

CEMETERIES TOURS YANKALILLA DISTRICT

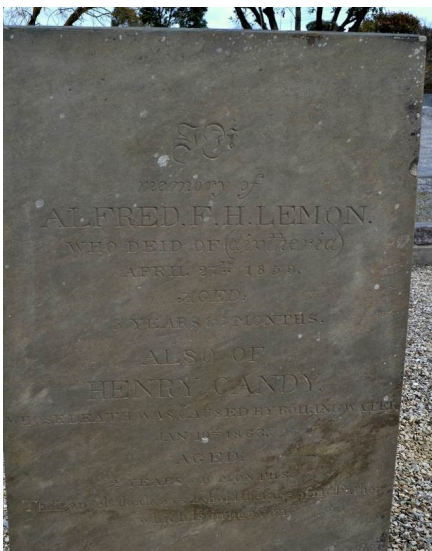
TOUR 7: Uniting Church Myponga Cemetery

47 Main South Rd, Myponga



The Cemetery was established in 1858 on part section 521, and the first burial was that of Virginia Helena Bertram on February 16th 1858, aged 8 months. She was the daughter of William Bertram. A son John also died, aged 2 years in 1861. They are listed on the plaque erected in the Cemetery, along with 69 burials that were recorded but have no headstone. There were 49 children and 20 adults. There may be unrecorded burials in this cemetery.

A building which was first erected on this land was the 'Union Chapel'. It was sold for a pound to the trustees of the Bible Christian Church, by Alexander Cameron. This little wattle and daub chapel was demolished to make way for a more substantial building, the foundation stone of which was laid in 1882. The church as it now stands, was opened on the 17th June 1883. A centenary celebration was held in 1983.



One of the oldest headstones in the cemetery is the slate headstone for Alfred F.H. Lemon and his brother Henry Candy Lemon. Alfred, son of John and Anne Lemon, died (spelt 'deid' on the headstone) in 1859 age 5 years, from diphtheria. His brother Henry died in 1863 aged 2, from boiling water. Another brother Frederick, died in 1879 aged 26. Their mother Anne died in 1866 and their father John in 1891. They were all buried in this cemetery.

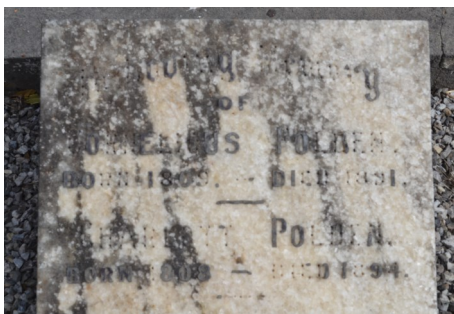


BEARE, Thomas Hudson: Born at Winchester England in 1792. He died in 1861 and is buried in this cemetery. He brought the first families of settlers to South Australia in the ship *Duke of York*. They landed on Kangaroo Island on 27th July 1836. Beare was second in command to Samuel Stephens, the first colonial manager of the South Australian Company. His first wife, Lucy, died in childbirth on Kangaroo Island. At the time of his death, he owned a property close to the cemetery. Unfortunately, the site of his grave is unknown, however, a plaque at the end of the columbarium acknowledges his presence.



HUNT: Matthew and Elizabeth Hunt (nee Lemon) and two of their children migrated to South Australia arriving on the ship *Malcolm David* on 23th January 1847. Conditions were difficult at first but on New Year's Day 1860 they had saved sufficient money to be able to acquire Retreat Farm at Forktree Road Myponga. They raised a family of eight sons and four daughters. Most lived their lives in the district. Both Mr and Mrs Hunt gave a great deal of time and effort in assisting the cause of both Primitive Methodists and Anglicans in Myponga. Matthew was a councillor on the Myponga District Council committee for a few years.

Elizabeth died 15th July 1898 in her 78th year and is buried in the Myponga Cemetery. Her husband Matthew died, aged 91 years and was interred here in 1905. The union of this grand old couple resulted in their leaving behind 8 sons, 3 daughters, 81 grandchildren and 51 great grandchildren.



