FROM ALMANDA TO UNITED STATES

Lost localities in the City of Onkaparinga
The City of Onkaparinga encompasses a wide region of southern Adelaide which includes the former councils of the Districts of Morphett Vale, Noarlunga (later City of Noarlunga), Willunga, Aldinga, Clarendon, Meadows, and Happy Valley Council. In 1999 the former City of Noarlunga, District of Willunga, and Happy Valley Councils merged to form the City of Onkaparinga.

The council boundary as it is today covers land across three Hundreds from the original surveys of Adelaide: the Hundred of Noarlunga, stretching from the Sturt River south to the Onkaparinga River, the Hundred of Willunga which extends from the Onkaparinga to the Willunga hills, and part of the Hundred of Kuitpo to the eastern hills region.

Within the Hundreds, land divisions were created with numbered sections. Early European settlers were able to purchase sections of approximately 80 acres for £80 pounds each. The South Australian Company, formed in London, established the system of colonisation on which our state was formed. Prospective immigrants could purchase sections from the Company in London, or try their luck on arrival. Those unable to afford to buy land could lease sections or portions of sections from landowners. Several enterprising settlers saw the benefit of subdividing their sections and some attempted to create villages or towns on their land.

Whilst we look back with interest on our relatively recent history we acknowledge the Kaurna people as the Aboriginal traditional owners and custodians of the lands and waters in the area now known as the City of Onkaparinga. We respect the spiritual relationships with country and stories here that have developed over tens of thousands of years prior to European settlement and that continue on today as a living culture with a rich heritage.

This book is a reflection on early European settlements which are no longer in existence and have fallen off the map, and those that never quite made it.

The City of Onkaparinga Libraries would like to especially thank the staff at Land Services Group (General Registry Office and Old System Titles) for their assistance, and would also like to acknowledge the resources of State Records of South Australia, the State Library of South Australia, and Trove Australian newspapers online from the National Library of Australia.
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ALMANDA

George Mackereth (1810-1864) and his wife Sarah Ann (1820-1882) built their first home by the banks of Scott Creek in 1839 where they raised a family of ten children. As owners of section 285 in the Hundred of Noarlunga, they were to benefit from the discovery of copper in the area in 1850, with a number of mine shafts producing copper and silver ore.

Wheal Maria was opened in 1850, and a new shaft named Wheal Mary Ann opened in 1862. The mine was abandoned in 1865. Following the discovery of silver in some old copper ore remnants from Wheal Mary Ann, a renewal of productivity ensued.

The Almanda Silver Mining Association was formed in 1868. At this time, the settlement of Almanda Township was proposed on a portion of section 285 to accommodate miners and their families. The village, consisting of five streets and 69 allotments, was to be established to the south of the mine, on the corner of what is now Dorset Vale Road and Matthews Road, and adjacent the entrance to Matthews Road on the western side of Dorset Vale Road.

Sarah Ann Mackereth, State Library of South Australia
B 19985/15R

Sketch of Almanda Mine by William Anderson Cawthorne.
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW.

The Express and Telegraph, Wednesday 16 September 1868

It is not known if the full subdivision was ever completed. Henry Daw purchased allotment number 4 from Sarah Ann Mackereth and others, which probably included the Mackereth Mining Company Limited. Edwin and Henry Daw appear alternately in the District of Clarendon assessment books as ratepayers at Almanda from 1869-1873, occupying half an acre.

The mining activities became unprofitable and were suspended in 1870, although the shafts were reworked again intermittently during the 1870s and 1880s.
The township of Almanda, Land Services Group

No evidence remains of a settlement though the ruins of Mackereth’s cottage are still visible. The land is now part of the Scott Creek Conservation Park. Mackereth’s cottage is owned by the State Government and was managed by the National Trust until 1984. It has been badly damaged by vandals over the years since and very little of the structure remains.

Baker’s Gully

This locality name first appears in the District of Clarendon rates assessments in 1866. Comprising sections 810, 812, 813, 816, 824, 825, 826, and 839, which had earlier belonged to Eyre’s Flat, Baker’s Gully was reportedly named after local resident George Allen Baker.

Location of Baker’s Gully

George Allen Baker (1813-1887) and his wife Charlotte Jackson arrived in the district in the early 1840s, first settling on section 813 and later acquiring sections 822, 823, and 824 on which they built a house. Although the name Kangarilla was not in common use until much later, the 1841 official returns of country sections show George Baker’s location as ‘Kungarilla’.

Reported in the reminiscences of local resident Mr E Dunmill in The Advertiser on Friday 11 September 1936, George Baker was known locally as ‘Long George Baker’, a notorious cattle stealer. He reputedly slaughtered the stolen cattle at Blewitt Springs, and once survived a police search of his property where they failed to find a stash of stolen goods.

The Baker family’s long term neighbour and friend on section 825, Thomas Alder, was reputed to have been in conflict with a tenant on his land, Patrick Owen, culminating in the suspicious incineration of the Owen’s rented house in 1868. The cause unproven, caution was given as to the throwing out of ashes on to bare ground outdoors.
Both Baker and Alder had been arrested earlier in 1856 for assault, of which they were found guilty. At the time Baker was a councillor for the District of Clarendon. The account describes the men as fuelled by drink, bursting into the house of a Mr Clarke and striking him, Alder threatening, “I’ll kill you”, and also attempting to choke the man’s son. Baker seized Clarke by the throat and took from him the hammer he was holding in defence.

Other families associated with the locality were Dunmill, Smart, Stilwell, Biddle, Tune, and Steer. William Stilwell (1816-1881) purchased section 813 in July 1850 for £80. He ran the local store and post office here for several years. Alpheus Biddle arrived in the area in the 1840s and was postmaster and storekeeper at Baker’s Gully for about 20 years. An afternoon school was conducted by Thomas Dailey from 1868 to 1872, while he continued to oversee the Clarendon school.

The legacy of George Allen Baker lived on in the district for many years with the name Baker’s Gully. Only a local road still bears the name.

BEAVOR’S HILL

Beavor’s Hill is an unofficial locality name for an area just south of Clarendon which is noted in the District of Clarendon rates assessments of the 1850s and 1860s. The name possibly relates to one of three passengers with the surname Beevor who arrived in Adelaide in the 1840s, but this is not confirmed.

