

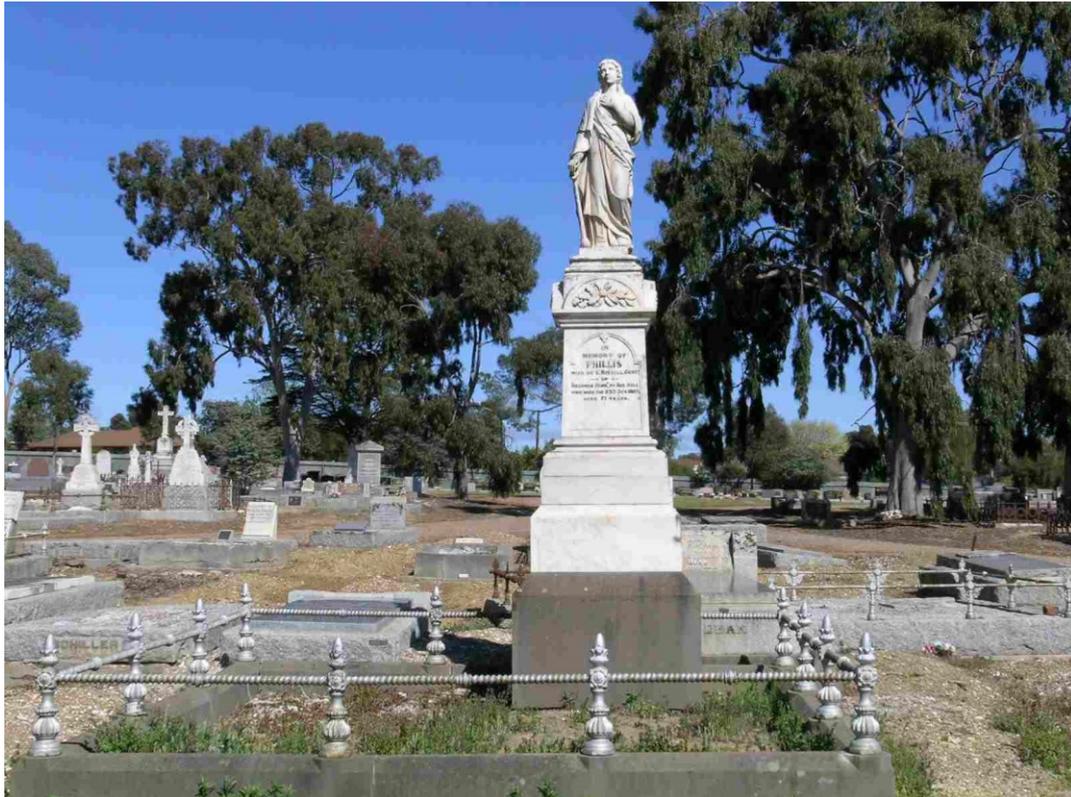
Kangaroo Flat Cemetery



Photo 2021



Photo 2006



Edward Bissill & his family grave.  
Edward was an old Bendigonian.

What was an Old Bendigonian,  
- an explanation can be read on the obituary page for Richard Andrews,  
a man credited with starting this social organization. [Link](#).

Images:

Bissill\_004\_KF\_258.JPG - photo 2021

Bissill\_004\_KF\_259.JPG - photo 2005

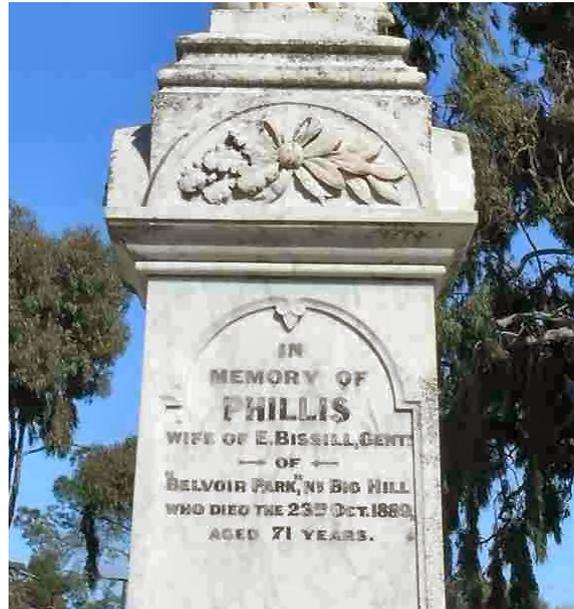
to

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In  
Memory of  
EDWARD BISSILL  
of  
"Belvoir Park", near Big Hill  
who died the 25th August 1903  
Aged 95 years





