

# Armidale Cemetery Register



A Record of Our Ancestors Who Lay at Rest  
in the Armidale, NSW Cemetery.

1862 - 2022

Armidale Family History Group Inc.

# Explanation of the Records

This publication has combined all available information about burials and headstones in the Armidale cemetery. It draws upon information from many sources which at times differ and where this occurs we have attempted to confirm which is the most likely to be correct and made notes in the comment's column where appropriate.

The comments column is not a transcription of the headstone, but is a compilation of pertinent family information from sources mentioned previously. To maximise space in the comments section a number of abbreviations have been used including:

Abbreviation	Details	Abbreviation	Details
AIF	Australian Imperial Force	ggm/o	Great grandmother of
b.	Born	gm/o	Grandmother of
BDM	Birth, death and Marriage indexes	gs/o	Grandson of
b-i-l	Brother-in-Law	h/o	Husband of
b/o	Brother of	KIA	Killed in Action
bur.	Buried	mason	Member of a Masonic Lodge
d.	Died	m-i-l	Mother-in-Law
div.	Division	m/o	Mother of
d/o	Daughter of	pte.	Private
emm.	Emigrated	SB	Stillborn
f-i-l	Father-in-Law	s-i-l	Son-in-Law
f/o	Father of	sis/o	Sister of
gd/o	Granddaughter of	s/o	Son of
gf/o	Grandfather of	Trove	Trove newspaper reference
ggf/o	Great grandfather of	w/o	Wife of

The section column shows the area that the burial occurred as follows:

Abbreviation	Details	Abbreviation	Details
7DA	7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist	Mus	Muslim
Ang	Anglican	NG	Niche Gardens
Bap	Baptist	OM	Old Methodist
Col	Columbarium	Pre	Presbyterian
Gen	General	RC	Roman Catholic
LG	Lawn Garden Section	S A	Salvation Army
Lwn	Lawn	Unk	Unknown
Mth	Methodist		

The source column provides a key to the source of the information and is abbreviated as follows:

- B NSW BDM Indexes
- C Council records
- F Funeral Directors – Piddington's 1903-1956
- H Headstone
- O Other including Trove and researcher contributions

There are a number of niche gardens near the lawn section. These are differentiated by the following abbreviations recorded in the row column.

NR	North Roundabout
RG	Rectangular Garden near middle gate
RGG	Round Garden near middle gate
WW	Western Wall

Pauper - This term reflects a note in the Piddington's funeral registers indicating the burial has been paid for by the hospital, the police, the court or social services. The Roman Catholic (row 1), Anglican (row 29A & part of row 61) and Presbyterian (row 50) sections all had specific rows for these burials. The Methodist section appears to have included these burials in the next available plot.

Death Date – This could be a burial date where only the council burial records are held. At times the death date differs slightly between the headstone, Piddington's and council records. We have usually taken the headstone date unless otherwise indicated in the comment's column.

Age - The age has been sourced from a number of areas, including the headstone, Piddington's and Trove. These sources are sometimes inaccurate and this should be taken as a guide only.

The various records used in this publication cover different timeframes as follows:

Council records cover from around 1900 to 1999. The earliest burial records have been lost. Depending on the religious section the council records start between 1900 to 1915. There are no burial records pre 1900 other than details from the headstones.

The headstones photos were taken and transcribed between 2018 and 2023. While care has been taken to photograph and record every headstone, if new plaques or headstones have been erected during this time, we cannot guarantee that all have been located and recorded.

Piddington's records start in 1903 and we have copied and recorded through to 1956. Piddington's commenced business as a funeral director in 1903. During the years up until the 1940's there were other funeral directors in operation, however the whereabouts of their records are currently unknown. By the mid 1940's Piddington's was the main funeral director still operating in Armidale.

Trove Newspaper Records have occasionally been used to source information to 1954, although a detailed search of all burials has not been undertaken.

BDM indexes. At the time of publication, the NSW death indexes covered until 1982 and these have at times been used to verify conflicting information.

