

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 29/09/24

---

## JOHN NUSSEY

---

### Location

Griffiths Point, Western Port

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S370

### Date lost

14/08/1858

### Official number

31810

### Construction material

Wood

### Hull

Yellow metal over part iron bolts. Listed as a schooner in Lloyds but Loney refers to it as a brigantine.

### Propulsion

Sail

### Number of masts

2

### Length/Breadth/Depth

82.00 Feet / 20.50 Feet / 10.80 Feet

### Year of construction

1853

### Built port

Sunderland

**Built country**

England

**Registration Number**

242 of 1854

**Registration Port**

Melbourne

**Date lost**

14/08/1858

**Departure**

Port Frederick (Mersey River, Tas)

**Destination**

Melbourne

**Cargo**

Timber

**Owner**

D.S. Warren - Melbourne merchant

**Master**

Captain William Brodie

**Weather conditions**

Hurricane winds force 10. Thick.

**Cause of loss**

Wrecked near Grants Island

**Passenger comments**

Captains Wife - Mrs Brodie

**Number of crew**

8

**VHR history**

Hurricane force winds caused the destruction of the brigantine JOHN NUSSEY at Westernport on August 14th.<br /> A vessel of 150 tons, in charge of Captain Brodie, she left the River Mersey on August 12th, but shortly after, a gale<br /> sprang up, increasing to a near hurricane during the night. Early in the morning both the foremast and fore gaff went and<br /> the jib was torn to ribbons. Pumps were used to keep down the water, but when the stay foresail ripped, the vessel became unmanageable, drifting broadside on to a reef at the back of Griffiths Points, Westernport, in the early hours of the morning.<br /> The captain ordered his wife and three crewmen below when the masts began to go, while he and three others climbed<br /> into the rigging. One man attempted to swim ashore but was swept away and drowned. When the seas abated, the captain and two members reached the rocks, but the captain's wife and the remaining crewmen were drowned, the vessel breaking up soon after.