



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Assessment Documentation

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

Cultural heritage significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for individuals or groups within Western Australia.

In determining cultural heritage significance, the Heritage Council has had regard to the factors in the *Heritage Act 2018* and the indicators adopted on 14 June 2019.

11(a) Importance in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of Western Australia's history;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery includes the earliest burials of the original cemetery site, and is the burial place of notable early settlers, convicts, Guildford identities, government administrators and people involved in the development of the Swan River Colony.

The place includes bodies and monuments relocated from the Anglican East Guildford Cemetery in c.1890s, and is indicative of the overcrowding of church cemeteries in the Guildford area that was experienced in the 1880s.

Established as a Christian denominational area, *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*'s demonstrates the demography and various Christian denominations of the population of the town and region at that time.

11(c) Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Western Australia's history;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery has the potential to yield information relating to the population of the area, life expectancy, family size, religious affiliation, ethnicity, and genealogy, particularly during the early development phase of the wider cemetery site.

11(d) Its importance in demonstrating the characteristics of a broader class of places;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is a good representative example of the earliest burial sections of a municipal cemetery.

11(e) Any strong or special meaning it may have for any group or community because of social, cultural or spiritual associations;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is associated with a number of different Christian denominations interred in the cemetery. The place is valued by the community for cultural and religious associations.

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery represents the social memories of both the local community and the State. The monuments are reminders of people's lives, and of their contribution to the development of Western Australia, and more specifically to Guildford and the Swan District.

11(f)¹ Its importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by any group or community;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is significant as a visual reminder of people's contribution to the development of Western Australia, specifically Guildford and the Swan District.

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery includes a selection of early headstones, plot surrounds and memorials that display creative of the earliest development phase of the wider cemetery site. They demonstrate skills, artistry and craftsmanship in the different disciplines of smithery, stone-masonry and lettering.

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery has some landmark qualities on both sides of Kalamunda Road.

11(g) Any special association it may have with the life or work of a person, group or organisation of importance in Western Australia's history;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is associated with a number of notable people who contributed to the development of regional and State development, including: John Hancock, pioneer farmer and innkeeper; Lancelot Lindley-Cowan, Secretary for Agriculture; Eliza Brown, 'Mother of the North' and wife of Thomas Brown Government Resident of the Victoria District; Charles Crossland, surveyor; and members of the Stirk family, the first settlers in the town of Kalamunda.

11(h) Its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement;

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery demonstrates the creative skills of the monumental masons particularly during the earliest development phase of the wider cemetery site.

¹ 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.

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1 CONDITION

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is in fair to poor condition. Some elements have deteriorated due to exposure to the elements.

12. 2 INTEGRITY

This section explains the extent to which the fabric is in its original state.

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery has a high degree of integrity with a significant number of identifiable plots, and headstones remaining in place.

12. 3 AUTHENTICITY

This section explains the extent to which the original intention is evident, and the compatibility of current use

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery retains a high degree of authenticity as it continues to form part of an active cemetery accepting new burials. Interventions that have occurred to the burial plots, such as damage to the headstones have minimal impact on the overall integrity of *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

The documentation for this place is based on the heritage assessment completed by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage and Laura Gray, in 1997, with amendments and/or additions by the Heritage Council and the Department.

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery (1888+), is a small section of a large operational cemetery, and comprises graves, headstones, monuments (including relocated monuments) within a largely un-vegetated setting, and represents the early development areas of the cemetery.

The Noongar groups living in and around the Perth area are collectively known as the Whadjuk, while the family groups living more specifically around the Guildford area were known as the Ballaruk.² Archaeological evidence for Aboriginal occupation of the Perth Metropolitan area at least 38,000 years before present has been found at Upper Swan, approximately 12 kilometres to the north of Guildford.³ In the pre- and early contact period Aboriginal occupation broadly comprised small family groups moving through the landscape in response to seasonal change.⁴ The traditional way of life of the Ballaruk people began to be disrupted with the establishment of the Swan River Colony.

