

leaving the original portico and steps; they also removed the side verandah to build a more elegant one with a balustrade and columns. The garden is delightful and has a romantic air. There are paths and hedges, magnificent trees, a sunken garden, a charming fountain which still plays, and a seat where one can imagine lovers whispering softly together. There are five stalls in the stables and the names Drummer, Julia and Hercules are still carved in wood over three of them. The stalls and feed racks are made of cedar, the hooks are there for the bridles, and there is a staircase leading from the feed room to the hay loft above. Beside the stables is the coachman's cottage.

Inside the house the rooms are both spacious and gracious. The windows are very deep with shutters to keep out the heat, and at the back, joined to the house by a glass-enclosed, tiled courtyard, is the magnificent drawing room where Agnes Rasp hosted her many parties. The curtains she used are still hanging, there is an enormous chandelier, many small lights around the wall, and seats in the alcoves where the chaperones sat. One comes away thankful that Willyama has been so splendidly preserved, and hopeful that the future will be as generous to it as the present.



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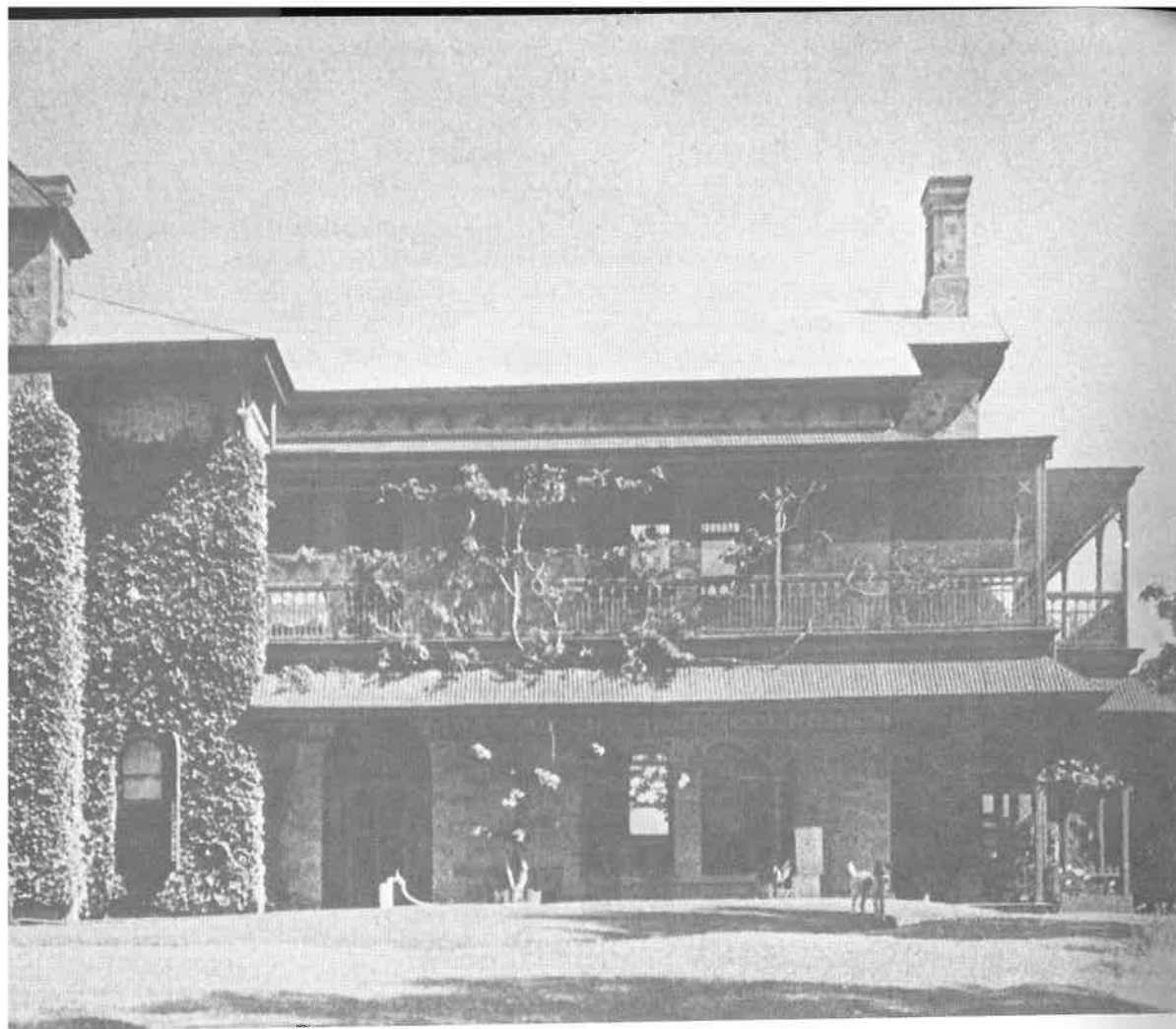
The Philanthropist

HUGHES PARK

We took the wrong track when we were looking for Hughes Park and found ourselves at a dead end. So we reversed and tried again and this time came to an old gate which had rollers on the bottom to make it easier to open. We edged the car slowly forward and suddenly from behind the trees the house came into view. It seemed to be watching our efforts with an amused and detached serenity. Immediately in front of the house is a beautifully maintained garden with a variety of flowers that give a marvellous splash of colour. Two large wrought-iron gates stand sentinel to the garden, but there is no fence; for a moment you wonder which way to go — through the gates or round the side. We were saved from our dilemma by Mr Walter Duncan who emerged from a bank of trees to greet us. He is an expert on roses, and it is his green fingers that have created the garden out of a wilderness.

Hughes Park had been empty for ten years before Walter and his wife, Margaret, moved in in 1974. The ivy, which originally covered the house, had caused considerable damage and the balcony was rotting away. The once-sprawling garden was a dustbowl, and the walls inside the house were cracked and covered with mould. There was an air of darkness and decay in this house of which it was once written, 'The beauty of Hughes Park is famous in this State'. Margaret and Walter Duncan decided to tackle the restoration themselves, and with energy and courage and the help of local tradesmen they scraped, repaired, rebuilt and painted, until the house was once again filled with light and life.

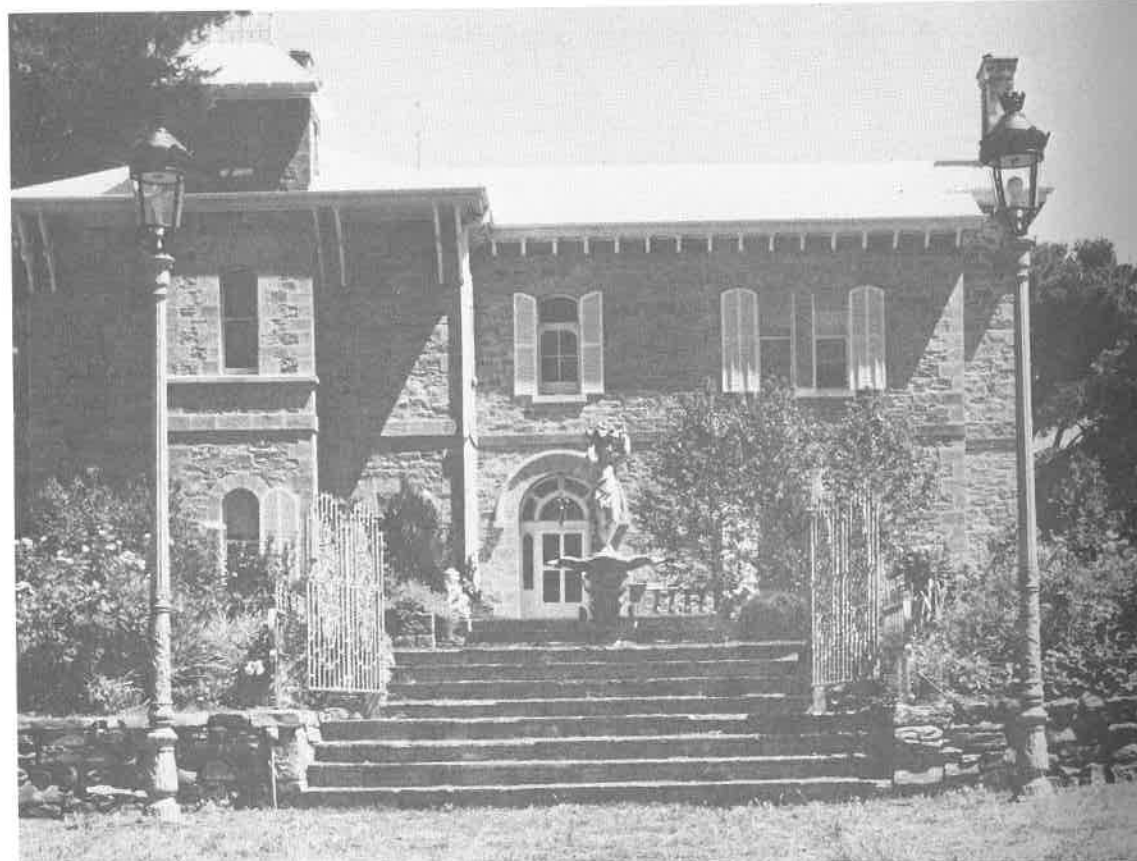
Edward John Eyre first saw the land on which Hughes Park and the town of Watervale are now situated, and he mentioned it to a young man named John Ainsworth Horrocks. Horrocks was born at Penwortham Hall in Lancashire, and with his brother, Eustace, and faithful servant, John Green, he sailed for South Australia in the *Katherine Stewart Forbes* in October 1838, arriving at Holdfast Bay on his 21st birthday, 22nd March 1839. Hearing from Eyre of the excellent country in the lower north, Horrocks set out with Green to see



for himself, and was so impressed that he returned to Adelaide for his 'goods and chattels'. John and Eustace Horrocks established the village of Penwortham, named after their home in England, and John spent his time, energy, and limited finances helping other settlers establish themselves in the district. He 'told all whom he met in distress that if they would come up with him to his run he would feed them till better times came, or something better turned up for them. He had between forty and fifty on his run at a time. They gave him the name of "The King of the North".'

