

# Basic Detail Report

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## Deerubbin

### Vessel number

HV000415

### Primary Maker

Lars Halvorsen Sons Pty Ltd

### Description

DEERUBBIN was built at the Halvorsen's Ryde shipyard and was one of three similar craft built at that time. AS TRV 2 it served with the RAN during World War II

supporting ships and RAAF aircraft flying out of Nowra when they undertook torpedo training exercises off the Sydney coastline. As part of their work they retrieved the torpedoes after test firing. It is 18.36 m long and planked in mahogany, with two diagonal layers and an outer carvel planked layer. The Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme was one of the most important engineering projects undertaken after the Second World War.. Many large lakes were created when rivers flowing from the Snowy Mountains highlands were dammed, and TRV 2 was first loaned in the 1960s and then sold in 1971 to the Snowy Mountains Authority to work on the scheme. It was renamed WANDELLA, an Indigenous word for 'bark stripped from a tree'. As WANDELLA it carried men and equipment to building sites around the shoreline and VIPs touring the Scheme. After 1972 it stayed on as a pleasure boat on Lake Eucumbene. During these period images of it on the lake show that it had a new superstructure added at an unknown date. This included a large saloon cabin forward incorporating extensive windows all around, and high guardrails. In 1984 it was purchased for charter work on the Hawkesbury River, and given the name DEERUBBIN which is the local Darug people's name for the Hawkesbury River. The superstructure is understood to have been further changed around this time to include the wheelhouse and open deck seating on the aft cabin top. In 2001 the Tribal Warrior Association acquired DEERUBBIN and after an extensive overhaul they have operated it for their maritime training programme and Aboriginal Cultural Cruises on Sydney Harbour. It was fitted with three Perkins diesel engines and was in survey as a passenger vessel. The interior featured many carvings and other artworks by Indigenous people. They depicted various scenes and stories including references to the lugger TRIBAL WARRIOR's voyage around Australia. In 2011 DEERUBIN has been taken out of survey and sold by the Association after they bought a larger charter vessel. Currently the vessel shows the three stages of its working life: the original raised-deck hull complete with the double, wide rubbing strakes along the topsides, the additional superstructure added while working on Lake Eucumbene, and finally the wheelhouse and seating that has been added over the top of this after it came to Sydney. It is one of a small number of vessels which show the interesting (and once widely practiced) series of adaptations of small naval vessels.

### Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 18.36 m x 3.1 m (60.24 ft x 10.17 ft)