POLDEN: Cornelius Polden was born around 1809 and emigrated to South Australia on 2nd November 1839. He married twice. His first marriage was to Mary Windsor in England, but she died in 1849 in Adelaide. Children from this marriage were William, Thomas, Robert, George, Maria and Sarah Polden. His second marriage to Mary Short was on 18th October 1849 in Adelaide. He was 39 and she was 38 and both were widowed. She died 6th August 1859 and was buried in the Myponga Cemetery (unmarked grave). In 1856 Cornelius Polden bought section 507, a section of 80 acres on Rowley Road. Polden was one of the original trustees for the Myponga church and cemetery. Cornelius Polden died in 1891 and was buried in the Myponga Cemetery.



HENDERSON:

This is another very early headstone. William Thomas Henderson was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Henderson. He died on 8th November 1862, at the tender age of 3 years and 10 months.



BUTTON:

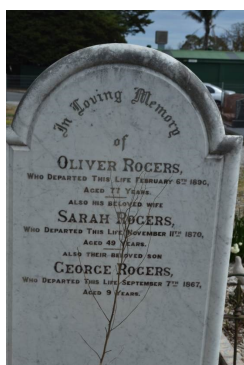
There have been about 12 descendants of the Button family laid to rest in this cemetery since 1924. Their brass plaques were stolen some years ago, but have been replaced with new ones



OLDFIELD: Henry Oldfield, wife Elizabeth, and their three children arrived at Port Adelaide in January 1853. By 1858 Henry and his family had moved to Myponga. Their eldest son, John William, married Ellen Hunt and they moved away from the area. However, their son, Henry John, after marrying Ann Lister Jordan, returned in 1901 to work the family land at Myponga. Four children were born, Lillian (Banning), Connie, and twins Ruby (Cockrum) and Reginald Oldfield. Henry and Ann were pillars of the Methodist Church in Myponga. They played a major role in the erection of the church hall which bears their family name. Their daughter Ruby officially opened the 'Oldfield Hall' in 1940. Ann died in 1938 at the age of 57 as the result of an accident. Henry died in 1949.

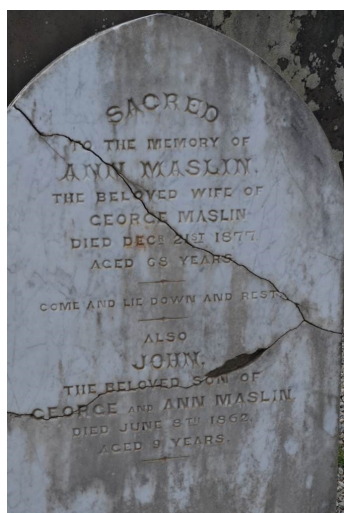


ROWLEY: there are about 42 descendants of the Rowley family in this cemetery. John Rowley arrived with his parents on the *Morley* in 1840 aged under one year old. In 1848 his widowed mother remarried and the family moved to Myponga settling on Section 510 in 1853. John became a blacksmith wheelwright and farrier, one of his jobs was to service the mail and passenger coaches that came down the Old Sellicks Hill Road, gateway to the Western Fleurieu Peninsula. In 1860 he married Sarah Polden and they had 13 children. In 1875 he bought twenty acres of Section 633 for £45 and built Rowley Cottage, situated on the corner of Old Sellicks Hill, Sinclair & Pages Flat Roads. Albert Edward and Rosetta were children of John and Sarah. Rosetta died in 1890 and Albert in 1901.

