

Basic Detail Report



Bonito

Vessel number

HV000263

Date

1925

Primary Maker

WM Ford Boatbuilders

Description

BONITO is 9.6 m (31.5 ft) long, carvel-planked, with a substantial raised foredeck and an elegant overhanging canoe stern. The craft was launched in the middle of 1925 and was the subject of two reports in Australian Motor Boat and Yachting Monthly magazine. The July 1925 issue described it as a 'fine, wholesome type of seagoing cruiser worth inspection', with 'splendid roomy cabin accommodation'. It was fitted with a 22 kW (30 hp) Thorneycroft engine and the superstructure was teak. The original owner was Col. Alfred Spain, an architect and army officer who rose to prominence in Sydney as a director on various boards including Howard Smith, Sydney Ferries and Taronga Zoo. Spain removed the sailing rig in 1932 and added a wheelhouse to convert it to a motor launch. It has remained in this configuration through a succession of owners, with only minor changes. Spain sold the craft in 1947, and in 1952 BONITO was sold again to Robert Massie, a well known yachtsman, businessman and decorated veteran of World War I. The current owner has returned BONITO as closely as possible to the 1932 wheelhouse arrangement.

Dimensions

Vessel Dimensions: 9.6 m x 8.84 m x 2.59 m x 1.07 m, 6.08 tonnes (31.5 ft x 29 ft x 8.5 ft x 3.5 ft, 6.18 tons)