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LOCAL, ORAL AND PLACENAME HISTORY

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CHAPTER 14

PROCESS IN PLACENAMING SOUTHEAST BRISBANE

by William Metcalf

Most people seem interested in the origin of the name for their town, street and even of themselves. To know that I was named after my maternal grandfather forges a culturally significant link across generations. To know that my city is named after a nineteenth century British governor provokes more interest in Sir Thomas Brisbane than might otherwise be his due.

There are various reasons why humans name their environment, convenience, no doubt, being one important factor. Customs play an important role, wherein most Anglo-Saxons expect streetnames to be a single noun. A street called 'fragrantly, happily skipping' would seem unusual, for example.

Far more important than convenience in placenaming, however, is the process which anthropologists call 'ordering the landscape' (Jones, 1985). By this it is meant that all humans, in order to make sense out of the complexities of their surroundings, attach labels to distinguish the important bits of their environment. The way we order our environment flows from and reflects our culture. To apply the name Fred to a dog removes that animal, in our consciousness, from the general non-human realm to a special almost human position. Similarly when we apply a name to a geographical feature such as a mound of rock and soil, calling it Toohey Mountain, it becomes culturally distinct from its surrounds - a major environmental or landscape marker.

There are ten sources for the names which now apply to geographical features on the southeast of Brisbane:

- Aboriginal and pseudo-Aboriginal
- Past VIPs or political masters
- Early landowners
- Biophysical features
- Culturally significant events
- Old country connections
- Destination
- Early land use
- Subdivision theme
- Other

ABORIGINAL AND PSEUDO-ABORIGINAL SOURCES

Aboriginal sources apply to numerous placenames on Brisbane's southeast. Because the local Aborigines were either killed or driven away so early in the history of European settlement of this area, we know relatively little about them. We do know that the Aboriginal inhabitants of Brisbane's southside were known as Yagarabal or Jagara, and that they were of the Turrubul language group. **Woolloongabba**, originally known to Europeans as **One Mile Swamp**, is an obvious example of an Aboriginal word used as placename. According to Tom Petrie (1904), the Aboriginal word was really **Wulonkoppa**. Various meanings including 'fighting place' and 'whirling water' have been suggested. The hilltop site of the Anglican church on Hawthorn and Merton Street Woolloongabba was apparently an important ceremonial site or bora ring.

Moorooka is said to derive from the word either for ironbark or 'like a nose', referring to Toohey Mountain. The first European name for Moorooka was **Four Mile**, referring to its distance from One Mile Swamp.

Ekibin was named by Thomas Blacket Stephens in 1863, from the Aboriginal word Yeekabin or Yekibin, meaning 'good eating place'. The name refers to the area near the old Ridge Street Bridge on Norman Creek, where wildlife and roots abounded along the creek flats.

Yeerongpilly derives from Yerong-pilli, supposedly meaning 'rain coming', while **Yeronga** derives from either Yerongpa, meaning 'a sandy place', or Yerong, meaning 'initiation or bora ground'. The name was first anglicised by Hardie Buzacott, Queensland postmaster-general prior to federation, as the name of his home, Yerong-Lea. The nearby railway station was named Yeronga, in his honour.

Coorparoo is a shortened form of Cooraparoo (or Kulpurum, according to Tom Petrie), the Aboriginal name for what we now call Norman Creek. It supposedly meant either 'place of the mosquito' or 'call of the dingo'.

Norman Creek first appears on a map prepared by Major Lockyer in September 1825, but we do not know for sure after whom it was named. Norman Creek was surveyed as a prelude to free settlement in October 1839.

Kuraby is said to derive from an Aboriginal word meaning 'a place of many springs'. There are other names such as **Moolabin Creek**, apparently derived from Aboriginal words, but no information could be found on original meanings.

PAST VIPs AND POLITICAL MASTERS

Places are named after VIPs in one of three ways. Some places are named after political leaders in the hope that a more personal interest and hence more resources will be forthcoming. In other cases some leaders assign their own name to a place to ensure their immortality. Finally VIP names are occasionally adopted by folk out of genuine respect and admiration.

Mount Cotton and **Mount Petrie** were named after Commandant G. Cotton and Andrew Petrie. They became lost in the area in 1838 and climbed Mt Cotton to get their bearings.

