

The Gardens of *Anlaby* - a Utopian Dream

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Anlaby Station is the oldest sheep stud in South Australia (SA) dating back to 1839. The gardens have been noted as significant exemplars, Beames & Whitehill (1992), Swinbourne (1982), and in *Pastoral Homes of Australia* (1911) published by *The Pastoral Review*, wherein *Anlaby* was described as “being of no particular beauty architecturally . But the gardens are unique.” The *Anlaby* property is on the SA State Heritage Register and the *Anlaby Gardens* are listed in the *Oxford Companion to Australian Gardens* (2002). The beginnings of *Anlaby* in 1839 are integral to the colonial expansion of the interior of South Australia. *Anlaby* at this time was a completely self-contained community within a sheep station containing a survival garden, much like a self-contained English manor-village. The process of land sales offered by the SA government enabled *Anlaby* to expand, wherein wealth flowed and gradually the survival garden style at *Anlaby* was transformed into an extensive decorative garden style. This enabled the garden to act as a backdrop for major South Australian society and public gatherings. The driving force behind the garden during its height was the fashionable plant trends in the United Kingdom. This is evidenced by the inclusion of an extensive stove house, grotto, roses and the Gardenesque style of plantings. Traditional English head gardeners were also employed to manage the garden. The realisation of the beauty of native plants was never allowed in the inner world of this landscape; it always remained on the perimeter. The owner’s vision of the garden was Utopian, however, due to climatic forces, the dream was not fully realised. The challenge now lies in preserving this Utopian dream for future generations. This paper considers the historical evolution of the property, its context as a historical exemplar and the challenges facing its future conservation having regard to Adelaide peri-urban, climate change, and differing owner economic circumstances.

Keywords: experimental landscapes; environment theory; local trends; social history; Anlaby

Introduction

The State of South Australia (SA) is unique in as much as it was a planned settlement; a society created by the expansion of colonisation closely calibrated to land sales. The colony was founded in a period where the industrial revolution was gaining momentum in the Western world. The proceeds raised from land sales funded bona fide settlers to South Australia and also provided capital and labour.

The Dutton family, who established *Anlaby Station*, formed a key part of this colonial expansion into South Australia's then frontier country. *Anlaby Station*¹ is South Australia's oldest sheep stud. The property dates back to 1839 and at that time was a completely self-contained community within a sheep station containing a survival garden, much like a self-contained English manor-village. The inland explorer Charles Sturt and his party stayed at *Anlaby* in 1845, whereby the *Station* acted as a resting point for the explorer and his party, thus assisting the exploration process into Australia's inland. The government of the day consulted Sturt for his opinions on the suitability of land for settlement farther north in South Australia. Sturt is connected with the discovery of the Darling and Murray Rivers.

Explorer Edward John Eyre also stayed on *Anlaby* for about a year and explorer John McKinlay stayed in 1861 on his "Burke Relief Expedition" in the quest to find the ill-fated Burke and Wills party at Coopers Creek.

Such was the hospitality extended by the manager of the *Anlaby* run Mr Alexander Buchanan to McKinlay and his party at that time, it prompted McKinlay to name a lake and hill in honour of Mr Buchanan and Anlaby. This is confirmed in John Davis' *1861 – 1862: Tracks of Mc Kinlay and Party Across Australia* (1863:99):

Mr. McKinlay has called this Lake Cudgeecudgeena, 'Lake Buchanan,' after Mr. Buchanan, of Anlaby, the gentleman who showed us such kindness on the way out and a small hill, on the south-west side of it, he has named "Anlaby," after Mr. Buchanan's station.

Physical setting and the climate and rainfall

Anlaby is located 16 kilometres from Kapunda, which is just north of the Barossa Valley and 83 kilometres north east of Adelaide.

The landforms surrounding *Anlaby* have been described as the Central Hill Country in Michael Williams' classic text entitled *The Making of the South Australian Landscape* (1974: 7):

"Beyond the Barossa Valley is the Central Hill Country where the general highland relief diminishes and is replaced by a series of longitudinal ridges which separate wide alluvial plains and rolling hills. North of this zone and extending into the arid interior is the high ground and

truly mountainous relief of the Flinders Ranges, which have an abrupt western scarp but a broken eastern margin of isolated hills, basins and plains."

