

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/10/24

MACCLESFIELD

Location

Clonmel Sands, Port Albert

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S431

Date lost

10/07/1861

Official number

32193

Construction material

Wood

Hull

One deck, square stern, clinker built, billet head

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

78.70 Feet / 23.00 Feet / 10.20 Feet

Year of construction

1850

Built port

Christianstad

Built country

Finland

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

10/07/1861

Departure

Newcastle

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

Coal

Owner

Simon Ross, Mariner of Melbourne, 16 shares

Master

Captain Ross

Cause of loss

Ran aground in violent storm

Passenger comments

Only passenger drowned

Number of crew

8

Crew comments

Charles Johnson, J.M. Gowan, Henry Herton, John Pass, Benjamin Griffiths & George Humphries

VHR history

The brigantine Macclesfield left Newcastle for Melbourne with a cargo of coal, but was twice compelled to put into Twofold Bay for shelter. On rounding Cape Howe, the vessel encountered strong south easterly wind and hazy weather. The Macclesfield was forced ashore by the wind on the Clonmel Sands at Port Albert. Five of the crew and the one passenger left in the boat but it capsized in the surf and all six were drowned. The captain and the one remaining crewman were washed ashore on the West Bank on part of the wreck. They were later rescued by Pilot Phillips and taken to Port Albert.
Vessel was formerly registered at Liverpool, sold 9 June 1858 to Steel & Ross, mariners of Melbourne, by Thomas Stubbs and other owners through an attorney. The six drowned crewmen were: Charles Johnson, J.M. Gowan, Henry Herton, John Pass, Benjamin Griffiths & George

Humphries
Loaded with coal, the brigantine Macclesfield was driven ashore in a gale on Clomnel Sands at the Port Albert bar. Six of the eight crewmen lost their lives.