O

Oak - A school near Pinnaroo; opened in 1926, it closed in 1944. The **Oak Vale** School, opened in 1919, became 'Mary Vale' in the same year and closed in 1939. Probably, the name for the latter was taken from a property owned by 'Percy and Gordon Roberts, south of Streaky Bay.' (*See Maryvale & Wirrulla*)

A photograph of Mr & Mrs Val Roberts and family is in the *Observer*, 16 April 1927, page 34.

Oakbank - The town was laid out on section 4020, Hundred of Onkaparinga, by J. and A.G. Johnston in 1860;

James Johnston (1818-1891) arrived in South Australia with his parents, six brothers and a sister in the *Buckinghamshire* in 1839. The family settled at Willunga and, later, moved to Oakbank, where James Johnston and his brother Andrew (1827-1886) decided to try their hand at brewing beer.

Their experiment proved successful and, from modest beginnings, there grew the company J. and A.G. Johnston Ltd that became one of the landmarks of the district. Mr Johnston, Snr, was connected with a business at Oakbank, in Glasgow, prior to emigrating to South Australia.

> The Johnson family was responsible, also, for erecting two elegant houses, one on either side of the town - 'Oakbank House' being occupied by James Johnston and 'Dalintober' by his brother Andrew Galbraith Johnston. Both of these have been well maintained and are elaborate nineteenth century villas.
>
> In 1886 a second brewery, the Dorset, was erected in the town by Henry Pike and, while brewing was discontinued in 1938, aerated waters were produced here until the 1970s. The site has since been split up, but the brewery tower and cellars have been sympathetically converted to a residence and craft workshop.
>
> While there are a number of other early buildings in the town few are of individual merit, although together they contribute to the historic character of the townscape, which sadly has been marred by much unsympathetic development. Despite the significance of the breweries and the former Johnston family homes the town is best known as the location of the race meeting held each Easter at the Oakbank Racecourse.
>
> The site, then owned by the Johnston family, was first used for a race meeting in about 1867, and by 1874 this had become a well-established annual event, with the now famous Great Eastern Steeplechase being run for the first time in 1876. At Easter, in 1902, the annual exodus to the race meeting 'by train or coach, in well-appointed drag with matchless teams, in fashionable brougham or natty family wagonette, homely spring cart or lumbering wagon, jolting dray or clumsy hawker's van - the sporting man full of "odds" and "fancies" will hasten merrily to the common rendezvous.'

Oakbank Post Office opened in 1868

Sketches of a race meeting are in *Frearson's Weekly*, 19 April 1884, pages 126-127, while photographs are in the *Chronicle*, 5 April 1902, page 40, 18 April 1914, page 31.

Photographs are in the *Chronicle*, 28 September 1933, page 35, of sheepdog trials are in the *Chronicle*, 8 May 1915, page 30; also see *Register*, 15 April 1918, page 5a, *Observer*, 2 May 1925, page 6b, of a Memorial Hall in the *Observer*, 13 November 1926, page 32, of quail shooting on Mr Shillabeer's farm on 14 January 1928, page 38.

In 1877, a deputation consisting of Messrs F. Duffield, Hugh Kerr and Thomas Pugh asked the Minister of Education to reverse the decision of the Education Council selecting Oakbank as the site of a school in preference to Balhannah.

Steeple racing at Oakbank

Early in 1887 a gold rush was reported to 'Mr Marsh's place' about a mile and a half from Oakbank. Previously, in the same hill, a tunnel had been put in but, through want of capital, was not driven far enough to cut the reef.

'At one time he had about 20 acres and 'on this about 20 men had been at work… No important finds were and the gold obtained was very fine… The ground below, the property of Mr John Martin, the well known draper, is considered very likely to be payable.' **Oakbank Dam** is north of Manna Hill where the 'Oakbank Run' was established by T. Scott in 1875.

Oakdale - A post office on section 37, Hundred of Haig, 24 km east of Sheringa.

Oakdale School existed from 1904 to 1909; its first teacher was Leslie Lewis.

Oakden - A suburb of Adelaide proclaimed on 27 May 1993. Formerly, it was part of Gilles Plains and Hillcrest and honours the maiden name of Osmond Gilles' wife who died in 1833. (*See Gilles Plains & Glen Osmond*)

Oakden Hills, North-West of Port Augusta, was named after John Oakden, who explored west of Lake Torrens in 1851. (*See Hulkes Hills*) In 1904, a corroboree, although described as 'ordinary', from all accounts, was 'none the less interesting to those who had only read of and never seen such a thing':

Students boarding buses at Oakbank Area School – circa 1943

All along the track the coming of the event had been discussed and fates were kind in leading us to Ive's & Co's fine Oakden Hills Station at the right moment. Waterbag Mary was at the store obtaining rations in exchange for three large kangaroo skins… [A lengthy report on the corroboree follows.]

Oaklands - This subdivision on Yorke Peninsula, 8 km North-East of Yorketown, is where Johann Haby built the 'Oaklands Hotel' on the corner of part section 30, Hundred of Dalrymple. C. von Bertouch and Co. created fifty-two allotments for him as the town of **Oaklands**, conducting the auction in the hotel on 13 July 1876; two years later Ralph Anderson (1847-1909) extended the village with a further seven blocks laid our as **Oaklands West**.

In October 1940, the Nomenclature Committee asked the District Council of Yorketown to consider changing 'Oaklands' to 'Munkurra', meaning 'sheaoak apples' - it refused to consider this proposal, suggested, previously, by the same committee in 1916.

The **Oaklands** School, opened in 1872, closed in 1942; **Oaklands North** School, opened in 1881, closed in 1909.

A cricket match against Oyster Bay was played in December 1875:

The umpires were Messrs Witcher and R. Anderson, while the local team comprised - R. Keyte, J. Ryan, S. Clayton, L.H. Giles, A. Anderson, W. Keyte, C. Keyte, C. Carrick, E. Ryan, J. Ballard and E. Stonehouse.

The **Oaklands** School, 21 km south of Elliston, operated from 1928 until 1936; known, also, as 'Nilyuntana'.

In 1844, Samuel Kearne (ca.1792-1857) owned sections 116, 146 and 147, Hundred of Noarlunga, naming it **Oaklands Estate**. The Adelaide suburb of **Oaklands Park** was laid out in 1914 on sections 144-146, Hundred of Noarlunga, as **Oaklands Estate** by Thomas C. and Catherine C. Tait of Broken Hill and it was reported that a former owner, the Hon. J. Crozier, planted English oaks on the property, while, in 1928, 'a deputation to the Premier requested that the government should acquire 18¾ acres of land at Oaklands for use as a national reserve…' (*See Warradale*) A photograph is in the *Observer*, 1 September 1923, page 30, of the railway station's garden on 25 February 1928, page 32.

Obelisk Estate - This subdivision near Mount Lofty was advertised in 1925.

Oberon, Mount - In the Musgrave Ranges, named by Ernest Giles on 9 September 1873. It is one and the same as 'Mount Morris' named by W.C. Gosse. 'Oberon' was William Shakespeare's 'King of the Fairies'.

O.B. Flat - Six kilometres South-East of Mount Gambier, so named because, in the 1850s, a herd of cattle roamed the district branded 'OB', the owner of which was Mr O. Beswick.

Harry Hickmer, who spent his youth on Glencoe Station held by the Leake brothers, had his reminiscences published in 1903 and said:

There were some fine store cattle purchased from Queensland… branded 'JWC' on off ribs and 'OB' off rump. The former were tailed for a time and eventually turned loose… although they were well looked after, a good many tried to make their way to their old run, although over 1,000 miles away; some actually succeeded in doing this.

Rodney Cockburn expands this version and says the cattle 'were bred by a Mr O'Brien who also had a station near Yass, in New South Wales.'

The **O.B. Flat** Post Office opened in 1868 and closed in May 1909.

The first recorded subdivision in the immediate district was made in 1879 when the Minister controlling education purchased portion of section 478. Earlier, a private school had been opened by Francis D.C. Donovan in 1863, while a German School was opened in December 1869 by Mr Carl Craft.

