

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 19/04/24

BATMAN

Location

Ships Graveyard, Commonwealth Area No.3, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S65

Date lost

20/05/1935

Hull

Armed hopper barge. Fitted with a magazine. Armour plating over engineroom.

Engine specification

350 HP steam engine

Length/Breadth/Depth

154.00 Feet / 26.00 Feet / 10.00 Feet

Builder

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Year of construction

1883

Built port

Portsmouth

Built country

England

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

20/05/1935

Departure

Melbourne

Destination

Ships Graveyard

Cargo

None

Owner

Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners

Master

None at time of scuttling

Cause of loss

Scuttled

Statement of significance

<p>The vessel is historically significant as part of the Victorian Colonial Navy and its role in the defence and protection of Victoria.</p>

VHR history

The armed steam hopper barge Batman and its sister ship Fawkner were operated by the Melbourne Harbour Trust, and added to the Victorian Colonial Navy in 1883 as naval auxiliary vessels. Both the Batman and Fawkner were first armed in 1885 with one six inch gun and two Nordenfelt machine guns, and their engine rooms were protected with armour plating. After 52 years of service, the Batman was scuttled in the ships' graveyard in 1935.
 VHR: Although its main function was that of a dredge, SS Batman was also an element of the Victorian navy.