

= SMS Siegfried =

SMS Siegfried was the lead ship of the six member Siegfried class of coastal defense ships (Küstenpanzerschiffe) built for the German Imperial Navy . Her sister ships were Beowulf , Frithjof , Heimdall , Hildebrand , and Hagen . Siegfried was built by the Germaniawerft shipyard between 1888 and 1890 , and was armed with a main battery of three 24 centimeter (9 in) guns . She served in the German fleet throughout the 1890s and was rebuilt in 1903 - 1904 . She served in the VI Battle Squadron after the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 , but saw no action . Siegfried was demobilized in 1915 and used as a barracks ship thereafter . She was ultimately broken up for scrap in 1920 .

= Design =

Siegfried was 79 meters (259 ft) long overall and had a beam of 14 m (48 ft) and a maximum draft of 5 m (18 ft) . She displaced 3,741 long tons (3,801 t) at full combat load . Her propulsion system consisted of two vertical 3 cylinder triple expansion engines . Steam for the engines was provided by four coal fired boilers . The ship 's propulsion system provided a top speed of 14 knots (27 km / h ; 17 mph) and a range of approximately 1,490 nautical miles (2,760 km ; 1,710 mi) at 10 knots (19 km / h ; 12 mph) . Siegfried had a crew of 20 officers and 256 enlisted men .

The ship was armed with three 24 cm K L / 35 guns mounted in three single gun turrets . Two were placed side by side forward , and the third was located aft of the main superstructure . They were supplied with a total of 204 rounds of ammunition . The ship was also equipped with six 8 cm SK L / 30 guns in single mounts . Siegfried also carried four 35 cm (14 in) torpedo tubes , all in swivel mounts on the deck . One was at the bow , another at the stern , and two amidships . The ship was protected by an armored belt that was 240 mm (9 in) amidships , and an armored deck that was 30 mm (1 in) thick . The conning tower had 80 mm (3 in) thick sides .

= Service history =

Siegfried was laid down in 1888 at the Germaniawerft shipyard in Kiel . She was launched on 10 August 1889 , and completed on 19 April 1890 . She was commissioned into the fleet on 29 April , and joined the I Division of the German fleet , along with the older ironclads Baden , Bayern , and Oldenburg , under Vizeadmiral Karl Deinhard . The I Division participated in several fleet maneuvers in 1891 , where they typically served as the German side in the war games . Siegfried did not participate in the 1892 maneuvers , having been replaced in the I Division by her recently commissioned sister ship Beowulf .

Over the winter of 1892 - 1893 , Siegfried and Beowulf joined the elderly ironclads König Wilhelm and Deutschland for a winter training cruise in the Mediterranean Sea . Siegfried again sat out the 1893 fleet maneuvers , instead of her sister Frithjof , which had just joined the fleet . In the 1897 maneuvers , Siegfried and all five of her sister ships formed the III Division . In 1898 , Siegfried again participated in the annual summer maneuvers in the III Division , along with Beowulf and Hildebrand . Her other three sisters were assigned to the IV Division . During the 1900 summer maneuvers , Siegfried served in the simulated hostile squadron , alongside Heimdall , Hildebrand , and Ägir .

Siegfried served on active duty until 1903 , when she was withdrawn from service . Starting in 1903 , she was taken into drydock at the Kaiserliche Werft shipyard in Danzig for an extensive reconstruction . The ship was lengthened to 86 m (282 ft) , which increased displacement to 4,237 t (4,170 long tons ; 4,670 short tons) . Her old boilers were replaced with eight new Marine type boilers , and a second funnel was added . Her secondary battery was increased to ten 8 cm guns , and the 35 cm torpedo tubes were replaced with three 45 cm (18 in) tubes . Work was completed by 1904 .

She was brought back on active duty at the outbreak of World War I in August 1914 , and mobilized into the VI Battle Squadron for coastal defense , along with her sister ships . On 31 August 1915 , the VI Battle Squadron was demobilized , and Siegfried 's crew was transferred to other warships . She was then used as a barracks ship in Wilhelmshaven , a role she filled until the end of the war . On 17 June 1919 , she was stricken from the naval register . The navy planned to convert her into a salvage ship , but the plan was abandoned and she was instead sold for 425 @, @ 000 marks to H. Peters in Wewelsfleth . Siegfried was broken up for scrap the following year in Kiel @-@ Nordmole .