Mount Gravatt was known to Aborigines as Kaggur-Mabul, meaning 'place of porcupines'. Its first European designation was as part of Campbells Range. It was, when surveyed, named after Lieutenant George Gravatt who was in charge of the Moreton Bay penal colony during its winding down phase in 1839.

Oxley Creek was named Canoe Creek by John Oxley, but the name was almost immediately changed in his honour. Edmund Lockyer's map of September 1825 already shows Oxley Creek as well as Edin Glassie, his preferred name for Brisbane.

Coopers Plains was named after Dr Henry Cowper, the medical superintendent of the Moreton Bay convict settlement from 1826 to 1833. As Cowper often had to travel by foot and horse between Limestone (Ipswich) and Brisbane, he used what we now call Coopers Plains as a convenient half way campsite. A number of convicts were stationed at **Coopers Plain** to work on a bullock track to connect Limestone to Emu Point (Cleveland). Cowper was described by his assistant, James Murray, as 'a most uncouth original - An excessive grog drinker and smoker, and the most ill-tempered and quarrelsome man I ever saw, of which I have witnessed repeated proofs already, though I am not yet a week in the settlement. I really think he is half insane'. Cowper was court martialled and discharged in 1833, after a New Year's Eve of 'drunken debauchery' in the Female Factory (Steele 1975, pp.44,165).

Kirkland Avenue, Coorparoo derives its name from Coorparoo shire councillor A.M. Kirkland who lived until 1913 on land now bounded by Cornwall Street, Pembroke Road and Kirkland Avenue.

Hipwood Avenue, Coorparoo is named after James Hipwood who was Brisbane mayor in 1886-87. His home was on the high ground at the top of the present Shakespeare Street.

Brentnall Street, Norman Park derives from Frederick Thomas Brentnall, the first president of Coorparoo Shire Council which formed in 1888. Brentnall was born in Derbyshire, England in 1834, trained as a minister and came to Brisbane in 1873, becoming a journalist and chairman of board of directors of the *Telegraph*. He was appointed to the legislative council in 1886, retaining his position until he died in 1925.

Cavendish Road, Coorparoo is apparently named after Lord Frederick Charles Cavendish, born in 1836, the second son of the Duke of Devonshire. He sat in the British parliament from 1865 until 1882 when he became secretary for Ireland. He achieved notoriety when he was assassinated, a crime for which twenty 'Irish Invincibles' were tried amidst great anti-catholic hysteria and found guilty. The name Cavendish thus became a catchcry for anti (Irish)

catholic sentiment even in a remote colonial corner such as Coorparoo Shire. One wonders if assigning his name to a prominent road was a deliberate affront to important Irish catholic neighbours such as the O'Gormans and Tooheys? It must be noted here that there are several other possible explanations for Cavendish Road.

Barnes Avenue, Coorparoo is named after Walter Henry Barnes, born in 1858, whose home was on Milsom Street. He was trained as a minister but worked as a produce merchant. He was a member of Coorparoo Shire Council and then became a member of the legislative assembly for 29 years. He held four cabinet portfolios between 1907 and 1915.

When legislation was passed in 1966 to create a second university, part of Toohey Forest on the south side of Brisbane, then held by Brisbane City Council as a cemetery reserve, was selected as the location. The new placenames for the area were nominated by senior staff and the senate of the University of Queensland. They were deliberately selected to provide a sense of academic tradition to what was otherwise being designed as an alternative university. **Nathan** is named after Sir Mathew Nathan, Queensland governor 1920-26 and chancellor of the University of Queensland 1922-25. **MacGregor** is named after Sir William MacGregor, Queensland governor 1909-14. He surrendered old Government House in 1909, which became the original home of the University of Queensland, and was its first chancellor. **Robertson** is named after Dr W.N. Robertson, who was vice-chancellor of the University of Queensland from 1925 until 1938. **Griffith University** is named after Sir Samuel Griffith, a previous Queensland premier and federal attorney-general.

Donaldson Street, Greenslopes was named after 'Honest' John Donaldson, MLA for three rural electorates from 1883 until his death in 1896. He was colonial postmaster-general and secretary for public instruction from 1888 to 1889 and then colonial treasurer. In 1891 he was one of the six Queensland delegates to the negotiations in Sydney which led to federation (Endicott 1979, p.28).

