

CHARLES SUMMERS (Senior)

- Born 1825. Little schooling, apprenticed to his father, a mason.
- His skill at stone carving noted, worked for Henry Weekes in London, then with M.L. Watson.
- 1848-1851 attended Royal Academy schools then became ill (? tuberculosis.)
- Travelled to Melbourne, mined at Tarnagulla, sold claim and it produced 20,000 pounds worth of gold the next week!
- Renewed sculpting and supervised stone carving of facade of new parliament House (one source) chamber of Legislative chamber and ceiling figures (another)
- Did portraits, busts and medallions for local notables, bronze group of Burke and Wills.
- 1867 -> Britain then Rome.
- Studio in Rome one of the finest, at one time employing 20 men.
- Operation for "acute goitre" 1878 and died in Paris 1878.
- Married Augustine Ameot in 1851 -> son Charles Francis 1857 ("a minor sculptor.")