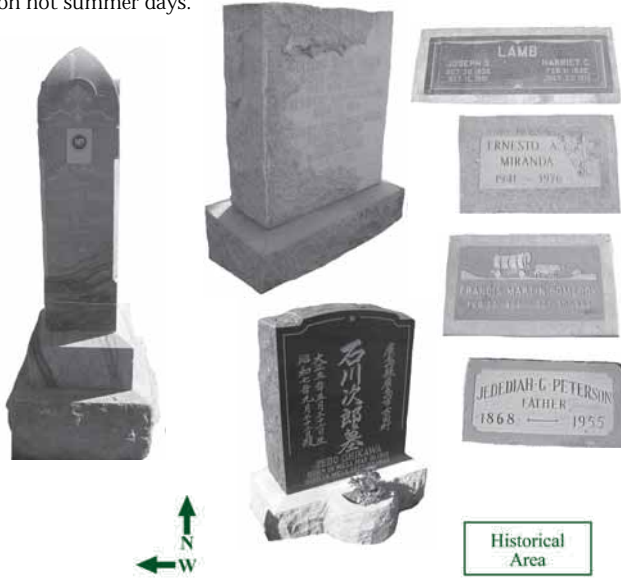


**Orley Seymour Stapley 1872-1942 476-1-8**

He served in the Arizona State Senate in the early 1920's. He established a chain of hardware stores throughout the State, with his first store located in Mesa.

