

Basic Detail Report

ANMS0807

Title

Photograph album of merchant steamships and motor vessels

Date

1890 - 1940

Primary Maker

Henry Roderick Dundas Stewart

Medium

Paper

Name

Archive series

History

The series consists of 82 black and white photographs of the following vessels: HMAS MELBOURNE, KIDDER, MV ANASTASIA, MV NECHES, PS GLENSANNOX, PS LUCINDA, RICHMOND, RMS MAURETANIA, RMS MOLDAVIA, RMS PALERMO, SS ALASKA, SS ALDINGA, SS ANNA NIELSEN, SS BIRKSGATE, SS BOMBO, SS CHAMPION, SS CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, SS CITY OF SALISBURY, SS CLAN OGILVY [II], SS DIMBOOLA, SS DIOGENES, SS FLINDERS, SS FLORA, SS GABRIELLA, SS GLORY, SS GRAZIER, SS GREAT VICTORIA, SS HAMBURG, SS HERMIONE, SS JUFUKU MARU, SS KAITANGATA, SS KAITUNA, SS KAPUNDA, SS KARAMU, SS LEITRIM, SS MACUMBA, SS MALABAR, SS MANAWATU, SS MANUKA, SS MARY HORLOCK, SS MAUNGANUI, SS MAWATTA, SS MEDUSA, SS MERCY, SS NIRANI, SS PALERMO, SS PATEENA, SS PERTH, SS POLLENZO, SS REGINA D'ITALIA, SS RELIEF, SS RUAPEHU, SS ST ALBANS, SS SUVA, SS SYDNEY MARU, SS TAMAHINE, SS WARRIMOO, SS WYRALLAH, SS YOSHIDA MARU II, SS ZEALANDIC, SS ZEPHYR, USS CALIFORNIA, USS IDAHO, USS LANGLEY, USS LOUISIANA, USS MAC DONOUGH, USS MARYLAND, USS MISSISSIPPI, USS NEBRASKA, USS NEVADA, USS NEW MEXICO, USS PENNSYLVANIA, USS SEATTLE, USS TENNESSEE, USS TEXAS, USS TRENTON, USS VIRGINIA and a number of unidentified vessels including cargo ships, passenger ships and a steamer. In the nineteenth century, shipping provided the infrastructure for the European settlement and development of Australia. It was essential to commerce that ships reached people's lives in a way which was personal and immediate; delivering groceries to small towns, carrying passengers between ports and bringing immigrants to Australia. McIlwraith, McEacharn & Co entered the Australian trade in 1887 bringing immigrants from Britain to Queensland. They also entered the coal trade. They entered into the fierce competition for passenger trade in the first decades of the twentieth century when competition for passengers required companies to provide more than converted cargo vessels. In 1909 their ship KAROOLA won a reputation for its salubrious accommodation and its size, and was the first Australian ship to exceed 7,000 tons. The company maintained the advantage in 1912 by commissioning KATOOMBA, which was larger and more luxurious than all its generation of passenger ships. With the

growth of rail and road transport, Australian shipping declined during the twentieth century. McIlwraith, McEacharn & Co was a survivor and bought the fleets of James Paterson and Huddard Parker in 1961. In 1957 McIlwraith, McEacharn & Co together with Adelaide Steamship Company and Melbourne Steamship Company, set up Bulkships Pty Ltd to work the heavy ore trade and bought four ships. In 1964 it merged shipping interests with those of the Adelaide Steamship Company to form Associated Steamships. They had a combined fleet of 12 conventional cargo vessels, which they replaced with three container ships. McIlwraith McEacharn continued in the shipping trade until the 1990s when their ships were sold to a US company.