

Place No. 57 Solveig Shipwreck

View of Solveig shipwreck site, 2012

LOCATION	
Name of Place	Shipwreck at Point Samson
Other Name (1)	Solveig Shipwreck
Other Name (2)	
Location/Address	
Street Number	
Street Name	
Suburb/Town	Point Samson
Other Locational descriptor (text)	520674 mE, 7718555 mN (MGA94 Zone 50)
	Longitude: 117.1984 Latitude: -20.6321

OWNERSHIP & LAND DESCR	IPTION			
Owner	Address	Phone/fax	Status	ltem No.
Reserve No.	Lot/Location No.	Plan/Diagram	Vol/Folio	ltem No.

Listing and Assessment	
HCWA Reference Number	NEW ENTRY
State Register of Heritage Places:(Y/N)	No
Classified by the National Trust (Y/N)	No
Register of the National Estate (Y/N)	No
Local Town Planning Scheme (Y/N)	No
Management Category	В

DESCRIPTION	
Construction Date (1)	
Construction Date (2)	
Site Type (Place Type)	

Use(s) of Place	
Original	TRANSPORT/COMMUNICATION:
	Other (Water) - Shipwreck
Present	TRANSPORT/COMMUNICATION:
	Other (Water) - Shipwreck
Other	
Construction Materials:	
Walls	
Roof	
Other	
Condition	
Integrity (how much of the original fabric	Very little
is intact?):	
Physical Description	
The remains of the ship remain distributed across the beach at Point Samson, with metal elements	
located across the rock outcrop on the beach.	

History

In 1903, while unloading piles for the Point Samson jetty, the *Solveig* was struck by a gale. Her cable snapped and whilst the ship was only half unloaded, she was grounded and rolled on her side.

The Solveig was a wooden barque built in 1887¹ and was only 16 years old.

Archaeology

The remains on the beach include a winch, which may not derive from the *Solveig*, and chain piles which may relate to the attempt to refloat the vessel.

SIGNIFICANCE

Historic theme (s)	5. OUTSIDE INFLUENCES
	503 Natural disasters
Statement of Significance	

The remains of the *Solveig* are an accessible reminder of the use of Point Samson as the primary port for the region in the late 19th and 20th centuries, and the reliance of the Pilbara on maritime transport. The vessel was wrecked during a cyclone, and is a direct link to the natural disasters of continental significance today.

ASSOCIATIONS

Architect/Designer (1)	
Architect/Designer (2)	
Other Associated Person(s)	

MHI 1996	Identified on the Review List
MHI Review 2012	Site assessed and Place Name Record created



Solveig at Point Samson, 1900 Courtesy Shire of Roebourne Local History Office, 2005.2001

¹ Forrest, K. The Challenge and the Chance, p.263