In 1842 Horrocks returned to England to raise money to finance an expedition into the centre of Australia, but while he was away he received news that his estate had run into trouble, and to pay the debts sheep which had cost him £ 1 10s each were being sold for 2s a head. Horrocks hurried back and spent the next two years straightening out his affairs, and when at the end of that time things had improved he set off on an expedition, taking with him the artist S.T. Gill to record events. Horrocks was preparing to shoot a bird to add to his collection when the gun accidentally discharged and he was shot. The party hurried back to Penwortham but he died there three weeks later at the early age of twenty-eight.

In his will John Horrocks left some of his property to his sister, Clara, in England, and she in turn bequeathed it to the faithful John Green. However, lean times followed and when money became harder to get the Adelaide



Explorer John Ainsworth Horrocks, who was killed at the early age of twenty-eight when his gun accidentally discharged, first owned the land on which Hughes Park is built

moneylender, Philip Levi, took control of much of the land. When John Green died in 1862 Levi sold his land to a Scottish sea captain named Walter Watson Hughes. Adjoining the land was a property named Dalore, owned by one David Davies who had arrived in South Australia from Carmarthenshire in Wales in 1840, and who took up a great deal of property, including the land on which the town of Watervale now stands. Section 18, on which Dalore was built, was granted to Davies in 1847 by Governor Robe, and it adjoined Section 17 which Horrocks left to Green. In 1861, the year before John Green died, Walter Watson Hughes bought Dalore from Davies, and in 1863 he added to his holding when he acquired Spring Vale from Mr Treloar. The village of Penwortham virtually died with Horrocks, and as it declined so the town of Watervale grew.

A biographer of Walter Watson Hughes once wrote, 'The narrative of his fortunes and reverses reads more like romance than reality'. Hughes was born in August 1803, the son of Eliza and Thomas Hughes of Pittenweem, Fife, Scotland. He went to school at the nearby town of Crail where he was later apprenticed to a cooper, making barrels for whale oil. But he eventually tired of the work and, still in his teens, went to sea whaling in the Arctic. In 1829 he arrived in Calcutta as chief mate of a sailing vessel and bought the brig *Hero*, in which he traded opium in the pirate-infested Indian and China seas. He made a number of trips to South Australia before deciding to settle there, and in 1840 he arrived in the *Devon* which also carried 'sugar, flour, sundries and 116 ponies'. The following year, on 21 September 1841, he married Sophia Richman, daughter of an early pastoralist and solicitor, James Henry Richman.

Hughes began his new life in the mercantile firm of Messrs Bunce and Thomson. Then, using his own capital, he bought land at Macclesfield and stocked it with sheep purchased from Edward Burton Gleeson for 5s a head. He was to become, however, one of the many victims of the financial crisis during Governor Gawler's regime, and later trudged back to Adelaide on foot from Macclesfield with the same sheep; these were sold by the Government auctioneer, Bentham Neales, for 2s 6d a head. He had salvaged enough from the wreck of his fortune to buy another flock before prices rose dramatically, and with these sheep he went north.

With his brother-in-law, Captain John Duncan, who had married his sister, Joan, Walter Hughes took up Wallaroo Station which originally extended from Tiparra Springs to Tickara Springs, and from Wallaroo to Greens Plains. The name Wallaroo derived from the Aboriginal word 'Wadla-waru' which became 'Wallawaroo', but as this was too long to stamp on wool bales it was contracted to Wallaroo. Hughes always had a hunch that there was copper in the district and his first flutter was in 1851. But this was a poor year for South Australia as most of her able-bodied men had left for the goldfields in Victoria, and although Hughes took out a lease for 24 hectares he failed to find the source of the copper and eventually had to forfeit the lease.

On noticing that tree roots sometimes burned with a green flame, Hughes

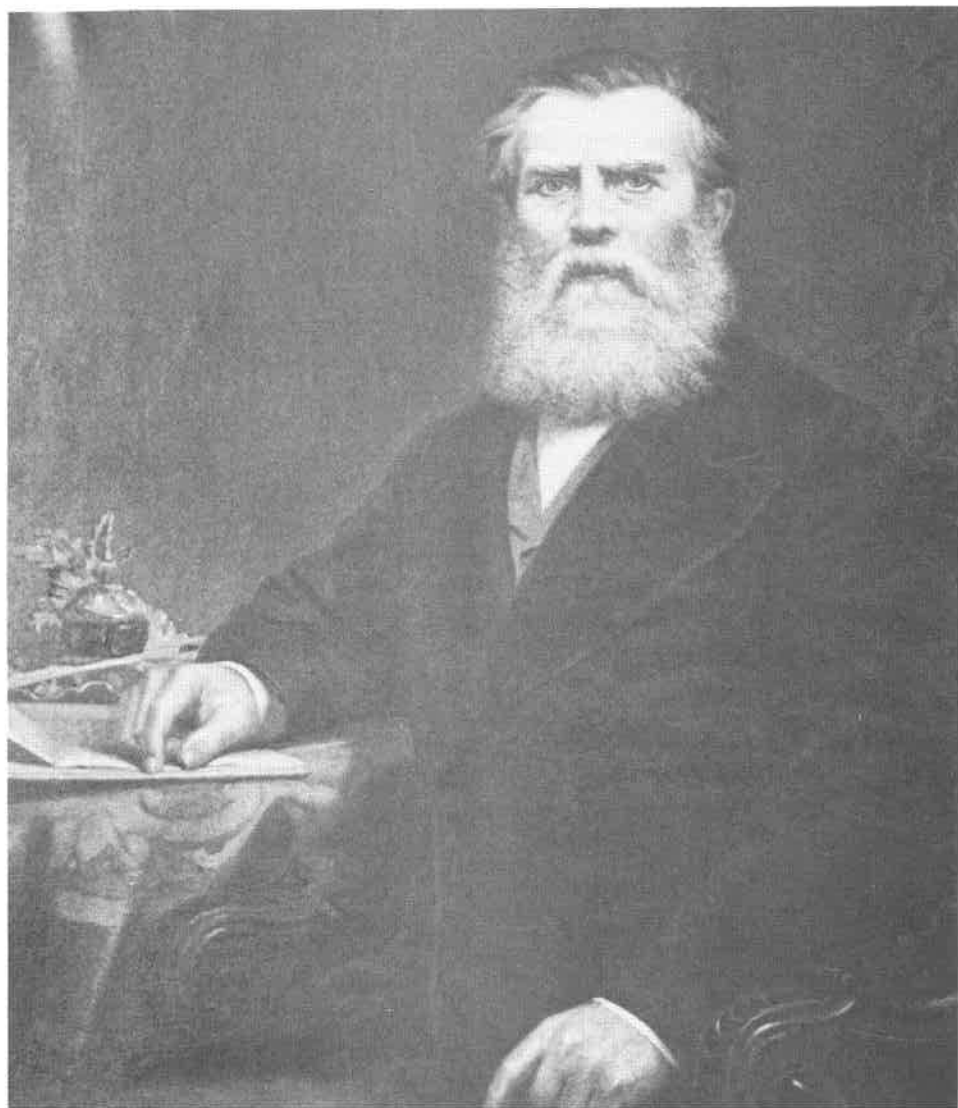
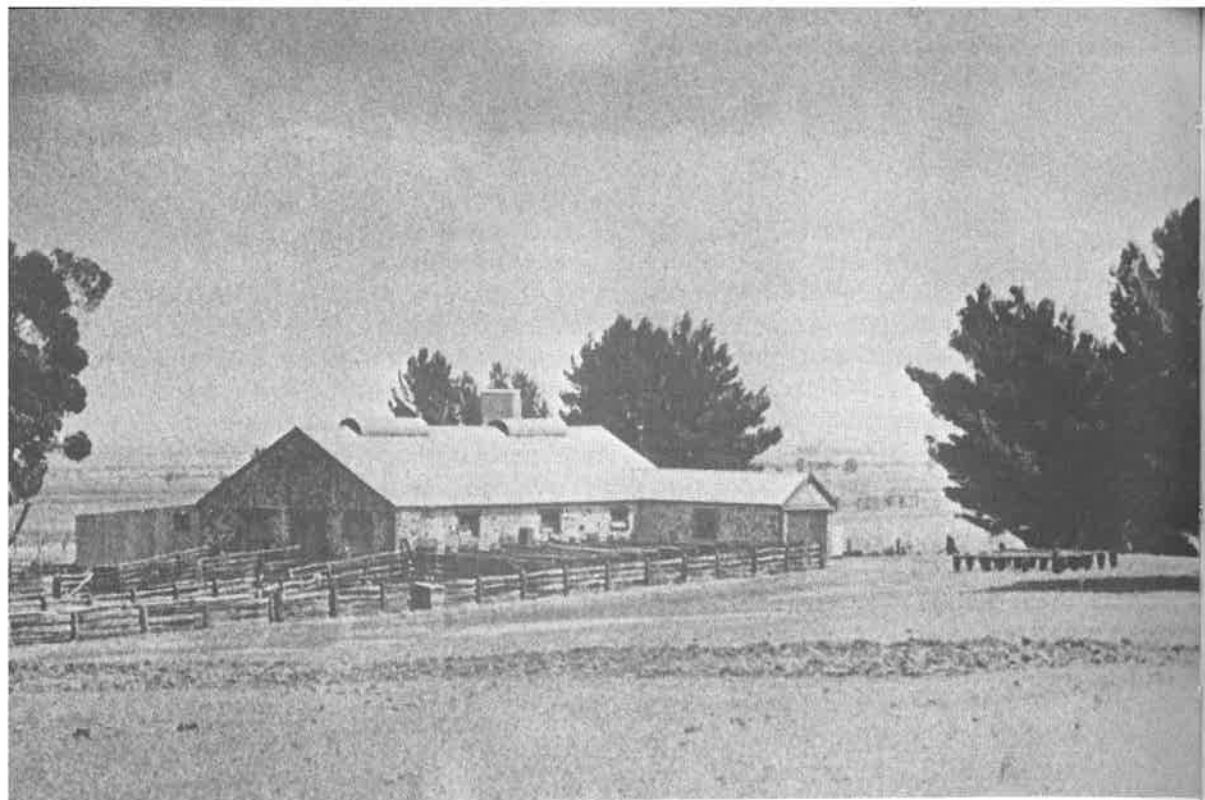
instructed all his shepherds and boundary riders to keep a sharp watch for any signs of ore. One of the shepherds, James Boor, found a small mound of green carbonate of copper outside the burrow of a marsupial rat, but forgot about it until some days later when he mentioned it to Hughes' brother-in-law, John Duncan, who was manager of the out-station. Duncan told his fifteen-year-old son, also John Duncan, to take the news to his uncle, so the boy set off with samples of ore and an Aboriginal companion. It was 130 kilometres to Watervale where Hughes was then living at The Peak, but because of severe drought the horses were in such poor condition that the journey took a week.

