

# Basic Detail Report

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## Thurloo

**Vessel number**

HV000043

**Date**

1946

**Primary Maker**

Alan Payne

### Description

THURLOO is an 11.9 metre (39 ft) long sloop that was built as a racing and cruising yacht for Ernest Merrington. He required a boat that had six feet (1.83 m) headroom and was to be built of steel by his company Fabricated Products. At this time the majority of yachts in Australia were built of wood, however in other places such as the Netherlands steel yacht construction was more common. Building THURLOO in steel would have created interest considering its relatively small size when compared to other steel vessels in Australia. THURLOO would have helped pave the way for this method which became more common for yacht building in Australia over the next decade. Designer Alan Payne was familiar with the material from his time at the Cockatoo Dockyard, and he returned to the material with a number of yacht designs using steel construction throughout his career. Payne also designed a yacht with a raised deck to help achieve the headroom required, and this was another feature he used again from time to time. THURLOO has cruised the eastern coast of Australia and remains in good sailing condition after 50 years of continued use. The design led to other commissions in the late 1940s for Payne, including one or two similar styled boats with high freeboard and short overhangs, and helped establish his long career in the field. THURLOO's sturdy, seaworthy construction and sea-kindly shape were features of many subsequent Payne designs.

### Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 11.9 m x 9.6 m x 2.9 m x 2 m (39 ft x 31.5 ft x 9.5 ft x 6.56 ft)