In the early 1830s, the Swan area was the scene of armed conflict between Aboriginal people and the colonists. However, when the warfare ended, many Aboriginal people began working as labourers on the estates around Guildford in the 1840s and 1850s. In the 1860s, for the most part convicts replaced Aboriginal labourers.⁵

By the mid-1880s, there were three cemeteries in Guildford, each located in the yard of an associated Christian Church. The Anglican cemetery was located in East Guildford. Established in 1842, this cemetery replaced an earlier burial ground located in the yard of the original St Matthew's Church.⁶ The Wesleyan Mission and the Roman Catholic Church both had churches and burial grounds in James Street. In addition, there were small Anglican burial grounds associated with the Octagonal Church at Middle Swan (1840) and All Saints at Henley Park (1841).⁷

By 1887, the need for a new public cemetery was becoming a pressing issue for the residents of Guildford. Both the Anglican and Wesleyan churches had been

² R & E. O'Connor Pty Ltd, 'Report on an Aboriginal Heritage Survey of the Proposed Swan Valley Dual-Use Path', City of Swan, 2007, pp. 5-9.

³ Bourke, M., *On the Swan: A History of the Swan District Western Australia*. University of Western Australia Press for the Swan Shire Council, 1987, p.9; Quartermaine, G., 'Report on a Preliminary Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Sites, Caversham Structure Plan'. Prepared for Koltasz Smith by Gary Quartermaine, November 2005, p. 3.

⁴ Crawford, I M, 'Aboriginal cultures in Western Australia', & Hallam, S, 'The First West Australians', in *A New History of Western Australia*, C T Stannage (ed.), UWA Press, 1981, pp.16-20, 56-66.

⁵ Department of Indigenous Affairs, 'Lost Lands Report' (November 2003), p. 62.

⁶ St Matthew's Church was built in 1836 on land donated by James Stirling (now part of the grounds of Guildford Grammar). The first burial, of Lt. Charles Heal, took place in the churchyard in 1830, before St Matthew's was built. St Matthew's in Stirling Square was built in 1861 after the original church fell into disrepair.

⁷ Bourke, M. J., *On the Swan: A history of the Swan District, Western Australia*, UWA Press, Nedlands, pp. 124, 144.

allocated land for cemetery purposes by the Government in West Guildford some time previously, as their burial grounds were filling up. However, the swampy land allocated to both churches was deemed inappropriate due to the proximity to the river. Many feared that the drinking water would be polluted. Due to the undesirable nature of the lots already set aside, the churches and the Guildford Municipality began looking for an alternative site for a new cemetery. The new burial ground was to be inter-denominational (not for other faiths), at a distance from the town, yet accessible.

It was now accepted practice to locate cemeteries at a distance from town centres and residential districts.⁸ The move from burial in churchyards to public cemeteries located on the edges of settled areas is a particular development of the 19th century. The new inter-denominational cemeteries were the direct result of the overcrowded burial grounds in churchyards.⁹

In October 1887, Rev G. H. Sweeting, Chairman of the Vestry of St Matthew's, wrote to W. Padbury, Mayor of Guildford, stating that the small cemetery at East Guildford was getting full and it was therefore impossible that many more burials could take place there.¹⁰ Sweeting suggested an alternative site at Success Hill Reserve in West Guildford, stating that the location was 'very suitable as it is out of every body's way, composed of light soil, high and dry and has first rate drainage into the river'.¹¹ Padbury forwarded Sweeting's letter to the Colonial Secretary, endorsing it.

It appears that the Government accepted Sweeting's suggestion, for the Lands and Surveys office received several letters objecting to the proposed site.¹² S. H. Parker was concerned:

The Spring is a magnificent watering hole and the cemetery would also depreciate the value of surrounding properties...Success Hill and Spring also have historical associations which should prevent there being done [indecipherable] in the manner suggested.¹³

A petition addressed to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, signed by 26 'Residents and Owners of Property of the Town of Guildford' also objected to the establishment of the cemetery on Success Hill on the grounds that the land had been reserved for the quality of its drinking water, the reserve was used by children for recreation, and the proximity to the river and the growing township of West Guildford made Success Hill undesirable as the site of a cemetery.¹⁴ It would seem that the letters and petitions had the desired effect for, on 10 December 1887, the

⁸ Public Records Office, Lands and Surveys File, Cons 1755, AN3/19, Item 3828, Folios 14, 27, 29.