Hughes immediately identified the ore as copper and engaged four Cornish miners from Burra Burra to test the site. Young John Duncan drove these men, Walter Phillips, William Pascoe, Richard Walter and Richard Turren, back to Wallaroo, and in true Cornish fashion one of them swung a pick round his head and immediately began to dig where it landed, striking, as luck would have it, the main source. Hughes promptly pegged mining leases, and invited Adelaide merchants Thomas Elder, Robert Barr Smith and Edward Stirling, to put up capital. So the Wallaroo Mine Company, in which Hughes was the largest shareholder, was formed. With profits from this venture the other shareholders formed the pastoral firm of Elder, Stirling and Company.

In 1861 another shepherd, Patrick Ryan, chanced on some copper ore that had been thrown up by a burrowing wombat. Despite Hughes' instructions that any findings were to be reported, Ryan kept the news to himself for some months before spilling it over a drink to the publican, Mr Johnston, at the Port Wakefield Hotel. Johnston immediately went to Adelaide and applied for a lease of the area but was told he must give exact details of the site. Johnston formed a syndicate offering Patrick Ryan one-fifth share of the mine. Walter Watson Hughes heard in Adelaide about the find and hurried back to Moonta where he offered Ryan a tenth share if Ryan would give him details of the site.

Hughes then returned to his property at Wallaroo where he had staying with him a young man named William Austin Horn, who had that morning started on a trip up the shores of the Gulf of St Vincent. When Horn was about 16 kilometres from Kadina he was overtaken by a messenger with a letter from Hughes asking him to return immediately. Horn wrote many years later, 'I was riding a fine upstanding mare belonging to Mrs Hughes, she had been lent to me in the hopes of my overcoming her tendency to buck and bolt, and as soon as I turned her head for home she bolted and I nothing loth let her bolt and was back in Wallaroo by 4 p.m.'

There he was met by Hughes who asked, 'Can you get to Adelaide by nine o'clock tomorrow as some people named Day have started for Adelaide in order to forestall my claims for a mining lease and they have some 17 hours start but the Government offices don't open until 10 o'clock and I want you to get there before them'. In a marathon ride William Horn covered 264 kilometres in twenty-two hours, and on his arrival at Adelaide he called on Mr



John Taylor of the firm of Elder, Stirling and Company who rode to the Lands Office with him. The rival syndicate was already there, but the office was not open. When the clerk put up the blind he recognised Mr Taylor, asked him what he wanted and dealt with his claim first. The rival syndicate also lodged a claim which was investigated by a select committee that reported against Hughes but left the action to be settled in court. The matter, however, was finally settled out of court with the payment of several thousands of pounds to the other party, leaving Hughes in possession of the mine. Young John Duncan drove the first miners to the site of his uncle's new venture, and the great Moonta Mine was to become the first in Australia to pay over £1 million in dividends. It was named after Moonta Moonterra, the Aboriginal name given to the impenetrable scrub on Captain Hughes' pastoral run on the Yorke Peninsula. Water was so scarce that in the school holidays young John Duncan carted it from Tickera to Tiparra, where he sold it to people outside the mine for 18s per 50 gallons.

W. W. Hughes by now owned a great deal of land north-east and north-west of Watervale and he planted the first vineyard in the district at Springvale, which was later owned by Messrs Buring and Sobels. He, himself, lived at Fairfield, but in the early 1860s he established the property known as Hughes Park and lived on the section called 'The Peak' which was near the woolshed. In addition, he bought Gum Creek Station near Burra from Philip Levi and, later, the 2320-square-kilometre Oulnina Station from the estate of Philip Levi for the sum of £13 000. As a town house he bought Torrens Park in the suburb of Mitcham, a house which had been built by Sir Robert Torrens in 1854. Hughes made some extensions to the house which he kept until he left Adelaide, when it was bought by Robert Barr Smith.

The Moonta Mine had made Walter Watson Hughes' fortune, and in 1872 he extended his pastoral interests by buying the Lake Albert and Peninsula estate from the executors of John Baker's estate at £3 3s an acre for 10 981 acres in the hundred of Baker, and he paid £3 an acre for 13 357 acres in the hundreds of Malcolm and Bonney. That same year Hughes was responsible for two major undertakings: financing an expedition and founding a university.

Colonel Peter Egerton Warburton, who had served in the Bombay Army in India, arrived in South Australia in 1853 and shortly after was appointed to command the police force of the whole colony 'which onerous situation he held for 13 years'; it was during this time that he developed a love of exploration. He pushed 450-650 kilometres into unknown parts of the colony, making valuable additions to the known pastoral areas. He was next appointed Commandant of the Volunteer Forces of the Colony of South Australia with the local rank of colonel. Then, in August 1872, the 'advisability of exploring the interior between Central Mount Stuart and Perth was brought before the Government of South Australia in such a way as practically to leave no course open to them except acquiescence'. Mr Thomas Elder placed at their disposal seventeen camels which he had imported from

India and Peter Egerton Warburton was chosen to lead the expedition. At this point negotiations broke down, the Government withdrew, and Mr Thomas Elder and Captain Walter Watson Hughes stepped in to finance the expedition between them. The Government appointed William Christie Gosse to lead another expedition and during the course of it he discovered Ayers Rock.

Warburton's expedition was a horrendous feat of endurance. The party was away for over a year, during which time it suffered the most appalling hardships, travelling 6500 kilometres by land and 3200 kilometres by sea. But it achieved its goal and the Western Australian Government bore the cost of landing the party back at Glenelg Beach. In recognition of his leadership, Queen Victoria made Colonel Warburton a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George, and the Royal Geographical Society awarded him its gold medal in 1874.

