
LAL LAL HOMESTEAD & HEDDITCH PRIVATE CEMETERY

Location

105 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 Hedditch private cemetery is located near Lal Lal Homestead, off Bridgewater Lakes Road, at Lower Cape Bridgewater. There may have been an intention to create an aesthetic relationship between the original homestead and the cemetery, as the cemetery is tucked into the hills overlooking the homestead. The Hedditch family took up Lal Lal in the early 1850s and remained there until the 1920s.(?) Richard Charlton Hedditch had married Rachel Read in 1837 in England and immigrated to South Australia and thence to Tasmania. In 1841 they settled in Portland working as teachers in the Church of England School associated with St Stephen's. In 1845, they took up the Cape Bridgewater run in conjunction with the Kennedy family. Rachel Hedditch wrote 'Home' describing the difficulties of life at Cape Bridgewater. The Kennedys remained there after the Hedditchs moved to Lal Lal. The cemetery contains nine Hedditch family graves representing three generations. It is intact and in good condition. It can be compared with the Kennedy private cemetery and the Black family vault, near Cork Hill, Lower Cape Bridgewater. In many cases burials continued in the family plot for convenience and sentimental reasons until the practice was disallowed. The public Bridgewater Cemetery was opened in the 1860s and the first known burial dates from 1877.

How is it significant?

The Hedditch cemetery is of historical significance to the Glenelg Shire.

Why is it significant?

The Hedditch private cemetery is of historical significance for its commemoration of an important pioneering family on one of the more significant homesteads in the area, marking not only their dates of birth and death but also their relationships. It demonstrates a desire for permanence in a new land. It also demonstrates an aesthetic

sensitivity to the landscape because of the sheltered siting of the graves, which overlooks the homestead. The cemetery represents the ingenuity of early pioneers when disposing of human remains prior to the gazettal of public cemeteries.

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;
Construction dates	1840,
Other Names	LAL LAL PRIVATE CEMETERY, HEDDITCH PRIVATE CEMETERY,
Hermes Number	52763
Property Number	

Usage/Former Usage

private burial ground (no longer used for burials)

Physical Description 1

The private cemetery of the Hedditch family is a small burial site of only nine graves tucked into the hills above Lal Lal, overlooking the main homestead. The cemetery is very simple, with the graves of nine members of the Hedditch family represented by simple headstones. The first burial was that of Emily Hedditch, aged 7 years on 08 June, 1854, the last burial was that of Richard Charlton Hedditch, aged 85 years on 23rd November 1893.

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/>