**Anthony Tseletes 1875-1943 515-3-1**

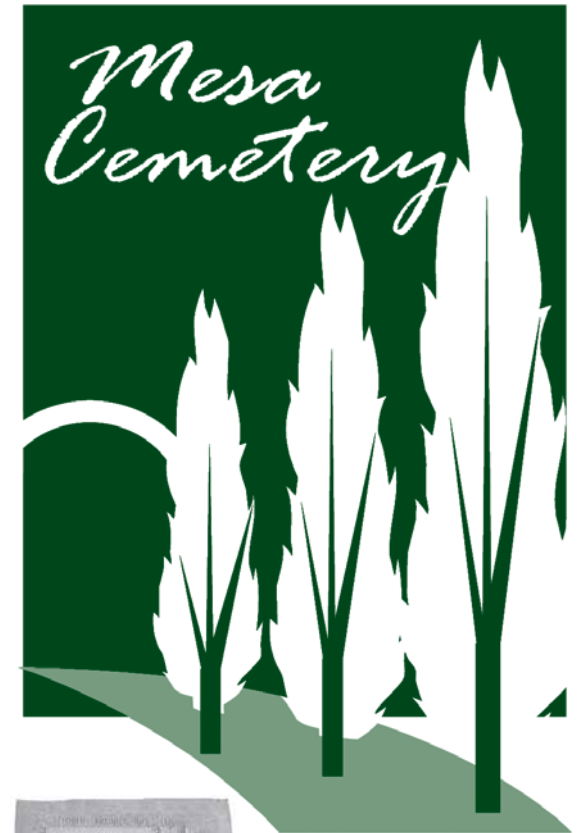
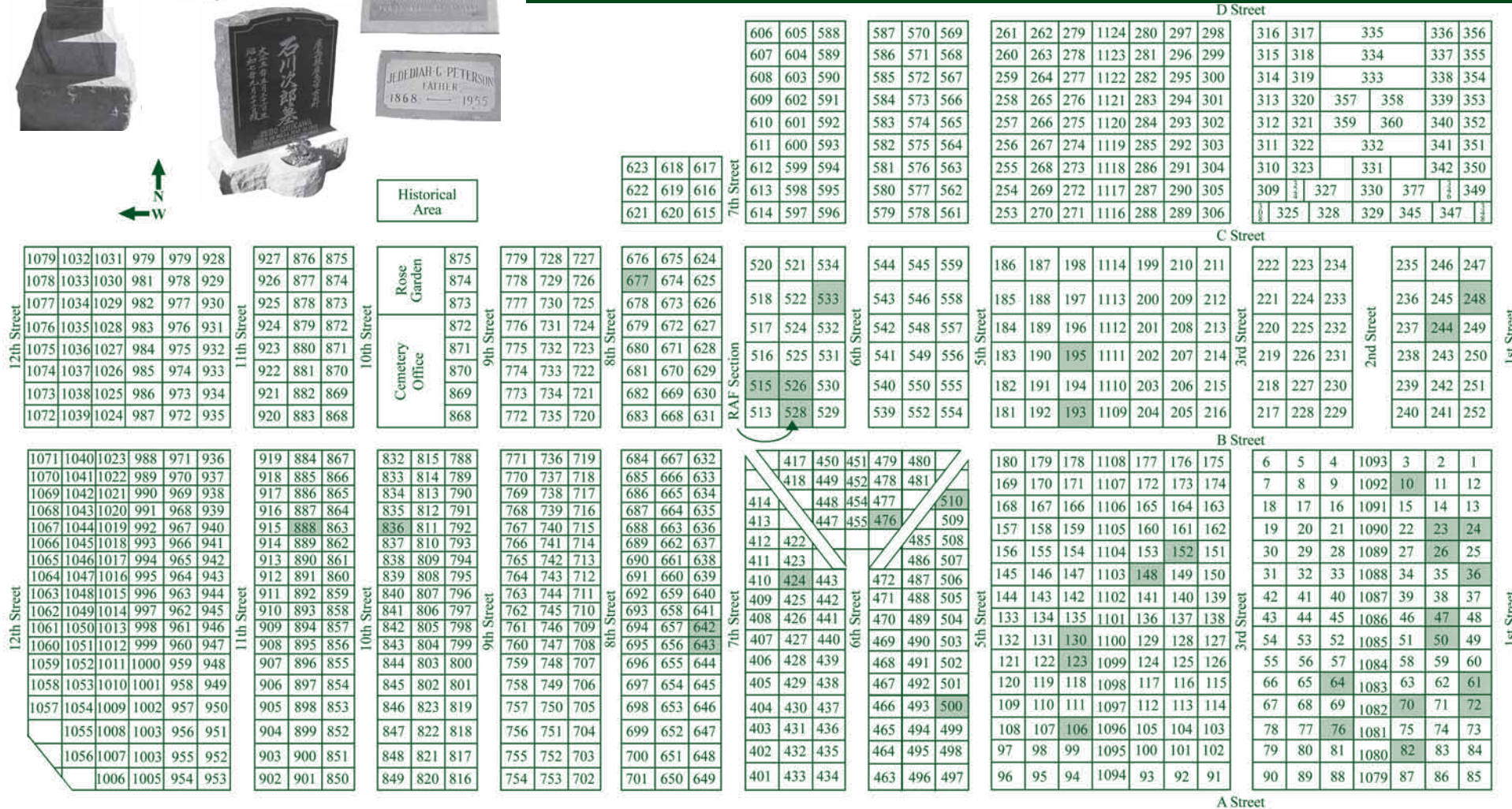
Known throughout the 1930's as Mesa's "ice cream man" in Mesa, he sold frozen treats from his horse drawn buggy from 1929 until his death. "Tony's" visits were eagerly anticipated, especially on hot summer days.



Historical Area

**Cross Reference Guide**

Block Number	Walking Tour Selections	Block Number	Walking Tour Selections
10	Benjamin Franklin Johnson	148	William Austin Burton
23	William Johnson LeBaron	152	Zedo Ishikawa
24	Daniel W. Jones	193	Helen Millett Dana
26	Joseph and Harriett Lamb	195	John Taylor LeSueur
36	Jedidiah Grant Peterson	244	John Prentiss Hale
47	Henry Clay Rogers	248	Josephnh Madison Greer, M.D.
50	Henry Standage	424	George Nicholas Goodman
61	Hyrum William and Druzilla Weymouth Pew	476	Orley Seymour Stapley
64	Jesse Dougherty Hobson	500	John L. Lee
70	Rowe and Mabel Ama Morse Hakes	510	John Lyle Riggs
72	William Morris Newell, Frances	515	Anthony Tselentes
76	Martin Pomeroy, Charles Innes Robson	533	Ramon Somoza and Delores G. Mendoza
82	Charles Crismon, Sr.	642	Ernest K. and Ada Menhennet
88	George W. Sirrinc	643	Pedro Warner Guerrero
106	Harry Lyman Chandler	677	Ernesto Miranda
123	Ralph Fleetwood Palmer, M.D.	836	Rulon Tracey Shepherd
130	Hyrum S. Peterson	888	Oscar Virgil Crismon



# Mesa Cemetery Walking Tour Guide

## Introduction

The Mesa Cemetery Walking Tour was developed in celebration of the cemetery's centennial anniversary on April 12, 1991.

