

Basic Detail Report



Lester

Vessel number

HV000364

Date

1890-1900

Description

LESTER was bought second-hand by William Coombes who lived at Grays Point on the Georges River in 1930. It is 5.7 metres long, and clinker planked in Australian cedar. This construction, along with the narrow transom and easy rowing lines very closely resemble the waterman's skiff type, used into the early 1900s as passenger craft on the Harbour and many other waterways. It is therefore quite possible the craft was built some years before Coombes bought it. The family used LESTER for more than sixty years. Coombes' daughter,

Noelene, kept it on the river at Grays Point after she married, and named it LESTER, a combination of her children's names, Lesley and Peter. Early in the 1930s it was fitted out for sailing. Just prior to World War II it was fitted with a Chapman Pup engine to become a simple motor launch. In the 1960s the exterior of the hull was fibreglassed. In 1994 Noelene and her husband Tom Squires donated the craft to the Sydney Heritage Fleet where it now forms part of their collection of historic Sydney water craft. The engine was removed at an unknown date and it returned to being a rowing skiff.

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 5.69 m x 1.62 m x 0.53 m (18.66 ft x 5.33 ft x 1.75 ft)