

# **BLUE MOUNTAINS CEMETERIES**



## **CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **Volume 2: Springwood, Faulconbridge and Lawson Cemeteries**

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**CITY OF BLUE MOUNTAINS**

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Cover Photo:  
An example of the work of Paterson,  
a prominent monumental stonemason in the Blue Mountains.  
Katoomba Cemetery 1 Aug 2001

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## **SPRINGWOOD CEMETERY**

### **SP1 Introduction**

#### **SP1.1 General**

This Springwood Cemetery section of the Conservation Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the General Section of the Conservation Management Plan.

#### **SP1.2 Location**

Springwood Cemetery is located at 40 Davesta Road, Springwood. The legal title is Lot 7005, DP 94061.

#### **SP1.3 Bibliography**

*OPBM* VIII, IX

Sydney Diocesan Archives, Anglican Trustees' Minute-Book, 1994/102/27

J.F. Campbell, *Historical Notes on the Earliest Days of Springwood and District*, Jackson Stonewall, Springwood 1937, reprinted Springwood Historical Society 1986

## SP2 Physical Summary

### SP2.1 General

The cemetery was inspected by the study team on 28 June 2001.

### SP2.2 Setting

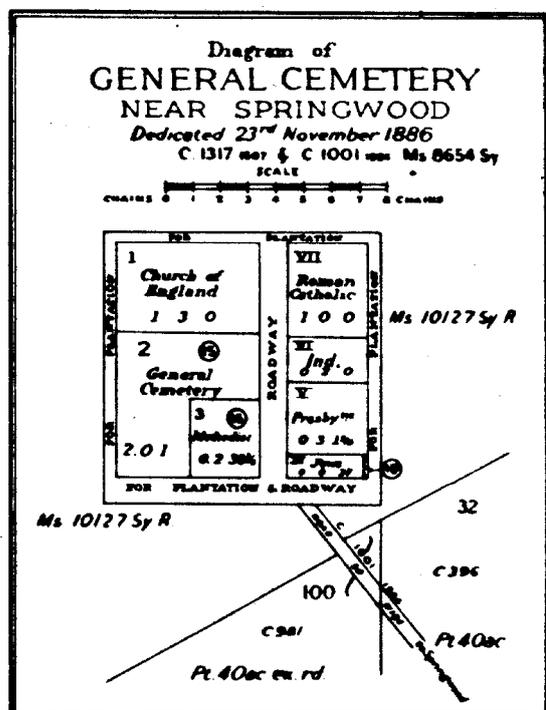
The Springwood General Cemetery occupies a rectangular site accessed from Davesta Road, a fairly minor local street in an area of residential subdivision. The cemetery is situated on a low ridge which is relatively flat, although it slopes gently towards the northwest.

The cemetery adjoins cleared land forming part of the fairways of the Springwood Country Club on the eastern side, and is surrounded by native vegetation on the other sides which screen it from nearby suburban development.

The cemetery is not clearly visible from the surrounding lower areas or from the adjacent local road. The site is enclosed by the surrounding vegetation and has no extensive views beyond its own boundaries.

### SP2.3 Design and Layout

Springwood Cemetery is regularly shaped, owing to the original dedication in 1886 of a roughly square area. The dedicated area of just over 9 acres (approximately 4 hectares) has fairly regular (maximum) dimensions, being approximately 200 metres east to west and 200 metres north to south. The cemetery diagrams from various editions of the 'Coomassie' Parish Map (refer Figure SP1) indicates that the cemetery was laid out with a main north-south running driveway set slightly off centre on the southern boundary, and with a reserve for plantation areas on all sides. It is this reserved area which still contains remnant indigenous vegetation principally species typically found in dry sclerophyll forest such as eucalypts, banksia, grevillea, casuarina and turpentine.

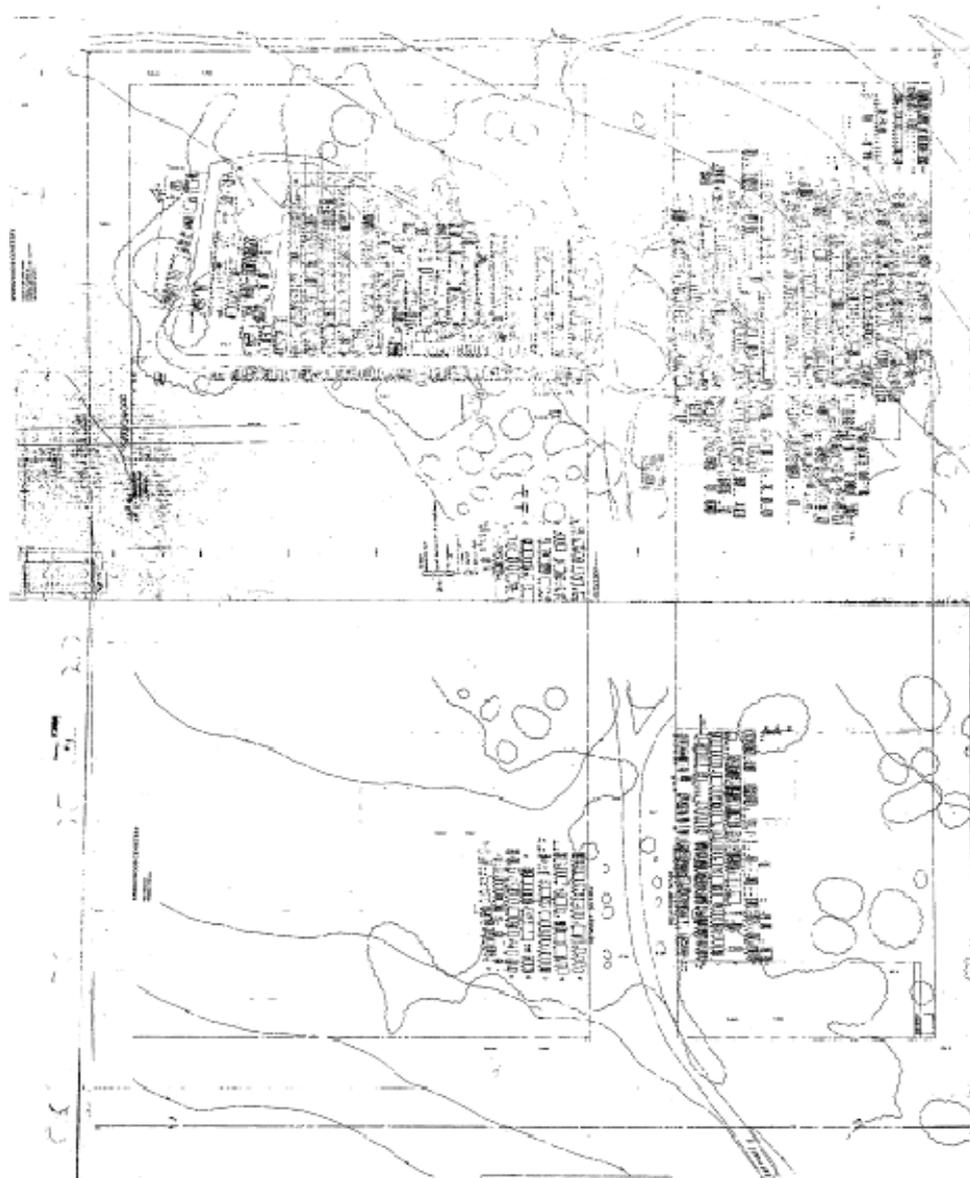


**Figure SP1**

Springwood Cemetery Plan  
Parish map, parish of Coomassie, County of Cook 1964  
Source: Department of Lands, Sydney

Springwood Cemetery displays a fairly typical layout, with several characteristic features often found in the design of general cemeteries established during the late nineteenth century. The most characteristic feature of 'general' cemeteries was internal denominational division and depending upon their size and the topography, the use of one or more axial roads or pathways between the separate denominational sections.

Springwood has several of these features, including the division of the available area into denominational subdivisions which are likely to have been proportionally allocated according to the strength of the particular denomination in the surrounding district. Denominational areas in the Springwood Cemetery now include: Church of England, Roman Catholic, Independent, Presbyterian, Jewish, Methodist and General. In terms of allocated area the largest sections were General (2 acres) Church of England (1 acre and 3 roods) and Catholic (1 acre). Since 1981 the Church of England has been known as the Anglican Church of Australia. The Methodist Church has now been integrated into the Uniting Church in Australia.



**Figure SP2**

Springwood Cemetery  
Plan showing known burials, May 2001  
Source: Blue Mountains City Council



**Figure SP3**

Springwood Cemetery Aerial Photo

The cemetery is outlined with the dark line. The photo shows the extent of dry sclerophyll forest which survives around the perimeter of the cemetery, contributing to the setting of the cemetery. Some of this forest has been lost on the east side, adjacent to the golf course.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council

An interesting feature of the cemetery layout is some minor variation in the orientation of the early grave rows within the Church of England denominational area, which was the first section of the cemetery to be used. (Refer Figure SP4) These rows are situated at the southwestern end of the Church of England section and include early monuments such as the white marble scrolled desk to the Reverend Richard James Read died 19 October 1904. (Ref Figure SP5)



**Figure SP4**

Springwood Cemetery Church of England Section from southeast

The rows on the left of the photo face north, while the remaining rows face east.

28 Jun 2001



**Figure SP5**

Springwood Cemetery  
Headstones of Rev. James Read (d. 1904) and Sarah Elizabeth Read (d. 1907)  
28 June 2001

The oldest monument in the cemetery is the sandstone Georgian style headstone and footstone to Francis Smith died 1836. (Refer Figure SP6) This stone was relocated from another site. It has previously been vandalised and repaired, but again needs appropriate conservation work.



**Figure SP6**

Springwood Cemetery  
Headstones of Florence Wilkinson (left) and Francis Smith (right).  
The headstone of Francis Smith was transferred to the cemetery which was transferred from its original location near Springwood Stockade.  
28 June 2001

In most sections grave rows appear to have been laid out in relation to the main driveway (being parallel to it) and the grave rows have been oriented to face east (90°). The east facing orientation of graves is a traditional practice, ascribed to solar models and later justified by theological doctrine.



**Figure SP7**

Springwood Cemetery Presbyterian Section from southeast  
28 June 2001



**Figure SP8**

Springwood Cemetery Roman Catholic section from northeast  
28 Jun 2001



**Figure SP9**

Springwood Cemetery Methodist Section from north  
28 June 2001

The main driveway is surfaced with bitumen; some smaller driveways within sections are unsealed dirt tracks. Low kopper log post and rail fencing borders the main driveway and the parking area near the centre of the cemetery area. This prevents indiscriminate access by vehicles across the burial areas of the cemetery.

A concrete block, gable roofed shelter shed is situated near the centre of the cemetery on the eastern side of the main drive close to the Independent section. (Refer Figure SP23) Two brick columbaria (niche walls for ashes) are located on the western side of the drive, near the northern part of the dedicated General cemetery section. (Refer Figure SP22) These were dedicated in 1975 and have rather intrusive stainless steel plaques. Nearby is a new rock bordered garden for the interment of ashes (cremated remains).

#### **SP2.4 Monuments and Grave Furniture**

Springwood Cemetery includes examples of the common monument types known during the late nineteenth and the twentieth century. Monumental masonry tends to reflect current developments in architectural style and changing cultural attitudes towards death and its commemoration. Monumental masonry is also influenced by taste and fashion, and by religious beliefs and associated theological doctrine. The materials chosen for monuments and associated elements such as surrounds are also of interest as they reflect the local economic circumstances, and the availability of materials, technology and skilled labour during various periods.

The cemetery contains a total of approximately 1,100 monuments. The majority of the monuments in the cemetery are generally of simple form and design. Many monuments lack elaborate carving or any other decorative detailing. In the late nineteenth to early twentieth century marble headstones, sometimes with sandstone kerbing and cast iron surrounds were used.



**Figure SP10 (left)**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Robert Monro (d.1896)  
28 June 2001



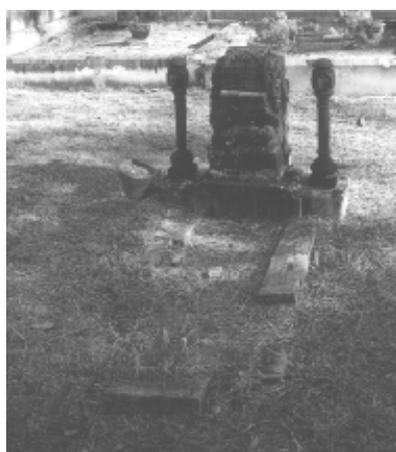
**Figure SP11 (right)**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Stephen Fyfe (d.1899)  
28 June 2001

Early marble headstones include Catherine Walker 1887 (C of E), Robert Munro 1896, (refer Figure SP10) and Stephen Fyfe 1899 (refer Figure SP11), both in the Presbyterian section.

From about 1920 onwards, the desk (a small wedge-shaped monument) becomes the dominant monument type. The most common form initially is of sandstone with a marble tablet. Other design variants include those with marble surmounts or desks shaped as unfurled scrolls, including some in white marble. In the earlier twentieth century the desk monuments are combined with stone kerbing and commonly have a cement slab with either gravel chips or tile infill covering the grave itself. From the 1930s into the 1950s examples occur in other materials such as black, grey or red granite. In the 1950s some manufactured materials such as concrete (later 'granolite') and terrazzo are also used for cemetery monuments. From the 1960s into the 1990s, desk monuments (red, black granite) also begin to be combined with solid slabs as infill on grave kerbing.

Springwood Cemetery has a few examples of sculptural pieces, which occur as angels or cherubic figures on the graves of young children. Kathleen Loftus 1913 and Jessie Loftus 1922 aged 9 and 12 respectively have a monument which is a white marble rustic cairn with an unfurled scroll and a sleeping baby (Catholic Section). (Refer Figure SP12)



**Figure SP12**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Kathleen Daphnee Loftus (d. 1913) and Jessie May Loftus (d. 1922)  
28 June 2001

The most elaborate monument in the cemetery is in the Methodist Section. (Refer Figure SP13) This is a trachyte rectangular block on a three-stepped base (three steps being symbolic of Faith, Hope and Charity) which incorporates a large marble angel in a kneeling pose holding a floral wreath. The monument is within a timber post and rail fence with wire mesh infill and a cast iron gate. The monument commemorates Millie Daniels who died in 1927 aged 12. Her mother Harriet Daniels died 1928 aged 50 is also recorded. The verse on the monument is:

We live to mourn the loss of one  
We did our best to save,  
Beloved on Earth, Regretted, Gone  
Remembered in the grave.



**Figure SP13**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Millie Daniels (d. 1927), Harriet Daniels (d. 1928) and Walter Wallis Daniels (d. 1948)  
28 June 2001

Another notable monument in the Methodist section is a black granite desk with granite slab infill and terrazzo kerbing with a gilded inscription which reads: In Memory of (The Artist) Norman Lindsay 1879 - 1969. (Refer Figure SP14)



**Figure SP14**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Norman Lindsay  
28 June 2001

The Presbyterian section is located east of the main driveway near the centre of the site. The section contains an elaborate fenced enclosure situated in the southern part of the section and some distance away from the other monuments. (Refer Figure SP15 and figure SP 16) The enclosure has brick piers at the corners and centre with a rendered pyramidal coping and dentils below. Walls are of roughcast rendered brick with a galvanised pipe railing. An entry gate is on the west side. Inside the enclosure is a single sandstone desk monument with stone kerbing and a marble plaque to Valerie Allison, died 1918. The enclosure apparently contains burials of several other family members, from the McFarlane and Bradley families, the most recent burial occurred in 1974.



**Figure SP15 (left)**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Valerie Allison (d.1918) and Annie McFarlane (d. 1942)  
28 June 2001

**Figure SP16 (right)**

Springwood Cemetery  
Monument for Valerie Allison (d.1918)  
28 June 2001

Another notable monument in the Presbyterian section is a black granolite desk and kerb with a black granite tablet. The tablet bears a number of emblems including Masonic symbols, bushfire brigade crest, and a scroll. The inscription is to Thomas Robert Chalmers 'who gave his life fighting bushfires 29th October 1968'.

Other monument types occurring in the cemetery include a range of crosses in a variety of materials including a few in white marble, and numerous recent examples in timber. The Council offers small scale standard plinths or sloper monuments (in different price ranges). Examples of these are scattered throughout the cemetery.

Crosses as a symbol of faith and appropriate design for grave markers occur most frequently in the Catholic Section. They include the Calvary cross (which stands on three steps symbolic of both the Trinity and the three virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity). Many monuments feature typical Catholic sentiments in their inscriptions such as 'Let Perpetual Light Shine' or 'Rest in Peace'.

A notable monument in the Catholic section is that of the White Family. (Refer Figure SP17) This is in the form of a large rock faced coursed ashlar masonry wall with a cross surmount (now broken). It encloses five plots and records burials from 1932 to 1967. Also of interest in this section is the black granite slab and desk monument to Father William George Joiner D.D. died 1998. (Refer Figure SP18) Ordained in 1945, 'Doc Joiner' taught for many years at the Springwood seminary (now the St Columba's High School).



**Figure SP17**

Springwood Cemetery  
White family monument. The cross which surmounted this monument has been broken.  
28 June 2001



**Figure SP18**

Springwood Cemetery  
Grave of Fr William George Joiner D.D.

Springwood cemetery also contains several standard War Veterans' monuments, in various materials depending upon date of the burial. They include white marble, trachyte and concrete with bronze plaques. All have military insignia.

A number of monumental masons are represented in the cemetery, indicating access to a range of local firms and some Sydney based masons. Masons noted include: Andrews Bros., Sydney; Cunningham, Sydney; J Price, Penrith, J Price and Son; T H Tyrrell, North Ryde; Ring Memorial Co.; Katoomba Monuments [actually Globe Memorials]; Bax Brothers, Star Memorial Co.

Springwood Cemetery is notable for its overall uniformity of monument designs, materials and motifs, which are fairly consistent throughout the site.

