3.0 ADELAIDE PARK LANDS & SQUARES

3.1.12 Mullawirraburka/Park 14/Rymill Park Report



Mullawirraburka/Park 14/Rymill Park

Historical Overview: Site Context

Arising from Light's plan, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 consists of a semi-rectangular block of land bounded by East Terrace, Dequetteville Terrace, Rundle Road and Bartels Road.Botanic Creek, as it has historically been known by the Adelaide Botanic Garden's administration, drains through the middle of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 (Byrne 2003, p. 1). Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was named "Rymill Park" in 1962 upon its opening.

No boundary changes occurred subsequent to the spatial survey of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 by Light.

Historical Overview: Aboriginal Associations

Hemming records several specific references to Kaurna sites or activities, pre-contact or post-contact, for Mullawirraburka/Park 14 (Hemming 1998; Draper et al 2005, p. 68).

The 'fringe dweller', Tommy Walker, was known to have frequented and camped in the Eastern Park Lands in the second half of the nineteenth century. Margaret (Connie) Roberts also confirms Walker's residency in this Park, and also noted it as a meeting place for the Kaurna community. Notwithstanding this generalised reference, Hemming concludes correctly that the watercourse would have been directly associated with Kaurna use and occupancy along Botanic Creek and especially in the waterhole that has been reinvented as the Main Lake for the Botanic Gardens (Hemming 1998, pp. 21, 55; Draper *et al* 2005, p. 68).

Historical Overview: Post Contact Associations

During 1840s the south-western corner of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 served as the first venue for catholic services in the new colony. The Very Reverend William Ullathorne VG celebrated the first mass of the catholic community on 13 June 1840 near the present site of the Bridgland Fountain. A plaque now denotes this site.

From the 1850s to the late 1870s it is unclear as to the nature of activities that occurred on Mullawirraburka/Park 14, although given the waterlogged nature of the landscape it was unlikely to have hosted stone quarrying excavations. One aspect is clear. During the 1850s Mullawirraburka/Park 14, between Rundle Street and East Terrace to the Botanic Creek was being used as a rubbish dump, as one letter to the editor of *The Observer* in 1856 records:

Not only have no attempts been made to beautify it, but to the injury of neglect has been added the insult of positive disfigurement. From the east end of Rundle-street to the creek the Park Lands have been the licensed rubbish-yard of the city. Hundreds of cart-loads of every description of refuse have, for a long time past, been ruthlessly scattered about upon the surface. Vegetable matter lies at leisure to decay; broken glass and bottles, mingled with old mattresses and tin-kettles; rags, bones, and dead dogs vary the scene with haps of chemical refuse; alkalies decomposing, and mingling their scents with so many others, that the seventy distinct odours of many others, that the seventy distinct odours of Cologne might be fairly counted over again in Adelaide (The Observer 16 August 1856).

Notwithstanding this, it appears that Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was used informally as a recreation space and appears not to have been fenced. In 1857 the Corporation called for tenders for "ploughing, harrowing and subsoiling the parklands between Hackney [Botanic] and Kent Town [Rundle] Roads and fenced in" (*The Register* 25 June 1857). It was fenced in a white-painted timber post and wire in the late 1870s. By this time most of the indigenous vegetation had been effectively removed from Mullawirraburka/Park 14.

Discussions by the Corporation and the Mayors (Lord Mayors) about landscaping the River Torrens/Karrawirra Parri embankments as well as the Park Lands generally were commonplace from the mid 1850s onwards. The thoughts may have really been prompted by critical comments and articles in *The Register*, including reports of public meetings that voiced critique of the quality of the Park Lands, in 1854 onwards (eg., *The Register* 17 June 1854, p. 4; 8 July 1857, p. 2), that were in many ways directed towards the colonial Governor than the Corporation.

For example, the editor of *The Register* wrote in July 1857:

The Park Lands will never be other than a quagmire in winter, and a desert of blinding, suffocating dust in summer, ... unless properly fenced roads are constructed through the ... With such roads as now disgrace the Park Lands there is no alternative for vehicles but to deviate in all directions from the track, thus cutting up acres of pasturage on every side and rendering it utterly useless (The Register 8 July 1857, p. 2).

These public debates and discussions appear to have been prompted by concerns from the colonial Governor about the overall aesthetic appearance of the Park Lands. For example, on 17 July 1855 the Colonial Secretary wrote to the Corporation's Town Clerk expressing a desire "that something should be done to improve the present very unsightly appearance of most of the Park Lands near the Town; which he [Governor Gawler] thinks might be effected by the judicious planting of clumps of trees on half acres [0.2ha] or even quarter acres [0.10ha] in suitable positions; care being taken to fence such clumps with strong but neat fencing." Willingly, to assist these landscaping works, the Governor volunteered a budget of £400, "a sum sufficient to accomplish much, but not all that he wishes" which the Corporation eagerly accepted "at once to carry out His Excellency's wishes and propose to do so by means of competent gardeners [on] contracts to be obtained by advertisements in the usual newspapers, the works generally being performed under the supervision of the City Surveyor." With acceptance, the Governor imposed one condition requiring the appointment of an expert referee to monitor the works: "that some person should be nominated by himself to represent the Executive in this matter and to have a voice in the selection of the position of the several plantations and of the species of fencing to be made use of." The Colonial Secretary appointed horticulturist John Bailey, of Hackney Nursery, to this role. Unfortunately this scheme collapsed with the dissolution of the Legislative Council in August 1855 despite unknown authored sketch "on the subject of planting a Public Square" being sent to the Corporation on 9 October 1855, with correspondence from the Governor indicating that "the writer of the memorandum has indicated some most sensible and just views of Landscape Gardening..." The advice included a recommendation that, "in a climate like South Australia's and to avoid the inconvenience of having to wait years for effect, clumps should be formed of the Olive [Olea europaea], the Wattle [Acacia ssp] and Gum-tree [Eucalyptus ssp] ..." It is possible the plan author was newly appointed director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, George Francis, more so than Bailey as there is no evidence of Bailey's plan drawing skills whereas the sketch the text is similar in style to Francis's hand (Letter, Colonial Secretary to Town Clerk, ACC, 7 July 1855, GRG 24/6/1381 (1855); letter, Town Clerk, ACC, to Colonial Secretary, 2 August 1855, GRG 24/6/2505 (1855); letter, Town Clerk, ACC, to Colonial Secretary, 13 August 1855, GRG 24/6/2644 (1855); Colonial Secretary to Town Clerk, ACC, 2 August 1855, GRG 24/6/1605 (1855); Colonial Secretary to Town Clerk, ACC, 20 August 1855, GRG 24/6/1740 (1855) Colonial Secretary to Town Clerk, ACC, 2 August 1855, GRG 24/6/2129 (1855) Colonial Secretary to Town Clerk, ACC, 2 August 1855, GRG 24/6/3289 (1855)).

