

Exploring **THE** **REGINA**

State Underwater Archaeological Preserve

Location

The wreck of *Regina* is situated offshore of Bradenton Beach at coordinates 27° 28.135' N and 82° 42.139' W. The site is in 12-20 feet of water and wreckage rises several feet off the sea floor.



A Window to the Past...

Regina, sunk off Bradenton Beach, was built in Ireland in 1904. She was 247 feet in length, with a 36 foot beam and a 14 foot draft. A single propeller was powered by a triple-expansion steam engine and she also was rigged as a schooner for auxiliary power. *Regina* was converted to a tanker-barge and, in 1940, wrecked in a storm with a cargo of molasses. Most of her crew were saved by local residents.



Painting courtesy William Trotter

Diving and Snorkeling at *Regina*

- Use safe diving procedures and always display a diver-down flag.
- Please do not anchor on the site; use the mooring buoy or anchor in the sand to avoid losing your anchor or damaging the shipwreck.
- Be aware of snorkelers and divers between the wreck and the beach.

As with all other historical and archaeological sites on public uplands and submerged bottomlands, *Regina* is protected by Florida laws prohibiting unauthorized disturbance, excavation, or removal of artifacts.

Please take only photos and leave only bubbles!!

For more information call: (850) 245-6444
WWW address: <http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/bar/uap>

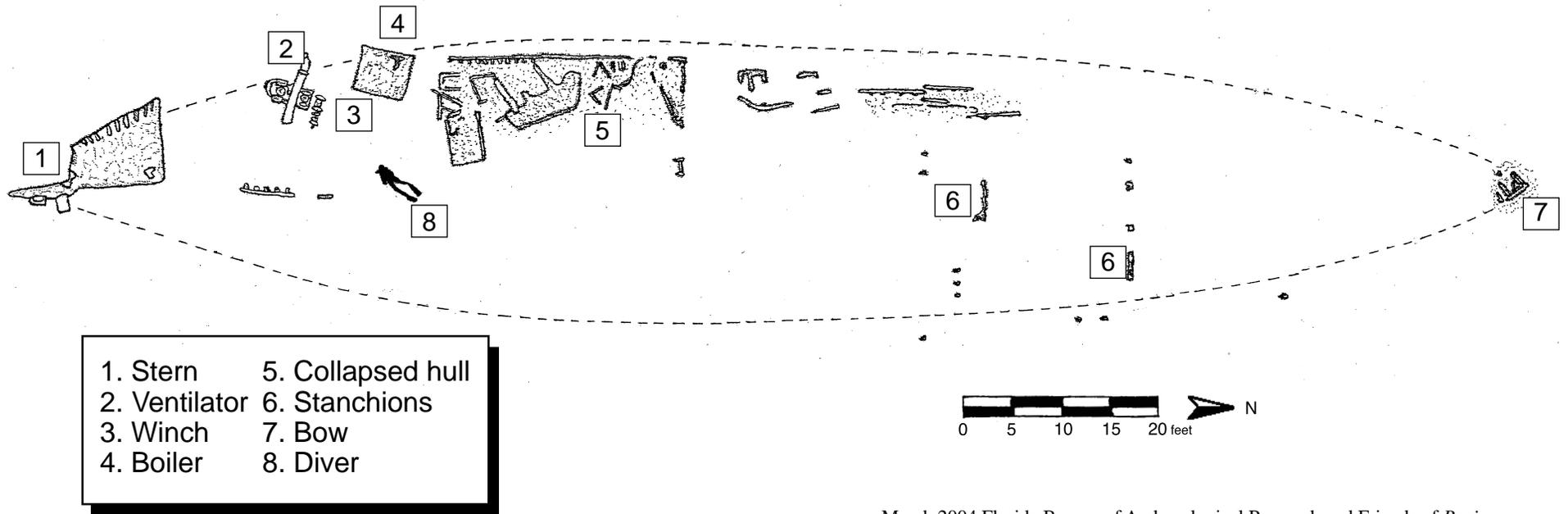


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Division of Historical Resources;
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REGINA

UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVE Bradenton Beach, Florida



March 2004 Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research and Friends of *Regina*

The 247-foot long steel tanker-barge sank on a flat sandy bottom on an even keel with her bow pointing north. *Regina* was a total loss; her cargo of molasses drained into the gulf and her stranded hull became part of the landscape. Today, more than sixty years of pounding surf have left the tanker a

sunken hulk, partially buried under sand. Locally known as the “Sugar Barge,” the wreck is teeming with sea life including sponges and seafans, schools of small baitfish, grouper, and spadefish. Manatees and dolphins occasionally are seen as well.