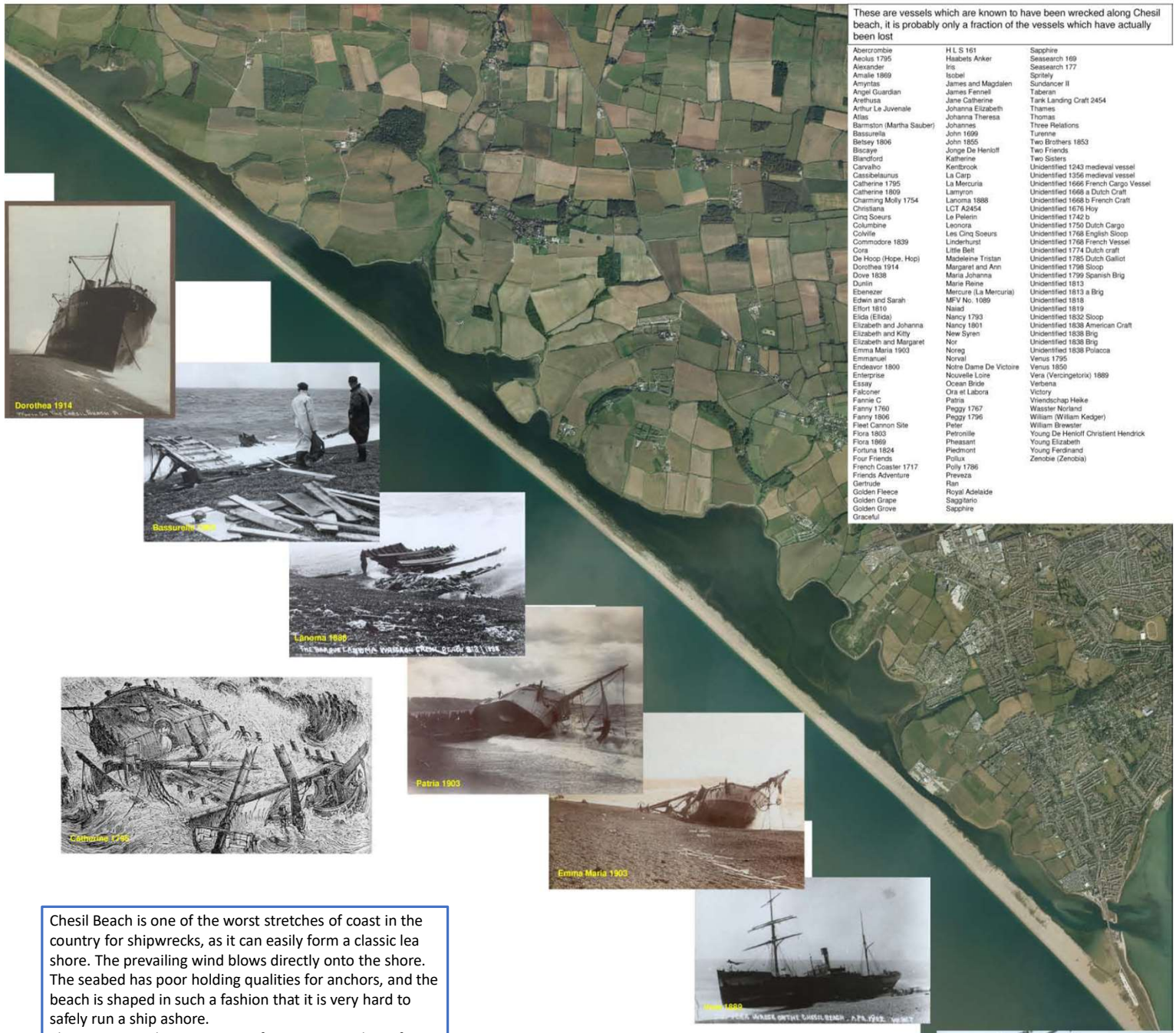


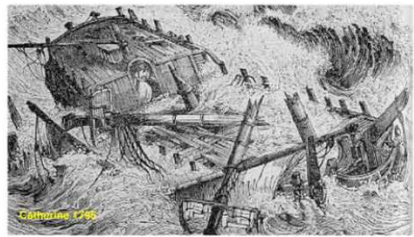
Shipwrecks on Chesil Beach

Gordon Le Pard



These are vessels which are known to have been wrecked along Chesil beach, it is probably only a fraction of the vessels which have actually been lost

