



PORT ADELAIDE RIVER.

SURVEYED BY F. HOWARD, 1884.

Soundings reduced to Low Water Datum established by Lieut. Goalen, R.N.

SCALE
Fathoms 1 2 3 4 5
Cables 1 2
Miles 1 2

SOUNDINGS IN FEET.

H. W. F. & C. 5h. 25m.
Springs Rise 8ft. Neaps Rise 5ft.

Published by the Marine Board of South Australia.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION, &c.

THE entrance to the Port Adelaide River is marked by two perch buoys, red on the starboard hand and black on the port hand going in, the red buoy being about 600ft. to the west of the lighthouse. This is at the commencement of what is known as the Outer Bar, through which, in 1877 to 1879, a channel was made 3,500ft. in length. The banks on each side are composed of loose white sand, &c., and have since been to some extent washed in, thus reducing the width to about 200ft. or 150ft., and the depth to not less than 18ft. at low water, although, in places, there is as much as 18, 19, and 20 feet. To keep in the middle of this channel, bring No. 12 light beacon and the red leading light in one, bearing about N.E. by E., until within a distance of about two cables length of No. 12 light. [There are twelve white lights on red beacons on the starboard hand going in.] About this point the cutting is passed and Light's Passage reached. Here the channel widens to between 400ft. and 500ft., and remains that width for a distance of about 9,000ft., the depth being from 20ft. to 25ft. at low water. Next come the approach to the Inner Bar and the Bar itself, through the whole of which a channel has been dredged about 18,000ft. in length, 160ft. in width (except for about 3,000ft. round the curve at Snapper Point, where the width is 200ft.), and not less than 18ft. in depth at low water, although, in many places, as much as 19ft. and 20ft. will be found. The width of the cutting is shown at the entrance by black and red perch buoys, and the inside edge (starboard hand), all the way up, is shown by red tub-shaped buoys. At the end of this long cutting, opposite the Kerensine Store, the channel again widens to about 600ft. for a distance of about 5,000ft., or until abreast of the North Arm, and has depths of 18, 19, and 20 feet. At the North Arm it again narrows to about 250ft., and remains that width until about 1,200ft. past the False Arm, or a distance of about 3,800ft., the depths still being 18, 19, and 20 feet. To keep in the middle of the latter channel, the two beacons on the eastern shore, nearly opposite the Kerensine Store, must be kept in line. From this point to the Coalshed Creek Wharf in the harbor, a distance of about 3,800ft., the channel is 150ft. in width; the depth being from 20ft. to 25ft. at low water. The entrance to and the width of this last cutting are also marked by perch buoys, and the eastern edge (port hand) by black tub-shaped buoys. At the Coalshed Creek Wharf the channel once more widens to 300ft., and is not less than that width as far as the Jervois Railway Bridge, a distance of about 7,000ft., the depth being from 20ft. to 25ft. at low water.

SUMMARY.

From	To	Distance	Width	Depth at Low Water
		Feet.	Feet.	Feet.
Beginning Outer Bar	End Outer Bar	3,500	200 to 250	18, 19, 20
End Outer Bar	Approach to Inner Bar	9,000	100 to 200	20 to 24
Approach to Inner Bar	Kerensine Store	18,000	160	18, 19, 20
Kerensine Store	North Arm	5,000	250	18, 19, 20
North Arm	Two Cables past False Arm	3,800	250	18, 19, 20
Two Cables past North Arm	Coalshed Creek Wharf	4,800	150	20, 21, 22
Coalshed Creek Wharf	Jervois Railway Bridge	7,000	300 to 400	20 to 22
Total.		51,100		
* No dredging done here: other places deepened.				

MARINE BOARD, PORT ADELAIDE,
24TH APRIL, 1884.

SIR,
I have the honour to forward a copy of a recently-prepared Chart of the Port Adelaide River, and am desirous to request that you will be good enough to give owners, masters, and charterers of ships, and other persons interested, an opportunity of inspecting the same.
I am also to inform you that on completion of the operations on which two (there will shortly be three) large dredgers are now engaged, the Channels between the lighthouse and the Inner Harbor will be not less than 250ft. wide and 20ft. deep at ordinary low water springs, or about 28ft. 3in. at ordinary high water springs. Other navigable parts of the river will be, and in fact are now, both wider and deeper.
The depth in the harbor will not be less than 22ft. at low water, or about 30ft. 3in. at high water, for a width of from 200ft. to 300ft., which, however, is not the full width of the harbor. Wharfage accommodation may at present be found for vessels drawing 24ft.
The lowest tide recorded during last month was 18ft. 6in. the highest, 26ft. 9in., and the fifty-eight observations at high water gave from 22ft. to 27ft. It may therefore be said that, apart from the improvements effected from day to day, shipmasters may find, in the shallowest part of the channel, twice in every twenty-four hours, a depth of from 22ft. to 27ft., and in many places a much greater depth.

I have the honour to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient servant,
THOS. N. STEPHENS,
Secretary.

FREARSON'S PRINTING HOUSE, ADELAIDE.