



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20102. Weetangera Cemetery

Block 1257

District of BELCONNEN

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This entry which was previously part of the old heritage places or the old heritage objects registers (as defined in the *Heritage Act 2004*), as the case may be, is taken to be registered under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the *Heritage Act 2004*, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

Information restricted under *the old heritage places register or old heritage objects register* is restricted under the *Heritage Act 2004*.

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ACT Heritage Council

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
ENTRY TO AN INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER FOR:**

**WEETANGERA CEMETERY & FORMER CHURCH SITE
(METHODIST CEMETERY, HAWKER)**

For the purposes of s. 54 of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act* 1991, this heritage assessment for the above places has been prepared by the ACT Heritage Council as the basis for its inclusion within an interim Heritage Places Register.

This is pursuant to the Heritage Council decision at Meeting 85 on 21 August 2003.

Notification Effective: 21 December 2004

Further information about this place is available from:

**The Secretary
ACT Heritage Council
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LYNEHAM ACT 2602**

**Telephone: (02) 6207 7378
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WEETANGERA CEMETERY

LOCATION OF PLACE:

Block 1257 District of Belconnen

This Place is a Designated Area on the National Capital Plan (Inner Hills). It is Territory Land that is excluded from the Public Land-Nature Reserve.

FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF WEETANGERA CEMETERY

The features which contribute to the heritage significance of Weetangera Cemetery, and which require conservation, comprise:

- The graves (including headstones and fencing)
 - The two cypress trees
 - The stone cairn marking the site of the former church
 - Square cut timber gate post (refer Figure 2 below)
 - The Rural setting.
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Weetangera Cemetery is significant for its age, location, composition of its burials, and intact nature. The cemetery is one of the oldest in the ACT and its burials include early pioneers of the Canberra district.

The cemetery is demonstrative of the strong Methodist movement in Ginninderra in the late nineteenth century, and of the close knit pioneer community that was active before the city of Canberra was built. The cemetery, the churchyard and the stone cairn mark the place of one of the first Methodist churches in the ACT, which served the spiritual, social and recreational needs of the rural community for eighty years.

With little change to the graves' architecture and headstones since construction, they represent unaltered physical specimens of the prevailing cultural preferences of the period. The graves provide valuable genealogical information on individuals and families.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF WEETANGERA CEMETERY

In accordance with s.54 of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991*, the following specific requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of the place. The guiding Conservation Objective is:

The Weetangera Cemetery be conserved and appropriately maintained as a cemetery consistent with its heritage significance.

Conservation Objective 1.

Provide adequate conservation management planning

Conservation Objective 1.1

Ensure that any actions impacting on the significance of the place are based on professional conservation planning.

Specific Requirements for Conservation Objective 1.1:

- (a) A conservation management plan (CMP) should be developed for the place to guide its conservation and future use.
- (b) Any works necessary prior to the development of a CMP that have a potential impact on significant fabric shall be guided by a professionally documented interim assessment and conservation policy relevant to that area or component (i.e. a Heritage Impact Statement -HIS).
- (c) No changes of use necessitating substantial changes to the place, or other substantial works affecting fabric, other than reversible stabilisation works, will be permitted before the preparation of a CMP, after which all works and uses shall be in accordance with the CMP.
- (d) Maintenance is as defined as per the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, and will not involve change to significant fabric. Maintenance shall be continued regardless of the status of the CMP or HIS.
- (e) Following the preparation of a CMP or HIS, identified essential conservation works shall be implemented. The requirements determined within the CMP or HIS may alter or supersede other Specific Requirements in this interim register entry.

CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE 2.

Conserve the Significant components of Weetangera Cemetery

Conservation Objective 2.1

Maximise the retention of Weetangera Cemetery's historical integrity by preventing destruction of the cemetery.

Specific Requirements for Conservation Objective 2.1.