Cemeteries serve to connect past and present by preserving the memory of individual lives. Every life-even the briefest - touches other lives, thus impacting the future.

The individuals represented on this walking tour were selected to provide a glimpse of Mesa's history and a sampling of its "personality" over the years. However, Mesa's past is much richer than can be conveyed in such a tour. Citizens are encouraged to find out more by visiting Mesa's museums and libraries.

## Special Section

To the north of the Cemetery Office is a section dedicated to "those persons unknown buried during the Great Depression." Called the Historical Section, it reflects on a bleak period of American history when even permanent memorials were a luxury.

The Royal Air Force (RAF) Section is dedicated to British Cadets killed in World War II training accidents at Mesa's Falcon Field. Located near the center of the Cemetery, the airmen's grave markers include ranks, serial numbers and the eagle crest of the RAF.

## Finding a grave location

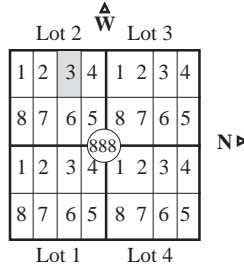
All Walking Tour grave sites are identified by a three part code that indicates block, lot and space number, as in the following example:

**888 2 3**  
**Block Lot Space**

First, locate the block, using the map in this brochure as a guide. Look for the round markers specifying the block number.

Walking tour blocks feature special metal markers.

Next, find the lot and grave space. Each block is comprised of four lots; and each lot is comprised of eight grave spaces, laid out in the following configuration:



**Example: Location 888-2-3 is highlighted in diagram.**

# Walking Tour Selections

## William Austin Burton 1861-1949 148-1-2

He owned and operated the first mortuary in Mesa, and was the first in Mesa to use embalming techniques. He laid out the original area of the City of Mesa Cemetery, moving bodies from an older cemetery located at Center and University. He was the first appointed permanent deputy marshal (1896). He was also the City's first fire chief and built its first fire station.

## Harry Lyman Chandler 1861-1955 106-4-1

He founded a power utility, which brought the first electricity to Mesa. He also established a natural gas company. He served on the Mesa School District Board for 20 years and on the Board of Governors for the Salt River Valley Water Users Association. His brother, AJ, founded the city of Chandler.

## Charles Crismon, Sr. 1805-1890 76-1-4

He was the eldest of the four founding fathers of Mesa, making the 1877 trek from Salt Lake City at age 70. A grist mill he built in Salt Lake City in 1847 is thought to be the first west of the Mississippi. In 1884, Federal officers sought to prosecute him for polygamy. A friend advised the 78-year old Crismon to cut his gums and cough, spitting up blood. Not wishing to prosecute a "dying old man", the court released him.

## Oscar Virgil Crismon 1909-1985 888-2-3

He founded and operated Crismon's Flower Shop, Mesa's first florist service. He was Mayor of Mesa from 1950-1952. He also served on the Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Commission for 22 years and was a member of the Arizona Development Board.

## Helen Millet Dana 1885-1961 193-4-5

This nurse operated a maternity home at her residence and also traveled with a physician by horse and buggy to help deliver babies. She officiated at or assisted in the delivery of more than 12,500 babies in the Mesa area. She also took in unwed mothers and found good adoptive homes for their babies.

## George Nicholas Goodman 1885-1959 424-4-6

This pharmacist was Mayor of Mesa from 1952-1956 and spent 16 years on the City Council. He was appointed Executive Secretary of the Arizona State Fair in 1956, an office he held until his death.

