



Sources of further information

Bolton Street Chapel

The chapel is open daily from 10am to 4pm. It contains displays, a memorial plaque and a full burial list with plot locations.

Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park

The Friends can be contacted on and further information about individual gravesites is on <http://groups.msn.com/boltonstcemetary/> Alternatively write to PO. Box 2336, Wellington or ring the Tree House, Botanic Gardens, 499 1400, for contacts.

Committee members hold unpublished material about the park and those interred there. They are happy to assist with individual enquiries.

Alexander Turnbull Library, Molesworth Street

The library contains comprehensive archival material and produces a useful pamphlet entitled *Was your ancestor buried in the Bolton Street Cemetery?*

Published material

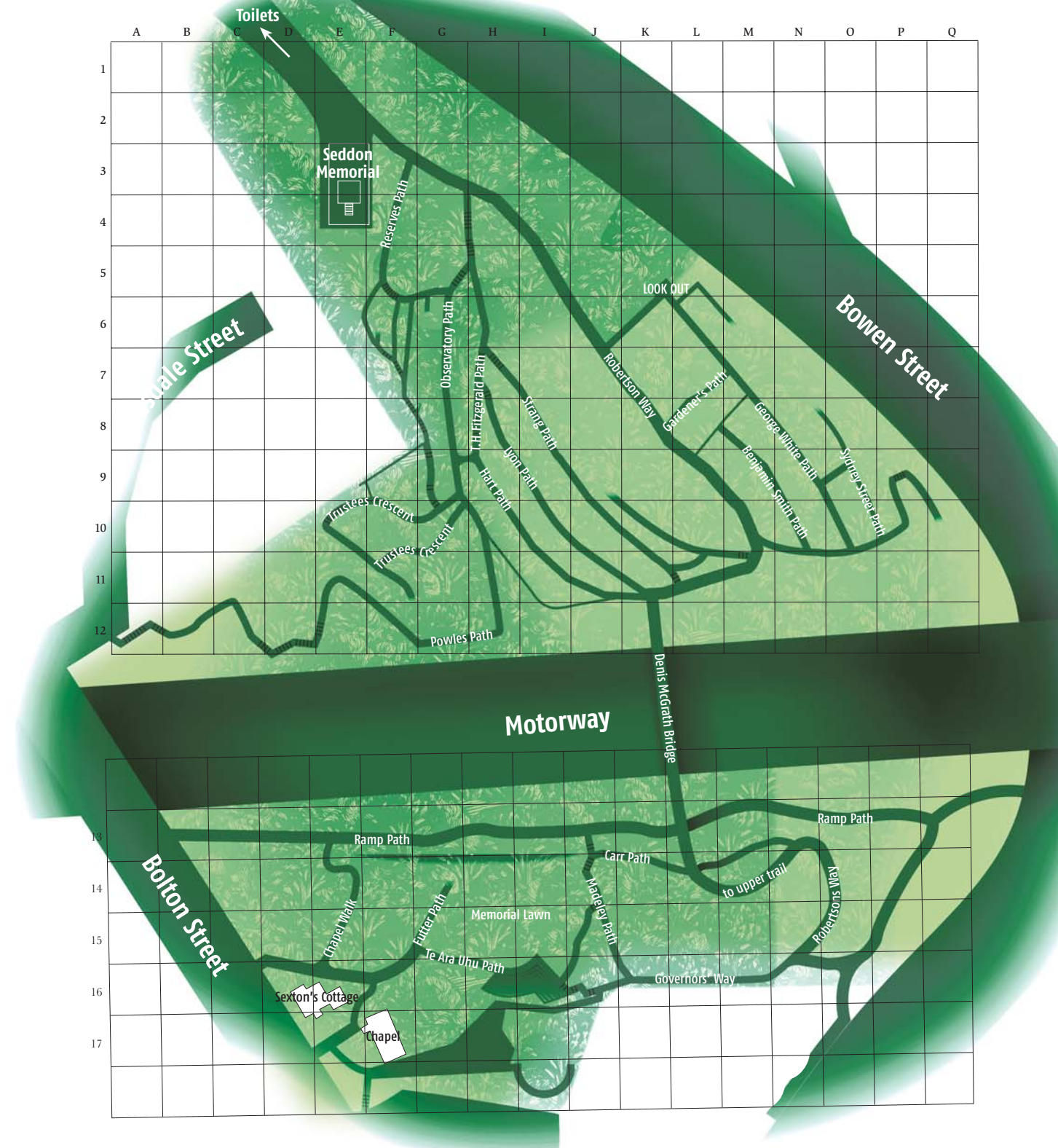
The most authoritative and detailed source is the book by Margaret H. Alington entitled *Unquiet Earth – A History of the Bolton Street Cemetery* (Wellington 1978). This is available in libraries or in second hand bookshops.

