surf on 17 December 1967. Despite a major search his body was never found. The event was dramatic and well documented at the time and fuelled speculation in the media, where controversial theories to explain Holt's disappearance were aired.</p> <p>Point Nepean Quarantine Station and surrounds, in conjunction with North Head, illustrates the evolution and development of quarantine practices employed at stations in other states. The Quarantine Station includes the oldest, purpose-built, barracks-style, quarantine accommodation in Australia, as well as seminal evidence of the development of quarantine philosophy in Australia. In particular, the Quarantine Station provides comprehensive evidence of quarantine practices in the 1850s and 1860s, a period of time from which little physical evidence remains at North Head.</p> |
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Criterion	Values
(a) continued	<p>The Point Nepean quarantine station encompasses the periods 1852-1875, 1875-1899 and 1900-1925, under the Victorian and Commonwealth governments. Structures relating to these periods include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– <u>1852-1875</u> (4, 7, 15, 16, 21, 22, 25, 59, PMQ1035);– <u>1875-1899</u> (26, 71, 73, PMQ1038, PMQ1040);– <u>1900-1925</u> (1, 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 33, 35-38, 40-46, 58, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 84, 85, PMQ966, PMQ1037, PMQ1041, PMQ1042, PMQ1043); <p>Heaton's Monument (1856-1858), a neo-Egyptian sandstone monument erected by Supervisor George Heaton, identifies the location of the first cemetery; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– road alignments and infrastructure relating to the historical development of the quarantine station include Ochiltree, Bogle, Coleman and Bates Roads as well as Jackson Road and parts of Frankland's Drive, with tramway tracks connecting building 61 with an extensive tramway system in the receiving area above the jetty. <p>The Quarantine Station contextual landscape also includes the second cemetery near Observatory Point, as well as possible archaeological evidence of the Cattle Quarantine Station and the Leper Station.</p> <p>Point Nepean, at the entrance to Port Phillip Bay, played an important geo-political role from the 1870s, protecting Melbourne, and potentially Victoria, as part of the British Empire. In 1870, the final departure of British Imperial troops placed defence in the hands of the colonial governments. British fortifications expert General Sir William Jervois RE (Royal Engineers) and Lt Colonel Peter Scratchley inspected each colony's defences, leading to the Jervois-Scratchley reports of 1877, which were to form the basis of defence planning in Australia for the next 30 years. The reports suggested that Port Phillip Bay should be defended by a battery and keep at Queenscliff, a fort at Point Nepean and batteries at Swan Island and South Channel Island. Guns were in place by 1886 at Fort Nepean and in 1888, Eagles Nest battery was implemented and new barracks erected at Fort Nepean. Fort Pearce was completed from 1910-1916 by the Commonwealth government, reinforcing Australia's Empire role. The first shot fired by Australian forces in WWI, from the batteries at Point Nepean, was at the German steamer 'Pfalz', which left Port Phillip, during the declaration of war, on 5 August 1914. The events are well documented and clearly demonstrate the geo-political importance of coastal defences, and Fort Nepean in particular, in protecting the Australian colonies as part of the British Empire.</p>

Criterion	Values
(a) continued	<p>Significant fortification sites include Fort Nepean, Eagles Nest, Fort Pearce and Pearce Barracks, erected during five development phases. Point Nepean, the first fort, was developed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – pre-1880 temporary fortifications; – 1880-1886 5 emplacements; – 1887-1890 converted and extended to a combination of 10 observation posts and batteries; – 1910-1915 reduction in armaments; and – 1939-1945 conversion to hooded emplacements and other uses. <p>Fort Nepean was known in the 1880s as Victoria's 'Gibraltar' and in 1890 it was reported that Melbourne was the best-defended commercial city of the British Empire.</p> <p>The Point Nepean Quarantine Station was the second permanent colonial quarantine station and because of its key role in the system from 1852-1980 represents a major part of the national story of human quarantine from colonial times through to the Commonwealth period of government. As an island-nation, quarantine stations played an important part in controlling the impact of ship-borne diseases on Australia from the early 1800s to the middle of the twentieth century. The choice of site for quarantine purposes followed the discovery of gold in 1851, which, resulted in nearly 100,000 migrants arriving in Melbourne by sea in 1852, in one of the greatest gold rushes in history. Point Nepean was opened as a maritime quarantine reserve in 1852, following the scare caused by the arrival of the ship 'Ticonderoga', carrying scarlet fever and typhoid, and used for quarantine purposes as the major point of entry for quarantine cases in Victoria until 1980. The first permanent hospital buildings were erected in 1854 by the newly formed Victorian Government.</p>
(b) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia's natural or cultural history.	<p>Point Nepean Quarantine Station (1852) is the second oldest, purpose-built, quarantine station in Australia, after North Head in Sydney (1832). It contains the oldest, purpose-built, barracks-style accommodation erected for quarantine purposes in Australia, pre-dating the oldest intact quarantine-related structures at North Head by sixteen years. The 1850s quarantine buildings at Point Nepean also provide Australia's only relatively complete complex of quarantine buildings from the 1850s-1870s period, thus providing crucial insight into quarantine operations and philosophies during a time when thousands of immigrants were landing in Australia in search of wealth and new opportunities brought by gold. The Point Nepean Quarantine Station contains seminal and rare examples of specific building types, functional groups and quarantine functions. These include:</p> <p><u>1856-1875 Period:</u> Matron's Cottage (PMQ 1035) 1856-1858; Four Hospitals 2-5 (4, 16, 22, 25) 1858-1859; Kitchen for Hospital No 4 (22) 1858-1859; Bath and Wash House (59) 1866; and Kitchen for Hospital No 3 (15) c. 1869.</p>

