The Adelaide Parklands Symposium:  
A balancing act – past – present – future 

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Co-presented by:  
- The Centre for Settlement Studies, Louis Laybourne Smith School of Architecture and Design, UniSA  
- The Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Centre, UniSA  
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PAPER ABSTRACTS

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THE ‘ABORIGINAL LOCATION’ IN THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS (1837-51)

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The ‘Aboriginal Location’ was the earliest ‘allocated space’ for Indigenous people within South Australia. There was not just one Aboriginal Location however, but rather a succession of ‘Locations', all situated within the Adelaide Parklands during the period 1837-51. The best known of these, the Location we know as Piltawodli (1839-1845) was the longest running and the most substantial. Its position on the ground was described by Clamor Schurmann, one of the German missionaries who lived there (Schurmann correspondence 1839), and is the area north of the river where the North Adelaide Par 3 golf course is now situated.

The history of the ‘Location’ is a fascinating one. It is an integral part of the history of the Parklands, and the physical sites, containing as they do the critical issues of contact between Indigenous people and settlers in the emerging settlement of Adelaide, are highly significant spaces. This paper offers an overview of the history and geography of the ‘Aboriginal Location’. It also considers the buildings, how they were built, who built them, and what archaeological traces might remain.
ACTIVITIES IN THE PARK LANDS OVER TIME

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City folks knowing how to enjoy themselves often went to the Adelaide Park Lands for many recreational purposes, organised, active, or passive, as well as for the lesser known illegal activities. The Park Lands being made available for sports events and major celebrations, a fine balance of use was maintained with the creation of more than a dozen formal European-type gardens, the many plantations, including the olive groves, and the grazing of hundreds of cows, sheep and horses until the early 1970s.

Until the mid 1870s, there was much vacant land in the city for sporting events and entertainments such as wrestling, quoits, fetes and even visiting circuses. However, the more open and flatter areas of the Park Lands were ideal for cricket matches, horse racing, military reviews and mock battles, Guy Fawkes Nights, Aboriginal corroborees and even public executions.

Archival records refer to horse racing, cricket matches, pigeon shooting, swimming, fox hunting and even prize fights. Trigger happy shooters took their guns onto the Park Lands, and shot whatever moved, be it bird or wild animal, or just for target practice, and protests followed when people were accidentally shot. However, it was not so much the shooting they objected to but that it took place on Sundays. Objection to some of the activities has a long history until into the present day from a critical public. This includes the Grand Prix or the Three Day Equestrian Event. Even the use of the Park Lands for bowls, croquet, cricket, golf and tennis has had its critics for one reason or another. Lesser known, is that the Park Lands also have a long history of accommodating the homeless, while several miles of piping were installed all around them for use as air raid shelters in the Second World War.

A quieter activity, but just as dangerous for those who couldn't swim, was bathing in the River Torrens in places such as the notorious Death Hole. We know even less about how dangerous the Park Lands could be when used as the city's lovers' lane.

From the early 1970s, with the removal of the remaining grazing animals from all the Park Lands except Park 6, off Lefevre Terrace (where horses still graze), beautiful vistas, gardens, walkways, plantations, wet-lands, bike tracks, picnic areas and even wild natural areas have been created. This talk highlights the many activities that have taken place on the Park Lands since the earliest days of European settlement.
THE INTRINSIC VALUE OF PARKS

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For more than a decade there have been a variety of attempts to identify the benefits of parks and open space. Work undertaken in the US and Canada was taken up in Australia and was complemented by the ‘Health Benefits of Contact with Nature’ research completed in 2002.

This ‘Healthy Parks Healthy People’ initiative, initially commissioned by Parks Victoria, identified the particular importance of nature to human health and well-being. Although the evidence produced by this literature review was not new, for the first time it consolidated international research and presented findings based on the overall ‘weight’ of evidence particularly in regard to cardiovascular disease and mental health. The overall relationship is explained as inherent or innate. The campaign and approach has been embraced by and within Parks Victoria and adopted by other park agencies for their own context. The research has received international acclaim and is now the subject of further research work in UK, Europe and USA as well as spawning projects here in Australia on topics including volunteering, high-rise living and depression.

The social loss attributed to the significant decline in urban parks in the UK was finally recognised by the Blair Government in 2003 when it established CABESpace to champion the revival, to encourage excellence and provide guidance and green space managers. Whilst the lengthy UK history of decline obviously differs from its younger Australian counterpart, there are similarities in regard to perceived importance and lessons to be learned from the recent approaches.

