

ADELAIDE AND ITS RURAL SETTLEMENT LANDSCAPES WORLD HERITAGE TENTATIVE LIST SUBMISSION – FIRST WORKING DRAFT

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for the
City of Adelaide and a Consortium of Rural Councils

2022

THE
DISTRICT OF
ADELAIDE,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA;

As divided into Country Sections.

from the Trigonometrical Surveys of

Colonel Light
late Sur. Genl.

John Arrowsmith
10 Soho Square,
1839.

* Below this mark the rivers were in flow during the dry season.
© Stations of the Trigonometrical Survey.
The large sections contain 64 Acres each.
The small 16 32 64 128 256 512

Scale of Miles.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The City of Adelaide and a consortium of rural Councils are engaged on a project to explore and develop a World Heritage nomination for parts of South Australia which reflect the early European settlement story of the state. Following considerable research about the Mount Lofty Ranges, several expert reviews were undertaken to consider the World Heritage potential, initially of the rural landscapes and later of the city of Adelaide itself, potentially in conjunction with the rural landscapes.

These expert reviews in 2019 and 2020 did find World Heritage potential.

As part of a project to make progress towards a World Heritage nomination, the Councils commissioned this report to provide a first working draft of the Tentative List submission for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes. Such a submission is a formal pre-condition under the *World Heritage Convention* before a nomination can be submitted.

This draft submission requires further development and consultations before it is ready for lodgement, which must be undertaken by and with the agreement of the Commonwealth. The tasks are outlined in the *Adelaide and Rural Settlement Landscapes World Heritage Report* (Marshall 2021).

Of particular note, this draft should be developed with the input, advice and agreement of the Aboriginal community whose lands are potentially associated with a future nomination.

The consultants who prepared this report are Duncan Marshall AM and Dr Jane Lennon AM.

2. TENTATIVE LIST SUBMISSION – FIRST WORKING DRAFT

In the following text there are a number of notes related to the further development of the submission, indicated by the use of square brackets.



STATE PARTY: Australia

DATE OF SUBMISSION: [To be completed]

Submission prepared by: [To be completed]

Name:

Address:

Institution:

E-mail:

Fax:

Telephone:

Name of Property: Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes [Provisional name to be confirmed]

State, Province or Region: South Australia

Latitude and Longitude, or UTM coordinates: 34° 55' 43.06" South, 138° 36' 0.16" East

DESCRIPTION:

History

[The following text relating to the history of Aboriginal people should be subject to review, input, advice and agreement of the Aboriginal community associated with the land which might be included in any future nomination.]

The lands of what became South Australia were settled first by Aboriginal people from around 49,000 years BP. These people lived, camped, hunted, fished and practised agriculture and land management in this landscape which was modified by these practices. The landscape was also intimately connected to the cultural life of the Aboriginal people. This complex settlement continued up to and through the 19th century CE and the period of European colonisation.

Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes are connected to the long history of major European migrations from about 1500 CE to 1914 CE. These migrations followed the Age of Discovery when European sea-faring nations explored distant regions and “discovered” and claimed “new” lands. Of course, in the case of South Australia, these lands were well-known to Aboriginal people for millennia. The substantial free and unfree European

migrations led to colonisation and settlement, and the scale of migrations accelerated in the early modern period. These forces dramatically re-shaped the world and are major themes of global history which had both negative and positive consequences.

The British colonisation of South Australia that started in 1836 was part of the European great migrations, and is associated with the theme of free migration. In particular, this colonisation was quite distinctive as an outstanding example of systemic colonisation, influenced by the ideas of Edward Wakefield and a group of English reformers, the Philosophical Radicals. . Numerous aspects of the colonial settlement were planned and organised, including the selection of colonists and funding for the enterprise. The physical form of the urban and rural settlement was also carefully planned, building on the history of British colonial planning.

The colonisation was also founded with principles intended to be respectful to the original inhabitants of the land, the Aboriginal people. However, in practice these principles rapidly failed and led to large-scale dispossession, deaths, disease, some loss of culture and many other terrible outcomes.

