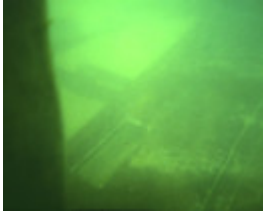


Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 27/09/24

LATROBE



S410 LaTrobe LakesEntrance
Topview JH



S410 LaTrobe LakesEntrance
Post JH



S410 LaTrobe LakesEntrance
Wreck JH

Location

Entrance to Gippsland Lakes

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S410

Date lost

14/03/1878

Official number

64805

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Two masted, fore and aft schooner, single deck, round stern, carvel built, wooden frames.

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

Length/Breadth/Depth

69.70 Feet / 16.80 Feet / 5.20 Feet

Builder

Henry Andrew Warneke

Year of construction

1875

Built port

Sandridge

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

14/03/1878

Departure

Melbourne

Destination

Lakes Entrance

Owner

Gippsland S.N. Co. Ltd

Weather conditions

calm, swell

Cause of loss

human error: wind fell calm, current and swell floated vessel on western beach (of Old Lakes Entrance), no pilot or tug in attendance (contrary to GSNC regulations)

Statement of significance

<p>The La Trobe is historically and archaeologically a significant reminder of the defunct Melbourne and Gippsland Lakes trade. Its wreck is evidence of the difficulties of traversing the Lakes Entrance Bar, prior to the Lakes Entrance New Works to create an safer, artificial entrance.</p>

VHR history

The schooner LATROBE was built for the Gippsland Steam Navigation Company to serve on the Gippsland - Melbourne run. In March while attempting to cross the Old Entrance bar without a pilot or tug in attendance (against the G.S.N.Co policy), the vessel grounded on the bar and became a total wreck. According to Loney the steamer ROSEDALE attempted to pull the schooner off but found that the vessel's back was broken. According to the Steam Navigation Board (as reported in the Gippsland Mercury) the loss of the vessel was due to the wind falling calm when the vessel attempted to cross the bar. The sea pushed the vessel onto the Western Spit where it became a total loss. The LATROBE was owned by the Gippsland Steam Navigation Company who also owned and operated the steamer ROSEDALE and the schooners NOWRA, ELEANOR JOHNSTON, WARHAWK and LITTLE ANGELINA. The company was the major locally-owned shipping company trading between the Lakes ports and Melbourne.