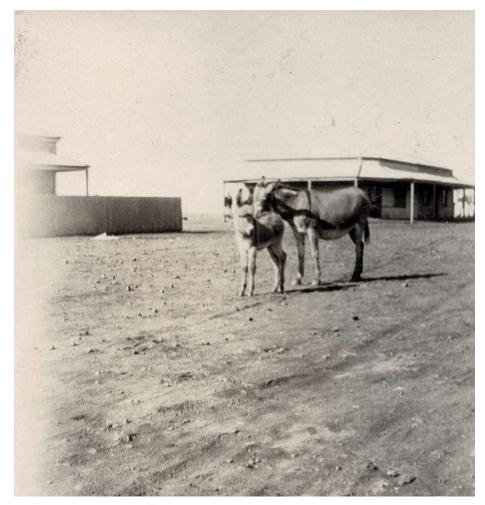
Michael and Sarah Reid



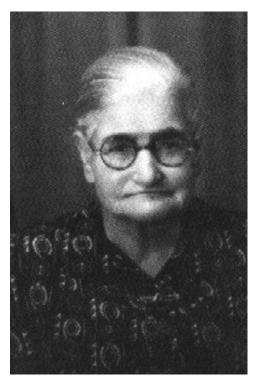
Farina main street 1929.

Researched and compiled by Brett and Shellie Cummings 2023. Email: brett@cummings.id.au

A big thankyou goes out to all the family who have helped by sharing photographs and stories to enable us to put together their life story.

While every effort has been taken to accurately record our family's history from oral and factual sources, the passage of time has left many gaps in their life story that may forever remain unknown to their descendants.

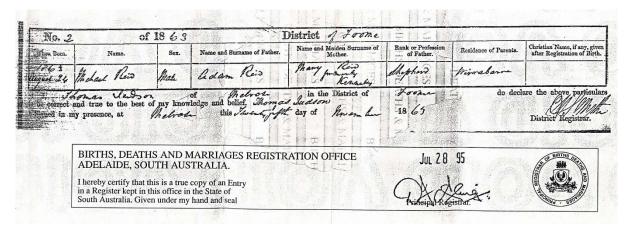
Michael and Sarah Reid



Sarah Reid.

There are no known pictures of Michael.

Michael Reid was born on 24 August 1863 in Wirrabara, South Australia. He was the third child of nine children.



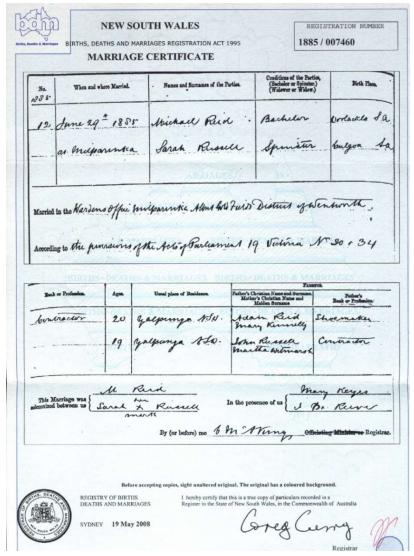
Michael's birth certificate.

Michael's parents were Adam Reid and Mary Kennelly. Adam was born in 1825 in Lancashire, Scotland and died on 31 August 1898 in Port Augusta, South Australia where he is buried. Mary was born in 1827 in Ireland and died on 23 November 1875 in Georgetown, South Australia. Adam married Mary Kennelly on 2 September 1854 in Adelaide, South Australia.

Sarah Russell was born on 13 March 1868 at Culgoa River, New South Wales. She was the daughter of John Jacob Russell and Martha Whitmarsh. John was born on 11 July 1884 in Bourke, New South Wales and Martha was born 13 May 1849 in Catsfield, Sussex, England. They were married on 6 June 1872 in Culgoa River, New South Wales.

Sarah's birth certificate number is 5662/1868. It shows she was registered as Sarah Witmarsh, her mother's name. However, through the DNA testing we know that John was Sarah's father. Her parents were married after the birth of their third child.

