

Name: Dr. Nathan Richards

Title: Program in Maritime Studies, Department of History
East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

Email: RICHARDSN@ecu.edu

Abstract Title: Queen Victoria (1856-1866):
From the River Clyde and Canadian Confederation to a Carolina Shipwreck

Abstract Description: Queen Victoria was built on the River Clyde (United Kingdom) in 1856 by the renowned shipbuilding firm Robert Napier and Sons (Govan, Scotland) for Charles François Xavier Baby (1794-1864), a Quebec City-based fleet owner and politician. In addition to playing its role in supporting British American regional commerce, the steamer would also come to feature in several events that are significant in the history of the formation of the nation of Canada. In 1866, while on a voyage from Quebec to Cuba the Queen Victoria was lost “off Hatteras” and has never been found. This presentation will outline the life of the ship and shipwreck, including recent more controversies regarding objects saved from the vessel during its sinking.