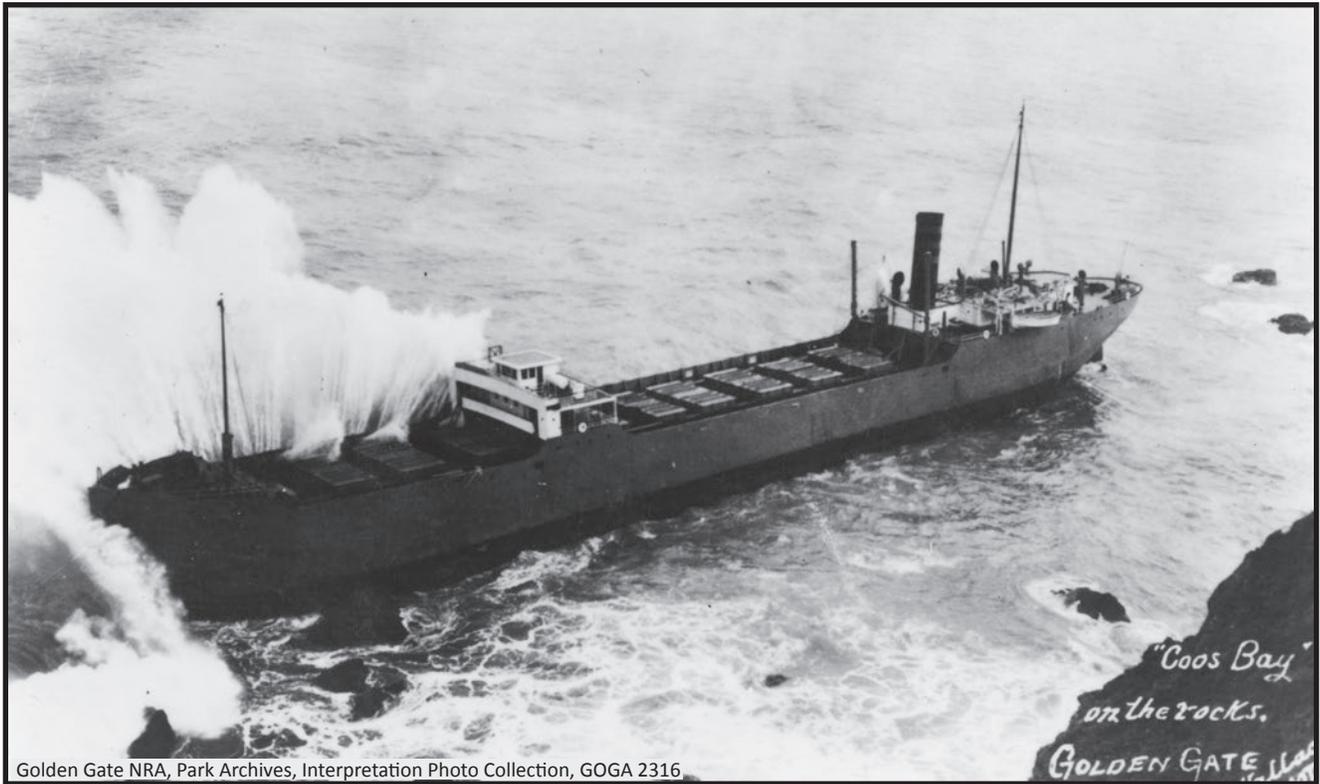


# VESTIGES of *Lands End*



Golden Gate NRA, Park Archives, Interpretation Photo Collection, GOGA 2316

The wreck of *Coos Bay* being pounded by waves while stuck on the rocks at Lands End, 23 October 1927.

## The Wreck of *Coos Bay*

Originally named *Vulcan*, the *Coos Bay* was built in 1909 in Maryland. *Vulcan* was owned by the US Navy Department and used to transport coal to vessels along the Eastern Seaboard.

By 1924 fuel oil was beginning to replace coal and *Vulcan's* services were no longer necessary. She was sold to the Pacific States Lumber Company of Delaware. Renamed *Coos Bay*, the vessel was enlarged and modernized, carrying lumber from the Northwest to San Francisco and San Pedro.

On 22 October 1927 the ship was headed toward Coos Bay, Oregon. As she passed through the Golden Gate the vessel was enveloped in thick fog. No visibility, a strong ebb tide, and a northwesterly swell led the ship far from its path, crashing into the rocks east of China Beach. The hull was destroyed and water flooded the engine room, shutting down the ship's power. After waiting out a cold night on deck the 33 crew members were eventually rescued by boat and rescue line.

For several years the remains of *Coos Bay* could be seen stuck in the rocks becoming increasingly bent and twisted by the waves. In 1930, after complaints over the unsightly appearance of scattered shipwreck remains in the harbor, the Junior Chamber of Commerce scrapped the vessel. Today, fragments of twisted metal still can be seen at low tide.