While Francis, Bailey and Boothby were predominantly planting olive (*Olea europaea*) trees in the Park Lands, City Gardener William Pengilly also undertook olive (*Olea europaea*) plantings in several areas. During 1872 he was planting them on Light Square (70), in the North Adelaide Plantations (Kuntingga/Park 7, Barnguttilla/Park 8 and Karrawirra/Park 12) (1,255 and 210),

adjacent to Bay Road [Anzac Highway] in Wikparndo/Park 22 (450), in the West Terrace Park Lands (Wikparndo/Park 22, Wirranendi/Park 23, and Tambawodli/Park 24) (350 and 350), in the North Terrace plantation, and on the Racecourse Park Land block (Bakkabakkandi/Park 16) (140). Italian olive (Olea europaea) expert Paolo Villanis, in 1882, corroborated the existence of these plantings when he reviewed the state and condition of all the olive (Olea europaea) plantations in the Park Lands for the Corporation recording substantial olive (Olea europaea) groves "between the Port and Slaughterhouse Roads and Sheep Market" in Tulya Wodli/Park 27, adjacent to West Terrace (Wikparndo/Park 22, Wirranendi/Park 23, and Tambawodli/Park 24), along "both sides of Unley Road" in Pityarrilla/Park 19 and Kurrangga/Park 20, in the "East Park lands, between the Botanic Gardens and the Old Race Course" in Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15 and Bakkabakkandi/Park 16, and the existence of "two plantations between Walkerville and River Torrens" in Kuntingga/Park 7 and Barnguttilla/Park 8 (Letter, Paolo Villanis to Town Clerk, 13 July 1883, TC 1883/2224; The Register, 24 July 1883, p. 6; letter, Paolo Villanis to Town Clerk, 22 February 1886, TC 1886/465; letter, William Pengilly to Town Clerk, 16 July 1872, TC 1872/519 and 4 September 1872, TC 1872/622).

Pengilly also effected the transplantation of olive (*Olea europaea*) trees. In 1874 he proposed that "the east park land upasite Flinders & Wakefield St" (Mullawirraburka/Park 14) be thinned through the transplantation of 240 olive (*Olea europaea*) trees to "the Padock south of Bertels Road" (Bartels Road; Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) enabling the "old trees to be pruned in season" and trenching of the ground in the "olive plantation oppasite from Wakefield St to Angas Streets" (Bakkabakkandi/Park16) indicating that there was a sizable plantation that stretched over the East Park Lands from Kadlitpinna/Park 13 to Bakkabakkandi/Park 16 [sic] (Letter, William Pengilly to Town Clerk, 28 July 1874, TC 1874/639).

In February 1886 Villanis provided an inventory to the Corporation of "the number of olive trees presently bearing fruit in the Town Corporation ground," (note 'fruit bearing and not a total list of trees overall) excluding the Gaol enclosures:

Location	Number of trees bearing fruit	Present Park
Mann Terrace	27	7 & 8
Brougham Place	29	Brougham, 29
Palmer Place	5	Palmer, 28
Wellington Square	19	Wellington
Torrens Lake	119	26
Strangways Terrace	7	1
Mitcham Road [Unley Road]	84	19 & 20
Plantation bordering the Old Race Course	272	15
South East Park Lands (Old Race Course)	105	16
Dequetteville Park	30	14
East Park Lands (between Old Race Course	e and North Terrace) 26	13
Hindmarsh Square	8	Hindmarsh
Light Square	14	Light
Whitmore Square	6	Whitmore
West Terrace	112	22, 23, & 24
<u>Total</u>	<i>873</i>	

(Letter, Paolo Villanis to Town Clerk, 22 February 1886, TC 1886/465)

In August 1867 City Gardener O'Brien wrote to Mayor Henry Robert Fuller advising of extensive tree planting works that were carried out over the previous autumn planting season under his care. The list is extensive and valuable to consider. Further, O'Brien records where these specimens were being generally planted but unfortunately not the specific details of these

plantings per place. Specimens included "Laurels [Laurus nobilis, 249 in number], Oleanders [Nerium oleander, 216], Moreton Bay Figs [Ficus macrophylla, 6], China Privet [Ligustrum lucidum, 21], Stone Pines [Pinus pinea; 78], Native Pines [Callitris/Casuarina/Allocasuarina ssp; 1,627], Cupressus [Cupressus ssp; 24], White Cedar [Melia azedarach var australisca; 12], Gums [Eucalyptus/Corymbia ssp; 4,450], Poplars [Populus ssp; 100], Olives [Olea europaea; 10,600], Ficus [Ficus ssp; 99], Oaks [Quercus ssp; 280], Laurestinas [sic; Viburnum tinus; 149], Laburnums [Laburnum x watereri; 48], Sycamors [sic; Platanus ssp; 48], Elms [Ulmus ssp; 6], Walnuts [Juglans regia; 24], Pomegranates [Punica granatum; 2], Ash [Fraxinus ssp; 50], Aristolochias [Aristolochia ssp; 74]. Evergreen Oaks [Quercus ilex, 24], Whitethorn [Crataegus monogyna, 30], Acacias [Acacia/Robinia ssp; 14], Ches[t]nuts [Castanea sativa; 18], also, about one thousand willow [Salix ssp] and poplar [Populus ssp] cuttings, making a grand total of about 19,249 plants." In addition, O'Brien records donations of an unspecified number poplar (*Populus* ssp), rose (*Rosa* ssp), herbaceous plants and bulbs, willow (Salix ssp), bamboo (Bambusa ssp), privet (Ligustrum ssp), weeping willows (Salix babylonica), and five mulberries (Morus ssp) from various individuals. These were planted in various locations throughout the municipality including along "Both sides of the River Torrens" from Albert Bridge to the Weir, along East, West, North and South Terraces; along the "North Terrace Esplanade"; in the East Park Lands; in Victoria, Hindmarsh and Light Squares; along Unley Road through the Park Lands; along the Slaughterhouse Road; behind the Cattle Yards in North Terrace adjoining the River; and, "19 native pines" to surround the house at the "old Botanic Gardens" (Letter from W O'Brien to the Mayor, 19 August 1867; ACC Archives).

