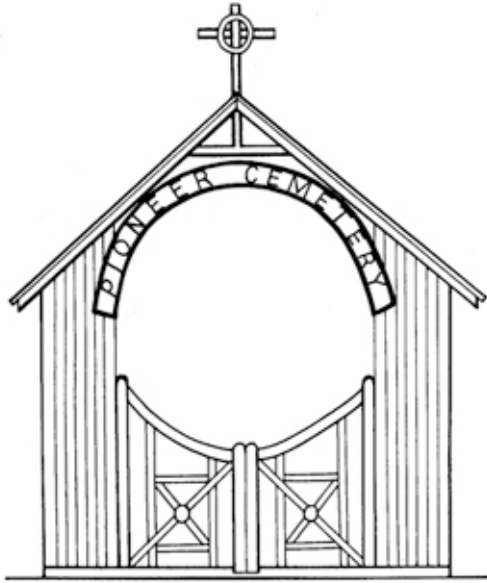# ALBURY PIONEER CEMETERY

Compiled by Helen Livsey and members of the Publications and Research sub-committee of A&DHS Inc, 1987.

The lychgate was erected by the Albury & District Historical Society in 1987. It is on the site of an earlier structure.

A lychgate was a roofed gateway to a churchyard. The word means "corpse-gate" and was where the funeral procession paused while part of the burial service was read.

BACKGROUND

The first Albury cemetery used by Europeans was in South Albury. In February 1858 the Catholic Archbishop, John Bede Polding, laid the foundation stone of the first Catholic Church. "The Archbishop next proceeded to the suburbs for the purpose of consecrating the burial ground."

In 1860 the remains of Dr Crichton were re-interred from South Albury. In 1862, after the Council requested relatives to decently remove remains to the new cemetery, Thomas Allen, undertaker, advertised that he was prepared to re-inter relatives and friends "at charges very moderate."

Other undertakers who have worked here over the years include J H Kirkpatrick, Field & Maitland, W J "Coffin" Jones, J Adams, F A Selle, W Haslem, Frew & Logan, James T Swain, James Nelson, McCullough & Dunstan, Trappold & Lester, J Birnie, and Lester & Son - most of whom were also builders.

Stonemasonry in this cemetery was the work of local artisans A D Livie, Dickson & Son, Bennett Bros, U Wartzelhan, Thos Molloy, Barklamb Bros, Ballantyne & Greenfield, Emil Fornasiero, W A Duell, A Bellina, and V Brosolo. Other memorials were made in Melbourne, Sandhurst and Goulburn.

Some of the ironwork is locally made, notably by John L McEachern and L Schneider, blacksmiths. J P Laughton made wrought and cast iron grave railings. Examples from the Etna foundry in Scotland have mostly lost their inscriptions.

This is truly a graveyard for people of all nations. They came from many countries including England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales; France, Germany, the Ukraine and Latvia; Syria, India and China, as well as from Australia. The plan on the last page shows that the pioneer cemetery is divided into four sections. The tour for each quarter starts on the main north south aisle.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND
South West Quarter

To the left of the lychgate in the Church of England section is a memorial to Henry Alfred Brooks, a former Town Clerk of Albury. He had been a "fearless and independent" editor of the *Border Post*, and later the *Albury Banner*, of which he was part proprietor.

To the north and five rows back a low red stone marks the grave of Rev Henry Elliott, the first resident Church of England minister for Albury and district. He served for eight years until his death on April 14, 1858 (not February as his tombstone shows). His son was the local Clerk of Petty Sessions for 15 years to 1872.

On the main aisle the tall monument of polished Aberdeen granite over the grave of John Iliffe was erected by his friends who recognised the noble service he had rendered to the community. Just prior to his death he was considered to "be feeling so well that he set about distributing certain bequests which he had originally intended to come into effect after his death."

Mr Iliffe was a horse breeder who owned good racehorses and a property at Mountain Creek. He was known around the mining areas and was involved in the Buckland riots where he defended the Chinese miners. His generosity was shown in very

large donations to the Melbourne and Albury hospitals when they were facing severe financial difficulties.

Englehardt Street in Albury takes its name from Charles Englehardt who had a butcher shop in Townsend Street, and his son, Charles, who was well known in foot racing circles. After the death of Charles senior, Mrs Englehardt married Mr George Costin.

The two wives of James Wyse, Barbara and Elizabeth, are buried slightly to the west. James is buried at Howlong.

