

# Netherby Chronology



**1838**

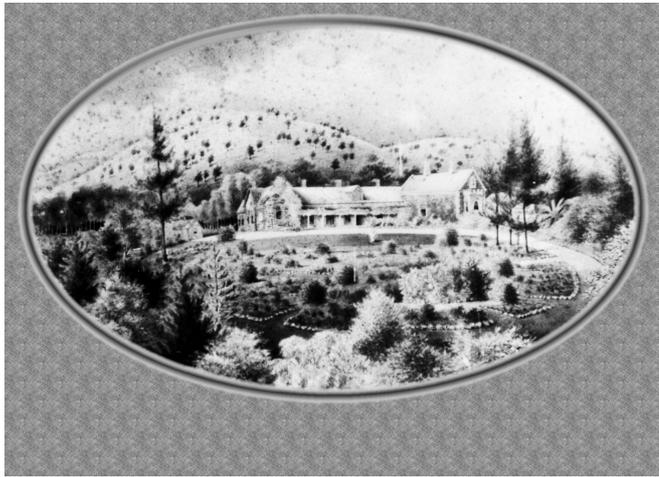
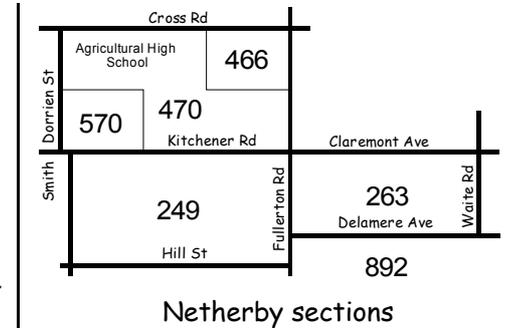
Edward and Anna Pollard acquired section 263 selling it to William Bartley in 1844.

**1839**

SA Company leased the southern part section 249 to William Finlayson. SA Company leased the northern part of section 249 to Mr Lewis.

**1846**

April 18 SA Company leased the northern part section 249 to William Delany & Thomas Troustell [?] for one year at the annual rent of £25/2/6 *'to be paid half yearly a reasonable time to be allowed us by the South Australia Company for the purpose of getting the Harvest of 1846 gathered in we agreeing to give three months notice to the company of our intention to give up the farm at the end of the lease say at Dec 25 1846'*.



Netherby painted by William Tibbits c1896

**1847**

Netherby Homestead built on section 263 by Colonel James Henderson who had been Surveyor on Captain Frome's expedition to Lake Torrens in 1838.

**1853**

'Netherby' sold to solicitor Richard Hicks for £2000.

**1855**

William Finlayson bought the southern half of section of 249 (67 acres) for £512 and built 'Helenholme'.

**1862**

Pt Section 249 southern part of 67 acres sub-leased to David Fowler, merchant of Adelaide for 21 years until 1876 when it was surrendered.

**1865**

Part of section 249 sold to James Parish, labourer of Mitcham for £40.

**1866**

Part of section 249 sold to labourer, Thomas Slee and his wife Jane of Princes Road, Mitcham.

**1867**

Part of section 249 sold to William Morgan merchant and MP for £3000. He planted 11 acres of oranges and vineyards and set up a wine-press.

**1884**

Sale of 'Netherby' of the late William Morgan... *'The whole of the surplus elegant modern household furniture and effects, a full-size billiard table and furnishings; Handsome modern carriage in splendid order; hooded wagonette by Duncan and Fraser; Carriage Horses and harness, cows, poultry, implements, choice and rare plants. He opened up a Spring to water his orchard'*.

**1890**

'Netherby' sold to John Pile who, with his brothers was a pastoralist at 'Cuthero' on the River Darling in NSW. He was involved in the horse industry and bred a number of successful racehorses, hosted Hunt Club breakfasts from 'Netherby' and eventually was awarded life membership of the Adelaide Racing Club. However his pastoral interests suffered from drought and the impact of rabbits and 'Netherby' was lost to bank mortgages by 1902.

### 1903 - 1912

A number of people occupied 'Netherby' as caretakers for the bank: W Robertson formerly of 'Turretfield' near Gawler, John McCann, director of a meat Company in the Argentine and, from 1909, Mr AH Fearon, manager of the Bank of NSW in Adelaide.

### 1910

Unley High School established.

