

SHIPWRECKS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

KADINA - possibly Angas Inlet

The three masted ship *Kadina*, formerly the *Jeannie W. Paine*, was built in 1853 in Phippsburg, Maine, USA. The wooden vessel measured 149.0 feet (45.5m) in length, 31.0 feet (9.5m) breadth, 21.7 feet (6.6m) depth and 661 gross tons.

In 1865 the vessel was registered in Port Adelaide by Henry Simpson and Elder & Smith. It was renamed *Kadina* and became part of the Black Diamond Line of vessels transporting coal from Newcastle to the smelters at Wallaroo.

On 11 May 1875 the *Kadina* was taken ashore in Wallaroo Bay by the barque *Wallaroo* which broke its cables during a storm. The ship was declared a total loss and the wreck sold at auction to William Wells and H.W. Thompson. It was salvaged, repaired and re-registered in 1876 as a coal hulk.



Kadina (left) on Fletcher's Slip, 1867
Photo: SLSA: Edwardes Collection: V38No11

During the night of 19-20 April 1879, while moored in the North Arm and with no-one on board, the *Kadina* caught fire and was badly damaged. Attempts to scuttle the burning hulk were unsuccessful – the dry wood burnt so fast that holes carpenters made rose above the waterline too quickly to be of use. The vessel was eventually towed ashore and allowed to burn out.

A group of newly arrived British immigrants were employed to dismantle the hull and salvage iron and copper bolts and other metal. The work began on 19 May but by 5 June it was obvious that the exercise was not cost effective and it was decided that the hull would be further dismantled by explosives. On 6 June 1879 three charges of dynamite broke the ship apart and the working party then collected any valuable items.

The exact site of the salvage activities has not been determined. However the remains of a large wooden vessel in Angas Inlet (only a short distance from the original opening into the North Arm) have yet to be identified. It is feasible that this wreckage may be the remains of the *Kadina*.



Remains thought to be the *Kadina*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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