



**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)

- 3.16 Struggling with remoteness, hardship and failure
- 3.5 Developing primary production
- 9.7 Dying

HERITAGE COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA THEME(S)

- 602 Early settlers
- 106 Workers
- 107 Settlements
- 304 Timber

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE*

Weston Grave, Carmel is likely to contain archaeological material which could reveal aesthetic characteristics of an earlier period. (Criterion 1.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel demonstrates the artistic skills of a carpenter and wheelwright of the time. The precision with which the timber rails are cut and housed with the lettering carved into the headboard, contributes to the personal nature of the craftsmanship and demonstrates the aesthetic values typical of an isolated timber community. (Criterion 1.2)

Weston Grave, Carmel is situated in cleared forest between the Mason Bird Trail and the Kattamordo Heritage Trail. It contributes to the aesthetic value of the forest re-growth and provides a profound context for visitors to interpret its past as a dense forest landscape, in a milling community. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2 HISTORIC VALUE

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

For consistency, all references to garden and landscape types and styles are taken from Ramsay, J. *Parks, Gardens and Special Trees: A Classification and Assessment Method for the Register of the National Estate*, Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1991, with additional reference to Richards, O. *Theoretical Framework for Designed Landscapes in WA*, unpublished report, 1997.

Weston Grave, Carmel is the only remaining physical evidence representing the occupation and settlement of the families who worked at the Mason and Bird Timber Mill and reflects the hardship and isolation faced by these early settlers. (Criterion 2.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel reflects the human occupation and evolution of the locality of Kalamunda. After the closure of the Mason and Bird timber Mill some families remained in the Darling Ranges, providing a foundation for the new Kalamunda settlement. (Criterion 2.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is one of a few remaining pieces of physical evidence of the Mason and Bird Timber Mill's existence. The Mason and Bird Timber Mill was the first timber mill in the Darling Ranges and one of the first timber milling operations in Western Australia. (Criterion 2.2)

Weston Grave, Carmel is important for its continuing association with a prominent pioneering family, the Westons. Richard and Mary Weston lived at the mill site from 1875 until its closure. They were one of a handful of pioneering families to settle in the area after the closure of the mill. Descendents of Richard and Mary Weston have remained in the Darling Ranges. Members of the Weston family continue to visit the grave. Kalamunda History Village has a permanent display dedicated to Richard and Mary Weston. (Criterion 2.3)

11.3 SCIENTIFIC VALUE

Weston Grave, Carmel has archaeological potential to provide information on aspects of daily life for early settlers in Perth. (Criterion 3.1)

11.4 SOCIAL VALUE

Weston Grave, Carmel is valued by the community in the Shire of Kalamunda for its association with the early days of timber milling and settlement in the Darling Ranges, and for its contribution to local identity. It has been listed in the Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places. (Criterion 4.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is a local heritage icon and a site on the Kalamunda Heritage Trail. Brochures on walking trails mention the site. These trails are of interest to the local community and tourists. (Criterion 4.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is important to the Weston family, many of whom continue to live in the surrounding districts. The extended Weston family continues to maintain the site several times throughout the year as part of their ongoing family tradition. (Criterion 4.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is valued by the Kalamunda Historical Society for its association with local pioneering families. The Society has erected a permanent display dedicated to pioneering families, which includes a significant interpretation on Richard Weston and his family. (Criterion 4.1)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12.1 RARITY

Weston Grave, Carmel contains an extremely rare timber headboard on a lonely grave in the Perth metropolitan area. Many timber grave markers have disappeared due to bush fires, weathering and termites. (Criterion 5.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is a rare surviving example of 19th century carpentry associated with a grave marker. (Criterion 5.2)

Weston Grave, Carmel is a rare surviving example of a bush burial in the Metropolitan area, a way of life no longer practiced. (Criterion 5.2)

