

PORT AUTHORITY OF NSW HERITAGE INVENTORY

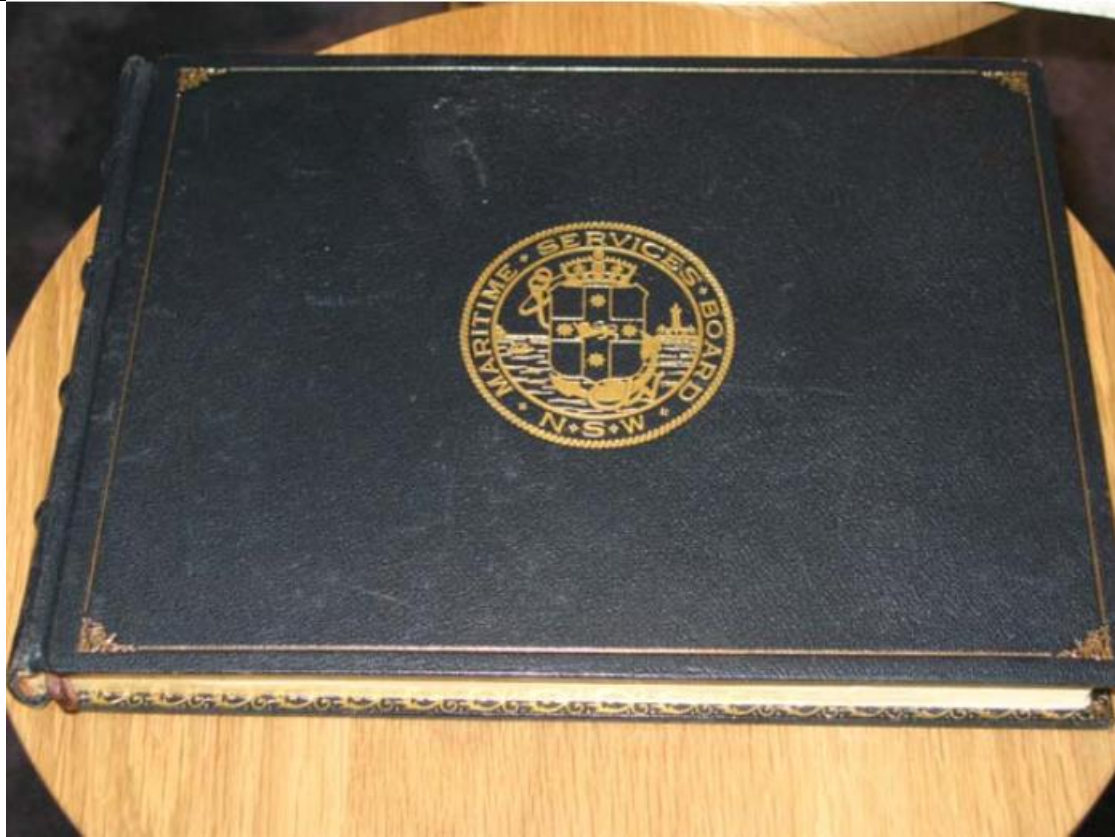
State Heritage Inventory

SHI Number: 4560059		Study Number: N/A	
Item Name: Maritime Services Board Autograph Book			
Location: 20 Windmill Street, Millers Point			
Address: 20 Windmill Street		DUAP Region: Sydney South	
Suburb / Nearest Town: Millers Point 2000		Historic Region: Sydney	
Local Govt Area: Sydney		Parish: St. Philip	
State: NSW		County: Cumberland	
Other/Former Names:			
Area/Group/Complex:		Group ID:	
Aboriginal Area:			
Curtilage/Boundary:			
Item Type: Movable / Collection	Group: Government and Administration	Category: Contents (movable)	
Owner: Port Authority of New South Wales			
Current Use: Not in use			
Former Uses:			
Assessed Significance: Local		Endorsed Significance:	
Statement of Significance: The item is considered to be of high significance at the state and regional level as it represents the signatures of a number of internationally significant political and cultural leaders. It also indicates the prestige and status of the former Sydney Ports operations in that it has attracted such a wide range of significant visitors and port authority figures during its 23 years of use. The signatures of international visitors also suggest the central role of Port Jackson and its associated maritime industries in establishing a profile for New South Wales.			
Historical Notes or Provenance: The provenance for this autograph book is well established. It was acquired locally at Swains, an office supply shop as a stock item in the "Leathersmith" line, item number EVB1, M, Morocco. It was manufactured in England. The first signature in the book is dated 22 October 1966 and the last signature is dated 14 February 1989. Following its last use, the book was apparently retired and/or taken out of service after 23 years.			
Themes:	National Theme:	State Theme:	Local Theme:
Designer: Leathersmith, England			
Maker / Builder: Unknown			
Year Started:	Year Completed: 1960	Circa: Yes	
Physical Description: A case-bound autograph book described as morocco (goatskin), stamped in gold lettering "Leathersmith, EVB1, M, Morocco". The book was purchased at Swains, Sydney. The book is case bound and sewn but the spine of the book features "false bands" that add to the apparent prestige			