This presentation will review the UK progress, outline the health and other social capital connections, overview current research and implementation initiatives, discuss necessary partnership and political opportunities and considerations as well as offering some challenging suggestions on how open space management should be considered and approached if the social values are to be optimised.
FOUNDATIONS FOR ADELAIDE’S PARK LANDS

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Today, when we ponder Adelaide’s encircling park lands our curiosity is seized by questions of why: why bother when the South Australian enterprise was almost wholly driven by commercial speculation? why include them in an English colonial town plan designed in the 1830s? why do they surround the town?

Answers are found in a jumbled historical record that needs to be untangled, in evidence that documents the struggle of Britain’s impoverished citizens and their concerned, diligent supporters during the century before 1837. They are found in normal human experiences and aspirations that existed while imagining colonial expeditions to southern shores; in negative and positive reactions to profound change wrought by improved agriculture and the unregulated centralization of industry, the consequences of which were shattering British city life and distressing neglected cottagers.

The paper will look at practical and intellectual influences, at Dissenters, voluntaryists, reformers, dissenters, nascent sociologists and environmentalists, socialists, Whigs and Parliament, at those who, in and out of the South Australian Association, were formulating plans for colonial settlement, and at the social, humanitarian and political reasons for founding municipal parks in England. The influences may seem complex until the untangling is justified.
THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS: FRAMING A SETTLEMENT

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The Adelaide parklands are justifiably celebrated as an innovation in nineteenth century town planning design. Much of the recent interest in this design has been directed at determining precisely who designed the city layout and the surrounding parklands. This discussion takes a slightly different tack insofar as the focus is not upon relevant historical actors or written records. Instead, early manuscript and lithographic versions of the Adelaide plan and the modes of representation of the parklands are examined in terms of how they frame the settlement in a number of ways. Comparisons are made with early town plans for Australind, Wellington and Christchurch and it is argued that the parklands act to help sell the concept of Adelaide by creating what appears to be a country estate in public ownership. The “paper parklands,” although in some respects roughly rendered, helped to civilise nature for the prospective settler. They simultaneously disciplined space and removed potential threats while at the same evoking a sense of natural disorder.
SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES: WORKING WITH OUR SEMI-ARID LAND IN CHANGING TIMES

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Semi arid and arid landscapes define our natural heritage here in South Australia, and indeed, many parts of Australia. As Emeritus Professor of Environmental Science, George Seddon, points out, Adelaide at 35’ S is the latitude of Tangier, on the African coast of the Mediterranean, with a similar rainfall and climate. However Adelaide lacks Tangier’s hinterland Atlas Mountains, snow-covered and water-yielding for most of the year. Lush gardens and green lawns do not exist in Tangier.

We have not behaved as though we are living in a semi-arid landscape, nor have we understood its ecological fragility. Since reticulated water became available in the 1870s we have used water lavishly. Australians, per capita, use more water than most of the world’s population.

We still design hungry and thirsty urban landscapes to suit places with plenty of summer water, deep and fertile soils and soft sunshine. Despite current knowledge and repeated calls to action, especially with the spectre of climate change looming large, we do not as yet fully acknowledge our predicament. We still await the paradigm change or cultural shift that results in adapting ourselves to our environment rather than the reverse.

This presentation looks at how the Adelaide Parklands can participate in leading South Australia’s shift towards sustainable attitudes, behaviours and practices. The vision for the parklands is based on an emerging acknowledgment and understanding of our semi-arid, and possibly increasingly arid, landscape. While the issue of water must remain high on the agenda, achieving sustainability in our landscapes is not just about water. It is also about design, plant selection, resource use and habitat value. It considers the ability of the landscape to function and endure without the need for high input of resources such as water, nutrients, chemicals and energy.

In a land that is losing species at an alarming rate but has a policy of No Species Loss, the issue of habitat is vital. In a city that aims to become sustainable but is still removing materials from wild landscapes for urban beautification - again at an alarming rate - awareness of the sustainability of materials and products is also important. In an urban environment where the use of chemicals is higher than in our agricultural areas, although such use is detrimental to water and soil, human health and native fauna, education in alternative methods of pest control is essential. In a land where over 28,000 plants have been introduced from other countries, of which almost 3,000 are sufficiently invasive to have become well established as weeds, we need to seriously address our plant selection criteria.

