

Australian Capital Territory

# Public Place Names (Spence) Determination 2023

Disallowable instrument DI2023–86

made under the

**Public Place Names Act 1989, s 3 (Minister to determine names)**

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## 1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Public Place Names (Spence) Determination 2023*.

## 2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

## 3 Revocation

This instrument revokes the determination of the Minister of State for the Interior of 5 October 1972 of the name for the Division of Spence, published in the Commonwealth of Australia Gazette No. 103, dated 2 November 1972, with the following effect only. The origin and significance information in the schedule to the determination is revoked and re-made to co-name the Division of Spence after two people.

## 4 Determination of division name

I determine the name of the division as indicated in the schedule.

Ben Ponton

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Land Management

15 May 2023

## SCHEDULE

(See s 3)

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### Division of Spence

The location of the division with the following name is indicated on the associated diagram.

<b>DIVISION NAME</b>	<b>ORIGIN</b>	<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>
<b>SPENCE</b>	Catherine Helen Spence  (1825–1910)	Social and political reformer, feminist, suffragette, educationist, journalist and novelist  Catherine Helen Spence was a progressive, liberal thinker, influential in the campaign for women’s suffrage in Australia and internationally. Her advocacy for reform contributed to South Australia being the first Australian colony to grant women the right to vote. Born in Scotland, Spence emigrated to South Australia with family in 1839. She strived to become “a teacher first and a great writer afterwards.” Her first novel, ‘Clara Morison: A Tale of South Australia during the gold fever’ was published anonymously in 1854. Actively interested in electoral reform, her pamphlet, ‘A plea for pure democracy: Mr Hare’s Reform Bill applied to South Australia’ (1861) argued the case for proportional voting, decades ahead of its time. By the late 1870s, she was widely known as a literary critic and social commentator. She challenged the patriarchy and advocated for the political education of women and for greater provision of child welfare. In 1880, she produced a civics textbook for South Australian schools, ‘The laws we live under’, reprinted in 1881 to include ‘chapters on elementary political economy and the duties of citizens’. In 1892, Spence proposed the modified Hare-Spence system to argue for truly proportional representation of political parties in Australia’s colonial parliaments. Her lectures and public appearances during a trip to the United States of America in 1893–1894 established her international reputation. In 1897, Spence became the first female political candidate in Australia when she contested (unsuccessfully) the election of delegates to the Australasian Federal Convention. Her book, ‘Effective voting: Australia’s opportunity: an explanation of the Hare system of representation’ was published in 1898.

William Guthrie Spence (1846–1926) Miner, union organiser, labour leader, politician

