

BETHANY PIONEER CEMETERY (July 1857 to September 1942)

The Bethany pioneer cemetery contains many German headstones with names of people born in Silesia and Posen whereas in Europe most of the Lutheran headstones in Silesia have been destroyed by war and subsequent waves of migration. Note the strips of vineyard (Hufen) continuing over the creek to trees in the more recent cemetery on Basedow Road in the background. The large gum tree on the left is thought to be the site of the first church services in Bethany and as such is maintained.

The pioneer cemetery is also linked with early mission work among Aboriginal settlements in South Australia. Pastor H. A. E. Meyer became the incumbent at Bethany after being the missionary at Encounter Bay, where he documented the lives of the Indigenous people. His grave is in the historic Bethany cemetery.

Prominent People of early Bethany:

Heinrich Gerhard AHRENS 1 Feb 1818 to 24 July 1884. Age 67 yrs.

Personal servant to Governor Hindmarsch

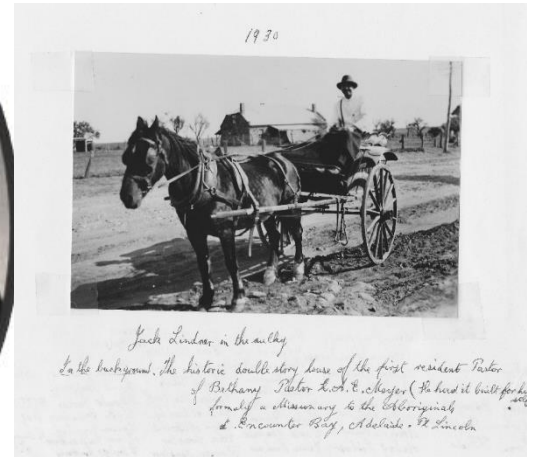


Pastor G A Heidenreich 1866 – 1910



Heinrich August Eduard Meyer (1813 - 1862)

The Pioneer Cemetery at Bethany features the cast iron monument to **Pastor H.A. E Meyer**. The pastor lived in a house built on the opposite side of the cemetery, now vacant land. A section of the eastern side of the cemetery was reserved for children, reflecting the high child mortality rate in the early years of settlement in Bethany.



KARL ALBERT HERMANN GROSSER 1799 – 1849. The first Mayor of Bethany



FRIEDRICH TOPP - Teacher at Bethany for 45 years. Born 1809 - Died 21 August 1892.

He died aged 82²/₃ yrs