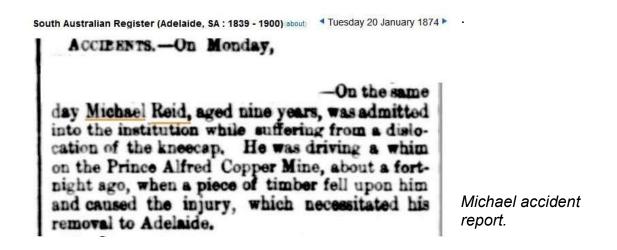
They were married on 29 June 1885 at Milparinka, New South Wales. When Michael and Sarah married, they were both residents of Yalpunga in New South Wales. Michael was employed as a "contractor" age 20 and Sarah had no occupation recorded and was 19 years old.



Sarah and Michael marriage certificate.

When Michael Reid was nine years old, he suffered a terrible accident. A newspaper article reports that he was driving a whim at the Prince Alfred Mine, South Australia and dislocated his kneecap after some timber fell on him. He was badly hurt and sent to the Adelaide Hospital being admitted on the 19 January 1874 about a week after the accident. He must have been in excruciating pain.

At nine he was very young to be working at the mine. The Prince Alfred Mine was primarily a copper mine located south east of Hawker, past Cradock.



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Extract of Michael's hospitalisation record.



Ruins of Prince Alfred copper mine, South Australia.

Michael and Sarah had the following 12 children:

- 1. David Reid (Mickey) was born on 23 October 1886 in Queensland, died on 2 July 1939 in Broken Hill, New South Wales and was buried in the Broken Hill Cemetery. He married Isabella (Minnie) Elsie Lawson on 18 September 1929 at Bourke and Will's Dig Tree near Innamincka, Queensland. Their wedding photo is on display in the Innamincka Hotel. Isabella was the daughter of Thomas Lawson and Elsie Louisa Taylor. Isabella was born in 1910 in South Australia, died in October 1986 in Camden Park, South Australia and was buried in the Centennial Park Cemetery, Adelaide on 8 October 1986.
- 2. Martha Reid was born 1887 in Milparinka, New South Wales, died on 31 July 1959 in Whyalla, South Australia and is buried in Whyalla Cemetery. She married Patrick Joseph O'Reilly in Quorn, South Australia on 7 August 1905. Patrick was the son of Patrick O'Reilly. Patrick was born about 1867 and died on 25 July 1939 in Parkside Hospital, Adelaide, South Australia. Patrick was buried in West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide.
- 3. John Jacob Reid was born on 18 April 1889, in Thargomindah, Queensland and died on 20 May 1957 in Moorook, South Australia. He married Marcella Maud Ferguson on 24 February 1912 in Farina, South Australia. Marcella was born 6 June 1890 in Beltana, South Australia and died on 30 October 1968 in Barmera, South Australia. She was the daughter of Alexander Cameron Ferguson and Catherine Smedley Shaw. They are both buried in the Old Barmera Cemetery, near Berri in South Australia.
- 4. Dolly Reid was born on 27 June 1892 in Queensland, died 30 October 1971 in Toongabbie, New South Wales and was buried in the Rookwood Cemetery, Sydney, New South Wales. She married Hugh Gillies on 16 April 1913 in Queensland. Hugh was born in 1883 in Urana, New South Wales, died on 13 February 1957 in Winton, Queensland and was buried in Winton Cemetery. Hugh was the son of Donald Gillies and Flora Francis Nicholson.
- 5. Adam Reid was born on 15 October 1894 in Thargomindah, Queensland, died on 26 June 1927 in Farina, South Australia and was buried in the Farina Cemetery. He married Maud Shaw on 24 August 1920 in Solomontown, South Australia. Maud was born on 5 April 1897 in Stirling North, South Australia. She was the daughter of Alfred Smedley Shaw and Amelia Jane Arnold. Maud later married Horace Edmund Lancelot McConnal in Quorn on 10 January 1934. Horace was born 20 October 1892 in Adelaide, South Australia and died on 31 March 1964 in Quorn, South Australia. Horace was the son of William McConnal and Ellen Ewing. Maud died on 7 March 1979 in Quorn, South Australia. They are both buried in the Quorn Cemetery.