## Burial list for this grave

SURNAME	Given Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Burial Date	Age	Plot Sect	New Sect name	Grave Number	Reference #	Interment Number
BISSILL	Phillis		23/10/1889	25/10/1889	71 yrs	C of E - North	Monumental	2000	L-10	11/265
BISSILL	Walter Kirk		19/02/1890	20/02/1890	47 yrs	C of E - North	Monumental	2015	L-10	11/281
BISSILL	Edward	Apr 1808	25/08/1903	27/08/1903	95 yrs	C of E - North	Monumental	2769	L-10	15/1176
BISSILL	Maria Anna Christina		25/02/1929	27/02/1929	89 yrs	C of E - North	Monumental	3797	L-10	21/2330

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*Phillis Bissill*

**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 25 Oct 1889 Page 2**

### Family Notices

BISSILL - On the 23rd October, at Belvoir Park, near Ravenswood, Phillis, the beloved wife of Edward Bissill, aged 71.

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*Walter Kirk Bissill*

**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Sat 22 Feb 1890 Page 7**

### Family Notices

Bissill. - At "Belvoir Park," near Ravenswood, on the 19th February, after many years of suffering, Walter Kirk Bissill, aged 47.

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*Edward Bissill*

**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Thu 27 Aug 1903 Page 2**

### Family Notices

DEATH.

BISSILL.

On 25th August, at Belvoir Park, Big Hill, near Bendigo, Edward Bissill, aged 95 years.

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**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Thu 27 Aug 1903 Page 1**

Funereal.

BISSILL.

The Funeral of the late Mr EDWARD BISSILL is appointed to take place This Day (Thursday), 27th inst. Cortege to move from his residence, "Belvoir Park" Big Hill at three o'clock, to the Kangaroo Flat Cemetery. Friends are kindly invited.

WILLIAM FARMER, Undertaker, M'Crae Street.

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**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Thu 27 Aug 1903 Page 3**

DEATH OF MR EDWARD BISSILL.

A VETERAN OF NINETY FIVE YEARS.

A resident of the Bendigo district, whose life furnishes a striking example of longevity, in the person of Mr Edward Bissill, of Belvoir Park, Big Hill, passed away on Tuesday evening last. He was born in April, 1808, at Stutterton Grange, near Boston, Lincolnshire, and had consequently passed his 95th year. His father was a landed proprietor in the county, and came of a family of large farmers in the county mentioned. The deceased during his early life assisted in the management of his father's estate. He married at 33 years of age, and continued his association with agricultural pursuits until the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846.

All those familiar with this great freetrade movement know that it had a depressing effect on the English farmers, and the estates were let at a rental of £700 per year, the subject of this notice having decided to journey to Australia. In 1850 he sailed in the ship Bengal for South Australia. After 12 months in the sister State, he visited New Zealand, and worked at Auckland for six months. When the cold fever broke out, however, he went to Sydney, and soon afterwards proceeded to Melbourne. From there he tramped to Forest Creek. After working in various parts of the district as a gold digger, he opened a small store at Spring Gully, Fryers' Creek. He did not long continue there, however, as we next find him the owner of a store at White Hills, Bendigo. He soon made money, and at the first land sales held in Bendigo, in 1854, he purchased property at the corner of Hargreaves and Mundy streets. He afterwards purchased considerable property at Epsom, and when gold was discovered there he found that the lead went right through it. Already he had made money, and this stroke of fortune added considerably to his profits. For three years he conducted the store, and then retired on an independency.

In 1862 he purchased 100 acres of land and a house at Big Hill from the late Judge Skinner, and out of this formed the nucleus of Belvoir Park, which now consists of 700 acres of good park land.

