3.1.7 Warnpangga/Park 10 Report



### Warnpangga/Park 10

### **Historical Overview: Site Context**

Arising from Light's plan, Warnpangga/Park 10 consists of 21.46ha of land bounded by MacKinnon Parade, Hackney Road, Bundey's Road, the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri and Frome Road. Originally Park 10 consisted of Park 10, to the east of Sandcarters Road, and Park 11, to the west of Sandcarters Road. Both portions were amalgamated together and renumbered as Warnpangga/Park 10 but a strip of land between War Memorial Drive and the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri was excluded. Tainmundilla/Park 11 now consists of land to the south of War Memorial Drive and the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri notionally encompassing Botanic Park, Botanic Garden and land along Frome Road and a strip of land between War Memorial Drive and the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri. Sandcarters Road now no longer exists as a trafficable route.

Because of the close geographical and historical relationship of the strip of land between War Memorial Drive and the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri to Warnpangga/Park 10, despite being within Tainmundilla/Park 11, the following discussion includes both land within Warnpangga/Park 10 and the strip of land in Tainmundilla/Park 11.

### Historical Overview: Aboriginal Associations

There are no specific references to Kaurna sites or activities, pre-contact or post-contact, for Warnpangga/Park 10 (Hemming 1998). However, WA Cawthorne records the existence of a she-oak (*Allocasuarina cunninghamiana*?) near the Frome Road bridge in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 that may have held 'Dreaming' significance:

It is devoutly believed that a certain man was transformed into a sheoak tree, the one that stood a little way above the old Frome Bridge. In fact, every island, cape and point are transformations of one kind or another (Cawthorne, The Advertiser, 16 April 1864, cited in Hemming 1998, p. 50).

It is believed that Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 possess high significance to the Kaurna and Aboriginal communities, and have a high potential to contain archaeological and burial sites. It is known that, especially after 1850, that the Botanic Park vicinity – reviewed in more detail in the Tainmundilla/Park 11 Report – was an frequent camping ground for Aboriginal communities, and numerous European period references and artist sketches exist for this area but there is a lack of specific references for the north side of Karrawirra Parri (Draper et al 2005, pp. 59-60).

#### **Historical Overview: Post Contact Associations**

During the late 1830s a portion of Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 was subject to attempts to establish a botanic garden in Adelaide. The establishment of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, formally within Tainmundilla/Park 11 today, was not straight forward and several attempts were made before the final site was selected.

Government gardens were established in the Australian colonies within a comparatively short time of European settlement, often within the first decade and generally as gardens in which to acclimatise plants. Government gardens were thus established in Sydney (1788), Hobart Town (1818), Brisbane (1828), and Palmerston (Port Darwin) (1869). These early government gardens were frequently located within a larger government domain that also contained a government house, as at Parramatta (1790s), Launceston (c.1808), Hobart (1811), Brisbane (1827), Perth (1829), Adelaide (1836), and Melbourne (1845). Such domains—in South Australia known as 'park lands'—formed an early and uniform type of large public reserve in Australia. Once

established, these government gardens and their associated institutional organisations, developed collections that were documented and labelled, and were open to the public for the purposes of education, experimentation, research, and recreation. Such gardens were the forerunners of the botanic gardens established in Australian in the mid-nineteenth century at Sydney (1816), Hobart (1844), Melbourne (1846), Brisbane (1855), and Adelaide (1855).

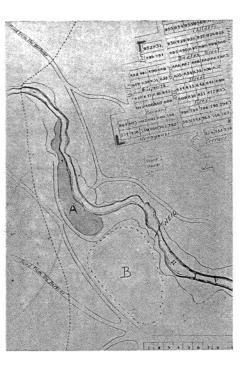
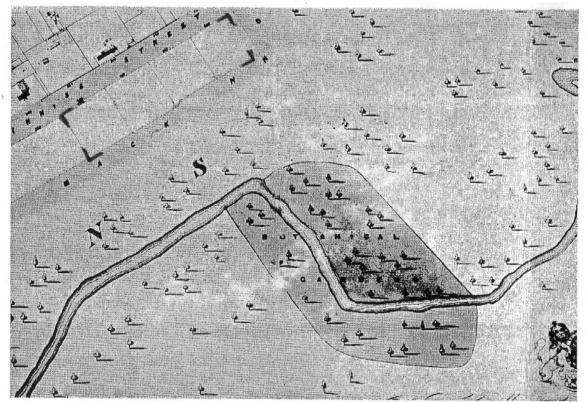


Figure
The first (A) and second (B) sites for the botanic garden on the banks of the River Torrens in Tulya Wodli/Bonython Park/Park 27 today. Source: Survey Plan of the City of Adelaide, 1837, as prepared by Colonel William Light. ACC Archives



Figure

The third site for the "BOTANICAL GARDEN" on a bend of the River Torrens, immediately between the present Zoological Gardens (on the south-west side) and the Corporation's Nursery (on the north-east side) within Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. Source: Extract from George Kingston's 1841 'Map of Adelaide', ACC Archives.

In Light's original survey of Adelaide (1836-37) an area for 'botanic garden' was indicated on an 'island' in the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri within Tulya Wodli/Park 27. But the initial site, chosen without the benefit of any horticultural hindsight and with only limited knowledge of the local environment, proved quite unsuitable as it was prone to flooding and was never developed.

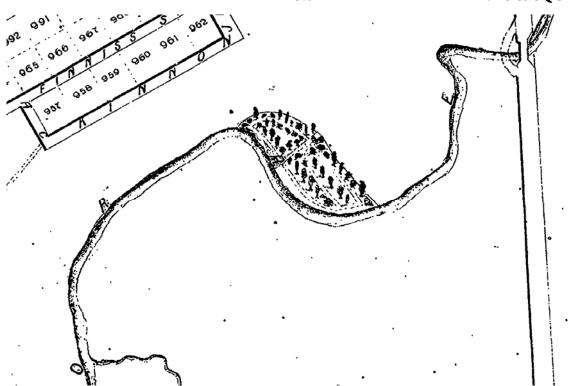
In 1837 a second site for a botanic garden was selected on the southern flank of the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri in Tarndanya Womma/Park 26 now under the earthen-raised Elder Park. Thomas Allen (1787-1868), an experienced gardener who had previously worked in London's royal parks, established South Australia's first nursery on this site that was called the 'Government Garden'. Allen maintained a leasehold occupancy from 1837-40, but did not prosper in the fledgling colony. The site was vacated in £1840 and Allen migrated to Dunedin in New Zealand 1862 (Aitken et al 2006; Jones & Westergaard 2006).