12.2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Weston Grave, Carmel is representative of a type of carpentry seldom practiced today. Timber headboards and railings such as these were once common in Western Australia due to the plentiful supply of forest timber. (Criterion 6.1)

Weston Grave, Carmel is representative of simple timber headboards. (Criterion 6.2)

Weston Grave, Carmel is representative of the practice of bush burials due to the inaccessibility of cemeteries in the 1870s. (Criterion 6.3)

12.3 CONDITION

Weston Grave, Carmel is in good condition as a result of regular dedicated maintenance by the Weston family, spanning six generations. There is no evidence of termite or fire damage. At a site inspection in March 2008, one of the railings from the outer fence showed possible termite damage. However, the Weston family subsequently repaired this.

12.4 INTEGRITY

Weston Grave, Carmel has high integrity. Its original construction as a gravesite remains intact. The Weston family continues to faithfully tend to, and maintain the grave as they have done for generations. This combined with wide community investment from the Shire and local interest groups, ensures its long-term viability.

12.5 AUTHENTICITY

Weston Grave, Carmel has moderate authenticity. The fabric of the grave remains as constructed in 1876, however repairs and maintenance have been conducted by several generations of the Weston family. The original grave has been treated to prevent destruction by termites and the woodwork painted brown. An outer protective fence has been built around the grave. Power lines have also been constructed above the grave and it is now located in an easement clearing which has altered its surroundings.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by Jacquie Brisbout, Rosie Fitzgerald and Erin Fuery, Cultural Heritage post-graduate students at Curtin University in May 2008, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee.

The curtilage should extend to the line of the wire mesh fence (c. 1975).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Weston Grave, Carmel comprises the small earth grave of infant Francis Weston; with a timber headboard carved of local jarrah (1876); a surrounding picket fence also constructed of local jarrah (1876); and a second timber fence (1960s) with horizontal railings surrounding the grave and inner fence. The gravesite commemorates the death of Francis Weston, first child of Richard and Mary Weston, and was constructed by Richard Weston, a wheelwright and carpenter at the then nearby Mason and Bird timber mill.

In 1864 Benjamin Mason constructed a timber mill, in the district now known as Carmel. Prior to the establishment of the mill at Carmel, he had spent several successful years of milling timber at Lesmurdie, where he had managed to cut a rough track along, where the present Kalamunda Road winds its way down to Guildford.¹ Mason was one of the first to see the potential of exploiting the forests of the Darling Ranges. He successfully applied for a licence to cut timber on a 640-acre lease at Carmel, which had plenty of red gums and jarrah.

A small village was soon established for 85 men, 15 women and 30 to 40 children. Mason 'built 30 slab huts, a blacksmith-wheelwright shop for repairing chains and wheels and other paraphernalia of the timber industry, a storehouse, saw pits and a neat three-roomed weatherboard cottage where he stayed when in the hills'.² An assembly hall, possibly used as a schoolroom, was also constructed.³ Large timber logs were carted by four-wheel wagons pulled by bullocks, from the mill site to the Canning River, near Shelley; a distance of fourteen miles. The company employed pit-sawyers, wheelwrights, blacksmiths and cooks. The mill community was the first group settlement of European people in the Darling Ranges.⁴

Between 1868, when convict transportation ceased in Western Australia, and 1885, when gold was discovered, the State's economy was supported by two major industries: timber and pastoralism. By 1870 the timber industry had expanded to cater for domestic consumption as well as expanding overseas markets. Mason was looking for financial backers to expand his business. A young architect named Francis Bird was prepared to put up £40,000.00 and Mason, Bird & Co. was formed. Mason approached the government requesting an expansion of his timber reserve and with a proposal to construct, at the company's expense, a rail connection between the mill and the Canning River. A reserve of 100,000 acres of forest and a fourteen year lease was conditionally granted to Mason and Bird in 1871, with the construction of the railway. The reserve was henceforward known as the Canning Concession.⁵ The rail-line was in fact a timber tramline supporting a rake of horse drawn four-wheel trolleys.⁶ Fourteen miles of wooden tramway was finally operational at the beginning of 1872 connecting the Mason and Bird mill with the river landing on the Canning River.

