

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

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## S.S. RIVERINA

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### Location

Island Point/ Petrel Point

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S578

### Date lost

27/01/1890

### Official number

94314

### Construction material

Iron

### Propulsion

Steam - Screw

### Length/Breadth/Depth

325.00 Feet / 40.00 Feet / 25.70 Feet

### Builder

Wighan, Richardson and Co.

### Year of construction

1887

### Built port

Newcastle on Tyne

### Built country

England

## **Registration Port**

London

## **Date lost**

27/01/1890

## **Departure**

London

## **Destination**

Sydney

## **Cargo**

Brandy, whisky, paint and soft goods.

## **Owner**

William Lund & Sons (Blue Anchor Line).

## **Master**

Captain C. Prehn

## **Weather conditions**

Hazy

## **Cause of loss**

The vessel was driven ashore at full speed on to rocks at Ram Head

## **VHR history**

The steamer Riverina ran ashore at Island Point east of Cape Everard on 27 January 1890. Bushfires in Gippsland had made conditions very hazy along the coast. Just after dawn, the vessel ran ashore at full speed, becoming wedged between rocks. The wreck and the cargo were sold in Sydney for 1050 pounds. The steamer ALDINGA recovered 1500 cases of brandy, 11 cases of whiskey and 400 tins of paint. Cargo with a value over 13,000 pounds was eventually salvaged but the vessel became a total wreck and was abandoned. The master of the Riverina was criticised at a Court of Inquiry for not being more cautious in the hazy conditions.