

Place name Sale Cemetery	Survey Date: 4/07/2004
Other name-	Id: 1149
Street CA 98, 99, 200 Sale-Maffra Road	Last Update 4/10/2004
Locality Sale	Postcode
Official Locality	Property No CA 98 and 200, Section 1
Local Government Area Wellington Shire	
Precinct: Not in precinct	
Easting	Northing
Map	
Workshop number	Workshop votes
Field survey number	Community priority
Designer Designer not known	Builder
Ownership Public	Built Date 1856 (Trus Change Date
Description Location : The Cemetery is located 2k north-west of Sale on the Sale-Maffra Road. It is bordered on the western side by the back Maffra Road and the Cemetery Road in the south. (RNE 100605)	

The Sale Cemetery occupies a site of approximately twenty-five acres on the north-western outskirts of Sale. The earliest section is the twelve acre portion farthest from the road. This has a Picturesque layout of roads and paths, approached through entry gates with brick pillars and flanked by large cedars (CEDRUS DEODARA). Inside the gate is a small timber sexton's shed, appropriately adorned by a single lancet-headed door. The site contains several river red gums (EUCALYPTUS CAMALDULENSIS), possibly seedlings of remnant vegetation, although the majority of the planting is exotic. There is a large pine, an oak (possibly QUERCUS ROBUR) and a mature Canary Island palm (PHOENIX CANARIENSIS). The large memorial to the Sisters of Sion is dominated by yew trees (TAXUS BACCATA) prized for their rich evergreen foliage symbolic of eternal life. This section of the Cemetery retains remnants of an early timber picket fence. The south and west boundaries are hedged in cypress, at least part of which is Bhutan cypress (CUPRESSUS TORULOSA). The gravestones and memorials reflect a wide social and chronological range. Some are simple wooden markers while others are grandiose carved stone and iron triumphs. Many graves are marked by plantings, including several with old roses. The central section of the Cemetery, reserved as an extension in 1866, contains a caretaker's cottage of the 1960s, a recent lawn section and a small enclosed War Cemetery recalling the close link of Sale with the Royal Australian Air Force. This section has an unadorned stone cross with serried rows of austere stone memorials, repeated in countless numbers whenever Australian services personnel are buried. The planting around this section consists principally of shrubs to form a screened enclosure. The main drive to the Cemetery runs diagonally through the site. The entry is now enlivened by a modern funeral parlour (1992, architect Craig Rosetti), located on adjacent freehold land but linked with the main Cemetery drive. (RNE 100605)

Condition and Integrity : The Sale Cemetery is still in use with large areas of land as yet unused. The site is extremely well maintained (by the standards of other Victorian cemeteries). The Cemetery has a high level of integrity, with attributes from all periods of development remaining and the cumulative development largely respects the nineteenth century blueprint for the site. (RNE 100605)

Condition Good	Integrity Evidence of stages
-----------------------	-------------------------------------

Redevelopment/change
Public

Cemetery

History Trustees for the Sale Cemetery were appointed in February 1856 and the 12 acre site was set apart in June 1857. (1) The plan by Assistant Surveyor John H. Pettit dated March 1857 shows the current layout, with the roads enclosing demoninational compartments, dominated by Church of England, Roman Catholic and Presbyterian (2)

Pettit arrived in Gippsland around 1855 where he worked for the superintendant of works for government roads and bridges for the region. He had previously worked a short period as an architect in Melbourne (Pahran). In 1856 Pettit designed the drop slab Church of England, Yarraville, in partnership with George Hastings. Pettit established himself in Sale shortly after this as an architect, builder and surveyor where he practiced until his death.(7)

His work in the town included the original stand at the race course, one of the hotels, the original Borough Offices (now Sale Museum) and other commercial and residential buildings. Pettit's design for the cemetery is very similar

to others planned in the mid 1850s, in particular the Melbourne Cemetery.(7)

The site was extended twice in 1866 giving the cemetery a frontage to the Sale-Maffra Road.(3) Regulations were gazetted on 29 June 1874 but regrettably most of the early part of the Health Department file on Sale Cemetery is now missing. In November 1882 D.J. Joiner, Secretary to the Sale Cemetery Trustees wrote to Government Botanist Ferdinand von Mueller for advice on ways to eradicate the plant now known as Vinca major, which was apparently covering the cemetery grounds. (4) Amongst the few early items of correspondence in the Health Department file, are records of 'clearing scrub' in 1889 (£5 7s 0d) and 1891 (£4 10s 0d). At this date 23 acres had been enclosed and 13 acres were said to be in use. (5) When the Health Department inspected the cemetery in May 1913, the officer reported a 5 roomed lodge (value £400), change room (value £50) and a sanitary convenience. The site was 'well fenced and wholly surrounded by magnificent and well kept hedges'.(5)

The curator's residence was condemned in 1924 yet a replacement was not erected until the late 1960s.(6) New entrance gates were purchased in 1928 and these may be the gates which currently guard the old section of the cemetery.(5) The war graves section was created during World War Two.; Associations: Too numerous to list (Sale Heritage Study)

Heritage Protections Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
National Trust Register	G13025		Listed
Planning Scheme	HO97		Listed
Register of the National Estate	100625		Recommended
Victorian Heritage Register	607615		File only

National Estate

Research Required

Recommendations

Fieldwork priority?

