

INVENTORY of SITES & ITEMS

SD

SWANSEA HEADS

## INVENTORY SUMMARY - LIST OF SITES &amp; ITEMS

SWANSEA HEADS - SD

ITEM No.	DESCRIPTION and LOCATION	TYPE	SIGNIFICANCE
			S R L
	SWANSEA HEADS - SD		
	SWANSEA HEADS - SD		
SD-01	SIGNAL STATION, REIDS MISTAKE HEAD, SWANSEA HEADS More information needed. There is probably considerably more historical significance to this site than would be obvious from the existing structures.	GO	-
SD-02	COAST GUARD Stn, REIDS MISTAKE HEAD, SWANSEA HEADS More historical information is needed, and the whereabouts of the original signalling equipment should be established.	GO	H
SD-03	REID'S MISTAKE HEAD & CHANNEL, SWANSEA HEADS	c NA	H V
SD-04	MOON ISLAND, near REIDS MISTAKE, SWANSEA HEADS More historical information is needed.	c NA	M M M
INVENTORY SUMMARY - LIST OF SITES & ITEMS			

NAME/IDENTITY: **SIGNAL STATION, REIDS MISTAKE HEAD, SWANSEA HEADS** ITEM No. **SD - 01**  
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:

ADDRESS: off Lambton Parade, Reids Mistake Head  
Swansea Heads 2281  
(driveway from the end of Wallsend St)

S.H.I.P. REF. No.

DATE INSPECTED: October 1992

PARISH: **WALLARAH**

COUNTY: **Northumberland**

BY: **Doring**

PRESENT OWNER (Name & Address):

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

SITE AREA:  
CURRENT ZONING:

CATEGORY: **Building**

MAP 1:25000 No. **9231-4-N**

SUBCATEGORY: **barrack or domestic residence**

NAME: **SWANSEA**  
GRID: **752 378**

HISTORICAL THEMES:

S.H.I.P. Themes:

LOCAL Themes:

HISTORICAL PERIOD - BUILT: **1926 - 1950**

USED: **?**

BUILDER:

DATE BUILT: **1930s to 1940s**

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER:

PHOTOGRAPH &/OR SKETCH PLAN (and caption):  
**Head.**

**The Signal Station at Reids Mistake  
(Doring Neg.421.23)**



ITEM No. **SD - 01**

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY	SIGNAL STATION, SWANSEA HEADS	ITEM No. SD - 01																				
KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS:																						
<b>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS</b> Architectural Style: vernacular bungalow style  MATERIALS - Frame: timber, on brick base,      Roof: Hipped corr. AC Walls/Cladding: rebated weatherboard      Windows: Mostly DH timber frame Interior:      Floors: 6-panes/sash																						
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> Bungalow style dwelling, with the roof pitched over a return verandah. Appears to have had part of the verandah enclosed in the 1950s. The building has a good outlook out to sea. It is not known whether it was used as a house or as a barracks/dormitory for coast guard officers.																						
<b>MODIFICATIONS:</b> Verandah railings																						
<b>PRESENT USE:</b> appears disused																						
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES:</b>  <div style="text-align: center; padding-top: 20px;">Information needed</div>																						
<b>REFERENCES:</b>																						
<b>EVALUATION CRITERIA:</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 25%;">HISTORIC</td><td style="width: 25%;">Rare (   )</td><td style="width: 25%;">Associative (   )</td><td style="width: 25%;">Representative (   )</td></tr><tr><td>AESTHETIC</td><td>Rare (   )</td><td>Associative (   )</td><td>Representative (   )</td></tr><tr><td>SOCIAL</td><td>Rare (   )</td><td>Associative (   )</td><td>Representative (   )</td></tr><tr><td>SCIENTIFIC</td><td>Rare (   )</td><td>Associative (   )</td><td>Representative (   )</td></tr><tr><td>OTHER</td><td>Rare (   )</td><td>Associative (   )</td><td>Representative (   )</td></tr></table>			HISTORIC	Rare (   )	Associative (   )	Representative (   )	AESTHETIC	Rare (   )	Associative (   )	Representative (   )	SOCIAL	Rare (   )	Associative (   )	Representative (   )	SCIENTIFIC	Rare (   )	Associative (   )	Representative (   )	OTHER	Rare (   )	Associative (   )	Representative (   )
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<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:</b> Information needed  <div style="padding-top: 20px;">There is probably considerably more historical significance to this site than would be obvious from the existing structures.</div>																						
Local Significance - not assessed (possibly high)		ITEM No. SD - 01																				

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY: **COAST GUARD Stn, REIDS MISTAKE HEAD, SWANSEA HEADS** ITEM No. **SD - 02**  
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:

ADDRESS: off Lambton Parade, Reids Mistake Head  
Swansea Heads 2281  
(driveway from the end of Wallsend St)

S.H.I.P. REF. No.

