

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: TARRAYOUKYAN CEMETERY

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Tarrayoukyan Road TARRAYOUKYAN

STUDY NUMBER: 074

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF TARRAYOUKYAN

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

150 metres north of Tarrayoukyan Road

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



The Grave of the Ridloch Family, Tarrayoukyan Cemetery, Tarrayoukyan

Image Date: 16/11/03

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the surviving gravestone, fences, plantings, and works and all of the reserve.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Tarrayoukyan Cemetery is located approximately 150 metres north of Tarrayoukyan Road, on a sloping site adjacent to farmland. The cemetery contains the graves of many pioneer settlers in the area. The cemetery is divided in the conventional manner into areas for each Christian denomination. The majority of graves are located in the Catholic and Presbyterian sections, with a smaller Anglican section. Isolated graves are scattered across the site.

A number of graves consist of a headstone inside a wrought iron enclosure. The majority of early graves are surmounted by monuments which record the details of the deceased, cruciform designs being most common. Later graves consist of a headstone and horizontal slab. More recently, a number of simple granite markers have been placed to record the presence in the cemetery of pioneer families.

One early grave retains a wooden enclosure, although a modern grave marker commemorates the family name of the individuals interred therein. Two other graves in the cemetery retain remnants of wooden enclosures, in a very poor condition. Many graves may have been marked by wooden monuments which have disappeared in the subsequent decades. The area has been affected by bushfire on a number of occasions.

In the Catholic section are located the graves of the Carey family, among the first settlers in the township, and many long-established family names, including Healy, Neeson, McGrath, Bolan, McDonnell, Molloy, Neave, Daly and Hooley. Members of the well-known Edgar family, of Cuyuac and Woodacres, are buried in the Presbyterian section. Other early families in this section include Riddoch, Clark, McDonald, Barclay, MacKinnon, Nicolson and McCorkindale. The Anglican section includes graves of settlers Neave, Waters and Binnington.

The cemetery is still in use, and a number of modern graves are interspersed among the historic ones.

HISTORY:

The passing of the English Metropolitan Internments Act granted the Board of Health in London to provide burial grounds. This seems to have influenced legislation in the Australian colonies. Cemeteries were usually developed in association with particular churches or as a result of public meetings of concerned citizens. "In 1854, an 'Act for the Establishment and Management of Cemeteries in the Colony of Victoria' was passed by the Victorian Government forming the basis of cemetery management as we know it today. The Government had the power to appoint and remove trustees and lend or pay money for the establishment of cemeteries. The trustees were charged with the responsibilities to construct structures and avenues; impose rules and regulations to manage and protect the cemeteries; allow ministers of religion free access and religious denominations to build mortuary chapels; have the right to veto and remove inappropriate vaults and monuments; and to keep accounts and statements" (Sagazio, 13). The passing of the 'Municipal Institutions Establishment Act' in 1854 became the basis of Victoria's local government. Local councils were given control over amenities including roads, bridges, streets, sanitation and public health. The 'Public Health Act' was also passed in 1854 and it was envisaged that local councils would also have the responsibility for management of public cemeteries. "Under the provisions of the Public Health Act 1889 the Minister for Health and the Department of Public Health became responsible for the management of cemeteries and the responsibility has remained within the Health portfolio since that time" (ibid., 15).

Most small suburban and country cemeteries were simple in layout with graves in straight lines in either a grid or a design of winding paths. The latter was an influence from English cemetery design, particularly from John Claudius Loudon, and to a lesser extent American cemetery design, from such landscape garden designers as Calvert and Vaux. Plantings were typically those with a funereal iconography such as Cupressus funebris, C. sempervirens, various Pinus species, Laurels, Yews and Junipers. Their common quality was their evergreen and sombre foliage. In special cases trees, shrubs or minor plants were planted with specific association for the

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deceased. Cemeteries were subdivided into sections according to the major Christian denominations. In rare cases there were also sections for non-Christians, such as the Jews.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church and the cemetery are all that remains of the small village that was Tarrayoukyan. The town at one time boasted a hotel (The Royal Oak) built by James Reece in 187; a blacksmith's shop, a store and post office. These buildings were all located next to each other, but were destroyed by fire in May 1959. A State School, No. 1688 opened on half time in 1875, operating full time by 1876. This school closed in 1914 and was removed. St Joseph's Catholic Church was built in 1874, and survives as the sole remaining building in Tarrayoukyan.

