

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

CAPTAIN EDWARD FROME

Drawings and paintings, 1839-51

Reel M987

**Royal Commonwealth Society
Northumberland Avenue
London WC2N 5BJ**

**National Library of Australia
State Library of New South Wales**

Filmed: 1965

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edward Charles Frome (1801-1890) was born at Gibraltar and grew up in London. He entered the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich in 1817 and was commissioned in the Royal Engineers in 1825. He worked on the construction of the Rideau Canal in Canada in 1827-33 and later undertook training of junior Royal Engineers at Chatham. He was promoted to the rank of captain in 1840.

In 1839 Frome was appointed the third surveyor-general of South Australia and he and his family arrived in Adelaide in September. The appointment was for ten years and he remained in the colony until 1849. Under his leadership, large areas of surveyed land were soon available for settlers and roads and secondary settlements planned. He explored and mapped new territory in the north and south-east of the colony. He also acted as colonial engineer and supervised the construction of bridges over the River Torrens and the Adelaide Gaol. He was a member of the Council of Government in 1839-43 and served on a number of public authorities.

Frome subsequently served with the Royal Engineers in Mauritius, Heligoland, Ireland and Gibraltar. He was promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1854 and became lieutenant-governor of Guernsey in 1867. He retired in 1877.

Frome was a talented artist. Most of his South Australian paintings and drawings were done while working on surveys or exploring expeditions. In particular, a large number were drawn during his survey of the Lake Alexandrina-Coorong region in 1840 and during his second northern trip to Lake Torrens in 1843.

The albums, sketchbooks and some single paintings were donated and bequeathed to the Royal Empire Society by Dora Wynne, the daughter of Frome, in 1929-30. The South Australian works were sold to the Art Gallery of South Australia in 1970.

Reference: R.G. Appleyard. Captain E.C. Frome, R.E., and his sketches of South Australia, 1839-1849, *Bulletin of the Art Gallery of South Australia*, vol. 34 (1-2), July-Oct. 1972. The article includes a full listing of the paintings and drawings.

Note: In addition to the microfilm, the National Library of Australia, State Library of New South Wales and State Library of South Australia acquired prints and colour transparencies of all the South Australian works. They also hold prints and colour transparencies of four framed paintings that were not microfilmed. These paintings depict the depot at Black Rock Hills, Smoker's Valley, Burra Creek and country near Mount Serle.

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Note: The images were filmed from right to left on the reel, starting with Sketch Book No. 2 at the end of the reel. There is no title page or list on the reel.

Apart from four paintings in the second album, all the works were painted or drawn by Frome.

Sketch Book No. 2. South Australia, 1840.

- 2 Township of Wellington on the Murray, 25 Sept. 1840.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 3 Entrance of the Murray into Lake Alexandrina.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 4 River Murray. Pomondah Point.
Pencil and watercolour. 11.1 x 38cm
- 5 Murray.
Pencil. 1.1 x 19cm.
- 6 Native method of burial.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 7 German missionary's hut on the Murray, 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 8 Coorong. Spot where the murderers of the crew of the *Maria* were captured.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 9 On the Coorong.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 10 Salt lake in the Coorong Desert.
Watercolour and pencil. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 11 Salt lagoon in the desert, Oct. 1840.
11.1 x 19cm.
- 12 Lake Coorong. Halting place.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 27.3cm.
- 13 Salt creek, Coorong, near Bonney's Well.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 14 View of the horizon from hill on our ride to the eastward.
Pencil. 1.1 x 19cm.

- 15 Entrance to salt creek.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 23.5cm.
- 16 Crossing place at U. Light, S. Australia.
Pencil. 11.1 x 19 cm.
- 17 Camp. Oct. 8.
Ink and pencil. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 18 Native village on the Coorong deserted by the Milmenina tribe after the murder of the crew of the *Maria*. Burnt by me. Oct. 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 19 Look out station of the Milmenura Tribe, Coorong, Oct. 3.
Watercolour. 11.2 x 19cm.
- 20 'Pilgaru'. Two natives hung for murder, Sept. 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 21 Sea outlet of the Murray from 'Barker's Knoll'.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 22 Sea outlet of the Murray from the beach below 'Barker's Knoll' – where that fine fellow Barker was murdered by the natives. I discovered the remains of his skull by digging in this knoll and gave them to his old friend Capt. Sturt.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 23 Barker's Knoll. Sea outlet of the Murray, 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 38.4cm.
- 24 Rosetta Head, Encounter Bay, 1841.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 25 Rapid Bay. S. Australia, 22 Jan. 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 26 Rapid Bay.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 36.5cm.
- 27 Rapid Bay. First steamer going in.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 28 Rapid Bay.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 29 Jupiter Creek.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 30 Nepean Bay. Kangaroo Island. Kingscote, 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 38cm.