Many streets are also named after what might be called minor political masters. As Michael Endicott (1979, p.38) points out regarding forenames: 'All cities, towns and suburbs have streets that bear male and female first names, but whereas the busiest avenues of a city are named after royalty, the quieter streets of a suburb tend more to be named after the sons and daughters of chairmen of the shire council or of prominent citizens. Within the lower Coorparoo, Stones Corner and Greenslopes regions of the old Coorparoo Shire, about 30 streets are a Christian name; these following in italics are cases in point: one of Frederick Brentnall's grand-daughters was *Noela*, James Hipwoods's sixth, seventh and eighth daughters were *Zillah*, *Beatrice*, and *Vera*, and Shire Chairman Alexander McKinnon - who was born at *Smeaton* in Victoria - had an eldest son, *Kenneth*'.

EARLY LANDOWNERS

There seem to be two ways in which early landholders' names are applied to places. In some cases there is a definite decision to honour an early settler and thus create a sense of history, of connection with the past. In other cases the names of early landholders are retained more through folk usage than because of any definite decision. Early landholders are by far the most common identifiable source of street and suburb names on Brisbane's southside.

Holland Park was named after Julius Holland and his brother Alfred, who arrived in Queensland in 1859. He was an indomitable entrepreneur, operating a large sugar plantation at Bundall on the Gold Coast, and attempting to promote Southport as an early tourist centre (Dwyer 1987). Holland owned considerable property in the area to the east of Logan Road, along the road that now bears his name. He died only 39 years old, but his descendants still live in the area.

Wellers Hill is named after Jacob Weller who was born in 1833 in Westphalia Germany, arrived in Queensland in 1862 and died in 1890. He bought land from James Toohey in 1874, established a fruit farm and vineyard, and built his home where the present reservoir is located. Weller died in 1890 but his family continued to live in their rather grand home until 1912, when the land was purchased by the Water Supply and Sewerage Board. Weller's empty house burned down shortly thereafter.

Whites Hill (Aboriginal name Boolimba) is named after Bob White who, at the time of the first world war, had a peculiarly shaped, rambling house with a camera obscura which projected the view from Moreton Island to Ipswich onto the wall of his circular living room. His home was widely used for weddings and receptions. In 1924 he declined an offer of £22 000, but five years later the Brisbane City Council resumed it for only £10 000 compensation.

Stones Corner is named after James Stone, a bridge carpenter, who arrived in Queensland in 1857. In 1875 he paid £100 to Mrs Klumpp (Gottlieb Klumpp's second wife) for 1 acre (0.4 hectares) at the intersection of Logan and Old Cleveland Roads. He built a two roomed slab hut and continued his trade. In the mid 1880s, Stone built a more substantial structure with the hope of becoming a publican at this vital junction. As he was not able to obtain permission to sell spirits and operate a hotel, he produced ginger beer in what became widely known as 'the Ginger Beer Shop'. What was previously called Burnetts Swamp slowly became known by the name of the Stone family who lived for many years at this important intersection.

Montague Street, Stones Corner was named by John Montague Black, a land developer who purchased from Mrs Klumpp the land not previously sold to John Stone.

Archerfield is named after the Archer family on whose main paddock or level field early airplanes landed. The present centre of Archerfield Aerodrome, however, is on the adjoining Grenier's Farm.

Stephens Mountain, on whose slopes the Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital is located, is named after Thomas Blacket Stephens of Cumbooquepa (now Somerville House). Stephens was born in 1819 in Rochedale England, coming to Brisbane in January 1853 (coincidentally the same time as James Toohey, his land speculating rival). In 1857 Stephens bought 76 hectares of land along the creek to the south and west of the hill now bearing his name, and in 1862 established the first large scale industry in the area, a fellmongery and tannery employing up to 200 men. Stephens was Brisbane's second mayor in 1862, MLA for South Brisbane 1863-75, colonial treasurer 1867-70, and secretary for public lands 1874-75 (Endicott 1979, p.11). For many years Stephens Mountain was known as **Toohey Mountain**, after the James Toohey family of nearby Mount Galway, but Tooheys never owned this land.