In 1875 Richard and Mary Weston arrived in the district. Weston was employed as a carpenter and wheelwright. On January 17, 1876 their first child, Francis, was born. Unfortunately, he survived only two days. It was the first death in the small community and he was interred in the neighbouring forest, to the southwest of the settlement.⁷ Weston constructed the headboard and picket fence.⁸ John Slee describes Richard Weston's carpentry; 'The square pickets were cut and housed with careful precision into the rails, using the hand tools and the skill a wheelwright needed to house the spokes of a wooden wheel into the wooden

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- 1 Slee, J, *The Mason and Bird Timber Co, 1862-1882*, Canning Districts Historical Society, 1974, (Vol. 2, No. 3, March)
 - 2 Slee, J, *Cala Munnda: A Home in the Forest: A History of Kalamunda*, Shire of Kalamunda, 1979, p. 7.
 - 3 Slee, *Mason and Bird*, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 5-7.
 - 4 Slee, *Cala Munnda*, p. 7.
 - 5 Robertson, J, *A History of the Timber Industry of Western Australia*, UWA Press, 1956, pp. 9-13.
 - 6 Trautman, E, *Jinkers and Jarrah Jerkers*, Community Publishing Project, Fremantle, 1980, pp. 21-22.
 - 7 McNamara, F J, *Kalamunda of the Dreamtime*, Paterson, Brokensha Pty Ltd, 1961, p. 15.
 - 8 Metropolitan Water Board Newsletter, 1978, Vol. 3, No. 3, Sept.

felloes in an age of craftsmanship long gone'.⁹ A second child was born in December 1876. Mary Weston gave birth to eleven children in all, eight of whom survived.

By 1876 Mason and Bird was struggling financially. Transportation problems with the tramline and loading station at Canning River were delaying shipments. Increasing competition from other mills intensified when the Fremantle to Perth railway was extended to Midland in 1881.¹⁰ The business was soon losing money. Bird abandoned the mill in 1877 and went bankrupt. He returned to his profession as an architect, and finally settled in Albany. Benjamin Mason, 'the most important figure in the history of the (Kalamunda) district',¹¹ was forced to sell his Perth property and continued alone until 1882 when operations ceased and the assets were sold.¹² He found employment with the Public Works Department, where he remained until his death in 1893.

After the mill closed, several families continued to live at the settlement. The small schoolhouse remained open until at least 1885, when nine children were still attending classes. Among those who remained were Richard and Mary Weston.¹³

In 1891 the old Mason and Bird timber concession was taken up by Edward Keane in exchange for construction of a railway link between Midland and the Darling Range. The lease was transferred to the Canning Jarrah Timber Company in November of the same year as part of a larger Canning concession, which in turn became part of the Millars Combine in 1902. By eliminating the tramline problems the concession returned to profitability. As available timber on the Canning concession was cut out, the various mills closed; the mill at Canning Timber Station closed in 1904.¹⁴

By 1892 Richard and Mary Weston had made their home at Pickering Brook.¹⁵ The Westons were one of the district's first landholders and established an orchard, which they called 'Springdale'. Several of their children remained in the hills area, and raised their own families. Richard Weston tended to the *Weston Grave* until his death in 1922. Richard and Mary's fourth son, Gregory, continued to tend the grave until his death in 1962, after which time Gregory's son Niel continued to carry on the work of maintaining the grave. Hazel Hodgson (née Weston) recalls her father, Gregory Weston, riding on horseback from their home in Pickering Brook to tend the grave, just as her grandfather Richard Weston had done. Gregory was known to ride the four to five kilometres out to the grave in times of bushfire to clear the firebreak around the grave.¹⁶

