



Technical Services Committee

Business Paper for July 2020

Monday, 13 July 2020

Via Teleconference

Councillor Eli Melky
(Chair)

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alicesprings.nt.gov.au

ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL
TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA
FOR THE MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 13 JULY 2020
VIA TELECONFERENCE

1. APOLOGIES
2. WELCOME TO THE PUBLIC AND VISITORS AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST
4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
 - 4.1. [UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Technical Services Committee - 15 June 2020](#)
 - 4.2. [Business Arising](#)
5. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
 - 5.1. [Identification of items for discussion](#)
 - 5.2. [Identification of items to be raised in General Business by Elected Members and Officers](#)
6. DEPUTATIONS
7. PETITIONS
8. NOTICE OF MOTION
9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS
 - 9.1. [Technical Services Directorate Update](#)
Report No: 153 / 20 ts (DTS)
 - 9.2. [Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines](#)
Report No: 154 / 20 ts (DTS)
 - 9.3. [Lyndavale Drive Speeding Report](#)
Report No: 158 / 20 ts (MI)
 - 9.4. [Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre - Electricity Supply EOI](#)
Report No: 160 / 20 ts (DTS)
10. REPORTS OF ADVISORY AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES
 - 10.1. [UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Sports Facilities Advisory Committee - 25 June 2020](#)
 - 10.2. [UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Parks Advisory Committee - 30 June 2020](#)
 - 10.3. [UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Development Committee - 6 July 2020](#)
11. GENERAL BUSINESS
12. NEXT MEETING: **Monday, 17 August 2020**

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

13. APOLOGIES - CONFIDENTIAL
14. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST - CONFIDENTIAL
15. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING - CONFIDENTIAL
 - 15.1. [CONFIDENTIAL - UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Technical Services Committee - 15 June 2020](#)
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16. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION - CONFIDENTIAL
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17. DEPUTATIONS - CONFIDENTIAL
18. PETITIONS - CONFIDENTIAL
19. NOTICE OF MOTION - CONFIDENTIAL
20. REPORTS OF OFFICERS - CONFIDENTIAL
 - 20.1. [Intyalheme Centre for Future Energy Report No: 155 / 20 ts \(DTS\)](#)
 - 20.2. [Railway Crossing Interface Agreement Report No: 157 / 20 ts \(MI\)](#)
 - 20.3. [Regional Waste Management Facility - Masterplan 2020-2030 Report No: 161 / 20 ts \(MTS\)](#)
21. REPORTS OF ADVISORY AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - CONFIDENTIAL
 - 21.1. [CONFIDENTIAL - UNCONFIRMED Minutes - Development Committee - 6 July 2020](#)
22. GENERAL BUSINESS - CONFIDENTIAL
23. MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN
24. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Sabine Taylor
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
8 July 2020

Note: A recording of the Open section of this Technical Services Committee meeting can be found on Council's website from the Wednesday after the meeting. Go to: www.alicesprings.nt.gov.au then to Council meetings.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY 15 JUNE 2020

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic this meeting was held via Zoom

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor D. Ryan
Councillor G. Auricht
Councillor M. Banks
Councillor J. Cocking
Councillor J. de Brenni
Councillor E. Melky (Chair)
Councillor M. Paterson
Councillor J. Price
Councillor C. Satour

OFFICERS: Mr R. Jennings - Chief Executive Officer
Mr S. Allen - Director Technical Services
Ms S. Taylor - Director Corporate Services
Ms B. Lang - Executive Assistant (Minutes)

The meeting was declared open at 9.10 pm

1. APOLOGIES

Nil

2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes - Technical Services Committee - 11 May 2020

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the minutes of the open section of the Technical Services Committee meeting held on 11 May 2020 be taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting

(4693 ts)

CARRIED

4.2 Business Arising

10.1.1 - Jim McConville Oval Lights (see General Business 11.1)

2 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

4.1

5. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

5.1 Identification of items for discussion

The following items were withdrawn for discussion:

9.1, 9.4, 9.5, 9.7, 9.8, 10.3

5.2 Identification of items to be raised in General Business by Elected Members and Officers

- Community Fruit Trees in public spaces - Councillor Cocking
- Renaming Wilshire Street - Councillor Cocking
- Lights at Jim McConville Oval - Councillor Banks

6. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

7. PETITIONS

Nil

8. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Nil

9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

9.1 Technical Services Directorate Update
Report No. 110 / 20ts (DTS)

This report provides an update of current Technical Services projects, programs and events.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the June 2020 Technical Services Directorate Update be received and noted.

(4694 ts)

A question was raised in regard to the inclusion of parks projects on the Manager Infrastructure Directorate Update. The Director of Technical Services advised that the information is provided to the Parks Advisory Committee, and once the projects commence they are included in the report.

3 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

4.1

9.2 Cemeteries Advisory Committee - EOI Nominations
Report No. 111 / 20 ts (DTS)

This report is to provide Council with information on nominations that Officers have received for the Cemeteries Advisory Committee under the new Terms of Reference, and provide Council the opportunity to endorse these nominations as per Section 54 (2) of the Local Government Act.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council endorse the following nominations for the Cemeteries Advisory Committee to apply from the next Committee meeting through until (and including any meeting in) August 2021:

Relevant professional of non-denomination (Celebrant) - Meredith Campbell

Expires 31 August 2021

(4695 ts)

9.3 Sports Facilities Advisory Committee - Nominations
Report No. 112 / 20 ts (SO)

This report is to provide Council with information on nominations that Officers have received for the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee under the new Terms of Reference, and provide Council the opportunity to endorse these nominations as per Section 54 (2) of the Local Government Act.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council endorse the following nomination for the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to apply from the next Committee meeting through until the date of expiry:

Alice Springs Softball Association - Kale Bell

Winter Sport - expires 31/03/2022

(4696 ts)

9.4 Demountable Structures
Report No. 113 / 20 ts (MD)

This purpose of this report is to provide Council with information on the historical lodgement of applications that considered the use of demountable structures within the Alice Springs municipality.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council update the 2010 policy on Demountable Structures to reflect Council's specific views of its use within developments under varying zones, subject to the various assessment criteria that broadly sit under the current NT Planning Scheme.

(4697 ts)

Action:

Director of Technical Services to determine if a shipping container is considered a demountable under the policy.

4 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

4.1

9.5 Climate Action Plan
Report No. 128 / 20 ts (EO)

This report is in regard to the progress of the Climate Action Plan 2018-2021

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That this report be received and noted

(4698 ts)

9.6 Parks Advisory Committee - EOI Nominations
Report No. 135 / 20 ts (AOI)

This report is to provide Council with information on current nominations that Officers have received for the Park Advisory Committee under the current Charter, and provide Council the opportunity to endorse these nominations as per Section 54 (2) of the Local Government Act.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council endorse the following nomination for the Park Advisory Committee to apply from the next Committee meeting through until (and including any meeting in) August 2021:

Community / General Member - Ken Johnson

Expires 31 August 2021

(4699 ts)

9.7 Direction from Council in regard to resolution 20854
Report No. 129 / 20 ts (DTS)

This recommendation has been changed by the Technical Services Committee from the original recommendation included in report 129/20ts.

This report is to request direction from Council regarding the Resolution Number – 20584.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council undertakes a workshop to resolve Council resolution number 20584.

(4700 ts)

5 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

4.1

9.8 SFAC Participation Levy
Report No. 130 / 20 ts (DTS)

This report provides Council with a request for clarification pertaining to the Resolution number 20981 in regard to the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee (SFAC) Participation Levies.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That Council provide Officers with clarification and direction

(4701 ts)
DEFERRED

Action:

Director of Technical Services to clarify sporting seasons (re: SFAC members) and how a waiver will apply to the seasons.

9.9 Cromwell Drive Road Repair Tender 2020-05ST
Report No. 114 / 20ts (POI)

Moved from Confidential item 20.1 to Open Item 9.9 by Unanimous Decision at the Technical Services Committee 15 June 2020

This report provides the tender assessment for the repair of Cromwell Drive from Lines Court, to 200m past Lines Court due to water damage.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

1. **That the Tender contract 2020-05ST be awarded to Diggamen for the sum of \$653,162.00 inc GST**
2. **That the Tender contracts be signed under Council seal.**

(4708 ts)
UNANIMOUS

9.10 ASALC Refurbishment Tender 2020-06ST (Agenda Item 9.10)
Report No. 119 / 20ts (POI)

Moved from Confidential item 20.1 to Open Item 9.10 by Unanimous Decision at the Technical Services Committee 15 June 2020

This report is in regards to the tender assessment for the ASALC Refurbishment Project which consists of the Kiosk Refurbishment, Offices of the main entry and the Outdoor Change room Refurbishment.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

1. **That the Tender contract 2020-06ST be awarded to MPH Constructions for the sum of \$586,071.63 inc GST.**
2. **That the Tender contracts be signed under Council seal.**

(4709 ts)
UNANIMOUS

6 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

10. REPORTS OF ADVISORY & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

10.1 Minutes - Development Committee - 1 June 2020

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the minutes from the Development Committee meeting held 1 June 2020 be received and noted.

(4702 ts)

10.2 Minutes - Environment Advisory Committee - 1 June 2020

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the minutes from the Environment Advisory Committee meeting held 1 June 2020 be received and noted.

(4703 ts)

10.3 Minutes - Cemeteries Advisory Committee -- 2 June 2020

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the minutes from the Cemeteries Advisory Committee meeting held 2 June 2020 be received and noted.

(4704 ts)

Action:

Officers to correct a clerical error in the attendance table of the minutes in regard to David Mortimer.

10.3.1 Live streaming in the Garden Cemetery Chapel - Director Technical Services (Agenda Item 5.3)

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation from the Cemeteries Advisory Committee to Council

That Council investigate the installation of cameras at the Garden Cemetery Chapel for the future live streaming of Funeral Services and prepare as a shovel-ready project

(4705 ts)

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 Installation of lights at Jim McConville Oval - Councillor Banks

A motion was raised and formalised in regard to the installation of lights at Jim McConville Oval after a request from sporting groups.

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation from the Technical Services Committee to Council:

That Council undertake public consultation for the installation of lights at Jim McConville Oval.

(4706 ts)

7 - TS COMMITTEE – 15/06/20

Discussion also surrounded a request for access to ablution facilities, the priority list from the SFAC Meeting held 11 May 2020 and the precedent for decisions in regard to sporting facilities.

Action:

The CEO to investigate risk and safety in regard to Council facilities being used after dark.

10.12pm – Councillor Paterson left the meeting

10.14pm – Councillor Paterson re-joined the meeting

Action:

Director Technical Services to investigate how this motion (4706ts) relates to the motion in the SFAC priority list from the Technical Services Committee meeting held 11 May 2020 (4690ts).

11.2 Potential renaming of Wilshire Street - Councillor Cocking

A motion in regard to the potential renaming of Wilshire Street and was raised and formalised.

10.30pm - CEO left the meeting

10.35pm - CEO re-joined the meeting

RESOLVED

That it be a recommendation from the Technical Services Committee to Council:

That Council undertake consultation in relation to the potential renaming of Wilshire Street

(4707 ts)

12. NEXT MEETING: **Monday, 13 July 2020**

The meeting stands adjourned and resumes in the Confidential Section.

The meeting adjourned at 10.39 pm

Confirmed on _____

CHAIRPERSON _____

Date _____

REPORT

Report No 153 / 20 ts

TO: TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - MONDAY 13 JULY 2020

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE UPDATE

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update of current Technical Services Directorate programs, projects and events.

RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation to Council

That the July 2020 Technical Services Directorate Update be received and noted.

REPORT

1. DISCUSSION

The attached reports summarise activities that occurred within the Technical Services Department for the month of June 2020

1.1 SUMMARY OF BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL 29 JUNE 2020

All matters actioned.

2. POLICY IMPACTS

All projects relate to and reflect the appropriate policies and components of the *Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021*

3. FINANCIAL IMPACTS

All committed projects are working within their approved budget and funding agreements

4. SOCIAL IMPACTS

As per individual projects and plans

5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

As per the projects and relevant plans

6. PUBLIC RELATIONS

As per individual projects and plans

9.1

Report No 153 / 20 ts

7. **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: [Manager Infrastructure Report](#)
Attachment B: [Sports Officer Report](#)
Attachment C: [Manager Works Report](#)
Attachment D: [Manager Regional Waste Management Facility Report](#)
Attachment E: [Manager Developments Report](#)
Attachment F: [Environment Officer Report](#)



Scott Allen
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN

AUTHOR: MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE - STEPHEN BALOBAN

SUBJECT: REPORT FROM INFRASTRUCTURE UNIT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2020

This report provides an update of current infrastructure and engineering projects for June 2020

1. PROJECTS:

PROJECT	LOCATION	STATUS	COMPLETION DATE
A. Railway Crossing Audit	Alice Springs	Report to August Council meeting	August 2020
B. Jim McConville fence	Jim McConville Oval	Going out to Tender	November 2020
C. Sport Lighting Upgrade Albrecht Oval	Albrecht Oval	Winning Tender notified, works program being obtained	October 2020
D. ASALC Refurbishment	ASALC	Winning Tender notified, works program being obtained	October 2020
E. Dog/Pet Park	Rotorac Park	Obtaining quotes	December 2020
F. Cromwell Drive Road Failure	Cromwell Drive	Winning Tender notified, works program being obtained	October 2020
G. 4 New 33kw Solar Systems to be installed at the 4 New Sporting Facilities	Ross Park, Jim McConville, Flynn Drive & Albrecht Oval	Winning tender notified, works program being obtained	August 2020
H. Fence in Front of Rock Bar & Bojangles	Todd Street	Under design	September 2020
I. Rhonda Diano Athletics Facilities Upgrades	Design of the synthetic running track	Part of the \$6.2M Facilities Upgrades - Concrete complete, waiting for synthetic track to be laid. Delay due to COVID-19	August 2020
J. Install Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations	Various locations	Options being investigated	October 2020



Stephen Baloban
MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE

9.1

ATTACHMENT B

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES – SCOTT ALLEN
AUTHOR: SPORTS OFFICER - TAMA WAKELIN
SUBJECT: REPORT FROM SPORTS DEPARTMENT FOR JUNE 2020

This report provides an update of current sport activities:

1. Sporting Bodies

- Peak Sporting competitions have re-commenced their activities in line with NTG COVID Guidelines
- Council endorsed a resolution to waive the SFAC Participation Levy until 30 June 2021 (Council Resolution 20981).
- A few Peak Sporting bodies participation numbers still outstanding from 2019/2020

2. Events

20 June 2020

CARFL 9's Competition at Anzac Oval

26 June 2020

St. Phillips College Sports Day at Rhonda Diano Oval

26 June 2020

OLSH Sports Day at Anzac Oval

29 June 2020

Ross Park Primary School Sports Day at Ross Park Main Oval

3. Sporting Facilities

- Facility inspections have re-commenced
- Hand-over of the Netball Stadium from NTG to ASTC - discussions ongoing
- Rhonda Diano works for Athletics Track - Contractor to confirm dates in the NT
- Albrecht Oval Cricket Nets - Awaiting certification

4. Reviews and Reports

- A small number of Sports Facility Fund membership forms and Sports Facilities Advisory Committee nomination forms still outstanding
- Alice Springs Netball Association - Deed of Licence - discussions ongoing
- Paul Fitzsimmons / CDU Oval agreement - signed and received.

5. Endorsed new members to SFAC

- Simon Hargrave - AFL Northern Territory



Tama Wakelin
SPORTS OFFICER

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN

AUTHOR: MANAGER WORKS - BEN FITZGERALD

SUBJECT: WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT - JUNE 2020

This report provides an update of some of the completed and current Depot works projects:

1. REACTIVE WORKS

- COVID-19 reactive works completed by Depot teams:
- Park Sanitation
 - CBD Sanitation
 - Extra Facilities Cleaning
 - Regular Staff Meetings

2. PROJECTS

- Ilparpa Road Footpath - 800m of Stage 1 completed
- CBD Pram Ramps - 64 to be completed (2 completed in June)

3. DEPOT IN KIND SUPPORT OF EVENTS - June 2020

EVENT	COST of SUPPORT
Todd Mall Markets	\$160.00
TOTAL COST:	\$160.00

4. STAFF TRAINING - June 2020

- Risk Assessment training all staff

5. LITTER / KIDDIE SCRIBBLE / GRAFFITI REMOVAL / VANDALISM

- **Litter -** litter stream was average
- **Kiddie Scribble -** texta scribble is average throughout the municipality
- **Graffiti Removal -** average graffiti throughout municipality
- **Vandalism -** average throughout the municipality
 - » **Irrigation Infrastructure:** vandalism on irrigation infrastructure was below average
 - » **Sprinklers:** 0 kick offs reported
- **Facilities -**
 - Anzac Oval - Below Average
 - Traeger Complex - Below Average
 - Jim McConville Complex - Below Average
 - Albrecht Oval - Below Average
- » **Infrastructure:** Sign vandalism in CBD - Average
- » **Playgrounds:** Average vandalism recorded

Attachment C

6. NEAT STREETS

- **Notifications:** 118 Neat Street notifications were received in June 2020 with 74 completed.
 - ❖ **64** ASTC Depot Responsibility
 - ❖ **32** Ranger Responsibility
 - ❖ **21** NT Government Responsibility
 - ❖ **0** Telstra Responsibility
 - ❖ **1** Power & Water
 - ❖ **0** Private Property

7. VEHICLE PLANT REPLACEMENT

53106 - Hyundai Santa Fe Elite (TBA - Director Community Services commences)

8. TREES - June 2020

- 10 trees were removed throughout the municipality
- 52 trees planted

9. SMART BIN COLLECTIONS - June 2020

Anzac Hill - 2
Todd Mall - 2



Ben Fitzgerald
MANAGER WORKS

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN
AUTHOR: MANAGER REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY - OLIVER ECLIPSE
SUBJECT: REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY REPORT - JUNE 2020

This report provides an update of current waste management initiatives and projects.

Voucher system:

601 vouchers were redeemed in June 2020 at a cost of \$11,652.21 to Council (Table 1).

Table 1: Total monthly vouchers redeemed

<i>Month</i>	<i>Voucher</i>	<i>Cost</i>
June 2020 (Cars non-weighted)	64	\$ 244.50
June 2020 (Utes non-weighted)	247	\$ 2,885.50
June 2020 (Utes weighted)	290	\$ 8,522.21

Recycling Initiatives:

A comparison of recycling initiatives, by financial year and month.

Cardboard:

Table 2: Total year to date and financial year recycled cardboard

<i>Year to Date</i>	<i>Total Cardboard</i>
July 2019 to June 2020 (YTD)	260.88 Tonnes
Income received from cardboard (YTD)	Total
Orora Recycling*	\$13,867

* Payments received as at 1/06/20

Steel:

Table 3: Total financial year recycled steel

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total Steel</i>
July 2019 to June 2020 (YTD)	1183.65 Tonnes
Income received from Steel (YTD)	Total
Sims Metal*	\$58,359.00

* Payments received as at 31/03/20

Envirobank:

Table 4: Total monthly and financial year recycled 10c containers

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total 10c Containers</i>
June 2020	1.68 Tonnes
July 2019 to June 2020 (YTD)	38.85 Tonnes
Income received from Envirobank (June)	Total
\$103/tonne	\$173.04

Tube Terminator:

Table 5: Total monthly recycled fluorescent lights

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total Tubes</i>
June 2020	957 Tubes
July 2019 to June 2020 (YTD)	5497 Tubes

9.1

Weighbridge Waste and Recycling Totals – Monthly Data:

Table 8: Accumulated data for July / June 2019 in comparison July / June 2020

	July 2018- June 2019		July 2019- June 2020	
	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT
Animal Carcass	8.19	0.00	8.60	0.00
Asbestos	110.88	0.00	430.61	0.00
Building Material	0.00	113.78	0.00	180.02
Cardboard & Paper	318.71	52.95	540.82	260.88
Chemicals	599.82	306.18	0.00	0.03
Clean Fill	10636.43	120.76	26,994.34	6,029.34
Concrete	2897.09	663.89	2,387.22	3,472.20
Container Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.85
Council Supported	1.36	0.00	0.14	0.00
Demolition Materials	5335.02	15.63	5,980.69	0.00
Domestic Bins	6836.38	0.00	6,991.30	0.00
Drop off Zone* (Shop)	7.57	127.94	0.00	121.14
Electronic waste	48.97	42.04	127.91	25.03
Glass **	109.05	37.18	124.19	61.73
Green Waste	2198.62	1097.72	2,146.38	299.94
Household Goods	0.00	74.10	0.00	75.74
Liquid Waste	1204.86	0.00	1,184.11	0.00
Mattresses	923.16	1.66	208.02	0.00
Metals ***	617.40	86.28	641.56	1,183.65
Mixed Waste ****	13487.37	0.00	12,495.10	0.00
Timber & Pallets	468.16	92.48	670.67	1,656.30
Tyres	61.33	0.00	25.98	5.26
Total	45,870.37	2,832.59	60,957.64	13,410.11
Total minus clean fill	35,233.94		33,963.30	
Percentage recycled		8.04%		39.48%

Key:

- * Drop off Zone - Goods dropped off by the public at the Rediscovery Centre
- ** Glass categories
- *** Metal categories - include other categories (e.g. whitegoods etc.)
- **** Mixed Waste - includes other categories (e.g. confidential burial; food surrender; transfer station, general waste; street clean, contaminated rocks)
- ***** Timber & Pallets includes other categories (e.g. Firewood)
- ***** Building Material includes other categories (e.g. Salvaging)

9.1

Weighbridge Waste and Recycling Totals – Financial Year:

A total of 33,963.30 tonnes of waste (excluding clean fill) was collected at the RWMF for the period of July 2019 to June 2020 (Tables 8). A total of 13,410.11 tonnes was recycled out (Table 8).

Table 6: Waste totals through the weighbridge (not including clean fill) during the financial year (See Figure 1)

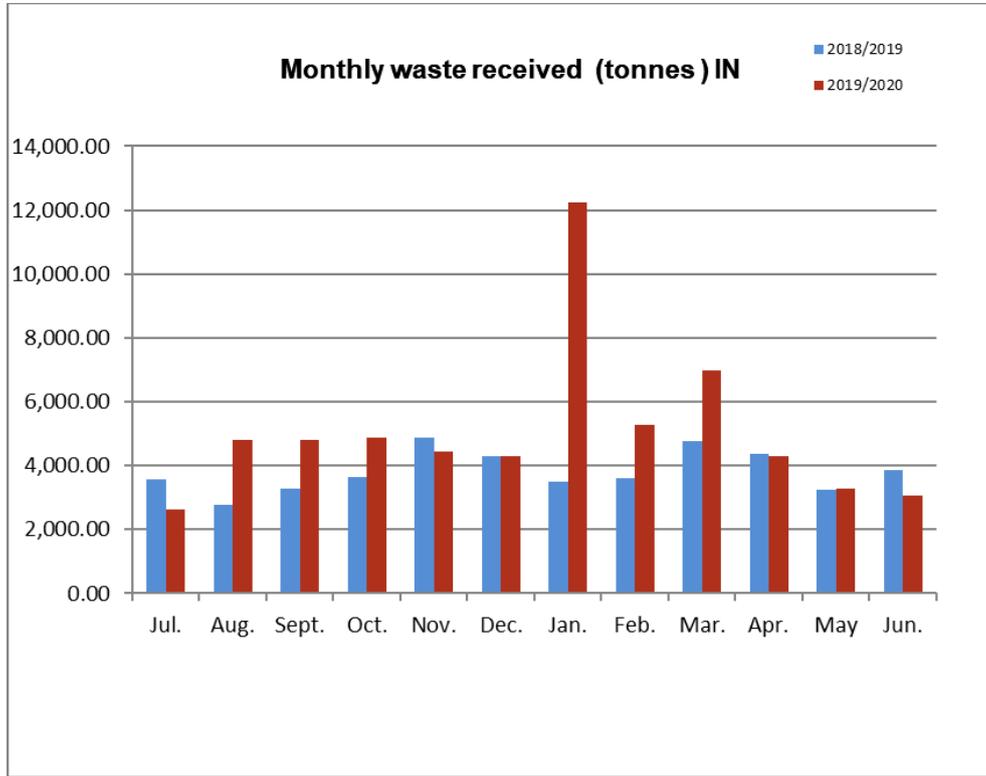
<i>Month</i>	<i>Tonnes</i>
July 2018 to June 2019	35,233.94
July 2019 to June 2020	33,963.30

Table 7: Recycling totals through the weighbridge during the financial year (see also Figure 2)

<i>Month</i>	<i>Tonnes</i>
July 2018 to June 2019	2832.59
July 2019 to June 2020	13,410.11

9.1

Figure 1: Monthly waste comparison by financial year (tonnes) received (IN)



9.1

Year	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	YTD
2018/2019	3,572.74	2,789.72	3,284.56	3,656.60	4,889.56	4,309.37	3,504.09	3,607.09	4,759.36	4,366.92	3,254.31	3,876.05	45,870.37
2019/2020	2,621.74	4,789.72	2,837.04	4,889.56	4,437.63	4,309.37	12,226.80	5,280.30	6,974.51	4,292.22	3,286.17	3,061.68	60,957.64

Monthly waste received IN (year to date):
 2018 /19 45,870.37 tonnes
 2019 /20 60,957.64 tonnes

Table 9: Monthly comparison of waste totals June 2019 and June 2020.

A total of 3061.68 tonnes of waste (including clean fill) was collected, of which 16.44% of waste was recycled out in June 2020 (Table 9).

	Jun-19		Jun-20	
	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT	Tonnes IN	Tonnes OUT
Animal Carcass	0.95	0.00	0.34	
Asbestos	9.96	0.00	10.54	
Building Material		9.69		29.77
Cardboard & Paper	44.63	25.48	35.34	35.78
Chemicals	0.02	0.00		0.03
Clean Fill	1323.68	40.28	808.95	129.32
Concrete	177.51	58.00	117.04	
Container Deposit	0.00	2.47		1.68
Council Supported	0.00	0.00		
Demolition Materials	298.27	0.00	358.54	
Domestic Bins	530.92	0.00	571.36	
Drop off Zone* (Shop)	0.00	19.61		13.51
Electronic waste	0.97	14.26	14.23	0.99
Glass **	16.10	1.20	10.24	0.57
Green Waste	91.49	36.00	120.80	92.76
Household Goods		2.81		4.88
Liquid Waste	138.66	0.00	130.12	
Mattresses	10.13	0.00	6.56	
Metals ***	39.48	3.29	31.62	24.17
Mixed Waste ****	1172.80	0.00	821.19	
Timber & Pallets	19.90	88.84	23.48	35.09
Tyres	0.58	0.00	1.33	1.88
Total	3,876.05	301.93	3,061.68	370.43
Total minus clean f	2,552.37		2,252.73	
Percentage recycled		11.83%		16.44%

Key:

- * Drop off Zone - Goods dropped off by the public at the Rediscovery Centre
- ** Glass categories
- *** Metal categories - include other categories (e.g. whitegoods etc.)
- **** Mixed Waste - includes other categories (e.g. confidential burial; food surrender; transfer station, general waste; street clean, contaminated rocks)
- ***** Timber & Pallets includes other categories (e.g. Firewood)
- ***** Building Material includes other categories (e.g. Salvaging)

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN
AUTHOR: MANAGER DEVELOPMENTS - DILIP NELLIKAT
SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT REPORT FOR JUNE 2020

This report provides an update of current development activity.

1. Correspondence

Development Applications	6
Exceptional Development Applications	0
Development Permits	6
Exceptional Development Permits	2
Part 5 Clearances	5
Proposed Planning Scheme Amendments	1
Certificate of Compliance	7
Deferred, Refused, Concurrent/ Others	0

2. Major Development Works - currently under construction

- 2.1 Ilpeye Ilpeye Subdivision - Greenhills have highlighted a number of issues in the Stormwater report from SDA endorsed by BTO on behalf of DIPL, in addition to defects identified in February 2017 which cannot be rectified.

Further to a report on the expected lifespan of the compromised assets, Council has negotiated a proposal with conditional acceptance of some of these assets with DIPL. Council has reviewed the response from DIPL and endorsed an alternative proposal.
- 2.2 Kilgariff Subdivision - Stage 1B work is complete and 1C is negotiated as a part of the Kilgariff Masterplan. Future work on the improvement of the Norris Bell intersection to prevent flooding at the Cemetery is being considered by DIPL.

Since July 2019, Council officers and consultants are continually meeting with DIPL, to discuss outstanding issues expected to be fixed prior to handover. Negotiations are underway.
- 2.3 Lot 288, 69 Ross Highway - To use and develop the land for the purpose of a motel with 76 single rooms and caravan park with 25 two bedroom self-contained cabins and 6 camping sites including a communal kitchen, dining area, ablutions, laundry, recreation area and office. Part 5 has been issued for Stage 1 and 2. Awaiting overall completion.
- 2.4 Lot 4565, 10 Speed Street - Construct solar array (including associated land-filling) within a Defined Flood Area. The array installation is complete. Stormwater works is being undertaken by Council's Depot.
- 2.5 Lots 666, 667, 668 - 43, 45, 47 Gap Road - 36 x 2 bed room multiple dwellings in 6 x 3 storey buildings to be constructed in 2 stages
- 2.6 Lot 2663 – 19 South Terrace - Revised application for 30 x 3 bedroom multiple dwellings in 1 and 2 storey townhouses in 3 stages. Building construction is yet to commence.
- 2.7 Lots 903, 910 – 113 Todd St & 21 Leichhardt Terrace – 71 multiple dwellings in a 6 storey building with one level of basement car parking, with shops/ restaurant in a separate single storey building. Demolition work is complete.

3. Major Development Works - completed recently

- 3.1 Lot 766, 8 Harvey Place - The building has an OP. Defective works are still being rectified by Dep. of Sports and Recreation, before handover can be considered complete.

9.1

Attachment E

All the above developments have been discussed in past Development Committee meetings. This advice is for the information of Council.



Dilip Nellikat
MANAGER DEVELOPMENTS

TO: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN
AUTHOR: ENVIRONMENT OFFICER - CHARLOTTE KLEMPIN
SUBJECT: REPORT FROM ENVIRONMENT OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

This report provides an update on environmental projects for the month of June 2020.

Waste Management

Recycling	Total
Household Batteries	58.5 kg
Cartridge recycling	11.7 kg
Mobile Phones	0.7 kg
Tubes	957
Bottles	10.24 tonnes
Paintback	0 tonnes

School Tours	Total

Cities Power Partnership

Pledge	Action	Progress	CAP Actions
Energy Policy	Climate Action Plan	Implementing and monitoring CAP	5.1.1 5.2.1
Renewable Energy	Increasing solar across all of Council's facilities	Energy Efficiency Grant application successful, 4 new PV systems on sports change rooms	5.1.1
Education Program	FOGO Trial	External trial to start June	5.4.1 5.4.16 5.4.18 6.3.34
Land Use	Open up land at the land fill and road reserves for renewable energy		
Fast charging infrastructure	Purchase electric vehicle	1 slow and 1 fast (50%)	5.3.10

9.1

Climate Action Plan

Target FY 2020-21	Current Completion	Actions in Progress
40%	39%	20 actions

Legend: COMPLETE POTENTIAL DELAYS ISSUES/DELAYS

Number	Action	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Status	Assignee	CAP Details	Activity	Progress Comments
	Climate Action Plan	01/01/18	31/05/24	39%	In Queue				
	5.1 ENERGY	01/01/18	03/05/24	19%	In Progress				
5.1.1	Source 50% of renewable energy by 2021	01/01/18	01/01/18	50%	In Progress	Stephen Baloban	additional 248kW	132.6 kw being installed via Energy Efficiency & Sustainability Grant 2018-2019	Additional 115.4 kw required
5.1.2	Implement LED street lighting changeover	01/01/18	31/12/21	0%	In Queue	Scott Allen			
5.1.3	Introduce user-pays systems and user-agreements for energy use in Council-owned facilities.	27/03/20	06/05/21	25%	In Progress	Tama Wakelin	sports- 3 year lease (finished in 2021) childcare (10 years)	Sports Officer investigating energy payment methods at sports facilities	
5.1.4	Replace all inefficient lights in Council buildings with LEDs.	01/01/18	31/12/21	20%	In Progress	Ben Fitzgerald, Petina Franklin, Stephen Baloban		Standard changeover procedure.	

9.1

Attachment F

5.1.5	Financial support for sports and other user groups to become energy efficient or install renewable energy.	01/12/20	02/01/23	50%	In Progress	Jeanette Shepherd, Tama Wakelin	Establish grants for sports facilities for energy efficiency initiatives. Tama to investigate what clubs would projects clubs would be interested in. Liaise with Kiri, introduce this into grants round for January 2021	Sustainability grant made available to sports and community groups.	Sports Officer and Community Development unit will target groups during 2021 funding round
5.1.6	Consider sustainability issues in the decision-making process of planning including a forecast of estimated energy use for all new facilities. Ensure new buildings are appropriately insulated and shaded.	01/07/20	30/06/21	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin	Env assessments for new developments and for significant projects. Ecological sustainable development principles considered		
5.1.7	Undertake an energy audit of key Council facilities.	04/05/20	03/05/24	25%	In Progress	Stephen Baloban		Twelve facilities to be audited. Contractor engaged.	Works to be completed in August 2020
5.1.8	Establish a rolling fund for financing energy efficiency projects and renewable energy.	16/03/20	15/04/20	10%	In Progress	Mel Bennett, Sabine Taylor	Fund based on cost reduction from electricity bills due to energy savings from solar (160,000 per annum)	Finance and Director have discussed the matter and developed an implementation strategy	Dependent on end of FY if funds are available and approved to be allocated to the new fund
5.2 GAS		01/01/18	31/12/18	100%	Complete				
5.2.9	Pool blankets for indoor heated pools at ASALC.	01/01/18	31/12/18	100%	Complete				
5.3 TRANSPORT		01/01/18	03/07/23	61%	In Progress				
5.3.10	Replace one Council vehicle with an electric vehicle per year (when vehicles are due for renewal). Provide a charge point for the electric vehicle.	01/09/19	06/09/19	25%	In Progress	Ben Fitzgerald	4 vehicles in Council's fleet by the end of 2021	1 vehicle purchased	further 3 need to be purchased
5.3.11	Introduce an active transport policy for Council staff. Incentivise active transport.	01/07/20	30/06/21	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin	Ride to work days		

Attachment F

5.3.12	Ensure bicycles and electric bicycles are available for transport during work hours and encourage their use.	01/01/19	02/01/23	100%	Complete	Charlotte Klempin			
5.3.13	Reduce fuel use at landfill by adopting GPS monitoring for compactor at landfill.	01/01/18	31/12/21	100%	Complete	Oliver Eclipse			
5.3.14	Introduce a green fleet policy.	01/07/20	30/06/21	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin, Jodie Summers			
5.3.15	Introduce minimum fuel efficiency standards for waste-contractor vehicles.	01/07/20	03/07/23	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin, Jodie Summers	Provide minimum standards for fuel efficiency for major contractors		
5.4 WASTE & RECYLING		01/01/18	31/12/21	66%	In Progress				
5.4.16	Trial commercial food waste composting systems.	01/01/19	31/12/20	40%	In Progress	Charlotte Klempin		Stage 2 is commencing	
5.4.17	Reduce pallets going to landfill by 50%.	01/01/18	31/12/21	70%	In Progress	Oliver Eclipse	Reduce by 225 tonnes		
5.4.18	Identify cost-effective measures to reduce food waste and garden waste going to landfill.	01/01/18	31/12/18	100%	Complete				
5.5 POLICY		01/01/18	03/07/23	44%	In Progress				
5.5.19	Embed sustainable practices and carbon reduction measures into all staff KPIs (Key performance indicator).	01/06/20	31/05/21	0%	In Queue	Biggi Gosling, Charlotte Klempin	KPI for staff include finance- sustainable procurement, mechanics- sustainable vehicles, reducing paper use from admin staff		
5.5.20	Facilitate staff training in energy efficiency, energy auditing, eco-driving, waste management etc.	01/06/20	31/05/21	0%	In Queue	Biggi Gosling	1) staff training opportunities provided, 2) information on council's CAP in staff recruitment and induction process		
5.5.21	Collaborate with other Councils to share and contribute advice through the Cities Power Partnership.	01/01/18	31/12/21	100%	Complete	Charlotte Klempin			

Attachment F

5.5.22	Sustainable purchasing policy.	01/07/20	03/07/23	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin, Jodie Summers			
6.1 ENERGY		01/01/18	30/01/24	12%	In Progress				
6.1.23	Lead, advocate for or assist with community-owned solar.	29/01/20	30/01/24	5%	In Progress	Robert Jennings	Community-owned solar projects supported by Council, either actively or in-kind. Partnerships formed with community groups. Working modal or community energy project developed	Discussions with Repower Alice Springs were had.	
6.1.24	Provide information on household and business solar.	16/03/20	15/03/21	50%	In Progress	Charlotte Klempin	Info on Council's website. Community info session or event. Information booklet on PV	Draft booklet designed	Waiting on graphic design
6.1.25	Open up unused Council land for solar projects.	01/01/18	31/12/18	0%	In Queue	Scott Allen, Stephen Baloban			
6.1.26	Engage with and lobby the Northern Territory Government, electricity generators and retailers and other relevant stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition to a renewable energy powered network is feasible. Transition to include innovative technologies to support renewable energy such as peer to peer trading.	01/01/18	31/12/21	15%	In Progress	Robert Jennings		Discussions to create virtual power plant. Meetings with relevant stakeholders.	Joining Future Grid Energy project
6.1.27	Attract a service that enables billing of renters for solar to make it more attractive for home-owners to install solar.	29/01/20	27/01/22	5%	In Progress	Scott Allen		Discussions with relevant stakeholders	
6.2 TRANSPORT		01/12/19	31/05/24	14%	In Progress				

Attachment F

6.2.28	Set a target for active transport (walking and cycling) and commit to developing a bicycle plan.	01/06/20	31/05/22	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin, Stephen Baloban	To establish working group with all relevant stake holders to develop a bicycle plan. This may include NTG.	Plan to develop Bicycle Action Plan	
6.2.29	Expand provision of safe, secure infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.	01/06/20	31/05/24	0%	In Queue	Stephen Baloban	Additional bike racks. Improved signage where necessary.	Plan to develop Bicycle Action Plan	
6.2.30	Develop and identity as a bike-friendly town.	01/06/20	31/05/24	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin		Plan to develop Bicycle Action Plan	
6.2.31	Facilitate meetings with key stakeholders to progress the incursion of electric vehicles in central Australia. Lobby NT Tourism and the NTG to set up a linked network of electric vehicles in central Australia. Desert Knowledge Australia.	01/12/19	29/11/21	15%	In Progress	Robert Jennings	Education around cycling and sharing the road. Provide support via rust riders workshop. Emailed Ellin Lede <Ellin.Lede@nt.gov.au> for more discussion.	Meetings with relevant stakeholders. Wrote submission to NTG electric vehicle paper.	
6.2.32	Install electric vehicle charging stations in a central location.	01/02/20	01/02/24	50%	In Progress	Stephen Baloban	2 slow and 2 fast	1 slow and 1 fast installed	one of each need to be installed
6.3 WASTE & RECYLING		01/01/18	31/12/21	39%	In Progress				
6.3.33	Implement a kerbside recycling service for residents and businesses.	01/01/18	31/12/18	0%	In Queue	Scott Allen			On Hold
6.3.34	Pending outcome of business case (action item 3), implement a food and garden organics kerbside collection service.	01/01/18	31/12/21	40%	In Progress	Charlotte Klempin		Commencing stage 2	
6.3.35	Home composting program implemented.	01/01/18	31/12/20	50%	In Progress	Charlotte Klempin		Held workshop in May 2020	Another workshop to be held in August 2020
6.4 WASTEWATER		01/11/19	30/10/20	100%	Complete				
6.4.36	Lobby Power Water Corporation to reduce emissions from wastewater by investigating water efficiency programs and wastewater treatment.	01/11/19	30/10/20	100%	Complete	Scott Allen		ASTC engaged Power and Water Corporation. Due to logistics, health risks and infrastructure	

Attachment F

								repair costs wastewater cannot be utilised.	
	6.5 LEADERSHIP, AWARENESS & EDUCATION	01/01/18	12/01/24	44%	In Progress				
6.5.37	Lobby the NT Government to provide strong leadership on climate action.	01/11/19	02/11/23	35%	In Progress	Robert Jennings		NTG Climate Change Response submission. Meeting with relevant stakeholders.	
6.5.38	Partner with key local organisations to develop or progress action on climate change initiatives.	01/10/19	02/10/23	50%	In Progress	Charlotte Klempin		Single Use Plastics Ban initiative. Educational stalls run by ALEC.	Further engagement via SUP required
6.5.39	Engage with and support the community on climate change issues through the arts and through community events.	13/01/20	12/01/24	100%	Complete	Jeanette Shepherd	Recycled Youth Art Prize	Climate Change category in Recycled Youth Art prize	
6.5.40	Establish an environmental grant under Council's Community Grants Program.	13/01/20	12/01/24	80%	In Progress	Jeanette Shepherd		New Sustainability grant develop in 2020	Permanent funding needs to be established
6.5.41	Increase awareness of the science of, potential impacts, and mitigating actions of climate change within Council staff and within the community of Alice Springs.	01/01/18	31/12/21	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin	earth hour, world env day focus on CC		
6.5.42	Support innovation through local responses to climate change.	01/01/18	31/12/21	0%	In Queue	Charlotte Klempin, Jeanette Shepherd	Annual competition with a prize kick-star innovative response		

Attachment F

FOGO Trial

Month	Weight (tonnes)
June 2020	0.22
Total Collected	2.34

Energy

Graphs showing the energy use and solar produced at **ASALC, Civic Centre, Depot, RWMF and Library**. In May, 39% of the energy use from these facilities was provided by rooftop solar.

9.1

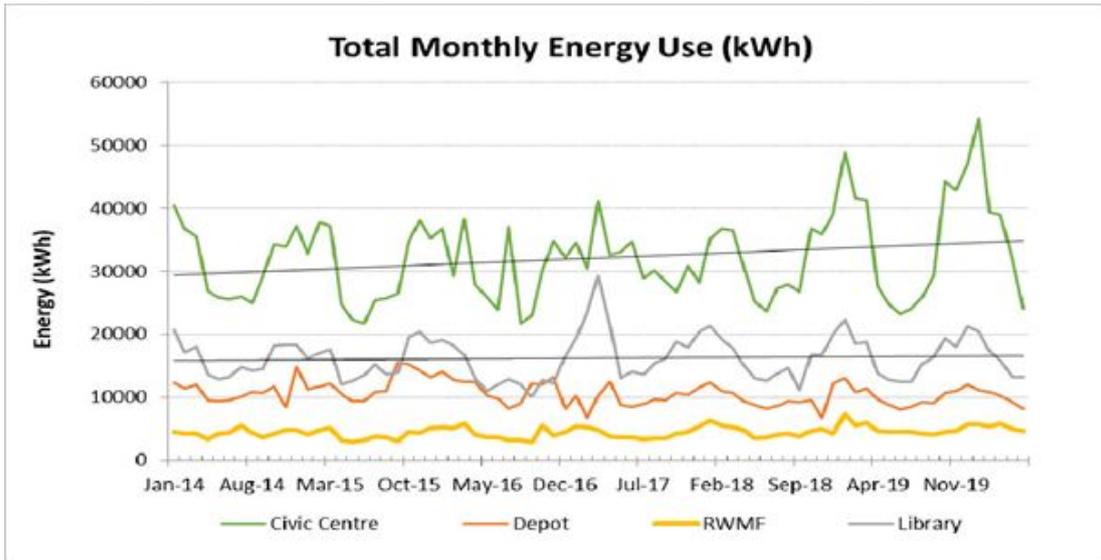


Figure 1. Monthly grid-supplied energy (kWh) for the Civic Centre, Depot, RWMF and Library

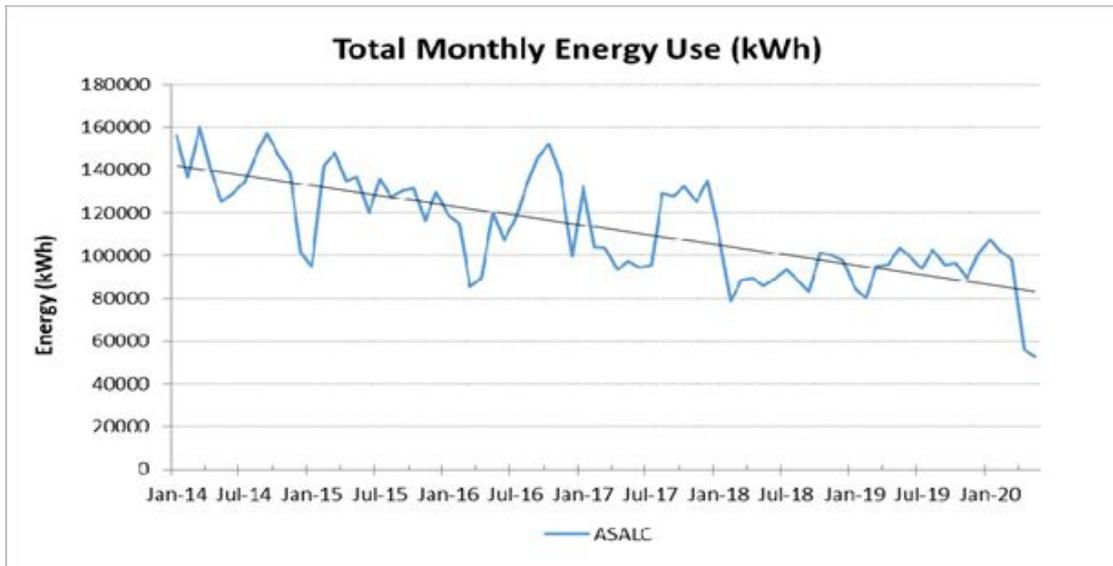


Figure 2. Monthly grid-supplied energy (kWh) for ASALC. Note: VSDs were installed mid-January 2018.