- 6. Jane Tennant Reid was born on 25 February 1897 in Queensland and died on 12 March 1974 in Quorn, South Australia. She married Arthur John Hunt on 27 August 1916 in Beltana, South Australia. He was the son of Joseph Hunt and Nancy Carn. Arthur was born on 6 June 1896 in Farina, South Australia and died on 10 March 1973 in Quorn, South Australia. They are both buried in the Quorn Cemetery.
- 7. Herbert (Fagon) Henry Reid was born on 19 August 1899 in Farina, South Australia and died on 9 July 1951 in Whyalla, South Australia. He never married and is buried in the Whyalla Cemetery.
- 8. Mabel (May) Reid was born on 29 October 1901 in Farina, South Australia and died on 29 October 1982 in Whyalla, South Australia. She married Andrew Johnston on 3 February 1921 in Farina, South Australia. He was the son of Robert Johnston and Annie Lousa Oliveri. Andrew Johnston was born on 5 November 1898 in Farina, South Australia and died on 3 July 1979 in Whyalla, South Australia. Both are buried in the Whyalla Cemetery.
- 9. Annie Evelyn Reid was born in 1904 in Marree, South Australia and died on 22 October 1980 in Broken Hill, New South Wales. She married George Henry (Harry) Robertson on 10 April 1924 in Copley, South Australia. He was the son of William Robertson and Clara Jemima Somerfield. George was born about 1902 in Tibooburra, New South Wales and died on 29 April 1976 in Broken Hill, New South Wales. Both are buried in the Broken Hill Cemetery.
- 10. Sarah Eileen Reid was born on 28 June 1907 in Hawker, South Australia and died on 12 December 1979 in Tibooburra, New South Wales. She married Robert Henry Johnston on 30 December 1926 in Farina, South Australia. He was the son of Robert Johnston and Annie Lousa Oliveri. Robert was born on 18 August 1891 in Farina, South Australia, died on 22 November 1957 in Tibooburra, New South Wales. Both are buried in the Tibooburra Cemetery.
- 11. Michael Reid (Mick) was born on 3 March 1909 in Hawker, South Australia and died on 3 April 1980 in Whyalla, South Australia. He married Kathleen Avon Arnold on 6 January 1938 in Beltana, South Australia. She was the daughter of William Arnold and Rose Selina (Mary) Sherry. Kathleen was born on 13 April 1914 in Lyndhurst, South Australia and died on 27 November 1978 in Whyalla, South Australia. Both are buried at the Whyalla Cemetery.
- 12. Evelyn Mabel Reid was born 1 October 1911 in Hawker, South Australia and died on 13 November 1980 in Jamestown, South Australia. She married Thomas Benjamin Martin on 19 September 1929 at Farina in South Australia. Thomas's parents were William Joseph Martin and Ellen Josephine Elena Callary. Thomas was born on 19 April 1900 in Birdsville, Queensland and died on 27 April 1973 in Jamestown, South Australia. Both are buried at the Jamestown Cemetery.



Sarah Reid (Left) and two of her children Mabel (May) and Herbert (Fagon).

Family stories recall that Michael and Sarah lived a very transient life. In the years after their marriage, they lived in a wagon and tents travelling from one job to the next. Michael's occupations included bore sinker, dam builder, carrier, boundary rider and dog fence rider. Most of his life was spent in northern South Australia and western Queensland and New South Wales. Records show they lived in Milparinka, Thargomindah, Hawker, Farina, Murnpeowie Station and Nappa Merri Station.

Their granddaughter, Lorna Shearer, told how Sarah had given birth to several of her children on a tarp on the ground next to their wagon.

Lorna also recalls stories about how, when their children reached working age, Sarah found work for them at whatever station they happened to be at and left them there when they went to the next job. It is likely the children would have only been 14 years old or possibly younger at the time.

His granddaughter, Lorna Shearer nee Johnston, recalls stories of Michael working as a boundary rider on the dog fence at Nappa Merrie Station before he died.

Michael settled in Farina from 1899 to 1905, after that he moved from station to station in the region again, finally working and living on Napper Merri station on his own. His wife Sarah and some of their children were living in Faria.

