Location
Ships Graveyard, Outside Port Phillip Heads Area, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number
S142

Date lost
20/02/1928

Official number
93722

Construction material
Steel

Hull
Rigged as a 3 mast schooner 61 deck (part steel) shade deck 44 ft Electric light4 bulkheads 7 Elliptical stern, clincher built 6

Propulsion
Steam - Screw

Number of masts
3

Length/Breadth/Depth
225.00 Feet / 0.00 / 0.00

Builder
J. L. Thompson & Sons
Year of construction
1887

Built port
Sunderland

Built country
England

Registration Port
Melbourne

Date lost
20/02/1928

Owner
Huddart Parker Ltd. then Grant Allen, Melb. (1927)

Cause of loss
Dismantled and scuttled

Statement of significance
<p>The SS Coogee is historically significant for its working life in a variety of roles for nearly 40 years, serving as a Port Phillip excursion steamer, Bass Strait passenger ship, cable repair ship and as a minesweeper during World War I. It is recreationally significant as one of the wrecks in the Ships' Graveyard and is a spectacular advanced dive.</p>

VHR history
Huddart Parker’s steamship Coogee was purchased to operate in the Melbourne to Geelong trade. After a brief period on this run, it was placed in the Bass Strait passenger service, where in 1903, it was involved in a collision with the Italian barque Fortunato Figari. The sailing ship's bowsprit raked the Coogee's deck, flattening the mast, bridge and funnel. The captain and one of the crewmen who were on the bridge were killed. After repairs, the Coogee returned briefly to the Bass Strait passenger service before returning to the Melbourne - Geelong excursion route. The vessel was taken over by the RAN for use as a minesweeper during World War I. After the war it was chartered by the Telegraph Department to repair the Bass Strait cable. The Coogee returned to the Port Phillip excursion trade but was eventually laid up, and in 1927, was sold for scrap. The following year the hull was towed to sea and scuttled in the Ships' Graveyard.