Basic Detail Report



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Title

Murder of Mr Boyd in the Solomon Islands

Date 1852

Primary Maker Illustrated London News

Medium Ink on paper

Dimensions Overall: 393 x 270 mm

Name Engraving

History

Scottish entrepreneur Benjamin Boyd sailed to Australia in 1843 with hopes of building a bustling development in

Twofold Bay. He founded two settlements there, first the port at Boyd Town and then the whaling station at East Boyd. Boyd's ship the WANDERER arrived in Australia in 1842 and made many trips along the Australian coastline, becoming a regular sight in Sydney Harbour. By 1849, Boyd was in great financial difficulty and preparing to leave the colony. The next two years proved to be disastrous for the WANDERER and Boyd. Sailing out of Port Jackson on 26 October 1849 the vessel lost a bow anchor on the reef. In October 1851 'The unfortunate gentleman... was on a voyage in his yacht, the WANDERER, from California to Sydney, and when among... the Solomon Islands, in the South Pacific, was attacked by the natives, and met with a horrible death' (Illustrated London News, 10 April 1852, p. 283). The WANDERER later wrecked off Port Macquarie on its return to Australia.