# Survey report

# Ship "Warre" of Hull

#### **Position:**

Baltic Sea - Lithuania, Klaipeda

### Survey date:

21.06.2020 24.06.2020

#### **Author:**

Holger Buss Andrey Govorov

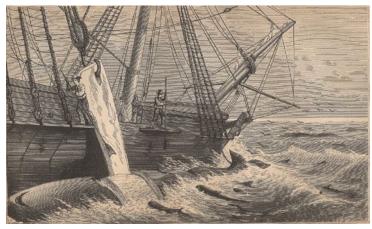
#### Version:

July, 15th 2020



Sample picture (source)

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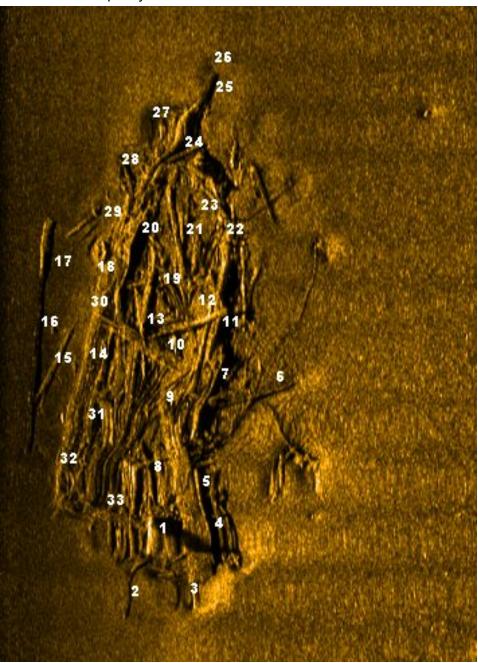
Whale fishing sample picture (source)

# Introduction

In this survey report, the wreckage of a wooden ship in the Baltic Sea near Klaipeda (Lithuania) is described. The discovery of the bell by the team of the 'Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project' in 2020 allowed the identification as "Warre", built 1802 in Hull (Great Britain). The ship was driven ashore due to wind and ice at Memel on 11th April 1823. It sunk on the next day.

# Description of the Wreck

Wooden ship with various copper nails. The site of the wreck has the dimension of 41m \* 21m. The main construction of the ship is fallen into many pieces. The shape of the ship is barely recognizable. The oak wood itself is in quite good condition. The frames and the planks are connected with many copper nails and massive copper rods. No copper plates were found. Several wooden pulleys were found.