## Joseph Madison Greer, M.D. 1887-1969 248-1-1

Together with Dr. Ralph Palmer of Mesa and Dr. B.B. Moeur of Tempe, he established Mesa's first hospital, Mesa Southside Hospital. He served in World War II and was active in the Boy Scouts and YMCA leadership.

## Pedro Warner Guerrero 1896-1990 643-4-4C

He founded the Guerrero-Lindsey Sign Company. In 1946, with R.G. Scarborough and Ann Encke, he founded the Rosarita Mexican Foods Company. From a modest start in Encke's kitchen, it has become a national brand. Mesa's Pedro Guerrero Rotary Park is named for him.

## John Prentis Hale 1903-1942 244-2-3

His hobby of collecting brandling irons became a passion, and the Mesa Southwest Museum now houses his collection. He coauthored the book, "Hot Irons".

## Collins Rowe Hakes and Mabel Ama Morse Hakes 1837-1916 and 1840-1909 70-1-5

Collin Hakes, Riley Morse and Orlando and Orin Merrill were the first to discover gold in the Goldfield area of the Superstition Mountains. He and his wife, Mabel, built the first hotel in Mesa on the corner of Main and Macdonald Streets. Mabel was active in the Woman's Suffrage movement.

## Jesse Dougherty Hobson 1850-1922 64-2-2

His daughter, Emily, was the first child born within the original company of pioneers that settled Mesa. His home had the first lumber floor, a luxury that was achieved by hauling lumber by wagon from Prescott, 124 miles away.

## Zedo Ishikawa 1915-1932 152-4-4

He was a football player at Mesa High School. On the eve of the season's opening game, he was accidentally shot as he tried to break up a dog fight in his yard using the butt of a rifle. As the 17 year old was dying, he told his family, "Tell coach to go ahead and play the game tomorrow. Tell the boys to carry on". "Carry on" became Mesa High's rally cry.

## Benjamin Franklin Johnson 1818-1905 10-2-4

He was a business agent and private secretary to the Mormon prophet Joseph Smith. He had seven wives listed on his grave monument, and 49 children. At the time of his death, he had more than 300 direct descendants. His descendants now number over 20,000. Johnson has a second grave monument located in lot 124, where many of his children and grandchildren who died before him are buried.

## Daniel W. Jones 1830-1915 24-4-5

This adventurous explorer, missionary and author settled the area in north central Mesa known as "Lehi". His work protecting local Native Americans from what he viewed as the damaging influence of settlers brought him into frequent conflict with law enforcement officials. He authored Forty Years Among the Indians and is honored as the "Father of Lehi".

## Joseph Lamb and Harriett Lamb 1836-1901 and 1840-1912 26-2-4 and 3

The first 20 acres in the original area of the Cemetery were obtained from the Lambs in 1891. Mesa's first cemetery, at the corner of Center and University, was hastily established following a smallpox epidemic in 1883 that claimed 44 lives (15 percent of the population). Those buried at this older Cemetery were moved to the new Cemetery.

## William Johnson LeBaron 1856-1929 23-2-1

He served as Mayor of Mesa from 1888-1896. He organized the Mesa Militia and served as its captain for many years.

## John L. Lee (Powder River Jack) 1874-1946 500-3-8

This entertainer was best known for setting old cowboy poems to music. A bronco buster, he was part of Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show. He popularized the song "Red River Valley", which he had heard sung in a cow camp in South Dakota. Songs he wrote include "Across the Great Divide", "The Cody Stampede" and "Song of the San Marcos".

## John Taylor LeSueur 1852-1945 195-2-3

He and his brother William built the first adobe house in Mesa, the Charles Mallory House. He served as Mayor of Mesa from 1912-1914.

## Ramon Somoza Mendoza and Delores G. Mendoza 1876-1951 and 1885-1957 533-4-7.8

Ramon was the first Hispanic police officer in Mesa. Mendoza Elementary School is named after him to recognize his contributions to Mesa's educational system. His wife, Delores, known for her humanitarianism, sewed clothing for needy children and sponsored religious education classes in their home.