⁹ Sagazio, C., 'Cemeteries: Their Significance and Conservation', *Historic Environment*, Vol. 12, No. 2, 1996, pp. 15.

¹⁰ PRO, Lands and Surveys File, Cons 1755, AN 3/19, Item 3828/1888, Folio 14. Correspondence dated 31 October 1887.

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² *ibid.* folios 16, 17, 20, 22, 12.

¹³ *ibid.* folio 22. Correspondence dated 22 November 1887.

¹⁴ *ibid.* folio 12.

Acting Commissioner of Crown Lands agreed to set aside 50 acres, south of the Helena River, for cemetery purposes.¹⁵

In November 1888, H. S. Ranford (staff surveyor with the Lands Department) informed the Surveyor General that he had surveyed off parcels of land from Reserve 1286 for the purpose of cemeteries to be vested in the Roman Catholic Bishop (7 acres; Swan Location 1286), the Wesleyan Trustees (8 acres; Swan Location 1293) and the Church of England (7 acres; Swan Location 1284).¹⁶ The remainder of the reserve was to be regazetted as Reserve 1286.¹⁷

The original areas allocated in 1888 for Guildford Cemetery includes *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*. *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* comprises the area of the earliest burials of the wider cemetery site. The boundary for the 1888 cemetery – which has subsequently been changed and expanded over the years – is a much larger area than *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*.¹⁸

Due to the misplacement of the survey plans, delays in establishing the new cemetery were encountered, much to the frustration of Rev Sweeting. Sweeting once again wrote to the Mayor of Guildford, emphasising the urgent need for a new public cemetery:

It is not for Church of England or any other church to undertake the responsibility of providing a public cemetery for Guildford, but that in view of the pressing need for more burial room, growing more urgent with every passing month, it is the duty of the Government to provide one, if necessary by resuming a piece of land for a purpose of such urgent public importance, of a suitable nature as regards soil, readily accessible, and at a convenient distance from the town...¹⁹

This last comment was made in reference to Sweeting's objection to the land set aside at South Guildford, which he saw as inaccessible due to the heavy sand track which would require macadamising. However, when clergy from the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Wesleyan churches met the following March, they agreed that the South Guildford site was indeed the most suitable for a cemetery.²⁰

William George Johnson, Mayor of Guildford, was also concerned with the issue of access to the site and in July 1889, wrote to the Colonial Secretary seeking funding assistance for the establishment of the road. However, the Municipality was not successful until July 1890, when a grant of £100 was finally awarded.²¹ By this time, the need for a new cemetery was becoming quite urgent indeed, for there was room for only twelve more burials in the Anglican East Guildford Cemetery.²² By March 1891, the road had been built and the first burials took place the following

15 *ibid.* folio 5. Reserve 1286 was excised from Commonage Reserve 259A and was initially gazetted on 15 Dec 1887. A track (now Kalamunda Rd) to Canning Timber Station ran through the reserve.

16 Certificate of Title, Vol 34, folio 110; Vol. 35, folio 206; Vol 33, folio 318 respectively.

17 Lands and Surveys File, *op. cit.*, folio 77.

18 Survey of Guildford Cemetery, copy sourced from PD Wallet for P4647 Guildford Cemetery – 'Guildford Cemeteries 1286 Swan. Date of Survey November 1888, signed by Surveyor 7.6.1893'

19 *ibid.* folio 10. Correspondence dated 6 June 1889.

20 Gibbons, Len, *The Story of Guildford: a century of progress*, Imperial Printing, Perth, 1929, p. 22.

21 Lands and Surveys File, *op. cit.*, folios 11, 42, 43, 53. The Guildford Municipality was also expected to contribute towards the cost of sealing the road, as well as provide for the clearing, fencing and forming of the ground.