The country was appealing for sheep grazing with good pasture and the availability of water. Further confirmation of the optimism surrounding the observations concerning suitability of the country in South Australia for grazing was stated in *South Australia, in 1842. By one who lived there nearly four years. Illustrated by drawings* (1843: 13) *"The pastures are almost illimitable, and highly nutritious."*

The newly arrived colonists had very little knowledge of what the climate was like. The only guide they had was information which was supplied from the South Australian Company, which claimed what the weather would be like and such was the optimism concerning rainfall. An example of this advice is contained in *South Australia, in 1842* (1843: 16) whereby:

"No statements have obtained more general circulation and belief, than that South Australia was subject to severe and long continued droughts; and was, generally speaking almost destitute of water – the deficiency of water in the town of Adelaide, in particular, was represented as being frequently extreme. THIS IS FALSE. The fact is, that Adelaide is abundantly supplied with wholesome water... Thus on average of these two years, there were ninety-eight days per annum on which rain fell, being at the rate of nearly two days in each week, and twenty-two inches average quantity during a year. Throughout the whole of that period, there was not one calendar month, without rain. Can anything more favourable, be desired?"

It is recognised that Wyatt (Protector of the Aborigines in 1837) and Kingston (Deputy Government Surveyor) kept records of climate observations and periodically weather information appeared in *The Register* newspaper. There was a run of relatively mild years over the first twenty years of settlement, with a drought in 1856 and spikes in temperature over several years to 47.6°, in 1858. The colonists were becoming aware that the run of relatively consistent years may have not been an accurate average to base further assumptions on the overall weather patterns in South Australia.

The beginnings of meteorological reporting were established with the government appointment of Charles Todd in 1855 and scientific meteorological records and observations began in 1860. The weather stations around the colony were closely linked to the telegraph offices.

In the years 1864 – 1865 there was a very bad drought in South Australia which caused alarm within government circles. The government of the day appointed the Surveyor General George Goyder to traverse the northern areas of the colony with a view to making observations in regard to rainfall patterns on the landscape. Goyder did this in an admirable way and returned to Adelaide in a month to report his findings and observations. He was able to draw on a map of South Australia a Line which he believed would mark land suitable for agricultural use from those which were only fit for pastoral use. To this day Goyder has been proved correct with his observation.

The location of *Anlaby* falls well within the Goyder Line. An accurate measure of rainfall statistics have been kept of the Kapunda district since 1861. The average mean rainfall is 493.5mm; yearly rainfall has only dropped below 400mm twenty one times between 1861 and 2012.

If the rainfall statistics during the period of Thomas Leslie's tenure as Head Gardener at *Anlaby* (this was the height of the garden) are examined, it is revealed that in the years 1904, 401.1mm and in 1911, 375.6mm were recorded. It is obvious these were the two periods where the dam became dry.

In the 1900 – 1914 period Malcolm Leslie, son of Thomas Leslie, Head Gardener 1900 – 1914, recalls

On two occasions during the 14 years my father was at Anlaby the dam became dry" and 'A large dam supplied the garden with water. In summer 37,000 gallons was used daily, the pumping took place every other day in summer, as on the second day the tank was usually empty" [Notes by Malcolm Leslie, (private collection). Based on this information, it seems likely that any years where rainfall dropped below say 440mm, it is probable the garden could not be sustained with out losses to plants due to lack of water [sic.]

A weir was constructed in the 1890s and additional water was sourced from soaks and a bore in the lower section of the garden. In dry periods the salinity exceeds approximately 1200 parts salt with this water, which makes it unsuitable for watering the foreign plants which were introduced into the landscape at *Anlaby*.

Staff members living at the *Anlaby* village were never permitted to use water from the dam or bores to water the modest garden patches contained within their lodgings. This was a directive from Mrs Emily Dutton and this further emphasises the struggle to keep this utopian garden of Eden, surrounding the homestead, alive.

The beginnings of the South Australian State

In many ways the theories of colonisation advocated by Edward Gibbon Wakefield influenced the founding members of The South Australian Association which led the imperial United Kingdom parliament in 1834 to pass an Act which authorised the founding of the colony of South Australia.

