

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 27/09/24

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.
 A vessel of 150 tons, in charge of Captain Brodie, she left the River Mersey on August 12th, but shortly after, a gale
 sprang up, increasing to a near hurricane during the night. Early in the morning both the foremast and fore gaff went and
 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.
 The captain ordered his wife and three crewmen below when the masts began to go, while he and three others climbed
 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.