

E.M. Clark

U.S. Flagged Merchant Tanker



Vessel History

Built: 1921, Federal Shipbuilding Company - Kearny, New Jersey

Owner: Standard Oil Company, New Jersey

History: Originally launched as *Victolite* to support the Imperial Oil Company of Ontario, Canada. As built, the vessel was 499.2' long, 68.1' abeam, and had 30.5' of depth. The ship was powered by twin vertical reciprocating triple expansion steam engines and had a cargo capacity of 119,414 barrels (5,015,388 gallons). *Victolite* was sold to the Standard Oil Co. in 1926 and renamed *E.M. Clark* after Edgar M. Clark (VP of Standard Oil). After the outbreak of WWII, *E.M. Clark* was part of a critical network of tankers that supplied fuel to the war effort. *Clark* alone delivered 4,812,472 barrels before it was sunk by the enemy.

Loss: On March 18, 1942, *Clark* was northbound off Cape Hatteras, carrying 118,725 barrels of heating oil when it was spotted by German U-boat, U-124. The first torpedo struck the port-side amidships at 1:25 am, killing Thomas J. Larkin. Just minutes later, a second torpedo slammed into the port side near the number 1 cargo tank sealing the ship's fate. Captain Hubert L. Hassell quickly gave the order to abandon ship and the crew watched from the lifeboats as *E.M. Clark* sank by the bow within 10 minutes. While Larkin was the sole casualty, several other were severely injured. The 40 survivors were recovered that day by USS *Dickerson* and passing Venezuelan tanker *Catatumbo*.

North Carolina

Cape Hatteras

E.M. Clark

Cape Lookout

Atlantic Ocean

BOW

STERN

Sand Tiger Shark



Odontaspis taurus

Greater Amberjack



Seriola dumerili

Marine Life Commonly Found on the E.M. Clark Site

<https://monitor.noaa.gov/shipwrecks>
Visit us online to learn more!

Great Barracuda



Sphyrna barracuda

Northern Sea Robin



Prionotus carolinus

Loggerhead



Caretta caretta

GPS Coordinates: N34° 50.5681'
 Depth: 200-260fsw W75° 32.2639'
 Skill Level: Technical

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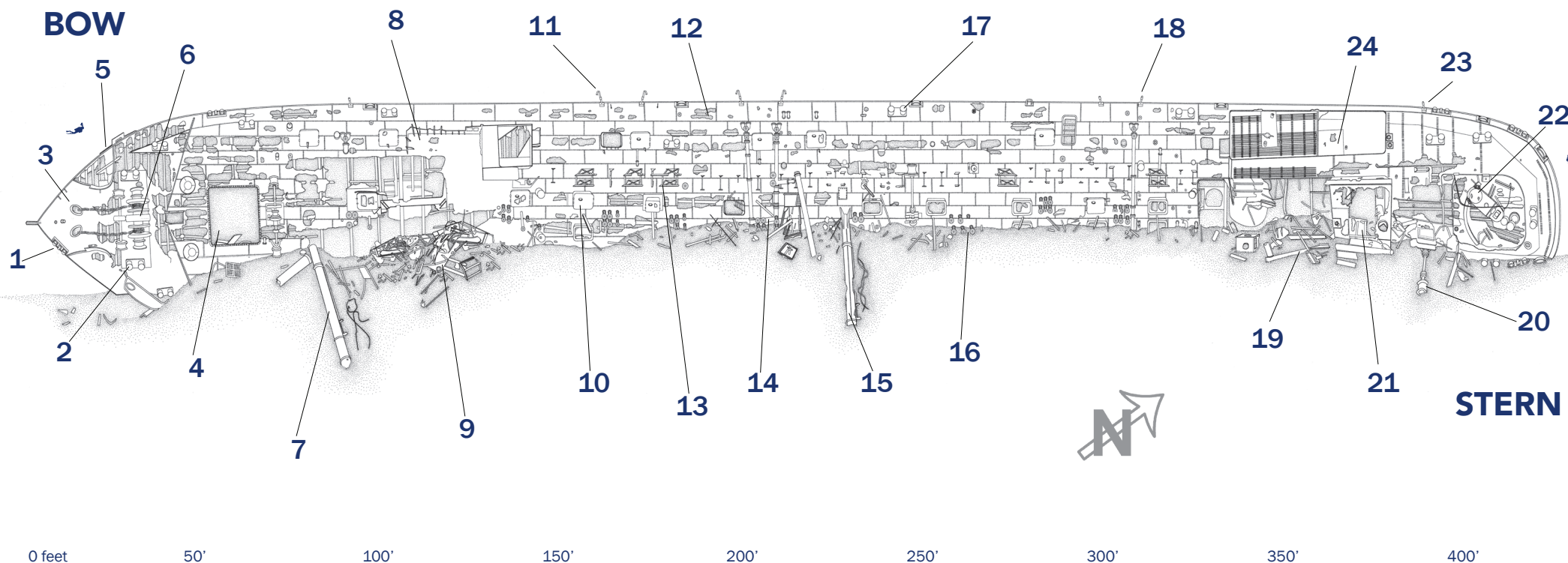
Archaeological Site Plan



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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Portside Bow Fairlead | 09 Collapsed Deckhouse Remains | 17 Port Side Mooring Bits |
| 2 Mooring Bits | 10 Deck Access Hatch | 18 Broken Lifeboat Davits |
| 3 Anchor Hawsepipes | 11 Starboard Lifeboat Davits | 19 Collapsed Aft Deckhouse Debris |
| 4 Forward Hatch Opening | 12 Deck Plate Degradation | 20 Aft Capstan |
| 5 <i>E.M. Clark</i> Welded Name Plate | 13 Cargo Transfer Support Frames | 21 Stern Cabin Structure |
| 6 Main Anchor Windlass | 14 Cargo Transfer Pipes | 22 Steering Quadrant/Rudderpost |
| 7 Forward Mast | 15 Amidships Derrick/Mast | 23 Broken Lifeboat Davits |
| 8 Footprint for Main Deckhouse | 16 Cargo Transfer Valves | 24 Aft Deckhouse Footprint |

Dive Site Conditions

This site is a challenging dive in a dynamic environment. Visibility and currents can fluctuate daily. This site is also noteworthy for particularly high currents that change throughout the water column. Dive Safe!



Take Only Pictures ~ Leave Only Bubbles!