The cemetery also contains a fairly typical range of grave enclosures. There are examples of cast iron grave enclosures, with 'barley twist' rails and fleur-de-lys finials. Other types of surrounds in the cemetery include standard stone kerbing, often with a chamfered top.

The cemetery also includes a few examples of simple timber grave enclosures or local stone pieces used as surrounds. Some of the more recent twentieth century slab and desk monuments, particularly in the Catholic section, include purpose built grave vases (square or rectangular) as part of their design.

### **Symbolism**

The cemetery also includes a range of fairly typical symbolic motifs, incorporated on the individual monuments. The 'open book', symbolic of the Bible, book of Knowledge or book of Life; occurs as a marble tablet on the desk monuments. Desks which are carved in the form of unfurled scrolls symbolise the record of the individual's life. Another motif, especially on monuments for married couples, are "clasped hands", usually male and female, which symbolise either farewell on departing or welcome on reunion.

The cemetery also contains a number of monuments that bear motifs specifically recording the interests of the deceased. These personalised monuments include several with Masonic symbols.

### **Inscriptions**

The inscriptions in the cemetery also illustrate the social and cultural values and attitudes to death in the surrounding community. The older monuments commonly include verses and biblical texts, which reflects the strength of religious faith in past eras. Many of the verses deal with the pain of loss or the suddenness of the bereavement, as well as the hope for reunion and resurrection.

### **SP2.5 Landscape**

Springwood Cemetery is a square block in the midst of a dry sclerophyll forest with endemic species of eucalypts, casuarinas and syncarpias (turpentines) as the dominant vegetation. A wire fence described in the National Trust listing (1980) has been removed from the southern (main entrance) boundary. To the east the cemetery is adjoined by a golf course. Natural vegetation surrounds the cemetery on its other sides, creating the impression of a rural "bush" setting. The entrance drive bisects the cemetery in a north-south direction. In the central area of the cemetery scattered endemic vegetation dominates the western side of the drive whilst a shelter shed is to the east. Two columbaria to the west of the drive on the edge of the more bushy area have a single Xmas Bush (*Ceratopetalum gummiferum*) planted between them. (Refer Figure SP22) A recent low post and railing fence separates the road from the areas devoted to internment and boom gates prevent vehicular entry.

Formal planting is concentrated along the entrance drive and consists of oleanders beside the Methodist and Church of England sections, and a mixture of oleanders, natives (*Grevillea* 'Ivanhoe', *Banksia* sp.) and a *Butia capitata* (Jelly Palm) beside the Presbyterian section, with an older rockery at its southern end. Succulents (*Aloe* sp.) grow under the turpentines between the Church of England and Catholic sections.

Vegetation surrounding the Church of England section is predominantly Turpentines (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) and eucalypts. The Church of England section contains some fine old banksias and a particularly graceful She Oak (*Casuarina* sp.) that has a pronounced weeping habit. There are plantings of Kangaroo Paw, *Grevillea* sp., *Nandina* sp., azaleas, freesias, rosemary and roses in this section. A wattle tree growing close to the grave of Keith Faulkner (1989) is not an issue of concern.



**Figure SP19**

The Casuarina sp in the Anglican section

This species is a native particularly suitable to planting in cemeteries due to its weeping habit.

28 June 2001

There is a wide variety of individual grave plantings including freesias, jonquils, azaleas, agapanthus, lavender, roses and rosemary. There is no use of herbicides or plant poisoning evident which probably enhances the survival of plant species.



**Figure SP20**

Springwood Cemetery

Cypress planted in monument which will soon outgrow the monument.

28 June 2001

There is a very large She Oak (*Casuarina* sp.) in the Roman Catholic section. *Pittosporum undulatum* has self-seeded in graves and Cypresses have been deliberately planted in some graves. (Refer Figure SP20) These present a long-term management problem. A grave dating from 1918 is marked with a decorative garden-edging tile. An individualistic planting of one grave in a very

exposed location extends to the use of a homemade shade structure to protect tender plants.  
(Refer Figure SP21)



**Figure SP21**

Springwood Cemetery  
Plantings on grave of Burzynskis and Houston with shade shelter over  
28 June 2001

A stand of eucalypts provides a tranquil setting for the enclosure surrounding the grave of Valerie Allison within the Presbyterian section. (Refer Figures SP15 and SP16)

### **SP2.6 Columbaria**

Springwood Cemetery has two columbaria located in the general cemetery area. They are simple brick walls, set at angles with a ceratopetalum gummiferum between them. (Refer figure SP 22)



**Figure SP22**

Springwood Cemetery  
Columbaria  
28 June 2001

### **SP2.7 Buildings**

The single building at Springwood Cemetery is a concrete block shelter located on the main driveway. It is a simple utilitarian building which provides a shelter area, toilet and storeroom.



**Figure SP23**

Springwood Cemetery – Shelter Building  
28 June 2001

## **SP3 Historical Summary**

### **SP3.1 History**

'The Place being very pretty I have named it Spring-Wood.' Thus in 1815 Governor Macquarie recorded the beginnings of the settlement, located near permanent water. A military post was established almost at once on the south side of Cox's road. In 1833 these barracks were abandoned and rebuilt on the north side of the road, but by 1844 the military presence had ceased in Springwood.

A burial ground had been established close to the earlier stockade and in 1878, in response to a parliamentary question, it was reported that

in the thickest part of this bush is a solitary soldier's grave, no other spot is marked as the last resting place of either comrade or exile, who watched and toiled in this stockade of bygone days. The foot-stone is still intact but the head is broken and supported by a sapling.

The inscription on the soldier's grave was fully legible in 1878, despite the damage, and was recorded as:

sacred to the memory of Francis Smith, who died May 5th, A.D. 1836, aged 43 years, having served for twenty-five years as a soldier in H.M. 4th The King's Own Regt. (Campbell 9-14)

The surname and the year of death are no longer recoverable on the marker since it was vandalised in its new location in the 1990s.

By the 1880s Springwood was sharing with other Blue Mountains villages which had a railway station an influx of visitors from the coast, especially in summer. There were two hotels, a store, a postal facility and a public school attended by some fifty children. Accordingly a new general cemetery was surveyed and dedicated in November 1886, arranged in seven separate sections. In order of size, these denominational sections were:

	acres	rods	perches
General	2	0	1
Anglican	1	3	0
Catholic	1	0	0
Presbyterian	0	3	1
Methodist	0	2	36
Independent	0	2	0
Jewish	0	0	27

The square cemetery was to be surrounded by plantings and one broad roadway ran through the cemetery, dividing it into two unequal rectangles, themselves divided into unequal denominational sections.

The original entry was by an unmade track running straight from Hawkesbury Road 200 metres north of the present junction with Davesta Road. As late as 1891 the trustees for the Anglican section complained to the Department of Public Works that this track

is the only approach to the Cemetery, and in its present state cannot be used for vehicular traffic. Several interments have taken place in this Cemetery since [April 1888] and as the population of the district is increasing, it is very desirable

that the road in question should be formed, there being no general cemetery nearer than Emu Plains. (Sydney Diocesan Archives, 1994/102/27 p.4)

The state of the track explains why a coffin for a burial in 1894 was carried from the Royal Hotel in Macquarie Road to the cemetery. (*OPBM* VIII 131)

The cemetery itself in 1890 was 'much overgrown with scrub' and still lacked fencing. Individual graves were fenced but cattle which grazed freely in the cemetery at large did a good deal of incidental damage. (SDA, 1994/102/27 p.5) When fencing was erected by the Anglican trustees, using a government grant, it was not effective because there was no secure gate across the entrance, so that cattle and sheep remained a perennial nuisance.

The earliest recorded burial is that of Catherine Walker in 1887 (Angl. F 80-81; *OPBM* VIII) , although the reburial of Private Smith from the stockade site to Angl. B 91 (*OPBM* VIII 40) gives a misleading impression of much earlier use.

The cemetery was gradually tidied up sufficiently for the Anglican section to be consecrated in 1897, followed by the Presbyterian section, where the earliest marked grave is that of Walter Ferguson and his daughter 'wee Maggie' in 1895, the year in which the Frazer Memorial Presbyterian church was opened in Macquarie Road. (Presb. A 49; *OPBM* VIII 144)

The Roman Catholics had already in 1892 opened a small church in Macquarie Road (where the Rest Park now is), but there are few early marked graves in the Catholic section: the earliest is that of William Smith who died in 1898 (Cath. A 1; *OPBM* IX 1)

The Methodists, who built their first church in Springwood only in 1923, have recorded burials from 1924. (*OPBM* IX 110)

The Independent section has been extensively used, but the Jewish section seems never to have been used at all and is no longer marked on the current cemetery plan.

Vehicle access to the cemetery was not greatly improved until 1936 when a proper road was formed, but more recently, with sub-division along Hawkesbury Road and the creation of Davesta Road, an entirely new means of access was opened through suburbia.

A water supply was at last made available to the cemetery by courtesy of the adjacent golf-course in 1947. (*OPBM* VIII iv)

The increasing demand for cremation burials made the building of a columbarium necessary in 1975. (*OPBM* VIII iv)

### **SP3.2 Graves of significant persons**

**Norman Lindsay** (1874-1964), the distinguished though controversial artist and writer, whose Springwood home is now a National Trust museum, is buried modestly in the Methodist section. (Refer Figure SP14)

(Meth. D 16; *OPBM* IX 128)

**William John Curtis** KC (1862-1940), a Sydney barrister and judge, associated with the creation of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, lies in the Catholic section. (Cath. A 41; *OPBM* IX 11)

**Francis Smith** (1793-1836), a soldier first in North America in 1813, then in France after Waterloo, in the West Indies from 1819 to 1829 and finally in Australia from 1832 until his death in 1836 after serving at various stockades, was survived by his wife and infant daughter, both

called Isabella. Smith Park in Springwood at the Community Centre in Macquarie Road is named after him. (Angl. B 91; *OPBM* VIII 40)

## SP4 Assessment of Significance

### SP4.1 Application of State Heritage Office Criteria

Criterion	Level of Significance
<p><b>SP4.1.1 Criterion (a): An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b></p>	
<p>The Springwood Cemetery provides documentary evidence about the origins and nature of the local community over the past 100 years. The monuments are a direct record of the local area's population, including the origins, composition and changes in the population of the area over this period. Many monuments include some biographical detail and the adjacent groupings of monuments within the cemetery are frequently indicative of family connections.</p>	Local
<p><b>SP4.1.2 Criterion (b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b></p>	
<p>Springwood Cemetery contains the graves and monuments of individuals from all classes and social levels, providing a complete cross-section of the society that has existed in the local area over the past 100 years. The monuments in the cemetery are indicative and representative of the beliefs, tastes, customs and styles of previous periods.</p>	
<p><b>SP4.1.3 Criterion (c): An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area)</b></p>	
<p>The surviving landscape of the cemetery demonstrates the use of a formal layout and the remnants of a simple planting scheme in combination with the textural variety provided by individual graves and monumental elements.</p>	Local
<p>The monuments and surrounds in the cemetery display the work of a range of local and non-local firms. A few display considerable creative and technical accomplishment, indicative of a high degree of skill in their execution.</p>	Local
<p>The stands of mature eucalypts and turpentines are of considerable aesthetic appeal and provide the tranquil setting which gives Springwood cemetery its rural character.</p>	Local
<p><b>SP4.1.4 Criterion (d): An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons</b></p>	
<p>The detailed transcripts compiled by the Blue Mountains Family History Group indicate that the cemetery has some contemporary community esteem and that there is interest in the preservation of the information recorded by the monuments in the cemetery.</p>	Local

**SP4.1.5 Criterion (e): An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)**

Completion of further research, including more detailed family history may yield new insights into local relationships and historic and social connections. Local

**SP4.1.6 Criterion (f): An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)**

Springwood Cemetery includes one surviving significant Colonial-era headstone; that of Francis Smith dated 1836. This headstone is a rare and valuable feature in a local context and it documents the presence of an early military post along the Great Western Road. Local

**SP4.1.7 Criterion (g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural places or environments**

Springwood Cemetery contains representative examples of the range of monumental masonry available over the past 100 years. In their design and execution they demonstrate the skills of monumental masons both local and Sydney-based. Local

**SP4.2 Summary Statement of Significance**

Springwood General Cemetery is a valuable component of the heritage of the City of Blue Mountains as it provides a direct historical record of the people of the Springwood district for over 100 years.

Springwood General Cemetery contains the remnants of a simple but formal, late nineteenth century general cemetery design and layout.

Springwood General Cemetery contains a representative range of many nineteenth and twentieth century monument types. These monuments are important for their ability to demonstrate the craft skills and the attitudes of past generations.

Springwood Cemetery includes one significant surviving Colonial-era headstone; that of Francis Smith dated 1836. This is an early and locally rare form of monument.

## **SP5 Constraints and Opportunities**

### **SP5.1 The Burra Charter**

References in parentheses refer to the relevant articles of the Burra Charter. Reference should be made to the copy of the Burra Charter in the Appendix 2 of Volume 1 of this report.

- SP5.1.1 The cultural significance of the cemetery should be maintained. Provision should be made for its security, maintenance and future. (Article 2)
- SP5.1.2 All conservation work should be based on respect for the extant fabric and should involve minimal intervention to existing fabric. (Article 3)
- SP5.1.3 An appropriate visual setting for the cemetery should be maintained. No new construction or other development which detracts from the heritage value or context of the cemetery should occur. Environmental intrusions which will adversely affect the appreciation or enjoyment of the place should be excluded. (Article 8)
- SP5.1.4 All fabric within the cemetery should remain in its historical location. Relocation of fabric should not occur unless moving it is the sole means of ensuring its survival. Any fabric removed under these circumstances should be returned to its correct location if changed circumstances make this feasible (Article 9 and Article 10)
- SP5.1.5 All features of the existing cemetery should be taken into consideration. Fabric from all periods should be recognised as contributing to the significance of the cemetery. (Article 16)
- SP5.1.6 Where appropriate, reconstruction should be limited to the reproduction of fabric the form of which is known from physical and/or documentary evidence. (Article 19)
- SP5.1.7 Any major work on a cemetery should be preceded by a detailed study or plan. Existing fabric should be recorded prior to disturbance. (Article 23)
- SP5.1.8 Disturbance of fabric should only occur to provide evidence needed to make decisions on the conservation of the cemetery. (Article 24)
- SP5.1.9 The process of decision making and individuals responsible should be identified. (Article 26)
- SP5.1.10 Appropriate professional direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages of the work. (Article 27)
- SP5.1.11 Records should be kept of new evidence and subsequent decisions. (Articles 25 and 27)
- SP5.1.12 Copies of all reports and records should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly accessible. (Article 28).

### **SP5.2 Significance**

Considering the significance of the cemetery, the following constraints and opportunities can be stated.

- SP5.2.1 Springwood Cemetery should be retained and conserved in accordance with established conservation principles.
- SP5.2.2 The setting of the cemetery should be maintained.

- SP5.2.3 Existing elements of the previous cemetery landscape and landscape design, including plantings, should be conserved and should be sympathetically maintained.
- SP5.2.4 All cemetery monuments should be retained and conserved.
- SP5.2.5 All grave surrounds, including ironwork and stone kerbing should be retained and conserved.
- SP5.2.6 Monument layout and orientation should not be altered.

### **SP5.3 Heritage Listings**

Springwood Cemetery is listed on the Schedule of Heritage Items under Blue Mountains City Council LEP 1991.

It is also listed on the Register of the National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.). While this listing has no statutory authority, listing on the Register of the National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.) is considered an authoritative indication of a place's significance.

### **SP5.4 Zoning**

Springwood Cemetery is zoned Special Uses A, which is appropriate to its use as a cemetery.

The Blue Mountains City Council currently has a draft Local Environment Plan on exhibition, Draft LEP 2002. Under that document Springwood Cemetery has been zoned as Recreational Open Space/Special Uses – Cemetery. It is also to be given statutory protection as a heritage item under the Draft LEP 2002.

### **SP5.5 Condition**

#### **SP5.5.1 Monuments**

The majority of the monumental masonry and other fabric within Springwood Cemetery is in reasonably good condition. Minor vandalism is evident, which tends to be concentrated close to the drives/access points. The gradual but continual ageing of monuments is slowly causing the deterioration of the fabric of the cemetery. The original quality of the stone used is also a factor, several of the 1950s sandstone desks are beginning to crack and spall, and the washing out of adhesive material is causing the loosening/loss of marble tablets from the face of some desk monuments.

Some monuments in the cemetery require action if they are to be effectively conserved. The headstone of Francis Smith 1836 is an important individual example.

Several monuments are gradually becoming brittle with age and would be vulnerable to future vandalism.

The cemetery appears to be subject to sporadic vandalism.

#### **SP5.5.2 Vegetation**

There is no evidence of the use of herbicides or plant poisoning evident which probably enhances the survival of plant species.

#### **SP5.5.3 Buildings**

The single building on the site, the concrete block shelter is in good condition.

### **SP5.6 Future Burials**

Some areas of the cemetery are beginning to fill up, notably the Anglican and Roman Catholic sections. There is ample room remaining in the Presbyterian and General sections, although the bushland remaining in the general section does contribute to the setting of the cemetery.

There is some undeveloped land to the north, northwest and south of the cemetery. However, only the land immediately to the north-northwest is reasonably flat and suitable for burials. Other land might be suitable for a memorial garden or walkway for the placement of ashes within the existing bushland.

### **SP5.7 Community Values and Desires**

The publication of cemetery transcripts (*Our Past Blue Mountaineers*) by the Blue Mountains Local History Society is evidence of the value which the community places on the cemetery. This value should be recognised by the ongoing conservation of the cemetery.

There is an additional need to continue to provide an attractive burial place for the local community and the cemetery must be managed so that it can continue to serve that function.

### **SP5.8 Location and Neighbourhood**

The location of the cemetery on the outskirts of Springwood, in an area of residential subdivision and neighbouring a golf course does not present any problems with the continued use of the site as a cemetery.