In 1888, it was reported that 'the dairy factory was started in a small way in a very primitive building and as the owner modestly remarked was decidedly flat and required improving in many ways':

I concluded that a man who could toil away almost single-handed, and with such primitive buildings and appliances turn out a weekly average this season of 1,300 lbs of good factory cheese, deserved to

succeed… Mr Pariss, the owner, has a splendid lot of cows of his own, but in addition he also buys milk… at four pence per gallon…

A local workman's home was described in July 1889 as 'a hut built of slabs and roofed with bark':

> The bedroom is 12x12 and 7 feet high. In this there are three double beds which completely fill the room and ten persons sleep here, including a married couple, a young man aged 23, a girl aged 21 and several children of various ages. There is no privy accommodation.

Observatory Hill - Near Maralinga and named by L. Beadell in 1955 because of its similarity to an astronomical laboratory.

Ocalia Well - South of Manna Hill. Aboriginal for 'the dark place'.

Ocean View - A descriptive name given to a subdivision of part sections 23 and 28-29, Hundred of Goolwa, by G.F. Gilding, W.F. Jacob and J.R. Russell in 1924, midway between Victor Harbor and Port Elliot 'with its own railway site.'

Ochre, Point & **Ochre Cove** - North of Maslin Beach. The Aborigines knew the area as *potartung*, probably meaning 'red ochre place', used for personal adornment and daubing corpses prior to performing burial rites.

Its nomenclature is linked with the mythological Aboriginal being, *Ngurenderi*, for it was here, 'he saw the "devil" approaching, attacked and wounded him at Ochre Cove. The blood ran out and stained the rocks.'

Ochre Wall, near Arkaroola, has a colourful, banded slate deposit.

Ockenden Creek & **Ockenden Spring** - Near Oodnadatta, recall William Marshal Ockenden (1842-1904), who worked on the Peake pastoral run and, later, joined the police force.

O'Connor, Hundred of - In the County of Buxton, proclaimed on 24 September 1925, and named in honour of John O'Connor, MP (1924-1927), who was born on 1 October 1878, at Yatala, became a farmer and represented the district of Flinders as a member of the Labor Party.

O'Donoghue Hill - J.M. O'Donoghue held a lease of Granite Downs Station, circa 1912, and the name **O'Donoghues Castle** was given to a mine, 11 km from Balcanoona Head Station.
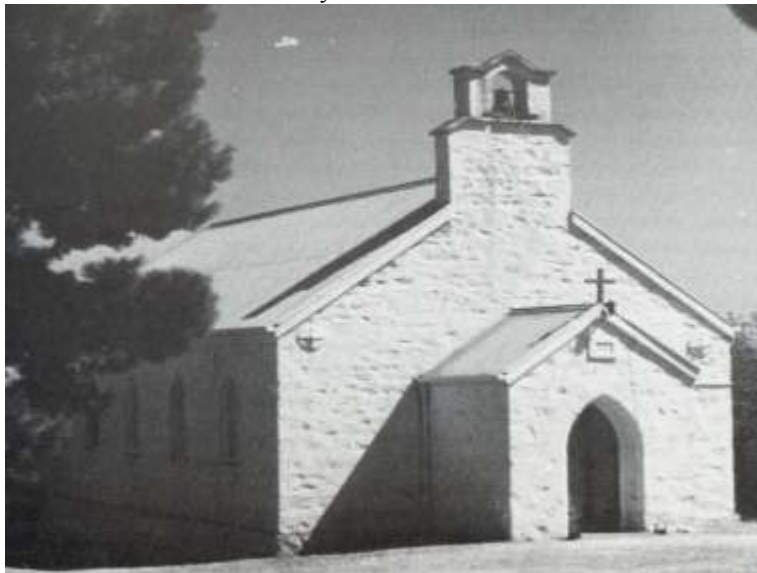
However, in 1899, it was said that it was named after a shepherd who occupied a hut nearby.

O'Donohue (*sic*) **Castle** is east of Lyndhurst; its Aboriginal name was *wida-ubmanakanha* - 'one gum tree'.

Officer Creek - In the Far North-West, discovered by Ernest Giles in 1873 and named after Mr C.M. Officer of Victoria, one of the subscribers to Giles' expedition funds.

Ogilvie, Mount - East of Farina and named after the prospector who discovered the Nichols Nob gold mine, situated near Tower Gap on the Mount Lyndhurst Station.

> There is a continuous run of broken hills and low lying ranges from Gill's Bluff to Nichol's Nob… The work done by the prospectors on the lode is very limited… The ranges have been favourably reported upon as far back as 1872 by Professor Ulrich…

O'Halloran Hill Christ Church, opened in 1849

Mr O'Halloran's homestead in 1865

O'Halloran Hill - Major Thomas S. O'Halloran (1797-1870), purchased land in the area in 1838 and became Commissioner of Police. Douglas Pike said of him:

> His police experience had been with bayonet rather than baton. His correspondence makes it abundantly clear that he used every occasion to encourage the idea that escaped convicts were pouring into South Australia, in order to justify his large police force. When his men could produce no prisoners he simply explained that the efficiency of 'Colonel Gawler's Bloodhounds' had driven the convicts back across the border.

He resigned the office in 1843 and entered the Legislative Council.

O'Halloran Hill Post Office opened on 29 March 1849.

O'Halloran Hill School opened in 1874 and closed in 1909.

The area between Chandler Hill and the Main South Road was subdivided in 1912 and called 'Glenthorne Estate' (a property held formerly by Norman Campbell) and resubdivided in 1960 as **O'Halloran Hill** by Dulcie Edna Gunn.

Ohlssen-Bagge, Mount - For a brief period, Mr C.H. Ohlssen-Bagge, an engineer, was a partner of the surveyor Frederick Sinnett who, in 1851, named the peak near Wilpena Pound. It fell into oblivion and, for many years, was known, unofficially, as 'Mount John'. In 1964, Mrs Dora Stanford, the granddaughter of Mr Ohlssen-Bagge, with the assistance of Mr Hans Mincham, succeeded in having the name restored to the map.

Okeltabie Ruin - East of Anxious Bay where the 'Okeltabie Run' was established by J. Bishop and A. Baird in 1863 (lease no. 1745).

Oladdie - Derived from *kuladi*, a mythical bird in the form of a man; in other areas it is the Aboriginal name of the butcher bird. The **Hundred of Oladdie**, County of Dalhousie, was proclaimed on 23 March 1876.

The **Oladdie** Post Office, 24 km North-East of Peterborough, opened in February 1879 and closed on 27 July 1918. (*See under 'Castambul' for information on goat herds.*)

In 1882, one selector was enterprising enough to sink a well to a considerable depth, and 'having reached a seam of very hard rock, has been compelled through lack of means to discontinue sinking':

> If this selector had been able to reach through this rock, there can be no doubt that many other selectors would at once commence to put down shafts in search of water, as they are doing in Oladdie… sinking is between 60 and 80 feet, a large portion of which… is through hard concrete and dense rock…

A photograph of rabbit trapping is in the *Chronicle* on 6 April 1933, page 36.

Olary - The town, 167 km ENE of Peterborough, proclaimed on 1 December 1887, was extended by forty allotments in 1926; **Olary** School opened in 1891 and closed in 1986. In 1867, the name of the place was reported as 'O'Leary's' while, in 1928, it was said to be named 'after the hut of a station hand named O'Lary.'

To confuse the matter further, a correspondent to the *Register* said in 1928 that, 'as late as 1898 the Post Office stamp was "Oolarie" and the railway station bore the sign "Olary". and it is named from the old station, on the Burra-Mt Bryan road called by teamsters "Olary Well".'

In 1887, it was said that 'as we entered the Olary Station the guard was rapidly putting together stores and parcels for the workmen':

> There are useful adornments to this [railway] yard; to wit - platform and tank about the centre, and at the further end a row of cottages, and opposite to them a nice looking stone house enclosed with a paling fence… In the yard are a number of navvies' tents that would surprise our nomad brethren of Arabia by the various substances they are composed of. The food supply is delivered and several trucks are shunted and we are off again…

Old Baroota - (*See Mambray Creek*)

Oldfield - A 1923 subdivision of part sections 339 and 292, Hundred of Adelaide, by William Henry Field and Edmund Bennett; now included in Rostrevor; it is a common place name in England.

