

Basic Detail Report



Potestas

Vessel number

HV000637

Date

1963

Primary Maker

Siegfried Tantner

Description

Tantner built the eight in a space he was allocated for boat building at the Commercial Rowing Club's boat shed on the Brisbane River in the early 1950s. The timber hull is made of laminated veneers over timber frames, with aluminium riggers. The eight was christened POTESAS by Mrs RG Morton, with the name coming from the Brisbane State High School's motto 'Scientia Est Protestas' - Knowledge is Power. In its first year it was unbeaten in the lead up events to the annual Head of the River race between the principal schools on the Brisbane region. However in that race it was beaten by the Anglican Church Grammar School 'Churchie' by just two feet. It raced in subsequent Head of the Rivers until 1970, however it missed the race in 1968 when it was under repair after damage in a shed fire. It was always placed 2nd or 3rd in this event, a consistent result. After being retired from racing and superseded by a more modern construction eight it was used by the school as a training boat before being gifted to the Queensland Maritime Museum in 1990. Tantner's background is being researched, and it appears he built a number of shells for Queensland rowing clubs and schools and was one of the primary local builders of these specialised craft. In 2014 POTESAS is on display on the wall of the museum's small craft shed adjacent to the dry dock.

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 18.79 m x 0.65 m (61.66 ft x 2.13 ft)