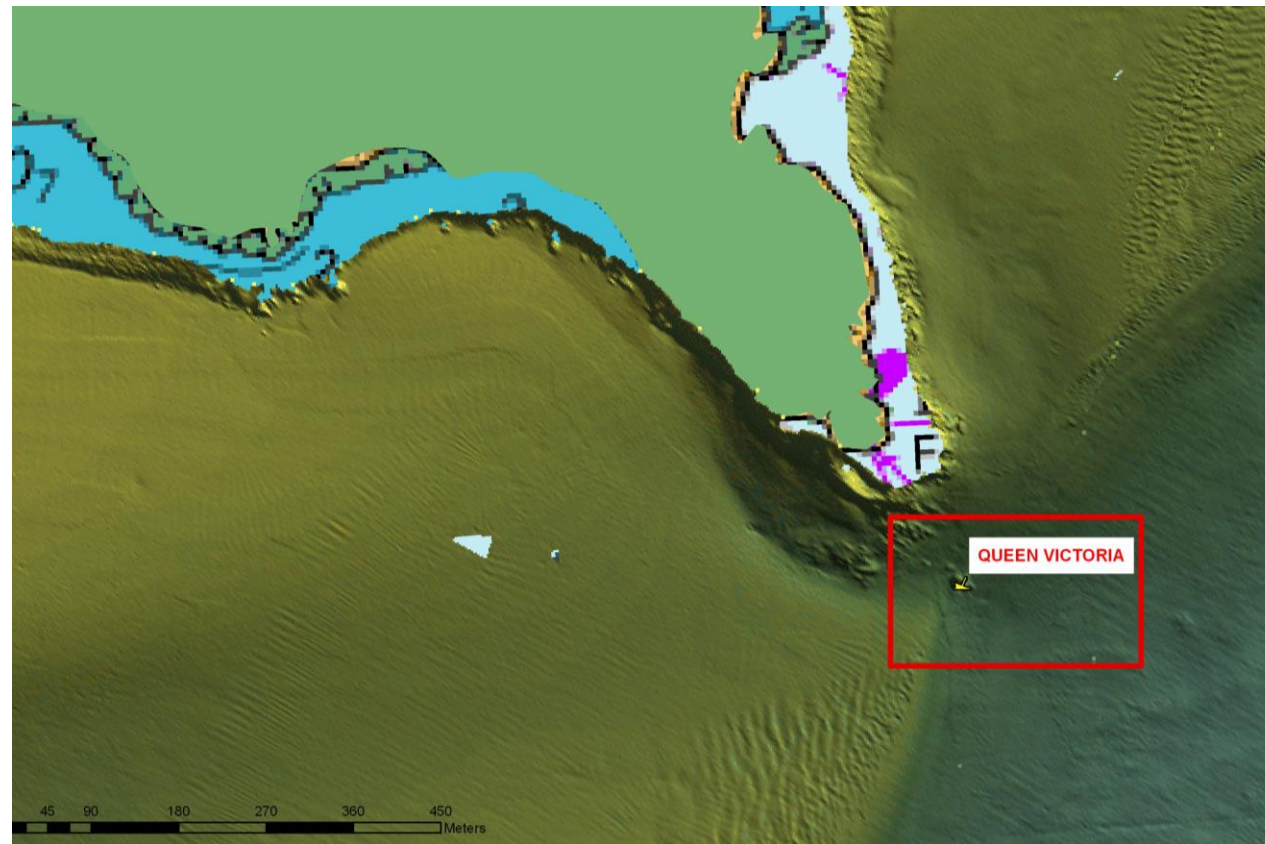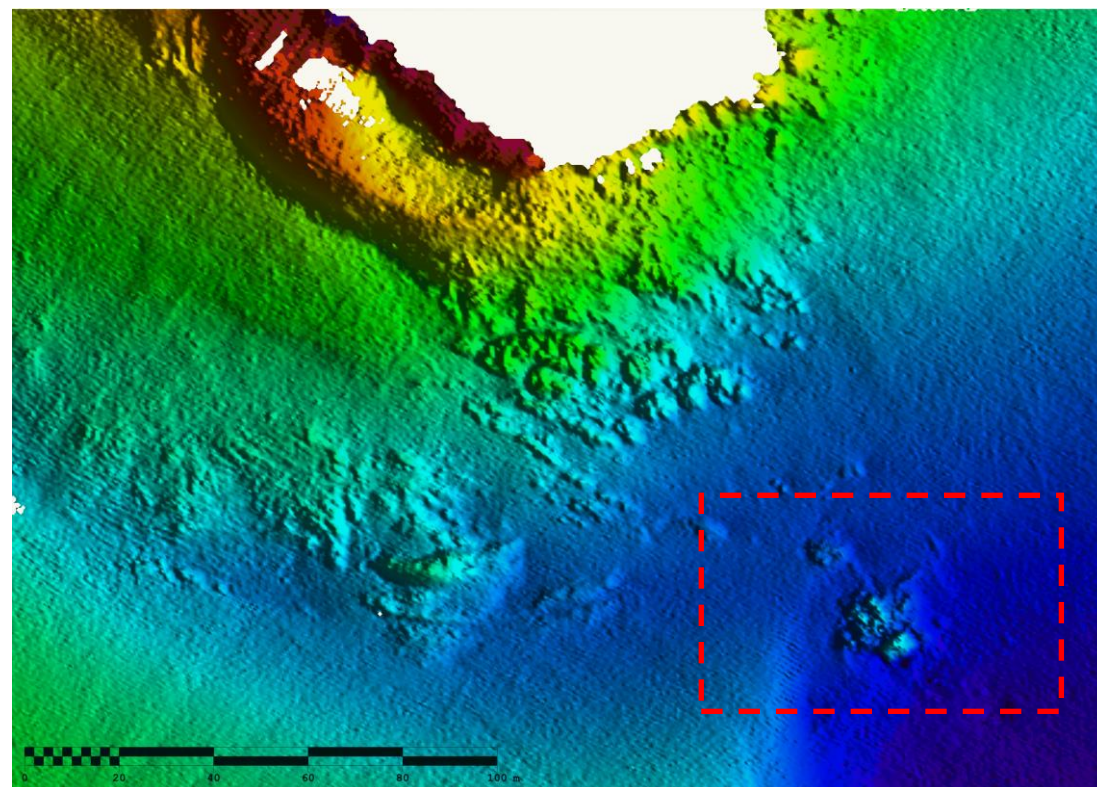## WRECK IMAGERY