## Ernest K. Menhennet and Ada Menhennet 1885-1964 and 1887-1950 642-1-2.3

Ernest "Doc" Menhennet and his wife Ada were instrumental in developing entertainment facilities in Mesa. They opened the second motion picture theatre in Mesa, the Opera House. This was followed by an open air theatre, the Coliseum, the Majestic movie theatre, the Rendezvous Park Dance Hall and Swimming Pool, and the Nile Theatre.

## Ernesto Miranda 1941-1976 677-1-2C

His legal case resulted in the establishment of the Miranda Rule, which requires that law enforcement officials advise individuals, upon arrest, of their rights to counsel and to remain silent. The still controversial 1966 U.S. Supreme Court decision overturned Miranda's conviction on a kidnapping and rape charge because he had not been advised of his rights prior to confessing to the crime.

## William Morris Newell 1850-1932 72-1-7

He built Mesa's first house. It consisted of six post with forks to hold roof beams and had mud-plastered Saguaro ribs for walls. Appointed postmaster in 1904, he is reported to be the first person to register as a Republican in Mesa.

## Ralph Fleetwood Palmer, M.D. 1875-1954 123-1-8

This territorial doctor was known to commute on horseback for as long as 72 hours to reach his patients. He founded the Mesa

Rotary Club and served as Mayor of Mesa from 1910-1912. He, with Dr. Joseph Greer and Dr. B.B. Moeur, established the town's first hospital, Mesa Southside. His autobiography is titled Doctor on Horesback.

## Hyrum S. Peterson 1860-1913 130-3-1

This city marshal became the first lawman in Mesa killed in the line of duty when he was shot by a pair of bicycle thieves. He was a Sexton of the Mesa Cemetery, planting the Cemetery's first olive trees. He and his wife, Eliza, also ran a restaurant where Jacob Waltz, of the Lost Dutchman's Mine fame, reportedly paid for meals with gold nuggets.

## Jedidiah Grant Peterson 1868-1955 36-2-6

An authority on irrigation farming, he brought the first herd of pedigreed Holstein dairy cattle to the valley. He served as Mayor of Mesa from 1900-1902 and from 1924-1936. He was a member of the Arizona State Senate.

## Hyrum William Pew and Druzilla Weymouth Pew 1831-1903 and 1830-1888 61-4-2,3

They were one of three founding families of Stringtown, a settlement on Alma School Road. They extended Mesa's canal network to this area.

## Frances Martin Pomeroy 1822-1882 72-4-1

One of the four founding fathers of Mesa, he erected a shed structure on his property that was used as the town's first school. He was called the "Great White Chief" because of his service to the Native American community as President of the Indian Mission. In his youth, he was a seaman and was the only survivor of a shipwreck off the coast of Peru.

## John Lyle Riggs 1879-1966 510-1-1

Owner of a blacksmith shop at the site of the Mesa Southwest Museum, he had only had six years of formal schooling in his lifetime, but his four children all graduated from college. One received a laws degree; two others received doctorates.

## Charles Innes Robson, I 1837-1894 72-2-8

One of the four founding fathers of Mesa, he was president of Mesa's first cooperative store. He introduced a meat market in Mesa, and was the City's first recorder.

## Henry Clay Rogers 1833-1902 47-4-8

A member of the original company of pioneers who settled Mesa in 1877, he was a member of the legislature of the Territory of Arizona.

## Rulon Tracey Shepherd 1900-1976 836-2-3

An active supporter of community arts groups, he was superintendent of Mesa Public Schools for 30 years and encouraged construction of the first junior high school. Mesa's tenth junior high school was named in his honor.

## George W. Sirrre 1818-1902 82-3-1

One of the four founding fathers of Mesa, he constructed Mesa's first irrigation diversion gates and turnouts and he built the first flour mill. At the time of his death, George was living in the now-historic house on Center Street he built with his son, Joel. Restored to the years of his death by the Mesa Historical Society, the Sirrre House was opened as a museum by the City of Mesa in 1986.

## Henry Standage unknown-1899 50-4-3

His family was one of three, which founded Stringtown, a settlement on Alma School Road. As a member of the Mormon Battalion, he took part in the longest military march in U.S. history, a 2,000-mile journey that established the main route west for people heading to California during the 1849 gold rush.