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# Shark Bay World Heritage Notes



ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT OFFICE, DENHAM, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## WRECKS OF SHARK BAY

### The Zuytdorp - 1712

The Zuytdorp was wrecked in 1712 on a voyage from Holland to Batavia. It was carrying a cargo of coins, lead and other goods. It is believed that the ship was driven against the coast by a strong north-westerly gale. It is probable that some of the people on board reached the shore and set up camp. Many objects from the ship have been found on land near the wreck site.

### Paul Pry - 1839

The Paul Pry was lost at the commencement of George Grey's expedition to explore the North West. While loading supplies from the beach at Bernier Island, the whale boat was rolled over in the heavy surf and broke up completely.

### Perseverant - 1841

The French whaler, Perseverant was a 273 tonne ship with two decks. In 1841 it is believed that during a severe gale, the vessel was driven ashore on Dirk Hartog Island. The crew abandoned the ship and set up camp on the island. Five men died of scurvy before the survivors set sail for Java in four of the ship's small boats. In 1851 Captain Ashley, the master of a gaoon ship, reported seeing fragments of wreckage soon after he came around Cape Inscription, but it is not known whether the wreckage was from the Perseverant.

### Macquarie - 1878

The 127 tonne British brigantine Macquarie was wrecked on Levillian Shoal in November 1878. The ship struck due to poor visibility and the captain was not at fault. No lives were lost.

### Gudrun - 1901

The Gudrun was a Norwegian whaling barque of 992 tonnes. It was wrecked on Peron Flats when sailing from Bunbury to Falmouth, England with a cargo of timber. The vessel had been deliberately scuttled (sunk) by the ship's carpenter. The ship's figurehead was found on Peron Flats and was donated to the Fremantle Maritime Museum. After being partly restored it was put on display in the Museum, a replica is on display at the Shark Bay World Heritage Discovery Centre in Denham. The wreck and the area around it has been declared a flora and fauna reserve.

### Two Sons - 1902

The 16 tonne cutter Two Sons sank while sailing from Flint Cliff (Hamelin Pool) to Denham with a cargo of sandalwood. The position of the wreck is unknown.

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**Beagle – 1904**

The 22 tonne cutter was wrecked at Cape Inscription, Dirk Hartog Island.

**Secret – 1904**

The Secret was a 19 tonne vessel which foundered near Faure Island. A wreck has been discovered which may prove to be the Secret.

**Unnamed Lighter – 1906**

This 51 tonne lighter was wrecked off White Point landing, Dorre Island.

**Genesta – 1909**

The Fisheries Department vessel Genesta was wrecked off Dorre Island.

**Olive – 1916**

The 43 tonne cutter drifted onto a sand bank on Dorre Island and became a total loss.

**Two friends – 1925**

This 15 tonne fishing boat was lost with all hands near Peron Peninsula. The location of the wreck is not known.

**HMAS Sydney – 1941**

The HMAS Sydney sank with all hands on 19 November 1941 in a naval battle with the German raider, Kormoran. It is believed to lie somewhere off the coast of Shark Bay. The ship has not been found.

**Kormoran – 1941**

The German auxiliary cruiser, Kormoran was scuttled somewhere off the coast of Shark Bay on 20 November 1941 after the battle with HMAS Sydney. The ship has not been found.

**Kormoran Lifeboat**

One of the lifeboats from Kormoran was eventually purchased by the owners of Carrarang Station at Shark Bay and used to transport wool. Its remains can still be seen at Carrarang Landing.

**Era – 1958**

The fishing boat Era, a former racing yacht, sunk in South Passage near Monkey Rock. It was a total wreck.