Old German Snowtown - (*See Polish Hill River*)

Old Gum Tree - During mid-November 1836 emigrants from the *Cygnet*, *Rapid* and *Africaine* came ashore at Holdfast Bay a little south of 'Sturt's River' (modern-day Patawalonga) and proceeded inland for about a mile where they pitched their tents and built temporary huts. Robert Gouger, the Colonial Secretary, 'determined on a spot shaded by large gum trees' one of which had been bent in the form of an arch by the prevailing South-Westerly winds. In respect of the 'proclamation' ceremony the words of an eye witness, R.G. Symonds, an assistant surveyor to Colonel Light, are of interest:

> Mr Gouger's tent was partly supported on the southern end and upwards by this… tree now called the 'memorial tree'… Inside Mr Gouger's tent Governor Hindmarsh met the other members of the Council. The proclamation was first read and all the members of the Council were sworn in. This was all done inside the tent and, in the presence of about 270 persons, the proclamation was read by… Mr Gouger… No special provision was made for shelter from the sun…
> The tree, I recollect, however, threw a little shade over the table outside the tent, which was furnished with light refreshments from HMS *Buffalo*…

Much has been written of the events of the events of 28 December 1836 day but the remarks of Charles Moon, a former Able Seaman on the *Buffalo*, are of interest:

> Two boat's crews from the *Buffalo*, with Governor Hindmarsh and all the officers forming the colony, landed at Glenelg, and the proclamation was read by the Governor [*sic*], the flag, which I had carried from the boat, being unfurled by him under what is called the Proclamation tree - a remarkable, low, stunted blue gum, sloping to the west and standing quite alone, close to the landing place.
> A portion of Scripture was read and prayers were offered by the chaplain, Rev C.B. Howard, for the success and prosperity of the colony.
> The marines also fired three volleys. On our landing for the proclamation the blacks ran away, but soon came back again. They were invited on board, but would not come until we left some men as hostages.
> The Governor made the chiefs dine with him on board the *Buffalo*, but the wine took greater effect upon them than was expected. They left the ship well pleased and were friendly ever after.
> The surroundings were beautiful but, during the day, concealed many hazards. Swarms of mosquitoes sang, but under cover of night demanded recompense. Poor Robert Gouger and his delicate wife, Harriet, whose days were numbered, were driven almost to desperation by mosquito attacks. Putting his hand out one night from the couch on which he lay, and touching the ground, he found his hand within an inch of a scorpion.

To add to these discomforts enormous ants and small frogs came inside the tent to make the acquaintance of the new arrivals. However, there were compensations for game was in great abundance. Not far from his tent were fresh water lagoons caused by overflows of the Sturt River and he could not walk but two hundred yards without stirring up quail, wild duck and water fowl. White cockatoos, parrots and parakeets of splendid plumage spent a merry time in the trees, not knowing, as yet, the fear of man. (*See Glenelg*)

Rodney Cockburn recorded that 'Koonari, an old native, better known as James Phillips, called it *Pudtha yukoona*, meaning an 'arched red gum tree.' (*See Appendix 13 & 14*)

Old Shepherds Inn - A post office '10 miles north of Adelaide' opened by William Mitchell in 1856. (*See Drumminer*)

Old Stockyard Waterhole - Seven miles from Truro where, 'on the road, there is an old stock station [with] a good spring of water.' (*See Dust Holes*)

This could refer to the 'Accommodation Yard' at the foot of Accommodation Hill:

> On arriving at the Old Stockyard **-** which, by the way a stranger will not find, unless he takes particular instructions at Truro **-** we proceeded to give our horses water. The water rises in a high rock, covered with teatrees, amongst which a series of naturally excavated basins are filled with delicious water.
> These overflow and fall into a basin below, a depth of 30 or 40 feet, whenever the stream in the wet season flows amongst the hills into the valley. A government survey party has been recently made of the land surrounding this water.
> The springs themselves were, of course, reserved by the government… As the land is marked out there appears to be only one road to the water, so that the owner of the section surrounding it (who is said to be Mr McBean) has a virtual monopoly of what ought, by half a dozen roads, to have been thrown open to the public. The marking out of a single section so as to enclose it in every direction a reserve of water is not we shall look for under responsible government…

Olinthus, Mount - North**-**West of Cowell is shown on a plan of John Chambers' Runs in 1858.

Rodney Cockburn recorded it as 'Olynthus' and suggested it was named so by Governor Gawler.

Oliphant, Mount - Near Arkaroola; named by R.C. Sprigg after Sir Mark Oliphant, atomic scientist and Governor of South Australia (1971**-**1976).

Olive - Ethel V. Opey created **Olive Estate** in 1906 as a subdivision of part section 237, Hundred of Adelaide; now included in Hyde Park;

Olive Farm Estate was a subdivision of part section 330**-**31, Hundred of Yatala, by Beaven Rake in 1920; now included in Broadview. Rakes Road, now part of Regency Road, was named after him.

By 1919, Olive Farm had been in the possession of the Rake family since 1847 and where the soil was 'noted for its fertility and many fine records have been established there in cereal crops.'

An 1881 letter from Charles Rake about the sparrow menace said:

> Is it not a crime upon Nature that poisoned water is to be placed about to destroy purely insectivorous birds as well as the much abused sparrow. Every one will admit that he is mischievous during two or three months, but it is just as certain that throughout the greater part of the year he is useful on both the garden and farm… There is no doubt that our farms were sadly deficient in small birds until the sparrow made its appearance, and surely we must not begrudge him a little corn and fruit, knowing that he has to live at least nine months of the year on seeds of noxious weeds and insects…

In 1925, **Olive Gardens** was advertised as 'Orange Gardens' comprising 15 allotments 'near the tram and has frontage to Torrens Road, Tilly Street and Tait Street…' On 3 October 1925 it became 'Olive Gardens'.

In November 1865, James Trego**-**Williams purchased sections 686, 687, 690 and 694, Hundred of Mudla Wirra, which he and his wife, Margaret, called 'Olive Hill Farm'; some of the olive trees planted by Mrs Williams still survive. Land was set aside for a cemetery on the outskirts of the property, where their twin daughters were laid to rest; in later years, the farm house became the residence of various principals of Roseworthy College.

In 1883, it was called **Olive Hill** and described as an experimental farm 'about six miles from Gawler' where 'a series of experiments in agriculture have been carried out by Professor Custance… The chief value of the experimental farm will be to afford information to agriculturists as to how the drought may be resisted and how cereal disease may be avoided…' (*See Roseworthy*)

Olive Island, in Nuyts Archipelago, was named by Matthew Flinders on 5 February 1802 after John Olive, his ship's clerk.

In 1919, **The Olives** was described as 24 allotments 'most advantageously situated in this healthy, elevated and progressive neighbourhood… fronting Shelley and Gwynne Streets in Firle.'

Olivedale - In the Hundred of Talunga suburban to Birdwood; the village developed on land sold in December 1857 by George F. Angas to J.G. Lindner and J.C. Aberle who began to subdivide section 6594. Prior to 1918 it was **Oliventhal** ('olive valley'). The alternative name of 'Pumampe' meaning 'valley', was rejected by the government.

O'Loughlin - The **Hundred of O'Loughlin**, County of Way, was proclaimed on 13 August 1896; its school opened in 1919 and closed in 1946.

O'Loughlin Bay is on Thistle Island; many adverse comments were made on this nomenclature, one suggesting that it was certain to be shortened to 'Larry Bay'. (*See Laurence*)

Laurence O'Loughlin, MP (1890-1918), born near Salisbury, in 1854, was educated at Seven Hill College, but hard times on his father's farm cut short his schooling. Later, he and a younger brother took up land at Telowie and

Baroota and, following the dissolution of this partnership, he purchased a farm at Booleroo Centre. After entering Parliament he was appointed to a commission into the prospects of opening up land in the Pinnaroo District and, realising the prospects of the venture, sold his property and became one of the first settlers at Pinnaroo, where he died in 1927.

Olympic Dam - Near Andamooka, it was, formerly, a portion of the 'Roxby Downs' pastoral property.