There is some undeveloped land around the cemetery which could be investigated for rezoning for future use as an extension to the cemetery or as a crematorium working in conjunction with the cemetery.

### **SP5.9 Access**

Access to the cemetery poses no major problems. The intersection of Davesta Road from Hawkesbury Road can pose problems with traffic turning right into Hawkesbury Road. If the cemetery was expanded consideration might be given to additional traffic controls at the intersection of Davesta Road and Hawkesbury Road.

## **SP6 Conservation Policies**

These policies should be read in conjunction with Section 1 of the Conservation Management Plan. The policies in Section 1 provide general guidance. Policies specific to Springwood Cemetery are contained within this section.

Specific policies are given in italics. Additional notes are given in normal type.

### **SP6.1 General**

*Springwood Cemetery should be conserved in accordance with the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS and other appropriate guidelines including those published by the National Trust and the Heritage Council of NSW.*

Springwood Cemetery is an item of environmental heritage for the local area, and continues to provide an essential public service for the surrounding community. The cemetery has local historic and social value for current and future generations.

### **SP6.2 Setting**

*The present boundaries of the cemetery should be maintained, and appropriate screening (i.e. visual buffer formed by vegetation), should be maintained and, where necessary, reinforced around the site.*

One of the significant components of the cemetery is its setting amid remnant dry sclerophyll forest which screens out adjacent residential areas. This screening should be maintained and, if necessary reinforced.

### **SP6.3 Layout**

*Maintain the general layout of the cemetery including its central roadway, secondary roads and paths.*

*Allow some modification of the divisions of the cemetery to provide space for new burials for Anglicans and Roman Catholics.*

The layout of the cemetery reflects the values of the late nineteenth century when it was established. The roads and paths contribute to its character and should be maintained.

Much of the area allocated for Anglican and Roman Catholic burials has been used up. However, there is space in the general section of the cemetery which has not been cleared for burials. Likewise, much of the Presbyterian section has not yet been used. Some careful modification of areas to meet future demands could be allowed.

### **SP6.4 Planting**

#### **SP6.4.1 General**

*Existing elements of the landscape in the cemetery should be conserved and maintained.*

*In particular conserve and maintain surviving sections of dry sclerophyll forest in the areas originally reserved for plantation.*

*No new plantings should be introduced unless these are endemic native species already present in the cemetery and its environs, or are known (from further research) to have been planted in the cemetery.*

#### **SP6.4.2 Trees**

*The existing native trees and understorey vegetation should be maintained.*

*Propagate new trees from the Casuarina in the Anglican section for planting in other areas of Springwood cemetery and for use in other cemeteries in the Blue Mountains.*

The character of the cemetery is derived in part from the surviving native plantings. Maintaining these, with their understorey will ensure this character is conserved.

The Casuarina in the Anglican section of the cemetery has a remarkable weeping foliage making it an appropriate species for use in the cemetery. Its further use in Springwood and other cemeteries should be encouraged.

#### **SP6.4.3 Grave Plantings**

*Restrict grave plantings to low scale bulbs, ground covers, grasses and shrubs which will not destabilize monuments.*

*Cut and poison grave plantings which are unsuitable and have the potential to destabilise monuments.*

Grave plantings must be restricted to a small scale creepers and shrubs to ensure they do not cause damage to the associated or nearby graves. Larger plants also tend to obscure adjacent graves. Existing inappropriate plantings should be removed before they cause further damage. This should be by cut and poison methods rather than attempting to remove root systems as this might also dislodge monuments.

#### **SP6.4.4 Grasses**

*Ground cover should continue to be provided by existing low-scale native grasses, introduced grasses, creepers and small scale grave plantings.*

The use of low scale native grasses and creepers is recognised as a valuable method of reducing maintenance as well as maintaining the overall character of the cemetery.

#### **SP6.4.5 Weeds**

*Cut and poison self-seeded *Pittosporum undulatum* from graves.*

*Do not allow the planting of known weed species, in particular *Pittosporum undulatum* and *Conifers*, on graves.*

Springwood Cemetery does not have substantial problems with weeds apart from some self seeding of *Pittosporum undulatum* and some conifers. Existing plantings of *Pittosporum Undulatum* should be carefully removed before causing further damage. Existing conifers should be kept under control and future plantings of these species not allowed.

#### **SP6.4.6 Other**

*Provide screen planting around the columbaria. Suggested species include the *Casuarina* growing in the Anglican section and *Cerratopetalum Gummiferum*.*

The columbaria are a visually discordant element in a setting that is rural in character. Screening planting around them would soften their appearance. The existing *Cerratopetalum Gummiferum* begins to do this. Additional plantings of this and perhaps the *Casuarina* growing in the Anglican section would provide additional softening.

#### **SP6.5 Maintenance and Repair**

*Maintenance of the cemetery should generally follow the policies of Section 1 of this report.*

#### **SP6.6 New Elements**

##### **SP6.6.1 General**

*New elements such as seating, maintenance buildings etc within the curtilage of the cemetery should be carefully considered to ensure they do not intrude on the character of the cemetery.*

In general the introduction of new elements into the cemetery or its curtilage is not recommended. If new elements (for example seating) become desirable for future development

of the site, the precise need, location and design would require careful future consideration in order that such elements did not diminish or obscure the cultural significance of the place. There is already one 'memorial' stone seat in the Methodist section of the cemetery

#### **SP6.6.2 New Burials and Monuments**

*Continue burials in established areas of the cemetery. New burials should continue pattern of existing paths and rows.*

All new work or fabric must be compatible with the existing character of the site.

#### **SP6.6.3 Columbaria**

*Allow new columbaria which are sympathetic to the character of the cemetery.*

*New columbaria should be located in the general section of the cemetery.*

Columbaria are appropriate for the continued use of the cemetery, but their design and location should be sympathetic to the overall character of the cemetery.

Locating the columbaria in the general section provides a neutral location for future ashes.

#### **SP6.6.4 Minimum Maintenance Sections**

*Allow the establishment of a minimum maintenance section within the general section of the cemetery.*

*Any new minimum maintenance section should be clearly defined from the existing section of the cemetery (i.e. not intermingled with existing rows.)*

*Screen any new minimum maintenance sections from existing burial areas by maintaining a border of the existing dry sclerophyll forest between the sections.*

A minimum maintenance section could be established at Springwood Cemetery. However, it must be located where it has minimal visual impact on the overall character of the existing cemetery. Maintaining a border of native plantings between the main area and a future minimum maintenance section would ensure visual separation.

#### **SP6.6.5 Memorial Gardens and Walks**

*Allow the establishment of a memorial garden or walk in the previously uncleared general section of the cemetery. Any new memorial garden or walk should be designed to work with the existing native bushland.*

The previously uncleared area in the general section of Springwood Cemetery is an ideal area for a memorial garden or walk where ashes could be placed while preserving the native bushland which contributes to the general amenity of the cemetery.

#### **SP6.7 Fencing**

*Fencing may need to be introduced to provide increased demarcation of the site. Any fencing considered should be of a simple traditional design.*

Simple traditional style fencing such as post and rail or post and wire fencing will have a low visual impact on the site while allowing demarcation if necessary.

#### **SP6.8 Signage**

*Include on signage at the entry the following information:*

- *Springwood Cemetery*
- *Plan showing sections of cemetery*
- *A request not to damage the monuments*

- *A telephone number for the relevant contact personnel at the Blue Mountains City Council*

*Maintain signs indicating the various sections of the cemetery*

*Provide and maintain simple row markers of an appropriate design.*

### **SP6.9 Uses**

*The site should continue to be used as a cemetery.*

The significance of the site is in its use as a cemetery and this use should not change.

### **SP6.10 Interpretation**

*An informative and sympathetically designed sign or other interpretative media may be introduced to the site.*

Refer to the general section for other aspects of interpretation.

### **SP6.11 Access**

*Maintain existing access from Davesta Road*

*Restrict access through the cemetery to private vehicles.*

The access from Davesta Road works well and maintains the historic layout of the site.

Private vehicles currently use the cemetery as a short cut to access their property. This should be discouraged due to the additional wear and tear it causes on the gravel roads in the cemetery. It is also unnecessarily lengthening roads, taking land which could be used for burial space and reducing the extent of screening by perimeter plants.

### **SP6.12 Security and Vandalism**

*Encourage local residents to assist with monitoring activity at the cemetery.*

*Include a request not to damage monuments on the sign for the site.*

*Maintain views between the cemetery and the golf course.*

Springwood Cemetery remains in good condition and is largely intact.

The site is regularly maintained, and it is known that a 'cared-for' appearance assists in discouraging vandals. The cemetery is also in an area close to community facilities (golf club) and residential areas, which probably provides some measure of surveillance of the site.

Any new interpretative sign could include a request not to damage the site and might also suggest that it is regularly patrolled.

Local residents might also be asked to assist with the monitoring of activity at the cemetery site, and should be encouraged to report any untoward activity. This could be requested in a letter-box drop to the property owners in the adjacent streets.

### **SP6.13 Statutory Protection**

*Endorse the zoning of Springwood Cemetery as Special Uses – Cemeteries under Draft LEP 2002.*

*Endorse the inclusion of Springwood Cemetery as a heritage item on the heritage schedule of Draft LEP 2002.*

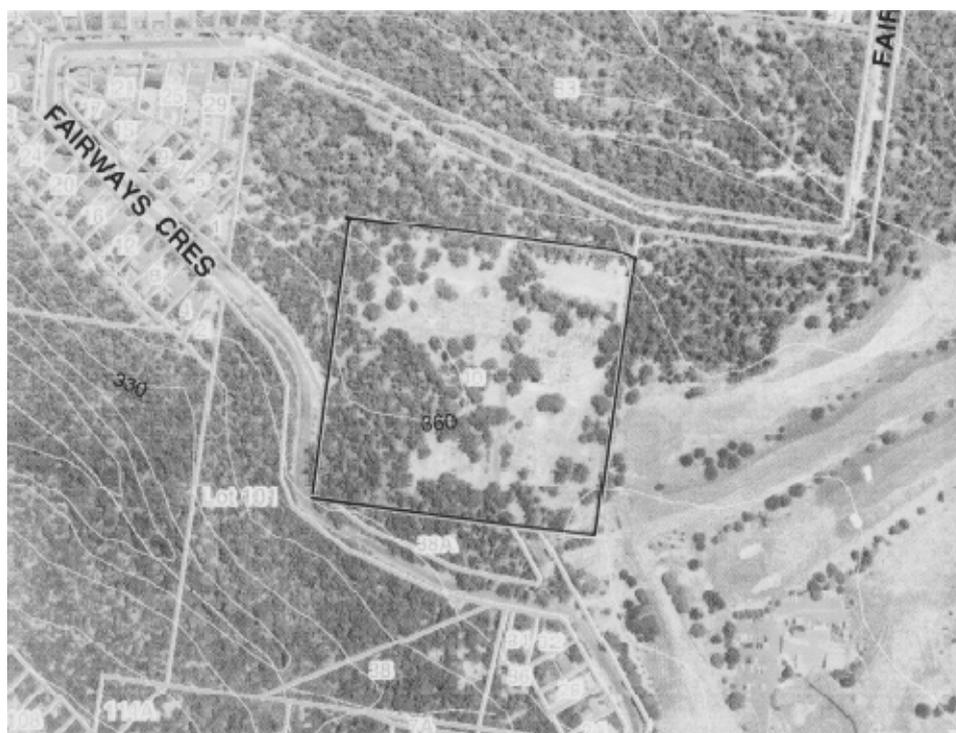
**SP6.14 Crematorium**

*Do not allow a new crematorium on the site.*

*Allow a new crematorium near the site.*

There is insufficient space at the cemetery to construct a crematorium and still provide adequate burial space for the future as well as memorial gardens which would normally be associated with a crematorium.

However, there is undeveloped land close to the cemetery which might be suitable for a crematorium. It would need to overcome problems such as the steep slope and an environmental impact statement would be needed to assess its impact, particularly on local bushland. If suitable, it would be an appropriate and logical location and the cemetery might be used for a small memorial garden associated with the crematorium.



**Figure SP24**

Springwood Cemetery Aerial Photo

Land to the south of Fairways Crescent (shown as 38 Davesta Road and lot101) or to the north (shown as 33 Fairways Crescent) could be further investigated for its suitability for a crematorium.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council

## **FAULCONBRIDGE CEMETERY**

### **FA1 Introduction**

#### **FA1.1 General**

This Faulconbridge Cemetery section of the Conservation Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the General Section of the Conservation Management Plan.

#### **FA1.2 Location**

Faulconbridge Cemetery is located at 25A Sir Henry's Parade, Faulconbridge. The legal title for the land is Lot 7015, DP 94063 and Lot 1, DP 125990.

#### **FA1.3 Bibliography**

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Photograph of Parkes' grave, 1935, in Local Studies Collection, Springwood Library

Pers. comm. Mr L Apthorp to S Lavelle

History BMCC compiled by the former Faulconbridge Community Hall, Parks and Gardens Committee, December 1981.

## **FA2 Physical Summary**

### **FA2.1 Setting**

Falconbridge Cemetery is situated on the southeast side of a tree covered knoll near the Falconbridge Railway Station. A narrow local street, Sir Henry's Parade, curves around the north and western boundaries of the cemetery as it skirts the knoll. Here, this local road follows part of the 1830s Western Road alignment. The cemetery is situated on a lower contour of the ridge which rises to form the knoll near the railway station. The cemetery adjoins areas of remnant bushland and the backyards of nearby suburban allotments.

The cemetery is clearly visible from the nearby main Western Railway line, and it is a prominent feature when viewed from the train owing to its form and scale and individual elements which differentiate it from the surrounding area. This view into the site from the railway is an important element. The cemetery has few extensive views beyond its own boundaries, a vista over the bushland to the southeast is visible from higher points within the site.

### **FA2.2 Design and Layout**

The Falconbridge Cemetery area is irregularly shaped, with irregular boundaries. (Refer figure FA1) The dedicated area of the cemetery was slightly over 2 acres (about hectare) although the dedication occurred long after the initial use and development of the site.

The main feature of the site is the substantial enclosure around the family plot of Sir Henry Parkes, and the monuments within that enclosure. An old entry point on the western boundary has a concrete path leading from it to the Parkes family plot. An arris rail fence formerly existed along the road boundaries. This has now been replaced with large logs (old telegraph poles) laid horizontally to form barriers preventing vehicles parking on the road verge and intruding into the boundaries of the cemetery.

In the area south of the Parkes family plot graves are arranged in east facing rows across a mown and manicured lawn area. The older graves are situated in a group close to the road boundary in this southern part of the cemetery area.

At the eastern end of the mown grass area are two red brick columbaria. These are a prominent and visually intrusive element.

An area north of the Parkes family plot near the highest point of the cemetery contains a few other graves and a small sandstone columbarium. Immediately north of the Parkes family plot and beside the main path are several terraces, some used for grave plots and others developed with garden beds.

East of the Parkes family plot and following the contour of the main ridge line around to the north a larger series of terraced gardens have been developed to enable the inurnment of ashes (cremated remains). These gardens are heavily planted with shrubs, especially azaleas and rhododendrons, and remnant native trees have been left in place to form a 'bushland' setting.

Deliberate older cemetery plantings include some surviving mature conifers, however, several of these have been lost in recent years. Other earlier plantings such as Watsonias have also been removed from the site. Bulbs may survive, and the site should be monitored over at least one full year to detect seasonal variations/plants.

