Captain Lonsdale's Cottage



B1077 Londsdale's Cottage
East St Kilda

Location

Inkerman Road, ST KILDA EAST VIC 3183 - Property No B1077

Municipality

PORT PHILLIP CITY

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 18, 2008

William Lonsdale's Cottage, a prefabricated timber cottage of 5 rooms, was despatched from the Royal Engineers Office at Sydney on 15 March 1837 and intended as the residence of the Police magistrate, William Lonsdale. Material was washed overboard en route and subsequently replaced at Port Phillip. The weatherboard cottage was erected by 30 October 1837 on a site in Wellington Parade, Jolimont, and close to where LaTrobe's Cottage was later built.

Lonsdale's Cottage was removed from Jolimont to Carrum in c. 1891 and later further dismantled and erected at Notting Hill c.1960. This simple rectangular cottage, symmetrically planned about a recessed porch and constructed of weatherboard and shingle, functioned as the first Government House in Melbourne. It is without doubt the oldest extant structure in Victoria although many of the components of the original cottage now dismantled no longer exist or can be identified. Lonsdale's Cottage survives as a relic in storage, unable to be faithfully rebuilt.

Lonsdale's Cottage is in the custody of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria). Only a small percentage of the original components, listed in a bill of lading of March 1837, survive in storage at St Kilda East. Insufficient documentation presently exists to aid accurate reconstruction.

Hermes Number 66613

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/