

HURRICANE (1853-1869)

A three masted iron clipper built in Scotland. The *Hurricane* was a cargo and passenger ship and had the reputation as a very fast ship.

Diving on the wreck of the *Hurricane*

The remains of the *Hurricane* now lie in nine to twelve metres of water off shore from Rosebud, Port Phillip Bay.

The wreck lies in a seabed of sand, silt and shells. Although the site has been extensively salvaged and appears extremely broken-up, divers can still see obvious features of the *Hurricane* including the capstan, main deck winch and hawsepipes at the bow. The rudder stock and part of the stern structure can be seen facing towards shore. Other wreckage scattered about includes hull plating, deck beams, the ship's frames and the keelson.

The *Hurricane* wreck is an exciting dive for natural history enthusiasts and photographers. The remains of the iron hull have formed an artificial reef and have been colonised by a variety of colourful marine plants and animals including sponges, urchins, starfish and bryozoans. It is also host to parrotfish, rockcod, bullseyes, pike and scalyfins and boarfish. A resident school of over 400 old wives live around the stern and often follow divers exploring the wreck. Around 30 to 40 stingrays also inhabit the wreck site.

Dive Standard: Basic

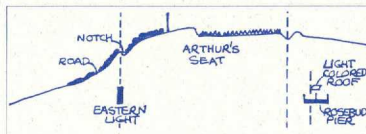
Unfortunately, visibility at the wreck site can easily be reduced by divers disturbing the sandy seabed.

Locating the Wreck of the *Hurricane*

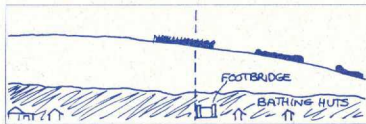
Launch Site: Rosebud Pier
Chart No: AUS 158
Latitude: 38° 20' 58" E
Longitude: 144° 52' 21" S

Visual Transits

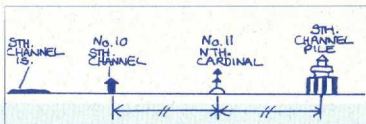
1. Facing East - Eastern Light & left hand edge of conspicuous notch on north side of Arthur's Seat.



2. Facing South East.



3. Facing North West.



Help Protect Our Maritime Heritage

The *Hurricane* was protected as an Historic Shipwreck on 25th October, 1989 under the Victorian Historic Shipwrecks Act (1981). Any damage or interference to the *Hurricane* is an offence under the Act and penalties are severe.

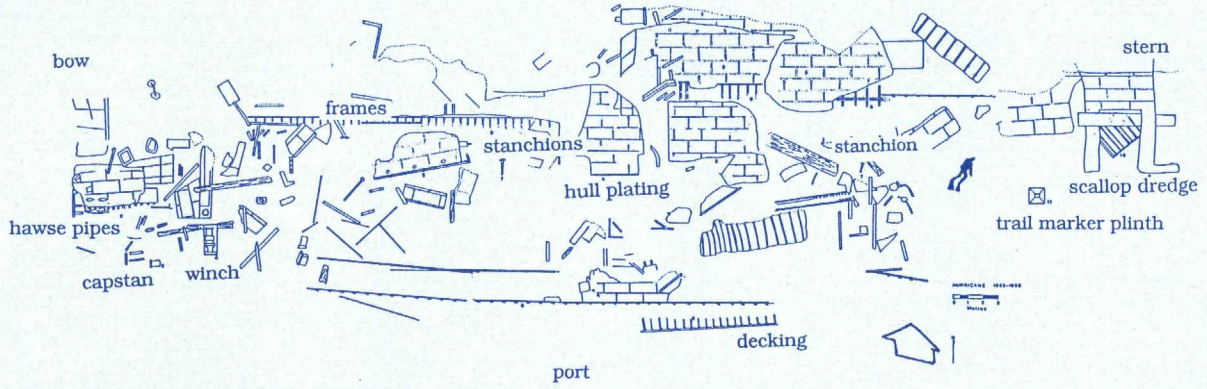
Many wrecks are fragile and require constant monitoring. Divers visiting wreck sites can help the Maritime Archaeology Unit protect and manage Victoria's historic shipwrecks by:

- Reporting any damage to wrecksites 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 looting.
- 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:

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

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An iron frame protrudes from the sea bed