ANNE

Location

West Coast, Barwon Heads

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S27

Date lost

06/07/1863

Official number

41490

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Wood; one deck; square stern; carvel built; woman's bust figurehead. Classification 4A1

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

75.50 Feet / 23.10 Feet / 8.70 Feet

Year of construction

1853

Built port

Wouchitiquac, New Brunswick

Built country

Canada

Registration Number

No. 25 of 1858

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

06/07/1863

Departure

Apollo Bay

Destination

Geelong

Cargo

split posts and sleepers

Owner

James Sinclair, Peter Graham, Archibald Forsyth, James Miller (The Apollo Bay Company)

Master

Captain Davis

Weather conditions

Violent storms along coast; easterly gale. UID: 72, 23

Cause of loss

"At half past ten p.m. she was driven upon the rocks near the Barwon Heads, where she now lies a total wreck".
UID: 72. easterly gale UID: 23

Passenger comments

One woman

Crew comments

Number of crew not known

Statement of significance

<p>It is impossible to assess the archaeological significance of the Anne as the site has not been located. However it was owned by the Apollo Bay Timber Company, was involved in the development of Apollo Bay and the timber trade, and therefore has local historic significance.</p>

VHR history

During the early part of July 1863 the southern coast of Australia was hit by "storms of no ordinary violence", with numerous wrecks reported but fortunately without loss of life (Argus 25/7/1863).

 The two masted schooner Anne was built in 1853 in Wouchitiquac, New Brunswick, Canada. After arriving in Melbourne from Liverpool, England the Anne was bought by master mariner William Turner and storekeeper Robert Kerr in March 1858. It was later sold to four timber merchants in Geelong known as the Apollo Bay Company, and was said to have been employed "for some years in conveying timber to Geelong" (GA 9/7/1863).

 On Sunday 5 July 1863 the Anne had sailed to Apollo Bay to load split posts and sleepers, but a strong easterly gale arose shortly before arriving. Captain Davis, deeming it unwise to enter the harbour at night tacked off shore all night. The gale had increased by Monday morning so it was decided to return to Geelong. However, at 10pm on Monday night the Anne was driven ashore "upon the rocks, near the Barwon Heads, where she now lies a total wreck". Fortunately the vessel's position was such that the Captain and all hands, including a lady passenger, were able to clamber to safety and "after travelling inland for about a mile came to Mr Begg's station, where they were hospitably received" (GA 9/7/1863).

 After staying the night the crew and lady passenger arrived in Geelong on Tuesday evening. The next day Captain Davis proceeded to the scene of the wreck with the vessel's agents to ascertain what could be done with the wreck. However it was considered a total loss. The Anne was uninsured and the hull was sold for Â£32.
 The Melbourne Shipping Register notes: vessel wrecked at Barwon Heads 13 July 1863 (note wrong date). The Registry was closed on 28 July 1863.

 The site of the Anne has not been located nor reported.