

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 13/10/24

BERTHA

Location

Cape Liptrap

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S74

Date lost

08/09/1870

Official number

61036

Construction material

Wood

Hull

Described as a tiny Schooner

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

0.00 / 0.00 / 0.00

Registration Port

Launceston

Date lost

08/09/1870

Departure

Mersey River, Tasmania

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

4 passengers.

Owner

S. Griffith

Master

Captain John Quinn

Weather conditions

Strong gales

Cause of loss

Driven onto reefs in strong gale, vessel struck and capsized.

Passenger comments

Luke Cullen got ashore and reached Yankakie Homestead

Number of crew

5

Statement of significance

<p>This vessel is significant as a representative for a type of vessel. It is likely that this vessel was of Australian construction similar to those that were employed in the intrastate trades and may be of archaeological significance in terms of construction details, however this is difficult to assess due to the location of the site being unknown.</p>

VHR history

In a heavy gale, the master of the schooner Bertha mistook Cape Liptrap for Point Lonsdale and the vessel ran ashore. When the Bertha struck a reef, it capsized, drowning all on board except for one survivor who made it ashore after two hours in the rough sea.

 Mistaking Cape Liptrap for Point Lonsdale, when hove to off the coast in a strong gale, the BERTHA was driven ashore by its master. One survivor, Luke Cullen, got ashore on a hatch cover and reached Yanakie Homestead. The vessel was described as a "tiny schooner".

 VHR: In a heavy gale, the master of the schooner Bertha mistook Cape Liptrap for Point Lonsdale and the vessel ran ashore. When the Bertha struck a reef, it capsized, drowning all on board except for one survivor who made it ashore after two hours in the rough sea.