SS NAPIER

Location

Port Campbell

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S483

Date lost

16/09/1878

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Twin prop screw steamer 25HP wood and iron, 1 deck, elliptical stern

Propulsion

Steam - Screw

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

120.60 Feet / 17.00 Feet / 8.60 Feet

Builder

Abraham Graham

Year of construction

1874

Built port

Goolwa, SA

Built country

Australia

Registration Number

7 of 1876

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

16/09/1878

Departure

Loch Ard wrecksite

Destination

Port Campbell

Owner

A Graham (1874)C Johnstone (1876)E F Howarth, S Brearsly and J Miller (1878)

Master

Capt. Limschow

Cause of loss

Vessel lost sternway rounding eastern reef at entrance to Port Campbell, and swell forced the vessel onto rocks on western shore of Port Campbell harbour

Statement of significance

<p>The SS Napier is significant as a wreck associated with the wreck of the Loch Ard, and to Port Campbell's history and development as a port. It demonstrates the risks involved in salvage and using the rudimentary port facilities of Victoria's West Coast.</p>

VHR history

The Napier was being contracted to undertake salvage on the wreck of the Loch Ard. While returning to Port Campbell it lost sternway while rounding the eastern reef and bluff, and swell forced it onto rocks on the western side of the cove.