The European colony was developed over time and grew, building on the pre-existing Aboriginal landscape. This included the capital, Adelaide, and the surrounding rural agricultural areas. There were periods of growth and good seasons, along with periods of economic difficulties, and the colony also gradually developed representative government, self-government, and ultimately it joined the federation of other colonies to form the Commonwealth of Australia.

The property, including the early Adelaide plan, is of potential Outstanding Universal Value as exceptional evidence of the Wakefield systematic colonisation model, an important and influential model in the history of European free migration and colonial settlement. It is the most complete realisation of British colonial settlement planning in the world, and/or a major achievement of such colonial planning.

Aboriginal people and their culture have survived in Adelaide and the surrounding rural areas despite the major and negative impacts of colonisation. There are determined efforts to revive and reinforce culture and its passage to younger generations. In addition, small gestures of recognition have been achieved in more recent times, such as through native title determinations and the use of Aboriginal place names.

Description

Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes is a serial property focused on concentrated and contained settlement in the city of Adelaide and the associated surviving rural landscapes. The city and early European settlement was focused on the coastal plain between St Vincent Gulf and the Mount Lofty Ranges. In a short time, settlement extended into the well-watered ranges.

The pre-existing Aboriginal landscape is still evident through a range of features including the siting of the city of Adelaide, as well as transport routes through the landscape. There are also surviving reserves reflecting the early but practically limited recognition of Aboriginal ownership of country.

The city comprises the extant 1837 formal town plan with its wide streets laid out in geometric, grid-iron form, public squares, and a physical distinction between town and

country by an encircling green belt of park lands. The plan also has features reflecting a design response to topography and natural qualities. The city also includes a number of colonial buildings and their grounds, some within the park lands, others arranged within the town plan.

The rural landscapes extended to the north and south of the city, and into the adjacent hills to the east. However, suburban development around the city has eroded the original and closer landscapes, and now the surviving rural landscapes are more remote from the city. These landscapes include a framework of Preliminary Districts and Special Surveys with surveyed towns and villages and 80 acre farm units (sections), including those with surviving original farmhouses, rural buildings and agricultural uses. There are also examples of adaptation of the land settlement by different cultural groups (eg. Hufendorfer settlements of German immigrants).

Throughout the property there is a diversity of places of religious worship and other cultural places reflecting religious/cultural freedom (eg. related to German, Austrian and Polish Lutherans, Jesuits and Catholic migrants).

Justification of Outstanding Universal Value:

Criterion (ii) exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design

Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes is the outstanding example of the 19th century Wakefield systematic colonisation model for the creation of a viable settler community based on free migration and a progressive society. Within the context of the major European migrations from about 1500 CE to 1914 CE, it was a radical and influential departure from the prevailing Atlantic and forced migrations, and was the first example of systematic colonisation.

The property was the powerful model for the development of new colonial societies in several other countries from the 19th century. Based on an ideal model developed in the United Kingdom, the rural landscapes also demonstrate the vital adaptation of the model to the pre-existing Aboriginal landscape, and the real and local conditions of the recipient colony, including significant adaptation by immigrants of different cultural groups within the overall settlement enterprise.

As the planned capital of the colonial society, expressing a key aspect of Systematic Colonisation, the Adelaide plan of 1837 reflects an important interchange given the influence of British colonial town planning in this period of major European colonisation. British colonial activities were a major global theme in the period from the late sixteenth century through to the mid twentieth century, and variously encompassed substantial territory in North America, Africa, India and Australia. Town planning was a key part of this colonisation and settlement, and model town plans evolved and guided British settlers. Adelaide's plan was strongly influenced by the evolved model, and it is the most complete realisation of the colonial town planning model.

In addition, the Adelaide plan was to influence the development of hundreds of smaller towns in South Australia, as well as colonial towns in New Zealand.

The Adelaide plan is also of significance in the history of town planning because of its influence on the founding ideas of the Garden City movement.

Criterion (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history

Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes is the outstanding example of the implementation of the 19th century Wakefield systematic colonisation model, which in part took advantage of the pre-existing Aboriginal managed landscape. Key features of the model included land sales synchronised to subsidise immigration of free settlers/labour for the colony, the recruitment of younger families as ideal settlers, concentrated settlement, 80 acre farm units (sections), and broader utopian principles such as religious freedom.

