

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/10/24

SIR WILLIAM McPHERSON



S629 SirWilliamMcperson
ShipsGraveyardBarwonHeads
HistoricFrontView



S629 SirWilliamMcperson
ShipsGraveyardBarwonHeads
RearHistoricView



S629 SirWilliamMcperson
ShipsGraveyardBarwonHeads
Portrait

Location

Ships Graveyard, Outside Port Phillip Heads Area, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S629

Date lost

12/05/1949

Construction material

Steel

Propulsion

Steam - Unknown

Engine specification

350 IHP

Length/Breadth/Depth

158.50 Feet / 32.30 Feet / 13.50 Feet

Year of construction

1912

Built country

Holland

Date lost

12/05/1949

Cargo

none

Cause of loss

Scuttled

VHR history

The Trust was rebuilding Duke and Orr's Dock, which after flood damage had been out of commission for nearly three years. It was the largest dock in the State, able to take vessels to 8,000 tons. The Trust had done less dredging than before but at greater cost, because in dredging deeper the gear encountered harder material. Halfway through the year the dredge Sir William McPherson, imported from Holland, began work for the first time, anchoring herself by means of steel masts which dropped perpendicularly to sink deep into the bottom. A projection at her bow carried a revolving cutter by which the material to be dredged was disintegrated and, in suspension in water, brought up through a suction pipe by centrifugal pump and thence through discharge pipes supported on pontoons, the system allowing material to be deposited up to half a mile away or to be loaded on hopper barges. She began reclaiming a large tract of foreshore between the Gem and Ann Street Piers at Williarnstown. Grain loading piers had been designed for the western end here, and Nelson Pier was to be extended. (Port of Melbourne 1835 - 1976, Accelerating expansion 1922 - 29)