Stage 1 Ranking Assessed & protected **Stage 2 priority** No Action: Already include

Final Ranking State significance **Final Recommendation**

Statement of significance Sale Cemetery, set aside in 1857 and in continuous use since then, is a significant part of the heritage of Sale for its close links with the township and surrounding district; many local people are buried here and there are several graves which have particularly strong connections with Sale institutions (e.g. the Sisters of Sion memorial and the War graves section). The main layout dates from the commencement of the cemetery and is thus an early example in Victoria of a picturesque layout which combines with superb plantings in the manner of European and North American garden cemeteries of the early-mid nineteenth century. The only earlier examples in Victoria are Melbourne General Cemetery and White Hills (Bendigo). Apart from the layout and main plantings, other attributes of the cemetery include the cypress hedge and remnant fencing, plantings (especially on graves), monuments and memorials, and the small timber shed. (Sale Heritage Study)(A.4, D.2, E.1, G.1, H.1)

Sale Cemetery, is of cultural significance:

- as an early example in Victoria of a cemetery influenced by Picturesque ideals in the manner of European and North American garden cemeteries which gained worldwide popularity in the early to mid nineteenth century; this is exemplified by its layout and design with curved gravel paths enclosing denominational compartments, carefully placed plantings and focal architectural features;
- for its collection of trees and plants; these are typical of nineteenth century cemeteries in Victoria, demonstrating strong associational links with their cemetery setting;
- for its collection of buildings and structures; these include representative examples of typical features such as the cypress hedge and timber picket fencing, plantings (especially on graves), monuments and memorials, and the timber sexton's shed;
- for its close links with the township and surrounding district; many local people are buried here and there are several graves which have particularly strong connections with Sale institutions, such as the sisters of Sion memorial and the War graves section. (National Trust Register, G13025)

One of the oldest established and most influential cemeteries of Europe is that of Pere-la-Chaise, Paris. It had previously been a large garden and was laid out as a cemetery in 1804. This development was the prototype for cemeteries in western Europe, especially in London and other

English cities. Such cemetery designs broke with the tradition of churchyard burial grounds which eventually become offensive and unhealthy. In England the system of churchyard burial was attacked by sanitary reformers in the 1840s, most notably Chadwick. An act of parliament in 1855 (later to be known as the Burial Act) finally closed the churchyards and led to the development of the extramural cemetery, a development which has continued to the present day. No doubt a further strong influence on this development was exerted by J C Loudon, the great horticultural chronicler of the early nineteenth century, in his treatise on cemetery management and design (1843). Mt Auburn cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts near Boston, is well known as the first large-scale example of Romantic landscape design in America. It started out as a Botanic Garden but in 1831, 50 acres were given over for the purposes of a cemetery. The plan took full advantage of the picturesque location and varied terrain. Informal curved paths and artificial water were created and a substantial number of trees and shrubberies were planted. (National Trust Register, G13025)

In Victoria the separation of church and state, and the rapid development in the post-goldrush period (at a time when churchyard burials were outmoded) led to the creation of a large number of small cemeteries throughout the state. These were almost universally divided into denominational compartments and, of interest to the analysis of Sale Cemetery, a surprisingly large and early group was laid out with complex meandering paths and plans for elaborate planting. The use of winding paths (as opposed to a grid system) was popular in Victoria in the period 1855-60 and no fewer than 18 designs from this period are known. The main layout at Sale dates from its commencement in 1857. The precursor was the Melbourne General Cemetery, planned by architect Albert Purchas in the early 1850s, and White Hills Cemetery, Bendigo which dates from at least 1857 and possibly earlier. The best known interstate example is Rookwood in Sydney. Such winding path layouts were often used in contemporary gardens and such examples as Williamstown Botanic Gardens (1856-60) and Wombat Hill (1884-85) are intact reminders of this style of layout. (National Trust Register, G13025)

Sale Cemetery and other reserves are linked with the Melbourne Botanic Gardens through the distribution of plants by Government Botanist, Ferdinand Mueller as part of his massive distribution network.

Sale Cemetery is still in use with large areas of land as yet unused. The site is extremely well maintained (by the standards of other Victorian cemeteries). The cemetery has a high level of integrity, with attributes from all periods of development remaining and the cumulative development largely respects the nineteenth century blueprint for the site. (National Trust Register, G13025)

Extent of designation Area bounded by the Sale-Maf

Informant

Notes

Follow up

Bibliography Sale Heritage Study

(1) Victoria Government Gazette, 26 February 1856, p.403; Parish Plan shows land set apart 29/6/57.

(2) CPO CEM 331.

(3) 8 acre extension gazetted 1866, p.2441; 14 acre extension gazetted 1866, p.2850.

(4) Correspondence of Ferdinand von Mueller Project, information from Sara Maroske, researcher, 8 April 1993. (5) Department of Health and Community Services, file H CEM 431.

