

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 13/10/24

MATILDA

Location

Gabo Island

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S476

Date lost

09/1848

Construction material

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

55.10 Feet / 14.20 Feet / 7.00 Feet

Builder

John Thompson

Year of construction

1846

Built port

Port Cygnet, Tasmania

Built country

Australia

Registration Port

Hobart

Date lost

09/1848

Departure

Hobart

Destination

Gabo Island

Cargo

Cattle. Ballast. Guano

Owner

Edward Fisher

Cause of loss

Blown ashore while in anchorage

VHR history

According to the Colonial Times (24 Oct 1848) the schooner Matilda was wrecked on Gabo Island following a voyage from Hobart Town for a load of guano. The vessel was blown ashore at the landing spot. However Parsons (Jan/Feb 1988) states "Press reports concerning this wreck are confusing. The Melbourne Argus reports the arrival of the JOHN BULL in Melbourne with survivors. It also reported that the ship was lost on Gabo Island. However, the Cornwall Chronicle and Hobart Advertiser reported later that month that the vessel had been lost on Babel Island in Bass Strait. Syme also reports that the vessel was lost in Bass Strait.