Sidescan of the wreck



Rudder steven at the stern

#2



#3



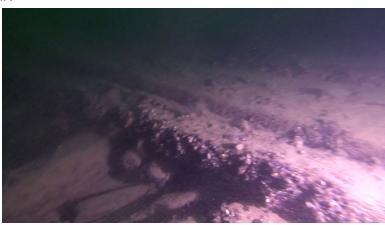


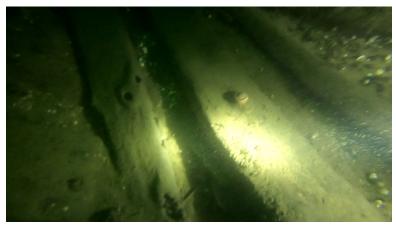


#6



#7







#10



#11







#14



#15



#16





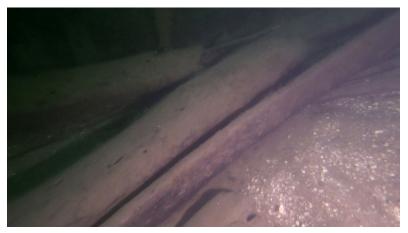
#18



#19



#20





#22



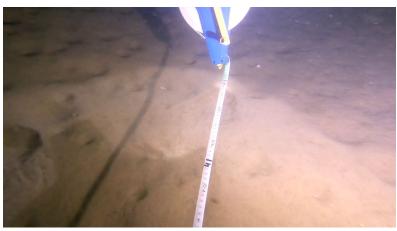
#23







#26



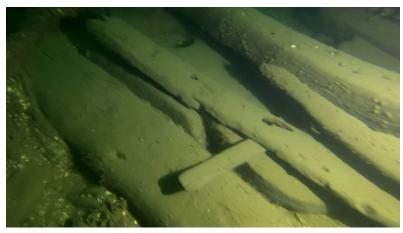
#27







#30



#31







#34



Probably an oil boiler



Massive copper rods / connectors

# Video of the Wreck

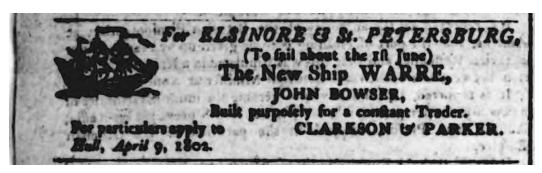


https://youtu.be/CGSFIUtq3d0

#### History of the Ship:

The oak wooden sailing ship was built in 1802 in Hull near Kingston (Great Britain). Measured per register: 328 87-94 tons, square stern with two flush decks, coppered on wood sheathing and copper-fastened. She had a draft of 15 feet and in was classed as A1 by Lloyds. It was originally built as a cargo ship for the East West India Trades and general purposes. 1802-1808 the most Journeys were between England and St. Peterborough (Russia) with cargo like iron, wood, tallow and wheat. In 1808 she was at Gibraltar. 1811 the ship was equipped with fishing gears and oil boilers for the whale-fishery. The Ship started 12th of May 1812 for the South Seas for whale fishing with Captain John Kenney. The vessel was at the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) on 1st June 1813. W.Sharp was involved in the costs of the whale fishing equipment and lend them 'divers sums of money'. This ended in a trial and Sharp and Clarkson, Parker & co. went bankrupt. The ship came back in 1814 with 300 tons of whale oil and 6 tons of whale bones. 1814 the Warre was sold by auction and stopped the whaling activities. She made larger journeys like 1817 to St. Kitts (Caribbean), 1819 to Jamaica and brought Mahogany from Honduras in 1822. Several advertisements for traveling with the "Warre" can be found in the historical newspapers. After that she traveled again between England and St. Peterborough (Baltic sea). On April 12th 1823 the ship sunk near Memel (Today: Klaipeda, Lithuania).

Captains: John Bowser, John Kenney from London



First appearance in newspapers: April 9th 1802

The ship changed the owners guite often. John Bowser, Clarkson, Parker and Robinson, Easingwood, Thomas Trader, T. Flint, J, Murray were some of the owners. 1823: Last owner: J, Murray

#### Warre

Clarkson Capt. J. Kenney 327

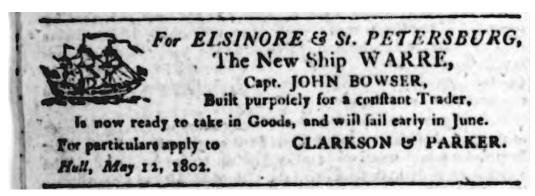
A ship built in Hull in 1802. Employed in the South Sea Whale Fishery in 1813-14, returning in December 1813 This vessel is recorded by the Society of Merchants, but not in Lloyds Register, and several details are identical or similar to those of Vere (2)

Book: Ships employed in the South Sea Whale Fishery from Britain: 1775-1815 by Jane M Clayton

#### Journeys

#### 1802 First Journey to St. Petersburg

The first Journey was from Hull (Great Britain) to St.Petersburg (Russia). They left in June from Hull.



Source: Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette - Saturday 15 May 1802

On October 15th, they started from Petersburg back to Hull with a load of 'tallow':

Howe Lamb.	Memel	London	Balks
Warre, Bowfer	Ditto	Hull	Tallow
Lord Nelfon, Lee	Peteriburg	1. ndon	Iron-
Sarah. Spotfwood	Dantzig	Leith	Wheat
Profpect, Cram	Memel	Newcalle	Timber
15. Liberry, Clark	Ditto	Memel	Ditto

Source: Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette - Saturday 30 October 1802

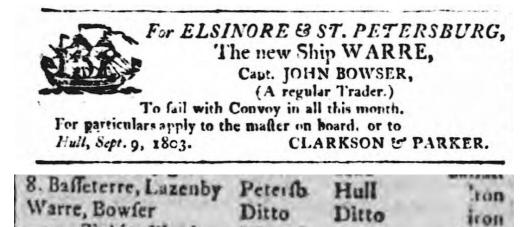
They were back at Hull November 6th:



Source: Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette - Saturday 13 November 1802

#### 1803 Baltic Sea

In **1803** the 'Warre' did similar journeys with iron as cargo. They sailed with convoy.



Hull Packet - Tuesday 23 August 1803



# For ELSINEUR & St. PETERSBURG, The WARRE.

JOHN BOWSER, Mafter,

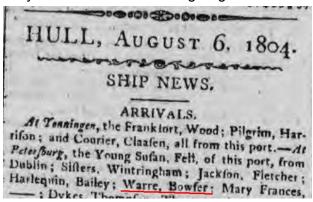
To fail with the Convoy succeeding that appointed for Apply to CLARKSON & PARKER.

