

AUSTRALIA



1942 D - SIXPENCE - OBVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
DENVER MINT

6 PENCE 19.3 MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1942	12,000,000
1943	8,000,000

▲OV: Crowned head of GEORGE VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (George VI Dei
Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator =
George VI by the grace of, God King of all the Britains, Defender
of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / H P under bust.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / **D** (mintmark) / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: **D** = DENVER

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-17, KM-38

FOOTNOTE: The Commonwealth Coat of Arms of Australia was granted in May 1908 by King Edward VII. It consists of an ermine bordered shield the Cross of St. George at the center and four seven pointed stars thereon. The shield is supported by a kangaroo, left and emu, right, standing upon a grassy field. Above the shield is a torse surmounted by a seven pointed 'Commonwealth Star'. Below is a banner bearing the motto *ADVANCE AUSTRALIA*. The Arms of Australia, date from an early banner of 1805.



1942 D - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: The listings for Australia are presented by mints in alphabetical order; Denver, London, Melbourne, San Francisco and Sydney. The first sixpence were shipped from London in 1910. The Royal Mint, London continued to supply the Commonwealth with coinage until 1916 when the Melbourne branch mint, which up to this time had been striking only Gold, started to strike subsidiary coinage. At the same time from 1912-26 the Sydney branch mint also struck the sixpence coins and as both issues were without mintmark, only the 1922 date can be identified as from the Sydney mint. During World War II the American mints of Denver and San Francisco produced coins for Australia. London again produced a large issue dated 1951, the only time the Royal Mint of London has used a mintmark **PL** in recent times. All sixpence were again struck at the Melbourne mint as long as silver was used for the small coinage with the last issue dated 1963.



Melbourne in 1840



Government House - 1892



Murray and Darling Rivers - 1892

FOOTNOTE: King Edward VIII when he abdicated to marry the American Mrs. Wallis Warfield Simpson, requested his brother, when he became King George VI to have Paget design his coinage. The H P mark appears on the coins of King George VI of Australia, Canada, Great Britain, and New Zealand. The Dominican Republic 10 centavos Y-17 with the Arawak Indian liberty head was the work of Paget as many commemorative coins during this period. Iraq 20 fils Y-17 with portrait of King Faisal II facing right was prepared from a portrait by Paget which the young King commissioned when he was a student at Harrow. In 1958 the young King, the Crown Prince of Iraq and almost the whole Royal Family were murdered during a military coup in Iraq. The famous designer died at the age of 81 in 1974.

FOOTNOTE: Australia, meaning "The South" from the Latin, Australis = Southern.

FOOTNOTE: F:D: in the inscription are initials for Defender of the Faith granted to Henry VIII by Pope Leo X in 1521. The BR:OMN: in the inscription abbreviated from the Latin - BRITANNIARUM OMNIUM (of all the Britains).



1910 - SIXPENCE - OBVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
LONDON MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1910 3,046,635

▲OV: Crowned head of EDWARD VII, facing right
EDWARDVS VII D:G:BRITT:OMN:REX F:D:IMP: (Edward VII Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = Edward VII by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / DES. under bust / • (dot) below.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll, SIXPENCE, above / →1910← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: (obv) DES. = George William DeSaulles
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-2, KM-19

FOOTNOTE: The English began colonization of Australia in 1787 by transporting to Botany Bay a number of convicts. Gold was discovered in 1851 which brought in many settlers. The Commonwealth of Australia was founded in 1900 with six states; New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia. The 1910 issue was a one year type as the coin minted in London with the bust of King Edward VII had to be sent half way around the world by ship. The King had died before the coins reached Australia.

FOOTNOTE: The obverse design of the EDWARD VII sixpence was designed by the Chief Engraver at the Royal mint, George William DeSaulles.



1910 - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
LONDON MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1911	1,000,000
1912	1,600,000
1914	1,800,000

^OV: Crowned head of GEORGE V, facing left
GEORGIVS V D:G:BRIT:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (George V Dei
Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator =
George V by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender
of the Faith, Emperor of India) around B.M. on truncation / • (dot)
below.

^RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: (obv) B.M. = Sir Edgar Bertram MacKenna
(rev) = W.H.J. Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-10, KM-25

POPULATION: Australia - 1911 - 4,455,005, capital
Canberra, with Melbourne, the seat of government
with 591,830 inhabitants.

FOOTNOTE: A 1911 proof sixpence was minted at London.

FOOTNOTE: The Royal mint, London struck many *dime size silver coins* for the British colonies, all without mintmarks, except the 1951 Australian sixpence which shows a mintmark of **PL**. This makes this type a unique coin for this series.



1951 PL - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
LONDON MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .500 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1951	20,024,000
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^OV: Crowned head of GEORGE VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (George VI Dei
Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator =
George VI by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender
of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / H P under bust.

^RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above, **PL** (mintmark) / →1951← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: **PL** = Royal Mint, LONDON

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J. Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-25, KM-45

FOOTNOTE: Proof sixpence dated 1951 were struck at London.

FOOTNOTE: The **PL** mintmark for the Royal mint in London was first used in Roman times; PECUNIA LONDINII (Money of London) or PECUSSA LONDINIO (Struck at London).

FOOTNOTE: Sir Edgar Bertram MacKenna - Australian sculptor Edgar Bertram MacKenna was born in Melbourne in 1863 and knighted in 1921. He was the first artist who had his design accepted by the Royal mint following the improvements in 1902 which made it unnecessary for coinage dies to be engraved by hand. His designs were used for the coinage of King George V as seen on the Maundy four pence of Great Britain, the sixpence of Australia, 10 cents of Canada and Newfoundland, British Honduras and Straits Settlements and the 25 cents of Ceylon. He died October 1931.

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of MELBOURNE MINT			
6 PENCE	19MM	.925 FINE	2.83 GRAMS

1916	1,769,000		
1917	1,632,000		
1918	915,000	rare	
1919	1,520,773		
1920	1,476,000		

^OV: Crowned head of GEORGE V, facing left
 GEORGIVS V D.G. BRITT: OMN: REX F.D. IND: IMP: (George V Dei
 Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator =
 George V by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender
 of the Faith, Emperor of India) around B.M. on truncation / • (dot)
 below.

^RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
 SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← / M (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: M = MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) B.M. = Sir Edge Bertram MacKenna
 (rev) = W.H.J. Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-10, KM-25

TYPE: I - M mintmark under DATE.

FOOTNOTE: 25 proof sixpence dated 1916 were struck at the
 Melbourne mint.

FOOTNOTE: The Melbourne mint opened June 12, 1872 as a branch
 of the Royal mint. It struck only gold sovereigns and half sover-
 eigns until 1916 when it started to mint most of the coinage then
 current in Australia.



FOOTNOTE: Melbourne, Capital of the colony of Victoria, on the
 Yarra-Yarra, about 2 miles from Port Phillip Bay. Melbourne was
 founded in 1836 during the premiership of Lord Melbourne, after
 whom it was named. The city and its suburbs occupy an exten-
 sive area, which is mostly hilly or undulating, with the Yarra wind-
 ing through it. The city proper, on the north bank of the Yarra, being
 the central and most important business part of the whole. Here
 the principle streets are about a mile long and 99 feet wide, and run
 at right angles to one another, being lined with handsome and
 substantial edifices. Among them the most remarkable are the
 Houses of Parliament, the Treasury, the Law-court, the free li-
 brary; the mint, a very handsome quadrangle; the University, the
 Town Hall, and numerous churches, etc. The shipping trade is large,
 both in export and import, the chief of the former being wool, of the
 latter manufactured goods. *New Cabinet Cyclopaedia, Phila., 1896.*

FOOTNOTE: An improved type of reducing machine introduced
 around 1902, made it unnecessary for dies to be engraved by
 hand and allowed the Royal mint to accept the work of artists who
 were not engravers. The George V design of Sir Edgar Bertram
 MacKenna was one of these early designs from the eminent Aus-
 tralian sculptor.