Clearly there are both opportunities and challenges for the parklands, and among them the issue of community leadership.

The parklands encompass sufficient size, diversity and profile to take the lead in demonstrating, on the ground, ways of treating our semi-arid landscape that are sustainable.
PARKLANDS OF OPPORTUNITY: A POSSIBLE BIODIVERSITY, SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION AND TOURISM FUTURE FOR THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS

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Trees for Life
Themeda Indigenous Revegetators

By happy accident the Adelaide parklands cover almost every major ecological association of the pre-European Adelaide Plains (Kraehenbuehl, 1996, Bagust & Tout-Smith, 2005) except for the coastal associations. In the southern parklands, the Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) woodland formerly known as the ‘Black Forest’ once thrived. The eastern parklands were once a tall woodland of SA Blue Gum (Eucalyptus leucoxylon) and River Red Gum (Eucalyptus camaldulensis). In the west and the north were the southern outliers the mallee woodlands that once covered such a large area of South Australia, while meandering through all of this were the freshwater wetlands not only of the Torrens River valley, but several smaller creeks and floodplains. Interspersed with all were areas of grassland, maintained by lightning, grazing animals and the firesticks of the Kaurna.

It is becoming clear to many that part of a ‘biogeographically sensitive’ solution to unsustainable biodiversity loss and water use (to name just a few issues of current concern) must begin ‘at home’ - in the very suburbs where ecologies are dominated by market choice, not ‘natural processes’. If the collective will exists, then land exists in the parklands to ‘reconstruct’ living examples of these now locally extinct associations, each in their own appropriate biogeographic location. Only a fraction of the existing parklands would be required to realise such a project.

While past planting efforts in the parklands have often been well-intentioned, they have also been sporadic and lacking co-ordinated vision. Areas restored as proposed could form nuclei around which at least a percentage of our lost biodiversity could return, and if each were equipped with an education/interpretation centre they could play a huge role in the ‘bioregional re-enchantment’ of our urban population with the ‘bush that was once Adelaide’ (Bushman, 1986). Not only could these centres be focal points for school education and university research in habitat restoration, but nodes for the sale of indigenous plants, bush foods and even native animals for low impact urban gardens and wetlands. The information centres, each ‘branded’ by the aesthetics unique to each environment could be the focus for a ‘back-engineering’ of more sustainable systems (such as solar and water use solutions) into our urban fabric. They could even be tourist attractions - all within a 10 minute drive of the CBD and of each other.

The author is currently involved with several small scale projects along these lines with primary schools not far from the CBD. The enthusiasm with which local communities, once they are made aware of the beauty and diversity of ‘natural Adelaide’, are enthused by this vision is very encouraging. This model is one that doesn’t involve draconian legislation, but rather one which fits in with our expectations of individual sovereignty and freedom to choose. In short, such centres could not only produce bioregional and sustainability outcomes, they could be popular, even ‘cool’, as well.
A SPECULATION: THE ADEALIDE PLAN AND THE SPANISH LAWS OF THE INDIES

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The parklands are a distinctive component of the 1836 Adelaide Plan. They do not stand-alone but are integral to it and must be considered within its context. Signed off by Surveyor General William Light, the Plan expresses the essence of colonial town planning in the new worlds.

Its antecedents in the English-speaking world from the ‘Grand Modell’ of 1670 through theorists such as T.J. Maslen and Granville Sharp have been well researched and the paper does not traverse this ground again. Rather, it considers another tradition with which the plan is congruent; the instructions of Phillip the Second of Spain in the ‘Laws of the Indies’ for new settlements in his vast empire. The pertinent instructions are matched with the Adelaide Plan, suggesting its even greater international scope than heretofore thought as it draws together the two great new world planning design traditions.

