

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/10/24

ANNE

Location

Louttit Bay, Lorne

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S26

Date lost

02/1863

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 / 0.00 / 0.00

Date lost

02/1863

Departure

not known

Destination

Lorne

Cause of loss

blown ashore in a gale

Statement of significance

<p>As yet insufficient evidence has been found to either discount the Anne as a shipwreck, or confirm it as having been wrecked. It is impossible to assess the historical or archaeological significance of the Anne as the site has not been positively located nor identified. Further historical research is necessary to confirm its identification as a shipwreck.</p>

VHR history

It appears the Anne was stranded and refloated at least twice at Apollo Bay, if the following accounts are of the same vessel.
The following report shows the difficulties faced routinely by masters of vessels trading to Apollo Bay. Some were fortunate in refloating their vessels after being blown ashore, others were not so lucky. It was reported in the Argus of 3 December 1857 that: "Captain Webb of the schooner Highlander, reports that the schooner Annie went on shore on the reef, south-east point of Apollo Bay, on Monday last, and was totally wrecked; crew saved, and on board the Highlander. The Highlander has also been on shore nine days at Apollo Bay; got off last night, with loss of both anchors." The crew of the Annie stayed aboard their vessel for a number of days, until it began to break up and was abandoned. The Ports and Harbours Register of Wrecks has no record of an 'Annie' (as reported by Captain Webb/ the Argus reporter) , but records both the Highlander(94 tons) and Anne (103 tons) going ashore in a Force 10 gale in November 1857. Of the Anne it stated that: "Rollers set in; slipped chains and ran her ashore. Afterwards got afloat and repaired" (Ports and Harbours Register of Wrecks and Serious Casualties to Shipping 1835-1858). For this November 1857 incident it appears that the Anne and the Annie are the same vessel, and that it was refloated.
However in March 1858 a report of another incident stated that the Anne, schooner, was blown ashore in a Force 4 south-easterly gale in the same place as the Grange (Hayley Reef) but was refloated (Argus 25 March 1858). The Argus report is interesting as there is no record of the stranding of the Anne by the Department of Ports and Harbours , which does list the wreck of the Grange and other stranding incidents (Ports and Harbours Register of Wrecks and Serious Casualties to Shipping 1835-1858). It begs the question of whether they were aware of it but didn't list it (as it was refloated without significant financial loss), or if they were not aware of the incident at all. If not recording strandings where little financial loss was involved was their policy, how many other strandings might not be accounted for in Victoria's coastal ports and along its coastline? This has implications for the historical recording of wrecks, as often 'wrecks' are reported that are soon after refloated, but refloats may not be reported. A relevant example of this is the 'wreck' of the Rebel at Lorne, which was recorded to have been totally wrecked in newspaper accounts (it does not feature in the Ports and Harbours list) but appeared in Shipping Arrivals records in Melbourne four months later.