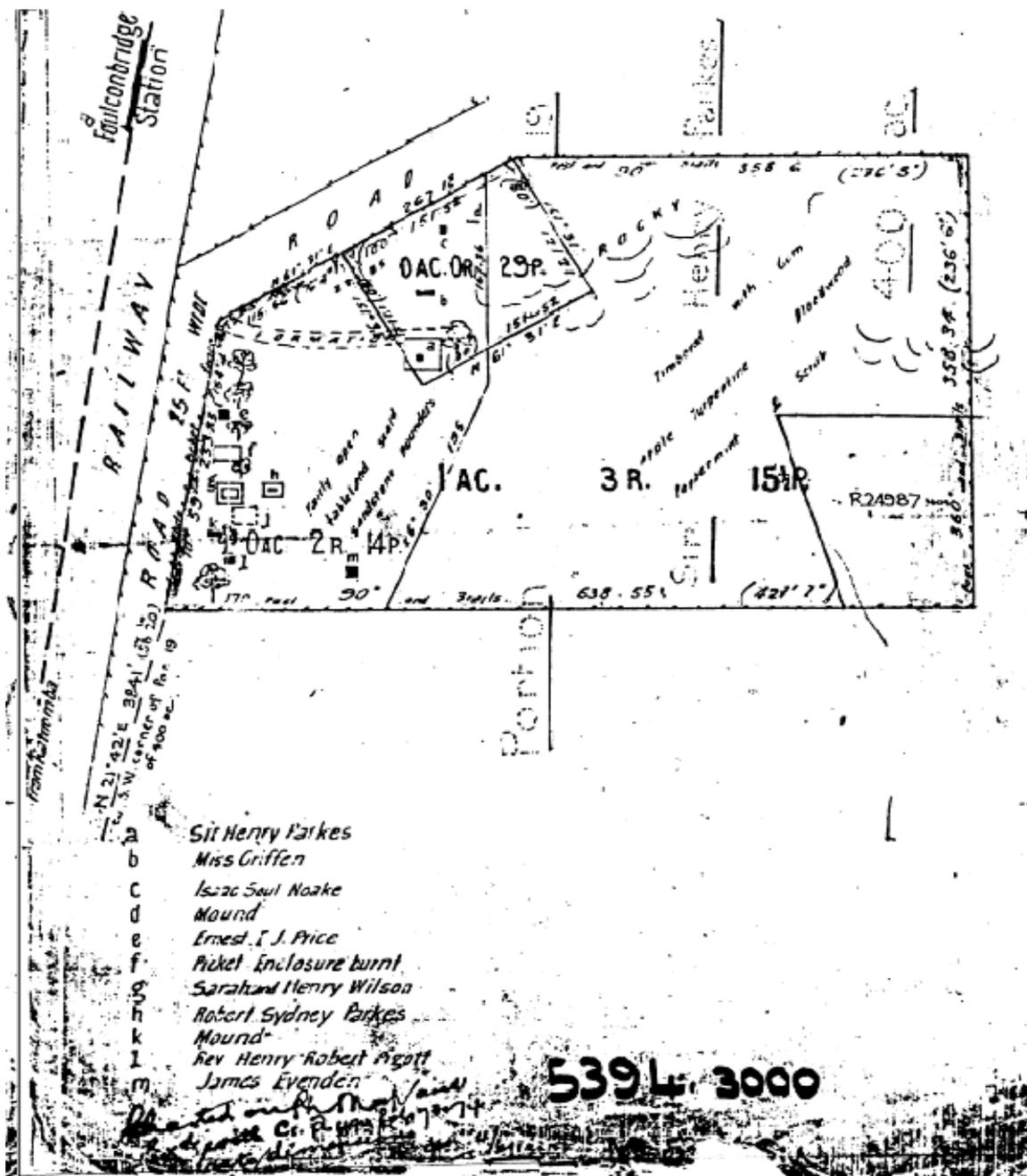
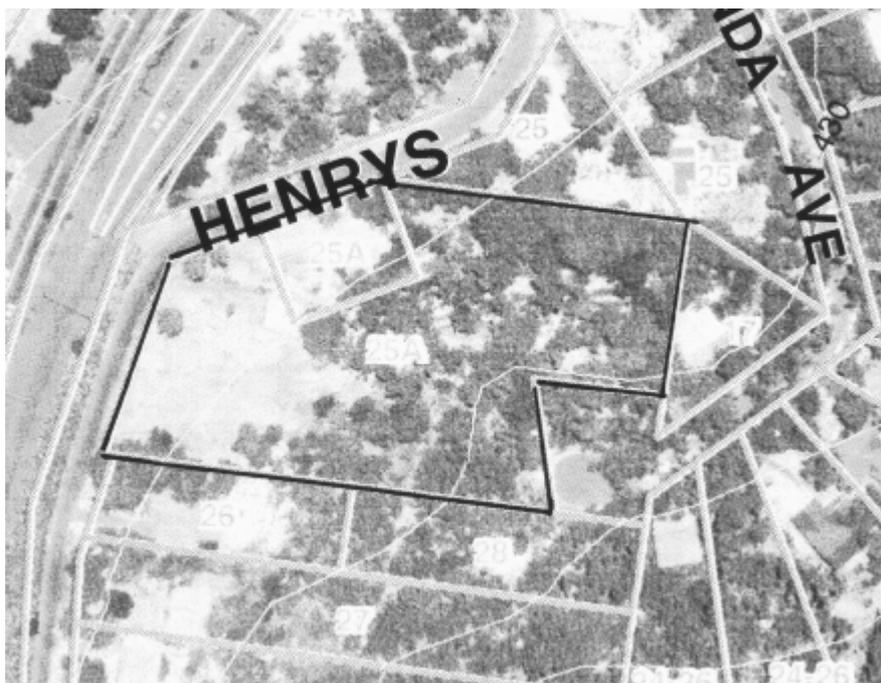


Figure FA 1

Plan of Faulconbridge Cemetery

The plan shows something of the early landscaping of the site with a white picket fence on the road boundary, and post and rail fences to other boundaries. The land to the east remained as native forest. The location of the early graves, some of which have lost their monuments is identified and a path to the graves of Henry Parkes and his family.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council



**Figure FA 2**

Aerial photo of Faulconbridge Cemetery  
The cleared area to the left in the cemetery is the original burial ground.  
The area to the northeast (top right) is the memorial garden.  
Source: Blue Mountains City Council



**Figure FA 3**

Faulconbridge Cemetery,  
General view from southwest  
28 Jun 2001

### **FA2.3 Monuments and Grave Furniture**

Although it contains relatively few monuments, Faulconbridge Cemetery is notable for a wide range of monument types. They range from late nineteenth century marble headstones to more elaborate forms such as the marble column to Affriat Wilson and the central granite obelisk on the Parkes family plot. There are also examples of the simplest grave enclosures, those using

only pieces of local stone or other materials to hand, as well as some of the more 'standard' monumental types of the twentieth century.

The main cemetery area contains about twenty monuments.

The oldest monument is the white marble headstone to Robert Sydney Parkes, died 2 January 1880 and his widow Mary Anne, died 17 August 1884.



**Figure FA 4**

Falconbridge Cemetery  
Grave of Robert Sydney Parkes and Mary Anne Parkes  
28 Jun 2001

Another white marble headstone commemorates Ernest Price, died 1896, mason: Andrews Bros., Sydney.

Henry Wilson died 1880 and his wife Sarah died 1910, are also commemorated by a marble headstone. Their headstone is within a double plot with a sandstone kerb with cross finials and railing of 'barley-twist' cast iron. A marble column to their son Affriat Sydney Wilson, died 1897, and daughter Adelaide Mary Wilson died 1898, is within the same plot. Masons for the column were Andrews Bros., Sydney.



**Figure FA 5**

Grave of Henry Wilson (d. 1880), Sarah Wilson (d. 1910), and Affriatt Sydney Wilson  
28 Jun 2001

Isaac Noake, died 1897 is also recorded by a marble headstone. That headstone has been previously broken and is now set face upwards in a bed of concrete. This treatment is not easily reversible and because it will increase the rate of weathering of the face of the headstone this type of solution is not a recommended conservation procedure. Another marble headstone in a rustic block sandstone kerb has also been previously broken and reset. That headstone is to James Evenden, died 1881.



**Figure FA 6**

Faulconbridge Cemetery

Headstone of Isaac Soul Noake

This headstone has fallen and been unsympathetically set in concrete

28 June 2001

The next phase of burials are marked by desks (a small wedge-shaped monument) introduced during the early twentieth century. The earliest burial marked with this type of monument appears to be William George Croucher died 1909, with a sandstone desk and marble tablet and sandstone kerbing. Mary Ann Champion died 1888 and Charles Champion died 1923, are commemorated by a sandstone desk and kerb with black and white marble tile infill on the grave plot. An older plaque which may be remnants of a cut down headstone also bears an inscription to Mary Ann Champion, suggesting that the desk probably replaced an older headstone at the time of the second burial.

Another sandstone desk with a white marble 'open book' tablet, sandstone kerbing and concrete slab infill commemorates members of the Griffin family: Bessie Griffin 1914; Alexander Griffin, 1934; Marie Griffin, 1941.



**Figure FA 7**

Faulconbridge Cemetery

Griffin family grave

28 June 2001

A grey granite tablet on a sandstone block ledger commemorates Donald Cameron died 1927, 54th Battalion A.I.F. A standard design trachyte War Graves headstone commemorates Sister M T M MacAnene died 1924. There is also a grave marked with a surround of local stone (no inscription evident).

Along the southern boundary of the cemetery is a small garden bed containing small concrete plinths with stainless steel plaques. These record members of the Gilbey family, from 1973 - 1987; William Holmes 1977; and James Fisher, who was killed in the Granville train disaster on 18 January 1977. The monuments set in the extensive terraced gardens are also of a similar type. Several hundred are now present in the cemetery.

In the highest part of the cemetery there is a small sandstone columbarium. This is in the form of a small square cairn of rock-faced sandstone blocks. Eight stainless steel plaques record members of the Jackson family. They include Joseph Jackson O.B.E 1874-1961; and his wife Mylora Ann Jackson 1878-1962. Also his children: Jean Lincoln Jackson 1916-1941; Guy Lincoln Jackson 1903-1926; Bruce Lincoln Jackson 1907-1970, and his wife Lillian Maude Jackson 1907-1984. Also commemorated are Joseph Jackson's grandfather, John Jackson 1808-1848, and his father Joseph Jackson 1848-1935.

The most elaborate monument in the cemetery is the handsome and substantial enclosure for the Parkes family plot. This is a large square enclosure formed by a coursed rock-faced sandstone masonry wall with a cambered coping. An iron picket fence with cast fleur-de-lys finials is set into the top of the wall. This is now painted white, which is not an original colour scheme. In the centre of the plot is a grey granite obelisk with a memorial inscription that commemorates the parents of Sir Henry Parkes: Martha Faulconbridge died 22 May 1842 aged 64 years and Thomas Parkes died 20 September 1861 aged 73 years. The obelisk has an added stainless steel plaque recording the gratitude of the Australian people to Sir Henry Parkes as expressed in 1915 on the occasion of the centenary of his birth.



**Figure FA 8 (left)**

Faulconbridge Cemetery  
Parkes family enclosure from east  
28 Jun 2001



**Figure FA 9 (right)**

Faulconbridge Cemetery  
Parkes family enclosure from west showing seating, garbage bins and safety barriers cluttering the enclosure.  
28 Jun 2001

Within the enclosure there is another separate grey granite headstone which records the burials of Clarinda, Lady Parkes died 1888 and The Hon. Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G, died 1896. The inscriptions on these two monuments are difficult to read and could be re-blacked or re-gilded to increase legibility. Also within the plot are four additional cast bronze name plaques, to three of

Sir Henry's children: Varney, Annie, Henry, and also one to his sister, Maria. These plaques had been in storage and were added into the plot during a later phase of refurbishment.<sup>1</sup> Other old elements such as salt-glazed edging tiles have also been removed from the plot during various phases. An additional metal plaque affixed to the cast iron fence provides a short biography of Sir Henry Parkes and notes the major achievements and interests of his political career.

Overall, however, the cemetery shows little incidence of vandalism, most monuments are in fair to good condition.

#### **FA2.4 Landscape**

Falconbridge Cemetery is directly below and to the east of the main railway line with Falconbridge Station close by. The cemetery is open to the street and situated on land which slopes away from the street, the topography allowing vistas out from the cemetery toward the valley beyond. The main feature - the memorial Parkes enclosure is in a park-like setting. *Cryptomeria* sp. are the dominant element in the streetscape and they and a single specimen of Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) provide a traditionally handsome memorial context for the cemetery. A golden cypress is a discordant element in this composition. The Parkes enclosure is situated partway down the gentle slope and there is a relatively young *Casuarina* sp. to its east. The iron railing of the enclosure is painted white. The other graves within the cemetery are simple and located toward the top of the slope near the street.

The southern boundary of the cemetery is partially exposed to the adjacent residential block. Two young cypresses (*Cupressus sempervirens*) planted near the boundary are in sympathy with the plantings closer to the Parkes enclosure. There is a self-seeded African Olive (*Olea europaea* subsp. *africana*), an invasive species on the boundary. Toward the eastern boundary are two columbaria, which are a stark and obtrusive element in the cemetery. They are backed by oleanders planted in the early 1970s.<sup>2</sup>

To the north of the Parkes Memorial is a large rock shelf on which is the Jackson Columbarium. Steps down from the rock platform join this with other parts of the cemetery.



**Figure FA 10**

Columbarium of Jackson Family  
28 Jun 2001

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<sup>1</sup> Pers. comm. Mr L Apthorp to S Lavelle

<sup>2</sup> History BMCC compiled by the former Falconbridge Community Hall, Parks and Gardens Committee, December 1981.

To the north-east of the Parkes enclosure and the Jackson columbarium below the large rock shelf is a memorial garden, named the “Arbuste” Terrace Gardens in 1978, presumably as a reference to the terraces being planted with shrubs. These gardens were dedicated in 1979.<sup>3</sup> There are seven terraced levels in the Arbuste Terrace Gardens. The upper storey canopy consists of large *Angophora* sp., Bloodwoods (*E. gummitera*) and Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*). Rustic steps provide access between the various levels of the garden. The lower storey planting of the upper sections consists of rows of rhododendrons, camellias, and azaleas, which are growing well. The cultivars chosen for planting in 1981 were Lady Loch, Prince Frederick William and Wildfire camellias and Broughtonii, Heatherside and Aries rhododendrons. It is a pleasant area for quiet contemplation and is well tended.



**Figure FA 11**

Falconbridge Cemetery  
Arbuste terrace gardens – camellia section

The lower levels have been planted with native species. This section of the memorial garden is not successful in its plant composition. It is very shady – creating unfavourable growing conditions for many of the plants chosen and is over-gardened for a native area and weed infested.

### **FA2.5 Buildings**

There are no buildings at Falconbridge Cemetery

### **FA2.6 Condition**

Falconbridge Cemetery is in reasonably good condition. Some old vandalism is evident, which has resulted in the resetting of two of the old marble headstones. Unfortunately, these have been set in concrete and the work is difficult to reverse. There is no sign of recent vandalism.

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<sup>3</sup> History BMCC compiled by the former Falconbridge Community Hall, Parks and Gardens Committee, December 1981.

## **FA3Historical Summary**

### **FA3.1 History**

Henry Parkes (1815-1896) had migrated to Sydney in 1839 as a bone and ivory turner. He was far from successful in business but found his metier in politics, becoming one of the founding members of the Legislative Assembly in New South Wales when responsible government was achieved in 1856. Despite bankruptcies and other difficulties, Parkes became state premier in 1872. After he lost office in 1875, he sought land in the Blue Mountains and acquired 256 hectares (640 acres) in Magdala parish, county Cook, in 1876. Portion 19, on which Parkes built various houses, had originally been granted to John Morris in 1839 but had reverted to the crown.<sup>4</sup> The new crown grant was not in fact finalised until 24 January 1880,<sup>5</sup> but already in 1877, still out of office, Parkes had built a simple rectangular weatherboard house for his family.<sup>6</sup> He named the house Stonehurst, an allusion to his Warwickshire birthplace of Stoneleigh, and he named the area Faulconbridge after his mother Martha Faulconbridge. Parkes had already in the 1840s been using Faulconbridge as a pseudonym for some of his journalism.<sup>7</sup>

When Henry Parkes' eldest son Robert died at the age of 36 on 2 January 1880, he was buried on the property. (Refer Figure 27) After the land grant was finalised on 24 January, Parkes on 10 May gave into the hands of trustees a 0.8 hectare (2 acre) rectangle of land within portion 19, including the grave-site of Robert in the south-west part of the new cemetery. It is not clear whether the cemetery was ever consecrated. There is no documentation in the Anglican archives or in the press, but a daughter of Sir Henry much later declared that she remembered having been present at a consecration ceremony.<sup>8</sup> The initial trustees were Sir Alfred Stephen (the Lieutenant Governor and retired Chief Justice of New South Wales), James Watson (Colonial Treasurer in Parkes' 1878-1883 ministry and one of Sir Henry's more friendly creditors) and Parkes himself.<sup>9</sup> Stephen died in 1894, Parkes in 1896 and Watson in 1907. Neither Stephen nor Parkes was replaced as trustee and on Watson's death, the cemetery passed to his son, Frederick and other executors, although they were unaware of this until 1917 when the need for maintenance at the graveyard prompted a title search and the transfer of the land back to the crown, in the care of the Department of Lands.<sup>10</sup>

From the beginning the cemetery was available to others than members of the Parkes family. Sir Henry's coachman, James Evenden, was buried there in 1881; Henry Wilson, the licensee of the Blue Mountain Hotel in Lawson, in 1880, with two of his children in 1897 and 1898 and his widow in 1910; and Mary Ann Champion, the wife of the Faulconbridge postmaster, in 1888.<sup>11</sup> (Refer Figure 28)

When Clarinda Varney, Parkes' first wife, died in 1888, he laid aside a separate rectangle within the cemetery as a family plot. (When the widow of Robert Parkes died in 1884, she had been buried with her husband in the south-west corner). Within the new enclosure, Sir Henry erected two markers in 1888. The central obelisk was a memorial to his parents, who had been buried in their native Warwickshire in 1842 (Martha Faulconbridge) and 1861 (Thomas Parkes). The

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<sup>4</sup> Searle 25; Magdala parish map

<sup>5</sup> LTO, vol.483 fo.71

<sup>6</sup> Searle 19-20

<sup>7</sup> Martin, *ADB V* 399

<sup>8</sup> Apthorp 1981

<sup>9</sup> *Nepean Times*, 13 July 1935; Rutledge, *ADB VI* 180-7, 362-3

<sup>10</sup> *Nepean Times*, 13 July 1935

<sup>11</sup> GDEM 11, 5, 6, 8

second marker, in the south-west corner of the enclosure, was over Lady Parkes' grave. When Sir Henry died in 1896, his name was added to this marker and his body, brought to the Mountains by special train from Redfern Mortuary station, was interred beside his first wife in a simple Anglican ceremony. Four other members of Parkes' immediate family are buried in the enclosure: his sister Maria (c.1811-1891), two of his children by Clarinda, Annie Thomasine (1854-1929) and the well-known architect Varney Parkes (1859-1935) who bore his mother's maiden name, and Henry Charles (1890-1954), one of his sons by his second wife, Eleanor Dixon. (Refer Figure 31 and Figure 32)



**Figure FA 12**

Sir Henry Parkes' funeral

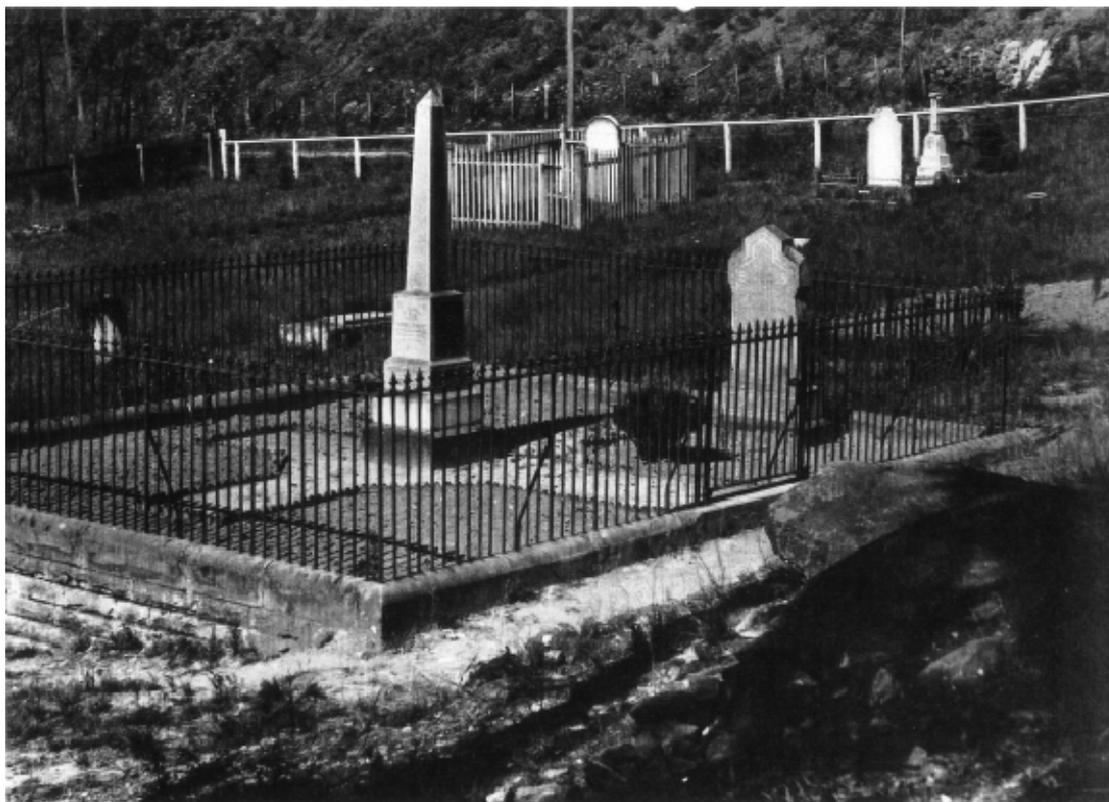
Source: Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies Collection. SPL 96

Originally there were small plantings within the grassed enclosure. These survived into the 1930s, but subsequently, after an enthusiastic response to the celebration of the centenary of Parkes' arrival in Australia in 1839, the area was gravelled and the surrounding fence painted white. The original bronze plaque retailing Parkes' services to the nation, which had been added to the obelisk in 1915, was stolen in 1941 and was not replaced until 1977.<sup>12</sup>

The Minister of Lands had appointed trustees for the cemetery after resumption of the land in 1917, but these trustees met for the last time on 17 September 1967 and maintenance of the cemetery passed to the Blue Mountain City Council through its Faulconbridge Community Centre Parks and Gardens Committee.