22 *ibid.* folio 42, 43. Correspondence dated 25 July 1890.

year.²³ The Anglican community transferred about 30 bodies and associated monuments relocated from the East Guildford Cemetery to the new cemetery.²⁴ These burials and monuments are located in *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*.²⁵

By 1900, disease and poverty had so reduced the number of Aboriginal people around Guildford that they were seldom noticed. However, in 1901 more than 100 Aboriginal people were brought to Guildford for the Royal visit and a camp set up on Guildford Road. In subsequent years, more Aboriginal camps were established around Guildford, the largest being at Success Hill, a traditional meeting place.²⁶

Complaints from non-Aboriginal residents about the Aboriginal camp at Success Hill caused the West Guildford Roads Board to look for a site for a reserve removed from the European population. The only place said to be available was 48 acres in South Guildford, now part of Perth Airport and adjacent to the Guildford Cemetery site. Although it was gazetted in 1910, it appears that little was done to force the Aboriginal population of Guildford to the new site.²⁷

By October 1913, Guildford Cemetery was described as being in a poor condition. Meetings between local government authorities and the churches, instigated by the Municipality of Guildford, were held in a bid to establish a cemetery board to take control of the entire cemetery.²⁸ Discussions continued through 1914 and into 1915, but with the Catholic Church refusing to surrender their land to the Crown, negotiations fell through.²⁹ Instead, the Guildford Cemetery Board was appointed in 1915 to 'manage and control Cemetery Reserve 1286 at Guildford', as this section of the cemetery was not under the control of any particular church. The Board included the Mayor of Guildford, H. Barnard, James de Burgh Morrison, Francis O'Leary, Henry S. King and J. M. Limb.³⁰

The issue of a single controlling entity for Guildford Cemetery was raised again in early 1936, when W. D. Johnson MLA wrote to the Minister for Lands, calling for the establishment of a Guildford and Districts Cemeteries Board in an effort to do something about the 'rather dilapidated state' of the Cemetery.³¹ By October, all the Churches had agreed to surrender the land and the *Guildford Cemeteries Act*

²³ *ibid*, folio 53. Correspondence dated 3 March 1890; correspondence from Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, HCWA File P4647, dated 13 July 1998.

²⁴ *The West Australian*, 28 July 1949. These include two members of the Devenish family whose headstones date back to 1834, publican John Hancock, who died at 'Belmont' in 1837, and his wife, Grace. This point requires further investigation, as correspondence from the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board (8 July 1998) suggests that there is no evidence that people were re-interred.

²⁵ Metropolitan Cemeteries, 'Guildford Master Plan 2020/21', extract provided to the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage on 5 February 2021.

²⁶ DIA, 'Lost Lands Report', *op. cit.*, pp. 62-63.

²⁷ *ibid*, pp. 63-64.

²⁸ *The Swan Express*, 7 Nov 1913, p. 5.

²⁹ Lands and Surveys file, *op. cit.*, folios 61, 70, 71, 72, 73, 87. In order for the individual denominational burial grounds to be combined as a single public cemetery, each church had to surrender their section to the Crown.

³⁰ *Government Gazette WA*, No 12, 1915, p. 3616.

³¹ Lands and Surveys file, *op. cit.*, folios 92, 94, 95.

1936 was passed. The new Board, comprised of church and local government representatives, met to consider improving the 'state of this old cemetery'.³²

Early in 1936, the Swan Roads Board demanded that the Aboriginal population of Guildford be moved to the still unused South Guildford reserve, adjacent to Guildford Cemetery, which had been gazetted in 1910. However, A. O. Neville refused this request, stating that the reserve was too far from any work for the Guildford Aboriginal community. He asked the Roads Board for a site near places of employment, but they declined to offer any site that would impact on non-Aboriginal residents or their property values.³³

On 28 May 1937, Swan Locations 1284, 1293, 1368, 3767, 3768 and 3769 were amalgamated to create Reserve 21697 (Reserve 1286 was cancelled), and vested in the Crown as a public cemetery, with the existing burial rights and Christian denominational demarcations preserved.³⁴ From this time on, a single burial record book replaced the three separate burial registers that had been maintained by each Church.³⁵ In November 1937, the Board received a grant from the Lands Department for funds to provide fencing around the cemetery. The land had been unfenced for many years and was frequently invaded by woodcutters and sand carters.³⁶

