



HERITAGE  
COUNCIL  
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

### 11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

#### PRINCIPAL AUSTRALIAN HISTORIC THEME(S)

- 2.4 Migrating
- 3.16 Struggling with remoteness, hardship and failure
- 4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia
- 7.7.3 Going to war
- 8.1.3 Developing public parks and gardens
- 8.6 Maintaining religious traditions and group memories
- 8.7 Honouring achievement
- 8.8 Remembering the fallen
- 8.10.2 Creating visual arts
- 9.7 Dying

#### HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 101 Immigration, emigration and refugees
- 107 Settlements
- 201 River and sea transport
- 404 Community services and utilities
- 406 Religion
- 501 World wars and other wars
- 601 Aboriginal people
- 602 Early settlers
- 603 Local heroes and battlers

#### 11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE\*

Situated on the north-west slope of Mt. Clarence, *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* provides an aesthetically pleasing cultural landscape valued and further enhanced by the community, in their progressive development of a Botanical Garden and further recreational land adjoining the cemetery. (Criterion 1.1)

The place has a variety of monuments & other funerary fixtures, many of which display skills, artistry & craftsmanship in the disciplines of ironwork and stone-masonry. (Criterion 1.2)

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For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

The place has a landmark quality on both sides of Middleton Road. The park-like vista created by the cemetery provided the basis for further recreational development of the surrounding Middleton Road area. (Criterion 1.3 & 1.4)

## **11. 2. HISTORIC VALUE**

As the cemetery formally identified in the *WA Government Gazette* on 12 February 1840, *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* is a significant element in the history of the area at both local and State levels. At its official closure in 1959, *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* was the longest serving public cemetery in the State of Western Australia. (Criterion 2.1)

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* was the first cemetery to be consecrated in the State of Western Australia. (Criterion 2.2)

The cemetery has historic value as a record and burial place of many early European settlers whose descendants still live in the local area including members of the Cull, Egerton-Warburton, Hassell, Moir, Muir, Spencer and numerous other local pioneering families. A few of the individuals of State prominence buried in the place include Henry Camfield; Sir Alexander Thomas Cockburn-Campbell, Baronet; Dr. Alexander Collie, Anthony Hordern and Rev. John R. Wollaston. (Criterion 2.3)

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has a wide variety of monuments and grave fittings, a number of which display a high level of craftsmanship and design in both the metalworker's and stonemason's crafts, which are rarely seen in a contemporary cemetery. (Criterion 2.4)

## **11. 3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE**

As one of the oldest, long serving and intact colonial cemeteries in the State, the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has the potential to act as a benchmark research and teaching site for students of a number of scientific and cultural fields, such as anthropology, archaeology, architecture, conservation, history and surveying. (Criterion 3.1)

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has the potential to yield information relating to not only the population of the area, regarding life expectancy, family size, genealogical information and social customs, but also has relevance to those non-local, deceased travellers for which the town of Albany was the first port of call after death. (Criterion 3.2)

As one of the longest serving public cemeteries in the State, *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has the potential to provide information relating to the conservation and restoration of rural and colonial cemeteries and their monuments. (Criterion 3.3)

## **11. 4. SOCIAL VALUE**

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* is highly valued by the community for social, cultural, educational and religious reasons, and this high level of interest is reflected in the community's continuous efforts over the years to maintain the cemetery and to enhance the surrounding areas. (Criterion 4.1)

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has been a part of the town from its earliest years, being the burial place of several thousand persons who died between 1840 and the present, many having descendants living locally. The continued use of the cemetery even after the opening of a newer facility provides insight into the importance of the place's contribution to the community's sense of place. (Criterion 4.2)

## **12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **12.1. RARITY**

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* was one of the first of the colonial-era cemeteries developed in the State of Western Australia, and the only surviving example of the original eight public cemeteries gazetted in 1848, which has not been substantially reduced, altered or destroyed. The unusual structure of the cemetery, being centrally intersected by a main thoroughfare and prominently situated on a hillside, provides to even a casual observer an opportunity to observe the development of the cemetery and the various funerary practices associated with each section. (Criterion 5.1)

The place displays an unusually large range of monumental works and funerary fixtures, many of them being of distinctive make and with a number made of rarely found and/or imported materials. (Criterion 5.2)

### **12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS**

Within the various denominational sections found at *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* are areas demonstrating burial practices characteristic of the various eras which occurred during the long period of use. These areas range from the original Victorian-era burial grounds which followed landscape contours, to those generally found in contemporary cemeteries with their pre-aligned rows of monumental arrangements situated on semi-levelled ground. (Criterion 6.1)

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* demonstrates characteristic Australian burial practices of the late nineteenth to mid twentieth century, and demonstrates the esteem in which communities hold their cemeteries. (Criterion 6.2)

### **12.3 CONDITION**

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has survived in an almost intact condition compared to other colonial cemeteries in Western Australia, despite the loss of some elements and damage to a number of monuments, mainly due to vandalism, decay and some ill-informed management practices during the mid-twentieth century. Vandalism continues to be a major concern and the anticipated opening of a new Primary School almost adjoining the 'upper' sections in the near future is of some concern to the Albany Cemetery Board.

The place is subject to regular, minimal maintenance by the Albany Cemetery Board grounds staff, and generally appears to be maintained in a good condition, although neglect due to lack of funds and available time is apparent in a number of areas. Some monuments and fixtures require urgent restoration or reconstructive work to avoid being lost.

A lack of maintenance and care of the place has seen the gradual erosion or removal of access and foot paths adjoining the property. In particular, a number of graves of prominent historical figures are increasingly at risk of damage due to sand and paving build-up abutting the grave surrounds. Some examples of such damaging activities are the run-off due to heavy rain from the raising of Middleton Road; and the disturbance, damage and/or removal of adjoining footpaths and steps, during the installation of underground power cables and light poles have all contributed to the situation.

### **12.4 INTEGRITY**

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has a high degree of integrity because, although burials officially ceased in 1959, it has continued in its original and intended use as a cemetery.

## 12.5 AUTHENTICITY

The place has a high degree of authenticity, because large amounts of the fabric, in the form of memorials and other funerary architecture, have remained in their original positions and arrangements within the cemetery. Whilst most are generally in good condition, it should be noted that the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* suffers from some loss of context in the oldest sections due to some damage, loss and degradation of gravesite markers and fittings, and vandalism to some monuments.