1928 - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of MELBOURNE MINT			
6 PENCE	19MM	.925 FINE	2.83 GRAMS

1921	2,633,000
1923	206,000
1924	618,000
1925	2,174,000
1926	3,404,000
1927	3,592,040
1928	2,721,000
1934	1,024,000
1935	392,000
1936	1,800,000

^OV: Crowned head of GEORGE V, facing left
 GEORGIVS V D.G. BRITT: OMN: REX F.D. IND: IMP: (George V Dei
 Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator =
 George V by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender
 of the Faith, Emperor of India) around B.M. on truncation / •
 (dot) below.

^RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
 SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = MELBOURNE

TYPE: II - no mintmark

DESIGNER: (obv) B.M. = Sir Edge Bertram MacKenna
 (rev) = W.H.J. Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-10, KM-25

FOOTNOTE: All dates 1921-1926 except 1922 sixpence were
 minted in both Melbourne and Sydney without mintmark. Proofs
 dated 1921, 1924, 1926, 1927, 1934 and 1936 were struck at the
 Melbourne mint.



1938 - SIXPENCE - OBVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
MELBOURNE MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1938	2,864,000
1939	1,600,000
1940	2,512,000
1941	3,264,000
1942	7,704,000
1945	10,096,000

^OV: Crowned head of GEORGE VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (George VI Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / H P under bust.

^RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← / M (mintmark) below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: M = MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-17, KM-38

POPULATION: Australia - 1940 - 6,630,615

FOOTNOTE: 1938 proof mintage 250 from the Melbourne mint.



Australian sheep

FOOTNOTE: Thomas Hugh Paget - British coin designer Thomas Hugh Paget was born in 1893 and received his training at London's Central School of Arts and Crafts. Later he studied at the Royal Academy Schools with a Landseer Scholarship. He was commissioned first by the Royal mint in 1935 to sculpt a portrait of the Prince of Wales for a commemorative medal. Impressed by Paget's likeness, the Prince asked that he join other artists in a competition for his new coins after his accession to the throne as King Edward VIII. Paget's design was chosen for the new coinage and a full set of patterns were prepared, but never issued after the King abdicated in 1936. The direction of the head of King Edward VIII caused Paget to prepare a double set of dies, as tradition indicated that the Kings portrait should face the opposite direction from his predecessor. King George V faced left, however King Edward VIII had changed the part in his hair from right to left earlier and felt his likeness should face left.

FOOTNOTE: Melbourne - In 1835 John Batman, an Englishman, sailed up the Yarra River and bought from the native chief an area of more than one thousand square miles of land, for which he paid a few dollars worth of flour, sugar, glass beads, and other of those trinkets always so beautiful in the eyes of savages. Batman at once went to Tasmania to raise a band of colonists to go back and colonize the land he had purchased. By the time he had returned, to the present site of Melbourne, he found that possession had already been taken by a John Faulkner, who records tell us "made the first permanent settlement, bringing with him five men, two horses, two pigs, one cat, and three kangaroo dogs." The colony grew rapidly and only four years after its founding, it could boast seventy shops and three thousand people. In addition, their first ship with a cargo of four hundred bales of wool had been sent to London. The city is carefully laid out, a mile and a half square, with broad regular avenues and generous parks. By 1892 the population was more than three hundred and sixty thousand. Yarra-Yarra, the river upon which the city is built, is a small river, navigable only to Port Melbourne, two and a half miles below the city proper. *Stories of Australasia by Mara Pratt, Boston 1892.*



AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
MELBOURNE MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .500 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1946 10,024,000
1948 7,824,000

▲OV: Crowned head of GEORGE VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR: OMN: REX F:D: IND: IMP: (George VI Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / H P under bust.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-17a, KM-38a

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
MELBOURNE MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .500 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1950 10,272,000
1951 13,760,000
1952 2,112,000

▲OV: Crowned head of George VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX FIDEI DEF. (George VI Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith) around / H P under bust.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-25, KM-45



FOOTNOTE: In 1949 the legend on the obverse was changed to eliminate IND:IMP: (INDIA IMPERATOR = Emperor of India) when India became independent.



