

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

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## BALDROCK

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### Location

Back of Williamstown Rifle Range, Port Phillip Bay

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S840

### Date lost

1928

### Official number

89302

### Construction material

Wood

### Hull

Double ended paddle steamer passenger ferry, open wheelhouses fore and aft of funnel, limited covered accommodation for passengers.

### Propulsion

Steam - Paddle

### Engine specification

35h.p. engine, 8 knots

### Length/Breadth/Depth

112.40 Feet / 18.20 Feet / 6.70 Feet

### Builder

George Duncan

### Year of construction

1884

### **Built port**

Balmain, Sydney

### **Built country**

Australia

### **Registration Number**

89302/ 1907

### **Registration Port**

Melbourne

### **Date lost**

1928

### **Owner**

1884: W.J. Watson & Partners<br /> 1886: Thomas Heselton and H. Perdriau<br /> 1888: Balmain Steam Ferry Co. Ltd.<br /> Sept 1900: Watson Bay and South Shore Ferry Co. (renamed Vaucluse)<br /> 1906: Balmain Steam Ferry Co. (renamed Baldrock)<br /> 190

### **Cause of loss**

Scuttled, broken up

### **Statement of significance**

<p>The Baldrock is significant for its long career as a Sydney and Melbourne passenger ferry, and later as a tug and lighter.</p>

### **VHR history**

Operated as a Hobsons Bay ferry between 1907-11. Not popular with passengers due to lack of enclosed accommodation, and suffered continual engine and boiler problems. Ports and Harbours/ Public Works Dept converted into a tug for use towing powder barges to the Altona Explosives anchorage.<br /> Register closed 9/2/1928 'Vessel broken up'