# 28 - POINT LOOKOUT: Point Lookout Lighthouse



Street Address	40 Lucinda Crescent, Point Lookout
GPS/RPD	Lot 6 on SL1335
Place Type	Built





Red-e-map (RCC, 2017).

Point Lookout Lighthouse, Point Lookout (AHS, 2017).

Condition	Good	Integrity	Good
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place		
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing		
Inspection Date	17/01/2017		

### **Historical Context**

The Point Lookout Lighthouse was built in 1932 to assist in navigating the South Passage. Construction materials and acetylene cylinders were unloaded onto work boats that ferried the materials to a temporary jetty at Cylinder Beach. A hut to store the cylinders was constructed in the eastern corner of the bay in the vicinity of the Cylinder Beach carpark. After the lighthouse was built, the cylinders were replaced every 12 months, with 12 required each year to supply the light. By 1942 the cylinders were unloaded at Amity Point and transported across the island.

The cement lighthouse was initially painted white with a red dome, in standard Harbours and Marine scheme, and was originally surrounded by a galvanised iron fence. The light was unattended and operated on acetylene, flashing three times every 15 seconds. The light was brought into operation by a sun valve when necessary. The light is 72.5 metres above sea level and was initially visible 18.6km away at sea.

When the liberty ship, *Rufus King*, ran aground in 1942 on the South Passage Bar, the captain claimed he mistook the red and white Point Lookout Lighthouse for the Cape Moreton Lighthouse, which was also painted red and white. To avoid further confusion, the Point Lookout Lighthouse was repainted white and the Moreton lighthouse was repainted with alternate red and white bands.

In 1988 electricity replaced acetylene to power the light, and the outside steel ladder and galvanised iron wall were removed. The dome and prism were also removed, and the lens is now part of the collection of the North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum in Dunwich.[1] The lighthouse is still in use today.

#### **Physical Description**

The Point Lookout Lighthouse is a square concrete structure with a modern electrical light on top. The site is located on the highest point of the ridge off Midjimberry Road in a clearing surrounded by low native and introduced vegetation. Evidence of the former acetylene cylinder store is visible in the concrete slab adjacent to the lighthouse structure. Interpretive signage exists at the entrance.

### Statement of Significance

The Point Lookout Lighthouse is a locally significant place which demonstrates historical and aesthetic values. As an important lighthouse for the safe crossing of South Passage into Moreton Bay and in continuous use since it was constructed in 1932, the place represents the early history of the local area and the need to provide maritime safety. The highly scenic setting and contrasting utilitarian form exhibits aesthetic value.

#### Criteria A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.

The Point Lookout Lighthouse is historically significant as it has been in continuous use as a important navigation aide marking the South Passage since 1932.

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Criteria E

The place is important to the region because of its aesthetic significance.

Located on a prominent ridge above Point Lookout, the lighthouse is a local landmark and is visible from the surrounding areas and to sea. The utilitarian form of the lighthouse contrasts with the natural surroundings, and the scenic views out from the site contribute to the dramatic visual quality of the place.

Primary Themes			
5.0 Moving Goods, People and Information	5.04 Using shipping		

## References

[1] E. Durbidge and J. Covacevich, North Stradbroke Island, Amity Point: Stradbroke Island Management Organisation, 1981, p. 93-95;
P. Carter, E. Durbidge, and J. Cooke-Bramley (eds.), Historic North Stradbroke Island, Dunwich: North Stradbroke Island Historical Museum, 1994, pp. 85-87.





Point Lookout Lighthouse, Point Lookout (AHS, 2017).