WHO HAVE ON SALE,
Red and White Wood St. Petersburg DEALS.

Hell, May 2, 1804.

(One property.)

They arrived in St. Petersburg August 6th



#### 1805 Baltic Sea

On April 23rd 1805 the 'Warre' sailed from London to Riga.

23. Warre, Easingwood London Riga ballist Silver Eel, Stephenson Ditto Menel dien

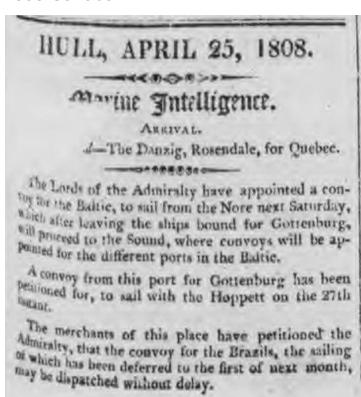
Source: Hull Packet - Tuesday 14 May 1805

It was the first journey under the master "Easingwood"

Moxon, Rayner Riga Hull wheat Robert, Fothergill Stockholm Ditto iron 15. Warre, Eusingwood Riga Ditto wheat

June 15th, the Warre left Riga for Hull with a cargo of wheat. In October 1805 they were again in St. Petersburg

#### 1808 Canada



The Hope, Featherstone, for Madeira; Douro, Stephenson, and Faith, Featherstone, for Surinam, all of this port, are in the West-India fleet; and the Warre, Easingwood, in that for Halifax.

Hull Packet - Tuesday 26 April 1808

https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000062/18080426/010/0003

#### SHIP NEWS.

The Warre, Fasingwood, of this port, arrived at Portsmouth, from New Brunswick, on Sunday se'nnight, with timber for the Dock-Yard, under convoy of the Medusa frigate. The remainder of the fleet, it was expected, have put into the Western ports.

Hull Packet - Tuesday 01 November 1808

#### 1809 Mediterranean sea

In January 1809 the vessel was driven in the harbour of Portsmouth due to strong gale

Several Vessels were driven from their moorings in the River during the Gale last night, and received considerable damage.

Porrsmouth, 30. "The whole of this day it has blown a tremendous Gale from the WSW; we fear much damage has been done at Spithead, &c. A large Transport Brig is on shore on the Horse. tollowing Vessels have run into the Harbour with less of Anchors and Cables: viz. The Metcalf, Kirkus; the John, Spring; the Warre, Easingwood; the Lord Nelson, Bill; the Differt, Sharp; the Venus, Self; a Brig marked BF, and and another Brig marked 53 .- 7 P. M. the Gale increases."

Lloyd's List - Tuesday 31 January 1809

Journey to Gibraltar

# Kinaston-uvon-Bull.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

At Gibraltar-The Success, Hesletine, from this port ; Warre, Eningwold, from Portsmouth; Scarthingwell, -, and Farnley, Hirrdon, from Ma ta. The Land Court Come allie

And back to Portsmouth

# Kingston-upon-unu

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

At Palermo, on the 14th July-The Vigilant, Clifford, from this port. In the Merfey-The Isabella, Meek, of this port, from Bahia. At Partsmouth-The Warre transport, Ealingwood, from Gibraltar.

1811 - 1814 Whale fishing in Southern seas

June 1st 1813 in Cape of Good Hope (South Africa)

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE arr. from June 1 Warre, Kenny London

https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015005785830&view=1up&seg=180&g1=Warre

#### 1813 Trial

There was a trial between 'Sharp', and C.P.&Co regarding cargo of oil obtained by the whale-fishery. Sharp got bankrupt October 1812 and C&P got bankrupt in January 1813. The ship returned with the oil in December 1813