Above the location of the *Queen Victoria* off the Baily Lighthouse, Howth and below an image of the *Queen Victoria* from the shaded relief acquired during the INFOMAR survey KRY09_02, Dublin Bay.

LOCATION

Location	150m SE of the Baily Lighthouse, Howth Head
Coordinates	-06° 03' 03.83" W 53° 21' 36.19" N
Depth of Water	16 m

VESSEL INFORMATION

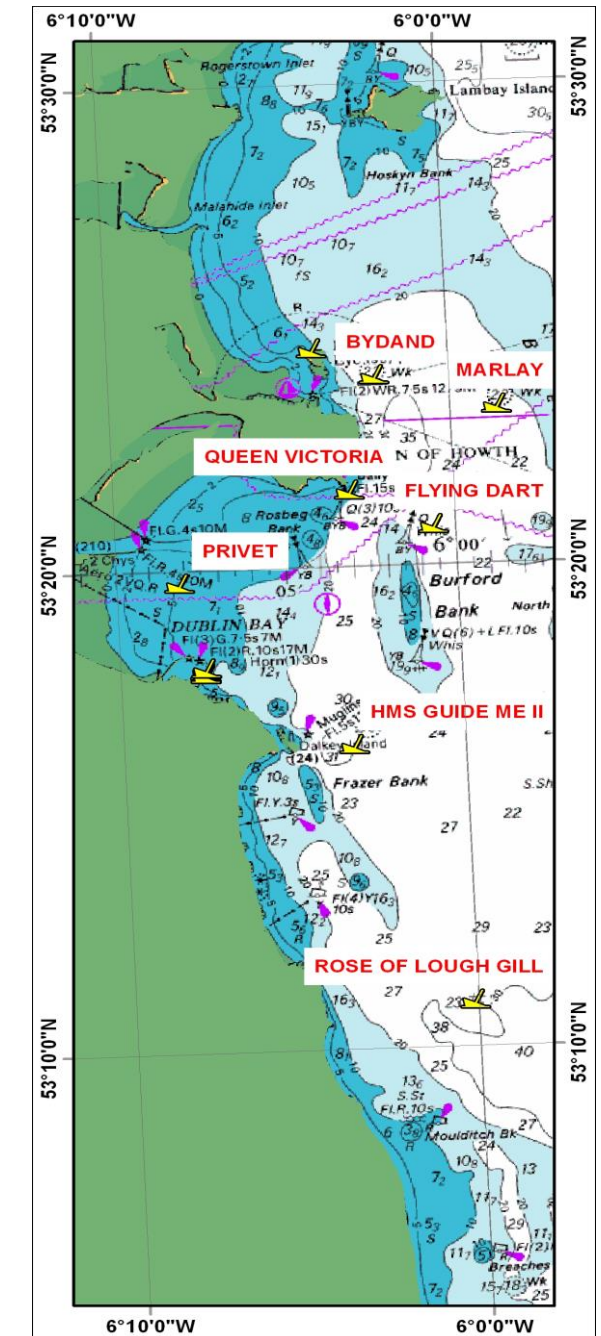|	
Vessel type	Passenger ship
Flag	Irish
Vessel Dimensions	46 m (l), 7 m (b)
Date of building	1837