Wakefield was born in London in 1796 and educated at the Westminster School and Edinburgh High School. In 1813, he was secretary to the British envoy in Turin. He married in 1816 and after four years of marriage, his wife passed away. In 1826, he abducted a 15 year old heiress and married at Gretna Green and then went to Calais. Pursued by his wife's family, he returned to England in 1827. Wakefield was convicted of a statutory misdemeanour and sentenced to a three year term of imprisonment at Newgate. It was during this period in prison that he conceptualised his theories on emigration and systematic colonization.

In Donald Meinig's *On the Margins of the Good Earth* (1962: 10), Meinig states:

Ultimately, it has been noted, Wakefield envisioned the trans-planting not of a seedling, but of the full grown tree of English society, root, trunk, and branch.

In many ways one can conclude that Wakefield theories were based on creating a planned, orderly system of colonisation which avoided convicts and other mistakes of previous settlements in Australia by the Crown, thereby creating a planned, utopian settlement structure and society.

Giesecke and Jacobs (2012: 9) have described Utopia as:

In the discipline of utopian studies, the utopian impulse is seen as an essential element of the human drive toward a better life. The concept of utopia and the practice of utopian projection have had a remarkably lively history in Western culture since Thomas More coined the term in his 1516 Utopia. This founding text, a description of a society supposedly existing in the New World, was not intended to be taken as a blueprint. The very word 'utopia' is a neologism evoking both eu-topia (Greek for 'good place') and ou-topia (Greek for 'no place')." And "The field of utopian studies' premier bibliographer, Lyman Tower Sargent, has defined utopianism as 'social dreaming", an activity manifesting 'three faces: literary utopias, political programs, and intentional communities.

The first colonists arrived in South Australia on "The Buffalo" in 1836 and the colony was proclaimed on the 28th December of that year.

Initial delays with the country surveys caused a state of stagnation in the new colony. Many colonists had land orders but were unable to get possession. The most pressing need was the cultivation of the land in order to secure food and thereby survival.

The main focus of land survey was initially Adelaide and then southwards and in an easterly direction on the eastern side of the Mount Lofty Ranges.

The original survey of 120 acres (48.5 hectares) *Hundred of Waterloo* was surveyed at the verbal request of Mr. Dutton in 1843. The section was granted to George Fife Angus, and others (South Australian Company) on the 17th June 1844.

Angus was the founding chairman of the board of directors of the South Australian Company which was formed in London in 1835. Angus has been referred to as "Father and Founder of South Australia".

The discovery of copper in the early 1840s at Kapunda, which is located adjacent to the *Anlaby* run, stimulated mineral interest in the colony. The copper discovery at Kapunda was made by Francis Dutton, one of the Dutton brothers. The find was quite by chance, while he was looking for some lost sheep during a thunderstorm. He made this fact known to his neighbour Captain Bagot of the *Koonunga Run*, who also produced a rock showing colour. This mineral find helped place South Australia for a period, as the largest mining exporter in the British colonies. The mineral boom resulted in the inflow into the colony of both capital and colonists.

Beginnings of the *Anlaby* run 1839 – 1865

The Dutton brothers originally settled in New South Wales in the early 1830s and had pastoral interests in Yass and in the Monaro district.

Frederick Dutton, the eventual owner of *Anlaby*, had also worked for Edward Riley on his property *Raby*, in New South Wales. Riley was an early prominent pastoralist in New South Wales.

William Dutton was the first member of the family to visit South Australia briefly in 1839 and stayed with Captain Finniss at Mount Barker.

Finniss had been involved in, amongst other things, the overlanding to South Australia of sheep from New South Wales. There was a drought period in the 1830s in New South Wales and this provided the opportunity to make extensive capital by the overlanding of sheep to the then greener pastures of South Australia.

The trend of overlanding sheep is confirmed in Theodore Scott's *Description of South Australia with sketches of New South Wales, Port Lincoln, Port Phillip, and New Zealand* (1839: 25):

The immense fertile plains covered with the richest grass, make it peculiarly a country for the pasturing of sheep and cattle. The wool grown in South Australia, is of the finest description. In November 1837, there were not 5000 sheep in the province, though the discovered country would feed more than 100 times that number. Several thousands more, however, have been sent from Van Diemen's Land and large flocks of sheep and cattle have made overland journeys from Sidney [sic] to the colony. The overland journey is described as safe and practicable.