This is an important inventory as it presents the most detailed account of the great number of trees that O'Brien was planting but also the typical species he was seeking to establish in the late 1860s in the Corporation and the Park Lands. His preference was clearly towards a mixture of indigenous British and Mediterranean species, but interestingly demonstrates a strong overall preference to Australian native species including "Pines ... [and] Gums." Unfortunately where these specimens are being planted is unclear but it is known that O'Brien was planting shelterbelts or avenues of *Eucalyptus* ssp along the entrance roadways, through the Park Lands, including "both sides of Unley Road" (Pityarrilla/Park 19 and Kurrangga/Park 20) to the Corporation. The other important point is that a large number of Olive (Olea europaea) trees are being planted, and O'Brien mentions the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) and the Slaughterhouse Road (Tulya Wodli/Park 27) as planting venues without stating the species. It is very likely, given the age of tree specimens in these areas today, that this was when the majority of these Olive (Olea europaea) were planted in these two areas. O'Brien also stated, as a "postscript," that several young trees had been vandalised in Hindmarsh and Light Squares "by some mischievous persons" resulting in repeat plantings being undertaken (Letter from W O'Brien to the Mayor, 19 August 1867; ACC Archives).

The City Gardener (1867-83), William Pengilly (1825-1911), undoubtedly was involved in early plantings in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 but there is no specific reference to his activities.



Figure

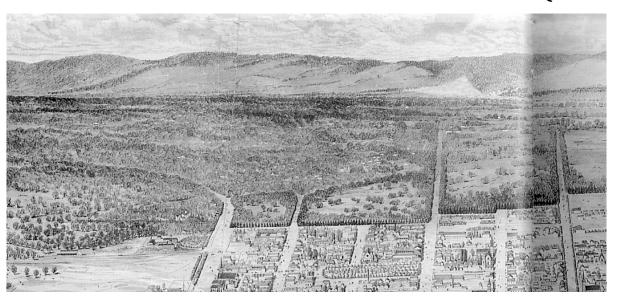
Extract of the Townsend Duryea 1865 panorama photograph of Adelaide taken form the City of Adelaide Town Hall tower, with this image looking eastwards to Mullawirraburka/Park 14 indicating the relative absence of tree vegetation in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 except along the road reserves. Source: History Trust of South Australia.

With the engagement of John Ednie Brown to prepare a *Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands* (1880) Brown recorded that ornamental plantings had been undertaken by Pengilly and some of the scope of this planting in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15).

There has, I think, been more planting done here than on any other portion of the Park Lands of the same extent. The trees are Gums [Eucalyptus ssp] and Olives [Olea europaea] chiefly with Pines [Pinus spp], Cypresses [Cupressus ssp] and several other kinds intermixed (Brown 1880, p. 25).

Brown also made some very positive conclusions about the planting conditions in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15), especially in terms of it capacity to support a more vibrant ornamental planting strategy. He wrote:

The block of land included within the boundaries just named, is, in many respects, of a very superior description indeed for the growth of trees, and for the operations of ornamental planting. The soil over the whole area is rich and of good depth, while at the same time, the situation is such that considerable variety and excellent combinations of light and shade could be secured. Perhaps, of the whole Park Lands of the City, is second to none of the other blocks in these respects (Brown 1880, p. 25)



Figure

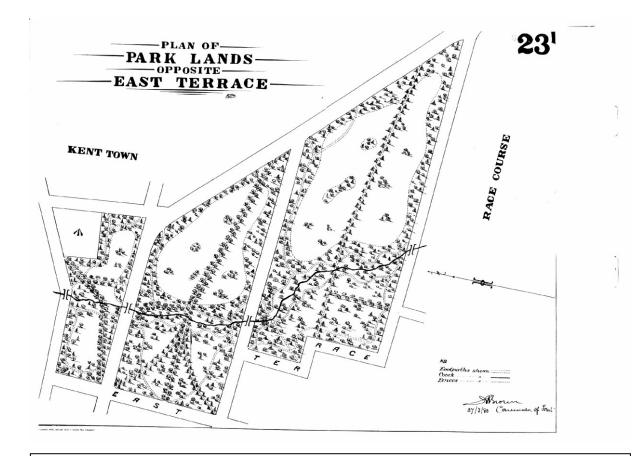
Extract of a lithograph published in the *Australasian Sketcher* of the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15, Bakkabakkandi/Park 16), dated 10 July 1875. Note the extensive edge plantings that had been established around all three East Park Land blocks, and that scattered internal plantings had also been undertaken.

In drafting up his recommendations for the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) in his *Report* (1880) Brown noted the planting conditions and the extant plantings before proposing a significant renovation of the planting strategy. He unusually stated the implications of his recommendations, in this instance, as being the impact upon existing plantings and also indigenous specimens, as follows:

It will readily be understood that it is at all times a delicate and very unpleasant matter to recommend the undoing of work performed by others; but, in justice to professional reputation, I must remark (and will dismiss the subject by doing so) that before the block of Park Lands under notice can be made thoroughly ornamental to such an extent as it is capable of being made, many of the trees now upon it—the Gums [Eucalyptus ssp] and Olives [Olea europaea] especially—will require to be removed, and others pruned and trained, so that the peculiarities of the ground may be fully taken advantage of in this scheme for its ornamentation (Brown 1880, p.25).

His recommendation was for a transformation of the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) into a Gardenesque landscape characterised by a planting strategy containing specimen plantings, pedestrian avenues and walks, and concern for seating and shade. This philosophy appears not to have been graphically portrayed in the plan to his satisfaction, as he stated:

To describe fully what I would propose in order that the capabilities of the block might be made the most of, would necessitate much greater spaces than this Report will allow. Without going into particulars then, I must simply refer to Plan 23, on which I have sketched how I would propose to lay off the grounds. Although the Plan does not show it as well as I could have wished, the planting here should be irregular, so as to appear as natural as possible, and thus give the grounds a fine Park-like appearance. The banks of the converted into choice pleasure grounds with walks, specimen trees well defined, and seats under shady clumps, &c., &c. (Brown 1880, p. 25).



Figure

Plan 23 from Brown's Report on a System of Planting the Adelaide Park Lands (1880) depicting his planting design for Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15 including the extensive peripheral tree planting proposed edging all roadsides, the strong use of pedestrian avenue plantings through the park land blocks, dense tree woodland planting along the creek that ran through all the parks, and an intricate system of pedestrian pathways along the creek corridor and the East Terrace edge, as well as a dense woodland along the East Terrace edge. The central pedestrian tree-lined avenues correspond with the extant pedestrian tree-lined avenues today, especially in Kadlitpinna/Park 13 and Mullawirraburka/Park 14 despite the latter being transfigured by plant renovation works in the 1960s enabling the creation of Rymill Lake.