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<sup>12</sup> *BM Gazette*, 9 February 1977



**Figure FA 13**

Falconbridge Cemetery

Enclosure for Sir Henry Parkes family

Undated. The photo is clearly before 1939 when the fence was painted white and the grassed areas graveled over. At that time the grave of Robert Sydney Parkes and his wife Mary Anne which is in the background was also enclosed by a picket fence. Another monument within the enclosure has since disappeared.

Source: Blue Mountains City Library, Local Studies Collection 1870/6

The cemetery remains in use for the deposit or scattering of cremated ashes. Provision had been made for the deposit of ashes as early as 1934,<sup>13</sup> but no columbarium was built for many years. In 1964 the family of Joseph Jackson (1874-1961), storekeeper, publisher, politician, devotee of Parkes and a cemetery trustee, established a small stone columbarium for his family's private use. The first general columbarium was erected by Hector Button (also a trustee) in 1967, the second in 1975, but there are a great many plaques and commemorative plantings along attractively bushy walks where ashes have been scattered.<sup>14</sup> The terraces with plantings of rhododendra, camellias and azaleas were created in 1978-9 and dedicated as the Arbuste Terrace Garden on 4 November 1979.<sup>15</sup>

The original cemetery was slightly reduced in size in 1952 when the local Council took part of the south-east corner to create a turning circle at the south end of Clarinda Avenue.

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<sup>13</sup> Trustees' minutes

<sup>14</sup> Searle 54-8

<sup>15</sup> BMCC Cemetery file

### **FA3.2 People of Note.**

As well as the Parkes family discussed in the main text, Joseph Jackson and Henry and Sarah Wilson are of more than local interest.

**Joseph Jackson** (1874-1961) was a dedicated admirer of Sir Henry Parkes, bought Parkes' house at Faulconbridge, collected Parkesiana and gave the land (formerly Parkes') for the Avenue of Oaks nearby. Jackson's grandfather had come from England to Wellington in New South Wales where he died in 1848. His son, Joseph, was a gold-miner in the area and his son, another Joseph, born near Wellington in 1874, was enticed to the Peak Hill gold rush near the town of Parkes when he was fifteen, and settled there, running a store and becoming mayor of the municipality in 1905. He came to Sydney in 1906, was a member of Sydney City Council from 1918, Lord Mayor in 1931, a member of the New South Wales Parliament from 1922 until 1956 and Minister for Local Government in 1932-3.<sup>16</sup>

His stores under the company name of Jackson Stonewall (recalling the American Civil War) were located in Sydney and Springwood, where in 1937 the company published the valuable local history of Springwood by J.F. Campbell, with additional material by Jackson himself.

The small stone wall of the family columbarium erected in Faulconbridge cemetery in 1964, three years after Joseph's death, may be a reference to the whimsy of the company name.

**Henry Wilson** (1814-1880) and his wife **Sarah Affriatt** (1820-1910) were prominent inn-keepers in the Blue Mountains from 1838 until Sarah's death in 1910. As well as inns at Blackheath, Valley Heights and Penrith, the Wilsons are principally known for their successive Blue Mountain Inns at Lawson. Henry had been born in London in 1814 and came to Australia with his widowed mother as a boy in 1826. His step-father Jacob Josephson built the Penrith hotel which Henry and Sarah operated in the 1850s. Sarah Affriatt was native-born at Castlereagh in 1820.

Their unmarried son Affriatt Sydney Wilson (1853-1897) and daughter Adelaide May Wilson (1850-1898) are also buried at Faulconbridge.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Radi, Spearritt, Hinton, *Biographical Register of the NSW Parliament, 1901-1970*, 143

<sup>17</sup> GCEM 5,6 pp.8-10

## FA4 Assessment of Significance

### FA4.1 Application of State Heritage Office Criteria

To be assessed for listing on the State Heritage Register, an item will, in the opinion of the Heritage Council of NSW, meet one or more of the following criteria.

Criterion	Level of Significance
<b>FA4.1.1 Criterion (a): An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b>	
The monuments in Falconbridge Cemetery are a direct record of the local area's population, over the past 120 years. Whilst the Parkes family plot is the dominant element, adjacent groupings of monuments within the cemetery are frequently indicate family connections. The cemetery records a number of other families prominent in local Blue Mountains history, including the Jackson and Wilson families.	Local
The development of the terraced gardens to enable the on-going use of the site, gives historic, social and chronological continuity between the 19th, 20th and 21st century local communities.	Local
<b>FA4.1.2 Criterion (b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b>	
Falconbridge Cemetery contains the grave of Sir Henry Parkes, five times Premier of NSW and a major Colonial figure during the second half of the nineteenth century. He is particularly remembered for his Tenterfield Speech and earned the title 'Father of Federation', making him a figure important in the history of the nation of Australia. Parkes is buried within part of his original country estate which he named after his mother, Martha Falconbridge. The name has now passed to the surrounding suburb of Falconbridge.	National
<b>FA4.1.3 Criterion (c): An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area)</b>	
The surviving landscape of Falconbridge Cemetery retains fragments of a formal layout intended to emphasise the prominence of the Parkes family plot, and the remnants of a sophisticated older planting scheme using large evergreen conifers in combination with smaller scale plantings.	Local
The modern extension of the cemetery into terraced gardens for the inurnment of ashes provides a creative solution to the problem of rock inhibiting further use of the cemetery for traditional burials.	Local
The siting of the Parkes Memorial is important for its demonstration of an aesthetic response to the symbolic association with the mountain home of the Parkes family and the importance of distant views to the appreciation of the local area. The mature Cryptomeria and cypresses are indicative of 19 <sup>th</sup> century tastes for associative funereal planting and the stands of large eucalypts and angophoras juxtaposed with the expanse of sandstone rock	Local

ledge provide the cemetery with an area of considerable visual appeal.

**FA4.1.4 Criterion (d): An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons**

Sir Henry Parkes' grave has frequently been the focus of civic and historic celebrations, most recently during the 2001 Centenary of Federation events. These events have attracted both local and visiting dignitaries and politicians. Local

The detailed transcripts compiled by the Blue Mountains Family History Group indicate that the cemetery has some contemporary community esteem and that there is interest in the preservation of the information recorded by the monuments in the cemetery. Local

**FA4.1.5 Criterion (e): An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)**

Completion of further research, including more comprehensive photographic research may provide evidence useful for the reinstatement of a more appropriate traditional late nineteenth century landscape character in this cemetery. Local

Further research may also provide information about the designer and makers of the Parkes family plot which is a substantial and handsome structure. It is the dominant element of the Faulconbridge Cemetery. Local

**FA4.1.6 Criterion (f): An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)**

Faulconbridge Cemetery contains the grave of Sir Henry Parkes, and members of his family. The layout of the site emphasises the prominence of their grave plot, which is the most substantial element. This is relatively rare level of more sophisticated design for what is otherwise a simple rural and bush general cemetery. National

**FA4.1.7 Criterion (g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural places or environments**

Faulconbridge Cemetery contains representative examples of the range of monumental masonry available over the past 120 years. It includes some individual components of sophisticated design. Local

**FA4.2 Summary Statement of Cultural Significance**

Faulconbridge General Cemetery contains the grave of Sir Henry Parkes, a major Colonial figure and prominent politician during the second half of the nineteenth century in NSW. He is remembered as the 'Father of Federation'. Appropriately, Parkes is buried within part of his original country estate which he named after his mother. The name has now passed to the surrounding suburb of Faulconbridge.

Faulconbridge General Cemetery contains the remnants of a sophisticated, formal, late nineteenth-century landscape design and layout.

Falconbridge Cemetery is an important component of the heritage of the City of Blue Mountains as it directly records a number of other families prominent in local history, including the Jackson and Wilson families.

## **FA5 Constraints and Opportunities**

### **FA5.1 The Burra Charter**

References in parentheses refer to the relevant articles of the Burra Charter. Reference should be made to the copy of the Burra Charter in the Appendix 2 of Volume 1 of this report.

- 5.1.1 The cultural significance of the cemetery should be maintained. Provision should be made for its security, maintenance and future. (Article 2)
- 5.1.2 All conservation work should be based on respect for the extant fabric and should involve minimal intervention to existing fabric. (Article 3)
- 5.1.3 An appropriate visual setting for the cemetery should be maintained. No new construction or other development which detracts from the heritage value or context of the cemetery should occur. Environmental intrusions which will adversely affect the appreciation or enjoyment of the place should be excluded. (Article 8)
- 5.1.4 All fabric within the cemetery should remain in its historical location. Relocation of fabric should not occur unless moving it is the sole means of ensuring its survival. Any fabric removed under these circumstances should be returned to its correct location if changed circumstances make this feasible (Article 9 and Article 10)
- 5.1.5 All features of the existing cemetery should be taken into consideration. Fabric from all periods should be recognised as contributing to the significance of the cemetery. (Article 16)
- 5.1.6 Where appropriate, reconstruction should be limited to the reproduction of fabric the form of which is known from physical and/or documentary evidence. (Article 19)
- 5.1.7 Any major work on a cemetery should be preceded by a detailed study or plan. Existing fabric should be recorded prior to disturbance. (Article 23)
- 5.1.8 Disturbance of fabric should only occur to provide evidence needed to make decisions on the conservation of the cemetery. (Article 24)
- 5.1.9 The process of decision making and individuals responsible should be identified. (Article 26)
- 5.1.10 Appropriate professional direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages of the work. (Article 27)
- 5.1.11 Records should be kept of new evidence and subsequent decisions. (Articles 25 and 27)
- 5.1.12 Copies of all reports and records should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly accessible. (Article 28).

### **FA5.2 Significance**

Considering the significance of the cemetery, the following constraints and opportunities can be stated.

- 5.2.1 Faulconbridge Cemetery should be retained and conserved in accordance with established conservation principles.
- 5.2.2 The setting of the cemetery should be maintained.

- 5.2.3 Existing elements of the previous cemetery landscape and landscape design, including plantings, should be conserved and should be sympathetically maintained.
- 5.2.4 All cemetery monuments should be retained and conserved.
- 5.2.5 All grave surrounds, including ironwork and stone kerbing should be retained and conserved.
- 4.2.6 Monument layout and orientation should not be altered.

### **FA5.3 Statutory Listings**

#### **FA5.3.1 Register of the National Estate**

Sir Henry Parkes' Grave and cemetery is listed on the Register of the National Estate.

The Register of the National Estate is maintained by the Australian Heritage Commission. A place is listed on the Register for:

*“being components of the natural environment of Australia, or the cultural environment of Australia that have aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance or other special value for future generations, as well as for the present community.”.*

Where the Commonwealth Government owns a place which is listed on the Register of the National Estate it has a responsibility to maintain that place.

#### **FA5.3.2 Blue Mountains City Council**

Sir Henry Parkes' Grave is on the Schedule of Heritage Items in Blue Mountains City Council LEP 1991.

### **FA5.4 Zoning**

The site is zoned Special Uses A which is appropriate to its use as a cemetery.

### **FA5.5 Condition**

The majority of the monumental masonry and other fabric within Faulconbridge Cemetery is in fair condition. Two marble headstones have been inappropriately reset, however, the process used is not easily reversible without causing increased damage to these monuments.

The cemetery does not appear to be subject to much vandalism.

The condition of the native section of the Arbuste gardens is of concern. This section of the memorial garden is not successful in its plant composition. It is very shady – creating unfavourable growing conditions for many of the plants chosen and is over-gardened for a native area and weed infested.

### **FA5.6 Integrity**

Prior elements of fabric and landscape are known to have been lost from the site, and should be reinstated if resources permit.

Some more recent elements, such as the brick columbaria, and garden beds in the old section of the cemetery are intrusive and detract from its 19th century landscape quality.

## **FA5.7 Maintenance Needs**

### **FA5.7.1 Monuments**

The monuments are generally in good condition and need little maintenance.

### **FA5.7.2 Landscaping**

There is a need for careful weeding of invasive species in the native section of the Arbuste gardens.

There is no tap in the Arbuste gardens and much of the tending of this section is done by relatives visiting the gardens.

## **FA5.8 Community Values and Desires**

The community holds this cemetery in high esteem, largely because of the grave of Sir Henry Parkes. The desire to appropriately present and care for this burial place is clear with the formation of local groups which have been established specifically to care for this cemetery.

Additionally the Arbuste gardens are well regarded.

## **FA5.9 Location and Neighbourhood**

Falconbridge Cemetery is in a residential area and overlooked by the railway line. The location presents few problems, apart from use of the northern edge of the burial edge for parking and for a turning circle for traffic on Sir Henry's Parade. The residential area and railway line assist in reducing vandalism by providing good visibility.

## **FA5.10 Access and Parking**

Access to the cemetery is very good with a clearly marked road from the Great Western Highway to the burial area of the cemetery. Additional access on the eastern side of the cemetery is available from Clarinda Avenue. This access is used primarily to reach the Arbuste gardens.

Problems exist with a tendency for people to park on the north side of the cemetery. There are graves in this area which are poorly marked, their headstones being set flat on the ground in concrete.

## **FA6 Conservation Policies**

These policies should be read in conjunction with Section 1 of the Conservation Management Plan. The policies in Section 1 provide general guidance. Policies specific to Faulconbridge Cemetery are contained within this section.

Specific policies are given in italics. Additional notes are given in normal type.

### **FA6.1 General**

*Faulconbridge Cemetery should be conserved in accordance with established conservation principles including the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS and other appropriate guidelines including those published by the National Trust and the Heritage Council of NSW.*

Faulconbridge Cemetery is an item of environmental heritage for the local area, and continues to provide an essential public service for the surrounding community. The cemetery has local historic and social value for current and future generations.

### **FA6.2 Setting and Landscape**

*The setting of the cemetery, including the view from the main Railway line, should be maintained. Screening around the cemetery to reinforce the north and west boundaries should be established.*

The present boundaries of the cemetery should be maintained, and appropriate screening, (ie. visual buffer formed by vegetation), should be established around the site.

### **FA6.3 Layout**

*Monument layout and orientation should not be altered.*

Faulconbridge Cemetery is unique among the public cemeteries in the Blue Mountains in not having a formal layout with division into denominational groups. Those graves whose monuments are survived are scattered around the burial area. These should not be altered or re-oriented.

### **FA6.4 Landscape**

#### **FA6.4.1 General**

*Engage a landscape architect with proven experience on sites of high cultural significance and cemeteries to prepare a landscape master plan for the site which takes into consideration the policies in this report.*

*Existing elements of the traditional landscape in the cemetery should be conserved and maintained.*

*New plantings should only be introduced if they are endemic native species already present in the cemetery and its environs, or are known (from further research) to have been previously planted in the cemetery.*

The site has a rigorously maintained character more like a modern 20th century lawn cemetery than a late 19th century burial ground. Major old plantings should be researched from historic records and reinstated.

#### **FA6.4.2 Arbuste Gardens**

*The existing native trees and understorey vegetation in the Arbuste gardens should be maintained.*

*Limit the Arbuste Terrace Gardens to their current extent (i.e. Do not allow the Gardens to encroach on the earlier burial area.*

*Convert the native section of the Arbuste Terrace Gardens to more manageable plantings due to the difficult growing conditions within that part of the terraces.*

The Arbuste Terrace Gardens have retained much of the native tree plantings on the eastern slopes of the site, providing a backdrop to the burial area of the cemetery. There is inadequate space on the site to extend the gardens beyond their present area.

Consideration should be given to either converting this native section's plantings similar to that of the upper section or, the preferable alternative of using bush regeneration techniques to restore this area to bushland. The lower terraces would still be able to be used for the internment of ashes within a bushland setting.

