

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 401	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 30/10/1996	Last Revision Date: 16/03/2010	
HCWA Number: 3927	Asset ID: MCH127115	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Point Moore Lighthouse
Other Names:	485 Marine Terrace
Type of Place:	Lighthouse
Address:	485 Marine Terrace
Suburb:	West End

LOCATION

Map Reference: 13.14	GPS Northing: 6813661.00	GPS Easting: 263703.000
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Photo Description:

20/03/2007
Rod Milne
Point Moore Lighthouse.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 3026	Assess No.:	18261
Reserv No.:	44687	Vol/Fol:	1793/986
Dia/Plan:	69574		

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Lighthouse		
Current Use:	Lighthouse		
Ownership:	Australian Maritime Safety Authority		
Public Access:	No	Occupied:	Not Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Cast Iron	Roof:	Cast Iron
Condition:	Fair	Integrity:	
Original fabric:	Largely intact		
Modifications:	Verandah roof form altered		

The Point Moore Lighthouse is a cast iron, prefabricated, segmented tower; approximately 6 metres in diameter, 29 metres high to the base of the lantern, 34 metres in total. The tower is painted in red and white bands, each two segments high except for the bottom red band which is four high. It is an excellent example of British, industrialised prefabricated building from the mid-late 19th Century. Refer to Register documentation for further detailed description.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1877	Source:	Dept. of Transport
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Public Works Department		

Correspondence between William C.F. Robinson, the Earl of Carnarvon and the Governor of Western Australia in March, 1875 reveals that the issue of constructing a lighthouse at Point Moore was taking place in the mid 1870s. As construction of a stone tower at the site was estimated to cost nearly £6,000, the Earl of Carnarvon recommended the "better and cheaper" alternative of importing an iron tower from England "for a sum not exceeding £3,500." (Dispatches from the Governor of Western Australia to the Secretary of State, 1876) The Point Moore Lighthouse was erected in 1877 by the Public Works Department and by contract.

Materials for the lighthouse arrived on board 'Lady Louise' from England in June 1877. A newspaper article of the time stated the lighthouse "when erected will be the best light on the Australian Coast." The foundation of the lighthouse was laid on 1 August 1877 however it was later taken up as it was orientated incorrectly. A newspaper article of 19 November, 1877, reveals that Mr Stokes from England relaid the foundation and commenced erection of the cast iron tower. (Sources: Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Department of Transport Records)

A newspaper article dated 1 September, 1877 reveals further construction problems and cost blowouts: "...cavities left in basement for receiving the pedestals of the iron superstructure have been built over and a portion of the work has to be undone - representing a series of mistakes on the construction of this lighthouse. 14,000 pounds has now been spent. The original estimate was £4,000 - £5,000, who is responsible for these blunders? It would appear that the more persons there are to look after those things the worse they are." (Ibid.)

A newspaper article dated 27 March, 1878 states that a light was exhibited for the first time on 19 March, 1878. The article continues to say that the lantern, built by Messrs Chance Co. Of Birmingham, is said to be one of the finest of its kind in the world. Messrs Chance Brothers had submitted the lowest quote for the job as well as providing for a mechanic to superintend the putting together of the lighting apparatus and the erection of the tower for a total cost of £2,100. (Dispatches from the Governor of Western Australia to the Secretary of State, 5 July, 1875)

The promulgation from the Director of Public Works states: "A lighthouse has been erected at Moore Point - iron tower 21 ft. Diameter - upper light (white) revolving dioptric of 2nd order flash every 40 secs. Visibility 18 miles, seaward range 263 degrees. Lower subsidiary light is fixed 4th order dioptric with perpendicular prisms giving two strong red beams." A detailed description of the lighthouse is contained in the Western Australian Legislative Council Votes and Proceedings, Public Work 1877-78, Paper No. 2, pp5-6.

In June, 1877 the Point Moore lighthouse keeper's quarters were advertised for tender. No valid tender was received and documents were subsequently revised before re-tendering took place towards the end of the year. A contract was finally awarded to Mr R. Creswick for £635 pounds. ("Government Gazette", 25 September, 1877)

The lighthouse was converted to automatic operations on 24 July, 1985.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	201 River and sea transport 309 Technology and technological change 507 Water, power, major transport routes
AHC:	3.1 Exploring the coastline

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Point Moore Lighthouse has great historic significance as a reminder of the importance of Champion Bay and Geraldton as a port for the region since the middle of the 19th Century. It has aesthetic significance for its landmark qualities and as an example of a building type/style no longer built. It has scientific significance as a lighthouse and by the nature of its design and construction.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category: 1
Level of Significance: EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation: Conservation of the place is considered essential. Any proposed change should not unduly impact on the significance of the place and be in accordance with either a Conservation Plan or Heritage Impact Statement.

OTHER LISTINGS

Heritage Council of WA - Register, 05/01/2001

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Dispatches from the Governor of Western Australia to the Secretary of State, 1875 & 1876.
Australian Maritime Safety Authority and Department of Transport Records.
Western Australian Legislative Council Votes and Proceedings, Public Works 1877-78, Paper No. 2.
"Government Gazette", 25 September 1877.
Bain, M.A. "A Life of its Own", City of Geraldton, 1996, pp.179-180.
GLLSPC - Buildings (Miscellaneous).
Feilman & Associates, "Survey of Places of Historic and Landscape Significance in Geraldton", 1977.
"Geraldton: A Photographic History", Geraldton Regional Library.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

30/10/1996

Suba, Callow & Grundy
Point Moore Lighthouse.