In the late 1960s, Niel Weston constructed an outer timber fence around the grave and picket fence to protect the grave, which had been damaged by joy riders. His wife, Mollie Weston, said he felled the trees himself from the local bush area and used this timber to construct the fence.¹⁷

9 Slee, *Cala Munnda*, p. 44.

10 Public Transport Authority website, available at: www.pta.wa.gov.au, retrieved April 2, 2008.

11 Slee, *Mason and Bird*, Vol. 2, No. 3, p. 23.

12 Slee, *Mason and Bird*, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 5-7.

13 Slee, *Cala Munnda*, p. 42.

14 Gunzburg, A, *Rails Through the Bush*, Rail heritage WA, Perth, 2008. p 69-72.

15 Letter written by Richard Weston to Surveyor General in 1892 requesting the land be surveyed so that a house could be constructed. WA State Records.

16 Hazel Hodgson telephone conversation with Jacquie Brisbout April 2008.

17 Mollie Weston, telephone conversation with Jacquie Brisbout, March 2008.

In June 1973 discussions between the State Electricity Commission (SEC, now Western Power) and Niel Weston took place, regarding proposed powerlines to be constructed over the gravesite and the land immediately around the grave cleared. The SEC offered to protect the grave by constructing a temporary wire fence around the grave while the powerlines were being installed and for this to be replaced by a proper wire fence upon completion of the powerlines. The SEC invited the Weston family to select trees to be planted around the grave with the provision that the chosen species did not grow to a height of more than twenty feet and interfere with the lines.¹⁸

In 1975 the SEC cleared a pathway through the forest to allow for the construction of regional power lines. The Weston Grave is situated in the cleared pathway. Funds were provided by the Electricity Commission to assist the Westons in the purchase of native plants for the newly enclosed plot.¹⁹ The wire fence is still extant.

In 1976 Niel renovated the inscription on the headboard.²⁰ Over the years, Francis Weston's grave has retained a personal connection with members of the Weston family who continue to visit the place. The original carved headboard and picket fence are still extant today.

In 1988, Bicentennial projects created walking trails either side of the grave: the City of Gosnells' Mason Bird Heritage Trail is a short distance south of the Grave. A plaque has been erected on the Mason Bird Trail to identify a nearby saw pit, one of many belonging to the original mill. The trail traces part of the abandoned tramline and *Weston Grave, Carmel* is marked on the trail.²¹ Fifty metres to the north of the Grave is the Kattamordo Heritage Trail, which starts near Mundaring. An accompanying brochure lists *Weston Grave, Carmel*, simply as 'grave 1876'.²²

In 1996 the Shire of Kalamunda placed *Weston Grave, Carmel* on its Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places. The Grave is described as:

Francis Weston was first of 11 children of Richard & Mary Weston, 8 of whom survived. Westons were first settlers (1882) of Pickering Brook. Orig. headstone made by Richard Weston (carpenter at mason's Mill); evidence of isolation and hardship.²³

In 2008, *Weston Grave, Carmel* sits on land managed under multiple tenure:

- Department of Environment & Conservation as part of Crown Reserve 47881 (Lot 3071 On Plan 36440) which is national park vested with the Department of Environment & Conservation.
- Department of Water (WAWA) within the Priority 1, Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) Bickley Brook Catchment Area.²⁴
- The State Electricity Commission which continues to maintain a cleared pathway for the overhead power lines.

Weston Grave, Carmel remains a gravesite, and family members visit several times a year. The Kalamunda History Village features a permanent display

¹⁸ West Australian Newspaper, 1 June 1973.

¹⁹ Undated newspaper clipping, held at the Kalamunda Local Studies Centre.

²⁰ Metropolitan Water Supply Newsletter, 1978, Vol. 3, No. 3 (Sept).

²¹ City of Gosnells website, www.gosnells.wa.gov.au, accessed 28 March 2008.

