**place naming**

**Name options for a reserve in Coromandel Valley**

There are 14 name options to choose from. You can select as many of the options as you like, with each selection counting as one vote for that name.

Please note that the quotes from community members are provided verbatim.

The general information provided has been checked for accuracy by our Local History Officer, Libraries.

**Avondale Reserve**

This is the common name for the park, being located on Avondale Road.

**Oak Tree Reserve**

This is the name proposed by a local resident in the place naming application. In the application they state that 'this reserve has been in existence for at least 45 years but has been unnamed. Many years ago I planted a number of Oak Trees which now provide an attractive treed reserve. I feel a name that reflects the look of the reserve would add to the reserve'.

**Mukarta patpangka**

An Aboriginal name in the Kaurna language, meaning ‘hill in the south'.

This name was provided by [Kaurna Warra Karrpanthi Aboriginal Corporation](https://yoursay.onkaparinga.sa.gov.au/66828/widgets/329742/documents/210867) (Kaurna language group) using a name that was suggested by a community member.

**Chapman Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘This land, and surrounding land, was owned and operated by the Chapman Family for grazing sheep and cattle from the early 1800s to the late 1900s, then subdivided. Samuel Chapman arrived in SA in 1837 on the ship "Cygnet" and was one of the local settlers/pioneers in Coromandel Valley'.

**Chesser Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘Chesser was the name of the Captain of the "Coromandel" from which the sailors who "escaped" and became the original settlers of Coromandel Valley'.

**Echidna Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘At least one friendly echidna is seen occasionally walking through there'.

**Freedom Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘The 10 crew members that deserted the Coromandel camped in a cave via the reserve. Hence seeking their "freedom"'.

**Frogmouth Hill Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘These birds are often seen there'.

**Hilltop Heights Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘Reflects the geography of the area. Pays homage to some high achievers who originated in the area and went onto international success, and reflects local, positive, recent history'.

**Kangaroo Dreaming Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘I have often seen kangaroos grazing, resting and perhaps dreaming in the park area. The name also makes reference to the aboriginal peoples and their dreamtime stories'.

**Marshall Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘ The people that left the Coromandel ship fled to caves close to the park. The main fleer was Mr Marshall'.

**Matthews Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘I suggest this name in relation to Thomas Matthews, who purchased section 1101 in 1847. Section 1101 pertained to the eastern side of Coromandel Valley. Section 1101 included the Coromandel Valley Cemetery, by which Thomas Matthews donated part of this section for the cemetery. Given the proximity of the reserve to the cemetery, the naming of the reserve after Thomas Matthews would be deemed rather appropriate, despite Mathews spending most of his life outside the Valley.

**Murray Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘After Alexander Murray - he brought early prosperity to Coromandel Valley - biscuit & Jam Factory. Is fitting they reside at the cemetery on Avondale Road.

**Reverend Samuel Gill Reserve**

A name suggestion from a community member who said ‘It is suggested that the considered land adjoining Avondale Road be named The Samuel Gill Reserve. This proposal is supported by Coromandel Valley & Districts National Trust Branch and numerous local residents. A wider story and early photographs are available for further support.

The reserve is located immediately east of section 863 (approx. 80 acres), land that was the first Land Grant issued in 1840 in Coromandel Valley to Samuel Gill. His residence was located close to the north eastern corner of the land (just west of the cemetery.)

The reserve overlooks the Gill land and the valley. From this location many historic places can be seen, and their stories form a significant part of our heritage.

The reserve fits well within the pattern of walking routes in Coromandel Valley.

We are not aware of any indigenous naming of this place, but if found should be acknowledged.

Background

Samuel Gill arrived in Adelaide in 1839 and settled in Coromandel Valley. He had bought the land before leaving England and was finally handed the Title in 1840 after he arrived here. He had lost two children in the UK to smallpox before he came to Australia and within two years of arriving here also lost in April 1840 his daughter Winifred, who died at age 16. On the death of his wife in November of that year he married Elizabeth, the sister of Alexander Murray Sen well known for his jam and biscuit factory. (It was Elizabeth in 1881who donated the land for the Institute building site.) Rev. Gill had known a tough life.

In 1843 he built his residence that included a room that was the State’s first school. The house he built had multiple uses including the housing of boarders, a place for church services, and a school. In fact, the community more widely was given the opportunity to make good use of the kitchen and the house.

The school was transferred from the house in 1850 when a chapel and schoolhouse was built adjacent to the cemetery on land donated by Thomas Matthews. That building was funded by public donations and Rev. Gill was the first teacher at that school.

This was superseded by the construction of the Coromandel Valley Primary School in 1877.

Gill was a preacher (Reverend) and later became the local postmaster. He was a supporter of local young men and held teaching classes after hours. This group became the Young Men’s Mutual Improvement Association, the *Institute*. He had extremely strong ties to the community and was greatly respected.

Rev. Samuel Gill died in 1852 and was buried in West Terrace Cemetery in Adelaide but the exact location is not known.

The influence of his work with the young men and within the community lead to many years of improved life for the growing community. The Gill family story is a worthy adjunct to the proposed reserve.

In 1972 Rev. Gill’s house was demolished but the National Trust was able to save some of the walling stone and slate from the floors. In 1973 these were used to build an attractive picnic table under a large and shady Pecan tree on Sandow Reserve. This is a memorial to Rev. Gill and his work. The Pecan tree now being listed as being of historic significance.

An additional fact of interest is that his son ST Gill gained considerable fame for his artistic depictions of the Australian gold fields.'

**More information**

For further information please contact Dale Sutton, Team Leader Engagement, Grants and Events on 8384 0623 or at [Dale.Sutton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au](mailto:Dale.Sutton@onkaparinga.sa.gov.au?subject=Public%20place%20naming)