



ABOUT THIS SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Mining is by nature a hazardous occupation and Broken Hill Cemetery contains the graves of a number of miners who died during accidents and disasters in the mines.

The *'We are the Miners'* tour takes you through to some of the burial sites of miners as well as the leading activists who fought for better working conditions for miners.

From the beginnings of mining where safety was regarded as a personal matter, trace your way through the history of mining in Broken Hill. Learn about Percival Brookfield – an early socialist who fought for miner's rights and uncover the mining disasters of the past.

Other tours in this series include: 'Broken Hill – Our People' and 'Broken Hill – Our City'.



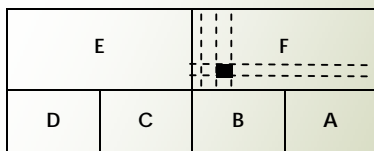
LOCATING A GRAVE

In order to locate a specific grave, it is important to understand the layout of the cemetery.

Broken Hill Cemetery is broken into a number of sections based on religious denominations, such as Independent, Catholic, Jewish or General. Each section is then divided into blocks (eg. A, B or C) and each grave has a row and grave number (note that some graves do not have a row number).

For example, the location of the grave Independent F: Row 2 Grave 3 is as follows:

INDEPENDENT SECTION



MORE INFORMATION

Broken Hill City Council

Administrative Centre

Cnr Blende and Sulphide Street

Opening Hours: 8am – 5pm (Mon – Fri)

Phone: (08) 8080 2290

Emergency Only: 0409 785 423

Broken Hill City Library

A wide range of resources are available for the family history researcher at the library.

Blende Street

Phone: (08) 8088 3317 for opening hours

Email: admin@bhlibrary.org.au

Broken Hill Cemetery is a very special place for the people of Broken Hill. All visitors are requested to observe all signs and directions and respect the rights and needs of other visitors.

