

an outstanding place of cultural and environmental heritage

Historical Tours

Walking-tours, each with varying themes, start at 10.00am & 12.30pm from the northern side of Necropolis Circuit on the first Sunday of the month by Friends of Rookwood Inc. Car tours can be arranged by telephoning 0418 480 634.

Guides are volunteers and money raised is used for restoration projects. You can join the Friends of Rookwood and enjoy the historical, cultural and social activities while making a contribution to on-going necropolis restoration projects.

Helping Hands

This is another volunteer group who assist with archeological investigation, landscape maintenance, and other supervised activities aimed at restoring the historic fabric of Rookwood Necropolis. Contact Helping Hands on 9746 8433.

How to find a Grave

There are over 640,000 burials and 230,000 cremations recorded at Rookwood. The first burials took place in 1867. Older monuments have since been moved to Rookwood from earlier burial grounds resumed elsewhere in Sydney. Cremations date from 1925 but did not become a significant proportion of the services held at Rookwood until around 1945.

If you are looking for a memorial and you don't know where to start, here are some helpful steps to take:

It is useful if you know year of death, whether the deceased was cremated or buried and if buried, what denominational cemetery the deceased was most likely to have been interred.

Records of all burials and cremations are held in the respective offices. The offices located at Rookwood are:

- **Anglican & General** • **Roman Catholic** • **Independent**
(Independent includes Uniting, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran, Wesleyan, and Greek Orthodox)
- **Rookwood Memorial Gardens.**
- **Muslim and Jewish** cemetery records are held off-site.

If you think the deceased may have been cremated, start enquiries at the **Rookwood Memorial Gardens** if the death occurred after 1925, otherwise start your enquiry in the most likely denominational office.

Once you have found the correct office, the staff will be able to help you find the grave in the cemetery.