This model is reflected in the city and rural landscapes and marks an important change in the period of major European migrations and associated colonisation towards a progressive society and free migration to the far-distant lands of Australia. The property is the original and most enduring expression of systematic colonisation.

The Adelaide plan as part of systematic colonisation is also the outstanding example of the British colonial town planning model developed during the period of European colonialism. This was a major historical period which grew out of the Age of Discovery and saw European powers establish colonial settlements throughout many parts of the world. This period re-shaped world history and its consequences are still substantial and evident.

British colonialism was a very substantial part of this history from the late sixteenth century. Town planning was part of this colonisation and settlement, and model town plans evolved and guided British settlers. Adelaide's plan was strongly influenced by the evolved model, and it is the most complete realisation and a grand example of the colonial town planning model. It includes key features such as concentrated settlement, land rights allocated in a combination of town and country lots, the town planned and laid out in advance of settlement, wide streets laid out in geometric, grid-iron form, a settlement area of about one square mile, public squares, standard-sized rectangular plots, spacious in comparison with those in British towns of the time, some plots reserved for public purposes (including major public buildings reinforcing the plan), and a physical distinction between town and country by an encircling green belt of park lands.

Another important feature of the Adelaide plan is its distinctive response to the topography and natural qualities of its location, reflecting early environmental planning.

Criterion (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria)

Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes is the supreme realisation of the transformational shift in European colonisation in the period from about 1500 CE to 1914 CE. The unprecedented colonisation strategy was based on a progressive political/economic model which evolved from the Enlightenment and championed free settlement and the abolition of slavery, assisted free migration, free markets, gender equality, the secret ballot, religious tolerance and Indigenous rights, in order to create a secular, self-

governing, democratic and modern society. However, in practice these utopian ideals were in some cases not fully realised, and some proved a failure, especially in the case of Aboriginal peoples.

The property and its associated ideas were highly influential in the creation of other new colonial societies in the period, and these ideas have become central to the concept of modern democratic societies.

The Adelaide plan is directly and tangibly associated with ideas arising from the Philosophical Radicals in Britain during the nineteenth century. With links to the Enlightenment which preceded it, the Philosophical Radicals advanced Jeremy Bentham's utilitarian philosophy which defined the maximisation of happiness as the moral standard for action. The Philosophical Radicals and their ideas were a prominent in Britain and also influential in other parts of the world.

The social and economic planning for the new colony in South Australia which derived from the Philosophical Radicals was coupled with rural as well as urban planning, and a range of features in the Adelaide plan are the tangible expression of their ideas, in particular the provision of open spaces/squares and parklands.

Criteria met:

(i)	(ii) ✓	(iii)	(iv) ✓	(v)	(vi) ✓	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)	(x)
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Statements of authenticity and/or integrity:

Statement of Authenticity

The property is the truthful and credible evidence of the Wakefield systematic colonisation model and British colonial settlement planning related to its form and design, material and substance, use and function, and location and setting.

Statement of Integrity

While the boundaries of the property are yet to be decided, the property has the potential to contain all of the surviving attributes necessary to express its value and be of sufficient size.

The property has been and is still subject to development pressures, including the possibility of additional structures in the Adelaide park lands, and potential encroachment or inappropriate development in the rural landscapes. Climate change may also be a pressure, especially on the rural areas and traditional agricultural activities.

Comparison with other similar properties:

There are several contexts considered for the comparative analysis:

- systematic colonisation, especially those related to the Wakefield Model;
- European colonial planned towns, in particular those derived from Britain;
- European free migration following the Age of Discovery; and
- post-Enlightenment attempts to create a model society.

In the case of Wakefield systematic colonisation, examples have been considered from Australia (two properties – Australind (1840) and Darwin (1863)) and New Zealand (15 properties – Wellington (1840), Wanganui (1840), New Plymouth/Taranaki (1841), Nelson (1841), Port Chalmers (1846), Otago (1848), Dunedin (1848), Christchurch (1850), Canterbury (1850), Invercargill (1853), Alexandra (1860s), Clyde (1860s), Cromwell (1860s), Gore (1862) and Hamilton (1863)).