Light’s papers were destroyed by fire in 1839 so we do not know what patterns may have influenced him. In any event, designers are not known for recording themes and influences. Their drives are to get the products out. Nonetheless, his life was intertwined with things Hispanic. He was a captain in the Peninsular campaign and when he retuned to Spain in 1823 to fight as a Colonel in the Constitutional cause, he said ‘I love the country and am ready to sacrifice everything, my life to save it’.
CONTRIBUTION OF THE PLAN OF ADELAIDE TO MODERN TOWN PLANNING THEORY

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This paper reports an exploratory investigation in urban planning history. It examines the importance of the Plan of Adelaide with its multiple urban centres and enveloping parkland as an exemplar for new approaches to planning for urban extension that arose from the late nineteenth century. The significance of the Adelaide Plan rests on various environmental, cultural and economic factors solidified over the entire urban development of the city. One aspect of this significance in modern planning terms is its appropriation by Ebenezer Howard to illustrate ‘the correct principle of a city’s growth’. Based on ideas of cellular and constrained expansion, Howard’s garden city movement had an international impact. Yet surprisingly little is known about how Howard discovered the Adelaide Plan and came to incorporate it in the revised version of his garden city manifesto, Garden Cities of Tomorrow (1902). Nor has there been an investigation of the extent to which the Adelaide Plan was adopted as a physical model for planned growth by Howard’s contemporaries in the planning and garden city movements. The immediate influence of this somewhat abstract reading of Adelaide’s urban morphology on subsequent city plans also has not been systematically traced. This paper attempts to address these three gaps in knowledge. It draws mainly upon a review of early 20th century planning texts, as well as later research on town planning theory and city design. Detailed documentation of Howard’s research proves to be scant. The influence of his interpretation of the Plan of Adelaide as a growth management tool is better documented in the early planning literature, although the dominant discourse was its amenity appeal as a city of parklands. Certainly in Adelaide itself this proved to be the case. The outcome is that the Howardian conceptualization of Adelaide proved less enduring than its traditional ‘garden city’ charms. Nevertheless, the fragments reported in this paper are sufficient to strengthen the case for the heritage significance of the Adelaide plan as a critical bridge via Howard between colonial town morphology and modern ideas of polycentered town expansion.
ASCRIBING CHANGING VALUES TO SUBURBAN GREENSPACES: THE INCEPTION OF WELLINGTON’S GREEN BELT

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Although the history of Wellington’s town belt, first designated in 1839, has been well documented, little published work exists on the other parklands in Wellington’s urban fringe. A historical study of the changing values ascribed to regional greenspaces may provide planners with a context in which to guide the debates surrounding the management of these areas. The objective of this paper is to compare the values that are ascribed to Wellington’s present-day outer green belt with those of its establishment between 1945 and 1955.

In the following research I begin with a brief examination of the values associated with Wellington’s present outlying greenspaces as expressed by Wellington’s Outer Green Belt Management plan 2004. I then set the historical context in which this green belt scheme was first attempted by reviewing regional planning in New Zealand between 1926 and 1953. Providing these difficult circumstances as a context for the implementation of the green belt, I examine how planners argued for its necessity. I focus in particular on the opportunistic changes that planners made to the scheme’s function and argue that this was to gain the attention of central government authorities. Despite planners’ attempts the legislation to provide a green belt was not adopted by central government. Nonetheless I conclude with a brief discussion on the lessons that can be learnt from Wellington’s experience.
RECOGNITION OF KAURNA CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE ADELAIDE PARKLANDS: A LINGUIST’S AND KAURNA ACADEMIC’S PERSPECTIVE.
PROGRESS TO DATE AND FUTURE INITIATIVES

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Linguistics, University of Adelaide;
Kaurna Warra Pintyandi (convener)

Lester-Irabinna Rigney
Narungga, Kaurna and Ngarrindjeri Nations;
Yunggorendi, Flinders University

Prior to 1989, it seems that the cultural significance of the Adelaide Parklands to the Kaurna people had slipped out of public consciousness entirely. During the 1990s a number of researchers investigated the Indigenous history of the Parklands. Since the end of the 1990s this history has been made public through signage, reconciliation events, excursions, public art and publications. All 30 parks (as well as Tarndanyangga – Victoria Square and Karrawirra Parri – Torrens River), now bear Kaurna names, and a series of major and minor art installations along North Terrace and in recognition of the Piltawodli site are now in place. However more remains to be done. Tinninyawodli, site of the hangings of two Indigenous men in 1839 and site of the Colonial Store, is entirely without recognition. The name could not be used in the naming of parks, because the site is part of the very large Piltawodli park (Park 01). Most of the names of children who attended the Piltawodli school and adults who lived at Piltawodli have not yet gained any public recognition.