Whilst Brown's plans attempt to depict a high level of detail, there is:

... so much natural intricacy about the grounds here, and so many points of surface contour which could be enlarged and brought into prominence, that any attempt at their description would be worse than useless, as these are matters which can only be understood by actual observation on the ground. Meantime, therefore, it will be sufficient if I indicate a few of the kinds of trees which I recommend for planting here ... (Brown 1880, p. 25)

The following table lists the tree species proposed by Brown (1880, p. 25) together with contemporary botanical and common names:

Nomenclature as used by	Current Scientific	Current Common Name
JE Brown (1880)	Nomenclature	
Ficus Macrophylla	Ficus macrophylla	Moreton Bay Fig
Robinia pseud-acacia	Robinia pseudoadcacia	Black Locust, False Acacia
Platanus acerfolia	Platanus x acerifolioux	London Plane
Melia azedarach	Melia azedarach var australisca	White Cedar
Taxus baccata	Taxus baccata	Common Yew
Lagunaria Patersonii	Lagunaria patersonia	Pyramid Tree, Norfolk
		Island Hibiscus
Populus nigra	Populus nigra	Black Poplar

Populus Alba	Populus alba	White Poplar, Silver Poplar
Populus Macrophylla	?	
Populus Acladesca	?	
Populus Dilatata	Populus nigra 'Italica'	Lombardy Poplar
Populus Tremula	Populus tremula	European Ash
Fraxinus Americana	Fraxinus americana	White Ash
Fraxinus Excelsior	Fraxinus excelsior	English Ash
Quercus sessiliflora	Quercus petraea	Durmast Oak
Quercus pedunculata	Quercus robur	English Oak, Common Oak
Quercus Ilex	Quercus ilex	Holm Oak, Holly Oak
Quercus Cerris	Quercus cerris	Turkey Oak
Ulmus Campestris	Ulmus procera	English Elm
Ulmus Montana	Ulmus glabra	Scotch Elm, Wych Elm
Ulmus Suberosa	Quercus suber	Cork Oak
Thuja (several)	Thuja spp.	
Juniperus (several)	Juniperus spp.	
Picea Nobilis	?	
Picea Pinsapo	Abies pinsapo	Spanish Fir
Picea Nordmannians	Abies nordmanniana	Caucasian Fir
Picea Balsamia	Abies balsamia	Balsam Fir
Abies excelsa	?	
Abies Menziesii	?	
Abies Albetiana	?	
Abies Douglasii	Pseudotsuga menziesii	Douglas Fir
Cedrus Deodara	Cedrus deodara	Deodar Cedar, Himalayan Cedar
Cedrus Atlantica	Cedrus atlantica	Atlas Cedar
Pinus Insignis	Pinus radiata	Monterey Pine
Pinus Halepansis	Pinus halepensis	Aleppo Pine
Pinus Benthamiana	?	11
Pinus Ponderosa	Pinus ponderosa	Western Yellow Pine
Pinus Macrocarpa	?	
Pinus Muricata	Pinus muricate	Bishop Pine
Pinus Canariensis	Pinus canariensis	Canary Islands Pine
Pinus Maritima	?	,
Pinus Austriaca	Pinus cembra	Austrian Pine
Pinus Jeffreyii	Pinus ponderosa	Western Yellow Pine
Pinus Sabiniana	Pinus sabiniana	Digger PIne
Araucaria Excelsa	Araucaria heterophylla	Norfolk Island Pine
Araucaria Cunninghamii	Araucaria cunninghamii	Hoop Pine, Moreton Bay Pine
Sterculia heterophylla	Brachychiton populneus	Kurrajong
Grevillea robusta	Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak
Cupressus (several)	Cupressus spp.	
Schinus Molle	Schinus aeria var. molle	Pepper Tree

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 the 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.

As a postscript, by 1883 Pengilly had planted numerous trees in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 but recorded a high theft and poor strike rate for new plantings in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) internal parks (*Annual Report* 1883-84, p. 135).

With Pelzer's appointment 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 guiding master plan for these planting activities. In Mullawirraburka/Park 14, from £.1880-1934 perimeter plantations of Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis) and English Elm (Ulmus procera) were established along East and Dequetteville Terraces, and Rundle and Bartels Roads. In addition, pedestrian path allèes or avenues of Oriental Planes (Platanus orientalis) and White Cedars (Melia azedarach var australisca) were established dissecting Mullawirraburka/Park 14. Pelzer appears to have used Brown's Plan 23 as a planting strategy together with the accompanying plant list in which to layout and formalise the East Park Lands. Several other allèes and roadside plantings were also implemented. Paths were generally laid out in accordance with Brown's Report (1880) and generally the roadside or perimeter plantations were commenced.

During 1899-1900 Pelzer commenced cursory planting and maintenance works in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15). He undertook the pruning of a large portion of the Olive (*Olea europaea*) Plantations, and strategically grubbed and removed diseased or struggling specimens (*Annual Report* 1899-90, p. 204). During 1900-1901 he focused on renovating the avenues of trees through the East Park Lands. White Cedar (*Melia azedarach* var *australisca*) *allèes* were trimmed and dead wood removed, and senescent specimens grubbed and removed (*Annual Report* 1901, p. 41).

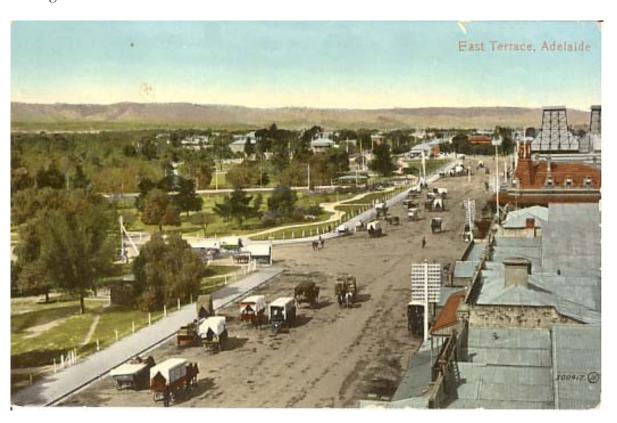
During 1902-03 Pelzer started constructing or reconstructing several pathways to serve as bicycle tracks. Paths along Glen Osmond and Unley Roads, and Lewis Cohen Avenue, were first established. While a petition was lodged with the Corporation to enable the construction of a system of paths in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) no action was initially taken for fear of interference with the "open Park" (*Annual Report* 1903, p. 27).

A Corporation rubbish depot had long been established on the north-eastern corner of East Terrace and Bartels Road in Mullawirraburka/Park 14. The original location of this depot is indirectly noted on a plan in Veale's Report (1958) by extant hedging. In 1903 the Corporation reviewed its depots and rubbish tips and determined to retain the 'Bartels rubbish dump' for "screenings and sweepings." To deal with this decision Pelzer established an African Box-Thorn (Lycium ferocissium) hedge along the western boundary and planted Pepper Trees (Schinus aeria var molle) "to hide it" in future years. In 1905-06 he had to plant additional African Box-Thorn (Lycium ferocissium) plants to achieve this objective (Annual Report 1903, p. 28; 1905, pp. 41, 55; 1906, pp. 41, 44, 63).

