

SHIPWRECKS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

No.1 HULK - Broad Creek

The Government-owned hulk, known as No. 1 Hulk, was originally an iron bucket dredge, probably built in 1852, with frame and plates imported from Great Britain.

At some stage in the mid to late 1800s the dredge was converted for use as a floating explosives storage hulk in the North Arm. Records indicate that No. 1 Hulk was the largest and primary storage vessel, with a holding capacity of 90 tons. In February 1899, for example, it held 46.5 tons of dynamite and 15.25 tons of powder.

In July 1915 the vessel was condemned and grounded as reinforcement in the Broad Creek embankment, west of the jetty and tramway. It continued to store explosives for some time but from 1938 was progressively gutted for shed timbers and other useful materials.

Today the hulk lies largely intact at the end of Broad Creek, adjacent to the Penrice salt fields. It shows signs of salvage activities, with machinery and other structure removed, but timbers and surviving construction details verify its original purpose as a dredge.



No.1 Hulk today

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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