²² Kattamordo Heritage Trail, tourism.heritage.wa.gov.au/ht_pdf/Kattamordo.pdf, accessed 28 March 2008.

²³ Shire of Kalamunda, *Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places*, 2007.

²⁴ Dept of Water: email received from Cale Ambrose, Land Project Officer, 1 April 2008.

dedicated to the Weston family. As *Weston Grave, Carmel* lies along an access road to Victoria Reservoir and is visible from the road, it is potentially vulnerable to vandalism.²⁵ A boom gate has been erected across the road which restricts access to the dam and *Weston Grave, Carmel* on weekends.

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Weston Grave, Carmel comprises the small earth grave of infant Francis Weston with a timber headboard carved of local jarrah timber (1876) surrounded by an original picket fence (1876), also constructed of local jarrah timber, enclosed by a second wooden fence (1960s) with horizontal railings. A third outer wire mesh fence surrounds the site. It commemorates the death of Francis Weston, first child born to Richard and Mary Weston.

The site is approximately 25 km from Perth and 5 km from Kalamunda. The grave is 1.5 km north of the Victoria Reservoir. *Weston Grave, Carmel* is located, approximately 300 m along the bitumen WAWA access road to Victoria Reservoir off Masonmill Road, Carmel, on the left hand side of the access road heading towards the reservoir and is 20 m off the road. The GPS co-ordinates are 41247E by 6455716N.

Weston Grave, Carmel is situated on Crown Reserve and is National Park Land vested with the Department of Environment & Conservation (DEC). This land also falls within the Priority 1 Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA) Bickley Brook Area. Weston Grave is located under powerlines within a Western Power easement access area and is enclosed by a wire mesh fence (c. 1975) measuring 18.5 m by 16.5 m.

The area surrounding *Weston Grave, Carmel*, excluding the power easement access areas, comprises jarrah forest re-growth, with an understorey of grass trees and native vegetation. Trees and shrubs planted within the wire mesh fence area comprise Casuarinas, Grevilleas and other native vegetation.

The original picket fence is constructed of jarrah timber, and comprises four square posts at the corners fixed into four horizontal posts on the ground and four around the top. Thin squared pickets are cut and housed into the timber base and passed through the timber top rail, at spaced intervals. It measures 1.40 m long by 0.96 m wide by 1.26 m high.

The timber headboard is approximately 75 cm tall at its highest point by approximately 48 cm in width and bears the engraved inscription 'Francis Weston, born January 17 1876, Died January 19 1876'. The back of the headboard is on the eastern face of the grave.

The outer protective fence (1960s) that surrounds the grave, measures 2 m by 2.5 m and consists of four circular timber poles at the corners fixed by three tiers of horizontal rails. The method of construction used for this fence is cut and housed, the same technique as the original picket fence.

Weston Grave, Carmel is in good condition as a result of regular maintenance by successive generations of the Weston family. The timber headboard and the pickets have been painted with brown paint and the quality of the jarrah timber suggests some oil treatment has been applied, which has allowed it to resist termite infestation. *Weston Grave, Carmel* remains largely as it was originally constructed. There is evidence of some repair work over the years where timber

²⁵ Shire of Kalamunda, *Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places*, 2007.

supports have been added, nails used to secure timbers, and steel and wire have been used to reinforce the original structure.

The outer protective fence shows evidence of past termite damage, which now appears to have been arrested. In March 2008, the bottom rail on the eastern side of the grave had fallen to the ground, possibly due to termite damage, but this has subsequently been repaired.

