

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 28/04/24

ANNA

Location

West Coast, Apollo Bay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S25

Date lost

29/07/1854

Construction material

Wood

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

74.00 Feet / 19.50 Feet / 11.90 Feet

Year of construction

1849

Built port

Hillsboro River, Prince Edward Island

Built country

Canada

Registration Number

1/ 1854

Registration Port

Geelong

Date lost

29/07/1854

Departure

Geelong

Destination

Apollo Bay

Cargo

Timber/ ballast

Owner

Apollo Bay Timber Company (D. Clyne, W. Fisher & W. Theobald, trustees)

Master

J. McPherson

Weather conditions

Strong easterly gale and mountainous seas

Cause of loss

The Geelong Advertiser notes in its Shipping Intelligence that the Anna, brig of 137 tons, J. McPherson, master, was one of the vessels alongside the wharf on 30 July 1854. On 7 August it notes that the Anna sailed for Apollo Bay. While riding out an easterly gale at Apollo Bay, the Anna dragged its anchors and grounded in the surf. A line was floated ashore, and after it was secured, all on board were able to reach safety.

Statement of significance

<p>It is impossible to assess the archaeological significance of the Anna as the site has not been located. However it was the first wreck known to have occurred at Apollo Bay, and as it was owned by the Apollo Bay Timber Company and was involved with the development of Apollo Bay timber industry, it has local historical significance.</p>

VHR history

The wooden brigantine Anna was built at Hillsboro' River, Prince Edward Island, Canada in 1849. It was then registered to London owners in 1850 (No. 108 of 1850). Its history between 1850 and 1854 is not known until it was first registered to the port of Geelong by the Apollo Bay Timber Company (No. 1 of 1854). However it probably arrived in Victoria with gold seekers and found work where it could, in lieu of a return cargo.

 It did not last long in the Apollo Bay timber trade, as the entry in the Geelong Customs Register notes that the Anna was lost in August 1854 at Apollo Bay.

 The Geelong Advertiser notes in its Shipping Intelligence that the Anna, brig of 137 tons, J McPherson, master, was one of the vessels alongside the wharf on 30 July 1854. On 7 August it notes that the brig Anna sailed for Apollo Bay. At an exact date unknown during August 1854, while riding out an easterly gale at Apollo Bay, the brigantine Anna dragged its anchors and grounded in the surf. A line was floated ashore, and after it was secured, all on board reached safety.

The wreck or refloat of the Anna is not recorded in the Ports and Harbours Register of Wrecks and Serious Casualties in Victoria, which would seem to be an omission.

 The site of the Anna has not been located nor reported, but if any remains of the wreck exist they are predicted to lie buried some distance from the present day high water mark in the Apollo Bay main beach/ foreshore zone.