

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 26/07/24

JANE ELIZABETH

Location

Point Nepean, Port Phillip Heads

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S386

Date lost

19/12/1856

Official number

32166

Construction material

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

54.00 Feet / 16.10 Feet / 7.40 Feet

Builder

William Williams

Year of construction

1853

Built port

Hobart, Tasmania

Built country

Australia

Registration Port

Launceston

Date lost

19/12/1856

Departure

Launceston

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

Timber

Owner

Gilbert Blythe and Robert Pott

Weather conditions

S wind, force 5, thick night.

Cause of loss

Wrecked and Point Nepean reef and quickly went to pieces

VHR history

There is some confusion about this ship - the press called her Anne and Jane, and Anne and Elizabeth in contemporary reports. Other secondary source reports only blur the issue of identity still further. However it seems certain that the Jane Elizabeth was wrecked at Port Phillip Heads at midnight on 19th December 1856, and was a total wreck, with an estimated loss of 500 pounds. The cargo of timber, floated all over the Bay. The ship's Master had pilot exemption. A report that the Anne and Jane was refloated and docked for repairs should be treated cautiously as evidence shows that there was at least one other vessel referred to in the press as the Anne and Jane.