<p>of the item without the bookbinding processes of binding the book with the traditional cords that are implied by the "false bands".</p> <p>The goatskin book, dyed a naval blue hue, is gold stamped with rosettes on the spine, gilt tooling has been added to the front and rear covers and the interior morocco turn-ins are rolled and embossed with gold arabesques. The cover is stamped with the Maritime Services Board medallion/seal.</p> <p>Internally, the paper is ruled and the top, bottom and foreedges are gilt. In total, the book measures 290 x 210 mms.</p> <p>The condition of the book is good with some rubbing to the upper and lower spine, scuffing on the front and rear covers.</p> <p>The book contains the signatures of many notable figures such as Queen Elizabeth II, the Honourable Lyndon Johnson, the late president of the United States and other heads of state and dignitaries.</p> <p>Similar "guest books" are maintained by other institutions such as the Australian War Memorial, Canberra and the NSW Governor-General's office. The use of these guest books is ongoing.</p>			
Physical Condition: The book is in generally good condition			
Modification Dates:			
<p>Recommended Management: It is recommended that this book be stored in an archival box made for the purpose of storing documents or that such as box and/or slipcase be commissioned through the NSW Bookbinders Guild members (see www.nswbookbinders.org.au/). This will prevent further scuffing and handling damage to the book.</p> <p>Preparation of a Moveable Heritage Management Plan for Port Authority of NSW moveable heritage assets including the Maritime Services Board Autograph Book to provide a comprehensive guide to the future conservation and management of the items.</p>			
Management: Statutory Instrument			
Further Comments:			
Criteria a) The autograph book represents the development of the Sydney Ports cultural achievement in establishing its operations as central to the prestige of the NSW and Sydney economy. Consequently, major and minor international dignitaries felt compelled to tour the facilities.			
Criteria b) The book contains the signatures of a wide range of national and international dignitaries.			
Criteria c)			
Criteria d)			
Criteria e)			
Criteria f) The book has significance in that it contains uncommon specimen signatures of a wide range of international dignitaries.			
Criteria g)			
Integrity / Intactness: The condition of the book is good with some rubbing to the upper and lower spine, scuffing on the front and rear covers. On an initial inspection, the book appears to be intact with all pages present.			
References:	Author:	Title:	Year:
	Michael Bogle	Sydney Ports Moveable Heritage Assessment	2010

Studies:	Author:	Title:	Number:	Year:	
Parcels:	Parcel Code:	Lot Number:	Section:	Plan Code:	Plan Number:
Latitude:			Longitude:		
Listings:	Name: Heritage Act – S.170 NSW State agency heritage register	Title: Maritime Services Board Autograph Book	Number: 4560059	Date:	
Data Entry:	Date First Entered: 07/05/2010	Date Updated: 25/01/2023	Status: Basic		

Image: 1



Caption: Case-bound leather-covered autograph book, Port Authority of NSW, Windmill Street, Millers Point. November 2009.