#### COURT OF CHANCERY.

EX PARTE THE ASSIGNEES OF ROBINSON AND CO. IN THE MATTER OF SHARPE AND SONS,

Mr. Hart stated, this was a motion on the behalf of the assignees of Robinson and Co. that his Lordship would direct the following issues, which he had made a minute of. He was confident that his Lordship must recollect the case, as he made an order on it so late as the 7th of March, on the petition of Capt. Kenney and the crew of the ship Warre, South Sea whaler, that a receiver might be appointed, and that they might receive their aliquot ratios. The circumstances were, that when the ship was fitted out she belonged to Robinson, Clarke, and Co. and they assigned her registry over to Sharpe and Sons; and both parties having become bankrupts, the Captain refused to deliver the cargo or ship to either. The issues he would propose would put the question at rest, viz. Whether Sharpe and Sons were in possession of the ship at the time of their bankruptcy? He was of opinion that the Act of 21 James II. would put an end to the question; but, if the Court and Jury were of a different opinion, then the second issue would be to try, whether it was the property of Robinson and Co.? The third issue would be, to try who the implements necessary for carrying on the fishery belonged to? And the fourth issue, to try whether the assignees of Robinson and Co. were entitled to the outlits of the ship? He (the Learned Counsel) was not aware there could be any objection to this motion.

Sir S. Romilly, on the other side, said, that actions had been already brought, which had in contemplation all that was asked for, which would make the issues altogether unnecessary, and it had not been stated they had foregone those actions. He then contended, that his Lordship had no jurisdiction, as the original application was to appoint a receiver to prevent the cargo of oil

from wasting.

Mr. Leach, on the same side, contended, that, if the issues were granted, it would make a considerable difference to his clients, as it would make them plaintiffs instead of defendants.

Mr. Hart-" Our idea was originally to have brought in action of trover against Kenney, the Captain.

The Lord Chancellor—" That was forgotten, for you have brought it against the assignees of Sharpe."

Mr. Hart—" If we admit the cargo to be in their

possession, it would prevent my clients from sustaining their action.

The Lord Chancellor-" As to Kenney's lien, it raight be put in the issue, that the claim should not be

Mr. Hart-" We were never out of possession, for Kenney was our servant."

The Lord Chancellor-" I would recommend you to apply to some Special Pleader belonging to the Courts low, to know how an action would day; I will give you an opportunity of mentioning it again."

Farther consideration postponed.

EX-PARTE KENNEY, IN THE MATTER OF THE SAME.

Mr. Agar moved that Mr. Gammon, who had been appointed by the Court receiver of the proceeds of the cargo of the ship Warre, should pay into the Bank of Lingland the fourteenth part of it, being the proportion d Capt. Kenney. He looked on this as a motion of carry, as there could be no difficulty in ascertaining the abund ratios.

Mr. Bell stated, he had a similar motion on the part

of Mr. Israel Moses, who was the purchaser of seamens'

The Lord Chamedor of should like to see the assignment; for it often happens, that sailors do all the service, and Jews get all the money for their labour.'

Sir S. Romilly—" This Israel Moses does not even venture to assert who the assignments are from. I trust

your Lordship will require further evidence."
Mr. Agar—" I have seen the assignments, and they premise to give up to the parties any sum that may be

received, above that advanced, bearing interest."

The Lord Chancellor—" We must always look at those kind of causes with suspicion. It is my judicial duty to protect scamen, as well as any other of his Ma-jesty's subjects. I only recollect one case where a circumstance of this kind was honestly executed: it was an Attorney at Portsmouth, who went on board a ship

of war, to draw up a sailor's will; all the sailors insisted he should perform the same for them, and they made him their general legatee. The ship and all on board were lost at sea; the Attorney went to Doctors' Commons, proved the wills, but gave up his right as legatee. You must, Mr. Agar, produce those assignments, before I can think of making an order."-Motion

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser - Thursday 23 June 1814

#### More details of the trial:

https://books.google.de/books?id=w Q2AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA349&lpg=PA349&dg=ship+warre+of+ hull&source=bl&ots= t0vLe6Vfd&sig=ACfU3U3S7xZJKwS3S8AWT 5VzglEoMs22A&hl=en&sa=X &ved=2ahUKEwi2ts DzprqAhUUw8QBHdKhBMUQ6AEwCnoECAlQAQ#v=onepage&q=ship%20 warre%20of%20hull&f=false

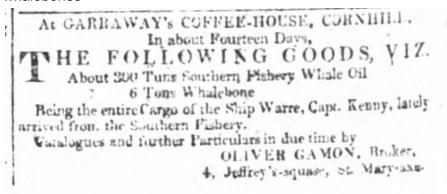
(1816), 5 M. & S. 228; Holt, N. P. 612, n.; 105 E. R. 1034; subsequent proceedings, sub nom. Re SHIP WARRE, Re ROBINSON, CLARKSON & PARKER, Re Sharps (1817), 8 Price, 269, n.