The seeds of a university in South Australia had been sown in the Union College, a primarily Nonconformist seminary which opened its doors in two rented rooms in Currie Street, Adelaide, on 21 June 1872. The council consisted of three clergymen and three laymen from the three Nonconformist churches, and the tutorial staff, which was part-time, was made up entirely of ministers. Boys up to the age of sixteen were admitted as students and as it was expected that the opening attendance would consist of twelve students, it was agreed that the institution could not be self-supporting. So the council decided to establish a small fund, the income from which would supplement the regular contributions from the three churches. A sub-committee, consisting of the Reverend James Jefferis, the Reverend James Lyall, the Reverend John Davidson and the secretary to the council, Mr George Young, waited on Walter Watson Hughes, who was about to leave South Australia for his native Scotland. He casually mentioned that he had £ 20 000 to £ 30 000 to spare which he was prepared to give towards education, but as this was clearly much more than the Union College needed the deputation went away to think. The Reverend James Jefferis felt that the money should be put to a wider use and, at a meeting of the Council on 3 September 1872, a motion was carried that a committee should be formed to establish a university. The University Association was duly formed and a report of the proceedings was sent to W.W. Hughes. On 24 December 1872, he executed a deed of gift under seal, promising £ 20 000 to endow chairs in classics and philosophy. The money was to be given over a period of ten years, with interest at 5 per cent until paid. Hughes nominated the Reverend Henry Read and the Reverend John Davidson as the first professors for these chairs. In a unanimous and spontaneous gesture the council invited Mr Hughes to become president of the association and its executive council, with the Bishop of Adelaide, Dr Short (see Chapter 6), as vice-president, but Mr Hughes never formally accepted the invitation, did not attend a meeting and departed the following year for Scotland.

It was only when the cloud of euphoria had settled that the council realised

it was in something of a spot. A review of its assets showed that it had neither money nor land, and that appeals to the public for support had largely fallen on deaf ears. All it had was Mr Hughes' £ 20 000 and that was tied unremittingly to the chairs of classics and philosophy. Mr Hughes wrote testily, 'The attempt to start a University is a dead failure, eighty or one hundred thousand pounds would barely suffice for a beginning and the attempt to go on with twenty thousand is simply absurd'. He suggested that the deed be cancelled and the money applied to more immediate educational purposes.

The Government felt that the establishment of a university was the duty of private enterprise and pointed out that in England they had been established by the Church or by kings granting a charter; it put forward numerous proposals and conditions before agreeing to an Act of Incorporation. Mr Hughes was asked to modify the terms of his deed and it was suggested that mathematics, modern history, geology or mineralogy (since the colony was now rich in minerals) would be more suitable than classics and philosophy. Mr Hughes, however, refused, and instructed Mr Alexander Hay to cancel the deed. The Government at last realised that the council had done all it could; the Bill passed both Houses and was assented to in the name of the Queen on 6 November 1874. Because Hughes' gift inspired others (particularly Sir Thomas Elder who also donated £ 20 000) to make similar contributions, he is known as the 'Father of the University'. He was knighted in 1880 and the English paper, *The World*, on 15 December 1880 announced, 'The Queen has conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr Walter Hughes, an Australian celebrity. He did better than "strike oil"; he discovered the Wallaroo and Moonta Copper mines, and became the richest man in South Australia. From this time the colony began to do rather well, and Yorke's Peninsula, which was an uninhabited desert, has now become a flourishing community with many townships. Mr Hughes sent out several exploring expeditions; gave large sums to the University at Adelaide and other institutions; endowed professorships, and cultivated vines on his extensive property, which in size would make some of our counties look foolish. In these days when C.B's, K.C.B's, K.C.M.G's are given rather freely one is pleased to hear of a really deserving man getting knighted'.

Walter Watson Hughes and his wife were childless, and in his will he left his enormous holdings to various relations. Hughes Park went to his nephew, John James Duncan, with the proviso that his eldest son should perpetuate the name of Hughes by incorporating it with Duncan.

John James Duncan was born at Anstruther, Fifeshire, Scotland, on 12 February 1845, and came to South Australia with his family in 1854. He was educated privately on the station, then at Bentley near Gawler, Watervale Grammar School and St Peter's College. On leaving school he joined the firm of his uncle's friends which, from Elder, Stirling and Company, had now become Elder, Smith and Company. After three years he went back north and was made accountant of the mines at Wallaroo.



In 1871 at the age of twenty-six John Duncan entered Parliament as a member for Port Adelaide, a huge electorate taking in the Yorke Peninsula. The *Register* commented, 'What a fiery member he was! He thumped the table; he became excited, and he laid down the law in emphatic tones, yet right back in those days he started the foundation of a personal esteem, the superstructure to which has been added as the years have gone by'. His political loyalties lay unerringly with South Australia, and when he received a telegram in February 1875 from the Premier, the Honorable Arthur Blyth, offering him a position in his Cabinet, he turned down the offer. Ten years later he refused a portfolio in the Downer Government, and later still the position of Treasurer in Dr Cockburn's ministry, stating that he preferred to remain a private member. In 1875 he was returned for the Wallaroo division of his former district and served in that capacity until 1878.

On 5 November 1873, John Duncan married Jane Morison, the daughter of Mr Arthur Harvey of Durban, South Africa, but she died a year later, the day after her daughter had been stillborn. On 27 August 1879, he married Jean Gordon Grant, daughter of Mary and James Grant, in London; she bore him four sons and two daughters.

When Walter Watson Hughes retired to England in 1873, John Duncan and his uncle, Walter Richman, took over the management of his properties until his death in England on New Year's Day, 1887. In his will Hughes left Oulnina Station to Walter Duncan, and Gum Creek Station and Hughes Park to John Duncan, who reduced the size of both properties for easier management. At the same time he enlarged the homestead at Hughes Park, adding a second storey to accommodate his growing family. As his political commitments kept him in town for much of the time, he engaged Mr G.K. Soward to build a house in the suburb of Mitcham, a house to which he gave the name Strathspey.

In 1877 John Duncan left for England and travelled widely on the continent, where he was chosen to act as a commissioner for South Australia at the Paris Exhibition in 1878. It was during this trip that he married Jean Grant, and when he returned to South Australia he was elected to the Assembly as member for Wooroora, his home constituency, in 1884. A political reporter for the *Observer* gave a colourful description of him at this time. 'Mr Duncan seems blessed with perennial youth. He looks several years younger than when he was in the House before, some five years ago. He is — though a Scotchman — generally cheery and gentlemanly and generally affable and all the Room hails him as a favourite . . . A poor compliment he can give with a pleasant heartiness which transforms it into a positive eulogium. On the other hand, he can, like a cricketer screwing a ball, put a peculiar twist into his denunciation which suggests to a weak-minded man, even if wrongly accused, that he surely must have some elements of meanness away down in his nature somewhere.

'But there are two flies in the ointment. One is his peculiar hesitancy; the other what the Jocund calls "an irruption of aze" . . . The other day he said "You know, Sir, it seems to me that to continue the absurd system which has been in operation during so many years is burning — aa — is burning — aa — the candle at bo-o-th en-nds". This is the fruit of too great care to put a point forcibly, and while he dallies the effect is lost. Sentencing a prisoner he would probably say — "The sentence of the Court is that you shall be — aa — ah-hanged by the neck till your body be — dead — aa — dead — aa — de-ad". Thus happeneth it that whenever I hear my much-esteemed friend of Wooroora address the House I think at once of the song which invokes certain bucolics to — "Tell me, shepherds, tell me, have you seen — have you seen — have you seen my Flo-ora pass this way — aa".'

In the drawer of his desk he kept sweets which he handed round to his colleagues. He seemed to hold a fascination for the reporter from the *Observer* who, two years later, again described his style at length. 'He must either boil or freeze, either thunder or rage tempestuously or be absolutely calm . . . He wings a sparrow by his gunshot and disjoints his own shoulder with the recoil. A Yankee made a machine to take the bones out of fish, so arranged that the substance should fly into the diner's throat and the piscatorial skeletons fall back upon the plate. An experimenter, however,

reversed the apparatus and nearly choked himself. Able, well-educated, honest, patriotic Mr Duncan should treasure up the figure of that Piscatorial Bone Extractor.

'The country visitor unacquainted with the Member for Wooroora would not have any difficulty in identifying him when he rose to speak. He makes somewhat elaborate preparation for getting upon his legs . . . he pushes back his table . . . until it stands almost at a right angle with the gangway. He cries out "Sir" in a tone of mingled anger and sorrow, then gets up, gives a double-twist to the handle of his table-drawer, hurriedly opens the drawer as if he remembered suddenly that he had an idea therein bestowed; pulls his handkerchief out of his pocket as though the need of it were of pressing urgency, and applies it to its common purpose with a dispatch altogether uncommon and certainly not warranted by the circumstances. As he begins, so he continues to discharge his too repetitive phrases with a brain-exhausting energy, the "incidents" of the speech being chiefly a heavy-hammer gesture, and handkerchief-flourishing, table-pushing, drawer-knob polishing.'