The Mudge family is remembered mainly through Samuel Mudge, the Albury Town Clerk, who grew two trees on the footpath of his home in Olive Street. In the belief that they would be the only street trees to be planted he called them Alpha and Omega - the first and the last. Samuel's wife was Mary McMeekin of Maryvale, Table Top. In 1910 Samuel's son, S F Mudge, invented and patented an adjustable tyre for vehicle wheels.

James Singleton, Superintendant of Police, was in the force for more than thirty years. Before coming to Albury he was a detective in Sydney. His funeral was a most impressive affair. His police sword and helmet were on his coffin which was covered in flowers. The Superintendant's horse, led by two dismounted troopers, had the boots reversed in the stirrups in orthodox military funeral order.

The funeral created so much interest among the school boys of the town that the *Border Post* one week later carried an article strongly condemning the practice of children being anywhere near the cemetery during a funeral. "On every ground of public decency it appears to us highly indecorous to allow a mob of youngsters to congregate at such a place."

There is a flat stone over the tomb of William N M Edmondson, twice Mayor of Albury. He was manager of T H Mate's store for 25 years. He established the retail firm of Edmondson & Parker, before becoming a tea merchant. He blended teas and sold them within a 150 mile radius of Albury.

Thomas Harvey Stone was the Albury Postmaster for 26 years. During his term the post office moved to the premises at the, corner of Dean and Olive Streets previously used as a Telegraph Office. Apparently government money was in short supply to Albury, as Mr Stone appealed for subscriptions for furniture.

John Dight was one of the earliest to reside in this area, having taken up Bungowannah Station in 1837.

Turn left past the grave of Martha and Charles Hall Smith to the Celtic Cross of James Bell.

South of the main east west path a red stone stands over the Lamport family plot. W E Lamport was Mayor in 1882.

West of and in line with Lamport's is a tall red memorial to William Carkeek who had been a hotelkeeper at Tallangatta, Albury and Wodonga.

Red polished stones also top the graves of John and Elizabeth Hore. They had no children but brought many relatives from the Hore and Waite families to run the numerous properties which John acquired. Some of these were Cumberoona, Mugwee, Bowna, Wagra, Bungil, Talgarno and Bethanga.

Elizabeth Mitchell, "the Mother of Albury," was the Australian born daughter of Gabriel Huon, a Breton noble refugee from the French Revolution who joined the NSW Corps, and Louisa Le Sage, a French speaking convict. Married before she was 15 to William Mitchell, a retired Army Officer (born Albury, Surrey), Elizabeth had 4 sons and 6 daughters who reached adulthood. In 1837 she acquired the Mungabareena run which included the site of Albury. She sent Thomas, her eldest son, ahead and arrived herself from Bungonia in 1842. A notable contribution to the community was her provision of a site for Doctor Crichton at Doctor's Point. Emma, her eldest daughter, had married Francis Hume, Hamilton's brother, in 1830. Other daughters married prominent local landholders. One was John Dight, buried on the main aisle. Others were Eliot and Ancrum Heriot and William Steele. Near Elizabeth is buried Edward, her second son.

South of here lies Charles Lucas Griffith and his wife, and James Hodge, the mayor of 1897. William Frew and his children are recorded and Granville and Murray Collins who married Amelia and Clara Stuckey.

To the west is a stone commemorating John Delappe Lankester who came to Albury on a five year contract to manage J T Fallon's Murray Valley Vineyard. He later managed the Ettamogah Vineyard and established his own property, "Emu Park," nearby. He was recognised as an expert judge of wines and retired at the age of 83.

Still walking south we come to the memorial to Frederick August Selle who had established a thriving business in Albury before going to Germany to buy machinery. He died on the voyage and was buried at sea.

The tomb of Canon Alfred Acocks breaks the east west pathway. He was for 17 years Vicar of St Matthew's Church of England, where his epitaph shows that he was "an earnest and zealous pastor to whose untiring labors are due the erection of this and four outlying churches."

Travelling east along the path the grey memorial to Robert Rand rises on our left. He owned the adjoining properties of Mohonga and Urangeline, a total of 177,000 acres. His pleasure in life was his fine property and the income it earned. He paid £30,000 in cash for Urangeline in 1864, and was known to be shrewd, but honest and upright in dealing with people.

