



# Old Batesford Cemetery Management Plan 2018-2023

Adopted: Sept 2018  
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**GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE**

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# 1. Introduction

The Old Batesford Cemetery comprises two parcels of land on Hills Road in Batesford. The parcels; which are freehold land held by Council, contain an old unmarked cemetery, a mobile phone tower and an area of native vegetation.

The Reserve has historic and native vegetation values that require preservation and enhancement. The Reserve has been rabbit free since 2016.

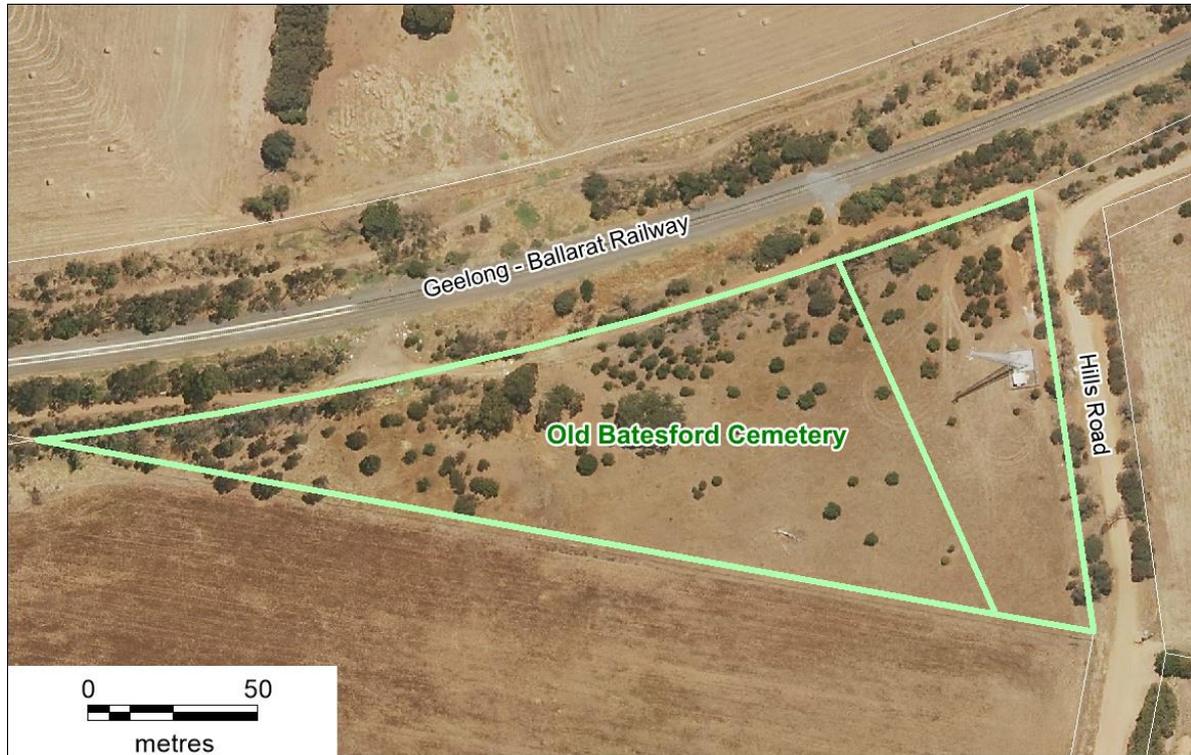


Figure 1: Old Batesford Cemetery Reserve

## **2. Background and Context**

### **2.1. History**

The land was first used as a cemetery in the early 1860's, about the same time as a new township, Viaduct, was built west of Batesford to accommodate workers building the railway viaduct to take the Ballarat line over the Moorabool Valley.

A total of 22 burials (Appendix 6) are recorded for the site; sadly, many of them children who died in infancy. The first recorded burial was of John Kneebone; aged 3 days, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March, 1860. The final recorded burial was Alfred Dessaulles; aged 27, who drowned in the Moorabool on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1882.

The land comprising 3 acres and 9 perches was purchased from the Victorian Railways Commissioners by the Bannockburn Shire Council in 1884 for the purpose of establishing a public cemetery. The Shire of Bannockburn applied to the Minister on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1885 to have the site proclaimed a Public Cemetery. Four local gentlemen; James Henry Dardel, George Madden, George Hill and Henry Aaron Smith were proposed as Trustees for the management of the cemetery. The Central Board of Health considered the application and recommended that the proposal be adopted and the application was approved by the Office of Lands and Survey in 1886.

While the cemetery was approved, it appears that the land was never gazetted as a cemetery and therefore never achieved formal status under law.

There are no burials recorded after the purchase of the property for a cemetery.

The land was apparently informally leased and farmed by nearby landholders for many years. In the 1950's the site was cleared of Boxthorn (*Lycium ferrocissimum*) using a bulldozer which flattened out the mounds associated with the burials (Des Guinane, Personal anecdote, Feb. 2018).

### **2.2. Values and Significance**

The Reserve contains unmarked burials associated with the development of the nearby the bluestone railway viaduct and Batesford township and forms a significant local cultural heritage site. Significant remnant native vegetation occurs in the Reserve and it has been rabbit free since 2016 when a rabbit resistant fence was installed. It is the only rabbit free reserve in the municipality.

### **2.3. Location and Planning Area**

The Old Batesford Cemetery is located north of the township of Batesford. The Reserve is bounded by Hills Road, the Geelong-Ballarat Railway line and private land (Figure 2: Locality).