In 1890 John Duncan and his wife went abroad again, leaving the management of his properties in the hands of his half-brother, Robert Duncan, the son of his father's second wife, Helen Fleming. On returning to Hughes Park one night, Robert Duncan was dismounting in the stables when his foot slipped on the wet ground. He fell under the horse which kicked him in the head, leaving a pool of blood on the stable floor. His other foot was caught in the stirrup and the horse galloped off, dragging him with it. When the terrified animal was crossing the ford Duncan's foot came out of the stirrup and he pitched into the water. His body was found next day by John Green, who saw his hat in the stable and followed the trail of blood. The horse, a favourite chestnut of Robert Duncan, went back six times to where the body was lying before it was finally driven away.

A newspaper reported that there was 'a general feeling of sincere regret at the sad end of such a genial and promising young man . . . The funeral was very largely attended . . . People from all parts of the district were present to show their respect for one who had endeared himself to all. His place will be hard to fill, he having been so willing to help in every movement for the benefit of the district'.

Hughes Park had, at this time, a currant vineyard on 4 hectares, Merino sheep bred from the Bungaree and Murray breeds, and a small flock of pure Shropshires which were mainly bred from sheep imported from England. Milking Shorthorn cattle had been imported from noted English breeders.

On his return from abroad John Duncan made further alterations to the homestead at Hughes Park, and his suggestions and comments drew the following reply from the architect, Mr Soward: 'I was very pleased to receive your letter of 3rd July altho amused at the high character you give Adelaide Architecture comparing it with the newer houses in the suburbs around London. Your instructions as to drainage will be attended to at Xmas time, and the paping will be held over as requested'.

The Duncans wanted slate on the verandah and Mr Soward advised, 'These of best quality are to be obtained in Melbourne so there will be no need to send them out should you decide on slate in place of tiles. Allow me to express the sorrow I feel at the untimely death of your brother Robert. It came as a great blow to everyone. I deeply sympathise with all of those to whom he was near and dear'.

Stables and additional workmen's cottages were also planned, and the work was carried out during 1891, in which year Duncan was returned for the North-Eastern District to the Legislative Council, holding the seat until 1896 when he set off again for England, returning once more in 1899. In 1900 a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Council and he was elected unopposed to his old constituency. A year later he was chosen as leader of the Opposition and with the defeat of the Labor Party he became leader of the Liberal Party. He did not let his political activities overshadow his pastoral interests; as president of the Pastoralists Association of South Australia and West Darling he represented the association at meetings of the Federal Pastoral Council in Melbourne and Sydney.

John Duncan's interests were wide and varied. In 1895 the need became apparent for isolation wards at the Adelaide Children's Hospital and in February 1896, plans were sketched for a new building which would house both isolation wards and a bacteriological laboratory. Three cottages on land at the corner of Kermode Street and Poole Street were demolished and the new building was to be erected facing Poole Street. John Duncan offered to donate £ 1250 towards the isolation wards if the same amount could be raised by public subscription in three months. The appeal was so successful that £ 3261 was raised, the plans were drawn up and Mr Walter Torode appointed builder. The building, which was named the Allan Campbell Building after Dr Campbell, was opened on 16 October 1897 by the Governor's wife, Lady Victoria Buxton, and the wards were named Duncan after Mr and Mrs John Duncan, and Susanne after Mrs John Howard Angas.

John Duncan's brother, Walter Duncan, died on board the R.M.S. *Ormuz* on 12 May 1906, and was buried at sea at Latitude 8.42 N. and Longitude 70.4 E. A tablet was given in his memory by his wife to St Mark's Church, Penwortham. The two brothers had planned to present a statue of their uncle, Walter Watson Hughes, to the university, and in the year that Walter Duncan died this became a reality. On 28 November 1906, at 3 p.m., a huge bronze statue on a granite base, which had been designed and executed by Mr F.J. Williamson of Esher, Surrey, was unveiled by Mrs Walter Duncan in the presence of His Excellency the Governor, Sir George Le Hunte, and a large number of invited guests, among them members of the Senate and the university, who wore academic robes. The 'massive construction' of the statue was planned by Mr G.K. Soward and the work was carried out by Mr Laycock of Weymouth Street; it was considered an excellent likeness. The inscription read: 'Sir Walter Watson Hughes, one of the founders and the first donor to this University 1872. Presented by his nephews John James Duncan and

Walter Hughes Duncan, 1906'. When the unveiling was finished the police band struck up 'The Song of Australia' and the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) expressed gratitude to the Premier for having co-operated by allowing the wall around the university to be moved back to provide a suitable site. The cost of the wall had been defrayed by John James Duncan, Walter Hughes Duncan and 'an anonymous benefactor'.

The *Register* likened Walter Watson Hughes to Colonel Light as a founder, commenting that both men 'completed their education in the rough school of practical life, suffered reverses of fortune, and acquired a romance of chequered experiences. Both, too, were navigators, and evolved the capacity to be used for great occasions . . . If it should be suggested that the wealth which Sir Walter Hughes obtained by his development of the Moonta and Wallaroo Mines was in a measure a gift from the gods, at least the disposition of it was in his own hands . . . It is not too much to say that Sir Walter Hughes builded better than he knew, and that the results of his benefaction already exceeded the most sanguine expectation formed of it'.

Two years later, in 1908, John Duncan gave the money to restore St Mark's Church at Penwortham, which was renovated inside and out. The old vestry was pulled down and a new one built, and he donated a font in memory of his brother, Walter. In addition, he was a captain in the Watervale Volunteers, served for years on the Upper Wakefield District Council and from 1911-13 was one of the first members elected by Parliament to the council of the University of Adelaide.

On 12 June 1912, Duncan was knighted for his public services, but he was to enjoy his title for only sixteen months. In October 1913, he had an operation for gallstones and died in a private hospital in North Adelaide on 8 October. His funeral left Strathspey for a service at Flinders Street Presbyterian Church then the cortège was taken by special train to Saddleworth, stopping at Gawler and Riverton *en route*. From Saddleworth the mourners travelled in *char-a-bancs* to St Mark's Church of England at Penwortham.

The Reverend Dr George Davidson, who conducted the service at Flinders Street Church, did not seem convinced that Sir John had been fully appreciated. 'He was dead against gambling in every form', he said, 'and declared that he would vote against the totalizer whenever he got the chance. He was a true blue Presbyterian, an elder of the Church, the Church of his fathers. In the arena of public life he made no reference to it or to religion. He knew what a certain section of the community would have thought of him if he did, what miserable interpretation would be given, and what false motives would be attributed to him. Perhaps he was misunderstood by some because of it, perhaps they would have seen him in a better light if it had been otherwise'.

In the city many tributes were paid to the deceased. The *Register* commented: 'The legislators who knew Sir John in his excitable days could appreciate the evolution from the fiery period through many stages, to the

calm, sedate politician of later days'. Not only was he liked by his fellow members but he was 'esteemed by the Parliamentary staffs of the newspapers'. The *Register* went so far as to say that his death was a 'national loss'. Of his presence in Parliament it was written: 'His presence and sober judgment illumined by a buoyant and happy temperament, inspired the confidence of Parliamentary colleagues, so that they felt it to be a privilege to accept his wise counsels, and stirred opponents to lofty appreciation of a gallant and gracious fighter in the Legislative arena . . . he would sooner have cut off his right hand than have done a mean or contemptible thing'. Then, waxing lyrical, the *Register* added in a fulsome burst, 'The calm dignity and earnest force of his character will be fixed among the great personal traditions of the Legislative Council. There stands the picture of his personality, now radiant in history. Not soon shall pass away the memory of that kindly, strong, candid face, of the leaping fire of his fervent speeches, of his roguish wit, of the sunshine of his temperament — of the man!'

Sir John and Lady Duncan's eldest son, John Grant, who inherited Hughes Park, was born on 1 September 1882. Sir Walter Watson Hughes had expressed a wish that his name should be perpetuated by John Duncan's eldest son taking the name of Duncan-Hughes, and when the baby was born his father sought legal advice from Mr. W.H. Bundy. Mr Bundy replied that the following words should be endorsed on the duplicate of the birth certificate: 'This child is to henceforth bear the name of John Duncan-Hughes in accordance with a promise to that effect made by me to his great Uncle Sir Walter Watson Hughes — J.J. DUNCAN'. Mr Bundy advised him to 'also insert it in the Family Bible — take care that the child is so named when going to school and let it be generally known among those he is likely to mix with so that he may acquire the name by reputation'.

