

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 20/10/24

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## HERO

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### Location

Gabo Island, western side

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S324

### Date lost

10/1904

### Construction material

Wood

### Hull

Originally an unpowered ketch, an oil engine was fitted during repairs following a stranding at Cape Woolamai.

### Propulsion

Motor

### Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 / 0.00 / 0.00

### Date lost

10/1904

### Departure

Lakes Entrance

### Destination

Gabo Island

### Cargo

Timber.

### **Owner**

Jack Barclay

### **Master**

Captain Alex Cameron

### **Weather conditions**

Rough weather

### **Cause of loss**

Blown onto lee shore in rough weather

### **Statement of significance**

<p>The Hero has local significance as a typical coastal trading ketch ie: representative of a type, and for its role in transport to and from Gippsland ports.</p>

### **VHR history**

On 24 October 1904 while loaded with timber spokes, the ketch Hero was sheltering from a north-westerly gale behind Cape Woolamai. Its anchor cables parted and the Hero was driven ashore and wrecked. It was subsequently refloated and repaired at Knights Slip in Williamstown, and had an engine fitted.<br /> <br /> Less than a year later, the Hero was travelling to the aid of the ketch Kiora, whose engines had broken down at Gabo Island. Both ketches were anchored on the western side of the island when a succession of south-west squalls blew them onto the rocks of the granite quarries. No lives were lost though the men had a "rough experience" getting ashore (Age 8/9/1905).<br /> <br /> The engine, cargo and gear were salvaged, but the vessel was a total wreck.