The wire mesh fence around *Weston Grave, Carmel* is in good condition.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Many of Western Australia's lonely graves were for babies and children. To have the body interred quickly in isolated areas burial often took place where the death occurred. A sample taken from the Coates' *Lonely Graves*, shows 39% of lonely graves were those of children, and most of these were buried on the family property. Almost 80% of children's graves were of an infant less than one year old.²⁶

Most infant burials took place on the settlers' properties either because of the distance from a cemetery, or because church burials were not available to stillborns or babies who had not been christened. In isolated areas, lay people were allowed to select their own burial sites, and the body was accorded minimal burial ceremonies or none at all, often in a garden. Health risks meant authorities forbade private burials within townships, but rural families frequently had no alternative.²⁷

Some parents clearly derived comfort from having a little grave close to their homes, planting pine trees or wild roses around a fenced site. But if the family was poor, a bare wooden cross soon rotted away, leaving nothing to mark the site.²⁸

Weston Grave, Carmel is an example of a burial practice associated with outback settlements, where many lonely gravesites have been recorded.²⁹ *Weston Grave, Carmel* is representative of this once common practice no longer followed. It is a rare, well-preserved example of this practice in the Metropolitan Region.

There are a number of cemeteries in the State Register of Heritage Places, however there are only four lonely graves, that is a burial that has taken place outside a registered cemetery. Lonely graves can be found on private property, mining leases, on islands off the coast and by the roadside.³⁰

The curtilage for *Haddrill's House* (c. 1835; Place No. 02493) contains the grave of Susannah Smithers, wife of hotelier William Smithers, the original recipient of a 2500 acre land grant in the Swan District on which the grave is situated. Haddrill purchased a portion of the grant from Smithers in 1833. When Smithers' wife fell ill in 1837, he returned to the property adjacent to the Haddrill's and, upon her death in 1839, buried her close to the boundary separating the two properties, as there was no church or cemetery in the District. An engraved piece of slate and

²⁶ Jalland, Pat, *Australian Ways of Death: A Social and Cultural History 1840-1918* (South Melbourne, Vic: Oxford University Press, 2002), pp. 294-95.

²⁷ *ibid.*

²⁸ *ibid.*

²⁹ Coate & Coate, *More Lonely Graves*, p. xii

³⁰ Coate, & Coate, *More Lonely Graves*, pp. x.

an iron fence mark the grave and, when surveyed in 1841 the boundary of Haddrill's property was found to pass through the grave but it was left in situ.³¹

This example is comparable to *Weston Grave, Carmel*, as it is an isolated grave representative of private burial practices in a period prior to church or cemetery burials being commonplace in semi-rural or rural settings in Western Australia. *Haddrill's House*, and the gravesite within its boundaries, is also within the Metropolitan Area. However, this is an adult's grave and the grave marker is slate. The fabric is intact and in a sound condition.

John Morrell's Grave (1929; 1965; Place No. 01885) marks the burial site of one of the first settlers in the Northam District. Morrell (c. 1786-1843) arrived in Perth in 1831, acquiring a land grant of 4,600 acres in the Northam region in 1836 where he grew wheat, barley and rye.³² As part of Western Australia's 1929 centenary celebrations, a monument was built in the field where Morrell was buried. This was a rectangular brick structure, rendered and painted white with capped pillars on the four corners. By 1965, the monument had fallen into disrepair until it was re-erected by Morrell's descendents.³³ The monument is in clear view of the township, situated on the verge of a busy road. The site is immediately noticeable due to the contrast of the memorial's white finish with the surrounding landscape.

Sir Richard & Lady Spencer's Grave (1839; 1855; Place No. 00048) consists of the graves of Captain Sir Richard Spencer, KH, CB, RN (1779-1839) and Lady Spencer (d. 1855) as well as two of their sons. Sir Richard was a former captain in Nelson's fleet who was invited to the position of Government Resident of King George Sound by Sir James Stirling. Spencer, along with his large family arrived in Albany in 1833, and continued to play an important role within the community until his sudden death in 1839.³⁴ He was buried at a location overlooking King George Sound as he requested. The headstone, arched iron-railings and flagpole were erected by his descendents.³⁵

Neither of the above two examples is comparable to *Weston Grave, Carmel*, as they are prominent monuments that commemorate significant citizens of the Northam and Albany Districts, while, *Weston Grave* is small and isolated, and is representative of a more private burial practice.

