

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 13/10/24

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## WILLIAM SALTHOUSE



S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay BilgePump



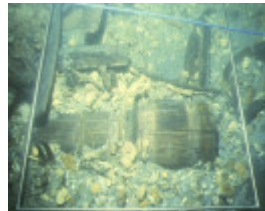
S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay  
WoodenPostsAndRope



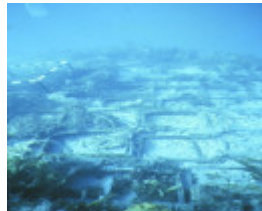
S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay WoodDebris



S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay Pipes



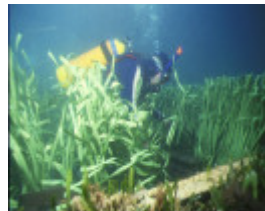
S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay  
BarrelsDuringSurveyWork



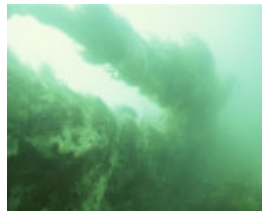
S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay Hatch



S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay BrrelLid



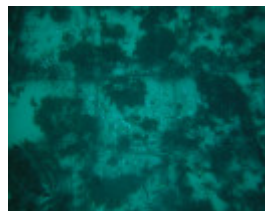
S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay  
ArtificialSeaGrass



S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay Hull



S725 WilliamSalthouse  
PortPhillipBay HistoricPlan



Exposed Cargo

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**Location**

North of Popes Eye, Port Phillip Bay

**Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

S725

**Date lost**

28/11/1841

**Construction material**

Wood

**Propulsion**

Sail

**Number of masts**

3

**Length/Breadth/Depth**

0.00 Feet / 0.00 Feet / 0.00 Feet

**Year of construction**

1824

**Built port**

Liverpool

**Built country**

England

**Registration Port**

Liverpool

**Date lost**

28/11/1841

**Departure**

Montreal, Canada

**Destination**

Port Phillip

## **Cargo**

Casks of provisions (salted mess pork and beef), various types of bottled wine including sauternes, champagne

## **Owner**

1824-?: Salthouse & Co., Liverpool? -1841: Green & Co

## **Master**

Capt. George Brown

## **Weather conditions**

Weather SE force 4 clear.

## **Cause of loss**

Hit reefs off Point Nepean and lost rudder, sank in Port Phillip Bay

## **Statement of significance**

<p>The William Salthouse is one of Victoria's oldest and most important wrecks. It was the first merchant vessel to sail between Canada and Port Phillip and was flouting British Navigation Laws when it did so. It is archaeologically significant for its evidence of ship construction, cargo stowage and cargo types. It is educationally and recreationally significant as the wreck of an intact wooden merchant ship with its early cargo intact.</p> <br /> <p>\*There is a 500m diameter Protected Zone around William Salthouse centred on position - 38.272943, 144.705493 WGS84. No entry is permitted unless a Permit has been authorised by Heritage Victoria.\*</p>

## **VHR history**

After a five month voyage from Canada was wrecked on Eastern Sands. Part of the cargo removed to lighten vessel. After attempting to sail up West Channel, foundered 700 metres north east of Popes Eye. The first merchant vessel to sail from Canada to Australia, just five years after settlement at Port Phillip established, in spite of prohibition of direct trade between British colonies (British Navigation Laws). The William Salthouse had previously traded between Britain and the Carribean, voyaged to Mauritius in 1831, and Batavia and Singapore in 1832.<br /> One death was recorded during the salvage attempts, that of an Aboriginal named William Pidgeon.