John Duncan conveyed this information to Walter Watson Hughes, adding, 'The lawyer informed me when of age he could repudiate any name but that of his Father — pointing out however that a letter or personal communication from me to him would probably be all that was necessary to retain it and in the case of property I could easily arrange it — of course having wished him to adopt the name I should do anything in my power to see it carried out . . . I shall be glad if you will let it be known among our friends at home — I shall do so here at once'.

John Grant Duncan-Hughes was educated at St Peter's College and Cheltenham College, then the University of Adelaide and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he obtained his M.A. and LL.B degrees. In 1907 he was called to the Bar and the Inner Temple. On his return to Adelaide he was admitted to the South Australian Bar and practised law from 1909 until 1914. In 1915 he returned to England to enlist and in November received a commission in the Royal Field Artillery (Special Reserve), serving in France, Belgium and Germany until peace was declared. He rose to the rank of acting-major and for gallantry in the field was awarded both the Military Cross and the Belgian Croix de Guerre. Because of his fluent French his

discharge was delayed until February 1919, while he assisted with translating. In 1918 he received an invitation requesting his presence at Buckingham Palace on 26 September 1918, at an investiture by His Majesty the King to receive his Military Cross.

Captain Duncan-Hughes returned to Adelaide and was appointed Private Secretary and ADC to the Governor-General Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson. The following year he was attached to the staff of the Prince of Wales, who visited New Zealand and Australia in the *Renown*. Duncan-Hughes lived in the *Renown* for the duration of the Australian tour.

Prince Edward arrived at Port Augusta on 11 July 1920, and the train stopped at all stations *en route* to Adelaide so that the people could see him. The royal train was met at the Adelaide railway station on 12 July by the Governor, the Premier, the Lord Mayor, and Federal and State ministers. The royal party was accompanied through the streets of Adelaide by both a military and police escort to the Town Hall for the official welcome. That night there was a dinner at Government House.

Because the war had recently ended great emphasis was placed on the Prince meeting members of the forces, and a citizens' dance was also given for the sailors of the *Renown*. This was held at the Palais de Danse and 'there was much excitement when it was announced that the Prince was to be present'. His Royal Highness dutifully had the first dance with the Lady Mayoress (Lady Hackett), after which 'he told Mr Eastick (manager of the Palais) that the floor was so good that if people would give him a little more room he would have another'. He then gladdened the hearts of those present by dancing with Miss Kenny who was 'an assistant at Messrs James Marshall & Co. and Miss Graham, an assistant at another city establishment'.

While he was in Adelaide the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on the Prince of Wales in a colourful ceremony at the University of Adelaide, but he had less success at a race meeting at Victoria Park where he 'won more hearts than money'. Indeed, the whole town was captivated by the Prince and headlines in the *Advertiser* proclaimed him 'The Prince of Sunshine'. He unveiled a statue of his Father, King Edward VII, 'under the genial rays of a glorious sun in the presence and amid the delighted acclaim of one of the largest crowds that Adelaide has ever known', and Captain Duncan-Hughes sat at the royal table for an official dinner given by the Government of South Australia at the Grand Central Hotel. The Prince visited a military hospital, and met blinded soldiers and returned nurses; as well, he went dancing and dining, remarking with some naivete at a reception at the Jubilee Exhibition Building, 'The illuminations were lovely. I was most impressed'. Mrs Duncan-Hughes, formerly Gertrude Dean, the daughter of Brigadier-General and Mrs George Dean, was invited to lunch aboard the *Renown* on 16 July 1920.

The *Sunday Mail* of 21 August 1920, announced: 'It was expected that H.R.H. The Prince of Wales would make his appreciation of the admirable arrangements made in connection with his Australian tour by bestowing

decorations upon those who discharged arduous duties, and considerable curiosity was evinced over the form recognition would take. It was reported in the city to-day that the honours list had been drawn up and that it comprised awards of the Victorian Order, a decoration associated with personal service rendered to His Majesty the King.' The orders to be given were the K.V.C.O., C.V.O. and M.V.O., the last of which was bestowed on Captain J.G. Duncan-Hughes who, the *Sunday Mail* pointed out, had 'on the death of his grandfather Sir Walter Watson Hughes, inherited a considerable fortune, which necessitated him taking the name of Hughes in conjunction with his own'. (Hughes was not his grandfather; he was actually his great-uncle.)

In 1922 John Duncan-Hughes decided to enter politics and he contested and won the seat of Boothby which he retained for the next six years. The year 1925 was the first year of compulsory voting and, although he was opposed to this scheme, in that year he won with the very handsome majority of 6000 votes. In moving a vote of thanks, Captain Duncan-Hughes pointed out that 2300 more people had voted for him than had voted for any previous candidate in any Boothby election. It was also the first time that more than half the people on the rolls had supported one candidate.

In 1928 Duncan-Hughes lost Boothby by the narrow margin of eighty-four votes to Mr J.L. Price. In his speech afterwards he said that 'the fight had had a very good finish, and his opponents could take much satisfaction from it'. He went on to say that some years ago he had had the pleasure of meeting Mr Price in a somewhat different capacity, when he was playing cricket against him. He had gone in to bat against Mr Price, who was playing for Parliament. Mr Price was bowling badly, and he had hit two successive sixes off him. At this point in his speech a voice called out, 'He has got you now', to which Captain Duncan-Hughes replied, 'The interjector has robbed me of my joke. I was going to say that although he has had to wait for some time for his revenge he has it now, for he has taken my wicket'.

Cricket was an absorbing pastime for the senator. Each year a team from Watervale 'journeyed to Hughes Park to try their ability against Mr Duncan-Hughes' Eleven'. In 1929 Hughes Park won by 127 runs on the first innings and 'the visitors were entertained at luncheon and afternoon tea, and all had a royal time'. The team seems to have been something of a family affair with Mr Leslie Dean (Mrs Duncan-Hughes' brother) top scoring with ninety-nine not out, while Captain Duncan-Hughes 'compiled a well-made 90, including 9 sixes and 5 fours', and Messrs Walter, Keith and John Duncan brought up the rear. In that same year Captain and Mrs Duncan-Hughes travelled to Canberra for the opening of Parliament by the Duke of York.

On 30 August 1927, the sons and daughters of Sir John and Lady Duncan transferred their family home, Strathspey, to trustees for the establishment of a Presbyterian university college in affiliation with the University of Adelaide. It was to be a residential college and the value of the gift was estimated at over £17 000. Set in 7.6 hectares of ground, the house contained twenty-six rooms plus an underground suite for summer use, a coach-house which was adapted

to house seven students and a lodge of four rooms. The *Sunday Mail* advised readers that the house 'stands on rising ground and commands a wonderful view of the waters of the gulf. Parks of stately trees surround the house, and a beautiful flower garden adds to the beauty of the place. The walls of the house are mellowing with the years, and climbing wistaria and other creepers lend a picturesque note'. In the event of the college failing, it was to pass first to the University of Adelaide and then to the Presbyterian Church.

For various reasons the college did fail. In fact, as soon as the gift was announced the difficulty of distance became apparent. Public transport in those days was sketchy to say the least, which meant that a great deal of time would be lost in travelling, and the distance made close co-operation in tutorials and other inter-collegiate activities difficult. The Master of St Mark's, Sir Archibald Grenfell Price, approached John Duncan-Hughes and Walter Duncan and asked them to consider selling Strathspey and buying a property nearer the university. In his history of St Mark's, Sir Archibald wrote, 'Unfortunately the Duncan family remembered the days when coachmen drove them to the city, and failed to realise that University lectures would be scattered throughout the day and evening, and that the future Masters would not welcome the task of proceeding at night to the tramway terminus to meet and protect their domestic staff'.

'Strathspey' was given the name of St Andrew's College and was officially opened on Wednesday, 6 June at 3 p.m. by the Governor, Brigadier-General the Honorable Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven, V.C., K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., after which the Chancellor of the university and the Master of the college (Mr R.P. Barbour, B.A.) spoke. A vote of thanks was given by Mr Walter Duncan. This ceremony was followed by afternoon tea served in a marquee on the tennis court and the college was then thrown open for inspection.

St. Andrew's opened with only two students; this number increased to seventeen in 1935, a time when 'serious breaches of discipline' forced the Master to expel two students. By 1936 there were only fourteen students left. During these years, 1928-35, the total deficit was £ 9977. In the Depression years the college resorted to cutting down and selling the timber on the property, but this gave little financial relief. To help the college the Master, Mr R.P. Barbour, offered to accept his salary in the form of a lectureship from the university valued at £ 500 a year. John Duncan-Hughes was giving four annual scholarships and Tom Barr Smith was giving three, but even this didn't seem to satisfy the Chancellor, Sir George Murray, who said that the family of W.W. Hughes had plenty of money to redeem St Andrew's debt and he felt that it should do so. Because of this he refused to allow any Government grants to pass through the university to help the college. Various other schemes were put forward in which the university would recoup grants to residential colleges by using the masters as university lecturers, but in the end, when the whole thing was put to a vote, those in favour of the university helping the colleges withdrew their support and the motion was defeated by twelve votes to five. In a last-ditch stand it was suggested that St Mark's and



Left: John Grant Duncan-Hughes was the eldest son of John James Duncan, and inherited Hughes Park in 1913. At birth he was given the name of Duncan-Hughes in accordance with the wishes of Sir Walter Watson Hughes, who was childless, so that the name of Hughes would be perpetuated.