Kessels Road is named after Marie-Christine Kessels who purchased land on the northeast corner of Mains and Kessels Roads in 1868. She and her son lived and farmed there for many years. During the second world war this land became one of the US military's largest equipment dumps. Several of the enormous army igloos are still used on site.

Klumpp Road is named after Fred and Henry Klumpp and their sister Sophie (Anger) who were the first farmers in what is now Upper Mount Gravatt, taking up land in 1875. During the anti-German hysteria of the first world war the name was changed to Cemetery Road, but reverted soon afterwards.

Troughton Road, on which the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital is located, is named after Edward Troughton who owned and farmed most of the area now comprising the suburb of Robertson.

Evans Road, Salisbury was originally known as **Compo Road**, but the name was changed after Evans Deakins built extensive construction facilities there during the second world war. When the tramline was extended from Moorooka in 1942 it was not thought seemly to mark trams with 'Compo', hence Evans Road. The intersection of Evans and Orange Grove Road, however, was still known for some years as **Compo Valley**, with reference to the squatters in the Toohey Forest area.

Toohey Road, **Forest**, **Mountain** and now **Village**, as well as five **Toohey Streets** and **Avenues** are all named after James Toohey, one of Brisbane's early land speculators. He arrived in 1853 and slowly built up extensive holdings of land stretching from Kangaroo Point to Kessels Road. Toohey Mountain was known for many years as **Peggs Mountain**, after George Pegg whose farm was on its west side along what is now Mayfield Road. Pegg, however, never owned this land which the Toohey family sold to Brisbane City Council in 1946.

Marshall Road is named after W.H. Marshall who came from Buckinghamshire, England in 1880. With his two sons he operated vineyards in the area southeast of the road bearing his name. Their home, known as Rosedale, was where 20 Barmore Street Tarragindi is today. He was the first Brisbane alderman from the area.

Abdullah Kahn and his English wife came from Afghanistan in the late 1800s and settled in Mount Gravatt on Nursery Road. They were soon joined by other Islamic settlers, particularly the Howsan and Kauss families. In 1908 a mosque was built on Nursery Road, although the present Mosque is more recent, a gift of the Kuwait government. **Howsan Street**, Mount Gravatt commemorates one of these families.

Glindemann Drive, Holland Park is named after Conrad Glindemann and his descendants, who ran a successful dairy until 1940 on land to the east of Logan Road. During the second world war the Holland Park Military Hospital, the largest hospital in Australia (with over 1000 beds), was operated by the Americans on this land.

Fraser Street, Holland Park is named after Simon Fraser MLA, who owned land near Cavendish Road. Fraser lived at Mundoolan near Beaudesert, and was progenitor of Malcolm Fraser.

Sexton Street, Ekibin is named after Captain R. Sexton who arrived in Queensland in 1861. His family were the first residents in the area. Their home was just to the south of and above Norman (Ekibin) Creek, on a site now occupied by Wellers Hill Bowls Club.

Cracknell Road, Ekibin was named after W.J. Cracknell, 'a gentleman' born in England in 1832 and arriving in Brisbane in the late 1850s, having graduated from Oxford. He purchased Hayselden's 51 acres of land between what is now Toohey, Weller and Fernvale Roads, and built a stately home, Arundel Lodge. This house burned in 1874, and the much grander home which was built in its place was named Fernvale, after which **Fernvale Road** is now known. Fernvale House was opposite 49 Vinray Street. In 1957 the land was subdivided and Fernvale Estate created.

Harries Street, Coorparoo is named after Samuel V. Harries, born in Bath England in 1836. Harries purchased 52 acres (20 hectares) on the northside of Old Cleveland Road in October 1864. He called this Avondale Farm, later subdividing to create **Holdsworth Street** (after his wife's maiden name), **Bath Street** (after his birthplace) and of course Harries Street.

Nicklin Street, Coorparoo was named after Reuben Nicklin, born in Walsall England in 1848 and migrating to Queensland in the early 1860s. He was a land speculator and manager of 'Butler Brothers, Wholesale Saddlers and Coach Ironmongers', opposite the Customs House in Queen Street. In 1881 he built Langlands, still standing at the top of Dowar Street which was its original driveway from Old Cleveland Road. **Langlands Park** is in what were the creekside grounds of this house. Reuben Nicklin and his wife were among those killed with the sinking of the Quetta in 1890. Their first son George was the father of Sir Frank Nicklin, Queensland premier 1957-68.