Attachment F

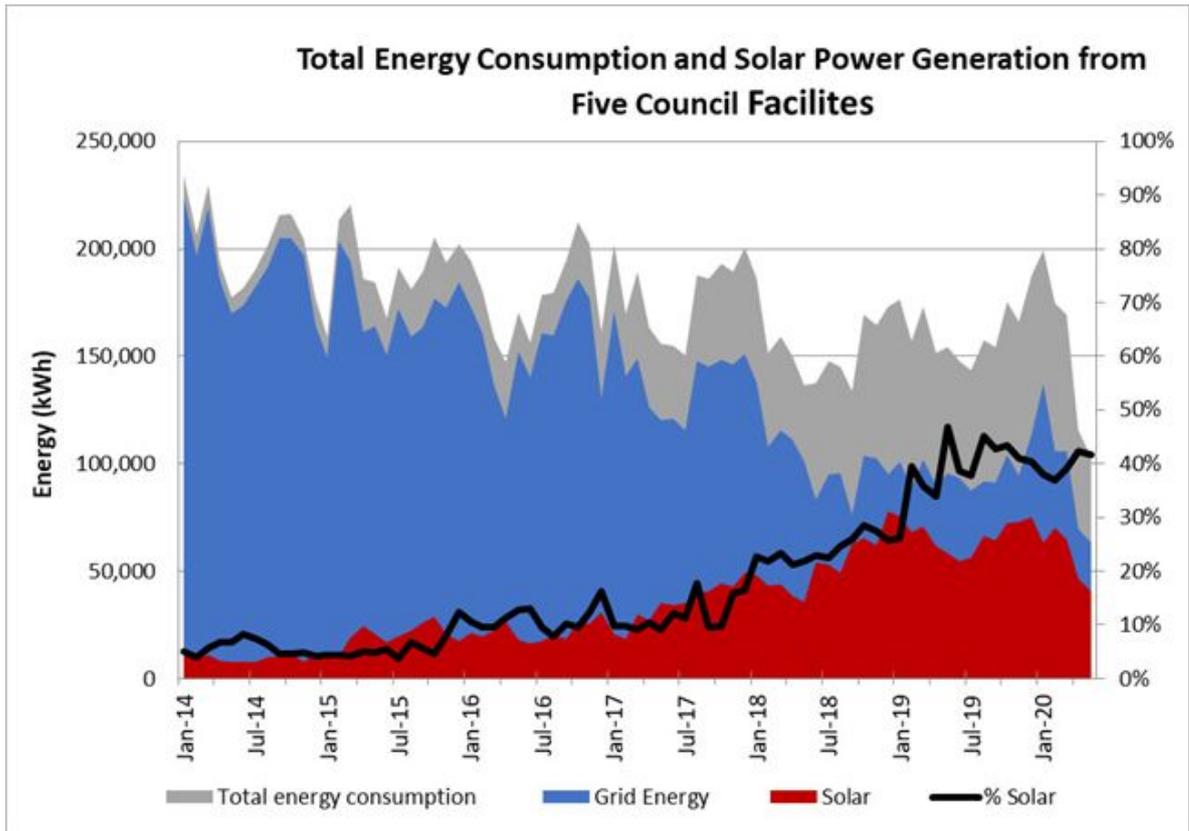


Figure 3. Total energy consumption, grid energy supplied, and solar energy produced combined for the ASALC, Civic Centre, Depot, RWMF and Library

C. Klempin

Charlotte Klempin
ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

9.1

TO: TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - MONDAY 13 JULY 2019

SUBJECT: ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY - CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES REPORT

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a briefing for Council on the Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines

RECOMMENDATIONS

That it be a recommendation to Council:

That Council endorse the *Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation Management Guidelines*

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

The Cemetery Advisory Committee (CAC) commissioned the writing of the *Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plan (CMP)* for the Alice Springs General Cemetery better known as the Memorial Cemetery. This document has been included as Attachment B.

The Alice Springs General Cemetery was declared a heritage place under the NT Heritage Conservation Act in 2008 and included on the NT Heritage Register. It continues to be protected under the NT Heritage Act 2011. It is also on the National Trust of Australia's (NT) Register of Significant Places.

The General Cemetery also includes a specific War Graves Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel are scattered throughout the General Cemetery. The War Cemetery and some of the individual burials are managed by the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC).

The Cemetery consists of Lot 1027 (Res 1216) and is controlled by the Department of Housing and Community Development (which includes Local Government) and managed by the Alice Springs Town Council.

In May 2013 the Alice Springs Town Council sought to have a Conservation and Management Plan (CMP) prepared for the Cemetery in order to guide future works whilst retaining and enhancing the significance of the site. An initial draft of the Plan was submitted to Council in October 2013 and following receipt of comments in June 2014, a near final draft of the Plan was prepared in July that year.

However, work on the Plan ceased by mutual agreement at this time and it was not until late 2018 that Council sought to have this Plan completed. This has provided a unique opportunity to document physical changes to the fabric of the Cemetery over a five-year period and has thus necessitated updating the physical description of the site.

9.2

Report No. 153 / 20 ts

Since 2013 Council has also opened the Cemetery Lodge for visitors on a more regular basis. These and other changes have been incorporated into this revised document where appropriate. The Plan has been prepared by R Gregory and Associates Pty Ltd and Domenico Pecorari & Associates Pty Ltd, with input and advice from the following representatives:

- Alice Springs Town Council
- Office of Australian War Graves
- Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch and
- NT Heritage Branch.

Council received the final draft from authors Robin Gregory and Domenico Pecorari.

The major discrepancies which the authors would not alter were:

- Olive Trees - the authors advised Council that all Olive Trees must be removed from the site immediately. Council is not of the same opinion as the authors on this item
- Trees - the authors advised Council that all trees should be removed from the site. Council is not of the same opinion as the authors on this item

At the Cemeteries Advisory Committee meeting held on 9 October 2018 the Committee recommended that Council approve the CMP with an over-arching letter.

The *Draft Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plan* was circulated for community consultation in October 2019 with the requested over-arching letter.

2. DISCUSSION

After consultation with Heritage Branch, and after considering the responses from the community consultation, Council Officers have created the *Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation Management Guidelines* (CMG).

The CMG references the CMP written by Robyn Gregory and Domenico Pecorari and replaces the concept of an over-arching letter as requested by the Cemeteries Advisory Committee.

It is recommended *Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines* are endorsed.

3. POLICY IMPACTS

All projects relate to and reflect the appropriate policies and components of the ***Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021***.

Objective 2: A great place to live

- 2.3: Enhance life-long learning, library and technology services
 - 2.3.1: Protect and promote local history and heritage

4. **FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

The adoption of the CMG will enable Council to apply for Heritage grants to maintain the cemetery

5. **SOCIAL IMPACTS**

The CMG will provide guidelines for the ongoing care and maintenance of the Alice Springs General Cemetery

6. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The environmental impacts will be minimal

Report No. 153 / 20 ts

7. PUBLIC RELATIONS

The CMG and CMP will ensure the Alice Springs General Cemetery is maintained into the future

8. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: [Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines](#)
Attachment B: [Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plan](#)



Scott Allen
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES



ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY

Conservation and Management Guidelines



9.2

LOT 1027 (RES 1216)
MEMORIAL DRIVE
ALICE SPRINGS

Executive Summary

The Alice Springs General Cemetery was declared a heritage place under the NT Heritage Conservation Act in 2008 and included on the NT Heritage Register. It continues to be protected under the NT Heritage Act 2011. It is also on the National Trust of Australia's (NT) Register of Significant Places.

The Cemetery Advisory Committee (CAC) commissioned the writing of a Conservation & Management Plan (CMP) for the Alice Springs General Cemetery (also known as the Memorial Cemetery). Council has provided an over-arching document which outlines the disparities between the CMP and the Conservation & Management Guidelines.

Whilst Council has accepted the CMP as written by authors Robyn Gregory and Domenico Peccorari, the Heritage Branch advised Council to provide an over-arching document that clarifies Council's position on specific aspects of the CMP that it does not endorse.

Introduction

Location:

The Cemetery consists of Lot 1027 (Res 1216) and is controlled by the Department of Housing and Community Development (which includes Local Government) and managed by the Alice Springs Town Council

Brief:

A Conservation and Management Plan (CMP) is the main guiding document for the conservation and future use of a heritage place.

The CMP identifies what elements are of cultural heritage significance, and ensure all future maintenance, conservation and development is done with close consideration of these significant elements. The CMP assists in understanding and assessing maintenance works proposed for a heritage place.

The CMP identifies:

- the heritage values or significance of a place
- the conservation policies to be applied to protect that significance in the face of change and
- strategies by which the policies will be put into action

Authorship:

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plans were written by Robyn Gregory and Domenico Pecorari. These guidelines are written by Scott Allen, Director Technical Services, Alice Springs Town Council

Client:

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plans were prepared for the Alice Springs Town Council

Limitations:

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Alice Springs Town Council

This publication is not intended to constitute legal advice.

While reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the contents of this publication are factually correct, the Alice Springs Town Council does not accept responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the contents, and shall not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance on, the contents of this publication.

Anomalies between CMP and the CMG

- Olive Trees - The authors advised Council that all Olive Trees must be removed from the site immediately. Council is not of the same opinion as the authors on this item
- Trees - the authors advised Council that all trees should be removed from the site. Council is not of the same opinion as the authors on this item

Historical Evidence

The historical evidence of the Alice Springs General Cemetery is contained in the Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plans. Council concurs with the heritage listing of the Alice Springs General Cemetery.

As stated previously, Council does not share similar views pertaining to specific aspects of the CMP as the document authors.

ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY - SCOPE OF WORKS

Maintenance Program

Statement of Approach

The Burra Charter defines maintenance as the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place. Maintenance can take the form of corrective maintenance, planned maintenance or emergency maintenance. Damage is caused to heritage places for a number of reasons including neglect and vandalism.

A maintenance plan is a cost-effective means to maintain the value of the site through a process of:

- regular maintenance,
- monitoring of the fabric (i.e. all the various elements of the site); and
- minimising the need for emergency works.

A conservation approach that emphasises regular preventative maintenance is the best type of conservation strategy. All conservation work depends on making regular inspections and reporting on the defects factually, in order to correctly diagnose the cause(s) of decay and to propose an effective solution that involves minimum intervention. This close examination of the site and all its elements also requires the ability to appreciate the ‘messages’ within these elements and its heritage values.

Currently, maintenance work includes:

TASKS	TIME FRAMES
Mowing of grass and tree pruning;	As Required
Maintenance of War Graves	Daily
Maintenance of Grave Sites	Daily
Spraying of weeds	Monthly
Watering of plantings	Weekly
Cleaning of toilets in the Cemetery Lodge	Weekly
Periodic repainting of the Cemetery Lodge	Annual

Repairs to the water reticulation system	Weekly
Repairs to boundary fencing as and when required	As Required
Repairs to signage	As Required
Re-levelling and compacting of the gravel and earth avenues and perimeter thoroughfares	As Required

Regular Maintenance, Inspections and Monitoring of the Fabric

The existing maintenance program should be augmented with regular monitoring of the condition of the Cemetery as a whole, as well as particular elements. A Maintenance Inspection Schedule is attached at Appendix 6. This schedule, or checklist, has been developed to conform with the policies in the Conservation Plan. It is intended as a guide and should be reviewed by the Alice Springs Town Council prior to its adoption and implementation, and be updated as may be required from time to time. The frequency of inspection should be determined to reflect factors such as the discovery of vandalism or damage following a storm, but should be undertaken no less than once a year.

Referencing

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Plans is an excellent source of historical data pertaining to the Alice Springs General Cemetery. Council regularly references the document when provide feedback to queries pertaining to specific questions about the cemetery.

Burra Charter

The Burra Charter should be included in all CMPs as an appendix with reference made to it in the text, including the policies, as relevant.

Approval Process

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines will be endorsed by Council.

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines will reference the documentation written by the authors.

Public Access to the Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines

A copy of the approved Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines will be available on Council’s website.

Revision History

The Alice Springs General Cemetery - Conservation and Management Guidelines will be reviewed in 2025.

Adopted by Council - Date		Resolution #	
Document Owner	Director Technical Services	Controller	Technical Services

Alice Springs General Cemetery

Conservation and Management Plans



9.2

December 2018

*Prepared by R. Gregory & Associates Pty Ltd with D. Pecorari and Associates Pty Ltd
for the
Alice Springs Town Council*

Acknowledgements

The authors wish to acknowledge the advice and assistance of the following individuals in the preparation of this report:

- Andy Roberts, Land Information Service, Department Lands Planning and Environment (now Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics) for the provision of aerial photographs;
- Carolyn Newman, formerly of the Northern Territory Archives Service, Alice Springs, for access to photographs in the Finlayson Collection;
- Geoff Miers for advice regarding various plant species;
- Katelyn Hemsley for generously sharing aspects of her research on the Alice Springs General Cemetery;
- Kel Pearce, Office of Australian War Graves, Department of Veteran's Affairs for the provision of early photographs of the War Cemetery;
- Martin Glass, formerly President, Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch for advice regarding the War Cemetery;
- Michael Wells and Malcolm Connelly, Heritage Branch, Department Tourism and Culture, for the provision of various reports and useful discussions; and
- Greg Buxton (formerly Alice Springs Town Council), and Scott Allen (Alice Springs Town Council).

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Introduction and structure of this document

The Alice Springs General Cemetery was declared a heritage place under the NT *Heritage Conservation Act* in 2008 and included on the NT Heritage Register. It continues to be protected under the NT *Heritage Act 2011*. It is also on the National Trust of Australia's (NT) Register of Significant Places.

The General Cemetery also includes a specific War Graves Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel are scattered throughout the General Cemetery. The War Cemetery and some of the individual burials are managed by the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC).

The Cemetery consists of Lot 1027 (Res 1216) and is controlled by the Department of Housing and Community Development (which includes Local Government) and managed by the Alice Springs Town Council.

In May 2013 the Alice Springs Town Council sought to have a Conservation and Management Plan (C&MP) prepared for the Cemetery in order to guide future works whilst retaining and enhancing the significance of the site. A copy of the scope of works for the preparation of the C&MP is included at Appendix 1 to this Plan. An initial draft of the Plan was submitted to Council in October 2013 and following receipt of comments in June 2014, a near final draft of the Plan was prepared in July that year. However work on the Plan ceased by mutual agreement at this time and it was not until late 2018 that Council sought to have this Plan completed. This has provided a unique opportunity to document physical changes to the fabric of the Cemetery over a five year period and has thus necessitated updating the physical description of the site. Since 2013 Council has also opened the Cemetery Lodge for visitors on a more regular basis. These and other changes have been incorporated into this revised document where appropriate.

The Plan has been prepared by R Gregory and Associates Pty Ltd and Domenico Pecorari & Associates Pty Ltd, with input and advice from representatives from the Alice Springs Town Council, the Office of Australian War Graves, Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch, and NT Heritage Branch.

The effects of weathering and deterioration are inevitable on any historic site. The purpose of conservation is to slow down the rate of decay, remove any causes of structural instability, provide physical security whilst preserving as much as possible of the significance and original material. No works should ever seek a return to a pristine or highly restored condition, nor attempt to alter the intended appearance of the original feature.

Conservation and Management Plans are vital for ensuring heritage places are well managed and their values conserved for current and future generations. In both the Conservation and Management Plans, each policy is presented, accompanied by an explanation of why that particular policy has been developed. In other words, how each policy relates to retaining and/or enhancing the significance of site, and where appropriate, how it represents professional heritage conservation practice.

In addition to conservation and management policies, a range of conservation works have been identified for the Alice Springs General Cemetery. These works have been grouped according to type or 'trade'. This has been done for several reasons. Firstly, in order to make it easier to identify potential conservation works projects which might be funded through various grant programs or particular sponsors. Secondly, this is a more cost effective approach, rather than undertaking works to individual graves one at a time, particularly where specialist trades are required. For example, it is not cost effective to bring in a lead-lettering specialist to repair only one or two graves; however there are cost savings to be had if this specialist is brought in to repair all the lead-lettering at the Cemetery at the one time (and even more so if combined with similar works at other Cemeteries in Alice Springs where appropriate). Thirdly, by grouping such works it is possible to appreciate the scale or magnitude of the required conservation works as well the urgency; for example indicating that only one grave in Section 1 requires lead lettering to be repaired, two in Section 2 and so on does not seem like a great deal of work. However, the information that within the Cemetery there are at least dozen graves requiring this work as a matter of urgency clearly indicates at a glance the scale of the work required.

The **Conservation Plan** describes the conservation approach and principles, contextual information including historic data, physical features of the Cemetery, significance (heritage values) of the site and a series of recommended conservation policies for the Cemetery.

The **Management Plan** describes the administrative and legal framework, roles and responsibilities of particular organisations, identifies specific conservation works for the

Cemetery, describes recommended conservation techniques, as well as addressing maintenance.

The **Appendices** include the original 2013 scope for the preparation these Plans, summary information on some of the individuals buried in the Cemetery, glossary of terminology, guidelines for the preparation of a Damage/Loss Mitigation Plan, guide for contractors, and Inspection schedule templates.

2018 CONSERVATION PLAN



9.2

ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY

THE CONSERVATION PLAN

Part 1 of this Conservation Plan begins by describing the conservation approach, the underlying principles which guide decision-making in relation to heritage places, including understanding the significance or heritage values of a site, and why it is important to understand these values.

Part 2 provides some brief background information regarding general changes in how cemeteries in Australia were created and laid out in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and why cemeteries not just in Australia but also overseas, tend to end up being included on various Heritage Registers or otherwise recognised as places of cultural significance. As the Alice Springs General Cemetery includes a War Cemetery, and other individual graves of ex-service personnel are scattered throughout the General Cemetery, a summary of the guiding principles for War cemeteries and graves is also provided in this section. Differences in design principles and underlying philosophy between General Cemeteries and War Cemeteries will become apparent.

Part 3 examines the significance of the Alice Springs General Cemetery. As part of this process, the historical and social setting is described before specific historical details pertaining to the Cemetery. A physical description of the Cemetery is then provided, accompanied by site and Section plans as well as photographs. The heritage values of the site as a whole are then outlined, followed by a breakdown of the relative significance of different elements of the Cemetery.

Part 4 combines the identification of cultural resource management issues with the development of Conservation policies for the Cemetery. These issues include current and future uses, conservation and other works (e.g. landscaping), conservation and management roles and responsibilities, un-marked graves and other archaeological material, education and interpretation, as well as maintenance principles. To address these issues general policies have been prepared for the site as a whole as well as specific policies for particular elements such as fencing and gates, avenues, perimeter thoroughfares, pathways between the rows, perimeter kerbing to the sections, Cemetery Lodge, un-marked and marked graves.

Note that within this document the War Graves Cemetery and graves of ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery which are maintained by the Office of Australian War

Graves, are treated separately both for administrative purposes and reasons relating to the significance of these particular burials.

Part 5 of the Conservation Plan describes the timing and mechanisms for reviewing the Conservation Plan in the future.

Part 1: The Conservation approach

9.2

1.1. Why it is important to understand the significance (heritage values) of a heritage place

In the field of heritage conservation, decisions regarding how to look after heritage places are not made on an ad hoc basis, through guess-work, or on the whim of particular individuals or interest groups. Rather, the fundamental principle upon which all decision making rests is an understanding of the *cultural significance* of the place, its heritage values. This is the guiding principle of the *Burra Charter* and indeed, all heritage conservation within Australia¹ and overseas². Failure to properly understand a site's significance and its heritage values can result in work being undertaken which destroys those very elements which make a heritage place just that.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present and future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric (i.e. all the physical material of a place), setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. The term cultural significance is synonymous with heritage significance and cultural heritage value³.

Heritage places are unique and no two are the same, even those within the same broad category or those which may share similar characteristics e.g. gold mining sites, WWII sites, cemeteries, fossil sites, gardens. Each place has its own heritage values specific to that place from which it derives its significance, authenticity and integrity.

¹ E.g. Sullivan, S. 1993. Conservation Policy Delivery. In M.MacLean (ed.) *Cultural Heritage in Asia and the Pacific: Conservation and Policy*, pp.15-26. The J Paul Getty Trust.
Pearson, M. And Sullivan, S. 1995. *Looking After Heritage Places: the basics of Heritage Planning for Managers, Landowners and Administrators*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton.

Australia ICOMOS 2013. *The Burra Charter: the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013*. Australia ICOMOS, Burwood.

² E.g. Worthing, D. and Bond, S. 2008. *Managing Built Heritage: the role of significance*. Blackwell Publishing, Oxford.

³ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.2.

Work which may be appropriate on one particular historic mining site, for example, will not necessarily be appropriate on other historic mining sites. Additionally, while most work which occurs on Cemeteries is well-intentioned, it is equally important that it is well-informed. Simply because the proposed work springs from a desire to care for a place, does not automatically mean that work is appropriate and will maintain or enhance the significance of a heritage place.

For these reasons, Part 3 of the Plan describes the site's significance (heritage values) in detail. This is necessary because, in accordance with the principles and processes of the *Burra Charter*, it is this knowledge that primarily contributes to the development of the *conservation* and management policies, as well as informing on the range of conservation works identified for the Cemetery.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance⁴. Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a use; retention of associations and meanings; maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation and interpretation; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these⁵.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction⁶.

Preservation means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration⁷.

Restoration means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material⁸.

Reconstruction means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric⁹.

Adaptation means modifying a place to suit the existing use or proposed use¹⁰.

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place¹¹.

⁴ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.4.

⁵ *The Burra Charter*, article 14.1.

⁶ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.5.

⁷ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.6.

⁸ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.7.

⁹ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.8.

¹⁰ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.9.

1.2. Cautious approach

Heritage conservation is based on a respect for the existing **fabric**, use, associations and meanings. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible¹². Changes to a place should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture¹³.

Fabric means all the physical material of the place, including components, fixtures, contents and objects¹⁴. Fabric includes building interiors and sub-surface remains. Fabric may define spaces and views which are of themselves important elements of the significance of the place.

Such an approach is based on undertaking sufficient research and consideration of the significance of the heritage place before planning and undertaking any works. Only those conservation works absolutely necessary to retaining the significance of a place should be undertaken. The aim of such works is not to return a place to a pristine or highly restored condition, but to slow down the rate of decay and retain as much of the significant fabric as possible.

1.3. Knowledge, skills and techniques

Conservation should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of a heritage place¹⁵. Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the conservation of significant fabric¹⁶. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate. However, use of such materials and techniques must be supported by firm scientific evidence or by a body of experience¹⁷. It is therefore important that when conservation works are undertaken that qualified and experienced conservators, such as heritage architects, archaeologists, engineers, stonemasons and historic building contractors undertake the work, with volunteers providing a support role¹⁸.

In order to understand the significance of the site it is important to know as much as possible about the history of the site, as well as understanding its context (i.e. the broader historical

¹¹ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.17.

¹² *The Burra Charter*, article 3.1.

¹³ *The Burra Charter*, article 3.2

¹⁴ *The Burra Charter*, article 1.3.

¹⁵ *The Burra Charter*, article 4.1

¹⁶ *The Burra Charter*, article 4.2.

¹⁷ *The Burra Charter*, Explanatory Notes

¹⁸ National Trust 2009. *Guidelines for Cemetery Conservation*. National Trust of Australia (NSW) *Historic Cemeteries Trust of New Zealand*, available at www.cemeteries.org.nz [accessed 2013]
English Heritage 2011. *Caring for Historic Graveyard and Cemetery Monuments*. English Heritage, London.

and social setting). This includes knowing something of cemetery creation and design in Australia at a broad level, as well as why so many cemeteries end up on various heritage registers, both in Australia and overseas.

Part 2: Cemeteries generally

2.1. Brief overview of cemetery creation and design in the late 19th and early 20th Century

In Australia, in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, areas of land in urban and rural areas were set aside as reserves for cemetery purposes and were specifically included in surveys of any new settlements. General cemeteries, particularly the smaller cemeteries in rural areas, were usually laid out in a simple east-west north-south grid, divided into denominational sections¹⁹. Headstones were usually situated at the western end of each plot, facing the rising sun²⁰.

Prior to this time, in isolated areas, there was no government provision for burials and outside of defined districts or boundaries, family cemeteries or lone graves were the norm. When small religious communities were established, churchyards or denominational burial grounds were created for those of that particular faith²¹. In the NT for example, the Mt Riddock Cemetery nearby Mt Riddock Homestead is an example of a predominately family cemetery while the old Hermannsburg Cemetery is an example of a cemetery created for those of the Christian (Lutheran) faith. Generally, it was not until an area was officially recognised as a town or settlement and surveyed, that the government would make provision for a general cemetery for the community²².

Elsewhere in Australia, many urban and rural centres also have cemeteries owned and controlled by Church authorities. These cemeteries are often described as churchyards and are usually located in close proximity to existing Churches²³.

¹⁹ National Trust. 2009, p12, 18.

²⁰ National Trust 2009, p18.

²¹ National Trust 2009, p12.

²² National Trust 2009, p12.

²³ National Trust 2009, p15.

Cemeteries established in Australia in the 20th Century also reveal a broadening of faiths in our society and our increasing multiculturalism, evidenced in the provision for a wider range of religious denominations²⁴.

Lawn cemeteries were introduced in the 1950s²⁵ and this saw many general cemeteries either partly or wholly laid out as lawn cemeteries, either within one or more denominational sections. Crematorium walls became common features of general cemeteries²⁶.

2.2. War Cemeteries and individual graves of ex-service personnel

In Australia, War cemeteries were initially established for those Australians who died on home soil during WWII or as a result of their service during WWI²⁷. Many of these cemeteries are situated close to the sites of WWII military bases and facilities²⁸.

War Cemeteries in the NT include Adelaide River and Alice Springs. Both centres were headquarters for a large military presence during WWII. The Adelaide River War Cemetery was created for the burial of service personnel who died in the Top End. The Army Graves Service also re-located graves from isolated sites and temporary military burial grounds as well as various civil cemeteries in the Top End into the Adelaide River War Cemetery. The Cemetery was taken over by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in 1947²⁹.

The Alice Springs War Cemetery is located within the Alice Springs General Cemetery and was established during WWII as the location for those service personnel who passed away in the southern part of the NT. According to the CWGC website, the War Cemetery contains the graves of one sailor, 25 soldiers, and three airmen grouped together, and one individual in the Church of England section (Section 3)³⁰. Note that this description does not recognise the number of individual graves of ex-service personnel situated elsewhere in the General Cemetery (refer part 3.3.4 of this Plan).

²⁴ National Trust 2009, p5.

²⁵ National Trust 2009, p24.

²⁶ National Trust 2009, p19.

²⁷ www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/remembling_war_dead/WWI_WWII/Pages/cemeteries%20aus.aspx. OAWG also maintains Cowra Japanese War Cemetery and Tatura German War Cemetery for their respective Governments. [accessed 2013]

²⁸ www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/remembling_war_dead/WWI_WWII/Pages/cemeteries%20aus.aspx. [accessed 2013]

²⁹ www.dva.gov.au/commems-owag/OAWG/post_war_commemorations/cemet_AU/Pages/nt.aspx. [accessed 2013]

³⁰ www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/2023512/ALICE%SPRINGS%CEMETERY [accessed 2013]

All Commonwealth War cemeteries are designed according to a particular set of principles, first espoused by Sir Frederic Kenyon in 1918 in his report³¹ to the Imperial War Graves Commission, the precursor organisation to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The most important principle is that of equality; all service personnel are treated the same, regardless of rank or social standing in civilian life. Kenyon felt that the provision of memorials could not be left up to individuals as this would see some service personnel with elaborate monuments overshadowing poorer ones or those without a memorial, resulting in a haphazard and disordered collection of memorials without any uniformity or congruity. The “whole sense of comradeship and common service would be lost”³². In contrast, rows of uniform headstones should give the appearance of a battalion on parade and suggest the “spirit of discipline and order which is the soul of an army”³³. Kenyon’s advice included prescribing the size of the headstones, recommending simplicity of design as well as prescribing the detail of inscriptions on the headstones³⁴.

In addition to advice for the design of Commonwealth War cemeteries, Kenyon also provided guidelines for individual graves of ex-service personnel not located within a War cemetery. They were to be marked by uniform headstones, differentiated only by their inscriptions. The latter would include the national emblem or regimental badge, rank, name, unit, date of death and age of each casualty, inscribed above an appropriate religious dedication with provision for a more personal dedication chosen by relatives. Where there was a risk of earth movement, graves were to be marked by bronze plaques on low pedestals³⁵. These design principles can be seen in the Alice Springs War Cemetery and at individual graves of ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery today.

2.3. Why conserve Cemeteries?

It is useful to briefly consider why so many cemeteries end up being included on various Heritage Registers, both within Australia and overseas. What is it about cemeteries generally that makes them worthy of this level of recognition and protection?

Given that the main purpose of a cemetery is to provide a place to bury and commemorate the dead, cemeteries are usually places that are viewed by the wider community as places

³¹ Kenyon, F. 1918. *War Graves: how the cemeteries abroad will be designed*. Report to the Imperial War Graves Commission. His Majesty’s Stationary Office, London. p6 Available on-line at www.nla.gov.au/nla/gen-vn4704308 [accessed 2013]

³² Kenyon 1918, p6

³³ Kenyon 1918, p7.

³⁴ Kenyon 1918

³⁵ Kenyon 1918

that deserve respect and deference³⁶. However it is not just for this reason alone, that cemeteries are important places to retain and conserve. Other reasons can be summarised as follows:

- As an important record of the social history of the area it serves;
- As a repository of biographical information available to the community;
- As a direct, tangible link to the lives of all, rich and poor;
- As a valuable record of the customs, tastes and traditions of earlier times;
- As cultural landscapes;
- As places which may demonstrate the technical skills of local crafts people e.g. in the carvings of monuments and decorations, or blacksmithing;
- As places that interweave architecture, sculpture, landscape, wildlife and poetry;
- As public open spaces, providing places for rest and contemplation, opportunities for fresh air and exercise, or as places for quiet communion with nature;
- As places importance for the maintenance of biodiversity;
- For their historic plantings; and
- As the last resting place of individuals who have contributed in some form towards the development of the area or wider region³⁷.

For these reasons the conservation of cemeteries follows several broad principles. These include the need to appreciate all the factors that contribute to the significance (heritage values) of the cemetery and its surrounds, to respect the original intention of the memorial or headstone, and to carry out physical conservation of the cemetery (and memorials) with the aim of conserving its significance and setting³⁸. Before these principles relating to conservation work are adopted, it is first necessary to understand the significance of the particular cemetery and/or memorial(s).

Part 3: The Alice Springs General Cemetery

Part 2.3 considered cemeteries generally but as already stated earlier, no two heritage places are the same, each is unique with its own heritage values. Part 3 of this Plan considers the significance of the Alice Springs General Cemetery in detail.

³⁶ English Heritage. 2007. *Paradise Preserved: an introduction to the assessment, evaluation, conservation and management of historic cemeteries*. English Heritage, London.

³⁷ English Heritage 2007

English Heritage 2011

National Trust 2009

Tasmanian Heritage Council. N.d *Practice Note 11: managing the heritage value of cemeteries*. Available on-line at [www.11%20Practice%20Note%20-%20managing%20the%20heritage%20values%20of%20cemeteries\[1\].pdf](http://www.11%20Practice%20Note%20-%20managing%20the%20heritage%20values%20of%20cemeteries[1].pdf) [accessed 2013]

³⁸ Pearson and Sullivan 1995 p246

The statement of heritage value developed for the Cemetery by the NT Heritage Council is as follows:

The Alice Springs General Cemetery is of significance to the Territory and is valued by the community principally as the last resting place of many individuals and families who played an important pioneering role in the development of the Territory's pastoral, mining and transport industries, arts and culture, and the areas of education, law and order. Individuals interred in the Cemetery include noted Aboriginal artist Albert Namatjira and Territory architect Beni Carr Glynn Burnett. Although not officially proclaimed as a Cemetery until 1949, burials occurred between 1933 up until 1995 when the Cemetery was closed with exceptions. The relatively open, simple yet formal Cemetery layout is a reminder that even after the arrival of the railway in 1929 life in the Centre continued to be characterised by harsh and basic conditions.

While this statement gives an indication of the site's significance at a broad level sufficient for inclusion on the NT Heritage Register, it lacks the detail required in order to inform on the development of conservation and management policies regarding different aspects of the Cemetery's care. The following part of this Plan will therefore look at the Cemetery's significance (heritage values) in greater detail.

In order to understand the Cemetery's significance (its heritage values) it is important to know something of its history, the circumstances surrounding its establishment including the town's population and medical facilities, and subsequent development. (i.e. the setting) as these events have collectively resulted in what we see today at the site.

3.1. The historical and social setting

Although the Alice Springs Telegraph Station was established in the early 1870s, it was not until 1888 that a new settlement to the south of the Station was officially surveyed and proclaimed as the township of Stuart. Surveyor David Lindsay allowed for 104 blocks on the western bank of the Todd River, comprising what is now known as the central business district bound by Wills, Leichhardt, Gregory and Railway Terraces³⁹. Notably, he did not include a cemetery in his survey and it was not until the death of Fred Spicer in early

³⁹ Donovan, P. 1988. *Alice Springs: its history and the people who made it*. Alice Springs Town Council: Alice Springs, p75;
Holmes, K. 1990. *Alice Springs: the first 104 Lots*. Unpublished report prepared for the National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory), Darwin

November 1889 that the South Australian Government⁴⁰ realised there was a need for a town cemetery⁴¹. It is unknown whether officials in Adelaide knew precisely where Spicer was buried when they selected an area of five acres (2.24ha) to the southwest of the town for the Cemetery, given that this initial area did not include his grave. It was not until 1961 that the final boundaries of the Cemetery were officially surveyed⁴². It was officially named the Stuart Memorial Cemetery in December 1968⁴³.

The development of Stuart in the late 1880s was prompted by the rush of miners to the eastern MacDonnell Ranges searching for rubies and gold⁴⁴. The European population on the Arltunga and Winnecke goldfields far outnumbered that at Stuart, particularly during the early 20th Century; for example in 1903 there were as many as 300 men on the fields⁴⁵ compared to about a dozen at Stuart. Arltunga remained the largest European settlement in Central Australia up until 1933 when its population was finally surpassed by that at Stuart (Alice Springs)⁴⁶. The only other settlement of any size in the region at that time was the Hermannsburg Mission, 130km west of Stuart⁴⁷.

In contrast to the goldfields, the township of Stuart grew slowly. In 1907 the main nucleus of the town was centred on Wills Terrace and Hartley Street and the permanent European population at this time numbered only about a dozen⁴⁸. The Administration of the NT was transferred from SA to the Commonwealth in 1911 but this had little effect on the town at the time⁴⁹. Stuart remained isolated and all goods had to be transported from the south via the Afghans and their camels. Even at the beginning of the 1920s life was still very basic. Bob Laver recalled that it took his family nearly two weeks to travel from Oodnadatta to Alice Springs⁵⁰.

From the 1870s up until the WWI period there were no formal health services for either the European or Indigenous population. Early European settlers in the region had to cope with their health issues as best as they could. Medications arrived in a powdered form by camel

⁴⁰ The Northern Territory was part of South Australia up until 1911 when responsibility was transferred to the Commonwealth Government (Cross 2011).

⁴¹ Strong, B. 1999. Stuart Town Cemetery. Unpublished manuscript prepared for the National Trust of Australia (NT), Alice Springs. p1

⁴² Strong 1999, p1-2

⁴³ *NT Government Gazette* No. 54

⁴⁴ Donovan, 1988, p75

⁴⁵ Donovan 1988, p80

⁴⁶ Holmes 1990, p12

⁴⁷ Hartwig, M.C. 1965. The progress of white settlement in the Alice Springs district and its effects upon the Aboriginal inhabitants 1860-1894. Unpublished PhD thesis, University of Adelaide, Adelaide.

⁴⁸ Holmes 1990; Donovan 1988, p105

⁴⁹ Donovan 1988, p106

⁵⁰ Donovan 1988, p107

train with instructions on how to mix them and when necessary those that were able to, sought advice from doctors in Adelaide via the Overland telegraph line. The few European women in the region assisted each other during childbirth and later Mrs Lizzie Nicker, who lived at Ryan's Well from 1914 where she also ran the post and telegraph office, was considered the town's unofficial midwife and nurse⁵¹.

In 1912 a Presbyterian Minister, the Reverend John Flynn, established the Australian Inland Mission (A.I.M). A nursing home had been established at the railhead town of Oodnadatta the previous year and in 1913 Flynn visited Central Australia. Following that visit he decided that the second AIM hostel should be established at Stuart as it was from here that many people from Central Australia began their journey south when seeking medical treatment. In 1915 he sent the town's first official nursing sister, Sister Jean Finlayson, to Stuart but despite her arrival, there were no dedicated medical facilities, nor permanent doctor⁵². Medical conditions requiring an expert opinion involved travelling to the Alice Springs Telegraph Station and communicating with a doctor in Adelaide or Darwin by telegram. Instructions for treatment would then be relayed back⁵³. Those people who could not be treated in this way had to undertake days of travel by buggy south to Oodnadatta; from there they could travel by train further south to Adelaide if necessary. Patients did not always survive the rigours of this journey; one of the most notable instances of this was Pastor Carl Strehlow's ill-fated journey from Hermannsburg south for medical assistance in 1922; he died en route at Horseshoe Bend⁵⁴.

Lack of resources and other circumstances saw AIM hospitals established in remote areas of the Top End in 1916 (Maranboy) and 1924 (Victoria River Downs) before Stuart's hostel, known as Adelaide House, was completed in 1926⁵⁵. For almost 15 years it would be the only source of nursing aid in the Centre⁵⁶.

By this time, around the mid-1920s, the township of the Stuart was still a tiny settlement consisting of the Stuart Arms Hotel, Wallis Fogarty's store, a police station, gaol, saddler's shop, about half a dozen residences, a Chinese baker, and a cafe. Scattered around the town area were the camps of Afghan camel drivers, a few Chinese and a number of white

⁵¹ Cockrill, P. 1999. *Healing the Heart: 60 years of the Alice Springs Hospital*. Privately published by the author. p2.

⁵² Donovan 1988 p175; Cockrill 1999 p3

⁵³ Cockrill 1992 p3

⁵⁴ Strehlow, T.G.H. 1969. *Journey to Horseshoe Bend*. Rigby Limited: Adelaide.

⁵⁵ Although construction work had commenced in 1920 the building was not finished until 1926.

⁵⁶ Donovan 1988 p175, 177

drovers⁵⁷. Water was carted from private wells about 25' deep⁵⁸. Several miles to the west was a cleared area created in 1920 by police, prison labour and volunteers, as a landing strip for Lt Francis Briggs, who landed in a DH 4 biplane on the 5th October 1921, the first plane to land in Alice Springs. This area became known as the Townsite Aerodrome but it was not until the mid 1930s that regular commercial flights out of Alice Springs became available, initially by the short-lived Australian Transcontinental Airways, and later in 1937 by Guinea Airways⁵⁹.

The implementation of the *North Australia Act* in 1926 saw the governance of the NT divided into two areas, Northern Australia and Central Australia, before the Act was repealed in 1931⁶⁰. As a result there was some growth in Stuart and construction of new buildings to house the new Central Australian Administration⁶¹. Nevertheless although the town's role as a service centre and seat of government expanded, the population itself remained small; in 1927 there were only 40 permanent European residents⁶². In 1928 the European population of Central Australia was recorded as 400, with around 5,550 Aborigines⁶³. The Depression had little effect on Central Australia owing to the small population, low level economic activity and isolation⁶⁴.

The arrival of the railway in mid-1929 ameliorated the town's isolation. It also rendered the Afghans and their camels redundant and it was not long before Stuart overtook Oodnadatta as the transport hub of the Centre. The arrival of the railway swelled the town's European population as many new arrivals were associated with the railway and to house them a number of cottages were built⁶⁵. It was during the few years following the arrival of the railway that new enterprises were established in the town, including additional accommodation facilities for visitors such as the Underdown's "Hotel Alice Springs" in Gregory Terrace and Hazel Golder's boarding house in Leichhardt Terrace and later Todd

⁵⁷ Donovan 1988 p107

Henson, B. 1992. *A Straight-out Man: F.W.Albrecht and Central Australian Aborigines*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton p20.

⁵⁸ Donovan 1988 p107

⁵⁹ Laws, P. and Gregory, R. 2008. Conservation and Management Plans Connellan Hangar Alice Springs. Unpublished report, Dept Natural Environment and the Arts, p7-8.

⁶⁰ Powell, A. 1988 [2nd ed]. *Far Country: a short history of the Northern Territory*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton, p169.

⁶¹ Donovan 1988 p138

⁶² Donovan 1988 p140

⁶³ Donovan 1988 p140

⁶⁴ Donovan 1988 p170

⁶⁵ Donovan 1988 p136, 144

Street⁶⁶. A new general Cemetery (what later became known as the Alice Springs Cemetery) was surveyed in 1930, on vacant crown land adjacent to the town's airstrip⁶⁷.

Despite this growth and influx of new residents and visitors, there was still little in the way of medical aid available to the people of Central Australia at the beginning of 1929. Dr William Walker spent 18 months travelling in the far north of South Australia and Central Australia in 1927 and 1928. As an amateur photographer he took over 10,000 photographs, as well as dispensing medicines and treating illnesses he encountered among both Aboriginal people and station folk⁶⁸. In his travels he noted the health conditions not only of the Indigenous population but also the Europeans. He wrote two linked reports while still in Alice Springs, one which reported on the condition of the Aboriginal people and the other on the necessity for an aerial medical service in the Interior. These reports included 53 of his annotated photographs; confronting images, never seen before by the politicians and public figures to which he sent copies of his reports⁶⁹. Walker achieved two results almost immediately, the first was that the Aboriginal Children's Home at Jay Creek was quickly completed, replacing the overcrowded Bungalow. The second was that by linking Indigenous health to the broader issue of access to health services in Central Australia, Walker succeeded in advancing the appointment of a resident medical officer in Alice Springs⁷⁰. Thus it was that the town finally gained a Government doctor, Dr Kirkland, in December 1929⁷¹. Kirkland remained for 18 months before being placed by Dr Brown. Both doctors held their clinic at Adelaide House as well as travelling to Aboriginal camps⁷². The coordinated Aerial Medical Service was not created until 1934⁷³.

The late 1920s-early 1930s also saw various religious denominations establish a permanent presence in the town. Up until this time only Presbyterian ministers of the Australian Inland Mission regularly travelled to Central Australia⁷⁴. Although Pastor Ernest Kramer had built a Church in the town in the mid-late 1920s, he received little support from the local white community owing to prejudices against the Lutheran missionaries⁷⁵. The Catholics arrived in 1929 and constructed a church in Hartley Street. Later, in 1935, they established a mission

⁶⁶ Donovan 1988 p146-147, 150

⁶⁷ Strong, B. 1995. Documentation of the Alice Springs General Cemetery. Unpublished report prepared for the National Trust of Australia (NT), Darwin.

⁶⁸ Jones, P. 2011. *Images of the Interior: Seven Central Australian Photographers*. South Australian Museum/Wakefield Press, Adelaide p115-121.

⁶⁹ Jones 2011 p115-121

⁷⁰ Jones 2011 p115-121

⁷¹ Jones 2011 p121

⁷² Cockrill 1999 p3

⁷³ Jones 2011 p121

⁷⁴ Anon. 1967. The Churches of Central Australia. *The Inland Review*, December 1967, pp.22-29.

Donovan 1988 p148

⁷⁵ Anon 1967; Donovan 1988 p148

for Eastern Arrernte which became known as the Little Flower Mission. The Reverend Harry Griffiths was posted to Stuart in 1932 and opened the first Methodist Church in 1934. Although Anglican Minister Father Percy McDonald Smith arrived in 1933, he had few resources and it was not until 1936 that the first Anglican Church opened, in Bath Street⁷⁶.

News of a "spectacular find" at the Granites in mid-late 1932 resulted in a short-lived rush to the area and Stuart, being the nearest service centre experienced a boom. About nine months later there was a rush to the Tennant Creek field. This proved advantageous to Stuart because all supplies to the goldfields had to be transported there from the railhead⁷⁷. As a result, the European population of the town had swelled to more than 500 people by 1933⁷⁸. The confusion that had long existed concerning the name of the town was also resolved at this time when the name was officially changed from 'Stuart' to 'Alice Springs'⁷⁹.

The arrival of the railway and influx of people saw increasing use of Adelaide House for medical purposes. The Medical Officer of the Alice Springs district urged the transfer of Adelaide House to the NT Medical Service but despite support from the AIM, the majority of local residents were not in favour of the proposal. The Administration therefore had little choice but to construct its own medical facilities⁸⁰. Although planning work began in 1932 with the selection of a suitable site, lack of funding and delays in Canberra meant that final plans for the hospital were not completed until 1936. Tenders were let in 1937 and construction began in the latter half of that year and it opened in May 1939 as the town continued to expand south of Gregory Terrace⁸¹. With the opening of the new hospital, Adelaide House reverted to a hostel for inland families⁸². That same year also saw the establishment of a Royal Flying Doctor base at Alice Springs, a regular aerial mail service between Alice Springs and Wyndham, and regular flights to Adelaide⁸³. The combined effects of these developments mitigated the isolation of the Centre and improved access to medical services for the residents of Central Australia. Many health conditions that had previously been life-threatening with a very real risk of death, were now able to be treated in modern facilities.

The construction of a Government hospital to treat both the European and Indigenous populations had in part been spurred on by Dr Charles Duguid, who visited Alice Springs in

⁷⁶ Anon 1967; Donovan 1988 p148-149; O'Grady, F. 1977. *Francis of Central Australia*. Sydney, Wentworth.

⁷⁷ Donovan 1988 p168-170

⁷⁸ Donovan 1988 p222

⁷⁹ Donovan 1988 p136,155

⁸⁰ Donovan 1988 p177

⁸¹ Cockrill 1999 p7, 12; Donovan 1988 p177

⁸² Holmes 1990

⁸³ Donovan 1988 p177-182; Laws and Gregory 2008 p7-8

1934⁸⁴. He was appalled by the lack of medical facilities for Aboriginal people and upon his return to Adelaide, was vocal in calls for the construction of a public hospital. At the time of his visit very little medical care was provided for Aborigines outside the Darwin area until the 1930s and even then, it was of little substance⁸⁵. In Central Australia there was no hospital to which they could be admitted as the Australian Inland Mission (Adelaide House) refused to treat Aboriginal patients⁸⁶. A medical hut in the form of a galvanised iron shed was erected on the eastern banks of the Todd River about two miles (3km) from the town in the early-mid 1930s but was grossly inadequate in terms of size and construction⁸⁷. Apart from the missionaries at Hermannsburg, the only person who attempted to provide on-going health care for Aboriginal people was Annie Lock, although she lacked medical training and was only based in Central Australia between 1927 and 1932⁸⁸. During the entire time she was in Central Australia she never received any funding or physical supplies (e.g. food, medicine) from the Administration despite her repeated requests. Instead she was forced to rely on her Christian faith, her own meagre funds including her small inheritance, and the donations and goodwill of individuals and private organisations⁸⁹. Otherwise health care for Indigenous people in the region was limited to that provided by visiting doctors such as Dr William Walker⁹⁰, and travelling evangelists and missionaries such as Edgar Kramer⁹¹. It was not until the new hospital was constructed in 1939 that Indigenous people had access to the same medical facility as the European population⁹².