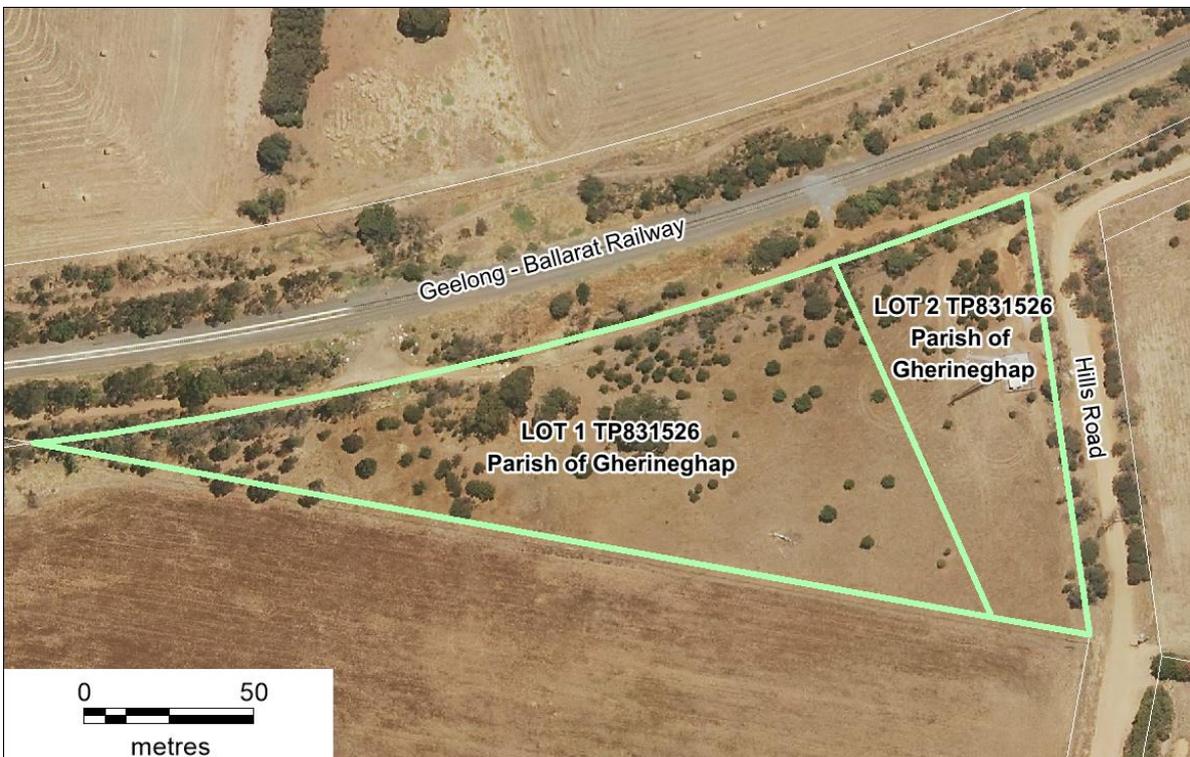
The Reserve falls within the Corangamite Catchment Management Area and the Golden Plains Shire Council local government area.



**Figure 2: Locality**

#### 2.4. Land Tenure

The Reserve is comprised of two freehold titles (Lot 1 TP831526 and Lot 2 TP831526 Parish of Gherineghap, 1.27 ha and 0.53 ha respectively) held by Golden Plains Shire Council and encompasses 1.8 hectares (4.4 acres) (Figure 3: Land Titles).



**Figure 3: Land Titles**

## 2.5. Legislation and Guidelines

Management of the Reserve is carried out under the direction of the following legislation:

Federal Legislation

*Environment and Biodiversity Protection Act 1999*

*Native Title Act 1993*

State Legislation

*Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*

*Catchment & Land Protection Act 1994*

*Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*

*Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*

*Heritage Act 1995*

*Local Government Act 1989*

*Planning and Environment Act 1987*

## 2.6. Strategic Direction

The Reserve was originally set aside to provide a cemetery for the township associated with the development of the railway viaduct and Batesford and was largely cleared. It now forms a locally significant cultural heritage site as well as a site containing significant native vegetation.

*Management objectives*

- Prevent the loss or destruction of historic unmarked burials
- Maintain and preserve the historic unmarked burials
- Provide low impact infrastructure and interpretation to support and promote the cemetery
- Maintain and where possible, improve the extent and quality of the remnant Plains Grassy Woodland EVC on the Reserve
- Provide for low impact public passive recreation which is not detrimental to the conservation and heritage values of the Reserve in line with the objective above
- Control and/or eradicate pest flora and fauna within and adjacent to the Reserve.

## 2.7. Management

The Reserve is freehold land managed by Council.

The local community have expressed interest in assisting with the management of the Reserve which could be facilitated through Council volunteer programs either as a formal management committee, 'Friends of' group or one off volunteer working bees.

*Management Actions*

- Facilitate community involvement in the management and development of the Reserve.

### 3. Natural Resource Management

#### 3.2. Geology and Landforms

The Reserve lies within the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregion.

It holds a north westerly aspect with a central gully. Geology of the site is comprised of sand, sandstones, conglomerates, minor sandy limestone and local ironstone.

