

1919

The *Fetlar*, wrecked on a pleasant Sunday afternoon.

From Southampton with 280 Tonnes of general cargo (oat flour, graphite crucibles, shoes, etc. . .), the steamer *Fetlar* of 464 Gross Tons was a regular visitor and St. Malo was well known to her master.

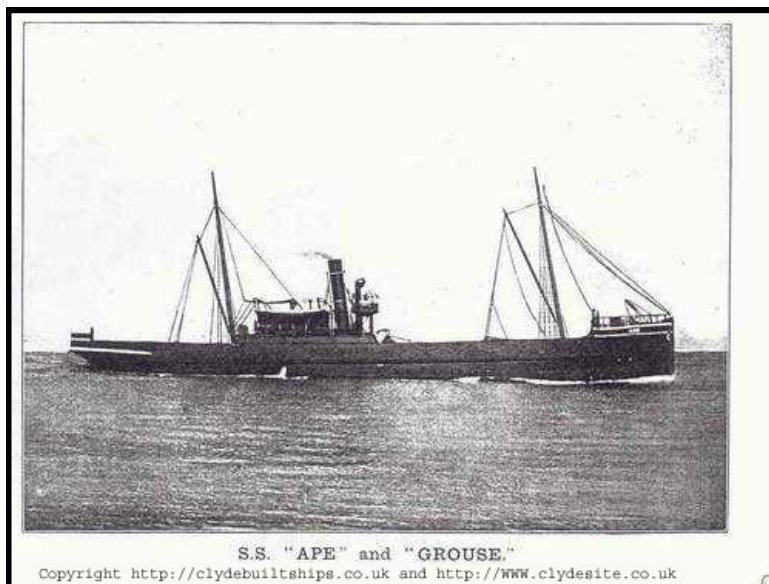
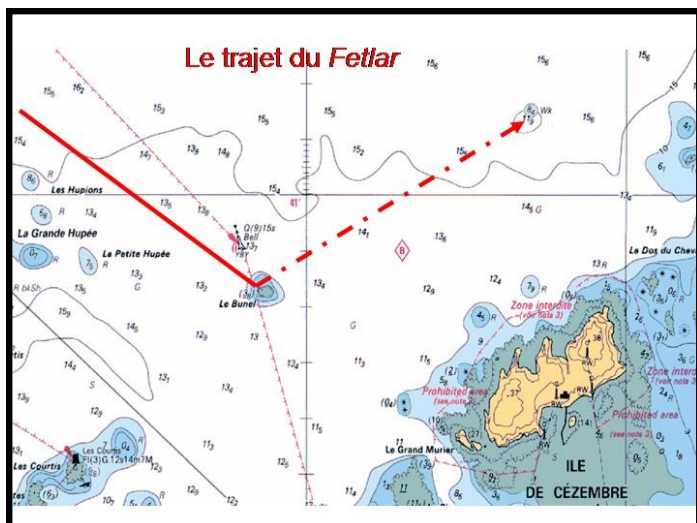
Built of steel in 1898 by Barclay, Curle and Company Ltd. of Glasgow as the *Ape*, for G & J Burns Ltd; the *Fetlar* was 55m long by 8.6m with a depth in hold of 4m. She was divided into 6 watertight compartments and powered by a triple expansion steam engine of 85 Nominal Horsepower, giving a maximum speed of 10 knots.

Now owned by the North of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland Steam Navigation Company and registered in Aberdeen; on Sunday 13th April 1919, the *Fetlar* had begun her approach to the Jardin lighthouse and St. Malo roads, when she struck the Bunel rock – despite the danger being clearly marked on the charts of the period ! The fair weather and calm sea allowed the crew to abandon their sinking vessel in good order and, as the *Fetlar* was carried eastward on the rising tide, at about 16:10 she sank some 800m north of the island of Cezembre.