The impact of WWII was significant both in terms of increasing the town's population and providing new infrastructure. Alice Springs became the major supply base for troops stationed in northern Australia and although civilians remained in town, their movements were severely curtailed and they were outnumbered by service personnel. In this sense the town resembled a military camp even though it became the civilian capital of the Territory, and for a brief time in mid-1942 was mooted as the permanent post-war capital of the NT⁹³. Following the bombing of Darwin on 19 February 1942, the evacuation of civilians and

⁸⁴ Cockrill 1999 p6

⁸⁵ Markus, A. 1990. *Governing Savages*. Allen and Unwin, Sydney, p17

⁸⁶ Markus 1990 p17

⁸⁷ Markus 1990 p17

Cockrill 1999 p6

⁸⁸ Bishop, C.E. 1992. Lock, Ann (Annie). In D. Carment and B. James (eds.) *Northern Territory Dictionary of Biography, vol 2:116-118*. NTU Press: Casuarina.

Markus 1990 p17

⁸⁹ R Gregory and Associates. 2011. Annie Lock's Camp Heritage Assessment Report. Unpublished report prepared for the Heritage Branch, NRETAS.

⁹⁰ Jones 2011 p115-121

⁹¹ Jones 2011 p75

⁹² Rowse, T. 1998. *White Flour White Power: from rations to citizenship in Central Australia*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, p77

⁹³ Donovan 1988 p184-5, 194.

records to the Centre became more urgent⁹⁴. By March 1942 the population of the town consisted of 956 civilians and more than 3,000 military personnel, all of whom required accommodation and other facilities. Towards the end of the war the number of military personnel dropped from 8,000 to 3,666⁹⁵. Among the units based in Alice Springs during wartime was a War graves unit, 15 Graves Regn and Enq unit⁹⁶ and it appears that it was during WWII that a War Cemetery was physically established within the town's General Cemetery.

The impact of WWII benefitted the local economy, but besides prosperity, the war also resulted in the provision of valuable infrastructure that would not have otherwise been available at the time such as an abundant reticulated water supply; a larger power station constructed in the Sadadeen Range in 1942, and a new airport south of the Gap established in 1939⁹⁷. According to Donovan⁹⁸, these tangible legacies "were to play a fundamental role in the physical development of the town"; yet even more important was the fact that so many people had passed through Alice Springs during the war and had seen the economic opportunities. Alice was no longer considered remote⁹⁹.

By the late 1940s the town's population numbered around 2,078. The physical expansion of the town east of the Todd River and south towards the Gap was accompanied by a rapid diversification of the business community to include stock and station agents, an additional general merchandising and agency business, a pharmacy, jeweller and new banking facilities¹⁰⁰.

During the 1950s Alice Springs changed from an isolated country town to a favoured tourist destination of national prominence. Additional facilities were provided for residents and there were numerous organised sporting and recreational groups formed around this time¹⁰¹.

⁹⁴ Donovan 1988 p197-8

⁹⁵ Donovan 1988 p219

⁹⁶ Smith, A. 2000. *Convoys up the track: a history of 121st Australian General Transport Company (AIF) 1941-1946*. Griffin Press Ltd: Netley. p68.

⁹⁷ Donovan 1988 p219, 221

Dermoudy, P. 1989. *Down the Track: a military buff's guide to the Stuart Highway*. Unpublished report. Copy held by Heritage Conservation.

Strong, B. and Revel, J. 1995. *A brief history of the early electricity generation in Alice Springs*. Government Printer of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

Alford, R. 1999. *A heritage assessment of World War II sites in Alice Springs Part II: No. 4 Hele Crescent*. Unpublished report prepared for the Heritage Conservation Branch.

⁹⁸ Donovan 1988 p221

⁹⁹ Donovan 1988 p221

¹⁰⁰ Donovan 1988 p225, 227

¹⁰¹ Donovan 1988 p235-4, 248

The 1960s marked the beginning of the push towards local government and increasing efforts by the local community to have some control over the hitherto unchecked development¹⁰². This saw the creation of a Town Management Board in 1961 although it was purely an advisory board on local matters¹⁰³. While the tourism industry continued to underpin development, it was assisted by the increasing number of people employed by Government authorities¹⁰⁴. During this decade the town's population doubled to over 11,000 people. Additional water supplies from the underground Mereenie Basin were used to supplement the existing water supply and facilitated population expansions. This in turn placed pressure on available land for housing¹⁰⁵ and in 1964 the first part of stage one of the subdivision of the town's first aerodrome (later known as the Connellan aerodrome) was completed. For a time the new housing development of Gillen and the aerodrome co-existed with signage warning traffic to beware of taxiing aircraft but by June 1968 Connellan moved his operations south of Gap, to the present-day airport¹⁰⁶.

The social dynamics of the town also underwent change as a result of the establishment of Pine Gap, which occurred under the terms of a joint US/Australia agreement signed in December 1966. This resulted in the arrival of large numbers of Americans once the base became operational in 1970 and more than 200 houses were constructed during the period 1970-78¹⁰⁷. It was in the late 1970s that a new cemetery, the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery was established south of the town on the corner of what is now Norris Bell Avenue and the Stuart Highway.

By 1971 the population of Alice Springs was 11,172 and it was the fastest growing centre in the NT at the time. By 1981 the population had increased to 18,395¹⁰⁸. Tourism remained the fastest growing industry and during the period 1980-1985 the number of hotel and motel rooms doubled. It was evident by this time that the town had become a tourist support centre, rather than a pastoral service centre¹⁰⁹. By 1991 the town's population was 25,527 increasing to 27,092 in 1996, the year after the Alice Springs General Cemetery was closed with exception.

3.2. A history of the Alice Springs General Cemetery

Unlike the Stuart Memorial Cemetery, which was essentially created as an afterthought, the Alice Springs General Cemetery was planned and boundaries surveyed when it became apparent that the former was no longer adequate for the town and surrounding district's

¹⁰² Donovan 1988 p276
¹⁰³ Donovan 1988 p281
¹⁰⁴ Donovan 1988 p277
¹⁰⁵ Laws and Gregory 2008 p12
¹⁰⁶ Laws and Gregory 2008 p12
¹⁰⁷ Donovan 1988 p292-293
¹⁰⁸ Donovan 1988 p309
¹⁰⁹ Donovan 1988 p323

needs¹¹⁰. It is probably no coincidence that the initial survey for a new Cemetery occurred in 1930, the year after the arrival of the railway and influx of new residents to the town.

An area of vacant crown land well outside the town's boundaries, but adjacent to the airstrip was selected as the location of the new Cemetery. Government Surveyor John Driver surveyed the boundaries of the Cemetery in 1930 (which occupied an area of 40.5ha) although Surveyor Blakeway is credited with the creation of the Cemetery's layout, which consisted of nine Sections laid out in a north-south – east-west grid pattern. Blakeway is thought to have surveyed only a few plots in each section apart from Sections 3 and 9¹¹¹ (Figure 1).

The Stuart Memorial Cemetery was closed in 1932 and the first burial in the new Cemetery occurred in 1933¹¹². As noted above, at the time that the Cemetery was first established it was adjacent to the town's infrequently used airstrip. No other buildings or houses were in the vicinity and the cemetery would have been considered to have been located 'out of town', much in the same way that the current airport and Garden Cemetery are thought of as being 'outside of the town' although the latter lies within the municipal boundaries.

In common with general practices adopted elsewhere in Australia (e.g. NSW) in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries which saw general cemeteries dedicated as reserves for cemetery purposes and divided into different denominational sections¹¹³, the Alice Springs Cemetery was first gazetted as a Reserve¹¹⁴ and was similarly divided with provision for those belonging to different religious faiths; Roman Catholic, Methodist, Church of England, Lutheran, and "Mohammedan", as well as a section for Returned Soldiers (Figure 2). Unlike the Stuart Memorial Cemetery which lacks distinct sections, the provision for specific denominations in the new General Cemetery may be linked to developments in cemetery practice as well as the arrival of a permanent presence for various religious denominations in the town in the late 1920s-early 1930s, such as the Roman Catholics, Methodists and Anglicans, in addition to the Lutherans who had been in Central Australia for several decades.

¹¹⁰ Strong 1995 p2

¹¹¹ Strong 1995 p3

¹¹² Strong 1995 p3

¹¹³ National Trust 2009, p12

¹¹⁴ Strong 1995, p2. Gazetted as a Reserve occurred quite sometime after its initial survey.

Although Indigenous burials had occurred in the Stuart Memorial Cemetery¹¹⁵, it seems that no provision was made for a specific Indigenous section when the General Cemetery was first surveyed in 1930. It was not until sometime in early 1934 that a specific section of the Cemetery was reported as having been set aside for Aboriginal burials, following representations by the Aborigines Friends Association to the Commonwealth Government¹¹⁶. The first Indigenous burial is thought to have been that of an Indigenous woman, on the 16th March 1934¹¹⁷, known as Jessie¹¹⁸.

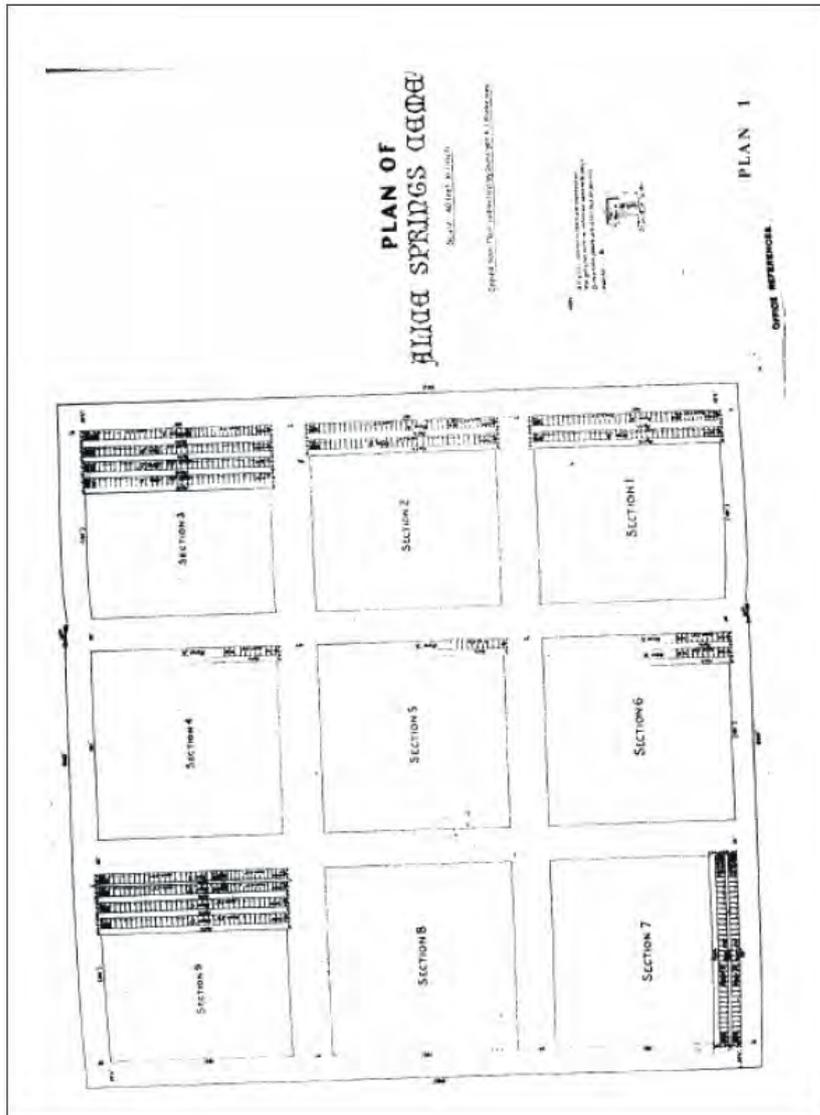


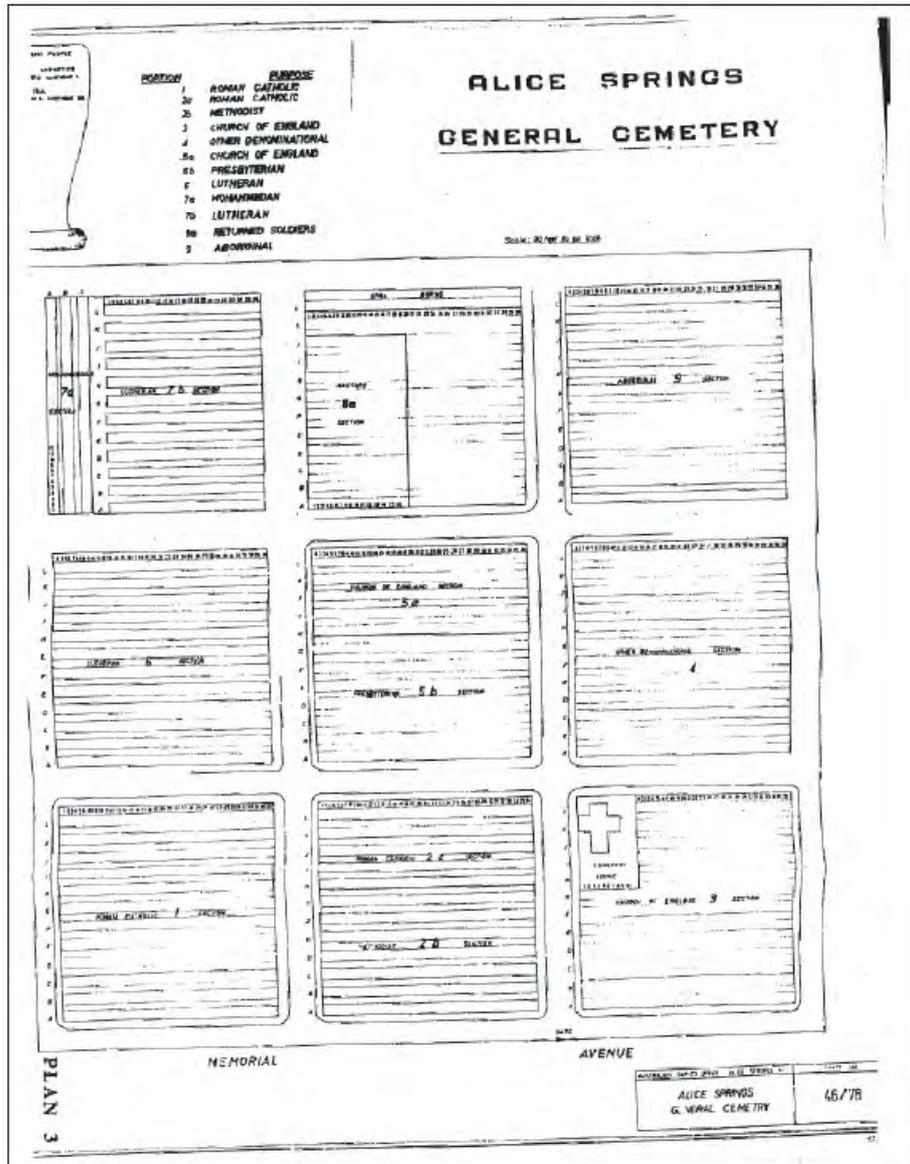
Figure 1. Plan of the Cemetery based on Blakeway's Plan.
Source: Strong 1995

¹¹⁵ Dr William Walker noted just before he left Alice Springs in 1928 to return to Adelaide that there were two new Aboriginal graves in the (Stuart Memorial) town cemetery, of children who had died of whooping cough and pneumonia (Jones 2011 p19).

¹¹⁶ Anon. *Advertiser* Saturday 12/5/1934, p10

¹¹⁷ Anon. *Advertiser* Saturday 12/5/1934, p10

¹¹⁸ Unpublished research by K. Hemsley, copy held by R. Gregory



9.2

Figure 2. Plan of the Cemetery showing sections allocated to different denominations. Source: Strong 1995

Provision was also made for an area for Stillborns, along the western end of Section 8¹¹⁹, although it is not known if this area was notionally set aside at the time that the Sections were being allocated to different denominations, or if this occurred at a later date. According to Hemsley¹²⁰, this area was set aside in order to facilitate a quick burial which authorities at the time thought was in the best interests of the parents. No religious or ethnic distinctions

¹¹⁹ Throughout the text of this document "Section 8" is used to refer to this entire Section; it should not be taken to mean only that part of this Section now referred to as "Section 8 Non-Denomination" by current on-site signage. To distinguish between the two, the latter is referred to as Section 8B in the text of this document.

¹²⁰ Hemsley, K. 2011 Rotary Peace Garden Booklet. Unpublished manuscript.

were made regarding this area; burials in this Section are those of Aboriginal, mixed descent, Afghan, Chinese and European racial background and of various religious faiths¹²¹. The first burial in the General Cemetery, which is (now) unmarked, was William Richey (Thompson) and occurred on January 26 1933 (Section 1 Row A Plot 1)¹²². The number of burials that occurred each year in the General Cemetery during the period 1933 – 1995 reflects the overall growth of the town and surrounding region prior to a sharp decline in the late 1970s, coincident with the establishment of the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery. Although burials began in 1933, the General Cemetery was not proclaimed until early March 1949, when it became officially known as the ‘Alice Springs Cemetery’ (Res 923)¹²³.

In 1939 aircraft movements at the Townsite Aerodrome became more frequent as Eddie Connellan completed construction of his Hangar and began regular mail runs and other flights. Despite the location of the Cemetery next to the aerodrome, aeroplane movements and engine testing ceased whenever there was a funeral as a mark of respect and to allow the cortege to move unimpeded down the edge of the runway¹²⁴. Photographs of the Connellan Hangar taken during the period 1939-1942¹²⁵ and which show parts of the Cemetery in the background, show a sparsely vegetated area, particularly the western portion; the only vegetation evident appears to native vegetation in the form of a few low shrubs.

It was noted above that during WWII, a military war graves unit was based in Alice Springs. During this period a number of serving personnel who died in the Territory were buried in the Cemetery. Several individuals were buried elsewhere prior to being re-interred in the War Cemetery; for example, at least four were buried in Tennant Creek before being re-buried in the War Cemetery. Another two individuals were initially buried in other parts of the Alice Springs General Cemetery in 1941 and 1942 before being re-interred in the War Cemetery in 1945¹²⁶. Some plans of the Cemetery show the section set aside for “Returned Soldiers” as running east-west along the southern part of Section 8 (e.g. Figure 2). Its actual configuration today and in photographs taken in the 1940s, is north-south along the eastern part of Section 8 (refer below). It seems the configuration shown on the early plans was never adopted in practice.

¹²¹ Hemsley 2011

¹²² Strong 1995 p3, 17. Although these fragments of plastic tile were visible in 2013, they could not be seen in 2018.

¹²³ *Commonwealth Gazette* 20, 10/3/1949

¹²⁴ Laws and Gregory 2008 p11

¹²⁵ In Laws and Gregory 2008

¹²⁶ NAA: A8234, 13. Northern Territory War and Civil Cemeteries.



Photographic evidence suggests that initially the graves of military personnel who died in the Territory during WWII were marked with a simple cross bearing the deceased's name, rank, AASC No. and date of death (Plate 1). It is known from archival records that Pte Davill was reburied in December 1943¹²⁷ and it may have been at this time that the grave marker was replaced with a more permanent marker, such as those shown in Plates 2 and 3. The date(s) these latter photographs were taken is unknown but they must post-date March 1946 when the last burials seem to have occurred in the War Cemetery¹²⁸.

Plate 1. "War Graves Unknown" [Pte Davill]
 Source: Charles Edward Turner Collection, NT Library



Plate 2. "Military Cemetery" [Alice Springs War Cemetery]
 Source: Richard Duckworth Collection, NT Library

¹²⁷ NAA: A8234, 13. Northern Territory War and Civil Cemeteries.

¹²⁸ NAA: A8234, 13. Northern Territory War and Civil Cemeteries.



Other photographs from the Richard Duckworth Collection which feature Central Australia and which may have been taken around the same time, are dated September 1947¹²⁹ so it is possible these two photographs were also taken around that time. Further supporting evidence is visible on a 1948 aerial over the area (Plate 4). Plate 4 (below) shows that the Cemetery was sparsely vegetated in the late 1940s. What appears as a white rectangular feature in Section 8 corresponds to the location of the War Cemetery and is consistent with the type of grave makers shown in Duckworth's photographs.

Plate 3. "Grave" [Alice Springs War Cemetery]
Source: Richard Duckworth Collection, NT Library

The shrub or low tree which is in the middle background of Duckworth's photograph (Plate 2 above), is also visible, next to the southwest corner of the white rectangle. From these photographs it is concluded that the war grave markers shown in Plate 2, were installed sometime between 1943 and 1948 and probably between 1946 and 1947. Furthermore, it is known that a small party of Army representatives inspected the War Cemetery on the 28th May 1947. This visit was reported in the Adelaide and Darwin press¹³⁰. The War Cemetery is described at that time as containing "28 cemented graves" in excellent condition. Some damage had been done by a recent flood but had since been repaired¹³¹. The NT Administration formally relinquished control of the War Cemetery to the Imperial War Graves Commission on the 12th November 1948¹³².

¹²⁹ E.g. PH0542/0030, Richard Duckworth Collection, Northern Territory Library

¹³⁰ Anon. *The Advertiser* (SA), Thursday 29/5/1947, p5; Anon. *Chronicle* (Adelaide) Thursday 5/6/1947, p25; Anon. *Northern Standard* (Darwin) Friday 30/5/1947, p6

¹³¹ Anon. *Chronicle* (Adelaide) Thursday 5/6/1947, p25

¹³² Letter to Secretary General Imperial War Graves Commission from A/Government Secretary, NT Administration, dated 12th November 1948. Copy provided courtesy Kel Pearce, Office of Australian War Graves, Department of Veteran's Affairs.



Plate 4. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1948. Connellan Hangar visible at top.
 Source: SVY350, Run 5, Frame 5040, 1948.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

The grave markers in Plates 2 and 3 do not correspond with the war grave markers currently in the War Cemetery so clearly these markers were also replaced at a later date. A report in the *Centralian Advocate* dated 2nd February 1951 suggests that this work may have occurred around the beginning of 1951. A meeting of the Alice Springs Sub-branch of the “R.S.S.& A.I.L.A.”¹³³ was informed that the Department of Works and Housing was to either call tenders for (or put in train the work itself) installing headstones on the “war grave cemetery” at Alice Springs¹³⁴. Photographs dated 1955 and 1959 show the existing headstones and some of the early plantings around the War Cemetery, so clearly the headstones had been replaced by 1955 (Plates 5 – 8).

¹³³ Now known as the RSL

¹³⁴ Anon. *Centralian Advocate*, 2/2/1951, p5



Plate 5. Alice Springs War Cemetery, 1955 [view looking south]
Source: Photographer unknown, image courtesy Office of Australian War Graves
Department of Veterans Affairs



Plate 6. Alice Springs War Cemetery, 1955 [view looking south]
Source: Photographer unknown, image courtesy Office of Australian War Graves
Department of Veterans Affairs



Plate 7. Alice Springs War Cemetery, 1959 [view looking south-southwest]
Source: Photographer unknown, image courtesy Office of Australian War Graves
Department of Veterans Affairs



Plate 8. Alice Springs War Cemetery, 1959 [view looking north]
Source: Photographer unknown, image courtesy Office of Australian War Graves
Department of Veterans Affairs
Note the sparsely vegetated and open nature of the Cemetery.

It seems that funerals in Alice Springs during this early period were simple affairs. One newspaper report in September 1948 described funerals as being “carried out in a particularly efficient manner, but the absence of a decent hearse is noticed by many people”¹³⁵. At that time a utility motor vehicle was used to transport the deceased to the

¹³⁵ Anon. *Centralian Advocate*, Friday 10/9/1948, p16

Cemetery, with the coffin sitting openly on the back of the tray. This was not considered appropriately dignified and the news article went on to note that Alice Springs was growing rapidly and should have a hearse instead of a “ute”, and called for the Government Department responsible to provide a vehicle for funerals; failing that the public should step in and raise the necessary funds by subscription¹³⁶. In 1950 the absence of a hearse was raised again. An Alice Springs clergyman complained that “the dead receive scant ceremony on their last journey in Alice Springs”. The coffin is placed on the back of “a rather battered utility” and it “bumps out over the rough dusty road to the bare, dusty cemetery”¹³⁷. It was suggested that a special canopy be constructed which could be placed over the coffin during the procession out to the Cemetery¹³⁸. Given that at the time there was no hearse for burials in Darwin either, it was felt that the Administration was unlikely to provide an appropriate vehicle for Alice Springs in the near future¹³⁹.

Later that year there were also calls for the road to the Cemetery to be improved and for water to be connected to the site. The NT Administration advised that it would look into the matter following discussions between the Administrator, Government Secretary and the Alice Springs Member of Legislative Council, Mr Johnson¹⁴⁰. Johnson also raised the matter of public conveniences and was told that these would be provided as soon as a suitable site was selected¹⁴¹. In December 1950 Johnson was advised that these matters had been taken up with the Director of Works and that work on the road and connecting the water supply would proceed as soon as the Director’s report was received¹⁴². Despite this promising news, no progress had occurred by early November 1951¹⁴³ and in March 1952 the Administrator advised Johnson and Legislative Council that no action had been taken regarding the provision of a water supply to the Cemetery. The cost of connecting water to the site was estimated to be £3,500 and in view of the need for “economy in Government spending” and “already heavy demand on the Alice Springs water supply” it was considered a low priority¹⁴⁴. Meanwhile there occurred periodic reports on the condition of the Cemetery; in February 1952 it was described as “dry and dusty” and in need of work¹⁴⁵. However, it was not solely the General Cemetery that appeared to be in a poor condition at this time, with the Stuart Memorial Cemetery reported to be in an equally “untidy, neglected

¹³⁶ Anon. *Centralian Advocate*, Friday 10/9/1948, p16

¹³⁷ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 13/1/1950, p8

¹³⁸ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 13/1/1950, p8

¹³⁹ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 13/1/1950, p8

¹⁴⁰ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 8/9/1950, p8

¹⁴¹ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 8/9/1950, p8

¹⁴² Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 8/12/1950, p14

¹⁴³ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 2/11/1951, p9

¹⁴⁴ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 7/3/1952, p3

¹⁴⁵ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 29/2/1952, p7

state”¹⁴⁶. By April 1954 water had still not been connected to the site, which the Alice Springs Progress Association described as “a wilderness of rubbish”¹⁴⁷. The Association suggested that water be piped to the site so that flowers could be grown and “the place made fit to lay the loved ones who have passed on”. They planned to approach the Administrator regarding the matter “very soon”¹⁴⁸, apparently unaware that a proposal for connecting water to the site had been made several years earlier.

A 1955 aerial photograph over the Cemetery attests to the barren nature of the Cemetery at this time (Plate 9). Many of the individual shrubs visible on the 1948 aerial photograph can no longer be seen by 1955. Whether these shrubs were cleared in order to make way for burials as the Cemetery progressively filled or whether they died owing to dry conditions or combination of the two, is unknown. Two other features stand out on this aerial: the War Cemetery and vehicle tracks cutting across some of the Sections. A photograph taken sometime between 1950 and 1956 (Plate 10) shows an unimpeded view from the northeast corner of the Cemetery towards Mt Gillen; a few raised burial mounds with white markers are visible in what appears to be a grassed paddock surrounded by a simple wooden post and wire fence. Such views across to the MacDonnell Ranges and Mt Gillen were part of the Cemetery’s setting for many years, up until the time that it was surrounded by housing development. The effect in the early days, was one of people laying their loved ones to rest in the shadow of the Ranges, as a report on the funeral of G.A. Johannsen in 1951, one of the biggest in Alice Springs for many years indicates: “[he was buried] in dusty arid Alice Springs Cemetery under the shadow of Mount Gillen. The scene typified the country which “Pop” loved and served for more than 40 years”¹⁴⁹.

¹⁴⁶ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 29/2/1952, p7

¹⁴⁷ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 16/4/1954, p1

¹⁴⁸ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 16/4/1954, p1

¹⁴⁹ Anon. *The Mail* (SA) Saturday 7/4/1951, p2



Plate 9. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1955.
Source: CAG 1020, Run 5, Frame 5A-15, 1955.
Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics



Plate 10. "Portrait Billy Liddle"
Source: Finlayson Collection, NT Archives Service

It seems that it was not only the NT Administration that needed to watch its spending in this early-mid 1950s period. In August 1953 it was announced that the AIF Cemetery Trust Fund had no money available for the free burial of deceased ex-service personnel whose estates were unable to pay. Funds for War cemeteries had also reached an all-time low, and it was reported that there was not enough money to provide headstones for deceased ex-servicemen in South Australia and Alice Springs¹⁵⁰. Accordingly, an RSL War Graves Appeal was launched throughout South Australia with monies raised also funding the War Cemetery in Alice Springs¹⁵¹. The Alice Springs RSL sub-branch received over £46 in donations in the first two months of the appeal¹⁵².

Around the same time that the RSL launched its Appeal, the Alice Springs RSL Women's Auxillary Committee discussed the state of the war graves. Mrs East suggested that they plant trees there and Mrs Loutit volunteered to seek advice from Mr Van Senden on the matter¹⁵³. Dudley Van Senden served in the Army in Alice Springs during WWII and returned with his wife after the war. He took up a position in the Municipal Section of the Administration. He was instrumental in planting many trees in town and also conducted funerals as part of his duties as there was no funeral service in town¹⁵⁴. At the following meeting Mrs Loutit reported that Van Senden had advised her that nothing could be done until a water supply was laid on¹⁵⁵.

It is possible that sometime between 1955 and 1959 water may have been supplied to the Cemetery; whether this was actually piped to the site at this time or whether water was simply carted to the Cemetery on a periodic basis is unclear, given that in 1959 there were still no public amenities on site. However, by 1959 plantings had occurred along the main east-west avenue between Sections 2 and 3, 4 and 5, and 8 and 9, the eastern boundary, southern boundaries of Sections 1, 6 and 7A, and around the Alice Springs War Cemetery (Plate 11).

¹⁵⁰ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 30/10/1953, p3

¹⁵¹ Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 21/8/1953, p1; Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 18/9/1953,p6

¹⁵² Anon. *Centralian Advocate* Friday 18/9/1953, p6

¹⁵³ Minutes of RSL Women's Auxillary Committee Meeting held on 27th August 1953. RSL Women's Auxillary Collection, Alice Springs RSL War Museum [accessed 2013]

¹⁵⁴ Petrick, J. 2005. *A History of Alice Springs through landmarks and street names*. Privately published by the author, Alice Springs, p198

¹⁵⁵ Minutes of RSL Women's Auxillary Committee Meeting held on 30th September 1953. RSL Women's Auxillary Collection, Alice Springs RSL War Museum [accessed 2013]



Plate 11. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1959.
 Source: CAG 3027, Run 5, Frame 5105, 1959.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

The 1959 aerial photograph indicates that along the main east-west avenue the plantings were spaced such that there were five per Section, whilst along the southern sides of Sections 1 and 6 and eastern boundaries of the Cemetery the plants were spaced so that there were four per Section. Physical evidence on-site today, suggests that these earliest plantings were probably White Cedars (*Melia azedarach*). Other plantings which had occurred by this time includes four plants on the southern boundary of Section 7A (the “Mohammedian” section), and five plants around the War Cemetery: one in each corner and one in the centre of the western boundary.

Despite the drought conditions that prevailed in Central Australia between 1958 and 1967¹⁵⁶, the plantings in the Cemetery appear reasonably well established by 1964. Additionally, a Cemetery Lodge had been constructed by this time, in the southeast corner of Section 3 (Plate 12).

¹⁵⁶ Bureau of Meteorology, *Climate Education, 1965-68 Drought*. Archive version accessed via Pandora <http://pandora.nla.gov.au/pan/96122/20090317-1643/www.bom.gov.au/lam/climate/levelthree/c20thc/drought6.html> [accessed 2013]



Plate 12. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1964.
 Source: CAG 194, Run 8, Frame 5236, 1964.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

Similarly to today, it is likely that the Lodge housed toilets in the western half of the building with space for gardening and other equipment in the eastern part of the structure. The Lodge is simple in terms of its design and materials which probably reflects the available funding for its construction at that time. Aerial photographs suggest that the first Sections that were enclosed with perimeter kerbing were Sections 1, 2, 3 and 5, and that this kerbing was laid sometime between 1959 and 1964 at the latest.

A large number of un-marked burials are apparent in Section 6 on the 1964 aerial and a photograph of Albert Namatajira's grave taken in 1963 (Plate 13) shows these burials as raised mounds, with plot numbers simply marked by small discs on low metal pegs. Notable in the background is the absence of any vegetation inside the Cemetery boundary; it seems that plantings along the Section borders in this part of the Cemetery had yet to occur or were too small to be clearly visible in the photos.

9.2



Plate 13. "Grave of Aboriginal artist Albert Namatjira...1963"
Source: NAA: A1200, L44965

In October 1966 the name of the Cemetery was changed to the 'Alice Springs General Cemetery'¹⁵⁷. The 1949 proclamation was revoked and a new proclamation made in 1967, covering the area now known as Lot 1027 (Res 1216)¹⁵⁸. In March 1967 the Corporation of Alice Springs was appointed as Curator¹⁵⁹. Up until this time it seems that the NT Administration was responsible for managing the Cemetery, through the Department of Interior's Central Office and Central Administration. With the creation of the Alice Springs Town Council in 1971¹⁶⁰ responsibility for the Cemetery moved to the Council.

By 1968 additional plantings are visible along the borders of Sections 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8 (Plate 14). The spacing of these plantings maintains the earlier design i.e. five plants per east-west section length except along the Cemetery boundaries. Plants along the north-south edges of Sections appear to have six plants per section length. Note these aerials

¹⁵⁷ NT Government Gazette No. 54 26/10/1966

¹⁵⁸ NT Government Gazette No. 19 22/3/1967

¹⁵⁹ Commonwealth Gazette No. 23 16/3/1967

¹⁶⁰ Donovan 1988, p312

also show what appears to be the existing Corkwood tree in Section 1 as well as the large peppercorn tree part way along the southern boundary of this Section.



Plate 14. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1968.
 Source: CAG 3639, Frame 1227, 1968.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

As the General Cemetery progressively filled, it is known that the denominational sections were not always strictly adhered to¹⁶¹. For example, there are many Aboriginal people in the Lutheran section¹⁶² and Lutheran people in the Non-denominational section (Section 8B)¹⁶³. The latter section was initially set aside for civilian casualties which it was assumed would arise from the Japanese invasion from the North during WWII¹⁶⁴, hence it's earlier description as the 'Civilian' section.

It is possible that one of the first sections to be filled was Section 9, set aside for Indigenous burials. The 1955 aerial shows what appears to be 11 rows of burial mounds set closely together. According to Hemsley's research¹⁶⁵, the graves in this Section are positioned closer together than in other Sections. They were also placed head to toe with the result

¹⁶¹ Strong 1995, p4
¹⁶² Strong 1995, p357-412, 427-460
¹⁶³ Hemsley 2011
¹⁶⁴ Hemsley 2011
¹⁶⁵ Hemsley 2011

that instead of a 'pathway' between every row as occurs in other sections, in Section 9 the pathways only occurred every second row¹⁶⁶. It is also clear that over time the original alignment of some of the rows changed. For example, the rows in Section 8B have a distinct curve that progressively increases from east to west¹⁶⁷. This is quite pronounced on aerial photographs from the 1970s and early 80s and is discussed in further detail below and as part of the physical description of the Cemetery.

By 1975 some of the earlier plantings had been replaced, probably by Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton sp*), along the main east-west avenue (Plate 15).

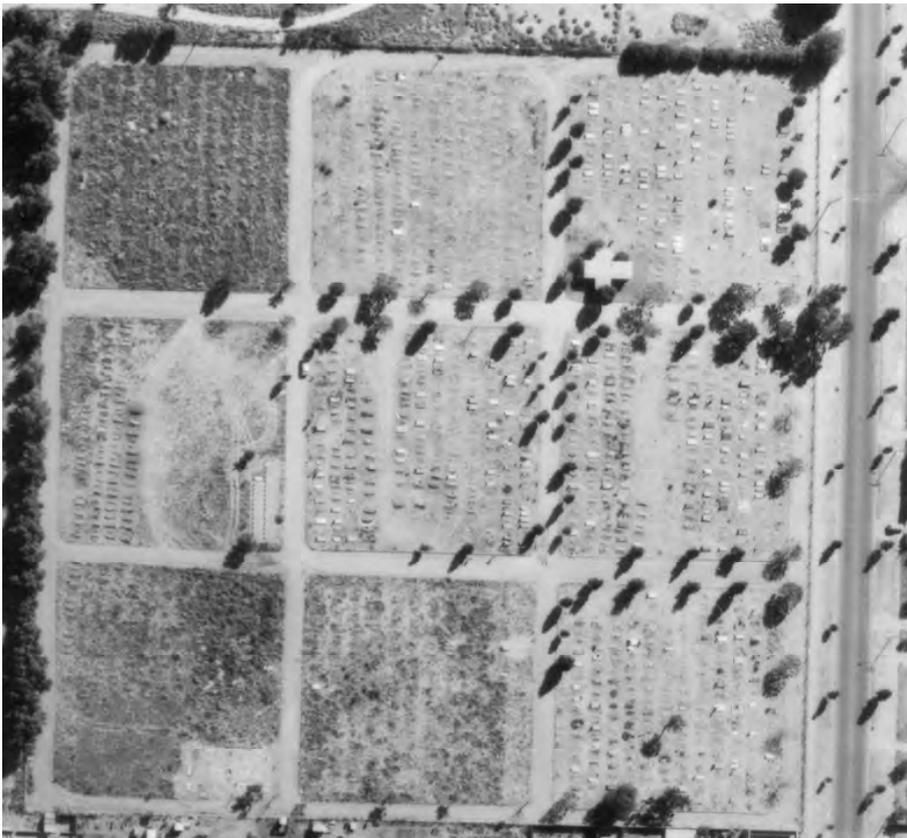


Plate 15. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1975.
 Source: NT327, Run 7, Frame 1761, May 1975.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

Kurrajongs had also been planted along the avenues between Sections 1 and 2, 2 and 5, part way along the avenues between Sections 1 and 6, 5 and 6, 3 and 4. What appear to be very recent plantings can be seen along the eastern, northern and western boundaries of Section 4. The spacing of these plantings follows the earlier design with five plants per east-west avenue section and six plants per north-south avenue section. The wider than normal

¹⁶⁶ Hemsley 2011

¹⁶⁷ Strong 1995, p6; Site plans included in this Conservation Plan.

paths between Sections 2A and 2B, 5A and 5B are also quite pronounced at this time. Also evident on this aerial photograph are the odd alignment of graves in Sections 2A and 5A; some are not truly aligned east-west and the rows themselves do not strictly align north-south.

Regular burials in the General Cemetery continued up until mid 1978, with the majority thereafter occurring at the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery. The General Cemetery was not formally closed until April 1995¹⁶⁸. Exceptions have been made for reserved plots in which burials occur intermittently¹⁶⁹. The 1978 aerial photograph shows the Cemetery to be virtually full (Plate 16). No additional plantings appear to have occurred. The large tree immediately east of the peppercorn on the southern boundary of Section 1 and visible in May 1975 seems have disappeared by October 1978. The avenue itself between Sections 7 and 8 appears to curve towards the north at its western end and the burials in Section 8B are not in straight lines relative to the section boundaries.



Plate 16. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1978.

Source: NT497, Run 2, Frame 1490, October 1978.

Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

¹⁶⁸ *NT Government Gazette* G16,19/4/1995

¹⁶⁹ *NT Government Gazette* G16; Strong 1995 p3, 17

By the beginning of October 1982 the earliest plantings along the eastern boundary of the Cemetery, adjacent to Sections 1 and 2, had been removed (Plate 17) as had some of the Kurrajongs planted in the 1970s. Overall, the planting design which was clear in 1968 and 1978 does not seem as obvious by the early 1980s. Outside of the Cemetery, most of the trees along the northern half of the western boundary had disappeared. By 1985 most of the remaining trees along the western boundary had also been removed.

Most noticeable on the 1982 aerial photograph is that the ground surface in Sections 4, 6, 7 and 9 has been levelled as the distinct rows of burial mounds evident in the 1978 aerial are no longer visible. A photograph of Namitjira's original headstone (Plate 13) taken in 1963 shows his plot in Section 6 surrounded many simple mounds of dirt; the same area in 1982 and today demonstrates no obvious physical evidence of these burials.

9.2



Plate 17. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1982.
 Source: NTC172, Run 7, Frame 079, October 1982.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

A photograph showing the entrance to the Cemetery appears in Connellan's 1992 publication, *Failure of Triumph*¹⁷⁰. Although it is not clear when this photograph was taken, new housing in the background indicates that it must post-date 1964 when the town aerodrome was first sub-divided to make way for the new suburb of Gillen. The entrance to the Cemetery at this time was flanked by two tall sandstone pillars supporting a metal archway. Although largely obscured by a tree, it is more than likely that the name of the Cemetery was included on the metal archway. The gates appear to comprise white painted metal with some ornate detailing and look to be no more than around 1.2m high. Sometime between 1982 and 1996 a new entrance was constructed and vegetation planted along the eastern side of the eastern boundary fence. This entrance was replaced with the current entrance sometime between 1996 and 2009.

By 1996 the surrounds to the War Cemetery had been filled in with blue metal, and a cracker dust path to Albert Namatjira's grave had been created (Plate 18). His original and relatively modest headstone had been replaced by the current monument although this may have occurred prior to October 1982. Un-marked burials in Section 8B also appear to have been levelled. Some of the older plantings had disappeared although it seems that some new ones had occurred on the western boundary of the Cemetery, adjacent to Sections 7 and 8, and along the east-west avenue between Sections 7 and 8. The spacing of these plants does not seem to quite match earlier planting episodes being placed slightly closer together. A small area of green grass was established around the Cemetery Lodge. Additionally, the curve at the western end of the avenue between Sections 7 and 8 had been straightened and this probably occurred at the same time that the ground levelling works were carried out between 1978 and 1982.

¹⁷⁰ Connellan, E.J. 1992. *Failure of Triumph: the story of Connellan Airways*. Paradigm Investments, Narwietooma Station. p300



Plate 18. Aerial view over the Cemetery (enlarged), 1996.
 Source: NTC1305, Run 1, Frame 118, January 1996.
 Courtesy Land Information, Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

In the 2000s many of the remaining Kurrajong trees were removed and replaced with Olive trees (*Olea europaea*). The spacing of these trees along the east-west and north-south avenues did not follow the earlier “5 and 6” design, being planted more densely along the avenues between Sections 3 and 4, 4 and 5. Some of plants along the western boundary to Sections 7 and 8 were removed.

Work also occurred in Section 3 by a local community organisation. This project, though well-intentioned, sought to “neaten up” the graves in Row H of Section 3 by the installation of concrete kerbing around the perimeter of the Row and infilling with coloured gravel. Additionally, grave markers in the form of sandstone rocks were placed on each of the unmarked graves in this row, with small aluminium plaques bearing information relating to the person thought to be buried in each of these plots. It was the intention of the community organisation to carry out similar works over the whole of the Cemetery. The project was halted after it was explained that the work impacted on the heritage values of the site (its authenticity and integrity, including the Cemetery’s design and character) and that the interpretation of that particular row by visitors was affected by the works.

In 2005 a “Peace Garden and Memorial” was established along the western boundary of the Cemetery adjacent to Section 8, also by a community organisation. The intent of this work was to create a memorial for the Stillborn section, which up to that point had consisted of un-marked burials apart from one exception. The works comprised new plantings of native species, installation of large curved concrete slabs in contrasting hues and placement of over 40 leaf-shaped concrete pavers along the ground, intended to represent each burial.

At the time this Plan was initially prepared in 2013, 80 additional Olive trees (*Olea europaea*) were planted in the Cemetery along some of the east-west and north-south avenues. These plantings do not follow the earlier planting design and are far more densely planted (refer parts 3.3.2, 3.3.5 and 3.4.2. below for further discussion).

Since the late 1980s there have been various attempts at documenting burials in the Cemetery. In the course of undertaking this research, numerous inconsistencies within the Cemetery Register itself, and between information in the Register and physical evidence in the Cemetery, have been noted¹⁷¹. Inconsistencies in the location of individual graves have arisen from a combination of factors including the lack of a complete detailed survey and marking of plots, nature of the soil profile, and manner in which information has been recorded in the Cemetery Register¹⁷². This is discussed in further detail in Part 4.1.4. Council staff are currently undertaking further research in order to resolve as many of these discrepancies as possible.

As the Cemetery’s heritage values do not simply reside solely in its documented history and associations, its physical features are just as important to consider, and are described below.

¹⁷¹ Strong 1995, Hemsley 2011

¹⁷² Strong 1995, p14

3.3. Site description

This part of the Plan describes the fabric of the Cemetery and general condition. The site is first described overall in terms of design and layout; setting, character and landscaping; and types of graves and grave markers. Note that the Alice Springs War Cemetery is described separately in part 3.3.4. Changes to the Cemetery in the five year period between 2013 and 2018 are described in part 3.3.5.

Today the physical features of the Cemetery includes the entrance and gates, Cemetery Lodge, avenues between sections, boundary perimeter thoroughfares, perimeter kerbing to the Sections, pathways between the rows, open spaces, graves, grave markers, native (early/original remnant) vegetation, introduced plantings, and "Peace Garden and Memorial". There is also modern bench seating, boundary fencing and signage as well as a water reticulation system and electricals.

A map of the Cemetery is attached to the southern wall of the Cemetery Lodge in accordance with *Cemeteries Act Regulations*. Brief interpretive material is provided at the main Memorial Avenue entrance to the Cemetery as well as at the Araluen Precinct entrance. A basic sign near the Lodge directs visitors towards the location of Albert Namatjira's grave.

3.3.1. Design and layout

The Alice Springs General Cemetery comprises a square area divided into a grid pattern of nine Sections, each separated by east-west and north-south avenues of compacted gravel and earth (Figure 3). Each Section measures 181' (55.2m) east-west x 180' (54.9m) north-south. The north-south avenues between each Section are 33' (10m) in length, whilst the east-west avenues between each Section are 37' (11.3m) long. These avenues join to form a series of longer east-west and north-south avenues running across the Cemetery from one side to the other (e.g. Plates 19-20).

Sections are numbered one to nine as shown on Figure 3. Generally, each Section was divided into 12 rows orientated north-south and designated A to L. Each row measures 180' (54.9m) in length and nine feet (2.7m) in width and was further subdivided into 36 plots, each plot measuring approximately 9' x 5' (2.74m x 1.52m). A six foot (1.8m) path separated each row.