Annotations:—Refd. Hay v. Fairbairn (1818), 2 B. & Ald. 193; Monkhouse v. Hay (1820), 8 Price, 256; Kirkley v. Hodgson (1823), 1 B. & C. 588. Mentd. Curtis v. Auber (1820), 1 Jac. & W. 526; Duck v. Braddyll (1824), M'Cle. 217; Doe d. Kettle v. Lewis (1830), 10 B. & C. 673; Douglas v. Russell (1831), 4 Sim. 524; Leslie v. Guthrie (1835), 1 Bing. N. C. 697; Metcalfe v. York (Archbp.) (1836), 1 My. & Cr. 547; Parry v. Deere (1836), 2 Har. & W. 395; Re Daniel, Ex p. Ashby (1855), 25 L. T. O. S. 188; Holroyd v. Marshall (1862), 10 H. L. Cas. 191; Morris v. Delobbel-Flipo, [1892] 2 Ch. 352.

https://www.ebookarchive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.216497/page/n449/mode/2up?q=warre

#### 1814 Back from Southern Seas

In February 1814 the ship was back from whale fishing with 300 tons of whale oil and 6 tons of whalebones



Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser - Friday 25 February 1814

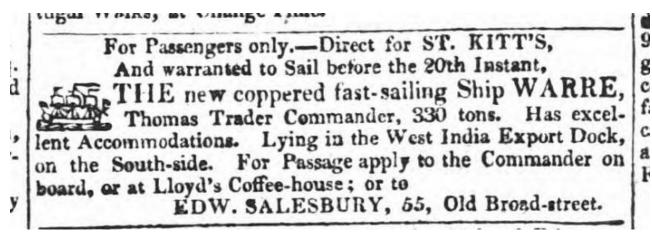
1814: Sold by Auction

In April 1814 the Ship was sold. This was the announcement in the Newspaper:

By Order of the Assignees of Messrs. George Sharpe and Sons, At the LONDON COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, Orr WEDNESDAY, May 4, at Two precisely, THE Ship WARRE, British built, of oak, measures per register 323 87-94 tons, square stern, with two flush decks, coppered on wood sheathing, and copperfastened; is a strong, well built, burthensome vessel, and is well found in good stores. She sails fast, has just delivered a cargo in gond order from the South Seas; and is admirably adapted for the Fishery, the East or West India Trades, or for general purposes, John Kenney, Master. Lying at the upper end of the Commercial Pock, Rotherhithe.-Inventories may be had on board, at the place of sale, and of SMITH, MARTEN, SMITH, and Co. 9, America-square. A Blue and White Flag at the Mast-head. At the LONDON COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS, On WEDNESDAY, May 4, immediately after the sale of the Ship Warre, TER WHALING STORES, consisting of Fishing Gear, Oil Boilers, &c. &c. about 14 Fathoms Firewood, and 5 Bolts of Canvas. Lying in the Commercial Dock, Rotherhithe.-Also a quantity of Deal Ends and Batters, 23 Oak Planks, 4 Kegs with Tar, ex Bornevennen. Lying on the West, Quay of the Basin, London Docks. May be seen three days previously to the sale, at the places above expressed, where Catalogues may be had, at the place of SMITH, MARTEN, SMITH, and Co. sale, and of (Vine-street), America-square.

Published: 28th Apr 1814 in the newspaper: Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser

#### 1817 From London to St. Kitts (Caribbean)



Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser - Saturday 22 February 1817

1818 St. Petersburg

Sailed yesterday the Warre, Trader, for St. Petersburgh Arrived and sailed for the River, the Caroline, Challe from St. Kitt's; Lord Duncan, Stephenson, from Otothe, Earl Filzwilliam, Story, from Jamaica; Shannon, Fanlance, from Dominica; Duckenfield, Purdy, from Jamaica; and Egfred, Kirby, from Bengal.

Globe - Saturday 27 June 1818

1819 Jamaica

The Warre, Trader, arrived in the Downs from Jamaica, sailed about 31st March. On the 2d ult. Cape Nicholas bearing East distant 20 leagues, was fallen in with by the Oronoco, Capt. Joly, a Cruizer, belonging to Adml. Bryon's Squadron, which overhauled the papers. On the 22d lat. 40. 20. lon. 54. 59. spoke the Columbus, Smith, from London; and on 3d inst. lat. 45. 54. lon. 17. 06, Norfolk, London to Quebec.

Lloyd's List - Friday 14 May 1819

1822 With Mahogany from Honduras to Hull

### MAHOGANY.

THE WARRE, Capt. FLINT, is arrived with a Cargo of Fine HONDURAS MAHOGANY, which will be offere for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, as soon as it is Landed, of which further Particulars and the Day of Sale will be given in a future Advertisement Hull, July 6, 1822. RICHARD TOTTIE.