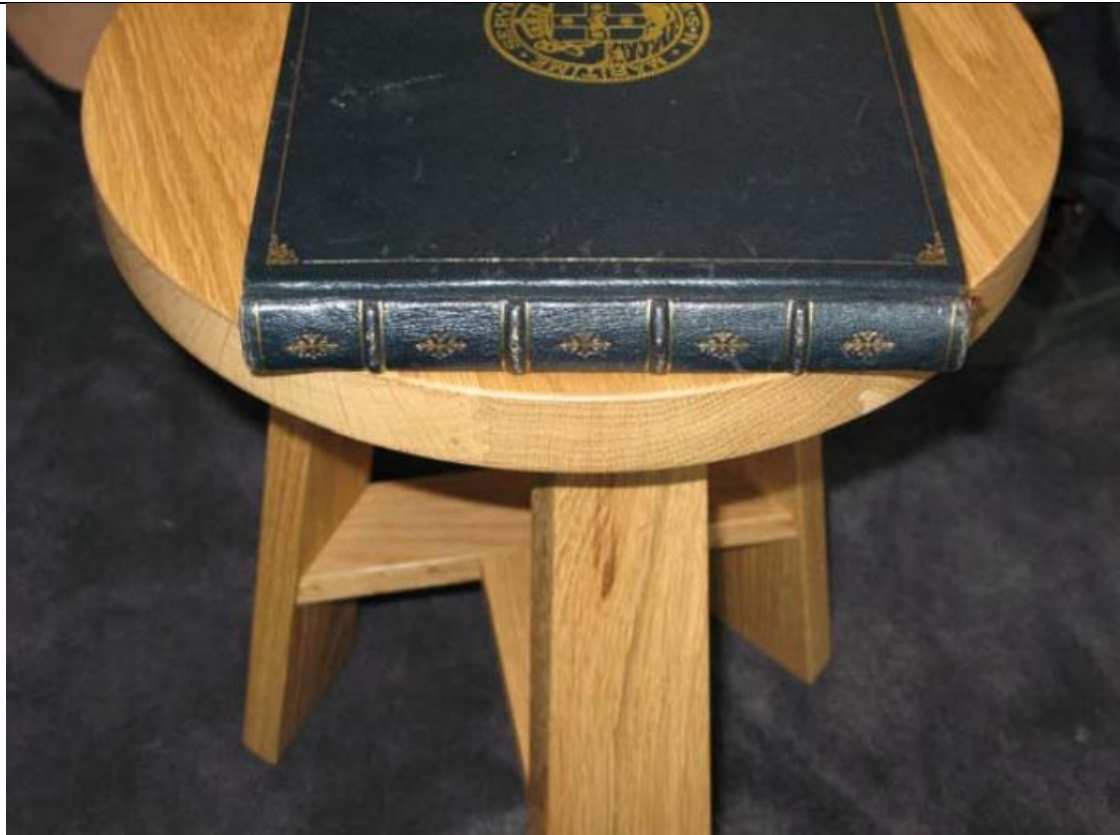
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Image Date: 1/11/2009

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Image: 2



Caption: The spine of the Maritime Services Board autograph book. November 2009.

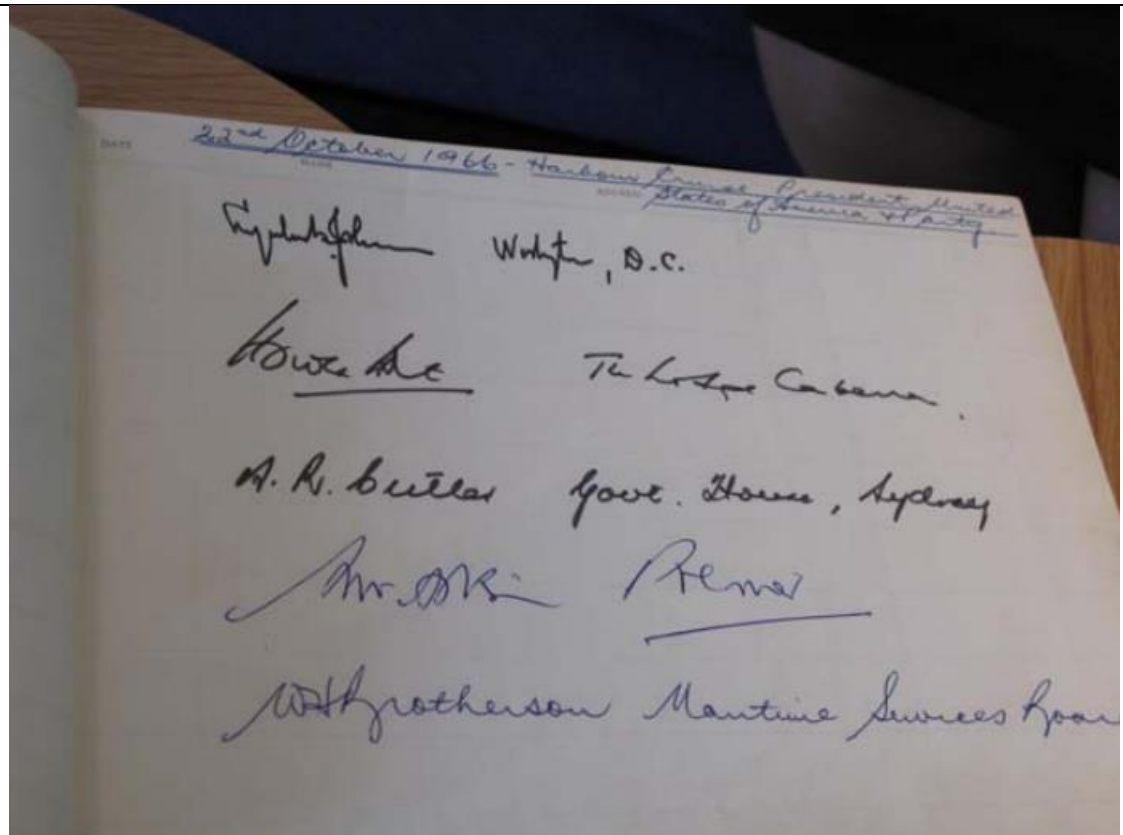
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Image: 3