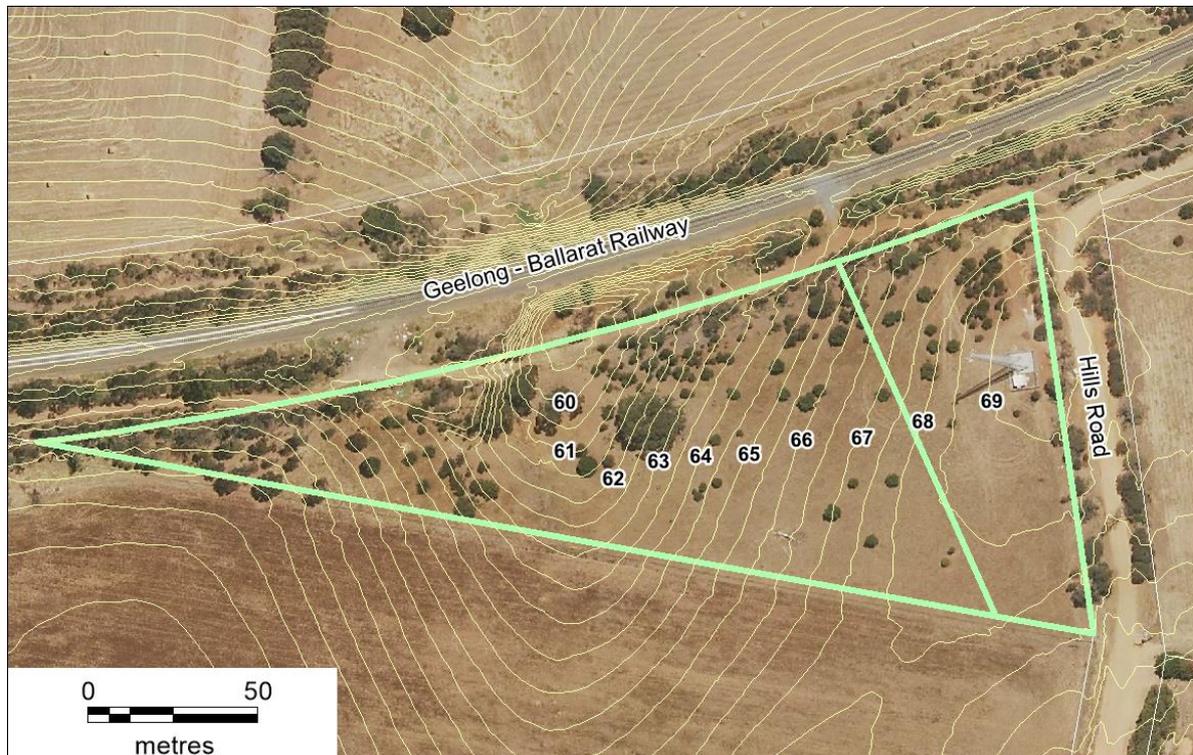


Figure 4: Landform and 50cm contours

#### 3.3. Soils

Soils are reddish brown sandy loams that are highly erodible if vegetative cover is removed.

##### *Management actions*

- Maintain vegetation, tracks and drainage to prevent erosion of soils.

#### 3.4. Flora

The Reserve contains a significant area of endangered Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC 55) Plains Grassy Woodland. The EVC in the Reserve is dominated by Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*) with dense areas of Drooping She-oak (*A. verticillata*) within the adjacent rail and road reserves. Understorey species consist of recolonising Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*). Ground cover is a mix of introduced and native grassland with Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) and various Spear (*Austrostipa* spp) and Wallaby grass (*Rytidosperma* spp) species and areas of Weeping Grass (*Microlaena stipoides*). Brown-top Bent Grass (*Agrostis capillaris*) and Toowoomba Canary Grass (*Phalaris aquatic*) are dominant introduced grassland species.

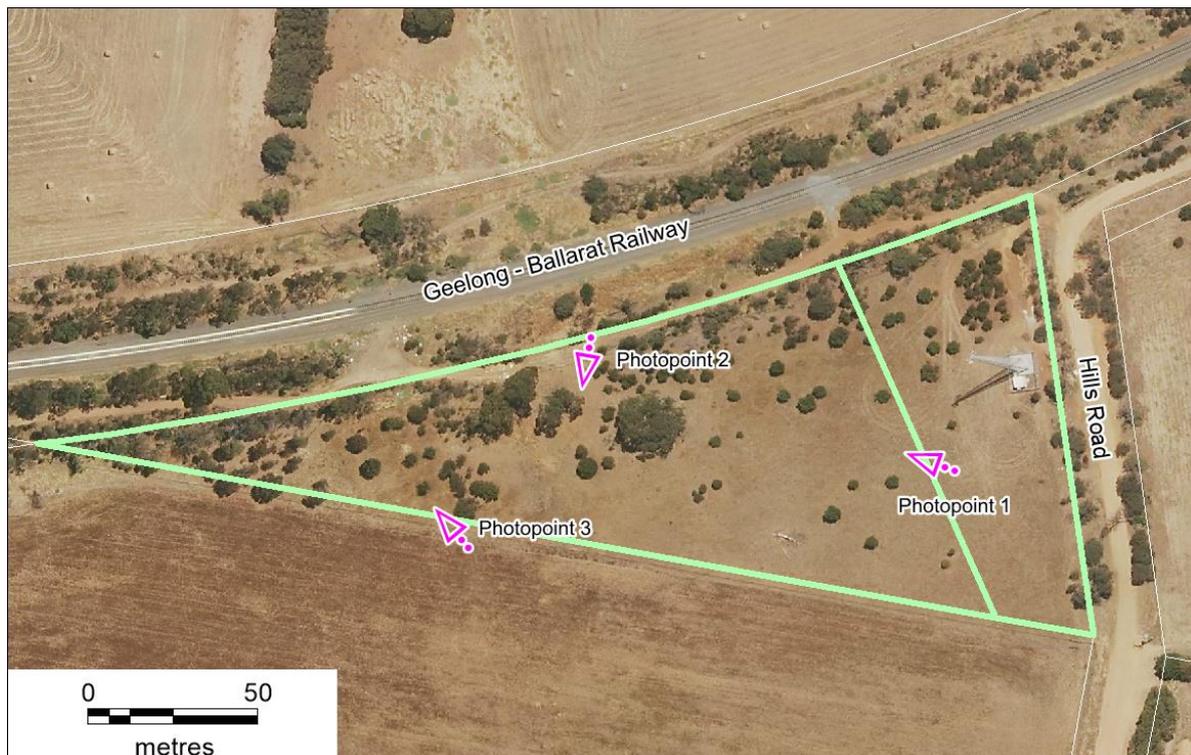
A suite of small herbs normally expected in native grassland are missing probably due to a long history of grazing by sheep.

There are several Ruby Saltbush (*Enchylaena tomentosa*) in the Reserve and a single Fragrant Salt Bush (*Rhagodia parabolica*) and Wingless Bluebush (*Maireana enchylaenoides*) and efforts should be made to increase the occurrence of these species.

No flora or fauna records are recorded on the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas for the site.

There are no Vulnerable, Rare or Threatened (VROT) species recorded in the Reserve but the site may be suitable for VROT species.

A series of photo points have been established in the reserve to provide a photographic record of vegetation change and the results of management actions. (Figure 5: Photo points, Appendix 1 – Old Batesford Cemetery Photo Points).



**Figure 5: Photo points**

Photographic evidence shows the progressive recovery of woodland vegetation and the gradual loss of native grassland areas. This may be the natural recovery of the reserve on following the removal of grazing as it progresses back to a woodland vegetated state. It is important to maintain remnant grassland areas to retain biodiversity through the application of fire, control of declared and environmental weeds and manual removal of encroaching native tree and shrub species.