On passage from Granville to St-Cast le Guildo with 13 Tonnes of phosphate, the sloop *Marie Catherine* was to the north-east of Cezembre when her master spotted the disabled steamer and hurried to her assistance. However, as she approached the *Fetlar*, the sloop was caught by the current and struck the rocks of the Petit Conchee, leaving her crew no choice but to take to their own boat in their turn !

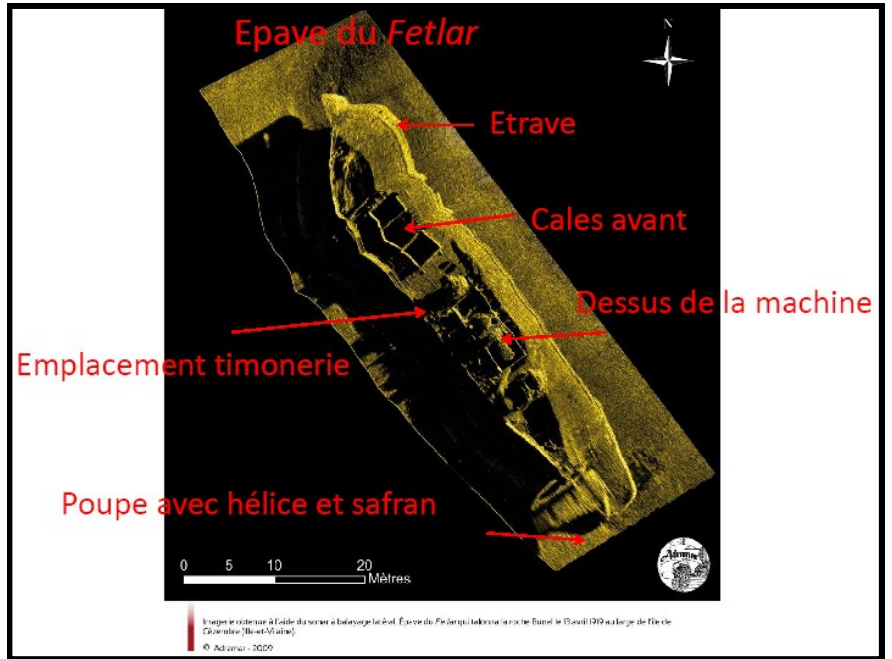
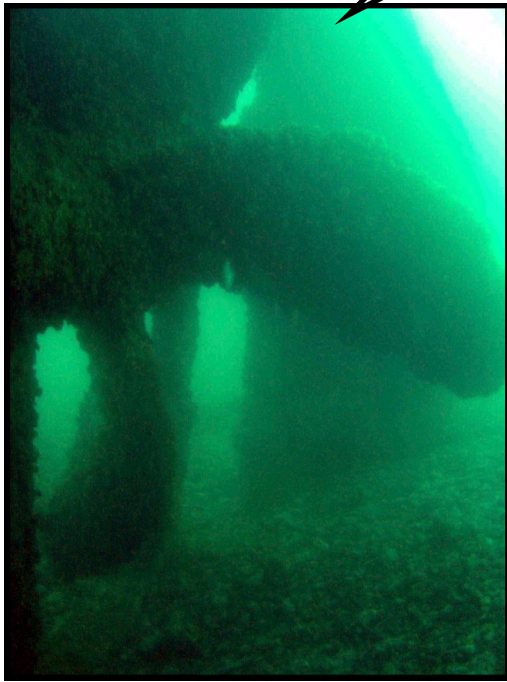
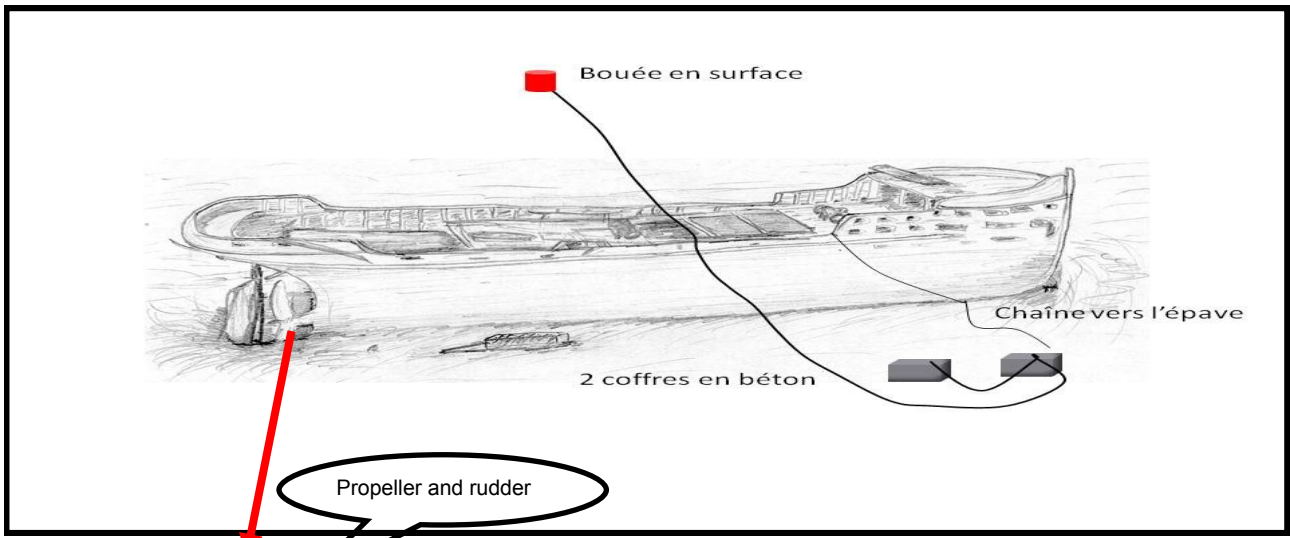
Thus, on a pleasant Sunday afternoon, curious bystanders in St. Malo watched with interest as two boatloads of shipwrecked seamen made their way ashore !