## 13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Donna McAleese compiled the supporting evidence with some assistance from staff of the Albany Cemetery Board.

### 13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* is identified in the first town plans of Albany, and is a significant element in the history and growth of the town. Indeed, the positioning of *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* is probably a direct result of the town's historical dependence on shipping, which in turn relied on the town for restocking supplies and protecting trade routes, prior to the beginning of the 20th century.

In the early days of the Swan River Settlement, sailing ships were the main form of transport, both for settlers and also trade between the Swan River Colony, Europe, Asia and other Colonies developing in the east of the continent. These sailing ships were heavily reliant upon the direction of the wind, and as a result, a number of the ships visiting King George Sound were driven into the anchorage of Ellen Cove at Middleton Bay, rather than the 'main' anchorage at Princess Royal Harbour.<sup>1</sup>

It soon became apparent to the early Government Residents, that a linkage road between the main township centred on York Street and Princess Royal Harbour, and the shipping arriving in Ellen Cove at Middleton Bay, was needed. Accordingly, the construction of Middleton Road was ordered in 1837<sup>2</sup> by Sir Richard Spencer, the first civil administrator of the settlement, and the subsequent detailing of the lot S51 on these earliest survey maps of the area,<sup>3</sup> would suggest that a specific purpose for the property had already been considered.

Referral to some of the published historical documentation of cemeteries in other Australian towns and cities of a comparable age, such as the East Perth<sup>4</sup> and Karrakatta Cemeteries<sup>5</sup> in Western Australia, and the West Terrace

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<sup>1</sup> Johnson, L., *Albany: Port with a Past and Future*, Albany Port Authority: Albany, 1997, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*, p. 30.

<sup>3</sup> Hillman, A., *Original Plans - Townsites: Albany 30D*, Department of Lands and Surveys, Perth, 1836; Samson, H., *Original Plans - Townsites: Albany 30E*, Department of Lands and Surveys, Perth, 1844.

<sup>4</sup> Nelson, R., *Historic Australian Cemeteries website - East Perth Cemeteries*, [Online], Available: <http://carmen.murdoch.edu.au/community/dps/graves/index.html>, [1999].

<sup>5</sup> Liveris, L. B., *Memories Eternal: The First 100 Years of Karrakatta Cemetery*, Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, Claremont, 1999.

Cemetery<sup>6</sup> in South Australia, would seem to suggest that the site was chosen for the lack of proximity to residential areas of the time; being of good, natural drainage potential and having a suitable access road already in position.

It may also be that the experiences with the two burial grounds which existed at town lots S112 & S115 prior to the development of the S51 site, provided an added incentive to follow the 30 December 1828 directive of Sir George Murray, Secretary of State to the Colonies, to Captain James Stirling, in which he stated:

In laying the foundations of any...town, care must be taken to proceed upon a regular plan, leaving all vacant places which will in future times, be required for thoroughfares, and as the site of churches, cemeteries and other public works of utility and general convenience.<sup>4</sup>

Furthermore, this view is supported by a Government notice dated 13 February 1830 in which the Colonial Secretary, P. Brown stated that:

The Lieutenant-Governor directs it to be notified that to prevent indiscriminate Burials and unpleasant consequences arising therefrom, in a warm climate, a Burial Ground will be set apart in Every Township or Parish; and that interments must take place in them only, and a Register of the Names, Age, Professions and place of Birth be transmitted to the Colonial Secretary's Office.<sup>4</sup>

Another point which would have found favour in the selection of lot S51 for a cemetery, was that it was, at that time, centrally located to both marine and terrestrially based users, being the half-way point of both the governing and geographical boundaries of the settlement. Before 1840, the main townsite of Albany was centred on York Street, and much of the governmental business and social events were focused on 'Strawberry Hill Farm', which was where the Customs office and the home of the then Government Resident, Sir Richard Spencer was sited.<sup>7</sup> Amongst his other duties, Spencer was responsible for both the formal notification of deaths in the region to the Colonial Secretary's Office, and also for overseeing the conduct of burials within the town prior to the arrival of the town's first minister, Rev. John Wollaston in 1848.<sup>4</sup>

On 28 November 1839, Assistant Surveyor Hillman returned to Albany, in the company of Surveyor General Roe and Governor Hutt. In his survey journals it is noted that he spent the week of 2 December 1839 sequestered with the Resident (and it is assumed, the aforementioned parties) selecting land lots of public use. The Governor's party is then noted as leaving Albany on 4 January 1840.<sup>8</sup> Dated the 6th, a note reads: 'Marking out Albany lots no. 14, 15, 16 & pointing out burial ground'.<sup>8</sup>

This visit to the Albany settlement by Governor Hutt & General Surveyor Roe is when the first documented burial took part in the then new cemetery. Rather than a newly deceased individual, this burial was the re-interment of Dr. Alexander Collie, who had died on 8 November 1835<sup>9</sup> and had originally been buried in Lot S112<sup>10</sup>. In a letter dated 7 October 1840 directed to George

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<sup>6</sup> Nichol, R., *At the end of the road: Government, Society and the Disposal of Human Remains in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, Allen & Unwin, St. Leonards, 1994.

<sup>7</sup> Johnson, L., *Albany: Port with a Past and Future*, p. 34.

<sup>8</sup> Hillman, A., *Diary of Proceedings - Surveyor's Office*, Department of Lands Administration, Perth, 1840.

<sup>9</sup> Johnson, L., *Albany: Port with a Past and Future*, p. 27.