*Management actions*

- Maintain remnant grassland areas by removing encroaching native trees and shrubs
- Enhance grassland biodiversity through revegetation with grassland herbaceous species.
- Continue to monitor established photo points in the Reserve.

### **3.5. Fauna**

No fauna species list exists for the Reserve.

It is likely that fauna such as bats are using the hollows in the Yellow Gums.

No comprehensive fauna survey has been undertaken in the Reserve for invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles or birds.

*Management Actions*

- Undertake comprehensive fauna surveys in the Reserve using the assistance of a Tertiary institution or other body.

## 4. Cultural Resource Management

### 4.2. Indigenous cultural heritage

There are no recorded indigenous archaeological sites and no identified sites or features within the Reserve. Indigenous places have been recorded in the vicinity of the Reserve and these include stone arrangements, scarred trees and artefact scatters. No survey for Indigenous cultural places within the Reserve has yet been undertaken.

It is an offence to do an act that will harm Indigenous cultural heritage or is likely to harm indigenous cultural heritage.

Management of the Reserve in accordance with relevant legislation will respect the aspirations and rights of the Traditional Owners and the local Aboriginal community.

#### *Management Actions*

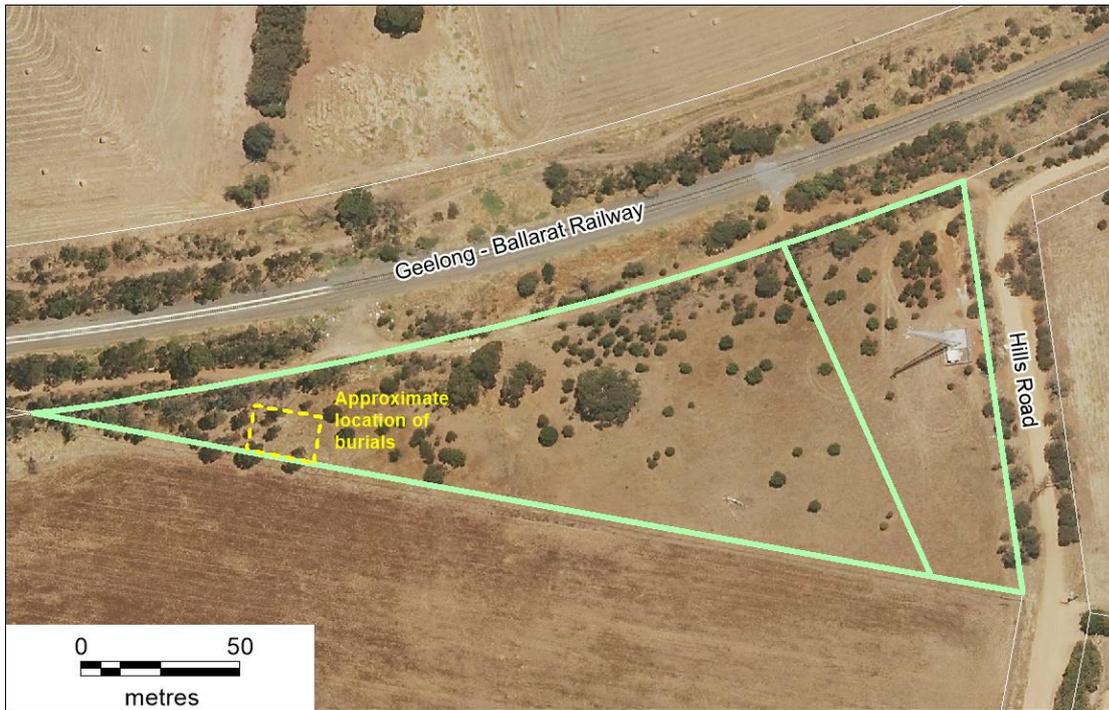
- Undertake a survey for indigenous cultural heritage places and areas of indigenous cultural heritage sensitivity using the services of a qualified cultural heritage advisor or Registered Aboriginal Party. Review the Management Plan in light of any findings of the survey.

### 4.3. Post-settlement cultural heritage

The Reserve has little existing evidence of post-settlement cultural heritage but is the site of an unmarked cemetery containing possibly up to 26 burials although the records are possibly not 100% accurate. The actual complete defined area of burials is unclear but is believed to be confined to the western end of the Reserve (Figure 6: Cemetery area).

A layout of burials based on interpretation of ground features and discovered artefacts was developed by the Geelong Cemeteries Trust in 2013 (Appendix 2 – Old Batesford Cemetery Site Map, Appendix 3 – Old Batesford Cemetery Grave Sites). This survey shows 22 possible internments.

A trial seeking to identify unmarked burials using ground penetrating radar was undertaken in 2016 with inconclusive results.



**Figure 6: Cemetery area**

The site is not listed on the Victorian Heritage Database.

The site is not listed in the Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study.

*Management Actions*

- Seek to have the site assessed and incorporated on the Victorian Heritage Database.
- Seek to have the site assessed and incorporated into the Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study
- Undertake further archaeological survey using ground penetrating radar or similar technology to locate and define burials.
- Install low impact interpretive materials to acknowledge and promote the significance of the site.
- Incorporate the Cemetery site and path into Council's township maintenance program to maintain the Cemetery in a neat and fuel reduced state.

## **5. Reserve Management**

### **5.2. Threatening Processes**

A range of threatening processes have been identified for the Reserve including:

- Climate change
- Inappropriate fire regimes
- Unrestricted vehicle access
- Spread of declared and environmental weeds
- Digging/ploughing or soil disturbance
- Grazing by rabbits.

### **5.3. Climate Change**

Climate change poses a long term risk to the Reserve.

