

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 19/07/24

YARRA

Location

Lady Bay, Warrnambool

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S746

Date lost

23/10/1882

Official number

32019

Hull

One deck and a break, square stern, carvel, billet head.

Number of masts

2

Length/Breadth/Depth

88.30 Feet / 21.70 Feet / 10.00 Feet

Builder

Henry Hargraves

Year of construction

1850

Built port

Hobart, Tasmania

Built country

Australia

Registration Number

31 of 1872

Registration Port

Melbourne

Date lost

23/10/1882

Departure

Newcastle

Destination

Warrnambool

Cargo

193 tons of coal from Newcastle.

Cause of loss

Parted anchors in heavy swell and drifted out of control across Lady Bay, first colliding with the SS Dawn, before grounding east of the jetties. Broke up by the following day.

Statement of significance

<p>The vessel is of historical significance as it was an early Australian built coastal trader constructed during the early 1850s. Due to the unknown location of the wreck it is impossible to assess whether it has any archaeological significance, however it may reveal important information about the construction of these unique vessels.</p>

VHR history

Portland Guardian reports: the Yarra was a Brigantine of 141 tons nett register, and was built at Hobart of blue gum, copper fastened and sheathed with metal, was a slow vessel, but suited very well for the coal trade. At Warrnambool, whilst waiting to discharge coal, anchors parted in heavy swell causing her to drift across Lady Bay out of control, first colliding with SS Darwin before grounding east of the jetties, 23 October, 1882 (Portland Guardian) (see attached atricle). Stone notes that the Yarra was: broke up the following day, and was later dynamited to remove all obstacle (Stone 2006).