Caption: Page from book signed on 22 October 1966 by Lyndon B. Johnson (United States President), Harold Holt (Australian Prime Minister), Sir Arthur Roden Cutler (NSW Governor), Sir Robert Askin (NSW Premier) and Bill Brotherson (Maritime Services Board Chairman)

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Image: 4



Caption: The front cover of the MSB autograph book

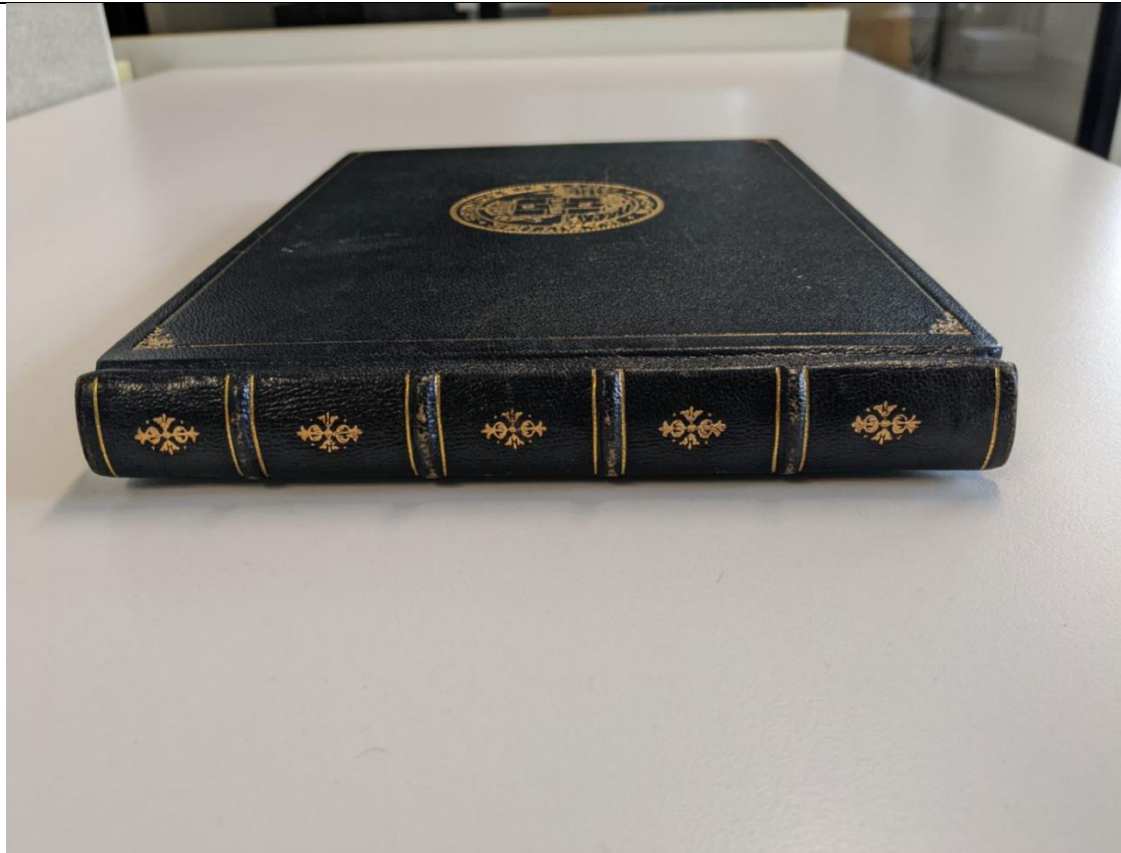
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Image: 5



