

# SHIPWRECKS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## OTHER POSSIBLE GRAVEYARD SITES

The data about South Australia's ship's graveyards is not complete. Initial research, survey and public consultation suggests that additional graveyard sites may be located in coastal waters and along the River Murray.

### River Murray

A number of paddle steamers, barges and other craft which travelled the River were abandoned along its banks. Preliminary survey suggests that areas in Goolwa, Morgan and other locations may have been official dumping sites, but this information has yet to be verified.

### *Adonis* - Barker Inlet

The 70 tonne ketch *Adonis* capsized near Outer Harbor in 1953. Attempted salvage was unsuccessful and the vessel was later towed to a position behind Torrens Island (Port Adelaide) and beached.

At this stage the remains of the *Adonis* have not been included as a graveyard site although, like the *Eleni K* at Goat Island, the deliberate relocation of the wreck suggests that it could be considered in this way.

### Vessels broken up

Department of Marine and Harbours and salvage company records often show that vessels were broken up at various sites about South Australia, but do not indicate whether salvage was completed or whether some material remained on site or was relocated.

Such entries include, for example, the paddle steamer *Elizabeth* which was 'presumed broken up' (register closed 1928) or the hulk *Venus* which was 'scrapped' in 1959.

### Vessels towed out to sea

Similar records also indicate that some obsolete vessels were towed out to sea and sunk.

Examples include a hulk *Excelsior* (which foundered in a gale, but was raised, towed to an unknown site in Gulf St Vincent and sunk with explosives in 1910) or the fishing boats *Alpha* (which was towed to sea and sunk in the early 1940s) or *Champ* (which was stripped and scuttled five miles NE of Cowell in 1988).

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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