# A Brief History of the Armidale Cemetery

The first recorded cemetery in Armidale was located near the south-west corner of Faulkner and Brown Streets, where the Armidale City Public School is situated in 2023. The cemetery was surveyed and marked out by John J Galloway in July and September 1850. No official burial records have been located for this cemetery.<sup>1</sup> Most burials ceased in this cemetery when the current cemetery was established in 1863, except where a plot had been reserved. Town plans show there was an area reserved for a cemetery in Golgotha Street, but it is not believed that any burials occurred there.

James Turner forwarded a petition in April 1864 asking council to 'take under their notice the state of the old cemetery' because some of the fencing had been knocked down and stock were breaking down palings around graves.<sup>2</sup> A new fence was erected around the old cemetery sixteen years later.

In 1895 relatives and friends of those buried in the 'old' cemetery were given the opportunity to move headstones and bodies to the 'new' one. The first body exhumed during this grim task was that of Richard Brackin. Headstones that were not relocated were discarded and it is believed that the remaining bodies are still buried on this site.

**A SACRED SPOT.**—The closing of the old burial ground in Falconer-street, which has been deemed necessary owing to the enclosure having fallen into such a disreputable condition has been sanctioned by the Minister for Lands, and the block of land has been transferred to the Education Department for an extension of the Armidale Superior Public School premises. As a number of the early settlers of New England had been laid to rest in the old cemetery—men and women who had borne the brunt of the pioneer days in this district—it was notified by the Education Department that persons wishing the remains of friends and relatives buried there removed to the general cemetery, it would be carried out by the Department. Mr. J. D. Bradley, Inspector of Schools, interested himself in getting a general order for the exhumation of remains from the Minister for Justice, thus avoiding individual application by those wishing to have the work carried out, and also preventing a deal of unnecessary delay in the matter. The work was commenced on Friday last, and a very difficult task it has proved so far. For years past the briars and bushes have been allowed to grow unchecked until the place presented a wild and deserted maze, consequently the workmen have to cut their way to a number of the graves. Where headstones and tablets mark the spot no great trouble is experi-

enced in exhuming the remains, but as trees have fallen down, fences rotted away, and other marks disappeared through the ravages of time it is almost impossible to recognise one grave from the other. In the case of people living some distance in the country and who have not visited Armidale for years, the situation is indeed distressing. "I am sure I don't know which is the grave," sorrowfully exclaimed an elderly lady who came in yesterday from the country for the purpose of getting her late husband's remains transferred to the Armidale cemetery. "I used to come in at the wicket-gate there, walk along the border there, and come along somewhere about here; it's in this row I'm sure." As there were no signs of a border or anything to indicate where it had been, the poor widow appeared quite grief-stricken, gazed upon the several mounds in front of her, and murmured, "I don't know which is his." "This place is a disgrace to the old hands," said another old settler who had evidently not seen it for years; "I remember when each grave was well kept, with flowers growing over them, and everything was looked after as though those left behind cherished the memories of the departed. If the place had only been looked after there would have been no occasion to close it in this manner." "Ah, well," he exclaimed as he turned away, "it's the way of the world,

**Armidale Express 30 Apr 1895**

<sup>1</sup> [www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/234/10581-Cemetery.pdf.aspx](http://www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/234/10581-Cemetery.pdf.aspx)

<sup>2</sup> Council minutes, 25 April 1864



The new cemetery was approved in 1861, dedicated on 2 July 1863 and remains in use in 2023. The earliest confirmed burial that we have found occurred on 27 September 1862. An article in the *Maitland Mercury* indicated that a Chinese man named Ah Loo died and was buried in the 'new cemetery'.<sup>3</sup> A grave was dug in the Roman Catholic portion in error before a new grave was dug in the general section. However, the 1862 *Armidale Express* is not available on Trove which makes it difficult to research this time period.

The Roman Catholic portion was consecrated in November 1862 by Archbishop Polding and this event is recorded opposite.

Owen Gorman who died on 6 October 1862 was buried in the new Roman Catholic Cemetery.<sup>4</sup> This is the first newspaper report we have located of a burial in the Roman Catholic portion of the new cemetery.

