

## Pymont Bridge

location Over Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour, Sydney, New South Wales.

owner Darling Harbour Authority

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the plaques

types **National Engineering Landmark and Information Plaques**

location On stone parapet wall at the south-west corner.

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plaque text

### **Pymont Bridge**

This bridge built between 1899 and 1902 was an essential link between the city and the inner western suburbs. The swing span was one of the largest in the world and the first to be powered by electricity. The approach spans represented the highest level of development of the timber truss. Designed by Percy Allan with the assistance of J J C Bradfield and Gordon Edgell, its Australian design and construction made it a source of pride to all Sydney-siders.

Dedicated by The Institution of Engineers, Australia and the Darling Harbour Authority, 1992.



### ***Percy Allan (1861–1930)***

*Allan joined the Department of Public Works, NSW in 1878 and was appointed Chief Draftsman in 1889.*

*He learnt bridge design, construction and maintenance from J A McDonald. Durability through good design, sound construction and ease of maintenance and repair, became a feature of Allan's bridges.*

*In 1896 he became Engineer-in-Chief of bridge design and with his assistant de Burgh and juniors Dare, Bradfield and Roberts, rationalised and consolidated known bridge engineering technology, and established sound practices. Allan's Pymont Bridge gave Australian bridge engineering world status.*

*He later worked on river projects, artesian bores, water supply and drainage schemes; became District Engineer, Newcastle; and in 1911, Chief Engineer, Newcastle. He was appointed Assistant Director-General in 1912 and Chief Engineer, National and Local Government Works in 1918. He retired in 1927.*