<sup>10</sup> Johnson, L., *Albany: Port with a Past and Future*, p. 301, Reference no. 25.

and James Collie, brother and nephew respectively of the late Dr. Collie, Roe stated:

I have not previously apprised you that I availed myself of the opportunity which presented itself [?] on my making a journey overland to King George's Sound in December & January last, to have the body of my late friend your deceased brother removed to the regularly established burial ground of Albany, from its former position on the building allotment of a private individual, where it was exposed to the liability of being rudely disturbed at any time by digging of foundations, wells, &c. by parties who might have been indifferent to individuals feelings. The Governor and every respectable inhabitant of the Town and neighbourhood, as well as several of the humble class and 7 or 8 of the natives who had known him in life, attended the removal, which was conducted in a manner to evince the high respect in which the memory of the lamented decease was held both by those who had the pleasure of knowing him, and by others to whom he was necessarily a stranger.<sup>11</sup>

On 8 July 1848, Rev. John R. Wollaston arrived in Albany, as the settlement's first incumbent Church of England priest. On 27 July 1848, some 19 days after his arrival in the town, Rev. John R. Wollaston performed his first burial service and later noted in his journal:

The gunner's mate, who was drowned on Sunday, I buried at the cemetery a mile off. Most unnecessary and absurd distance from the town. This the case all over the Colony; adding to expense and fatigue.<sup>12</sup>

Shortly after his arrival, Rev. Wollaston arranged for the newly appointed Archbishop of Adelaide, the Right Reverend Augustus Short, to begin his first Episcopal Visitation to Western Australia by stopping at Albany.<sup>13</sup> During this tour of the Swan River colony, the Archbishop was able to undertake, amongst other duties, the task of formally consecrating<sup>14</sup> a number of church and burial grounds/cemeteries for the first time. In his letter dated 17 November 1848, the Right Reverend Augustus Short, noted a similar complaint, stating that:

In the afternoon [27 October 1848] the burial ground, one mile from the town was consecrated in the presence of the Resident and a few other friends. It is inconveniently distant but the position was fixed agreeably to a Local Government Ordinance.<sup>15</sup>

Despite the negative commentaries by the local and visiting religious dignitaries, these points would suggest a degree of careful forethought and planning had been given to the site selection and the potential future expansion of the town's population. This reflects a degree of consideration that appears to have been rarely practiced by early colonial administrators, at least in regard to cemeteries and burial grounds and reflects the 'new' notions

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<sup>11</sup> Roe, J., *Personal correspondence dated 7 October 1840*, Battye Library – Private Archives, Perth in Collie, Alexander, 1793-1835; Papers, 1835-1867 [manuscript], Perth, 1840.

<sup>12</sup> Henn, P. V., *Wollaston's Albany Journals (1848-1856)*, Perth, 1955, pp. 46-47.

<sup>13</sup> Bartlett, J., *Built to Last: A History of the Anglican Church of St. John the Evangelist, Albany, Western Australia 1848-1998*, Anglican Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Albany, 1998, pp. 33-35.

<sup>14</sup> Discussion with Mr. Sean Mullin of the Perth Anglican Church Office on the 25 May 2000 have confirmed that formal consecration of a church and/or cemetery requires the services of a clergy member ranked no lower than a bishop.

<sup>15</sup> Sellick, D. R. G., *First Impressions Albany 1791-1901; Travellers' Tales*, Western Australian Museum, Perth, pp. 98-99.

regarding hygiene, particularly cemeteries as opposed to churchyards, that were occurring in Britain and Europe during the nineteenth century.<sup>16</sup>

With Albany being the first West Australian port of call after Port Adelaide, Archbishop Short consecrated the newly completed St. John's Church in Albany on 25 October 1848, and the cemetery on 27 October 1848, making these the first consecrated church and cemetery in Western Australia.<sup>17</sup> Once again there is an entry in Wollaston's diary concerning Archbishop Short, which reads:

Lady Spencer gave a grand dinner on Friday, 27th Oct., on the afternoon of which day he [the Archbishop] consecrated a portion of the Burial Ground, leaving the remainder (three-quarters) for the other denominations. The Cemetery lies about halfway between Albany and Strawberry Hill.<sup>18</sup>

With the advent of steam and other engine driven watercraft, Albany became an important anchorage and supply station for the many ships plying trades and transport between Australia and Europe. Further expansion of reliable overland contact between Albany and the joint economic capitals of Perth and Fremantle was made possible with the development of the Great Southern Railway between 1880 – 1890. This railway provided a much-used link between the coastal port and other areas in the state, particularly after the discovery of gold in the districts of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. During the gold-rush era of the 1880s, the port of Albany was the main discharge point for prospectors and others attracted by dreams of 'instant' wealth.

As in any situation in which humans are involved, some deaths are likely to occur, and the cemetery became the last resting-place for not only those local inhabitants who died, but also quite a number of passengers, both on land and at sea. Burial records detail many nationalities and socioeconomic levels of society, including representative races of most continents of the then known world.

Recently 're-discovered' research by a local historian, Mr. Jack Peters, suggests that somewhere between 4,800 – 4,900 people were interred at *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*,<sup>19</sup> although the source documentation on this

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<sup>16</sup> Curl, J. S., *A Celebration of Death: An Introduction to Some of the Buildings, Monuments and Settings of Funerary Architecture in the Western European Tradition*, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1980, Chapters 5 and 7.

<sup>17</sup> It should be noted that whilst de Mouncey stated that the Alma Street cemetery at Fremantle was the first burial ground to be consecrated in 1830, it seems that this particular comment is unlikely to be correct. What appears certain is that when the ship upon which he was travelling, the *Success*, became severely damaged on a reef off Fremantle, the then ex-archdeacon of Sydney, Rev. Thomas Hobbes Scott spent an unexpected period of time in Fremantle and Perth. Whilst he did commit a number of notable clerical 'firsts' at the Swan River Settlement, Rev. Scott did not have the rank necessary to commit the formal benedictions required for a formal consecration. It should also be noted that there is little doubt that burials took place at the Fremantle (Alma Street) Cemetery from 1830 to its closure in 1895. Undoubtedly, had there been an accepted consecration of the grounds, Archbishop Short would not have felt it necessary to perform his consecration of the church and burial ground at Fremantle on 16 November 1848. – de Mouncey, P. E. C., 'Births, Marriages and Deaths Records of Western Australia - Cemeteries', In *Journal of the Royal West Australian Historical Society*, vol. 1, no. 8, 1930, pp. 26-34.; Bassett, M., *The Hentys: A Colonial Tapestry*, Melbourne, 1954, p. 113-115; Henn, V., *Wollaston's Albany Journals (1848-1856)*, Perth, 1955, p. 77.

<sup>18</sup> Henn, V., *Wollaston's Albany Journals...*, p. 68.