The only resident recorded as living in this locality was William Mundy (1823-1880) on section 753. Mundy arrived in South Australia in 1840 with a wife and child. He and wife Martha (nee Chandler) had children born in Clarendon from 1847.

BELLEVUE

The township of Bellevue, at the north-western end of McLaren Vale, was laid out by surveyor Richard Budgen in 1854 on request from Richard Bell (1813-1855), who had purchased land from pioneer settler Charles Thomas Hewett in the same year. Allotment number 1 measuring 33 perches was bought from Bell by Joseph Mayberry in 1855 for £12. Thomas Couchman bought allotment 4 for £30, Samuel Chapman bought allotment 3 and the Reverend Isaac Prior purchased allotment 5. Lot 4 was transferred from Eli King to Cornelius Caffrey in 1906.
Richard Bell built several cottages which formed the township. He lived in a cottage on 19 acres of land in an area known as the ‘Mill section’. Chalk Hill Road, which runs through the area, was originally Ellen Street and named after Bell’s wife, Mary Ellen Clift. The local pub, the Clifton Hotel, built in 1857, was also named for his wife, and is now better known as the Hotel McLaren. The main road through the township extended past the hotel to the flour mill, which later became Hardy’s Tintara Winery. The flour mill was important in the early growth of the region until the 1860s when it became less profitable as the land was overworked. Thomas Hardy saw an opportunity and purchased the mill and the hotel in the 1880s and converted its use to winemaking.

A view of Bellevue, McLaren Vale circa 1900

In 1854 Richard Bell was assaulted at the Victoria Hotel, Tapley’s Hill, by a man named William Lewis who knocked Bell down, kicked and robbed him. The judge at the ensuing trial, reflecting on Lewis’s past convictions, declared him to be a very bad man, and that it was an unfortunate act of clemency that had sent him so soon back into society. Bell died the following year at the age of 42, his health having been in decline for some time.

The township of Gloucester, which had formed further south-east, eventually grew to meet up with Bellevue and the two became one under the existing locality name of McLaren Vale.

BELTUNGA

The small township of Beltuna, originally Belltunga, is believed to be connected to Richard Bell, founder of Bellevue, McLaren Vale.

Not to be confused with the similarly named Beltunga Gully at Willunga, this little hamlet grew in an area of McLaren Flat near Blewitt Springs Road, on section 42 in the Hundred of Willunga. The name first appears for this locality in the 1860s. There were several residents including Elizabeth Aitchinson, Peter Cottrell and his wife Ann, farmer William Hardy and his wife Louisa (nee Pearn), shopkeeper John Ingram, Donald and Christina Leslie, John and Sarah Kanaley, Henry Paynter, bricklayer and mason Jeremiah Swift and his wife Cecilia, and William and Eliza Pearn, among others. Thomas Hardy bought land here in the 1880s, connected to his winery operations at Tintara.

Little remains to indicate an early settlement aside from a few cottages. A home which bears the name ‘Beltunga’ on its hedged fence has been a long-standing landmark.

BISHOP’S HILL

Bishop’s Hill, an unofficial locality name, originated from local resident James Bishop (1820-1895) who lived at ‘Vine Cottage’ on 5 acres of land at Hurtle Vale near Happy Valley from the mid-1850s.

Location of Bishop’s Hill
His property on section 501 was situated at the junction of Kenihan’s Road and Bishop’s Hill Road. James Bishop was joined on section 501 by a relative, Obediah Bishop, who had arrived in South Australia in 1863 and later moved to the Yorke Peninsula. James and his family had moved to Clare by the 1870s.

CASTLETON

On section 315 of the Hundred of Noarlunga, this area of Port Noarlunga is bounded by Murray Road to the north and the Onkaparinga River to the south.

Land grant for section 315 to John Guthrie 1849, Land Services Group

The land was purchased by Frederick Castle Esquire from John Guthrie in 1851. Castle, a farmer from Morphett Vale, leased out the land until 1853 when plans were drawn for a subdivision.

The signatures of John Guthrie and Frederick Castle on a land indenture 1851, Land Services Group

The township consisting of 136 allotments was first advertised for sale in October 1853, with up to 60 allotments sold by November of the same year. Several of the remaining township portions were sold by auction the following year, for between £90 and £120 per acre.

Adelaide Times, Monday 31 October 1853

Castle sold 40 acres of the northern-most portion of his section in April 1854 for £250, leaving the southern portion of the section remaining as the ownship of Castleton.
The subdivision failed to eventuate as planned, possibly due to the death of Frederick Castle in November 1854, at the age of 35. However, allotments were still being advertised as situated in Castleton in the 1860s. From the late 1860s to the early 1880s there were only three residents recorded as living in Castleton in the District of Noarlunga Council rates assessments; George Short senior, John McEachen (later his son Alexander), and Mrs Martha Munn.

In 1933 two new roads were constructed diagonally through the planned grid-patterned streets, being River Road and New Road. The streetscape of the area as it is today bears little resemblance to the original layout of Castleton.

It was near this area that he attempted a subdivision named Dublin (see Dublin).

In 1855 Anderson made plans for a new township near his home, which he named Catherine.

**CATHERINE**

Irish immigrant Alexander Anderson and his wife Catherine Creighton arrived in South Australia in 1839. Alexander purchased several sections of land in the area surveyed as Morphett Vale, in the Hundred of Noarlunga, in the 1840s.

In December 1844 Anderson acquired section 640 from Allan Fullarton of Scotland, and built his home, known as ‘The Lodge’, on the property, which he named Creighton Estate. One of his first ventures had been the construction of an inn, the Emu Hotel, in 1840, near the corner of David Terrace and Main South Road.

William Street, named after his son William Wallace Anderson, was to have a continuation to the south known as Rosina Street, named after Anderson’s daughter. This area is now the site of the Woolworths shopping complex, the allotments fronting Main South Road now comprising the car park and service station. The new Emu Hotel was initially proposed for the corner of High Street, but this became the general store and post office site, and is now Bank SA. The second Emu Hotel was constructed slightly further south at the boundary of the township in 1862.