A third site for a botanic garden, later known as the 'Old Botanic Garden', was chosen in 1839. This site was on the northern and southern sides of a large bend in the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri, opposite the present Botanic Park (in Tainmundilla/Park 11) but within Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. The Governor placed the garden under the care of John Bailey (1800-64), an experienced horticulturist whose father was a nursery proprietor and seed merchant in London. Bailey was optimistically appointed Government Botanist and for a time (1839-40) he maintained the 'Government Garden' concurrently with Allen's nursery. Although public funds were subscribed for the venture, the financial difficulties of the colony led to Bailey's retrenchment in 1841. Bailey and his sons established what was known as Bailey's Garden, also known as the Hackney Gardens, in Hackney to the east of Hackney Road, and his grandson later became director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden. Editor and horticulturist George Stevenson (1799-1856), rented the 'Old Botanic Garden' during 1842-43, and his gardener George McEwin took take charge of the property. William Haines rented the property during 1844-50 and in 1850 George Francis obtained the lease. Francis was soon to become inaugural superintendent of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, and he regarded this third site as the 'Adelaide Botanic Garden', giving this as his address during the early 1850s. Francis pressed for a properly funded botanic garden, while working as a local government surveyor and valuator, and recommending plantings for Adelaide's city squares and gardens (Aitken et al 2006; Aitken 2007; Jones 2007).

Following agitation by the Agricultural and Horticultural Society, in 1853 a fourth site on Frome Road (extending as far north as the Torrens) was approved by the colonial Governor. This proposal was influenced by Francis but the garden was never developed, and the site was soon superseded by the present one, the present Adelaide Botanic Garden, further to the east.

From the 1850s to the late 1870s Warnpangga/Park 10 was used for grazing, fire wood collection, and agistment. It was fenced in white-painted timber post and wire in the late 1860s, and by this time most of the indigenous vegetation had been effectively removed from Warnpangga/Park 10 except scattered River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and other native specimens along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri banks.

Sandcarters Road was constructed in the 1860s to provide an exclusive route for sandcarters to access the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankment and to confine their activities to a single location. The Road conceptually survives today between the present day Archery Club and the Nursery (Sumerling 2003, p. 25)



Figure

Extract from a 'Plan of the City of Adelaide' as prepared by the City Surveyor's Office dated 11 February 1865 depicting the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri, Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 winding through the landscape, and in particular the detailed layout of the former 'Botanic Garden' with what appears to be two structures; one structure in the bottom south-east and the other on the north-eastern flank. Source: ACC Archives.

The construction of Albert Bridge, on Frome Road, was commenced in 1879. It occupied the site of an earlier timber carriage bridge that was washed away with floodwaters in the 1840s. The Corporation first sought the construction of Albert Bridge in August 1871 seeking funding assistance from the colonial government. In the absence of the road bridge a timber pedestrian bridge was in place in the 1863-69. Finally, after considering various options including the relocation of the old City Bridge on King William Road, the Corporation let a tender to Davies & Wishart, under the supervision of city surveyor JH Langdon, to a design by (John Harry) Grainger & Worsley for a new road bridge.

The Albert Bridge foundation stone was laid by Mayor Henry Scott in August 1878, and the bridge opened on 7 May 1879 by Mayoress Mrs William C Buik at a large public gathering. It spanned 120 feet (36.5m), with a central span of 60 feet (18.2m) between two central caissons filled with concrete. Tea Tree Gully sandstone complimented imported cast iron work obtained in England. The bridge cost £9,000.

With the engagement of John Ednie Brown to prepare a Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands (1880) Brown recorded that Warnpangga/Park 10 consisted of a "very excellent quality" most suitable for ornamental purposes. The land was level, "the outlines are irregular and in parts sinuous, altogether making the part of high ornamental capabilities" (Brown 1880, p. 18).

While of excellent quality, Brown recorded the poor and ill-informed plantation design and tree plantation approach applied by Pengilly in Warnpangga/Park 10. He regretted that trees of the same species had been planted along the Frome-MacKinnon-Bundeys road-frontage plantations resulting in a monotonous "sameness" (Brown 1880, p. 18). Brown proposed several strategic

additions to Warnpangga/Park 10 including the establishment of a carriage drive and the planting of a more formal park in the corner of MacKinnon Parade and Frome Road. These will be discussed below as separate items.

In terms of the Frome-MacKinnon-Bundeys road-frontage plantations Brown proposed a renovation including thinning and strategic re-planting "to embrace and form part of the new design." He proposed that the plantation be reviewed, especially the unhealthy *Eucalyptus* spp, that these trees "be removed and a few *conferæ* and deciduous trees be inserted ... to break up the mechanical regularity in the rows of trees as at present existing." He proposed the breaking up the linear lines of trees and the creation and planting of clumps of trees as much as possible "to make the plantation as natural looking as possible ... more ornamental" (Brown 1880, p. 18).

The north-west corner of MacKinnon Parade and Frome Road was proposed as a formal garden:

... laid off with walks and planted as shown. This is a very rich and favourable spot, and, if judiciously plotted and planted in an irregular manner with a variety of conferæ and deciduous trees, the result would enhance the appearance of the part very considerably. The spot being a prominent one, more than ordinary care should be bestowed upon it in order to produce the most pleasing effects (Brown 1880, p. 18).

Between the MacKinnon Road plantation and the greater Warnpangga/Park 10, Brown proposed the establishment of a pedestrian promenade planted with an avenue of London Planes (*Platanus* x *acerifolius*) at 9m apart "so as form a shade to foot passengers in the summer time." An avenue of London Plane trees (*Platanus* x *acerifolius*) were also proposed, 9m apart, along the eastern flank of Frome Road (Brown 1880, pp. 18, 19).

Through Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 Brown proposed the establishment of a carriage drive. This proposal was later re-invented by Pelzer as a part of the War Memorial Drive albeit located in a somewhat different location. Brown's proposed carriage drive was to commence near the Albert Bridge and run along the embankment of River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri some 9m from the embankment, and skirt slightly to the north-east to Bundeys Road avoiding the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri bend. A formed pedestrian pathway should however edge the entire River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri edge.

Brown also proposed a major renovation of the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri edge to craft a more Gardenesque setting. This recommendation applied to the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments from the present Morphett Street bridge to the Hackney Road bridge, and while general in its description occasionally makes specific references to portions within each Park. Conceptually this recommendation was quite detailed in its planting design strategy, adopting a strong Gardenesque philosophy, and was accompanied by a suite of lithograph images so to portray the visual outcomes Brown was seeking to achieve.

The following is therefore a summation of his recommendations but includes specific references to Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 where made.

Brown proposed a "thorough system of improvement of the banks of our River" to create "the most attractive feature in the landscape of the City lands. It is a work which, from its character and extent, would no doubt be a very expensive one; but its popularity and undoubted necessity would warrant its being done at any cost." To achieve this outcome he proposed a detailed engineering survey of the River embankments showing all existing surfaces, changes to surfaces and contours, all existing trees and proposed tree plantation locations, and any amenities to be included (Brown 1880, pp. 10, 11).

