

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

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## J-2 SUBMARINE

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### Location

Ships Graveyard, Outside Port Phillip Heads Area, Bass Strait

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S382

### Date lost

04/061926

### Construction material

Steel

### Hull

Steel, double hulled, triple screwed, 4 bow tubes, 2 beam tubes, 1 x 3 foot DPHA gun, 1 x 2 pdr. Steel diesel/electric

### Engine specification

Surface: 3 x 12 cylinder Vickers, solid injection, direct reversing 4 cycle diesel engines. 1200 HP at 380 RPM. 12. x 15.0  
Submerged: 2 x Mather and Platt, 1400 HP electric motors powered by 4 banks of 58 cell batteries

### Length/Breadth/Depth

274.90 Feet / 23.60 Feet / 14.00 Feet

### Year of construction

1915

### Built port

Portsmouth

### Built country

England

## **Date lost**

04/061926

## **Cause of loss**

Scuttled<br />

## **VHR history**

In 1914-15 the British Admiralty received information that the German Navy was developing a submarine capable of surface speeds in excess of 20 knots. In order to combat this threat. The Admiralty designed and constructed the J Class Submarines(Nicknamed REAPERS). The original plans called for 8 J Class Submarines however only 7 were built. The Submarines were attached to The 11th Submarine Flotilla and all saw heavy action in WW1. Only one submarine, the J-6 was lost by so called 'friendly fire'. After the war the 6 remaining J Class Submarines along with 6 destroyers were given to Australia. The ships arrived in 1919 after a lengthy voyage from England in which many of the submarines had to be towed by the surface. The ships were given an extensive refit in Sydney and were attached to Osmond House in Geelong. The vessels were never a success, were too expensive and were outdated. By may 1927 only the J-7 was still operational. The J-2 was sold to The Melbourne salvage Company and sunk outside the Heads in 1926.<br /> <br /> The first J Class Submarine to be located was found by The Geelong Skindivers Club on 10 February 1974. \*1 This site was not inspected by Terry Arnott and Jim Anderson, however as the identities of the other submarines are not in doubt this one must be the J-2.