This paper will address efforts by Kaurna people to assert their rights for recognition of their land, language, history and culture. The historical significance of the Adelaide Parklands to the Kaurna people plays a central role in this. We will put forward a position endorsed by the Kaurna Warra Pintyandi (KWP) group for future initiatives to redress the continuing lack of acknowledgement and knowledge of the Kaurna people’s historical links with the Parklands.


4 Kaurna Warra Pintyandi (KWP) is a group of Kaurna language enthusiasts (Kaurna Elders, teachers and linguists) who meet regularly to address requests for Kaurna names, translations and information about the Kaurna language and to work on projects to develop and promote the language. See http://www.adelaide.edu.au/kwp/.
HISTORY AND MYTH: THE ORIGIN OF COLONEL WILLIAM LIGHT’S 'PARK GROUNDS' AND THEIR UNIVERSAL VALUE

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The survival to this day of thousands of acres of freely accessible open space in the City of Adelaide is a remarkable testimony to the philosophical ideals exemplified in the founding of South Australia as a radical utopia. As the most immediate and complete expression of the aims of the Philosophic Radicals, South Australia represents a remarkable synthesis of 19th century advances in political economy, philosophy, science, and religion. The parkland-encircled City of Adelaide provides a Benthamite exemplar for 'Garden City' town planning, the most sublime realisation of John Arthur Roebuck’s campaign for a public trust of land for the health and recreation of the inhabitants of towns.

In comparison to other mechanisms for securing Parks for the health and recreation of the inhabitants of towns, the South Australian Commissioners’ establishment of an Adelaide Park Lands trust has proven to be remarkably resilient, inspired and sustained generations of parklands’ protectors, and given rise to the view that World Heritage listing is warranted. However, the confusion regarding the origins of Adelaide’s Park Lands looms as a major impediment to be overcome if South Australia is to understand the true value of Colonel William Light’s Plan of the City of Adelaide with its remarkable system of green and open spaces, and thereby secure the recognition of World Heritage listing.

To separate fact from fiction, this paper details the antecedents and the history of the Adelaide Park Lands from 1603. The original form, design and purpose of the Park Lands is discussed with a view to identifying the outstanding universal values of the site. Although there have been many specifications for reservation of land around cities in human history, the creation of the Adelaide Park by Colonel William Light, first Surveyor-General of the new British Province of South Australia, in 1837, on entirely new principles, sets Adelaide’s Park Lands apart. Comparison with other cities, parks, and World Heritage sites demonstrates that Adelaide’s Park Lands are the first and best example of their type in the world.
UNCOVERING HERITAGE MERIT AND SIGNIFICANCE: ASSESSING THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OF THE ADELAIDE PARK LANDS

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This paper summarises the approach and methodology applied in the *Adelaide Park Lands & Squares Cultural Landscape Assessment Study* that has been undertaken for the City of Adelaide Council (ACC) as part of its Community Land Management planning process. The project was initiated in the belief that the *Park Lands Management Strategy Report: Directions for Adelaide’s Park Lands 2000-2037* by Hassell, and accompanying *Cultural Significance of the Adelaide Park lands: A Preliminary Assessment* by Donovan & Associates, provided a solid foundation in articulating a framework and statement to manage and appreciate the cultural heritage assets and components of the Park Lands and Squares. However, these studies failed to go further than this overview and lacked the depth and detail for the Council to be able to make informed decisions about micro-level components in each Park Land block, such as an individual tree or sign or fence. This dilemma was clearly evident when the Council commenced its Community Land Management Planning (CLMP) process.

As a consequence, the ACC commissioned a cultural landscape assessment of each Park Land block, and thereupon, to ensure methodological consistency, an assessment of each Square including the North Terrace Promenade. This project necessitated a previously never attempted block-by-block examination and assessment of cultural heritage resulting in a detailed, illustrated, and comprehensive examination that for the first time clarifies the patterns and actions of past management activities in the Park Lands. The methodology sought to trace the cultural evolution of the development and use of each block and thereupon identify and quantify heritage components including geographical features, views, architecture, furniture, trees and vegetation, fencing and infrastructure, and relevant archaeological information. As the quality and rigour standard set by the *Assessment Study* unfolded, the ACC commissioned an extension of the *Assessment Study* to include the six squares together with the North Terrace Promenade. The latter was included because it is formally part of the original Park Lands but also because there was no cultural heritage assessment of the Promenade undertaken prior to or part of the recent *North Terrace Urban Design Study* by Taylor Cullity Lethlean (TCL) and the recent construction works.