Olynthus, Mount - Near Cowell and, according to Rodney Cockburn, discovered and named by Governor Gawler, after an ancient city in Europe. (*See under 'Olinthus, Mount' where another explanation is recorded.*)

O'Malley - A railway station on the Trans-Australia line. King O'Malley, MP, who, as Minister for Home Affairs, was associated, closely, with the construction of the line.

Onaunga - An Aboriginal word meaning 'big waterhole' and the former name of a district council in the Strathalbyn District; the 'Onaunga Mine' was mentioned in 1872 and, in 1875.

> At a meeting of ratepayers in the Onaunga district, Mrs Elizabeth Williams, a resident, was nominated for a seat at the Council table… If gallantry secures her return probably the Woman's Rights question will get an impetus. For years female taxpayers have voted for the election of municipal and district councillors, but this is the first instance, we believe, where one of the fair sex has been proposed as a candidate…

One Tree Hill - This settlement, 28 km NNE of Adelaide, takes its name from the 'One Tree Hill Inn', which was licensed in 1851 to 'catch the passing trade journeying from Salisbury to Gawler'; later, it became a meeting place for the District Council of Munno Para for many years; it ceased trading in 1861.

Outside the inn was a giant red gum tree that was cut down, circa 1934. **One Tree Hill** Post Office was opened in 1858 by F. Butterfield and the settlement commenced, circa 1867, on land owned by James Purdie, who was born in Scotland, in 1828, arriving in the *Emily* in 1849. He died at Condowie Plains in 1892.

The foundation stone of the **One Tree Hill** School was laid on 'a piece of ground given by Mr Peter Muller [in 1864]'. However, official records say the school was opened in 1855.

In 1859, a return match between the Munno Para East and the Universal Cricket Club was played on the practice ground of the former club near to the One Tree Hill:

> The Universalists started from the Kent Town Hotel in an omnibus and four… and the Brunswick Band enlivening the early morning with its superior sounds. Breaking from the North Road at the Little Para, the whole party might have supposed they were about to scale the Alps, so precipitous is the track up the spur to the Bay of Biscay ground beyond. Once safely upon the hills by pleasant detours, enjoying beautiful views of deep glens with magnificent prospects of broad plains and the far off ocean, the party made their way to the spot where the match was to be contested.
> On the rising ground near the foot of the slope were pitched tents for the Clubs and their scorers, for the band and an additional one for the ladies considerable numbers of whom were mingled with the spectators, who amounted to 150 to 300 persons. These, with the well-placed field, the tents and the band, filling the valley by turns with melting or moving music, which found response in the surrounding hills, combined to form a scene and to create an occasion that will long be remembered…

A photograph of 'four generations of the Watson family' is in the *Observer*, 26 January 1907, page 30, of the unveiling of a war memorial on 9 August 1919, page 26.

Onkaparinga - In 1831, Captain Collet Barker discovered the **River Onkaparinga**; it was rediscovered by Lt Field of the vessel *Rapid* on 3 October 1836. On Colonel Light's charts it is shown as 'Field's River', but, in 1838, this was changed to the Aboriginal name at the behest of Governor Gawler.

The name is derived from a Kaurna (Adelaide), tribal word *ngangkiparingga* - 'at the women's river' - *nganki* - 'female', *par* - 'river' and *ngga* - 'at'. While travelling to ochre fields north of Maslin Beach (*see Ochre, Point*), River Murray people hid their women in caves and ravines close to the river above Noarlunga:

> This substance was much valued by the Aborigines for decorating their bodies at corroborees. Hostile tribes from the Murray would make excursions across the Willunga hills to obtain ochre. This would impose on the local Aborigines the duty of giving battle to those who had thus broken bounds. But first they would hide their women.

As late as 1850, reports of the Protector of Aborigines make mention of Aborigines, while netting bream near the river mouth, hiding their women in the river valley. Dr Wyatt recorded it as *Ungkeperringga* and said it meant 'Mother river, plentiful' and that the first syllable changes to *Ponke* meaning 'shadows or reflections in water', and relates to that part of the river between Noarlunga and the sea.

Other sources suggest it means 'eagles' home' for in a poem entitled 'Aboriginal Nomenclature - By a Native', in 1893, two lines read:

> *On-ka-paringa (eagle's home),*
> *No-orlunga (place of fish),*

An article on the Onkaparinga District Council in 1923 says 'Onkaparinga' means 'dirty or murky water'.

By 1850, the whole line of the River Onkaparinga was said to exhibit auriferous deposits and one of the richest had been chosen by Osmond Gilles in the Mount Barker Special Survey. At this time a gold company secured numerous adjoining sections, together with others on the course of the river, upon which gold was reported to have been found.

On 19 January 1850, the South Australian Gold Company, with a nominal capital of £25,000, announced that it had purchased 1,638 acres of land and, together with leased land comprising 400 acres, it boasted that it commanded about 20 miles of watercourses 'open for immediate operations.'

From an economic point of view this announcement was propitious because, before it was made, the disposition for colonists to migrate to California was unlimited and intense but, suddenly, the desire to leave the colony abated.

At the same time, the Editor of the *SA Gazette & Mining Journal* advised prospective investors to defer their investments until the appearance of the prospectus of a rival company (The Onkaparinga Gold Company) which intended to 'offer advantages not to be equalled, at a bonus somewhat less than £17,000.' However, a remarkable blunder was made in respect of section 4014 held by the Onkaparinga Gold Company, for it was stated that it was to be part and parcel of a certain section, or sections, purchased from the Government in 1839 by Mr Osmond Gilles:

> That worthy gentleman unwittingly assisted in the bidding of his own land; but having discovered his error, or rather that of the Survey Office, he intends to defend his golden territories from intrusion, tooth and nail, having already placed his land in his solicitor's hands - so that the Government seems to be in a fix as well as the Onkaparinga Gold Company… Mr Gilles' adjacent lands are watered by tributary streams which are declared to be rich in gold - so that, after all the vaunted secrecy and shrewd contrivances of the knowing ones, 'the Great O.G.' may be the gold millionaire of the colony.

Aborigines on a bank of the Onkaparinga River

In February 1850, the directors announced that the applications for shares were not numerous enough to induce them to proceed with the proposed allotment. Undeterred, they resorted to their own resources in developing the field and, in due course, an officer and detachment of the 11th Regiment were sent there to guard the commissioner's tents and assist the police.

This prompted the succinct comment that 'one policeman is worth 20 soldiers. The baton, not the bayonet, is the weapon which will be respected by the most rude of diggers', while the Editor of the *Register* opined that the close proximity to the town:

> Will induce the settlement of men with their families; the sexes will be more equal than has hitherto been witnessed elsewhere, and even our Diggings, it is hoped, will evince the superior character of the South Australian people - a character which has already rendered itself respected (in the Province) and conspicuous abroad.

He also suggested a complete ban on intoxicating liquors on the field to which an ardent temperance advocate, under the pseudonym of 'Onkaparinga', heartily concurred:

> If nothing stronger than water is ever allowed to be tasted at the goldfields there will exist a sufficient guarantee for the good conduct of the congregated thousands… who will apply themselves to the exciting pursuit of gold seeking, and it is most earnestly hoped that the Government will make the strongest possible regulations for the preventing the use of intoxicating beverages at the goldfields. This is a *sine qua non* of unalloyed success.

In 1851, the company commenced operations at the Onkaparinga where 'four ounces were washed out by four men.' However, as time and labour progressed, it expended a great deal of money uselessly, for its directors were then 'ignorant of the proper mode of conducting the work', while elsewhere the men 'employed by the gold company have left Stony Creek and they do not hesitate to say that the richest deposits are not to be found at that place. [Indeed, it transpired that they were abandoned within a few weeks]… There were 3 or 4 stores established there and as many butchers' shops…'

In 1862, Father Julian E.T. Woods (*see Penola & Appendix 17*) said that his attention 'had been drawn to a paragraph having reference to some fossils found at the mouth of the Onkaparinga':

> It was there stated that the specimens had been forwarded to the Rev W.B. Clarke of Sydney who had pronounced them to bear all the characters of cretaceous origin and that they carried back our ideas of the Murray fossils to a far remoter period than that usually assigned to the geological formations of this colony…

I am perfectly sure, however, that if they are of cretaceous origin they are in no way connected with the Murray beds, which belong to a very recent tertiary period…

The **Hundred of Onkaparinga**, County of Adelaide, was proclaimed on 29 October 1846.

