

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 12/07/24

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## J-3 SUBMARINE



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
HistoricView



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
TopView



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
Interior



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
Propellers



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
SideView



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
SiteView



S383 J3Submarine  
PortPhillipBaySwanIsland  
FrontView

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### Location

Swan Island, Port Phillip Bay

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S383

### Date lost

01/1926

## **Construction material**

Steel

## **Hull**

Double hull  
> Armament: one 3" dp/Ha gun and one 2-pounder portable gun, later changed to a 4" quick firing gun mounded on a platform built before the bridge

## **Propulsion**

Motor

## **Engine specification**

3x12 cy. Vickers solid injection direct reversing 4 cycle bhp diesel engines of 14-1/2" bore and 15" stroke, 380 rpm; for submerged running 2x Mather & Platt 1400 hp electric motors (MAAV report)

## **Engine builder**

vickers; Mather and Platt

## **Length/Breadth/Depth**

274.80 Feet / 23.50 Feet / 14.00 Feet

## **Year of construction**

1916

## **Built port**

Pembroke, Dyfed

## **Built country**

Wales

## **Date lost**

01/1926

## **Owner**

Edward Hill 77 Chapman St, North Melbourne

## **Cause of loss**

Deliberately beached on Swan Island. The generators were used to supply power to the military base on SwanIsland. Sunk as a breakwater

## **Statement of significance**

<p>The J-3 is a unique visible maritime cultural feature in Port Phillip. Its location at Swan Island where its engines were used as electricity generators exhibits its defence associations and cultural re-use. it is one of the Royal Australian Navy's earliest submarines, predated only by the AE-1 and AE-2.</p>

### **VHR history**

Double hull type Armament: one 3" Dp/Ha gun and one 2-pounder portable gun, later changed to a 4" quick firing gun mounted on a platform built before the bridge. 1J Class submarines built for British Navy. After World War I six subs offered to Australia as a gift. They saw little service with Australian Navy - an embarrassment from the beginning - in poor condition. Decision taken on 9 Nov. 1923 ( J-7 on 16 Jan. 1924) to scrap the subs. Remaining fittings of J-3 and hull of Countess of Hopetoun sold to Edward Hill for 1500 pounds. The hull of J-3 was to remain at Swan Island, where it had been towed by J-7.