Robinson Street, Coorparoo is named after William Robinson who purchased 54 acres (20 hectares) on the east of Cavendish Road in 1886. He maintained a large number of dairy cows. Coorparoo's first racecourse, where Joffre, Jellicoe and French Streets are now, opened on Robinson's Farm in 1891.

Thompson Estate was a large housing estate straddling Juliette Street, between Cornwall Street and Victoria Street, Ipswich Road and Norman Creek. It was named after Joseph Thompson, who obtained all 117 acres as a crown grant in the 1860s. Thompson Estate, as a suburb, was largely destroyed by the Southeast Freeway, and is now only known in the name of a local park, **Thompson Estate Reserve**, a church and bus stop. **Mt Thompson** in Mt Gravatt is apparently also named after Joseph Thompson.

Bennetts Road, Coorparoo is named after Isaac Bennett who in 1866 bought a farm known as Rose Farm, along the north side of Old Cleveland Road. He sold his farm for subdivision in 1882 but his name was retained.

Edward **Deshon** was born at Bombay in 1836 and arrived in Brisbane in 1862. He worked for the Queensland government, rising to become auditor-general. He lived in a stately home along the street in Woolloongabba which now bears his name.

BIOPHYSICAL FEATURES

In the early European settlement of any area, streets, ridges and hills were far more important to people than later, when covered by suburbia. Biophysical features often became placenames after starting as mere descriptors. This method of placenaming is generally the earliest stage of 'ordering the landscape'.

Rocky Water Holes Creek was first recorded by Alan Cunningham in 1828, who even then commented on this 'beautiful chain of ponds'. Prior to its siltation, after the adjacent forests were completely cleared, small barges were able to travel up this stream, and there is a report of a dog being taken by a shark. In spite of that it was a favoured recreation area, with the most popular swimming hole near the present Ipswich Road overpass, although nude swimming, for the more daring, was confined to the secluded waterhole close to Beaudesert Road. When the

Yeerongpilly to Loganlea railway was built in 1884, the railway commissioner was of the opinion that Rocky Water Holes was too long a name, hence coining **Rocklea**.

Eight Mile Plains derived its name from its distance from **One Mile Swamp** (another biophysical title).

Acacia Ridge was named because of the predominant vegetation along the ridge followed by Beaudesert Road.

Broadwater Road apparently derives its name from the fact that it connected Logan Road to a broad stretch of water in Bulimba Creek.

Sandy Creek, now largely contained underground in pipes, was the name for both the Tarragindi area and its drainage system.

Mimosa Creek is named after the predominant vegetation of wattles, deriving from the family name Mimosaceae.

Pine Mountain was named after the excellent hoop pine in the area.

Ridge Street, Greenslopes was so named because it followed a ridge line to the north of Stephens Mountain.

Crest Street, Mount Gravatt derives its name because it is near the crest of Nursery Road, as it climbs Mt Thompson.

Bankside and Edgehill Streets, Nathan are named after their position, clinging as they do to the edge of a sharp rocky ridge of Toohey Forest.

Bracken Street, Moorooka was named after the predominant regrown vegetation, the bracken fern.

Fred Wecker, born in 1827 in Germany, and his wife Katherine, a sister of Conrad and Andreas Glindemann of Mount Gravatt, took up considerable land along the east side of Logan Road in the early 1860s. Wecker farmed land between Logan and Chatsworth Road, and always grew lucerne on this north facing slope. Wecker's dark green lucerne paddock became known as 'the green slope'. The name had slipped into disuse when in 1912 James Toohey's family sold block 104, to the north of Ridge Street, to developers who marketed their subdivision under the pretentious name, 'The City View Estate Greenslopes'. When Tram lines were extended from Stones Corner in 1914, only the word **Greenslopes** was used on the hoarding. Previously this area had been known as **Mount Pleasant** to the east of Logan Road and **Dunellen Estate** to the west, although at times the whole area was also just included as part of Coorparoo.

Creek Road, Mount Gravatt was named after a creek which ran down to Logan Road near the present Scurr's Hardware.

CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

To name a place after an important event is a way of personalising and localising cultural myths. We can for instance appreciate the cultural impact of the first world war by looking at the strongly expressed need to eulogise battles, leaders and fallen soldiers, and build statues and name places in their honour. This happened rarely after the second world war, and it would be very hard to imagine the Vietnam War being symbolically treated in this way.

Messines Ridge, **Bapaume** and **Pozieres Roads** are all named after important first world war battles in which Australian soldiers took part. **Monash Road** and **Birdwood Road** are named after two reasonably popular generals in that war. These names were applied to the Mount Gravatt soldier settlement scheme which was established after 1919 on land to the north of Toohey Forest. Some of this land had been willed to the Roman catholic church by James Toohey, as a site for a catholic church and cemetery. This area was put into approximately 4 hectare blocks, designated as 'poultry farms'. Like many other soldier settlement schemes, this was a rather dismal failure. The area now comprises parts of Tarragindi and Holland Park.

Allied war leaders' names are also commemorated in **Birdwood**, **Haig**, **French**, **Jellicoe**, **Joffre** and **Kitchener Streets** Coorparoo. This subdivision was made by the Robinson family who shared the land with the family of Lachlan Wilson, a brigadier general in the war.

'OLD' COUNTRY CONNECTION

As already indicated, a sense of place is an important cultural aspect. For many early migrants to the alien environment of Australia, their sense of continuity of place could be enhanced by reproducing old placenames to serve as constant reminders of home. To attach a European name, for example, in some way tamed the Australian environment, making it seem less alien.

Sunnybank was the Gloucester home of the Gillespie family, who arrived in Queensland in 1862 and took up land on the south of Toohey Forest. They grew fruit and vegetables for the Brisbane market. When the South Coast railway was opened, the local station was named after their farm - Sunnybank.

Runcorn was named by Rev. J. McLaren, a local minister, after his birthplace in Cheshire.

Salisbury was named after Salisbury Farm (later Estate) centred on what is now Rocklea Showgrounds. Salisbury was named by William Coote, one of Brisbane's early journalists and historians, after his English home district.

German Bridge applied to an area along Logan Road, near the bridge at the bottom of a long hill to the south and a steep hill to the north (at the junction with Sterculia Street). It was so named because of the German settlers such as Crumps and Glindemanns in the area. Andreas Glindemann built the German Bridge Hotel in 1879, but in 1927 it was closed and its licence transferred to Mountain View Hotel, then at the end of the tramline. In 1930 the German Bridge Hotel was demolished and the materials used to erect three houses on the site (still remaining on Logan Road) and the name slipped into disuse.

Mayfield Road, Moorooka derives from Mayfield Farm, the home of George Pegg, an early dairyman in the area. Mayfield was the name of Pegg's original home in Staffordshire.

Chatsworth Road is named after Chatsworth House which was built in 1888, opposite what is now Hensell Terrace Greenslopes. This was the home of William Evans, and was apparently named after his favourite British MP.

St Leonards Street, Coorparoo is named after the home of Nathaniel Lade, who was born in southwest Kent near St Leonards, England in 1835. In 1858 he came to Australia, opening a saddlery business in Queen Street in 1865. He purchased extensive land in Coorparoo between 1871 and 1874, and built St Leonards. Lade went bankrupt in the financial crash of 1893. **Lade Street** is also named after him.

Galway Shopping Centre was named by the O'Neil family, developers of much of eastern Moorooka and southern Tarragindi, after the home county of their progenitor James Toohey. **O'Neil Street**, Tarragindi has the same origin, as does **Timothy**, **Rachael**, **Sharon** and **Charmaine Streets**, and **Kerriane Place**, all first names of O'Neil family members. **Desanne Place** is construed from Desmond O'Neil, James Toohey's great grandson, and his wife Anne.

DESTINATION

Not all placenames are derived through esoteric culturally significant processes. Many roads become known to people, merely through common usage, by their destination. Thus Brisbane has **Ipswich Road**, while Ipswich has **Brisbane Road**. Even rationality has a role in placenaming.