1953 - SIXPENCE - OBVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
MELBOURNE MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .500 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1953 1,152,000
1954 7,672,000

▲Ov: Head of ELIZABETH II, facing right
+ELIZABETH•II•DIA•GRATIA•REGINA (+Elizabeth II, by the grace of God Queen) around M G on truncion.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll,
SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) M G = Mrs. Mary Gillick
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-31, KM-52



Australian kangaroo

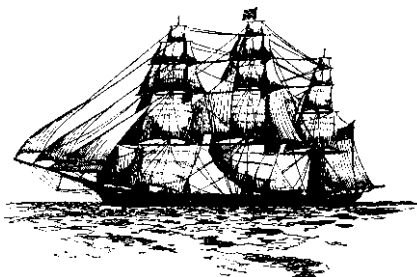


1953 - SIXPENCE - REVERSE



Transporting wool

FOOTNOTE: Mrs. Mary Gillick, Chelsea artist and sculptor at age 71 had her first design accepted for the 1953 coinage showing Queen ELIZABETH II facing right in a youthful portrait.



1959 - SIXPENCE - OBVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
MELBOURNE MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .500 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1955	14,248,000
1956	7,904,000
1957	12,584,000
1958	16,648,000
1959	11,728,000
1960	18,592,000
1961	9,152,000
1962	44,816,000
1963	25,056,000

▲OV: Head of ELIZABETH II, facing right
+ELIZABETH•II•DIA•GRATIA•REGINA F:D: (+Elizabeth II Dia Gratia Regina Fidei Defensor = +Elizabeth II, by the grace of God Queen, Defender of the Faith) around M G on truncion.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll, SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark)= MELBOURNE

DESIGNER: (obv) M G = Mrs. Mary Gillick
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-38, KM-58

Collecting Australian Coins by Tom Hanley and Bill Jones, Sydney 1970.

Rennick Australian Coins and Banknote Guide by Don H. Skinner, South Australia, 1974.

FOOTNOTE: The 1959 sixpence illustrated is from a proof set.



1959 - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

FOOTNOTE: Proof sets each with a silver sixpence were issued by the Melbourne mint with the following mintages:

1955 - 1,200
1956 - 1,500
1957 - 1,256
1958 - 1,506
1959 - 1,506
1960 - 1,509
1961 - 1,506
1962 - 2,016
1963 - 2,000



Australian emu



1943 S - SIXPENCE - OBTVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
SAN FRANCISCO MINT

6 PENCE 19.3 MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1942	4,000,000
1943	4,000,000
1944	4,000,000

▲OV: Crowned head of GEORGE VI, facing left
GEORGIVS VI D:G:BR:OMN:REX F:D:IND:IMP: (George VI Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = George VI by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around / H P under bust.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll, SIXPENCE, above / S (mintmark) / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: S = SAN FRANCISCO

DESIGNER: (obv) H P = Thomas Hugh Paget
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-17 KM-38

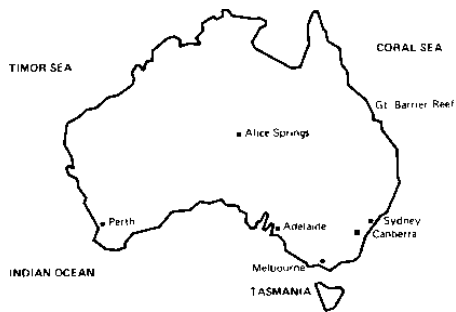
Domestic and Foreign Coins Manufactured by the United States 1793-1970 - U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1972.

FOOTNOTE: The issue of 1944 was the last year the sixpence of Australia was minted in sterling silver. The standard for sterling silver consists of thirty seven-fortieths of fine silver and three fortieths of alloy and is denoted .925 fine.





