

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 05/08/24

MOSQUITO

Location

Ships Graveyard, Bass Strait

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S843

Date lost

30 Sep 1915

Official number

27202

Construction material

Iron

Propulsion

Sail

Length/Breadth/Depth

113.90 Feet / 20.10 Feet / 12.20 Feet

Builder

Henderson & Sons

Year of construction

1859

Built port

Renfrew

Built country

Scotland

Registration Port

Port Adelaide

Date lost

30 Sep 1915

Owner

1879: South Australia Coal Company
9 July 1907: Relicensed to operate as a coaling hulk by the Melbourne Harbour Trust for McIlwraith, McEachan & Co. Ltd.

Cause of loss

Scuttled

Statement of significance

The hull of the Mosquito has technical significance as an early iron brig.

VHR history

The brig Mosquito arrived in Melbourne from Hong Kong on 9 November 1878. It was laid up in Saltwater Creek (Maribyrnong River) before being sold to the South Australian Coal Company who converted it to a hulk in 1880. It was towed to Melbourne by the McIlwraith, McEacharn & Co.'s steamer Tagliaferre on 24 January 1897, arriving in Williamstown on 27 January (Age 28/1/1897). Parsons also gives 1869 as a build date, and another date of 1847 for a Mosquito built in New Zealand, but the construction of an iron brig in New Zealand at this time is unlikely. The Register for the Mosquito stated that it was 'Towed to sea and sunk', dated 30 September 1915. Cross reference with Unidentified Wreck off Point Lonsdale.