The bog Fence in the world

The South Australian When they breach the section of the doa fence, the attacks on fence is 2 250km livestock that follow long. It forms part of are a chilling an unbroken barrier reminder of how that stretches over 5 300km much our multithrough South Australia, million dollar Queensland and New South industry relies on the Wales. It is the only barrier dog fence. that prevents dingoes entering the sheep grazing country in There is no doubt that in the south. South Australia the old saving No dog fence - no sheep Before the dog-r dustry rings true. fence, many sheek grazing ventures failed No public access is because of dingo permitted along the dog attacks on stock. fence. By the late 1880s, more affluent farmers were building netting fences around their properties. The fences gradually merged to become verminproofed districts. They spread outwards and enclosed a large area of the state. In 1946 the outside line of the vermin district became the 'dog fence'. The section you can see is part of that structure. For more information contacts Dog Fence Administration Large numbers of dingoes still PO Box 357 Port Augusta SA 5700 exist outside the dog fence. Telephone (08) 8648 5178 Primary Industries South Australia

History of the dog fence.

The birth places of their children provide an insight to the places where Michael worked over the years. By examining newspaper articles places of the children's birth, South Australian directories and electoral roles, the following timeline for Michael and Sarah has been developed.

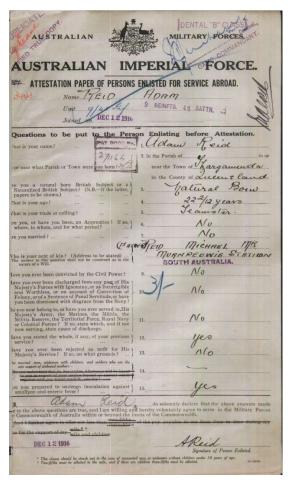
Date	Event	Where	Comment/Evidence
1863	Michael's birth	Wirrabara, SA	Birth Death and Marriage index (BDM)
1868	Sarah's birth	Culgoa River, NSW	BDM
1874	Michael's Hospital	Prince Alfred Mine, SA	Hospital records
1879	Death of Sarah's father John Russell	Bourke	Drowned Christmas Day, Corner's Report
1885	Marriage	Milparinka, NSW	Certificate
1886	Birth of David	Queensland	BDM
1887	Birth of Martha	Milparinka, NSW	BDM
1889	Birth of John	Thargomindah, Qld	BDM
1892	Birth of Dolly	Queensland	BDM
1894	Birth of Adam	Thargomindah, Qld	BDM
1896	Carrier	Thargomindah, Qld	Australian Directories
1897	Birth of Jane	Queensland	BDM
1898	Carrier	Thargomindah, Qld	Australian Directories
1899	Birth of Herbert	Farina, SA	BDM
1901	Birth of Mabel	Farina, SA	BDM
1904	Birth of Annie	Marree, SA	
1907	Birth of Sarah	Hawker, SA	BDM
1909	Birth of Michael	Hawker, SA	BDM
1910	Working	Murnpeowie Station	Son injured-Newspaper
1911	Birth of Evelyn	Hawker, SA	BDM
1914	Working	Murnpeowie Station	SA directory
1916	Working	Murnpeowie Station	Son enlistment for WW1
1917	Working	Murnpeowie Station	Son reported injured fighting fathers address given
1919	Fencer	Nappa Merrie Station, Qld	Census
1924	Fencer	Nappa Merrie Station, Qld	Census
1924	Michael's Death	Innamincka, SA	Newspaper
	Michael's Burial	Innamincka, SA	Helen Tolcher-Book <i>The</i> Town with two lives Newspaper
1943	Sarah's death	Whyalla, SA	Whyalla Cemetery Records

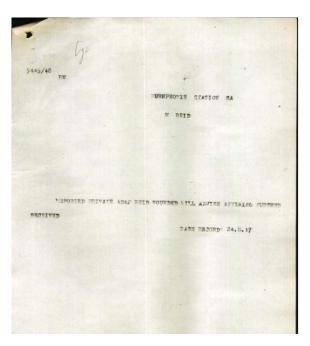
Timeline for Michael and Sarah.

Michael worked on Murnpeowie station sinking artesian bores. The Sands and McDougall Directory of 1914 and 1915 confirms he was at Murnpeowie.



While at Murnpeowie his son Adam enlisted in WW1 in 1916.