The Victorian Government's 'State of the Environment' Report, released in 2013, states that:

- Average temperatures in Victoria have risen by approximately 0.8°C since the 1950s and the severity, duration and frequency of heatwaves have increased
- Between 1997 and 2009, Victoria experienced a record-breaking 13-year drought, the longest recorded period of rainfall deficits on record
- Over the past two decades, there has been a large decline in autumn rainfall, a small decline in winter and spring rainfall, a small increase in summer rainfall, and reduced frequency of very wet years
- Victoria experienced its highest summer rainfall on record in 2010–11. The record rainfall led to major flooding that affected a third of Victoria

Under current climate projections, the Batesford area can expect:

- Higher average temperature with more extreme temperature days
- Longer and hotter summers with an increase in heat wave conditions
- Decrease in average rainfall; more particularly, cool season rains
- Increased intensity in severe rainfall events

These changes have the potential to adversely affect native flora and fauna as well as increasing fire risk.

Increase in fire risk will result in increased pressure to undertake works to mitigate the threat with potentially adverse impacts on native vegetation.

Actual impacts are hard to predict. Monitoring and analysis over an extended period of time may provide insights into changes occurring in the Reserve as a result of climate change. Management of the Reserve may then be adjusted to address these changes.

### **5.4. Planning Scheme Protection**

The Reserve is currently zoned as Farming Zone under the Golden Plains Shire Council Planning Scheme but should probably be more accurately zoned as Public Conservation and Resource Zone which aims to protect and conserve the natural environment and natural processes for their historic, scientific, landscape, habitat or cultural values.

The Reserve is protected under an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO); which aims to protect the environmental values of the area associated with the Moorabool River valley.

The Reserve is not zoned under a Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) or Heritage Overlay (HO) within the Golden Plains Shire Council Planning Scheme recognising the native vegetation or heritage importance of the site.

Native vegetation is protected under the provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and it is not considered that a higher level of protection is required at this site.

#### *Management Actions*

- Rezone the Reserve to Public Conservation and Resource Zone when the Planning Scheme is next reviewed.
- Investigate applying a Heritage Overlay when the Golden Plains Planning Scheme is next reviewed.

### **5.5. Fire**

There are no records of fire in the Reserve and no evidence of fire in the reserve (e.g. charred trees) in the recent past.

The Reserve poses little fire risk to adjacent properties if well managed. Given the lack of ignition sources in the Reserve, the most likely fire scenario is one in which the Reserve is impacted by fire from an adjacent property.

The primary fire fuel type is cured introduced and native grass in summer and autumn.

As the Reserve has no tracks, internal fire access is through the open paddock areas, while externally fire access is along the railway access track and across private property to the south.

The property is not slashed to reduce grass fuels in the lead up to summer as there are no built assets (e.g. homes) immediately adjacent. With the introduction of the rabbit resistant fence and a reduction in grazing pressure, it is likely that fuel loads will be seen to increase in good seasons and this will have to be managed. Crash grazing the reserve with sheep to reduce fuel loads should be considered.

The introduction of fire into the Reserve for fuel reduction and ecological purposes should be undertaken.

#### *Management Actions*

- Undertake a burning program in consultation with local CFA brigades to encourage biodiversity and reduce fuel loads.
- Undertake a regular program of vegetation clearance to ensure access for emergency vehicles.

### **5.6. Pest Plants**

Pest plants are a threat to the conservation values of the Reserve by out competing and replacing native species. The Reserve is largely weed free with Serrated Tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*), St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) and occasional Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) and Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) seedling the only declared weeds present. The adjacent railway reserve is highly weed infested with

Boneseed (*C. monilifera*) and Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*) prominent along with Serrated Tussock (*N. trichotoma*).

A variety of non-native grassy and herbaceous environmental weed species are present in the Reserve and control works are required to ensure that these species do not take over large areas.

Some environmental weeds (e.g. Annual Veldt Grass) contribute significantly to fire hazard and require ongoing control to minimise this risk.

The following declared weeds have been found in the Reserve:

- Serrated Tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)
- Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*)
- Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)
- Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*)
- Chilean Needle Grass (*Nassella neesiana*)

Ongoing annual control is required to control these species with the aim of eradicating them from the Reserve.

A suite of environmental weeds are present in the Reserve:

- Annual Veldt Grass (*Ehrharta longiflora*)
- Toowoomba Canary Grass (*Phalaris acquatica*)
- Brown-top Bent Grass (*Agrostis capillaris*)
- Wild Oat (*Avena fatua*)
- Purple Woodsorrel (*Oxalis purpurea*)
- Sour Sob (*Oxalis pes-caprae*)
- Onion Grass (*Romulea rosea*)
- South African Weed Orchid (*Disa bracteata*)

Woody weeds are largely under control with an annual hand pull or cut and paint required to maintain this level of control. Grassy and herbaceous environmental weeds are widespread and efforts should be directed at protecting biodiversity assets (e.g. native grasslands) from these species and minimising fuel loads.

#### *Management Actions*

- Monitor and prevent the establishment and spread of new declared or environmental weeds in the Reserve.
- Undertake control of declared weeds annually with the aim of eradicating these species from the Reserve.
- Undertake control of grassy/herbaceous environmental weeds annually as resources permit with the aim of protecting biodiversity assets (e.g. native grasslands) and reducing their impact and spread in the Reserve.
- Liaise with adjacent landholders to encourage the control of pest plants and animals.

## **5.7. Pest Animals**

Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) are present throughout the district, but their impact of on native fauna in the Reserve is unknown. Predation by foxes of native fauna is listed as a

potentially threatening process under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*. Control of foxes through poisoning in the Reserve is problematic due to the close proximity of local residences and dogs. Additionally, residents regularly use the Reserve to exercise their dogs, which are usually unrestrained and at risk from picking up fox baits. The use of 1080 near a township area is considered an unacceptable risk to domestic dogs and therefore is not an option for the control of foxes.

Grazing of native vegetation by rabbits is listed as a potentially threatening process under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*. The control of rabbits is a high priority.

Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) were present in the Reserve. A rabbit resistant fence was installed in 2016 to minimise the rabbit threat from adjacent properties and this has proven successful in preventing rabbit access although ongoing inspection and maintenance is required.

The two primary longstanding warrens have been destroyed by excavation and blasting and there are no active warrens within the Reserve. The adjacent railway reserve is highly infested with minimal control being undertaken by the land manager.

The use of Ferrets (*Mustela putorius furo*) for control of rabbits is not permitted due to the risk of these animals not being recovered.