Port Onkaparinga - (*See Noarlunga*)

The town of **Onkaparinga** was advertised in 1857 as an ideal place:

Gentlemen requiring a cool retreat for their families from the dust and heat of Adelaide are respectfully invited to visit the locality… upwards of 50 lots have already been disposed of… the township is laid out on the cliffs… the soil is good and free from sand and affords limestone for building purposes.

In 1858, it was said that, 'W. Gray is the owner of section 318 near Port Noarlunga which he has laid out into lots…' Following the Crimean war of the 1850s the government and citizens of the fledgling colony were concerned as to possible attacks by Russian warships as evidenced by a letter to the Colonial Secretary by William Gray, a storekeeper at Port Onkaparinga (now Port Noarlunga), in August 1858:

Captain Lipson, RN, having reported that the defence of our coast, so far as practicable, would be best attained by the equipment of gunboats etc. to be stationed at Port Adelaide and the creek at Glenelg, I have the honour to respectfully suggest for the consideration of Your Excellency, the following extension of his plan.

That the harbour of Port Onkaparinga is the first accessible and most unprotected part of the coast, which in all probability would be selected as an eligible landing place for effecting a 'coup de main' on Adelaide, it could be made another gunboat station and provided with the following defences:

1. A battery on the northern reef similar to that on Pinchgut Island in Sydney harbour.
2. A Martello tower on Witton Bluff within range of the jetty, and a small enfilading, earth battery near Onkaparinga Bluff.
3. As a tower on Witton Bluff would command a full view of the gulf from Cape Jervis to the lightship, it would be necessary to extend a telegraph wire to join the Adelaide and Melbourne lines on the South Road, a distance of three miles.
4. This would combine the advantages of warning and defence with the earliest transmission of commercial intelligence, as the largest vessel could approach within a mile of Witton Bluff, make their number, or in the case of contrary winds, land their mail and passengers in safety some hours before they could reach Adelaide by the ordinary route.

A lifeboat station here, manned by hardy fishermen, could perform this service with safety in any weather and be immediately available in case of shipwreck or accident within the gulf. [*See Glanville, Glenelg & Largs Bay*]

For information on the change of name of the town of **Port Onkaparinga** to 'Port Noarlunga South' see *Register*, 6 September 1923.

The *Register* of 21 November 1882 has an advertisement for the town of **Onkaparinga**, 'adjacent to the Balhannah Railway Station on section 4030, Hundred of Onkaparinga… to be subdivided into 123 lots' - apparently, this venture was a failure.

Oodlawirra - Derived from the Aboriginal *ngurlewirra* - 'hill frost'; another source claims it comes from *judlawirra* - *judla* - 'kangaroo', *wirra* - 'forest'.

The town, 24 km North-East of Peterborough, proclaimed as the 'Township of Penn', on 17 April 1890, became **Oodlawirra** on 19 September 1940, so as to agree with the name of the railway station.

Oodlawirra School opened in 1891 and closed in 1950. In 1891, a visitor was 'sorry to find it a very small place':

The most interesting object in our trip was the Oodla Wirra Flux and Silver Mining Company's claims. Here we beheld a large mountain of iron. The lode can be traced right through the property… A splendid lode of kaolin has been exposed at the foot of the hill and it is expected that silver will be obtained by sinking deeper… The outcrop in appearance surpasses Broken Hill and the developments of this property should be anxiously watched.

A photograph of an iron flux mine is in the *Observer*, 13 January 1906, page 30.

Oodnadatta - The town, 824 km NNW of Port Augusta, proclaimed on 30 October 1890, opened its school in 1892. Herbert Basedow, in a diary kept while a member of a survey party wrote: 'Oodnadatta, a desolate desert township, named by surveyor Lees after a word in the Arunta dialect meaning 'the yellow blossom of the mulga".'

Prof N.B. Tindale adds support to this contention: 'It derives from *utnadata* meaning "flower of the mulga".'

To confuse this nomenclature, in the book *Horrie Simpson's Oodnadatta* it is said:

Today you will have to travel a long way to find a mulga tree near the town. The other name *coodnadatta* means rotten or excreta the last part *datta* means 'there'… An artesian bore sunk half a mile west of the town produced some atrocious liquid, hot and full of soda and other solids. Maybe it refers to this water.

Oodnadatta has been regarded by most people as the centre of a vast desert and the very name was synonymous with drought and waterless desert country:

It is from this town that most of the exploring parties of recent years have commenced their work of exploration in the direction of the Musgrave Ranges and Western Australia, and Oodnadatta is also the depot for many of the outlying stations and a large number of peripatetic prospectors. Some time ago the government accepted tenders for artesian boring at Oodnadatta and a splendid supply was struck at 1,600 feet.

On Tuesday, Mr F. Heilbronn, the father of the town and one of its leading business men, gave us the opportunity of sampling the water. The quality appears to be exceptionally good and palatable… It has now been running for a little over two months into an old river bed… The practical advantage of the bore is now being seen in its effect upon a large garden owned by two Chinamen…

It is the intention of Mr Heilbronn to establish a sanatorium in the event of the medical profession being prepared after investigation to recommend patients to go there in preference to making journeys to 'take the waters' of some distant country.

The following notes on Oodnadatta are taken from an article by Ernestine Hill, published in the *Advertiser* in 1935:

From 1891 onward, when the transcontinental railway stopped short of the Depot Sandhills, and Alice Springs was almost unknown, they were rollicking times at Oodnadatta, the heyday of the teamster. Pioneers of all the stations of the centre of the continent were constantly travelling their stocks northward and westward, and drovers of the north travelling down. Arltunga and Winnecke became gold towns in the ranges with five hundred and three hundred people. Endless camel-strings put out from the railhead day after day, north to Newcastle Waters, south to Tarcoola, some of them west on the 2,000-mile trail to Coolgardie, following Giles and Warburton, and a few North-West to Hall's Creek, in the Kimberley rush.

As the good country along the telegraph line was taken up, mails and freights and overland travellers were transhipped to the camels on the six-day stage to the Alice. About 150 Afghans, with their wives and families, congregated there, valued their best riding beasts at as high as £100 a piece, and demanded their fares in sovereigns. In 1914, at the outbreak of war, with the cattle trucked north for agistment in a great drought of the south, the little town was thronged with people as it has never been thronged since. There were then four or five white men on all the surrounding stations, where nowadays four or five of those stations are run together under the management of one.

Oodnadatta School – circa 1912

Photographs are in the *Observer*, 6 May 1922, page 24, 15 and 29 January 1927, pages 33 and 32, a gold prospecting party on 4 November 1905, page 30, of the railway station in *The Critic*, 1 May 1907, page 3, of a war memorial hall in the *Chronicle*, 12 August 1922, page 28, of a visit by the governor on 14 July 1923, page 33, of an Aborigines' Mission on 8 January 1927, page 40, of 'mixed bathing' on 6 August 1931, page 34, of Aboriginal lubras alighting from an itinerant preacher's van in the *Observer*, 16 August 1919, page 28, of yachting on a dam on 16 August 1919, page 28.

Oodnadatta Shopping Centre in 1909

The name **Oodnadatta Track** was given to the road between Marree and Mount Chandler in 1979.

Ned Chong in his garden at Hookey's Creek

Oodnaminta Well - East of Lyndhurst. Corrupted from the Aboriginal *udnaminda* - 'anus'.

Ooldea - The name was adopted for a railway siding in 1912, 252 km west of Tarcoola. Ernest Giles spelt it as 'Youldeh'.

The **Ooldea** School opened in 1940.

Ooldea Hill and **Ooldea Well** are near the Trans-Australia railway line; derived from the Aboriginal *yooldil-beena* - 'swamp where I stood to pour out water'.

