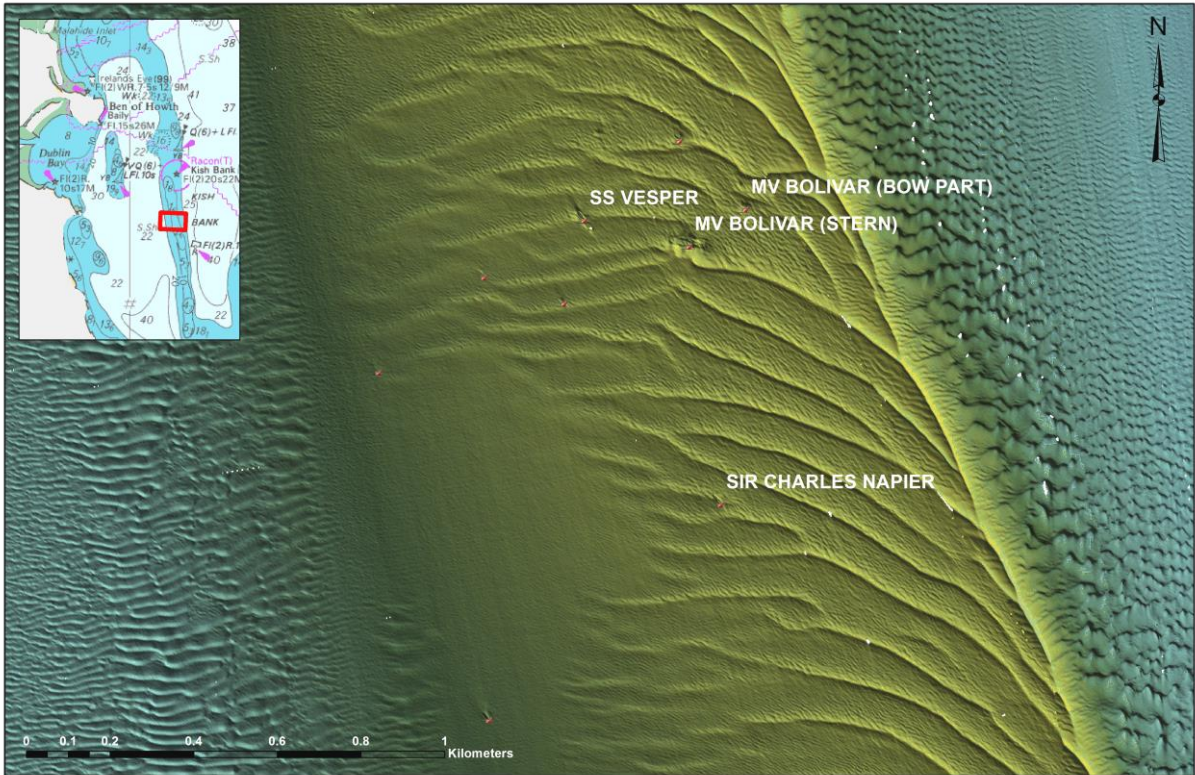
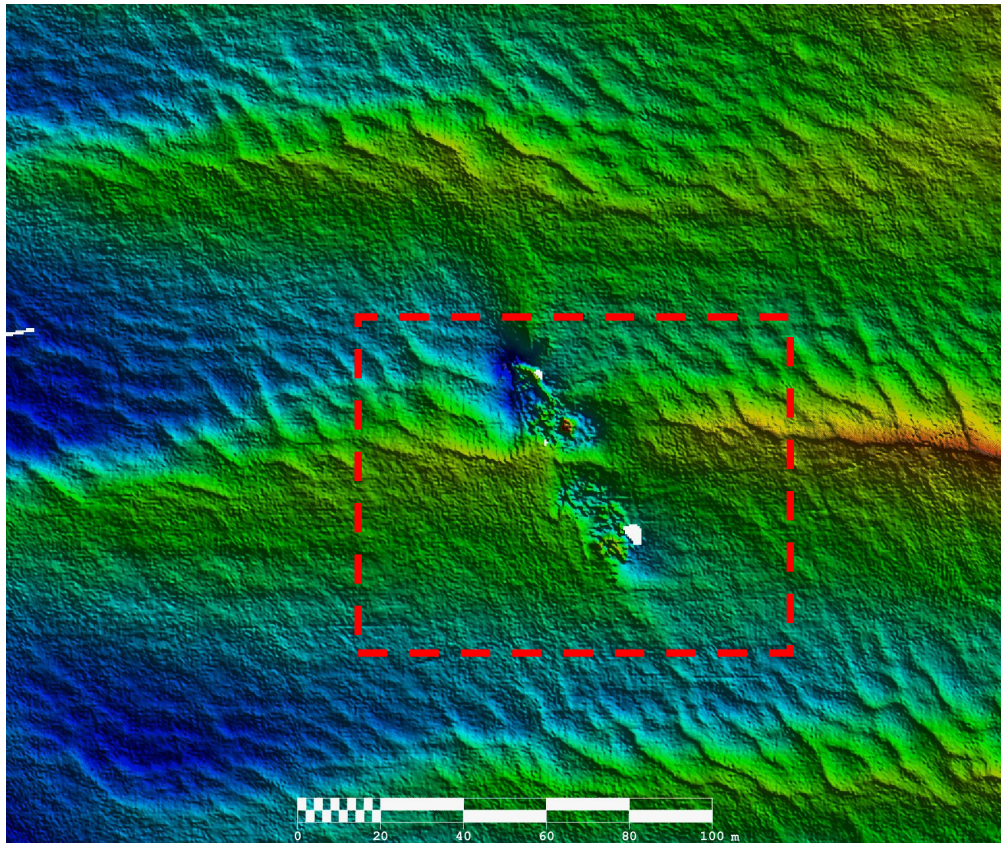