<sup>19</sup> Peters, J., *A Guide to Albany Memorial Park Cemetery Burials*. [DOS program], WA Genealogical Society – Albany Branch, Albany, n.d.

work is vague, and is still being investigated and assessed. To date however, it would appear that this compilation is the most comprehensive listing of interments available for the place, and this work is still the major source of cemetery records used by the Albany Cemetery Board. Allowing for the additional records accumulated by the Albany Cemetery Board since September 1959,<sup>20</sup> this would place the number of interments at approximately 5,000 individuals. As most of the records for the cemetery that were held by individual church trustees prior to the creation of the Albany Cemetery Board, records remain scattered and incomplete, although work on assembling a cross-referenced database is continuing.

As the Albany settlement and its population grew, there was a subsequent proliferation of the various religious institutions that could be supported by that population. This in turn led to additional ground being allotted by the Crown Lands Department to applications by these church groups, for lands set aside specifically for use as a Cemetery, in return for a fee simple rent. With each denominational grant, the area designated for burials grew until the combined cemetery boundaries were represented by a total of six town lots.

A gazettal notice by the Colonial Secretary's Office dated 12 February 1840 announced that Lot S51 had been set aside as a Public cemetery<sup>21</sup>, and provided the first official land grant specifically given for this purpose to the town of Albany. However, in keeping with the times, the whole of the land provided under this grant (lot S51) was placed under the care of the Church of England Trustees on 29 July 1845.<sup>22</sup> It was not until the 27 August 1847 however, that this original allotment was finally formally declared by proclamation to be a public cemetery, along with the cemeteries at Bunbury, Busselton, Fremantle, Guildford, Perth, Rockingham and York.<sup>23</sup>

It should be noted that whilst the majority of lot S51 is commonly referred to as the Church of England cemetery, there is evidence to suggest that only a small portion of the ground was specifically used only for the burial of Anglican adherents, and that other religious bodies were apportioned sections of S51 for their own use. This is in keeping with the commentary by Wollaston regarding the section consecrated by Archbishop Short in 1848,<sup>18</sup> and the map produced by Chauncy in 1852.<sup>24</sup>

The next additional allotment (lot 329) was proclaimed on 10 April 1855,<sup>25</sup> to Albany's Roman Catholic Church. This southern allocation to the original lot S51, was the first section to be used 'above' Middleton road. The Wesleyan Methodist church was originally granted lots 272 & 273, however these were exchanged for lots 327 & 328 on 28 January 1884.<sup>26</sup> Finally, the Presbyterian

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<sup>20</sup> Cook, N., *Memorial Park - Burials since 16 September 1959*, Allambie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, Albany, 15 June 2000.

<sup>21</sup> Brown, P., 'Colonial Secretary's Office letter dated 12 February 1840', In *Western Australian Government Gazette*, Perth, 1840, p. 1.

<sup>22</sup> *Land Memorial No. 859*, Governor of Western Australia, 1845.

<sup>23</sup> Cowan, W., 'Reserves for Public Cemeteries', In *Western Australian Government Gazette*, Perth, 1847.

<sup>24</sup> Chauncy, P., 'Albany Cemetery', Survey Office, Albany, 30 March 1852.

<sup>25</sup> *Western Australian Government Gazette*, 10 April 1855.

<sup>26</sup> Methodist Church - Albany, 'Correspondence - Cemetery Board', In *Battye Library-Private Archives*, Perth, Items 8-10.



Church received official approval for use of lots 503 & 504 as a cemetery on 16 July 1890.<sup>27</sup>

However, by the end of 1890, the build up of residential properties and crowding of burial space within the cemetery, had reached the point where the Albany Municipal Council was receiving complaints from the public.<sup>28</sup> This quickly led to the production of a petition of 131 signatories, which called for the cemetery to be closed, and which was forwarded to the Colonial Secretary, Sir Malcolm Fraser. The Colonial Secretary's Office agreed in principle to the closure, but only once a suitable replacement had been found and became operational. Whilst the Colonial Secretary's Office, the Albany Municipal Council and the Albany Board of Health all agreed that the old cemeteries required replacing and urgent action was needed to select and establish a new cemetery, the matter failed to make any real headway for another 29 years.<sup>29</sup>

In the *Albany Advertiser* dated 18 April 1908, it was announced that the Under-Secretary for Lands had appointed the Albany Municipal Council as Trustees of the Albany Cemeteries. However, it was not until 1 July 1919 that the Town Clerk and Engineer of the Municipality of Albany, H. C. Poole, requested of the Under-Secretary for Lands:

Will you please be good enough to inform to whom the following lots are vested, and on what terms and conditions as we have no trace in the Municipal records of any vesting order or title?...as the present cemetery is now almost in the centre of the Municipality, on public health grounds it will soon be necessary for my Council to take steps towards utilising this or another block further afield. What we should like to know is, what are our powers as to closing of the present cemetery.<sup>30</sup>

This statement would seem to indicate that, in reality, the various allotments previously mentioned continued to be operated and controlled by the appropriate church authorities, until the lands were re-vested by the government to the control of the Cemetery Trustees, as established under the *Albany Cemeteries Act (1943)*. This Act came into effect on 25 October 1943<sup>31</sup> and on 31 March 1944, these lots were amalgamated and rezoned as Reserve no. 22406,<sup>32</sup> the gazettal of which occurred in the same edition as the appointment of the Albany Public Cemeteries Board<sup>33</sup> (now known as the Albany Cemetery Board).

Finally, on 7 May 1943, the constitution of the proposed Cemetery Board was agreed to and the minutes were forwarded to the Under-Secretary for Lands for approval. The motion, moved by Cr. McKeown and seconded by Mr. H. Weight, carried unanimously, was:

That the Board comprise:- The Mayor of Albany as Chairman, Two representatives from the Albany Municipal Council, Two representatives from the Albany Road

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<sup>27</sup> Presbyterian Church –Albany, 'Grants of Land in Albany Cemetery', In *Battye Library-Private Archives*, Perth, Items 47 - 48.

<sup>28</sup> Albany Municipal Council, 'The Cemetery', In *Albany Advertiser*, Albany, 8 October 1890, p. 3.

<sup>29</sup> *File 3284 of 1890 - Petition for the Closure of the Albany Cemeteries*, Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth, 1890.

<sup>30</sup> Department of Lands Administration; *File 1485/1894, vol. 1*; State Records Office; Perth, WA, p. 25.

<sup>31</sup> 'Albany Cemeteries Act, 1943', In *Statutes of Western Australia*.

<sup>32</sup> Needham, G. L., 'Reserve No. 22406', In *Western Australian Government Gazette*, Perth, 1944.

