



# Bendigo Remembrance Park - Notable Graves Tour

## 15. GEORGE DUNCAN GUTHRIE

Born: 14 May 1828 Johnstone, Renfrewshire, Scotland  
Died: 22 Sept 1910 Bendigo, Victoria, Australia  
Buried: 23 Sept 1910  
Arrived in South Australia c. 1850

Founder of "Bendigo Pottery,"  
Australia's oldest working pottery  
(since 1862). Master Potter. Miner,  
businessman and local councillor.

Located in Section E2  
Grave number 5096  
Interment number 20822

Image From: *Annals of Bendigo Vol.4  
1910-20. Page 384*



*The Bendigo Independent  
(Trove link) Saturday 24  
September 1910, page 6.*

Obituary:

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/news/paper/article/227158209/24142548>

### George Duncan Guthrie and the Bendigo Pottery

Founder of the Bendigo Pottery. Born May 1828 at Johnson, Scotland he left school at age 12 to serve a six year apprenticeship with his uncle, George Guthrie in Glasgow. In 1850 he purchased passage on the Washington and made his way to the Colony. The Washington run aground off Cape Troubridge with the South Australian Government ship Yatala rescuing the castaways a few days later. Guthrie lost all his belongings but using borrowed funds he made his way to Sydney via Melbourne where he immediately found employment at a pottery making Ginger Beer bottles. The lure of gold drew him but his earning were mediocre so he returned to Sydney and established a kiln at Camperdown. When the bottling trade slackened off in Sydney Guthrie packed up his stock and sailed to Melbourne. Despite being a married man, George entered into an illicit relationship with a young widow who bore him five children. Following the death of his wife, Agnes, George married the mother of his children. He started one of Australia's most illustrious potteries, Bendigo Pottery, in 1857 and by 1888 11 kilns were in operation and the site employed 130 people. Guthrie ran the pottery until his death in 1910.

The grave of GD Guthrie (Image from RPCV records)

