

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 28/09/24

S.S. RIVERINA

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.