James Hoskin, blacksmith, leased allotment 27 in 1855 for £10 per half year. Hoskin unfortunately became insolvent in 1862. The Higgins family had a blacksmith’s business near this site for several years until the shopping centre was built.
A note written by Alexander Anderson regarding the lease of lot 27, Land Services Group

Alexander Anderson leased allotment 19 to Walter Christie and William Swift for a term of 999 years, with a yearly rent of one peppercorn. During the 1850s and 1860s Anderson rented out other allotments on which were erected dwellings and small businesses. His philanthropic acts in donating land were continued by his widow Catherine who provided land for the new Morphett Vale Institute in 1878.

Alexander Anderson died at his home in 1862 and was buried in his garden. All that remains of his estate is a stone cairn marking the burial site, and an avenue of trees which leads from Main South Road to the site of his former home.

His son William Wallace Anderson, solicitor, died in 1868. In 1865 he had conveyed most of the land belonging to the township of Catherine to George Donaldson junior, agent, William Bakewell and William Scott for £1600. The land was still referred to as the township of Catherine in ongoing conveyances in the 1870s.
CHAUNCYVILLE

The allotments for this proposed township were first advertised in August 1840. Located adjacent Alexander Anderson’s section 609 on which the first Emu Hotel was built in 1840, the developers were looking to attract tradesmen to the district. No further mention of this township exists and it seems to have never eventuated. Alexander Anderson’s new township of Dublin on section 610 was advertised only a short time later in October.

DASHWOOD GULLEY

Captain George Frederick Dashwood, Esquire (1806-1881) was a former Commander of the Royal Navy. He arrived in South Australia in 1841 and among his appointments were Commissioner of Police, Collector of Customs, and Emigration Agent. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace and Special Magistrate for the province and Stipendiary Magistrate for the District of Mount Barker in 1861.

Dashwood Gully had a post office and a school which operated under teacher Mercy Meader from 1863 to 1869.

Captain Dashwood’s daughter Margaret opened the new Glengrove Bridge at Dashwood Gully in 1867 in her father’s absence. His son Charles James Dashwood, Crown Solicitor and Kings Counsel (KC), continued to reside at Parkhurst following his father’s death. Charles was a candidate for the House of Assembly representing Noarlunga in 1887 and was a Member of Parliament until 1898.
Parkhurst was significantly damaged by fire in 1963, with the majority of the original 1840s homestead lost.

The area continued to be known as Dashwood Gully until at least the 1950s. Other local residents included Mr W Collins; William Smith; T Wright; Anthony Fotheringham of ‘Hillyfields Estate’ who formed the first English Leicester sheep stud flock in South Australia; Archibald Wicks; and Henry Field of ‘Fern Hill’, brother of Captain W G Field of the ship Rapid.

DOUGLAS HILL

Douglas Hill was an unofficial name applied to an area including sections 466 and 475 in the Hundred of Noarlunga from as early as the 1850s. It appears to have fallen out of use by the early 1900s.

Located at the northern-most part of the Happy Valley Reservoir and in proximity to the site of the former farm and vineyard property of early settler Henry Douglas (1817-1903), the land was owned by another early settler of Happy Valley, Hugh Kenihan (1802-1893) of Green Slip Farm.

Henry Douglas was a pioneer arrival on Kangaroo Island in 1836. Soon after his arrival on the mainland he married Lydia and settled on his Happy Valley property which comprised sections 515 and 516 in the Hundred of Noarlunga. He and his family lived there for 50 years before the land was reclaimed by the government for the reservoir, and they were forced to abandon the property.
Carty David Downing arrived in South Australia in 1839. He was described as being a resident of Thebarton near Adelaide in 1846 when he leased section 399 at Aldinga from Henry Floate, who had in turn leased it from the South Australian Company in 1840. Downing, his wife Sarah and family had taken up residence in Aldinga by 1851. In 1853 he paid £320 to purchase the land.

Downing established the Aldinga Hotel on this section in 1851. A portion of section 399 was to become the central township of Aldinga. The subdivision of Downingsville was believed to have been attempted in 1867, the year of Downing’s death, though no clear records exist to confirm this.

Downing’s Hill and Downing’s Creek were used locally as descriptive names but it seems the name Downingsville was never formally recognised.

Alexander Anderson of The Lodge, early settler of Morphett Vale and founder of the village of Catherine (see Catherine) proposed this new township in 1840. Anderson purchased sections 609 and 610 in 1839.

Situated opposite the first Emu Hotel, which he had erected in 1840, the township was to be developed on section 610, bounded today by Main South Road to the west and Bains Road to the south.
In 1845 Anderson charitably granted a portion of this section to the Catholic Church for a small sum of £3 for the erection of a place of worship. This became the site of St Mary’s Church, the first Catholic Church built in Adelaide. In 1846, as a token of gratitude, the worshippers pledged to turn out en masse to help with reaping on his farm.

Although a number of people did take up land in this section, the name Dublin did not last. The land was part of the farm of Arthur Clive Duval, a son of Constance Kate Anderson, daughter of Alexander, in the 1920s, and was subdivided for housing in the 1960s.

**EYRE’S FLAT**

Eyre’s Flat memorialises the name of explorer Edward John Eyre (1815-1901), one of the first settlers to drive stock overland from New South Wales to South Australia. The original land selection was extensive, containing up to approximately 40 sections of several hundred acres in the Hundred of Kuitpo.

While the name Eyre’s Flat was in use from the time of early European settlement of the region, the name Kangarilla, which eventually replaced Eyre’s Flat, was also in use at the same time, though to a lesser extent. Kangarilla may have originally been attributed to the creek running through the area as a waterway was described in 1844 as the ‘Kungarilla’ on Eyre’s Flat. Some local residents of 1841 appear in the Official Returns of Country Sections as located at Kangarilla.

Early residents of the district included John Bottrill, who arrived in 1841 and founded the short-lived township of Scaldwell on section 875. Also resident here were George Baker (see Baker’s Gully); John Thorpe; Charles Thorpe; Richard Steer; William Smart; and William Franklin.

The Bible Christian and Methodist congregations of the district flourished. There were two Bible Christian chapels known as Eyre’s Flat West, between Seaview and Baker’s Gully, and Eyre’s Flat East on part of Samuel Oakley’s property on section 873. John Bottrill donated part of his land for the Methodist Church in 1853.
Josiah Oakley (1788-1876), an arrival on the Buffalo in 1836, came to the district in the 1840s. His sons Samuel and William held land sections in Eyre’s Flat for several years. William Stilwell opened his new and commodious store in Eyre’s Flat in 1866, the post office service beginning soon after. An earlier post office operated by Charles Barnett had been closed in 1853 due to the small amount of financial return.