Plate 19. View south along the north-south Avenue between Sections 4 and 9.



Plate 20. View east along the east-west Avenue between Sections 7B and 8B.

However, there are exceptions to this general layout. For example, the width of some plots (e.g. in areas of Sections 1, 3 and 7); the division of some Sections into Sub-sections (e.g. Section 2 into 2A and 2B between Rows G and H; Section 5 into 5A and 5B between Rows H and I; Section 7 into 7A and 7B; and Section 8 into 8A, 8B¹⁷² and Stillborns). Other exceptions include the east-west alignment of rows Section 7A (the Mohammedan section), and inclusion of the Lodge in Section 3¹⁷³ (Figures 4-12). It is also clear from aerial photographs taken in the 1970s that the alignment of the graves in Sections 7B and 8B, as well as Sections 2A and 5A is not a straight north-south alignment matching the north-south alignment of the section boundaries. For example, the westernmost rows in Sections 7B and 8B tend to veer off in a easterly direction, while Row I of Section 5A has a distinct curve in it. Rows I-L inclusive of Section 5A also tend to veer off towards the north-northwest, rather than remaining in straight north-south rows relative to the section boundary (Plate 21).



Plate 21. View north along Section 5A, Row J 2013.
 Note: 2013 photograph selected to show the misalignment more clearly.

Whilst the Cemetery primarily demonstrates the Christian tradition of graves facing the rising sun, there are exceptions. In the Section 7A (“Mohammendan”) the graves are orientated north-south rather than east-west (Plate 22). Olive Pink’s grave in Section 4 faces west

¹⁷² In 2018 signage on-site refers to “Section 8 Non-Denomination” to refer to the old Section 8B area of this section. However, the text of this document continues to refer to Section 8B in order to distinguish between Section 8 overall (i.e. references to this Section in its entirety), as opposed to particular parts of this Section (i.e. Section 8A – the War Cemetery; Stillborns; and Non-Denomination Section (Section 8B)).

¹⁷³ Strong, 1995, p5-6

looking towards Mt Gillen rather than east (Plate 23), in accordance with her wishes¹⁷⁴. Jean McCleod's headstone in Section 2B Row A also faces west¹⁷⁵.



Plate 22. View southwest across Section 7A ("Mohammedan") where graves are orientated north-south rather than east-west.



Plate 23. Olive Pink's grave Section 4 (foreground) faces west, rather than east.

¹⁷⁴ Marcus, J. 2001. *The Indomitable Miss Pink*. UNSW Press, Sydney, p299.

¹⁷⁵ Strong 1995, p8.

It was noted in the history of the Cemetery that sections were initially based on religious denominations but that over the years as some sections were filled, parts of other sections were used to inter people not of the faith for which that section was originally designated. This has implications for the interpretation of the Cemetery and signage should note this accordingly.



In 1995, some of the early surveyed plots were still marked with small re-enforced concrete pegs, particularly in Section 3. Whilst these do not appear to have survived in this section today, other examples still remained *in situ* in Section 7B and in Section 9 Row C around Ruby Briscoe's grave in 2013 (Plate 24) but could not be located in 2018. Some plots were also marked with numbers in the form of small oval black and white enamel markers, few of which remain¹⁷⁶ (e.g. Plate 25). A few earlier signs designating reserved plots still survive scattered throughout the Cemetery and in a row of four in Section 4 Row J. These signs consist of metal markers with 'RES' painted in white (Plate 26), whereas some other metal signs have 'RESERVED' painted in black on white (e.g. see Plate 25 above). Elsewhere, some of the reserved signs have been replaced with low concrete plinths, marked with an 'R' (Plate 27).

Plate 24. Example of small reinforced concrete Peg (foreground), Ruby Briscoe's grave, Section 9 Row C. 2013 image; no sign of this peg remained in 2018.

¹⁷⁶ One of these enamel markers was located on an un-named grave in Section 4, Row B in 2013 but had disappeared by December 2018.



Plate 25. Examples of plot markers in Section 3 Row C. Reserved markers (middleground and far left) and early round enamel marker "36" at base of headstone (right).



Plate 26. Examples of early plot markers, Section 4 Row J.



Plate 27. Examples of more recent plot markers, 'R', Section 3 Row B.

Sometime between 2006 and 2013, most of the earlier metal signs identifying Rows in each Section were replaced with modern green painted metal posts, signifying Section and Row names. While these posts act as general Section and Row identifiers, their positioning around the middle of each row, should not be taken as a precisely accurate location of the eastern or western boundaries of the individual Plots. As is evident on the aerial photographs and site plans, many rows are not truly aligned north-south, and there are variable numbers of plots in different rows, even within the same Sections. For example in Section 3 Row A the first 20 plots are only four feet (1.2m) wide instead of the standard five feet which means there is provision for 40 plots in this particular row, instead of the standard 36¹⁷⁷.

The main Memorial Avenue entrance consists of pre-formed concrete block panels rendered and painted on both sides of the 1.8m high steel gates, and a pedestrian entrance on the southern side (Plates 28-29). There is a smaller entrance along the northern boundary which previously provided access to/from the Aviation Museum and Araluen Precinct, but is now kept locked. There is also another locked gate along the northern boundary fence, west of the Hangar.



Plate 28. Entrance to the Alice Springs General Cemetery.

¹⁷⁷ Strong 1995, p5.



Plate 29. Entrance to the Alice Springs General Cemetery, showing pedestrian entrance at the right.

Existing boundary fencing comprises colorbond sheet metal fencing along the southern and part of the western boundaries where the Cemetery adjoins residential blocks. The remainder of the western boundary, northern and eastern boundary fences consist of steel posts and modern chain mesh.



Plate 30. Perimeter kerbing and evidence of earlier kerbing, north-east corner of Section 5B.

Except for the western boundary of Sections 7, 8 and 9, each section is bordered by perimeter kerbing. This takes the form of a low, un-painted concrete kerb, about 100mm wide. The corners of each section are not sharply defined, rather they are rounded off and hence the kerbing is also rounded on each corner. There is some evidence of earlier kerbing on the northeast corner of Section 5B (Plate 30). Some corner sections have been damaged owing to vehicular traffic attempting to negotiate tight corner turns (e.g. along the southern and eastern boundaries of the Cemetery and northwest corner of Section 4, Plate 31). In contrast, the earlier kerbing was of a more generous radius than the current tight quarter circle turns.



Plate 31. Damage to kerbing from vehicle traffic, northwest corner of Section 4.

Whilst the east-west and north-south avenues consist of compacted earth and gravel, the thoroughfares around the perimeter of the Cemetery are mainly compacted earth (e.g. Plate 32).



Plate 32. Compacted earth thoroughfare along the northern edge of the Cemetery, adjacent to Section 4.

Similarly, paths between rows in all Sections consist of earth with two exceptions. The first is the path extending from the northern boundary of Section 6 towards Albert Namatjira's

grave; this consists of blue crackerdust which may extend over the top of some plots. The second is the southern part of the path between Sections 2A and 2B, which has also been laid with crackerdust. In relation to Albert Namatjira's grave it should also be noted that the current location of the bench seat relative to his grave (Plate 33) may suggest to visitors that there are no burials between the seat and his grave. This is not the case according to aerial photographs taken in 1964. The two Eucalypt trees on either side of the bench are thought to have been planted around the same time the bench seat was installed, probably around the mid-2000's as the work looks to be recent in a 2006 photo (Plate 34). In contrast, aerial photographs indicate the crackerdust path was laid in or prior to, 1982.

9.2



Plate 33. View north to Albert Namatjira's grave, Section 6 Row B (middleground). Crackerdust path to his grave (centre middleground), his grave (at left), twin ghost gums and bench (at right).



Plate 34. View west to Albert Namatjira's grave, 2006.
The bench seat and plantings on either side appear to be relatively recent additions at this time.



Plate 35. View west to Albert Namatjira's grave, 2018.

The Cemetery Lodge is designed upon a crucifix plan, comprising a central shaded breezeway area, flanked to the west by toilet facilities and a storage room to the east. It is constructed of painted face blockwork on a concrete slab, with steel pipe frame supporting the flat roof structure of timber rafters, sheeted in zinc-plated (zincalume) cladding of a profile similar to Lysaught Spandek. Steel mesh walls and doors enclose the verandah spaces (Plate 36). This building is thought to be the same building that was constructed sometime between 1959 and 1964. Note that part of the roofing over the storage room seems to be of a different period to the initial construction, given it is of a different sheeting (Plate 37). Generally, the building is in a poor condition.

9.2



Plate 36. View southwest to the Cemetery Lodge.



Plate 37. Detail of different roof sheeting to the Cemetery Lodge.

The Peace Garden Memorial lies along the western boundary of the Cemetery adjacent to Section 8. As noted in part 3.2 above, the intent of this work was to create a memorial for the Stillborn section. It consists of plantings of native species, large elliptical-shaped curved concrete slabs in contrasting colours and over 40 leaf-shaped concrete pavers placed along the ground (Plates 38-39). The location of these concrete markers does not necessarily accurately reflect the location of burials in this Section.



Plate 38. View northeast towards the Peace Garden Memorial and Section 8 (Stillborn), 2018.



Plate 39. View northeast towards the Peace Garden Memorial and Section 8 (Stillborn), 2013. The 2013 image is shown here to illustrate the different elements of the Memorial more clearly.

3.3.2. Setting, character and landscaping

Although surrounded by an urban environment today, the Cemetery is situated on what was a sandy plain adjacent to a low rocky hill that prior to the Cemetery's creation, would have been sparsely vegetated with native species typical for such an environment such as Acacia, Mulga, Corkwoods and grasses. Photographic evidence indicates that even though the existing vegetation was sparse, most of the vegetation visible in 1948 had disappeared by the mid 1950s. Plantings in the mid-late 1950s and 1960s focussed on lining the avenues, and eastern and southern boundaries; there appears to have been little, if any, in-fill plantings and no garden areas. Until very recently, the Cemetery has always been characterised by a relatively open setting, with vistas possible across the entire site from all vantage points (Plates 40-42). In contrast, in 2018 the extent of these vistas has been reduced (refer parts 3.3.5 and 3.4 below).

9.2



Plate 40. View southwest across the Cemetery from the northeast corner of Section 3.

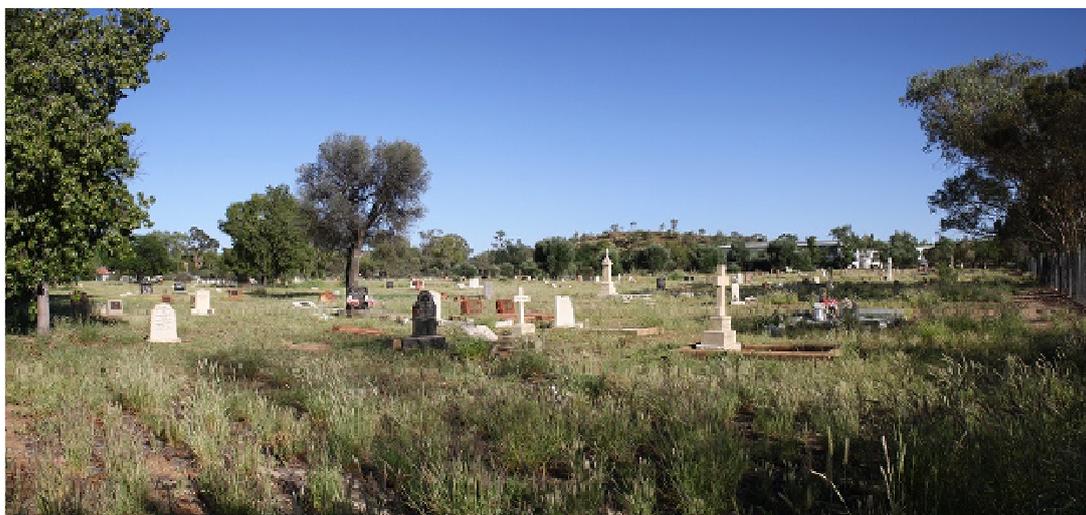


Plate 41. View northwest across the Cemetery from the southeast corner of Section 1.



Plate 42. View northeast across the Cemetery from the southwest corner of Section 7.



Apart from ephemeral native plants, most of the plants in the Cemetery today have been introduced. There is a large Fork-leaved Corkwood (*Hakea eyreanna*) located in Section 1 (Plate 43) which corresponds to the position of a tree shown on aerial photographs from 1948 onwards. It is likely that this tree is the only surviving remnant of original native vegetation that was in the area prior to the creation of the Cemetery.

Plate 43. Fork-leaved Corkwood, Section 1.

Other Australian native species in the Cemetery include Eucalypts, Kurrajongs, Desert Cassias, Acacias and Bottlebrush. All have been introduced within the post-1960s period. Some smaller specimens do self-seed, for example those adjacent to the northern end of Section 5B Rows A and B (Plate 44).



Plate 44. Examples of self-seeding Acacias in Section 5B, Rows A and B, 2018.

It was noted in part 3.2 that the first introduced plantings appear to have occurred between 1955 and 1959 and that these plantings occurred along the main east-west avenue, eastern and southern boundaries of the Cemetery. These earliest plantings were probably White Cedars (*Melia azedarach*) of which there are a few surviving examples in the Cemetery, some of which correspond to locations of plantings on the 1959 aerial photograph (e.g. Plate 45). Other introduced species likely to have been planted in the 1950s and/or 1960s is the Peppercorn tree (*Schinus molle*) located on the southern boundary of Section 1. Most of the existing Kurrajongs were probably planted as replacements for the White Cedars sometime in the 1970s and some are evident as small trees/saplings on the 1975 aerial photograph. The existing large jacaranda on the southern boundary of Section 1 was planted sometime prior to October 1982. Date palms have been planted on the eastern and southern boundaries of Section 7A (Mohammedan).



Plate 45. Examples of original White Cedars at the southern end of Section 4 Row D (middle left) and northern end of Section 5B Row D (middle right).

More recent plantings include the Oleander (*Nerium sp*) hedge along that part of the northern boundary of the Cemetery which abuts the Hangar, various shrubs planted around the Cemetery Lodge such as Oleander (*Nerium sp*), Bottlebrush (*Callistemon sp*); Olive trees (*Olea europaea*) along the avenues, and native species as part of the Peace Garden Memorial.

Either in, or prior to the mid-2000s, some Olive trees (*Olea europaea*) were planted in the Cemetery. For example, photographs taken in 2006 show what appear to be recently planted young Olive trees located in the southeast corner of Section 4, northeast corner of Section 5B and southern side of the Cemetery Lodge (Plate 46). About 80 additional olive trees were planted in the Cemetery in 2013 around the time this Plan was initially prepared, some in close proximity to graves. The location and spacing of these trees does not follow the earlier patterning evident on aerial photographs from the 1950s, 60s and 70s, that is, the “5-and-6” patterning, but have been densely planted such that there is between 10-11 plants along each side of the main east-west avenue between Sections 2 and 3, 4 and 5, and 8 and 9, and around 12 plants each side along the north-south avenue between Sections 2A and 5B. Spacing along the western boundary of Section 1 is also denser than was historically the case. The impact of these changes is discussed in parts 3.3.5 and 4.2 below.



Plate 46. Young Olive trees planted along the southern side of the Cemetery Lodge, 2006.

9.2

3.3.3. Types of graves and grave marker materials

The Cemetery exhibits a great diversity of grave marker forms, materials and inscriptions and this part aims to characterise the nature of this diversity. The War Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel are described in part 3.3.4.

Note that not all monumental masons and historians agree on the exact terminology for graves and memorials¹⁷⁸. For the purposes of this Plan, **grave markers include monuments** (e.g. crosses, headstones, footstones, grave covers such as slabs, vaults etc.), **surrounds** (e.g. wrought and cast iron surrounds, other fencing, stone or brick kerbing), **and grave furniture** (e.g. vases, artificial flowers, tiling, pebbles, photographs and other memorabilia).

In the Alice Springs General Cemetery the existing surface evidence is not indicative of the total number of burials that occurred in the Cemetery. Many graves were never marked yet the aerial photograph taken in 1978 shows that areas today which appear empty such as large portions of Sections 4, 6, 7B, 8B and 9 were virtually filled by this time. The number of burials that occurred per section is shown in Figure 13 and number of marked graves per Section in Table 1. Although Section 9 has the greatest number of burials, today all except

¹⁷⁸ Opus International Consultants Ltd. 2005. *Linwood Cemetery Conservation Plan Linwood Cemetery. Draft for comment prepared for Christchurch City Council*, p42. Available on-line at www.ccc.govt.nz/cityleisure/communityservices/cemeteries/conservationplan.aspx [accessed 2013]

two (Ruby Briscoe's and Nellie Braka's) are un-marked. This patterning might be partly explained by the fact that individuals in this Section were buried head to toe, with a path between every second row.

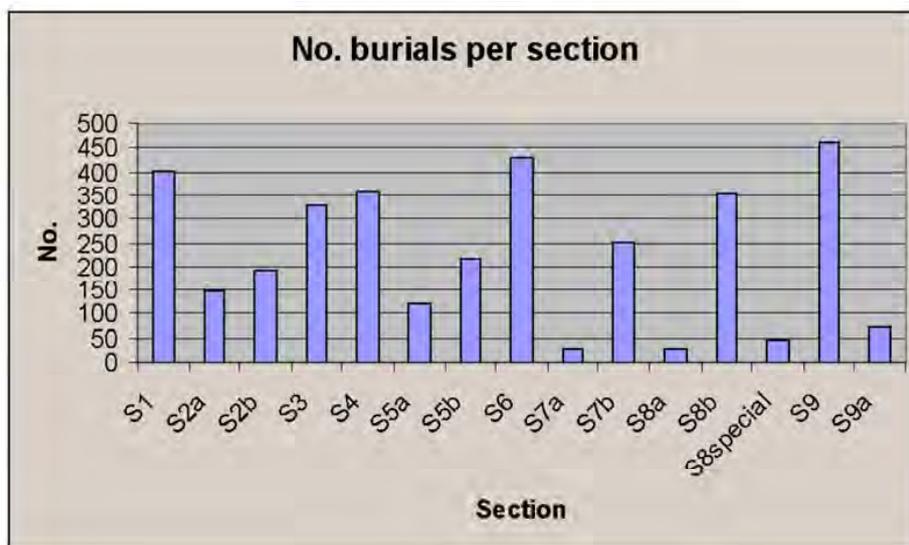


Figure 13. Number of burials in each section of the Alice Springs General Cemetery
Source: Heritage Conservation Services 2006, based on data in Strong 1995.

Table 1. Number of marked graves per Section, 2006
Alice Springs General Cemetery.

Section No.	Denomination/Section Name	No. of marked graves
1	Roman Catholic	113
2A	Roman Catholic	60
2B	Methodist	114
3	Church of England	183
4	Non-denomination	21
5A	Church of England	70
5B	Presbyterian	102
6	Lutheran	22
7A	Lutheran	35
7B	Mohammedan	12
8A	Military (War Cemetery)	29
8B	Civilian/Non-denomination	87
8S	Stillborns	2
9	Aboriginal	1

Source: Heritage Conservation Services 2006

3.3.3a. Un-marked graves

Unmarked graves occur throughout the Cemetery but mainly in Sections 4, 6, 7B, 8B and Stillborn, and 9. It was noted above in part 3.2 that sometime between 1978 and 1982 all the burial mounds in Sections 4, 6, 7 and 9 were levelled, and un-marked burial mounds in Section 8B levelled between 1982 and 1996. Today the only surviving evidence of the

location of some of these burials occurs in the form of slight depressions or slightly raised areas (e.g. Plate 47).



Plate 47. Slightly raised area, indicating the location of an un-marked burial, Section 8B Row C.

9.2

3.3.3b Marked graves

Most of the marked graves occur in Sections 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 5A, 5B and 7A and eastern part of 8B. Although these graves are marked, they do not always include an inscription or other information relative to the individual. Not all of the existing markers were installed at or shortly after the time of burial. Some were installed many years later or completely replaced by family, friends or particular organisations, but details of this (i.e. timing, who did the work) is not always obvious from the available evidence on site, e.g. the sandstone rock markers in Section 3 Row H; Lasseter's grave, and Albert Namatjira's grave. It was also noted in part 3.2 that some markers have been incorrectly positioned (see also part 4.1.4f below). Furthermore, Strong noted in 1995 that there were several transportable markers located in the Cemetery which were regularly re-located within the Cemetery by pranksters¹⁷⁹. Different types of grave markers are described below.

¹⁷⁹ Strong 1995, p9. These are identified in his report.

Metal markers

These are simple markers comprising a number painted on an oval-shaped enamel tin plate and attached to another form of grave marker. An example of this type of marker appears in Plate 25.

Timber post

One grave marker in Section 2B Row F consists of a single upright timber post at the head of a raised area of earth (Plate 48).



Plate 48. Simple timber post (middle foreground), Section 2B Row F.

Crosses and T-shapes

Some graves are marked with simple upright crosses or T-shapes, made of either wood or metal. The wooden crosses include white painted wooden crosses which bear the name of the individual; these appear to be of a standardised size and form and were provided to families with limited financial means. There are also more recent bush timber crosses and T-shapes, which include carved and painted inscriptions. Both are vulnerable to termite attack, but particularly the earlier white painted crosses (Plate 49). Crosses can occur as a single monument, or in conjunction with grave surrounds and/or furniture.



Plate 49. Example of earlier white painted wooden crosses and more recent bush timber markers for Bray family members' graves Section 5B Row H.

The metal crosses take various forms, from simple markers to more elaborate designs and may be painted or unpainted (e.g. Plate 50). They can occur as a single monument, or in conjunction with other elements such as lines of stones, and concrete slabs.



Plate 50. Examples of different types of metal crosses.
L-R: Kylie May McGuirk Section 7B Row J; ? Section 5A Row K; Un-named grave Section 7B Row H.

Enamelled sheet metal and plastic tile markers set flush into the ground

These markers take the form of a single rectangular-shaped piece of enamelled (blue, pink green, white or yellow) sheet metal, set flush into the ground (e.g. Plate 51). As they are set flush with the ground surface they are largely invisible from any distance and are vulnerable

to accidental damage from vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Some of these sheet metal markers retain the remains of inscriptions, now barely legible, and others have rusted considerably although the etched inscription can still be read. There are also remains of plastic tile markers in Sections 7A and 8B.



Plate 51. Examples of different types of enamelled sheet metal markers. Clockwise from top left: Un-named grave Section 4 Row D; Un-named grave Section 2B Row C; [illegible] Smith grave Section 6 Row B; [illegible] Armstrong grave Section 6 Row E.

Formal Headstones

Formal headstones occur either as stand-alone monuments or in conjunction with a grave surround, slab and/or items of grave furniture. Headstones may have inscriptions directly applied to the surface material (through etching which may or may not be paint or gilt-filled, or lead lettering) or on a plaque, usually bronze, which is attached to the headstone. Formal headstones in the Cemetery are made of a range of materials including marble, granite, white quartz, terrazzo, terracotta, and artificial stone. These materials were probably imported from Adelaide. Most of these markers take the form of upright slabs, square or rectangular-shaped headstones. 'Open book' forms are also scattered throughout the Cemetery. Many formal headstones also occur in local sandstone and concrete, as upright slabs or small low set block-type forms.

“Informal/Vernacular” headstones and other monuments

In addition to formal headstones, the Cemetery also exhibits a range of informal or vernacular monuments. Many of these consist of local sandstone rocks or boulders to which plaques have been attached. Some examples of these vernacular types of monuments are shown at Plate 52 and include:

- Bob Buck’s grave marker - a tall upright sandstone block with a small brass plaque recessed into the stone;
- Mary Weaving’s grave marker - a fibreglass marker mounted on a metal stake with a lengthy inscription;
- Nellie May Dann’s grave marker - includes an upright sandstone block sculpted in the shape of the NT;
- Albert Namatjira’s grave marker - consists of a large upright sandstone boulder into the face of which are set painted tiles featuring ghost gums depicted in the style of the Hermannsburg School of Watercolour Painting, which he made famous;
- Harold Bell Lasseter’s grave marker - a sandstone sculpted figure of a bearded man panning for gold. The sandstone has begun to erode, particularly around the hat where the edges have been broken off; and
- Fay Reidy’s grave marker - in 2013 this marker comprised a small wooden log spiked into the ground with a simple brass plaque with inscription attached to the top of the log; in 2018 the plaque has been placed on a small concrete plinth although the wooden log has been retained.



Plate 52. Examples of Informal/Vernacular headstones or monuments.
 L-R from top row: Bob Buck's grave Section 1 Row G; Mary Weaving's grave Section 5B Row C; Nellie May Dann's grave Section 2B Row C; detail of Albert Namatjira's headstone Section 6 Row B; Harold Bell Lasseter's grave Section 3 Row C (2013 image); Fay Reidy's grave Section 5B Row C.

Slabs

Many of the graves in the Cemetery are marked with slabs. These occur in conjunction with headstones, grave surrounds and grave furniture or as stand-alone markers. Most comprise a simple rectangular concrete slab, however many have additional treatments and/or grave furniture (Plate 53). For example:

- the concrete slab forming part of Stephen Kilgariff's grave marker, includes a cross formed of bricks set into the surface of the slab;
- the concrete slabs forming part of J.W.McAdam's grave marker and Melvie Annie Alice Blacker's marker, have been covered with ceramic tiles. In both cases the tiles have begun to lift and sections are missing;
- slate paving has been used to surface the concrete slab of the grave of David McKenzie;

- coloured gravel has been used to surface the concrete slab on the grave of Gordon Harold Lines; and
- sandstone paving has been used to surface the concrete slabs on many graves in the cemetery, including those of Ronald Hedwell, Albert Namatjira, the Bullen family and Hilda Lillian Chase.



Plate 53. Examples of additional treatments to slabs.
Clockwise from top left: Stephen Kilgariff's grave Section 1 Row L; JW McAdam's grave Section 2B Row C; Gordon Harold Lines' grave Section 5A Row K; Hilda Lillian Chase's grave (left) and MAA Blacker's grave (right), Section 4 Row J; David McKenzie's grave Section 8B Row A.



Some grave markers are particularly susceptible to being moved around or removed from the site altogether, such as that for A.J. Sellers' (Tony) grave (Plate 54). Others, such as the enamelled sheet metal markers and plastic tiles set flush into the ground, are vulnerable to inadvertent damage because they cannot be easily seen from any distance.

Plate 54. A.J.Seller's (Tony) grave marker
Section 8B Row B.

Grave surrounds

Grave surrounds in the Cemetery also vary considerably. In some cases the grave surrounds form the only marker (e.g. see Plate 55) but in most cases they occur in conjunction with grave furniture, slabs, headstones and other monuments. Metal, brick, concrete, sandstone, timber, plastic and other materials have been used as grave surrounds in the form of fences or low borders.



Plate 55. Simple metal pipe grave surround, Un-named
grave Section 2B Row C.

Metal fencing includes examples of fabricated cold steel pipe, wrought and cast iron fencing, steel mesh fencing, low metal rails, aluminium railing, metal chain and post fences, and range from simple unadorned surrounds to ornately detailed fences. Concrete and metal post-and-rail type fences also surround some graves (Plate 56).



Plate 56. Examples of grave surrounds (metal fencing). L-R from top: Frank Sweeney's grave Section 1 Row K; Nicker family Section 2B Row B; grave Section 7A Row B; graves in Section 2B Row E; grave in Section 1 Row K; grave in Section 6 Row I; grave in Section 4 Row A; grave in Section 2B Row F; grave in Section 8B Row F; graves in Section 2A Row I.

Other grave surrounds consist of low brick, concrete or sandstone block borders some of which are left bare, others are in-filled with additional earth, concrete, variously coloured gravels, rocks, sandstone pavers or white quartz pebbles for example (Plate 57).



Plate 57. Examples of grave surrounds. L-R: Jean McLeod's grave Section 2B Row A; Petrick family graves Section 2B Row D; Un-named grave Section 2B Row A.

Less formal grave surrounds also occur (e.g. Plate 58), such as that marking Colin Hope's grave, whereby various stones have been arranged in an oval shape to define the plot, or smaller circles of stones like that marking Leo Corbet's grave, most of which have now disappeared, or the small circle of white quartz rocks in Section 1, Row B. Timber surrounds are rare in the Cemetery; one grave is edged with treated pine logs, while in 2013 another grave had timber rails but these could not be located in 2018.



Plate 58. Examples of less formal grave surrounds. Clockwise from top left: Colin Hope's grave Section 5B Row D; Un-named grave Section 1 Row B; grave Section 2A Row I (2013 image to show detail more clearly); Leo Corbet's grave Section 5B Row E (2013 image used to show greater detail).

Grave furniture

The most common type of grave furniture in the Cemetery consists of artificial flowers, however vases, flower pots, painted powdered milk and other tins, glass domes, pebbles, tiling (usually affixed to concrete slabs), coloured glass balls, shells, figurines, portraits of deceased persons, solar lights, pot plants, and carpet also occur (Plate 59). In some cases it is only grave furniture, such as artificial flowers in a vase or pot that forms the burial marker.



Plate 59. Examples of grave furniture.

Clockwise from top left: Grave in Section 2A Row H; Lillian Terese Johnson's grave in Section 2A Row H; Barbara Ann Wilson-Nixon's grave Section 4 Row H; graves of Tilly Miller (left) and Kingsley Roy Tilmouth (right) Section 5A Row J; Percival Denis Hoyland's grave Section 3 Row L.

Grave furniture has been particularly susceptible to vandalism and theft in the past; vases and flower pots have been targeted, as have small plastic(?) plaques, for example those

present on Section 8B Row C Plot 33 and Row D Plot 3 in 1988 had gone by 1995¹⁸⁰. Nearly all of the small portraits of deceased persons attached to some headstones had disappeared by 1995. Similarly, the battalion or unit colour patches attached to some graves of ex-service personnel, had also been removed by the mid 1990s¹⁸¹. In 2018 it is clear that this type of behaviour continues to occur.

Inscriptions

Inscriptions in the Cemetery occur on plaques and are also etched into the headstone material or otherwise attached to the headstone or other monument. They vary greatly in terms of their font type, size, style and execution. Some are raised proud of the surface, others are inset. Some of those that have been etched into the headstone have then been painted or filled with gold paint/gilt. In other cases the lead lettering is attached by small spikes (keys) into the surface of the marble (Plate 60). The content of the inscriptions in some cases is simply limited to a name and dates of birth and death. Others range from simple loving statements by relatives and/or friends to lengthy tributes. Still others attribute the cause of the death, for example Colin Milnes who 'PERISHED FROM HEAT EXHAUSTION' in 1957, indicating that even in this era, the Centre was still a harsh outback environment, quick to claim the lives of those who didn't take care.



Plate 60. Example of lead lettering attached by small spikes (keys) into the marble surface, Roger "Pom" James Kendall's grave Section 5A Row I.

¹⁸⁰ Strong 1995, p8.

¹⁸¹ Strong 1995, p8.

3.3.3c. Sub-surface archaeological material

Sub-surface archaeological material in the Cemetery includes those grave markers that have since been covered with earth, such as the enamelled sheet metal markers and some concrete pegs, as well as the burials themselves. It was noted earlier that most of the graves in the Cemetery are un-marked, particularly those in Sections 4, 6, 7B, 8B, and 9. Up until sometime between 1978 and 1982 the location of many of these un-marked burials was readily apparent in the form of distinct mounds. Many were never permanently marked prior to being levelled sometime between 1978 and 1982¹⁸² and it seems that their actual locations were never plotted on a scale map of the Cemetery before this work was undertaken.

3.3.4. The Alice Springs War Cemetery and Individual graves of Ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery

The Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A) is contained within the General Cemetery (Plates 61-62). It is located in the southeastern part of Section 8 and occupies a rectangular area commencing from the southeast corner of this section and extending north. It contains 29 graves in two rows belonging to one sailor, three airmen and 25 soldiers.



Plate 61. Alice Springs War Cemetery, Section 8A, viewed from the east.

¹⁸² 1996 in the case of Section 8B



Plate 62. Alice Springs War Cemetery, Section 8A, viewed from the south.

The design of the Cemetery adheres to the principles for war cemeteries adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and described in part 2.2. above. Each grave is marked by a white marble headstone, of uniform size and design. Each headstone includes the Navy, Army or Airforce insignia as appropriate, below which is an inscription stating the deceased's service number, rank, name, battalion/unit, date of death, and age at death. Below this inscription is an etched cross and underneath this is an individual inscription chosen by relatives or the OAWG (Plate 63). These graves are bordered by a low raised cement wall approximately 300mm high and in-filled with blue metal. Native plants have been planted along the western and northern edges of this Cemetery. A brickwork pillar capped with cement is located mid-way along the eastern boundary of this Cemetery. It bears a bronze plaque that identifies this Section as the "Alice Springs War Graves Plot" and a statement indicating that it is maintained on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission by the Office of Australian War Graves. The pillar appears to have lost what is believed to have been another plaque from the top capping.



Plate 63. Detail of war graves. L-R: Detail of K.M. Talbett's grave Alice Springs War Cemetery Section 8A Row A; Jack Kennett's grave Section 3 Row A (2013 image used to show greater detail).

Additionally, there are individual graves of ex-service personnel who died after their service, located in other areas of the General Cemetery, for example, in sections 1, 2A, 3, 5A, 5B and 8B. Some of these graves are maintained by the OAWG and these are also uniformly treated, with the exception of Jack Kennett's grave which includes a slab covered with coloured sandstone rocks set in green painted concrete as well as a white marble headstone consistent with those in the War Cemetery (Plate 63 above). Around the time of his death there was a shortage of funds available to pay for the burial of ex-service personnel; the fact that his grave includes both a slab with unique treatment and a formal military headstone may reflect these circumstances. The slab may have been installed shortly after his death and the formal headstone added at a later date.

Elsewhere in the General Cemetery ex-service personnel graves that are maintained by OAWG consist of a bronze plaque mounted on a low cement headstone placed at the western end of a concrete slab (Plate 64). The plaque includes a cross, Navy/Army/Airforce insignia as appropriate, with the deceased's service number, rank, name, battalion/unit, date of death, age at death, and short inscription selected by relatives or OAWG. Each of these graves has a small metal tag discretely affixed to the rear of the headstone, indicating that it is the responsibility of the OAWG.

Other ex-service personnel graves have no indication that they are maintained by the OAWG and demonstrate greater individuality although there is a similarity of design evident amongst some of these headstones to those installed by the OAWG (e.g. Pte A.I. Kunoth's grave). Yet others bear no similarity to the OAWG maintained graves at all, for example Ronald Hall's grave, or demonstrate only limited similarity, such as Pte K.R. Tilmouth's grave, shown earlier in Plate 59.



Plate 64. Examples of other ex-service personnel graves. Clockwise from top left: Ronald Hall's grave Section 5B Row H (2013 image to show greater detail); H.L. Dower's grave Section 8A Row H; Pte A.I. Kunoth's grave Section 3 Row D; Major A.E. Gurner's grave Section 3 Row D.

3.3.5. Physical changes to the site between 2013 and 2018

In addition to the natural weathering and ageing of materials that might be expected to occur, there have been other physical changes to the fabric of the Alice Springs General Cemetery between 2013 and 2018 and these have been documented on Figures 4-12. The nature of these changes include loss of plot markers, grave markers, grave furniture; installation of new/replacement grave markers, surrounds and/or grave furniture; and changes to vegetation. Additionally, some mounds and depressions observed in Sections 7B and 8B in 2013 are no longer visible.

3.3.5a. Loss of plot markers

In 2013 only a few simple metal markers comprising a number painted on an oval-shaped enamel tin plate and mounted on a wooden stake survived (for an example refer Plate 65). These markers were some of the earlier types used in the Cemetery but could not be relocated in 2018. Similarly, in 2013 examples of small reinforced concrete pegs were observed east of Ruby Briscoe's grave in Section 9, but no sign of this feature remains today. It is possible that natural processes such as sheetwash have covered it with sediment. Several of the earlier 'RES' markers have also been lost.



Plate 65. Example of an earlier plot marker present in Section 4 in 2013 but no longer present in 2018 (left); Ruby Briscoe's grave, Section 9 Row C in 2013 (middle) and 2018 (right).

3.3.5b. Loss of grave markers

Some timber crosses, metal crosses, and small markers such as the plastic tiles observed in 2013 could not be relocated in 2018. The unobtrusive nature of the latter markers means that they are particularly vulnerable to damage or theft.

3.3.5c. Loss of grave furniture

It was apparent in the course of revisiting the Cemetery in 2018 and comparing 2013 and 2018 photographs that some grave furniture had been damaged and/or disappeared. For example, some of the small glass balls from Percival Denis Hoyland's grave have disappeared along with the star that was formerly attached to the cement headstone (Plate 66). The flower pot which marked a grave located towards the northern end of Row H in Section 1 has also disappeared.



Plate 66. Example of loss of grave furniture, Percival Denis Hoyland's grave Section 3 Row L in 2013 (left) and 2018 (right).

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3.3.5d. Installation of new/replacement grave markers, surrounds and/or grave furniture

It is clear that between 2013 and 2018 several grave markers have been replaced with new markers, most likely by relatives and/or friends of the deceased (e.g. see Plate 67). For example:

- many of the Bray family graves are now marked by new bush timber markers, in addition to retaining the earlier white painted timber crosses;
- the simple bush timber cross marking Kylie May McGuirk's grave has been replaced by a simple metal cross and inscribed plaque;
- in 2013 Fay Reidy's grave marker comprised a small wooden log spiked into the ground with a simple brass plaque with inscription attached to the top of the log but this is now attached on a small, concrete stand, although the wooden log has been retained and a new chain has also been installed to the grave surrounds;
- Gordon William Satour's grave, previously marked by a concrete marker, now has a new headstone;
- Callan Richard Howard's grave has since received a new headstone and tiles to the slab;
- some new concrete markers have been installed in the form of small, simple low headstones that in some cases include the deceased's name; and
- new grave furniture has been placed around Barbara Ann Wilson-Nixon's grave (Plate 68).



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Plate 67. Examples of new grave markers, grave surrounds and/or grave furniture. L-R from top: Kylie May McGuirk's grave Section 7B Row J in 2013; ditto 2018; Fay Reidy's grave marker Section 5B Row C in 2013; ditto 2018; new concrete marker for Emma Wallace; Gordon William Satour's grave Section 7A Row C in 2013; ditto 2018; Callan Richard Howard's grave Section 4 Row J in 2013; ditto 2018.



Plate 68. Example of new grave furniture, Barbara Ann Wilson-Nixon's grave Section 4 Row H in 2013 (left) and in 2018 (right).

3.3.5e. Changes to plantings

Since 2013 some trees have been lost/removed, such as the White cedar that was in the southeast corner of Section 6, one of the Eucalypts from along the southern boundary of Section 7A, and a Kurrajong from along the northern boundary of Section 2B. The original White cedar in the southeast corner of Section 9 has been damaged by a storm. Additionally, it is clear that some of the Olives planted in 2013 have not survived. Despite this, the growth of the remaining Olives over the last five years has negatively impacted upon the heritage values of the Cemetery, particularly along the main east-west avenue, northwest part of Section 2A, Section 3, and northern part of Section 5. Rather than retaining open vistas, these plantings have had the effect of enclosing or “walling in” of individual sections and some avenues (Plates 69-75). The 2013 draft of this Plan specifically identified, amongst other things:

- the open vistas across the Cemetery from one side to the other;
- the generally open, sparsely vegetated character of the Cemetery; and
- evidence of the original Cemetery layout and design including the north-south and east-west avenues of crushed gravel and earth, perimeter thoroughfares and pathways between the rows;

as elements of high significance that should be retained and conserved.



Plate 69. View west towards Section 5 from the northern end of Sections 2A and 2B.



Plate 70. View southwest across the northeast corner of Section 2A towards Section 5B (the latter is now largely obscured).



Plate 71. View from Section 2B Row F northeast towards the Cemetery Lodge and Section 3 in 2013 (left) and 2018 (right).



Plate 72. View southwest from near the northern end of Section 2A, 2013 (above) and 2018 (below).



Plate 73. View north along Section 5A Row J in 2013 (left) and 2018 (right).



Plate 74. Examples of previous and current vistas from the northern boundary of the Cemetery between Sections 3 and 4.
Clockwise from top left: view south along the north-south avenue between Sections 3 and 4 in 2013; View southwest across Section 4 in 2013; ditto, in 2018; view south along the north-south avenue between Sections 3 and 4 in 2018.



Plate 75. View north along the north-south avenue between Sections 2 and 6 in 2013 (left) and 2018 (right).

3.4. The Significance (Heritage values) of the Alice Springs General Cemetery

3.4.1. The overall significance (heritage values) of the site

This part of the Plan provides a more detailed description of the significance (heritage values) of the Cemetery than that provided by the general Statement of Heritage Value prepared by the Heritage Advisory Council in 2006, in order to inform on the development of specific conservation and management policies. The significance of the site as a whole is described before identifying levels of significance for different elements of the Cemetery.

In recent years there has been a growing interest in family history and genealogy in the wider community. The inscriptions on the grave markers are a valuable resource for this type of research. Additionally, when a grave marker is viewed in the context of its neighbours, it may also provide information regarding family, community and/or other social relationships and connections. **The Alice Springs General Cemetery is therefore important as a source of genealogical and biographical information.**

Individuals buried in the Cemetery include many of the town's pioneers and members of long-term families who collectively have contributed to the development of Central Australia and the Territory in the pastoral, mining and transport industries; cultural and social endeavours; and public administration including law and order. Such individuals include but are not limited to, Rex Battarbee, Beni Burnett, Charles Henry "Pop" Chapman, Edward Connellan, Albert Namatjira, Olive Pink and families such as the Bloomfields, Hayes', Nelsons, Liddles, Kilgariffs, Johannsens, Greatorex, Chalmers' and Braillings. Short summary descriptions outlining the contributions of these people are provided at Appendix 2. **The Cemetery is important as the last resting place of many people that individually and collectively have contributed to the development of Alice Springs, Central Australia and the Territory.**

Within the Cemetery there is the Alice Springs War Cemetery, physically established during WWII. Service personnel buried in this section all died in the Territory during this conflict. **Accordingly, the Cemetery is important as part of Alice Springs' and the Territory's wartime heritage.** Additionally, there are individual graves of ex-service personnel located in other parts of the General Cemetery. With one exception these individuals did not die during conflict but passed away some time after their war service. These individual graves and War Cemetery are important to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Office of

Australian War Graves and veteran community including the local Alice Springs RSL sub-branch¹⁸³.

The Alice Springs War Cemetery is also characterised by a formality of layout and uniformity of headstone for each deceased individual that sets it apart from the General Cemetery. **It is significant as it demonstrates the key principles of war Cemetery design for small cemeteries developed by Kenyon in 1918 and adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at that time, and still implemented today.**

The provision for people of different religious faiths and denominations is evident in the layout and design of the General Cemetery, through the creation of particular Sections. Although it seems that these were not always strictly adhered to, their existence is nevertheless testimony to the ethnic and religious diversity of Alice Springs and Central Australian society and the Administration's recognition of this diversity, during the 1930s. The initial absence of an Indigenous section but later inclusion, reflects the prevailing European attitudes of the times towards Indigenous people. **The Cemetery is therefore important as a social record of this early period in Central Australia.**

Different sections of the Alice Springs General Cemetery may be important to particular segments of the local community owing to spiritual, social or other cultural associations. For example, as indicated above, the local Alice Springs RSL sub-branch and veteran community has a particular interest in the War Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel¹⁸⁴. Similarly, Section 7A (the Mohammedan section), containing many of the Afghan cameleers who played a vital transport role in Central Australia from the 1870s up until the arrival of the railway in 1929 and their descendants, is of particular importance to this part of the Alice Springs' community.

The physical evidence on site in the form of inscriptions, together with information in the Cemetery Register and church burial records, provides information regarding mortality patterns, cause of death, race, age and sex of those who died and the impact of events such as epidemics and war. **The Cemetery is therefore important in terms of its capacity to provide information relating to past population demographics and health.**

The Alice Springs General Cemetery is one the larger cemeteries currently listed on the NT Heritage Register so it is not surprising that it exhibits a high degree of diversity in terms of

¹⁸³ Martin Glass, formerly President Alice Springs RSL sub-branch, personal communication 3 October 2013

¹⁸⁴ Martin Glass, formerly President Alice Springs RSL sub-branch, personal communication 3 October 2013

the types of grave markers present in the cemetery and more specifically with regard to the materials, structures and forms. Whilst at first glance it may appear that most of the grave markers feature local sandstone which has the effect of giving an initial impression of limited stylistic variation, closer inspection indicates this is not the case. **The diversity in architecture and aesthetic character of individual markers, mix of both formal headstones and vernacular markers, contributes substantially to the visual appeal of the Cemetery and underpins its integrity and authenticity.** Grave markers and surrounds may be examples of particular creative, innovative approaches and/or technical ingenuity in their execution and use of materials. This is often the case in more isolated areas where access to skilled stonemasons may not have been possible or was severely limited¹⁸⁵ and/or where the cost of transporting materials was high. Inscriptions commemorate the deceased and may be a source of artistic merit and social commentary in their own right. **Artistic and aesthetic values are encapsulated in the overall Cemetery layout, types of monuments, grave surrounds and furniture. The variation in the craftsmanship of different markers is an important aspect of the Alice Springs Cemetery's heritage values as it says something not only about the financial circumstances of deceased friends/relatives but also the availability of individuals skilled to undertake such work at that time. As such the Cemetery is important as an economic record of this period in Central Australia.**

The presence or absence of a grave marker and type of the marker, whether it be a simple wooden cross or elaborate marble structure for example, may be indicators of the deceased's family and/or friends' financial capacity, their attitudes towards death, the wishes of the deceased themselves (e.g. people who specifically requested that there be no elaborate headstone or memorial) as well as past mourning practices and society's attitudes towards death. Such information is rarely available in the historical records but continues to exist within the physical features of the Cemetery. Accordingly, **the Cemetery is important as it contains information that was not recorded in written records or no longer survives.**

The design and layout of the Cemetery also provides information regarding broader societal and community attitudes towards death and changes in mourning practices, Cemetery planning in the early 1930s, as well as evidence of what was considered aesthetically pleasing at the time, and economic capacity of the government of the day. The formality of the grid design of the Cemetery with its nine Sections and

¹⁸⁵ National Trust 2009

avenues between the Sections, was reinforced by the earlier plantings which did not overwhelm the Cemetery, nor result in a garden-like setting. It also reflected the difficulties of maintaining plantings with limited water supplies. It is therefore important to maintain the original Cemetery layout and design, and a relatively sparsely vegetated, open, character with widely spaced plantings along the avenues. The 2013 draft of this Plan specifically identified the open vistas across one side of the Cemetery to other and the simple, open and relatively barren nature of the site, as important elements of the site's heritage value because these characterised the Cemetery in its surrounds for the period up until the creation of the suburb of Gillen. At the time the Cemetery was first surveyed it was situated 'out of town' isolated from the residential area which at that time was restricted to the CBD, but adjacent to the town's airstrip. The houses that lie south and west of the Cemetery today were not there in the early 1930s and the effect would have been that the townspeople were laying their loved ones to rest in the shadow of the MacDonnell Ranges and Mt Gillen. An open and relatively barren Cemetery also serves to reinforce feelings of isolation that would have persisted even after the arrival of the railway and post-WWII period, and hints at the difficulties of living in a remote arid outback environment region at that time. Even after the new suburb was developed the Cemetery continued to be open and relatively sparsely vegetated up until the 2000's. It was noted in part 3.3.5 above that the growth of the Olive trees has negatively impacted upon the heritage values of the Cemetery, particularly along the main east-west avenue, northwest part of Sections 2A, Section 3, and northern part of Section 5. Rather than retaining open vistas in these parts of the Cemetery, these plantings have had the effect of enclosing or "walling in" of individual Sections and some avenues.