DATE INSPECTED: October 1992

PARISH: Wallarah COUNTY: Northumberland

BY: Doring

PRESENT OWNER (Name & Address):  
Maritime Services Board  
207 Kent Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:  
Lot 547 Road DP 15656  
SITE AREA:  
CURRENT ZONING: 6(a) Pub. Resc.

CATEGORY: Building/Otherworks

MAP 1:25000 No. 9231-4-N

SUBCATEGORY: Watch Station

NAME: SWANSEA  
GRID: 752 379

HISTORICAL THEMES:

S.H.I.P. Themes:

LOCAL Themes:

HISTORICAL PERIOD - BUILT: 1975 - 2000

USED: Continuous

BUILDER:

DATE BUILT: 1984



The Volunteer Coast Guard  
Watch Station at Reids  
Mistake Head.

The existing building is  
said to have been erected on  
the base of a much earlier  
Coast Guard building.

(Doring Neg. 421.24)

ITEM No. SD - 02

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY	COAST GUARD Stn, REIDS MISTAKE HEAD, SWANSEA HEADS	ITEM No. SD - 02																				
KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS:																						
<div>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS</div> <div>Architectural Style:</div> <div>MATERIALS - Frame: timber frame on brick base      Roof:</div> <div>Walls/Cladding: asbestos-cement upper, on brick base      Windows:</div> <div>Interior:      Floors:</div>																						
<div>DESCRIPTION:</div> <p>This small timber framed building is said to have been erected on top of a part of a much earlier Coast Guard Watch Tower. There is a radio mast and a signal mast (flying the Australian flag) nearby. It is understood that the old type of signal flags &amp; baskets are no longer used, having been superseded by the radio. It is not known whether the signals have been kept. The base of the existing tower is said to have been the former signal locker.</p>																						
MODIFICATIONS:																						
PRESENT USE:      Coast Guard Watch Tower																						
<div>HISTORICAL NOTES:</div> <p>The existing building was built for and by the Volunteer Coast Guards. Building materials were supplied by Macquarie Timber &amp; Building Supplies, Belmont.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Historical information needed</p>																						
<div>REFERENCES:</div> <p>Verbal information from local residents.</p>																						
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<div>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:</div> <p>This small building is not very attractive but, partly because it has been built on the remains of an earlier tower (and signal locker) and partly because of its continuing function as a watch tower, it and its site embody much of the history of navigation to and from Lake Macquarie for more than a hundred years.</p> <p>It is a very recent building, and thus not an heritage item, but it does have a great deal of significance as noted above.</p>																						
Local Significance - high (historical signif. of the site)		ITEM No. SD - 02																				

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY: REID'S MISTAKE HEAD &amp; CHANNEL, SWANSEA HEADS

ITEM No. SD - 03

PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:

a.k.a. Swansea Heads

ADDRESS:

Swansea Heads 2281

S.H.I.P. REF. No.

DATE INSPECTED: October 1992

PARISH: WALLARAH

COUNTY: Northumberland

BY: Doring

PRESENT OWNER(S) (Name &amp; Address):

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

SITE AREA:

CURRENT ZONING:

CATEGORY: Area

MAP 1:25000 No. 9231-4-N

SUBCATEGORY: channel &amp; headland

NAME: SWANSEA

GRID: 751 382

HISTORICAL THEMES:

S.H.I.P.:

LOCAL:

Ref. Nos. for RELATED ITEMS

HISTORICAL PERIOD - BUILT: n/a

USED:

BUILDER:

DATE BUILT:

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER:

PHOTOGRAPH &amp;/OR SKETCH PLAN (and caption):

The Channel leading into Lake Macquarie (to the left) at Reids Mistake, photographed from the headland of the Coast Guard Watch Station at Reids Mistake Head, looking north to Blacksmiths and the Nine Mile Beach. (Doring Neg.421.25)



ITEM No. SD - 03

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY


NAME/IDENTITY	REID'S MISTAKE HEAD & CHANNEL, SWANSEA HEADS	ITEM No. SD - 03																				
KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS:																						
<b>PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS</b> Entrance channel to Lake Macquarie and the headland to the south of the mouth of the channel.																						
DESCRIPTION:																						
MODIFICATIONS:																						
PRESENT USE:																						
<b>HISTORICAL NOTES:</b> The significance of Reids Mistake in the history of Lake Macquarie is discussed in the Thematic History section of this Heritage Study. A number of books, and notably K.H.Clouten's "Reid's Mistake" discuss the history of the area.																						
<b>REFERENCES:</b> Clouten, K.H., "Reid's Mistake", pub LMCC 1967																						
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<b>STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:</b> The discovery of the entrance to Lake Macquarie by Reid in 1800, and REID'S mistaken identification of it as the mouth of the Hunter River, is a well known piece of colonial history. Reid's journey to the entrance to the Lake is the earliest documented European contact with the Lake Macquarie area. Since that time, the Lake's entrance has played an important part in the history of coal and timber and general cargo shipping (in the 19th Century), in the fishing industry, and in more recent times, in the construction of one of the great Lakeside power stations. In geographical terms, this entrance to the Lake is what makes it the biggest inland body of salt water in Australia.  Regional Significance - high Local Significance - very high																						