The pumping of water from this source by makers of the transcontinental railway line led to it drying up. Another source says the Aboriginal name was *juldi* and that it was a soak where they sought refuge when a drought struck their lands while Rodney Cockburn says 'it is identical with a permanent water three miles and a half from the siding… Another spelling of the word is *youldah*, said to mean "sandhill water".'

Daisy Bates with her 'poor natives' at Ooldea

Photographs and information on the district are in the *Register*, 9 July 1917, page 4d, *Observer*, 12 January 1918, page 24, *Chronicle*, 17 June 1922, pages 27-36c, *Observer*, 29 May 1926, page 34, of Daisy Bates' home among the sandhills in the *Observer*, 5 February 1921, page 23.

Oopina Dam - North-West of Yunta where the 'Oopina Run' was established by W. Dare in 1866.

Ootna - This Aboriginal word meaning 'quandong' was applied to several physical features near Parachilna.

The 'Ootna Run' was established by J. Warwick in 1864 (lease no. 1611); originally, the land was held by W.R. Swan from 13 March 1856 (lease no. 488).

Orama Hill - North-West of Waukaringa in the County of Lytton; see pastoral lease no. 1751.

Rodney Cockburn says it was established by David Davidson in 1867 and held, later, by Andrew Tennant. Generally, it was believed to be Aboriginal for 'rendezvous of the magpie', but in 1937 it was said that the name derived from the Aboriginal *oorama*- the name applied to a marsupial rat (*see Orroroo*).

In 1911, it was reported that 'the decision of the London managers of the Orient Company to name their new steamer "Orama" [was] decidedly a compliment to this State as it is the cognomen of a hill in South Australia, situated in the County of Lytton and near to the Siccus River':

> Originally, the hill was known as 'Oorama' and in the native tongue this would be pronounced with a decided burr… This country was taken up in the first place by Mr Samuel [*sic*] Davidson in 1867 when the run contained 193 square miles of country…

Further, in 1937, Miss Beevor of Gilberton called in at the *Advertiser* office to tell an interesting story of the origin of the name Orama Hill:

> Her father, the late Horace Beevor, held a half-interest in the Baratta station in the 1860s and lived there. He went out with a black boy… and while having lunch at the foot of the hill rodents, the size of rats, scampered around them, the marsupial rat apparently. Mr Beevor asked the black boy what they were and he replied 'im Oorama'… I looked up my old notebook and find that Mr Frank Warwick said the word *orama* meant 'rat' not 'magpie'.

Orange Gardens - (*See Olive Gardens*)

Orange Vale - It was situated near Athelstone, where 'special services in aid of the building fund of the Orange Vale New Union Church were held on 3 & 4 September 1871… A supper was… provided for the public.'

Oraparinna National Park - Takes its name from the pastoral run pioneered by Septimus Boord (1819-1905), namely, lease no. 231 of 1 September 1851. Aboriginal for 'tea-tree river'. (*See Boord, Mount*)

He arrived in the *Enterprise* in 1840 following which he and his brothers established a store in Hindley Street and another at Kooringa when the Burra mine was opened; later he had a store at Hahndorf.

A photograph of the homestead is in the *Observer*, 30 November 1929, page 33, *Chronicle*, 12 July 1934, page 33.

Oratan - A property on the 'eastern plains'; see pastoral lease no. 1715.

Oratunga - Derived from an Aboriginal word meaning 'tea tree creek'. The town, surveyed in 1863, and offered for sale on 28 May 1863, took its name from a nearby copper mine worked first in 1860 and the 'Oratunga Run', head station of the Chambers brothers. **Hundred of Oratunga**, County of Taunton, was proclaimed on 7 March 1895.

Orchard Farm - In 1860, a barn, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Richard Williams 'was appropriated *pro tem* to the purposes of a [Wesleyan Church]… The sermons for the day were preached by Rev C. Colwell from Mintaro.'

A new Wesleyan chapel was opened there in January 1861:

> The people of this neighbourhood having engaged in worship for the past eleven years in the dwelling of Mr Thomas Thomas, much as the convenience was appreciated, the erection of a new and beautiful edifice, to be dedicated exclusively to religious purposes, was an event hailed with deep satisfaction.

Orkola, Mount - (*See Barndioota, Hundred of*)

Ormerod, Lake - George Ormerod (1822-1872) was an early day pastoralist near modern-day Naracoorte when, with Charles Sherratt, he applied for an occupation licence on 6 May 1845. (*See Naracoorte*) A member of a very old Lancashire family, he was born at Rochdale in 1822, came out to Victoria in 1842 and, about 1854, sold out and settled at Guichen Bay where he started business as a storekeeeper, shipper of wool and general agent; he and John Calder were, ostensibly, the founders of the town of Robe. (*See Robe*)

The **Lake Ormerod** School opened in 1896 and closed in 1915.

Ormiston Hill - The hill was the boundary between two clans of indigenous people inhabiting the Hundred of Baker and its Aboriginal name was *mureounuru* - 'the boundary'.

Ormsby Rivulet - Named by Colonel Light; it is shown on John Arrowsmith's plan published in London in 1840 and recalls George Owen Ormsby, a surveyor, who arrived in the *Buffalo* and died in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1861, aged 46; today, is known as 'Fifth Creek'.

Orontes Bank - Situated on the opposite side of the gulf, west of Semaphore. In the 1870s, oysters were dredged up there at the rate of 100,000 per week, but this yield dwindled away until it did not pay to work it - the bed closed itself and remained as such for many years, following which Mr Albert Molineux paid it a visit and reported that he 'went over with a party of friends, taking an oyster dredge and trawl net, thinking that after so long a rest the bed would yield at least a few bivalves':

> Yet, after two days work, the total yield was one oyster… Unless an alteration is made in the law… oysters in Adelaide will ere long be worth their weight in gold. Then an oyster supper will be a rather expensive luxury…

In 1886, Mr T.N. Stephens, who was appointed to enquire into the validity of the claims of Mr Fraser to the discovery of an oyster bed near Stansbury said:

> There is no doubt that the bed claimed by Mr Fraser was set up by Mr Moore… simply a rediscovery and not a discovery as the Act provides for reward… [his] claim to a discoverer's licence was made in good faith.

The name appears first on 1852 charts, but its origin is unknown.

Orrie Cowie - In the Hundred of Para Wurlie, west of Warooka., corrupted from the Aboriginal *morakawi*; *mora* - 'acacia seed' and *kawi* - 'water'; literally, 'food seed spring'.

The **Orrie Cowie** Post Office, opened in March 1867, was the first on Yorke Peninsula; it closed in 1878 when 'Warooka' opened. Hilda Elliott opened the **Orrie Cowie** School in 1916; changed to 'Brutus' in 1924.

Orroroo - The town, proclaimed on 9 March 1876, stands on portion of Price Maurice's Pekina run taken up in 1846. Over the years, it was accepted that it derived from the Aboriginal *oorama* - 'rendezvous of the magpie', but Prof N.B. Tindale asserts the word means 'early start'. (*See Orama Hill*)

> The usual camping ground of the local Aboriginal people was on the banks of the Pekina Creek, whereas the kangaroo hunting grounds were on the flat South-East of the township, that is, close to the spring on Orroroo Creek. When intending to hunt kangaroos it was the usual custom to camp for the night at the spring so as to be in a position for an early start at dawn.

Further, in 1908, G. Degenhardt of Saint Peters said it had its origin from a creek the natives called 'Oorooroo'.

Another version was forthcoming in 1926:

> Orroroo was the name of a black girl who at one time lived on Pekina Station, and although other native derivations for the title suggesting dust, drift and a windy locality have been put forward, yet the character of the word is all in favour of its having been applied to a living object. [This version appears, also, in Cockburn's *Nomenclature of SA* (1908)]

The name was bestowed at the instance of Mr C.J. Easther, a pioneer settler in the district.

> In the old coaching days, before the town was surveyed, he had an eating house, the ruins of which may still be seen, on Pekina Creek, about a mile distant from the town. This was a stopping-place for the coaches running between the Burra and Melrose. When, in 1875, Orroroo was surveyed Easther abandoned his eating house, built an iron shop on a corner block, in the new township, and opened as a storekeeper and wine dealer. This was the first building erected in Orroroo.