Historic Cemeteries Conservation Trust of NZ

Visit www.cemeteries.org.nz or write to 65 Every Street, Dunedin, or telephone 03 454 5384,

NZ Society of Genealogists

Visit the website www.genealogy.org.nz. There are branches of the society throughout New Zealand.



How to locate gravestones

in the Bolton Street Memorial Park



THE BOTANIC GARDENS OF WELLINGTON
Bolton Street Memorial Park

Absolutely

POSITIVELY

ME HEKE KI PŌNEKE
WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Wellington

How to locate a gravestone

This pamphlet is designed to assist in locating individual gravestones and other memorials. If you wish to walk through or explore the park, please use a *Memorial Trail* pamphlet. Stocks of the trail pamphlets are available in the chapel and at each entrance to the park.

Over 8,500 people are known to have been buried in this pioneer cemetery, but only 1,334 gravestones are still visible and fewer than 600 of these are still in their original position. The extensive relocation of gravestones is due mainly to the 1960s construction of the Wellington motorway but also to other road construction and the creation of Anderson Park. Relocated gravestones have been placed as closely as possible to their original locations.

The Index of Burials and Memorials, held in the chapel, lists everyone known to have been buried in the cemetery. Each name shows which section of the cemetery the person was buried in, whether the gravestone has been relocated and its current location. The grid reference gives either the gravesite or, if the person has been reinterred in the lawn vault or elsewhere, it will list the location of the relocated gravestone. If there is no grid reference, this means there is no gravestone or other memorial left above the ground.

Enter your map grid reference and plot number here.

Using the large grid map in the Chapel which shows all the plot numbers, mark the approximate location of the gravestone within the grid on the small map in this pamphlet. Note also the name of the nearest path.

Even with the grid reference it can be difficult to locate old gravestones, partly because of overgrowth but also because in many cases the lettering has become obscure or obliterated. Members of the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park will be able to assist you as they hold more detailed records. Either visit www.boltoncemetery.org.nz, write to the Friends at P.O.Box 2336 Wellington, or contact the Tree House in the Botanic Garden, telephone 499 1400, for names and contact details of committee members.

Maintaining a gravesite

Descendants are welcome to maintain individual gravesites through cleaning and clearing, taking care not to damage the fragile historic materials. A good principle is to *do as much as necessary, but as little as possible*. Use soft brushes, clean water and a mild detergent but no bleach. Remember also that lead lettering is very fragile and easily dislodged. The website of the Historic Cemeteries Conservation Trust of NZ www.cemeteries.org.nz has useful information on best practice in cemetery conservation and you are recommended to look at this before undertaking any cleaning work.

You are asked to inform the Botanic Garden staff before undertaking any maintenance work on gravesites. If you would like trees or other growth cleared from within or around a gravesite, please contact the Botanic Garden staff on telephone 499 1400 or email treehouse@wcc.govt.nz. The Friends hold regular working bees to clear and clean gravesites, working in consultation with the Botanic Gardens. If you would like to assist with these, visit www.boltoncemetery.org.nz

Conservation of gravesites

A modest programme of conservation and restoration work is funded by the Wellington City Council and priorities are established annually by the Park management in consultation with the Friends. All conservation work is done in accordance with guidelines on maintenance and repair recently commissioned by the Botanic Gardens.

As the City Council fund is insufficient to cover all the work needed, offers by descendants to fund particular conservation work are welcomed. Any restoration or conservation work requires a permit and must be in keeping with the overall policy for the Memorial Park. Enquiries about this process should be directed in the first instance to the Botanic Gardens on telephone 499 1400 or email

The Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park can provide information about the conservation work programme or details about the guidelines which may be applicable to individual graves.