### Brown proposed:

From the sinuous and irregular character of the river and its banks, there are very great capabilities for the designing of many rare and striking effects.

One of the most important points to be attended to in improving the subject, would of course be the presenting as much variety and contrasts as possible, and, in order to attain this end, all the natural contours and irregularities of each part would have to be carefully studied, embraced, and, if necessary, on occasions enlarged or extended. Anything approaching to regularity or mechanical stiffness should be rigidly avoided.

The banks of the River as a whole ... are very variable as to their character and formation generally. In some places we have jagged precipitate bluffs, the soil on which is being gradually loosened and washed into the bed of the river by the rains; in others they form a pleasing slope from the ridge to the water's edge; while again in some parts—particularly to the south of the Adelaide Bridge—we have them made up of a series of flats, knolls, and terraces. The most difficult portion of the whole subject to be dealt with is that part extending from the Company's Bridge [Hackney Road Bridge] to the Albert Bridge, all of which is more of less of a precipitate and broken character, and therefore requiring more judgement and a greater expenditure of time and labour to improve it to the best advantage (Brown 1880, p. 11).



## Sketch shewing Avenues and River Banks

Figure:

Figure 9, "Sketch shewing Avenues and River Banks", as proposed by Brown in his Report on a Planting System for the Adelaide Park Lands (1880) depicting formal linear pedestrian avenues of trees together with in dispersed exotic deciduous and evergreen plantings along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments. Source: Brown (1880).

Key recommendations in implementing this program of works, as proposed by Brown, included:

- ❖ Banks should be levelled to 45° more or less;
- \* Avoid uniformity in slope forming;
- ❖ Make the banks "as natural as possible" and take advantage of "hollows, ledges, ridges, knolls, flats, and water-washed crevices and gullies;"
- Where already sufficiently sloped leave unchanged;

- \* "Natural flats, ridges and terraces, have grand natural features for ornamentation" and should be taken advantage of;
- Consolidated crushed rock levelled footpaths, 2.4-3.0m wide should be constructed adjacent to the River banks and follow the natural windings of the landscape sinuously winding around natural clumps of trees;
- Tree planting plans should be meticulously prepared having regard for the "desired effect;"
- \* The "system of planting suitable ... would be of the most approved ornamental kind;"
- \* Regularity of newly planted tree distances should be avoided;
- ❖ Tree distances should have regard to mature foliage canopy and spread;
- Clump trees of different spreads, often of "six different kinds of trees of which No. 1 will measure 10 feet (3.0m); No. 2, 12 feet [3.65m]; No. 3, 15 feet [4.57m]; No. 4, 50 feet [15m]; No. 5, 40 feet [12m]; and, No. 6, 30 feet [9m] in diameter" as depicted in the following diagram;
- The "distances at which the tree should be planted apart must be such as to allow each to attain to its open natural habit and full spread of branches, and thus realise the pictorial view intended;"
- ❖ Do not plant the banks "regularly all over with trees"
- \* "We must have single trees standing out prominently alone in places, groups pf one kind and of several kinds judiciously intermixed in others and so on," (Brown 1880, pp. 11-12).

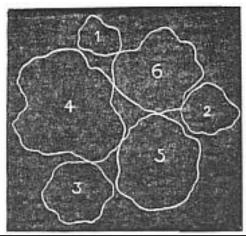


Figure:

Theoretical tree planting diagram prepared by Brown in his Report on a Planting System for the Adelaide Park Lands (1880). The diagram depicts Brown's detailed tree planting strategy that could be mapped against tree species selection. Source: Brown (1880).

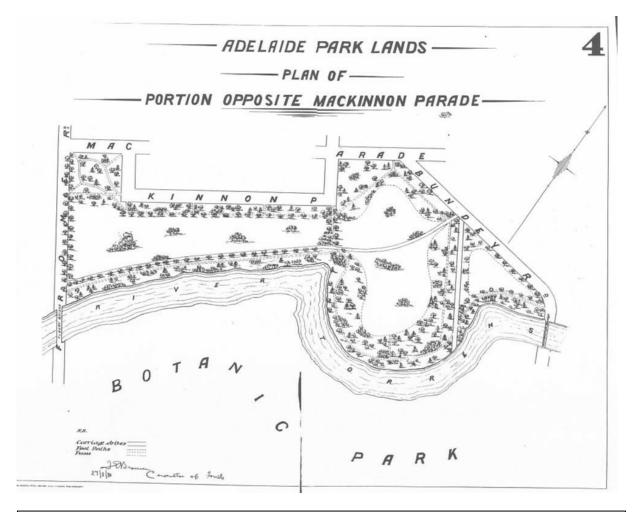
It is interesting to note that the bank levelling and re-forming strategy proposed by Brown is conceptually the same proposed in the landscape design recommendations for the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri Linear Park proposal in the 1970s. While the Linear Park proposal formally excluded the Park Land blocks within the City of Adelaide, its landscape design recommendations were progressively adopted as relevant principles for application in Warnpangga/Park 10, Tainmundilla/Park 11, Karrawirra/Park 12, Piltawodli/Park 1 and Tulya Wodli/Park 27 (Hassell 1975).

Brown also drew special reference as to the positioning and atmosphere of the proposed carriage drives:

I have to recommend that a Carriage Drive and Footpath be made to run along the top of the banks on the north side, from which the citizens in their carriages or on foot could view the varied scene presented by hundreds of boats plying upon the water, and the intricacies of foliage, colour, groupings and combinations of the trees planted on the banks. The Carriage Road should be through an Avenue of trees, with the footpath betwixt it and the brink of the banks (Brown 1880, p.12).

But before any works were to be commenced a thorough survey and landscape design master plan had to be prepared. Brown stressed this point repeatedly in his discussion concluding:

Before any alterations or improvements are made upon the banks of the description stated, the whole ground should be surveyed and delineated on plans showing carefully and clearly the portions of the various surface features, together with their outlines, extents, heights, and other matter which it will be necessary to consider and embrace in designing for the improvement of the part. This done, the ground should then be inspected from various points of view, and, by mentally picturing the different effects likely to be produced when it comes to be planted, a decision may be arrived at as to what alterations are necessary in order to the best features of the site being most prominently defined, and the most striking contrasts permanently secured. To do this it will, I doubt not, be necessary to alter the natural features of the site to a considerable degree in places, by extending or shortening a terrace here, lowering or raising a knoll there, and deepening or filling up a hollow in another place; so that, when the works are completed, the whole ground operated upon will, when viewed from any one direction, present a combination of pleasing effects and contrasts (Brown 1880, p. 11).