Butterabby Graves (1864+; Place No. 05109) is situated 16 km south of Mullewa. It is an isolated, unfenced gravesite on a small rise adjacent to a winter-flowing creek and surrounded on all sides by agricultural land.³⁶ The area is marked out by eight marker stones and is the place where the Wajarri and Nhanhagardi/Wilunyu peoples came in to conflict with the first pastoralists to settle in that area resulting in the deaths of two settlers. *Butterabby Graves* is the burial site of the five Aboriginal men who were charged with the death of one of the men, and the place where they were publicly hanged.³⁷ One of the settlers killed in the conflict is also buried at this site. In 1973 a commemorative stone was placed there.

31 HCWA Assessment Documentation, *Haddrill's House*, pp. 3, 5.

32 HCWA Assessment Documentation, *John Morrell's Grave*, p. 2.

33 Australian Heritage Database, 'John Morrell's Grave, Gillet Rd, Northam, WA, Australia' from www.environment.gov.au Retrieved 25 March 2008

34 HCWA Assessment Documentation, *Sir Richard & Lady Spencer's Grave*, p. 2.

35 Australian Heritage Database, 'Sir Richard Spencer's Grave, 39 Seymour St, Albany, WA, Australia' from www.environment.gov.au Retrieved 25 March 2008

36 HCWA Assessment Documentation, *Butterabby Graves*, p. 2.

37 *ibid.* p. 2

John Morrell's Grave, Sir Richard & Lady Spencer's Grave and *Butterabby Graves* lie outside the Metropolitan Region whilst *Haddrill's House*, and the grave of Susannah Smithers, are within it. *Weston Grave, Carmel* is still rare as an intact timber grave in the Metropolitan Region. Due to the expansion and development of this region, many gravesites have been lost.

There are many recognised sites of lonely graves throughout the State, although the fabric of many no longer exists.³⁸ Another comparable place, not far from the site of the *Weston Grave, Carmel*, is the lone grave of another small child. Situated in bushland in Pickering Brook, McCaskill Grave commemorates an unnamed child who died the same day it was born. McCaskill Grave consists of a headstone surrounded by a protective jarrah fence. On the headstone, constructed by Niel Weston and members of the Kelmscott Forestry Department,³⁹ the words 'Born 26-8-1903, Died 26-8-1903, Son of Richard and Emma McCaskill' are engraved.

When *Weston Grave, Carmel* was built, timber headboards were not rare.⁴⁰ Unlike *Weston Grave, Carmel*, many graves are unmarked today because the original timberwork has been damaged or destroyed by bushfires, weathering or termites eating away at the timber.⁴¹ Original timber headboards and other grave markers are rare.⁴² *Weston Grave, Carmel* is in good condition, and is extremely rare as such.

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH

The major resources on lonely graves in Western Australia, the two books by the Coates, do not detail the fabric of the various memorials. It is, consequently, difficult to specify the exact frequency of use of wooden memorials, as compared to stone or other materials. Further research, including a random sample of known lonely graves, would establish some of these details.

There are records that indicate a Richard "Western" also worked at the Mason and Bird Timber Mill.⁴³ Further research would establish if Richard Western and Richard Weston are the same person.

38 *ibid*, p. viii.

39 Coate, Y, & Coate, K, *Lonely Graves of Western Australia and Burials at Sea*, Hesperian Press, Victoria Park, 1986, p. 99.

40 Coate & Coate, *More Lonely Graves*, p. ix.

41 Coate, Y, & Coate, K, *Western Australian Burial Location Index* Western Australian Genealogical Society Inc, Bayswater, 1996, p. 107.

42 Yvonne Coate, Conversation with Erin Fuery 15 May 2008

43 Cited by R Fitzgerald at the State Records Office, Alexander Library Bldg, Perth, 11 April 2008.