WRECK IMAGERY



Above, the location of the SS *Vesper* east of Dalkey Island, Co Dublin and below an image of the SS *Vesper* taken from the shaded relief bathymetry acquired during INFOMAR survey KRY10_01, Kish Bank and Dublin Bay.



LOCATION

Location 10km E of Dalkey Island

Coordinates -05° 55' 46.58" W
53° 16' 05.74" N

Depth of Water 8.6 m

VESSEL INFORMATION

Vessel type Cargo vessel

Flag British

Vessel Dimensions 170 m (l), 26 m (b), 14 m (d)

Date of building 1866

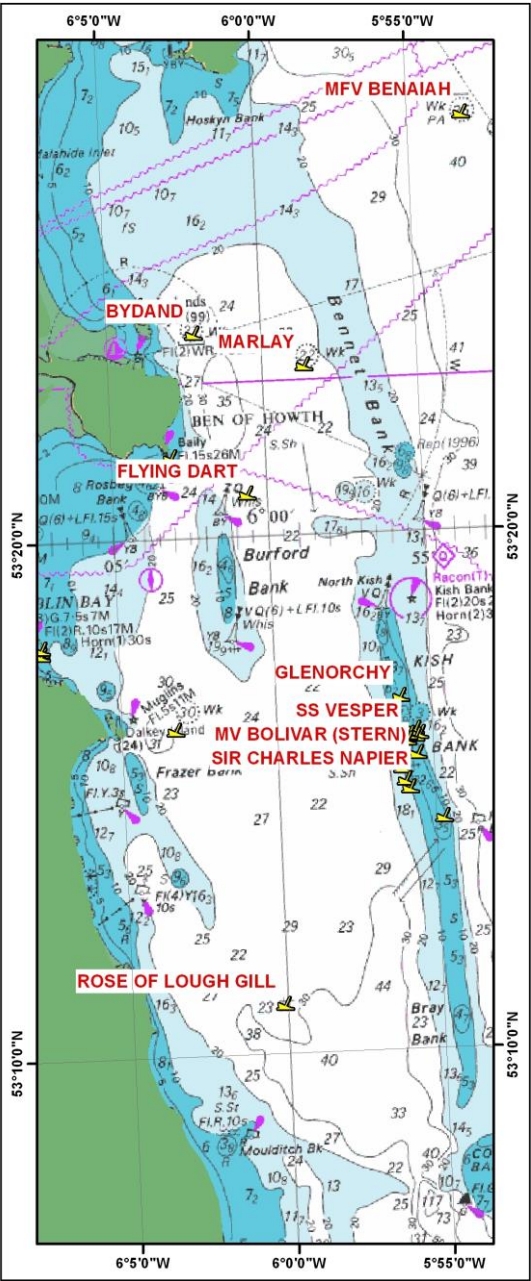
DETAILS OF SINKING

The *Vesper* left Glasgow on 11th January 1876, en route to Dunkirk in Belgium, carrying 600 tonnes of coal and sugar. All was going well until the early hours of the morning of 13th January, when the vessel struck the Kish Bank and became stranded. Signals of distress fired by the stricken vessel were not responded to and after a number of unsuccessful attempts to get the steamer off the sandbank; the vessel began to break in two. After three failed attempts to launch the lifeboats, the ship's captain and crew of 16 eventually managed to launch a lifeboat and landed safely at Killiney, Co. Dublin.



An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

SS *VESPER*



INFOMAR WRECK
INFORMATION SHEET 20

VESSEL HISTORY

The *Vesper* was a 478-ton (gross tonnage) iron merchant steamer of Hartlepool, built in Dundee by Barclay Curle & Company, with a nominal horse-power of 60. Benjamin R. Huntley of Hartlepool was one of the vessel's owners.

DIVE INFORMATION

The wreck of the SS *Vesper* lies in a general sea depth of 8m and measures 54m in length, 9m in width and 2.27m in maximum height. The vessel lies on a sandy seabed, orientated N–S, with its stern to the N. The southern end of the wreck is mostly buried, but the outlines of the stern and of the boiler area are visible. The bow and focs'le area are the most prominent parts of the wreck and stand largely intact and proud of the seabed, with anchors and winches visible.