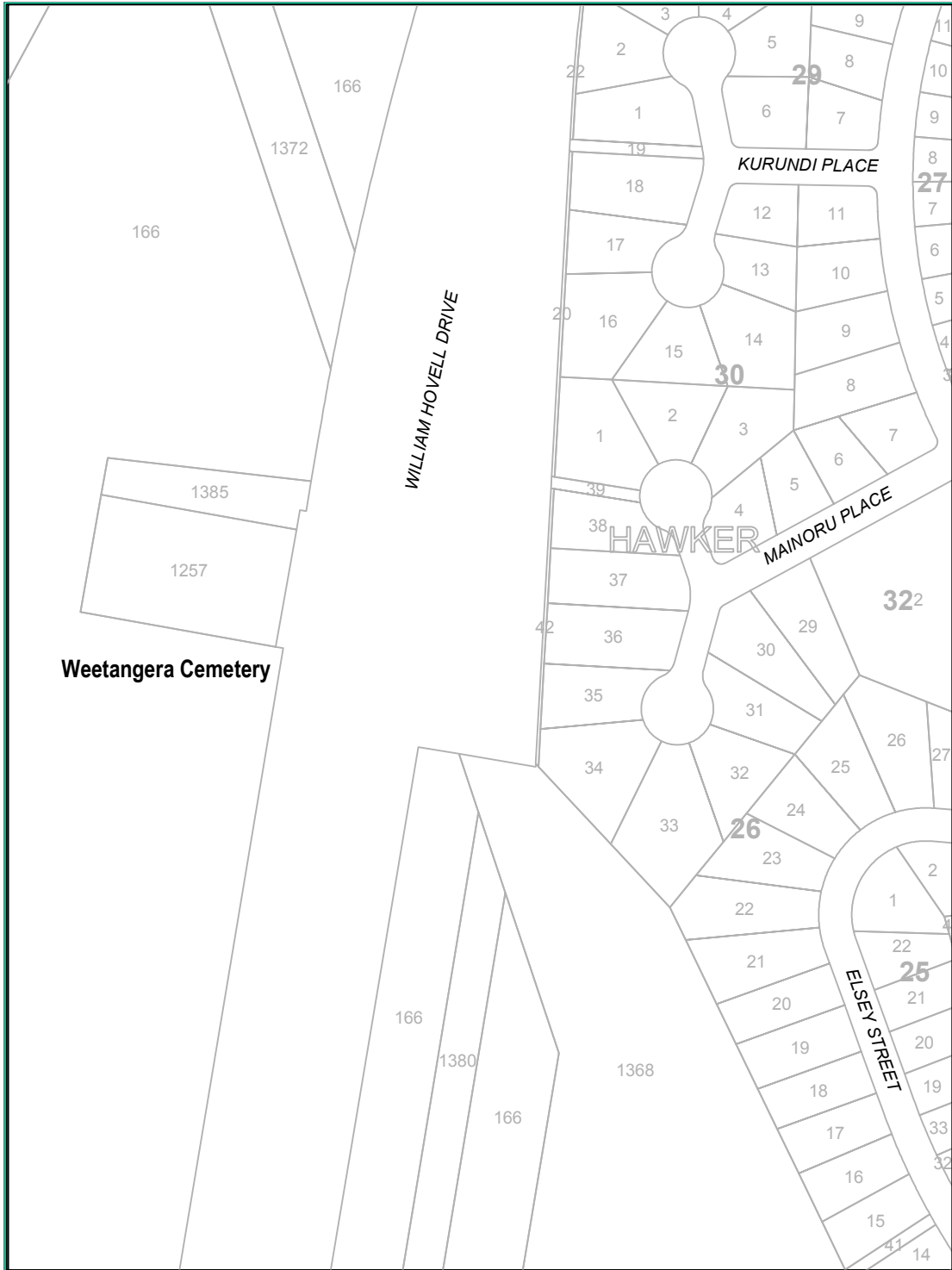
- (a) Alterations to the existing layout of the cemetery, including the stone cairn or the graves shall not be permitted unless it can be demonstrated that the changes do not diminish the heritage significance.
- (b) Restoration or otherwise altering the existing headstones and grave furniture shall only be permitted in the context of a CMP.

Conservation Objective 2.2

The diversity of tree species to be retained and individual trees or collection of trees be conserved.

Specific Requirements for Conservation Objective 2.2

- (a) The mature cypress trees at the entrance to the cemetery shall be conserved and appropriately maintained.
- (b) Eucalyptus trees throughout the grounds shall be conserved and maintained.
- (c) Removal of trees may be permitted where the lessee or ACT Environment can demonstrate, with supporting specialist advice, that the tree is causing structural damage to the graves, or the tree is structurally weak and there is a potential danger of causing injury to persons or damage to property, or the tree represents a serious plant disease threat, in accordance with Interim Tree Protection Legislation.
- (d) The planting of trees or other plants within the boundary of the cemetery and former church yard shall only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the plantings are consistent with the heritage significance of the place.