From here the memorial to Dr Crichton can be seen. He died in 1847 and was buried at the old cemetery in South Albury. His remains were moved in 1860. The monument was erected at the instigation of another medical man, Dr Owen, who came here years after Dr Crichton's death.

Dr Owen himself was a colourful character who involved himself in politics and public speaking as much as in his chosen profession. A memorial to him was erected nearby by Dr Crichton's brothers.

Between here and the south fence-line are memorials to David Bowen Jones of Bonegilla station who died in 1859, and Dr Barnett's first wife, Katherine, who was the daughter of Capt Brownrigg, police magistrate.

The Wilkinson family tree is recorded on a large plot, although Dr Henry Wilkinson is buried at Sale and his son, Charles, is buried in Sydney. Colonel John Wilkinson was the founder of the legal firm Wilkinson, Twomey & Kell.

Further to the west is a flat stone over the grave of Edith, the first wife of Dr Arthur Andrews and also two of the children of his second marriage.

CATHOLIC
North West Quarter

The memorial to J T Fallon, Albury's first mayor, is in the centre of the cemetery and looks along the street which bears his name.

To the north and within a few rows of the main path can be seen many headstones for German families, with a sprinkling of Irish. The first vignerons to arrive in Albury were Schubach, Rau and Frauenfelder in 1851. Soon a large number of their countrymen, mostly Catholics, arrived, some names here being Adams, Brumm, Dallinger, Dick, Eck, Gabel, Gehrig, Godde, Kolb, Merkel, Reis, Strauss and Zellar.

Further along the main aisle is an unusual memorial to Samuel and Bridget Bowler of Ten Mile Creek. John Purtell had named the run in 1837 as it was ten miles from Father Therry's Yarra stockyard. In 1876 Samuel Bowler changed the name to Annandale.

Turn left past the Bowler grave to an immense monument which covers the grave of Richard Box of Barwidgee, and his daughter, Sarah. She was 12 years old when she died and the children from the Convent school attended her funeral. The girls wore white dresses and veils and the boys had white bands attached to their caps.

To the west of the large Ryan family plot is an obelisk recording the name of James Day. He was born the year the future site of Albury was discovered and he devoted a great deal of his life to its progress. He was a mayor and a magistrate. His brother, George, also an Albury mayor and a member of the Legislative Assembly, is buried in Sydney.

To the right lies Dr Keatinge, a kindly and jovial man who practised here from 1847 for nearly 30 years.

An ornate monument stands for Kenneth McLennan, mayor and proprietor of a Dean Street drapery business. His other interests of gold mining and beer brewing proved unprofitable.

Going north on the wide pathway we pass Brothers Peter Gaynor and Malachy Dwyer, members of the Patrician order, who came to teach at the Catholic Boys' school. Brother Peter died shortly after arriving from India in delicate health, and Brother Malachy drowned in the river on a warm day in February.

Further north is a monument to Charles W and Frederick, Blacklock, pioneers of cycle and motor transport in this area. An additional tablet was "Erected in loving memory of F C Blacklock by his staff."

W J "Coffin" Jones supervised many burials in this very cemetery. He was a mayor, builder and undertaker and conducted a furniture store at the south west corner of Dean and Townsend Streets.

Seven spaces north is the tomb of Leonce Frere who was brought to Australia in 1874 to make champagne for J T Fallon. The venture was not a total success and the Frere family established a vineyard at St Hilaire.

Turning left past the Joseph Adams graves we can see those of the Flood Nagle family, well remembered in legal circles.

Three rows west near the east west pathway a flat stone records the name of Joseph Gehrig, one of three men killed at the Hume Weir in 1921.

A short walk south will reveal graves of the Hore family who had country properties, and the Corrigan family of Mullengandra.

To the south west the tallest grey monument carries the names of John and Sarah Daly of Mullengandra, where he farmed for about fifty years. The bell at St Patrick's Church was erected in his memory. His brother, Owen is buried nearby.

Over against the western fence lies Ben Pelin, "the Good Samaritan of Smollett Street," where he ran the Wanderers Club. To the north is a section of babies' graves.

Much further south an additional Catholic area near the Church of England section (just behind Elizabeth Mitchell's obelisk) has headstones for the Layton and Driscoll families. James Layton built the Advance Australia Hotel in 1857 and Daniel Driscoll built the Bridge Hotel in 1873. There are also memorials to the Watson family who had brickworks in South Albury.