Major plantings appear to have commenced for the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15) in 1904-1906. In 1905-06 Dequetteville Terrace, from Rundle to Wakefield Road, was planted with English Elms (*Ulmus procera*) and the Corporation's Nurseries also nurtured suitable specimens for the Corporation of Kensington & Norwood to plant on their side of Dequetteville Terrace. Shrubs were first planted in Kadlitpinna/Park 13, the soil was broken up and sown with grass seeds and planted with various trees in Mullawirraburka/Park 14, and the Corporation effectively ceased most agistment licences for Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15. During 1906 the Corporation continued its planting along Dequetteville Terrace with additional specimens of False Acacia (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), English Elms (*Ulmus procera*), palms (*Phoenix* ssp),

White Cedars (Melia azedarach var australisca) and a poplar (Populus sp) (Annual Report 1905, p. 40; 1906, pp. 41, 62).

By £.1905 the following postcard scene depicted a fully planted Mullawirraburka/Park 14. A wide footpath had been established on the western flank, edged by white painted post and wire fencing.



Figure

Watercolour postcard scene of East Terrace and the East Park Lands in £1905 depicting the extensive tree planting, detailed and intricate crushed rock pathway system, the tram using the tram embankment route through Mullawirraburka/Park 14, and the original East Terrace road alignment with Pirie Street. Source: Private collection.

During 1907 Pelzer continued this extensive tree planting programme with the 'Dequetteville Reserves' being planted with White Cedars (*Melia azedarach* var *australisca*), Oriental Planes (*Platanus orientalis*), False Acacias (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), and English Elms (*Ulmus procera*). Within Mullawirraburka/Park 14 he planted Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonii*) and Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus*) with associated tree guards, and along Bartels Road a line of 15 Pepper Trees (*Schinus aeria* var *molle*) (*Annual Report* 1907, pp. 71, 72, 73).

During 1907-08 the tram service to Norwood and Kensington through Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was electrified by the Municipal Tramways Trust. This work necessitated, to enable the erection of overhead wire, the removal of numerous trees and "three large jarrah guard boxes" around the trunks of Plane Trees "which are growing at the foot of the tramways embankment" (*Annual Report* 1908, p. 18; 1909, p. 65).

Pelzer's growing tree planting and park establishment initiatives in Kadlitpinna/Park 13 and Mullawirraburka/Park 14 slowly gained the interest of Councillors. Councillor FW Moulden in particular started requesting measures to further beautify these parks. The Corporation also commenced replacing the "old interior post and rail fences with jarrah post and wire fences in the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park

15) together with re-establishing the East Terrace cable-wire fencing due to road work that changed the road alignment (*Annual Report* 1908, pp. 20, 46; 1909, pp. 43, 47, 65).



Figure:

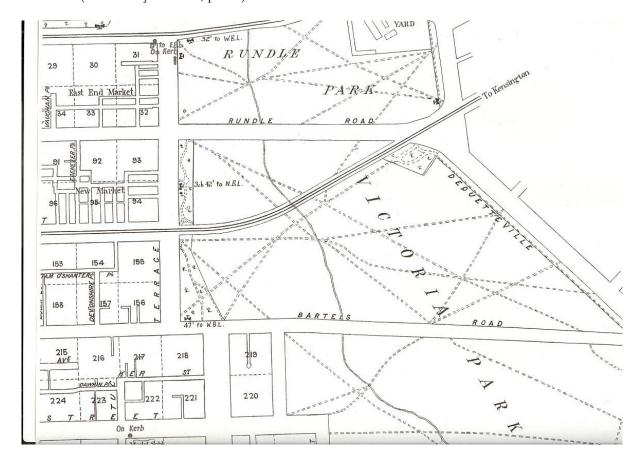
Laying electricity cables in East Terrace in 1907-08. Note the white painted post and wire fencing and the young Plane Trees (*Platanus orientalis*) to the left. Source: ACC Archives.

This activity increasingly garnered Councillor support and interest. During 1909 Pelzer created new garden edges to Kadlitpinna/Park 13 and Mullawirraburka/Park 14 to East Terrace comprising some 4 acres (1.6ha) of works. The areas were fenced, ploughed and levelled, beds plants, couch grass sown, and shrubs, trees and palms planted (*Annual Report* 1909, pp. 48, 63; 1910, pp. 23, 51, 54).). These measures continued in the form of tree staking and guarding, and the erection of "small fluted-iron" around the borders of garden beds to "prevent road dust, &c., from being blown on to the lawns" (*Annual Report* 1911, p. 66), and in 1916 the "open storm water drains" were regraded and widened (*Annual Report* 1917, p. 42).

Accordingly, by about 1910 Pelzer had transformed Mullawirraburka/Park 14 into a more semi-formal Victorian park, in a Gardenesque style, with deciduous European trees, and extensive flower-beds at points along the internal pathway system. The pathway system historically appears to have always existed somewhat as laid-out still today. The main paths, lined today with ageing White Cedars (*Melia azedarach* var *anstralisca*) and Oriental Planes (*Platanus orientalis*) served as the main circulation structure for Mullawirraburka/Park 14. Additional paths were minor connections and circuitous routes. Originally the path was surfaced in crushed rock and in the 1920s they were re-surfaced in bitumen.

The imposition of the tramway through Mullawirraburka/Park 14 presented an interesting feature to users of Mullawirraurka/Park 14 as also a feature of the tram ride. As part of this aesthetic enjoyment, during 1913, the Corporation erected a "rustic structure around the tramways cable tower" and various climbers planted (*Annual Report* 1913, pp. 49, 62), and around

the structure four wattle trees (*Acacia* ssp) were planted as part of the Wattle Day League activities (*Annual Report* 1914, p.. 80).



Figure

Extract of a 'Map of Adelaide' prepared by the City Engineer, Z25-15, dated 9 February 1917, that depicts the pedestrian and tram circulation systems in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 in 1917. Note the extensive pedestrian pathway system, the tramline and embankment arching through the centre of Mullawirraburka/Park 14, the East Terrace Gardens and Dequetteville Gardens to the west and north-east flanks of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 respectively with their internal circuitous pathway systems, which also explains the existence of some of more formal deciduous and evergreen ornamental trees extant in these areas today.