Abercrombie	H.L.S 161	Sapphire
Aeolus 1795	Hasbets Anker	Seasearch 169
Alexander	Inc	Seasearch 177
Amalie 1869	Isobel	Spirally
Amyntas	James and Magdalen	Sundancer II
Angel Guardian	James Fenwick	Tabaran
Atheusa	Jane Catherine	Tank Landing Craft 2454
Arthur Le Juvenale	Johanna Elizabeth	Thames
Atlas	Johanna Theresa	Thomas
Barmston (Martha Sauber)	Johannes	Three Relations
Bassurelle	John 1699	Turenne
Betsy 1806	John 1855	Two Brothers 1853
Biscaye	Jonge De Henloff	Two Friends
Blandford	Katherine	Two Sisters
Carvalho	Kentbrook	Unidentified 1243 medieval vessel
Cassibelaunus	La Carp	Unidentified 1356 medieval vessel
Catherine 1795	La Mercuria	Unidentified 1666 French Cargo Vessel
Catherine 1809	Lanryon	Unidentified 1668 a Dutch Craft
Charming Molly 1754	Lancoma 1888	Unidentified 1668 b French Craft
Christiana	LCT A2454	Unidentified 1676 Hoy
Cinq Soeurs	Le Paletin	Unidentified 1742 b
Columbine	Leonora	Unidentified 1750 Dutch Cargo
Colville	Les Cinq Soeurs	Unidentified 1768 English Sloop
Commodore 1839	Underhurst	Unidentified 1768 French Vessel
Coris	Little Bell	Unidentified 1774 Dutch craft
De Hoop (Hope, Hop)	Maclelene Tristan	Unidentified 1785 Dutch Galliot
Dorothea 1914	Margaret and Ann	Unidentified 1798 Sloop
Dove 1838	Maria Johanna	Unidentified 1798 Spanish Brig
Dunlin	Marie Reine	Unidentified 1813
Ebenezer	Mercur (La Mercuria)	Unidentified 1813 a Brig
Eden and Sarah	MFV No. 1089	Unidentified 1818
Effort 1810	Naid	Unidentified 1819
Elida (Elida)	Nancy 1793	Unidentified 1832 Sloop
Elizabeth and Johanna	Nancy 1801	Unidentified 1838 American Craft
Elizabeth and Kitty	New Syren	Unidentified 1838 Brig
Elizabeth and Margaret	Nor	Unidentified 1838 Brig
Emma Maria 1903	Norng	Unidentified 1838 Paacca
Emmanuel	Norval	Venus 1795
Endeavor 1800	Notre Dame De Victoire	Venus 1850
Enterprise	Nouvelle Loite	Vera (Vezingetrix) 1889
Essay	Ocean Bride	Verbena
Falconer	Ora et Labora	Victory
Fannie C	Patia	Woodschop Heike
Fanny 1760	Peggy 1767	Waster Norland
Fleet Cannon Site	Peggy 1796	William (William Kedger)
Flora 1803	Peter	William Bivodes
Flora 1895	Petronille	Young De Henloff Christient Hendrick
Fortuna 1824	Pheasant	Young Elizabeth
Four Friends	Piedmont	Young Ferdinand
French Coaster 1717	Polly 1786	Zenobia (Zenobia)
Friends Adventure	Preveza	
Gertrude	Ran	
Golden Fleace	Royal Adelaide	
Golden Grape	Sagittario	
Golden Grove	Sapphire	
Graceful		



Chesil Beach is one of the worst stretches of coast in the country for shipwrecks, as it can easily form a classic lea shore. The prevailing wind blows directly onto the shore. The seabed has poor holding qualities for anchors, and the beach is shaped in such a fashion that it is very hard to safely run a ship ashore.

There was one desperate way of trying to save lives if a ship was caught in West Bay, to steer directly at the beach! Then, if the crew were very lucky, the vessel would lodge there long enough for the crew to scramble ashore.

But if it was bad for the ships and their crews, it was good for the local people who looked upon shipwrecks almost as a natural harvest, like shoals of mackerel. The children had a rhyme:

Blow wind. Rise storm.
Bring us a ship on shore before morn.