Adam Reid WW1 enlistment paper and telegram advising Michael, Adam had been wounded.



Nappa Merrie Homestead

The electoral roles for 1919 and 1925 records him as being a fencer on Nappa Merrie Station. Although he had died, some 7 months before in May 1924.

```
SUBDIVISION OF THARGOMINDAH (1919).
                      No., Name in Full, Place of Living, Occupation, and Sex of seach Elector.
              Manson, Beenie, Thylungra Station, governess, F
Marshall, Nellie, Nocundra, home duties, F
Marshall, Robert, Nocundra, labourer, M
552
553
              Paynter, John Steele, Thylungra Station, stockman, M
             Paynter, John Steele, Thylungra Station, stockman, M
Redfern, Edward Henry, South Comongin, well borer, M
Redfern, Thomas, South Comongin, well borer's labourer, M
Redfern, Thomas Henry, South Comongin, cook, M
Reid, Michael, Nappa Merrie Station, fencer, M
Richards, Jessie Linda Myrtle, Nocundra, home duties, F
Shannon, Percival James, Nockatunga Station, station hand, M
Sherwin, Edwin Arthur William, Mt. Margaret Station, station manager, M
Spinks, John, Little Dingera, station hand, M
Spinks, Lily, Little Dingera, home duties, F
Spinks, Rose, Little Dingera, home duties, F
Swayne, Edith Margaret, Tompine, home duties, F
558
561
562
563
            Swayne, Edith Margaret, Tompine, home duties, F
Teelon, Olive Sophia Catherine. The Park, home duties, F
Tierney, Patrick James, Opal Field, Sheep Station Creek, Cheepie, miner, M
Wade, Andrew Greville, Kyabra Station, cook, M
Weir, William Thomas, Nocundra, labourer, M
 567
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Michael on the 1919
 568
                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Electoral roll.

    Williams, Frederick Andrew, Eromanga, horse breaker, M
    Wilson, Frank, Thargomindah, labourer, M

                                                                 M signifies male; F signifies female
```

Sarah moved to Farina before Michael's death in the early 1920's, possibly from Innamincka. It is not clear why she was in Farina as it is believed she had no family there. In the 1924 Sands and McDougall Directory there is no Reid family members recorded as living in Innamincka nor any of the Reid family recorded as living in Farina.

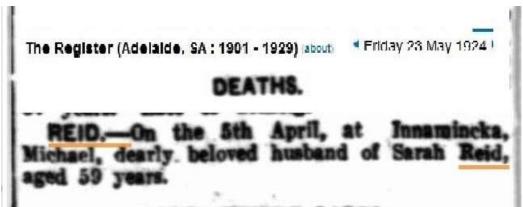
However, Lorna Shearer recalls being told that Sarah and some of the children were living in Farina when Michael died. It is possible Farina was the most suitable northern town and she set up a house for her family while Michael continued to work on Nappa Merrie Station.

Lorna retells the story about how her Grandfather, Michael, had been unwell and in 1923 and travelled to Adelaide to see a Doctor. He found out he had cancer. However, rather than telling his wife of his diagnosis, he returned to work at Nappa Merri. He progressively deteriorated until he was taken to Innamincka where he died on 5 April 1924. He was buried in the Innamincka Cemetery in an unmarked grave. However, family members that descend from Michael and Sarah's eldest son David, have since placed a memorial plaque for him at the cemetery.

Why didn't he tell his wife of his illness? Why didn't he go to Farina? This part of the story may never be known.

In the book by H M Tolcher, "Innamincka-The Town with Two Lives" Michael's death is recorded as "Michael Regan (Reid), 5 April 1924. Described as an "old identity, Regan (Reid) died of an internal complaint '.

Michael died 5 April 1924 in Innamincka, South Australia. None of the family were able to attend his funeral.



Michael's death notice.

Transcontinental (Port Augusta, SA: 1914 - 1954) / Fri 9 May 1924

The local police have received a report to the effect that Michael Reid, contractor, of Innamincka, died on April 5 from cancer of the stomach.

Newspaper report on Michael's death.



Innamincka Cemetery Photo: Brett Cummings 2012.

In 2017 descendants of Michael and Sarah through their eldest child, David, place a plaque in the Innamincka Cemetery for Michael.