Hull Advertiser and Exchange Gazette - Friday 12 July 1822

In October 1822 it was again in St. Peterburg

# KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1822.

In the River St. Lawrence, on the 28th Aug. - The Hercules, Brighan, from Whitby to Quebec.

At Oporto—The Anlaby, Overion, from this port.

At Petersburg—The Gleadow, Bean; Wolga, Brown; X.L.,

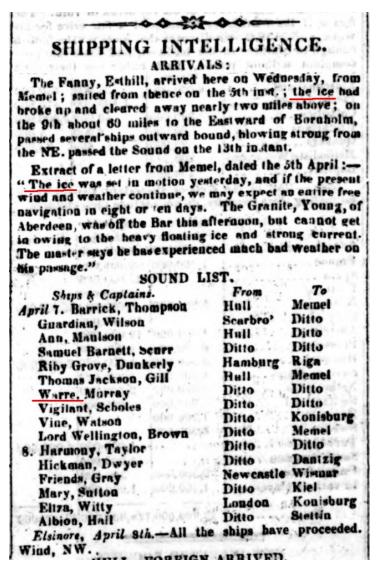
Bell; Fides, Gill; Barrick, Jameson; Thomas Jackson, Gill;

Alexander, Bilton; Maida, Estell; Warre, Murray; Rambler,

### Last Journey: Hull to Memel 1823

In April 1823, the Warre, together with several ships from Hull arrived at Memel. They had a strong NW wind. Because of 'heavy floating ice and strong current' the weren't able to enter the harbor.

"5th April: The ice was set in motion yesterday, and if present wind and weather continues, we may expect an entire free navigation in eight or ten days."



Hull Packet - April 1823

https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000062/18230428/019/0003

### The fait: sinking on 12th April 1823

Memel, April 12 1823:

Yesterday several vessels attempted to come in with fresh Northerly breeze, but when in the narrow, where the current is very strong, the ice had had been stopped above the town gave way; all the vessels got to sea again with trifling damage, except the Warre, Murray, of Hull, which was forced on the South Point, and makes little water. Until the ice is down, nothing can be done to her assistance, but if the weather continues favourable, and the vessel gets no material damage from the floating ice, she is expected to be got off at a moderate expense.

-- We are sorry to add, that letters of a later date state the Warre to be wrecked.

Memel, April 12. - Vesterday several vessels attem ted to come in with a fresh Northerly breeze, but when in the Narrow, where the current is very strong, the ice bet had been stopped above the town gave way; ail the vessels got to sea again with trifling damage, excert the Warre, Murray, of Hull, which was forced on the South Point, and makes a little water; until the ice is down, nothing can be done to her assistance, but if the weather continues favourable, and the vessel gets no material damage from the floating ice, she is expected to he got off at a moderate expense. - We are sorry to add, that letters of a later date state the Warre to be wrecker'.

Hull Packet - Monday 05 May 1823

https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000062/18230505/025/0003



The 'Jane', 'Viewforth' and 'Middleton' Fast in Ice (Hull Maritime Museum)

#### EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS.

The Lady Melville arrived off the Start the 24th instant. She sailed from Canton the 3d December; the Cape the 18th February; and St. Helena the 6th March.
The Thomas Coutts arrived of the Wight the 26th instant.

She left China the 6th January, and St. Helena the 16th of

The Repulse outward-bound, and the Prince Regent, from Bengal and Madras, were at St. Helena when the Thomas Coutts left. The latter was expected to sail for England on the 20th of March.

The Company's ship Waterloo was all well on the 25th of March, in lat. 1. 00. N. long. 22. W.

The undermentioned ships arrived in Bengal as follows, viz. The Marchioness of Ely and the Winchelsea on the 10th of November; and the General Hewett on the 22d December.

The Biene, Winberg, from Stettin to London, was driven on shore the 17th inst. near Toretie—crew saved.

The Warre, Murray, from Hull, was driven on shore off Memel 11th inst. but it was expected would be got off with trifling damage.

The Sicillian, Frost, from Jamaica, arrived off Senford, ex-perienced a hurricane on the 1st ult. westward of Bermuda, when the vessel was struck by a tremendous sea, which carried away her bowsprit and all belonging to it, destroyed the boats, and swept every thing of deck; reached Terceira in 28 days, got a new bowsprit and refitted, and on the 1st inst. proceeded for England.

