

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 30/06/24

---

## SWAN

---

### Location

Apollo Bay, near the jetty

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S651

### Date lost

20/10/1882

### Construction material

Wood

### Hull

1 deck, square stern, carvel built, no galleries, figurehead - stem.

### Propulsion

Sail

### Number of masts

2

### Length/Breadth/Depth

60.00 Feet / 14.00 Feet / 4.60 Feet

### Year of construction

1862

### Built port

Peppermint Bay, Tasmania

### Built country

Australia

## Registration Number

3/ 1868

## Registration Port

Melbourne

## Date lost

20/10/1882

## Departure

Apollo Bay

## Destination

Melbourne

## Owner

1866:: John Chandler, master mariner of Hobart Town  
1868: Mr J.B. Lock (formerly commanded the vessel)

## Master

Mr J. Foster

## Weather conditions

easterly gale

## Cause of loss

Sprang a leak and run ashore during an easterly gale.

## Statement of significance

The site of the Swan has not been located nor reported, however it would have technical significance as the wreck of an Australian built vessel, which could contribute to research on Australian-built vessels. It has local historical significance for its role in the development of Lorne and Apollo Bay.

## VHR history

The ketch Swan, with Mr J. Foster as master, trading between Melbourne, Lorne and Apollo Bay, put to sea from Apollo Bay with strong easterly wind and bad weather prevailing. During the night she sprang a leak, and the Swan had to return to Apollo Bay where it was run ashore on the rocks north of the Apollo Bay jetty. Her keel was much damaged but all hands were saved. The ketch had discharged her cargo for Apollo Bay and had commenced taking in the return freight of about 4000 staves. The master then took the cargo out (Argus 23/10/1882). The Australasian Shipping News reported that: "The ketch Swan for Melbourne from Apollo Bay sprang a leak on 20th inst and put back the next morning with a considerable quantity of water in her hold, the weather was so bad she had to be beached near the jetty and became a total wreck" (ASN 28/10/1882). News of the wreck was telegraphed to Melbourne from Cape Otway. Mr J. Foster was

described as "...well acquainted with the coast, and had ample knowledge of the vessel, having successfully brought her through many a gale. She was always kept in good order" (Age 23/10/1882).  
The site of the Swan has not been located nor reported.