Wrecks over 100 years old and archaeological objects found underwater are protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Acts 1987 and 1994. Significant wrecks less than 100 years old can be designated by Underwater Heritage Order (UHO) on account of their historical, archaeological or artistic importance

As the SS *Vesper* is over 100 years old, it is protected and a license is required to dive the site which can be obtained from:

<https://www.archaeology.ie/licences/dive-survey-licence>

ABOUT INFOMAR

Covering some 125,000 square kilometres of underwater territory, INFOMAR (the **IN**tegrated Mapping **FO**r the Sustainable Development of Ireland's **MAR**ine Resource) project will produce integrated mapping products covering the physical, chemical and biological features of the seabed. INFOMAR will initially focus on 26 priority bays and three priority areas around the coast delivering: hydrographic maps, illustrating everything from sandbars to underwater canyons and cliffs; seabed classification maps showing the type of sediment on the seabed. INFOMAR provides key baseline data to support coastal and inshore development. Making this information available to the world aims to stimulate research and development of Ireland's 220 million acres under the sea. The data will be of interest to fisheries managers, aquaculture operators, coastal zone managers and engineers, offshore engineering interests, licensing authorities and those carrying out environmental impact assessments. Indeed this unique dataset is of interest in its own right because of the sheer volume of data collected

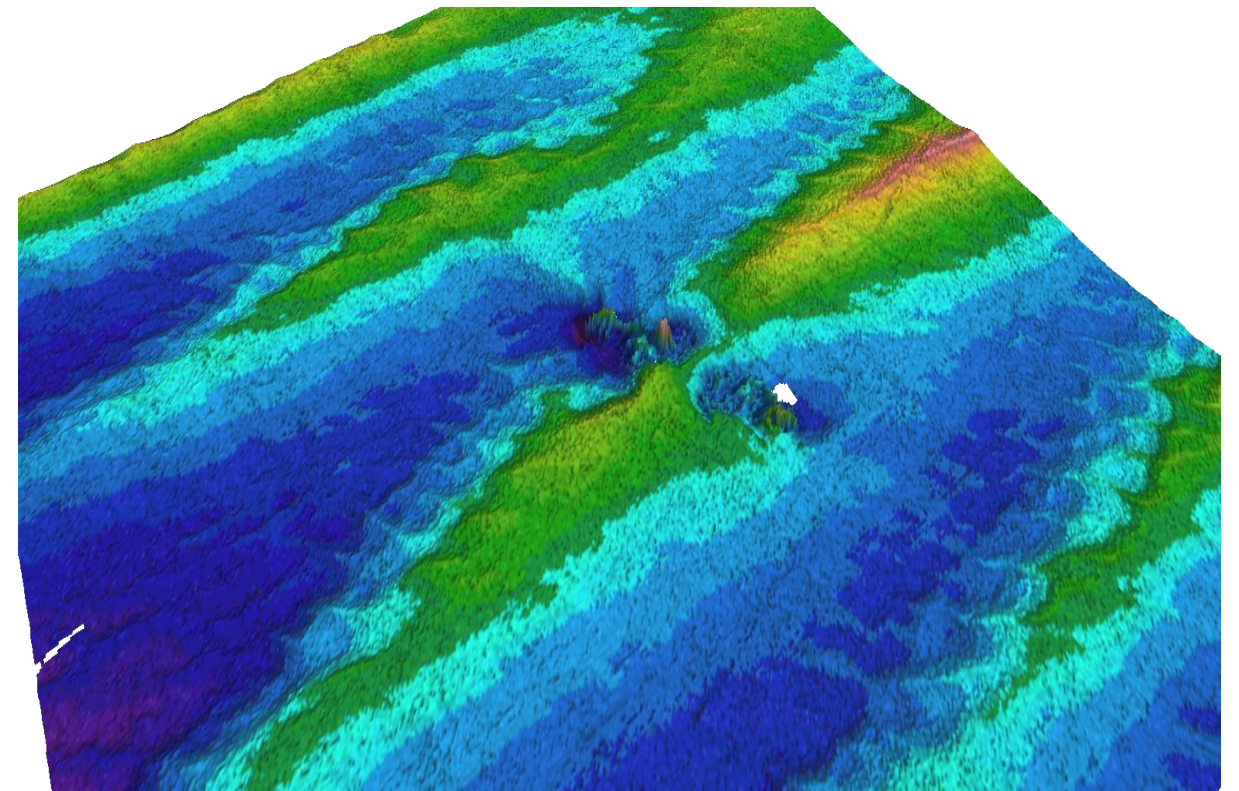
FURTHER READING/REFERENCES

www.infomar.ie

<https://www.archaeology.ie/underwater-archaeology>

www.irishwrecksonline.net

WRECK IMAGERY



Above a 3D image of the SS *Vesper* using Fledermaus 3D visualisation software and below an image of both the SS *Vesper* (foreground) and the MV *Bolivar* lying just north