The Castle Forbes, Ord, from Van Diemen's Laud, was spoken with on the 12th February, in lat. 26. S. long. 57. E.

Morning Advertiser - Tuesday 29 April 1823

https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0001427/18230429/011/0004

HULL, APRIL 30 .- The Fame, Scorsby, (Greenlander), was totally consumed by fire, on the evening of the 23d instant, at Deer Sound, in Orkney. Some of the crew arrived at Leith on the 27th, on their way home. It is said to have originated in the gun-room. They were obliged to run her on shore, and the men had scarcely time to save their cloaths. - The Warre, Murray, of this port, was totally lost near Memel, on the 12th instant. WILL N F to S F -

Public Ledger and Daily Advertiser - Saturday 03 May 1823

# Identification

During the dive on 21th June 2020 our team found the bell of the ship. The bell was found as shown on the following pictures:



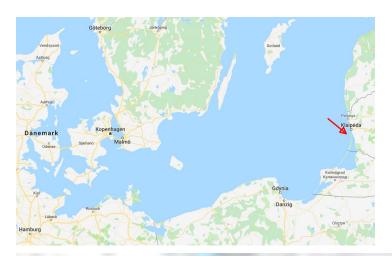


The inscription: "...Ship Warre of Hul.." was readable on this dive. After further careful inspections on 24th June 2020, the bell remained at the wreck.

The bell was found in position xx of the above sidescan.

# Position

xx°xx'N 0xx°xx'E Lithuania- Klaipeda (Memel)





### The Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project

The Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project is an organization in which people from many countries volunteer for protection of the Baltic Sea. They find and remove lost ghost nets, search, identify and document wrecks to protect them and keep their stories alive. It finances itself through donations and public funds. As a registered and recognized non-profit organization, donation receipts may be issued. The Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project works closely with the University of Klaipėda and relevant ministries and archaeologists as well as the museum.



Due to the depth of the wrecks, only so-called technical divers are used who dive with helium mixtures at depth and increased levels of oxygen in the decompression phase.

The Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project is a non-profit organization founded in July 2018 in Klaipeda, Lithuania by Rolandas Schön, Sabine Kerkau and Linas Duoblys.

#### https://www.bshrp.org

#### In addition, the following aspects are examined:

- Is the wreck looted or damaged by third parties?
- How is the wreck changing over the years?
- How can the wreck be protected in terms of robbery and damage

# The Team during the identification

Divers: Sabine Kerkau, Holger Buss, Andrey Govorov, Rolandas Schön



Captain Linas Duoblys, Holger Buss, Sabine Kerkau, Andrey Govorov

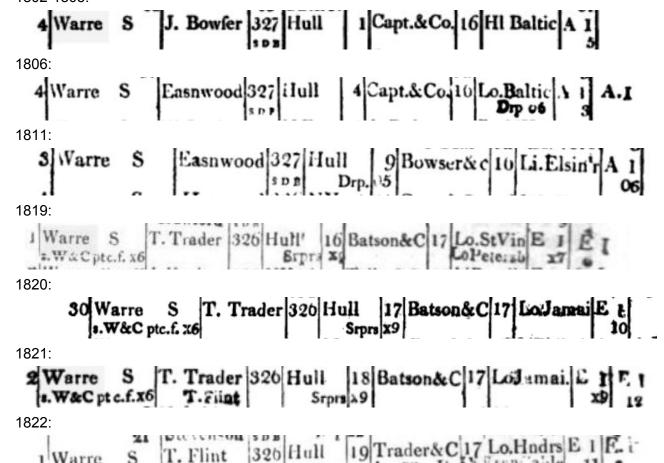


Andrey Govorov, Holger Buss, Rolandas Schön



# LLoyds London:

1802-1805:



1823:

Warre S J. Murray 326 Hull 20 C. Thmpsn 17 HIPtrsbg E I F. 1 s. W ptc. f. 75 23 s ps IS. Srprs x9 N. TpSds N D. 22 IK PIC 1 123 8 1

