
BRIDGEWATER CEMETERY



52597 Bridgewater Cemetery
133

Location

264 BRIDGEWATER LAKES ROAD, CAPE BRIDGEWATER, GLENELG SHIRE

Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Bridgewater Cemetery is located in a some 3 km west of the centre of the township of Bridgewater, in Bridgewater Lakes Road. It is the first official cemetery gazetted for the township, and provided local people with a central burial ground. Prior to this, burials were placed in private family or property cemeteries around the area, such as Kennedy's, Kitson's and Black's family cemeteries and crypts. The burials date from the mid 1870s, and are relatively sparse until the early twentieth century. The layout is typical of a simple nineteenth century cemetery, set on a gentle rise overlooking the town. The graves are laid out in typical denominational fashion. The Cemetery is in fair condition, and retains a high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The Bridgewater Cemetery is of historical, architectural and social significance to Glenelg Shire.

What is significant?

The Bridgewater 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 a source of documentary evidence. It is of further historical interest for its small number of early burials, reflecting the tradition of family cemeteries and crypts in the area. The cemetery has further historical significance for the burials of individuals and families who made important contributions to their community. 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 homage and of passive recreation. The Bridgewater 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.

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Glenelg - Glenelg Shire Heritage Study Part One, Carlotta Kellaway, David Rhodes Mandy Jean, 2002; Glenelg - Glenelg Heritage Study Stage Two (a), Heritage Matters, 2006; |
| Other Names | TARRAGAL, |
| Hermes Number | 52597 |
| Property Number | |

Usage/Former Usage

cemetery

Physical Description 1

The Bridgewater Cemetery is located some 3 km west of the township of Bridgewater. The reserve is a rectangular space of seven acres, three roods and five perches (Dept. of Crown Lands and Survey, nd). The graves are grouped in the conventional manner, according to denominations. There are no structures on the site. No formal plantings visible, although the borders of the reserve appear to be massed with Boobyalla, a common hedging plant in the area (it is not known whether this is a deliberate planting). The graves of many families who made important contributions to the development of the Bridgewater community are located in the cemetery, and represented through a range of gravestones and memorials. Unusually, the earliest burials date from 1877, as most burials took place in private cemeteries or crypts on family properties until that time.

Physical Conditions

Good

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

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/>