

---

## Western Cemetery



Western Cemetery Minerva  
Road Entrance



Western Cemetery Gates



Plaque Sextons Cottage  
Western Cemetery



King Billy Grave Western  
Cemetery No 1



King Billy Grave Western  
Cemetery No 2

---

### Location

93 Minerva Road, HAMLYN HEIGHTS VIC 3215 - Property No 300974

### Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO254

### Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

C Listed - Local Significance

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - GRC - HISTORIC PLACES DOCUMENTATION SHEET NO. 286

The Western Cemetery is of local historical significance for the associations with past residents and settlers of the district, the genealogical and other biographical data contained on the surviving headstones and tombs structures, and or architectural interest for the items of monumental masonry which mark the burial place of prominent local residents.

Many of the gravestones are by local monumental sculptors, including the work of clement Nash, Nataniel Brown, and Samuel Brain, and are of aesthetic interest.

The Western Cemetery is a local landmark.

### RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Geelong Regional Commission Register,

### REFERENCES

Details of the Western Cemetery are recoded in the files of the Lands and Survey Department held at the Public Records Office at Laverton, the relevant issued of the Victorian Government Gazette which record details of proclamations of cemetery reserves, trusteeships, etc., and in the records of the individual cemetery trustees minute books and registers.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE - City of Geelong West - Urban Conservation Study - Building Identification Form

The Western Cemetery is significant for its early date of formation (1855-1858), its original layout by Christopher Porter and its original plantings supplied by Baron Van Mullet . The cemetery has important historical associations with many Geelong families and with the now extinct aborigines of the district. In historical and environmental terms it is considered one of Victoria's most significant cemeteries. It is of State Significance.

### POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

National Estate Register

Government Buildings Register

A detailed policy should be compiled in conjunction with a landscape architect.

### REFERENCES

J Thomas - "History of Geelong Western Public Cemetery (formerly New General Cemetery) 95 Minerva Road, Geelong West, manuscript by Mr J Thomas former Secretary of the Cemeteries Trust. (n.d.)

L - P Planning - Cemeteries of Victoria - A National Estate Study, 1980.

L Huddle - "Architects in Geelong in the 1840's and 1850's, Humanities Research Report, Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne, 1979. Vol. 1, PP 86,89; Vol 2. pp 12, 66; Vol 3. pp 146-7.

Heritage  
Study/Consultant

Greater Geelong - City of Geelong West Urban Conservation Study, Huddle, Aitken  
and Honman, 1986;

Heritage Act Categories    Registered place,

Hermes Number 21804

Property Number

---

## Physical Description 1

### DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the cemetery are Minerva Road, part of Norwood Crescent, Herne Hill Reserve and Itkeson Street. This large cemetery is located on top of a hill in the locality of Herne Hill. The tall Italian cypresses and pines make it clearly visible from a distance. The entrance is dominated by large iron gates set back from the road, with its semi-circular plan mirrored with many new plantings and lawns. The old section is distinctive with the stone monuments being divided by a central serpentine path of Italian cypress. The cemetery contains many stone monuments, cast iron fencing and plots, and a mausoleum to the Strachan family. Regrettably the lodge, fence and gates by Porter are no longer extant, however their original character can be seen in the illustration attached. The extent of the original landscaping remaining has not been determined.

*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/>*