
Hopetoun cemetery and chapel



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Location

WESTERN FREEWAY and BACCHUS MARSH ROAD MERRIMU HOPETOUN PARK, MOORABOOL SHIRE

Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H2059

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO16

Heritage Listing

Moorabool Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 1, 1995

An early, pre-gold rush Catholic cemetery and chapel established in 1850-51, which closed in 1941, with the ruins of an early Catholic chapel and school, which closed in 1874. The cemetery was the earliest established in the

Catholic Diocese of Melbourne. The chapel was the first Catholic church in Bacchus Marsh.

The complex is of regional historical significance as a representative embodiment of the way of life in the early settlement and for its association with religious and educational developments in community life which are pioneering to the locality and in the case of the cemetery, the earliest in the State.

It is of regional architectural significance as an example of a relatively intact surviving early cemetery and of scientific significance in demonstrating potential for archaeological research.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Moorabool - Bacchus Marsh Heritage Study 1995, Richard Peterson and Daniel Catrice, 1995; |
| Construction dates | 1851, |
| Hermes Number | 124320 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

An early cemetery, now closed. There are seven old pine trees and about 22 marked graves. Most graves have gravestones and low cast-iron fences, often on dressed bluestone bases. There are fragments of other gravestones.

There is also a ruin of a small masonry building. The bases of walls on three sides and of a porch survive. These are in brick and rubble stone, or brick (three courses, 340mm thick and overall, 6.85x1.25m). There is an open concrete drain leading to a culvert at its north end, on the west boundary. Also a post and rail (one side post and wire) boundary fence all round, and the remnants of other timber fences. (Refer: maps);'

Intactness

Poor

Physical Conditions

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Poor. Appears neglected and exposed to vehicular pollution and vandalism. Needs maintenance. The fence needs further repair

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>