Figure

Plan 4 from Brown's (1880) Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands that depicts his proposed planting and circulation systems for Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. Note the proposed carriage drive, the retention of the extant Sandcarters Road, the more intricate mature tree 'garden' in the western corner with pedestrian pathway, and the dense plantings along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri escarpment. Source: Brown (1880).

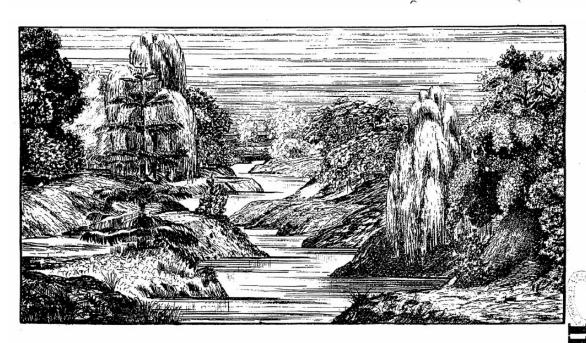
Brown's tree planting recommendations for Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 were:

Nomenclature as used by JE Brown (1880)	Current Scientific Nomenclature	Current Common Name
Grevillea robusta	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak
Cupressus Uhdeana	?	
Cupressus Sempervirens	Cupressus sempervirens	Italian Cypress
Cupressus Lawsoniana	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	Lawson Cypress, Port Orford Cedar
Sterculia heterophylla	?	
Araucaria excelsa	Araucaria heterophylla	Norfolk Island Pine
Arancaria Cunninghamii	Araucaria cunninghamii	Hoop Pine, Moreton Bay Pine
Cedrus Deodara	Cedrus deodara	Deodar Cedar, Himalayan Cedar
Cedrus Atalantica	Cedrus atalantica	Atlas Cedar
Pinus Insignis	Pinus radiata	Monterey Pine
Pinus Sabiniana	?	,
Pinus Longifolia	?	
Pinus Maritima	Pinus nigra var maritime	Maritime Pine
Pinus Canariensis	Pinus canariensis	Canary Islands Pine
Pinus Ponderosa	Pinus ponderosa	Western Yellow Pine
Pinus Muricata	?	
Pinus Persica	?	
Abies Douglasii	Pseudotsuga menziesii	Douglas Fir
Abies Albertiana	?	
Picea Nobilis	?	
Picea Amabalis	?	
Picea Webbiana	?	
Biota orientalis	Thuja orientalis	Bookleaf Cypress, Biota
Populus nigra	Populus nigra	Black Poplar
Populus Alba	Populus alba	White Poplar, Silver Poplar
Populus Acladesca	?	
Populus dilatata	Populus nigra 'Italica'	Lombardy Poplar
Legunaria Patersonii	Lagunaria patersonii	Norfolk Island Hibiscus
Ailanthus glandulosa	Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven
Tristanea Conferta	Tristanea conferta	Brush Box
Paulownia imperialis	Pawlonia tomentose	Royal Pawlonia
Ulmus Suberosa [and] Ulmus	Quercus suber and Ulmus glabra	Cork Oak and Scotch Elm, Wych
Montana		Elm
Ulmus Campestris	Ulmus procera	English Elm
Acer pseudoplatanus	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore Maple
Fraxinus Americana	Fraxinus americana	White Ash
Fraxinus Excelsa	Fraxinus excelsa	English Ash
Robinia pseudacacia	Robinia pseudacacia	Black Locust, False Acacia
Platanus acerifolia	Platanus x acerifolius	London Plane
Platanus orientalis	Platanus orientalis	Oriental Plane
Ficus Macrophylla	Ficus macrophylla	Moreton Bay Fig
Melia Azedarach	Melia azedarach var australisca	White Cedar
Eucalyptus Globulus	Eucalyptus globulus	Tasmanian Blue Gum
Eucalyptus Corynocalyx,	Eucalyptus cladocalyx	Sugar Gum
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There is a wide selection of tree species in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 today, and the profile of specimens has a broad correlation with the above list.



Sketch shewing River and Park Scenery



Sketch shewing undulating River Bunks

### Figures

Two lithograph images prepared by Brown and included in his Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands (1880) that provide visual representations of the landscape he was trying to craft along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri with his detailed planting design recommendations. These two images depict a strong Gardenesque park atmosphere in Image No. 13, and the rather rustic somewhat Picturesque slant he placed upon planting and river bank re-contouring measures along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri. The first image depicts random decorative planting of exotic evergreen and deciduous trees and a sense of intrigue in the undulating river bank formations. The second image provides a view along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri that reinforces its organic and undulating flows and the us eof particular exotic deciduous trees (in particular Weeping Willows (Salix babylonica)) to create an often Picturesque and rugged scene. Source: Brown (1880).

In conjunction with his recommendations for the Park Lands, Brown also recommended the establishment of "a Nursery and its management, in order to the rearing of young trees suitable for the purposes of the Corporation" (Brown 1880, p. 4). While his reasons were specific his proposed site was adjacent to the Park Ranger's residence in Tulya Wodli/Park 27. Notwithstanding this it is worthy to quote his logic as to the purpose and establishment of the Nursery as it mirrors, albeit in a smaller scale, the reasoning that Pelzer used to recommend and establish the 'Frome Road Nursery' (Karrawirra/Park 12). It is also important to note that the spatial and functional design proposed by Brown was conceptually adopted by Pelzer in the development of the 'Frome Road Nursery' (Karrawirra/Park 12). Brown wrote:

All trees used in the formation of ornamental grounds and parks require to be grown specially for the purpose, in order that by having plenty of fibrous roots, well-trained stems, and the characteristic points and peculiarities of each different specie fully developed, the trees planted may assume the forms required, and the anticipation of the designer in regard to outlines, groupings, and combinations, be realised.

This amount of attention cannot be given to the young trees by public nurserymen; and besides, by having a private nursery the plants can always be had at command, and by rearing them of a good size before they are put out, immediate effect can be produced on the ground being operated upon.

In order that my suggestions regarding the planting of the Park Lands of this City may, if adopted, he carried out with every chance of ultimate success, I have to advise that a small Nursery be established by the Corporation for the purpose of growing the young trees required, of a character likely to conduce to this end.

I have, therefore, to offer you a few suggestions regarding its formation and management.

A suitable site for the purpose could be got on that portion of the Corporation grounds adjoining the residence of the Park Ranger. This part appears to me to be well adapted to meet the exigencies of the case, as the soil is of a good deep loamy nature, thereby likely to excite the trees to throw out plenty of fibrous roots and attain a fair size in a short time; the site is sheltered, so that the specimens would be allowed to assume the establish their characteristic peculiarities of habit without any particular care or training, while the situation commands an ever continuous supply of water, all essential qualities and requisites in a nursery devoted to the rearing of trees required solely for ornamental purposes ... I have to recommend that the ground enclosed for the purposes of a nursery be at least two acres [0.8ha] in extent. This should be laid off in an artistic and commodious manner in accordance with the outlines of the ground, and enclosed with a "paling" fence. An open drain three feet [0.9m] deep would be necessary round the whole of the enclosure on the inside, ending in an outlet to the river on the lowest part of the site, so as to avoid flooding in the rainy season. Afterwards, the ground would require to be trenched to about two feet [0.6m] in depth, so as to take out all obstructions and make the soil of a free nature, suitable for encouraging expanded roots and easy of being detached from them without much injury to the ramified fibrous roots when the plants come to be removed to the Park Lands (Brown 1880, p. 4).

