MADEIRA

PROJECT MARGULLAR - SS NEWTON

The objective of project Margullar, financed under the INTERREG MAC 14-20 program was enhancing the underwater archaeological heritage through the preservation and creation of tourist assets that contribute to the increase of cultural offer of Madeira. The SS Newton was an iron steamship under the British flag, built in Greenock in the year 1864. 76 meters long, 9.5 meters wide it was equipped with a steam engine that produced 90hp, capable of reaching speed of 9 knots. The ship ran aground at the eastern end of the island of Madeira on the Ponta de São Lourenço, a peninsula cut by small bays. The archaeological remains of the wreck are rising from the seabed to three meters above the surface in form of a boiler, a propeller or a rudder and anchors. The investigation made it possible to identify this wreck as belonging to the SS Newton. This identification considered the size of the wreck, compatible with a ship of greater tonnage, but is mainly supported by the discovery of a plate fragment from the Brazil &River Plate Steam Navigation Co. Ltd of Liverpool, the owner of the ship.

First photogrammetric and interpretative survey of SS Newton was carried out in 2021, which has all the conditions to become Madeira's first underwater cultural itinerary.



Underwater archaeologist documenting the SS Newton @ Augusto Salgado, Centro de Investigação Naval

Information:

https://www.acif-ccim.pt/wp-content/uploads/2021/PROJETOS/MARGULLAR/flyer-magullar digital en.pdf