Finniss had tried to set up a Pastoral Company at Mount Dispersion 97 kilometres north of Adelaide in 1839, but it failed. Frederick Dutton then took over the run and this, combined with the fact that Alexander Buchanan had overlanded 5000 of his sheep from New South Wales in the same year, created the beginnings of the *Anlaby* run and by 1865 the land area of the estate had expanded to 100 square miles (258.9 ²km).

The land contained within the *Anlaby* run had been purchased, under government policy prior to 1866 through cash sales for land. This policy did not change until the introduction of the *Scrub Lands Act of 1866* whereby land after the passing of that *Act* could be bought on credit from the government, provided certain criteria were met.

The Midland Northern Railway did not reach Kapunda until 1860 and prior to this *Anlaby* would have been a somewhat isolated outpost community which had to support itself. The families who resided in the village style settlement relied on gardening as life support.

The population of *Anlaby* was seasonal, based on the shearing season and produce had to support up to twenty families who resided there, plus the large seasonal increase of staffing levels during the shearing times.

The original site of the beginnings of the *Anlaby* village was adjacent to a beautiful freshwater spring which was discovered by an employee named Sebastian.

The earliest plan of the homestead and garden was commissioned by Alexander Buchanan, who was manager for Frederick Dutton.

The plan which was drawn by surveyor F. Darling of Hindmarsh Square Adelaide in August 1859 shows a substantial fruit and vegetable garden with a modest house garden and a central water fountain feature adjacent to the main home. Also illustrated on the plan is the large stone home, which was constructed in 1857 in a Mediterranean style with three separate wings and underground rooms.

In the publication *Gardens in South Australia 1840 – 1940* Jones and Payne (1998: 38) have observed when referring to garden styles of the Mid North region gardens in South Australia between 1850 and 1890, that:

Planting design and 'survival' in consideration, with predominant attention to foods and forage plants. No available evidence of colour as a consideration. Texture provided by strong architectural plants such as Agaves, Aloes, Yuccas, and large cacti also seasonal foliage of South African bulbs. Plants selected primarily because of their toughness, drought tolerance, and minimal water and maintenance needs" and of Garden Design "Geometric or simple with a strong emphasis on drought tolerant plants that would grow in low rainfall areas with no summer irrigation. The large survival garden at Inlay at this time certainly contains those elements.

Alexander Buchanan died in 1865 and had transformed the original overlanded flock of 5,000 sheep, from New South Wales, into an extensive flock of 60,000 sheep, thereby providing the means of expanding this utopian dream from slab huts to an English style village which was a self-supporting community. Frederick Dutton subsequently appointed H.T Morris as manager of *Anlaby*, whose uncle was Captain Hindmarsh, and Morris himself had been previously Chief Inspector of Stock for the colonial government of South Australia.

A valuable account of *Anlaby* in the 1860s was published in the *Kapunda Centenary Book Memories of Kapunda* (1929: 35):

I cannot go back to the earliest days, as my first introduction to the establishment was in 1865 ... There was also a fountain in front of the main building, facing the garden. The old store had also been demolished and a good stone building erected about 100 yards further west. Other buildings erected at the same time were large stone stables and coach houses, gardeners' and bachelors' quarters, and Blacksmith's shop also a large hot house. There was a large garden on the property stocked with a great variety of fruits, vegetables and flowers under the skilful treatment of Mr Angus McDonald (afterwards Head Gardener at the Botanic Gardens in Adelaide).

McDonald was also in later years employed by the Barr Smith family at their large Adelaide estate called Torrens Park as Head Gardener. He also was involved in the South Australian Gardeners' Society.

It is interesting to note that by 1865 there is confirmation of the addition of a large hot house to the garden buildings. This indicates not only a prospering pastoral property but also the inclusion of an environment for plants not normally grown in the mid northern region of South Australia.

So by 1865, we can establish the garden at Anlaby was not only for food production which aided survival, but the philosophy was partly shifted from sustainability to rarer plants which needed the protection of a hot house to create an artificial environment for introduced species of plants. This clearly reveals the need to tame the landscape adjacent to the home to reflect plants and plantings popular in the home country at that time, which was England.