1943 S - SIXPENCE - REVERSE



Australia today

FOOTNOTE: The sixpence of Australia were minted by five mints; London, Melbourne and Sydney, Denver and San Francisco. During the period of issue 1910-1963 the total mintage produced by all these mints was 363,147,448 coins. The output of coinage from London totaled 58,070,635 including the large striking dated 1951 of over 20,000,000 sixpence. The majority of the coins were struck by the Melbourne mint starting in 1916, with the last issue 1963 with a total mintage of 267,460,813 sixpence. The Sydney mint which only issued these coins for six years 1921 through 1926 recorded production of only 5,616,000 sixpence and only the 1922 dated sixpence can be identified as from this mint with mintage of 1,488,000 as the coins were minted at the same time at Melbourne without mint marks. During World War II, Australia supplemented their own production with coins ordered from the United States with 20,000,000 sixpence from the Denver mint and 12,000,000 sixpence from the San Francisco mint. Subdividing the total production into decades, the number of sixpence were:

1910 - 1919	43,883,408
1920 - 1929	22,440,040
1930 - 1939	7,680,000
1940 - 1949	73,424,000
1950 - 1959	118,104,000
1960 - 1963	97,616,000



1922 - SIXPENCE - REVERSE

AUSTRALIA, COMMONWEALTH of
SYDNEY MINT

6 PENCE 19MM .925 FINE 2.83 GRAMS

1921	1,164,000
1922	1,488,000
1923	1,248,000
1924	420,000
1925	1,092,000
1926	204,000

▲OV: Crowned head of GEORGE V, facing left
GEORGIVS V D.G.BRITT:OMN:REX F.D.IND:IMP: (George V Dei Gratia Britanniarum Omnium Rex Fidei Defensor Imperator = George V by the grace of God, King of all the Britains, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India) around B.M. on truncation / • (dot) below.

▲RV: Arms / Motto: ADVANCE AUSTRALIA on scroll, SIXPENCE, above / →DATE← below.

EDGE: Reeded

MINT: (no mintmark) = SYDNEY

TYPE: II - no mintmark

DESIGNER:(obv) B.M. = Sir Edge Bertram MacKenna
(rev) = W.H.J.Blakemore

REFERENCE: Y-10, KM-25

FOOTNOTE: The 1922 sixpence was only minted at Sydney.

FOOTNOTE: Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, was founded on January 26, 1788, and so named by Captain Phillip after Thomas Townshend, first Lord Sydney, who, as Home Secretary, drew up, in 1786, a scheme for the transportation of convicts to New South Wales. The name Sydney is corrupted from St. Dennis, pronounced in French San-de-knee.



Gold rush miners - 1851

FOOTNOTE: The discovery of gold at Ophir, New South Wales, in 1851 led to the establishment of a branch of the Royal mint in Sydney which opened May 14, 1855.

FOOTNOTE: It was in 1851 that some one sent a pan of Australian sand to Great Britain, to have it examined for gold. Gold was there and now Australia was important. Up to this time the island possession was just a place to send English convicts. Companies were organized and within one year eighty thousand were added to the population of the colony. *Stories of Australasia, Mara Pratt, Boston, 1892.*



Sydney Townhall - 1892

FOOTNOTE: The city of Sydney is very new in its appearance; it is only within the last ten of fifteen years that the larger fine-looking buildings have been erected. The streets in the old part of town, are narrow and crooked., but are fast being broadened and straightened. *Stories of Australasia, Mara Pratt, Boston, 1892.*



Sydney waterfront - 1902

FOOTNOTE: Sydney, is situated on the southern shores of Port Jackson, about 8 miles from the sea. The port of Sydney has upwards of 23 miles of wharves. On Cockatoo Island are two large government dry docks. The city is defended by modern forts and batteries (1910). Manufactures comprise glass, pottery, boots, shoes, carriages, stoves, tobacco and there are car shops, distilleries, and breweries. Within a radius of 100 miles large quantities of coal are mined for domestic consumption as well as for export. *New Standard Encyclopedia, 1910.*



Sydney downtown - 1902