**ARCHBISHOP POLDING.**—On Sunday Archbishop Polding confirmed a large number of persons at the R.C. church, where there was a very numerous attendance, and was assisted in the celebration of divine service by the Rev. Mr. McCarthy and the Rev. Mr. Corish. Shortly afterwards he proceeded to Uralla, to open the R.C. church in that township; and on Monday morning, after divine service at the Armidale church, he consecrated the new R.C. cemetery, when a large number of spectators were present.  
*Armidale Express 30 Nov 1862*

Trustees were appointed for the Church of England portion on 4 October 1861. The *Maitland Mercury* reported on 3 July 1862 'that the greater portion of the new cemetery for Protestants has been cleared of timber, levelled, fenced, and had two gates hung on the east side.' The Church of England portion of the cemetery was consecrated in late 1862, but the first burial in this section is unclear. The Handebo family plot at the beginning of row 14B is one of the earliest in the section. There are no original headstones in this plot, however descendants have erected home made headstones in more recent times. Church of England is now known and recorded in this register as Anglican.

It appears that John Mackenzie who died on 3 April 1862 is the earliest burial in the Presbyterian section, however missing Armidale newspaper records for 1862 makes it difficult to be sure of this. John Munsie who died on 6 February 1864 is the first recorded burial in the Methodist section.

In 1865 the Department of Lands informed Council that fencing for the general cemetery would be provided. By March 1866 the cemetery had been cleared with all the logs drawn off and 'most of the holes filled'.<sup>5</sup> The fencing was completed in April 1866 and the gates were installed by June.

Initially there were only 5 sections, Anglican, Catholic, Presbyterian, Methodist and general. Further extensions to the cemetery occurred in 1890, 1902, 1935 and 1937, where provision was made for other denominations, as well as extending the existing sections.<sup>6</sup> In 1966 a further 25 acres between the cemetery and the railway was reserved for use and part of this is now used for the lawn cemetery and columbarium. The following table shows the first burials in these new sections.

Baptist	1904	Jewish	1987
Seventh Day Adventist	1958	Bahai	2001
Salvation Army	1961	Muslim	2001
Lawn and Columbarium	1975	Ezidi	2019

<sup>3</sup> 03 Oct 1913 Armidale Express – 51 years ago article

<sup>4</sup> 10 Oct 1913 Armidale Express – 51 years ago article

<sup>5</sup> 3 Mar 1866 Armidale Express

<sup>6</sup> [www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/234/10581-Cemetery.pdf.aspx](http://www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/234/10581-Cemetery.pdf.aspx)

