

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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HYGEIA

Location

Ships Graveyard, Outside Port Phillip Heads Area, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S329

Date lost

09/06/1932

Official number

95969

Construction material

Steel

Hull

Flush Deck. new Boiler 1910. Two decks, elliptical stern, clincher built

Propulsion

Steam - Paddle

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

300.00 Feet / 32.00 Feet / 11.30 Feet

Builder

Napier, Shanks & Bell

Year of construction

1890

Built port

Yorker

Built country

Scotland

Registration Number

1 of 1891

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

09/06/1932

Owner

Huddart Parker before 1921 Bay Steamers after 1921 Henry William Morris, ship breaker, South Melbourne

Cause of loss

Sold for demolition and scuttled outside Port Phillip Heads

Statement of significance

<p>It was probably the mid to late eighties that a regular bay tourist trade really commenced. The giant pleasure steamers Ozone, Hygeina and Weeroona are probably the most famous vessels. These steamers carried thousands upon thousands of tourists and very soon became regular callers for people wanting to travel to Queenscliff, Sorrento, Portsea, Dromana, Rosebud, Rye and Mornington.</p>

VHR history

Hygeina had a passenger capacity of 1600 and could manage a speed of 20 knots quite comfortably. Hygeia had magnificent lines. She was grey hulled with pink boot topping and buff funnels. Her engines produced some 4800 horse power. Hygeia carried their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York from Mornington on the eastern side of port Phillip Bay to St Kilda Pier, Melbourne on 6th May 1901 as part of their Royal visit.