The name Eyre’s Flat eventually fell out of use by about the 1870s when it was only referred to in rates assessment records for the Oakley family’s property. Kangarilla had by this time taken over the majority of the land that was once Eyre’s Flat.

GIBBON’S HILL

Richard George Gibbins (1799-1876) of ‘Spring Vale’, Coromandel Valley, arrived in South Australia in 1838. His name, often erroneously spelled ‘Gibbons’, was unofficially adopted circa 1850s for an area of land near his sections 793, 794, 795 and 796 which now comprise parts of Flagstaff Hill and the southern-most parts of Coromandel Valley.

In 1841 he acquired section 796 on which a house was built in the 1850s, near what is now Crossing Road, Aberfoyle Park. Known more recently as “Coorabin”, this house still stands and it is assumed this was the house also known as ‘Spring Vale’ or alternatively ‘Vale House’. Richard Gibbins was a former Chairman of the District of Clarendon Council.

Location of Gibbon’s Hill
Glengrove was the name of the property of the Hon. John Carr, M P (1819-1913) located on sections 955 and 956 in the Hundred of Kuitpo, near Cut Hill Road, Dashwood Gully (now Kangarilla). Carr arrived in South Australia from Melbourne in 1859. He acquired two sections of land in 1862 from Captain Dashwood, who had retired to Brighton, and built his home known as Glengrove.

After an attempted subdivision of his land the same year, he tried again in 1865 but this was unsuccessful possibly due to the steep gradient of this section. However, a few people were recorded as residents of Glengrove. George Prewett, poundkeeper of the Glengrove Pound from 1868 to 1873, was responsible for the construction of many of the historic buildings in Kangarilla, including the Temperance Hall and former Glen View Hotel. A few old cottages, and the original Glengrove homestead, remain today.

John Carr was a Chairman of the former Kondoparinga Council (Meadows) and an MP representing Noarlunga in the House of Assembly from 1880 to 1887. He served alongside Sir John Colton (1823-1902), the pair being known as ‘The Noarlunga Twins’ due to their both having the same initials, both being Methodists, both teetotallers, and as colleagues in the Cabinet. Carr was also a former Commissioner of Public Works and Commissioner of Crown Lands.
A new bridge was constructed in 1866 on the Goolwa road at Dashwood’s Gully and named the Glengrove Bridge. John Carr laid the first stone at the opening ceremony at which three cheers were given for him and another three for the bridge.

Lloyd had been systematically cutting trees down for two years despite being remonstrated with by Sprigg, who won the case and was awarded £5 damages. Evidence of tenant farmers huts have been found on the ruins of this property.

GLENVILLE

Glenville was the property of Thomas Abraham Augustus Sprigg J P (1816-1894), the eldest son of Charles Sprigg whose family arrived in South Australia in 1839 and settled in the Morphett Vale and Clarendon areas.

Thomas appears in the District of Clarendon rates assessments as the owner of sections 770, 771, 773 and 774 in the Hundred of Noarlunga in 1869, situated between Clarendon and Cherry Gardens. The family may have settled here as early as the 1840s. Children of Thomas and his wife Mary Rachel were recorded as born at Glenville in the 1850s.

Location of Glenville

In 1874 Thomas Sprigg brought a case against his neighbour Arthur Foster Lloyd (see Lloyd’s Brook) to whom he had leased his sections at Glenville, in dispute of terms and conditions regarding the removal of gum trees.

GLOUCESTER

The township of Gloucester, at the south-eastern end of McLaren Vale, was located on section 157 which was granted to Nicholas Browning in 1848. The land in this area was settled originally by William Colton and Charles Thomas Hewett, farmers from Devonshire. William Colton’s former home ‘Daringa’ is on the site of Oxenberry Farm Wines on Kangarilla Road and is currently being restored after many years as a ruin.

Location of Gloucester

The Gloucester subdivision was initiated by Thomas Atkinson, a carpenter of McLaren Vale, in about 1856. Atkinson sold allotment 25 to John Clover Leonard, miller, in 1857 for £80. Atkinson held the section in mortgage to Supreme Court judge Edward Castres Gwynne and William John Lawrence, for which he had to pay £15 per annum.
Portion of the subdivision of the township of Gloucester, Land Services Group

The first Congregational Chapel was built in 1844 providing a marked improvement on earlier sermons conducted in the open air. A primitive structure, it was to be replaced by a more commodious and comfortable church on the site in 1861 which is today a landmark in the main street of McLaren Vale. Miss Mary Ann ‘China Lady’ Aldersey, a former missionary in China, established her school for girls, ‘Tsong Gyiaou’, nearby, in a handsome two storey building which is now part of the McLaren Vale District War Memorial Hospital.

The general store and post office opposite the church was operated for many years by George Field, who acted as District Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, as well as chemist and tooth extractor. As to the latter, for any unsuccessful extractions the patient would be sent along with Field’s dental key tool to the Reverend Howie.

One of the earliest buildings in Gloucester was the Devonshire Arms, built by William Colton and opened on the day he died in 1849. This building was the site of the first post office and was occupied by a number of small business ventures over the years. Nearby were the blacksmith’s premises of John Morgan, which he handed down to his son-in-law John Reeves. The business later became Reeves’s Garage. The first butcher’s premises were that of William Ingram, near the corner of the Main Street and Aldersey Street, now a reserve. Ingram’s business was handed down to a relative, Sydney Ellis. The family business known as Ellis’s Butcher still trades today.

Main Street, McLaren Vale, looking north west from Gloucester 1910

The Gloucester subdivision was a success as several buildings grew about the town. In the 1860s the separate townships of Bellevue and Gloucester met in the middle and eventually became known collectively by the existing locality name McLaren Vale.
GRANT’S GULLY

Apparently named after the first European man to squat in the area with his sheep, Grant’s Gully lies adjacent to the road which bears its name at Clarendon. Seth Hart, a shopkeeper of Clarendon, owned land here in the late 1850s and early 1860s. Several settlers were living at this locality in huts and cottages including John Donnell (or Donohue), James Chapman, John Hart senior and Elijah Branford. The name Grant’s Gully had fallen out of use by the 1900s.