- 31 Kingscote, Kangaroo Island. The first settlement in South Australia – made by the S.A. Company.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 27cm.
- 32 Barossa Range from about 1½ miles N. of Gawler.
Pencil and ink. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 33 The 'H Tree' Hutt, 1840 or 1841.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 34 Scrub Plain.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 34a Flinders Hummock.
Pencil and wash. 11.1 x 38cm.
- 35 Barossa Range. (2 sketches)
Pen and ink. 11.1 x 19.2cm.
- 36 Poole's Camp, S. Australia.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 32cm.
- 37 Poole's Camp on the Para.
Pencil and wash. 23.5 x 11.1cm.
- 38 Group [of trees] near Poole's Camp.
Pencil and wash. 25 x 11.1cm.

Sketchbook No. 3

- 1 From the top of the highest of the 'Black Rock' hills, S. Australia.
Pencil. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 2 [View from Black Rock Hills.]
Pencil. 17.8 x 28.1cm.

25 pictures were removed from this book, of which four were framed and 21 placed in an album.

Sketchbook No. 4. South Australia and Mauritius, 1845-51

Several of the drawings in this book are not identified, while others depict scenes in Mauritius and also the Isle of Wight. The following are Australian drawings:

1st camp on the 'Burra', South Australia, 1845.
Watercolour. 16.1 x 48.2cm.

2nd camp near the Burra, 1845.
Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 35.2cm

Sand bar at the mouth of the Onkaparinga, April 1848.

Watercolour. 16.2 x 24.3cm.

Noarlunga Bridge, Onkaparinga, S. Australia.

Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 24.2cm.

Hahndorf Bridge, 1848.

Pencil. 16.2 x 40.5cm.

Picnic party, Yorke's Peninsula, South Australia. The Governor Col. Robe, Capt. and Mrs Frome, Mrs Torrens, Miss Cooper, Mr Dashwood & c. lost the boat and could not get on board the Cutter – or obtain either Provisions or Water. Periwinkles were however abundant – and we took on shore a supply of eatables that kept us alive till relieved in a few days. 1848.

Watercolour. 16.2 x 34cm.

Col. Robe trying to patch up the boat. S. Australia, 1848. Where the Governor's Party were left to starve! Yorke's Peninsula, S. Australia.

Pencil. 16.2 x 24.6cm.

Album No. 1

- 1 Depot, Black Rock Hills, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 2 Hughes's Upper Station, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28cm.
- 3 The Razor Back, from the top of Mount Bryan, Aug. 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 4 Hut near the Burra Creek, Smoker's Valley, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28cm.
- 5 Depot, Black Rock Hills, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 6 Camp [Prewitt's Springs], 1843
Watercolour, 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 7 Hot Springs, looking south, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 8 Freshwater lagoon in the north of South Australia, 1843. This painting was withdrawn in 1933.
- 9 Pass through the hills, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 10 'Eagle's Nest' where Henderson was nearly left, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.

- 11 Pasmore River, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 12 Reaping Hook Hill, from the south, 1843.
Watercolour. 19.8 x 28.1cm.
- 13 Magnesian water hole, Aug. 1843.
Watercolour. 14 x 17.8cm.
- 13a Crater of an extinct volcano, 1843.
Watercolour. 12.5 x 17.8cm.
- 14 First view of the salt desert, called Lake Torrens, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 15 View of mountains, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 16 Rushy pond in the spring, 1843.
Watercolour. 13.5 x 17.8cm.
- 16a Mount Victor, 1843.
Watercolour. 7.8 x 17.8cm.
- 17 Prism Hill, near Mount Serle, 1843.
Watercolour. 10 x 17.8cm.
- 17a Reaping Hook Hill, 1843.
Watercolour. 5.5 x 17.8cm.
- 17b. Black Rock Hill, from the north, 1843.
Watercolour. 9.5 x 17.8cm.
- 18 The Devil's Glen, near the thermal springs, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 21.8cm.
- 19 View from camp under Mount Serle, looking east towards Lake Torrens, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28cm.
- 20 Prewitt's Springs, 1843. (Prewitt's Springs on our return after losing him in the scrub. Left a piece of pork etc. for him in a forked stick in the event of his finding our track. This man was saved after heavy rain, six days without food and very little water.)
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28cm.
- 21 Mountains in South Australia, 1843.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 28.1cm.
- 22 Encounter Bay, looking west beyond Rosetta Head.
Watercolour. 16 x 24.1cm.
- 23 Rapid Bay from the Currie Steamer, 1841.