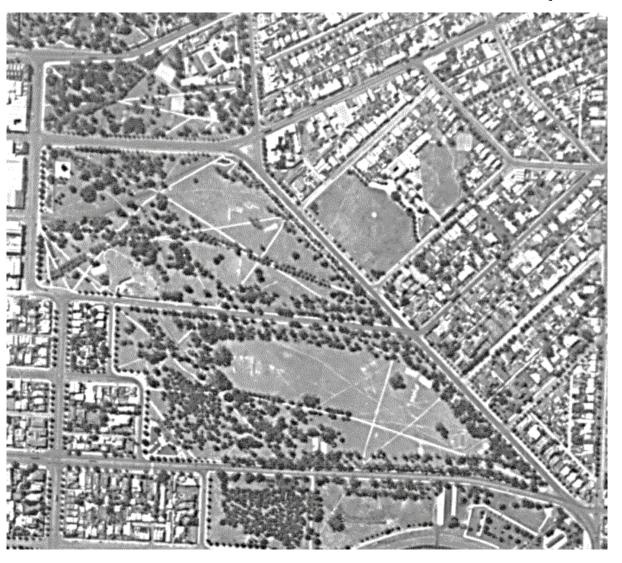
During the 1920s the pathways in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 were regraded and resurfaced, a large pit established on the eastern flank to accommodate mulch and green refuse storage (Annual Report 1922, p. 26), and the footbridge replaced with a rusticated version (Annual Report 1923, p. 39). During 1924, several trees, palms, and some lawn areas were removed in the eastern portion of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 as part of the Hutt Street road widening works, from 66 feet (20.11 m) to 99 feet (30.17 m) (Annual Report 1924, pp. 38, 88; 1926, p. 39). During 1923 to 1925 2-3 earthen tennis courts were constructed in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 (Annual Report 1925, p. 35).



Figure
Photograph in 1928 of the now-removed East Terrace Gardens, located opposite the East Terrace Markets precinct, as established by Pelzer.

From the 1930s to the early 1960s little planting changes and works occurred on Mullawirraburka/Park 14. During the Second World War Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was used as a army training camp.

Probably the main change during the 1930s to early 1960s was the relocation of the Adelaide Bowling Club from the northern portion of the present Kintore Avenue road reserve (Karrawirra/Park 12) to a north-eastern portion of Mullawirraburka/Park 14. Works to establish the Club grounds and facilities commenced in 1957. Three lawns were established around a cream brick veneer low gabled clubhouse facility that was opened by Premier Sir Thomas Playford on 19 July 1958. Decorative polychrome brick and cast iron ceremonial entry gates were also presented to the Club in 1958 by Len Beasley.



Figure

Extract of a 1936 aerial photograph of the metropolitan area of Adelaide depicting the Eastern Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15. The photograph depicts in detail the extant of the parks and gardens in the Eastern Park Lands as established by Pelzer including avenues of trees, perimeter plantings, pedestrian pathway systems, the Tramline Embankment, the garden environment at the present site of Lake Rymill today. Also, note the detailed garden design for the present Bridgland Fountain precinct that was excised off the Mullawirraburka/Park 14 following a road re-alignment in the 1960s to facilitate an easy passage from Hutt Street into East Terrace. Note also the small buildings at the location of the Bartels Road works yard with their encircling hedge rows. Source: University of Adelaide

During March – August 1957 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. Veale proposed also a major renovation of the East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15), specifically for Mullawirraburka/Park 14 with the creation of an ornamental feature lake. In terms of East Park Lands (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15), he proposed a "series of small lakes, but one only initially" in Mullawirraburka/Park 14. He noted that the "low-lying area adjacent to the water course (Botanic Creek) provides an excellent site as a basis for the formation of shallow lakes or ponds from two to three feet [0.6-0.9m] in depth ..." (Veale 1958, p. 114).

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Before making these recommendations he undertook:

... preliminary investigations ... as to the practicability of creating small artificial lakes in the East Parklands, Park No. 14, adjacent to the natural water course therein located, at a distance of approximately 200 yards [182m] east of East Terrace.

As a result of these investigations, it is reported that the establishment of the lakes containing water throughout the year at this location would be a practical undertaking ...

During recent years, Elder Gardens have become very overcrowded on week-ends and public holidays ...

The location selected for additional pleasure ground development in Park 14, although it is not used to any appreciable extent at present, is ideally suited for this purpose because of the excellent and large trees located therein, and requires only the focal feature of a lake and the resultant use which could be made of it, to create a potentially very popular area.

The position and shape of the shallow lake designed following the survey of the site is indicated in Figure No. 8, page 116.

The water line edge of the lake should be either of concrete or stone-work. The lake would cover an area of 102,000 square feet [975.8 m²], would be approximately 3 feet [0.9m] deep and in its greatest width would be 350 feet [106m], and it is proposed that a small island be located in the centre of the lake which would be approximately 150 feet [45.72m] in length

Small spray fountains could be made a special feature of the lake. It could also be used for canoeing in small canoes hired to children at a small cost. The shallowness of the lake would contribute to its safety for its use for this purpose and the canoes could be supervised by attendants wearing rubber waders (Veale 1958, pp. 114-115).

In considering the lake proposal, and its attraction draw for families and children, Veale also proposed the creation of a playground adjacent. This venue "could include some special features, such as small ponies cast in concrete, an Elephant as well as slippery dips, swings, junglegyms, horizontal bars, etc. ... The use of shallow lakes overseas as pleasure centres for children is illustrated ... in Belfast and also ... Regent's Park, London" (Veale 1958, p. 116).

With such a transformation, the use of the 'pleasure grounds' would entice the need for picnic venues and enable the sale of foodstuffs. Veale envisaged this need in his proposals:

Provision could also be made for a picnic area at a little distance from the lake, in which fixed tables and fixed seats, together with a barbeque, could be placed as illustrated in ... Houston.

In an area near to the lake a canvas marquee could be erected from which afternoon teas, soft drinks, etc., could be served on properly graded lawns provided with brightly coloured tables and chairs. It is proposed that this park should be landscaped over the whole area extending from East Terrace to approximately the western fence of the Adelaide Bowling Club (Veale 1958, p. 117).

Overall, the proposed works to create the lake and adjacent recreation spaces would involve a major renovation of the original planting activities of Pengilly and Pelzer but retention of most of the mature trees along pedestrian paths and the former tramway embankment as much as possible. Veale reiterated this strategy by stating:

It is proposed that this park east of East Terrace to the site of the lake should be developed with shrubs, etc. and appropriate paths, the planting of trees including the present trees. This would provide an excellent approach to the lake and, at the same time would provide a park which is often termed "a rest area" overseas.

