

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 28/04/24

GEORGE MARTIN

Location

Walsh's Quarry, near Point Wilson, Corio Bay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S280

Date lost

1946

Construction material

Iron

Propulsion

Steam - Unknown

Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 / 0.00 / 0.00

Date lost

1946

Cargo

None

Owner

Geelong Harbour Trust Commissioners

Weather conditions

Not applicable

Cause of loss

Abandoned. Dismantled and beached by Geelong Harbour Trust (Morrow, personal communication)

VHR history

The George Martin was a steam hopper barge. Part of floating plant purchased in 1907 by Geelong Harbor Trust Commissioners from Howard Smith & Co.Ltd; formerly property of WA Government. Bought together with Platypus (later William Humble), for 4399 pounds. It served the port well for many years. It was renamed George Martin in honour of a member of the Harbour Committee of Geelong Town Council. Dismantled and beached by Geelong Harbour Trust. (Morrow, 1959) It was decked out as the Lightning (for re-enactment of burning) during Geelong Centenary celebrations in 1938. More realistic than expected - the ship had to be towed about 1000 feet from Yarra St Pier with breeze fanning fire. Superstructure, decks and masts crashed and burned before fire was extinguished by members of crew on board Harbour Trust tug Wybia. Shots fired from pier in re-enactment of Volunteer Artillery's attempt to sink Lightning in 1869. (ID 72)