The Tarrayoukyan cemetery was established in 1872 and contains the graves of many early settlers of the area. In the Catholic section are located the graves of the Carey family, including Martin Carey, who was the first person buried in the cemetery in 1872. Many long-established family names can be found in the Catholic section, including Neeson of "Sunnyside", Healy of "Avondale", McGrath, Bolan, McDonnell, Molloy, Neave, Daly and Hooley. Members of the well-known Edgar family, of Cuyuac and Woodacres, are buried in the Presbyterian section. Other early families in this section include Riddoch, Clark, McDonald of "Kilmuir", Barclay, MacKinnon, Nicolson and McCorkindale of "Glenetive". The Anglican section includes graves of settlers Neave, Waters and Binnington who worked at "Koolomurt".

Three graves of Riddoch family, related to winemakers of Penola.

1. In loving memory of Mary, beloved wife of Joseph Riddoch, born in Scotland, died at Burnside 11 May 1906, aged 58 years. "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Also, Joseph Riddoch, born Rothiemays Scotland 1847, passed into the afterlife 24 February 1920 aged 82 years 8 months. "His word was his bond"

2. George Riddoch, d. 10 May 1944, Mary Riddoch (nee McCorkindale) wife of George, 1887-1954, parents of Mary and Jim

3. Mary Riddoch, d. 1928 aged 14 yrs

Several graves of Bolan family of Bellevue

1. John Bolan, died at Bellevue 3 July 1913 aged 89 years, and Margaret Bolan, the beloved wife of John Bolan who departed this earth at Bellevue, Balmoral

2. William Bolan, d. 18 September 1934 at Innisfail, Nareen, aged 64 yrs

3. Mary Lucy Bolan

4. Alice Agatha Bolan, d. 18 September 1940, aged 76 yrs

5. John Bolan, d. 18/2/1956, aged 88 years

6. Ellen Bolan, daughter of John and Margaret Bolan, d. 18/5/1953, aged 87 yrs

7. Maurice Bolan, d. 1931

The cemetery contains modern graves and continues to be used.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 9: Marking the phases of life

9.7 Dying

9.7.1 Dealing with human remains

9.7.3 Remembering the dead

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CONDITION:

The cemetery is well maintained, and shows signs of recent survey work, to mark the graves of early settlers. The grass is kept low by grazing sheep on the land, which has caused damage to the sole tree on the site. The graves do not appear to have been damaged by sheeps' hooves.

INTEGRITY:

high degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Tarrayoukyan cemetery is one of two places which mark the place where the village of Tarrayoukyan once stood. The cemetery and St. Joseph's Catholic Church are the only reminders of the township. The cemetery is located on a sloping site adjacent to farm land, a short distance from the church, and covers about four acres. There are a variety of graves within the cemetery, dating from the first interment in 1872, through to today, as the cemetery continues to be used. The graves of some of the most important early settlers in the area are represented within the Tarrayoukyan cemetery, including the Riddoch family of Penola. It is laid out in a typical denomination sectioned manner, on a rough grid system. The cemetery is well maintained and retains a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The Tarrayoukyan Cemetery is of historical, social and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

What is significant?

The Tarrayoukyan 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 documentary evidence. It is of particular historical interest in that it has a separate section for Jewish and non-Christian burials.

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 passive recreation.

The Tarrayoukyan 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.

COMPARISON:

0145 Coleraine Cemetery, Lower Hilgay Road, Coleraine
0178 Balmoral Cemetery, Cemetery Rd, Balmoral
0309 Glenthompson Cemetery, Scott Street, Glenthompson
0233 Old Cemetery, Scott Street (extension), Cavendish,
0262 Boram Boram Cemetery, Boram Boram Lane, Penshurst
0209 Byaduk Cemetery, Cemetery Road, Byaduk
0372 Branxholme Cemetery, off Henty Highway, Branxholme

ASSESSED BY: MGT

ASSESSMENT DATE:

30-Jan-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

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No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year Page
Celestina Sagazio, ed.	Cemeteries, Our Heritage	1992 13, 15