Forced settlement on the South Guildford Aboriginal reserve began in May 1941. However, South Guildford's non-Aboriginal residents protested, with both the Town and the local Progress Association demanding relocation of the Aboriginal community to a 'site further afield'. In the end, however, it was not protest which caused closure of the site but its requisition by the armed forces in January 1942, just eight months after the community had been forced onto the reserve.³⁷

By the early 1950s, the layout of Guildford Cemetery approximately resembled the area of *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*, being three tree lined burial sections – two on the north side of Kalamunda Road and one on the south side.³⁸ These represented the original Wesleyan and Roman Catholic sections (north) and Church of England section (south) that were allocated in 1888.³⁹ The area that comprises *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* includes the earliest portions of the original Wesleyan, Roman Catholic and Church of England sections. A fourth section of burials had been developed on the south side of Kalamunda Road in a section designated General Burials. This area is not included as part of *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*.

32 *ibid*, folio 129. The provisional membership included representatives from each of the three churches, as well as representatives from the Swan, Belmont Park, Bassendean, Darling Range and Guildford municipalities. Elections for the Board were made from those representatives

33 DIA, 'Lost Lands Report', *op. cit.*, p. 65.

34 *ibid*.

35 Interview L Gray with Daphne Morris, Burial Clerk, Midland Cemetery, Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, 20 Jan 1997.

36 Lands and Surveys, *op. cit.*, folio 147.

37 DIA, 'Lost Lands Report', *op. cit.*, pp. 65-67.

38 Landgate Aerial Imagery dated 1953, sourced from <https://map-viewer-plus.app.landgate.wa.gov.au/index.html> Accessed on 12 March 2021.

39 State Records Office item Acc 1755 Item 3828/1888. Annotated Map dated 8/1889. Sourced from PD Wallet for P4647 Guildford Cemetery.

The Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, (MCB) which was formed on 1 October 1988, took over the responsibility of managing the whole of Guildford Cemetery from the Swan Shire Council on 1 July 1989.⁴⁰ A management plan, developed for the Shire of Swan in 1988, was adopted by the Board as the basis for future development of the Cemetery.⁴¹

In September 1998, Guildford Cemetery was entered into the State Register of Heritage Places. The curtilage for registration comprised a large portion of the cemetery Reserve, including *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* and areas of more recent burials, landscaping and development, as well as areas of bushland.

In 2010, Guildford Cemetery (inclusive of *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* and the wider cemetery site) was added to the City of Swan's Local Heritage Survey and Heritage List.

In 2021, *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* continues to operate as part of the wider Guildford Cemetery, and is still used occasionally for burials (one or two per year).⁴²

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery straddles Kalamunda Road in South Guildford. The road divides the Cemetery into two distinct sections which represent the earliest development areas of the cemetery. The oldest sections of the Cemetery are located along both sides of Kalamunda Road.

Kalamunda Road is a busy arterial road leading from Great Eastern Highway to the hills. There is a broad expanse of gravel parking space each side of the road in the vicinity of the cemetery. Some mature pine trees and some native trees are sporadically located throughout *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*. Even though the monuments dominate the cemetery landscape, the cemetery remains rather barren in appearance, with heavy sand between the grave plots. This appearance of emptiness is particularly evident where monuments are no longer extant.

To the north of Kalamunda Road, the oldest graves in the Catholic and Wesleyan (now general) areas are scattered, with some sections laid out in rows. Sandy paths divide the cemetery into sections, and while the layout is not strictly geometrical, the rectangular plots at right angles do give an orderly feeling to the place. Metal markers identify each section of the cemetery. There is no apparent pattern to the planting of trees in this section. Self-seeding plants have been allowed to mature within some of the burial sites. Overall, this section is in a poor condition with evidence of untended graves and damaged burial plots and headstones.

Some of the earliest burials are in the original Catholic section (north east). These include Michael Blake Leonard (d.1897), Michael Nolan (d.1892) an early settler in Upper Swan, John Aguilar (d.1893), Arthur McCusker (d.1893), Teresa Catherine Lyons (d.1895), John O'Mara (d.1915) former convict, and his family, and Charles

⁴⁰ *Midland Reporter Community*, 24 Jan 1995, p. 3.

