

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 27/04/24

## 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<br /> 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.