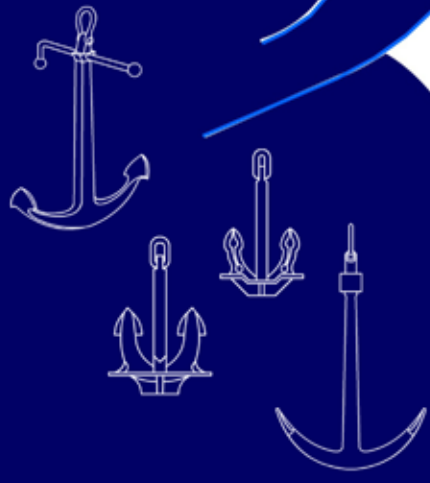


# Port Adelaide Anchor Trail



Discover Port Adelaide's rich maritime heritage on foot, by bike or by car  
 3rd Edition - February 2024



Researched & compiled by Steve Reynolds & Dan Monceaux for the Marine Life Society of South Australia 2020



The task of classifying the anchors in this guide was assisted by members of the Big Anchor Project, Nautical Archaeology Society (UK). Further thanks are due to the staff of the Cities of Port Adelaide Enfield and Charles Sturt, SA Maritime Museum, AustBuilt Museum, Port Adelaide Historical Society, SA Archaeology Society, Dept. for Environment & Water (SA), Dept. of Maritime Archaeology (WA), Flinders University and listed local businesses.

If you're unable to visit the sites listed in this guide, you can view the anchors online at: <http://bit.ly/anchortrail>

For further reading on anchors and their development, including our research references, visit: <http://bit.ly/moreanchors>

Prior to European settlement, the Port River nourished the Kaurna people for millennia as they hunted, gathered, traded, held ceremonies and camped among the dunes and wetlands. In 1836, the river was explored by Colonel William Light and its fate decided; it would become the port for the new township of Adelaide. Since then, Port Adelaide has grown from its mosquito-blown origins as Port Misery to the busy international port that it is today. From the working waterfronts of Outer Harbor and Lipson Reach to the yacht, sailing and boating clubs in quieter corners of the river "The Port" remains home to commercial, naval and recreational mariners. It is also home to a pod of resident bottlenose dolphins, rays, fishes and crabs which inhabit its diverse and surprisingly colourful marine environment.

While other former ports in South Australia have fallen into disuse, Port Adelaide has evolved and persevered. It has also managed to maintain much of its early character. Sections of once-bustling slipways, jetties and wharves remain in the inner harbour, while the iconic red lighthouse and hulls of vessels in dry dock invite curious tourists. Less conspicuous perhaps are the historic anchors presented in this Port Adelaide Anchor Trail guide. In their contrasting designs and conditions, they represent the development of shipping in South Australia. Tales of great hardship are won from explorer Matthew Flinders' lost anchor (HMS Investigator, 1803) and an anchor from a ship wrecked at Port Willunga (Star of Greece, 1888). More modern designs reflect advances in engineering and the work of merchant and naval mariners in the 20th century. These artifacts transport us to the days of sail and steam, while the huge bulk carriers, cargo ships, cruise liners and naval vessels of today continue the Port's story. Together, these anchors symbolise hope, toil, adventure and steadfastness. As you explore this trail, spare a thought for the thousands of mariners who've dropped anchor at Port Adelaide or chosen to make this special place their home.

Dan Monceaux

### 1 North Haven Marine

Shop 1, 23 Alexa Rd, North Haven  
Single anchor displayed outside shop

Type: Admiralty  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 1.36 m  
Period: 20th Century



### 5 Semaphore Jetty

Esplanade, Semaphore. Anchor from wreck of Star of Greece (1888)

Type: Trotman's  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 3.36 m  
Period: mid-late 19th Century



### 2 Largs Bay RSL

17 Carnarvon Tce. Two anchors & Merchant Navy memorial

Type: Union (or similar)  
Stocked: no & no  
Length: 1.1 m & 1 m  
Period: 20th Century



### 6 Naval Reserve Cadets

Jenkins Street, New Port  
Anchor with removed or damaged flukes

Type: Admiralty  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 2.35 m  
Period: 20th Century



### 3 Largs Pier

1 Esplanade, Largs Bay  
Single large anchor, bent for mooring

Type: Admiralty  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 2.5 m  
Period: late 19th Century



### 7 Birkenhead Tavern

Riverview St, Birkenhead (east of Tavern) Two large anchors & a prop

Type: Admiralty / Union, Hall's (or similar)  
Stocked: yes & no  
Length: 3.4 m & 2.5 m  
Period: early-mid 20th C & mid 20th C

### 4 Austbuilt Museum

95 Fletcher Road, Peterhead  
Two anchors in front yard of museum

Type: Admiralty & Admiralty  
Stocked: yes & yes  
Length: 2 m & 0.7 m  
Period: 19th C & 20th C



### 8 Fletcher's Slip - New Port

Cnr of Torrens Ave & Cape York Ave.  
Large anchor & chain beside.

Type: Rodger's Small Palm  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 3.5 m  
Period: mid-1850s



### 9 SA Maritime Museum

126 Lipson St, Port Adelaide  
Two anchors in museum (entry fee)

Type: Old plan long shanked & Admiralty  
Stocked: yes & yes  
Length: 4.23 m & 1.5 m  
Period: Late 18th C & Late 19th C

### 12 Quin Marine, Port Adelaide

331 St Vincent St East  
Large anchor outside shop

Type: Admiralty  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 3.3 m  
Period: 20th Century



### 10 Le Fevre High School

Cnr Hart St & Swan Tce, Semaphore South. Single anchor donated by Keith Le Leu

Type: Admiralty / Stocked: yes  
Length: 1.5 m  
Period: mid-late 19th Century



### 13 Old Port Road

Junction of Old Port Rd, Webb St & Frederick Rd. On traffic island.

Type: Rodger's Small Palm  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 3.1 m  
Period: mid-1850s



### 11 Naval Association of Australia

35 Quebec St, Port Adelaide  
Anchor in VP Day Memorial

Type: Byers clone (or similar)  
Stocked: no  
Length: 1.2 m  
Period: mid-late 20th Century



### 14 Frome Reserve

Frome Crescent, West Lakes  
Anchor is beside playground

Type: Trotman's  
Stocked: yes  
Length: 2.7 m+  
Period: 19th Century



Photo: D. Monceaux

Anchors lost at sea quickly become habitat as they are colonised by a range of plants and invertebrates. These can include algae, sponges, ascidians, molluscs, worms, echinoderms and crustaceans. They also provide homes and shelter for fish. These combined maritime and natural heritage values make anchors points of interest for divers, historians and naturalists alike.

Historic anchor discoveries continue to be made in South Australian waters today. Recent discoveries have been made at Glenelg (2014) and Edithburgh (2018). If you find an anchor underwater, photograph it, record its location and report it to the SA Government Department for Environment & Water. Please leave the anchor in place and the site undisturbed.

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