Memorial at Innamincka for Michael.

According to South Australian Directories and Electoral Rolls, Sarah left Farina around 1937. Sarah in her last years lived with her daughter Mabel (May) and family in Whyalla.

Sarah died on 18 December 1943 in Whyalla, South Australia, Australia, at the age of age 75.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1931 - 1954) (about) Monday 20 December 1943

RFID.—On Dec. 18, at Whyalla, Serah, dearly beloved wife of the late Michael Reid, late of Parina, and loving mother of Martha, Jack. Dolly. Jane, Mick. Sarah, Annie, May, and Herbert; aged 80 years. At rest.

Sarah's death notice.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1931 - 1954) (about) Monday 18 December 1944

IN MEMCRIAM

REID.—In loving memory of our loving mother and grandmother, who passed away December 18, 1943. God takes our loved ones from our home, but never from our hearts.—Sadly missed by son Jack, and daughter-in-law Marcella, and grandsons.

REID.—In sad but loving memory of our dear mother, who passed away December 18, 1943. One year of sadness now has passed since sorrow on us fell; forever we will feel the loss of one we loved so well.—Sadly missed by her daughter and son-in-law, May. Andrew, family.

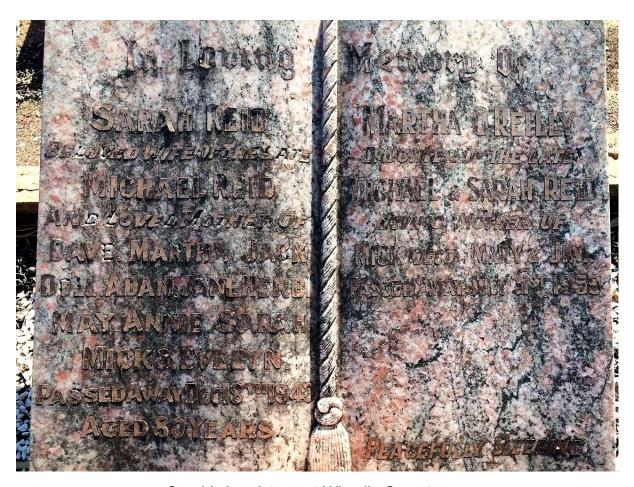
who passed away December 18, 1943. When last I saw your smiling face, you looked so strong and well; little did we think that day would be our last farewell.—Inserted by loving daughter and son-in-law, Jane, Jack, and family.

The Advertiser (Adelaide, SA: 1931 - 1954) (about) Friday 22 December 1944

mother and grandma, who passed away Dec. 18. A thought for today, a memory forever.—Remembered by her daughter and son-in-law, Eve and Tom, and grandchildren.

1944 Memorial notices.

Her daughter Martha O'Reilly, who died on 31 July 1959 in Whyalla is buried in the same plot as Sarah.



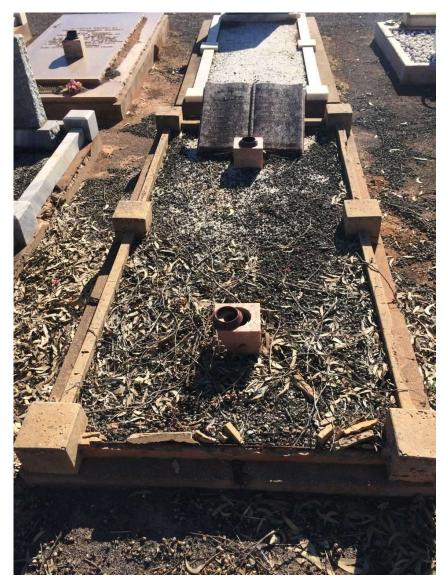
Sarah's headstone at Whyalla Cemetery.

Home > REID, SARAH

Surname
Given Names
Cemetery
Row
Plot/Grave/Niche
Date of Death
Age at Death
Date of Interment
Minister Officiating
Grave Depth
Burial/Order Number

REID SARAH WHYALLA 4 7 19/12/1943 79 19/12/1943 REV M. ISHERWOOD 2.13 242

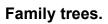
Details of Sarah Reid's death and burial.

