

## Place Name SUMMARY (PNS) 5.3/02

### INGKALILLA

(last edited: 23/3/2016)

#### Abstract

*Ingkalilla* is the Kaurna name of a site or area in the vicinity of Hay Flat plain and the part of Waterfall Creek which runs through it. It was recorded by the first surveyors in 1839 as 'Ingullilla'.

The meaning of the name is unknown, apart from the Kaurna suffix *-illa* 'at'.

The name has also been adapted in later decades and used for the Ingalalla Falls on a steep upper reach of Waterfall Creek under Mt Hayfield.

The Kaurna names 'Wongurilla' in 1840 (see PNS 5.02.01/03), and *Watara-parringga* in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (see PNS 5.03/04), have been recorded for much the same area. The relationship between the three names is unknown, though it seems likely that Ingkalilla may have originally applied further downstream on the Hay Flat plains north of Mt Hayfield.

<b>Coordinates</b>	-35.50795° Latitude, 138.344264° Longitude.
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#### Language Information

<b>Meaning</b>	'at <i>IngkaV</i> ', 'place of <i>IngkaV</i> '
<b>Etymology</b>	<i>Ingkala</i> or <i>Ingkali</i> or <i>Ingkalu</i> [meaning unknown] + <i>-illa</i> 'at, place of'
<b>Notes</b>	In today's spelling of 'Ingalalla Falls', the third vowel has been changed from <i>i</i> to <i>a</i> ; but all the first records use <i>i</i> or <i>e</i> , confirming that it was originally the standard Kaurna locative <i>-illa</i> .
<b>Language Family</b>	Thura-Yura: 'Kaurna'.
<b>KWP Former Spelling</b>	Inggalilla
<b>KWP New Spelling 2010</b>	Ingkalilla
<b>Phonemic Spelling</b>	/ingkalila/
<b>Pronunciation</b>	"Ingka-lilla":
<b>Pronunciation tips</b>	Stress the first syllable; secondary stress on 3 <sup>rd</sup> syllable.

## Main source evidence

Date	<b>1839</b>
Original source text	"Map of the District comprising Curracullina, Bungala, Yankalilla, and <b>Ingullilla</b> ". <i>[title only; 'Ingullilla' is not shown on the map].</i>
Reference	Kentish 1839, title of plan 6/32, GNU.
Informants credited	"Nat Lipscomb Kentish, Senior Surveyor, 1839"
Informants uncredited	Kurna survey guides

Date	<b>1839-40</b>
Original source text	" <b>Ingu_lill_</b> " <i>[partly illegible, probably 'Ingullilla': printed from Sections 1064/1065 southeast to 1141: i.e. roughly along Bethel Rd (south of Yankalilla), and the Sargents Rd creek to its south end, to Blacker Rd].</i>
Reference	Kentish & Poole 1840, 'Plan of Yankalyilla', Plan 6/16B, GNU.
Informants credited	"Surveyors Messrs. Kentish & Poole 25 <sup>th</sup> June 1840"
Informants uncredited	Kurna survey guides

Date	<b>1839-40</b>
Original source text	" <b>Inggellella</b> " <i>[printed across sections 1065 southeast through 1149 and 1137 to 1126: i.e. from the south end of the Bethel Rd creek (south of Yankalilla), across western margin of Dairy Flat, and along the eastern slopes of Hay Flat valley to its south end].</i>
Reference	Kentish & Poole 1840, 'Plan of Yankalyilla', map C 243, SLSA.
Informants credited	"surveyed by Messrs Kentish & Poole; drawn by G. Schroder... fin <sup>d</sup> 25 <sup>th</sup> June 1840"
Informants uncredited	Kurna survey guides

Date	<b>1842</b>
Original source text	" <b>Ingallilla R.</b> " <i>[along Waterfall Creek on sections 1114, 1115, 1133: i.e. on Hay Flat plain].</i>
Reference	W Wishart, April 1842, 'Plan showing the property of the SA Company on the Yankalyilla and Myponga, District D, and Wanwalillah, District F', map C 801, SLSA.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	Kurna survey guides, surveyors

Date	<b>1923</b>
Original source text	" <b>Inglelalla Falls</b> is the native name of the waterfalls, a great picnic place".
Reference	'A Contributor' [Lucy Webb], 'Yankalilla Yarns' No. 9, <i>SA Register</i> 10/2/1923: 14g.
Informants credited	
Informants uncredited	settler memories

## Discussion: 'INGULLILLA':

### THE PLACES AND NAMES:

On 20<sup>th</sup> September 1836 William Field, captain of the 'Rapid' as Colonel Light sought a location for the capital, walked with Light up the Yankalilla River to the place where the hills open out southward into another valley. Light "*was enchanted with this spot, it put me in mind of some of the orchards in Devonshire, and I found it plentifully supplied with fresh water*". On the illustrated sketch map which he drew up at Rapid Bay in November, he enthused, "*I never saw a more beautiful little valley than this (marked C) it is full of fresh water springs and covered with very fine grass*". Field returned in 1844 to settle in the valley below Mt Hayfield.<sup>1</sup>

