

Basic Detail Report



PS Pevensey

Vessel number

HV000423

Date

1910

Primary Maker

Peter Westergaard

Description

PS PEVENSEY was the last vessel built at the Moama Slipway, which is across the river from the Port of Echuca. It was designed by Peter Westergaard and built by Permewan, Wright and Company for their own use. It began life in 1910 as the barge MASCOTTE, but was rebuilt as the paddle steamer PS PEVENSEY within 12 months. It was fitted with a 20 hp 2 cylinder steam engine from Marshall and Sons in the United Kingdom. It was first used on the Murrumbidge River where it collected wool bales and brought them back to Echuca, where they were shipped to Melbourne by train. It could carry 815 bales by itself and a total of 2000 bales when it towed barges. In October 1932 it was damaged by fire and partially sunk, however the hull and machinery remained sound and it was rebuilt from 1933 to 1935. In 1950 it was sold to Leslie Mewett of Mildura and continued to operate on the river for two more years before it was taken to nearby Moorna Station to be used as a base for a fishing fleet. By May 1958 it was in Renmark South Australia and laid up beside the riverbank, and then in 1962 it was sold to BJ Oxley who planned to turn it into a museum at Mildura. It was sunk at its Mildura moorings in 1967 by vandals, refloated by new owners a year later, and then sold on to the Mildura City Council. Plans to return it to an operating vessel came to fruition when the Port of Echuca purchased the vessel and used a grant from the Victorian Government to restore the paddle steamer to operating condition. In December 1974 it went back to the Moama Slipway, and was relaunched on 29 October 1976. The final fit out was done at the Echuca wharf and then it began operating excursions for the public. In 1982 it had a role in the TV mini-series 'All the Rivers Run' carrying the name PHIILDELPHIA. The series was shown world-wide and helped boost the tourist trade for Echuca. In 2014 it is still operating and doing up to four trips a day when rostered on duty at the Port of Echuca. It remains in its original form as a cargo vessel, and still operates with its original 2 cylinder engine. Prepared with assistance from the Register of Australian and New Zealand Ships and Boats compiled by Mori Flapan www.boatregister.net

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 33.97 m x 33.97 m x 7.01 m x 1.37 m, 121.95 tonnes (111.45 ft x 111.45 ft x 23 ft x 4.5 ft, 120 tons)