
Cape Nelson

Location

PORTLAND VIC 3305 - Property No L10144

Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 9, 2004

The Cape Nelson coastline is dominated by spectacular cliffs, some of the highest in Victoria. These cliff faces transect volcanic structures and all four stages of geological development are visible. Originally large amounts of limestone were laid down in the Miocene Age, volcanic activity followed, evidence of basalt flows is visible and finally much of the area was covered by callareous sand.

The landscape is one of fascinating contrasts and the topographic variation of the area is very interesting. Exposed volcanic features, limestone outcrops and caves contrast with the sand dunes and undulating country of the hinterland.

The vegetation of the Cape is the most diverse and botanically significant of the entire region. Many rare and endemic species of fauna are found, particularly bird life, within the coastal Heathland fringing the cliff faces.

Several very large Aboriginal middens and caves are located in one of the many secluded beaches of the area.

Historically, a monument on Cape Nelson marks the furthestmost southerly point to which Major Mitchell travelled. Also, the Cape Nelson Lighthouse complex dates from 1884 and is Classified by the National Trust.

LOCATION:

Promontory between Bridgewater Bay and Cape Sir William Grant.

Hermes Number 70394

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/>