Srprs X9

s.W&C  $\rightarrow$  Sheathed with Copper S  $\rightarrow$  Ship Drp.  $\rightarrow$  Damages repaired Srprs  $\rightarrow$  some repairs Lo.  $\rightarrow$  London Li.  $\rightarrow$  Liverpool HI  $\rightarrow$  Hull

s.W&Cpt c.f.x6

J. Murray

#### Masters

1802 John Bowser 1805 Easingwood 1819 Thomas Trader 1822 T. Flint 1823 J. Murray

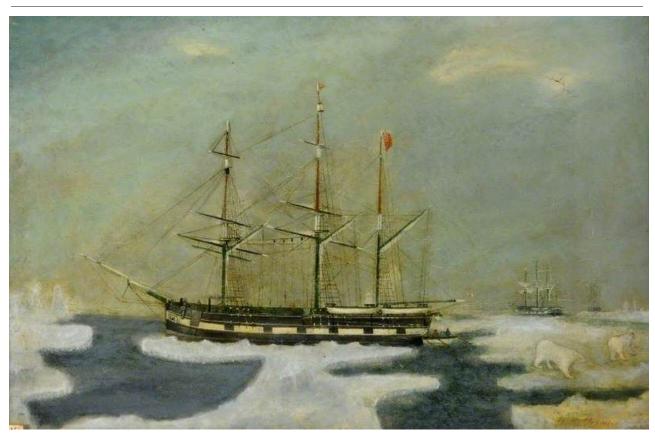
# Paintings of Ships from Hull



'Abram' of Hull (Hull Maritime Museum)



Entrance to the Old Harbour, Hull (<u>Hull Maritime Museum</u>)



'True Love' of Hull (<u>Hull Maritime Museum</u>)



The 'Thornton' (Hull Maritime Museum)

# Model of a Cargo vessel: "Cat-Bark"



Model of a sailing ship in the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London (source)

At this scale it represents a ship measuring 98 feet along the upper deck by 28 feet in the beam and an approximate tonnage of 360. Known as a 'cat' or 'bark', this type of three-masted vessel was employed in the coat trade between the ports of the north-east coast of Britain and the Thames, and was later replaced by the collier brigs. The bluff bows and almost flat floors, together with the broad cheeked 'pink' stern, distinguish the 'cat' as a sturdy vessel for bulky cargoes. Carrying capacity and the ability to take to the ground were more important than speed in this type of ship, which was developed in the North Sea and the Baltic.

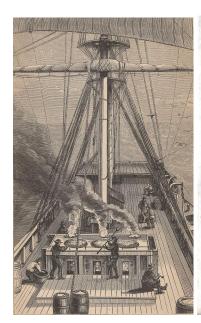


### Whale Fishing



'Aurora' (Hull Maritime Museum)

This seascape shows British whalers operating in good weather, with all their boats launched and in pursuit of whales from the characteristic davits shown on the vessels' sterns. When the whale was sighted, boats were quickly lowered. Each boat, carrying six to seven men, was commanded by the harpooner. When the boat was 'on fish' (in a position to strike) the whale was harpooned. Once dead it was towed back to the ship and 'flensed' alongside, the blubber being cut off in strips using sharp blubber spades and hooks, with the whale carcase rotated to remove it all. Baleen was also saved from the mouths of filter-feeding species, teeth from sperm whales, and some whale bone, but the rest jettisoned. Blubber was 'tried' (boiled to extract the oil) and the oil barrelled and stowed in the hold. Whalers operating at sea did this in a deck furnace, but where it was practical to set up a shore base it could also be done on the coast. The whalers shown may be large north-east-built 'cat-barks'. (Source)





Producing whale oil (Source) Whale fishing (Source)

# Summary

On June 21st 2020 a team of the "Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project" was diving at an until then unidentified wooden wreck close to Klaipeda (Memel). The purpose was inspection, site survey and measurements. On this dive the bell of the ship was found with the inscription: "Ship Warre of Hull". Some documentations of the bell were done on 24th. The bell itself remained in the original place. During research newspaper articles from Great Britain were found that confirmed that the in 1802 built ship "Warre" sunk on 12th April 1823 close to the harbor of Memel due to wind and ice conditions. The ship of size of 327 tons and a draft of 15ft was built for cargo and general purpose. In 1811 it was equipped for whale fishery in the Southern Seas.

The wreck survey, position and newspaper reports leave no doubt and allow a 100% valid identification.



Whale fishing and oil cooking (source)



Hull Whaler 'Elizabeth' (Hull Maritime Museum)

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Holger Buß is a graduate engineer in electrical engineering and develops control systems for unmanned aerial vehicles. He is diving since 1999, is certified with TEC1 (GUE) and is also a volunteer rescue diver at the DLRG. Together with the "Gezeitentaucher" (tide divers) and the team "Baltic Sea Heritage Rescue Project" he investigates shipwrecks off the East Frisian Islands and in the Baltic Sea.

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# Location of the latest version of this report:

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