(6) *ibid.*, plans and specification for new cottage prepared by architect J.R. Stuart Ashton, June 1967; there may have been a cottage erected in the period 1924-67 but this has not been ascertained.

(7) Kerr, J. (ed.), 'The Dictionary of Australian Artists', pp.622-623.

Context Pty Ltd, (2004), Wellington Heritage Study: Sale Review

Sale- Maffra Road, ID 1149 iii.jpg

Context

1/01/1994



Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149 vi.jpg

Context

1/01/1994



Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149 i.jpg

Context

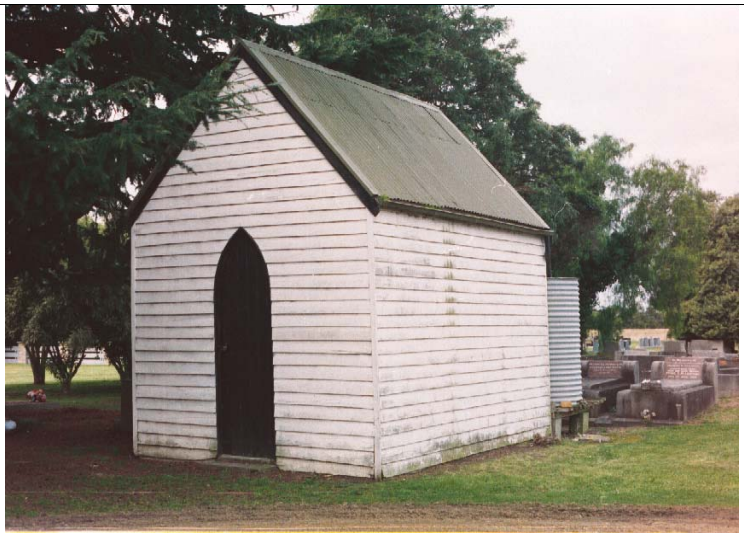
1/01/1994



Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149 ii.jpg

Context

1/01/1994



Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149 iv.jpg

Context

1/01/1994



Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149 v.jpg

Context

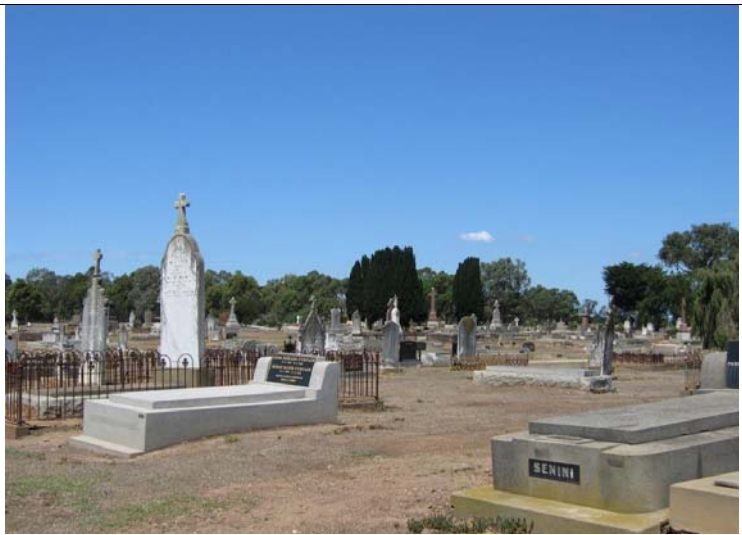
1/01/1994



Update Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149(x).jpg.jpg

Kristy Crawford

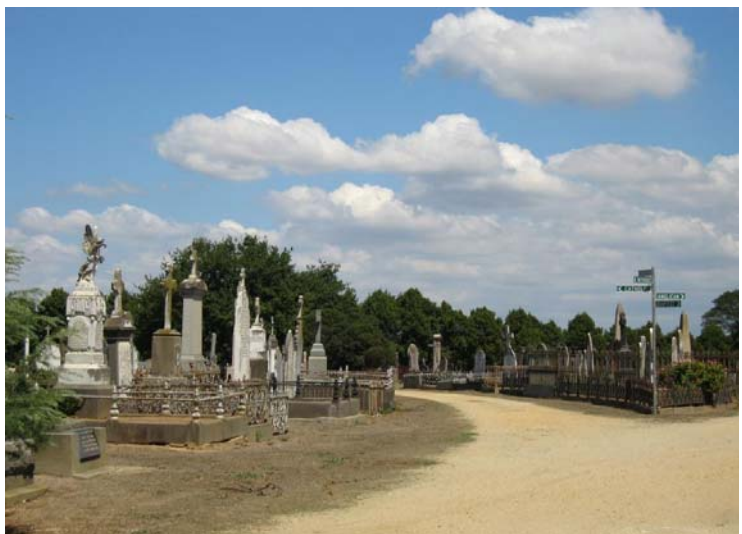
20/02/2007



Update Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149(ix).jpg.jpg

Kristy Crawford

20/02/2007



Update Sale-Maffra Road, ID 1149(vii).jpg.jpg

Kristy Crawford

20/02/2007