<sup>33</sup> Needham, G. L., 'The Cemeteries Act, 1897. Cemetery Reserve 22406-Appointment of Trustees', In *Western Australian Government Gazette*, Perth, 1944.

Board, One representative each of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Salvation Army denominations.<sup>34</sup>

Problems concerning the development of the 'new cemetery' regarding its siting, costs and development continued over a number of years, with the question of funding for the care of the 'old' cemeteries and the development of the 'new' cemetery being regularly an item in the local press. In what appears to be a unique case for the funding of a cemetery in WA, the *Albany Public Cemeteries Subsidies Bill* was presented to the Lower House for its Second Reading on 23 October 1952 by Mr. Hill, member for Albany. Hill stated:

The Bill is very short, and it concerns only the Albany Municipality and the Albany Road District. It is for the purpose of enabling these bodies to subsidise the Albany Cemetery Board. It will be an impossible job for the board to carry on if the Bill is not passed...**Those of us who are interested in the old cemetery do not want to see it become like the East Perth Cemetery, so funds are needed to maintain it in perpetuity...**At present the cemetery board is being financed by an overdraft through the R. & I. Bank...The Bill provides for a rate of up to d. in the £ on the unimproved value or 2d. in the £ on the annual rental value on ratable [sic] land in the Albany district. The rate of d. in the £ would provide £ 1,700 per annum...The Bill has been approved by the Treasury and the Lands Department, and it is satisfactory to the Rural Bank. The feeling in Albany is strongly in favour of it.<sup>35</sup>

The Bill went on without incident to the Upper house, where on the occasion of the second reading, the Hon. J. McI. Thomson stated:

The purpose of this Bill is to enable the Albany Municipal Council and the Albany Road Board to pay over moneys – out of ordinary revenue or by way of special rates – to the trustees of the Albany Public Cemeteries Board so that it may proceed with the establishment, maintenance and management of a new cemetery at Albany.<sup>36</sup>

It can be seen from the introductory material presented at the time of the Bill readings, that this document was clearly designed to allow for the ongoing care and funding of both cemeteries, not only in the short term, but forever. According to *Hansard's*, the Bill 'passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment and the report adopted.'<sup>36</sup> Assent to the Bill was given on 19 November 1952 and the Bill became the *Albany Public Cemeteries Subsidies Act, 1952*.<sup>37</sup>

On 4 August 1954, the new cemetery was finally opened<sup>38</sup> and only five years later, by proclamation in the *WA Government Gazette*, the Governor declared the public cemetery noted as reserve number 22406 at Albany was closed for burials.<sup>39</sup> However, shortly thereafter on 24 May 1960, the Albany Advertiser noted on page 86 that:

As previously advised the Albany Cemetery, Middleton-road, was closed by proclamation in the Government Gazette on September 16, 1959. However, with the consent of the Local Government Dept., provision has been made by the Country Board to honour all previous reservations in the above cemetery, and burials may still take place their (sic) by consent of the Governor-in-Council, or an alternative site will be make available by the Board in the new town cemetery.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Department of Lands Administration; *File 1485/1894, vol. 1*; p. 55.

<sup>35</sup> *Hansards*; 23 October 1952, p. 1581. (Consultant's emphasis.)

<sup>36</sup> *Hansards*; 29 October 1952, p. 1667.

<sup>37</sup> 'Albany Public Cemeteries Subsidies Act, 1952', In *Statutes of Western Australia*, 1952.

<sup>38</sup> *Albany Advertiser*, 30 July 1954, p. 1.

<sup>39</sup> *WA Government Gazette*, 16 September 1959.

<sup>40</sup> *Albany Advertiser*, p. 86.

This announcement remains in effect today, subject to the discretion of both the Minister of Lands and the Albany Cemetery Board. It is expected that the few Reservations that remain current for *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* (approximately 2) will be honoured, and these reservations will expire by the end of 2003.<sup>41</sup>

In 1963, the Albany Cemeteries Board secretary, C. E. Courtis, wrote to the 'Letters' section of the *Albany Advertiser* suggesting that the public come forward with ideas for the differentiating and naming the two cemeteries at Albany.<sup>42</sup> By December, an announcement appeared in the *Albany Advertiser* concerning the chosen names:

CEMETERY NAMED - The new cemetery in Tourist-rd., Albany, has been named Allambie Park. The old cemetery in Middleton-rd., Albany, will be known as Memorial Park. The Albany Public Cemetery Board chose the names selected from several submitted by members of the public. Allambie is a native word, meaning "a quiet place." The naming of the cemeteries created widespread public interest. Many people submitted names, some bearing historical links and others with native meanings.<sup>43</sup>

In December 2001, Albany Memorial Park Cemetery continues to function in a limited capacity as a cemetery, despite its official closure in 1959. Currently, the Albany Cemetery Board are the owners and manage the place, with most of the day-to-day processes being directed by the Secretary and Administrator, Mrs. Noella Cook, from the 'office'<sup>44</sup> at Allambie Park Cemetery and Crematorium, on Lower King Road, Albany which is some distance from the main town and *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*. Inquiries from genealogists regarding ancestors and family members interred at the cemetery are still received on a regular basis, and tourists are regularly found investigating the memorials there.

Headstones in the place commemorate people who reached all ages, from babies and children to more than a dozen nonagenarians. The dubious honour of being the oldest 'occupants' is one jointly shared by William George Hawkes and Esther Annie Maltby, both of whom were aged 98 at the time of their deaths.

All cemeteries are important as records of past lives and deaths, and among those resting in the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* are men and women who drowned or died in work related or road accidents, as well as immigrants and travellers who died at sea. Also memorialised at the cemetery are a number of young men who were killed during World War One and other theatres of international conflict. Adding a truly Australian touch to those immortalised in the inscriptions found at the cemetery, is one for Herbert Clifton Hassell, who was unfortunate to die in 1901, as a result of injuries sustained in a football match some two years before his demise.

Inscriptions reveal that the first generation of immigrant settlers in the area came from a range of places of origin including Scotland, Cornwall, Ireland, and the USA. Closer examination of various local burial records also reveal

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<sup>41</sup> Cook, N., *Re: Cemetery Board By-laws etc.*, [Online], Available E-mail: allambie@iinet.net.au [2000, April 13].