HAMILTON’S GULLY

Knott’s Hill was previously known as Hamilton’s Gully from the 1860s. (See Knott’s Hill). The nomenclature is unknown.

THE HORSESHOE

The township of Noarlunga, now Old Noarlunga, was commonly known in the early days of European settlement as The Horseshoe, a descriptive name referring to the winding shape of the Onkaparinga River. The name as a locality fell out of use by the late 1850s but The Horseshoe Inn (established 1840) traded in the town for many years, until sadly ruined by a fire in 1988.

Early District of Morphett Vale rates assessments records show several residents of ‘Horseshoe’, including publicans David Carrick and James Potter, George Baldock, brewer W B Edmunds, and Phillip Hollins.

HURTLE VALE

The first expedition by European settlers to the southern districts of Adelaide contained a party of men including John Morphett, after whom Morphett Vale was named, and colonial Commissioner James Hurtle Fisher (1790-1875). Fisher had a long and distinguished career in government and is recognised as an important pioneer of the state. Colonel Light’s notebook from 1837 contained two sketches of the region captioned ‘Hurtle Vale’ and ‘Hurtle Valley’.

The boundary of Hurtle Vale was extensive. Although not an officially planned township, it existed as a locality name in use for nearly a century and covered parts of present day Morphett Vale, Reynella, Happy Valley and Woodcroft.

Early settlers of Hurtle Vale included Robert Smith, John Sampson, Charles Chandler, Reverend Christian Teichelmann, James Ledwick, William Spencer, John McCloud, Thomas Perry, Bannister Booth, and James Chittleborough. The Worthing Mine, founded by John Hallett, between Reynella and Hallett Cove, also brought many settlers to the area (see Worthing). John Reynell’s land sections, including 524 which became the township of Reynella in 1854, are centred in the Hurtle Vale region.

The name Hurtle Vale was in regular use until the early half of the 20th century.
KINGSTON

Kingston was a proposed subdivision on a portion of section 69 in the Hundred of Noarlunga, located on the western side of the township of Old Noarlunga.

The township was first laid out by John Bernie, gentleman and farmer of ‘Kingston Farm’, Noarlunga, and George Milner Stephen, barrister of Adelaide, in 1850.

Allotment number 3 was sold for a total of £10 and 10s. In 1855 Richard Couche, who held a financial interest in the land, conveyed 27 allotments out of the total 120 allotments to John Robin Harris, who rereleased the original subdivisions with the plans shown below.

Adelaide Times Tuesday 2 April 1850

The subdivision was a reasonable success though it is uncertain if all allotments were sold, and the name Kingston eventually fell out of use. Residents and landowners of Kingston recorded in the District of Noarlunga council rates assessments from 1867-1880 included Henry Lee Aldersey; Martin Burgess; Samuel Burfitt; Thomas Dungey; William McFadden; Mrs E Hobbs; Joseph G Holmes (after whom Holmes Street is named); Edward Kitchin; George Latimer; George Malpas; and Edward Willmott.

The nomenclature is not clear however it could be surmised that George Strickland Kingston (1807-1880), deputy surveyor general and Member of Parliament could have served to inspire the chosen name.
KNOTT’S HILL

Knott’s Hill, known previously as Hamilton’s Gully and located in the vicinity of sections 207 and 209 in the Hundred of Kuitpo, was named after Dr John Knott (1806-1850), a medical doctor and J P and a brother-in-law of John Barton Hack. Dr Knott arrived in South Australia in 1838 and wife Ellen and children followed in 1840. The Knott family lived in Hindley Street, Adelaide, the only apparent association with this area due to the trigonometrical station named after Dr Knott near Eyre’s Flat and the possible site of a cattle station managed for him by John Bottrill in the 1840s.

Dr Knott died in 1850 from a fracture to the head while riding his horse near the Butcher’s Arms hotel in Thebarton. The name Knott’s Hill appears to have been formally adopted for the locality quite late in the 19th century.

The Knott’s Hill School opened in 1899 and closed in 1909. There was also a Methodist church erected in about 1900.

William Oakley whose family settled in the district in the early 1840s was a long term resident of Knott’s Hill, his death recorded there in 1918.

LLOYD’S BROOK

This is an unofficial locality name which first appears in the District of Clarendon rates assessments in 1868, referring to a property belonging to Arthur Foster Lloyd (1826-1915). Lloyd arrived in South Australia in 1846 with his brother Richard and father the Reverend Arthur Foster Lloyd. They purchased farming land at Morphett Vale and Cherry Gardens.

Lloyd’s Brook comprised sections 776, 777, 1057 and 1640 in the Hundred of Noarlunga. Lloyd lived on the aforementioned four sections, situated between Chandler’s Hill and Cherry Gardens, from about 1862.

LOGAN’S FLAT

This unofficial locality name was adopted from the property of Irish immigrant Richard Logan (1800-1883), situated between McLaren Vale and Willunga. Logan purchased sections 183 and 184 in the Hundred of Willunga in 1848 and 1849. He built a home of six rooms, the ruins of which are now surrounded by vineyards.
Logan acquired other sections of land some of which he leased to farmers. He and wife Margaret suffered the loss of several children at a young age, with four sons dying in the 1860s. All children having predeceased him, on his death Logan bequeathed his property to the Catholic Church.

Location of Malvern

Mount Malvern Road which follows the western boundary of section 270 is a reminder of this little known place and also memorialises the Mount Malvern silver lead mine. The mine, located on section 269, originally worked in 1859 and finally closed in 1925. The Mount Malvern Silver Lead Mining Company was formed in 1906 with mining activity at its peak in the period around 1916-1918. The remnants of the mine are located on private land.

Location of Logan’s Flat

Although a location name associated with a farm property, Logan’s Flat had a school of its own, operating between 1852 and 1862.

MALVERN

Near Chandler’s Hill, Malvern, or Mount Malvern, was situated near the junction of Chandler’s Hill Road, Sugarloaf Road and the main road to Clarendon.
This locality name first appears in the District of Clarendon rates assessments in 1868, for the property of Josiah Partridge (1805-1897), solicitor and JP.

