

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 27/09/24

ISABELLA

Location

Port Albert Bar

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S344

Date lost

10/09/1846

Official number

None

Construction material

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

55.40 Feet / 16.20 Feet / 9.90 Feet

Builder

John Eason

Year of construction

1840

Built port

Northwest Bay, Tasmania

Built country

Australia

Registration Port

Hobart

Date lost

10/09/1846

Departure

Port Albert

Destination

Hobart

Cargo

Livestock

Owner

Robert Gardner
1846: Mr. Johnson, New Wharf, Port Albert

Master

Captain Williams

Cause of loss

Becalmed while crossing Port Albert Bar, current drove vessel ashore

Statement of significance

<p>The wreck of the Isabella is historically significant for its role in the early development of Port Albert and Gippsland.</p>

VHR history

Outward bound for Hobart, the schooner Isabella was becalmed while crossing the bar at Port Albert and driven ashore by the current. The crew reached safety, but the vessel became a total wreck and the cargo of livestock was lost. Previously 'wrecked' 18 July 1840 and 23 June 1844, Van Diemen's Land. "We regret to state that another of our colonial craft, the fine schooner ISABELLA, Captain Williams, the property of Mr Johnson, of the New Wharf, has been wrecked at the entrance to Port Albert, all her livestock, but no lives lost. The cause of this catastrophe we understand to be that coming out of Port Albert, with a fine fair wind she was all at once, on approaching what is called the Bar, becalmed, and the current drove her ashore. We hear she is insured in the Derwent and Tamar Company for 600 pounds" (Argus 22 September 1848). Not to be confused with brig Isabella also wrecked on Port Albert Bar in 1845.