DETAILS OF SINKING

On Monday, 15th February 1853 while en route to Dublin with a general cargo, a voyage it had made numerous times without incident, the vessel encountered a snowstorm, which obscured the lights of both the Baily and Kish lighthouses. In spite of the poor visibility, the steamer failed to reduce its speed. It ran aground on the cliffs below the Baily Lighthouse, on Howth Head. 80 people died. A single lifeboat made it safely back to shore with 17 people rescued.

QUEEN VICTORIA

INFOMAR WRECK INFORMATION SHEET 18

VESSEL HISTORY

The *Queen Victoria* was a 337-ton, 150-foot-long paddle steamer built in Liverpool in 1837. It was owned by the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company and was capable of 11 knots with 250 horse-power, diagonal compound engines.

DIVE INFORMATION

The *Queen Victoria* lies in around 16m of water in an area of strong tides, 160m S of the Baily Lighthouse, and is orientated NW–SE on the seafloor. It measures 17.5m in length, 7.5m in width, with a maximum height of 3.4m. The remains of the vessel are largely broken up, with debris and remains of the paddle wheels and boiler clearly visible on the seabed. A number of artefacts have been recovered from the wreck site, and the ship's figurehead is presently housed in the Maritime Museum in Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

Wrecks over 100 years old and archaeological objects found underwater are protected under the National Monuments (Amendment) Acts 1987 and 1994. As the Queen Victoria is over 100 years old, it is protected and a license is required to dive the site which can be obtained from:

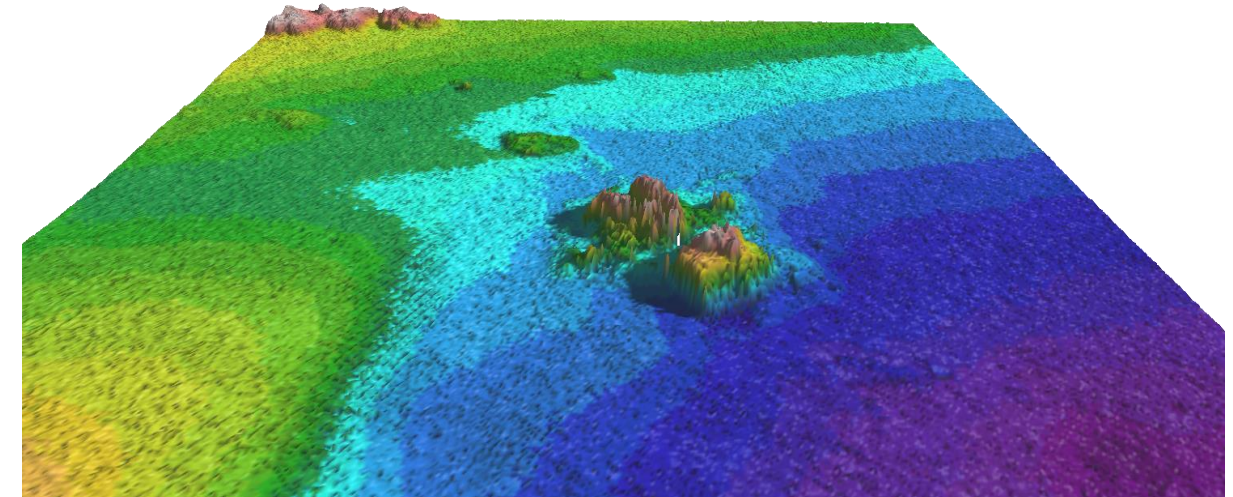https://www.archaeology.ie/licences/dive-survey-licence

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 *Queen Victoria* using Fledermaus 3D visualisation software and below an image of The Baily lighthouse with the bathymetric coverage showing the wreck off Howth Head.