⁴¹ Correspondence from Metropolitan Cemeteries Board; Minutes of the Community Services Committee, Shire of Swan, 15 Sept 1988. HCWA file P4647 dated 8 July 1998.

⁴² Burial information provided by MCB to Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage via email 5 February 2021.

Smith (d.1912) who built 'Fairholme' in Guildford. The graves of Eliza Wellman (d.1897), Emily Evans (d.1897) and Roy Burns (d.1897) are also evident.⁴³

On the southern side of the road, the Anglican section is in better condition. The graves are laid in an orderly manner, although the oldest graves located on the western boundary towards Kalamunda Road, appear to be randomly placed.

Notable graves in this area include the grave of publican John Hancock (d.1837, relocated) and his wife Grace (d.1837, relocated), the stone memorials for William Devenish and family (d.1854, relocated). Lancelot Lindley-Cowan (Secretary of Agriculture) (d.1902), John Withnell (d.1898) and Emma Withnell (d.1928), (early pastoralists in the Roebourne district), Eliza Brown ('Mother of the North' and wife of Thomas Brown Government Resident of the Victoria District) (d.1896) and son Aubrey (d.1909). Charles Crossland (d.1911), the surveyor in charge of the survey of the Midland Railway, his wife Margaret Geraldine (d.1903) and members of the Stirk family, the first settlers in the town of Kalamunda.⁴⁴

Overall, there are broken and damaged headstones throughout *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery*, although most have been retained in place. Weathering on the older headstones has made some of the inscriptions illegible. The cast metal plot surrounds are silver frosted, despite the fact that many were not originally painted. Some of the cast metal work is in need of repair. The stone and cement surrounds have subsided or are broken on a number of graves.

The monuments throughout *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* commemorate a wide variety of people, from those very important in the settlement and development of Western Australia, particularly notable figures associated with the Guildford and Swan Districts. *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* provides a record of individual lives in the local community. Family plots within *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* can contain the remains of two generations or more. Headstones vary from plain to elaborate, with a variety of symbolism expressed. Some monuments are large and imposing, others are small and quite plain. The range of monuments reflects the traditions and trends of different Christian denominations particularly during the early development phase of the wider cemetery site.

The headstones in *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* can be easily identified as the works of two monument makers in particular. The monuments c.1900 have been marked with the name 'O C H Day, Perth Marble Works', and the headstones c.1920 with 'Wilson Gray & Co, Perth'.

The gravesites in both areas range from unmarked plots, to fenced plots. Headstones vary in size, style, material, craftsmanship and degree of weathering.

In 2021, *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* continues to operate as part of the wider Guildford Cemetery, and can accommodate new burials if requested. Overall the fabric and landscape is in fair to poor condition.

43 Burial information sourced from <https://billiongraves.com/cemetery/Guildford-Cemetery/150973> Accessed on 12 March 2021.

44 Burial information sourced from <https://billiongraves.com/cemetery/Guildford-Cemetery/150973> Accessed on 12 March 2021.

13.3 COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Principal Australian Historic Theme(s)

- 8.6.3 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies
- 9.7 Dying
- 9.7.2 Mourning the dead
- 9.7.3 Remembering the dead

Heritage Council of Western Australia Theme(s)

- 407 Cultural activities
- 602 Early settlers

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is a small section of a large operational cemetery and comprises the earliest burials of the original cemetery site

The wider Guildford Cemetery site is one of six metropolitan cemeteries still offering burial plots. It lies just south of *Guildford Historic Town* which is on the State Register. Guildford is one of three towns established in 1829 in the Swan River Colony and was central to the agricultural and horticultural development of the colony. It was also the first (and only) inland port in Western Australia, providing an essential transport node, firstly by river and then by rail. The development of the town helped to shape these key heritage values was undertaken by many individuals, some of who have associations with the cemetery.

A search of the Historic Heritage database for places with the use 'cemetery' retrieves 207 places, of which 25 are entered in the State Register of Heritage Places. The following three registered places are most comparable to *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* for including early burial areas, for being municipal cemeteries (i.e. stand-alone cemeteries, rather than a cemetery associated with a church, institution, homesteads etc.), that continue to operate and accept burials, and for their association with notable early pioneers and other important individuals.

