Victorian Heritage Database Report

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FAWKNER

Location

Ships Graveyard, Commonwealth Area No.3, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S257

Date lost

1935

Propulsion

Steam - Screw

Length/Breadth/Depth

154.00 Feet / 26.00 Feet / 10.00 Feet

Year of construction

1883

Built port

Portsmouth

Date lost

1935

Owner

Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners

Cause of loss

Scuttled

VHR history

The steam hopper barge Fawkner was built as an auxiliary unit of the Victorian Navy, and could be armed with a six inch gun and two Gattling guns. It was fitted with a magazine, had an armoured engine room and was later fitted with a compressor to act as a tender for the navy's torpedo boats. Apart from its usual dredging operations, it served as a non-commissioned minesweeper in 1914. After it had outlived its usefulness, the Fawkner was scuttled in 1935.