### 1913

Dr RH Pulleine had a far-famed collection of succulents at Netherby; the more delicate varieties went to collectors in Melbourne and Sydney after his death.

Netherby Estate (section 263) subdivided into 134 allotments forming Netherby and Montrose Avenues between Claremont and Delamere Avenues. The estate was advertised as 'particularly suited for retired Squatters and Farmers'. and buyers were required to erect a residence costing no less than £800 for blocks fronting Fullarton Road and £600 for other blocks.

**Right:** William and Helen Finlayson's 'Helenholme' as it was originally built in Finlayson Street.



Early in 1836, William Finlayson, who had been looking for an opportunity to serve overseas as a missionary, read an advertisement in a London newspaper offering free passage to the colony of South Australia for married men.

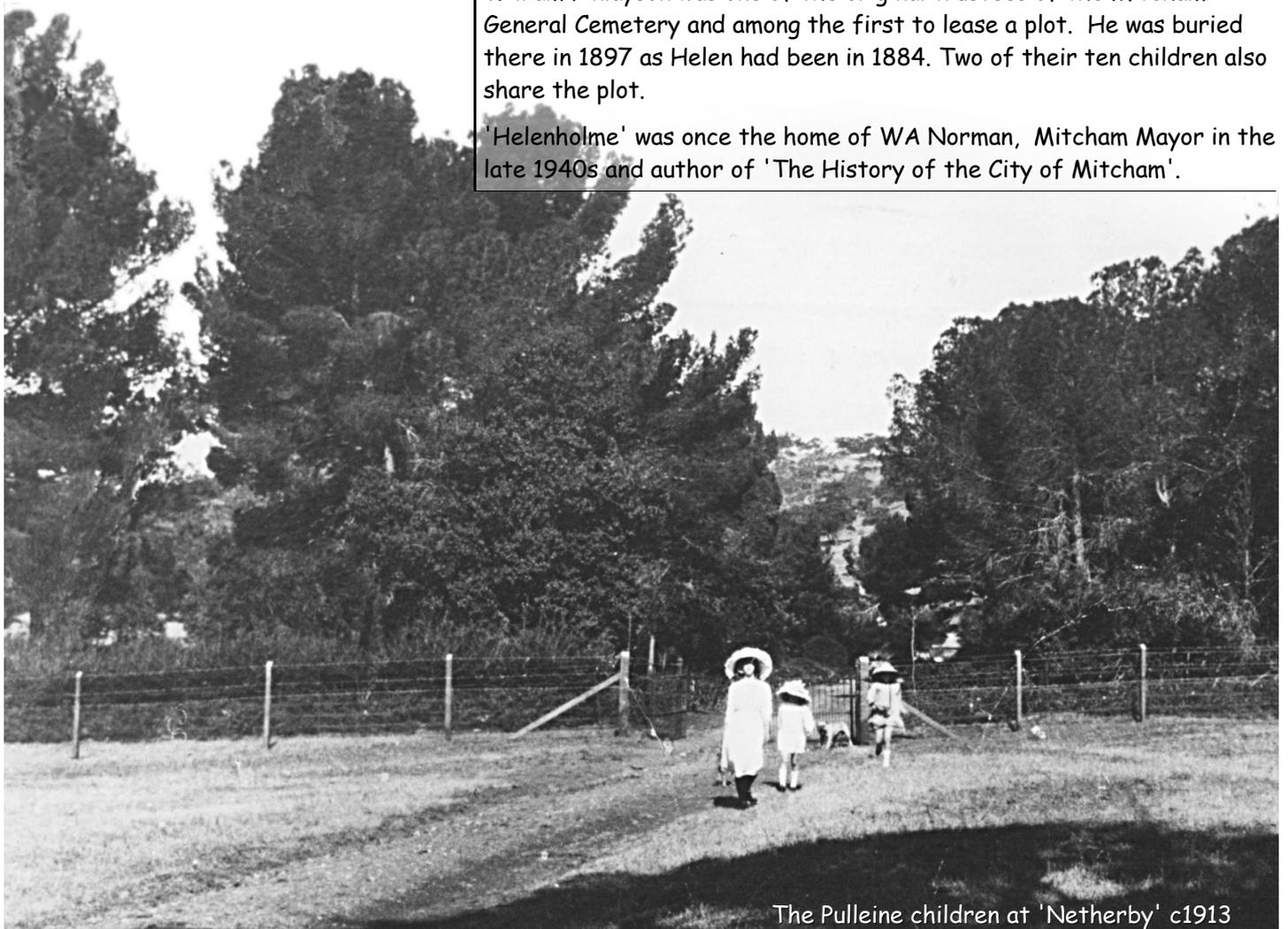
His fiancée at the time refused to accompany him so instead he proposed both marriage and emigration to a like minded friend, Helen Harvey. She agreed and the couple left England on October 8, 1836 aboard the *John Renwick* arriving at Holdfast Bay in February 1837.