Overall these were very specific and deliberate recommendations for Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 and in particular in terms of the landscape experience Brown was trying to craft along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri corridor. The specificity mirrors the detailed planting design principles devised for the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri Linear Park segments in the 1970s (Hassell 1975).

There was no reference in Brown's Report (1880) to the 'Old Botanical Garden' nor plants associated with this garden so it is likely that Francis retrieved as much of the established trees specimens as he could and shifted them to the Adelaide Botanic Garden (in Tainmundilla/Park 11) after he was appointed its inaugural director.

With Brown's appointment as 'Supervisor of the Plantations', upon the invitation of City of Adelaide Mayor Edwin Smith in April 1882, Brown commenced foundational work in implementing parts of the *Report's* (1880) recommendations. The City Gardener (1867-83), William Pengilly (1825-1911) was advised that Brown shall have "general supervision of the tree planting in the Park Lands" and to "render Mr. Brown every facility for this purpose ..." (Town Clerk's Dept Outwards Letter Book, 1882/602/18). A fractious relationship occurred with Brown and Pengilly, and a specific incident over street tree plantings along Barton Terrace West prompted Brown's resignation from this position in August 1882. While the Corporation sought to remedy the situation, continued disobedience and contrary activities by the City Gardener and his workforce eventually prompted Brown's formal resignation on 1 June 1883. In his letter of resignation he wrote "I must for the sake of professional reputation, seek to be relieved of the responsibility." With this decision the Corporation determined to sack the City Gardener, and therein had a series of City Gardeners until such time as August Pelzer (1862-1934) was appointed City Gardener (1899-1934) in mid 1899.

Notwithstanding Brown's activities, Pengilly also proceeded with planting activities. In his *Annual Report* of 1883 Pengilly records the planting of "various kinds of trees" numbering 300 in Park Land blocks 1 to 9 as well as 5 new plantations resulting in an overall tree plantation total of 3,082 trees. The nature of the species and the location of plantations Pengilly was establishing in these Park Land blocks are unclear. It would be logical that Pengilly also tackled plantings in Warnpangga/Park 10 at the same time although he does not specifically record this action (*Annual Report* 1882-83, p. 134).

In the subsequent financial year the Corporation acquired a substantial amount of fencing materials from England, including wrought iron posts, wrought iron field gates, cast iron corner posts, galvanized iron pillars together with 117,950 yards (107,853m) of 7-ply galvanized wire. The purpose was to totally replace the existing "old and dilapidated post and two rail fence" that enclosed most of the Park Land blocks to the Terraces. The cast iron posts and pillars were marked with "Iron Duke" and "Letterewe" branding. Upon arrival, the Park Lands and Gardens staff commenced the process of re-fencing the Park Lands (*Annual Report* 1883-84, pp. 56-57).

William H Campbell, as Park Lands Ranger, trialled this new fencing on South Terrace and found that he could erect it at a cost of 2½ d per foot. His conclusions were that the fencing was cost-effective, ornamental, offered opportunities for addition access points, and "in a measure complies with Councillor [FW] Bullock's intention to allow of perambulators, &c., having access to our reserves." Notwithstanding this purchase, staff often proceeded with re-fencing works using old materials (*Annual Report* 1884-85, pp. 102-103).

During 1883 the Park Lands Ranger, William Campbell, records the fencing of Warnpangga/Park 10 along McKinnon Parade with 57½ chains of ornamental wire cablefencing. An additional 47 panels of post and 3-wire fencing were erected along McKinnon Parade in 1886-87 and some168 panels of post and 3-wire fencing along the Sandcarters Road in 1888-89. Some 34 chains of ornamental fencing were erected along McKinnon Parade in 1890. Campbell noted his preference to the ornamental fencing but also complained about the public's predilection to "sit on the wires and loosen them" (*Annual Report* 1884-85, p. 102; 1886-87, p. 112; 1888-89, p. 134; 1889-90, pp. 119, 120).

During 1897 the Corporation considered a series of reports and recommendations from the Engineer-in-Chief as to works along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri. This included removal of silt banks and the re-contouring of the banks. The report sought unsuccessfully for Corporation approval for the erection of a temporary dam near Hackney Bridge, to

... effect an absolute clearance of mullock and debris, either by machinery or manual labour, and this restore to something approaching pristine beauty and utility for boating the area between the indicated dame and the present Weir ... The steep banks near Frome Bridge should be sloped down, and the projecting angles should be rounded off. He considers that a few floods would clear out all deposits, and the judicious use of the sluices would prevent future accumulations (Annual Report 1897-98, p. 72; 1899-1900, pp. 96-97).

By the 1890s Campbell was struggling to control the introduced weeds that had taken control of much of his pasturage in North Adelaide. He noted that:

A weed known as the Wild Onion (Asphodelus tenuior) [Asphodel; Asphodelus fistulosus] has given a great deal of trouble this year. It has completely taken possession of many of the grazing paddocks in North Adelaide, and for several months in the year renders them almost unfit for use, as cattle will not touch it. At considerable expense it has been grubbed this year; but numberless young plants are certain to have been missed, and it would take three years to eradicate them. All these efforts must, however, be futile so log as private land in the vicinity remains stocked with it; and the Corporation is powerless to deal with the evil until it be proclaimed a noxious weed (Annual Report 1894-95, p. 65).

With Pelzer's appointment in mid 1899 a rigorous planting program of the Park Lands was commenced and it appears that Pelzer somewhat faithfully referred to and used Brown's Report (1880) as the master plan for his planting activities. A key recommendation in the Report (1880) was the development of the 'Frome Road Nursery' in neighbouring Karrawirra/Park 12, an action that Pelzer immediately sought to implement in 1899-1900. Pelzer took consideration interest in the development of this nursery as can be evidenced by his reports of its activities. There appears also to have been minor engineering works along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankment slopes near Albert Bridge (Frome Road Bridge) requiring the planting of trees (Annual Report 1899-1900, pp. 295-296; 1902, p. 31; 1903, p. 44).

### Pelzer reported that:

The steep banks near the Albert Bridge are being gradually sloped off and planted with various trees, shrubs, &c., such as upright poplars [Populus nigra 'Italica'], willows [Salix ssp], tamarisks [Tamarix aphylla], white acacias [Melia azedarach var australasica], silver poplars [Populus alba], pampas grass [Cortaderia spp], &c. (Annual Report 1902, p. 31).

