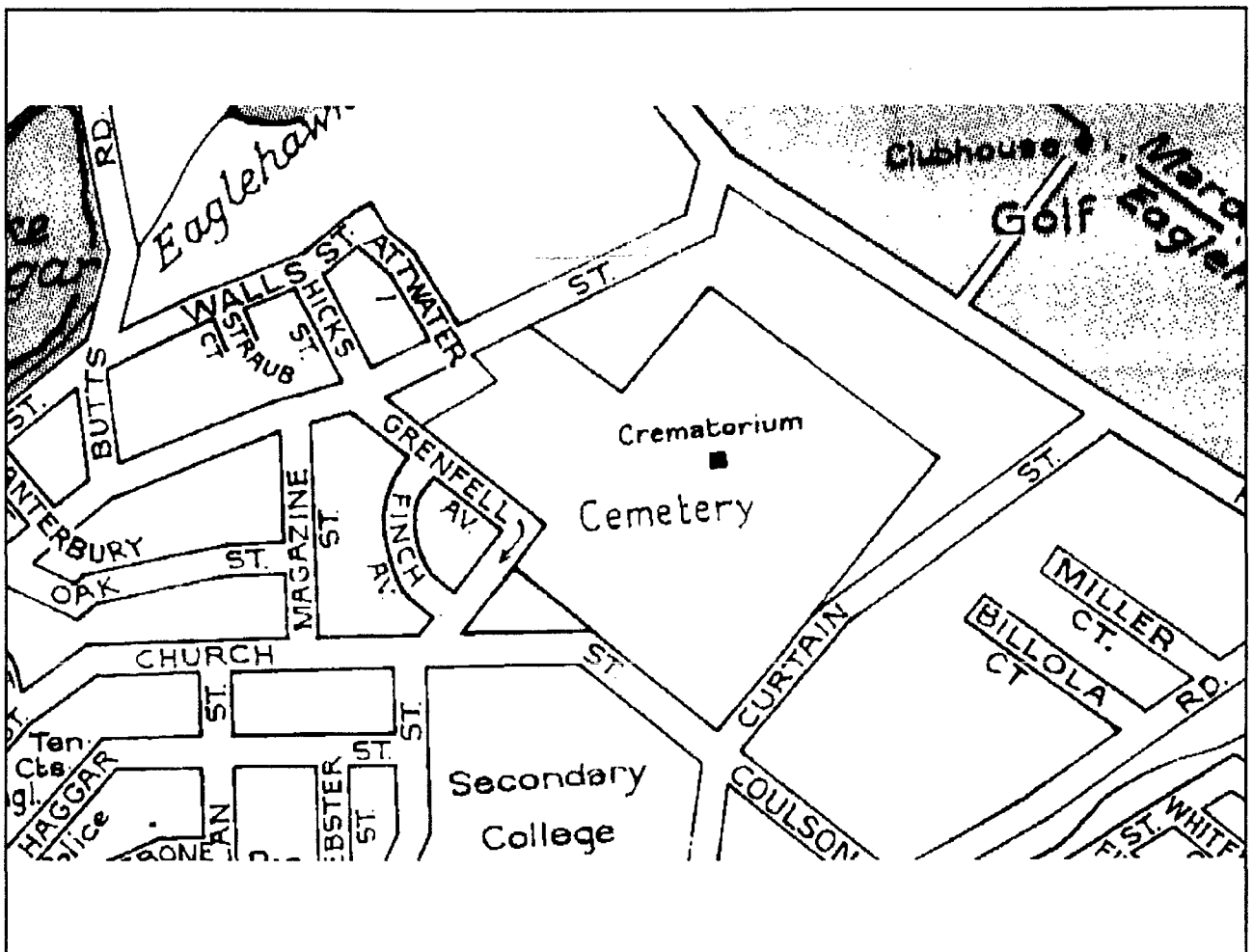


Eaglehawk Cemetery



3-55

(Derived from 'Bendigo & District Street & Tourist Map' (UBD, 4th edit.)