The New Zealand examples arose from the efforts of the New Zealand Company which had a chequered history of systematic colonisation. Of these, Canterbury appears to provide the best evidence of systematic colonisation, although the originally planned eight settlements is now only two, and the detailed settlement plans no longer remain even if the regional planning is still recognisable. Many other examples generally resulted only in town plans without the rural landscapes. In summary, either the original Wakefieldian rural settlement proposals in New Zealand no longer remain physically intact or were never actually developed.

The Wakefield model was also influential in various ways in a range of other countries (Brazil, Canada, France, Jamaica, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the USA). However, it is not clear if there was any associated physical expression in the landscape, similar or otherwise to systematic colonisation in South Australia.

With regard to colonial town planning, other key examples appear to include Savannah, Philadelphia and Charleston in the USA, and new towns in Upper Canada. Of particular note is the case of Lunenburg in Canada which is on the World Heritage List. This town appears to have very close similarities to the values and attributes of Adelaide, it is much earlier and the built form appears to be more intact. However, the property does not include the associated rural landscape.

Examples of European free migration have been considered from a range of countries (Argentina and Brazil, Bolivia, Canada, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Malaysia, Paraguay and the USA). In a number of cases these examples reflect a version of systematic colonisation, such as the Jesuit Missions of the Chiquitos (Bolivia). In this case, the theoretical basis for the colonisation seems to display significant differences to the South Australian example, such as the evangelising objective. This property is also comprised of buildings and architectural ensembles, it does not have a landscape dimension or embrace rural enterprise. The other examples also display substantial differences with the South Australian example.

Properties reflecting post-Enlightenment attempts to create a model society have been considered from Germany, Netherlands and Belgium and the United Kingdom (Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz (18th century), Colonies of Benevolence (1818), New Lanark (1786), Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (1767-1850), Saltaire (1853) and Port Sunlight (1888)). However, in all cases these examples do not relate to migration, and many are not related to rural enterprise.

In summary:

- Adelaide and its rural settlement landscapes is outstanding evidence of the nineteenth century Wakefield systematic colonisation model, combining a planned approach to colonisation in both the urban and rural areas;
- Adelaide is the most complete realization/a grand example/a major achievement of the colonial town planning model. With parklands framing and encasing urban spaces, the city layout is designed to take full advantage of the topography, an

important innovation for the time. Adelaide has all the essential elements of the 'grand model', distinguished by encircling parklands and internal public squares, preserved largely intact;

- most of the Adelaide plan's elements were not novel but their arrangement on the ground was an inspired response to site and opportunity, and represented the culmination of the whole colonial planning movement of the time;
- with a grid street pattern, systemic provision of town squares, and defining parkland, Adelaide combined numerous physical planning ideas and innovations of the colonial era; and
- Adelaide was itself to be a prototype for the development of other 'parkland towns' in Australia and New Zealand.

APPENDIX A: TENTATIVE LIST FORMAT



TENTATIVE LIST SUBMISSION FORMAT

STATE PARTY:**Submission prepared by:**

Name:

Address:

Institution:

DATE OF SUBMISSION:

E-mail:

Fax:

Telephone:

Name of Property:**State, Province or Region:****Latitude and Longitude, or UTM coordinates:****DESCRIPTION:****Justification of Outstanding Universal Value:**

(Preliminary identification of the values of the property which merit inscription on the World Heritage List)

Criteria met [see Paragraph 77 of the Operational Guidelines]:

(Please tick the box corresponding to the proposed criteria and justify the use of each below)

(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)	(vi)	(vii)	(viii)	(ix)	(x)
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Statements of authenticity and/or integrity [see Paragraphs 78-95 of the *Operational Guidelines*]:**Comparison with other similar properties:**

(The comparison should outline similarities with other properties on the World Heritage List or not, and the reasons that make the property stand out)

- The Tentative List submission format is available from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and at the following Web address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists>
- Further guidance on the preparation of Tentative Lists can be found in Paragraphs 62-67 of the Operational Guidelines.
- An example of a completed Tentative List submission format can be found at the following Web address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists>
- All Tentative Lists submitted by States Parties are available at the following Web address: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists>
- The original signed version of the completed Tentative List submission format should be sent in English or French to: UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

- States Parties are encouraged to also submit this information in electronic format (diskette or CD-Rom) or by e-mail to wh-tentativelists@unesco.org