Wandering pet and feral cats (*Felis catus*) present a threat to small fauna, particularly native birds. It is a legislated requirement to register a domestic cat and the Golden Plains Shire Council is actively encouraging residents to register and control their domestic cats.

#### *Management actions*

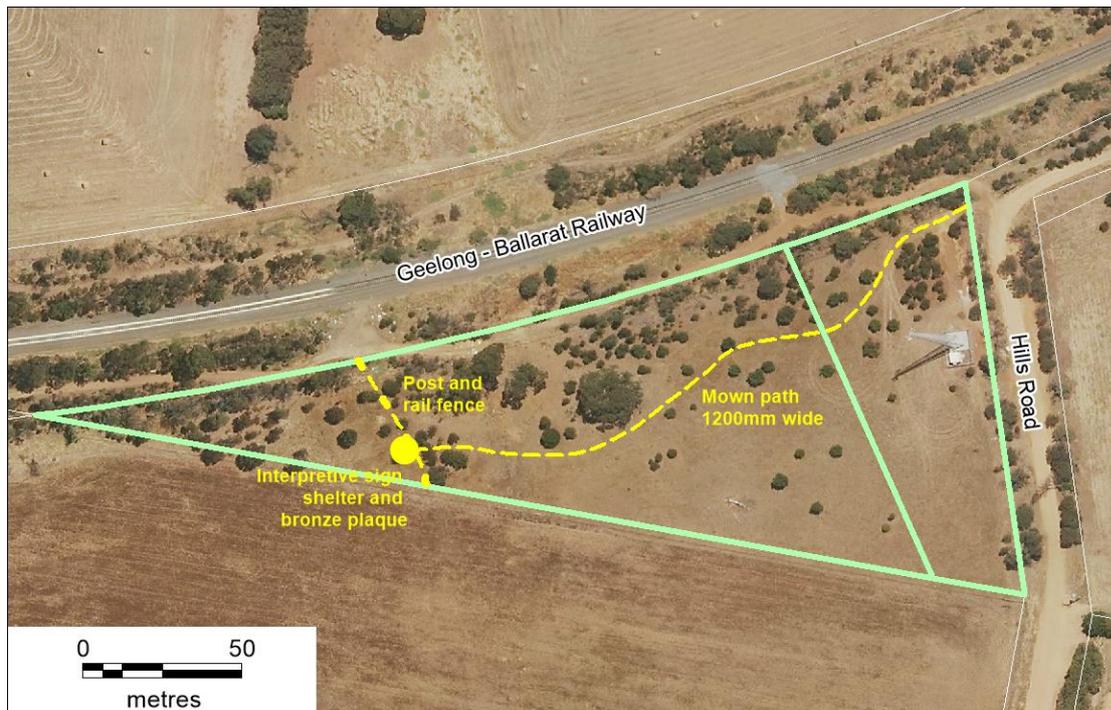
- Maintain the rabbit resistant fence to minimise the risk of rabbit incursions. Should rabbits enter the reserve undertake control to eradicate the incursion.
- Control foxes to minimise their impact on the Reserve and surrounding properties through fumigation and destruction of fox dens as required.
- Control cats through opportunistic cat trapping as required.
- Liaise with adjacent landholders to encourage the control of pest animals.

### **5.8. Tracks**

There are no formed tracks within the Reserve. The local community have identified a need for a track from the entrance gate to the old cemetery site. Council have agreed to the development of a 1200mm wide mown track for pedestrian access to minimise impacts on native vegetation and ongoing maintenance costs (Figure 7: Infrastructure).

#### *Management actions*

- Develop and maintain a 1200mm mown track from the entrance gate to the old cemetery site.



**Figure 7: Infrastructure**

## 5.9. Fencing

The Reserve was fenced on all boundaries to varying levels of repair. The fences serve to prevent unauthorised vehicle and stock access and to define boundaries. Where the Reserve abuts adjacent private land use, fences must be kept in a good state of repair.

The boundary fence between the railway and the Reserve was in a poor state of repair and was replaced with a rabbit resistant fence in 2016. This fence was aligned just inside the boundary in order to retain some of the old original hardwood fence posts. The boundary between the private land and Reserve was replaced in approximately 2005 and upgraded in 2016 with rabbit netting. The fence facing Hills Road was replaced in 2016 with rabbit resistant fencing.

An internal post and rail or picket, heritage type fence defining the cemetery boundary has been proposed (Figure 7: Infrastructure).

### *Management Actions*

- Maintain the existing fences between private landholders and the Reserve in a good state of repair.
- Maintain the rabbit resistant fencing on a regular basis.
- Install post and rail or picket heritage type fence on the cemetery boundary.

## 5.10. Signs

Signs have been installed at the entrances to the Reserve to identify the reserve and to indicate authorised uses.

### *Management Actions*

- Maintain signs at the entrances to the Reserve indicating authorised uses as required

### 5.11. Interpretation

Council have agreed to the community installing an interpretive sign in a constructed sign shelter and a bronze plaque mounted on a large basalt rock listing the burials at the entrance to the cemetery (Figure 7: Infrastructure).

#### *Management Actions*

- Install an interpretive sign and sign shelter at the entrance to the cemetery
- Install a bronze plaque listing burials on a large rock at the entrance to the cemetery.

### 5.12. Revegetation

There is little scope for broad scale revegetation with a natural recovery occurring with the removal of sheep grazing around 2006. There is scope for targeted biodiversity plantings to reintroduce native grassland herbaceous species that are not present in the Reserve but should be expected to be found in this EVC type.

#### *Management Actions*

- Undertake biodiversity enhancement plantings with grassland herbaceous species.

## **6. Authorised uses**

### **6.2. Mobile Phone Tower**

Part of the Reserve alongside Hills Road is leased to a telecommunications company who have constructed and operate a mobile phone tower on the site.

Construction and upgrade work at the site have resulted in excess concrete being dumped on site and unhindered vehicle access creating new, hardened access areas.

These impacts should be constrained to a small footprint between the access gate and around the tower through the installation of fencing/bollards if the practice continues to have detrimental impacts on the site.

Any significant change of the mobile phone tower operation or footprint should only proceed with due consideration for the community and environmental values of the site.