The *English Labourers' Chronicle* of 9 November 1878 contains the following letter from an immigrant who was working for Mr F. Growden, Orroroo:

> It is a nice place up here; there are hills all around us. I am getting £55 a year and tucker for me and my wife, except I have to buy meat and that's cheap, six pence a pound… I have no rent to pay… that is better than working at home… There is plenty of work here. I am surprised at the young men stopping in England and working for nothing when they could save money out here…

The **Orroroo** School opened in 1880.

Main Street, Orroroo

Sketches of the town and district are in the *Pictorial Australian* in February 1887, photographs in the *Observer*, 19 February 1910, page 39, 13 July 1929, page 34, of a horse race meeting in the *Chronicle*, 6 July 1933, page 38, of the laying of the foundation stone of the Methodist Church in the *Register*, 14 February 1911, page 9g, *Chronicle*, 18 February 1911, page 30, of the welcome home of the winner of the King's prize in England, Lt. Addison, on 7 December 1907, page 29 (a photograph of him is in *The Critic*, 11 September 1907, page 6), of the laying of the

foundation stone of the hospital in the *Chronicle*, 14 February 1920, page 24, of Girl Guides on 14 February 1935, page 33, of the unveiling of the war memorial on 21 January 1922, page 30, of a football team on 31 October 1935, page 36, of a basketball team on 19 November 1936, page 33, of a jubilee carnival on 30 September 1937, page 38.

Osborne - The suburb was laid out in 1908 on part section 755, Hundred of Port Adelaide by a syndicate that included Captain R.W. Osborne (ca.1834-1920), a mariner, who spent much of his lifetime developing his property where he built 'Glen Ariff House' (named after his wife's home in Scotland), titled, later, as 'Osborne House'.

He claimed to be the first man to pilot a steamer up the river at Port Pirie.

Photographs of ship building are in the *Chronicle*, 6 December 1919, page 30, of the launching of the *Erina* in *The Critic*, 8 November 1922, page 18, of the electricity supply works in the *Chronicle*, 3 December 1921, page 30, 21 October 1922, page 30, *Observer*, 1 September 1923, page 29, *Chronicle*, 13 August 1927, page 40, of the new gas works on 7 July 1928, page 41.

I.C.I. Alkali Works at Osborne – circa 1960

Osborne Rock, near Laura Bay, is 30 feet high named and named after a revenue clerk of the Marine Board.

Osborne Swamp, 37 km NNW of Mount Gambier; probably remembers John Osborne (ca.1845-1904), formerly of Mayurra.

Osmanli Reef - The steamer *Osmanli* was wrecked in D'Estrees Bay, on Kangaroo Island, on 25 November 1853 and a 'preliminary investigation was made… of the circumstances connected with the robbery of gold belonging to Mr Morris Marks from the wreck… George Hassett… was charged with the offence… A further investigation of the case was made when Nathaniel Gray… was charged with the robbery.'

Osmond - The first subdivision to take the name was **Mount Osmond** when laid out on section 1070, Hundred of Adelaide, by Hon John Baker and Alfred Hardy, in 1865, and named after Osmond Gilles. (*See Glen Osmond & Woodley*)

Rodney Cockburn records a later subdivision in April 1882 made at the behest of the Glen Osmond Land Company.

In 1925, it was reported that 'though the Mount Osmond Estate would be a splendid residential area for artists… the promoters do not depend on that attraction':

> After investigation they found that the top of the hill was a small plateau eminently suited for the purposes of a public reserve. A genius went along with the suggestion which had the merit of conferring a benefit on the public and adding to the value of the land. His proposal was to convert the summit into golf links and to surround it with building blocks which should extend down every spur on the hill…

Photographs are in the *Observer*, 23 July 1927, page 31, 12 June 1930, page 31.

Johann Menge mentions **River Osmond** in his reports of 1837-1851; its source appears to be near Truro.

O'Sullivan Beach - Ignatius O'Sullivan (ca.1807-1871) arrived in South Australia from County Kerry, Ireland, and settled at Morphett Vale.

In February 1909, it was reported that 'Mary Cash passed away at her son's residence, Calca Station':

> She arrived in South Australia with her parents, Mr and Mrs Ignatius O'Sullivan, in the *Mary Dugdale* on 1 November 1840. Her brother, Mr T. O'Sullivan of Belle Vue, Morphett Vale (their old home), is the only member of the family still living… [*See Cash Hill*]

The name was given to a subdivision of section 616 and part section 603, Hundred of Noarlunga, by F.E. Wakelin, W.A. Hill, D.B. Neck and F.L. Lillecrapp in 1926.

Ottoway - On 27 October 1851, George Dale obtained the land grant of section 1160, Hundred of Port Adelaide, selling it to Thomas Ottaway, licensed victualler, in 1853. Upon his death his executors sold the land to Seth Ferry and Robert T. Moore, who laid out the suburb, in 1883, and suggested that, to the labouring man, 'the possession of one or two allotments would probably be the nucleus of a moderate competency and perhaps ultimately lead to a fortune.' It would appear that the subdividers erred when they asked the surveyor to head the plan 'Ottoway'.

A photograph of four generations of the Ottaway family is in the *Observer*, 27 June 1908, page 32.

Oulnina - Aboriginal for 'good water' and applied, first, by P. Levi, A.A., H.L. and P.B. Sprigg to pastoral lease no. 558 in 1857. The **Oulnina** railway station is 29 km NNE of Yunta.

In 1892, at the **Oulnina Spring '**between 2,000 and 3,000 sheep, besides cattle and horses, have been watered daily without showing any diminution in the supply… [It] has the capacity to meet the demands of the Broken Hill residents by affording a supply of clear water of exceptional quality…'

Outalowie - A property in the Far North; see pastoral lease no. 1519. (*See Arrowie Gorge*)

Outalpa - A railway station, 66 km NNE of Yunta, took its name from a pastoral lease taken up by W. and J. Jacob on 15 June 1855 (lease no. 402). Aboriginal for 'water in the gap'.

In 1868, it was reported that 'we have had some little excitement here this week with respect to the bushranger, horse stealer, *etc.*':

Two troopers were on his tracks and about eight miles from here they have found a horse which he had stolen and had been riding, apparently knocked up, with stabs in the neck and legs tied but not dead… We got other horses from the run … and followed them for over 30 miles, when we found a horse hobbled and at a shepherd's camp of ours, about a quarter of a mile from the horse, the man was busy cooking meat and had made damper ready… when we surprised him and took him prisoner… [*See Foote Hill*]

Outawurta - On sections 1961-62, Hundred of Clare, laid out by the Royal Mining Company, circa 1862, the plan being headed 'Outawurta-Jacob Springs-Emu Flat'. Apparently, the company fell upon hard times, for a letter from a disgruntled shareholder in 1854 contained a plaintive plea:

Amongst the many inquests held, will you please ask the worthy coroner if he possesses any memoranda … of the deceased Royal Mining Co or if no inquest has been held could he inform us if the old gentleman be still in the land of the living?

Outer Harbor - Rodney Cockburn says that 'the genesis of the great scheme is indubitably associated with the enterprise and foresight of William S. Whitington, who brought the first steamer to Port Adelaide and entertained Governor Gawler and many colonists on board the *Corsair* on a trip to Rapid Bay and Kangaroo Island…'

The name was applied to differentiate it from the 'inner harbour' and, in 1864, it was said:

What a magnificent idea is that of one of your correspondents of building a harbour outside the Semaphore jetty, on sand for a foundation… And what a condemnation too for poor old Port Adelaide… that it will be more advantageous in the end to incur that vast expense than waste any more money in an attempt to make it what its friends wish - a suitable harbour for first class ships… Are the residents themselves coming around to the opinion I expressed in 1837 - that [Port Adelaide] was only a second class port adapted to the coastal trade… [signed - Y.B. Hutchinson].
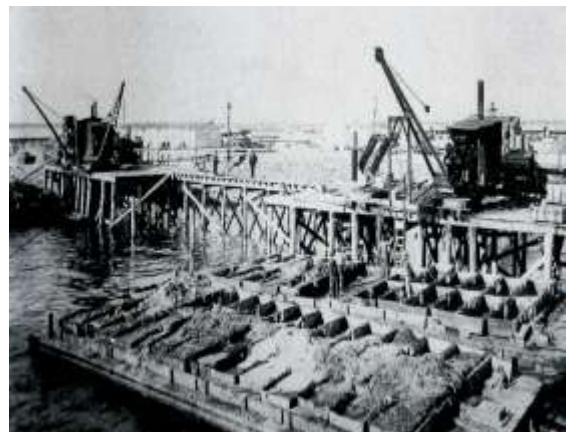

RMS Oruba, the first mail steamer to berth at Outer Harbour on 16 January 1908

It was opened as **Outer Harbour** in 1908 and, in 1913, the *Harbors Act* changed it to **Outer Harbor**. The suburb was laid out on part section 780, Hundred of Port Adelaide, by A.T. and E.T. Matters, land agents, in 1919.