Below: An aerial photo taken of Hughes Park in the 1930s



St Andrew's should amalgamate, with the church services remaining Anglican. This suggestion was warmly received by the Duncan family but vetoed by the Presbyterian Church, and the university, tired of the whole thing, made the astonishing decision to renounce their legal claim to the property. It passed to the Presbyterian Church, which sold it by auction at the Wool Exchange in Grenfell Street on Tuesday, 6 April 1937, to discharge the debt. It was bought by Mr F.W. Cornell.

While the saga of Strathspey ended on a sad note, life at Hughes Park was filled with interest. Mr and Mrs Duncan-Hughes had built a large house on Robe Terrace, Medindie, where they lived for most of the year, adjourning to Hughes Park for the hot summer months. At that time the newspapers of the day relegated world news to the inside and gave front-page attention to the bargains of the day at John Martin's and other stores. They lavished space on the social activities round the town, and were obviously fascinated by Mrs Duncan-Hughes, for they faithfully reported her doings — where she went and what she wore, and informed their readers that she travelled abroad twice a year to select her wardrobe.

The year 1934 was a highlight in the Duncan-Hughes' social calendar for they were chosen to be the first South Australian hosts to the Duke of Gloucester when he visited Adelaide in October. Interstate and local newspapers described Hughes Park in glowing terms: 'One of the oldest and most beautiful country homes in the central State'; 'The beauty of Hughes Park is famous in this State. Motorists will detour from their roads many miles just to catch a glimpse of it'; 'The house is typically English and from the front door the visitor looks down a white, winding drive to the front gates. In the Scotch manner, the house has clipped lawns surrounding it, and the flower garden is set apart in a hedged enclosure'. In a special supplement dealing with the royal visit the *Advertiser* described Hughes Park as 'one of the oldest and also the most beautiful country houses in South Australia. The description is no less true of the stately residence, which, standing on a small eminence, commands a view of rolling, highly timbered hills, as of 10,000 acres of magnificent pastoral country which now comprise this historic property . . . The house, built entirely of stone, of stately appearance, delicately tempered by age, is itself truly English, and it imparts much of its atmosphere of dignity and quiet retirement to the well-kept lawns and gardens over which it looks. But on the other hand nothing could be more Australian than the giant gums which meet the eye as far as one may see in all directions, far more commanding than the firs which surround the house, the chorus of innumerable native birds — it is a veritable bird sanctuary — and the rolling grassy hills on which are pastured the valuable Merino flocks for which Hughes Park has long been famous.

'The house stands about ¼ mile from the road . . . The original house was a modest single-storey residence of a type fairly common in most parts of Australia which were settled in the early days of colonization. The present building of two storeys was added in 1870 [*it was actually added on in the*

1880s], so that, as age is reckoned in a young country, it may claim a certain antiquity on its own account. Built in more spacious days than the present, it wears an air of dignity and stateliness almost manorial.

'The style of its architecture is simple and unaffected and one observes the same simplicity in the furnishings of the house. The rooms are large and lofty and naturally shaded by tall trees without. The drawing-room which was occupied by the Duke, overlooks a beautiful old orchard at the foot of the garden, where orange trees planted more than half a century ago are still bearing delicious fruit, and which a few weeks ago was a mass of blossom.'

Preparations were in hand well before the visit, with the family dog, Fizz, being taught to 'bow for the Royal visitor'. One newspaper begged its readers to 'PLEASE never say that a woman can't keep a secret if she really wants to' for Mrs Duncan-Hughes, it said, had kept her guest list 'so very dark. Never can I remember our social set becoming so anxious to know who were to be among the favoured few . . . as you know, she has so many friends and it must have been hard on such an occasion to know just whom to invite and whom to leave out'.

The Duke of Gloucester travelled by car to the mid-north where he ended his day with a visit to Clare and Watervale. The royal procession consisted of eleven cars which travelled through two showers over rough and wet roads, causing the car containing the Duke's two equerries to develop an alarming skid which carried it from one side to the other, almost broadside on. The Duke's car travelled at 112 k.p.h. to reach Clare on time; at Clare he was given an official welcome by the Mayor and citizens. From there the royal party went on to Hughes Park where His Royal Highness was received by his host at 5 p.m. Mr Duncan-Hughes had chosen a thoroughbred horse for the Duke to ride and he was able to see something of the property before being entertained at dinner. He left at 8.30 p.m. and spent the night on the royal train at Tarlee.

Mr and Mrs Duncan-Hughes went on to Canberra to the royal festivities there. It was breathlessly reported back in Adelaide that although the Duke 'was not a dancing man' he had, at the State Ball in King's Hall, Parliament House, danced with more than two partners for the first time in Australia. His third partner for the evening was Mrs Duncan-Hughes, who was also reputed to be the only hostess who received a personal note of thanks for her hospitality.

The Duke of Gloucester was so charmed by his visit that when he returned to South Australia in 1946 with his wife they stayed at Hughes Park for two nights; during this visit he planted two elm trees which bear brass plaques commemorating this event.

Upstairs at Hughes Park is an enchanting nursery, the walls of which are papered with coloured lithographs and steel engravings, many of them of the royal family in Edwardian times. The room gives a delightful picture of life in a more leisurely and gracious age. John Duncan-Hughes' sister, Jean Duncan, used to stand up in her cot, with the result that the steel engravings at the level



of her small hand are tinted with watercolour paints. When the Duchess of Gloucester saw this room she remarked that it was just like a nursery she had known as a child. On his first visit the rather shy bachelor prince formally signed the visitors' book at Hughes Park 'The Duke of Gloucester', but during the second visit he and his wife wrote simply, 'Henry and Alice'.

In 1934, the year of the Gloucesters' first visit, the Hughes Park wool clip was reported as being a 'very attractive one'; sixty-five bales of fleece brought 22¼d, thirty bales of pieces made 19¾d and six bales of bellies brought another 19¾d.

The year 1936 saw the Watervale Centenary and a pamphlet detailing the celebrations described Hughes Park, saying 'It is truly English in appearance and setting and a show place of the district and has sheltered members of the Royal Family, Governors of the State, and other distinguished persons on more than one occasion'. That was the year of the royal family's greatest crisis, and the concern of the man in the street over the abdication was shown in a letter dated 8 December 1936, which was received by Senator Duncan-Hughes. 'Dear Sir: As my representative, I demand that you require all facts in connection with the Constitutional Crisis to be made known to the people of Australia before any action is taken by the Federal Government in the matter. The people of the Commonwealth are entitled to express their will, and so far, they have heard nothing from the King'.

Three days later the British Parliament ratified the instrument of abdication, and when King Edward VIII's brother, George VI, was crowned on 12 May 1937, Senator and Mrs Duncan-Hughes were guests at the service in Westminster Abbey. In December of that year members of the British rifle team were invited to Hughes Park and they travelled in a bus provided by the Government. The team was in Adelaide to contest the King's Prize and Mrs Duncan-Hughes' father, Brigadier-General George Dean, a fine shot, was one of the hosts for the tour.

In July 1938, Senator Duncan-Hughes announced his retirement from politics and the *Herald* pointed out that he was 'retiring from Federal politics by choice and not by compulsion'. It went on to say: 'In the Senate he played a prominent part in combating "new despotism" of bureaucracy ... was chairman of the Standing Committee in Regulations and Ordinances, and he fearlessly on many occasions drew attention to abuses of regulations and ordinance-making power, often showing that the authority exercised through these regulations by some unknown functionary responsible to no one exceeded the authority granted to Parliament by the parent act'. He had 'been consistently accused by the Opposition of being the "Arch-Conservative" of the Senate' and, in an election speech at the Unley Town Hall in December 1931, he said that he was 'opposed to Communism in every way, but chiefly on account of its bitter hostility to religion, to the marriage tie, and to property. History showed clearly that no nation without a religion survived; and no progressive development could be expected in this or any other country without any security of tenure in property'.

The library is lined with beautiful leather-bound volumes and has a remarkable free-standing, revolving bookcase. The sketch on the wall is of Lady Heysen, wife of Sir Hans Heysen

His retirement lasted for two years. The tragic and premature death of his close friend, Mr Charles Hawker, and 'the dangerous condition of international affairs' caused him to offer his services again. He urged the 'closest co-operation with Britain, friendlier relations and trade agreements with foreign countries, lower tariffs for economic and equitable as well as international reasons' and adequate defence, including universal training'. He was elected Member of the House of Representatives for Wakefield and held the seat until 1943.

