

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 19/10/24

CENTURION

Location

Phillip Island

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S109

Date lost

07/1913

Official number

121164

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Single deck, counter stern, carvel built, cutwater head, no galleries, wooden framed, 2 bulkheads.

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

77.00 Feet / 25.10 Feet / 9.50 Feet

Builder

W. Dunn of Sydney and G. Howard of Erina.

Year of construction

1907

Built port

Erina, New South Wales

Built country

Australia

Registration Number

11 of 1908

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

07/1913

Departure

Walkerville

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

Lime

Owner

1908: Leonard Martin, Grazier, Apollo Bay

Cause of loss

Destroyed by fire when cargo ignited. Driven ashore.

Statement of significance

<p>The Centurion is representative of the last of the coastal sailing vessels which were engaged in various trades such as fishing and carrying lime and timber.</p>

VHR history

The ketch CENTURION was built at Erina, N.S.W. in 1908 (Loney states Geelong). The vessel was engaged in a number of local Victorian industries and was employed as a pleasure boat, crayboat and timber trader between Melbourne and Apollo bay. In 1911 it was purchased by McCrae for use in the lime trade between the kilns at Walkerville and Bell Point to Melbourne. In June 1913 the ketch left Walkerville with a cargo of lime for Melbourne. When approaching Cape Paterson its cargo caught fire and the master decided to sail the vessel into the Eastern Entrance of Western Port and beach the ketch. Despite the attempts of the crew, the vessel continued to burn and they were forced to abandon ship. The Centurion was beached between Cape Woolamai

and San Remo. The crew were rescued and the vessel burnt to the waterline. The remains could still be seen until removed in 1979.