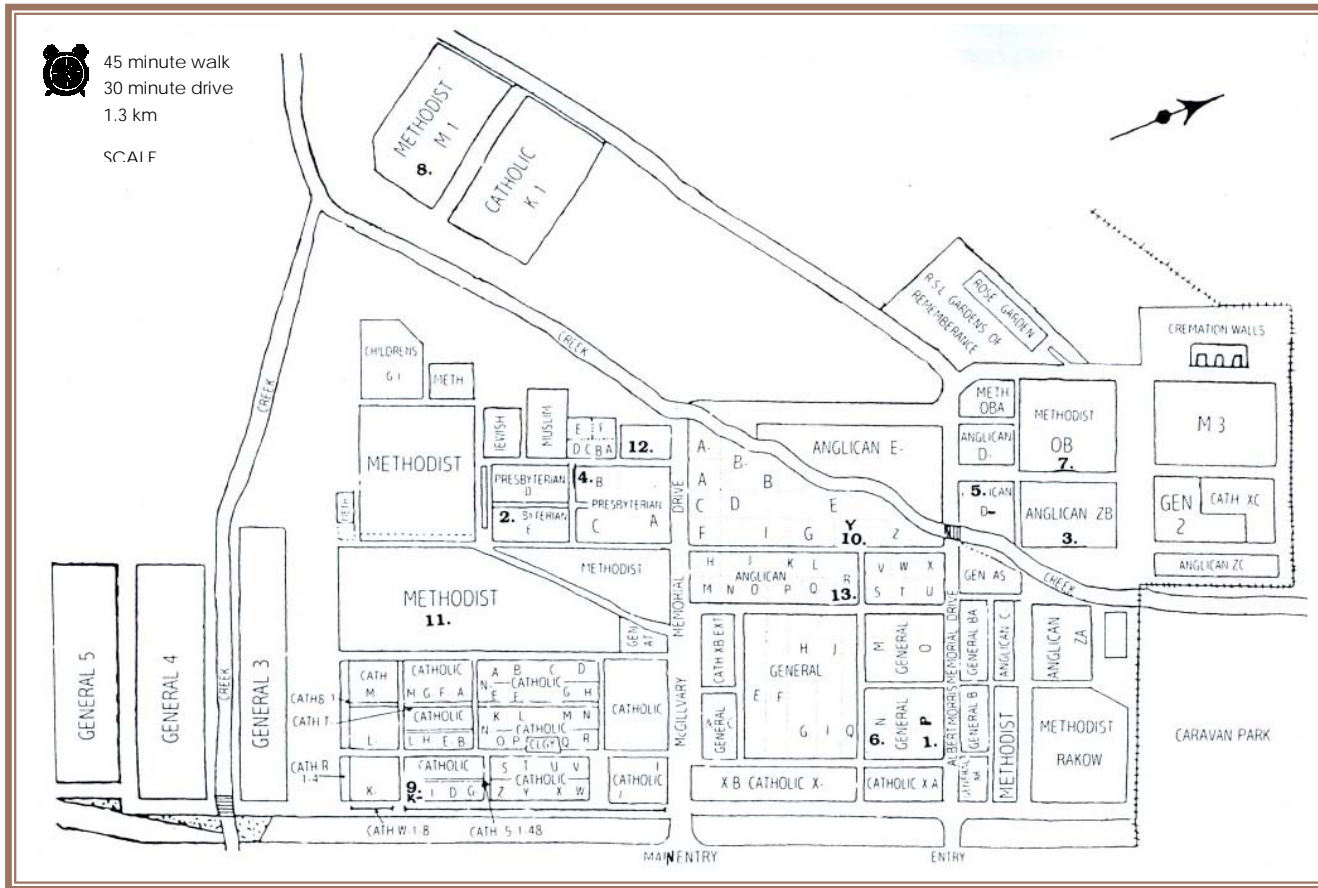


Broken Hill

C E M E T E R Y

Cemeteries are an important part of every city's heritage. Dedicated in 1889, the Broken Hill Cemetery on Rakow Street provides a valuable record of the diversity of Broken Hill's early mining community and a valuable insight into the development of Broken Hill and the surrounding region.

W E A R E
T H E M I N E R S



SITES OF INTEREST

1. Percival (Percy) Brookfield (1875-1921)
General N: Grave 232
2. Samuel Byrne (1883-1978)
Anglican ZB: Row 18 Grave 51
3. Edgar Read Mason (1862-1901)
Anglican S: Grave 59
4. Horace Sterling Taylor (1889)
Anglican R: Grave 72
5. George Urquhart (1845 -1915)
Presbyterian B: Row 6 Grave 3
6. Richard Louis Dias (1863-1895)
Jewish: Row 4 Grave 2
7. William Arthur (1866-1895)
Methodist D: Grave 22
8. Master John George Armit (1878-1890)
Methodist 14: Grave 8
9. Harold Milligan (1914-1935)
Catholic S: Row 11 Grave 1
10. E.P (Paddy) O'Neill (1876-1953)
Catholic K-: Grave 230

START: INTERPRETATION CENTRE



STOP 1: PERCY BROOKFIELD

Percy Brookfield was an early socialist who began work as a miner before being elected as a Member of Parliament for Sturt. He fought for worker's rights and was a leading activist. This memorial was erected by public subscription and the words on the monument are testament to his character and his politics.



STOP 2: SAMUEL BYRNE

Artists such as *Samuel Byrne* and Pro-Hart were as miners in Broken Hill before they pursued their painting careers. As one of Australia's best naive artists, Samuel Byrne has exhibited internationally, often documenting the history of Broken Hill and highlighting environmental issues in his paintings.



STOP 3: EDGAR & HORACE

Edgar Mason was one of six men killed in the mining disaster at South Mine. The men: J. Prideaux, H. Down, S. Havelock, W. Bennett and J. Edwards were on the 600

feet level when the stope above them collapsed and buried them under tonnes of ore and mullock.

Horace Taylor was killed when he fell 130 feet from a ladder into a shaft at the Silver Ring Mine, 8 miles North of Broken Hill.



STOP 4: URQUHART & DIAS

George Urquhart was a sheep overseer who joined Charles Rasp in 1883 as part of the "Syndicate of Seven" which was formed to lease and mine Rasp's findings in Broken Hill.

The mining industry in Broken Hill attracted many migrant workers. *Richard Dias* was a Jewish citizen working at the BHP mine. He suffered terrible injuries and died on the way to the hospital when a truck ran back into the bottom of the open cut where he was working and struck him.



STOP 5: ARTHUR & ARMITT

Married with three children, *William Arthur* was one of eight men killed in the Broken Hill South Silver Mine disaster. The death of the men occurred when a

compressed air wave, caused by a cave-in on the 400 feet level, hurled them against the underground walls and timbers. The other men killed in this tragedy include: A. Trembath, B. Snell, F. Pearce, J. Lee, G. Holmes, W. Mc Leash and W. L. Panter.

Master J. G. Armit was only twelve when he died at the Broken Hill Silver Mines. Overcome by dynamite fumes, his family came from New Zealand and his father was also a miner.



STOP 6: MILLIGAN & O'NEILL

Harold Milligan was only 21 when he died (together with three other men) of asphyxiation by noxious gases. The men, R. Theiforde, J. Giffin and A. E. Taylor were clearing an old shaft of the BHP Mine which was forty feet deep and had been used as a drain hole.

As an ex-miner, *Paddy O'Neill* was the Barrier Industrial Council's second and most long-serving president. Under O'Neill's presidency between 1924 and 1949, the BIC not only consolidated its influence over local industrial relations but also emerged as a social regulator. Working as a council employee, he was also a Municipal Employees Union official and a social conservative.