

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/07/24

BELLA WATSON

Location

200 yards West of Lakes Entrance, Gippsland Coast

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S59

Date lost

07 Dec 1901

Construction material

Wood

Propulsion

Sail

Length/Breadth/Depth

64.00 Feet / 14.60 Feet / 4.20 Feet

Year of construction

1887

Built port

Williamstown

Built country

Australia

Date lost

07 Dec 1901

Departure

Lakes Entrance, Victoria, Australia

Destination

Marlo, Victoria, Australia

Cargo

Ballast
 The ship had unloaded a cargo of maize at Lakes Entrance and was returning to Marlo in Ballast

Weather conditions

Calm. One account (Gippsland Mercury, Tuesday 10/12/1901) states that the vessel was lost as a result of the wind failing as the vessel passed through the entrance.

Cause of loss

Went ashore as a consequence of the rudder chains snapping when the ship was struck by a heavy ocean swell as it ship passed through the entrance.

Number of crew

3

Crew comments

Crew were able to walk ashore from the wreck

Statement of significance

<p>The vessel is significant historically as an Australian built coastal trader. It is impossible to assess whether the vessel archaeologically significant as it has not been located nor inspected but may yield information on the construction of Australian colonial built ships.</p>