

Ceremonial wooden wheelbarrow used at the turning of the first sod at works on railways commenced at Port Augusta, Oodnadatta, Tarcoola and Alice Springs between 1912 and 2001

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Physical description

Wooden wheelbarrow with a green painted metal wheel and decorative scrolls. Panels of text painted in gold on the inside surfaces indicate that the wheelbarrow was used at the turning of the first sods at the commencement of the railways from Port Augusta, Oodnadatta, and Tarcoola between 1878 and 1975. 'Decorated by W. J. Spence Port Augusta 1975' is painted on the underside of the wheelbarrow.

Object information

? What

Type	Wheelbarrows
Collection	Australian National Railways Commission collection
Dimensions	L 1620mm x W 700mm x H 532mm
Material	Wood , Metal - non specific , Paint - non specific

When

Date made

[1877-1878](#)

Date of event

[28/01/1878](#)

Sod turning for the Port Augusta to Quorn section of national railway network

Date of event

[21/01/1927](#)

Sod turning for the Oodnadatta to Alice Springs section of national railway network

Date of event

[17/07/2001](#)

Sod turning for the Alice Springs to Darwin section of national railway network

Date of restoration

[1975](#)

Date of event

[14/09/1912](#)

Sod turning for the Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie section of national railway network

Date of event

[12/04/1975](#)

Sod turning for the Tarcoola to Alice Springs section of national railway network

Period of use

[1912-2001](#)

Who

Restorer

[W J. Spence](#)

User

[Sir William F. Jervois](#)

28/01/1878

User

[William C. Hill](#)

21/01/1927

User

[Hon John W. Howard](#)

17/07/2001

Photographer

[Jason McCarthy](#)

User

[Baron Thomas Denman](#)

14/09/1912

User

[Hon Edward G. Whitlam](#)

12/04/1975

User

[South Australian Railways](#)

User

[Commonwealth Railways](#)

Where

Place of restoration

[Port Augusta, South Australia, Australia](#)

Place of event

[Oodnadatta, South Australia, Australia](#)

21/01/1927

Place of event

[Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia](#)

17/07/2001

Place of event

[Port Augusta, South Australia, Australia](#)

28/01/1878 and 14/09/1912

Place of event

[Tarcoola, South Australia, Australia](#)

12/04/1975

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