

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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VENTNOR

Location

East of Rhyll jetty, Phillip Island

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S690

Date lost

1925

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Water tank containing 600 gallons was carried on deck aft of the engine room.

Propulsion

Steam - Screw

Engine specification

Single cylinder, double acting, reversible, non-condensing.

Length/Breadth/Depth

73.00 Feet / 13.60 Feet / 6.00 Feet

Year of construction

1874

Built port

Footscray

Built country

Australia

Date lost

1925

Cargo

None

Owner

Carlton & United Breweries

Cause of loss

Abandoned

Number of crew

3

Crew comments

Captain, Mate-cum-deckhand and Engineer-cum-Fireman

VHR history

The Ventnor was no chicken, though her career on Western Port was brief. She had, prior to arrival there, served for many years on the Yarra, sometimes towing small sail craft of the Bass Strait 'Mosquito Fleet', but more often carrying a cargo of beer from the Little Dock by Spencer Street to the Gem Pier at Williamstown. Her speed was about six miles per hour. The Ventnor arrived on Western Port about 1921. Her job was to carry cargo to and from Phillip and French Islands and by doing so she received the title, Mail and Passenger Steamer. The Ventnor had her own steam winch; not a very agile one, but capable of useful lifts which could be handled much more rapidly than the wharf hand cranes. Cargo from Phillip and French Islands comprised mainly of chicory, sea-grass, wattle-bark and occasionally cattle. That to the Islands was usually, as could be expected, general in every sense - groceries, beer, diesel fuel, petrol, timber, sheep, etc. (Woodley 'Western Port Ferries- Past and Present', p105)