Following injuries from a fall from his horse while riding from his home in Glenelg to Adelaide, Partridge sold his business and took up land at Malvern near Clarendon where he lived until his death.

**MIDVILLE**

A locality name from the early days of European settlement applied to an unknown area between Morphett Vale and Reynella.

**MUDTOWN**

This unofficial locality name first appears in the District of Clarendon Council rates assessments in the 1860s. Located on section 501 in the Hundred of Noarlunga and situated in Hurtle Vale (now Happy Valley), Mudtown’s residents included Thomas Pight, John Wilkinson, James Conlin, and Pat Delahenty.

The nomenclature is unclear but one could assume it to be descriptive of the quality of the soil. Mudtown Road may have been an early name for Kenihan’s Road. The name seems to have disappeared by the 1880s.

**PARINGA**

Section 325 in the Hundred of Willunga was part of a subdivision of land south of neighbouring section 318 which had already been proposed as the township of Port Onkaparinga. The name Paringa did not exist for long.

Originally granted to William Gray Esquire of North Adelaide in 1852, the section was purchased the following year by Richard Bosworth Esquire of Prior’s Court, Noarlunga, for £125. Bosworth had also acquired neighbouring sections 318 and 319. After his death in 1866 the land was bequeathed to Bosworth’s daughter Ann Worthington who resided in England. Ann’s daughter Mary sold the land to William Hedley Jared in 1912 for £1200. William Hedley Jared was a son of John William Jared of Pingle Farm, Noarlunga, now Seaford Meadows.

John William Jared had acquired the land at Port Onkaparinga in 1898. He proposed the subdivision at Paringa in 1923. ‘Jared’s Estate’ as it was advertised consisted of 88 ideal coastal sites for summer and weekend bungalows, the allotments to be sold at auction on Thursday 25 January 1923.
“Numerous well-known citizens have already built in the vicinity, and the character of the neighbourhood (which is acknowledged to be the pick residential location at this delightful seaside resort) will be safeguarded by protective building restrictions prohibiting galvanized iron houses, and fixing £350 as the minimum cost of any house erected on the Estate”. (The Register Saturday 13 January 1923).

In September 1923 it was determined by the Government that the names of Port Onkaparinga and Paringa be altered to Port Noarlunga South. (See also Port Onkaparinga)

PORT ONKAPARINGA

Directly south of the Onkaparinga River and by the seam section 318 was known as the township of Port Onkaparinga from 1856. Today it is better known as Port Noarlunga South, the new name also applied to Paringa in 1923.

Plans for the township of Port Onkaparinga

Originally granted to Richard Bosworth in 1852, the land was later disposed of to William Gray in 1867 with Thomas Elder and Robert Barr Smith as tenants in common. From the estate of Mr Elder it was granted to John William Jared by order of the Supreme Court in 1896.
Land grant issued to Richard Bosworth in 1852, Land Services Group

John William Jared applied for the title to be brought under the Real Property Act in 1921. At the time there were several tenants of the existing subdivision of 127 allotments, many of them with city addresses, suggesting an abundance of holiday homes.

The decision to rename the location of Port Onkaparinga and also Paringa had been made for various reasons, one perhaps being to avoid long standing confusion of the location with nearby Port Noarlunga. Port Onkaparinga was a potential sea port not quite realised, and better known as a “pleasure resort”.

SAND HILLS

Sand Hills is a descriptive locality name applied to an area south-west of Flagstaff Hill near Tapley’s Hill. The name appears in the District of Clarendon rates assessment books in the early 1860s.

SCALDWELL

Scaldwell was the name of the farm of John Bottrill (1807-1882) of Eyre’s Flat, later Kangarilla. He arrived in South Australia in 1838 and settled in the district soon afterwards, driving the first bullock team from Adelaide to the Meadows area and working as a cattle herdsman for Dr Knott. He and his family lived in a bark hut on the banks of a creek until the land was surveyed. The story goes that Mr Bottrill would lock his wife Ann and family in their hut while he went about business to ensure their safety. Early settlers had to cut their own tracks through the bush and Bottrill opened one up over Dashwood’s Hill. Many old tracks remained and became roads.

In 1864 Bottrill, one of the first members of the District of Clarendon council, attempted to subdivide a portion of his section 875 in the Hundred of Kuitpo as the village of Scaldwell, named after his home town in Northamptonshire, England.

Location of Scaldwell
Allotment 1, measuring 2 roods and 11 perches, was purchased by Bottrill’s brother-in-law Joseph Lucas for £10. It appears that there were no other prospective buyers and the name and plans for the village all but disappeared. The township of Kangarilla was surveyed from part of the Bottrill’s farm on section 871.

John Bottrill and his wife Ann nee Lucas in The Chronicle, Thursday 17 August 1933

Scaldwell Farm in The Chronicle, Thursday 13 March 1941

John Bottrill died at his residence Scaldwell Farm, Kangarilla, following “a severe illness borne with Christian resignation” (South Australian Register Wednesday 21 June 1882), aged 75 years.

SEAVIEW

An unofficial yet long-standing locality name for the area north of McLaren Vale, Seaview comprised sections 517 and 518 in the Hundred of Willunga, originally granted to William Vinecombe in the early 1850s. Vinecombe, who arrived in South Australia in 1840, had built a house on section 518 by 1853. William Vinecombe later became a councillor for the District of Noarlunga and died at McLaren Vale in 1878 aged 76 years.

Location of Seaview

A portion of section 518 was obtained by the trustees of the Bible Christian Society in the 1850s and a temporary chapel was erected, later to be replaced by a new chapel which opened in 1865. At the unification of the dissenting denominations in 1899, the Bible Christians joined with the Methodists and the chapel was known as the Seaview Methodist Church. Following its closure in 1965 the chapel on the hill was restored and is now an iconic building on the site of the Chapel Hill Winery.

The former Bible Christian Chapel and Seaview Methodist Chapel
Seaview, often described as being ‘near Noarlunga’, was adopted from the name of the estate of the late Chief Justice Samuel Way. A son of the Reverend James Way who had been a practicing minister at the chapel, their residence ‘Sea View’ was used for summer holidays and weekends.

