

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

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## CURLIP

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### Location

Mouth of the Snowy River at Marlo

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S151

### Date lost

03/03/1919

### Official number

101704

### Construction material

Wood

### Propulsion

Steam - Paddle

### Length/Breadth/Depth

43.00 Feet / 10.00 Feet / 3.00 Feet

### Builder

Richardson & Sons, Orbost.

### Year of construction

1890

### Built port

Tabarra, Victoria

### Built country

Australia

## Registration Number

3 of 1893

## Registration Port

Melbourne

## Date lost

03/03/1919

## Departure

Moored at Marlo

## Owner

Orbost Shipping Co. Ltd., Melbourne. (3 Oct. 1906)

## Cause of loss

Torn from moorings during floods and washed out to sea and finally stranded at the mouth of the Snowy River.

## VHR history

The Curlip was a small paddle steamer that worked on the Snowy River towing barges and carrying cargo. Vessels such as the Curlip were an important link in the economic development of a once remote area of the state. Ther Curlip was lost in 1919 when flood waters on the Snowy River swept it out to sea. It was then washed ashore and wrecked.<br /> "The flood swept down with irresistible force in a wall about six feet high. Timber and debris came with it, and the river, which on Thursday evening was only 2 feet above summer level, was up to 20 feet 8 inches before daylight next morning. A big gap was torn in the embankment constructed at Bete Bolong for the protection of low-lying land, and the rise of the water was so exceedingly sudden after the first rush that it was not long before some thousands of acres on both sides of the river were submerged.<br /> Though fastened with two heavy lines and an anchor attached to a chain the S.S. Curlip was torn from her moorings near the Snowy River bridge and swept down to Marlo. Three barges were also carried down, and two of them, as well as the Curlip were carried over the bar and flung onto the western beach. Next day the other barge was swept out to sea; it was bought back by the next tide and landed close to the Curlip and the other barges. Mr P. Watt's motor boat, which was eventually found in Lake Coringle, was also swept downstream." (Snowy River Mail, 7 March 1919)