

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 19/07/24

THISTLE

Location

Corsair Rock, Port Phillip Heads

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S671

Date lost

10/10/1945

Length/Breadth/Depth

50.00 Feet / /

Date lost

10/10/1945

Departure

Port Fairy

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

Possibly shark

Owner

George Reid of Reservoir

Master

George Reid

Weather conditions

Heavy seas

Cause of loss

Struck Corsair Rock

Number of crew

4

VHR history

Experienced fishermen at Port Fairy were reported to have advised against the trip. Rigged as a yacht. Driven past Channel while approaching Heads. Skipper mistook warning beacon set midway along Nepean Reef for end of Rock. At 4 am, struck south side of Reef and bumped 20 yards across to north side, settling in 15 ft of water. Crew lashed oil drums together to make an improvised raft but it was smashed by the waves about 50 yards from the beach. One man survived, making his way to Fort Nepean. Port and Harbors launch searched without success for the other three. One body was recovered 5 days later. A headless body, believed to be that of Reid, was washed upon Point Nepean Back Beach, about a month later.