Caption: The spine of the MSB autograph book

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Image: 6



Caption: Rear of the MSB autograph book, stamp denoting Leathersmith, - Made in England - EVB1, M, Morocco

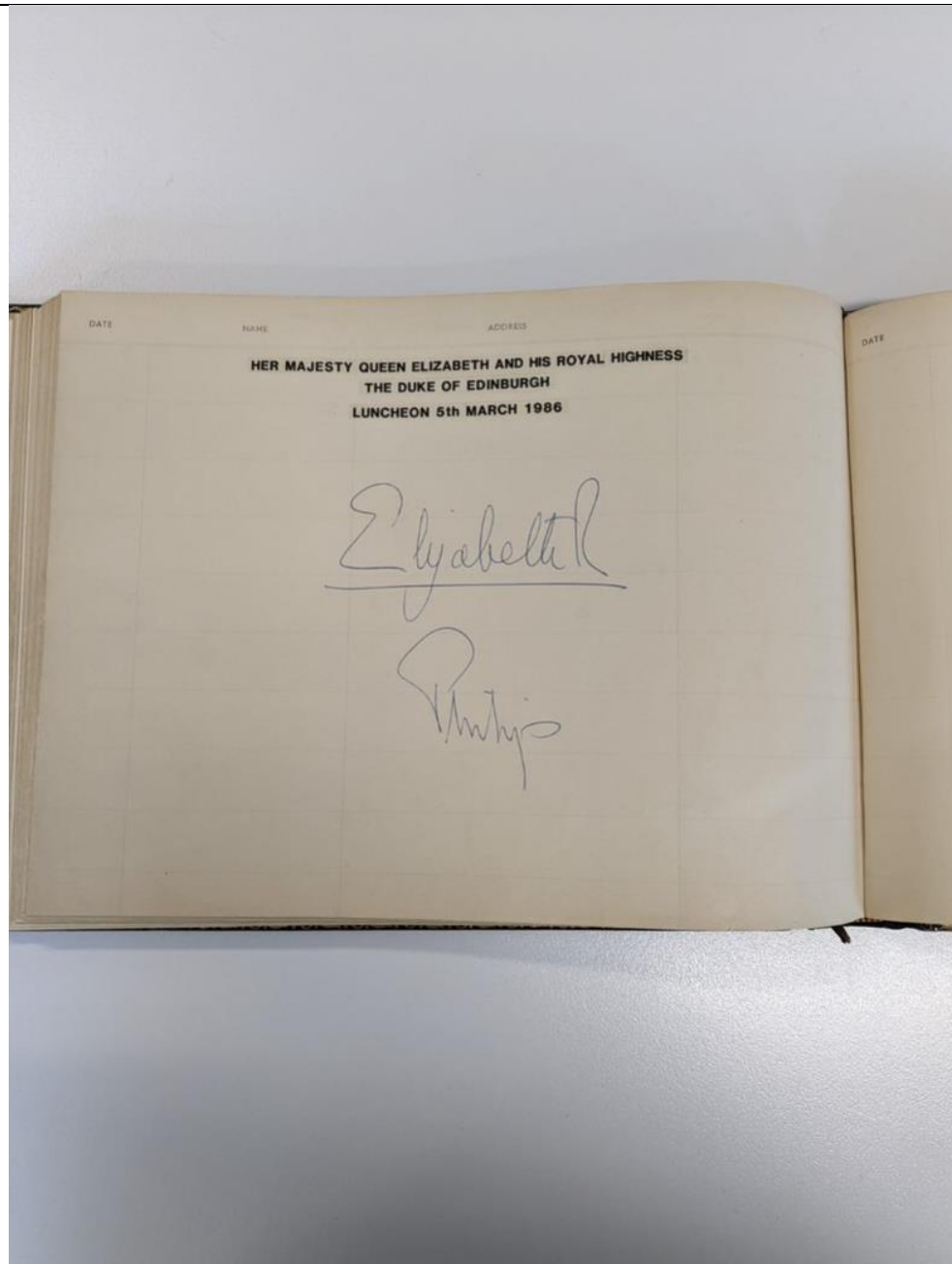
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Image: 7



Caption: The signatures of both Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, signed during their attendance on board the M.S.B. launch Captain Philip, on the 5th March 1986.