Church of England — Map 3			Church of England — Map 5		
Old Methodist — Map 6			Roadway		
Vacant Land			Roadway		
23	→	41 to 01	23A	←	01 to 43
24	→	41 to 01	24A	←	01 to 43
25	→	41 to 01	25A	←	01 to 43
26	→	41 to 01	26A	←	01 to 43
27	→	41 to 01	27A	←	01 to 43
28	→	41 to 01	28A	←	01 to 43
29	→	41 to 01	29A	←	01 to 43
30	→	41 to 01	30A	←	01 to 44
31	→	41 to 01	31	←	01 to 44
32	→	41 to 01	32	←	01 to 44
33	→	41 to 01	33	←	01 to 44
34	→	41 to 01	34	←	01 to 44
35	→	41 to 01	35	←	01 to 44
36	→	41 to 01	36	←	01 to 44
37	→	41 to 01	37	←	01 to 44
38	→	41 to 01	38	←	01 to 44
39	→	41 to 01	39	←	01 to 44
40	→	41 to 01	40	←	01 to 44
41	→	41 to 01	41	←	01 to 44
42	→	41 to 01	42	←	01 to 44
43	→	41 to 01	43	←	01 to 44
44	→	41 to 01	44	←	01 to 44
45	→	41 to 01	45	←	01 to 44
46	→	41 to 01	46	←	01 to 44
47	→	41 to 01	47	←	01 to 44
48	→	41 to 01	48	←	01 to 44
49	→	41 to 01	49	←	01 to 44
50	→	41 to 01	50	←	01 to 44
51	→	41 to 01	51	←	01 to 44
52	→	41 to 01	52	←	01 to 44
53	→	41 to 01	53	←	01 to 44
54	→	41 to 01	54	←	01 to 44
55	→	41 to 01	55	←	01 to 44
56	→	41 to 01	56	←	01 to 44
57	→	41 to 01	57	←	01 to 44
58	→	41 to 01	58	←	01 to 44
59	→	41 to 01	59	←	01 to 44
60	→	41 to 01	60	←	01 to 44
61	→	41 to 01	61	←	01 to 44
62	→	41 to 01	62	←	01 to 44
63	→	41 to 01	63	←	01 to 44
64	→	41 to 01	64	←	01 to 44
65	→	41 to 01	65	←	01 to 44
66	→	41 to 01	66	←	01 to 44
67	→	41 to 01	67	←	01 to 44
68	→	41 to 01	68	←	01 to 44
69	→	41 to 01	69	←	01 to 44
70	→	41 to 01	70	←	01 to 44
71	→	41 to 01	71	←	01 to 44
72	→	41 to 01	72	←	01 to 44
73	→	41 to 01	73	←	01 to 44
74	→	41 to 01	74	←	01 to 44
75	→	41 to 01	75	←	01 to 44
76	→	41 to 01	76	←	01 to 44
77	→	41 to 01	77	←	01 to 44
78	→	41 to 01	78	←	01 to 44
79	→	41 to 01	79	←	01 to 44
80	→	41 to 01	80	←	01 to 44
81	→	41 to 01	81	←	01 to 44
82	→	41 to 01	82	←	01 to 44
83	→	41 to 01	83	←	01 to 44
84	→	41 to 01	84	←	01 to 44
85	→	41 to 01	85	←	01 to 44
86	→	41 to 01	86	←	01 to 44
87	→	41 to 01	87	←	01 to 44
88	→	41 to 01	88	←	01 to 44
89	→	41 to 01	89	←	01 to 44
90	→	41 to 01	90	←	01 to 44
91	→	41 to 01	91	←	01 to 44
92	→	41 to 01	92	←	01 to 44
93	→	41 to 01	93	←	01 to 44
94	→	41 to 01	94	←	01 to 44
95	→	41 to 01	95	←	01 to 44
96	→	41 to 01	96	←	01 to 44
97	→	41 to 01	97	←	01 to 44
98	→	41 to 01	98	←	01 to 44
99	→	41 to 01	99	←	01 to 44
100	→	41 to 01	100	←	01 to 44

