

ACTIVITY: Fell into the river

CASE: [GSAF 1888.12.00](#)

DATE: December 1888

LOCATION: Hawkesbury Bridge, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

NAME: Mr. Ryland

DESCRIPTION: He was a middle-age male.

NARRATIVE: "He was working on the Hawkesbury River Bridge when he missed his footing fell 50 feet into the river where he was attacked and killed by a shark."

INJURY: Fatal

SPECIES INVOLVED: Not identified

SOURCES: Gilbert P. Whitley (1951), page 192, cites Sydney Morning Herald, December 14, 1888, page 5; The West Australian, Saturday December 15, 1888, page 3.



"On May 1, 1889 the last great engineering work of the 19th century, the first Hawkesbury River Bridge, was completed."

NEW SOUTH WALES.

KILLED BY A SHARK.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Dec. 14.

Mr Ryland; of the firm of Ryland & Morse, sub-contractors for the erection of the Hawkesbury Bridge, was walking along the top span of the bridge when he missed his footing and fell 50 feet into the river. A huge shark was below, and Mr Ryland had scarcely reached the water when the monster seized him. He disappeared, and the water became tinged with blood. The deceased who was middle aged, leaves a widow and family well provided for.