### **6.3. Vehicle access**

Vehicle access to the Reserve is possible through gates and across the open paddock areas. No formal tracks are in place.

Vehicle access except for management purposes (e.g. maintenance, wildfire control) is not permitted.

### **6.4. Firewood Collection**

The collection of firewood for personal or commercial use is not permitted in the Reserve. If the collection of firewood becomes problematic, appropriate signs should be installed.

### **6.5. Rubbish Dumping**

The dumping of rubbish in the Reserve is not permitted. If the dumping of rubbish becomes problematic, appropriate signs should be installed.

### **6.6. Recreational Uses**

Passive recreation in the form of walking and enjoyment of the natural and cultural heritage of the Reserve are to be encouraged. It is important to encourage appropriate recreational use to engender a sense of public ownership and pride that will lead to support of the management aims for the Reserve.

#### **6.6.1. Horse Riding**

Horse riding has the potential to introduce weeds and damage the soft soil leading to erosion and further weed invasion. Horse riding is not permitted in the Reserve.

#### **6.6.2. Motorbike riding**

Motorbikes have the potential to create tracks, disturb soil and disturb other users. Motorbikes are not an acceptable use of reserves of this type and this activity is not permitted in the Reserve.

#### **6.6.3. Walking**

Walking for fitness or recreation should be encouraged to develop a community appreciation of the natural and cultural values of the Reserve. Walkers should be encouraged to use the mown track and this should be maintained to ensure walker safety.

The development of signed nature walks highlighting particular vegetation types, plants or features can educate and stimulate interest in natural history and should be considered.

#### **6.6.4. Cycling**

Cycling as a recreational activity should be restricted to the mown track. The development of challenging mountain or BMX type tracks should be discouraged as these have the potential to create erosion and damage vegetation.

#### **6.6.5. Dogs and Cats**

Reserve visitors may use the Reserve to walk their dogs and preventing this use would result in a reduction in community support for the Reserve. Uncontrolled dogs have the potential to disturb or even kill native wildlife and may annoy other Reserve users.

Ideally, dogs should be leashed but it is not easy to police such an action. If dogs off lead and not in effective control become an issue, signs should be installed stating "Dogs on leash or under effective control at all times".

Cats are not permitted in the Reserve.

#### **6.6.6. Camping**

No sites exist for the provision of camping and the development of camp sites would severely impact on the ecological values of the Reserve therefore, camping is not permitted in the Reserve.

#### **6.6.7. Fires**

Recreational fires (e.g. camp fires) present a risk of fire escape and impact on the ecological value of the Reserve through firewood collection therefore fires are not permitted in the Reserve.

### **6.7. Education**

The Reserve as a significant local area of remnant vegetation could provide educational opportunities for local school children.

Encourage use of the Reserve by schools for educational purposes.

### **6.8. Research**

The Reserve is an important remnant of Plains Grassy Woodland and as such would be of interest for research into the appropriate management of the flora and fauna of this ecosystem type. All research projects on flora and fauna operate under a permit system managed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). Opportunities exist for the education of local school children and the community through participation in research in the Reserve. Appropriate research, minimising impacts on the flora and fauna of the Reserve should be permitted.

### **6.9. Grazing**

Grazing of stock is generally not permitted in the Reserve. However, the use of sheep from the adjacent private property to crash graze to reduce fuel loads should be considered if necessary.

## 7. Implementation

<b>Management Action</b>	<b>Priority</b> <small>(High, Medium or Low)</small>	<b>Timeframe</b> <small>(ongoing, annually, as required or date e.g. December 2009)</small>	<b>Responsibility</b> <small>(Committee of Management, Golden Plains Shire, DELWP)</small>
<b>Management</b>			
Facilitate community involvement in the management and development of the Reserve.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Soils</b>			
Maintain vegetation, tracks and drainage to prevent erosion of soils	High	As required	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Flora</b>			
Maintain remnant grassland areas by removing encroaching native trees and shrubs	High	Annually	Golden Plains Shire
Enhance grassland biodiversity through revegetation with grassland herbaceous species.	Medium	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Continue to monitor established photo points in the Reserve.	Medium	Annually	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Fauna</b>			
Undertake a comprehensive fauna survey in the Reserve using the assistance of a Tertiary institution or other body.	Medium	Every 5 years	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Indigenous cultural heritage</b>			
Undertake a survey for indigenous cultural heritage places and areas of indigenous cultural heritage sensitivity using the services of a qualified cultural heritage advisor or Registered Aboriginal Party. Review the Management Plan in light of any findings of the survey.	Low	2020	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Post Settlement cultural heritage</b>			
Install low impact interpretive materials to acknowledge and promote the significance of the site	High	2018	Community & Golden Plains Shire
Seek to have the site assessed and incorporated on the Victorian Heritage Database.	Medium	2020	Golden Plains Shire
Seek to have the site assessed and incorporated into the Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study	Medium	2020	Golden Plains Shire
Undertake archaeological survey using ground penetrating radar or similar technology to locate and define burials.	Medium	2020	Golden Plains Shire
Incorporate the Cemetery site and path into Council's township maintenance program to maintain the Cemetery in a neat and fuel reduced state.	Medium	2020	Golden Plains Shire

<b>Management Action</b>	<b>Priority</b> <small>(High, Medium or Low)</small>	<b>Timeframe</b> <small>(ongoing, annually, as required or date e.g. December 2009)</small>	<b>Responsibility</b> <small>(Committee of Management, Golden Plains Shire, DELWP)</small>
<b>Planning Scheme Protection</b>			
Rezone the Reserve to Public Conservation and Resource Zone when the Planning Scheme is next reviewed.	High	2018	Golden Plains Shire
Investigate applying a Heritage Overlay when the Golden Plains Planning Scheme is next reviewed.	Medium	2020	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Fire</b>			
Undertake a burning program in consultation with local CFA brigades to encourage biodiversity and reduce fuel loads.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Undertake a regular program of vegetation clearance to ensure access for emergency vehicles.	High	Annually	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Pest Plants</b>			
Monitor and prevent the establishment and spread of new declared or environmental weeds in the Reserve.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Undertake control of declared weeds annually with the aim of eradicating these species from the Reserve.	High	Annually	Golden Plains Shire
Undertake control of grassy/herbaceous environmental weeds annually as resources permit with the aim of protecting biodiversity assets (e.g. native grasslands) and reducing their impact and spread in the Reserve.	High	Annually	Golden Plains Shire
Liaise with adjacent landholders to encourage the control of pest plants and animals.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Pest Animals</b>			
Maintain the rabbit resistant fence to minimise the risk of rabbit incursions. Should rabbits enter the reserve undertake control to eradicate the incursion.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Control foxes to minimise their impact on the Reserve and surrounding properties through fumigation and destruction of fox dens as required.	High	As required	Golden Plains Shire
Control cats through opportunistic cat trapping as required.	High	As required	Golden Plains Shire
Liaise with adjacent landholders to encourage the control of pest animals.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Tracks</b>			
Develop and maintain a 1200mm wide mown track from the entrance gate to the old cemetery site.	High	Dec 2018	Community