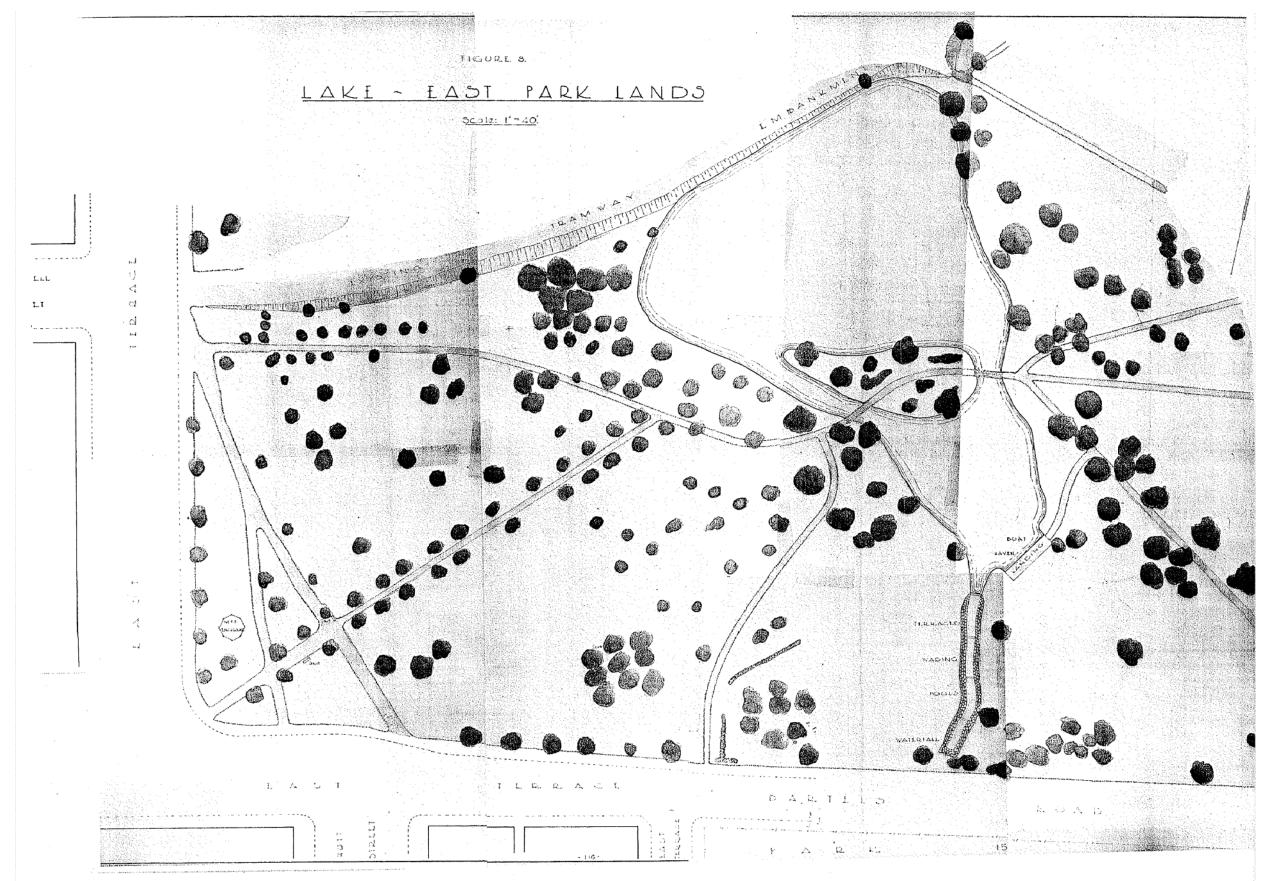
The area adjacent to the lake, in general terms, would be planted in lawns and close by it is envisaged that playing areas would be established. Under the trees, of which there are several excellent specimens, seats could be placed.

The initial establishment of the lake and park areas after commencement would require a period of approximately six months, but it could be further developed and beautified during succeeding years. There is a wide scope for imaginative design in the establishment of the lake and adjacent pleasure grounds, which, if successfully used could result in this area becoming one of the great charm, as well as a most popular pleasure park for both children and adults (Veale 1958, p. 117).

Veale's dream for Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was approved by the Corporation in the months following submission of his *Report* (1958), and works commenced in 1959-1960 to create the lake, playground, and to re-organise the pathway system to accommodate the lake. His dream has since become reality and Mullawirraburka/Park 14/Rymill Park today serves as a major recreational venue for Adelaide. The works included the removal of the now disused Bartels Road rubbish depot, extensive re-contouring works, erection of a Carey Gully-stone faced kiosk and toilet blocks, and the planting out of all Willows (*Salix babylonica*) along the Botanic Creek watercourse (Sumerling 2003, p. 109).

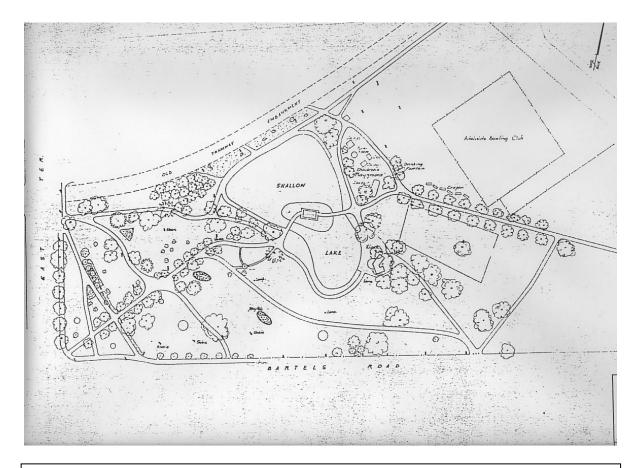
Just four months before the new Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was officially opened, the National Rose Society of South Australia negotiated with Veale for a rose garden to be established in the south-eastern corner of Mullawirraburka/Park 14. Based on the Queen Mary Gardens in Regent's Park, London, the main feature of the rose gardens was focused around a large existing Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*), and "was in the form of a wheel with semi-circular beds in a lawn-setting radiating from the tree to a depth of over a hundred feet [30m]" (Sumerling 2003, p. 109). Veale eagerly accepted this donation and proposal. Some sixty-four rose beds, containing over three thousand plants with 1,200 being donated by the Rose Society, were quickly laid out and planted, but the Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) was removed due its shade and root impacts upon the proposed garden. A memorial bronze sundial was also erected in the main rose garden in memory to HL Lipman (1889-1960) who was one of the proponents of the Rose Garden proposal.

The renovated Mullawirraburka/Park 14 was opened in 1960, with a bronze plaque on a white granite boulder unveiled. Lord Mayor Charles John Glover opened "Rymill Park", naming it after Sir Arthur Rymill, on 16 April 1961, making tribute to the City Gardener Benjamin JE Bone for his endeavours, and calling it "the loveliest in South Australia". Citizens were reminded that they were "living in the excitement of what might be described as the blossoming period of ideas gleaned by the Town Clerk" (Sumerling 2003, p. 109). Glover also dedicated and opened the Rose Garden on the same day. In 1997 the Rose Garden was extended to the south, an arbour erected and paving undertaken, and additional rose beds established under a Vocational Skill Training Program for secondary students. It was opened on 24 September 1997.



