

EDINBURGH CASTLE (1863-1888)

A three masted iron barque built in Glasgow, Scotland.

Diving on the Wreck of the *Edinburgh Castle*

The wreck of the *Edinburgh Castle* lies two-thirds of the way around Lady Bay towards Hopkin's River. The site is almost directly seaward of the path leading from Granny's Grave.

The wreck lies in 4-5 metres of water. The sea floor is a soft mobile sand which continuously covers and uncovers the site.

The vessel lies broadside to the beach with the bow pointing south-east towards the river mouth. The wreck covers an area of 30 x 40 metres and includes scattered portions of the ship's hull along with remains of the cargo. A windlass and anchor indicate the position of the bow. A winch seen at the stern was probably used for shifting cargo or for handling the sails.

The remains of concrete cement barrels which the *Edinburgh Castle* was carrying when it sank can also be seen. Over the years, the sea has destroyed the wooden barrels but the cement inside has hardened producing perfect replicas of them.

Dive Standard: Intermediate

Dive Conditions

Divers should take considerable care as the site is prone to heavy surf and the surge is usually strong.

Locating the Wreck of the *Edinburgh Castle*

Launch Site: Lady Bay boat ramp. Head south past the end of the breakwater and then forwards offshore. Beware of the surf zone. There are no underwater hazards but this region is extremely dangerous in any swell.

Chart No: AUS 349
Latitude: 38 24' 15" S
Longitude: 142 29' 58" E

Compass Bearings, through transits:

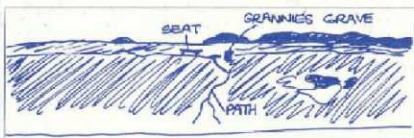
1. West to Flagstaff Hill- 290° (T)
2. North to Granny's grave and track - 020° (T)

Visual Transits

1. West to Flagstaff Hill



2. North to Granny's Grave and track



Similar Wrecks in Victoria

Other wrecks of iron sailing ships included in the Underwater Shipwreck Discovery Trail are the *Eliza Ramsden* (Port Phillip Bay), the *Fiji* (Moonlight Head), *Falls of Hallatdale* (Curdies Point), *George Roper* (Point Lonsdale), *Holyhead* (Point Lonsdale), *Hurricane* (Port Phillip Bay), *La Bella* (Warrnambool), *Loch Ard* (Port Campbell) and *Sierra Nevada* (Portsea Ocean Beach).

Help Protect Our Maritime Heritage

The *Edinburgh Castle* was declared an Historic Shipwreck under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwreck Act (1976) on the 17th January, 1989. Any damage or interference to the *Edinburgh Castle* is an offence under the Act and penalties are severe.

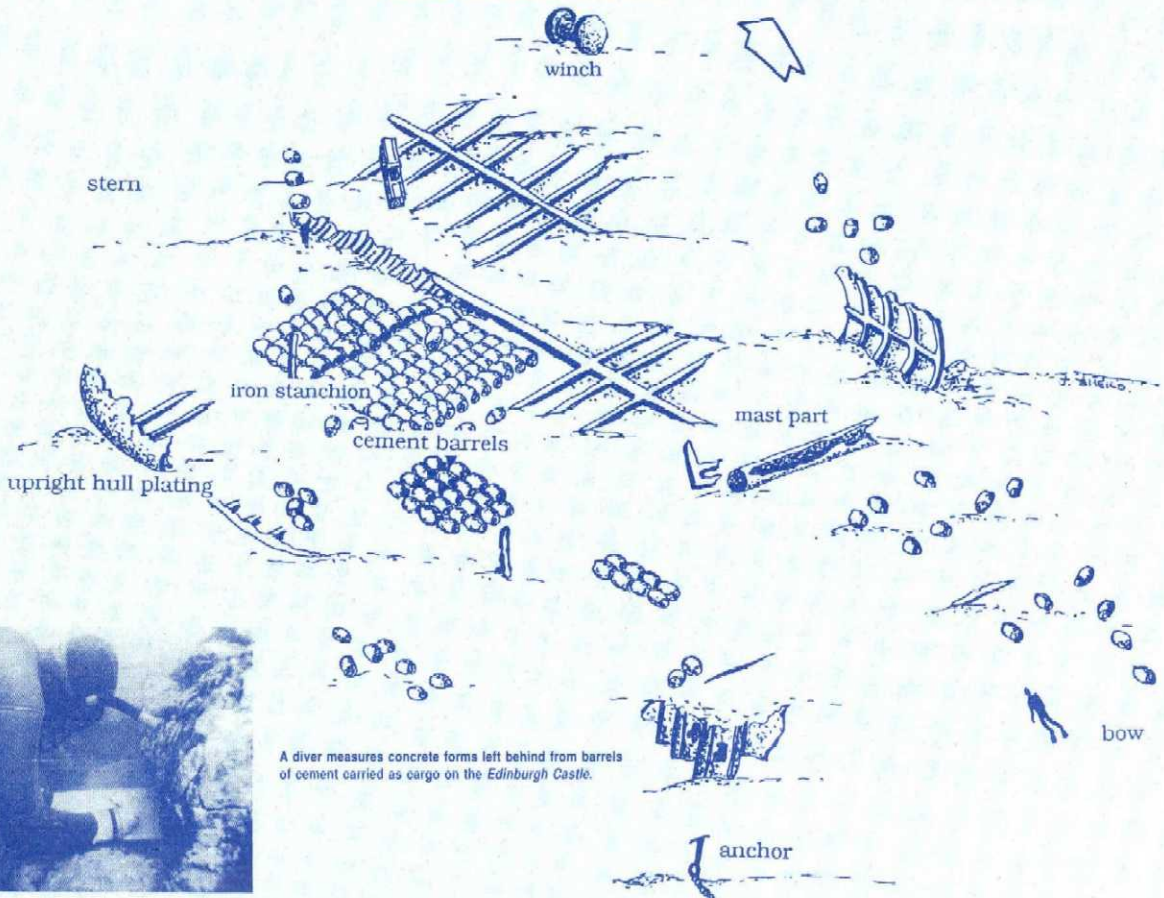
Many wrecks are fragile and require constant monitoring. Divers visiting wreck sites can help the Maritime Archaeology Unit protect and manage Victoria's Historic Shipwrecks by:

- Reporting any damage to wreck sites caused by natural erosion or the activities of divers.
- Reporting artefacts which have become exposed through erosion and are at risk from being washed away or looted.
- Reporting any diver seen actively looting a wreck.
- Informing the Unit of a new wreck site. Divers who find and report a new wreck may be entitled to a reward.

Please contact the Maritime Archaeology Unit at:

Victoria Archaeological Survey
29-31 Victoria Avenue
Albert Park VIC 3206
Telephone: (03) 690 5322

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A diver measures concrete forms left behind from barrels of cement carried as cargo on the Edinburgh Castle.