Returning to the main north south aisle we pass memorials to the Waterstreet, Schmiedt, Field and Ryan families, all of whom have been known as hotelkeepers.

PRESBYTERIAN
South East Quarter

The round monument commemorates William McIntosh who resided on Howlong Road at the Mayfield Estate which was bought in 1878 by his father, James, who is buried further along the main path.

To the rear is a memorial to Robert Mason Wilkinson, who was born in Yackandandah. He learnt the coach building trade and later operated his own grocery and drapery business. He served three terms as mayor, and was treasurer of the Municipal Council until his death at the age of 44.
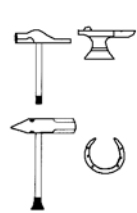
John Morell Blackie was a chemist and the eldest son of John Blackie, founder of Blackie's Pharmacy, who is buried nearby. Blackie House at Albury Base Hospital was built with a bequest from another son, Robert, also a chemist.

Peter Bell Munro was an accountant and active member of St David's Presbyterian Church, where the pipe organ was installed in his memory.

Thomas Affleck, proprietor of the *Border Post* for over 30 years was involved in silk production at his Glenmorus Farm in the 1870's. One of his daughters, Annie, was the first wife of John L McEachern, Albury's blacksmith for 54 years.

Turning in past the headstone of James McIntosh which faces east, a walk in a northerly direction passes a large plot of McEachern graves with a railing made by John L McEachern.

Opposite is the tomb of John Dickson, formerly of Woomargama (Dickson's Swamp). He enjoyed only a short reign of five months as a brewer in Dean Street, Albury until his death in 1861.

A little to the north is the grave of John L McEachern who had a benevolent nature and attended every funeral, occupying the last position until it was his turn to be first. When his father, John, also a blacksmith, died, John L made the miniature tools which surround the grave. He was later interred there himself.

Five spaces north of the pathway is a memorial to Alexander Dalgarno Livie. He ran a monumental masonry business at the rear of the Banner Office in Dean Street before moving to Wodonga Place, where he died in 1880. He prepared an elegant memorial for his wife, but it does not record who immortalized Mr Livie.

Return to the path and travel east to where lies Henry Hague, the headmaster of Black Range (later Lavington) Public School for about 30 years.

Walking north, the crest of Albury Grammar School (later Scots) adorns the tomb of G B Wilson, known as "Sir Wilson" to his students from 1885 until his retirement in 1928.

Inez Kersley, 26 year old daughter of the police sergeant, passed away a few days before she was to be married. She was buried in her wedding gown.

The imposing black Pfeifer/Sutherland memorial can be better viewed from the other side.

Robert Drummond was born in Scotland and spent some time in the Western District of Victoria before acquiring the Talgarno Station.

To the west over the grave of John Sutherland Brown is a memorial erected by the NSW Government. Mr Brown was a warder at the Cootamundra gaol where he was murderously assaulted by a Chinese man with an axe and a cross cut saw. John Brown's wife was Emily Lester of Bungowannah and many of her relatives are commemorated in this cemetery.

Peter Sutherland of Thologolong Station and his wife, Ina, were famous in the cattle world, he for pure bred Angus cattle and she for cherishing the first Murray Grey calves in existence.
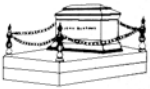
METHODIST
South East Quarter

The imposing monument to the Abikhair family is on the western edge of the Methodist section. Saad Milham Abikhair was one of the earliest Lebanese migrants to Albury. He arrived in the 1880's and later ran a retail store in partnership with his cousin, Betro. Betro built the Regent Theatre and the Australian Buildings opposite, and Saad founded the S M Abikhair store.

At the north eastern corner of the section lies Dudley Gordon Padman, Albury's wartime mayor. He served Albury City Council for 23 years, seven of them as mayor, before commencing a parliamentary career spanning eighteen years.

Follow the path south until you see a small stone which records the name of Elsie Spargo who died the day after her eleventh birthday. She was walking in Olive Street past a building known as the old biscuit factory at the height of a cyclonic storm. Several hundred bricks and a portion of the roof fell on to the child who died at Sister Walsh's hospital opposite.

From here can be seen the memorial to John Burrows. He operated flour mills at Wangaratta, Chiltern, Beechworth, Barnawartha and the Hume Mills at Albury. In 1946 the Albury Mill was bought by Bunge (Aust) P/L.

