

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/08/24

FROWNING BEAUTY

Location

Port Phillip Bay, Sandridge Beach, Hobsons Bay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S270

Date lost

28/07/1876

Official number

24397

Construction material

Wood

Hull

1 deck, square stern, carvel built, no galleries, woman figurehead Recent extensive overhaul, including colonialhardwood topsides, kauri pine decks 2

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

3

Length/Breadth/Depth

100.50 Feet / 24.50 Feet / 18.10 Feet

Year of construction

1846

Built port

North Hykton, County Durham

Built country

England

Registration Number

10 of 1872

Registration Port

Newcastle

Date lost

28/07/1876

Departure

Outer Anchorage

Destination

Newcastle

Cargo

In ballast
 Had discharged cargo of coal from Newcastle

Owner

John Dalton of Newcastle

Master

Captain James Dalton

Weather conditions

Strong winds SSW; heavy sea; 5 am.

Cause of loss

Riding at single anchor with 35 fathoms of chain, parted cable in the gale. Second anchor let go, but it also parted. Before the third anchor, a patent one could be got ready, the barque drove on to Emerald Hill (Sth Melbourne) shore, close to baths. While drifting over the sandspit, the rudder was carried away. The Captain got the hatches off & allowed the hold to fill up preventing vessel from rolling. Frowning Beauty was impossible to refloat, and was broken up (UID 9, 52, Peter Taylor)

Number of crew

8

Crew comments

including drunken mate

Statement of significance

<p>The Frowning Beauty is historically significant for its association with intercolonial coal trade</p>

VHR history

Had finished discharging cargo and ballasting at Ann St Pier, Williamstown. Rode storm with 35 fathoms of chain until cable parted. Second anchor parted, barque driven across Bay onto shore close to Emerald Hill baths, over sandbank, carrying away rudder. Stranded high and dry but attempts to refloat unsuccessful. Broken up some months later, although registration not cancelled until 1917. Marine Board Inquiry found the vessel had deficient tackle for its size (according to Lloyd's rules) but had no power to reach Newcastle owner for culpable neglect. Master exonerated from all blame. Frowning Beauty a regular coal carrier from Newcastle to Melbourne. The Captain reported that his mate could be blamed for the loss of the ship, as he had intended to go directly to sea, but the mate was not aboard, and was found "the worse for liquor" (ID 9)