“For a time in the summer the Chief Justice and Lady Way go to Sea View, near Noarlunga, where they can both get the rest that is denied them in town”. (The Mail Saturday 11 April 1914).

Seaview remained in common use for the community of that region until the latter half of the 1900s. The name was adopted by a local winery and Seaview Road.

**SMART’S GULLY**

Smart’s Gully is an unofficial locality name applied to land belonging to William Smart of Baker’s Gully in the Hundred of Kuitpo numbered 9, 763, 748 and 1022. William Smart (1814-1874) arrived in South Australia in 1840 and had settled in the district soon after. Smart’s Gully is only mentioned once in the District of Clarendon rates assessments, in the year 1859. The locality was more commonly known as Eyre’s Flat, and later Baker’s Gully, now Kangarilla.

**TAPLEY’S HILL**

Another unofficial locality name with early origins which has endured to the present day, Tapley’s Hill remembers Thomas Tapley (1789-1856), who established a home and hotel at the top of O’Halloran Hill on the main road to Encounter Bay in 1840.

The remains of Reynell and Lucas’s early stone house were once located somewhere in this vicinity.

**SURREYVILLE**

A group of settlers from the ship Surry which arrived in Adelaide in October 1838 made their way south and formed a small settlement which they named ‘Surryville’. The party included John Reynell, founder of Reynella, and his brother-in-law Thomas Lucas. A Thomas Kelly who also settled here married his wife Sally Moore at Surryville in 1839, where their child was born in 1840. The last mention of Surryville was in the Stephens directory of 1847, in which Thomas Lucas gives this as his residence. There is little remaining evidence of its existence. Surryville was located near the old Hallett Bridge alongside Main South Road at O’Halloran Hill.
Tapley established the Victoria Hotel at O’Halloran Hill, the original site still in existence as part of a private property, the current hotel being located further north. On the road to Encounter Bay and above the steep gradient of Flagstaff Hill, this would have been a popular stop for drays and travellers. When the Tapley family settled here the road was to the east of their property, being realigned to its present route in the 1850s. The road up the hill linked to the present Tapley’s Hill Road which continues through the western suburbs, once an old stock route through to Port Adelaide.

Edward McDermott, a well-known horse breeder, was publican of the Victoria Hotel for two periods in the 1930s and 1940s.

Christian Schultz (1834-1876) built a cottage on section 128 on the western side of Main South Road in 1860. He was in the process of moving his family to Aldinga where he was to take up a new appointment as Stationman when he met with an unfortunate accident.

Franz Brockmeyer took up a small farm on the western side of Main South Road in 1859 and was for a short time publican at the Victoria Hotel. This property later became the Pea Farm of the Trott family, neighbours to the Tydeman family across the road who were also connected to the hotel. The remaining ruins of the Pea Farm are still visible on the western side of Main South Road on the hill descent to Darlington.

John Battey Thorngate (1790-1867), merchant of Hampshire in England, was the owner of several land sections in the district. Thorngate acquired several acres of town and country land north of the city through preliminary land orders in 1837, the Adelaide suburb of Thorngate bearing his name. His land in the Hundred of Kuitpo near Clarendon was acquired in 1840. Never to set foot in South Australia, sections 750, 751, 752, 754, 755 and 759 were selected for him by Sir George Strickland Kingston acting as his agent. Thorngate’s relatives in England were to be the beneficiaries of the income from rent and land sales from his estate following his death.
Managed by Thorngate’s agent G S Kingston, these sections were occupied by Isaac Jacobs and family of Cherry Gardens from the early 1860s. Thorngate appears in local records as the unofficial locality name from 1866.

**THREADGOLD’S GULLY**

This is an unofficial locality name derived from local resident Thomas Threadgold (1809-1903) who arrived in South Australia in 1847. Located near Clarendon, Threadgold’s Gully comprised of sections 688, 674, 675 and 770 of about 180 acres in total. Other residents occupying cottages in this locality included Robert Turner, James Hart, and Elias Battley.

The name seems to have fallen out of use by the early 1860s. Several Threadgold’s remained in the Clarendon and Kangarilla districts, but Thomas himself went to Mallala with his family to take up farming land.

**UNITED STATES**

United States was one of a number of small villages within the Morphett Vale region which were a result of land owners subdividing their land into allotments. Situated on part sections 625 and 626 on the southern side of Bains Road near States Road, the village was formed in the 1840s at the same time that Alexander Anderson was attempting a subdivision named Dublin near Main South Road.

The origins of the name United States are not clear. The name first appears in country directories in 1844. Alexander Wearing Long (1819-1887) was the first to purchase land at this site, obtaining sections 625 and 626 soon after his arrival in South Australia in 1839. He subdivided the settlement but lived adjacent to it at his home ‘Mint Cottage’, named after his home in Westmoreland, England, to which he had returned by 1850. His residence came into the possession of John Pocock (1822-1870), who called it ‘Mint Lodge’. It was destroyed by a fire in 1884 when kindling ignited the calico ceiling and spread to the thatched roof. Cecilia Pocock had placed wood on the kitchen fire which flared up and caused the blaze, leaving her and her mother Eliza homeless.

The original settlers of the village included John Cullen, Patrick Connor, John Crawford, John Dungey, Richard Gemmell, Adam Hitchcock (or Hiscock), William Holly, George Yates, (both men later of Hackham), John Magor, Duncan McFarlane, Dennis O’Toole, Richard Pyke, William Sayers, William Spencer, John Ware, and John Short (later of Stoneham, Morphett Vale).

A Union Chapel was erected in 1849 on the road to the great south road (Bains Road) which still exists today as a private residence.
A few cottages from this settlement remain on the western side of States Road, the name of which serves as a reminder of the former settlement of United States, which fell out of use during the 1850s.

WICKHAM’S HILL

Wickham’s Hill was a locality name describing land associated with pioneer settler Benjamin Wickham (1785-1875). Wickham, who arrived on the Africaine in 1836, and took up land in the southern districts in the early 1840s. His home ‘Wickham Park’ was built near McLaren Flat in the mid-1840s, the original homestead still existing on the property where a grander residence was built by the Sauerbier family at the turn of the century.

WINDEBANK’S HILL

Windebank’s Hill was an unofficial locality name situated in proximity to sections 257, 259 and 260 in the Hundred of Noarlunga. It was named after Henry Windebank who arrived in South Australia in 1848 and first settled near Cherry Gardens.