- Watercolour. 15.3 x 23.4cm.
- 24 Mouth of the Onkaparinga.
Watercolour. 15.6 x 23.1cm.
- 25 The Coorong from entrance of Salt Creek, Coorong, 1840.
Watercolour. 17.2 x 32.1cm.
- 26 Kapunda Mine, 1845.
Watercolour. 16.3 x 24.3cm.
- 27 Gum trees behind Captain Sturt's house.
Watercolour. 17 x 23.3cm.
- 28 Encampment. Yorke's Peninsula, 1848.
Watercolour. 16.8 x 24cm.
- 29 Near the sources of the Inman, Dec. 1839.
Watercolour. 15.7 x 24.1cm.
- 30 View from camp on Mount Serle, 1842.
Watercolour. 20 x 32.2cm.
- 31 Reef in Encounter Bay, 1841.
Watercolour. 15.5 x 24.1cm.
- 32 Goolwa, elbow of the Murray, 'the Coorong', 1840.
Watercolour. 14.7 x 23.7cm.
- 33 Encounter Bay.
Watercolour. 12.6 x 23.6cm.
- 34 View from Razor Back Hill, looking south over Mount Bryant.
Watercolour, 10.1 x 17.5cm.
- 35 View near the outlet of the River Murray.
Watercolour. 13.3 x 19.7cm.
- 36 View with Mount Bryan in the distance.
Watercolour. 11.5 x 18cm.
- 36a Head station of Messrs. Hawker, Bungurrie [Bungaree].
Pencil sketch.
- 37 Depot, Black Rock Hills.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 17.8cm.
- 38 Encampment, Valley of the Inman, 1840.
Watercolour. 15.8 x 24.1cm.
- 39 Dante's Portal.

- Watercolour. 17.7 x 23.4cm.
- 40 Ravine, with water, Black Rock Hills.
Watercolour. 17 x 11.5cm.
- 41 Ravine, Black Rock Hills.
Watercolour. 17 x 11.5cm.
- 41a Black Rock Hills.
- 42 Adelaide and St Vincent Gulf from Glen Osmond.
Pen and watercolour. 25.4 x 36.8cm.
- 43 Native mode of burial on the Lower Murray, 1840.
Watercolour. 16.5 x 24.2cm.
- 44 Whitton Bluff, 1835 (sic).
Watercolour. 21.9 x 30.8cm.
- 45 Old whaling hut (Heappenstall's Hut), Whitton Bluff, 1844.
Watercolour. 21.9 x 30.8cm.
- 46 Encampment on the Inman. A mile below M. Strangways.
Watercolour. 15 x 24cm.
- 47 Vale Lonely, Mypongee [Myponga].
Watercolour. 16 x 24cm.
- 48 The Grange, Captain Sturt's house, 1849.
Watercolour. 16.5 x 23.2cm.
- 49 Look-out station of the Milmenina tribe. (Burnt as being the residence of the murderers of the crew of the *Maria*)
Watercolour. 11.2 x 19cm.
- 50 Pilgaru: two natives hung for murder, Sept. 1840.
Watercolour. 11.1 x 19cm.
- 51 Camp, Black Rock Hills, 1842.
Watercolour. 10.8 x 17.6cm.
- 52 View from Black Rock Hills, looking north, 1842.
Watercolour. 10.8 x 18cm.
- 53 View from Black Rock Hills, looking south.
Watercolour. 11.5 x 17.5cm.
- 53a View from Black Rock Hills, 1842.
- 54 Camp.
Watercolour. 11.2 x 17.8cm.

55 [View with palm tree]
Watercolour. 19 x 11.6cm.