In 1856 he visited his old home, and remained in England, until 1860. At this period his income from his Bendigo properties amounted to about £4000 per year, and apparently he enjoyed his trip, as he again returned to England by the same vessel. Having toured Europe, he returned to Victoria, and took up his residence near Melbourne. In 1866 he once more returned to Bendigo, and ever since he lived at Belvoir Park. The house is very well known, as it is situated in one of the prettiest spots in the Bendigo district. He continued to amass property, and at the time of his death owned some 24 allotments of land in Bendigo, the rental being very considerable. In 1855 he took part vigorously in an agitation to create a municipality in Bendigo, and was a candidate at the first municipal elections.

He lost the election through advocating a shilling rate. It started at sixpence, but his judgement was soon justified, as it was found impracticable to carry on without a shilling rate. After his unsuccessful attempt to enter public life, he lived quietly, merely attending to his own affairs. For many years he regularly drove into Bendigo each Tuesday, and his buggy was a familiar sight in the street on that day. In fact, so regularly did he transact his business on the day mentioned, that he earned the sobriquet of "Tuesday."

About 12 months ago he married for the third time. He enjoyed a good constitution, and only during the last few months did he begin to suffer from ill-health. He was ill a very short time, and was under the care of Dr Atkinson. Up to the last he managed his own property, and was frequently heard to remark that a man was never done working in this world. He was of a gentlemanly disposition, but rather retiring in his nature, though the friendships he made were always sincere. His only son, Mr Walter Kirk Bissill, died some years ago, and no other children were born of his marriages. The funeral will take place this afternoon at 3 o'clock from Belvoir Park to the Kangaroo Flat Cemetery.

It is understood that his estate (valued at £28,000) will be administered by the Sandhurst and Northern District Trustees, Executors and Agency Co. The firm of Messrs Quick, Hyett, and Rymer have been his solicitors throughout three generations.

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*2nd Obituary for Edward Bissill*

**The Bendigo Independent (Vic. : 1891 - 1918) Thu 27 Aug 1903 Page 3**

DEATH OF MR EDWARD BISSILL. AGED 95.

The death, on Tuesday, at the age of 95 years, of Mr Edward Bissill, removes another old pioneer of the Bendigo district. He had been a sufferer for some time, and death resulted from a general breaking up of the system.

Born at Strattherton Grange, Lincolnshire, he sailed for South Australia in the ship Bengal in 1850. After spending a year in the sister state, he went to New Zealand, where it is said that he endured great hardships. Eventually after six months privation, he went to Sydney, and came on to Melbourne soon after. This was at the time of the gold discoveries, and with three or four chance acquaintances he tramped to Forest Creek.

The first few days digging yielded a few ounces of gold. Afterwards digging was combined with with the repairing of miners' cradles, and so profitable did this prove that in a little while he was enabled to open a small store in Spring Gully, Fryer's Creek.

When he had saved £100 he removed to Bendigo, and opened a store at White Hills. Such a thriving trade was driven that the first year's business resulted in a profit of £1000. At the first land sales held in Bendigo in 1854, he purchased property on the corner of Hargreaves and Mundy Streets, while he also acquired land at Epsom, where gold was soon afterwards discovered. Thus in a few years he was a wealthy man.

In 1862 he purchased 100 acres of land at Big Hill, and a house from the late Judge Skinner, which formed the nucleus of the extensive Belvoir Park. After a lengthy trip to England and the Continent, he returned to Bendigo, and had lived in retirement ever since.

Mr Bissill was, in 1855, largely instrumental in securing the proclamation of Bendigo as a municipality. He stood as a candidate at the first municipal elections, and advocated a shilling rate, but he was defeated. He made no further attempt to enter public life, and spent the evening of his life quietly on his fine estate. He died reputedly very wealthy, the result of his early speculations and long years of strict economy.

He leaves a son (??), also a widow to whom he was recently married. The funeral will take place at the Kangaroo Flat cemetery this afternoon.

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Compiled by Olwen Fenton & Ian Belmont  
in August 2021  
for the Bendigo Cemetery Obituaries & Notes