John Grant Duncan-Hughes died in August 1962 and, like other members of his family, was buried in St Mark's Church cemetery at Penwortham. In his history of the Adelaide Club, Sir Edward Morgan says that he was 'in the very best way a Club man. He was courteous to all, young and old, and he went out of his way to greet any new and shy members whom he saw in the Club. When he was President he knew each of his fellow members by name. It may be said that in the Australian sense Duncan-Hughes was born to the purple and he certainly wore it as much with modesty as with dignity and grace'. The one tragedy of his life was that, although he had taken his great-uncle's name to perpetuate the name of Hughes, he and his wife remained childless and so the name died with him.

In his will John Duncan-Hughes left Hughes Park to his nephew, John Duncan, son of his brother Walter, but Mrs Duncan-Hughes was to have a life interest in the property. For the next ten years Hughes Park was virtually unoccupied, and as a result its condition deteriorated sadly. It was large and rambling and really needed a staff to manage it, as did the garden, but where this had been possible for earlier generations, it was no longer practical in the 1970s.

John Duncan's son, Walter, decided to take on the enormous task of restoring Hughes Park. The guidelines for restoration were set to retain the character and atmosphere of the past while at the same time up-dating part of the house so that it could be used as a home today. Work began in 1973 but it was a long and slow job, for Walter Duncan did much of the work himself with a minimum of employed labour and expense, and this restricted the time spent on the property to weekends and holidays. On 24 April 1974, he married Margaret Joan Buckby, and they continued the work together, Margaret holding a light at night so that Walter could see to paint the lofty ceilings. The garden was re-designed to fit in with the restoration and to make it easier to maintain.

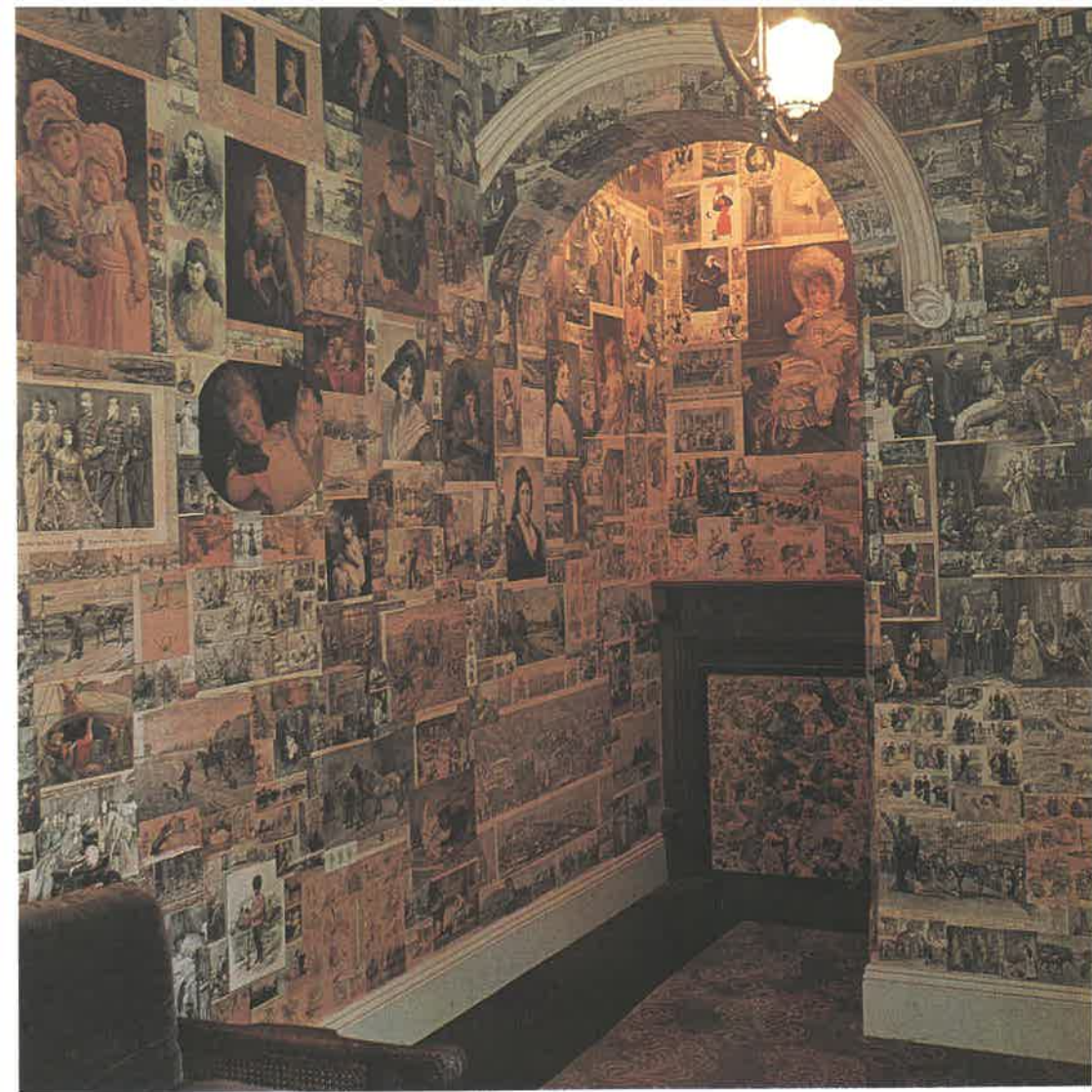
I did not know Hughes Park before, but I can only say that I was filled with admiration for the work done by the Duncans. They stripped mould off the walls and re-painted them; they pushed wheelbarrows full of earth in the garden, then laboriously planted everything from roses to strawberries; I am certain that the sheer magnitude of the task would have defeated many people. Now, however, Hughes Park can look confidently to the future, and it is good to know that yet another of our historic homes has been saved by the dedication of young people with imagination and energy.



Above: The garden that Sir Keith and Lady Angas planned at Lindsay Park is still maintained today. These enormous pine trees stand sentinel to the house. *Left:* An open fire provides a warm welcome in the dining-room which, like the sitting-room, has the air of an English hunting lodge



Above: A view of the eastern side of Willyama. Mr and Mrs O'Halloran Giles took off the heavy eastern verandah and replaced it with a balustrade and columns. *Left:* The spacious entrance hall showing the marvellous detail around the front door



Far left: A charming statue which Walter Duncan found in the antique shop of Jim Elder. *Above:* The children's nursery is unique, the walls being covered with steel engravings and coloured lithographs. *Left:* The dining-room at Hughes Park with family portraits on the wall



Above: A magnificent view of the side of Woodley. From the bedroom windows on the second storey one can see down to the waters of the gulf. *Left:* The present owner of Benacre, Leonard Perkins, with his son, Ben, undertook the enormous task of painting the outside. *Below:* Beaumont House today. The garden has been replaced by lawn for easier maintenance



Above: Torrens Park was built by Sir Robert Richard Torrens, after whom it was named. *Left:* Seymour College grounds now cover an area of 11.25 hectares, which includes tennis courts, two hockey fields, a large swimming pool, and spacious lawns and gardens



6 The Bishop

BEAUMONT HOUSE

The building of Beaumont House was begun in 1849 by Augustus Short, D.D., the first Anglican Bishop of Adelaide, and he gave it the name of Claremont after his wife, Millicent Clara, the 'mont' being added because it was built on a rise which gave a magnificent view down to the sea.

Augustus Short was born on St Barnabas Day, 11 June 1803, and his father, Charles Short, being himself a London barrister, intended his son for the Bar. He was educated at Crediton and then Westminster, where his unhappiness was so acute that his father moved him to Langley Broom, near Slough, until he judged that he was ready to tackle Westminster again, where he entered St Peter's College. In later life he looked back on his latter days at Westminster with affection, and considered that his grounding there stood him in good stead in Australia where the lot of a colonial bishop with a diocese of over 2 500 000 square kilometres required a toughness of both mind and spirit. To missionaries who complained of the rigours of bush life he used to remark. 'You ought to have been a fag at Westminster'. In 1820 he entered Christ Church, Oxford, and gained first-class honours in the examinations held before Christmas in 1823. It was then that his father decided that instead of going to the Bar he should follow a scholastic career with the eventual aim of taking holy orders. He was admitted at Christ Church as deacon in 1826 and as priest in the following year. His first curacy was at Culham near Abingdon, but within two years he was back at Christ Church where he was appointed tutor and lecturer in his former college. He stayed there for four years until 1833, when he was made public examiner in the classical schools.

In the same year, 1833, Short announced his engagement to Millicent Clara Phillips, the second daughter of John Phillips, Esquire, of Culham House, Oxfordshire, and soon after he took up the position of curate at Ravensthorpe in Northamptonshire. He was presented by the Dean and Chapter of Christ Church to the vicarage on 10 June 1835, the day before his thirty-third birthday. The parish consisted of about 700 residents, and although the

