

# Getting started: Cemetery records



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This guide contains some information to help you start your search for **cemetery records**. It includes descriptions of key resources held by the State Library. Staff are available to assist you in the Family History Service during opening hours.

## What sort of information can cemetery records reveal?

- name and date of death and age at death
- date and place of birth
- names of relatives
- religion
- information about life achievements

## Sydney and NSW country cemetery and crematoria records

### Microfiche, microfilm and reference books

#### *to find*

- transcripts of general and church cemeteries and crematoria in Sydney
- burial registers (especially useful when headstone transcripts are unavailable)
- monumental transcripts of Sydney's earliest burial grounds
- transcripts and burial registers of general and church cemeteries, lonely graves and crematoria in NSW country locations

#### *to use these resources*

- transcripts from major Sydney cemeteries and crematoria such as Rookwood and Waverley are held on microfiche on the cemetery records shelves of the Family History Service
- the Mitchell Library and the Family History Service also hold transcripts of many smaller cemeteries in Sydney. Check the catalogues.
- for burial registers look under the town/suburb or name of church in the Church Registers on Microform Index in the Mitchell Library reading room

## Rookwood Cemetery transcriptions (CD-ROM)

### Rookwood Necropolis NSW: Monumental inscriptions (microfiche)

#### *to find*

- inscriptions from the Rookwood Necropolis (cemetery). The records are arranged by religious denomination and contain information including plot number, name, inscription, date and age.
- a database of over 235 000 names transcribed from headstone inscriptions in the Rookwood Necropolis. Searches are possible by surname, forename, inscription or year of death and each entry shows the complete transcription and grave location.

#### *to use these resources*

- ask for this CD-ROM at the Family History Service Desk
- find the microfiche on the cemetery records shelves of the Family History Service and in the Mitchell Library at REF 1/MAV/FM6/543

## Waverley Cemetery, NSW transcriptions and index

### Microfiche

#### *to find*

- inscriptions from the Waverley Cemetery. The records contain information including plot number, name, inscription, date and age.

#### *to use these resources*

- find the microfiche on the cemetery records shelves of the Family History Service and in the Mitchell Library at MAV/FM6/680

## Other states in Australia cemetery and crematoria records

### Microfiche

#### *to find*

- transcripts of general and church cemeteries, lonely graves and crematoria in other Australian states

#### *to use these resources*

- a large number of cemetery records for other states, in particular Victorian and Tasmanian cemeteries, are held on microfiche at the Family History Service

## Cemeteries in Australia : A register of transcripts

### Reference book

#### *to find*

- location of transcripts of hundreds of general, church and private cemeteries, crematoria and lonely graves throughout Australia and the institution in which they are held

#### *to use this resource*

- find it on the cemetery records shelves of the Family History Service and in the Mitchell Library at REF 1/929.50994/4

## Useful subject headings

While authors use titles to describe the contents of their books, library catalogues describe books and other items using subject headings from an internationally accepted list. Use a **subject** search to find items in the Library on a particular topic.

### Suggested subject headings

#### *computer catalogue*

- cemeteries Australia
- cemeteries New South Wales [name of town]
- Rookwood Cemetery (Sydney NSW)
- Epitaphs New South Wales Blue Mountains region
- [Name of town] (NSW) genealogy
- sepulchral monuments New South Wales [Town]
- registers of births, etc New South Wales Rookwood
- cemeteries recording New South Wales [Town]
- cemeteries New South Wales [Town] indexes
- crematoriums New South Wales [Name of town]

#### *Mitchell Library printed books card catalogue*

- epitaphs
- cemeteries
- [Name of town] cemeteries [Name of cemetery]

## Other sources of cemetery information

Genealogical societies and local history groups hold many transcripts, both published and unpublished, which may not be listed in the guides above. Local councils may hold the burial registers for their jurisdiction if the church no longer exists and genealogical societies often hold copies of these in their collection.

**For information about death records, see *Getting started: Births, deaths and marriages***  
**For information about burial registers see, *Getting started: Church records***