There are regular references in Pelzer's *Annual Reports* to the Corporation about minor earthworks and tree planting activities on the slopes near Albert Bridge from 1899 onwards. These references appear to relate to land downstream of Albert Bridge within Karrawirra/Park 12 and not upstream in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 as the works coincide with the construction and development of War Memorial Drive. There are no distinct references to planting upstream of Albert Bridge until discussions commenced in 1919 about the construction of War Memorial Drive through Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11.

In 1903 a review of all Corporation depots and rubbish tips in the Park Lands considered the removal of limestone excavation holes and recommended various closures. There were no pits and tips identified as being used in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11, except a rubbish tip that was being used in land immediately east of Sandcarters Road. The Corporation proposed no change of use and function for this rubbish tip (*Annual Report* 1903, pp. 28-29).

In 1904 the Corporation commissioned fencing contractors to erect the "Anchor" style of sawn jarrah post and wire fencing. The style consisted of six-wire fencing with jarrah posts 3.6m apart. George Wills & Co undertook the erection of much of this fencing. The flanks of Sandcarter's Road were re-fenced in 1907-08. The flanks of McKinnon Parade west of Mann

Terrace were fenced in 1908, and the eastern flank of Hackney Road was fenced adjacent to Gilberton. Pelzer unsuccessfully proposed to the Corporation a larger re-fencing program for the Park Lands in 1909 and at the same time also commenced progressive removal of lengths of fencing as park agistment ceased in certain areas. Parts of the interior fencing around Warnpangga/Park 10 were removed in 1909 signalling its formal transfer from agistment paddock to open park land and playing fields (*Annual Report* 1904, pp. 39, 74; 1905, p. 41; 1907, p. 53; 1908, p. 19; 1909, pp. 43, 65).

During 1901-10 Pelzer focused part of his planting programs upon the improvement of parks and gardens near King William Road and the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments. He also continued other planting works. In 1904 7 elms (*Ulmus procera*) and 5 ash (*Fraxinus* spp) trees were planted in McKinnon Parade. Gums were pollarded along McKinnon Parade in 1905-07, and the fencing taken up and shifted along the side of Sandcarter's Road in 1905. As part of these works Pelzer also obtained about 1,500 cubic yards (1254m²) of top soil in 1908 from the construction of the new Hackney Road tram-car depot and stacked this soil in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Mullawirraburka/Park 14 for "future tree planting" (*Annual Report* 1904, p. 63; 1905, pp. 42, 56; 1906, p. 44; 1907, p. 55; 1908, p. 45).

In 1910 Pelzer reported perhaps the first tree planting works along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments upstream of Albert Bridge. Tree planting was undertaken along the banks immediately adjacent to the Zoo, and sloping and planting works undertaken along the opposite bank in Tainmundilla/Park 11 (*Annual Report* 1910, p. 54; 1911, pp. 66-67; 1912, p. 64).

In the same year the corner of Jerningham Street and McKinnon Parade received attention. Pelzer commenced planting shrubs on this corner. These plantings precede the proposal for a war memorial garden on this corner (*Annual Report* 1910, p. 54; 1911, p. 67).

In 1912 the Botanic Gardens Board sought the lease of 2.83ha of land to serve as a Deer Park for a period of 21 years from the Corporation. The site corresponds with the same site now occupied by the Corporation's Nursery in Warnpangga/Park 10. The matter was placed before the public through a meeting for approval, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act, and it was approved "by an overwhelming majority." While approved in 1914, and designated on plan, the proposal did not proceed due to the War and declining attendances at the Gardens that resulted in reduced finances. The proposal may also have been hampered due to a condition on the lease that required the construction of an access bridge across the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri from Botanic Park—an expensive infrastructure investment. The Board submitted plans for this bridge and they were approved by the Corporation in June 1914. Notwithstanding these detractors, the Board undertook the fencing of the Park boundaries with a 2.1m high timber fence for 5 chains, the provision of a 7.6cm water main 243m long, and commenced tree planting. In 1924 the Board surrendered the lease back to the Corporation, because of their financial inability to proceed with the Deer Park proposal, and this enabled the Corporation to proceed with the "construction of the War Memorial Drive, and the remaining portion can be utilized for athletic clubs." The Corporation determined to cancel the lease, and instructed the Board to remove the fencing and to leave the water main in position for future Corporation activities (Rix 1978, p. 33; Annual Report 1914, p. 18; 1917, p. 45; 1924, p. 31; Daly 1987, pp. 158-159).

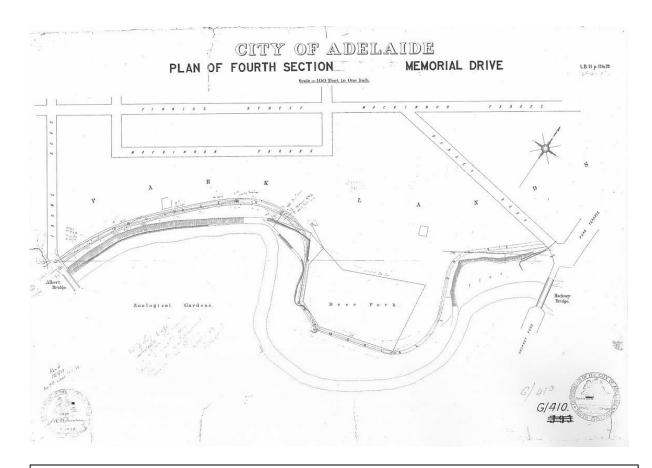


Image:

Plan G/410 prepared by the City Surveyor depicting the Deer Park fenced enclosure, the proposed alignment of the fourth stage of War Memorial Drive, and two building footprints perhaps servicing recreational activities in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. Hand dated 18 May 1923. Source: City of Adelaide Archives.

With 1912 Pelzer first wrote about his proposal to commence land sloping and tree planting works east of Albert Bridge. He perceived that the Corporation needed to "consider the beautification of the banks ... which should be sloped and planted with trees and shrubs" (*Annual Report* 1912, p. 63).

In 1915 Pelzer undertook ground levelling works in former Park 11(now Warnpangga/Park 10), the area east of Sandcarter's Road, to enable the development of sporting ovals and fields, also remarking upon the bountiful rains this winter and summer seasons. With this ground levelling works, the former rubbish tip was covered over. Pelzer also erected 51 chains of post and wire fence along the side of Hackney Road in 1916-18 replacing old exterior and interior fencing together with planting of some 26 trees (*Annual Report* 1915, p. 34; 1916, p. 46; 1917, p. 43; 1918, p. 35).