Figure

Black and white version of water-coloured Figure 8 of landscape design works as proposed by Veale in his *Parks and Gardens* (1958, p. 115) Report that depicts a major renovation for Mullawirraburka/Park 14 including the construction of a large lake feature with island and interconnecting pedestrian footbridges, a 'boat haven' and 'landing', removal of the Bartels Road Works Yard indirectly indicated by the inclusion of the extant hedges in the bottom centre of the plan, 'terraced wading pools' and a 'waterfall' on Botanic Creek, and changes to existing pedestrian pathways and additional new seating.



Figure

Plan of Rymill Park, as constructed and planted, dated 11 July 1962. In comparing this plan to the preceding 1958 plan it will be noted that the Lake has been reduced in size/volume, the 'boat haven' reinvented with a landing and kiosk, pedestrian pathways realigned and repositioned, a new playground was installed to the northeast of the Lake, a different tree clumping strategy was employed and the Tramline Embankment was bushed up with shrubbery. Source: ACC Archives.

In 1962 John Dowie's bronze statue of *Alice*, overlooking the Lake from a raised vantage point, was installed, arising from a donation by Josephine and Norman Lewis and inspired by the statue of Peter Pan in London's Kensington Gardens, unveiled 18 December 1962. A circular frieze around the base of the statue depicts figures tumbling over and crowding each other, including the White Rabbit, Tweedledum and Tweedledee and a Cheshire Cat. *The Advertiser* reminded its readers that "this site three years ago was anything but a wonderland vantage point. It was a former rubbish dump which has now been fashioned by the council into a feature of one of the most picturesque of the parklands beautification venture" (Cameron 1997, pp. 126-128).

The playground was also created, and adjacent to it positioned a concrete statue of a 'Piccanniny' with a bronze water container on top of a white granite plinth. This feature echoed Veale's recommendations as to the installation of feature artworks appropriate for children.

As part of these works the Corporation also determined to close the southern portion of East Terrace, adjacent to the former Tramways Depot, and re-position Hutt Street so that it swept into Mullawirraburka/Park 14 and allowed traffic to directly egress into Grenfell Street. As part of these works a new circular fountain was positioned in this Park remnant and opened by Lord Mayor Walter L Bridgland on 19 December 1966.

During the early 1970s Veale's idea for a marquee was formalised into a Carey Gully stone-rendered pavilion overlooking the Lake.

In 1999 the two foot bridges connecting the island on the lake were renovated to a stone and metal design prepared by Grieve Gillett Architects.

Johnston & Elphinstone (1983) deemed the Garden of medium landscape significance in terms of its 'historical and aesthetic' values, and a place that made an important contribution to the streetscape.

Amery (1997; 2002, pp. 270-271) proposed the toponym *Pangki Pangki* to this park that recognised the name of a Kaurna tracker and guide. Pangki Pangki was an Aboriginal tracker that accompanied Moorhouse on his travels to Lake Bonney and the Rufus River in 1841. The nomenclature of *pangki pangki* is unknown. However, the Corporation adopted the toponym Mullawirraburka. The toponym was originally proposed by Amery through the toponym *Mogata* for the Park Land block Kadlitpinna/Park 13 in recognition of the wife of 'King John' or Mullawirraburka, Mogata. King John was directly associated with Kaurna encampments in and around Botanic Park and the Main Lake in the Botanic Gardens. Schürmann recorded his full name as Kua Kartammeru Mullawirraburka (*d*.1845) (Draper *et al* 2005, p. 68).

Today, Mullawirraburka/Park 14/Rymill Park is a significant park landscape in the city if not in Adelaide as a whole given the recreational activities it now hosts. It possesses much of the underpinnings of a semi-formal Victorian style Gardenesque landscape as laid out by Pengilly and Pelzer, but has been severely modified to accommodate Rymill Lake and rose garden feature. Notwithstanding these modifications, it still retains much of its original axial pathway configuration. This style is supported by several of the plantings in Mullawirraburka/Park 14 which are much broader in their species than in Kadlitpinna/Park 13 or Ityamaiitpinna/ Park 15 because of the extensive renovations works that occurred in 1957-1960 to the create the present landscape.

The Mullawirraburka/Park 14 landscape can be conceptually divided into three portions.

The central and main portion of Mullawirraburka/Park 14 is characterised by lines or allèes of White Cedars (Melia azedarach var australisca), English Elms (Ulmus procera), Oriental Planes (Platanus orientalis) and Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis). It also includes specimen plantings of Redcap Gum (Eucalyptus erythorcorys), Callistemon (Callistemon ssp), White Popular (Populus alba), Mallet (Eucalyptus spathulata), Illawarra Flame Tree (Brachychiton acerifolius), Golden Ash (Fraxinus acerifolius 'Aurea'), Gleditsia (Gleditsia ssp), Aleppo Pine (Pinus halepensis), Canary Island Pine (Pinus canariensis), River Red Gum (Eucalyptus camaldulensis), Italian Poplar (Populus nigra 'Italica'), English Elm (Ulmus procera), Jacaranda (Jacaranda mimosifolia), Monterey Cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa), Lemon-scented Gum (Corymbia citriodora), Photinia (Photinia ssp), River She-Oak (Allocasuarina cunninghamii), Canary Island Palms (Phoenix canariensis), Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria heterophylla), and Bracelet Melaleuca (Melaleuca armillaris).

The western portion, across Hutt Street extension, still possesses the original English Elm (*Ulmus procera*) street tree plantings and the south-western portion of the main White Cedar (*Melia azedarach* var *australisca*) pedestrian *allèe*. In conjunction with these original plantings it includes specimens of Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), Italian Poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica'), Oriental Plane (*Platanus orientalis*), Queensland Box (*Lophostemon confertus*), Olive (*Olea europaea*), and Golden Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Aurea').

The eastern portion, roughly east of the Rose Garden precinct, is characterised by the Oriental Plane (*Platanus orientalis*) pedestrian *allèe* surrounded by an open light forest of mainly Australian species and typical Pelzer used species. These include South Australian Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*), Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*), River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), Norfolk

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Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonii*), Lemon-scented Gum (*Corymbia citriodora*), Pepper Tree (*Schinus aeria* var *molle*), Olive (*Olea europaea*), *Pyrus* ssp, English Elm (*Ulmus procera*), Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*), Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*), and Desert Ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia* var. *oxycarpa* 'Raywoodii').

Mullawirraburka/Park 14/Rymill Park has historically been managed and planted in close parallel with Kadlitpinna/Park 13 and Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15 and it is important that the three

be viewed and managed together as a consistent entity notionally as the 'East Park Lands' (Kadlitpinna/Park 13, Mullawirraburka/Park 14, Ityamaiitpinna/Park 15). Its vulnerability is in not having a master plan and the risk of stylistically inappropriate plantings being introduced into and compromising the circulation system and general character of Mullawirraburka/Park 14.