

Michael Dillon

Rushworth Chronicle

26 October, 1894

A report reached the police on Wednesday morning, the 17th inst., through Mr C. Baud, that a man named Michael Dillon had been found dead in his hut at the White Hills [west of Whroo] on the previous evening.

Senior-Constable Turnbull went out for the purpose of investigating the matter, and found that Dillon had been ailing for some time and that another miner named Craig had been attending him. Craig saw him on the previous Sunday evening, when he appeared to be better. On visiting deceased's place on the following Tuesday evening he found the hut door locked on the inside, and as he could not get any replies to his questions he went and got another man named Ludlow, and they burst the door open and found the deceased lying across the bed, with his head hanging down between the back of the bed and the wall. He had evidently been dead for some time. Deceased had apparently been sitting on the edge of the bed, undressed, with the view of retiring for the night, when he was attacked with a fit of coughing, and fell back and expired.

On the Senior-constable reporting the matter to Mr Wigg, J. P., the latter decided that an enquiry was not necessary and gave an order for the interment of the remains.

The deceased, who had served in the Indian army, came to the colony in 1852 with a lot of others who had also received their discharge. Most of his comrades joined the police force, but he preferred to try his luck at the diggings, and had spent the last twenty years at the White Hills.

The deceased, who was 74 years of age, was very much respected, being very independent and straightforward in all his actions. Mr Milward had charge of the funeral arrangements.

The interment list at Whroo cemetery, shown on the plaque, includes Michael Dillon, buried 16 October, 1894. This date is the day before the body was reported, and two days before his reported death!