Type: steamer
Nationality: British
Average depth: 17 to 28m



48°41.11/12N 02°04.23/29W (EUR 50)
North of the island of Cezembre

SAINT MALO
PLONGÉE EMERAUDE

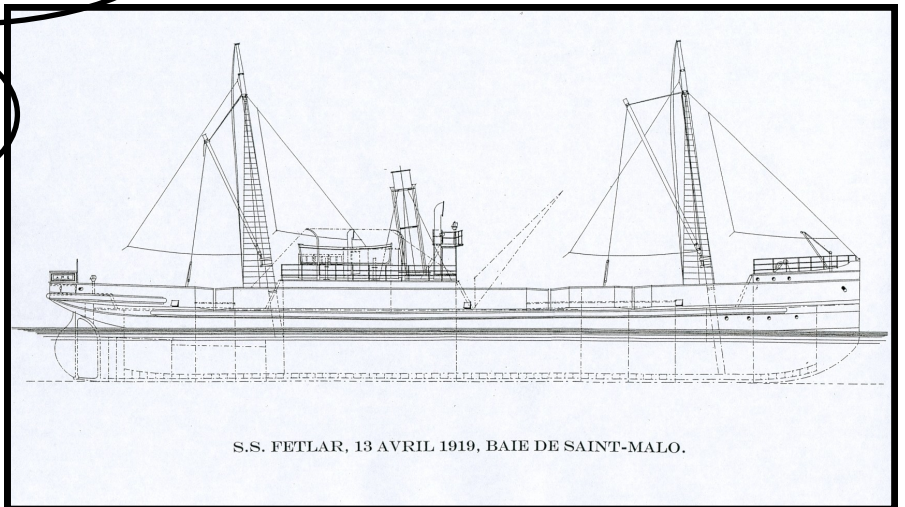


Side scan sonar image (ADRAMAR)



Graphite crucible from the wreck.

The Bell (Museum of St Malo Collection)



SAINT MALO PLONGÉE EMERAUDE