According to one writer,

*The first surveyors coming down to Yankalilla pitched their tents in a fine open valley or plain, where they found the grass so luxurious and tall that it could be tied over a horse's back... they called the place Hay Flat.*<sup>2</sup>

We do not have the notebooks from the first surveys of the Yankalilla area (Districts D and F) by Kentish and Poole. But on the earliest maps arising from them are marked with 'Yankalyilla' – already familiar to the settlers since Finniss and Light's reconnaissance in 1836 – and also three names previously unknown: 'Curacullinga', 'Bungala', and 'Ingullilla' or 'Inggellella'.<sup>3</sup> Another name 'Wongurilla' was known but not mapped.<sup>4</sup>

Like the other names on these earliest maps of 1839-40 arising from the first survey, 'Ingullilla' or 'Inggellella' looks like a district name, written across multiple sections. On two of the maps<sup>5</sup> these variant spellings are shown similarly but not identically, extending for more than 4½ km slightly east and north of Hay Flat, seeming to embrace all the low rolling country immediately west of a curve following Blacker Road and the upper reach of Salt Creek, on the western margins of Dairy Flat and Torrens Vale and also north of the Yankalilla River.

<sup>1</sup> Elder, *William Light's Brief Journal*: 64; Arrowsmith map 26/1/1838, 'A survey on the coast...' by Col. Light', *BPP: Aust.* 5: 196; ; Roy Williams 1986/1991, *To Find A Way: Yankalilla and District 1836-1986*, Yankalilla and District Historical Society: 96.

<sup>2</sup> Dr Richard Schomburgk 1874, *Grasses and Fodder Plants*, quoted in Cockburn 1990, *SA: What's in a Name?*: 98.

<sup>3</sup> GNU plans 6/32 (1839) and 6/16B (1839-40); 'Plan of Yankalilla', map C 243, SLISA.

<sup>4</sup> See below and PNS 5.02.01/03.

<sup>5</sup> Two versions of Kentish and Poole 1840, 'Plan of Yankalyilla': C 243 (SLISA) and Plan 6/16B (GNU); cp. PNS 5.3/02 Inggalilla.

But on an 1842 map it is a 'river', 1½ km further west and much more specific. "Ingalilla R." is marked at sections 1114-1133 along the lower reach of a creek (now called Waterfall Creek) where it flows through the Hay Flat plain north of Mt Hayfield and joins the Yankalilla River from the south.<sup>6</sup>

There were at least two other Kurna place-names in the immediate vicinity of this 'Ingalilla R'. In 1840 'Wongurilla' was known somewhere here, probably around section 1130 on Waterfall Creek only 1 km upstream in the Hay Flat valley.<sup>7</sup> The 1842 map added yet another name *Wanwalilla*, only 2 km further up the Yankalilla River at Torrens Vale.<sup>8</sup>

A likely harmonization of these facts is that the surveyors obtained the name 'Ingullilla' for the plains river site when they first arrived there, and immediately used it for the whole partly-surveyed area upriver beyond 'Yankalyilla';<sup>9</sup> but as they pushed further upstream south and east, new names were discovered; when these were used for a short time, 'Ingullilla' was then restricted to something more like its original location as on the 1842 map.

Before long, of course, all three Kurna names – collected in accordance with Governor Gawler's official desire to preserve native names – were pushed aside by English names like 'Hay', and European habit generalized 'Yankalilla' onto the whole river.

A version of Ingalilla was later used by settlers in yet another place nearby. About 3 km upstream on Waterfall Creek, near where it enters the Hay Flat valley south of Mt Hayfield summit, are today's "Ingalalla Waterfalls":

"*Inglelalla*<sup>10</sup> Falls is the native name of the waterfalls, a great picnic place", wrote 'A Correspondent' in 1923, local resident and chronicler Lucy Webb:

*If the Inglelalla Falls were near Adelaide they would be seived [sic] as a pleasure resort... local picnickers know them well. The pool into which the water falls is of such depth that it is practically unfathomable, and the water is of such icy quality as to produce goose flesh on the casual bather... There used to be unlimited quantities of beautiful coral fern growing in the creeks, but the ruthless hand of the tripper has rendered plants very few and far between.*

<sup>6</sup> Wishart 1842, 'Plan showing the property of the SA Company on the Yankalyilla and Myponga, District D, and Wanwalillah, District F', map C 801, SLSA.

<sup>7</sup> See PNS 5.02.01/03.

<sup>8</sup> See PNS 5.03/03.

<sup>9</sup> On Plan 6/16B (1840) Yankalilla was marked as a district in the same way, along the river right up to Hay Flat plain. The same map uses the spelling 'Yankalyilla' in its title.

<sup>10</sup> Here we should take "Ingle" as the separate English word; she means 'Ingle-lalla' = *Inggelalla* with a neutral second vowel e.

