

Place Name SUMMARY (PNS) 5.04.01/12

?ITYI-KAUWINGGA (Nowhere Else Creek)

(last edited: 9/5/2019)

Abstract

Ityi-kauwingga (also optionally *Ityi-kauwe*) is probably the correct spelling of the Kurna name recorded in 1839 by the first surveyors as 'Ichicouinga' on the upper reach of Nowhere Else Creek, just over the ridge north of Delamere.

The common Kurna morpheme *kauwe* 'water' identifies it as a fresh-water site. It is the small wetland on Section 1527, at the junction of Nowhere Else Creek with some tributary creek gullies, about 1.5 km northwest of the main road at the Rapid Bay turnoff.

There is no known meaning for *ityi*.

A decade or so later the name had been adopted for the Stockyards district on Stockyard Creek as 'Echicowinga'; which was renamed as the new hamlet of Glenburn (now Delamere).

There is no known evidence to justify Tindale's application of this name at Second Valley (see PNS 5.4.1/3).

<i>Coordinates</i>	-35.557158° Latitude, 138.193846° Longitude.
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Language Information

<i>Meaning</i>	'place of the <i>ityi</i> water'.
<i>Etymology</i>	<i>Ityi</i> [meaning unknown] + <i>kauwe</i> '[fresh] water' + <i>-ngga</i> 'at, place'
<i>Notes</i>	The morpheme <i>ityi</i> is not known in either Kurna or Ngarrindjeri, but here it must also be Kurna because the other morphemes are.
<i>Language Family</i>	Thura-Yura: 'Kurna'.
<i>KWP Former Spelling</i>	?Ityi-kauwingga, ?Ityi-kauwe
<i>KWP New Spelling 2010</i>	?Ityi-kauwingga, ?Ityi-kauwi
<i>Phonemic Spelling</i>	? /ityikawingka/, ?/ityikawi/
<i>Pronunciation</i>	"Ityi-kauwingga", "Ityi-kauwi"
<i>Pronunciation tips</i>	Stress 1 st syllable; secondary stress on 3 rd ; 'au' as in 'cow'; every 'a' as in Maori 'haka'; 'ngg' as in 'finger'.

Main source evidence

Date	1839
Original source text	“Ichicouinga” [in Section 7 (= 1527 on later maps) along the gully of an eastern tributary of Nowhere Else Creek].
Reference	‘Plan of 15 sections in the country adjoining Rapid Bay... Mr Bryant’s survey’, plan 6/15a, GNU.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	Kurna survey guides 1839.

Date	Dec 1846
Original source text	“[County of Hindmarsh]... Bradley, Wm., Itchecowey. ”
Reference	Murray 1847, <i>SA Almanack</i> : 84.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	Dec 1850
Original source text	[Travelling south from Denton’s farm near today’s Yattagolinga River] “...about a mile along these rich woods, into a small, clear, open valley, called Echicowinga , where we were surrounded by a richer forest verdure than we had seen – perfectly park-like.”
Reference	‘Old Colonist’ 1851, ed. Yelland 1983, <i>Colonists, Copper and Corn</i> , 2 nd Ed: 37.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	first surveyors; author Henry Jones OR Thomas Wilson.

Date	1865
Original source text	“DISTRICT OF RAPID BAY ... Cock John, do.[i.e. farmer] Aitchicoinga ... Hardy Edmund, farmer, Aitchicoinga ... Roper William H. farmer, Aitchicoinga ”
Reference	Boothby <i>SA Almanac 1865</i> , [SA Directory for 1865: 94-5, http://images.slsa.sa.gov.au/almanacsanddirectories/1865boothby/246/
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	n.d. [before 1933]
Original source text	“The Rev Dr Burgess stated: ‘In 1859... a place then known as Stockyards Creek... the native designation of the locality (Etchecowinga) was long and clumsy”.
Reference	Cockburn 1990, <i>SA: What’s In a Name?</i> : 86 under ‘Glenburn’.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	

Date	1930s
Original source text	“ Itji`ka:winga ” [arrow to Second Valley].
Reference	Tindale annotated map, Hundred of Yankalilla, AA 338/24/101.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	?Albert Karlowan 1935.

Date	1930s
Original source text	“ Itji`ka:winga - Camp at spring Section 1564 H OF Yankalilla, Second Valley . Lit. ‘First Water’. Deriv. `itji first + `ka:wi water. Tindale ms.”
Reference	Tindale Kurna place-name card 482.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	?Albert Karlowan 1935.

