

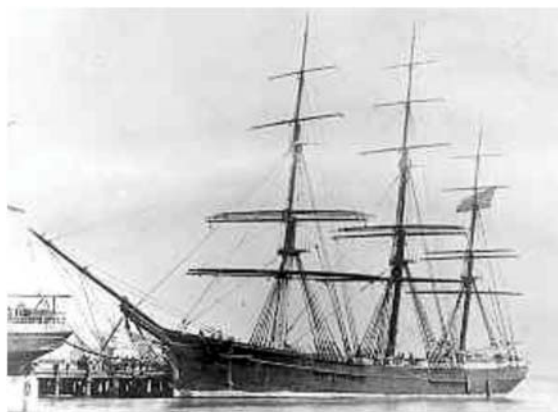
SHIPWRECKS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SEMINOLE - Garden Island

The three masted barque *Seminole* was built by Maxin, Fish and Company at Mystic, Connecticut in 1865. Originally ship rigged, the wooden hulled vessel of 1511 gross tons measured 196.5 feet (59.9 m) in length, 41.6 feet (12.7 m) breadth and 25.0 feet (7.6 m) depth. At a construction cost of \$US125 000, the *Seminole* was rated in the highest class allotted at that period.

Built following the American Civil War, the *Seminole* worked initially from the east coast of the United States, before transferring to the Pacific Coast in 1887. In 1899 the barque arrived in Newcastle, New South Wales. It was sold and towed to Port Adelaide to become a coal storage hulk.

Unsuccessful attempts to extinguish a fire on board the coal hulk in July 1906 resulted in the vessel being towed to the North Arm, where it was beached and water pumped into the hold. Although considerably damaged, the hulk was sold, refloated and repaired. Finally on 16 March 1909, following another small fire during the breaking up process, the *Seminole* was abandoned on the shores of Garden Island, becoming the first vessel to be placed in the Graveyard. Today limited remains are visible at low tide. A portion of the keel and frames can be seen, with tangled rigging overlying the site.



Seminole, c.1880 (Photo: SLSA: Edwardes Collection: V66No81)



Remains of *Seminole* at the North Arm

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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