West of, and in line with John Burrows are buried Robert and Elizabeth Brown, early residents of South Albury after whom Brown's Lagoon is named. Albury's first settler, also Robert Brown, and his wife, Anne, are buried at Mulwala.

Stephen and George Butt and families were brought out by John Macarthur in 1837 to work for him for three years after which they took up land, Stephen in Young and George in Albury. They and many of George's descendants are buried in this cemetery, including Samuel, the son of George.

On the western edge of this section a monument to Hugh Moffitt's family can be found. He had a retail store at Victoria House, Kiewa Street, south of Dean. His wife, Rebecca, laid the foundation stone in 1865 for the Wesley Church at the corner of Olive and Swift Streets.

In the Presbyterian section to the west is a small stone in memory of William Wakeford, aged 17. He and two co-workers died at the Hume Weir construction site in 1921. Their deaths were caused by an explosion of blasting powder which had misfired some days previously.

North East Quarter

The Congregational section starts at the grave of Amy Elizabeth, wife of Alfred Gale.

Under a flat stone lies John Hands Paine who was the Town Clerk of Albury for 22 years to 1902.

J G Batstone was the proprietor of Batstone's Furniture Arcade in Olive Street, which later became Horan's.

Luke Gulson, a councillor for 27 years, served one term as mayor. He opened the Albury Pottery Works in David Street. "Lacking the advantages of early educational training he set himself, late in life, to make good his deficiency, and he succeeded entirely."

John Box was the youngest son of Joseph Box, an early settler of Lavington. John died in a rifle accident as he was going to shoot rabbits at "Ivy Flat" near his home.

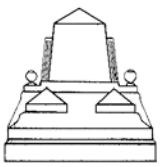Hugh McCutcheon was the proprietor of the Railway Refreshment Rooms at the turn of the century.

Beyond this we pass a small Seventh Day Adventist section and the Congregational resumes with the grave of George and Hannah Hunter. At the northern corner of the section a cross tops the monument to George Arthur Thompson, who was the son of a stock and share broker, with whom he worked for fourteen years. He married the youngest daughter of T H Mate and managed the firm for his father-in-law. In 1888 the staff made a presentation to Mr Mate and Mr Thompson in appreciation for granting a half holiday every Saturday.

Twelve spaces north in an additional Church of England section is Claude Lillyman, a chemist and druggist, who had a shop in Dean Street.

Next is Dr Hans Muller who died in 1912. He came from Germany and practised in Albury for about 15 years. He was an active member of the local German Club.

George "Banner" Adams bought the *Albury Banner* from its founder, Samuel Fry Blackmore, and built Adamshurst in David Street. A memorial to his first wife, Mary Ann (nee Sunderland) is near the lychgate. His second wife, Margaret (nee Blakely) and members of her family are buried near Mr Adams.

A little north of here the tall red memorial is for James Mitchell, who had played with Woradgery aborigines, as did his brother, John, who wrote a dictionary of their language. James went to King's School, Parramatta, 570 kilometres away. In 1859 his mother, Elizabeth, installed him at Table Top where, for 55 years, he achieved great success with cattle, sheep and horses, and an outstanding reputation, not least for his generosity. He was a benefactor of Albury Hospital and St Matthew's Church. His friend, Canon Frederick Bevan, rector there for 21 years, is buried nearby. James married his cousin, Sarah Huon, who lived on at Table Top after his death, undertaking long and adventurous car journeys till she was eighty.

Walking along the eastern path we find a memorial to Alfred Selle, whose family operated a business covering three acres in the block bounded by Dean, Olive, Smollett and Kiewa Streets. Their interests included coach building, cabinetmaking, building and undertaking. Alfred's father, Mr F A Selle built The Carriageway in Smollett Street, which carries a National Trust classification.

The memorial to Lionel Griffith and his wife is a reminder of the Griffith family, of Welsh origin, but who had lived for several generations in Northern Ireland. They became well known in the Albury district when in 1878 Charles Lucas Griffith founded the famous stock agency of C L Griffith and Co. He was joined in 1884 by his brother, Thomas Hunter. The firm was famous throughout Australia for the holding of a record special cattle sale by one firm in one day with a record number of stock bought by one buyer. The agency was bought by Dalgety's in the 1920's.

A sad feature to the north east is the statue of a young child at the grave of the Skerry children. Further to the east we pass a group of babies' graves.

