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# Eastern Cemetery



B6809 Eastern Cemetery  
Geelong

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## Location

Boundary Road, GEELONG VIC 3219 - Property No B6809

## Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

## Level of significance

State

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 6, 2004

Dating from the approximately 1840, Geelong Eastern Cemetery is an excellent example of a Provincial Victorian Garden Cemetery which has been in continual use for over one hundred and fifty years. The Geelong Eastern Cemetery is of State significance for the following reasons:

- its substantially intact example of a Provincial Victorian Garden cemetery.
- \* It exhibits unusual cultural features associated with the development of Provincial Victorian Garden cemeteries.
- Its possession of uncommon aspects of Australia's cultural history as a Provincial Victorian Garden Cemetery.
- \* Its importance in demonstrating a distinctive way of life, custom, and design no longer practised and in danger of being lost. It is of exceptional interest as most Provincial Victorian Garden cemeteries no longer demonstrate their characteristic design as twentieth century overcrowding and neglect have generally resulted in the loss of earlier schemes.
- \* For its collection of trees and plants, including early examples of peppercorn trees and Italian cypress.

- its potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Australia's cultural history.
- \* Its importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of Australian history, by virtue of its use as a research and reference site.
- \* Its importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of Australia. For example by providing information about the patterns of deaths in the provincial city of Geelong by information about the patterns of deaths in the provincial city of Geelong by age, religion and family; and sometimes giving causes, occupations and other information. By illustrating the importance of homelands in epitaphs and also by demonstrating the range of technical and craft skills and materials available.
- \* For trees planted within the first decades of the development of the Geelong, and therefore of some botanical interest as being amongst the earliest surviving tree planting in the provincial city.
- \* For its value as a historical record, a collection of individual memorials, its continuity and security, for the manner in which it inspires respect for the dead, as a social document, and for its role in education and recreation.

-its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of:

(1) A class of Australia's cultural places, being Provincial Victorian Garden cemeteries.

- \* its importance in demonstrating the principal attributes which are characteristic of the class. These are: curvilinear paths and landscaping, highlighting of topographical contours with established view lines and landmark features, provision of recreational facilities such as rotundas, symbolic planting, and high quality Victorian buildings, enclosures and monuments.
- \* Its importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of the range of human activities in the Australian environment (including way of life, custom, process, land use, function, design or technique). It demonstrates the Victorian approach as seeing burial grounds also as a public park. For health reasons the cemetery was located outside populated areas but was designed to be an attractive destination for visitors. It also demonstrates that, although this was a secular cemetery, religion was very important with the allocation of land based on religion.

- its importance in exhibiting Victorian aesthetic characteristics valued by the Provincial community.

- \* Its importance to the community for aesthetic characteristics held in high esteem is demonstrated in the value of the cemetery as a place of picturesque and tranquil beauty, a public park, the vistas and views within the cemetery, and also in that twentieth century development respected the earlier design.

- its importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement of the Victorian period.

- \* importance for technical, creative design or artistic excellence, innovation or achievement, including monuments of state or national significance such as the Goodman monument, the Armytage family monument, Weire monument, Francis Ormond monument and the cemetery's collection of memorials, tombstones and other funerary art.

- its strong or special associations with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

- \* Its importance as a place highly valued by a community for reasons of religious, spiritual, symbolic, cultural, educational and social associations. Eastern Cemetery has special associations for the community because of Victorian aesthetic but is also of importance to post war migrants with family monuments at the cemetery.

- its special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural or cultural history.

- \* Its importance for close associations with individuals whose activities have been significant within the history of the nation, State or region and are illustrated in the monuments and epitaphs to them, including Armytage family, Austin family, Charles Brownlow, Chirside family, Foster Fyans, James Harrison and Sir Charles Sladen.

Hermes Number 68185

Property Number

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*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/>*