The existing alignment of rows, including those which are not truly straight relative to the Section boundaries, are significant as they reflect the absence of a detailed survey plan of the burial plots (itself an indication of official attitudes towards the Cemetery), as well as reflecting past decisions made by masons and Cemetery staff regarding the location and positioning of burials and grave markers.

The inscriptions on the grave markers are not only tributes to the deceased, but collectively form a social and historical record for the region. This record did not cease with the closure of the Cemetery in 1978 but continues as relatives and friends of the deceased place grave markers on hitherto un-marked graves or upgrade existing markers. **Given the new works to individual graves that has occurred over the last five years, it is clear that relatives, friends and the community continue to care about the last resting place of their loved one(s).**

Some of the remaining White Cedars are considered to be the last surviving evidence on-site of the original introduced plantings and are therefore of significance, while later White cedars reinforce the original design and early landscaping intent. Whereas in many 19th Century cemeteries and cemeteries in southern and eastern parts of Australia, plantings were often chosen for their symbolic meaning,¹⁸⁶ in Alice Springs the arid desert environment, lack of piped water to the site for many years together with the economic circumstances proscribed any introduced plantings until mid-late 1950s. Even then planting occurred on a limited scale, however that which did occur, reinforced the formal layout of the Cemetery.

As noted in part 3.3.3, there is a large Fork-leaved Corkwood located in Section 1 which corresponds to the position of a tree shown on aerial photographs from 1948 onwards. **It is likely that this tree is the only surviving remnant of original native vegetation that was in the area prior to the creation of the Cemetery. It is therefore of high significance and should be retained.** It is also possible that this tree is of cultural significance to Aboriginal custodians.

3.4.2. Levels of Significance (heritage value)

Most heritage places have been subject to change over time, with new additions and alterations to suit changing functions or other circumstances. Some of these changes may be relatively recent modern additions that contribute little, if anything to a site's heritage values. Some may even be detrimental to a site's heritage values and should be removed. Other alterations may have occurred in the historic period and as such may contribute to the heritage values of the place by demonstrating aspects of its development. Evidence of such alterations should therefore be retained. The concept of *levels or degrees of significance* is a mechanism which allows heritage practitioners to distinguish between elements of a place which contribute to its significance and those that do not¹⁸⁷. Elements of high and moderate significance should be retained and conserved. Elements of little or no significance may be altered, removed or upgraded providing such alterations do not have a negative impact upon the heritage values of the site overall e.g. through the use of inappropriate materials, or being of an inappropriate scale, form and mass. Elements which are detrimental to the heritage values of a place should eventually be removed.

¹⁸⁶ National Trust 2009 p10

¹⁸⁷ The Burra Charter, article 5.2; J.S. Kerr. 2013. *The Seventh Edition Conservation Plan: a guide to the preparation of Conservation Plans for places of European cultural significance*. Available on-line at <https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Conservation-Plan-7th-Edition-reduced-file-size.pdf> [accessed December 2018]

3.4.2a. Elements of high significance (heritage value)

The following elements are of high significance:

- Evidence of the original Cemetery layout and design including the north-south and east-west avenues of crushed gravel and earth, perimeter thoroughfares and pathways between the rows;
- Existing alignment of rows including those not truly aligned straight relative to the Section boundaries;
- Perimeter kerbing, including remains of original/early kerbing;
- the generally open, sparsely vegetated character of the Cemetery;
- open vistas across the Cemetery from one side to the other;
- the Fork-leaved Corkwood in Section 1;
- the existing White Cedars and particularly those in the southeast corner of Section 9, southern end of Row D in Section 4 and northern end of Row D in Section 5B;
- Evidence of un-marked graves in the form of slightly raised mounds or shallow depressions in the ground surface;
- Diversity of existing Grave markers;
- the Alice Springs War Cemetery;
- Graves of ex-service personnel;
- Sub-surface archaeological material including remains of any grave markers, grave surrounds and/or furniture, and burial remains.

3.4.2b. Elements of moderate significance (heritage value)

The following elements are of moderate significance:

- Cemetery Lodge;
- Peppercorn trees.

3.4.2c. Elements which are of little or no significance (heritage value)

The following elements are of little or no significance:

- Modern boundary fencing;
- Entrance gate;
- Modern bench seating and signage;
- Modern Section/Row markers;
- Remaining Kurrajongs;
- Plantings around the Cemetery Lodge;
- Plantings of European Olive trees;
- Modern electrical and water services and associated infrastructure; and

- Kerbing and gravel in-fill to Row H Section 3.

Some of the above elements may be detrimental to the conservation and management of the site, for example plant species with invasive root systems or where plants have been planted too close to burials. They may also have a negative impact on the site's heritage values. The older Olive trees in particular have obscured some of the open vistas across the Cemetery, created a more densely planted landscape, obscured the sparse formality of the Cemetery and impacted on the earlier planting design. Later plantings of Olive trees will only exacerbate these effects. Other elements, such as the modern kerbing and gravel in-fill to Row H of Section 3, are detrimental in that these works suggest there is some form of social/family relationship between all the individuals buried in this Row, when this is not the case. These and other issues are discussed in conjunction with particular conservation policies in the following part of this Plan.

9.2

Part 4. Recommended Conservation Policies

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are reading this plan for the first time and you have not read the preceding sections, it is important that you read Parts 1-3 inclusive before proceeding to the policies below. This is because the information in these parts has informed the development of the policies in this Conservation Plan and the Management Plan.

The definitions and terms used in this part of the Plan are taken from the *The Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (2013)* (Appendix 3).

The intention of these policies is to provide guidance for:

- a) the conservation and management of the site;
- b) conservation works in the site;
- c) the incorporation of new works into the site in such a manner that the significance of the site is retained and enhanced;
- d) the enhancement of the existing interpretation of the site; and
- e) a maintenance program for the site.

The policies are supported by an analysis of the fabric and additional information to assist in the interpretation of the policies. The implementation of these policies should be undertaken

in consultation with the Management Plan. The policies are presented at two levels: general policies pertaining to the site as a whole, and specific policies for particular elements. General policies for the Cemetery are presented in the following order:

- General principles;
- Conservation advice;
- Current and future uses;
- Conservation and other works;
- New works other than grave markers;
- Education and Interpretation; and
- Maintenance principles.

These are followed by specific policies for particular elements of the Cemetery.

4.1. General policies for the Cemetery

4.1.1. General Principles

Basis of approach

The underlying approach towards the conservation and management of the site is specified in the 2013 *Burra Charter*. This document is essentially the industry standard for heritage conservation in Australia. It is important that any works carried out at the Cemetery, including works to the graves, landscaping, and maintenance does not adversely affect or diminish the heritage values of the site. An understanding of the Cemetery's heritage value (significance) is vital to its conservation and interpretation and forms an important guide to determining and evaluating different approaches in undertaking conservation works.

Policy C1.1. *The significance of the Alice Springs General Cemetery must be retained and wherever possible and practicable, enhanced.*

Policy C1.2. *All conservation work to the Cemetery shall be carried out in accordance with the principles of the The Burra Charter: Australian ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance 2013 (The Burra Charter).*

Policy C1.3. *The significance (heritage values) of the Cemetery, described in part 3.4 in conjunction with details provided in part 4 of this Plan, shall be accepted as one of the bases for any future conservation work.*

Policy C1.4. *The policies contained in this Conservation Plan and the Management Plan shall take precedence over those contained within the document “Alice Springs General Cemetery Heritage Assessment Report”¹⁸⁸.*

Policy C1.5. *Consent shall be sought for all new works (including repairs, maintenance and plantings) pursuant to Section 72 of the NT Heritage Act 2011, prior to undertaking the work.*

4.1.2. Conservation advice

Prior to undertaking any works within the nine Sections in the Alice Springs General Cemetery it is important that appropriate conservation advice is sought in order to ensure that the proposed work does not negatively impact upon the significance of the site, or individual elements of high or moderate significance. The conservation techniques outlined in part 3.2 of the Management Plan are for general guidance only and are not intended to negate the need to engage experienced heritage professionals in overseeing specific conservation works.

Policy C1.6. *Conservation works to the Cemetery shall only be undertaken following advice on the proposed work from a qualified and experienced heritage professional familiar with the Burra Charter and this Conservation Plan.*

4.1.3. Current and future uses

The General Cemetery was closed in 1995 “with exceptions”, meaning that burials may continue for owners of plots and family members of the deceased. These have taken place including in recent times, and should continue to be permitted.

Policy C1.7. *Burials may continue in the Cemetery for owners of plots and family members of the deceased, in accordance with the Cemeteries Act Regulations.*

Although the primary purpose of the Alice Springs General Cemetery is to provide a place in which to commemorate the deceased, appropriate compatible activities may include: low-level tourism, as public open space for nearby residents, as a place of contemplation and relaxation, and as a place for family/genealogical and/or historical research.

There is considerable public interest in the Cemetery, which has more than the “occasional” visitor, thanks in part to its being able to be accessed from the adjoining Aviation Museum

¹⁸⁸ Heritage Conservation Services 2006

and Araluen Cultural Precinct. In the past there has been “night tours” of the site, run during Heritage Week by former local historian, Katelyn Hemsley. Visitor facilities could be improved with, for example, a drinking fountain near the main entry gate and a few strategically-located seats in areas of existing shade, for the purpose of permitting quiet contemplation. For example, along the edge of the eastern boundary perimeter thoroughfare which receives ample shade in the morning, along the edge of the northern boundary perimeter thoroughfare next to the Hangar which receives midday shade in the cooler months, and in the shade of the large peppercorn tree along the southern boundary of Section 1.

Policy C1.8. *The continuing use of the site for a variety of low-impact, appropriate activities is to be supported and encouraged, provided such uses do not adversely affect the existing graves and original/early historic fabric.*

4.1.4. Conservation and other Works

Key cultural resource management issues include security and vandalism, conservation and management roles and responsibilities, future works including landscaping and interpretation, un-marked graves and sub-surface archaeological material, and deterioration of the graves. Existing documentation of the Cemetery is also problematic with various discrepancies recorded between the Cemetery Register, evidence on-site in the Cemetery and other information sources. As previously indicated, Council staff are currently working to resolve as many of these discrepancies as possible. Other visitor behaviour, traffic, animal and weed management issues are addressed in the Management Plan.

4.1.4a. Security, visitor behaviour and control

Site security, visitor behaviour and control have a direct impact on the conservation of the site. The site is enclosed with a combination of 1.8m high chain mesh fencing and colorbond sheet metal fencing, and is closed to the public between sundown and sunrise.

Previously it seems that parts of the Cemetery i.e. Section 4, were used as a short cut to/from the Araluen Precinct. The permanent closure of the gateway in the northern boundary fence west of the Hangar appears to have stopped this behaviour.

Policy C1.9. *The existing fencing shall be retained and checked for damage by intruders as part of a maintenance program.*

Policy C1.10. *The Cemetery shall continue to be secured at night by closing all entrances to the Cemetery.*

Vandalism seems to occur on a regular basis. This mostly takes the form of removing grave furniture such as artificial flowers and damaging vases, urns and flower pots. Theft of some memorial portraits has occurred in the past, as has the theft of battalion/unit emblems from some of the graves of ex-service personnel. Some grave markers are relatively small and portable and these are also vulnerable to theft and/or mischievous re-location within the Cemetery. The locations of these grave markers should be recorded and the markers photographed to facilitate re-instatement if and when necessary.

Policy C.1.11. *A plan to mitigate damage/loss to the Cemetery, including vulnerable grave markers, shall be developed based on the guidelines at Appendix 4.*

There is evidence that itinerants utilise the water taps for ablution purposes. This has resulted in the discard of rubbish (e.g. used shavers) which presents a health hazard. Additionally there is a risk that nearby graves will be damaged by repeated episodes of running water across the ground surface, leading to subsidence of graves and damage to grave markers. In order to discourage this behaviour the existing taps in the Cemetery should be altered so that a 'key' is required to obtain water or replaced entirely with tamper-proof, limited flow, self-closing taps.

Policy C1.12. *The existing taps in the Cemetery shall be upgraded with new fittings so that a 'key' is required to turn the taps on and off or replaced entirely with tamper-proof, limited flow, self-closing taps.*

4.1.4b. Conservation management roles and responsibilities

It is important when undertaking works on, and managing, a heritage place that roles and responsibilities are clearly communicated and understood by all involved. Failure to do so may result in the undertaking of inappropriate work, inadvertent damage to physical elements of the site, or of undertaking work without obtaining appropriate advice and the necessary approvals. This is particularly the case for places where individuals undertaking the work may not have any legal responsibility for the site as they are not the owners, lessees or employees of the owners. For example, they may be contractors or volunteers. These roles and responsibilities are described in part 1.3 of the Management Plan.

Policy C1.13. *All individuals undertaking any work in the Cemetery shall be made aware that it is a heritage place and be advised of their responsibilities accordingly.*

Policy C1.14. *All individuals undertaking any work in the Cemetery shall be made aware of the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders as described in the Management Plan.*

Policy C1.15. *All capital works and works within the nine Sections shall be overseen by an experienced and appropriately qualified heritage professional familiar with the Burra Charter and this Plan.*

9.2

4.1.4c. Landscaping, maintaining the setting and character, authenticity and integrity of the Cemetery

The Cemetery is laid out in a formal grid pattern with nine Sections, some of which are subdivided into areas for different denominations. Aerial and other photographs from the late 1930s up to and including the early 1980s indicate that the Cemetery has never had lawns or gardens but has always been open and relatively sparsely planted. The open vistas across one side of the Cemetery to other are an important part of the site's heritage value. The original plantings in the mid-late 1950s enhanced the formality of the grid pattern layout but maintained a sense of openness by widely spacing the plants (i.e. 5 per east-west avenue between Sections, 6 per north-south avenue between Sections), a spacing that was largely maintained even with the 1970s plantings of Kurrajongs. By the mid-1980s some earlier plantings had died or otherwise been removed.

In the last two decades some diseased trees have been removed and there has been a re-planting program, using a variety of species including Olive and some Eucalypts. In the main, this work, and particularly the 2013 plantings of Olive trees, has not followed the earlier planting design with respect to spacing, density and location. The location of the plantings between the rows also "blocks" the pathways between the rows and views along the rows. It also does not reflect the species most likely to have been planted in the 1950s, namely White Cedar, a few mature examples of which have survived within the Cemetery. White Cedars have a historical relationship with a certain period (1940s-60s) in the town's development, as evidenced in the Old Eastside and many other historic parts of town, such as Stuart Park¹⁸⁹. As indicated in part 3.4.2 of this Plan the surviving White Cedars are considered to be highly significant elements of the Cemetery. The relatively tall spreading canopy of the White Cedars provided shade whilst maintaining a sense of openness across

¹⁸⁹ A news article on Alice Springs in 1948 sought to dispel myths about the town's appearance and described the streets as "wide and planted with shady cedar trees" according to the *Centralian Advocate* Fri 30/1/1948, p3

the Cemetery at eye-level, quite unlike the lower, bushier and more compact growth habit of Olive trees. This comparison is evident in Plate 45.

No historical evidence has been found to support the notion that Olive trees were amongst the original plantings at the Alice Springs General Cemetery and it is believed the older Olive trees at the Cemetery (as opposed to those planted in September 2013) were most likely planted in the early-mid 2000s. Olive trees are known to have relatively invasive root systems and can represent a fire hazard due to their high oil content. They can be spread and become “feral” through birds ingesting the fruit and defecating the seeds, something that generally requires a high level of maintenance to prevent¹⁹⁰. As such, Olive trees are not considered appropriate plantings in close proximity to graves. Similarly, Kurrajongs also have a tendency to raise the ground at their bases as they mature, and there is evidence of this occurring within parts of the Cemetery (see part 3.2.6 of the Management Plan).

Policy C1.16. *The original/early setting and character of the Alice Springs General Cemetery shall be retained, generally that of an open, sparsely vegetated area. Open vistas across the Cemetery from one side to the other shall be retained, and re-instated in Sections 2, 3 and 5.*

Policy C1.17. *Except in accordance with Policy C1.19 below, new plantings shall not be permitted within the Sections.*

Policy C1.18. *Existing plants in Sections 7A (Date palms), 8A (native species around the Alice Springs War Cemetery), White Cedars and Peppercorn identified on the attached site plans (Figures 4-12) shall be retained and maintained.*

Policy C1.19. *Additional plantings of an appropriate tree species are permitted along the east-west and north-south avenues so as to extend the design intent of the late 1950s. These plantings shall be spaced such that no more than five plants occur along each east-west avenue between the individual Sections and no more than six plants occur along each north-south avenue between the individual Sections. New tree plantings should preferably be of species identified in part 3.4.2 as being of high or moderate significance (i.e. White Cedars (*Melia azedarach*) or those that have a relatively tall spreading canopy and are known to have been planted elsewhere in Alice Springs in the 1950s period, such as jacarandas.*

¹⁹⁰ Department Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation. 2004. *Feral Olives in South Australia*, Report DWLBC 2004/12; Geoff Miers personal communication to D.Pecorari, September 2013.

Policy C1.20. *Inappropriate recent plantings, such as the Olive trees, Kurrajongs and some native plants identified on the site plans, shall be subject to a staged removal program that is coordinated with a new planting program consistent with Policy C1.19.*

Policy C1.21. *A Tree Maintenance Program shall be established, with input from a qualified arborist, outlining regular and annual works including inspection for tree diseases, tree removal and planting, pruning and tree-shaping.*

Refer also Policies **C2.4**, **C4.2** and **C4.3** in parts 4.2.1 and 4.2.3 below regarding plantings along perimeter thoroughfares and along pathways.

In the last decade a Peace Garden and Memorial was established adjacent to Section 8 (Stillborn Section). Refer Policy **C9.1** in part 4.2.8 below regarding these plantings.

It was noted in part 3.3 of this Plan that the Fork-leaved Corkwood in Section 1 is likely to be the only remnant of original vegetation pre-dating the Cemetery's establishment. It is possible that this tree may also be of cultural significance to Aboriginal custodians, given the proximity of a sacred site adjacent to the Cemetery. A cautious approach should be adopted in relation to this tree and it should be assumed to be a sacred site or part thereof, until otherwise advised by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.

Policy C1.22. *The Fork-leaved Corkwood in Section 1 (Roman Catholic) shall be retained and assumed to be protected under the NT Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act, until otherwise advised by the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority.*

Policy C1.23. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall seek advice from the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority regarding the status of the Fork-leaved Corkwood prior to undertaking any work in the vicinity of, or on the Corkwood.*

4.1.4d. Deterioration of the graves

The effects of weathering and deterioration are inevitable on any historic site. The purpose of conservation is to slow down the rate of decay, remove any causes of structural instability, and provide physical security whilst preserving as much as possible of the significance and original fabric. No works should ever seek a return to a pristine or highly restored condition,

nor attempt to alter the intended appearance of the original feature¹⁹¹. The principle of “do as much as is necessary but as little as possible” applies.

The condition of individual grave markers in the General Cemetery varies according to several factors including age, materials, type of construction and installation, individual setting within the Cemetery (e.g. in close proximity to trees with invasive root systems), impact of vandalism, and so on. Timber structures are particularly vulnerable to termite attack, metal features to rust, while friable sandstone features will erode faster from the effects of wind and rain than hard granite or marble headstones.

The most common types of grave marker deterioration observed in the General Cemetery can be summarised as follows:

- Elements of grave markers that are no longer attached to other parts of the grave marker;
- Intact, but leaning, grave markers;
- Broken grave markers;
- Subsidence damage to graves and grave markers (particularly slabs);
- Other damage to slabs;
- Damage from plantings and vegetation;
- Staining on grave markers;
- Loss of lead lettering;
- Loss or deterioration of inscriptions other than lead lettering;
- Damage to timber-work; and
- Rusting of metal structures.

These issues, together with appropriate conservation techniques are described in more detail in part 3.2 of the Management Plan. Refer also part 4.2.6 of this Conservation Plan.

Policy C1.24. *Conservation works shall only occur to grave markers where such works are essential for the continued retention and conservation of the marker.*

Policy C1.25. *Wherever possible, all work to grave markers shall only be carried out with the approval of the family of the deceased. Where all attempts to contact family have failed, the work may proceed in the interests of conserving the fabric, provided the work is of a minimalist nature.*

¹⁹¹ English Heritage 2011, p4

Policy C1.26. *All work to grave markers shall be supervised by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.*

Policy C1.27. *All work to grave markers shall generally be based upon the conservation methodologies and techniques outlined in the Management Plan.*

4.1.4e. Un-marked graves and other sub-surface archaeological material

As a general rule it is rare, and undesirable, to undertake archaeological excavations in cemeteries as this work impacts on the integrity of the burial site¹⁹². However, archeological material within the Alice Springs General Cemetery such as the remains of headstones, other grave markers and the like, may be uncovered from time to time, for example, following heavy rain. These remains, together with any others that may be discovered during any site maintenance works, are important as they may provide additional information regarding the past use of the site and individuals buried within the Cemetery. They should not be removed but left *in situ* (i.e. where they are found), and their location and details recorded by an archaeologist.

Policy C1.28. *Any archeological material uncovered within the Cemetery boundaries shall be retained in situ and conserved. Archeological material shall be documented and recorded by a qualified archaeologist.*

Most of the burials in the Cemetery are un-marked. It is known that the locations of actual burials in some rows do not accurately match the allocated plot areas (e.g. the western parts of Section 8B) but up until sometime between 1978 and 1982, most of these graves were readily apparent in the form of earth mounds. Unfortunately, levelling the ground surface removed virtually all physical trace of where people were actually buried, as opposed to the allocated plots, which were never accurately surveyed. Sections that appear empty or largely so (i.e. Sections 4, 6, 7B, parts of 8B, 8(Stillborns) and 9) were completely filled. It is important that not only visitors to the Cemetery understand this to be the case, but also any individuals undertaking work in the Cemetery in order to avoid any inadvertent interference or damage to graves (e.g. when digging holes for plantings or to locate services).

Rather than assuming that actual grave sites (burials) match plots in these sections, it would be appropriate to undertake archaeological investigations using non-invasive methods such as ground-penetrating radar, to locate burials in these areas. Use of ground-penetrating

¹⁹² National Trust 2009, p11.

radar (GPR) to locate burials is a not a straightforward activity as interpretation of the data is frequently complex. Similarly, the accuracy of any results also depends on the selection of an appropriate methodology in relation to the particular environmental setting. For these reasons, combined with the geomorphology of the Cemetery, such work should be overseen by an archaeologist who specialises in the use of GPR.

It should be noted that the nature of the soil profile in the Cemetery, which includes a thick lens of river sand, combined with grave excavation methods used in the past, often resulted in the collapse of sides of graves, and subsequent shifting of the position of the grave to one side¹⁹³. However since the late 1980s-early 1990s this issue has been addressed by using a formed box to hold the sides of the grave as it is dug¹⁹⁴.

Policy C1.29. *Ground-penetrating radar may be used to locate un-marked burials within the Cemetery. Such work must be overseen by a qualified archaeologist who specialises in the use of ground-penetrating radar.*

Policy C1.30. *Un-marked graves shall only be marked where the location of the actual burial (as opposed to the allocated plot) can be accurately determined.*

Currently, the location of only a few un-marked graves are apparent, as slightly raised areas of earth or shallow depressions as a result of subsidence. It is important that this evidence is not destroyed by filling in the depressions or levelling the ground surface.

Policy C1.31. *Evidence of un-marked graves in the form of slightly raised areas of earth or shallow depressions in the ground surface shall be retained. The precise location of these graves shall be documented.*

4.1.4f. Documentation of the Cemetery

It was noted earlier in this Plan that research undertaken by Strong and Hemsley has identified various discrepancies between data recorded in the Cemetery Register, evidence on-site in the Cemetery, and other information sources, such as Church burial records. These discrepancies include instances where more than one individual is recorded as being buried in a particular plot where the individuals are not related, cases of headstones being erected over the wrong plots, and differing numbers of rows in some Sections. Council staff are currently attempting to resolve as many of these issues as possible.

¹⁹³ Strong 1995, p14.

¹⁹⁴ Strong 1995, p14.

It was noted in the historical overview of the Cemetery that no detailed survey plan of the burial plots within the Cemetery was ever prepared. Without an accurate plan of the Cemetery, the basis on which stonemasons and others positioned headstones and other grave markers can only be guessed at. It is therefore not surprising that within the Cemetery some grave markers have been placed in the wrong position¹⁹⁵. For example, Mally Benson's monument is positioned in Row A Plot 6 of Section 7B whereas he is actually buried some distance away, in Row I Plot 6¹⁹⁶. However this issue has not just been problematic in the more distant past, but continues to present an issue today in terms of the Cemetery's conservation and management, particularly in relation to the marking of previously unmarked graves. Because no detailed survey plan of the plots in the Cemetery was ever undertaken, it cannot be assumed that earlier plans accurately document the actual physical location of burials.

According to Strong, the Cemetery Register itself contains contradictions and omissions, changes and alterations, no doubt reflecting the diligence or lack thereof, of various individuals recording entries over the years. For example, the recording of two or more people, apparently unrelated, in the same plot. There are also a number of burials that do not correspond to any entry in the Register (e.g. Section 3 Row B Plot 22; Section 8B Row E Plot 7; Section 2A Row I Plot 35). In other cases dates recorded on plaques and headstones do not match what is recorded in the Register (e.g. Section 2B Row B Plot 35)¹⁹⁷. More recently Hemsley has undertaken detailed research in an effort to resolve some of these discrepancies but further research is required. The fact that there are many such discrepancies has implications for the conservation and management of the Cemetery, particularly in relation to new works on un-marked graves and interpretation of particular Sections, features and individual graves. It is hoped that further work underway by the Council will resolve some of these issues.

Policy C1.32. *Discrepancies between information recorded in the Cemetery Register, physical evidence on-site and other data sources shall be clearly identified and documented. These discrepancies should be included in interpretive material relating to the site where appropriate.*

¹⁹⁵ Strong 1995, p14.

¹⁹⁶ Strong 1995, p14

¹⁹⁷ Strong 1995, p14-15.

Policy C1.33. *Research shall be undertaken to resolve these discrepancies wherever possible. Corrections shall be retained as part of the official Cemetery documentation maintained by the Alice Springs Town Council.*

4.1.5. New works other than grave markers

Whilst this Conservation Plan allows for future upgrading work, as well as limited new burials, care is needed in conserving the heritage values of the Cemetery and its character. Note that changes to existing grave markers are addressed under the policies for specific elements of the Cemetery.

It was noted in part 4.1.3 above that the Cemetery receives a considerable number of visitors and that visitor facilities could be improved. New seating located under areas of existing shade, so as to permit comfortable contemplation, and other visitor amenities may be installed in the Cemetery. New items, such as bench seating, bins and a drinking fountain(s), shall be carefully selected to complement the historic character of the place, whilst being obviously “new” and not seen as part of the original historic fabric. They should be of a simple, contemporary design without excessive detailing or bright colours, nor should they be in a mock-heritage style.

Policy C1.34. *New works are permitted on the site to facilitate the continued use of the place and to meet services upgrading and maintenance requirements, provided the new works do not affect the original fabric in any way; are sympathetic to the setting and preserve the character and the setting of the Cemetery.*

Policy C1.35. *New items, such as bench seating, shall not be in a mock-heritage style but shall be of a simple, contemporary design without excessive detailing or bright colours.*

Policy C1.36. *New items, such as bench seating, shall not be located over any un-marked or marked graves.*

Despite what appears to be large areas of empty ground, the Cemetery is almost fully occupied with burials. Accordingly, there is virtually no scope for additional buildings or similarly-sized structures on-site and the Cemetery’s current low-impact and low-level usage is such that these sorts of structures are not warranted. In any case, such buildings/structures would have a negative impact upon the Cemetery’s heritage values.

Policy C1.37. *Additional buildings or similarly sized structures shall not be erected on site without consent under the NT Heritage Act 2011.*

4.1.6. Education and Interpretation

The cultural significance of a heritage place may not be readily apparent¹⁹⁸ so it is important that the heritage values of the Cemetery are communicated to visitors to enhance their appreciation and enjoyment of the site. The existing interpretation at the Cemetery is limited to the signs outside the Memorial Drive entrance gates and the entrance gate from the Aviation Museum. A map of the Cemetery is attached to the southern wall of the Cemetery Lodge and a sign, in the style of the earlier section signs, directs visitors to Albert Namatjira's grave.

Whilst it can be appropriate to focus on certain aspects of the site's heritage values, it is important that all aspects of the site's significance are explained to visitors so that they may obtain a greater awareness and appreciation of the site's importance thus enhancing their experience. This is in accordance with the principles of the *Burra Charter*. Accordingly, whilst interpretation may wish to focus on particular aspects of the Cemetery's significance, it should not be at the expense (i.e. total exclusion) of other aspects of the site's heritage values.

It is also important that the type of interpretation is appropriate in terms of the impact upon the Cemetery's and individual structures' heritage values, ease of maintenance and associated on-costs, impact on visitor flow and management around the site. Just as old, poorly maintained displays and outdated information all contributes negatively in terms of the visitor experience, so too does 'over the top' interpretation, if not carefully placed, and used sensitively. Interpretation should aid the visitor's appreciation of the integrity and authenticity of the place, rather than become the visitor attraction in and of itself. In the case of the Alice Springs General Cemetery it is important that the site not become cluttered with signage.

It is recommended that the best way to interpret the heritage values of the Cemetery without installing too many signs, is to develop a mobile phone app and/or website that includes a map of who is thought to be buried where, as well as biographical information regarding each individual. This would allow visitors to explore the Cemetery and choose the level of detail that they wish to discover about different individuals. The app/web site could be

¹⁹⁸ *The Burra Charter*, article 25

progressively developed to include information on other people in the Cemetery as well as the history of the Cemetery, historic photographs and so on. Members of the public, family and relatives could also contribute to the app/web site. The app/web site could also include a search function by name so that people undertaking genealogical research can locate particular graves with greater ease. Such a mechanism can also be used to educate the public regarding the Cemetery's conservation and management, for example, explaining why the Cemetery does not have lawns or garden areas similar to cemeteries down south. Where there are documentation discrepancies of the sort described in part 4.1.4f above, such information can be easily conveyed to visitors via an app/web-based interpretation mechanism.

The interpretation of the Cemetery should also be undertaken within a context cognisant of related places along thematic lines for example, the Stuart Memorial Cemetery as the town's first cemetery. Opportunities to make connections with other sites beyond the Cemetery which are related to individuals, e.g. Olive Pink Botanic Gardens, Hermannsburg Historic Precinct (re Rex Battarbee, Albert Namatjira and others associated with the Hermannsburg School of Watercolour Painting), can also be readily achieved via an app/website with links to other relevant websites and visitor information.

The existing interpretative signage at the entrances to the Cemetery should be upgraded to provide a fuller summary of the site's heritage values. Such signage, together with low-key signage on the southern side of the Cemetery Lodge could advise the public of the existence of the app and/or website and recommend it be downloaded. This allows on-site signage to be kept to a minimum whilst providing visitors with information about the Cemetery.

The existing Section name signage for Sections 4 and 8 uses the term "Non-Denomination". However in the past it seems that the term "Other Denomination" was also used in relation to these Sections. If some of the plots in these Sections belong to deceased persons of *various* denominations, including those that have designated sections elsewhere in the Cemetery, then perhaps it would be better to use the term "Mixed Denominational". Alternatively, if all of the plots belong to deceased with *no link* to *any* denomination, the term "Non-Denomination" is appropriate. Such signage should indicate the earlier/original denominations as well as providing a rationale for current terms used e.g. "although originally set aside for people with no link to any denomination, this section does include people of different faiths who were buried here as the Cemetery progressively filled over the years".

Policy C1.38. *An Interpretive Plan shall be developed for the site so that information presented on-site and by other means to visitors is consistent and coordinated. Interpretation should include the history of the Cemetery, as well as information regarding its heritage values (including its layout, design and character) and individuals and groups buried within the Cemetery.*

Policy C1.39. *Interpretation at the site shall explain all aspects of the site's significance although there may be greater detail provided for particular aspects of the Cemetery's heritage values.*

Policy C1.40. *On-site interpretative signage should be low-key, respectful, of a simple design and presented using subtle colours, appropriate for use in a Cemetery. It shall not become the visitor attraction in and of itself.*

Policy C1.41. *Opportunities to educate the public regarding the Cemetery's conservation and management should also be incorporated into the Interpretative Plan.*

Policy C1.42. *Signage at the main entrance from Memorial Drive shall indicate that the place is the "Alice Springs General Cemetery 1933 - 1995" and that the Cemetery is listed on the NT Heritage Register.*

Policy C1.43. *Interpretation of the Alice Springs General Cemetery should include the Alice Springs War Cemetery and be undertaken in consultation with the Office of Australian War Graves and Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch.*

4.1.7. Maintenance principles

Regular monitoring is vital in terms of effective conservation and management of a heritage place. The establishment and implementation of a regular maintenance program that includes such monitoring is an important step towards the long term conservation of the site. Management issues, maintenance and associated works are detailed in the Management Plan.

Policy C1.44. *The Alice Springs General Cemetery shall continue to be cared for by a planned, regular maintenance program including regular inspections. Maintenance work shall continue to be undertaken on a regular and as-is-required basis.*

4.2. Policies for particular elements of the Cemetery

4.2.1. East-west and north-south avenues and perimeter thoroughfares along the boundary fence

The avenues and thoroughfares delineate the extent of the Cemetery and nine Sections within and are therefore integral to the Cemetery's design and layout. They also contribute significantly to the character of the site. The east-west and north-south avenues are of compacted gravel and earth. There is no evidence that they were ever paved or covered with bitumen. Similarly, the thoroughfares around the perimeter fence appear to have always consisted of compacted earth. The avenues and thoroughfares should be maintained in their existing configuration and alignment, using materials to match the existing. The avenues and thoroughfares provide access to different parts of the Cemetery both for visitors and for Council staff undertaking maintenance works on the Cemetery. They should not be subject to in-fill development.

Policy C2.1. *The existing configuration, alignment and size of the east-west and north-south avenues and perimeter thoroughfares shall be retained.*

Policy C2.2. *The east-west and north-south avenues shall not be paved or covered with bitumen. They shall continue to be formed of compacted gravel and earth.*

Policy C2.3. *The perimeter thoroughfares shall not be paved or covered with bitumen. They shall continue to be formed of compacted earth.*

Policy C2.4. *Apart from the area referred to in Part 4.2.8, Policy C9.1. below, the perimeter thoroughfares shall not be subject to in-fill development, including the creation of garden areas, without consent under the NT Heritage Act 2011.*

4.2.2. Perimeter kerbing to Sections

With the exception of the western boundaries of Sections 7, 8 and 9, the nine individual Sections are defined by a continuous low concrete kerbing along the edges, with tight rounded corners. The kerbing contributes to the Cemetery's heritage values and character by emphasizing the formality of its layout, and by clearly delineating the burial areas (Sections) from pedestrian and vehicular traffic (avenues and thoroughfares). There is no evidence that the kerbing has ever been painted. In some place the remains of original/earlier kerbing are still visible. Vehicular traffic appears to have caused damage to

the concrete kerbing, particularly on the tighter corners where avenues meet the narrower perimeter thoroughfares.

Policy C3.1. *Damaged sections of concrete kerbing shall be repaired or replaced with matching material, in a profile and colour to match the existing kerbing.*

Policy C3.2. *The existing kerbing, shall be maintained in its natural concrete colour and shall not be painted.*

Policy C3.3. *The remains of original/earlier kerbing, such as that evident on the northeast corner of Section 5B, shall be retained in-situ.*

4.2.3. "Pathways" between Rows

Apart from two areas, the pathways between the rows have always consisted of the bare earth and, after rainfall, low grasses. The pathways provide access to the graves, and wider paths between Sections 2A and 2B, 5A and 5B serve to highlight the subdivision of these sections into different religious denominations.

Policy C4.1. *The existing pathways between the rows in each Section shall be retained. The width of existing pathways shall be maintained.*

Policy C4.2. *The existing bare earth pathways shall not be paved, covered with bitumen or crackerdust, or planted with lawn.*

Policy C4.3. *In-fill planting shall not occur in any pathways.*

As described in part 3.3.1 above, the pathway extending from the northern boundary of Section 6 towards Albert Namatjira's grave has been surfaced with crackerdust which may extend over the top of some plots and un-marked graves. It is also visually intrusive, inconsistent with and detracts from, the overall design intent and character of the Cemetery. The rationale for this work is not clear given that his grave is situated in Row B and a more direct path for visitors is to simply continue down the north-south avenue between Sections 1 and 6 until they are opposite his grave i.e. at they arrive at the existing bench seat. Crackerdust has also been laid between his grave and the bench seat. This creates the impression that there are no burials between the seat and his grave, which historic aerial photographs indicate is not the case. The crackerdust along the path and between his grave

and the bench seat should be removed. As an interim measure the existing directional sign at the northern end of Section 6 Row B should be relocated to the northeast corner of Section 6 to direct visitors along the avenue until they are at the bench seat opposite his grave, until such time that an Interpretive Plan for the Cemetery is prepared and implemented (refer Policies **C1.38-1.40**).

The southern part of the pathway between Sections 2A and 2B has also been laid with crackerdust. Again, the rationale for this work is not clear and it is also visually intrusive, inconsistent with and detracts from, the overall design intent and character of the Cemetery. It should also be removed.

Policy C4.4. *The crackerdust along the pathway between Rows A and B in Section 6 and around Albert Namatjira's grave shall be removed and pathway restored to a natural earth state.*

Policy C4.5. *The existing directional signage at the northern end of Section 6 Row B shall be temporarily relocated to the northeast corner of Section 6.*

Policy C4.6. *The crackerdust along the pathway between Section 2A Row H and Section 2B Row G shall be removed and pathway restored to a natural earth state.*

4.2.4. The Cemetery Lodge

The Cemetery Lodge building was constructed between 1959 and 1964. It provides a shaded central area, flanked to the west by male and female toilets and to the east by a secure storage room. While it is connected to the main sewer system, it is unclear if there is any asbestos in the building. It was noted in part 3.3.1 above that the building was in a poor condition. It should also be noted that the existing toilet facilities do not allow for disabled access and will need to be upgraded in the future. Generally, the toilets are only opened during funerals although it was noted during the 2018 site inspections that the toilet block was open for visitors. Part 3.2.13 of the Management Plan lists recommended works to the Lodge.

Policy C5.1. *The Cemetery Lodge shall be retained and upgraded as necessary to meet current day standards.*

Policy C5.2. *The building should be repainted in its original historic colour scheme.*

4.2.5. The Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A) and Individual graves of Ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery

4.2.5a. The Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A)

The Alice Springs General Cemetery includes a War Cemetery for the graves of service personnel killed in the Territory during WWII. The War Cemetery is different from the General Cemetery in that it follows the design principles for small war cemeteries adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in 1918 and still adhered to, today.

From time to time the Office of Australian War Graves undertakes work on the War Cemetery on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Although the War Cemetery appears to be in good condition, it does require work in accordance with the principles and standards adopted by the Commission. This work will include replacing the low concrete kerbing around the War Cemetery, re-seating and cleaning of the existing white marble headstones, removal of the blue-metal in-fill and upgrade of the in-fill areas, and works to the brick pillar¹⁹⁹.

Normally, re-seating of headstones which are not in imminent danger of falling over, would not be considered appropriate heritage conservation work. However because these headstones are grouped together in a War Cemetery, and as such must give the appearance of a battalion on parade, it is important that the headstones are extremely precisely aligned. Therefore re-seating of these headstones is acceptable. However, it is not acceptable practice anywhere in the General Cemetery except in accordance with the works described in part 3.2 of the Management Plan.

Policy C6.1. *No work shall occur to any element of the Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A) without the written consent of the Office of Australian War Graves. This includes kerbing to the Cemetery, in-fill around the headstones, the headstones, plantings in the War Cemetery, and brick pillar located on the eastern boundary of the War Cemetery.*

¹⁹⁹ Kel Pearce, Office of Australian War Graves, Dept of Veterans Affairs, personal communication, 16 October 2013

Policy C6.2. *All work within the Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A) shall be in accordance with the design principles and standards adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for small war cemeteries.*

4.2.5b. Graves of Ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery that are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves

Graves of military personnel who did not die during conflict but after their service are scattered throughout the General Cemetery in Sections 1, 2A, 3, 5A, 5B and 8B. Some of these graves have markers that have been erected by relatives of the deceased, whilst others are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves. The latter have metal tags discretely affixed to the grave marker (usually the headstone), indicating that that particular grave is the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves.

Policy C6.3. *No work shall occur to any ex-service personnel graves that are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves without the written consent of that Office.*

Policy C6.4. *Works on ex-service personnel graves that are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves shall be in accordance with the principles and standards adopted in relation to individual war graves by that Office.*

Jack Kennett's grave in Section 3 Row A, also maintained by the Office of Australian War Graves, is notable in that his grave marker includes a slab covered with coloured sandstone rocks set in green painted concrete as well as a white marble headstone consistent with those in the War Cemetery. The existence of a grave that is maintained by the OAWG where the grave marker is a combination of an informal vernacular marker with a formal headstone is unique in the Cemetery and may reflect the economic circumstances of both family and veterans organizations during the 1950s period. Accordingly, whilst the marble headstone may be upgraded, the existing rocks in slab should be retained as evidence of this period.

Policy C6.5. *While the white marble headstone marking Jack Kennett's grave may be upgraded or replaced in accordance with the principles and standards adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the existing sandstone rocks set into the concrete slab shall be retained.*

4.2.6. Other Marked Graves in the General Cemetery

The wide diversity of grave markers in the General Cemetery, in terms of their size, shape, architecture, materials and aesthetic qualities of individual markers, mix of both formal headstones and vernacular makers, is part of the site's heritage values; such diversity contributes substantially to the Cemetery's character, its visual appeal, and underpins its integrity and authenticity. Similarly the existing alignments of the rows, including those that are not in a straight line relative to the Section boundaries, but demonstrate distinct curves or "veer off" in a particular direction, are also an important element of the Cemetery's character and reflects the absence of any detailed survey plan for the Cemetery. The grave markers also provide information regarding the socio-economic background of individuals, their family and friends. They may also reflect the deceased's personal beliefs or requests regarding the type of grave marker they wanted. They are an important part of the historical record and source of biographical information. The variation in the craftsmanship of different markers is an important aspect of the Alice Springs General Cemetery's heritage values as it says something not only about the financial circumstances of deceased friends/relatives but also the availability of individuals skilled to undertake such work at that time. Artistic values are encapsulated in the overall Cemetery layout, types of monuments, grave surrounds and furniture. For all these reasons, attempts to standardise the types of grave markers (other than those of ex-service personnel, refer part 4.2.5 above) or re-align the markers into neat, straight lines relative to the section boundaries in the General Cemetery are inappropriate²⁰⁰ and should not be encouraged.

It was noted in part 3.4.3 above that in some instances, markers have been erected by friends of the deceased, or particular organizations, rather than family. Other existing markers are replacements for earlier markers (e.g. Albert Namatjira's). These cases should be documented and noted on any interpretive material relating to these graves.

Policy C7.1. *The wide diversity of grave markers found in the Cemetery shall be retained. There shall be no attempts to standardize the types of grave markers present in the General Cemetery, other than those which are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves.*

Policy C7.2. *The existing alignment of grave markers in individual rows shall be retained, even where these are not truly aligned north-south/east-west or in straight lines relative to the section boundaries.*

²⁰⁰ See also Tasmanian Heritage Practice Note 11. The moving of monuments to other locations or re-arranging of monuments is not appropriate heritage conservation practice.

Policy C7.3. *Grave markers erected by people other than the individual's family shall be documented and included with any interpretive material relating to these graves.*

Policy C7.4. *Individual grave markers may be upgraded, provided that the proposed works are not inconsistent with **Policies C7.1, C6.3 and C6.4.***

Part 4.1.4d above summarized the most common types of deterioration of the grave markers evident in the General Cemetery. Appropriate conservation methodologies and techniques to address these issues are provided at part 3.2 of the Management Plan. The policies developed above in part 4.1.4 which also apply here are reproduced below:

Policy C1.24. *Conservation works shall only occur to grave markers where such works are essential for continued retention and preservation of the marker.*

Policy C1.25. *Wherever possible, all work to grave markers shall only be carried out with the approval of the family of the deceased. Where all attempts to contact family have failed, the work may proceed in the interest of conservation of the fabric, provided it is of a minimalist nature.*

Policy C1.26. *All work to grave markers shall be supervised by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.*

Policy C1.27. *All work to grave markers shall generally be based upon the conservation methodologies and techniques outlined in the Management Plan.*

4.2.7. Section 3 Row H

Works undertaken in the early 2000s to Row H of Section 3 were described at part 3.2 above and consisted of the installation of concrete kerbing around this entire Row and infilling the Row with coloured gravel. Grave markers in the form of sandstone rocks with small aluminium plaques bearing information relating to the person thought to be buried in each of these plots, were also installed. These works, while well-intentioned, nevertheless negatively impacted on the heritage values of the Cemetery, including its authenticity and integrity. For example, by creating and adding design elements (i.e. kerbing around the entire Row, coloured gravel in-fill between the graves along the row) that did not exist, nor

had ever existed, anywhere else in the General Cemetery²⁰¹. Additionally, such works also impacted on the interpretation of that particular Row by visitors. By enclosing the Row with kerbing and in-filling with gravel, it created the impression that the graves in this Row are all related in some way, for example by all being part of a single family, or all deceased as a result of a particular accident, which is not the case. The uniformity of headstones used to mark the unmarked graves in this Row (i.e. similarly sized and coloured sandstone markers all bearing the same small aluminium plaque) has reinforced the impression that all the graves in this Row are somehow related.

