

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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NAIRANA



S482 Nairana
PortPhillipBayPortMelbourne
HistoricView



S482 Nairana
PortPhillipBayPortMelbourne
Replica

Location

West of Princes Pier, Port Melbourne

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S482

Date lost

18 Feb 1951

Official number

132476

Hull

3 decks; not rigged; elliptical cruiser, clincher built, no galleries, straight head, steel passenger vessel framework; engine room 116.95 ft; water ballast tanks, 7 bulkheads
Later fitted out for war - four 12 lb guns, 2 24 " searchlights, aircraft

Propulsion

Steam - Screw

Engine specification

Two shaft Parsons geared turbines. 550 nhp. 6 Babcock & Wilcox water tube boilers. 202lbs. Closed stokehold. 3 bladed screws (Denny List Part III)

Engine builder

Parsons; Babcock & Wilcox

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

315.80 Feet / 45.60 Feet / 16.10 Feet

Builder

Denny Bros Ltd, Dumbarton

Year of construction

1917

Built port

Dumbarton

Built country

Scotland

Registration Number

No. 5 of 1921

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

18 Feb 1951

Owner

Nairana Pty Ltd, Collins St, Melbourne (12 June 1951)

Weather conditions

Gale - 73 mph

Cause of loss

Dragged anchors and was irretrievably beached

Statement of significance

Nairana was significant for its participation in the capture of Archangel in Russia, during WWI, August 1918. A subsequent ship was named after the Nairana.

The ship was then well known for the Bass Strait run. During WWII, Nairana was the only passenger link between Tasmania and the Mainland (UID 469). Well-loved by passengers.

VHR history

Had been laid up at anchor in Bay for three years when storm left it lying broadside to waves on beach. Originally being built for Bass Strait run, taken over in World War I while being built, completed as sea plane carrier, saw service in North Sea, patrolling the Russian coast and being instrumental in the capture of Archangel. Converted back to original design as passenger steamer for Tasmanian trade, operated by Tasmanian Steamers Pty Ltd. Laid up finally in Feb. 1948 after nearly 30 years, carrying more than one million passengers. Had become too old, complete renovation too expensive. Register closed 23 April 1953. Model in Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston. The remains of an iron or steel vessel were located near Port Melbourne by the M.A.A.V. and reported to the M.A.U. in November 1990, this site is may be the Nairana.