ITEM No. SD - 03



## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

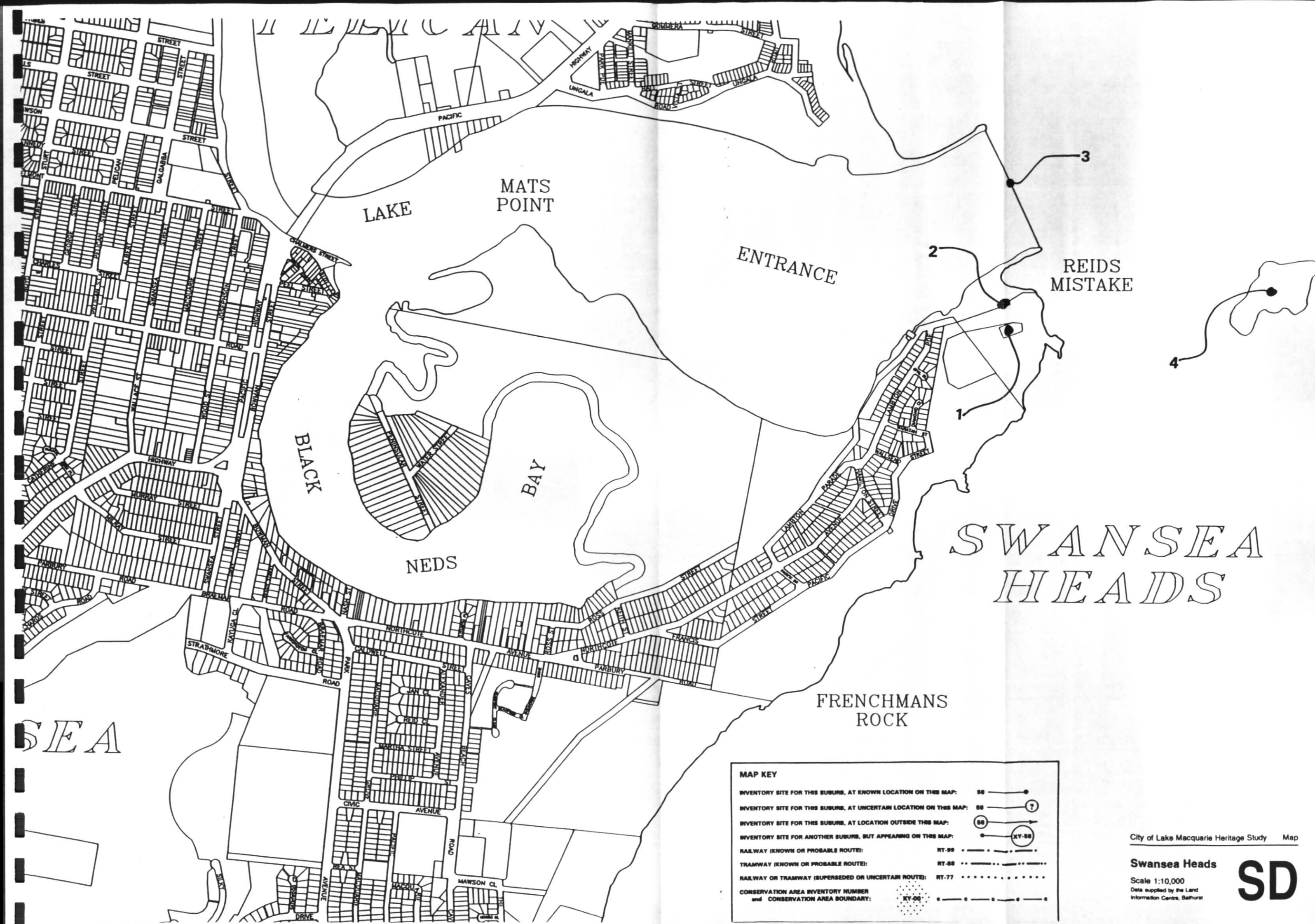
## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY: MOON ISLAND, near REIDS MISTAKE, SWANSEA HEADS		ITEM No. SD - 04
PREVIOUS/OTHER NAMES OR USES:  a.k.a. Green Island, or "NIRRITIBA"		
ADDRESS:  Swansea Head 2281		S.H.I.P. REF. No.  DATE INSPECTED: October 1992
PARISH: WALLARAH	COUNTY: Northumberland	BY: Doring
PRESENT OWNER(S) (Name & Address):		REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:  SITE AREA: CURRENT ZONING:
CATEGORY: area	SUBCATEGORY: nature reserve	MAP 1:25000 No. 9231-4-N NAME: SWANSEA GRID: 760 380
HISTORICAL THEMES: S.H.I.P.:  LOCAL:		Ref. Nos. for RELATED ITEMS
HISTORICAL PERIOD - BUILT: n/a		USED:
BUILDER:		DATE BUILT:
ARCHITECT/DESIGNER:		
PHOTOGRAPH &/OR SKETCH PLAN (and caption): rain) from Reids Mistake Head.		Moon Island, photographed (in heavy (Doring Neg.421.27)
		