Date	after ?1980s
Original source text	“ Jaitjakawengga Reserve ”.
Reference	Public sign at the Reserve on the flats of the River Parananacooka at lower Second Valley on Recreation Drive; also www.placenames.sa.gov.au/pno/ .
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	?Tindale.

Discussion: ‘ICHICOUINGA’:

‘Ichicouinga’ is the only one of three names in the area immediately south of Rapid Bay which survived in settler useage for a time. It was the one nearest to the valley a mile south which Henry Jones used as a place to keep his stock from the mid-1840s, and which thus required a common label and was called ‘The Stockyards’.ⁱ The latter is still remembered today in ‘Stockyard Creek’, the alternative name for Yohoe Creek.

By 1859 when there were enough respectable residents to agitate for a respectable address, the nearby ‘native name’ – known presumably from the surveys and by then believed to be the name of ‘our district’ – was rejected. Many years later the Rev. Dr Burgess remembered why:

In 1859 the neighbourhood was very sparsely settled. A Methodist Church and Sunday School were opened down in the hollow under a precipitous hill at a place then known as Stockyards Creek, which was considered a very inappropriate name. I found that the native designation of the locality (Etchecowinga) was long and clumsy. The physical geography of the place suggested glen and burn, and at a public meeting in the Church I proposed the adoption of Glenburn, and the motion was carried – ‘glen’ is a valley, and ‘burn’ a stream.ⁱⁱ

Within about 12 years 'Glenburn' had been replaced by another nostalgic memory of the home far away, 'Delamere': perhaps understandable for a place so beautifully and cosily secluded in the manner of English dales.

However, the 'native name' did not belong originally in Stockyard Creek.

The first surveyors of this area, Poole and Bryant, recorded a number of names around Rapid Bay, including those that still appear on the maps and signs but also several others which never found their way into public use. Among them was 'Ichicouinga', marked in 1839 by Bryant specifically along the uppermost reach of the eastern and main course of Nowhere Else Creek, where it runs immediately below Rapid Bay Road one km from the Main South Road. At and above this marking the creek is a thin blue line, while below it is thick; and the uppermost reach continues southward to the main road at the ridge, just north of Delamere. The Nowhere Else catchment is on the north side of the same ridge whose southern side has some of the Delamere catchments.

The fact that 'Ichicouinga' was not entitled 'river', even though it was marked along a creek, probably indicates that this name, like many others applied by collectors to the whole length of a watercourse, may have been intended for a very specific and limited site. It is likely that Bryant's marking was applying it to some part of the reach where it is written, and not elsewhere; and, judging from my visits to the site, it may very likely have named the little wetland which still survives where several small steep gullies meet on Section 1527 (at the western end of the name inscription on the map). An old road to Rapid Bay – still visible today – once passed over the gully 200 metres above it before joining the current Rapid Bay Road on the next ridge.ⁱⁱⁱ No doubt this had been based on Aboriginal foot routes on which it was a significant landmark.

As though to remind us of the separate identity of 'Ichicouinga', downstream to the north-west the same creek was marked 'R. Ouiwachilly' on an un-numbered section which later became 1456. Perhaps there is some significance in the fact that Bryant located 'Ichicouinga' immediately above a very steep narrow gully, and 'R. Ouiwachilly' immediately below it,^{iv} perhaps they were two distinct sites with separate ecologies and functions.

At the end of 1846 one William Bradley was listed at a property called 'Itchecowey' somewhere in the County of Hindmarsh.^v There do not seem to be any other listings which might have helped in locating Bradley, but it can be fairly assumed that there were not two Itchecoweyes in the County.

In late November 1850 a journalist signing himself 'Old Colonist'^{vi} described his tour southward from Denton's farm on the Yattagolinga River:



We made another excursion the next day on foot about a mile along these rich woods, into a small, clear, open valley, called Echicowinga, where we were surrounded by a richer forest verdure than we had seen – perfectly park-like. We fancied continually, & the impression of others we found to be the same, that we were about to emerge from some opening of a glade into view of a stately lawn & mansion.^{vii}

From information in Old Colonist's journal we can deduce that his 'Echicowinga' was not today's Delamere (as assumed by his modern editor because the name has been associated with the town), but Poole and Bryant's 'Ichicouinga'.^{viii} This tiny valley had a similar character to that of the bigger plains of Aldinga and Adelaide, often remarked by the first English newcomers as being 'like a gentleman's park'. Such 'parks' were not a 'state of nature', as they imagined in surprise and wonder, but resulted from centuries of intentional, detailed, scientific fire management by the Aboriginal owners.^{ix}

In 1850 some settlers still knew the correct location of the name. In the following nine years to Rev Burgess's campaign, it seems to have been co-opted to the Stockyards before being buried by a Scottish import.