#### **FA6.4.3 Columbaria**

*Undertake screen planting in front of the columbaria*

The columbaria are disruptive elements in the original burial area. Screen planting would soften their impact on that area. Cupressus sempervirens "stricta", a traditional cemetery planting, would be a suitable species for this purpose.

#### **FA6.4.4 Trees**

*Traditional elements and landscape features should be reinstated where they are known to have previously existed on the site.*

Restoring and reconstruction of traditional landscape elements of the cemetery is appropriate considering the significance of the cemetery as the burial place of Sir Henry Parkes.

#### **FA6.4.5 Grasses**

*Reduce mowing at the cemetery to encourage the growth of native grasses and to re-establish the nineteenth century character of the burial area.*

Earlier plantings such as Watsonias have also been removed from the site. Bulbs may survive, and the site should be monitored over at least one full year to detect seasonal variations/plants.

Mowing the cemetery less will allow some old bulbs or other plants which might have survived below the surface to show up. This would substantially contribute to reinforcing the earlier character of the cemetery.

Combined with an appropriate landscape plan, pathways would still allow access to the Parkes' family enclosure, which is the most visited part of the cemetery, and to the Arbuste Gardens.

#### **FA6.4.6 Weeds**

*Remove or cut and poison the self-seeded African Olive.*

*Cut and poison weeds in the native section of the Arbuste Gardens.*

The African Olive has self-seeded and has potential to invade the Arbuste Gardens as well as other areas of the cemetery. This and other weeds in the Arbuste Gardens, particularly in the native section, should be removed by appropriate methods.

#### **FA6.4.7 Other**

*Strengthen boundary planting along the southern boundary with the adjacent residence.*

The residence adjacent the south boundary of the cemetery has a visual impact on the group. Boundary planting will reduce the impact of this residence on the cemetery.

## **FA6.5 Maintenance**

### **FA6.5.1 General**

*Maintenance of the cemetery should generally follow the policies of Section 1 of this report.*

## **FA6.6 Parkes' Family Enclosure**

### **FA6.6.1 General**

*Restore and reconstruct missing elements from the Parkes' family enclosure including garden tiles, shrubs and grasses areas.*

*Research and repaint the fencing of the Parkes' family enclosure in an appropriate colour.*

*Remove the metal plaques from the Parkes family enclosure. Provide a simple metal plaque as an alternative.*

The Parkes plot could receive more sympathetic treatment. The treatment of the Parkes family plot could be improved by a more sympathetic colour scheme and by the relocation of some unsympathetic modern interpretative elements including the various metal plaques.

### **FA6.6.2 Setting**

*Undertake planting to reinforce a traditional, dignified character around the Parkes memorial enclosure.*

This involves removing overly fussy planting, although the tree ferns could be retained, and reinstating a simple scheme using trees of dark coniferous foliage. A suggested planting scheme recommended and attached to the National Trust file on Faulconbridge Cemetery is suitable. (Refer Appendix 1) This involves retaining the Cryptomerias and cypress and reinstating two new conifers as a backdrop to the memorial. It is recommended that the Golden Cypress be replaced with a conifer with dark green foliage.

*Relocate garbage bin, tap and bench seat away from the visual curtilage of the Parkes' family enclosure.*

The location of a garbage bin and tap close to the enclosure is visually intrusive and should be reconsidered. The bench seat is also unsympathetically located. It should be relocated in association with new plantings which visually soften its appearance.

### **FA6.6.3 Interpretation**

*Relocate modern plaques in the Parkes family enclosure elsewhere in the cemetery.*

The intrusive plaques on the Parkes plot should be re-sited elsewhere in the cemetery. They detract from this handsome and sophisticated grave enclosure and its monuments.

## **FA6.7 Fencing**

*Erect a new traditional style fence to the Sir Henrys Parade boundary of Faulconbridge Cemetery.*

New fencing should be installed to replace the unattractive log vehicle barriers. The fencing should also extend around the north side of the Cemetery where it will protect the upper sections of the burial area from vehicles turning and parking.

Fencing should be of a traditional design, as can be seen in the painting of Sir Henry Parkes' funeral. A design suitable for this was prepared for the Blue Mountains City Council by Jyoti Somerville and is included in this report as Appendix 2.

## **FA6.8 Resources and Funding**

*Seek additional funding from sources such as the Australian Heritage Commission or State Heritage Office to contribute to the conservation and maintenance of this cemetery, particularly the grave of Sir Henry Parkes.*

Funding towards conservation projects for sites of state or national significance is available from the Australian Heritage Commission and the State Heritage Office from time to time. As this site, in particular the grave of Sir Henry Parkes, is of national importance, conservation work on this cemetery and the grave of Sir Henry Parkes might be considered favourably in such funding.

### **FA6.9 Uses**

*The burial area of the site should remain a closed cemetery.*

*The Arbuste Gardens should continue to be used as a location for the placement of ashes.*

The primary significance of the site is in its use as a cemetery, particularly as the site of the grave of Sir Henry Parkes. Many of the early graves have lost their markers. The burial area has graves scattered over most of the available land and there is little scope for new burials. New burials would also disrupt the general character of the cemetery so it should remain closed.

The existing Arbuste gardens continue to serve as a sensitive location for the placement of ashes and, with the retention of native trees throughout the gardens, provide a good backdrop for the burial area.

### **FA6.10 Interpretation**

*Provide a new sympathetically designed sign which provides information on:*

- *Sir Henry Parkes and his family*
- *the development of the cemetery*
- *members of the Wilson family buried in the cemetery*
- *members of the Jackson family buried in the cemetery*

An informative and more sympathetically designed sign should be introduced to the site. This could give details about Parkes and his family in a more interesting way which would supplement the information provided on the current old fashioned plaques.

Better interpretative material and more creative presentation is desirable.

### **FA6.11 New Elements**

*Do not introduce new elements into the burial area of the cemetery without a historical basis for doing so, or unless as part of the landscape master plan in 5.4.1..*

In general the introduction of new elements into the cemetery or its curtilage is not recommended. If new elements (for example seating) become desirable for future development of the site, the precise need, location and design would require careful future consideration in order that such elements did not diminish or obscure the cultural significance of the place.

### **FA6.12 Access and Parking**

*Retain access via Sir Henry's Parade and Clarinda Avenue.*

*Do not allow vehicles to use the northern part of the cemetery as a turning circle on Sir Henry's Parade.*

*Restrict parking on Sir Henry's Parade to the northern side of the road.*

*Provide parking on Clarinda Avenue for the Arbuste gardens.*

There is adequate access to the cemetery at present, but the use of the northern embankment of the cemetery as a turning circle has caused damage to monuments in the past and continues to result in vehicles driving over these monuments. Restricting vehicular access to this area, including restriction of parking will reduce further damage to these monuments. Policy FA6.7 provides guidelines for fencing which will address this issue.

### **FA6.13 Vandalism**

*Provide fencing to the boundaries of the cemetery.*

The site is regularly maintained, and it is known that a 'cared-for' appearance assists in discouraging vandals. The cemetery is also in an area close to community facilities (including the Railway Station) and residential areas, which probably provides some measure of surveillance of the site.

The site's boundaries should be fenced. This will not only prevent unauthorised access by vehicles but would also protect it from 'creep' such as road widening or other local improvements.

*Include a request not to damage the site on any new signage.*

Any new interpretative sign could include a request not to damage the site and might also suggest that it is regularly patrolled.

*Encourage local residents to assist in monitoring untoward activity at the site.*

Local residents might also be asked to assist with the monitoring of activity at the cemetery site, and should be encouraged to report any untoward activity. This could be requested in a letter-box drop to the property owners in the adjacent streets.

### **1.1 FA6.14 Statutory Protection**

*Endorse the zoning of Faulconbridge Cemetery as Special Uses – Cemeteries under Draft LEP 2002.*

*Endorse the inclusion of Faulconbridge Cemetery as a heritage item on the heritage schedule of Draft LEP 2002.*

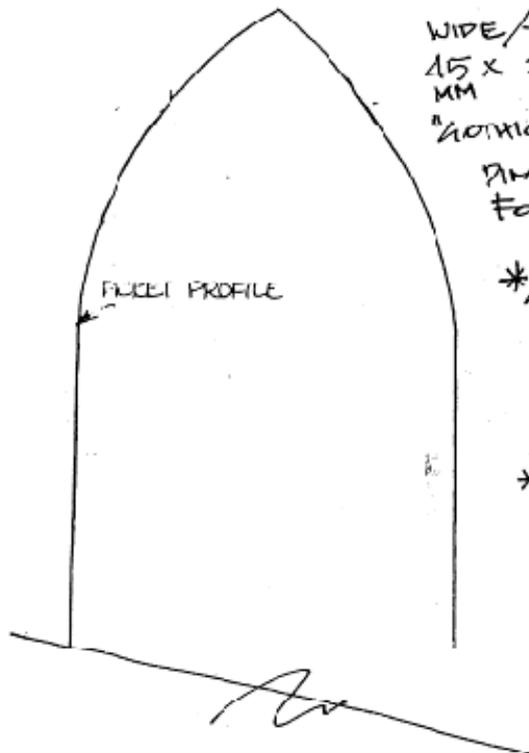




FAULCONBRIDGE CEMETERY

FENCE (CONT)

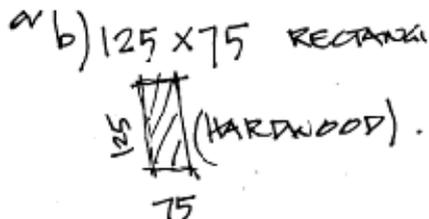
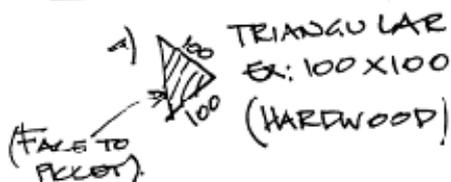
PICKET HEAD



WIDE/THICK  
15 x 20  
MM MM  
\* PICKETS WITH  
"GOTHIC" SHAPED TOP;  
DIMENSIONS ARE FINISHED  
FOR DAP TIMBER

\* SPACE 27 - 30 MM  
APART

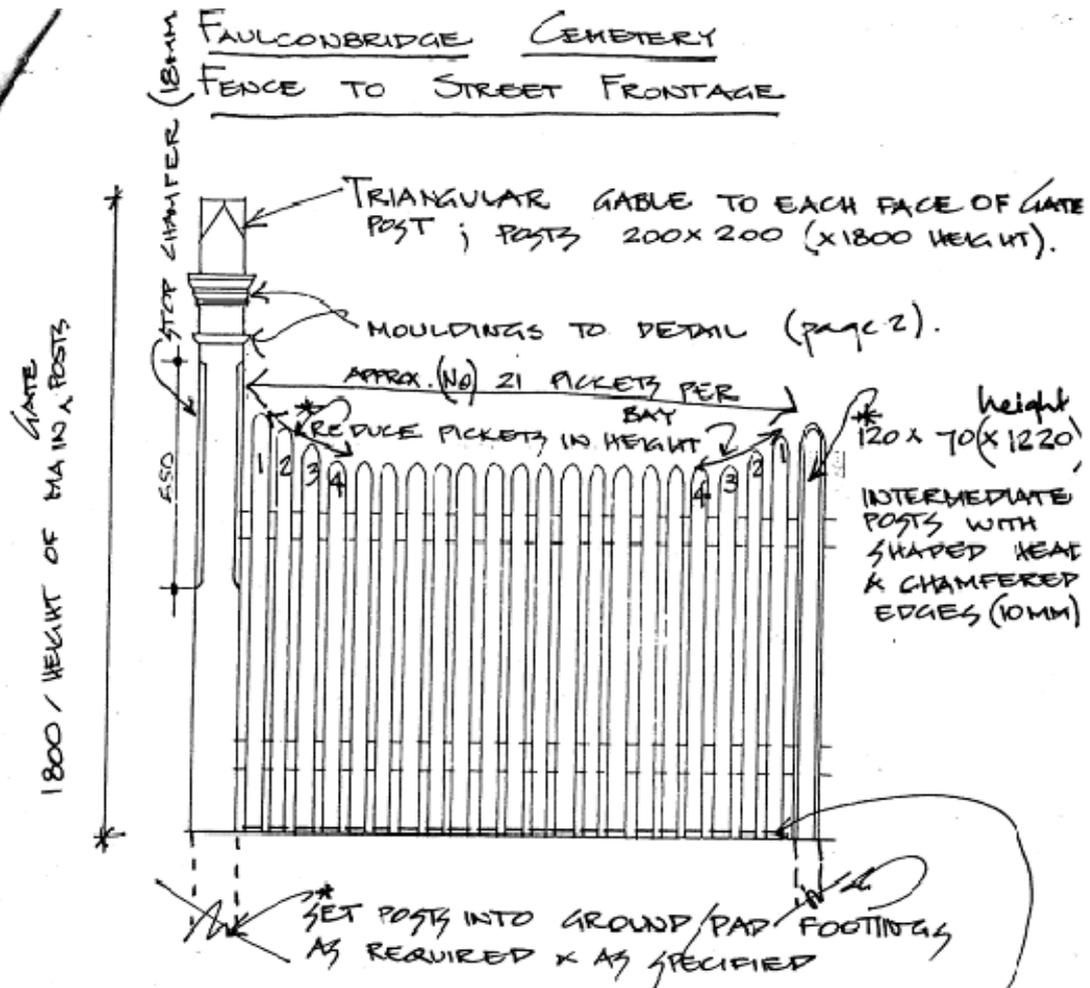
\* RAILS EITHER



\* Gates to match  
picket layout of  
typical bay (see memo)

\* Note:  
Diagrams & specifications taken from:  
Fences & Gates - National Trust of Australia  
(Technical Bulletin 8.1) Dec 1988.

(page 3)



PICKETS: \* 45 x 20 MM FINISHED (DAR)

\* 27 to 30 MM SPACING

\* TO BE PAINTED

\* BOTTOM OF PICKETS TO CLEAR GROUND.

\* HEIGHT OF PICKETS TO VARY FROM

1200 MM MAX TO 1160<sup>MM</sup> MIN SLOPING DOWN VIA 4 END PICKETS OF EACH BAY.

\* APPROX. 21 (NO) PICKETS PER BAY BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE POSTS (AS SHOWN)

\* SET OUT BAYS TO GIVE EQUAL NUMBER OF PICKETS PER BAY (IE APPROX 21)

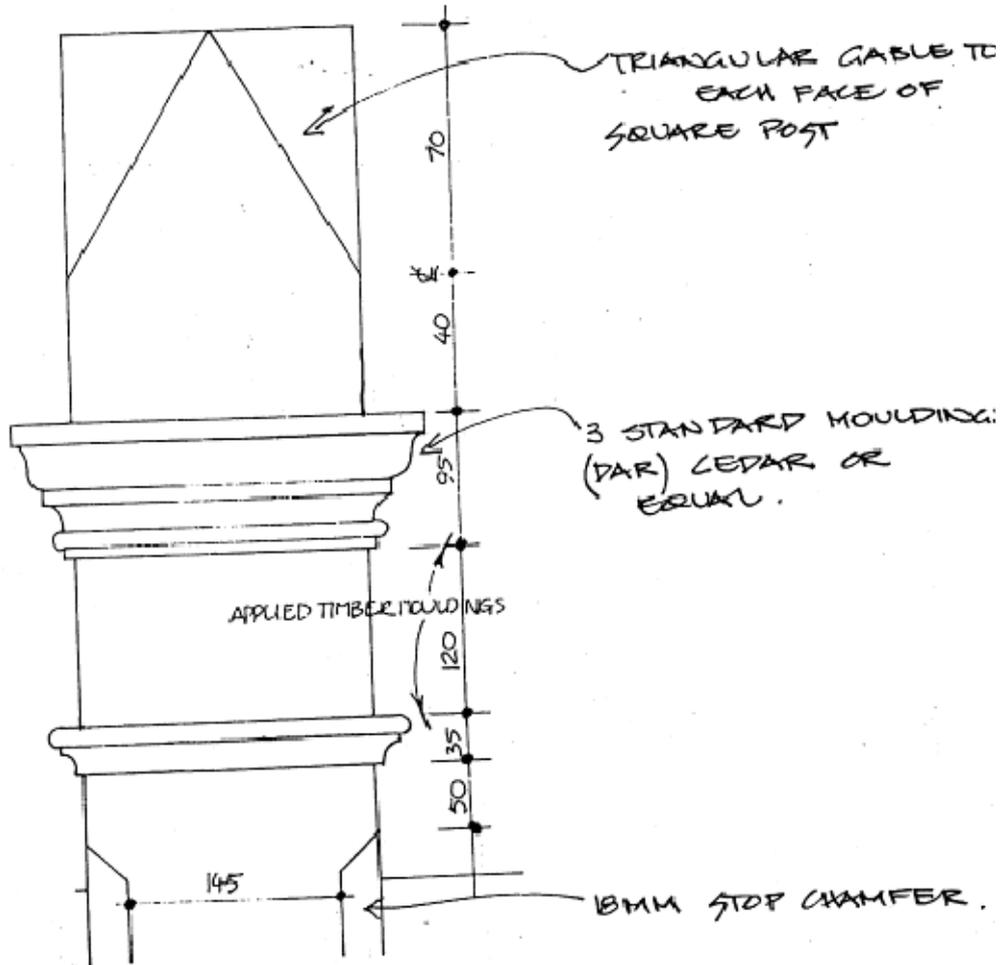
\* NOTE:

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES (PAGE 1.)