Policy C8.1. *In the short term, Row H of Section 3 shall be marked with an interpretive sign explaining that although it may appear that all these graves are somehow related, this is not the case.*

Policy C8.2. *In the longer term, the concrete kerbing and gravel in-fill around Row H of Section 3 shall be removed and the row returned to a state similar to that of adjoining rows as documented in 2018.*

Policy C8.3. *Consideration shall be given to replacing some of the sandstone-and-aluminium grave markers introduced to this Row with other simple markers in different materials, so as to reduce the degree of uniformity of grave markers in this row. This work shall only proceed provided that the actual location of each individual grave (as opposed to plot) can be accurately identified on-site.*

4.2.8. Peace Garden and Memorial

In part 3.2 above it was noted that a “Peace Garden and Memorial” was established along the western boundary of the Cemetery adjacent to Section 8 in 2005 by a local community organisation. The intent of this work was to create a memorial for the Stillborn section that up to that time had consisted of un-marked graves with one exception. The children buried within this Section are from different ethnic backgrounds, including those of Indigenous descent, and various denominations. Accordingly, any future works in this Section need to be undertaken in consultation with all the family members concerned and respect individual belief systems and cultural practices, including those of Indigenous people.

²⁰¹ Note that Section 8A, the War Cemetery is a particular exception and is markedly different in its design, historical and social associations from the General Cemetery. Accordingly, works that are appropriate in the War Cemetery are not necessarily appropriate in the General Cemetery.

The works undertaken as part of the Peace Garden and Memorial project consisted of new plantings of native species, installation of large elliptical curved concrete slabs in contrasting colours and placement of over 40 leaf-shaped concrete pavers along the ground in a straight north-south alignment (relative to the section boundary), intended to represent each burial. The work to date would benefit from the installation of two park-style benches and a central interpretive plaque. Elements of the project which may not accurately reflect the actual location of individual graves nor the overall actual alignment of rows i.e. the concrete “leaf” markers, should be removed in the absence of any interpretive signage. The combined effect of their current locations (ordered regularity and uniform markers) gives visitors an impression which is not necessarily representative of the actual location if these individuals, the timing of death, ethnicity or familial or other social relationships between these individuals.

Policy C9.1. *The Peace Garden and Memorial to Stillborns, including existing plantings, shall be retained and augmented with appropriate seating and interpretive signage, in accordance with policies C1.34, C1.35, C1.38 and C1.40 regarding new works such as seating and interpretation for the Cemetery generally.*

Policy C9.2. *Interpretative signage shall be discreetly located and subtle in appearance. The content of such signage should provide an indication of the number of individuals thought to be interred in this section.*

Names of children shall not be included in any interpretative material, either on-site or in other formats (e.g. website, app) without the written consent of family members.

Policy C9.3. *The concrete “leaf” markers shall be removed.*

Part 5. Review of the Conservation Plan

Whilst some flexibility has been incorporated into this Conservation Plan, there may arise some unforeseen circumstances which may only be dealt with through changes to the Conservation Plan.

Policy C10.1. *This Conservation Plan should be reviewed as may become necessary due to changing or unforeseen circumstances, or by the year 2023, by the Alice Springs Town Council, Office of Australian War Graves, Heritage Branch and other stakeholders in conjunction with a heritage professional.*

2018 MANAGEMENT PLAN



9.2

ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY

THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Management Plan has been prepared as a “working document” to assist the Alice Springs Town Council in their day-to-day management of the Alice Springs General Cemetery. This Management Plan must be read in conjunction with the Conservation Plan. The policies in the Conservation Plan take precedence over any recommendations contained in the Management Plan. The policies recommended in this Plan relate to the general management of the Cemetery so as to retain and enhance the heritage values of the site.

Part 1 of this Management Plan describes the tenure of the site and legislative framework within which conservation and management of the Alice Springs General Cemetery occurs. The specific roles and responsibilities of various government agencies at the local, Territory and Commonwealth level are described.

Part 2 of this Plan identifies particular management issues which should be addressed.

Part 3 identifies specific conservation works that are required. These works are grouped according to ‘trade’ or type of work. Appropriate methodologies and techniques are described. This information may be used as the basis to seek funding for specific conservation projects.

Part 4 relates to cyclic maintenance. This part provides guidance regarding regular monitoring and recording of the condition of different elements of the site. Guidelines for preparing a Loss/Damage Mitigation Plan as well as a template for regular inspections, are provided as Appendices.

Part 5 provides a mechanism for the timing and frequency of reviews of the Management Plan.

Part 1: Administrative and legal framework

1.1. Ownership and tenure

The Alice Springs General Cemetery is situated immediately west of Memorial Drive and south and east of the Araluen Cultural Precinct. The Cemetery comprises Lot 1027 (Res 1216). It is zoned ALSCP (Community purposes) under the Alice Springs Town Plan. Within the Alice Springs General Cemetery there is the Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A)

as well as individual graves of ex-service personnel scattered throughout the General Cemetery.

The controlling agency of the Alice Springs General Cemetery is the Department of Housing and Community Development, although management responsibility is borne by the Alice Springs Town Council.

1.2. Legislative framework

Management of the Cemetery occurs within a particular legal framework established by, but not necessarily limited to, the following legislation:

- NT *Heritage Act 2011* and associated *Regulations*,
- NT *Cemeteries Act 2013* and associated *Regulations*, and
- *War Graves Act 1980* (C'th)

Note that at the time of finalising this Plan (December 2018), the NT Government had drafted a new Northern Territory Burial and Cremation Bill to replace the *Cemeteries Act* and was in the process of seeking public comments upon the draft Bill.

1.2.1. NT *Heritage Act*

The Alice Springs General Cemetery was declared a heritage place in 2006 under the old *Heritage Conservation Act*. It remains on the NT Heritage Register and is subject to the new *Heritage Act 2011* which replaced the old *Heritage Conservation Act*. Amongst other things, the *Heritage Act* sets out the process for getting permission to do work on heritage places. It is an offence under section 111 of the *Heritage Act* to undertake work on a heritage place that is not in accordance with a heritage agreement, a work approval, work authorised under the declaration of a heritage place, a repair order, or constitutes minor work which is exempt (see below).

Under the *Heritage Act* there are three categories of work:

- Exempt work (under the *Heritage Act* Regulations), is minor work for which no further permission is required;
- Minor work, which the Heritage Council makes decisions about; and
- Major work, which the Minister makes decisions about.

The Department, through the Heritage Branch, decides whether the proposed work is minor or major.

Minor work for exemption purposes is that work that comprises:

- (a) routine maintenance or cleaning that does not involve damage to or removal of existing fabric, or the introduction of new material;
- (b) the repair or replacement of services or equipment such as telecommunication cables, water pipes, electrical wiring and fire extinguishers, provided that the work is carried out by a person who is licensed to carry out the work, and that the work utilises existing service routes, cavities or voids, or only involves the replacement of existing surface mounted equipment in a way that does not involve damage to or the removal of significant fabric.

Additionally, under the Regulations of the Act, exempt work (within a cemetery) includes digging or making a new grave, and repair or maintenance of a monument or grave marker.

1.2.2. NT *Cemeteries Act*

The NT *Cemeteries Act 2013* provides for, amongst other things, the establishment of a Board of Trustees to oversee a public Cemetery; operational matters relating to the timing, nature and manner of burials, exhumations; cremations; maintenance, and burials in closed cemeteries. Note that Section 5(1)(c) of the *Cemeteries Act* states that the provisions of the *Cemeteries Act* do not apply to a cemetery or portion of a cemetery the control of which is exercised by the body known as the “Imperial War Graves Commission”²⁰².

As noted above, at the time of preparing this Plan in 2018 a draft Northern Territory Burial and Cremation Bill had been released for public comment.

1.2.2. *War Graves Act (C'th)*

The Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) was created in 1975. The *War Graves Act 1980* is a piece of Commonwealth legislation that formalised the position of Director War Graves within the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Prior to that, OAWG was known as the Anzac Agency of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (see also part 1.3.4 of this Plan).

1.3. Roles and responsibilities

This section describes the roles and responsibilities of different Commonwealth and Territory Government agencies as well as the Alice Springs Town Council and other stakeholders in relation to the conservation and management of the site.

²⁰² The Imperial War Graves Commission is now known as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. OAWG acts as their agent.

1.3.1. NT Heritage Branch, NT Government, Department of Tourism and Culture

The Heritage Branch administers the NT *Heritage Act*, including the processing of applications to undertake works on heritage places. The Branch also provides general conservation advice, promotes and encourages appropriate heritage conservation practice and assists owners of heritage places through its Heritage Incentives Program. This program includes the provision of free specialist technical and conservation advice as well as administering the NT Heritage Grants Program. As noted above, it is the Department (through the Heritage Branch) that determines what constitutes minor and major works, not the applicant or owner of a heritage place.

1.3.2. Department of Housing and Community Development

The role of the Department is to ensure local governments comply with legislation and to provide support to local councils through building capacity and managing grants to local governments to support the delivery of core services, including management and maintenance of cemeteries.

1.3.3. Alice Springs Town Council

The Alice Springs Town Council is the primary agency responsible for the conservation and management of the Alice Springs General Cemetery. It undertakes the day-to-day management tasks. As this Cemetery is 'closed with exception' it also facilitates burials as and when required. The Town Council is also required to maintain the Cemetery Register in accordance with the *Cemeteries Regulations*.

As the primary agency responsible for the site, it is also the responsibility of the Alice Springs Town Council to ensure that for all works that occur in the Alice Springs General Cemetery, regardless of whether or not the work is carried out by Council staff, that the appropriate consent has been obtained under the NT *Heritage Act* prior to starting the work.

If in doubt as to whether or not consent has been obtained, contact the Heritage Branch and ask.

Under the draft NT Burials and Cremation Bill the Town Council will continue to care for and maintain the Cemetery. In carrying out its functions, the Council must have regard to, among other things, the heritage value of the Cemetery²⁰³.

²⁰³ Public Cemeteries information page regarding the draft NT Burials and Cremation Bill, available at <https://dhcd.nt.gov.au/publications-and-policies/draft-northern-territory-burial-and-cremation-bill/public-cemeteries> [accessed on 24/12/2018]

Work to the Alice Springs War Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel can only be authorised by the Office of Australian War Graves (see 1.3.4. below).

Alice Springs Town Council Cemeteries Committee

The Alice Springs Town Council Cemeteries Committee is one of a number of Advisory Committees established to provide specialist advice to the Council. It provides advice regarding the management of the town's three cemeteries, two of which are listed on the NT Heritage Register.

1.3.4. Office of Australian War Graves, Commonwealth, Department of Veterans' Affairs

The care of graves of those service personnel killed in WWI and WWII is undertaken by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, established in 1915. The Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) acts as the agent of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in the Australasian region. The OAWG is therefore responsible for, among other things, maintaining war cemeteries and individual war graves. This includes the maintenance of over 20,000 graves of Commonwealth war dead in 76 war cemeteries and plots in numerous civil cemeteries in the region²⁰⁴ as well as commemorating eligible veterans who died post-war and whose deaths were caused by their war service²⁰⁵.

Only the Office of Australian War Graves can authorise works to the Alice Springs War Cemetery (Section 8A) and to individual graves of ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery which have been identified (tagged) as the responsibility of OAWG (refer Policies **C6.1** and **C6.3** in the Conservation Plan).

1.3.5. Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch

The Alice Springs RSL Sub-branch has a particular interest in the Alice Springs War Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery. From time to time the RSL Sub-branch may be involved in facilitating or undertaking works to the War Cemetery and/or graves of ex-service personnel, on behalf of the Office of Australian War Graves²⁰⁶.

Additionally, Section 9(5) of the NT *Cemeteries Act* states that where a portion of a public cemetery has been set aside for the burial of deceased persons described in Section 7(1)(a)(b) or (c) (i.e. service personnel), the sub-branch of the organisation known as the

²⁰⁴ www.cwgc.org/about-us/member-governments/australia.aspx [accessed 2013]

²⁰⁵ www.dva.gov.au/commems_oawg/OAWG/Pages/index.asp [accessed 2013]

²⁰⁶ Martin Glass, formerly President Alice Springs RSL sub-branch, personal communication 3 October 2013; Kel Pearce, Office of Australian War Graves, Dept of Veterans Affairs, personal communication 16 October 2013

Returned Sailors, Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia²⁰⁷ situated nearest to the cemetery may nominate a person for appointment to the relevant Board of Trustees.

1.3.6. Community groups, other volunteers and relatives of the deceased

Over the years community groups, other organisations and volunteers have undertaken work in the Cemetery. For example, the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (NT) installed a grave marker on the grave of Beni Burnett, the Territory's most well known architect. Other works, for example the Peace Garden and Memorial, and to Section 3 Row H have been described and discussed in the Conservation Plan. Relatives of the deceased also undertake work in the Cemetery from time to time. In some instances this work consists of clearing away weeds and other vegetation from around the grave, in other cases new grave markers are installed or existing markers repaired or upgraded. Works to several graves occurred between 2013 and 2018 ranging from re-painting of metal elements, to installation of new headstones and other markers, and installation of new grave furniture.

It was noted in part 4.1.4b of the Conservation Plan that it is important when undertaking works on and managing a heritage place, that roles and responsibilities are clearly communicated and understood by all involved. Failure to do so may result in inappropriate work, inadvertent damage to physical elements of the site, or undertaking work without obtaining appropriate advice and the necessary approvals.

It is anticipated that community organisations and other volunteers will continue to have some involvement in the Cemetery's care. In the future this involvement may for example, include tackling maintenance work such as hand weeding around graves, or documenting the condition of different parts of the Cemetery as part of producing and upgrading regular condition reports. They could also assist in the research required for content development for interpretation i.e. gathering information regarding individuals buried in the Cemetery. All work by volunteers, either individuals or community organisations, should be co-ordinated, overseen and undertaken in accordance with the policies contained in the 2018 Conservation and Management Plans for the Cemetery.

Policy M1.1. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall retain overall conservation and management responsibility for the Alice Springs General Cemetery.*

²⁰⁷ R.S.S.A.I.L.A. is now known as the Returned Services League (RSL)

Policy M1.2. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall retain day-to-day maintenance responsibility for the site.*

Policy M1.3. *In accordance with **Policy C1.5** of the Conservation Plan, the Alice Springs Town Council shall not undertake, nor authorise, any works in the Alice Springs General Cemetery without first obtaining the appropriate consent under the NT Heritage Act.*

Policy M1.4. *In accordance with **Policies C6.1 and C6.3** of the Conservation Plan, the Alice Springs Town Council shall not undertake, nor authorise, any works to the Alice Springs War Cemetery, or individual graves of ex-service personnel in the General Cemetery which are the responsibility of the Office of Australian War Graves, without first receiving written consent from the Office of Australian War Graves.*

Policy M1.5 *In accordance with **Policies C1.13 and C1.14** of the Conservation Plan, the Alice Springs Town Council shall ensure that all individuals undertaking work at the Alice Springs General Cemetery are aware that it is a heritage place and be advised of their responsibilities accordingly, as well as the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders as outlined in this Management Plan.*

Policy M1.6 *Work by volunteers shall be supervised and conducted in accordance with the policies in the 2018 Conservation and Management Plans prepared for the Cemetery.*

Part 2: Particular management issues

2.1. Visitor behaviour

It was noted in the Conservation Plan that certain types of visitor behaviour such as vandalism, theft, use of taps for ablution purposes etc. can have a negative impact upon the heritage values of the Cemetery. This in turn may impact upon other visitors' usage, appreciation and enjoyment of the site. Conservation Policies **C1.9, C1.10 and C1.12** in the Conservation Plan were developed to address these matters. Management policies that relate to managing aspects of visitor behaviour are found below (**Policies M2.1, M2.2, M3.1, M3.2, M5.1 and M7.1**).

2.2. Site security

The Cemetery grounds are fenced on all four sides, with 1.8m high chainmesh fencing along Memorial Drive to the east, northern and part of the western boundary with the Araluen

Cultural Precinct and Aviation Museum. Solid colorbond metal fencing separates the Cemetery grounds from the suburban lots on the southern and southern part of its western boundaries. Gates along the northern boundary of the Cemetery are permanently locked. The main entrance gates to the Cemetery from Memorial Avenue are also locked except for funerals and Council maintenance. The self-closing pedestrian gate next to the main entrance is locked between sundown and sunrise.

Policy M2.1. *The Cemetery fencing shall be retained and checked on a regular basis for damage by intruders. Repairs to the boundary fencing shall be carried out as a matter of high priority.*

Policy M2.2. *The Cemetery shall be secured at sundown by closing and locking any open entrances to the Cemetery.*

2.3. Vehicular traffic control

Access to the nine Sections in the Cemetery is via a series of east-west and north-south avenues as well as the thoroughfares around the perimeter of the Cemetery. It was noted in the Conservation Plan that damage to the perimeter kerbing has occurred on the tight corners where the avenues join the perimeter thoroughfares. Additionally, it has been observed in the past that vehicles cut across some of the sections, risking damage to the individual headstones and some of the low-set grave markers, particularly those that are plastic and easily broken. Visitor car parking is available adjacent to the Cemetery either along Memorial Avenue or in the car park on the eastern side of the Cemetery, next to the Central Australian Aviation Museum.

Policy M3.1 *Vehicular traffic shall be limited to the avenues and boundary thoroughfares, and not permitted within the Sections under any circumstances.*

Policy M3.2. *Visitor car parking should continue to occur outside of the Cemetery.*

2.4. Weeds

The site is subject to a variety of weed infestations, which are presently controlled by Council workers using herbicides. The use of herbicides around the grave markers may result in staining and other damage to headstone materials resulting from spray drift and/or careless application. Use of whipper-snippers can also result in inadvertent damage to grave markers particularly to those made of timber or softer stone materials. In order to avoid such

damage, weeds in the immediate vicinity of marked graves should be removed by hand, ideally soon after rainfall events when weed removal is easier and before the weeds set seed.

Policy M4.1. *Weeds within 300mm of grave markers shall be removed by hand before they set seed. In the longer term elsewhere in the Cemetery, the use of herbicides should be replaced by hand removal or slashing, particularly before re-seeding can occur. Native grass species should be retained and encouraged as a means of erosion control in these areas.*

2.5. Animal control

From time to time there occurs minor “diggings” in the Cemetery grounds, most likely caused by animals such as lizards and rabbits, which have breached the perimeter fence. These diggings are generally in open ground but in some cases have been located alongside and under the grave markers.

Policy M5.1. *Visible “diggings” shall be carefully re-filled using the excavated dirt alongside the hole, exercising care not to disturb surrounding ground surface.*

In the course of preparing these Plans a number of visits were made to the Cemetery, in 2013 and later in 2018, including in the early mornings. This time of day appears to be popular with local residents to visit the Cemetery, many of whom visit with their dogs. While most residents had their dogs on a leash, there were several occasions when dogs were allowed to roam freely across the Cemetery. However Council By-laws state that no dogs or pets are allowed in the Cemetery.

Policy M5.2. *In accordance with Council By-laws, no dogs or pets are allowed in the Cemetery.*

Policy M5.3. *Signage indicating that no dogs or pets are allowed in the Cemetery will be installed at the entrances to the Cemetery.*

2.6. Termite control

A number of grave markers or parts thereof are composed of timber. Additionally, some other highly significant elements of the Cemetery include the early tree species introduced in

the mid-late 1950s and early 1960s. These elements are vulnerable to damage and/or complete loss from termite attack.

Policy M6.1. *The Cemetery grounds, timber items and other sources of termite activity (such as trees) shall be regularly inspected for termite activity and any activity uncovered shall be eradicated as a matter of urgency.*

Inspections and any required treatment shall be carried out by an accredited pest control company.

9.2

2.7. Damage/Loss to the Cemetery, including to small items

Part 4.1.4a of the Conservation Plan noted that some grave markers, particularly smaller markers or surrounds that are relatively portable, and items of grave furniture, are particularly susceptible to vandalism (theft and damage) as well as mischievous re-location within the Cemetery. An example of this type of marker is the metal marker for A.J.Sellers' (Tony) grave (refer Plate 54). Other items, because of their setting flush with the ground surface are vulnerable to accidental damage. Items that are particularly vulnerable to damage (dislodgement, destruction) or loss (theft) include timber items, the earlier metal "Reserved" signs and earlier concrete plot markers, loose enamelled sheet metal markers (various colours), and plastic tiles.

All of these items should be photographed, including details of any inscriptions, and their current locations documented in order to facilitate later re-instatement in their correct locations if and when necessary. In accordance with **Policy C1.11** of the Conservation Plan guidelines for a Damage/Loss Mitigation Plan are provided at Appendix 4 which includes this type of work. Additionally, every item should be marked with a short (i.e. no more than 300mm long) section of star picket, driven into the ground directly behind the item and fitted with a metal tag bearing the data on the grave marker punched onto the surface.

Policy M7.1. *The Guidelines for a Damage/Loss Mitigation Plan at Appendix 4 shall be used to develop a plan to mitigate against future damage/loss to the Cemetery, including vulnerable grave markers and small items. This activity should be considered a high priority.*

Part 3: Conservation and new works

3.1. General

Where conservation works are to be carried out only experienced tradespeople shall be engaged to undertake the work. In such cases a detailed scope of work shall be prepared and submitted to the Heritage Branch prior to undertaking the work, as part of the process of obtaining the appropriate consent under the *Heritage Act* to do the work (**Policies C1.5 and M1.3**). All work shall be carried out following advice from an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional. The attached Guide for Contractors (Appendix 5) should be provided to all tradespeople working on site and attached to all tender documentation.

The following Policies have been developed in accordance with **Policies C1.1 – C1.6** of the Conservation Plan:

Policy M8.1. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall seek the appropriate consent under the NT Heritage Act to undertake any conservation and/or new works in the Alice Springs General Cemetery.*

Policy M8.2. *Conservation and new works are to be undertaken and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional who is familiar with the principles of the Burra Charter, as well as the range of conservation techniques associated with materials found in cemeteries.*

Examples of these techniques in relation to different types of conservation works are provided below in Part 3.2.

Policy M8.3. *The Alice Springs Town Council will ensure that contractors working on site are aware of their responsibilities under the Heritage Act, prior to commencing works on site.*

Policy M8.4. *The Guide for Contractors (Appendix 5) shall be provided as part of all tender documentation for works on site and to all tradespeople working on site.*

Policy M8.5. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall ensure that a record is kept of all works and actions undertaken on site, including a photographic record. These records shall be collated and stored for future reference. A copy of this documentation shall be forwarded to Heritage Branch upon completion of each of the works projects.*

3.2. Appropriate conservation methodologies and techniques

The information in this part of the Management Plan is intended as a guide in relation to treating the major types of grave marker deterioration evident in the General Cemetery. Specific conditions relating to individual graves will determine the particular conservation method(s) chosen, e.g. stabilization, repair, restoration or reconstruction. For this reason advice shall be sought from a qualified and experienced heritage conservation professional before deciding upon any specific course of remedial action in relation to any grave maker(s), in accordance with **Policies C1.6 and M8.2** of the Conservation and Management Plans.

Wherever possible the following works have been grouped according to type of work and trade/technique. As such these categories form conservation works schedules and may be used to form the basis for specific conservation work projects for which funding might be sought from various programs, e.g. the NT Heritage Grant Program. These schedules are not intended to represent a comprehensive list of all the conservation works required in the Cemetery, they are simply examples of the major types of works required.

Conservation Works Schedules

3.2.1. Elements of grave markers that are no longer attached to other parts of the grave marker

This is where a headstone or other type of monument is completely disconnected from its base (plinth) but lies intact and undamaged. In some cases the headstone may have been moved from its original location so it is a situation that requires urgent remedial action.

In the Alice Springs General Cemetery, the most likely causes of headstones being dislodged from their bases are vandalism, poor initial construction, or where a leaning headstone has fallen over.

A simple solution is to reinstate the headstone onto its base, after ensuring that the plinth is level, re-bedding the plinth in river sand if necessary. The headstone can then be re-attached to the plinth using a mortar that is not Portland cement-based, except where the existing plinth and headstone are constructed entirely of that material.

Completely dislodged headstones (without plinths) need to be researched to determine their original positions.

Where vandalism is likely to re-occur or where the monument is tall, consider using non-ferrous dowels, such as of bronze or stainless steel.

An example of a disconnected, but unbroken, headstone in need of re-setting, is that of William Arthur Moar (Plate 76). Other memorial structures in a similar condition, and which require similar restoration work include the graves of:

- Lottie & Alexander Kerr (Section 5B Row B) - plaque disconnected, headstone needs repair; and
- Un-named grave (Section 5B Row G) – concrete cross most likely dislodged from its original location.

Additionally, A.J. Sellers (Tony) (Section 8B Row B) grave marker may have been moved; its current location should be checked against the original location entry in the Cemetery Register.



Plate 76. Example of a headstone requiring re-setting, William Arthur Moar's grave Section 2B Row C.

3.2.2. Leaning, but intact, grave markers

Prior to carrying out any conservation works, it is vital to establish the cause of the leaning so that an appropriate solution can be determined. The most likely causes of leaning grave markers in the General Cemetery are the failure of footings or foundations, coffin collapse (where at some stage after burial the grave fill drops down and the monument gradually leans inward), and soil slump/differential drainage on one side of the marker (particularly after heavy rain). Markers exhibiting leans should be regularly monitored to determine if the leaning is continuing to worsen, in which case remedial action is required.

A lean that is unlikely to get worse is best left alone, as it contributes to the character of a Cemetery and experience elsewhere has demonstrated that additional damage may occur

when attempting to fix the problem. In other cases, a minimalist solution is to provide a gentle gradient around the monument, with a fall away from the base, so as to discourage water ponding around the base of the marker, and to monitor the situation. Where this is not possible, and the marker is deemed to be in danger of falling, it may be re-bedded into porous fill, such as river sand, after the ground has been allowed to dry out.



An example of a leaning, but unbroken, marker in need of monitoring and possible re-setting, is that of Dean Gardner Patterson (Plate 77). Other markers in similar condition, and which may require similar restoration work include the graves of Leo Corbet (Section 5B Row E) as well as Giocondo Zoanetti's grave (Section 1 Row B) and another leaning monument in Section 1 Row A.

Plate 77. Example of a leaning headstone requiring monitoring and possible re-setting, Dean Gardner Patterson's grave Section 5B Row A.

3.2.3. Broken grave markers

This is where a headstone has been broken and the broken pieces are available to be re-used in conservation works (e.g. Plate 78). It is a situation that requires urgent remedial action. The most likely causes of broken monuments at the Cemetery are accidental breakage, e.g. from vehicular traffic, or vandalism.



Plate 78. Example of broken headstone, and dislodged plaque, both in danger of being lost, Lottie and Alexander Kerr's grave Section 5B Row B.

Remedial action in these cases may include simply re-gluing (in the case of smaller monuments with a single break), to re-assembling using bronze dowels in the cases of larger monuments and or multiple breaks. In cases of shattered thin-slab monuments, the pieces may need to be re-fixed to a new backing slab. The restored/reconstructed headstone can then be re-bedded onto its plinth, after ensuring that the plinth is level, and re-attached to the plinth using a mortar that is not Portland Cement based (except where the existing plinth and headstone are constructed entirely of that material), employing appropriate reinforcing or support as may be required (but see below regarding the use of metal support bars behind broken monuments).

Clean breaks should be re-glued using a thin spread of polyester resin, kept back from the face of the monument so as to not be visible. Dowels shall also be set in polyester resin. Joints with un-even breaks shall be filled with lime mortar, dry packed, following setting of dowel work.

The use of metal support bars behind broken monuments shall be discouraged due to the risk of on-going damage owing to stresses resulting from differential expansion rates of stone and bronze in the central Australian climate, and the irreversible damage resulting from needing to drill into the original stone material.

In all cases, the work shall be overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional and shall be carried out by an experienced monumental mason.

3.2.4. Subsidence damage to marked graves (particularly slabs)

Prior to carrying out any conservation works, it is vital to establish the cause of the subsidence so that an appropriate solution can be determined. At the Alice Springs General Cemetery the most likely cause of subsidence is the natural process of ground compaction over the grave as a result of coffin collapse, and/or soil slump resulting from particularly heavy rain periods (e.g. Plate 79).

Damage to a grave, or grave markers, which is unlikely to get worse is best left alone, as it contributes to the character of the Cemetery and attempts to fix the problem may inadvertently result in more damage. A minimalist solution in most cases is to simply monitor the grave markers for further obvious deterioration, which if evident, will then require remedial action.

Note that in accordance with **Conservation Policy C1.30** of the Conservation Plan no work shall be undertaken to fill in any of the depressions indicating the location of un-marked graves e.g. Section 5B Row G.

In cases of damage to grave markers such as slabs, urgent remedial action is required to restore the slab to its original condition, which may involve re-bedding original material onto porous fill, such as river sand, after the ground has been allowed to dry out.

In all cases, the work shall be overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional and shall be carried out by an experienced monumental mason.

An example of a memorial in need of remedial action and re-setting, is that of Allan Spencer (Section 3 Row E). Other grave markers in similar condition, and which may require similar restoration work include the graves of:

- Dean Gardner Patterson (Section 5B Row A, refer Plate 77) – repairs to concrete surround and sandstone infill; and
- Ronald H. Hedwell (Section 5B Row B, Plate 79) - re-setting stonework.



Plate 79. Examples of subsidence. Un-named grave Section 8B Row C (left); Ronald H Hedwell's grave Section 5B Row B where the stonework slab cover has subsided and needs repair (middle) and. 2013 image provided to show greater detail (right).

3.2.5. Other damage to slabs and attached grave furniture

This is where a slab and/or its associated grave furniture such as a decorative finish, has been damaged or is in a state of continuing obvious deterioration. Examples of such damage include de-lamination of mosaic tiling and applied renders, loose or lost stonework, as well as breakages at the edges of slabs. It is a situation that generally requires urgent remedial action. The most likely causes of such damage to slabs in the General Cemetery are accidental breakage, vandalism, or poor choice of material or workmanship.

Remedial action in the case of decorative tiling may simply consist of re-gluing existing loose mosaic tiles and stonework. Lost tiling and stonework should be replaced with a type to match the existing material (in terms of colour, size, and texture) wherever possible.

Applied renders can be repaired using a render infill or re-rendering entirely, in a render to match the colour and finish of the original.

In all cases, the work shall be overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional and shall be carried out by experienced tilers and stonemasons.

An example of a damaged slab in need of this type of restoration/reconstruction work is Melvie Annie Alice Blacker's grave (Section 4 Row I, see Plate 53). Other grave markers in similar condition, and which require similar restoration work include the graves of:

- David Spence (Section 5B Row B) - lost applied render; and
- JW McAdam (Section 2B Row D, see Plate 53) - lost mosaic tiling.

3.2.6. Damage from plantings and other vegetation

This refers to cases where vegetation has established itself by self-seeding or similar means, or where inappropriate plantings have been used, and are presently interfering with, or pose the potential to interfere with, graves in the future.

There are several cases of damaging vegetation that generally require urgent remedial action. To prevent further damage, these plants shall generally be poisoned (using "Vigilant", or similar, to prevent re-growth) and allowed to die and decay. They may then be carefully removed if removal will not result in any further damage to the monument.

Remedial action in cases involving plant removal shall be carried out only by an experienced horticulturalist and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.

Some introduced plantings, such as Olive trees and Kurrajongs, are known to have relatively invasive root systems and present problems for the future. They should be removed in conjunction with a re-planting program with more appropriate species (**refer Policy C1.20**).

An example of self-seeded vegetation that has invaded grave plots is evident in Section 5B Rows A and B (see Plate 44). An example of past planting that has affected the built fabric of the Cemetery is evident along the perimeter of Section 8B Row F, while an example of more recent inappropriate plantings that have the potential to damage grave plots in future is evident in Section 5A Row I (Plate 80).

9.2



Plate 80. Examples of plantings impacting upon the built fabric of the Cemetery. Kurrajong impacting upon the kerbing, Section 8B southern end of Row F (left); Olive trees planted too close to graves, Section 5A northern end of Row I (right).

3.2.7. Staining on grave markers

This is where a headstone, made of marble or other stone, or a bronze plaque, has been stained as the result of either a chemical attack from lead lettering, or from organic growths such as lichens, or from bird droppings.

Generally, historic objects should not be cleaned simply because they are perceived to look unsightly or 'dirty'. Cleaning of monuments is a complex issue and owing to aesthetic and

technological considerations, is considered major work. It should generally be discouraged as the use of inappropriate techniques can cause irreversible damage to the monument²⁰⁸.

Cleaning should only be undertaken for technical reasons i.e. removing soiling which is causing actual damage to the monument. The aim of cleaning in these cases is not to return the monument to a “like new” appearance but to remove the staining, particulate deposits or biological growth that is harmful to the monument. Cleaning in order to allow inscriptions to be read should only be undertaken on war memorials or on memorials of particular historical significance. Aggressive cleaning methods should always be avoided as they can cause the etching, roughening and discolouration of stone and metal surfaces, which will in turn lead to accelerated decay²⁰⁹. Cleaning is distinguished from graffiti removal i.e. instances where a monument has been subject to vandalism by spray paint or whiteboard marker.

In the Alice Springs General Cemetery, chemical and/or organic staining is generally not damaging the headstones and in some cases contributes to the character of the individual grave marker and overall appeal of the Cemetery, making remedial works un-necessary in most cases. However, bronze plaques can be permanently stained by bird droppings and these should be cleaned off as a matter of urgency and as part of regular maintenance.

Prior to attempting to remove any staining, regardless of the type of staining (chemical or organic) or type of material stained (e.g. marble, bronze, sandstone) it is important to seek advice from an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional regarding the most appropriate specific removal technique for that individual case.

Generally, where professional advice recommends the removal of stains on stone or bronze plaques, it shall be carried out by gentle scrubbing using only clean water and soft bristled (but not metal) brushes. Such an abrasive method is not recommended for the softer, sandstone monuments.

Removal of biological growth such as lichens, using even gentle means, may be well intentioned but is often damaging and should generally be avoided. Stains from bird droppings on most stone materials will most likely wash off during heavy rain periods.

Always seek advice from an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional regarding the removal of graffiti from any grave marker. This should be done as a matter of

²⁰⁸ English Heritage 2011; Tasmanian Heritage Council nd Practice Note 11

²⁰⁹ English Heritage 2011, p16

urgency because removal should be carried out as soon as possible after the graffiti has been applied, since air and sunlight cause some types of graffiti to become considerably more difficult to dissolve²¹⁰. Examples of plaques that may require stain removal (Plate 81) include those of:

- Evelyn E.L. Coppock (Section 7B Row B) – stain removal from plaque and stone monument; and
- Graham Douglas Cooper (Section 5B Row G) – stain removal from bronze(?) plaque.



Plate 81. Examples of grave markers that may require stain removal. Evelyn E.L. Coppock's grave Section 7B Row B (left); Graham Douglas Cooper's grave Section 5B Row G (right).

3.2.8. Loss of lead lettering

Lead lettering, particularly on marble headstones, is usually secured using small holes drilled into the stone as a key. The loss of lead lettering occurs when it lifts or is stolen. Lifting or loosening of the lettering may result from cyclic heating and cooling of the metal causing the lead to move away from the marble, after which it may be further loosened by moulds growing behind the letters. Lead lettering that is loose but remains at the grave marker may be re-hammered in place, but only by an expert mason²¹¹.

In the Alice Springs General Cemetery, the most likely causes of lead lettering loss are the natural weathering of the supporting stone, which in turn permits entry of moisture behind lettering, dislodging in freezing conditions, or poor initial workmanship.

²¹⁰ English Heritage 2011, p35

²¹¹ National Trust 2009, p78

It is a situation requiring remedial action which is becoming urgent in some cases. Initially, details of the lettering should be recorded, before there is any further loss of information. Remedial action in the case of lost lettering, involves re-leading, an extensive process to be carried out only by an experienced monumental mason and overseen by a qualified and experienced heritage professional.

An example of a headstone with lost lettering in urgent need of re-leading is that of Arthur Frank (Musty) Milnes (Plate 82). Other examples of grave makers in a similar condition, and which require re-leading work includes, but is not limited to, the graves of:

- Jean McLeod (Section 2B Row A);
- Florence Marguerite Nichols (Section 2B Row B);
- Allan Spencer (Section 3 Row E);
- George Frederick Young (Section 3 Row F);
- Roger “Pom” James Kendall (Section 5A Row I; see Plate 60);
- Tilly Miller (Section 5b Row J);
- Michael O’Brien (Section 1 Row A);
- Jess (Section 2B Row A);
- Jack William(?) (Section 6 Row A).



Plate 82. Example of a grave marker in urgent need of re-leading. Arthur Frank (Musty) Milnes’ grave Section 1 Row H in 2018 (left) and 2013 (right). The loss of lettering over the five year period is noticeable.

3.2.9. Loss or deterioration of inscriptions other than lead lettering

This is where inscriptions, usually of painted or gold gilding on marble or granite headstones, have been partially or totally lost. It is a situation requiring remedial action, although it is not usually of an urgent nature. It is far more important to record the details of the inscriptions, before there is further loss of information.

The most likely causes of inscription loss/deterioration in the Alice Springs General Cemetery are through natural weathering of the “paint” material which has been used to pick out the letters, poor or incompatible choice of materials, and/or poor workmanship.

Remedial action in these cases involves re-painting the lettering in a matching paint material, an extensive process to be carried out only by an experienced monumental mason and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.

Some inscriptions have been etched into the headstone but not in-filled with paint or other material. In these cases where the inscription is deteriorating, the current condition of the inscription should be documented and details photographed. Re-cutting inscriptions into stone, especially sandstone, often does more damage and accelerates the degradation process²¹².

An example of a headstone showing loss of painted lettering is that of Colin Milnes (Plate 83). Other monuments in similar condition and which require inscription work include the graves of:

- The Nicker Family (Section 2B Row B);
- W. O. Bailes (Section 2B Row D);
- Werner Randle Petrick (Section 2B Row D);
- Mary Weaving (Section 5B Row C);
- Topsy Smith (Section 3 Row L); and
- Rodney Stephen Davies (Section 3 Row L).



Plate 83. Example of a grave marker in need of repainting of the lettering, Colin Milnes’s grave (Section 2B Row C).

²¹² Tasmanian Heritage Council Practice Note 11 nd.

3.2.10. Damage to timber-work

This refers to all timber items, from simple wooden crosses to grave surrounds including fence enclosures made of timber posts.

Damage to timber-work at the Cemetery has generally resulted from biological decay (rot) and termite attack, particularly following extended periods of rain; accidental damage, and willful vandalism/removal, all of which has resulted in physical damage or loss of original material that requires remedial action. Simple timber crosses, both with and without inscription, are common in the Cemetery and many of these have been damaged. They are also susceptible to vandalism, particularly in cooler months when they may be used by itinerants for comfort fires.

To prevent further loss of information, every timber cross or marker shall be photographed and marked with a short (i.e. 300mm long) section of star picket, driven into the ground directly behind the cross, fitted with a metal tag bearing the data on the cross or marker punched onto the surface. This will accurately mark the location and insure against the future loss of information.

Remedial action involving timber repairs are to be carried out only by an experienced wood-worker and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.

Broken or missing sections of timber shall generally be replaced with a matching section of similar species. If at all possible, it is preferred that the original material be repaired using splicing and other appropriate techniques. To extend the life of unpainted timber elements



within the Cemetery, they may be treated with a clear, zinc naphthenate preservative, and tung oil, at 5-year intervals. Rusting nail fixings may be touch treated with Fisholene to prevent further deterioration. Examples of timber-work in need of repair is that of Dolly Scharber Clemens (Plate 84). Other monuments in similar condition, and which require similar conservation work include the timber surround to an un-named grave in Section 8B, Row D.

Plate 84. Example of timber-work in need of repair, Dolly Scharber Clemens' grave Section 3 Row B.

3.2.11. Rusting of metal structures and other deterioration/damage

This section applies to metal grave markers such as crosses, and grave surrounds such as fencing, chain and rail surrounds and other like enclosures. These are usually fabricated out of cold steel (in pipe, square hollow sections and chain forms) and to a lesser degree of wrought iron or standardised cast iron elements.

Damage to metal elements at the Alice Springs General Cemetery has generally resulted from accidental damage and willful vandalism, resulting in a physical break in the material that generally requires urgent remedial action to prevent further damage or loss.

Remedial action in cases involving metal repairs shall only be carried out by an experienced metalworker and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.

Although many of the metal elements exhibit rust, this is generally not considered a problem, especially in central Australia's dry climate, except where it is damaging the concrete or stone material into which it is connected. In such cases, the junction into which the metal is set shall be cleaned out and Fisholene carefully applied to the metal surface.

Only in cases where the rusting is well advanced, as in enclosures of cold steel, should the steel shall be thoroughly hand cleaned with a soft-bristled brush (not wire) to remove loose rust, before carefully painting in Fisholene. Cleaning methods such as steel wool, harsh abrasives, acid, bleach and other mould removers, sanding, sand or water blasting should never be used.

Bent or deformed wrought iron shall be re-straightened into original place and clean breaks in cast iron pieces shall be rejoined using sleeves or small plates, riveted to the original material. Welding is not permitted with wrought or cast iron.

An example of a metal structure that may be in need of repair is that on the graves of the Nicker Family (Section 2B, Row B). Other grave surrounds in a similar condition, and which may require similar conservation work include the graves of:

- Un-named grave (Section 2B Row C) – rail surround;
- Un-named grave (Section 3 Row D) – rail surround; and
- Un-named grave (Section 7B Row C) – rail surround.

3.2.12. Other damage to stone and concrete surrounds

The use of loose stones to form grave surrounds to plots is not unexpected in the Alice Springs General Cemetery, given that such materials were readily available at little or no cost.

In a similar vein, concrete elements are common to many of the grave markers (e.g. headstones, slabs, and grave surrounds) within the Cemetery, being an inexpensive and readily available material after the 1930s. It is evident both as pre-cast elements and laid *in-situ*.

Damage to concrete-based markers at the Cemetery has generally resulted from subsidence, poor design and workmanship, deterioration of steel reinforcement (where used), accidental damage by vehicular traffic and willful vandalism. It is a situation that requires urgent remedial action.

Remedial action in cases involving concrete repair work is to be carried out only by an experienced mason and overseen by an appropriately qualified and experienced heritage professional.

Loose stones and pieces of broken concrete increases the risk of vandalism as the grave marker can be seen as being “uncared for” and smaller pieces, of a size able to be thrown, may be used in damaging other neighbouring memorial structures.

As a general guide, larger, more-difficult-to-lift stones and pieces of broken slabs and grave surrounds shall be restored to their original positions, using additional fill material of river sand as necessary. Smaller stones can be left in place and pieces of concrete may be re-cemented into place. Alternatively, the damaged section of concrete may be re-cast, using a similarly coloured mix to match the original.

An example of a concrete surround in need of repair work is that of an un-named grave, concrete slab and surround in Section 2B Row A.

3.2.13. Works to the Cemetery Lodge

As noted in the Conservation Plan, the Cemetery Lodge is in poor condition and requires upgrading. It is suggested that this work include the following:

- Replacing the badly cracked concrete slab in the central breezeway area;
- Replacing toilet suites and handbasins with new fixtures in ceramic, including new tapware to both toilets and breezeway;
- Tiling the floors and internal walls of the toilet rooms to a height of 1800mm a.f.f.l.;
- Replacing doors with new solid core doors, with new hardware;
- Providing new signage to Men and Women's doorways;
- Replacing the missing section of EVP pipe to the west side of the building; and
- Re-painting throughout, including steel mesh/gates and seating, in original historic colour scheme.

Part 4: Maintenance program

4.1. Statement of Approach

The *Burra Charter* defines maintenance as the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place. Maintenance can take the form of corrective maintenance, planned maintenance or emergency maintenance. Damage is caused to heritage places for a number of reasons including neglect and vandalism. A maintenance plan is a cost-effective means to maintain the value of the site through a process of:

- regular maintenance,
- monitoring of the fabric (i.e. all the various elements of the site); and
- minimising the need for emergency works.

A conservation approach that emphasises regular preventative maintenance is the best type of conservation strategy²¹³. All conservation work depends on making regular inspections and reporting on the defects factually, in order to correctly diagnose the cause(s) of decay and to propose an effective solution that involves minimum intervention. This close examination of the site and all its elements also requires the ability to appreciate the 'messages' within these elements and its heritage values²¹⁴.

Currently, maintenance work includes:

- Mowing of grass and tree pruning;

²¹³ Feilden, B.M. 2000 [1994]. *Conservation of Historic Buildings*. Architectural Press, Oxford, p185

²¹⁴ Feilden 2000, p185

- Spraying of weeds;
- Watering of plantings;
- Cleaning of toilets in the Cemetery Lodge;
- Periodic repainting of the Cemetery Lodge;
- Repairs to the water reticulation system;
- Repairs to boundary fencing as and when required;
- Repairs to signage; and
- Re-levelling and compacting of the gravel and earth avenues and perimeter thoroughfares.

Policy M9.1. *The Alice Springs Town Council shall continue to regularly maintain the Alice Springs General Cemetery.*

4.2. Regular maintenance, inspections and monitoring of the fabric

The existing maintenance program should be augmented with regular monitoring of the condition of the Cemetery as a whole, as well as particular elements. A Maintenance Inspection Schedule is attached at Appendix 6. This schedule, or checklist, has been developed to conform with the policies in the Conservation Plan. It is intended as a guide and should be reviewed by the Alice Springs Town Council prior to its adoption and implementation, and be updated as may be required from time to time. The frequency of inspection should be determined to reflect factors such as the discovery of vandalism or damage following a storm, but should be undertaken no less than once a year.

Policy M10.1. *A Maintenance Inspection should be undertaken and administered by the Alice Springs Town Council on an annual basis, using the Schedule attached at Appendix 6 of the Conservation and Management Plan as a guide.*

Part 5: Review of the Management Plan

It is important to review the effectiveness of this Management Plan on a regular basis so as to enable the Alice Springs Town Council to program and conduct conservation and maintenance work in the most effective manner.

Policy M11.1. *This Management Plan shall be reviewed by the Alice Springs Town Council every two years.*

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1.

COPY OF SCHEDULE 1: ORIGINAL SCOPE OF WORKS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL (MEMORIAL) CEMETERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN (2013)

A comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan shall be prepared for the Alice Springs General (Memorial) Cemetery, situated on Lot 1027 Town of Alice Springs. The Plan shall be submitted in both hard copy and electronic format. A draft Plan shall be prepared and forwarded to Alice Springs Town Council for comment prior to submission of the final Plan. Additionally, measured drawings of individual site features as well as site and section plans are to be prepared and submitted as stand-alone drawings in hard copy and electronic (dwg) format.