William Randall junior, son of the Second Valley pioneer, corrected her:

*“Ingalalla Falls, as ‘A.C.’ remarks, are picturesque, but remote. There are two falls, the lower one the more important, where is the chilly pool mentioned. In my time this was not ‘practically unfathomable’. I touched bottom more than once, and was glad to be out in the sun again”.*<sup>11</sup>

The Falls application, several generations after first contact, does perhaps suggest that settlers thought this name applied in the valley as well as the plain. But the same was true of the name ‘Hay Flat’, and ‘Ingalalla’ may have followed the English name automatically; it is not strong evidence for the location of the original Kurna site.

The balance of early evidence favours a location for Ingalilla somewhere indeterminate around the Hay Flat plain and the adjacent part of the Yankalilla River on Dairy Flat Road.

But some possibility remains that it may have belonged upstream in the Hay Flat valley. So (probably) did ‘Wongurilla’, and another name which is the subject of an intriguing geo-linguistic ‘detective story’. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Karlowan identified an important camping site “*on the scrub plain... near Mt Hayfield*”, which must mean the Hay Flat valley, probably its upper and more scrubby parts closer to the hill. Milerum also believed that this name belonged near Mt Hayfield or possibly just south of it. According to Milerum, the Southern Kurna called it “*Watara`beringgi*” (= *Watara-parringga*): a name which more likely belonged on the permanently-flowing *parri* (‘river’) on the flats. Those are late Ngarrindjeri perceptions, which are another story.<sup>12</sup> *Watara-parringga* and ‘Wongurilla’ probably named two different sites in the valley; and perhaps it is also possible that they and Ingalilla were alternative names for the same area.<sup>13</sup>

Unless other early records appear, or specific evidence for favoured campsites (especially one on the plain), we can’t tell much more than this.

#### THE WORD:

While it was briefly current in settler society in the early 1840s, the name was used commonly enough to have at least three independent spellings: ‘Ingullilla’, ‘Inggellella’, ‘Ingalilla’. A generation

<sup>11</sup> Webb and Randall: ‘A Contributor’ [Lucy Webb], ‘Yankalilla Yarns’ No. 9, *Register* 10/2/1923: 14g; No. 19, *Observer* 28/4/1923: 52c-d; *Observer* 12/5/1923: 52e.

<sup>12</sup> See PNS 5.03/04 *Watara-parringga*.

<sup>13</sup> For a conjectural twist on that possibility, see my Postscript in the Data File of this essay.

of so later it had a fourth, 'Inglelalla' (if the very unreliable newspaper transcribed and printed it correctly).<sup>14</sup>

All of these including the earliest have the standard Kurna locative suffix *-illa* or its possible variant pronunciation *-ella*. All have four syllables, a form which fits the Kurna rule for a three-syllable root word with *-illa*. In 'Ingalalla' we can dismiss the third vowel 'a' as a late adaptation by settlers.

The second vowel was almost certainly *a* as in 'haka', since all the records could be pronounced either that way or as a neutral schwa *ə*: 'gul-' as in 'gull'; 'Ingal-' cp. 'focal'; 'Inggel-' and 'Ingle-' as in 'mingle'. If the surveyors had heard *u* as in 'put', they would have been much more likely to write 'oo' than 'u'.

It is conceivable that the original Kurna word had an initial consonant which the surveyors missed or regarded as a meaningless noise: perhaps it was *Ngingkalilla* or *Yingkalilla*. (Such misunderstandings were common among the early settlers, e.g. 'Aldinga' for Kurna *Ngaltingga*; 'Etandua' for Ngarrindjeri *Yitanduwar*).<sup>15</sup>

But a few Kurna words begin with *i*, enough to accept *Ingk-* here as a real possibility. None of the recorded vocabulary seems to fit this place-name with any probability. However, a place-name need not have a dictionary meaning.

Thus the root word is probably *Ingkal-* plus a vowel *a*, *i* or *u*; but its meaning, if any, is unknown. The nearest we can get to a meaning for *Ingkalilla* is 'at IngkaIV' (in which the V represents an unknown vowel *a*, *i* or *u*).<sup>16</sup>

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*End of Summary*

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<sup>14</sup> This version by Webb via the *Register* and *Observer* should be read as beginning with a parallel English morpheme: 'Ingle-lalla'.

<sup>15</sup> For 'Aldinga' see PNS 4.04.01/01 Ngaltingga. For Ngarrindjeri 'Etandua' or 'Etandooa' = Murray Mouth, see Government Gazette 10 Sep 1840, and map 'South Australia shewing the division into counties' in Papers Relative to SA 1843, *BPP Aust* 7: 362; "Yitanduwar" in Taplin 1879 in JD Woods 1879, *Native Tribes of SA*: 130.

<sup>16</sup> A small note about spelling: In this name, *Ingka-* represents exactly the same sounds as the Locative suffix *-ingga* at the end of place-names such as *Waitpingga*. KWP's New Spelling in 2010 made an exception for Locatives to retain the old suffix *-ngga* with which most people around Adelaide have been familiar in many Kurna place-names. In all other parts of speech the consonant cluster is spelled *ngk*. For the same reason, the Locative *-illa* was not re-spelled as *-ila*.