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|--|--|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|
| | Contact Details ACT Heritage Unit Macarthur House 12 Wattle Street Lyneham ACT 2602 | 07 April 2004 | Historic Heritage Places Weetangera Cemetery Proposed Heritage Area | Legend Heritage Place | |
| <small>Map Units: MGA Zone 55 metres Datum: GDA 94</small> | <small>PO Box 144 Lyneham ACT 2602 Telephone (02) 6207 2166</small> | | <small>Data Copyright: © Australian Capital Territory, Canberra 2004.</small> | | |
| <small>Disclaimer: Environment ACT does not warrant that the data is free from errors.</small> | | | | | |

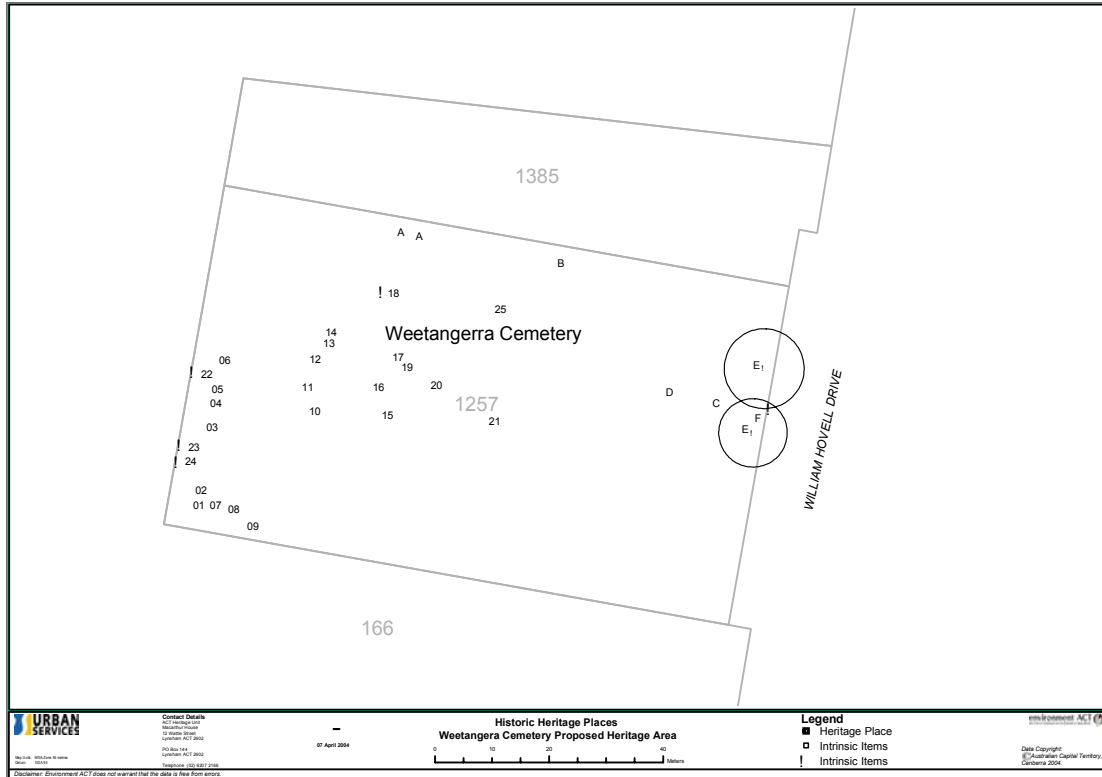


Figure 2

Grave Location Key

- 1 Southwell : Ernest (1875), Harriet (1876), Samuel (1928) and Eliza Jane (1939)
- 2 Mitchell : Lavinia Maude (1886)
- 3 Cameron : John Stuart (1933)
- 4 Southwell : Amelia (1927) and Richard (1933)
- 5 Southwell : Cecil (1886) and Clarence (1889)
- 6 Smith : Edward (1889) and Mary (1907); and
Kilby : William (1903)
- 7 Plummer : Levi (1876), William (1886) and Frances (1891)
- 8 Murty : Walter (1887), Fanny (1889) and Donald (1927)
- 9 Murty : Stanley (1912)
- 10 Southwell : Selby A. (1895)
- 11 Southwell : Hannah (1938) and James (1940)
- 12 Smith : Jane (1928) and Ellis (1928)
- 13 Southwell : John (1889) and Lucy (1900)
- 14 Southwell : Mary L. A. (1894)
- 15 Brown : Mervyn Roy (1898)
- 16 Southwell : Thomas (1881) and Mary (1885)
- 17 Southwell : Alice (1902) and Thomas (1926)
- 18 Southwell : Mark (1907)
- 19 Southwell : Elizabeth (1903) and Samson (1914)
- 20 Brown : Hannah (1931) and Job (1937)
- 21 Kilby : Sidney (1952) and Elsie (1964)
- 22 Smith : Allan (1883)
- 25 Sumner : (Child) (unknown)
- 24 Roffe : Joseph (1876)
- 25 Unknown

Not Located Stear : Henry (1904)

General Key

- A Stock Trough
- B Toilet
- C Footprint of former Church
- D Stone Cairn
- E Cypress Trees
- F Original Gate Post