Morris managed *Anlaby* until 1890, when Frederick Dutton passed away in the United Kingdom. Dutton, although owning *Anlaby* died a blind man and only ever visited *Anlaby* once after 1865.

The *Kapunda Herald Illustrated Supplement* reported on 3 July 1903 that:

Mr H. T. Morris took management (in Succession to Mr Buchanan), to the present time, the evolution would be most interesting. Mr Morris, with an eye to the beautiful amid the charming rural surroundings of the home, wrought a complete transformation. The old fashioned Australian country home began to extend in this direction and in that: quaint attachments were made, and a general rustic aspect prevailed the place. The old scraggy vineyard was converted into a garden, which in the years since have become a modern miniature Garden of Eden.

However, time was to prove this Utopian vision of a "Garden of Eden" was not sustainable in the harsh summer environment of the mid north of South Australia.

The Golden Years of the garden 1890 – 1914

Frederick Dutton bequeathed *Anlaby* to his nephew Henry Dutton, who was the only surviving son of Frederick's brother, William.

In Geoffrey Dutton's (1922 – 1998) *Out in the open: An Autobiography* (1994: 23) Geoffrey relates:

People like my grandfather, rich from Australia's wool, modelled themselves on land holders in the Mother Country, which of course was always called home. They surrounded their large houses with conservatories and shade houses.

The trend in the colonies with many pastoralists who owned large pastoral estates at that time was to construct a landscape to reflect English values, which included grounds fashioned by English formal landscape design and plant trends. These utopian visions were not only reflected in plantings

but also the spatial designs within the garden grounds, immediately surrounding the homestead, thereby creating a utopia based on English cultural and landscape ideals.

This was certainly the case at *Anlaby*, as the 1890s period saw a grand expansion of the garden not only in plants but also with infrastructure.

Henry Dutton, was also known as 'The Squire', embarked upon an extensive construction programme, which involved builders from Adelaide and the freighting of building materials, plants and soil by rail to Kapunda, then bullock wagon to *Anlaby*. Such was the determination to create this artificial environment, that soil for plantings was procured from the Mount Lofty area of South Australia and silver sand was imported from the United Kingdom for the potting purposes of the many rare plants contained within the stove house. The grand planting programme, which included mainly northern hemisphere plants, was sourced from well-established and renowned Adelaide nurseries and overseas, which included Henry Sewel's, Hackett's and Newman's in addition to others to create the utopian ideal of a garden of Eden, which at *Anlaby* included an Orchid House, a Cypripedium House, a Stove House measuring 100 x 27 feet (30.48 x 8.23m), Grotto, Green House, a pit, a Pelargonium House, a Chrysanthemum House, two shade houses, a Rhododendron and Azalea House, three Lily Ponds, a Tennis Lawn and three other large lawns, two Rosaries, a Grape House and a Mushroom House.

Such was the drive and determination of this utopian vision and dream for this ideal garden that highly skilled Head Gardeners were required to manage this introduced landscape and a team of twelve gardeners was required to maintain it. In the 1890s, Head Gardener, Mr John Everest, was recognised in an article of the time by 'Leuca' in *The Garden and Field* (December 1899: 159):

Mr John Everest, the head gardener, who has the reputation of being one of the most competent stove house men in South Australia ...

In 1900 Thomas Leslie was employed as head gardener. A native of Aberdeen, Scotland, he served his apprenticeship on the model estate of Mr Garden in Banff, Scotland. Leslie migrated to Australia in 1887 on the 'Orizaba' and interestingly enough, members of the Tallis family, who created the famous garden at *Beleura*, which is located on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria, also travelled on the same voyage. Leslie initially worked for Mr Wagner, a founder of the Cobb and Co Coaches and owner of the mansion *Stonnington* in Malvern, Melbourne. It is thought that the prominent landscape designer William Guilfoyle may have designed the garden at *Stonnington*. Such was the expertise and experience of Leslie. Amongst his list of achievements were the winning of the Cave Trophy for the best Chrysanthemum blooms for the Squire and judging at various floricultural events which included the Adelaide Show Floricultural Society.