Near the Waite memorial, which is surmounted by a tall cross are the graves of the Wightwick and Nottage families who were hotelkeepers in Albury. There is also a headstone for Jack Lamb who was killed by lightning in 1927.

To the south is the Chinese section where there are a few headstones, but only one has me name written in English. It was the wish of all Chinese to be buried in China and in 1891 the bones of 22 people were disinterred from here and sent to their homeland. It was the custom at Chinese funerals to distribute to each guest a lolly to sweeten the gods and a silver coin to buy the way into heaven.

As a general guide the centre row of writing on a Chinese headstone tells the status of the person; the right column tells the year of the Emperor's reign as the date of death; the left column is the lucky day on which the memorial was erected, as everything was done on special days.

To the south east are two hundred babies' graves. One of these is for Rudiger Wieloch who was born in Hamburg in 1957 and died at Bonegilla in 1958.

South of the Chinese section are graves of members of the Baptist Church which started in Albury in 1925. Walk west past the flat stone of Allan Shipard then go south along the major path past the Passant graves.

To the right is a section for those denominations which have no area allotted to them. There is a headstone for J S Parr of the 33rd Battalion and for Pier Bux from India, who was 88.

The Jewish section is to the east with headstones in memory of children of Lewis Jones and Lewis Solomon, businessmen who served terms as mayor. There is also a memorial to Rosa Salmon, daughter of jeweller Wolf Cohen and his wife, and to Belle Blasbalk, whose husband was also a jeweller.

When the main east west pathway is reached near the Drummond memorial, walk east to the fence line. The three rows of graves nearest the fence to the north form the Salvation Army area. Retrace your steps to the Trinity Lutheran section which shows predominantly post World War 2 dates.

Go west past the Jewish section to St Luke's Lutheran where headstones can be seen for the Pastors Rev Appelt and Rev Nickel.
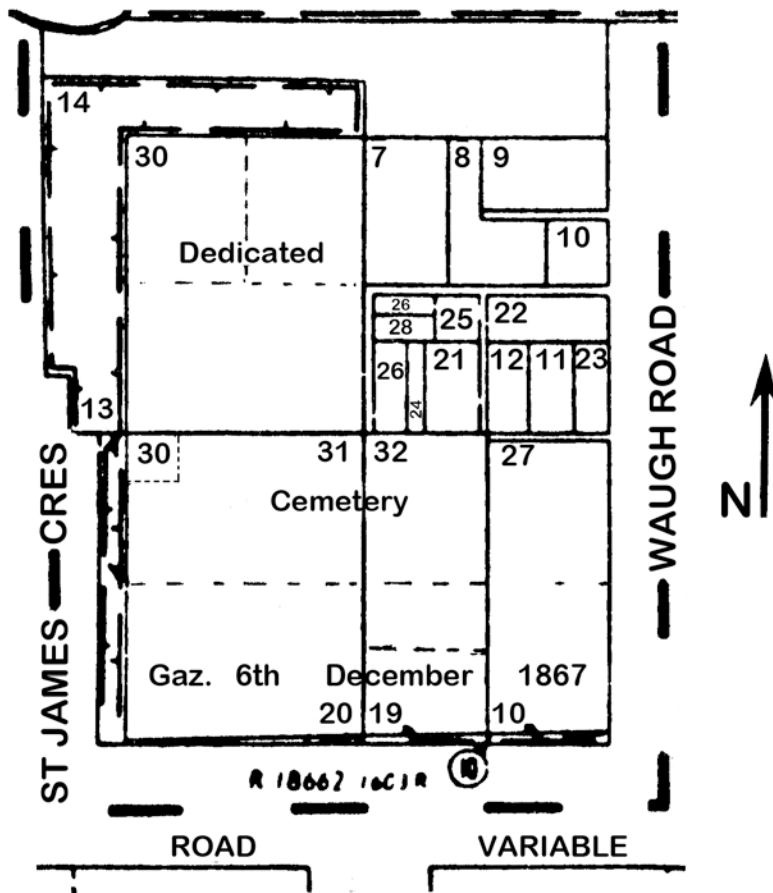
Space allows for only a selection of names from each section, but those not included are no less important.

Illustrator: Elizabeth Bulle.

Donor: V Brosolo, Monumental Mason of 921 Mate Street, Albury. Phone 6025 7077.

Further information on local history is available in the History Room, Albury LibraryMuseum.

CEMETERY PLAN

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