

The Royal Sappers and Miners in South Australia 1839 to 1860.

Its role in the Survey of South Australia.

By Anthony Frank Harris (deceased) & Andrew Peake OAM

In 1839 the newly established Province of South Australia was in disarray, facing bankruptcy, following the resignation of Colonel William Light as Surveyor General. Following his resignation, several of his fellow surveyors also resigned and the survey of South Australia virtually ceased, meaning that land was not available for sale, which would fund the migration scheme to bring colonists to the colony.

The solution was found in arranging for a team of fifteen Royal Sappers and Miners, led by a Royal Engineering officer, to come to South Australia in 1839. They became the back-bone of the Survey Office for the next twenty-one years, and their commanding officer became the Colony's Surveyor-General.

This publication traces the lives of the forty men of the Royal Sappers and Miners who served in South Australia between 1839 and 1860. Most of these men married and settled in South Australia following their discharge.

Soft laminated cover, B5, 157 pages, colour and black and white photos, with index. \$60, plus postage in Australia \$11.50.

Available from the joint author, Andrew Peake, either by post or collect, 14 Tudor Street, Dulwich SA 5065 (Tel. 8332 8884) agpeake@gmail.com

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