FAULCONBRIDGE CEMETERY

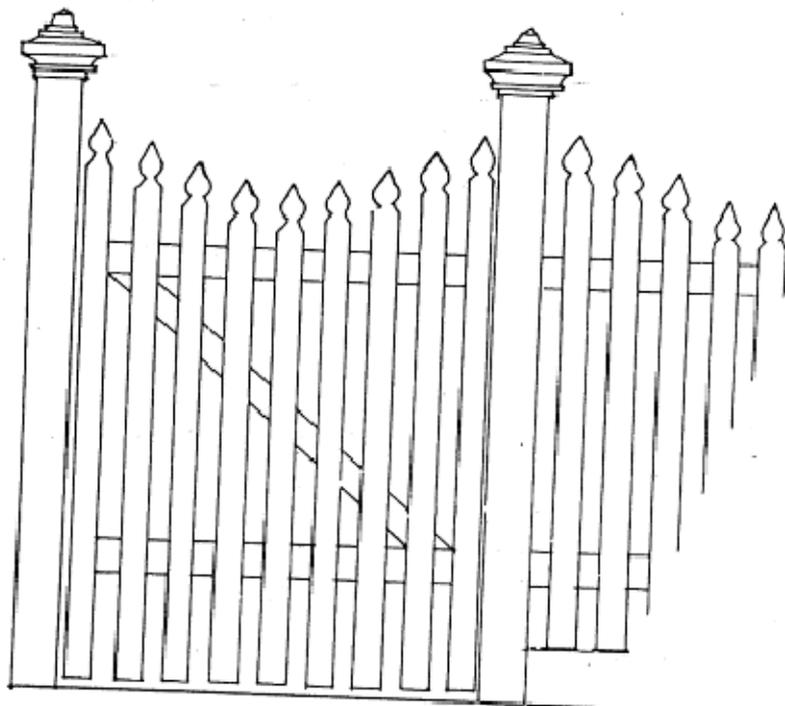
FENCE (CONT.)

\* GATE POSTS 200 x 200 (x 1800 MAX)



NOTE:  
DO NOT USE GATE POSTS TO VEHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN GATES  
ELSEWHERE USE "GOTHIC" HEAD INTERMEDIATE POSTS (refer to page 2)

Appendix 1.



In detail drawing of typical gate for  
timber picket fence.

Pickets for Falconbridge Cemetery to  
match "gothic" top of typical fence bay.

Drawing from "Fences & Gates", Technical  
Bulletin No 8.1, pub. National Trust of  
Australia (Victoria) 1988.

## **LAWSON CEMETERY**

### **LA1 Introduction**

#### **1.2 General**

This Lawson Cemetery section of the Blue Mountains Cemeteries Conservation Management Plan should be read in conjunction with the General Analysis and Conservation Policies section of the Conservation Management Plan.

#### **1.3 Location**

Lawson Cemetery is located at 80-90 Wilson Street, Lawson. The legal title of the property is Part MS 1418.

#### **1.4 Bibliography**

*Our Past Blue Mountaineers* III, I

S.J. Bentley, *Christmas Swamp: a History of Lawson*, Springwood Historical Society, Springwood 1986

*The Official Guide to Lawson, Hazelbrook and Woodford*, Lowden, Sydney [1905]

*Lawson Public School, Centenary History*, Lawson 1988

## 2 Physical Summary

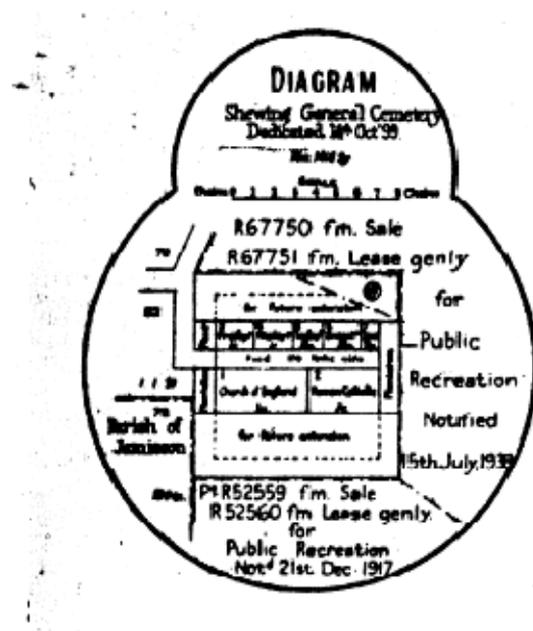
### 2.1 Setting

Lawson General Cemetery occupies an essentially square site accessed from Wilson Street, a minor street in an area of residential development south of the main township of Lawson. The cemetery area is flat. Houses and the local street are on the western side of the cemetery, on the other boundaries it is surrounded by remnant native vegetation.

The cemetery is clearly visible from the adjacent local road and the nearby houses. Glimpses of cleared land forming the fairways of the Lawson Golf Club are evident on the eastern and northern sides of the cemetery. Otherwise the site is enclosed by the surrounding vegetation and has no views beyond its own boundaries, except that back to the street and houses on the western side.

### 2.2 Design and Layout

Lawson Cemetery is regularly shaped, owing to the original dedication in 1889 of a roughly square area. The dedicated area of just over 3 acres (approximately 1.2 hectares) has fairly regular dimensions, being approximately 160 metres by 160 metres. The cemetery diagrams from various editions of the 'Linden' Parish Map indicate that the cemetery was laid out with a main east-west running driveway (100 links wide) set slightly off centre on the western boundary, and with a reserve for plantation areas on all sides. (Refer figure LA1) Additional reserved area for future cemetery expansion remains unused and still contains remnant indigenous vegetation such as eucalypts, banksia and grevillea species. A part of the reserved area near the northeast corner was later revoked.



**Figure LA 1**

Lawson Cemetery

General layout as shown on the Parish Map, Parish of Linden, County of Cook 1955

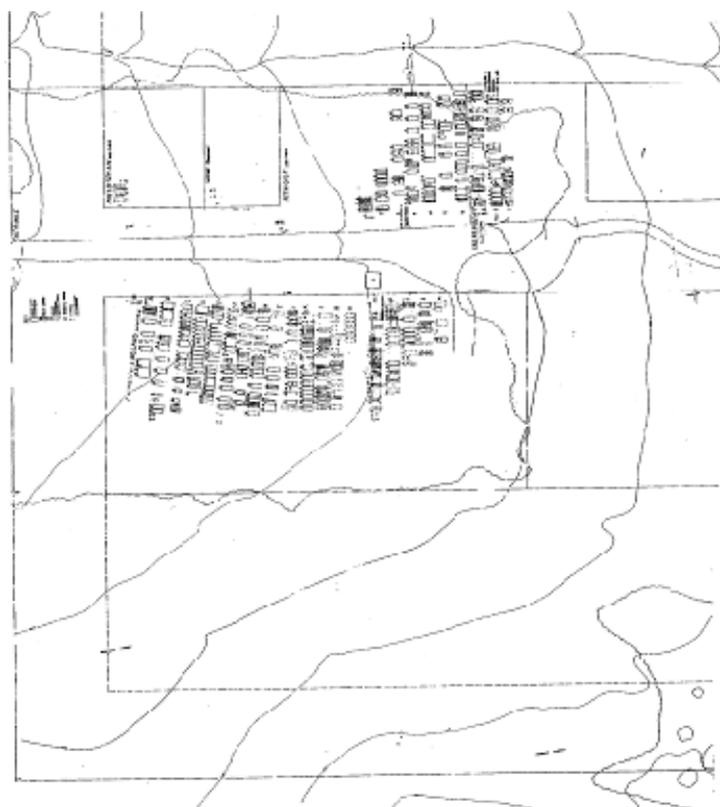
The layout provides a reserve around the edges, partly for plantation. On the north side of the road, from west to east, the sections are Presbyterian, Wesleyan (Methodist), Independent, Unsanctioned (General) and Jews. South of the road, from west to east are sections for the Church of England and Roman Catholics. Space has been reserved on the north and south of these sections for future extensions. On the northwest corner land was resumed by the Commissioner for main roads in 1955.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council

Lawson Cemetery has a typical small general cemetery layout, with several standard features found in the design of the cemeteries established during the late nineteenth century. They include the division of the area into denominational subdivisions which were allocated according to the strength of the particular denomination in the surrounding district; a main roadway or drive, and reserved plantation areas. Allocated denominational areas in Lawson Cemetery were: Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Wesleyan, Independent, Unsectarian and Jewish. Denominations now evident in the cemetery and indicated by signage identifying the separate sections are: Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and Independent. Since 1981 the Church of England has been known as the Anglican Church of Australia. The Methodist Church has also been integrated into the Uniting Church in Australia.

The street boundary is marked by a galvanised weldmesh fence and gates. Remnants of other earlier fencing, comprised of timber post, star pickets and wire is evident along the northern boundary of the site. The main drive is unsealed. It leads to a small turning circle at the eastern end of the cemetery. Some recent planting of mixed trees and shrubs occurs along the road boundary of the cemetery. It is not uniform or coherent, and does nothing to enhance the setting or entry to the cemetery. There is no formal or designed older landscape planting evident. The only older planting appears to be some surviving clumps of watsonias, generally in the northeastern part of the cemetery.

The denominational sections are laid out either side of the main drive, the two largest sections the Church of England and Catholic sections being south of the drive and all of the other smaller sections are north of the drive. In all sections grave rows appear to have been laid out in relation to the main driveway (being perpendicular to it) and the grave rows have been oriented to face east (90°). (Refer figure LA2) The east facing orientation of graves is traditional.



**Figure LA 2**

Lawson Cemetery  
Layout of known graves. Wilson Road is at the left of the plan.  
May 2001



**Figure LA 3**

Aerial photograph of Lawson Cemetery

The area used for burials is almost devoid of vegetation, although large areas of native woodland surround the burial area. The northeast corner of the cemetery which was resumed by the Commissioner for Main Roads is now part of the neighbouring golf course.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council



**Figure LA 4 (left)**

Lawson Cemetery

View west along central drive

28 Jun 2001



**Figure LA 5 (right)**

Lawson Cemetery

View to northeast from east end of driveway

28 Jun 2001

Aesthetically this site has little appeal. The more modern fencing and attempted plantings are mediocre in character and do not add to the dignity of the cemetery. The central drive and

turning circle could be emphasised as older design elements by more sympathetic planting. The native vegetation surrounding the cemetery provides the only strong landscape element at the site.

### **LA6.15 Monuments and Grave Furniture**

Lawson Cemetery includes about 400 monuments and includes examples of the most common monument types known during the twentieth century. The majority of the monuments in the cemetery are generally of simple form and design.

The first areas of the cemetery to be used for burials were the Church of England, Methodist and Independent sections, all of which have some monuments dating from the early twentieth century. The other sections have only been used more recently, from the 1970s and 1980s. The Baptist section only has one monument which is the standard small plinth currently available from the Council, and the Presbyterian section only has three monuments. There are some examples of vernacular graves marked only by local stone pieces, these occur near the northern boundary of the cemetery.

From the early twentieth century, the desk (a small wedge-shaped monument) is the dominant monument type in Lawson Cemetery. These are most commonly of sandstone with a marble tablet. In the earlier twentieth century the desk monuments are combined with stone kerbing and commonly have a cement slab with either gravel chips or tile infill covering the grave itself. In the later twentieth century the desks are in manufactured material such as 'granolite' (concrete mixed with granite dust or chips) and may have solid slabs as infill on grave kerbing. Some subsidence is evident, principally the result of coffin collapse, which produces unsightly depressions in the centre of older grave plots and kerbing. There are no examples of larger monument types or sculptural pieces in Lawson Cemetery. There are several examples of standard design War Veterans' monuments. Overall there are relatively few notable monuments in the cemetery. Most of the monuments lack elaborate carving or any other decorative detailing.

The most interesting monument in the Independent section is large grave plot in a robust rustic style which features a rock-faced sandstone headstone with a trachyte panel and a rock-faced sandstone desk. The surround is also of rock-faced sandstone kerbing with pyramidal posts and a galvanised pipe arris railing and black and white marble tile infill. The stonemason was F W Rose of Wollongong. The main headstone commemorates William Moore, died 1911, and other members of his family. A marble tablet in the centre of the plot has an inscription in English and in Classical Greek. The English inscription reads:

'Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his saints  
In Thy presence is fullness of joy'

The Greek inscription reads οἱ παιδεζ Εμοι. This may be translated (roughly) as 'He teaches me' — possibly a reference to the Biblical passages 1 John 2:25 to 2:27 regarding eternal life and that 'ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.'

Also in the Methodist section, a sandstone desk with a white marble tablet, sandstone kerbing and gravel infill, commemorates Joseph Michael Forde died 1929. Forde wrote articles on historical matters under the pseudonym 'Old Chum'. The pseudonym appears on a marble footplate on his grave. The desk monument also shows signs of old repair work. Although the work was relatively unskilled, it indicates that the historical value of this monument has been long recognised and attempts have been made to preserve it.

Also in the Methodist section, a small black granite tablet on a granolite desk marks the grave of 'Isobel Kendall Bowden O.A.M. 1908-1986. Never Quench the Fire of the Spirit'. A noted local

historian, naturalist and conservationist, she is also commemorated in the name of the Isobel Bowden ridge at Leura. (Refer figure LA6)



**Figure LA 6**

Lawson Cemetery  
Headstone of grave of Isobel Bowden  
28 Jun 2001

The Church of England section includes the burials of several local identities from the Lawson community. Monuments of interest for their other design or details include the large upright sandstone desk to members of the Plumb family. The parents, Reginald and Elizabeth died 1916 and 1945 are commemorated on the main 'open book' style tablet. The son, Sigr. Reg. W.A. Plumb, is commemorated on a smaller tablet inset into the base of the desk. This tablet notes that he died of 'wounds and gas' in France in 1916 and shows two crossed signal flags.

A recent monument in the Church of England section to Betty Stewart Gabriel died 1995 uses an extremely archaic verse, more typically found on early nineteenth century monuments. 'Pause traveller pause as you pass by, As you are now so once was I. As I am now so you may be, Prepare thyself to follow me'.

A war veterans' headstone in the Church of England section to Forbes Russell, died 1930 has the A.I.F. insignia (standard) and the inscription: 'After life's fitful Fever he sleeps well'.

Monumental masons represented in the cemetery indicate access to firms from a wide geographical range. Masons noted include: F W Rose, Wollongong; McMurtrie, Lithgow; R J Paterson, Katoomba. More recent monuments are more commonly from local firms such as Blue Mountains Monuments.

### **2.3 Condition**

The majority of the monumental masonry and other fabric within Lawson Cemetery is in reasonably good condition. Little vandalism is evident and that which has occurred is old, with some monuments showing evidence of prior repair work.

### **2.4 Layout and Landscaping**

The Lawson Cemetery is situated on a level sandy site and is surrounded on three sides by bush. It is bisected east west by a bitumen drive. Small eucalypts and a Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*) are growing along this drive, (refer figures LA4 & LA5) although the parched, rocky soil provides difficult growing conditions and the maple is a sickly specimen. Planting bounding the street consists of a discordant mixture of Jacarandas (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Deodars (*Cedrus deodara*) which seem inappropriate for the site. Watsonias within the Roman Catholic section are decorative but are potentially invasive in a bushland area.

Eucalypts at the terminating turning, several within the Church of England section and four to the north of the drive, are the most substantial plantings in the cemetery.

A conifer in the Roman Catholic section is the one substantial exotic tree in the cemetery and provides visual relief in an otherwise stark environment. Planted at the head of the grave of Irma Scherer (died November 1983), it represents the problem, general to all cemeteries, of planting too close to the head or foot of graves. (Refer figure LA7) This leads to the eventual destabilisation of many graves.



**Figure LA 7**

Lawson Cemetery  
Grave of Irma Scherer showing the problems of planting too close to a monument.  
28 Jun 2001

## **2.5 Buildings**

There are no buildings at Lawson Cemetery

### **3 Historical Summary**

#### **3.1 Lawson Cemetery**

The settlement of Lawson began before the railway came to the Mountains in 1867. This part of the middle Mountains was far enough west of Springwood, where Boland's inn was licensed in 1845, to encourage the building of staging facilities for travellers and coaches. The enterprising Henry and Sarah Wilson accordingly built their first Blue Mountain Inn in 1848 on the site of the present public school and the settlement was known as Blue Mountain until the name Lawson was adopted in 1879 (Bentley, *Christmas Swamp*).

Even before the rail link to the coast was constructed portions of land on both sides of the Great Western Highway were surveyed and offered for sale, but the rate of development did not quicken until the 1870s, around the railway station. The sub-division of the land holdings of Robert Fitzstubs of Kihilla after 1880 created substantial properties on Badgerys Crescent and the east side of San Jose Avenue, while the estates of the Lands Department officer, Joseph Hay, on the west side of San Jose Avenue and around Honour Avenue to the south were gradually sub-divided after 1890 (Jack 2000, LN 030).

As a result the village of Lawson had some fifty houses by 1888 (*Lawson Public School*, 5), and thrice that by 1905 (*Official Guide* 1905, 12). After Faulconbridge cemetery had been opened by Sir Henry Parkes in 1880, it was the nearest burial-place for Lawson folk and Henry Wilson of the Blue Mountain Inn was buried there in 1880 and two of his children in 1897 and 1898 (*OPBM* III, 8-9). By 1899 there was, however, a compelling case for a cemetery at Lawson and the government dedicated 1.2 hectare (3 acres) as the present burial-ground on 14 October 1899 (*OPBM* IV, 1).

The land chosen for the cemetery was part of a much earlier reserve. In December 1861, a substantial area south of Waratah Street had been reserved for camping (ML, ZTP: L3/21) and later, under the influence of Joseph Hay, an early enthusiast for national parks, South Lawson Park was developed as a tourist asset for the village, with track access to Adelina, Junction, Federal and Cataract Falls maintained by the local Progress Committee (*Official Guide* 1905, 25). The 1.2 hectare laid aside for burials lay to the north west of the main park and only 300 metres west of Adelina Falls.

The cemetery was divided into denominational sections. In descending order of size, the sections are:

- Methodist
- Anglican
- Catholic
- Baptist
- Presbyterian
- Independent.