In 1919 the University of Adelaide sought permission to extend its leasehold of sporting ovals in Karrawirra/Park 12, then known as the 'University Oval'. The University proposed the lease of an additional 1.0ha in Warnpangga/Park 10 adjacent. But the Corporation granted a lease of 0.8ha until 23 September 1929 when the main lease of Karrawirra/Park 12 facilities was due to expire. A rental of an additional £10 per annum was proposed, subject to approval by a rate payer meeting. A meeting on 7 November 1919 approved the proposed additional leasehold by a vote 3,598 to 1,731 (*Annual Report* 1919, p. 30). Works on this new leasehold, which was "to be utilised for lawn tennis courts and hockey grounds" included harrowing, ploughing, grading, and re-seeding with lawn grasses. This work was completed by mid-1921 and a "rustic shelter structure" also erected (*Annual Report* 1920, p. 31; 1921, pp. 26, 38).

# The Lower North Adelaide Soldiers' Memorial Committee sought permission from the Corporation in 1920 to erect a war memorial at the corner of Jerningham Street and McKinnon Parade. The Corporation agreed to this proposal on 18 October 1920 that involved the erection

of a memorial tablet:

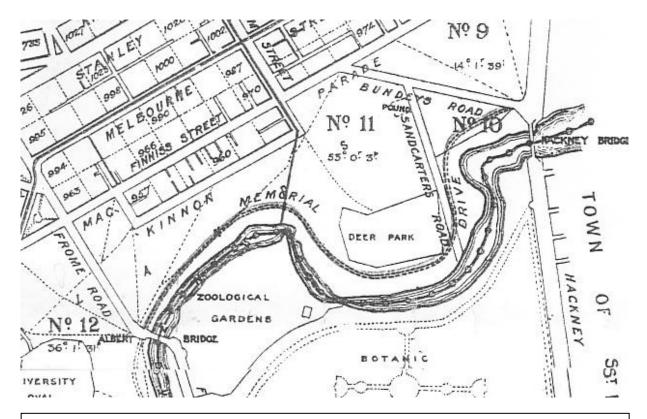
The base is to be of cement 2 ft. [0.6m] high by 9 ft. 6 in. [2.9m] wide. Above the base will be rock-faced freestone about 7 ft. [2.1m] high, in which will be affixed a bronze tablet 5 ft. 6 in. [1.7m] by 4 ft. [1.2m] (Annual Report 1920, p. 6).

This work was undertaken over late 1920 to 1922. The garden embraced 0.5 ha and Pelzer planted it with "lawns, trees, shrubs, etc.," together with formed pathways and erected a number of seats. It was officially named the Lower North Adelaide Memorial Gardens. A small toolshed was erected in 1923 adjacent to this garden. Playground equipment appears also to have been installed in 1923-24 and Pelzer had to re-grade the pathways in 1924. A "roomy shelter house" was also erected in 1926 (*Annual Report* 1922, p. 26; 1923, p. 38; 1924, p. 38; 1926, p. 40).

Pathway re-construction works were entertained in parts of Warnpangga/Park 10 in 1920 (Annual Report 1920, p. 31).

In 1921 the Corporation agreed to a recommendation from its Markets & Parks Committee to undertake "experimental planting of native trees" in 0.4ha of Warnpangga/Park 10 between Bundeys' Road and Park Terrace (Hackney Road). A budget of £58 was set aside for this work. The site was ploughed, harrowed and planted with "seeds of native trees." This initiative appears to be part of a larger series of proposals moved by Councillor George McEwin (Cr 1915-25, Ald 1925-35) that involved a shift towards native Australian plants and trees including revegetation works, and the establishment of an arboretum in Karrawirra/Park 12. The Corporation also agreed to the planting of 110 White Cedars (*Melia azedarach* var *australasica*) from McKinnon Parade to the Albert Bridge, along Frome Road, at a cost of £ 120 (*Annual Report* 1921, pp. 24-25, 37, 38).

From 1920-24 the Corporation progressed with planning, design and construction of War Memorial Drive through Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. Parts of old Park 11 were closed off from pasturage in 1924 to enable construction to proceed unimpeded by cattle and several chains of fencing with a gate erected. Work on stage 4 of War Memorial Drive, from Frome Road to Hackney Road, was completed on 30 October 1925 and the entire road opened by Governor-General Lord Forster who drove along the newly finished section. The date was the sixth anniversary of the opening of the first portion, from King William Road to Frome Road. Pelzer appears to be still undertaking ground levelling works associated with the fourth stage of this roadway in 1926 notwithstanding its opening. Tree planting works associated with this roadway appear also to have been also undertaken in 1926 together with the erection of some 72 chains of fencing. Pelzer was still undertaking this tree planting works in 1929 with the intention of "hiding the back premises of the Zoological Gardens from views from the War Memorial Drive" (*Annual Report* 1924, pp. 37, 40; 1925, p. 2; 1926, pp. 40, 41, 42; 1929, p. 35).



Figure

Extract of a *Plan Showing Improved Pavements*, dated 14 November 1927, prepared by the City Engineer, depicting the pathway system in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11. Warnpangga/Park 10 originally consisted of Parks 10 + 11 as depicted—together with the Zoo-administered 'Deer Park' on the present site for the Corporation Nursery, and the now closed Sandcarters Road. Note also the established pedestrian pathway system. Source: ACC Archives

In 1927 the University of Adelaide sought a renewal and extension of its leasehold in Warnpangga/Park 10 and Karrawirra/Park 12 of land for the purposes of sport fields. The University proposed a consolidation of its existing leases, an extension of area 0.2ha, right to charge admission, and a 21 year lease period. The Corporation agreed to these proposals. This leasehold was granted in late 1927 for 4.45ha (*Annual Report* 1927, p. 20; Daly 1987, p. 151).

Additional sporting leasehold requests were lodged once Warnpangga/Park 10 began to realise its park land setting with the completion of the Drive.

In 1930 the Corporation considered and approved an application from the Minister of Education, on behalf of the [Adelaide] Teachers' Training College, to lease 4.05ha of Warnpangga/Park 10 for a lease of 21 years at £50 per annum. The granting of the lease was subject to a public meeting, and involved the guarantee of £3,000 site improvement works over the next 2 years. The application was prompted by an anonymous gift of £2,000 to the College, whom later found that it came from Chief Justice Sir George Murray. The bequest enabled the College to undertake ground preparation works, and to erect a grandstand with separate men's and women's change rooms. The College oval was seeded in 1932 but regular play only commenced on the oval in 1935 (*Annual Report* 1930, p. 19; Daly 1987, p. 151; Penny 1965, pp. 15-16).

On 29 February 1932 Pelzer retired and the Corporation commenced a reorganisation of the City Gardener's Branch (*Annual Report* 1931-32, p. 27). Following Pelzer's retirement a sequence of gardeners and a change of commitment to the gardens and the Park Lands occurred throughout Adelaide notwithstanding the Centenary of South Australia celebrations in 1936. In

terms of Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 little improvement works were entertained from 1932 up until the 1960s (*Annual Report* 1935-36, p. 37).