The Cemetery is a declared heritage place under the NT *Heritage Act*. In preparing the Plan the consultant shall be informed by existing documentation pertaining to the Cemetery including, but not necessarily limited to, that held by the Alice Springs Town Council and Heritage Branch of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment. Additional historical research shall be undertaken as necessary in order to facilitate a tiered approach towards the significance assessment of the site's heritage values and that of individual features. Consultations shall also occur with the Alice Springs Town Council and other relevant stakeholders regarding existing management responsibilities and regimes, future works etc. Whilst the structure or format of the Plan is up to the consultant, preparation of the Plan shall be in accordance with the principles and processes of the *Burra Charter*, and shall contain the following information to guide the future conservation and management of the Cemetery:

Administrative: location, tenure, relevant legislation, management roles and responsibilities.

Information relevant to understanding the significance of the Cemetery: at a minimum, this shall include:

- a description of the site in its current state including site and section plans and measured
- drawings of individual features as appropriate;
- photographic documentation; and
- a description of the historical and social setting as well as a historical overview of the Cemetery.

Significance assessment: identification and discussion of previous significance assessments, assessment of the site's heritage values as a whole as well as significance of individual features within the Cemetery. Individual features of high, moderate, little and no significance will be clearly identified.

Cultural resource management issues: identification and discussion of the cultural resource management issues associated with the Cemetery and potential solutions/options to address these issues.

General principles for the management of the Cemetery and approaches to conservation works: this section will also clearly identify management roles and responsibilities, relevant legislative obligations including that relating to the consent processes under the NT *Heritage Act*, conservation works and policies relating to future works/development. Conservation works schedules will also be included in this section along with any relevant drawings. General policies for disaster planning may also be incorporated into the Plan.

Maintenance program: a maintenance program shall be developed for the Cemetery which shall outline the approach, regular maintenance, inspections and monitoring. This may include the development of checklists and guidelines for Contractors.

Review of Plan: mechanisms and recommended timing for the review of the Plan.

References/Bibliography: the plan shall include a list of references/sources of information used in the preparation of the plan.

Appendices: the plan shall include appropriate appendices as well as a glossary of conservation terminology used in the Plan.

APPENDIX 2. SUMMARY DETAILS OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS BURIED IN THE ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY

(Reproduced from Heritage Advisory Council 2006)

The key contribution of various individuals and families are briefly summarised below with references to additional supporting material as appropriate. Names have been presented in alphabetical order.

Battarbee, Rex

Watercolour artist who taught Albert Namatjira and others and is credited with founding the Hermannsburg School of Watercolour painting. He died in 1973 (McConnell 1990:16-17).

Bloomfield, Lewis, Lillian and Baden

Pioneer pastoral family most noted for their associations with Loves Creek Station and for breeding horses for use in the Indian Army and elsewhere (Bucknall 1990:24-25, Petrick 2005:29).

Bohning, Ester and John

Pioneer pastoral family associated with the Gulf country and Helen Springs Station. John drove the first cattle to Alice Springs that were railed south following completion of the railway, accompanied by wife Esther and daughter Elsie, who became known as the 'petticoat drovers'. After spending three years in Tennant Creek they retired to Alice Springs (Tuxworth 1990:27-28).

Braitling, William

Pastoralist, drover, miner and Member for Stuart in the NT Legislative Council (1949-1951). Most noted for his associations with Mt Doreen Station (Braitling 1990:33-34, Petrick 2005:31-32).

Buck, Bob

Pastoralist, managed Henbury when Alan Breaden retired until 1927. He and Charles Butler established Middleton Ponds Station. Bob also took up Doctor Stones Station (later re-named Orange Creek). He also acted as a guide and in 1931 achieved nationwide fame when he, along with a small group of people, located Lasseter's body and effects and buried them in the Petermann Ranges. He died in 1960 (Cartwright 1996:34-36, Petrick 2005:35).

Burnett, Beni

Noted Territory architect, designer of a range of both private and public properties throughout the Territory including houses at Myilly Point and in the Alice Springs Heritage Precinct, Larrakeyah Army Barracks living quarters and messes, Araluen Homestead, Heenan Building, Rieff Building and Todd Tavern. Also acted as Magistrate and Coroner in Alice Springs and was an accomplished artist and cartoonist (Bridgman 1994; Gibson 1992:23-25).

Chalmers, Charles and Cora

Pioneer pastoralists, schoolteacher (Cora). Settled in the Plenty River district, initially on what became Huckitta Station and later (old) MacDonald Downs. Known for their respect and fair treatment of the local Aboriginal population (Goldsworthy and Scholes 1990:52-53, Petrick 2005:41-43).

Chapman, Charles Henry ('Pop')

Publisher of the *Centralian Advocate*, gold miner and swimming pool enthusiast. Chapman established the *Centralian Advocate* in May 1947 at the age of 72. Prior to this he had gold mining interests at the Granites and build four swimming pools in Central Australia, including three in the Alice Springs district (Petrick 2005:43, Cartwright nd).

Connellan, Edward

Pioneer aviator, pastoralist and politician. Established Narwietooma Station in the late 1930s and founded Connellan Airways in 1939. Ran a mail service between Alice Springs and Wyndham (WA). Awarded the Coronation Medal in 1953 for services to aviation, OBE in 1957, CBE in 1978, Officer of the Order of Australia in 1981 and highest distinction of Australian flying awards, the Oswald Watt Memorial Medal in 1965. Connellan was also the founder and President of the NT Development League in 1947, President of the Central Australian Pastoralists' Association 1950-52 and member of the NT Legislative Council 1966-68 (Connellan 1992, Donovan 1992: 33-37, Petrick 2005:49-51).

Driver, John Henry

Surveyor General. Appointed Government Surveyor for Central Australia in 1929 but following the disbanding of the North Australia Commission returned to WA. Appointed Government Surveyor for the NT in 1937 and for the next 16 years worked between the SA border and Tennant Creek and from Mt Doreen Station to Tobermorey. During WWII Driver brought all the leases and documents from Darwin to Alice Springs by road, making the last of several trips only a few hours prior to the 19 February raids on the city. It was during WWII that he was appointed Surveyor-General. In 1946 he resigned and acquired Elkedra Station. Between 1946-48 he was President of the Central Australian Pastoralists Association (Petrick 2005:62-63).

Gorey, Nathalie

First President of the Alice Springs Kindergarten Inc. Wife of John Gorey (Yambah Station) and keen member of the CWA. It was through her work that the first free kindergarten in the NT opened, initially in the CWA Hall in 1947. The kindergarten committee achieved its goal to obtain its own building and in 1954 the preschool was opened and named the Nathalie Gorey Kindergarten in honour of its founder who had died in 1951 (Petrick 2005:137).

Greatorex, Tony and Mona

Pastoralist, soldier, businessman, mayor and politician; actress. Initially employed by the Lands Department Tony managed Palmer Valley Station prior to establishing the insurance and commission agency, Greatorex and Marriott Company. Together with his brother he played a role in establishment the Central Australian Show Society. He was elected Member for Stuart in the Legislative Assembly in 1965. He also served as Mayor of Alice Springs in 1976-77 and as Chairman of the both the Bush Fires and Road Safety Councils. He was awarded the OBE in 1971 and later the OAM for services to the Territory. Mona was an accomplished actress who was instrumental in the establishment of what is now known as the Alice Springs Theatre Group (James 1992:75-76, Petrick 2005:84).

Hayes family

Pioneer pastoral family. Various members of the Hayes family are interred in the Alice Springs General Cemetery including Ted Hayes (snr) and his wife Ann Jane. Ted Hayes managed Mt Burrell prior to moving to Maryvale and then Undoolya in 1922. He was responsible for the introduction of Poll Hereford cattle to the NT and was a keen breeder and racer of horses, including Star Aim, winner of the Adelaide Cup (Petrick 2005:185-186). Jane was renowned for her interest in various causes; she helped to finance the first RSL memorial club and although not a Catholic, made a substantial donation to the construction of the existing Catholic Church (Hayes 1990:139-140).

Heenan, Mick

Businessman and market gardener. Initially working on Manbulloo Station and later Coniston Station he settled in Alice Springs and established a market garden and has been credited with establishing the first commercial citrus orchard and poultry farm in the district. He opened his first shop in 1946 which was visited by Nevil Shute in 1949 and incorporated in his book *A Town Like Alice* and later the film. A second shop (the current Heenan building)

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was established together with an ice works in the late 1940s and early 1950s (Petrick 2005:93).

Irvine, Sam

Wool classer, mail contractor and grader driver. Pioneered the motor mail to Alice Springs and Arltunga from Oodnadatta in 1924 and later ran the Alice Springs – Birdum service. He also managed Granite Downs Station and after WWII worked as a grader driver (Petrick 2005:98, Martin 1995).

Johannsen, G.A.

Stonemason, builder, pastoralist and miner. Initially Johannsen worked at Hermannsburg prior to taking up the Deep Well lease. He also undertook various bush contracts, worked on government wells in the district and built the police buildings at Arltunga with Bill Liddle. He served as a guide to several expeditions including geologist Dr K.Ward and Sir Baldwin Spencer in 1923. Between 1922-1926 he was employed as the manager of the Hermannsburg Mission. During the 1930s he was involved in gold mining at Winnecke and during WWII lived with the rest of the family in the Strangways Ranges at their phlogopite mica mine. The family returned to Alice Springs after WWII and Johannsen finally retired from bush work following an accident at Winnecke although he remained active in the Alice Springs community (Petrick 2005:102-103, Hayes 1999, Johannsen 1992).

Kenna, Leslie 'Snow'

Owner of the Pioneer Walk-in Theatre and Pioneer Drive-In Theatre. Kenna established the Pioneer Walk-in Theatre in 1942; prior to this time he leased Underdown's Capital Theatre. Together with George Glass he also ran a store in Todd Street and later built a new store with living premises (Tuncks Store). Together with Mrs Ted Hayes (snr) and Gus Brandt they financed the start of the Alice Springs Memorial Club. Kenna was also a keen member of the Centralian Australia Racing Club. The Pioneer Drive In opened in 1965 (Petrick 2005:107).

Kennett, Constable John (Jack) William

Police officer. Kennett came to the NT in 1926 as a carpenter and joined the NT Police Force in 1928. He was stationed at Daly River, Brock's Creek, Mataranka and Katherine prior to being sent to Charlotte Waters. He retired to Alice Springs in 1947 and worked as manager of the RSL Club until his death in 1950 (Petrick 2005:107-108).

Kilgariff, Stephen

Builder. Together with his brother Joe they constructed many buildings in Alice Springs and further afield including Tennant Creek such as the Catholic Church in the late 1920s, the Aileron, Barrow Creek and Tennant Creek Hotels and the mission churches at Santa Theresa and Daly River (Petrick 2005:110).

Lasseter, Lewis Hubert (Harold Bell)

Gold-seeker. Best known for his claim to have discovered a vast gold-bearing reef in Central Australia, "Lasseter's Reef", he was at best an eccentric man. He died of starvation at Shaws Creek in the Petermann Ranges and his body was later found by Bob Buck. In 1958 his alleged remains were exhumed and reburied in the Cemetery (Walsh 1990:176-177).

Liddle family

Various members of the Liddle family, including William Hurlle (Bill) are interred in the Cemetery. Bill Liddle arrived in Alice Springs in 1907 and worked at the Telegraph Station. A contract worker, he assisted G.Johannsen to erect the police buildings at Arltunga and worked on Maryvale Station and Mount Burrrell. He helped establish Bowson's Hole in the Areyonga district for Giles and McNamara and built the stone homestead there. He also assisted Stanes and Harris with the construction of some of the stone buildings at Old Hamilton Downs and three stockyards. He also drove cattle and took up Angas Downs. He

9.2

had three sons: Milton sold his share in the property in the early 1950s and was vice-chairman of the Central Land Council, Harold acquired the adjacent lease to Angas Downs and named it Mt Ebenezer Station, whilst Arthur undertook contract work and took up the lease of undeveloped land next to Angas Downs. He eventually bought Milton's share in the latter property. They built a new homestead and made it a dining room for tourists on their way to Ayers Rock (Petrick 2005:118-119).

Lovegrove, John Creed

Police Officer. Served as a MC in the Top End prior to his appointment as Sergeant-in-Charge of the Alice Springs Police Station between 1930-1937. He was promoted to Inspector of Police (Darwin) but retired owing to ill health four years and later returned to Alice Springs. He and his family managed the Barrow Creek Hotel between 1944-1948 and then returned to Alice Springs (Petrick 2005:122, Lovegrove 1996:203-206).

Nicker, Claude and Eugene

Sons of Sam and Lizzie Nicker who were associated with Ryans Well and Glen Maggie. Claude became a renowned horseman and jockey. He spoke several Aboriginal dialects and acted as a guide and interpreter for several anthropological expeditions to Central Australia. Eugene was a noted stockman and took up Todd River Station (Petrick 2005:138).

Namatjira, Albert

Bushworker and artist. The most well-known of all the artists of the Hermannsburg School of Watercolour Painting (Dewar 1992:139-141, Hardy, Hardy and Megaw 1992).

Nelson, Harold and Maude

First member for the NT in Federal politics, 1922. Nelson initially worked in the NT as a diamond driller for the Mines Department gold testing program in the Pine Creek region. As a trade union secretary in 1918 he gained public prominence along with others who were instrumental in the downfall of the Gilruth Administration and who eventually secured Territory representation in Federal parliament. His political career ended after being defeated in the 1934 election and he then became a water boring contractor and butcher until his retirement in 1946 owing to ill health (Petrick 2005:137, Carment and Maynard 1990).

Petrick family (Bill, Elsa and Martyn)

Pastoralists and miners. Bill Petrick worked on the Hatches Creek Wolfram Fields prior to establishing the Spotted Tiger Mine on the Harts Range Mica fields in the early 1920s. He married Elsa Johannsen in 1929 and they established Mount Swan Station. Bill served as the Member for Stuart in the Legislative Council for 11 years from 1951. He was also heavily involved in racing and was a Life Member of the Central Australian Racing Club, Life Member and Patron of the Harts Range Amateur Racing Club, Foundation member of the MacDonnell Range Amateur Picnic Race Club and Patron of the Barrow Creek Turf Club, Life Member of the CA Pastoralists Association and CA Show Society. Martyn spent his early days at Mount Swan prior to marrying Josie Tizard in 1952. Martyn, Joe Mengel and Snow McIntyre formed the MPM Drilling Co to drill for water and inadvertently discovered what became known as the Meerenie Oil Field. In 1960 Martyn, Josie and family moved to Neutral Junction Station (Petrick 2005:148-149).

Pink, Olive

Artist, planner, anthropologist and naturalist. Miss Pink was a well known Alice Springs identity between 1930-1975. During the early 1930s she made several expeditions in Central Australia and the Tanami region in particular. Following her retrenchment from the Railway Commission she lived at Thompson's Rockhole, 60km west of the Granites. She published a number of papers in journals such as *Oceania* but her ideas were considered radical and were generally not supported by much of the academia at the time. She was a strong advocate for Aboriginal rights including land rights. She applied for a flora reserve area west

of the Power house and in 1956 the Australian Arid Regions Native Flora Reserve was gazetted (today known as Olive Pink Botanic Garden). In addition to preserving existing species she also planted species that grew within 200km of Alice Springs (Petrick 2005:142-143, Kimber 1990a:239-242, Marcus 2001).

Rieff, Simon

Prospector and miner. Rieff worked on various mineral fields in the Territory including Tennant Creek and Arltunga goldfields, Hatches Creek Wolfram Field, Harts Range Mica Fields and was one of the first to peg leases at the Granites. He also explored and prospected in the Simpson Desert. Around the mid 1930s he bought land in Hartley Street and constructed a house and adjacent shops (Rieff Building) (Petrick 2005:161-162).

Sadadeen, Charlie

Cameleer. Charlie first came to Alice Springs in 1890 and became a well-liked, familiar figure with his camel team. He was employed by the Wallis Brothers (and later Wallis Fogarty) who had stores in Oodnadatta and Alice Springs and also carted stores to Arltunga and sometimes as far north as Newcastle Waters. He was also responsible for other cameleers hired by Wallis and Co in Central Australia. In 1921 he leased a block of land (now the site of the Town Council Complex) and grew a range of fruit and vegetables. This move eventually led to other Afghans moving to Alice Springs (Kimber 1990b:258-259, Petrick 2005:168).

Turner, William (Alf)

One of four brothers who all eventually came to Central Australia from NSW and SA. Alf ran the pack-horse mail service between the Alice Springs and Powell Creek Telegraph Stations. After serving in Palestine in the 3rd Light Horse in WWI he helped establish a number of stations in the Centre including Ooratippra, Andado, Numery, Jinka and Cockatoo Creek (later sub-divided to form Mt Allan and Mt Denison stations) (Petrick 2005:196-197).

APPENDIX 3: GLOSSARY OF TERMINOLOGY

As per the *NT Cemeteries Regulations*:

Grave means a burial place formed in the ground by excavation and without any internal wall of brickwork, stonework, or other artificial lining.

Vault means any underground burial place other than a grave.

Lawn burial areas means a separate portion of a public cemetery set apart as a lawn burial area pursuant to Regulation 24.

Conservation terminology as per The Burra Charter:

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present and future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric (i.e. all the physical material of a place), setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. The term cultural significance is synonymous with heritage significance and cultural heritage value.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a use; retention of associations and meanings; maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation and interpretation; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

Preservation means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric.

Adaptation means modifying a place to suit the existing use or proposed use.

Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place.

Fabric means all the physical material of the place, including components, fixtures, contents and objects. Fabric includes building interiors and sub-surface remains. Fabric may define spaces which are of themselves important elements of the significance of the place.

The entire *Burra Charter* may be downloaded at:
<https://australia.icomos.org/publications/charters/>

APPENDIX 4. LOSS AND DAMAGE MITIGATION PLAN

Recommendations for Loss and Damage Mitigation Planning for the Alice Springs General Cemetery, Northern Territory

A4.1. Generally

The purpose of a Loss and Damage Mitigation Plan is to prepare and assist the Alice Springs Town Council, in their role as managers of the Alice Springs General Cemetery, in minimising potential loss and damage to the historic fabric such as memorials and other grave markers.

A4.2. Risk Assessment

The three main threats faced by the monuments at the Alice Springs General Cemetery are from:

- **general vandalism**, particularly from itinerants attacking stone monuments and removing or burning timber cross markers;
- inappropriately selected and located **plantings** which can damage memorial structures both above and below ground; and
- **storm** damage, both wind and rain, resulting from unusual and extreme weather conditions.

A4.3. The Development of a Loss and Damage Mitigation Plan:

The Alice Springs Town Council, as managers of the Cemetery, shall develop an appropriate Loss and Damage Mitigation Plan, which needs to address the following issues:

1. Implementing appropriate protective and mitigative measures, such as:

-ensuring that the most vulnerable memorials are well documented (incl. photographs) and that such documentation material is safely stored off-site; and

-installing secure tagged markers detailing information relating to the most vulnerable memorials, so they can be re-set into their original positions or reconstructed as necessary.

The “most vulnerable” memorials, for the purpose of this plan, would include all timber items (such as crosses), items of glass, such as vases and ornamental covers, and all easily-dislodged markers such as those made of plastic or ceramics.

2. Preparing Response Procedures to identify immediate actions required following an incident, to include:

-dealing with itinerants, perhaps involving the Alice Springs Police or a private security firm;

-ensuring that as much original memorial material as possible is salvaged for later use in conservation work; and

-identifying and documenting lost and damaged memorials and other historic material resulting from incidents.

3. Identifying Responsibilities with regard to **who** is responsible for ensuring various actions are undertaken, such as:

- checking for itinerants at opening and closing times; and
- checking before a predicted storm for loose material that may become airborne.

It is important that a Grave Marker Register be prepared, to assist in conservation work resulting from loss or damage of historic fabric.

[Guidelines in minimising loss or damage from vandalism.](#)

By far the most likely threat to the Alice Springs General Cemetery is from general vandalism resulting from itinerants occupying the place overnight for camping, despite the Cemetery grounds being well fenced.

Most vulnerable items are those that can be used by campers, including vases from memorials serving as containers, loose stones and bricks, as well as timber objects that can be used for fires.

The following are guidelines to consider in minimising the risk of loss or damage due to vandalism:

- dissuade and prevent access onto the site by itinerants, through the maintenance of existing security fencing and checking fencing regularly for holes;
- check the grounds for itinerants prior to locking the gate at evening and in the morning upon re-opening;
- replace existing taps with tamper-proof, limited flow, self-closing taps; and
- instigate a community program whereby owners of neighbouring properties are encouraged to check over the fence and report overnight intruders.

[Guidelines in minimising loss or damage from plantings.](#)

Inappropriate and poorly located plants can cause damage to memorials, both above and below ground level. Growing roots and trunks can result in uplifting of memorial structures and branches can cause damage to by growing up against or breaking off and falling onto them.

Some plant species are particularly adept at self-seeding or spreading via suckers and are to be avoided in landscaping plans for cemeteries.

The following are guidelines to consider in minimising the risk of loss or damage due to plantings:

- select plant species that are not prone to self-seeding, spreading by suckers or with invasive root systems or large trunks; and
- trim back and remove branches which may interfere with or fall onto memorials.

[Guidelines in minimising loss or damage from storms.](#)

The potential threat of storm damage should also be evaluated and incorporated into the Loss and Damage Mitigation Plan for the Cemetery site.

The most likely storm damage will result from:

- high winds causing dislodgement, displacement or loss altogether of memorials constructed of light materials, such as timber crosses, simple flower vases and metal markers,
- damage to the memorial structures resulting from flying debris, either from dislodged building material (including fencing) or loose material generally not tied down in neighbouring properties; and
- damage from flash flooding resulting from unusually heavy downpour, which can result in subsidence of heavier memorial structures.

Before preparing any responses to such threats, however, it would be very useful to investigate available data relating to past storm events and evaluate the effects which they have had on the memorials at the Cemetery.

The following are guidelines to consider in minimising the risk of loss or damage due to storm:

- ensure the structural integrity and adequacy of the solid fencing along the southern and western sides of the site; and
- ensure that on-site loose materials, which could become airborne in high wind conditions, are stored safely or tied down before a storm.

APPENDIX 5. GUIDE FOR CONTRACTORS

The purpose of these guidelines is give potential contractors an idea of the importance of the Alice Springs General Cemetery and to provide basic ground rules for undertaking work at the site. These guidelines are provided because it is useful for contractors to know something of the site they are working on.

Brief history

Unlike the Stuart Memorial Cemetery in George Crescent, which was essentially created as an afterthought some years after the town was first established, the Alice Springs General Cemetery was planned and boundaries surveyed when it became apparent that the old cemetery was no longer adequate for the town and surrounding district's needs in the early 1930s.

The Stuart Memorial Cemetery was closed in 1932 and the first burial in the new Cemetery occurred in 1933. At the time that the General Cemetery was first established it was adjacent to the town's infrequently used airstrip (now Memorial Drive). No other buildings or houses were in the vicinity and the cemetery would have been considered 'out of town', much in the same way that the current airport and Garden Cemetery are thought of as being 'outside of the town' although the latter lies within the municipal boundaries.

The first burial in the General Cemetery was William Richey (Thompson), on January 26 1933 (Section 1 Row A Plot 1). The number of burials that occurred each year in the General Cemetery during the period 1933 – 1995 reflects the overall growth of the town and surrounding region prior to a sharp decline in the number of burials in the late 1970s, which coincided with the establishment of the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery. Although burials began in 1933, the General Cemetery was not proclaimed until early March 1949, when it became officially known as the 'Alice Springs Cemetery'. The name changed again in 1966 when it became known as the Alice Springs General Cemetery.

In 1939 aircraft movements at the Townsite Aerodrome became more frequent as Eddie Connellan completed construction of his Hangar and began regular mail runs and other flights. Despite the location of the Cemetery next to the aerodrome, aeroplane movements and engine testing ceased whenever there was a funeral as a mark of respect and to allow the cortege to move unimpeded down the edge of the runway.

Following WWII a War Cemetery was established within the grounds of the Alice Springs General Cemetery, which is still maintained today by the Commonwealth's Office of Australian War Graves in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It not until the mid-1950s that water was piped to the Cemetery and this allowed the planting of White Cedars along the main north-south and east-west avenues. However there was no attempt to create a green garden-like setting at the Cemetery given the lack of funds and scarcity of water but sometime between 1959 and 1964, the Cemetery Lodge was constructed.

In the 1960s the town aerodrome was sub-divided to make way for the new suburb of Gillen and by this time the entrance to the Cemetery at this time was flanked by two tall sandstone pillars supporting a metal archway. Sometime between 1982 and 1996 a new entrance was constructed and vegetation planted along the eastern side of the eastern boundary fence. This entrance was replaced with the current entrance sometime between 1996 and 2009.

Regular burials in the General Cemetery continued up until mid-1978 (by this time the Cemetery was nearly full) with the majority thereafter occurring at the Alice Springs Garden Cemetery. The General Cemetery was not formally closed until April 1995. Exceptions have been made for reserved plots in which burials occur intermittently.

Importance

The Cemetery is significant for many reasons, including:

- as a source of genealogical and biographical information;
- as the last resting place of people that individually and collectively have contributed to the development of Alice Springs, Central Australia and the Territory;
- as a social and economic record of this early period in Central Australia;
- as part of Alice Springs' and the Territory's wartime heritage;
- its capacity to provide information relating to past population demographics and health;
- the diversity in architecture and aesthetic character of individual markers, mix of both formal headstones and vernacular markers, contributes substantially to the visual appeal of the Cemetery and underpins its integrity and authenticity;
- it's artistic and aesthetic values encapsulated in the overall cemetery layout, types of monuments, grave surrounds and furniture. The variation in the craftsmanship of different markers is an important aspect of the Cemetery's heritage values as it says something not only about the financial circumstances of deceased friends/relatives but also the availability of individuals skilled to undertake such work at that time;
- the presence or absence grave markers, and types of grave markers and inscriptions can provide information regarding individual attitudes towards death, which was rarely recorded in the past. Accordingly, the Cemetery is important as it contains information that was not recorded in written records or no longer survives; and
- the design and layout of the Cemetery also provides information regarding broader societal and community attitudes towards death, cemetery planning in the early 1930s, economic capacity of the government of the day, as well as evidence of what was considered aesthetically pleasing at the time. The formality of the grid design of the cemetery with its nine sections and avenues between the Sections, was reinforced by the earlier plantings which did not overwhelm the Cemetery, nor resulted in a garden-like setting.

Particular elements are also important:

- The Alice Springs War Cemetery is significant as it demonstrates the key principles of war cemetery design for small cemeteries developed by Kenyon in 1918 and adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at that time and still implemented today;
- Different Sections of the Alice Springs General Cemetery may be important to particular segments of the local community owing to spiritual, social or other cultural associations (e.g. Alice Springs RSL sub-branch and veteran community has a particular interest in the War Cemetery and individual graves of ex-service personnel; the "Mohammedan" Section (Section 7A), contains many of the Afghan cameleers who played a vital transport role in Central Australia from the 1870s up until the arrival of the railway in 1929, and their descendants);
- The existing alignment of rows, including those which are not truly straight relative to the section boundaries, are significant as they reflect the absence of a detailed survey plan of the burial plots (itself an indication of official attitudes towards the Cemetery), as well as reflecting past decisions made by masons and cemetery staff regarding the location and positioning of burials and grave markers;
- The inscriptions on the grave markers are not only tributes to the deceased, but collectively form a social and historical record for the region. This record did not cease with the closure of the Cemetery in 1978 but continues as relatives and friends of deceased individuals place grave markers on hitherto un-marked graves or upgrade existing markers. Given the new works to individual graves that has occurred over the last five years, it is clear that relatives, friends and the community continue to care about the last resting place of their loved one(s);

- Some of the remaining White Cedars are considered to be the last surviving evidence on-site of the original introduced plantings and are therefore of significance, while later White cedars reinforce the original design and early landscaping intent. Whereas in many 19th century cemeteries and cemeteries in southern and eastern parts of Australia, plantings were often chosen for their symbolic meaning, in Alice Springs the arid desert environment, lack of piped water to the site for many years together with the economic circumstances proscribed any introduced plantings until mid-late 1950s. Even then planting occurred on a limited scale, however that which did occur, reinforced the formal layout of the Cemetery; and
- The large Fork-leaved Corkwood located in Section 1 appears to be the only surviving remnant of original native vegetation that was in the area prior to the creation of the Cemetery. It is also possible that this tree is of cultural significance to Aboriginal custodians.

Heritage status

All of Lot 1027 (i.e. the entire Cemetery) is a heritage place under the *NT Heritage Act*. It is protected by that legislation and failure to comply with all legislative requirements may result in prosecution and a fine.

Before any work is undertaken in the Cemetery, regardless of what it is, first check with the Alice Springs Town Council that the appropriate consent to undertake the work under the Act has been obtained. If you have any doubts, check with the NT Heritage Branch that written consent from the Minister, Minister's delegate or CEO, has been obtained. It is important that you do not inadvertently breach the Act, as you may be liable for prosecution under the Act.

Basic ground rules

When undertaking work in the Cemetery contractors shall bear in mind the following ground rules:

- All parts of each structure shall be considered important and treated as such. No part of any structure shall be removed other than that described in the specifications.
- Before removing any part of any structure or making any changes, those areas to be removed or otherwise changed, shall be recorded (i.e. photographed, measured, drawn and described). Generally a conservation professional will undertake this work before contractors are on site, but you may wish to take photographs before you start work, just in case.
- Old material and finishes are often different from modern material and finishes and sometimes the two are incompatible. Before substituting new for old check that there will not be problems. For example, repairs using Portland cement instead of a lime mortar to match the original.
- Both lime mortars and cement have been used in the construction of some structures on site. Before applying a mortar, check that it is compatible with the surrounding materials. Note that Portland cement can only be used in accordance with advice from a heritage conservation professional.
- If there are any doubts about the nature of the work or if anything unforeseen eventuates, notify Alice Springs Town Council staff immediately and obtain directions.

- Remember that all work to the site must be approved under the NT *Heritage Act*. This approval will always be in writing and depending on the nature of the work, will be signed by the Minister, or Minister's delegate, or CEO of the Department in which the Heritage Branch resides at that time. If there is *any* doubt, seek advice.

APPENDIX 6. MAINTENANCE INSPECTION SCHEDULE

A6.1. Generally

The following Maintenance Inspection Schedule has been formatted so it can be copied as a “stand-alone” document.

**THE ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY
INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR THE SITE**

Date of Inspection:

Inspected by:

Date of Previous Inspection:

Has ALL Work from Previous Inspection Completed? Yes / No

ELEMENT	Inspect for:	Work Outstanding/Required:
Grounds	Water flow/soil erosion	
	Weed growth	
	Evidence of animal activity (eg diggings)	
	Damage to Fencing	
	Damage to Gates	
	Damage to other structures (including the Lodge)	
	Intruder activity (camping/rubbish)	
	Vehicular traffic within the Sections	

9.2

**ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR THE SITE
(CONT'D)**

ELEMENT	Inspect for:	Work Outstanding/Required:
Trees	Interference to Grave Markers (i.e. Headstones, Grave Surrounds) from branches and/or roots	
	Interference to Section kerbing from branches or roots	
	Evidence of termite activity	

9.2

**ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR THE SITE
(CONT'D)**

ELEMENT	Inspect for:	Work Outstanding/Required:
Signage	Vandalism/other damage/general deterioration to signage at front entrance, at Cemetery Lodge, and in Sections	
Electricals & other lighting	Damaged fixtures	
	Other damage	

9.2

**ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR THE SITE
(CONT'D)**

ELEMENT	Inspect for:	Work Outstanding/Required:
Plumbing	Leaking taps or piping	
	Other damage	

9.2

**ALICE SPRINGS GENERAL CEMETERY
INSPECTION SCHEDULE FOR INDIVIDUAL GRAVES**

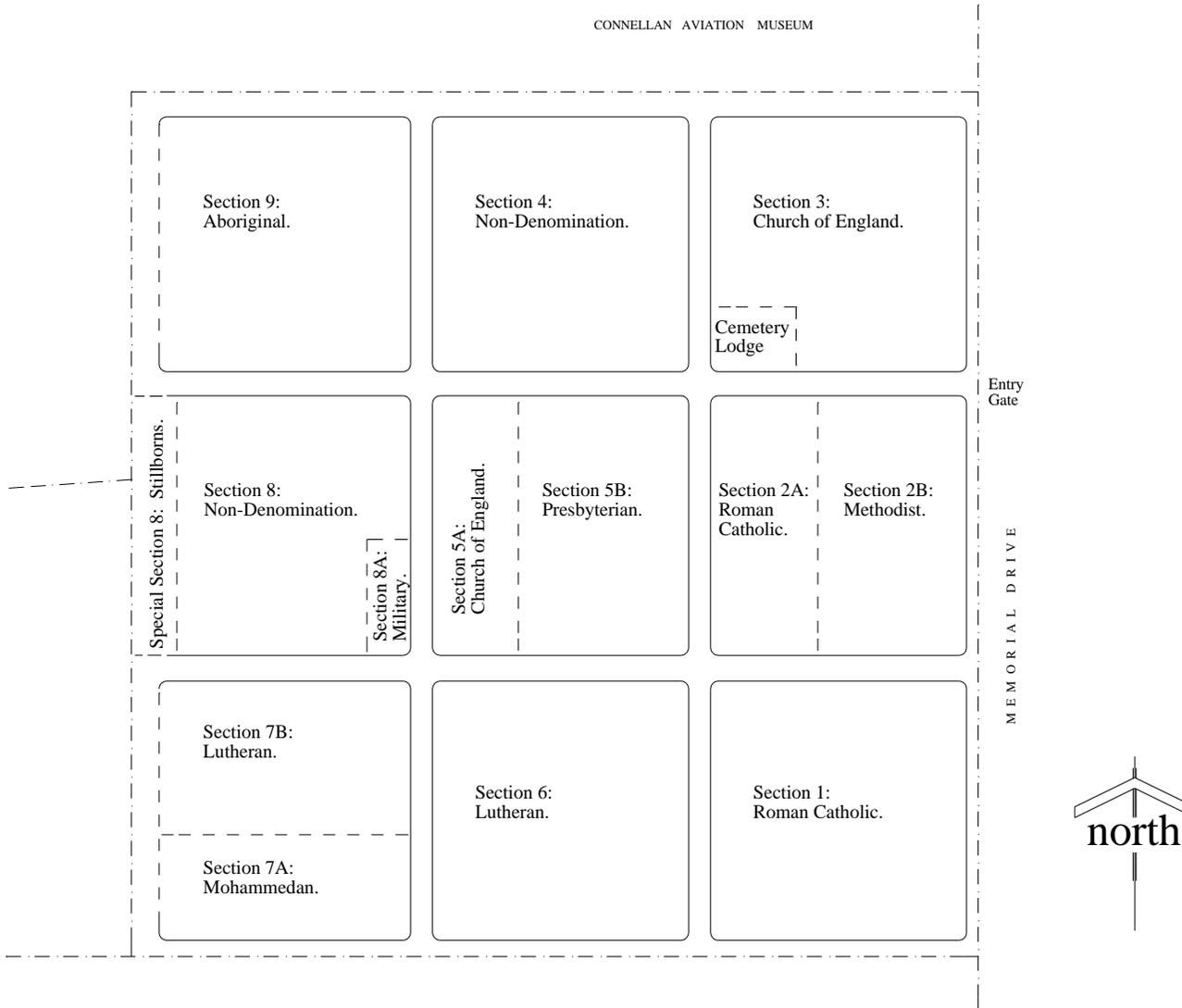
Individual report for:

Name/Plot No _____

Section _____

Row _____

Element of grave marker	Inspect for evidence of & describe any:		
	Vandalism	Other Damage (e.g. missing elements)	General condition
Headstone/other monument			
Slab			
Grave surrounds (e.g. fencing)			
Grave furniture (e.g. artificial flowers, photos, tiling, coloured pebbles)			
Lettering (e.g. lead lettering, painted, gilt, etching)			



Notes:

GENERALLY:
This drawing is based upon overall site measurements of the Sections; scaled Google image; and visual site checks undertaken in October 2013 and December 2018.

Information shown is indicative only and provided to present an overall view of, and permit navigation around, the Cemetery site.

For detailed information on each of the individual Sections, refer to drawings A2 to A10.

9.2

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

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project :

**Conservation Management Plan
for Alice Springs General
Cemetery, N.Territory.**

Site Plan.

sheet no: 1 of 10	dwg. no: 2013.08.A1
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Scale 1:1000 at A3 sized sheet	Figure 3.
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PROSECUTION TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THAT LAW.

Notes:

GENERALLY:
 This drawing is based upon overall site measurements of the Section; scaled Google image; and visual site checks, as undertaken in September 2013. The Section was re-surveyed in November 2018 and the drawing updated to indicate the changes over the previous 5-years, with additional and upgraded items shown in BLUE and lost items in RED. Note: Grave plots shown are indicative only and detailed to permit navigation around the Section. They include:

- Slab cover, with memorial headstone
- Slab cover only, on ground
- Stone (S), concrete (C) or metal (M) surround to grave
- Metal fence or chain surround
- Rock memorial
- Stone (loose) surround to grave
- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- CM - Stone (S) or concrete (CM) marker
- RES. - Sign signifying Reserved Plot
- Mound or depression in ground
- LL - Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering.

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
 - No 4: William BRAITLING.
 - No 5: Bob BUCK.
 - No 15: Sam IRVINE.
 - No 19: Stephen KILGARIFF.
 - No 30: William A. (Alf) TURNER.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

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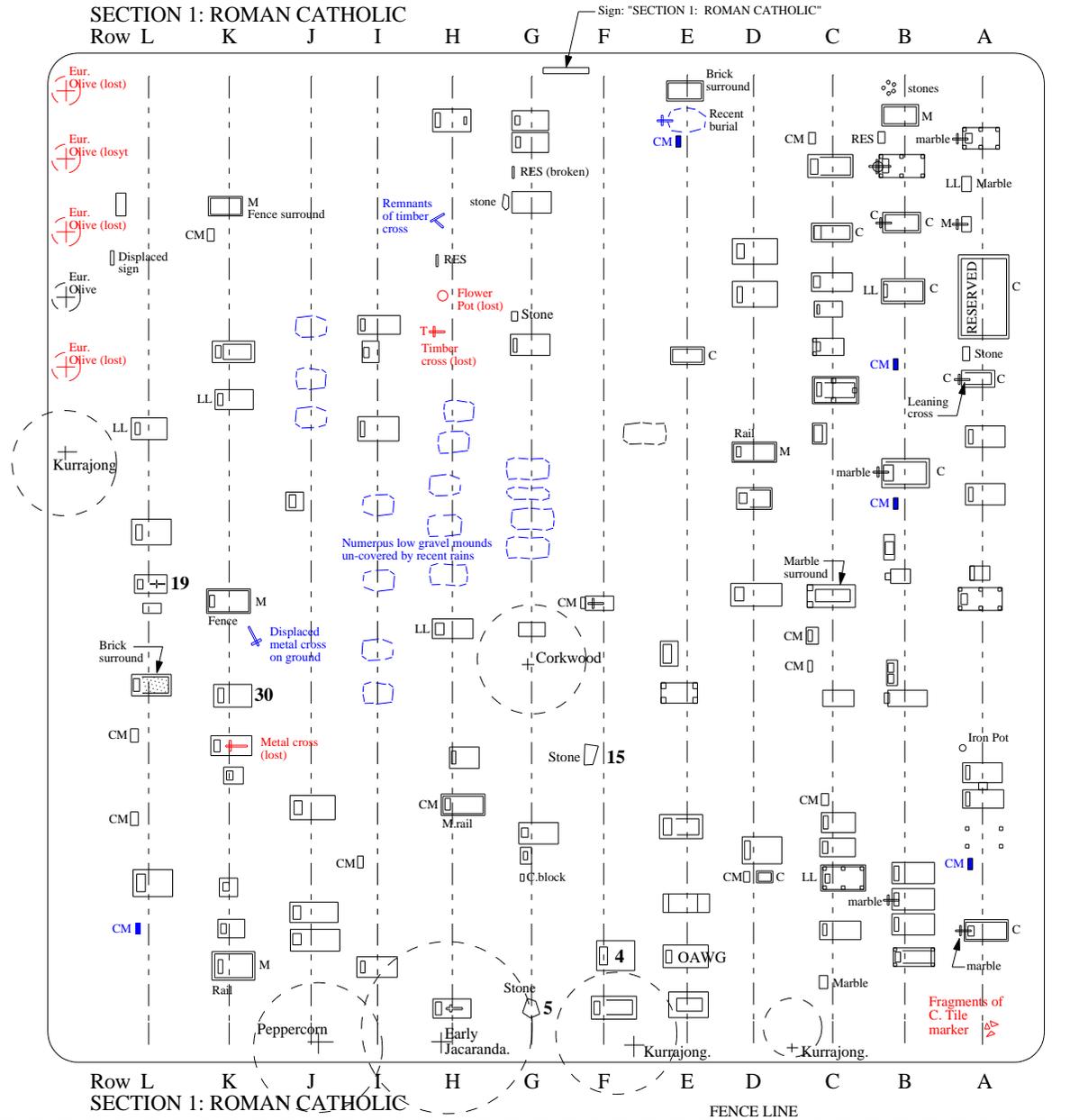
project :
**Conservation Management Plan
 for Alice Springs General
 Cemetery, N.Territory.**

Plan: Section 1.

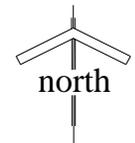
sheet no: 2 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A2

Scale 1:250
 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 4.**

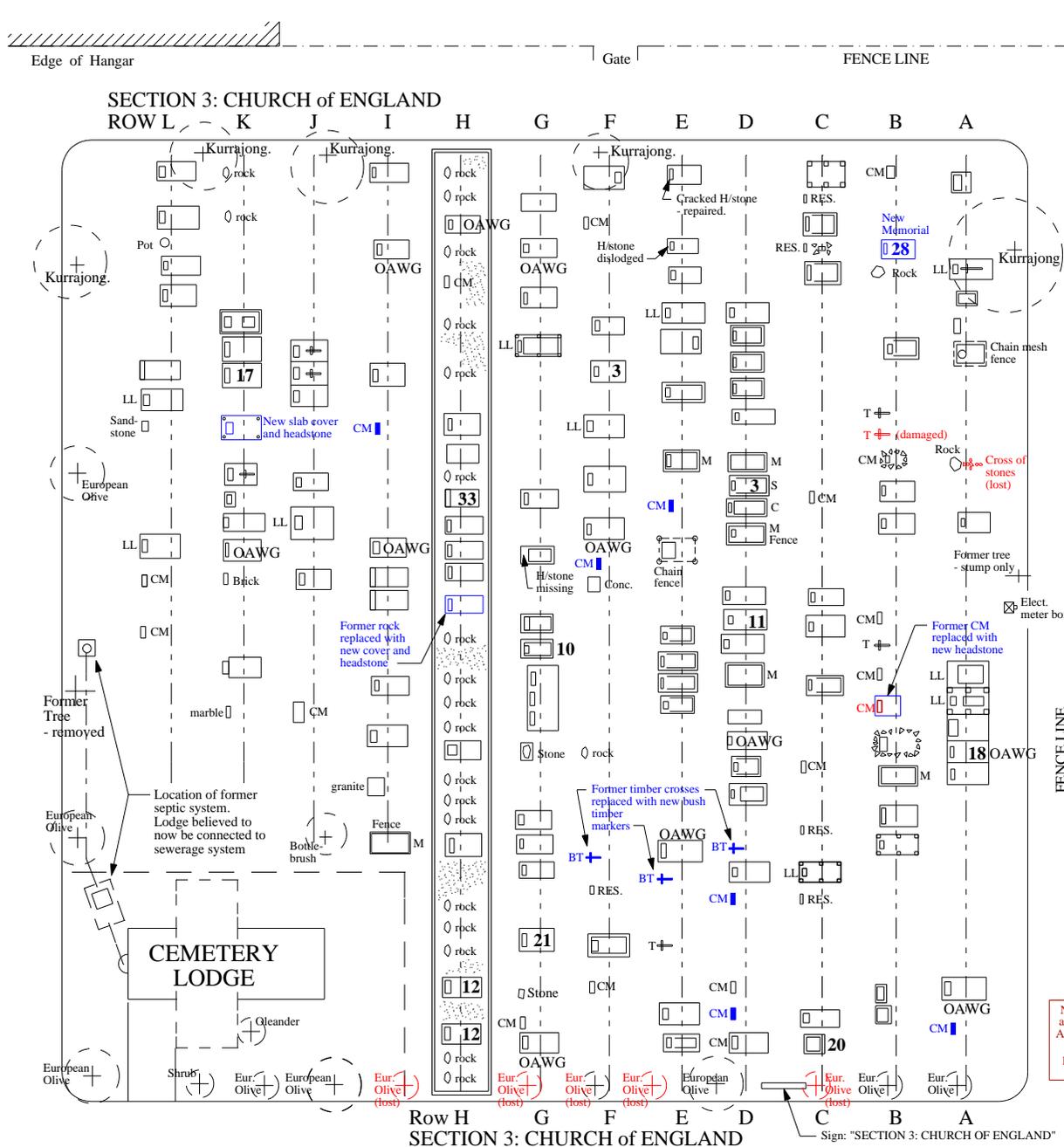
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MEMORIAL AVENUE



NOTE: Graves tagged OAWG are maintained by the Office of Australian War Graves and shall not be worked upon without permission of Australian War Graves Commission.



- Slab cover, with memorial headstone
- Slab cover only, on ground
- Concrete (C) or metal (M) surround to grave
- Metal fence or chain surround
- Rock memorial
- Stone (loose) surround to grave
- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- Concrete (CM) or Plastic (PM) marker
- Sign signifying Reserved Plot
- Mound or depression in ground
- Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering

Notes:

GENERALLY:
 This drawing is based upon overall site measurements of the Section; scaled Google image; and visual site checks, as undertaken in September 2013. The Section was re-surveyed in November 2018 and the drawing updated to indicate the changes over the previous 5-years, with additional and upgraded items shown in BLUE and lost items in RED. Note: Grave plots shown are indicative only and detailed to permit navigation around the Section. They include:

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
 - No 3: The BOHNING Family.
 - No 10: John DRIVER.
 - No 11: Nathalie GOREY.
 - No 12: The GREATOREX Family.
 - No 17: Snow KENNA.
 - No 18: John KENNETT.
 - No 20: L. H. LASSETER.
 - No 21: The LIDDLE Family.
 - No 28: Charlie MEYERS.
 - No 33: Ly UNDERDOWN.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

domenico pecorari & associates pty ltd architects

No. 20 BATTARBEE STREET, (P.O. BOX 3340) ALICE SPRINGS, N.T. 0871
 PHONE: (08) 8952 7546 MOB: 0414 772 914
 E-MAIL: dpecorari@westnet.com.au

project :
Conservation Management Plan for Alice Springs General Cemetery, N.Territory.