#### **3.2 Persons buried at Lawson**

The majority of those buried at Lawson were residents of Lawson, Hazelbrook and Linden. There is a number of well-known local business-people:

**Charles Wilson** (1840-1916), son of Henry Wilson of the original Blue Mountain Inn in Lawson. Charles was the proprietor of the Grand Hotel in Wentworth Falls, the predecessor to the present Grandview. (IV 27; Ang. E 10-11) (Refer figure LA8)



**Figure LA 8**

Lawson Cemetery  
Grave of Lincoln Gordon Thomas and Charles Wilson  
28 Jun 2001

**Thomas Rees** (1865-1947), a prominent butcher in Lawson since 1894, together with his wife Ada, who died long before him in 1919. (IV 25; Ang. E 2-3) (Refer Figure LA9)



**Figure LA 9**

Lawson Cemetery  
Grave of Thomas and Ada Rees  
28 Jun 2001

**William Wormald** (1850-1924) **and his widow Anna** (1863-1933), who ran the Alameda guesthouse and hotel in Lawson from 1887 and in the twentieth century converted it into the Grand Hotel. (IV 13; Ang. B 1-2) (Refer Figure LA10)



**Figure LA 10**

Lawson Cemetery  
Headstone of Anna Margarita Wormald and William Challenger Wormald  
28 Jun 2001

**Harold Alston Bourne** (1874-1954), the principal property developer in Hazelbrook, who built and leased many holiday cottages. He donated Alston Park to the community and Ross Street is named after his son Ross (1926-1929) who is buried beside his parents. (IV 74; Meth. 9.4)

**Henry (Percy) Wilson** (d.1937), twelve times president of the Blue Mountains Shire Council in the 1920s and 1930s, after whom Wilson Way in Blaxland is named. (IV 35; Ang. G 1) (Refer Figure LA11)



**Figure LA 11**

Lawson Cemetery  
Grave of Percy Wilson  
28 June 2001

**William Moore** (1831-1911), a well-known homeopathic doctor, the author of numerous tracts on natural medicine and sexual health, who lived at Comara, 7 San Jose Avenue, Lawson, until his death in 1911. He was a dedicated Congregationalist, had assisted in the establishment of the local church and left his house to the church to be used by ministers. (IV 87; Meth. 12. 2-5) (Refer figure LA12)



**Figure LA 12**

Grave of William Moore, Fanny Eliza Moore, Eliza Taylor and Bessy Taylor  
28 June 2001

**Isobel Bowden** (1908-1986), of Woodford, daughter of a prominent national politician and herself a significant pioneer of conservation. As a school-teacher she had a forum to spread her views, published a number of interesting books (including *Linden to Woodford*, Katoomba 1963), collected local history and made important drawings of local flora. (IV 77; Meth. 9.24) (Refer Figure LA6)

There are also two people of state significance:

**Joseph Forde** (1840-1929), who lived at Hazelbrook, wrote a great deal of historical journalism in *The Truth*, which is still widely quarried today by local historians and heritage consultants in the Mitchell Library. (IV 79; Meth. 10.8)

**Henry Alfred James** (1850-1936) of Hazelbrook, who worked for the Department of Mines from 1883 until 1918, but is principally remembered as a botanist, a prominent member of the Linnean Society of New South Wales and the author of the *Handbook of Australian Horticulture*, published in 1911. He played a role in local matters as the secretary of the Queen Victoria Sanatorium at Wentworth Falls for over thirty years, from 1904 his death in 1936. (IV 33; Ang. F 11)

## 4 Assessment of Significance

### 4.1 State Heritage Office Criteria

To be assessed for listing on the State Heritage Register, an item will, in the opinion of the Heritage Council of NSW, meet one or more of the following criteria.

Criterion	Level of Significance
<p><b>4.1.1 Criterion (a): An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b></p> <p>Lawson Cemetery provides documentary evidence about the origins and nature of the local community over the past 100 years. The monuments are a direct record of the local area's population, including its origins and composition. The cemetery is the burial place of many local identities and business people. Some monuments include biographical details and the adjacent groupings of monuments often reflect family connections.</p>	Local
<p><b>4.1.2 Criterion (b): An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b></p> <p>Lawson Cemetery contains the graves and monuments of individuals from all classes and social levels, providing a complete cross-section of the society that has existed in the local area over the past 100 years. The monuments are also representative of the relatively modest economic circumstances of the local community at Lawson. There are no expensive or pretentious monuments. The cemetery monuments are representative of the beliefs and tastes of the local community.</p>	Local
<p><b>4.1.3 Criterion (c): An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area)</b></p> <p>The monuments and surrounds in the cemetery display the work of a range of local and non-local firms. They are of typical and standard monumental designs.</p>	Local
<p><b>4.1.4 Criterion (d): An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons</b></p> <p>The detailed transcripts compiled by the Blue Mountains Family History Group indicate that the cemetery has some contemporary community esteem and that there is interest in the preservation of the information recorded by the monuments in the cemetery.</p>	Local
<p><b>4.1.5 Criterion (e): An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</b></p> <p>Completion of further research, including more detailed family history may yield new insights into local relationships and historic and social</p>	Local

connections.

**4.1.6 Criterion (f): An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)**

The monuments and landscape of Lawson Cemetery are not rare, and do not qualify under this criterion.

**4.1.7 Criterion (g): An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's (or the local area's) cultural or natural places or environments**

Lawson Cemetery contains representative examples of the range of Local monumental masonry available over the past 100 years. The monuments chosen for the cemetery reflect the aspirations and economic circumstances of the local community.

**4.2 Summary Statement of Significance**

Lawson General Cemetery is a valuable component of the heritage of the City of Blue Mountains as it provides a direct historical record of the people of the Lawson district for over 100 years. It includes the burials of individuals prominent in the local area and also the burials of some more widely known individuals.

Lawson General Cemetery contains a representative range of twentieth century monument types. These monuments are important for their ability to demonstrate the craft skills and the attitudes of past generations. In this cemetery they also indicate fairly modest economic circumstances, since only standard styles and designs occur.

## **5 Constraints and Opportunities**

### **5.1 The Burra Charter**

References in parentheses refer to the relevant articles of the Burra Charter. Reference should be made to the copy of the Burra Charter in the Appendix 2 of Volume 1 of this report.

- 5.1.1 The cultural significance of the cemetery should be maintained. Provision should be made for its security, maintenance and future. (Article 2)
- 5.1.2 All conservation work should be based on respect for the extant fabric and should involve minimal intervention to existing fabric. (Article 3)
- 5.1.3 An appropriate visual setting for the cemetery should be maintained. No new construction or other development which detracts from the heritage value or context of the cemetery should occur. Environmental intrusions which will adversely affect the appreciation or enjoyment of the place should be excluded. (Article 8)
- 5.1.4 All fabric within the cemetery should remain in its historical location. Relocation of fabric should not occur unless moving it is the sole means of ensuring its survival. Any fabric removed under these circumstances should be returned to its correct location if changed circumstances make this feasible (Article 9 and Article 10)
- 5.1.5 All features of the existing cemetery should be taken into consideration. Fabric from all periods should be recognised as contributing to the significance of the cemetery. (Article 16)
- 5.1.6 Where appropriate, reconstruction should be limited to the reproduction of fabric the form of which is known from physical and/or documentary evidence. (Article 19)
- 5.1.7 Any major work on a cemetery should be preceded by a detailed study or plan. Existing fabric should be recorded prior to disturbance. (Article 23)
- 5.1.8 Disturbance of fabric should only occur to provide evidence needed to make decisions on the conservation of the cemetery. (Article 24)
- 5.1.9 The process of decision making and individuals responsible should be identified. (Article 26)
- 5.1.10 Appropriate professional direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages of the work. (Article 27)
- 5.1.11 Records should be kept of new evidence and subsequent decisions. (Articles 25 and 27)
- 5.1.12 Copies of all reports and records should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly accessible. (Article 28).

### **5.2 Constraints arising from the Statement of Significance**

- 5.2.1 Lawson Cemetery should be conserved in accordance with established conservation principles.
- 5.2.2 All cemetery monuments should be retained and conserved.
- 5.2.3 All grave surrounds should be retained and conserved.

5.2.4 Monument layout and orientation should not be altered.

### **5.3 Zoning**

The site is zoned Special Uses A which is appropriate to its use as a cemetery.

### **5.4 Condition**

Most monuments in the cemetery are in fair condition. Some monuments show evidence of older repair works.

### **5.5 Maintenance Needs**

#### **5.5.1 Monuments**

No monuments in the cemetery require urgent conservation work.

#### **5.5.2 Landscaping**

Aesthetically this site has little appeal and the setting of the cemetery could be enhanced. There is potential for a new landscaping plan which would give the cemetery a more amenable character.

### **5.6 Future Burials**

Adequate space exists for future burials including the entire area originally reserved for future expansion. The Roman Catholic, Anglican and Independent sections have been most heavily used but part of the original burial area to the east in the Roman Catholic and Independent sections has yet to be cleared.

### **5.7 Community Values and Desires**

The local community places value on Lawson Cemetery as the burial place of its forebears including a number of people of high importance. However, there are legitimate concerns expressed by the Mid-Mountains Historical Society that the cemetery lacks any real character suitable for quiet contemplation and that there is a lack of shelter at the site.

### **5.8 Location and Neighbourhood**

The cemetery is located on the outskirts of the town. It is in primarily residential neighbourhood, with boundaries to the local golf course and neighbouring bushland of South Lawson Park.

### **5.9 Access and Parking**

The site has good access from Wilson Road with adequate parking available at the end of the central driveway or on Wilson Road.

## **6 Conservation Policies**

These policies should be read in conjunction with Section G6 of the Conservation Management Plan. The policies in Section G6 provide general guidance. Policies specific to Lawson Cemetery are contained within this section.

Specific policies are given in italics. Additional notes are given in normal type.

### **6.1 General**

*Lawson Cemetery should be conserved in accordance with the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS and other appropriate guidelines including those published by the National Trust and the Heritage Council of NSW.*

Lawson Cemetery is an item of environmental heritage for the local area, and continues to provide an essential public service for the surrounding community. The cemetery has local historic and social value for current and future generations.

### **6.2 Layout**

*Maintain the existing layout of the cemetery and divisions into sections.*

*Maintain the existing perimeter reserve of native bushland to the north, east and south of the cemetery...*

*Allow for expansion of the cemetery into the land reserved to the south.*

Most of the sections of the cemetery have more than adequate room for burials for some time with perhaps the Church of England and Independent sections with the highest percentage of area used at present. There is still a large area at the east end of the Roman Catholic section which has not been cleared and is presently in part occupied by the driveway turning circle.

Should any of the sections need to expand in the future, there is additional space reserved on the south side of the cemetery specifically for this purpose. It is important in any expansion of the cleared area that the perimeter of bushland is maintained to ensure the setting of the cemetery is kept.

### **6.3 Planting**

#### **6.3.1 General**

*Prepare a landscape master plan which:*

- *highlights traditional design elements of the cemetery;*
- *conserves the perimeter reserve of native bushland;*
- *provides appropriate plantings on the street boundary; and*
- *provides a unifying theme to the cemetery.*

*Use plantings which are known to be native to the area or have been previously planted in the cemetery. Consider the use of the Casuarina species from the Anglican section of Springwood Cemetery.*

The general character of the cemetery is not attractive. The cemetery plantings are struggling and lack a cohesive theme. A more sympathetic landscape treatment which emphasises the elements of the older design such as the main drive should be initiated. It should also provide some softening to the street boundary.

The present boundaries of the cemetery should be maintained, and an appropriate visual buffer formed by vegetation should be retained around the site. The existing native vegetation surrounding the cemetery should be conserved.

New plantings should only be introduced if they are endemic native species already present in the cemetery and its environs, or are known (from further research) to have been previously planted in the cemetery. An exception would be the *Casuarina* species used in the Anglican section of Springwood Cemetery. The current ad hoc approach to plantings should be discontinued.

Recent elements and additions are mediocre. A more sympathetic approach might improve these aspects.

### **6.3.2 Trees**

*Reinforce the drive plantings and street boundary plantings. Consider the use of*

- *the same species chosen for the existing street boundary planting;*
- *eucalypts of the same species as currently established in the cemetery;*
- *conifers with proven success in the area; or*
- *the casuarina sp. in the Anglican section of Springwood Cemetery;*

*to provide the cemetery with a unifying design element.*

There is a need to plant trees more tolerant of the soil conditions of the cemetery. Consider replacing the street front plantings with one species such as a conifer with proven success in this area or one that may be suitable such as Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*) or Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*). A suitable alternative native species would be the *Casuarina* sp. growing in Springwood Cemetery.

### **6.3.3 Grave Plantings**

*Restrict grave plantings to low scale bulbs, ground covers, grasses and shrubs which will not destabilize monuments.*

*Cut and poison grave plantings which are unsuitable and have the potential to destabilise monuments.*

Grave plantings must be restricted to a small scale creepers and shrubs to ensure they do not cause damage to the associated or nearby graves. Larger plants also tend to obscure adjacent graves. Existing inappropriate plantings should be removed before they cause further damage. This should be by cut and poison methods rather than attempting to remove root systems as this might also dislodge monuments.

Some plantings which have been placed too close to monuments, such as near the grave of Irma Scherer. These need to be removed before they cause further damage.

### **6.3.4 Grasses**

*Plant and encourage the regeneration of native grasses within the cemetery.*

The use of native grasses adds to the general character of the cemetery. It is also beneficial in reducing maintenance requirements.

### **6.3.5 Weeds**

*Follow the policies for control of weeds in section G of this report.*

Lawson Cemetery has little evidence of invasive weeds at present. General control methods given in the General Analysis and Policies section of this report should be followed.

## **6.4 Maintenance**

*Maintenance of the cemetery should generally follow the policies of Section 1 of this report.*

The current maintenance regime (mowing, etc) is acceptable at this site.

## **6.5 Fencing**

*Provide traditional fencing along the Wilson Street boundary of the site such as post and rail or post, rail and wire mesh fencing.*

*Provide perimeter fencing to clearly demarcate the external north, east and south boundaries of the site.*

New fencing should be installed to replaced the unattractive street fencing. Fencing should be of a more traditional design. All of the site boundaries should be securely fenced to provide clear demarcation of the cemetery area.

## **6.6 New Elements**

### **6.6.1 General**

*Allow the introduction of new elements where they are carefully designed so they do not intrude on the general character of the cemetery.*

New elements may be introduced into the cemetery if required, for example a new shelter shed or columbaria. Consideration should be given to design and siting of any new elements so that they do not become intrusive (eg use of screen planting, not positioned close to old burial areas, etc).

### **6.6.2 Columbaria**

*Refer to the policies in Section G of this report*

### **6.6.3 Minimum Maintenance Sections**

*Allow the provision of a minimum maintenance section in the previously unused area at the south of the cemetery.*

*Any minimum maintenance section should be screened from the main section of the cemetery by maintaining a reserve of native bushland or by a new screen of appropriate plantings.*

The south area of the cemetery was originally reserved for future expansion of the cemetery. If it is desired to create a minimum maintenance section, this would be an appropriate location for it. Any minimum maintenance area should be screened from the traditional burial area to ensure the character of the traditional burial area is conserved.

### **6.6.4 New Buildings**

*Allow the construction of a new shelter and amenities building at the cemetery. Any new building should be carefully designed and located so it does not intrude on the general character of the cemetery.*

The need for a shelter and amenities building at Lawson Cemetery has been noted by local residents. Such a building could be constructed providing it is carefully designed and located. It could be designed as an entry building where it could be combined with signage and interpretive information.

### **6.6.5 Memorial Gardens**

*Allow the development of memorial gardens in the previously unused south section of the cemetery.*

*Any new memorial garden should be carefully designed to*

- *conserve the perimeter bushland; and*
- *use native plant species which are endemic to the area.*

The creation of a memorial garden is an attractive way of providing for the internment of ashes. A memorial garden at Lawson cemetery could be created within the bushland at the south of the cemetery in the area which was originally reserved for the expansion of the cemetery.

Maintaining the perimeter bushland and using native plant species will help to ensure a memorial garden does not detract from the setting of the cemetery.

### **SP6.16 Signage**

*Include on signage at the entry the following information:*

- *Lawson Cemetery*
- *Plan showing sections of cemetery*
- *A request not to damage the monuments*
- *A telephone number for the relevant contact personnel at the Blue Mountains City Council*

*Maintain signs indicating the various sections of the cemetery*

*Provide and maintain simple row markers of an appropriate design.*

### **6.7 Uses**

*The site should continue to be used as an open cemetery.*

The significance of the site is in its use as a cemetery and this use should not change.

### **6.8 Interpretation**

*Interpretation should generally follow the policies of Section G of this report.*

Interpretation other than the policies of the General Analysis and Policies section of this report is not necessary at this site.

### **6.9 Access and Parking**

*Continue access to the cemetery from Wilson Street.*

*Encourage parking on Wilson Street.*

The present access to the cemetery works well. Parking is available on Wilson Street and at the end of the central driveway. The present turning circle at the end of the central drive could disrupt future growth of the Roman Catholic section to the east. Rather than encouraging this as a permanent parking/turning circle area, parking on Wilson Street should be encouraged.

### **6.10 Vandalism**

*Encourage local residents to assist with monitoring activity at the cemetery.*

*Include a request not to damage monuments on the sign for the site.*

*Maintain views between the cemetery and the golf course.*

The cemetery does not appear to be subject to much vandalism.

The site is regularly maintained, and it is known that a 'cared-for' appearance assists in discouraging vandals. The cemetery is also in an area close to community facilities (golf club) and residential areas, which probably provides some measure of surveillance of the site.

Any new interpretative sign could include a request not to damage the site and might also suggest that it is regularly patrolled.

Local residents might also be asked to assist with the monitoring of activity at the cemetery site, and should be encouraged to report any untoward activity. This could be requested in a letter-box drop to the property owners in the adjacent streets.

**SP6.17 Statutory Protection**

*Endorse the zoning of Lawson Cemetery as Special Uses – Cemeteries under Draft LEP 2002.*

*Include Lawson Cemetery as a heritage item on the heritage schedule of Draft LEP 2002.*