

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 28/09/24

---

## KINGSWEAR

---

### Location

Ships Graveyard, Bass Strait

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S830

### Date lost

14 Apr 1915

### Official number

86746

### Construction material

Iron

### Hull

ex-steamship, iron hull, engines and boilers removed

### Propulsion

Steam - Unknown

### Length/Breadth/Depth

155.00 Feet / 25.10 Feet / 10.80 Feet

### Year of construction

1883

### Built port

Campbelltown

### Built country

Scotland

## Registration Port

Melbourne

## Date lost

14 Apr 1915

## Cargo

no cargo

## Owner

A.T. Harman

## Cause of loss

Scuttled

## Statement of significance

<p>The Kingswear was involved in the landscaping of Melbourne by its role in reclamation works of the West Melbourne Swamp. It is a part of the Ships Graveyard wecks resource, and is one of the earliest vessels to have been scuttled there.</p>

## VHR history

The Kingswear in the earlier part of its career had been involved coastal trade in Queensland (not mentioned in Parsons, Australian Coastal Passenger Ships) and at some point arrived in Sydney.<br /> The Kingswear was towed from Sydney to Melbourne by the tug Eagle in October 1906, where she was transformed into a floating pumping station. In this role the Kingswear was used in reclamation works at the West Melbourne Swamp, where silt from the old river bed was pumped into the swamp measuring 10 acres in extent. As the water pumped with the silt formed mini-lakes more solid material was required, and clay cut from the Coode Canal Banks was deposited in the river bed for pumping and filling. At the time this was described as "welcome news to bayside municipal councils and yachtsmen, who have for years been complaining that the silt deposited in the bay is eventually washed onto the foreshores" (Age 22/1/1907).<br /> The Kingswear was described as having been in a "rotten state" with a prodigious amount of marine fouling on her hull when finally scuttled (Argus 15/4/1915).