

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 09/09/24

SIR JOHN BYNG

Location

Port Fairy

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S621

Date lost

21/05/1852

Hull

1 deck, square stern Carvel. The hull was eventually broken up and burned .

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

78.00 Feet / 19.70 Feet / 13.40 Feet

Year of construction

1831

Built port

Poole, Dorset

Built country

England

Registration Number

38 of 1852

Registration Port

Sydney

Date lost

21/05/1852

Departure

Sydney

Destination

Port Fairy

Cargo

coal and salt

Owner

1852: B Buchanan & GA Coulson

Master

Previous: 1849:G E Levin (went on voyage to Mauritius)

Cause of loss

Broke away from anchors during a gale and went ashore

VHR history

The Sir John Byng, 177 tons, was also wrecked On the 22id of the same month and was thrown up very high on the beach nearly opposite the old Boiling Down. It was from this wreck that the 6 pounder gun which gave rise to so much specjilation at the time as to it's ongin, was recovered. Two men - S Mott and Wrixton Johnson were engaged in dismantling the vessel, noticing this gun, were determined to throw it overboard as personal salvage, which they did, It remained in the sands for years, and in 1865, S Mott and S Artis walking along the beach towards Mills' Reef, noticed the ball end of the gun Just above the surface They dug away the sand and 4 got the old piece of artillery clear, leaving it intil their return, intending then to take possession of , it. Before they came back, however, Peter Doran saw the gun on the bech, and returned to town and informed the late Captain
Mason of his discovery, and that officer at once told off several of his volunteer artillerymen, and took possession of it, and to this day it has been in charge of the local military authorities. (Entry 82 Reel M records of HM Ships)