In September 1838 William went to work on the South Australia Company's No. 1 Sheep Station at Brownhill Creek and the following year went into partnership with another man to establish a dairy business in the same area.

The following year the family established itself on some rented land in what is today Netherby. For ten years times were tough but with the gold-rushes in Victoria and New South Wales, *'the price of all produce rose greatly on account of so many neglecting to till their land - those who did so reaped the benefit'*. By 1855 William had bought the land and built a four room house. He named the property 'Helenholme'.

William Finlayson was one of the original trustees of the Mitcham General Cemetery and among the first to lease a plot. He was buried there in 1897 as Helen had been in 1884. Two of their ten children also share the plot.

'Helenholme' was once the home of WA Norman, Mitcham Mayor in the late 1940s and author of 'The History of the City of Mitcham'.



The Pulleine children at 'Netherby' c1913



Mrs Pulleine and a 1911 Nagant Hobson car outside 'Netherby' c1913. Built in 1847 for Colonel James Henderson, 'Netherby' was also the residence of Sir William Morgan, merchant and SA Premier (1878-1881) until shortly before his death in 1883.



While living at 'Helenholme', WA Norman built a caravan in the garden as a hobby. Later a business was established in Hill St, Mitcham hiring these 'Aero' caravans at £2/12/6 per week in summer and a little less in winter. The photo above is an illustration accompanying Norman's article on his trip to the ACT which was published in a brochure published by Trailer Caravans LTD c1930. Painter Hans Heysen hired an 'Aero' for his trip to the Flinders Ranges in 1929.

#### 1917

Section 249 Subdivided as 'Galway'. Smith-Dorrien, Kitchener, French, Haig and Birdwood Streets named after senior officers from World War 1.

#### 1922

North side of Section 249 subdivided.

#### 1941

Netherby homestead demolished.

#### 1949

The remaining 19 acres of the original Netherby estate subdivided. What was said to be the largest mulberry tree in South Australia was removed.

#### 1950

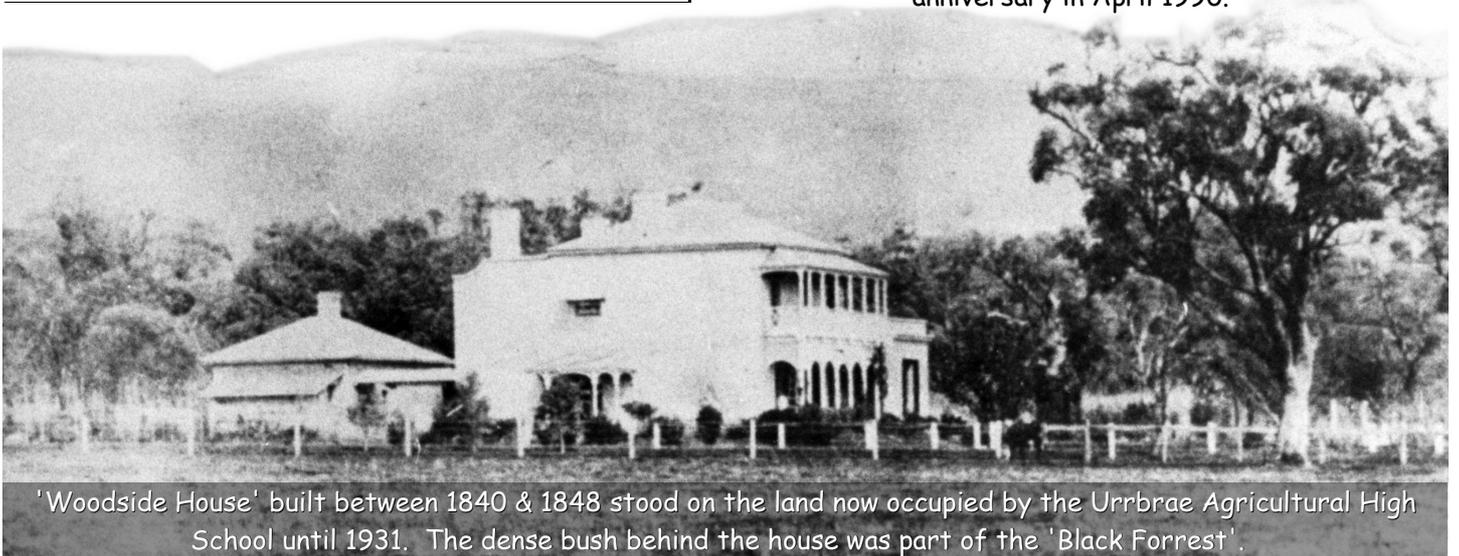
Auction of 35 allotments creating Heather and Pulleine Avenues. As in the 1913 subdivision, potential buyers were 'protected' by building conditions. One residence per block costing a minimum of £2000 and built of brick or stone. No flats or maisonettes. No nurseries or market gardens.