Because of the determination of the Squire to ensure this utopian landscape created at *Anlaby* was kept up-to-date with the English gardening ideals, Dutton sent Leslie, the head gardener, back to visit England on two occasions, to make a tour and observe trends. This is confirmed in press reports in *The Adelaide Chronicle* on 22 April 1911: "Make a tour of the gardens of the English gentry to gain trends for the handsome greenhouse." And on his return in November 1911, *The Register* on 6 November 1911 reported that: "Mr T Leslie Head Gardener of *Anlaby* has returned from a six month trip to the mother country, he made a particular study of all horticultural matters but found little that South Australia had to learn in the way of producing flowers."

The rose garden at *Anlaby* around 1900 was said to be one of the largest in the colony. This was confirmed by press reports of the time wherein 'Leuca' recorded on (December 1899: 159) that: "*Here will shortly certainly be the most complete, expensive, and I anticipate, the most beautiful rosary in the colony.*"

Beames & Whitehill in *Some Historic Gardens in South Australia* (1981: 75) have also observed that the rose garden at *Anlaby* was described as: "*The arches and trellises are reminiscent of those at 'Palmerston' (sic), the Earl of Mayo's residence near Naas in County Kildare, Ireland, but whether they were inspired by the garden at 'Palmerston' [sic] is not known.*"

The roseries were developed to their peak during the 1890 – 1914 period; there was an extensive use of standard roses, trellising and rose maypoles.

In the 1970s a small wooden box containing the names of 450 roses on rolled zinc rose labels, was discovered, as part of a lot offered during a clearing sale at *Anlaby*, as the Dutton family was disposing of the property. The names and a brief history of the historical find and many of the varieties are described in *Tea Roses – Old Roses for Warm Gardens* (2008).

The expansion programme for the garden was on a magnitude never seen at *Anlaby* before. What was the reason behind the rapid expansion of this introduced landscape? The changed inner garden domain was very much out of character with the surrounding sanctum of the Australian bush.

This planned English style garden, which included introduced foreign plants, needed a large amount of water on a daily basis in summer to sustain it and twelve permanent gardeners to keep it manicured and in order.

The thought comes to mind that it may have been a display of wealth and worldly success on the part of the owner to outsiders and Adelaide society, but this perception shifts when one reads a quotation from his grandson's book *The Squatters* (Dutton 1985: 123

Grandfather was a modest and deeply religious man" and "My grandfather, Henry Dutton (1844 -1914), whose wife (like the wives of many rich squatters) was an invalid, built an exquisite little church at Hamilton near Anlaby, for which he imported oak panelling, silver-gilt candlesticks, stained glass windows and beautiful vestments from England.

Was this garden a utopian dream of the owner and his wife? It was a perfect garden reflecting the beauty and values of the old country with a beautiful little church at nearby Hamilton in which to worship.

Mrs Dutton was infirm and bed-ridden for lengthy periods in the 1890s. This was combined with the fact that their only daughter, Ethel, had met with a tragic death in 1892. Did the couple turn their thoughts to the creation of this utopian landscape for solace? I think this was very much the case.

Henry Dutton was a man of impeccable taste and had a keen eye for aesthetics. An account of Mr and Mrs Dutton by an anonymous friend was included in an article 'Memories of Kapunda', *Kapunda Herald*, (1929:84)

Of Mrs Dutton it can be truly said she lived but to think of others and to plan some kind undertaking for their benefit, even when through long years of sickness. Very beautiful the 'Anlaby' garden was at that time. A memory which can never fade. One ventures to think that at one period – very particularly during the last five or seven years of Mr. Dutton's life – that no garden in the State, public or private, could equal it. It was his hobby, pride and he made every enterprise and extension in it a memorial to his dear lady, and a tribute also to her great love for flowers.

Henry Dutton passed away on the 25th August 1914 and the *Anlaby* estate was bequeathed to his only son, Henry Hampden Dutton. This era of the garden started in one of South Australia's worst droughts and also in the shadow of the First World War.

There was a large auction of stove and shade house plants in July 1915 which signified a change in the garden philosophy by reducing the extensive holdings of cold climate and tropical plants.