This paper reviews the approach, detail and methodology applied and summarises the key findings and recommendations from the *Assessment Study*. It does not report in detail about the actual analysis approach or the individual components or the majority of recommendations given the time available here.

Any recommendations reported herein are the authors and do not represent the opinions of the City of Adelaide Council.

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The future of the Adelaide Parklands is dependent on the future of Adelaide itself, and that depends on water availability. If that declines substantially and dramatically, as it well may, neither the Parklands nor Adelaide may have a long-term future; in fifty years time, they may follow Hawker and Quorn into oblivion.

Yet a city could survive on the Adelaide Plains on a much reduced water budget, and the Parklands could play a key role in showing how to do it, although the ‘Parklands’ land will no longer be park, but intensively used urban open space, while greater Adelaide would become ‘lesser’ Adelaide, much more compact. The parklands will not, indeed cannot longer, be open ‘green space’, but they could be like the squares of Rome, and heavily used by a people who are no longer suburban, but truly urban. Think Piazza Navona. The surrounding suburbs will also be compact and dense, like Rome itself, although Rome is the latitude of Hobart. Adelaide should be thinking Tel Aviv, Gaza, Tangier—its latitudinal, climatic and natural resource equivalents. It is nothing like the English midlands from which most of its early settlers came, bringing with them values and deeply entrenched concepts. It is not even like the ‘Mediterranean’ of popular imagination—the French and Italian Riviera, or Barcelona, Ibiza, Mallorca. If it is seen as Mediterranean, then we are talking about the North African coast of that sea.

All of this highlights the future value of the ‘Parklands’ land to the smaller, compact, high-density city that, in my view, is Adelaide’s best hope of survival. Other speakers will address a range of practical measures for the ‘Parklands’ including water re-use, more efficient delivery systems and more appropriate plant choices, but we also need to attack a deep-seated problem with Adelaide’s self-image, that of a city founded by Dissenters from middle England, thus generating a long-lived conflict between cultural preference and physical location. Much of it is absurdly low-density, and with increases in fuel costs and all the distribution costs of all urban services, gas, electricity, sewerage and drainage as well as water, it should be aiming to concentrate the city within the ca 1950 boundaries, at much higher density. Double the rates for those who choose to remain without the pale. Don’t think humid English midlands: think Tel Aviv or semi-arid Tangier. Use the ‘Parklands’ open spaces as ways of demonstrating their value in a seriously urban context.
THE PAST AND PRESENT AS ESSENTIAL EXEMPLARS FOR THE FUTURE

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This paper adopts a future focus on the Adelaide Parklands utilising reference points from the past and the present as underlying starting points for proposals concerning the direction and purpose of future developments in the Parklands.

Development is taken to be any future changes that may be set in place, temporarily or permanently to serve the needs of the community for green space and open space based communal activities of a cultural, environmental or recreational nature.

Site information referred to in this paper is taken from the website of the Adelaide City Council.¹

Reference is made in the text to key identities, and concepts associated with them (italicised), in the development of thought concerning major aspects of the built environment – as architecture and landscape. The linkages thus created acknowledge 20th C Modernist and Environmentalist schools of thought with reference to the pivotal ideas without detailed evaluation; taking instead the ideas as jumping off points for future change. Historicism and Retrospective Romanticism are taken as given agents in the mix that cannot be ignored but are recognised also as change blockers that offer support to reactionary resistance to change that has in turn ossified and stultified the Adelaide Parklands as a valued community resource essential to the daily lives of the diverse range of groups that comprise contemporary Adelaide society.

To get over the obstacles to discussion caused by ossified thinking, diminished collective memory and self-interested groups the paper has been modelled, with appropriate adaptations, on the up-front format utilised by James Steele² to engage in a more lively discussion with audiences of readers and listeners.

Such hurdling of the fence to avoid the restricted foci imposed by self-sustaining collectives enables a degree of intuition to be expressed and explored; a necessary intellectual leap for some unaligned ideas to be posited.

The ideas presented are offered as ideas for substantive real change; they are not to be taken simply as an academic exercise but as potent opportunities advancing a futures vision of the Parklands that will ensure their existence through the agencies of revitalised community engagement, active participation, use and occupation of the space by a broad cross section of individuals and groups contained within the community of greater Adelaide.

¹ www.adelaidecitycouncil.com/council/environment/community_land_mgt.asp