Criterion	Values
(b) continued	<p><u>1900-1925 Period:</u> Disinfecting Building and Boiler (84) 1900; Bath Blocks (63 and 64) 1900; Infected luggage receiving store (61) 1900; and Clean luggage store (62) 1910-1916.</p> <p>The construction of new bathing and disinfecting buildings set new standards under the Commonwealth after 1912 and in particular during the First World War 1914-1918. This is particularly illustrated by the Isolation Hospital and Ward (65 and 66) 1916-1920, the Hospital 1 (1) 1919 and by the Emergency Huts (35-38 and 40-46) 1919, which relate to the major Australian health epidemic created by influenza in 1919.</p> <p>Geo-political and colonial defence needs drove the contemporary development of coastal fortifications at Melbourne and Sydney from the 1870s. Point Nepean has been part of a strategic outer line in the defence of Melbourne's ports and harbours since the 1870s, in conjunction with fortifications at South Channel Fort, Swan Island and Queenscliff. The fortifications at Point Nepean, as part of the system of defence for Port Phillip Bay, best illustrate British military design and technology of the 1870s and 1880s, under the influence of the reports of Jervois and Scratchley in 1877.</p>
(c) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Australia's natural or cultural history.	<p>Point Nepean Quarantine Station and surrounds include archaeological sites functionally associated with quarantine uses, planning and layout and buildings, close to the shore at Ticonderoga Bay and to the site of the former jetty, which have the potential to add to our understanding of nineteenth century quarantine practices and procedures. In particular this relates to the formative period from the 1850s-1870s and to the potential for confirmation and interpretation of the archival record. The Quarantine Station's contextual landscape includes the second cemetery near Observatory Point, as well as possible archaeological evidence of the Cattle Quarantine Station and the Leper Station. These sites have the potential to add to our understanding of the planning and layout of major quarantine sites in Australia.</p>
(d) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of: (i) a class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or (ii) a class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.	<p>Point Nepean Quarantine Station is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of Australian quarantine stations in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.</p> <p>These characteristics include the physical isolation of the site, individual quarantine functions and medical protocols and planning and layout, including access by sea. Landscape and spatial elements reinforce the social and medical philosophies upon which the layout of the quarantine station was based, including the separation of social classes and isolation of more contagious conditions.</p> <p>The main precincts at Point Nepean Quarantine Station provide a unique insight into the architectural concepts and landscape design techniques employed in quarantine stations in Australia. It is important in representing quarantine practices in the 1850s and 1860s, a period in history when significant numbers of immigrants were arriving in Australia. The location of the Medical Supervisor's cottage dating to the 1850s, on a rise to the east of the main</p>

Criterion	Values
(d) continued	<p data-bbox="470 392 1425 459">complex, emphasises the balance between separation of staff from potential infection and the need for authority and supervision.</p> <p data-bbox="470 492 1425 728">Common periods of development with the North Head quarantine station include improvements in quarantine techniques and technical standards, both under the State Government in 1899 and subsequently under the Commonwealth Government from 1911. Particular aspects include the disinfecting and cleansing facilities and the Isolation Hospital and Wards (1916-1920) and Emergency Huts (1919) erected to cope with medical issues associated with the immediate aftermath of the First World War.</p> <p data-bbox="470 761 1425 1108">Fort Nepean (1882-1891), Eagles Nest (1888), Fort Pearce (1910-1916) and Pearce Barracks (1911) at Point Nepean illustrate the characteristics of British military design and technology employed from the 1870s to the early 1900s, overlaid by related development during WWI and II. The strategic location and siting of these aspects of the place conform with the General Guiding Principles employed for a typical harbour under the Joint Naval and Military Committee for the defence of colonial ports by 1893. These include overlapping fields of fire from fortifications on headlands overlooking the approaches and channels and supporting barracks, all features recommended at Point Nepean in the Jervis-Scratchley reports of 1877.</p>
(h) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history.	<p data-bbox="470 1131 1425 1310">John Monash (later Sir) was attached to the [Melbourne] Garrison Artillery, focused on Fort Nepean. Monash rose through the ranks to become the commanding officer of Fort Nepean by 1897. Monash's biographer, Geoffrey Serle, saw this as crucial to his success as commander of Australian Forces in WWI.</p> <p data-bbox="470 1332 1425 1568">The site references refer to quarantine related features identified in: <i>Figure 19, Norris Barracks, Former Portsea Quarantine Station, Conservation Management Plan Part 1</i>. This was prepared for the Department of Defence, Disposals and Infrastructure, by HLCD as part of HLA Envirosciences, in 2002</p>

For a description of any references quoted above, and more information on each of the places please search the Australian Heritage Database at <http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl> using the name of the place.