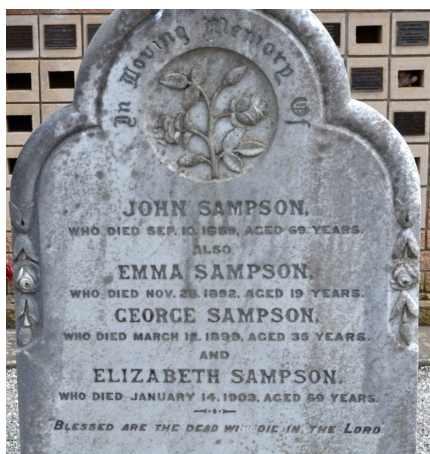


ROGERS: There have been about 14 descendants of the Rogers family laid to rest in this cemetery. Oliver Rogers, wife Sarah and 4 children came out to SA in 1852 on the *Chatham*. Four more children were born in Australia. By 1856 they were in the Yankalilla district, living at Torrens Vale, but later they moved to Myponga. Their youngest son, George, died of rheumatic fever in 1867 at the age of 8. Sarah died of gastric fever in 1870 aged 50. Oliver remarried in 1873 to Mary Worrell (nee Williamson) and they had three sons all born at Myponga. Oliver died in 1896 and was buried here with his first wife and son George.

Jeremiah (Jesse) Rogers was the second son of Oliver and Mary, born in 1875. He married Annabelle Baxter in St Matthias Church in 1904. Jesse served in World War 1. Private sapper Jeremiah set sail in May 1916, No 9720 11 Field Company Engineers, to serve in France. He was overage at 39 years. He arrived home in March 1918. Jesse died in 1926.



MASLIN: There have been about 16 descendants of the Maslin family laid to rest in this cemetery. George and Ann and four children arrived in South Australia from England in 1847 on the *La Belle Alliance*. Two more children were born in Adelaide, including John, who died of diphtheria in 1861 at the age of 9 years. George and Ann settled on Section 41 at Mount Jagged (now Hindmarsh Tiers). George was a councillor on the Myponga District Council in 1861. Ann died in 1877 and was buried here with her son. It is believed that when George died in 1884 he too was buried here, but his name was not added to the headstone.



EATS: There have been about 19 descendants of the Eats/Eatts family laid to rest in this cemetery.

Isaac and Lucy Eats and seven children arrived from England on the *Canton* in 1846. Four more children were born in the Aldinga and Myponga districts, the last born at Myponga after Lucy and her children returned from the Bendigo gold diggings where Isaac had died, probably in 1852.

Isaac and Lucy's son **James** married **Elizabeth** Rowley, and they had seven children. James died in 1900 and Elizabeth died in 1941.

Meta Eatt married Frank Artle Eatt, the son of Jonathon and grandson of Isaac and Lucy. They had two children, but Meta died soon after giving birth to the second child Clarence Richard in 1910. She was 31 years old. The baby Clarence died at the age of six months.

PAGE: George (1873 – 1955) and Lucy Eleanor (1870 – 1960).

George Page grew up at Lovely Valley, Myponga. In 1900 George married Lucy Eleanor Skinner. Lucy was the daughter of Yankalilla blacksmith William Thomas Skinner, and her mother was Eliza Nixon. In 1902 George and Lucy bought 5 acres of section 709, on which stood the former Lovely Valley Creamery. The Pages converted the old creamery into their home, where they lived for the next 46 years. Following Lucy's death, it was transferred to the Minister of Works and became part of the Myponga Reservoir.

Lucy Page had a strong interest in native plants and conservation and was made a life member of the Field Naturalists Society of South Australia in recognition of her work. In 1915, she and George purchased section 80 (22 acres). This section was natural bushland and contained eucalypts, native pines, acacias, grass trees, hakeas, orchids, and a variety of ground cover plants. In 1956 Lucy donated this land to the Commissioners of National Parks and Wildlife Reserves. The reserve was named the Nixon Skinner Reserve, and a plaque was placed there in 1980.

SAMPSON: John and Elizabeth (nee Ayers) Sampson came to South Australia on the *Lord Raglan* in 1854. John was 23 years old and Elizabeth 20. Their daughter Martha Raglan Sampson was born at sea. John's brother Alexander and sister Elizabeth (who had married Moses Thomas) were already farming in the Yankalilla district. John and Elizabeth lived at first in the Hay Flat area, where they had a further 8 children. John and Elizabeth moved to Myponga in 1884 and took up sections 702 and 703. John died in 1889 at the age of 69 years and was buried in the Myponga cemetery. Their daughter Emma died of tuberculosis in 1892, and in 1899 son George died of the same disease. Elizabeth died in January 1903 at the age of 69.