The Head Gardener left *Anlaby* and after reviewing certain records, one forms the impression that an actual Head Gardener was never employed after Thomas Leslie left. From this one would contend, both Mr and Mrs Dutton took on the role of supervising the gardening staff, this large introduced utopian foreign landscape surrounding the house, which was created by their predecessors.

In 1917 an extensive stock take of native plants was under taken. This was published in a booklet titled: *Native Trees and Shrubs, Anlaby, South Australia* published by J.W. Elliott & Co, of Victor Harbor in South Australia.

Mrs Dutton had a great love of motoring and in 1921 earned the distinction of being the first woman to cross the continent from Adelaide to Darwin. As reported in *The Register* on 30 August (1921: 5): "He was accompanied by Mrs Dutton. Mrs Dutton who is the first white woman to make the transcontinental journey to Darwin overland, the first woman to cross."

Extensive motor touring would have instilled a keen appreciation of the beauty of the Australian Bush and in particular native plants.

Mrs Dutton was attributed to have reorganised the grounds at *Anlaby* in a romantic style, planting native trees, shrubs and flowers. She visited England and her visits there included visits to society gardens and flower shows and plant nurseries.

During the 1920s Mrs Dutton introduced the twenty five acre (10.1 hectares) Plantation Dam Australian native area. The long drive into the *Anlaby Estate* contains plantings of *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (Sugar Gum), which are under planted with *Acacia pendula* (Weeping Myall), which further demonstrates the shift in a philosophy more to native plants. Mrs Dutton's son, Geoffrey in *Out in the Open; An Autobiography* (1994: 9) recalls: "However enthusiastic my parents were about the Australian trees in their plantations, natives were excluded from the inner garden."

Mrs Emily Dutton died on 11th May 1962. Her son Geoffrey and his wife Ninette Dutton thereupon took control of the property. During this period of the evolution of the garden at *Anlaby* the old

stove house was demolished. In an article in *The Advertiser* on 14 December (1977: 25) a reporter states 'And then there of course there is the garden – a wilderness manicured and pruned by a tribe of gardeners in Anlaby's heyday and now kept in reign by Mrs Dutton with occasional help – I want to write much more and life has just become too strenuous here'.

From 1978 to 1994, a Mr and Mrs Shannon owned the property and by 1981 the gardens were described by Beames & Whitehill (1981: 75) in a review of South Australian historic gardens:

Over a considerable number of years the gardens have declined, as it has become increasingly difficult to maintain such an extensive area. The original garden contained extensive trellis-work and arches on which climbing roses were trained, but while the trellises remain in generally good repair, the roses have died. From the early 1960s, the garden has not been maintained and was used as a sheep paddock until 1978 with the exception of mowing lawns immediately adjacent to the house. The new owner has begun clearing over grown shrubbery and pruning as the first stage of restoring selected parts of the garden as near as practical to its original state... After many years of neglect the garden is now maintained by the owner, with assistance from his sons at weekends.

The *Anlaby* garden forms a key role in the development process of the pastoral station style garden in South Australia. From humble beginnings in the 1840s to the major garden expansion period 1890 - 1914, the garden evolved.

The garden now contains the remnants of what was once the jewel in the crown of the pastoral station garden style in South Australia. This is evidenced by the size of the garden at *Anlaby*, the garden buildings, which include the remnants of a large stove house, shade houses, garden layout and various garden themes reflecting different garden period styles which include Gardenesque, Arcadian and Arts and Craft.

There was also a large native tree plantation planted in the 1920s.

The challenge now lies in conserving what little is left of the Squire's Utopian dream by way of the remnant plants and the ruined stove house and shade houses which once contained vast collections of rare plants. The current owners are faced with the same water challenges as previous generations of families who have owned *Anlaby*. Today's world of even greater climate change combined with the increases in maintaining the shell of what was a utopian dream make this vision almost impossible to achieve.

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¹ *Anlaby Station* is referred to as 'Anlaby' in this paper. The *Station* has historically always been generically called 'Anlaby' in publications. However, with a change of ownership and accompanying subdivision of the overall estate in the 1970s, the primary homestead allotments, became known as 'Old Anlaby' and this is the way the property is referred to today in state government citations and general publications.

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