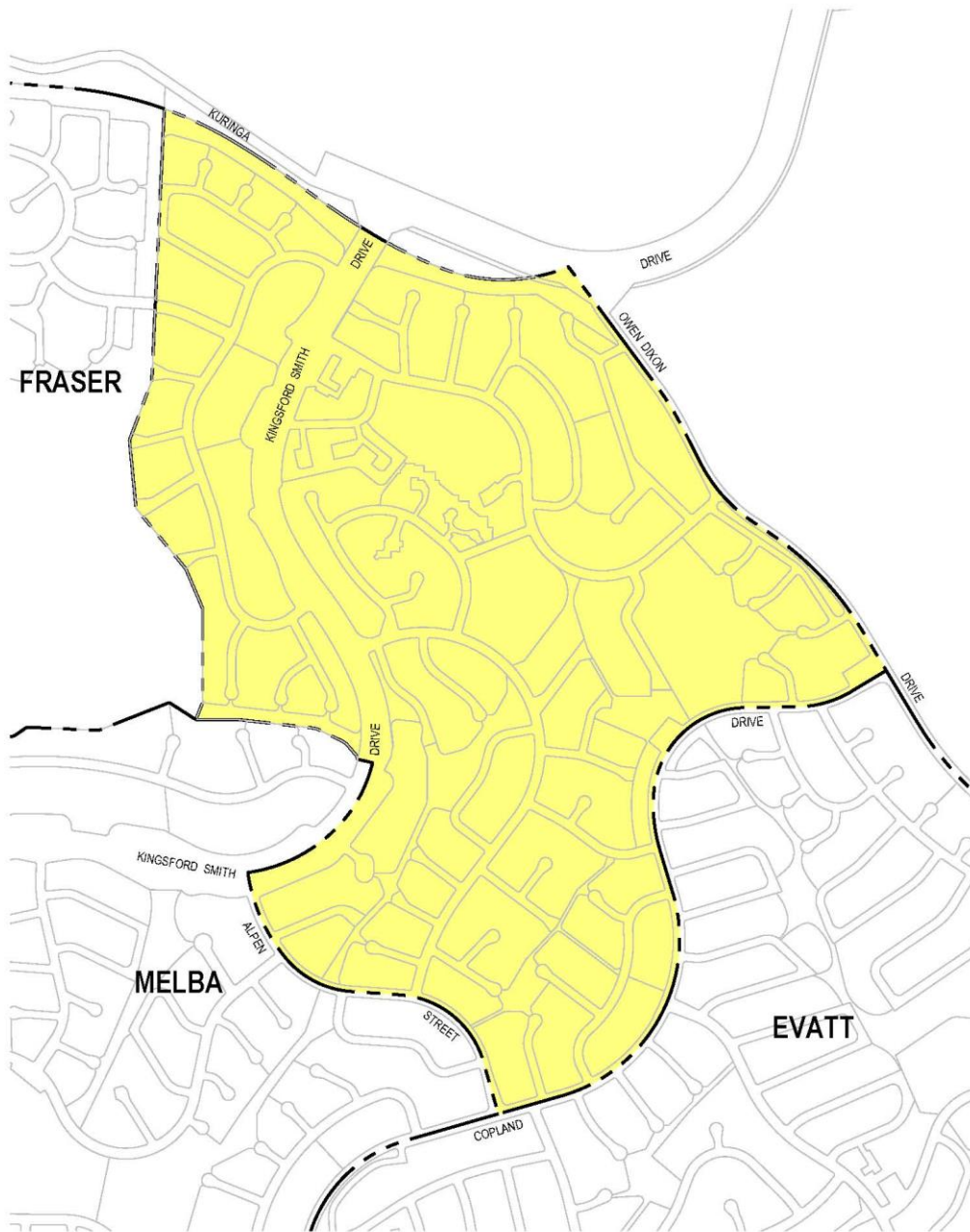
William Guthrie Spence believed in union strength through amalgamation and is widely regarded as ‘the Father of the Australian Workers’ Union’.

Born in Scotland, Spence emigrated to Victoria with family in the early 1850s and held a miner’s right at aged 14 years. Concerned about the rights of miners, he became involved in union organising in Creswick, Victoria, in the lead up to the founding of the Amalgamated Miners’ Association of Victoria (AMA) in 1874. He was general secretary of the AMA from 1882–1891; foundation president of the Amalgamated Shearers’ Union of Australasia (ASU) in 1886; and was involved in the Maritime Strike in 1890 and the Queensland shearers strike in 1891.

A skilled organiser, Spence was instrumental in the founding of the Australian Workers’ Union (AWU) in 1894, serving as Secretary from 1894–1898 and President from 1898–1917. In his political life, he was Labour member for the Seat of Cobar in the New South Wales (NSW) Legislative Assembly from 1898–1901 and elected to the first Federal Parliament, serving as Member for Darling (NSW) from 1901–1917. He was appointed Commonwealth Postmaster-General in 1914–1915 and Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council in 1916–1917. Spence resigned from the Australian Labor Party during 1917 over the conscription issue and subsequently lost his seat, but returned to parliament in the same year, winning the Seat of Darwin (Tasmania) through a by-election as a Nationalist candidate. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Batman (Victoria) in the federal election in December 1919. Spence was the author of ‘Australia’s Awakening, Thirty Years in the Life of an Australian Agitator’ (1909) and ‘History of the A.W.U’ (1911).



Schedule  
(see section 3)



# DIVISION OF SPENCE

Diagram