
Maldon Cemetery



B6818 Maldon Cemetery



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Location

Junction of Maldon, Nuggetty & Back Cemetery Roads,, MALDON VIC 3463 - Property No B6818

Municipality

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 8, 2005

Maldon Cemetery, laid out to a design of trustee William Falla Smith in 1861, with the 1872 section designed by W H Waller and additional design by James V Walshe (undated), and in continual use since 1861, is of state significance for the following reasons:

- its importance in the course of Australia's cultural history as a substantially intact example of a mid nineteenth century goldfields cemetery demonstrating unusual ideas about layout and planting of the period. *It exhibits unusual cultural features associated with the development of mid nineteenth century goldfields cemeteries, such as the irregular arrangement of straight and curved paths.

- its possession of uncommon aspects of Australia's cultural history as a mid nineteenth century goldfields 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 mid nineteenth century cemeteries no longer demonstrate their characteristic design as twentieth century overcrowding and neglect have generally resulted in the loss of earlier

schemes. Maldon Cemetery developed in the twentieth century in a manner which both respects the early section of the site and expresses contemporary ideas.

*For its collection of trees and plants, including ground cover plantings of *Oxalis purpurea*, (rose, purple and white color forms), *Narcissus* cultivars, *Belladonna Lily* (*Amaryllis belladonna*), *Oxalis hirta*, Cuban Lily (*Scilla peruviana*, blue and white forms), Blue Agapanthus (*Agapanthus praecox* subsp. *orientalis*), Arum Lily (*Zantedeschia aethiopica*), *Freesia leichtlinii* and Periwinkle (*Vinca major*). Other trees and plants including Italian Cupress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*), two Pepper Trees (*Schinus molle* var. *areira*), Oleander (*Nerium oleander*), Winter Honeysuckle (*Lonicera fragrantissima*), Willow-leaf Hakea (*Hakea salicifolia*), Cape Honeysuckle (*Tecomaria capensis*), *Jasminum polyanthum*, Century Plant (*Agave americana*), Tasmanian Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus globulus* subsp. *globulus* stand), Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*), Lightwood (*Acacia implexa*), Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*), seven Monterey Cypress specimens (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and a rare Tree Anemone (*Carpentaria californica*) near the rotunda -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 colonial city 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.

*Its strong links with Maldon which became one of the richest goldfields in the world, second only to Bendigo in Victoria in regard to the significance of quartz mining.

*Its strong links with the Chinese miners and miners experienced in underground mining, like the Welsh coal miners and Cornish tin miners.

*For its value as a historical record, a collection of individual memorials, its continuity and security, for the manner in which it inspires a respect for the dead, as a social document, and for its role in education and recreation.

-its importance in demonstrating unusual characteristics of : (1) A class of Australia's cultural places, being mid nineteenth century goldfields cemeteries.

*Its importance in demonstrating unusual attributes which are not characteristic of the class. These are: the unusual road and path layout with an oval section of the plan, the lack of separate denominational compartments, and a picturesque layout with irregular curving and straight roads.

*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 goldfields life, including the role of the Chinese, death in mining disasters and infant mortality. -its importance in exhibiting Victorian aesthetic characteristics valued by the colonial community.

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

*The cemetery has a significant and impressive collection of trees, shrubs, bulbs and ground cover species and in late August the cemetery is one of the most colorful landscapes in Victoria. It also has the impressive backdrop of Mt. Nuggetty with its granite outcropping and is set in particularly picturesque surroundings.

-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 the substantial intact c1900 rotunda, the rebuilt sexton's residence, the Chinese funerary oven 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. Maldon Cemetery has special associations for the local community because of its continual use since 1858 but is also of special importance to Chinese descendants.

-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 Victoria's rich goldfields. The cemetery retains excellent evidence of Maldon's gold history, from the original rush of 1854, through a depression and subsequent quartz-crushing boom in 1859/60, followed by a twenty year period of settled prosperity.

Classified: 04/08/1997

Property Number

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/>