
TARRAYOUKYAN CEMETERY



23148 Riddoch grave
Tarrayoukyan Cemetery 0371

Location

Tarrayoukyan Road TARRAYOUKYAN, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 24, 2003

What is significant?

The Tarrayoukyan cemetery is one of two places which mark the place where the village of Tarrayoukyan once stood. The cemetery and St. Joseph's Catholic Church are the only reminders of the township. The cemetery is located on a sloping site adjacent to farm land, a short distance from the church, and covers about four acres. There are a variety of graves within the cemetery, dating from the first interment in 1872, through to today, as the cemetery continues to be used. The graves of some of the most important early settlers in the area are represented within the Tarrayoukyan cemetery, including the Riddoch family of Penola. It is laid out in a typical denomination sectioned manner, on a rough grid system. The cemetery is well maintained and retains a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The Tarrayoukyan Cemetery is of historical, social and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

What is significant?

The Tarrayoukyan Cemetery is of historical significance as an enduring record of those who have lived and died in the community, as a reflection of passing phases, ways of life and death, particular events, and as documentary evidence. It is of particular historical interest in that it has a separate section for Jewish and non-Christian burials.

The cemetery is of social significance for reflecting the customs and tastes of the community, for reflecting different religious values, and for reflecting different economic and social status. It is also important as a place of passive recreation.

The Tarrayoukyan cemetery is of architectural significance for its range of tombstones, memorials and iconography reflecting the aesthetics of different periods and groups within the community. It is also of interest for its overall design and position within the broader landscape.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1872,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23148
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The cemetery is well maintained, and shows signs of recent survey work, to mark the graves of early settlers. The grass is kept low by grazing sheep on the land, which has caused damage to the sole tree on the site. The graves do not appear to have been damaged by sheep's hooves.

Physical Description 1

Tarrayoukyan Cemetery is located approximately 150 metres north of Tarrayoukyan Road, on a sloping site adjacent to farmland. The cemetery contains the graves of many pioneer settlers in the area. The cemetery is divided in the conventional manner into areas for each Christian denomination. The majority of graves are located in the Catholic and Presbyterian sections, with a smaller Anglican section. Isolated graves are scattered across the site.

A number of graves consist of a headstone inside a wrought iron enclosure. The majority of early graves are surmounted by monuments which record the details of the deceased, cruciform designs being most common. Later graves consist of a headstone and horizontal slab. More recently, a number of simple granite markers have been placed to record the presence in the cemetery of pioneer families.

One early grave retains a wooden enclosure, although a modern grave marker commemorates the family name of the individuals interred therein. Two other graves in the cemetery retain remnants of wooden enclosures, in a very poor condition. Many graves may have been marked by wooden monuments which have disappeared in the subsequent decades. The area has been affected by bushfire on a number of occasions.

In the Catholic section are located the graves of the Carey family, among the first settlers in the township, and many long-established family names, including Healy, Neeson, McGrath, Bolan, McDonnell, Molloy, Neave, Daly and Hooley. Members of the well-known Edgar family, of Cuyuac and Woodacres, are buried in the Presbyterian

section. Other early families in this section include Riddoch, Clark, McDonald, Barclay, MacKinnon, Nicolson and McCorkindale. The Anglican section includes graves of settlers Neave, Waters and Binnington.

The cemetery is still in use, and a number of modern graves are interspersed among the historic ones.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 9: Marking the phases of life

9.7 Dying

9.7.1 Dealing with human remains

9.7.3 Remembering the dead

Usage/Former Usage

Cemetery

Integrity

high degree of integrity

Physical Description 2

Neeson family

Carey family

Edgar family

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/>