Figure

Extract of an aerial photograph of metropolitan Adelaide depicting Warnpangga/Park 10 in 1936 indicating the perimeter tree plantations and the pathway system that are largely extant today including the tree-lined pedestrian avenue diagonally through Warnpangga/Park 10. Note that the Nursery, on the former 'Deer Park' site, was undeveloped at this time, but also the nature of vegetation and earthworks near the former 'Botanic Garden' site. Source: University of Adelaide Archives

Interesting the Frome Road Nursery in Karrawirra/Park 12 was very successful in providing for street tree propagation purposes, but lacked an adequate capacity to cultivate flowering plants and shrubs for Council purposes. At least, this was the opinion of City Gardener A Stanley Orchard in June 1936 when he reported to the Corporation on:

... how severely handicapped his Department was by the lack of proper facilities and limited accommodation by the present Nursery for propagating purposes and the raising and growing of numerous types and varieties of plants ... (Town Clerk's Docket 2428 of 1936).



Figure

Aerial photograph of Warnpangga/Park10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11 in 1947 depicting the tree-lined road reserves, the initial construction and ground laying works for the Corporation's new Nursery, and Sandcarters Road reserve. Sandcarters Road, as formal gravel linear route is clearly evident in this photograph. The photograph also depicts a tree-lined pathway traversing Warnpangga/Park 10 that follows the alignment for a carriage drive as proposed by Brown in his A Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands (1880). Again, providing further evidence of how much attention Pelzer paid to the recommendations of Brown during his tenure as City Gardener from 1899-1934. This pathway was removed in the 1950s as the Corporation formalised its street plantings along War Memorial Drive. There is also visual evidence of a more formal park on the corner of Mackinnon Parade and Frome Road with the pattern of tree and the circulation system evident. Source: ACC Archives.

Orchard recommended the abandonment of the Frome Road Nursery in Karrawirra/Park 12 and the development of a new nursery on a "clean site elsewhere." This proposal was slow in coming to fruition. Finally the Corporation on 18 March 1940 adopted a report that a new Nursery be established in Warnpangga/Park 10 on an area of approximately five acres (2.0ha). This is the present site of the Corporation Nursery. While this recommendation was slow in coming, it took a further 18 years before the Director of Parks & Gardens, Benjamin Bone, could report to the Corporation of the complete transfer of the nursery operations including all construction works and glasshouse accommodation being re-established. An extensive hedge of Kaffir Apple (*Dovyalis caffra*) was planted around the Nursery boundaries, and Orchard also planted a plantation of Athel Pine (*Tamarix aphylla*) around the western, southern and eastern flanks of the Nursery (*Town Clerk's Docket* 2428 of 1936; *Digest of Proceedings* 1939-40, p. 380; *Annual Report* 1957-58, p. 31).

Albert Bridge was re-decked in the 1950s.

During March – August 1957, however, the Town Clerk, Colonel William CD Veale, undertook a study tour of council organisations and facilities in Europe and North America, and submitted his reports on various topics in October 1958. *Report No. 4* (1958) dealt with Parks and Gardens (Veale 1958) and made sweeping recommendations towards the renovation and development of several parks around the Park Lands, together with redevelopment of the River

Torrens/Karrawirra Parri edges and the development of an 18-hole golf course. There were no specific recommendations for Warnpangga/Park 10 and Tainmundilla/Park 11.

In 1959 the Minister of Education again successfully sought a long term lease renewal of grounds and facilities in Warnpangga/Park 10 on behalf of the Adelaide College of Advanced Education (formerly the Adelaide Teachers College) (Penny 1965, p. 18).

Albert Bridge was re-decked in 1982 in addition to adding structural members to address the increasing weight of vehicles and trucks upon the structure.

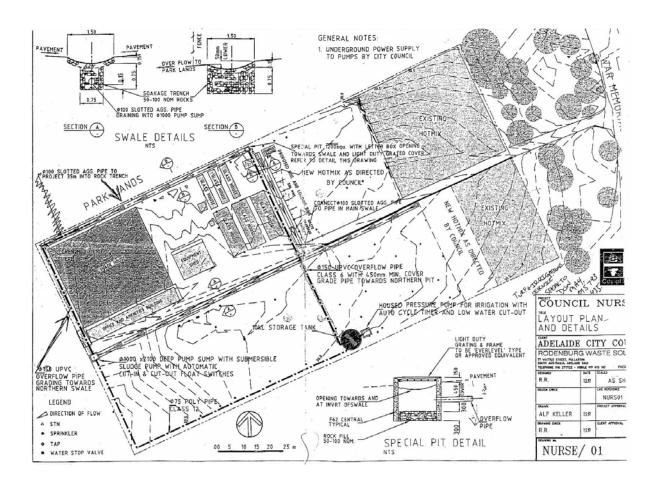
The slow shift of Corporation nursery operations was not without its difficulties. But by 1967 Director of Parks & Gardens Andrew Taylor could report that the nursery was now in full and efficient operation:

... the staff at the Nursery was kept fully employed in the rasing and distribution of seedlings of seasonal displays in the various gardens and street plots, the propagation and maintenance of trees and shrubs for park plantings and the growing and presentation of ornamental pot plants and cut flowers for conservatory and civic function purposes (Annual Report 1966-67, p. 31).

In 1967 the Hackney Road bridge was duplicated, with an additional bridge being added on the western side. The bridge site has associations with the original (South Australian) Company Bridge, and a plaque noting this association was also unveiled upon its opening.

In 1994 three art installations were erected on the banks of the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri in Tainmundilla/Park 11. Entitled 'Divided Paths' (by Linda Patterson), 'You are Here' and 'Landline – Timeline' (by Philip Hind), they were part of a joint commission by the Corporation and ArtsSA.

Amery (1997; 2002: 270) proposed the toponym *Warnpangga*, meaning 'bulrush root place', to this park. This nomenclature was derived from *warnpa* meaning 'bulrish root', a staple food source prolific along the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments, and *ngga* meaning 'location'. The toponym for Tainmundilla/Park 11 derives from *tainmundilla* which roughly translates as 'mistletoe place'. Tainmundilla (Mistletoe) was the oldest female student at the former Native Location School at Piltawodli/Park 1 and was one of a number of signatories of a letter addressed to Governor Gawler in 1841 (Draper *et al* 2005, pp. 59-60; Amery 1997, p. 6).



Figure

Layout plan of the Corporation's Nursery dated 7 May 1997, indicating the location of various functions and infrastructure. Of cultural heritage merit interest include the "Equipment Shed", "glass house" x six and an associated small brick structure that are in need of investigation. Source: ACC archives.