#### 1960 - 1965

Unley High School students, girls and boys, gradually moved from Kingswood to the Kitchener Street site. ('State High School, Unley, 1910 - 1985' C. Campbell, pages 142-143, page 180).

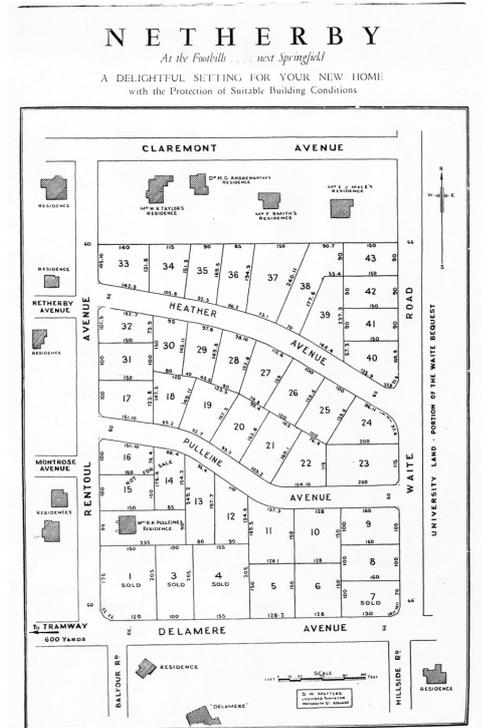
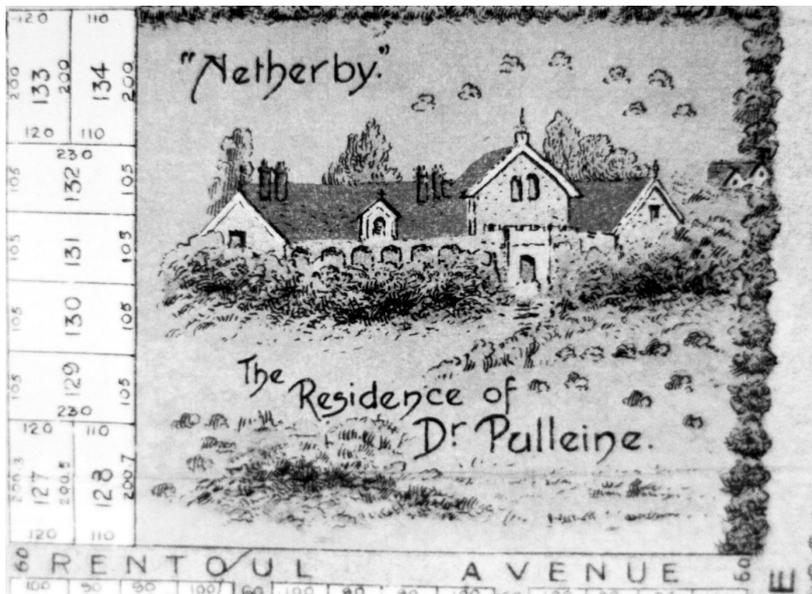
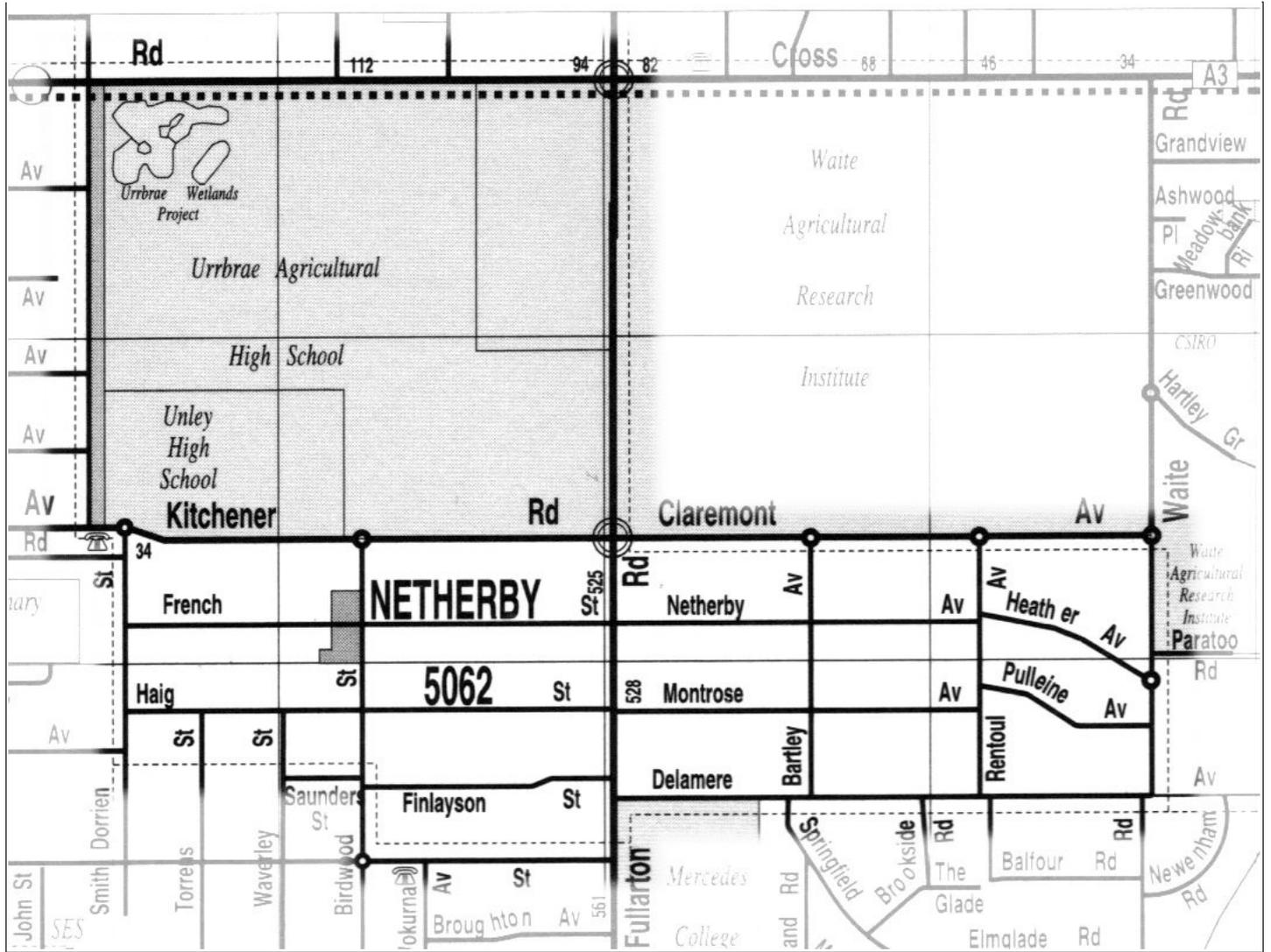


Part of the celebrations for Unley High School's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary in April 1990.

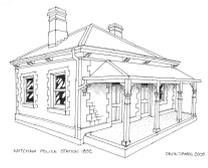


'Woodside House' built between 1840 & 1848 stood on the land now occupied by the Urrbrae Agricultural High School until 1931. The dense bush behind the house was part of the 'Black Forrest'.

# Netherby Map



Above: The 'Netherby' property as depicted on the 1913 subdivision map. At right is the same area shown on the 1950 subdivision plan.



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