

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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SS SAROS

Location

Kerangie Bay, Cape Everard (Point Hicks)

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S610

Date lost

23 Dec 1937

Official number

128911

Construction material

Iron

Hull

Two decks, elliptical stern, clincher built, 6 bulkheads, 6 water ballast tanks, cellular double bottom, 2 horizontal steel boilers, schooner rigged. Two sheathed decks, electric light, cellular double bottom, water ballasted, after peak tank 25 tons, poo

Propulsion

Steam - Screw

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

350.10 Feet / 46.50 Feet / 22.40 Feet

Builder

W. Gray Co Ltd. West Hartlepool

Year of construction

1910

Built port

West Hartlepool

Built country

England

Registration Number

9 of 1912

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

23 Dec 1937

Departure

Geelong

Destination

Sydney

Owner

1920 - Australian Steamships Pty. Ltd., Melbourne

Master

Captain Aitkens

Weather conditions

heavy fog

Cause of loss

weather, ran ashore

Number of crew

39

VHR history

The SS Saros was owned by the Australian Steamships Company, part of the Howard Smith Company. On a voyage from Geelong to Sydney with a general cargo, the vessel ran ashore at Cape Everard in a heavy fog. The crew escaped in the lifeboats and were rescued by the steamer Burwah. The Saros broke in half and became a total wreck, although it was heavily salvaged before being abandoned. The captain was censured by the Marine Board for not being more cautious in the conditions, but commended him for his actions to ensure the safety of the crew.
 "The Court of Marine Enquiry into the loss censured Captain Aitken for not taking the utmost precautions in the conditions, but commended him for his rapid communications with shore stations and ships at sea, to ensure the safety of his crew"