Album 2

- 56 Sydenham, residence of Colonel Frome.
Watercolour. 22.7 x 28.4cm.
- 57 Hephenshall's whaling hut from Whitton Bluff, Onkaparinga, 1848.
Watercolour. 16.2 x 39cm.
- 58 Razor Back Hill, 1842.
Watercolour. 10.5 x 17.8cm.
- 59 Ravine near Adelaide, 1842.
Watercolour. 18.2 x 23.3cm.
- 60 McLaren's Vale.
Watercolour. 17.8 x 26.5cm.
- 61 Stein's hut, Burra Creek, July 1845.
Pen and watercolour. 16.3 x 48.2cm.
- 61a Newland's sheep station, 1845.
Pencil and wash.
- 62 Sand bar at the mouth of the Onkaparinga, April 1840.
Watercolour. 16.2 x 23.7cm.
- 63 Bridge at Gawler Town, 1843.
Watercolour. 11.5 x 29.7cm.
- 63b View of bridge.
Watercolour. 18.6 x 11.6cm.
- 63a The Rural Deanery, March 1843.
Watercolour. 1.5 x 27cm.
- 64 View near Reaper Hook Hill.
Watercolour. 10.5 x 17.8cm.
- 65 Eyre's first camp at Morunde [Moorundie], on the Murray.
Watercolour. 20.2 x 31,7cm.
- 66 Eyre's first station on the Murray, March 1842.
Pen and ink. 20.2 x 32.2cm.
- 67 Survey camp, S.E. side of Lake Alexandrina, Oct. 1840.

- Pen and ink. 21.1 x 32.2cm.
- 68 Natural avenue near Eyre's station on the Murray, 1842.
Pen and ink. 19 x 27cm.
- 69 Encampment on the Lake, March 1843.
Pencil. 18.7 x 33.5cm.
- 69a View of camp.
Pencil.
- 70 Survey station at the Coorong.
Ink and pencil. 10.6 x 18.1cm.
- 71 View near Adelaide, 1845.
Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 24.3cm.
- 72 Adelaide from above Mt Earle.
Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 24.3cm.
- 73 Encounter Bay whaling station, March 1844.
Pencil. 16.2 x 48.5cm.
- 73a View of Sydneham.
Pencil, sepia wash.
- 74 Our target, Onkaparinga, shoulder blade of a whale, 1848.
Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 24.3cm.
- 75 First station on Kangaroo Island, Jan. 1841.
Pencil. 17.4 x 23.2cm.
- 76 Encampment at Onkaparinga, 1848.
Pencil. 16.2 x 24.2cm.
- 77 Camp. (Here Sapper Pasmore asked leave to be married, after having got me a good dinner ready, kangaroo soup and quail pie! Of course he got it and is now sorry.)
Pencil. 16.2 x 24.3cm.
- 78 On the road to Mt Lofty, 1845.
Pencil. 16.2 x 24.2cm.
- 79 Near Mount Crawford, drawing by H. Nixon.
Pencil. 22 x 27.8cm.
- 80 Morunde [Moorundie], the first township on the Murray, 1842.
Pen and ink. 16.7 x 23.3cm.
- 81 The Frome's house in Parklands.
Pencil. 18.3 x 23cm.

- 82 Julia Island, Murray River, 1840.
Pencil. 18.5 x 23.4cm.
- 83 Sydenham.
Pencil. 19.4 x 26.7cm.
- 84 Willunga, 1840.
- 85 Lizard Lodge, Major O'Halloran's house.
Pencil. 19.5 x 31cm.
- 86 Currency Creek, 1840.
Pencil. 18 x 26.5cm.
- 87 Jupiter Creek, 1840.
Pencil. 18.5 x 23.4cm.
- 88 Encounter Bay seen from above, 1840.
Pencil. 18.5 x 23.4cm.
- 89 Crow's Bridge, Currency Creek, 1840.
Pencil. 16.5 x 24.5cm.
- 90 Rosetta Head and whaling station.
Pen and ink. 15.9 x 23.6cm.
- 91 Sydenham.
Pencil and wash. 16.2 x 22.3cm.
- 92 Sydenham.
Pencil. 15.3 x 23.2cm.
- 93 Natural avenue, looking towards Eyre's Hut, 1840.
Pencil. 19.2 x 24.5cm.
- 94 View of part of Hobart Town from the windmill, by John B. Henderson.
Watercolour. 14 x 22.8cm.
- 95 View in Van Diemen's Land, by John B. Henderson.
Watercolour. 14x22.9cm.
- 96 View, by Samuel Thomas Gill.
- 97 Agricultural and Horticultural Show, 1843, by Samuel Thomas Gill.
Watercolour. 20.8 x 30.8cm.
- 98 Breaking up camp at Mount Barker, March 1842.
Pen and ink. 42.7 x 58.7cm.