- P302 *Broome Pioneer Cemetery* (RHP) (1890) is the burial place of a number of well-known people associated with the early European history and development of Broome and the North West. Although no burials have occurred since 1979, the current purpose of the place is recorded as 'cemetery'.⁴⁵
- P301 *Broome Cemetery – Japanese/Chinese/Muslim Sections* (RHP) (1890) is associated with three non-Christian groups that were pioneers and workers in Broome, many of who made an important contribution to the economic development of the region and the State through the

⁴⁵ Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Crown Reserve Report, dated 16 March 2021.

pearling industry. The current purpose of the place is recorded as 'cemetery'.⁴⁶

- P3976 *Northam Cemetery* (RHP) (1856) contains the remains of individuals and families associated with the opening up of the Avon Valley for pastoral and agricultural purposes from the 1830s. It is the oldest and longest serving public cemetery in Western Australia. In 2021, the cemetery continues to operate and accept new burials.⁴⁷

Other municipal cemeteries that include early pioneers, but which are not operational (i.e. a cemetery categorised as closed, disused, or heritage site) include:

- P406 *Old Busselton Cemetery* (RHP) (1847) is the burial place of many people involved in the European settlement of the Bunbury region, and members of families prominent in the early history of Western Australia. The cemetery is one of the oldest non-indigenous cemeteries in Western Australia.
- P559 *Pioneer Cemetery* (Coolgardie) (RHP) (1894) contains many graves of people who worked to establish Coolgardie.
- P1133 *Greenough Pioneer Cemetery* (RHP) (1864) is a municipal cemetery and is one of the largest and most intact pioneer cemeteries in the State. Burials were laid out by Christian denominations.
- P15756 *Albany Memorial Park Cemetery* (RHP) (1840) includes burials of notable Western Australian pioneers laid out by Christian denominations.
- P2164 *East Perth Cemeteries* (RHP) (1829) is the burial place of many important and early colonial settlers, including government administrators, well-known families, religious leaders and prominent individuals. The cemetery was established prior to St Bartholomew Mortuary Chapel being constructed in 1871. From 1848 burials were laid out by Christian denomination, and later accepted other faiths including Chinese and Jewish.
- P16760 *Menzies Cemetery* (RHP) (1895-1939) is a cemetery in an area of cleared bushland, which is the burial place of pioneering prospectors, miners, businessmen, government officials and their families.

The Heritage Council has also identified the following two cemeteries as warranting assessment for the State Register:

- P612 *Karrakatta Cemetery* (1897) an operational inter-faith cemetery that includes the Perth War Cemetery, Dutch War Cemetery, WA Garden of Remembrance, Karrakatta Cemetery, landscaped gardens and Hollywood Nature Reserve. The place was for many years the principal and largest operational cemetery in the State, and demonstrates changes to burial practice over time. Notable burials

⁴⁶ Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage Crown Reserve Report, dated 16 March 2021.

⁴⁷ Shire of Northam website, 'Cemetery'. Sourced from <https://www.northam.wa.gov.au/services/engineering-works/cemetery.aspx> Accessed on 15 March 2021.

include Lord John Forrest, Sir John Winthrop Hackett, J Talbot Hobbs (cremation), John Curtin, Sir James Mitchell, Edith Cowan, Alexander Forrest, John Scadden, Sir Charles Henry Gairdner, Sir David Brand.

- P6087 Fremantle Cemetery (1899) an operational inter-faith cemetery, that includes approximately 75,000 gravesites, four memorial gardens, and landscaping. Notable burials include Ronald Belford 'Bon' Scott, Henry Vincent, Lionel Samson, Sir William Frederick Samson, William Dalgety Moore, Joseph 'Moondyne Joe' Johns, Charles Yelverton O'Connor, Daniel Scott.

Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery is representative of the earliest burial section of an operational cemetery, and includes the graves of notable early pioneers associated with the Guildford area and development of the Swan River Colony.

13. 4 KEY REFERENCES

13. 5 FURTHER RESEARCH

Further research is required to confirm if bodies as well as monuments were relocated from the Anglican East Guildford Cemetery to *Early Graves, Guildford Cemetery* in c.1890s.