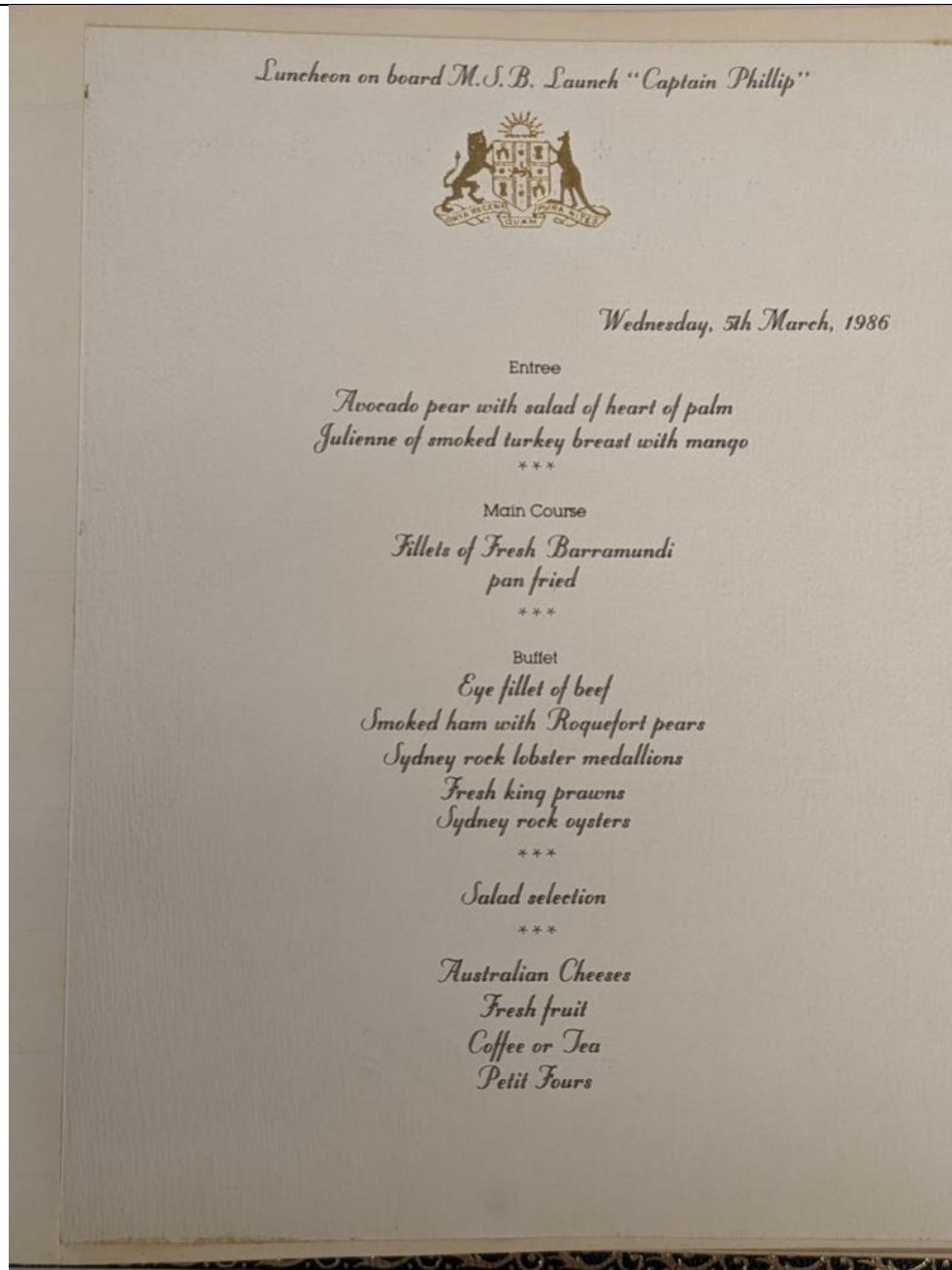
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Image: 8



Caption: Menu of the lunch on board the M.S.B launch "Captain Phillip", 5th March 1986 during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the date on which the book was signed.

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