<sup>42</sup> *Albany Advertiser*, 14 June 1963, p. 1.

<sup>43</sup> *Albany Advertiser*, 6 December 1963, p. 25.

<sup>44</sup> The only regular office staff employed by the Albany Cemetery Board is the Secretary and Administrator, Mrs. Cook, and she is employed only on a part-time basis. The 'office' for Allambie Park Cemetery is a converted storeroom, adjoining the original cremator room, at the rear of the Chapel building.

that early town inhabitants included representatives of most continents of the then known world, including Australian aboriginals, various British stock, Scandinavians, Italians, 'Chinese',<sup>45</sup> 'Afghans'<sup>45</sup> and Indians.

Funding for the Albany Cemetery Board relies heavily on the fees associated with the procedures conducted at Allambie Park Cemetery and Crematorium.<sup>46</sup> As such, forecasting the annual revenue and planning for the future needs of this operational cemetery is limited, and additional funding for more than basic maintenance of *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* restricted. Minimal full-time staffing<sup>47</sup> and a five-year rotational volunteer Management Board,<sup>48</sup> further confines long term planning for the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*.<sup>49</sup>

### 13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Over 1100 individual names have been noted in the inscriptions found on memorials<sup>50</sup> located within *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*, a relict, organically derived landscape,<sup>51</sup> which consists of just over two and a half hectares of grassed hillside. The place is located on both sides of Middleton Road, one of the oldest major roads in Albany, which is a major thoroughfare leading to places of historical and tourism interest such as Dog Rock, Strawberry Hill Farm and Middleton Beach. The cemetery adjoins the Albany District High School ovals and Bob Thomson Park, and is located just over 1 kilometre from the Albany Post Office on York Street, Albany. A small section of land that has not been used for burials on original lot 327 has maintenance shed and is often used for parking. It is easily accessed from Boronia Street.

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has a number of mature trees both surrounding the cemetery and within the main grounds, providing some indication of previous formal arrangements of pathways and sectarian divisions. These trees also providing a link with the symbolism prized by the Victorian-era in their funerary arrangements, through the choice of both exotic and local species, which have been seen to be associated with other pioneering cemeteries within WA.

Of particular note are a number of particularly large Peppermint or Willow-Myrtle trees (*Agonis flexouosa*) found at the junction of some early pathways of lot S51. This variety has been extensively planted throughout the place, and at

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<sup>45</sup> In this case, these terms are taken from various records of the cemetery. Rather than being racially accurate, they appear to be generic descriptives for anyone of an Asian or Middle Eastern appearance.

<sup>46</sup> That is, items such as fees associated with burial and cremations, memorial installation fees, monumental masons and funeral directors' licences, etc.

<sup>47</sup> See Footnote 44.

<sup>48</sup> 'Cemeteries Act 1986', *In Statutes of Western Australia*, p. 27 – Schedule 1: Term of office – 'Except as otherwise provided by this Act, a member shall hold office for such term not exceeding 5 years as is specified in his instrument of appointment, and may from time to time be appointed.'

<sup>49</sup> The roles and policies of both the Albany City Council and the Albany Cemetery Board in regards to Albany's cemeteries are somewhat undefined. See: City of Albany, *Albany 2020 Charting Our Course: Council's principal guide for the future*, Albany Design and Publishing Centre, July 2000., McAleese, D., 'Albany 2020 Charting Our Course', Thornlie, (19 June 2001)., and Grogan, C., *Our Ref: REL050*, City of Albany, Albany, (20 June 2001).

<sup>50</sup> McDougall, C. & E., *Tombstone Inscriptions - Albany Cemetery (Old)*, Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc. – Albany Branch, 1982.

<sup>51</sup> Taylor, K., *National Policy for the Conservation of Cultural Landscapes*, for Australian Council of National Trusts, Canberra, 1999.

least one of the junction trees is estimated to have girth in excess of 2 metres, indicating an age which corresponds with the earliest use of the cemetery. The Agonis, as noted by Richards,<sup>52</sup> is considered to be a colonial substitute for the Weeping Willow (*Salix babylonica*), a tree which had strong symbolic and allegorical associations with cemeteries and gravestone adornment.

In a few places, there are indications of trees being privately planted on graves, although further investigation would assist in clarifying the exact number and extent of such arrangements. In one case, all that remains to note the position of a grave, apart from the indentation caused by natural subsidence, is the presence of a Bay tree (*Laurus nobilis*), a tree which has had strong symbolic characteristics since Roman times.

The most seriously compromised area is that of the earliest 'lower' (northern) section of the original public cemetery on lot S51, where a number of gravesite borders and fittings have been lost to decay, vandalism and possibly tidying-up practices. Here, many of the older graves are now unmarked, and are often undetectable to the naked eye. In late winter and early spring, when grass is green and there is sufficient moisture to induce growth, the predominant effect in the older section, is of a park-like landscape dotted with headstones and naturalised, introduced bulb varieties. These flowering plants are found both within individual grave surrounds and in some cases, have 'escaped' to the 'outside'.

As a result of various active and passive changes over the years, the cultural landscape of this cemetery has gradually changed in appearance from the busy, oft-visited place during its years as an actively operating cemetery, to the restful park-like setting of today. Up until the development of the new facilities at *Allambie Park Cemetery*, which precipitated the subsequent closure of this cemetery, there would have been a great deal more detail than the headstones and grave surrounds that we admire today. Not only would the stone memorials have been present, but also the grave mounds, floral tributes, wooden corner pegs and other 'temporary' markers which would have defined the gravesites of those whose families could not afford stone monuments, and it is these that would have dominated the scene.

The remaining monuments and other sepulchral architecture in *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* are the chief and most accessible element of the physical evidence and these are also documents of individual lives and the local community.

The memorials themselves vary from plain to elaborate, and it is notable that the cemetery also contains four rare wooden headboards, said to have been carved by ship's carpenters for their former crewmates, prior to the beginning of the 20th Century. Also recovered by the Albany Cemetery Board are two footstones,<sup>53</sup> believed to 'belong' to the graves of John (and Elizabeth) Moir, and John Reynolds Palmer. In both cases, these footstones are stored at *Allambie Park Cemetery*, until appropriate protection and restoration work can take place at *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> Richards, *East Perth Cemetery Landscape Conservation Study*, p. 44-45.