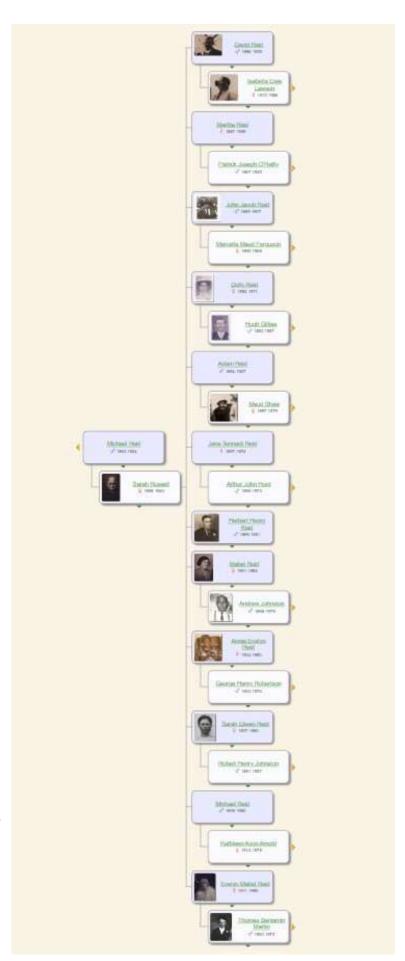


Sarah and Martha's grave at Whyalla Cemetery.

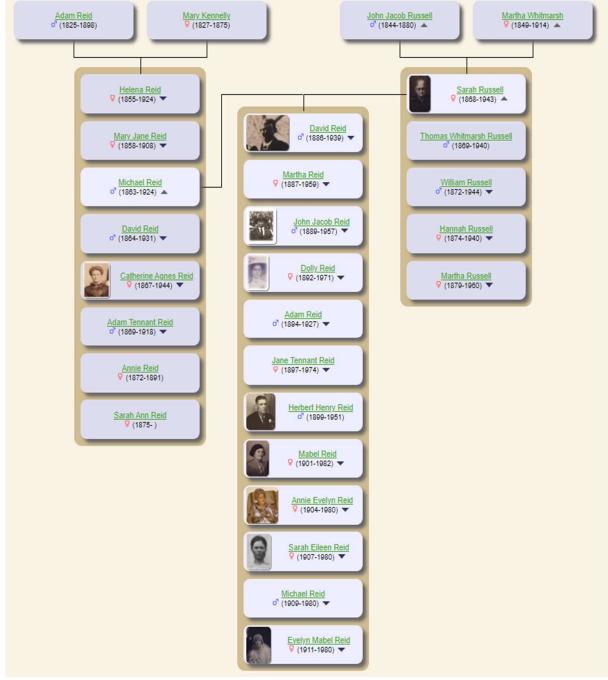
Michael and Sarah are ancestors who demonstrated their true pioneering spirt in working and living in some of our country's hardest regions.



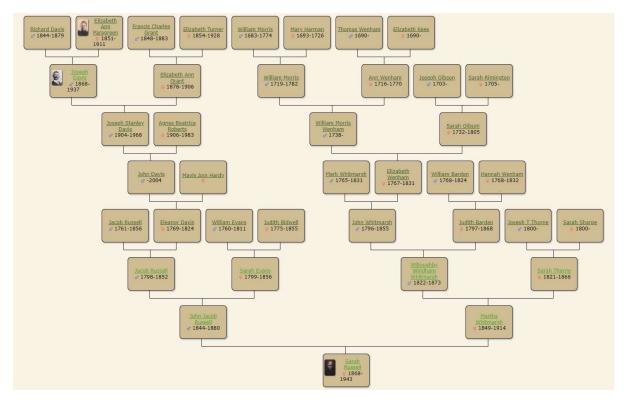




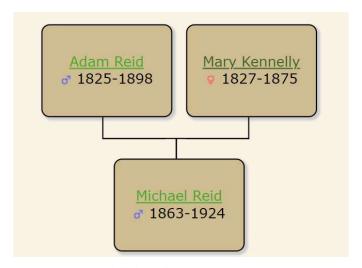
Family of Michael and Sarah.



Michael and Sarah family and parents.



Sarah's ancestors.



Michael's ancestors.