

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

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## WERFA

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### Location

Ships Graveyard, Outside Port Phillip Heads Area, Bass Strait

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S720

### Date lost

21/03/1929

### Official number

89167

### Construction material

Iron

### Hull

1 deck, elliptical stern, clincher built - Rig listed as a coal hulk 3 masts 2 stumps

### Propulsion

Steam - Screw

### Length/Breadth/Depth

216.00 Feet / 30.20 Feet / 15.50 Feet

### Builder

Palmers Shipbuilding & Iron Co. Ltd,

### Year of construction

1883

### Built port

Hawdon, Newcastle-on-Tyne

### **Registration Number**

15 of 1914

### **Registration Port**

Melbourne

### **Date lost**

21/03/1929

### **Owner**

McIlwraith, McEacharn Ltd, Melbourne

### **Cause of loss**

Sunk outside Port Phillip Heads

### **VHR history**

Rig listed as coal hulk 3 masts and 2 stumps One deck, elliptical stern, clincher built . Originally a steam collier owned by Bellambie Coal Co and traded between Newcastle and Sydney. Converted to a hulk in 1914. WERFA was sunk at her berth in Victoria Dock in August 1925 when struck by a departing American destroyer the U.S. MacDonough. The lighter had a cargo of 480 tons of coal and was salvaged along with the vessel, this was successfully achieved by the building of a coffer-dam around her open hatches and the water being pumped out. The WERFA was scuttled outside the Port Phillip Heads on March 21 1929.