

SCHOMBERG (1855-1855)

A three masted wooden clipper built in Aberdeen for James Baine's Black Ball Line. The *Schomberg* was a luxurious immigrant ship and on its first voyage when it sank.

Diving on the Wreck of the *Schomberg*

The remains of the *Schomberg* now lie in nine metres of water south-east of *Schomberg Rock* off Peterborough. The wreck runs north-south along a reef, with its bow to the north.

The site is badly broken up and heavily concreted. Small artefacts such as buttons, and shoe and belt buckles are cemented into a matrix of limestone.

No hull structure is visible but divers can see a large number of railway tracks which lie lengthways following the contours of the reef. Large railway girders are also visible.

Large iron tanks, iron pots, a mast and deck stanchions can be seen at the wreck site and are marked on the site plan.

The site is covered by various seaweeds and plenty of reef fish now inhabit the wreck.

Dive standard: Intermediate

Dive Conditions

South-easterly and southerly winds expose the wreck to dangerous swells making diving unpleasant and anchorage unsafe.

Locating the Wreck of the *Schomberg*

Launch Site: Launch at Port Campbell jetty and proceed west towards Peterborough until the white water tower comes into view. Boats can be launched at the Bay of Islands but the boat ramp is very steep and a 4 WD is necessary when launching boats from this ramp.

Chart No.: AUS 349

Latitude: 38 37'00" S

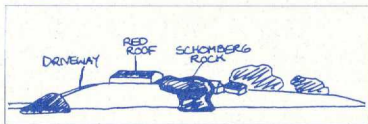
Longitude: 142 53'18" E

Compass Bearings:

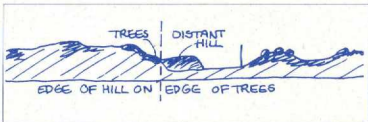
1. White Tower 300° 20' (T)
2. South edge of Schomberg Rock 310° 20' (T)
3. Headland 100° 20' (T)

Visual Transits

1. West towards Peterborough. Line up Schomberg rock with roof.



2. East towards Port Campbell.



Similar Wrecks in Victoria

The wreck of the *Empress of the Sea* is another example of a luxurious and fast immigrant ship included in the Underwater Shipwreck Discovery Trail. The *Empress of the Sea* lies in Port Phillip Bay.

Help Protect Our Maritime Heritage

The *Schomberg* was protected as a Historic Shipwreck on 11th March 1982 under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act (1976). Any damage, disturbance or interference to the *Schomberg* or any other historic shipwreck is an offence under the Act and penalties are severe.

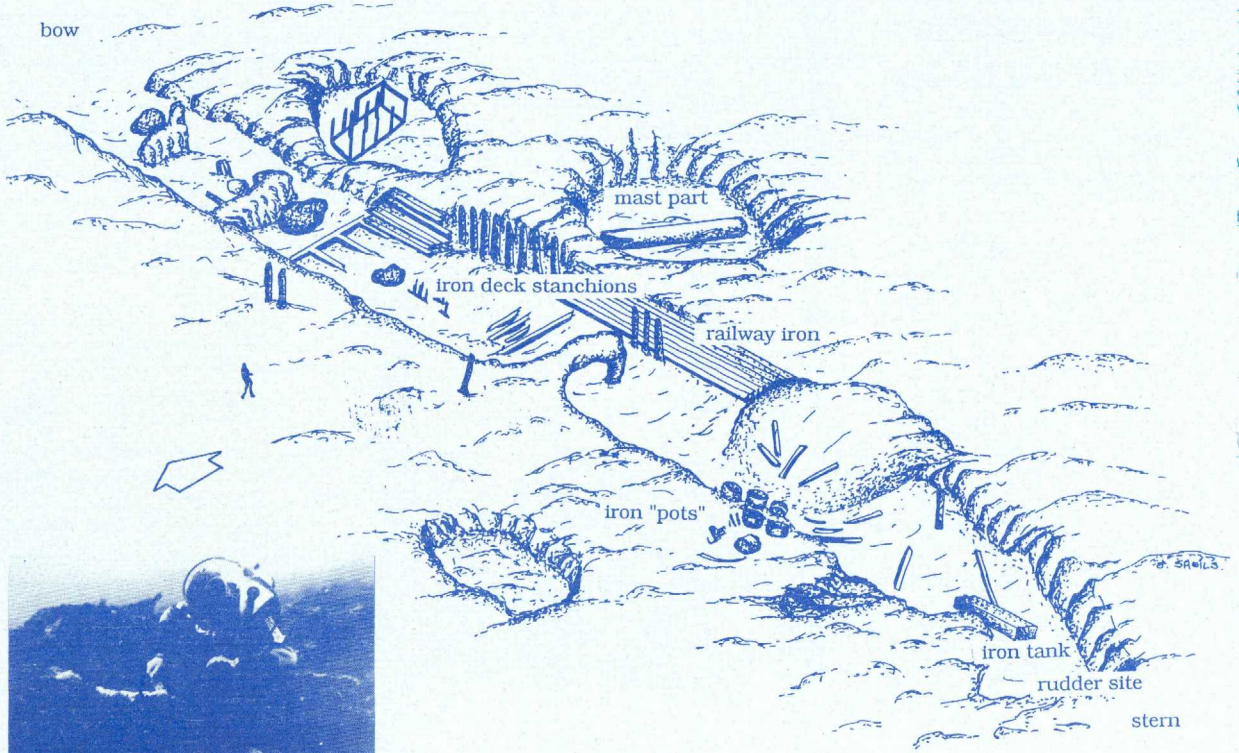
Many wrecks are fragile and require constant monitoring. Divers visiting wreck sites can help the Maritime Archaeology Unit protect and manage Victoria's Historic Shipwrecks by:

- 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 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:

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

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Diver next to large unidentified iron "pots" at the wreck site.