<sup>53</sup> McAleese, D., *Those headstones are footstones!*, [Online]. Available E-mail: mcaleese@iprimus.com.au, [2000, October 27].

<sup>54</sup> In accordance with Articles 10, 19 and 33 of the Burra Charter - Australia ICOMOS Inc., *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Significance 1999 with associated Guidelines and Code on the Ethics of Co-existence*, Australia ICOMOS Inc., Burwood, 1999, pp. 5, 7 and 9.

Although there are no tombs, there are a number of imposing obelisks and columns, and an interesting range of headstones, which provide a good range of examples of late 19th and early 20th-century monumental masonry. Given the town's history of recurrent depressions and recessions, it is surprising to find that a number of these works were imported from not only other Australian states including SA, NSW and Victoria, but also overseas.

Most of the sepulchral designs incorporate a range of traditional Christian images. Those of particular interest to the amateur historian are the Victorian-era funerary images such as:

- Various forms of the Cross and 'IHS' expressing faith in resurrection;
- Anchors representing the security the believer finds in faith and also referencing the deceased's former occupational association with the sea;
- Urns which are associated with funeral rites in many different societies and religions and which embody a neo-classical element;
- Clasping hands expressing the hope of reunion in the afterlife; and,
- Flowers symbolising not only love, living energy and the beauty of divine creation, but also providing further definition for the esteem with which the deceased was held, through the romantic symbolism which those of the Victorian-era applied through botanical analogy to a range of subjects.

Other funerary artefacts of interest include a surprisingly large number of well-preserved cast-iron 'lace' grave surrounds. Once again there are examples ranging from various simple designs to elaborate family and group enclosures incorporating detailed designs.

### 13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Due to the age and extended period of operational of *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*, compiling accurate comparative information has been somewhat hampered by confusion concerning:

- which particular cemetery is being referred to, when a number of colonial cemeteries in a given district have been, over a period of time, assigned the same name, but refer to different properties and time frames; and,
- a lack of upgraded statements for properties listed before 1991 on the Australian Heritage Places Inventory (AHPI).

By examining the history available on those cemeteries in Western Australia that were extant at the time of proclamation and the WA Government Gazette publication of properties reserved for Public cemeteries in 1847,<sup>55</sup> a better understanding of features and qualities that this site exhibits is gained.

Of the eight allotments listed in the 1847 proclamation, only *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* appears to have not only the original portion retained but also most of the additional land later assigned to various church bodies prior to their amalgamation as Reserve 22406. Whilst records are incomplete at this stage, it can be quite confidently estimated that more than 4,800 burials took place and there were more than 1,100 memorials in 1992.<sup>56</sup> Whilst the official time frame for operation is 1840 to 1959, some reservations on burial grants remain open, with the last being due to expire by the end of 2003.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> Refer to footnote #23

<sup>56</sup> refer to footnote #57

<sup>57</sup> refer to footnote #41

Bunbury Cemetery is not listed on the AHPI. However, it is well known amongst local genealogical groups that almost 500 graves in the original Roman Catholic section of the Cemetery are now hidden under a sand dune.<sup>58</sup> Time frame for operation 1842 to 1947.<sup>58</sup>

The cemetery at Busselton (*Old Busselton Cemetery*<sup>59</sup>) is of a similar age, and like Albany, has retained all but a small portion of its original allotment. However, the Old Busselton Cemetery has received a far smaller proportion of interments and retains fewer memorials (less than 252 in 1992). Time frame for operation 1840 to 1932.<sup>59</sup>

Fremantle Cemetery being allotment 392 at Alma Street (1829 to 1895) no longer exists, having been cleared and the site reused for the site of the South Terrace Primary School. The Roman Catholic Cemetery which was established at Skinner Street (1852 to 1899), was also cleared of memorials and now lies under the oval of the John Curtin College of Arts.<sup>60</sup>

Guildford Allotment no. 29 no longer appears to exist. Comparisons between Guildford town site maps from 1829, the late 1830s and 1890s all clearly show the above property as being designated as a Reserve and/or cemetery.<sup>61</sup> However, recent street maps show that this town lot is now intersected by Sweeting Street and was subdivided for housing about 1902.<sup>62</sup> Whilst there is some mention given to earlier cemeteries in the Guildford area in *Guildford Cemetery Assessment*,<sup>63</sup> cross referencing of the three burial sites described in this document and in Bourke's book,<sup>64</sup> do not seem to correspond with allotment 29. If the site referred to as the East Guildford cemetery<sup>65</sup> is the one on the grounds of Guildford Grammar school, then this cemetery reserve (lot 29) appears to be a different site entirely to any of those referred to in the two documents mentioned previously. Nor does it seem to correspond with the burial grounds adjoining the previous Wesleyan<sup>66</sup> (now Uniting) or Roman Catholic Church<sup>67</sup> sites. However, it seems clear from the map comparisons that the allotment proclaimed in the WA Government Gazette of 1847 is no longer used for its original purpose.

Perth Allotment R is commonly known as the *East Perth Cemetery* and operated from 1830 to 1899. Of all the WA cemeteries, this appears to share more similarities in terms of history, size and interment numbers with the Albany Memorial Park Cemetery than any of the others listed above. In both cases, the allotments were some of the first to appear on the earliest town site

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<sup>58</sup> Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc., 'The Forgotten Dead', In *Western Ancestor*, Perth, December 1993, pp. 403-433.

<sup>59</sup> Dolan, D., Houston, D. & Pittaway, A., *Old Busselton Cemetery Heritage Assessment*, Heritage Council of Western Australia, Perth, 1997.

<sup>60</sup> Howlett, C. & Woodland, B. 2001, *DGF27 John Curtin and Fremantle Arts Centre Precinct Policy* - Map 1, Available: [[http://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au/council/comment/images/DGF27\\_map1.gif](http://www.fremantle.wa.gov.au/council/comment/images/DGF27_map1.gif)] (03 December 2001).

<sup>61</sup> Bourke, M. J., *On the Swan: A History of the Swan District, Western Australia*, UWA Press, Perth, 1987, pp. 43 & 246.

<sup>62</sup> Department of Lands Administration, 'Original Plans - Townsites: Guildford', In *State Records Office (WA)*, Item nos. 177 & 178.

<sup>63</sup> Gray, L. & O'Mara, G. et. al., *Guildford Cemetery Heritage Assessment*, Heritage Council of Western Australia, Perth, 1998.