Eaglehawk Cemetery

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

Borough of Eaglehawk

LOCATION/ADDRESS

Victoria Street, Eaglehawk

CADASTRAL INFORMATION

Crown Reserve Rs 6168, Borough of Eaglehawk

TYPE of PLACE

Institutional Garden/Cemetery

SIGNIFICANCE

Eaglehawk Cemetery, dating from 1863, continuously developed and still in use as a cemetery is of local significance:

- * as a reserve for significant native and exotic species, in particular the avenue of *Quercus sp.*, *Araucaria cunninghamii* and *A. bidwillii*, *Grevillea robusta*, *Pinus radiata* and *P. canariensis*, *Ficus macrophylla*, many *Eucalyptus spp.* and *Lagunaria patersonii*;
- * for its collection of trees and plants which are typical of nineteenth century cemeteries in Victoria, which demonstrate strong associational links with their cemetery setting;
- * for its collection of buildings and structures; these include representative examples of typical features such as entrance gates, fencing and headstones;
- * for its considerable aesthetic appeal derived from mature trees and shrubs, sloping site, sense of enclosure and vistas both within the site, views out of the site and from the exterior into the site;
- * for its strong historical and social links with the Borough of Eaglehawk, exemplified by its early date of development, its retention of considerable portions of remnant bush within its boundaries, its retention of the major portion of the earliest burials, planting, paths and layout within its confines, its long continuity of use for its original purpose, its links with early development of the town and its prominence within the life and society of Eaglehawk¹.

HISTORY

Notes taken from the file Rs 6168:

c1863A petition taken up by Mr McArthur pointing to the numbers of persons in Eaglehawk and district (1600) in an area of over 60 square miles comprising 6 flats and 40 gullies. The distance of 5-10 miles to the White Hills Cemetery was considerable and the expense of burial was considered by Mc Arthur to be "pressing heavily upon the poorer classes".

07.08.63 Survey undertaken from the corner of the manure depot of 5 acres.

09.10.63 Area of 5 acres temporarily reserved and gazetted .

01.10.67 An additional rectangular block of 15 acres was temporarily reserved adjoining the 1863 five acre lot.

14.03.79 Area gazetted.

12.09.90 Survey in 1890 by J O'Dwyer which was gazetted on the 12.09.90.

1890 The survey was administered by the *Public Health Act 1889*. An area of 20 plus 10 acres reserved in 1863 was surveyed - this comprised 10 acres enclosed by a post and rail fence with hedge inside. Fees established for burials were adults one pound ten shillings with children under ten years a reduced rate of one pound. Thomas Hall, sexton, resided at the cemetery and was paid one pound 43 shillings. His labouring assistant, John Mill was paid seven shillings per day.

18.9.94The Borough of Eaglehawk noted that the soil in the cemetery went down 2.5 feet deep, below that it was solid rock.

1 AHC Criteria A3, A4, B2, C2, D2, E1, G1

07.90The cemetery gained additional land along Averys Road (this area still largely undeveloped) which was gazetted on 21.06.96.

DESCRIPTION

The site is roughly bounded by Victoria Street, Avereys Road, Curtain Street and Coulson Street/Grenfell Avenue. The main entrance to the Eaglehawk Cemetery is on the Government Road, with a separate entrance and gates fronting Grenfell Avenue. A new entrance to a carpark, depot and caretaker's residence is off Averys Road.

The site is relatively undulating extending to the high point towards Curtain Street in the south with the oldest section of graves and layout towards the highest part of the site. The oldest section of the cemetery is in the southern corner of the site and is laid out in a rectangular grid pattern. There are four main walks planted extensively with a great variety of mainly exotic species; bisecting these are cross paths also extensively planted with exotic trees giving the site its dominant character of the nineteenth century plantings.

Much of the site is currently being remodelled according to the 'Eaglehawk Cemetery Concept Plan' (nd). The site now contains a large modern crematorium located in the centre of the site and areas of bush are being cleared and sown to grass as memorial lawns and rose gardens are created as part of the concept. This development seriously detracts from the historic character of the early cemetery and associated planting and layout.

OWNERSHIP

Borough of Eaglehawk

EXISTING DESIGNATIONS

Peter Watts Gardens study - not listed.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register of Significant Trees - none listed