Location of Windebank’s Hill

Section 260 is bordered on its southern edge by Windebanks Road, Aberfoyle Park. Section 259 lies directly south on the opposite side of Chandler’s Hill Road, and section 257 lies west of 259, in Happy Valley.

Other residents of Windebank’s Hill identified in the District of Clarendon rates assessments included Thomas Hales, Jacob Lawson, and Henry Windebank himself on section 257, which was owned by Arthur Foster Lloyd. Henry Windebank appears to have moved on to Kangarilla by the 1870s.
WORTHING

The Worthing Mine Company was formed by John Hallett who arrived on the Africaine in 1836 and discovered the locality while searching for missing stock. Hallett Cove bears his name. His brother Alfred Hallett arrived two years later and after the discovery of copper became manager of the Worthing Mine Company, which operated from 1847 to 1857.

The extent of the Worthing Mine and settlement was approximately 800 acres of land. Miners were brought to work here from England, their passage paid for by the company. Miner’s cottages were constructed to house the workers on section 496 near the eastern side of Lonsdale Highway.

One of Hallett’s employees who arrived on the ship with him in 1836, Daniel Cox, was a pioneer of the Worthing settlement which grew up around the mining operations. Daniel’s brother William arrived 14 years later to join him, and several other settlers were eventually to call Worthing home. Charles Neville was a storekeeper here and the area also had its own school in the 1850s under teacher Louisa Waite.

Location of Worthing

Worthing covered sections 496, 505, 506, 519, 520, 568, 570, 571, 573, and 574 in the Hundred of Noarlunga, now parts of Lonsdale, Reynella and Hallett Cove. The mine was located in the gully between Hallett Cove and Lonsdale along the Field River. Remnants of the engine house and chimney from the mine workings are still visible today and located on privately owned land.
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Hundred:** Counties and hundreds were established in South Australia in the 1840s as a means to regulate and administer land transactions (see maps below). The hundreds and their sections from the original surveys of South Australia are still in use for land title transactions.

**Indenture:** A legal contract or agreement.

**Perch:** An old English unit of length used to measure land which is the equivalent of 5 ½ yards, 16 ½ feet or 5.0292 metres.

**Poundkeeper:** An officially appointed person responsible for the welfare of stray livestock. Wandering animals were impounded and their owners attempted to be notified. Unsuccessful attempts at reuniting wayward animals and their owners resulted in sale at auction.

**Rood:** An old English unit of measurement equating to one quarter of an acre.

**Section:** Land divisions within each of the Hundreds were surveyed and numbered as sections available for purchase.

**Wheal:** A Cornish word for a place of work often attributed to mines.
RESOURCE LIST

Trove digitised newspapers, National Library of Australia

State Library of South Australia hundreds maps series

State Library of South Australia online resources

Land Services (Government of South Australia)

State Records of South Australia (District of Clarendon rates assessments)
www.archives.sa.gov.au

Local and family history resources of the City of Onkaparinga Libraries
(Districts of Morphett Vale, Noarlunga and Willunga rates assessments, early SA directories, photographs)
www.onkaparingacity.com/libraries

City of Onkaparinga – Built Heritage
www.onkaparingacity.com/onka/discover/history_heritage.jsp
An Agreement made the sixth day of May one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four

Between

GEORGE FIFE ANGAS of Saint Mary Axe in the City of London Esquire
HENRY KINGSCLIFF of Bank Buildings in the said City Esquire and JAMES RUDDELL TODD of Portland Place in the County of Middlesex Esquire (the landlords) for themselves and their or either of their assigns and the survivors or survivor of them and the heirs and assigns of such survivor of the one part and

HANNAH ANGAS of Downingsville Section 399, Aldinga 1847, Land Services Group (tenant) for himself his heirs executors and administrators and permitted assigns of the other part

Witnesseth

that the said landlords do and each and every of them doth let and demise unto the said tenant All that section of country land containing eighty acres and numbered 399 in District 6 in the province of South Australia

EXCEPT AND ALWAYS RESERVED unto the landlord or landlords all mines minerals and quarries which may exist in or upon the said lands which mines minerals and quarries shall be and remain the property of the landlords who and every person claiming under whom shall always be entitled to and have full and free liberty of ingress egress and regress for themselves and their agents and servants with or without horses cattle carts drays carriages engines shafts and all other necessary implements and things into upon and from the premises for all reasonable purposes and to work the said mines and quarries and dig or sink for the produce thereof doing as little damage as possible and paying and allowing unto the tenant a reasonable allowance for damage to the surface of the land To have and to hold the said demised premises subject and except as aforesaid unto the tenant from the twenty-first day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four for the term of seven years thence next ensuing

Holding and Paying the yearly rent following (that is to say) for the first seven years of the term the yearly rent of the yearly rent of the yearly rent of the

next And the tenant agrees as follows (namely) to pay the yearly rent hereby reserved on the days and at the times hereby appointed for payment of the same without any deduction whatever That he will at his own cost maintain in good and substantial condition and repair all houses and buildings which now are or may at any time be erected upon the premises during the term hereby granted and also the glass windows doors shelves fixtures racks and mangers belonging to the said buildings and premises and all the gates gate posts gate iron rails hedges ditches drains watercourses and fences belonging to the said premises and leave and deliver up the same respectively in such condition and repair at the determination of the said term (accidents by fire excepted) and will manage and cultivate the said land hereby demised in a proper and farm-like manner and will not at any time during the said term take more than two successive crops of corn grain or pulse of any kind from off any part of the said lands or otherwise waste or impoverish the same And that he the tenant will not underlet or assign over deposit or part with or affect either absolutely by way of mortgage or otherwise howsoever these presents or the said demised premises or any part thereof without the previous consent in writing of the landlords for that purpose first had and obtained And moreover will during the whole of the said term well and truly pay and satisfy and bear and sustain all such rates taxes and assessments or impositions as are or may in any manner be rated assessed or imposed on the land and premises demised or any part thereof or on the landlords or tenant in respect thereof Provided always That if the rent hereby reserved shall be in arrear in the whole or in part for thirty days next after any of

Downingsville Section 399, Aldinga 1847, Land Services Group