Photographs of the railway are in the *Chronicle*, 21 March 1903, page 41, of the harbor construction on 8 August 1903, page 43; also see 30 July 1904, page 41, 23 May 1908, page 30, *Observer*, 25 January 1908, page 31, *The Critic*, 21 March 1903, page 6, 5 December 1903, page 16, 27 July 1904, page 16, 23 January 1907, page 16, 22 January 1908, page 15, a historical sketch of the harbor is in the *Register*, 18 July 1904, page 6e. A photograph of the YMCA hut is in the *Observer*, 21 June 1919, page 27, of a new police station in the *Chronicle*, 12 September 1925, page 40, of the harbor on 12 March 1927, page 38, of the laying of the foundation stone of a mission home for seamen in the *Observer*, 21 April 1928, page 35, of the Lakeman Institute in the *Chronicle*, 24 October 1929, page 49.

Construction underway at Outer Harbour – circa 1906

Construction of southern breakwater – circa 1908

Outer Harbor Cottages was a stopping place on the Outer Harbor line; cottages were adjacent to this place; later, it was renamed 'Yerlo'.

Overland Corner - In the early days of the colony this place, 8 km north of Kingston OM, had a great significance for the drovers of sheep and cattle, for the well-grassed river flats provided a good resting place where stock could recuperate. The inter-colonial stock route became a mail route, also, and, in 1859, it was of sufficient importance to warrant an accommodation house, so a hotel was built there by William (ca.1835-1902) and George Brand (1840-1903) on behalf of John Chambers who, with his brother James, held the Cobdogla Run.

In 1864, wild bull hunting was described:

> There [were] a large number of wild bulls on this run and the shooting of them is rather exciting sport…
> Two or three horsemen go out armed with pistols and scour the scrub… as soon as the bull catches sight of the men he makes off and after it has run about half a mile it generally sticks up and charges. The horsemen take up their stations at a distance from 30 to 50 yards… It generally takes a few bullets to settle them

The 'Overland Corner Run' was established by J. Scadding in 1875. In the early days of the 20th century it housed the local post office, through the transition from horse coaching to a motorised service in 1913. On completion of the Adelaide-New South Wales telegraph line an overland weekly mail service was inaugurated, the mail being sorted at Overland Corner and conveyed thence to Adelaide by packhorse.

The **Overland Corner** School, opened in 1914, closed in 1934. The National Trust purchased the property in 1965.

The old and new police stations at Overland Corner   Overland Corner Hotel – circa 1925

Photographs of the hotel are in the *Observer*, 17 March 1923, page 28, of the lock under construction in the *Chronicle*, 9 February 1924, page 36.

Ovingham - John Whinham, born in 1803 at Sharperton, Northumberland, England, was, in later years, a school teacher at Ovingham, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, probably, derived from the Œ *ofre* - 'a shore of a sea' or 'bank of a river' and *ham* - 'a home'. (*See Bywell*)

He arrived in South Australia in 1852 and founded Whinham College, through which passed thousands of youths, many of whom won fame as lawyers and journalists. Upon his retirement, the school was conducted by his son, Robert, who met an untimely death in 1884, aged 37, when he fell from a horse.

The suburb of **Ovingham** was laid out, in 1875, on sections 113 and 2081, Hundred of Yatala, by his son, William Whinham (1842-1925) who declared that, 'the property commands a splendid view of the plains, is good land, has limestone and timber and is close to a railway station' and, in 1881, attention was called to the:

> Presence of wireworms in the reticulated water and enforced the necessity of drawing the domestic supply into a transparent vessel so that it can be examined before use. The expediency of adopting this course… acquires additional force from the fact that a resident of Ovingham got more than was desired in the shape of a centipede five inches long…

A photograph of members of a Methodist church tennis club is in *The Critic*, 9 June 1915, page 16, of the opening of a Methodist hall and kindergarten is in the *Observer*, 15 October 1927, page 37.

Owen - The town, 16 km North-West of Hamley Bridge, proclaimed on 1 May 1879, was named by Governor Jervois and, with his inclination to glorify family and friends, (*see, for example, Cradock, Paskeville, Penneshaw*), together with his military background, there would appear to be little doubt that he honoured Henry Charles Cunliffe-Owen (1821-1867), a Lieut-Colonel in the Royal Engineers who passed out from the Royal Military Academy in 1839, the same year that Governor Jervois went into the Academy at Woolwich. He fought in the Crimean War, lost a leg and was invalided home. (*See Cunliffe*)

Another candidate for its nomenclature was mentioned in 1881 when it was reported that 'His Excellency the Governor [Jervois] kindly promised to telegraph to Sir Philip Cunliffe-Owen, London…'; he was a younger brother of Henry Charles Cunliffe-Owen.

Of interest is the fact that a Brigadier-General Owen was the Commandant of SA defence forces in the 1880s and one of his officers was a Major Jervois (no doubt the son of Gov Jervois).

The **Owen** School opened in 1883.

In 1904, Mr D. Finlayson was the local postmaster and storekeeper, Mr J.H. Lee, blacksmith and coach builder and Mr R. Morecombe, saddler. 'There was a lot of mallee scrub in this district but good results have been obtained from land divested of timber… About 300 vines have been successfully cultivated, mostly table grapes…'

A photograph of the school's picnic committee is in the *Chronicle*, 30 September 1911, page 35, of the town in the *Observer*, 15 February 1908, page 30, 21 November 1908, page 32, 12 December 1908, page 31, of the Methodist Church in the *Chronicle*, 4 July 1908, page 30, of a football team in the *Observer*, 31 August 1912, page 32, 12 September 1925, page 34, of a recruiting train in the *Chronicle*, 8 April 1916, page 25,of the Institute on 11 August 1906, pages 27 and 40a., of a cricket team in *The Critic*, 15 February 1911, page 11.

Owen Island, east of Louth Bay, probably remembers Henry Walker Owen (1836-1898), who arrived in the *Buffalo* and, in 1875, took up pastoral lease no. 2479 over Taylor, Grindall and Williams Islands. Its former name was 'Rabbit Island'.

Rodney Cockburn records **Owen Springs** as being named after William Owen, MP.

Owienda Bore - (*See Awiyandunha*)

Owienagin Gap - Aboriginal for 'rock water lizard place'. (*See Hannigan Gap*)

Photographs of the district are in the *Observer*, 26 February 1921, page 25.

Owienagin Gap in 1908 showing the remains of the hut erected by John McKinlay in the 1850s

Oxford - An 1892 subdivision of part sections 349-350, Hundred of Yatala, by Melbourne and Adelaide Land Ltd; now included in Prospect.

The name comes from England and is derived from either an Anglo-Saxon word meaning 'the ford of the oxen', or a corruption of *ouse-ford* from the ancient *isca* - 'water'.

Oxford Landing, 16 km North-West of Waikerie., is where the steamer *City of Oxford* sank in 1909. The **Oxford Landing** School, opened in 1926, closed in 1939. A photograph of the school's first annual picnic is in the *Chronicle*, 4 October 1924, page 39.

Oyster Bay - (*See Stansbury*)

Ozone Heights - A 1925 subdivision of part section 23, Hundred of Goolwa, by Thomas Alexander Cant. The gas, ozone, is associated with seaside resorts.