Cleveland Road (both Old and New), **Beaudesert**, **Beenleigh**, and **Ipswich Roads** are all named after their destination. Cleveland Road was first shown as a line of blazed trees on a sketch map prepared by Alan Cunningham in 1829. A plan dated 22 May 1850, entitled 'Survey of a practicable road from Brisbane in the County of Stanley to the proposed Town of Cleveland in the same county' marked out the present Old Cleveland Road and determined the line of survey for later subdivisions along its route. Norman Creek, at what is now known as Stones Corner, was first bridged by this road in 1856. This was still a very rough track in 1863, when George Wight wrote, 'Cleveland is some two and twenty miles from the city of Brisbane, by a road on which it would puzzle even a London Jebu to drive a four-wheeled conveyance without depositing its contents in some rut or creek' (in Endicott 1979, p.8). When Norman Creek was bridged near the Brisbane River in 1856, a shorter route to Cleveland was offered along what came to be known as **New Cleveland Road** (now **Wynnum Road**, also known by its destination). The previous more southerly route became **Old Cleveland Road**, also known as **High Cleveland Road**, because it avoided the low swampy land near the mouth of Norman Creek.

Logan Road is not named after Patrick Logan as is so often assumed. This route was originally known as **Slack's Track**, named after William Slack, a grazier along the creek south of Brisbane which still bears his name. Instead of driving his cattle to the west to Coopers Plains, to link up with the road between Brisbane and Ipswich, he started to use an old Aboriginal trail across the Campbell Range between Mt Gravatt and Mt Thompson. When this track was later pushed south to the Logan River it slowly became known by its destination as Logan Road. From 1864 until the opening of the South Coast rail line in 1885, this was an important Cobb & Co. stage route, eventually linking to Southport and to the Richmond River District, through what is now The Lion's Road, over Logan Pass.

EARLY LAND USE

Folk descriptors of landuse, as well as landforms, can become placenames through frequent repetition over time. This still begs the question of why some early landuse is immortalised, while most is not. That Nathan Heights is not called The Killing Fields (after Barstow's slaughterhouse), while the adjacent road became Orange Grove Road no doubt reflects poetic sensitivity. **Orange Grove Road**, Coopers Plains is named after the orange growing farm of the Nalder family, while their neighbours, the Barstows, are forgotten.

The suburb of **Fruitgrove** derives its name from the extensive orchards in the Sunnybank area.

Camp Hill is named after the popular teamsters and bullockies' stop at the base of the hill along Old Cleveland Road.

Stable Swamp Creek is named after the land impact of a large dairy operated by George Pegg, along the banks of a previously unnamed stream.

Nursery Road, Holland Park was named after an early plant nursery in the area.

Mains Road, Mt Gravatt and Sunnybank apparently derives its names from the water mains which are buried thereunder.

Mount and Galway Streets, Greenslopes are named after Mount Galway House, the home of the James Toohey family. In 1927 this house was moved from between these two streets to the present site of Autumn Lodge Nursing home to allow subdivision of their 'calf paddock', the income from which was crucial to James Toohey's five surviving unmarried daughters. At this time **Thomas Street** and **Brian Avenue** were named after their nephews, Thomas and Brian O'Neil, and **Ellena Avenue** was named after Ellen Toohey, as was **Toohey Avenue**.

SUBDIVISION THEMES

In an attempt to promote landsales, developers often adopt a theme which they then immortalise in a pattern of street and other placenames. The selected theme reflects contemporary culturally desirable notions, but these can change dramatically. Native tree names, for example, were popular at the time of federation (as was all Australiana), and then came back into vogue in the 1970s.

When City View Estate Greenslopes was subdivided **Garden, Pear, Peach, Bunya** and **Cedar Streets** were selected to concur with the marketing image of Greenslopes as a desirable garden suburb. A generation later, the same logic dictated the naming of **Palm, Waratah** and **Boronia Avenues** in Holland Park.

Following the second world war, the military area along Evans Road became an industrial subdivision. **Assembly, Project, Bearing, Enterprise, Industries, Chrome, Precision** and **Commerce Streets**, and **Textile Crescent** all reflect the hopeful aspirations of those planners.

Longfellow, Tennyson, Milton, Wordsworth and **Dickens Streets**, Norman Park, were presumably chosen to reflect a cultured, refined suburban development marketing strategy when Norman Park Estate was created in the 1880s. The Suburb of **Norman Park** is named after this estate which was based on Norman Creek.