THE WORD:

The first three of the four sources have spellings which appear to be independent, and their cumulative evidence is therefore strong.

The last part of the name is clearly in Kurna language: *kauwingga* 'at the water', from *kauwe* 'water' and the locative for a two-syllable root, *-ngga*. The name therefore refers to a fresh-water site of some kind. Bradley's property name 'Itchecowey' merely leaves off the locative suffix: further strong evidence that the name belonged in Kurna territory and had been collected with basic accuracy.

The first two syllables are less clear. Burgess's 'Etche' is late evidence, and probably derives from a line of pronunciation which must have begun when some reader assumed that 'Ech' was to be pronounced as in the English word 'etch' and inserted the 't' accordingly. The first two sources alone, 'Ichi' and 'Itche', might leave a doubt whether the first vowel is *i* as in 'pin' or *ai* as in 'pine'; but the third source 'Echi' eliminates the *ai*. It is therefore possible to explain all three of the earliest sources straightforwardly as *ityi*.

In Ngarrindjeri there are two morphemes *-itji*: one means 'without', the other means 'he, she, it'. Apart from the fact that these are both suffixes and would be at the end of the word, the first

morpheme would surely be not Ngarrindjeri but Kurna like the last one. But there is no record of a Kurna *ityi*. So its meaning remains unknown or conjectural at best.^x

Two km away as the crow flies, Bill and Janet Page's wildlife reserve on Nowhere Else Road had the unapproved name 'Etchacowinga Sanctuary', probably derived by the Department of Environment from the old settler name; and now the approved name 'Yaitya-kauwingga Sanctuary' after consultation with Kurna Warra Pintyandi in 2008^{xi}

The name has been applied by Tindale to the springs at Second Valley, almost certainly in error.^{xii}

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End of Summary

ⁱ See 'Old Colonist' 1851, in EM Yelland 1983, *Colonists, Copper and Corn* [2nd Ed.]: 42.

ⁱⁱ Burgess quoted in Cockburn, SA: *What's In a Name?* 1984 under 'Delamere'; 1990 ed: 86 under 'Glenburn'.

ⁱⁱⁱ See the printed information on Tindale's annotated map, Hundred of Yankalilla, AA 338/24/101.

^{iv} Bryant 1840, 'Plan of 15 sections in the country adjoining Rapid Bay', 6/15a, GNU.

^v Murray, *SA Almanac* 1847: 84.

^{vi} According to editor Yelland, this 'Old Colonist' was probably one of the two Henry Joneses. According to a State Library website <http://www.samemory.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=1477>, he was a Thomas Wilson.

^{vii} Yelland (ed.), *Colonists, Copper and Corn*, 1970: 49; (2nd ed) 1983: 37.

^{viii} To reach 'Echecowinga', Old Colonist walked 'about a mile' from Denton's homestead near the Yatagolinga River. 'Ichicouinga' as marked by Poole and Bryant is exactly one mile from Denton's, while the nearest homestead on Old Colonist's route through 'Stockyard' was that of Collins at Section 1500, two full miles from Denton's (Yelland *op. cit.*: 42-3; cp. Roy Williams 1985 / 1991, *To Find A Way*: 250).

^{ix} See Bill Gammage 2012, 'The Adelaide District in 1836', in R Foster and P Sendziuk, *Turning Points: Chapters in South Australian History*, Adelaide: Wakefield Press: ~~???~~; Gammage 2011, *The Biggest Estate on Earth: how Aborigines made Australia*, Allen & Unwin: 40-3.

^x See the related Management File of this name for more conjecture about its meaning.

^{xi} Confirmed 25/4/11 (KWP place-name meeting Minutes). See below and PNS 5.4.1/3 'Jaitjakawengga' for linguistics and other uses of this name.

^{xii} See PNS 5.4.1/14 'Itji-kawingga' (Second Valley).