

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 11/10/24

SANDRA

Location

Oberon Bay, Wilsons Promontory

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S839

Date lost

05/01/1947

Construction material

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Engine specification

Probably had a motor

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 / 0.00 / 0.00

Date lost

05/01/1947

Master

James O Toole

Cause of loss

Burnt

Number of crew

2

Crew comments

Ray O Toole (18yo, son of James) and Edgar Chipfield (28yo)

Statement of significance

<p>The Sandra is part of the Wilsons Promontory wreck resource and indicates the hazards still faced by 20th century mariners on the Victorian coast.</p>

VHR history

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 The following article appeared in the Argus 9 January 1947:

 BUSH TREK BY KETCH SURVIVORS
 The three men who became marooned at Wilson's Promontory lighthouse after the ketch Sandra caught fire Tuesday began a long homeward trek yesterday afternoon. They camped last night in the bush. They hope to reach the nearest road to the lighthouse early today. There they will be met by First Constable Fleisher, of Foster, in a truck. The party, which comprises James O'Toole, 42 and his son Ray, 18, of Gore St Fitzroy, and Edgar Chipfield, 28 of Henty St Highett, abandoned the Sandra in Oberon Bay about 12 miles from the lighthouse. The vessel, which was valued at 2000 pounds, is a total wreck. The men walked overland to the lighthouse, where both O'Tooles received treatment for leg injuries suffered during the arduous trek.
 Rough weather prevented their movement from the lighthouse by sea. It was thought that a pack horse team would have to make the rough 20-mile journey from the road to the lighthouse to get them out. Their injuries however, responded so well to treatment that they were able to begin the journey on foot yesterday.