The subdivision of Thompson Estate (now Annerley and Greenslopes) saw a string of regal, heraldic placenames: **Emperor, King, Prince, Regent, Duke, Marquis, Earl, Baron** and **Knight Streets**.

More recently developers in Robertson adopted **Eurydice, Parnassus, Romulus, Icarus, Orpheus** and **Bacchus** as streetnames, hoping to reflect a refined appreciation for the classics.

A small subdivision between Cavendish Road and Pine Mountain Reserve, Holland Park revels in precious names such as **Diamond, Sapphire, Opal, Topaz, Amethyst** and **Crystal Streets**.

When the hilly area between Chatsworth, Boundary and Cavendish Roads in Coorparoo was subdivided, streetnames were selected to reflect a futuristic astral image, possibly associated with the camera obscura at Whites Hill. Thus we have **Satellite, Perihelion, Octantis, Meridian, Mars, Meteor, Solar, Orion, Canopus** and **Sirius Streets**, along with the more predictable **Buena Vista Avenue**, and two short, curved streets, **Arc** and **Sector**.

Between Old Cleveland Road and Norman Creek, we find a subdivision with **Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth** and **Tenth Avenues**, presumably selected by the developer Reuben Nicklin in 1886 to reflect rationality. One cannot help but wonder what happened to Avenues One to Four. Perhaps this will remain one of life's great unsolved mysteries?

OTHER SOURCES

While most placenaming can be explained through these nine, culturally significant mechanisms, occasionally serendipity plays a crucial part.

Tarragindi was originally known as Sandy Creek. When the William Grimes (of Grimes & Petty) family were building their home on the site of the present reservoir in 1881, they had helping them Tarragindi Tassaroni, who was a servant of Alfred Foote (of Cribb & Foote). Prior to her marriage, Marie Grimes was Marie Cribb, whose mother gave her 76 acres (30 hectares) of land in Sandy Creek. Tarragindi was blackbirded from the Loyalty Islands, to work on the Queensland canefields. He ran away and was taken in by Alfred Foote when found hungry along Ipswich Road. When William Grimes was looking for a suitable name for his new home on what we now call **Reservoir Hill**, Tarragindi Tassaroni is reported to have said 'call it Tarragindi - it means 'camp on a hill''. **Tarragindi Road** is named after this house. Tarragindi Tassaroni, a staunch Salvation Army member, died in 1913 and is buried at Ipswich Cemetery.

Lister, Turton, Young and **Daw Streets**, Sunnybank are all named after local men who were killed in the first world war.

Bellissima Forest was the original name for the area between Beaudesert and Orange Grove Roads, to the south of Evans Road, Salisbury. The name derives from the fertile imagination of one of the daughters of Francis Lahey, who farmed much of this area along what was then a pristine Rocky Water Holes Creek. The family later moved to establish Lahey's Sawmills in the Gold Coast hinterland. **Bellissima Forest** existed until covered with munitions and other military factories during the second world war.

Eric, Hector, David and **Oates Streets**, Holland Park are named after the three sons of Oates, the developer of Oatland Estate in 1911.

Tennyson was originally called **Softstone**, named after the shale which was encountered by John Williams, when trying to establish a coal mine in the area in 1843-44. Williams soon moved on to Redbank and then to Moggill where he established a successful coalmine. James Strong bought the land at the junction of Oxley Creek and Brisbane River in 1861, and called his farm Softstone. Between 1882 and 1888 he changed the name of his farm to Tennyson, after his favourite writer. He sold his land to the Queensland Deposit Bank and Building Society, which then subdivided the land but retained Tennyson as the area name. To be consistent, they named streets **Merlin, Lancelot, Vivian, Camelot, Gerlee** and **Myla** as well as **Arthur Terrace** (another example of 'Theme' naming, as outlined above).

CONCLUSION

'Ordering the Landscape' is a process common to all people. The naming of streets, creeks, hills and suburbs on the southeast of Brisbane has been shown to generally follow one of a number of paths. All naming reflects culturally significant processes, but these processes can be seen to be time specific in some ways. We can learn a great deal about social history, as well as the history of environmental interactions and landuse, by the careful insightful study of the labels which people attach to their environment.