

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 01/05/24

## 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.<br />