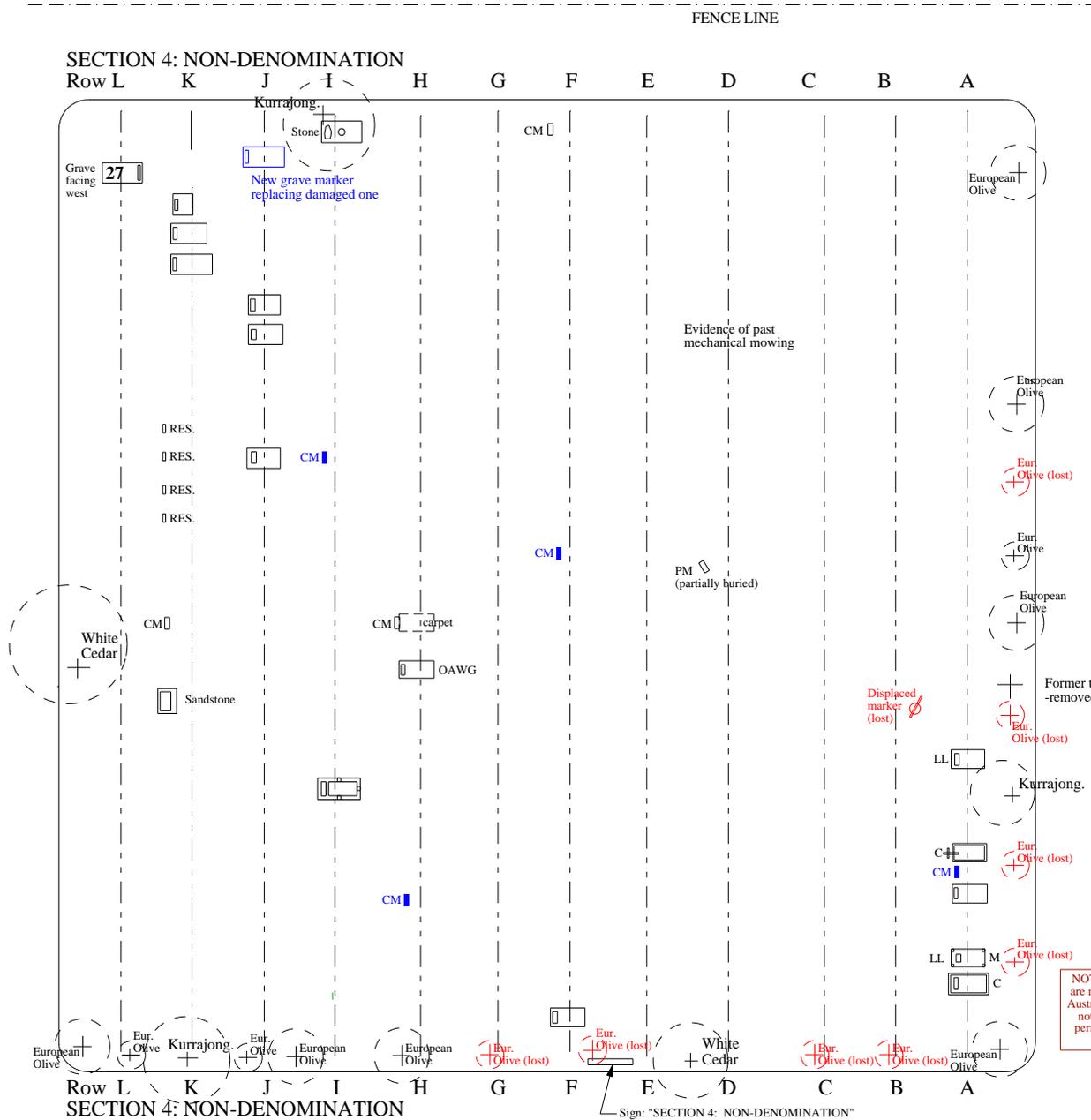
Plan: Section 3.

sheet no: 4 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A4

Scale 1:250 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 6.**

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NOTE: Graves tagged OAWG are maintained by the Office of Australian War Graves and shall not be worked upon without permission of Australian War Graves Commission.



Notes:

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- Slab cover, with memorial headstone
- Slab cover only, on ground
- Concrete (C) or metal (M) surround to grave
- Metal fence or chain surround
- Rock memorial
- Stone (loose) surround to grave
- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- Concrete (CM) or Plastic (PM) marker
- Sign signifying Reserved Plot
- Mound or depression in ground
- Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
 - No 27: Olive PINK.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

**domenico pecorari
& associates pty ltd
architects**

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 PHONE & FACSIMILE : (08) 8952 5420 MOB: 0414 772 914
 E-MAIL: dpecorari@westnet.com.au

project :

**Conservation Management Plan
for Alice Springs General
Cemetery, N.Territory.**

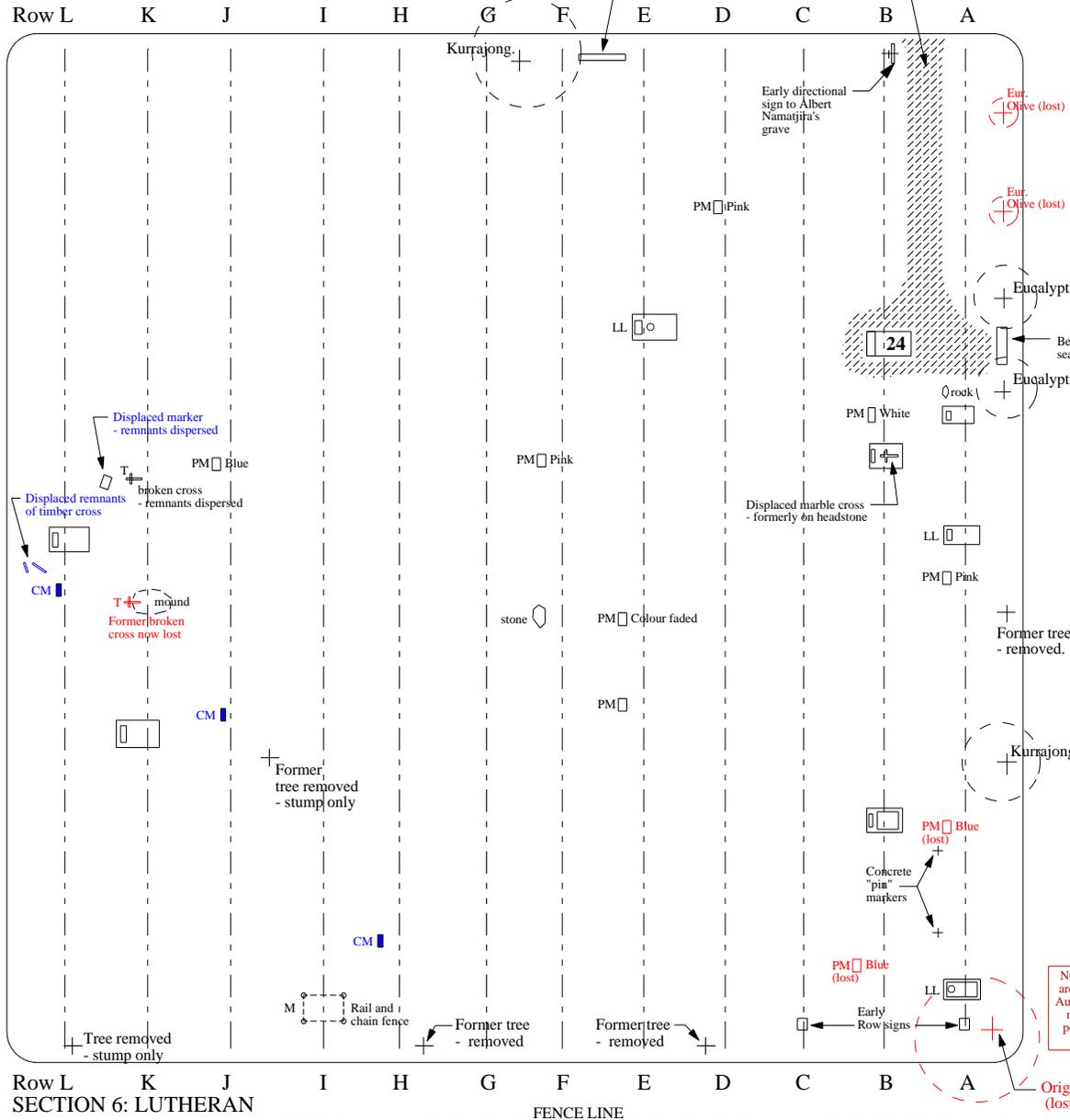
Plan: Section 4.

sheet no: 5 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A5

Scale 1:250 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 7.**

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SECTION 6: LUTHERAN



- Slab cover, with memorial headstone
- Slab cover only, on ground
- Concrete (C) or metal (M) surround to grave
- Metal fence or chain surround
- Rock memorial
- Stone (loose) surround to grave
- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- Concrete (CM) or Plastic (PM) marker
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 Note: Grave plots shown are indicative only and detailed to permit navigation around the Section. They include:

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
 - No 24: Albert NAMATJIRA.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

**domenico pecorari
 & associates pty ltd
 architects**

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 PHONE: (08) 8952 7546 MOB: 0414 772 914
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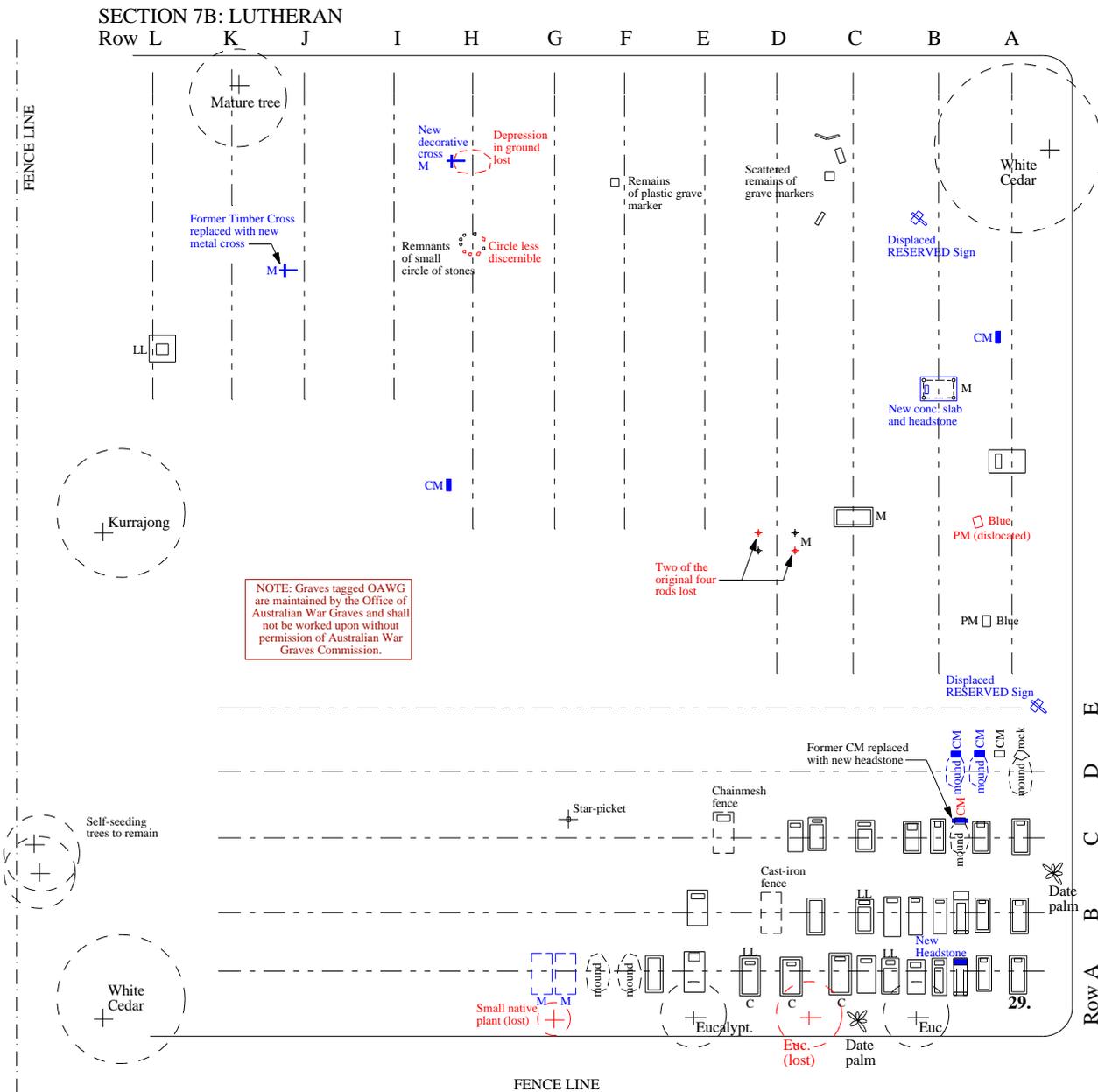
project :
**Conservation Management Plan
 for Alice Springs General
 Cemetery, N.Territory.**

Plan: Section 6.

sheet no: 7 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A7

Scale 1:250
 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 9.**

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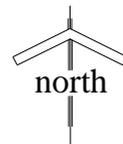


- Slab cover, with memorial headstone
- Slab cover only, on ground
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- Metal fence or chain surround
- Rock memorial
- Stone (loose) surround to grave
- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
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- Mound or depression in ground
- Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering

Notes:

GENERALLY:
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 Note: Grave plots shown are indicative only and detailed to permit navigation around the Section. They include:

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
 - No 29: Charlie SADADEEN.



Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

**domenico pecorari
 & associates pty ltd
 architects**

No. 20 BATTARBEE STREET, (P.O. BOX 3340) ALICE SPRINGS, N.T. 0871
 PHONE: (08) 8952 7546 MOB: 0414 772 914
 E-MAIL: dpecorari@westnet.com.au

project :
**Conservation Management Plan
 for Alice Springs General
 Cemetery, N.Territory.**

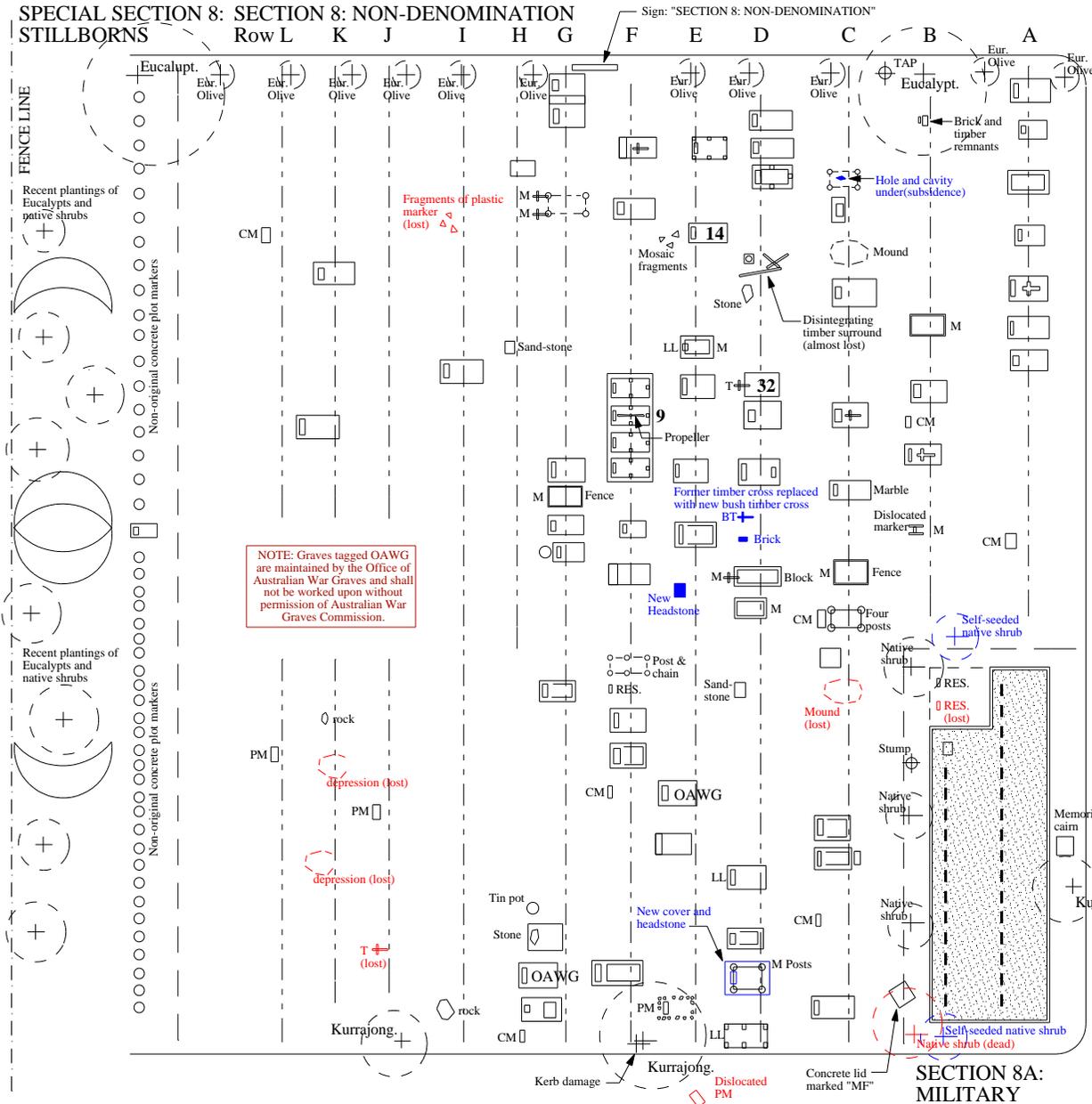
Plan: Sections 7A & 7B.

sheet no: 8 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A8

Scale 1:250
 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 10.**

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SPECIAL SECTION 8: SECTION 8: NON-DENOMINATION STILLBORNS



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Notes:

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- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- Concrete (CM) or Plastic (PM) marker
- Sign signifying Reserved Plot
- Mound or depression in ground
- Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering

This section contains the visible graves of various historically significant individuals including, but not limited to:
- No 9: Eddie CONNELLAN.
- No 14: Mick HEENAN.
- No 32: Joan HIGGINS.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

domenico pecorari & associates pty ltd architects

No. 20 BATTARBEE STREET, (P.O. BOX 3340) ALICE SPRINGS, N.T. 0871
PHONE: (08) 8952 7546 MOB: 0414 772 914
E-MAIL: dpecorari@westnet.com.au

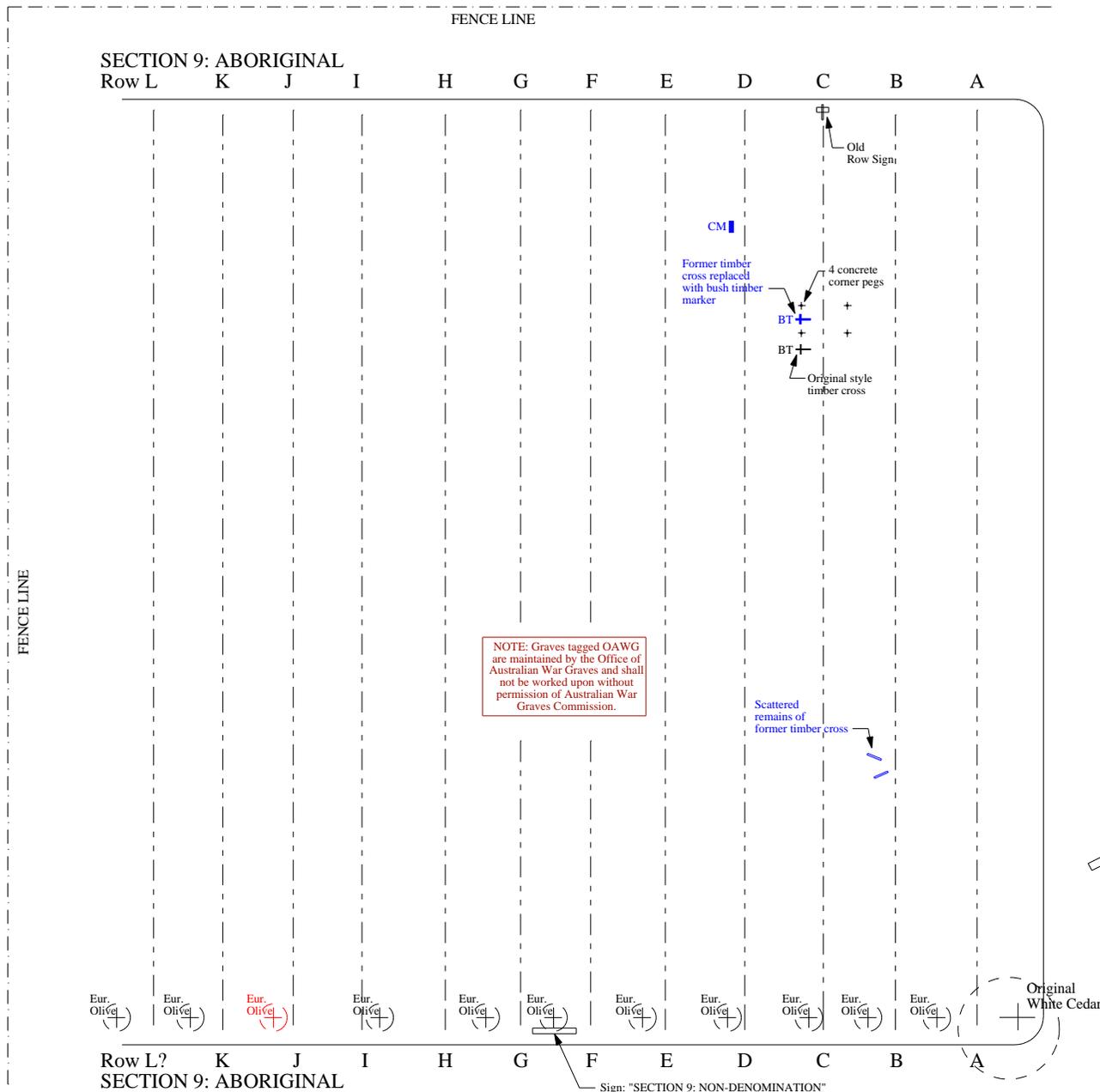
project :
Conservation Management Plan for Alice Springs General Cemetery, N.Territory.

Plan: Section 8 & Military.

sheet no: 9 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A9

Scale 1:250 at A3 sized sheet **Figure 11.**

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Notes:

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- Cross, either of timber (T) or metal (M)
- Concrete (CM) or Plastic (PM) marker
- Sign signifying Reserved Plot
- Mound or depression in ground
- Marble headstones requiring repair to lettering

This section may contain the graves of various historically significant individuals but the plots remain un-marked and not easily identifiable.

Final Print Date: 30th December 2018

**domenico pecorari
& associates pty ltd
architects**

No. 20 BATTARBEE STREET. (P.O. BOX 3340) ALICE SPRINGS, N.T. 0871
PHONE & FACSIMILE : (08) 8952 5420 MOB: 0414 772 914
E-MAIL: dpecorari@westnet.com.au

project :

**Conservation Management Plan
for Alice Springs General
Cemetery, N.Territory.**

Plan: Section 9.

sheet no: 10 of 10 dwg. no: 2013.08.A10

Scale 1:250
at A3 sized sheet **Figure 12.**

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TO: TECHNICAL SERVICE COMMITTEE - MONDAY 13 JULY 2020

SUBJECT: LYNDVALE DRIVE SPEEDING REPORT

AUTHOR: STEPHEN BALOBAN - MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is in regard to vehicles allegedly speeding along Lyndavale Drive and the options Council has to mitigate this concern

RECOMMENDATION

That it be a recommendation to Council:

That Council install permanent solar powered radar speed signs.

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

Lyndavale Drive is located in the Larapinta area of Alice Springs and is 1.3km long and 10.6m wide and runs from Larapinta drive to Albrecht Drive (refer map below). The speed limit along Lyndavale Drive varies between 50km/h and 40km/h School Zone.



There have been several car accidents in the area noted in the above map.

Report No. 158 / 20 ts

2. DISCUSSION

The Technical Service Department carried out a traffic study using our speed detection units (Smiley Faces) along Lyndavale Drive between Thursday 21 May 2020 to Thursday 18 June 2020 with 136,988 vehicles recorded with an 85% speed of 53 km/h Northbound and 51km/h Southbound refer below:

Lyndavale Drive has a posted speed limit of 50km/h.			
The result 85% Speed = 53km/h. (Northbound)			
Period:	Thursday, 21 May 2020, 16:24 o'clock to Thursday, 18 June 2020, 06:01 o'clock		
Number of records		64387	
Average speed	Va	44.4 km/h	
85% of the vehicles are driving slower or up to ...	V85	53 km/h	
Maximum speed	Vmax	101 km/h	
The result 85% Speed = 51 km/h. (Southbound)			
Period:	Thursday, 21 May 2020, 16:13 o'clock to Thursday, 18 June 2020, 10:41 o'clock		
Number of records		72601	
Average speed	Va	44.6 km/h	
85% of the vehicles are driving slower or up to ...	V85	51 km/h	
Maximum speed	Vmax	129 km/h	

9.3

When assessing the data, the important figure is the 85% percentile number. If 85% of vehicles are traveling at or under the speed limit that is acceptable.

In the case of Lyndavale Drive the result 85% Speed = 53km/h. (Northbound) and 51 km/h. (Southbound) are within the speed limit tolerance of +- 3km/h therefore no further action would be required, but we believe that having the speed detection units there has slowed the vehicles down

Option 1 - That Council can continue to monitor the traffic along Lyndavale Drive and take no further action

Option 2 - That Council install permanent radar speed signs ('smiley faces') similar to the ones installed along Larapinta Drive near the Diarama shopping complex

Option 3 - That Council investigate the installation of traffic calming devices by engaging Traffic Engineers for solutions and options.

It's the recommendation of the Technical Service Department to install permanent radar speed signs ('smiley faces') as it appears the portable ones used between Thursday 21 May 2020 to Thursday 18 June 2020 had a positive effect in slowing vehicles down.

Report No. 158 / 20 ts

3. POLICY IMPACTS

Improve traffic safety as per ***Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021***

Objective 1: A dynamic community

Outcome 1.3: Safe and reliable public infrastructure

4. FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Option 1 - To be funded through operational Technical Services Directorate budgets

Option 2 - At a cost of \$20,000

Option 3 - Engage Traffic Engineers \$20,000 + cost of implementation of traffic calming devices.

5. SOCIAL IMPACTS

Nil

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Prevent damage to private property and Council road reserve infrastructure.

7. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Council is working to provide a safer road network by working with stakeholder's and police and by educating road users through the introduction of 'smiley face' electronic signage.



Stephen Baloban
MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE



Scott Allen
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

TO: TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE - MONDAY 13 JULY 2019

SUBJECT: ALICE SPRINGS AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE - ELECTRICITY SUPPLY EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

AUTHOR: DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES - SCOTT ALLEN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASALC) supply of electricity for the facility

RECOMMENDATIONS

That it be a recommendation to Council:

That Council goes out for an Expression of Interest for the supply of electricity for the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre

REPORT

1. BACKGROUND

Rimfire Energy (Rimfire) has been the electricity supplier to the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre since 1 September 2016. The agreement with Rimfire to provide electricity to ASALC has expired.

Since contracting with Rimfire Energy in 2016, the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre has saved approximately \$75,000 in electricity costs. Rimfire has been dedicated to working with Alice Springs Town Council to further lower electricity costs for the Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

2. DISCUSSION

ASALC requires electricity to operate the many lights, boilers, computers, air conditioning units, fridges, entry and exit doors, radio and point of entry sales systems.

Council Officers are recommending that Council goes out to tender to test the electricity market for the supply of electricity for ASALC.

It is recommended to engage the winning electricity supplier for 5 years.

3. POLICY IMPACTS

All projects relate to and reflect the appropriate policies and components of the ***Alice Springs Town Council Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021***.

Objective 3: Leadership in sustainability

3.1: Reduce Council's carbon footprint

3.1.2: Maximise energy productivity

4. FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The annual budget for electricity supply will be determined once tenders have been received.

The electricity charge for ASALC is in excess of \$250,000.00 per annum

9.4

Report No. 160 / 20 ts

5. SOCIAL IMPACTS

Council is going out to the market to test the market for the best price for the community

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

The environmental impacts will be minimal

7. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Council is providing other electricity suppliers with the opportunity to tender a price for the supply of electricity to ASALC



Scott Allen
DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPORTS FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAC)
HELD ON THURSDAY 25 JUNE 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference

PRESENT

Mayor Damien Ryan
Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson
Councillor Marli Banks
Councillor Eli Melky
Dr Bruce Walker (Chair)
Mr Aaron Blacker
Ms Anne Davies-Smith
Mr John Gaynor
Mr Lachlan Modrynski
Mr Anthony Murphy (arrived 12:31pm)
Mr Tim Pearson
Mr Phillip Preece
Mr Dennis Sawtell
Mr Michael Trull

10.1

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Robert Jennings - Chief Executive Officer
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Acting Director Technical Services

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Sports Facilities Advisory Committee - Attendance List 2019/2020								
	12 Sept 19 Special Meeting	31 Oct 19	28 Nov 19 Special Meeting	27 Feb 20	23 Apr 20 Special Meeting	7 May 20	25 Jun 20	27 Aug 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Marli Banks	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Councillor Eli Melky	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dr Bruce Walker	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mr Aaron Blacker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mr Joel Crawford							A	
Ms Anne Davies-Smith							✓	
Mr John Gaynor						✓	✓	
Mr Lachlan Modrynski	A	--	A	A	✓		✓	
Mr Anthony Murphy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mr Tim Pearson	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	
Mr Phillip Preece	--	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mr Dennis Sawtell						✓	✓	
Mr Michael Trull							✓	

- ✓ Attended
- ✓ Proxy Proxy attended in place of committee member
- A Apology received
- No attendance and no apology recorded
- Not a member of the committee at this time

The meeting opened at 12.08 pm.

SFAC 25.06.2020

The Chair welcomed new and returning members representing their sports on the Sports Facility Advisory Committee.

1. APOLOGIES

Joel Crawford
 Director Technical Services - Scott Allen
 Director Corporate Services - Sabine Taylor
 Sports Officer - Tama Wakelin
 Stephanie Dominguez - Executive Assistant (Minutes via audio)

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

- Deputy Mayor Matt Paterson - ANZAC Oval 4.4, 5.1, 5.2 and 8.3
- Mayor Damien Ryan - ANZAC Oval 4.4, 5.1, 5.2 and 8.3

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Minutes from the Sport Facility Advisory Committee held 7 May 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Sport Facility Advisory Committee meeting held 7 May 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings

Moved: Councillor Melky **Seconded:** Philip Preece **CARRIED**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 Action Items - Acting Director Technical Services

The Acting Director Technical Services provided an update on actions from the previous meeting, noting they were complete, in-hand, or being investigated.

Discussion ensued in regard to AFL NT's representation on SFAC, and the replacement of removed shade at the Netball Facility.

RESOLVED:

That it be a recommendation from the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to Council

That Council Officers investigate the design, cost and rebuilding of shade structures on the outdoor netball courts

Moved: John Gaynor **Seconded:** Tim Pearson **CARRIED**

4.2 Council's response to SFAC priority list - Bruce Walker

The Chair enquired about the result of SFAC's priority list through Council.

Action:

The Manager Technical Services to obtain clarification around Council's decision in regard to this priority list and report back to the Committee.

4.3 Jim McConville Oval Lights - Councillor Banks

It was noted that a motion (4706ts) was raised at the June Technical Services Committee in regard to lights at Jim McConville Oval. This motion is following Council's formal processes and is yet to be endorsed by Council.

10.1

SFAC 25.06.2020

4.4 Anzac Oval - John Gaynor

*Deputy Mayor Paterson left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 12:25 pm
Mayor Ryan left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 12:25 pm*

It was noted that Anzac Oval would be raised later in the meeting, in General Business (8.3).

*Mayor Ryan returned to the meeting at 12:28 pm
Deputy Mayor Paterson returned to the meeting at 12:29 pm*

4.5 Lights at Albrecht Oval - Bruce Walker

An update was requested in regard to progress on the lights at Albrecht Oval. The Acting Director Technical Services advised that timeline for works was due to be finalised this week, and contracts and procurement processes had been completed.

The Chair noted the importance of completing the project in time for the National Indigenous Cricket Championships.

Anthony Murphy entered the meeting at 12:31pm

5. CORRESPONDENCE

The following items of correspondence were moved and discussed later in the meeting under 8.3 General Business

5.1 Email from Aaron Blacker to SFAC - ANZAC Oval Lighting - 1 May 2020

5.2 Email from Aaron Blacker to SFAC - ANZAC Oval Lighting - 17 June 2020

6. FINANCE REPORT

6.1 Finance Report for the Period Ending 18 June 2020

The Finance Report as at 18 June 2020, with a *Reserve Balance* of \$852,725.72 was received and noted by the committee.

Moved: Councillor Melky **Seconded:** Tim Pearson **CARRIED**

The Chair noted Council's decision to waive SFAC Participation Levies until 30 June 2021, and expressed appreciation on behalf of all sports in regard to this.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 NTG \$6.2M Sporting Facility Upgrades - Update

The Acting Director Technical Services advised that the works to complete the Rhonda Diano Facility Upgrade were put on hold due to impacts on interstate travel due to COVID-19. As boarders were scheduled to open in the near future, Council hoped to schedule works to complete this project.

7.2 Dilapidation Reports and Repairs - Acting Director Technical Services

The Committee received and noted the *Dilapidation Report*.

Concerns were raised in regard damage to the playing surface on Paul Fitzsimmons Oval caused by rabbit holes.

Action:

Anthony Murphy to write to Acting Director Technical Services to provide information in regard to concerns of rabbit holes at Paul Fitzsimmons Oval so this matter can be investigated and actioned promptly.

SFAC 25.06.2020

Discussion ensued in regard to SFAC processes and *Disclosure of Interest*.

Action:

Council's Governance Department to circulate information clarifying:

- when a *Disclosure of Interest* should be made by a Committee member, and
- the subsequent meeting processes.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Thank you to SFAC - Mayor Ryan

Mayor Ryan expressed thanks to the Chair and the Committee for their efforts for the time since April 2008 that he has served on SFAC, noting by the next meeting he will have resigned from Council.

8.2 Sports Participation Levy - Email from 4 June 2020 - John Gaynor

Clarification was sought in regard to whether the Sports Participation Levy was waived or deferred.

Action:

Officers to work to ensure this information is clarified and information appropriately circulated to sports

8.3 ANZAC Oval Lighting - Aaron Blacker

Deputy Mayor Paterson left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 1 pm

Mayor Ryan left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 1 pm

Anthony Murphy left the meeting at 1 pm

Discussion ensued in regard to the historical priority for lighting and power upgrades at ANZAC Oval.

The Chief Executive Officer left the meeting at 1:06 pm

Anthony Murphy returned to the meeting at 1:11 pm

It was noted:

- considerable funds are invested annually for maintenance on the current lights
- that the current lights do not meet the minimum standard for a large-ball sport, and
- upgrading the lights would reduce current power consumption

RESOLVED:

That it be a recommendation from the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee to Council

That Council Officers investigate, in terms of design and cost, the upgrading of lighting at Anzac Oval from the current lights to LED

Moved: Aaron Blacker

Seconded: Lachlan Modrynski

CARRIED

9. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 27 August 2020 - 12 noon.

Further details for the next meeting to be circulated closer to the date.

The meeting closed at 1:19 pm

10.1

MINUTES OF THE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
30 JUNE 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference

PRESENT

Mayor Damien Ryan
Councillor Jimmy Cocking (Chair)
Councillor Jamie de Brenni
Councillor Jacinta Price
Mr Domenico Pecorari
Mr Jonathan Pilbrow

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
Mr Takudzwa Charlie - Manager Technical Services
Mr Stephen Baloban - Manager Infrastructure
Mr Ben Fitzgerald - Manager Depot
Ms Kaitlyn Weekes - Project Administration Officer (Minutes)

13 th Alice Springs Town Council Parks Advisory Committee Attendance List 2019/2020					
	27 Aug 19	29 Oct 19	25 Feb 20	28 Apr 20	30 Jun 20
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor de Brenni	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Councillor Jacinta Price	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Matthew Digby	A	✓	✓	✓	A
Jonathan Pilbrow	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Domenico Pecorari	A	A	✓	✓	✓

✓ Attended
✓ phone Attended via phone
A Apology received
-- No attendance and no apology recorded

The meeting opened at 4:32 pm.

1. APOLOGIES

Ms Sabine Taylor - Director Corporate Services
Mr Mathew Digby

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

PARKS 30.06.2020

3. CORRESPONDENCE

3.1 Email to Ken Johnson - Membership on the Parks Advisory Committee - 30 June 2020

The Project Administration Officer advised this Ken Johnson's membership on the Committee had been endorsed at last night's Council meeting and correspondence to advise of this was sent today.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes of the Parks Advisory Committee meeting held 28th April 2020.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Parks Advisory Committee meeting held 28 April 2020 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: Mayor Ryan

Seconded: Councillor Price

CARRIED

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Committee received and noted the *Income and Expenditure Report* for the Period Ending 19 June 2020. Parks funds available assuming all commitments are realised are \$452,289.76

Moved: Mayor Ryan

Seconded: Councillor Price

CARRIED

Action:

Manager Works to ensure painted lines are included on the half court at McCoy Park.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1. Total costs of parks stages with budget

A document showing the total costs for proposed stage one plans, and the total costs for proposed stage two plans at Tucker, Oleander and Ashwin Parks, was tabled. Rotorac Park had not been included in this total.

6.2. Tucker Park

RESOLVED:

That it be recommended to Council:

That proposed plans for both stage 1 and 2 of Tucker Park be endorsed and plans proceed.

Moved: Mayor Ryan

Seconded: Councillor de Brenni

CARRIED

6.3. Oleander Park

RESOLVED:

That it be recommended to Council:

That proposed plans for both stage 1 and 2 of Oleander Park be endorsed and plans proceed.

Moved: Mayor Ryan

Seconded: Councillor Price

CARRIED

10.2

PARKS 30.06.2020

6.4. Ashwin Park

Discussion ensued in regard the lack of availability of resources and budget for the remaining parks, Ashwin and Madigan. The Committee discussed that funds should be allocated to complete stages one and two at Tucker, Oleander and Rotorac Parks.

RESOLVED:

That it be recommended to Council:

That, until a budget is identified, stages 1 and 2 of Ashwin Park be deferred.

Moved: Councillor de Brenni

Seconded: Mayor Ryan

CARRIED

6.5. Madigan Park

Discussion ensued in regard to potential public relations issues in regard to Council Developing the Park, a potential concept of Social Housing, and reengaging the community through further consultation to ensure a broad range of responses are received.

RESOLVED:

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council Officers advance to the second stage of community consultation.

Moved: Councillor de Brenni

Seconded: Councillor Price

CARRIED

6.6. Spencer Park

The Project Administration Officer updated the Committee on the installation of the new shade structure at Spencer Park.

6.7. Lyndavale Park

The Project Administration Officer updated the Committee on the proposed design from community members for Lyndavale Park.

Action:

Council Officers engage participants of Lyndavale parks to table a plan at the next Committee meeting held on the 25 August 2020.

6.8. Rotorac Park

The Director of Technical Services advised the Committee that the location for shade at the park had been relocated to inside the fenced area, and that Council had at the June Ordinary Council meeting endorsed for this project to proceed.

7 OTHER BUSINESS

7.1. Spicer Park

The Project Administration Officer updated the Committee on the new bench seat and picnic table which will be installed with committed funds from the previous financial year.

10.2

PARKS 30.06.2020

7.2. McCoy Park

The Project Administration Officer advised the Committee a new picnic table, smart bin and slab under basketball court will be installed with committed funds from the previous financial year.

- 8 NEXT MEETING:
4:30pm on 25 August 2020 via Teleconference - details to be provided closer to the meeting date.

The meeting closed at 5:25 pm.

UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES OF THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6 JULY 2020 - ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference

The meeting opened at 7:03 am

1. ATTENDANCE

Mayor Damien Ryan
 Councillor Glen Auricht
 Councillor Jimmy Cocking
 Councillor Jamie de Brenni (*Chair*)
 Councillor Matt Paterson
 Councillor Catherine Satour

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Allen - Director Technical Services
 Dilip Nellikat - Manager Developments
 Kristine Capangpangan - Administration Officer (*Minutes*)

10.3

13th Alice Springs Town Council Development Committee Attendance List 2019/20											
	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21
Mayor Damien Ryan	✓										
Councillor Glen Auricht	✓										
Councillor Marli Banks	A										
Councillor Jamie de Brenni	✓										
Councillor Jimmy Cocking	✓										
Councillor Eli Melky	A										
Councillor Matt Paterson	✓										
Councillor Jacinta Price	A										
Councillor Catherine Satour	✓										

(✓) Present (A) Apology (-) No attendance and no apology tendered

APOLOGIES

Councillor Marli Banks
 Councillor Eli Melky
 Councillor Jacinta Price
 Mr Robert Jennings - Chief Executive Officer

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting held Tuesday, 1 June 2020

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Development Committee Open meeting held on 1 June 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting proceedings.

Moved: Councillor Auricht **Seconded:** Councillor Mayor Ryan **CARRIED**

4. BUSINESS ARISING

4.1 Action items list from previous meeting

No action items from previous meeting.

5. DCA APPLICATIONS – MAY / JUNE 2020

5.1 Lot 537, 3 Hele Crescent – PA2020/0190

Unit Title Scheme subdivision to create 2 units and common property
 Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Kerb Crossovers and Driveways, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve, Sight Lines, Carparking outside of CBD, Other development conditions required

The committee noted the current parking congestion be monitored in future.

5.2 Lot 6736, 5 Leichhardt Terrace – PA2020/0193

Change of use (part of building) to Medical Clinic
 Conditions: Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve, Sight Lines, CBD Carparking shortfall, Other development conditions as required.

Council's response letter to the DCA indicated that there is a shortage of carparks however the number of shortfalls could not be determined due to a lack of carparking layout provided on the application.

ACTION:

Manager Development to request for a detailed carparking layout at the Development Consent Authority meeting to identify the number of carparking shortages

5.3 Lot 2482, 8 Gason Street – PA2020/0162

Shed and carport addition to an existing single dwelling with reduced front and side setbacks

Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve

5.4 Lot 1371, 2 Ballingall Street – PA2020/0054

Retrospective approval for an Independent Unit in a defined flood area (DFA) with a floor area exceeding 50m²

Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve

5.5 Lot 6735, 25 Parke Crescent – PA2020/0184

Unit Titles Scheme subdivision to create 4 units and common property
 Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve

5.6 Lot 6005, 24 The Links – PA2020/0187

Additions to an existing single dwelling with reduced building setback to side boundary
 Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve

5.7 Lot 3182, 110 Memorial Avenue – PA2020/0192

10.3

Carport (with sectional door) addition to existing Single Dwelling with reduced building setbacks to front and side boundaries
 Conditions: Basic Stormwater, Permit to Work within ASTC Road Reserve

6. DCA PERMITS – MAY / JUNE 2020 (For Information Only)

- 6.1 Lot 544, 12 Hele Crescent - DP20/0156**
 Alterations and Additions to Light Industry warehouse with reduced parking and rear building setback.
- 6.2 Lot 2741, 12 Hablett Crescent - DP20/0171**
 Shed addition to an existing single dwelling with a reduced side setback
- 6.3 Lot 6660, 4 Simounds Street - DP20/0168**
 Verandah addition to an existing duplex, with a reduced building setback to side boundary
- 6.4 Lot 3020, 2 Crann Street, DP20/0174**
 Carport addition to an existing single dwelling with reduced building setback to side boundary
- 6.5 Lot 7302, 30 Patterson Crescent – DP20/0180**
 Carport addition to an existing single dwelling with reduced front setback
- 6.6 Lot 288, 69 Ross Highway – DP20/0183**
 Alterations and additions to an existing motel and caravan park development, including 4 x 3 bedroom multiple dwellings (serviced apartments), 3 x 1 bedroom multiple dwellings (staff accommodation) and 1 x 3 bedroom multiple dwelling (staff accommodation) and changes to site layout and staging
- 6.7 Lot 3461, 73 Flynn Drive – EDP20/0005**
 Multiple Dwellings - construct an additional 3 bedroom single storey dwelling
- 6.8 Lot 1826, 3 Ashwin Street – EDP20/0006**
 Multiple dwellings (2 x 2 bedroom dwellings in a single storey building)
- 6.9 Lot 3257, 12 Crann Street – DP20/0186**
 Home Occupation (cake preparation) floor area greater than 30m² and employ non-resident staff member
- 7. PART 5's ISSUED – MAY / JUNE 2020 (For Information Only)**
- 7.1 Lot 7720, 46 Smith Street – DP19/0196**
 Shade structure / patio addition to existing light industry shed with reduced building setback to primary street boundary
- 7.2 Lot 8046, 241 Ross Highway – DP20/0043**
 Vehicle and equipment shed addition to an existing emergency services facility - unlisted use (Bushfires NT depot)
- 7.3 Lot 2566, 1 Aldridge Street – DP18/0357**
 Garage/carport & Pergola addition to an existing single dwelling with a reduced side setback
- 7.4 Lot 1311, 3 Brown Street – DP19/0026A**
 Alterations and additions to an existing education establishment

7.5 Lot 3327, 22 Chalmers Street – DP18/0321

Independent unit with a floor area in excess of 50m² and reduced building setback to front and rear boundaries

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Dental Clinic relocation – CBD Parking

Council has been made aware of a dental clinic possibly relocating in the CBD. Discussion ensued with regard to the impacts to CBD carparking that this potential development will create. As no formal development application has been received, the committee noted the information.

The committee requested for an update regarding the outcome of an NTG report on CBD carparking strategy which was presented to Council about 6 months ago.

ACTION:

Council Officers to make a formal enquiry to NTG requesting an update from its report.

8.2 Councillor Catherine Satour

The committee expressed their best wishes and gratitude on Cr Satour's contribution in the Development Committee over the last 3 years. This will be Cr Satour's last Development Committee meeting.

9. NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT

7am Tuesday, 4 August 2020

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 am to resume in Confidential