Map 4 Church of England Portion Armidale Cemetery — Part 2

Sect	Source	Surname	Given Names	Died	Age	Row	Plot	Comments
RC	H	Alacoque	Mother M.	15-Dec-1927		Y		
Pre	C	Alcorn	Harold	22-Jun-1929		8	22	Council Records Only
Ang	FH	Aldridge	Ernest Alfred	6-Jun-1956	60	61	24	bur. with Hannah
Ang	H	Aldridge	Hannah Elizabeth	1-Sep-1964	89	61	24	bur. with Ernest
S A	H	Aldridge	Maude Evelyn	14-Feb-1999	76	1		
S A	C	Aldridge	Stanley John	31-Aug-1968		1	12	Council Records Only
RC	C	Aldridge	Stanley Joseph	31-Aug-1968		1	12	Council Records Only
								b. 28.12.1954. h/o Linda, f/o Scott & Kate,
Lwn	H	Aldridge	Steven John (Coolie)	18-Oct-2014	59	91	8	Sarah & Aaron
Unk	O	Alexander	Charles Bowman	6 Apr 1863		Unk	Unk	A Doctor of Glen Innes
Ang	C	Alexander	Edith	5-Jun-1951		1A	24	Council Records Only
Ang	C	Alexander	G.A.	9-Apr-1951		1A	23	Council Records Only
Ang	C	Alexander	Kenneth	22-May-1928		22	31	Council Records Only
Lwn	H	Alexander	Shakaya	27-Nov-1999	7	39	3	b. 4.8.1992
Mus	H	Alharbi	Bassam Musaead	24-Mar-2020	9			b. 13.5.2010
Mus	H	Alharbi	Hatem Musaead	28-Sep-2019	7			b. 20.1.2012
Pre	H	Allan	Jean	20-Dec-1958		32	3	
Pre	FH	Allan	Jessie Dickens	6-Mar-1948	57	32	3	
RC	C	Allan-Curry	M.H.	4-Jan-1972		62A	8	Council Records Only
Pre	F	Allanson	Eileen May	4-Apr-1933	2d	Unk	Unk	
Lwn	H	Allbut	Richard John	2-Oct-1993	22	61	26	b. 7.8.1971
								End of Row 58. Wooden cross, paving
Ang	H	Allcott	Baby Keith?	Unknown		58	40	surround.
Ang	CF	Allen	Aubrey Charles	20-Dec-1940	4h	8	37	Council & Piddingtons Records
OM	O	Allen	Diana	17-Sep-1900	76	Unk	Unk	
Ang	H	Allen	Eli	11 Nov 1891	80	25A	20	h/o Jane, occ. Publican Headstone face down
RC	H	Allen	Ellen	27 Apr 1898	56	25	2	w/o Samuel of Townsville
Lwn	H	Allen	Elsie Grace	11-Dec-1975	65	3	10	
Ang	BC	Allen	George	30-Oct-1943		Unk1	19	s/o Harry & Louisa
Ang	H	Allen	Jane	21-Jun-1909		25A	19	w/o Eli, Headstone face down
Ang	C	Allen	M.	Unknown		61	21	Wooden peg 1990, none in 2017
RC	C	Allen	Michelle Therese	19-Aug-1967		49	19	Council Records Only
								m/o Ethel Bill Ernie gm/o Noel, Deslie ggm/o
Lwn	H	Allen	Sarah Jane	11-Mar-1980	98	15	19	Hazel, Noel, Phillip & Paul
Lwn	C	Allen	William R	2-Jun-1980	67	3	10	Council Records Only
Ang	H	Allingham	A. J.	. 1901		27A	13	
Ang	H	Allingham	Alice nee Tonks	2-Aug-1966	84	22	22	b. 9.2.1882 w/o George
								b. 3.3.1859. s/o George (miller) & Margaret
Ang	H	Allingham	Andrew William	7 Sep 1863	4y 6m	28A	4	Coventry, d. of croup.
Ang	H	Allingham	Ann	16-Oct-1918	81	28A	10	
Ang	H	Allingham	Barbara Helen	16-May-2003		59	39	d/o Gertrude & Herbert
Ang	FH	Allingham	Christopher	28-Oct-1952	66	59	41	bur. with Harriet May. Lived 93 Brown St
Ang	H	Allingham	Christopher	7 Nov 1876	47	27A	1	
Ang	H	Allingham	Coral Kate	7-Aug-1987		37	25	Late of Springmount
Ang	C	Allingham	Coralie Kate	7-Aug-1987	81	41	40	Plaque on vase.
Ang	H	Allingham	Edward	2 Aug 1869	78	28A	8	h/o Elizabeth
Ang	H	Allingham	Elizabeth	16-Sep-1901	71	28A	10	d/o William & Margaret
Ang	H	Allingham	Elizabeth	16 Nov 1891	92	28A	8	w/o Edward
Ang	H	Allingham	Elizabeth	2 Jan 1850	54	28A	1	w/o William. moved from old cemetery
								w/o William, d/o James & Hannah, d. after
Ang	BHO	Allingham	Emma	3 Mar 1892	41	27A	11	giving birth to twins
								Late of Springmount death date from BDM s/o
Ang	BH	Allingham	Eric John	. 1980		37	25	John & Flora
								b. 1.11.1910. m/o David & Adrian. Known as
Lwn	H	Allingham	Eunice Dorothea	24-Jan-2004	93	66	24	Toots
Pre	C	Allingham	G (Mrs)	20-Jun-1906		7	19	Council Records Only