		ITEM No. SD - 04

## CITY OF LAKE MACQUARIE

## HERITAGE STUDY

NAME/IDENTITY	MOON ISLAND, near REIDS MISTAKE, SWANSEA HEADS	ITEM No. SD - 04																				
KNOWN HERITAGE LISTINGS: The Register of the National Estate																						
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS Townscape or Landscape Features: The Island is 1.012 hectares in area, and 1 km east of the entrance to Lake Macquarie. The island is a flattish plateau, below which is a line of rocks & rock platforms. There are no trees or shrubs on the island, however, on the high parts, coarse grasses & prickly pear occur Other Details of Physical Appearance:																						
DESCRIPTION: The Island is a breeding site for the following seabirds: Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Little Penguin, Black-backed or Dominican Gull, considered rare in Australia; Sooty Oyster-catcher; and the Crested Tern, an international migratory bird.  The above descriptions have been quoted directly from the Register of the National Estate.																						
MODIFICATIONS:																						
PRESENT USE: nature reserve																						
HISTORICAL NOTES:  Information needed																						
REFERENCES: Aust. Heritage Comm. "The Heritage of Australia", pub. McMillan, 1981																						
EVALUATION CRITERIA: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 25%;">HISTORIC</td><td style="width: 25%;">Rare ( )</td><td style="width: 25%;">Associative ( )</td><td style="width: 25%;">Representative ( )</td></tr><tr><td>AESTHETIC</td><td>Rare ( )</td><td>Associative ( )</td><td>Representative ( )</td></tr><tr><td>SOCIAL</td><td>Rare ( )</td><td>Associative ( )</td><td>Representative ( )</td></tr><tr><td>SCIENTIFIC</td><td>Rare ( )</td><td>Associative ( )</td><td>Representative ( )</td></tr><tr><td>OTHER</td><td>Rare ( )</td><td>Associative ( )</td><td>Representative ( )</td></tr></table>			HISTORIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )	AESTHETIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )	SOCIAL	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )	SCIENTIFIC	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )	OTHER	Rare ( )	Associative ( )	Representative ( )
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: When Reid discovered the entrance to Lake Macquarie by mistake, in 1800, he probably mistook Moon Island for what is now called Nobby's Head at the entrance to Newcastle. If this was so, one could say that Moon Island was responsible for the discovery of Lake Macquarie.  Apart from that conjecture, Moon Island is a recognised sanctuary for breeding seabirds. Being difficult of access, it has fortunately remained a safe refuge, in contrast to the developed and over-run former breeding areas on the mainland.  State Significance - moderate Regional Significance - moderate Local Significance - moderate (could be high)																						
		ITEM No. SD - 04																				



MAP KEY

INVENTORY SITE FOR THIS SUBURB, AT KNOWN LOCATION ON THIS MAP:	SS —●—
INVENTORY SITE FOR THIS SUBURB, AT UNCERTAIN LOCATION ON THIS MAP:	SS —(?)—
INVENTORY SITE FOR THIS SUBURB, AT LOCATION OUTSIDE THIS MAP:	SS —○—
INVENTORY SITE FOR ANOTHER SUBURB, BUT APPEARING ON THIS MAP:	XY-SS —○—
RAILWAY (KNOWN OR PROBABLE ROUTE):	RT-99 —+—+—+—
TRAMWAY (KNOWN OR PROBABLE ROUTE):	RT-88 —·—·—·—
RAILWAY OR TRAMWAY (SUPERSEDED OR UNCERTAIN ROUTE):	RT-77 —·—·—·—
CONSERVATION AREA INVENTORY NUMBER and CONSERVATION AREA BOUNDARY:	KY-00 —○—○—○—○—○—