

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 28/07/24

DAVID

Location

Point Lonsdale, Port Phillip Heads

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S167

Date lost

15 Apr 1850

Official number

None

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

76.00 Feet / 17.30 Feet / 7.00 Feet

Builder

John Eason

Year of construction

1842

Built port

Northwest Bay, Tasmania

Built country

Australia

Registration Number

9 of 1843

Registration Port

Hobart

Date lost

15 Apr 1850

Departure

Hobart

Destination

Geelong

Cargo

Timber - sawn and broad palings (UID 71, 72)
 Former cargo: "9000 feet timber, 200 posts and rails, 350 staves, 4000 paling" (Port Phillip Herald; 1 June 1848, 2, c1)

Owner

Charles McShane of Hobart

Master

Captain Hills

Weather conditions

Wind: SW force 4; clear night. Flood tide

Cause of loss

Struck Lonsdale reef due to Captain's chart differing two points from the chart in possession of the pilot (UID 71)

Passenger comments

1 cabin passenger, Mr O'Neal, and 3 steerage (UID 71)

Statement of significance

<p>Historically significant as an example of an early well-known timber trader</p>

VHR history

The David was travelling from Hobart with her usual cargo of timber, and having on board one cabin passenger and three steerage passengers. The run was "tedious in consequence of baffling and contrary winds." (ID 71). Just before vessel struck, mate remarked they were too close to Point Lonsdale, attempted to turn but vessel struck nevertheless. Apparently master's chart differed by 2 points from the chart currently in use. Attempt to force vessel over reef by press of canvas failed. It was believed that only the vessel was insured. David was a regular trader between Geelong and Hobart.