<sup>64</sup> Bourke, M. J., *On the Swan...*, pp. 137 & 138.

<sup>65</sup> Bourke, M. J., *On the Swan...*, photograph and caption on p. 137.

<sup>66</sup> Guildford Lot 45.

<sup>67</sup> Guildford Lot 53.

maps (Albany in 1836 and East Perth in 1829), and they were originally a series of cemeteries, each one controlled by their own religious body through a series of land grants. Comparisons between the number of interments (Albany about 5,000 and East Perth about 10,000<sup>68</sup>) also makes apparent that the two places have a larger amount of burials than was probably the case of the other cemeteries in this comparison. There are also differences between Albany and East Perth as discussed below.

In the case of the *East Perth Cemetery* no further interments after May 1916 except for 'reunions' in family graves, although final closure did not occur until 1924.<sup>69</sup> However, at the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* although public burials ceased in September 1959, reservations held before the official closure of the cemetery will continue to be honoured until the last known booking expires in 2003.<sup>41</sup>

Unique to the cemeteries examined in this sequence, is the length of operating time in which the *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has serviced the community. Research has failed to uncover a public cemetery in Western Australia, which has served the community for such an extended period of time. The only cemetery/burial ground, which is may be considered to be close to this time period, is the one at St. Mary's Church in Middle Swan.<sup>70</sup> Although the St. Mary's Church has been operating for approximately the same time period, this burial ground is considerably smaller, and only available to members of one religious body (not the public).

*Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* is still in good to very good condition, in comparison with the other places in this listing; particularly noticeable with those at the East Perth Cemetery, where only about 800 of approximately 10,000 burials can now be identified.<sup>68</sup> Whilst some damage or loss of monumental fittings is apparent at both sites, the loss of fabric at the place appears to be far less than most.

In both *East Perth Cemetery* and *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery*, sections of the original reserves have been resumed. Whilst both properties are just over 5 hectares in size, the land reduction at East Perth has been by far the larger of the two, with the original reserve appearing to have been about 17 acres,<sup>71</sup> and it has been estimated that the remaining memorials and gravesites comprise as little as 20% of the original reserve size at the time of its closure.<sup>68</sup> Even more unfortunate is the case that much of the land reclaimed and re-used from the East Perth site, had already been used for burials, and consequential redevelopment of the areas resumed resulted in the mass destruction and desecration of the human remains and memorials. In the case of *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* however, the resumption of land incorporated an unused portion of the area previously controlled by the Albany Presbyterian Church. Whilst the original grant to the Presbyterian church was for two town lots, the reduction would appear to have reduced this allotment to approximately one town lot. This amounts to a minor reduction of only approximately 16% of the overall size at the time of official closure.

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<sup>68</sup> National Trust of Australia (WA), *The East Perth Cemeteries: Statement of Significance*, National Trust of Australia (WA), Perth, C1991, p. 2.

<sup>69</sup> Richards, O., *East Perth Cemetery Landscape Conservation Study*, p. 8 - 9.

<sup>70</sup> Bourke, M. J., *On the Swan...*, p. 141.

<sup>71</sup> Richards, O., *East Perth Cemetery Landscape Conservation Study*, p. 22.



The original position of Rockingham Cemetery (allotment no. 50) has not been definitively determined. An 1888 map of the Rockingham town site<sup>72</sup> is very similar in format to those Albany town maps of a similar age. In both cases, sequential numbering of town lots, which are aligned to the bay on which the town is fronted. Like Albany, the only lot number 'missing' from the sequence is the lot reserved for cemetery use (Albany lot S51 and Rockingham lot 50). If the arrangement for Rockingham is in keeping with Albany, then the cemetery allotment would have been located some distance from the main township. It can therefore be reasonably assumed that Rockingham lot 50 is now known as the *East Rockingham Cemetery*. Unfortunately, no further information on this site has been ascertained.

York Cemetery allotment C was supposedly situated with frontage to Avon Terrace and operated from 1847 to 1890. According to *Old Cemetery Site*<sup>73</sup> all memorials and funerary furniture have been 're-arranged' or removed from their original locations.

Of the eight allotments originally proclaimed as Public Cemeteries in 1847, three no longer exist (Fremantle, Guildford and York), two have been substantially reduced or partially destroyed (Bunbury and Perth), the circumstances of one is undetermined (Rockingham) and only two have survived to some extent (Albany & Busselton). Of the two surviving allotments, only *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* has received enough use to have been enlarged and still retains much of its original material.

Given the age of the cemetery, its general condition and its relevance to history as the last resting place of individuals of local, state, national and international levels, it can be suggested that this cemetery has significant rarity value.

#### 13.4 KEY REFERENCES

McAleese, D., *Memorial Park Cemetery, Albany Assessment*, 2000, Perth.

Presented to the Cultural Environment Committee of *National Trust of Australia (WA)* on 6 November 2000.

Classified by the Classification Standing Committee of *National Trust of Australia (WA)* on 11 December 2000.

#### 13.5 FURTHER RESEARCH

The relationship between various levels of Government and the Albany Cemetery Board is unclear and requires further research. This is particularly important with respect to the administration, funding and maintenance of the place.

Further research and recording of all memorials found at the place, especially those of prior to 1940, is recommended. There is scope for further research regarding memorial and cast-iron designs and their manufacturers. This idea is also supported by Ms. K. Waddell in her recently completed Honours thesis.<sup>74</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> Map - *Rockingham (1888)*, Battye Map stack: 35/19/ROC RARE.

<sup>73</sup> Register of National Estate, *Old Cemetery Site, York - 10015*, Available: [<http://www.heritage.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahpi/record.pl?RNE10015>] (13 Sep 2000).

<sup>74</sup> Waddell, K., 'Nineteenth century Grave markers for south Western Australia: A temporal and spacial study', Honours Thesis - BA (Archaeology), University of Western Australia, Perth, 2001. - Personal Conversation: D. McAleese and K. Waddell, December 2001.

A full landscape evaluation and survey for natural and cultural heritage values by suitably qualified botanist/horticulturalist is recommended. As the site is large and was developed over an extended period of time, multiple site visits would probably be advisable in order for all botanical varieties to be indexed.

There is scope for further interpretation, production and presentation of educational material regarding both the place and its 'occupants'.