

Kirkham Child

10 March 1902

Three Hours

Outback Grave Marker Number: 0164
GPS Coordinates: 30 14' 25.1"S 120 57' 06.5"E



The remembrance bougainvillea on the site of the Reward Hotel Siberia¹

This child was born to James and Mabel Kirkham 10 March 1902 and he survived for three hours.², although some accounts and sources recount that he was stillborn³

His parents owned the Reward Hotel in Siberia and the above pictured bougainvillea was planted in memory of their lost son.

This hardy and venerable plant is now over 114 years old, and is watered by visiting prospectors, locals, tourists and visitors to the area.⁴

Maybe it is because of this care or the loving vow of Mrs Kirkham that this plant will never die because “Her heart is buried under it”.⁵

The Kirkham family appears to have remained in Siberia until at least the end of 1922 as James is mentioned in connection with the Palmerston Gold Mine (Invincible; Knight

¹ EGHS. (2016, March 8). Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Facebook Page. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/kalgoorliehistory/posts/955772924477808>

² Outbackfamilyhistory.(2013). *outbackfamilyhistory.com.au/records*. Retrieved from outbackfamilyhistory: http://www.outbackfamilyhistory.com.au/records/record.php?record_id=689&town=Siberia

³ Argus, H. J. (1999). *The Forgotten Pioneers of the Eastern Goldfields*, 40. Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, Australia::ISBN 0-646-37754-X

⁴ EGHS. (2016, March 8). Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Facebook Page. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/kalgoorliehistory/posts/955772924477808>

⁵ Ibid.



Commander; Camperdown; Hazel).⁶

The family moved to Port Augusta South Australia where James died suddenly at the age of 60 years on the 9 April 1934.^{7 8 9}

Mabel Passed away 29 September 1965 aged 87 years.¹⁰

This young Kirkham son had two brothers and three sisters with him being the fourth child, with my current research the only confirmed sibling is two brothers Malster Fred with sisters with married names of R Turner, R Rumhall and T Burke.¹¹ Although further research is required to identify the exact identity of these siblings.

He shares the Siberia cemetery with his Uncle John Kirkham who is buried here also.¹²



Grave of Kirkham Child - Siberia¹³

⁶ Mineralogy, H. I. (1993 - 2016). Minedat.org. Retrieved from <http://www.mindat.org/loc-270233.html>

⁷ Adelaide Chronicle SA. (1934, April 19). Deaths. Adelaide Chronicle SA, p. 29.

⁸ National Library of Australia. (2016, November 5th). Trove. Retrieved from National Library of Australia: nla.news-issue1673417-Transcontinental Port Augusta SA 1914 - 1954 Fri 13 Apr 1934 Page 3 Passing of Prominent Townsman

⁹ Findmypast.com.au. (2016, November 5th). South Australia Deaths 1842-1972 Transcription. Retrieved from Findmypast.com.au: <http://search.findmypast.com.au/record?id=anz%2fau%2fsa%2f>

¹⁰ ibid

¹¹ NLA. (2016, November 5th). Trove. Retrieved from National Library of Australia: nla.news-Kalgoorlie Miner WA 1895 - 1950 Mon 28 Apr 1924 Page 4 Family Notices

¹² Kalgoorlie Western Argus. (2016, November 5th). Trove. Retrieved from Trove: Kalgoorlie Western Argus (WA : 1896 - 1916) Tue 6 Dec 1910 Page 16 Family Notices

¹³ EGHS. (2016, March 8). Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Facebook Page. Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/kalgoorliehistory/posts/955772924477808>