<b>Management Action</b>	<b>Priority</b> <small>(High, Medium or Low)</small>	<b>Timeframe</b> <small>(ongoing, annually, as required or date e.g. December 2009)</small>	<b>Responsibility</b> <small>(Committee of Management, Golden Plains Shire, DELWP)</small>
<b>Fencing</b>			
Maintain the existing fences between private landholders and the Reserve in a good state of repair.	Medium	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Maintain the rabbit resistant fencing on a regular basis.	High	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire
Install post and rail heritage type fence on the cemetery boundary.	Low	Ongoing	Community
<b>Signs</b>			
Maintain signs at entrances to the Reserve indicating authorised uses as required.	Low	As required	Golden Plains Shire
<b>Interpretation</b>			
Install an interpretive sign and sign shelter at the entrance to the cemetery	High	Dec 2016	Community
Install a bronze plaque listing burials on a large rock at the entrance to the cemetery.	High	Dec 2016	Community
<b>Revegetation</b>			
Undertake biodiversity enhancement plantings with grassland herbaceous species.	Medium	Ongoing	Golden Plains Shire

## 8. Appendix 1 – Old Batesford Cemetery Photo Points



Photo point 1: Aug 2016



Photo point 1: Dec 2017



Photo point 2: Aug 2016



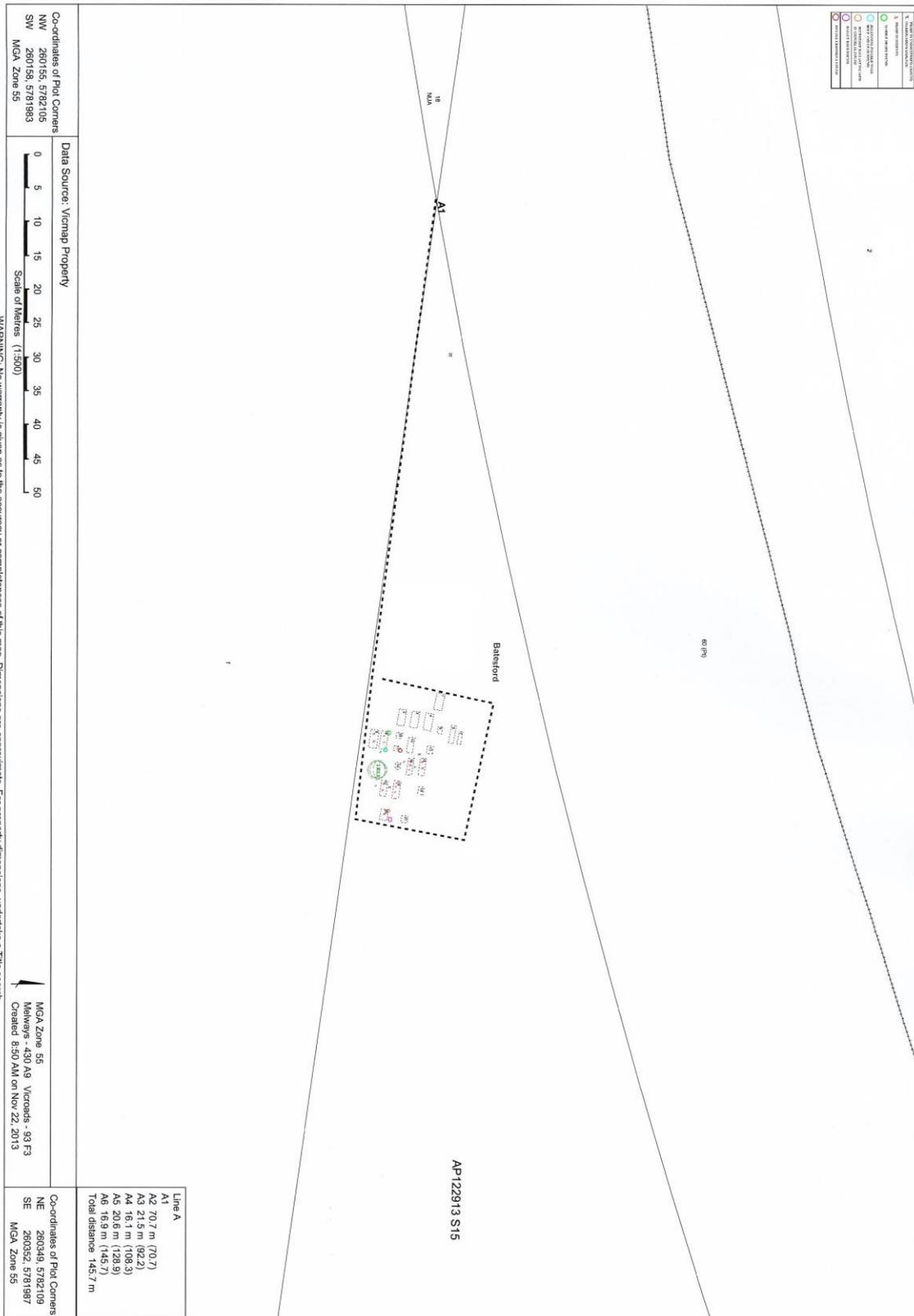
Photo point 2: Dec 2017



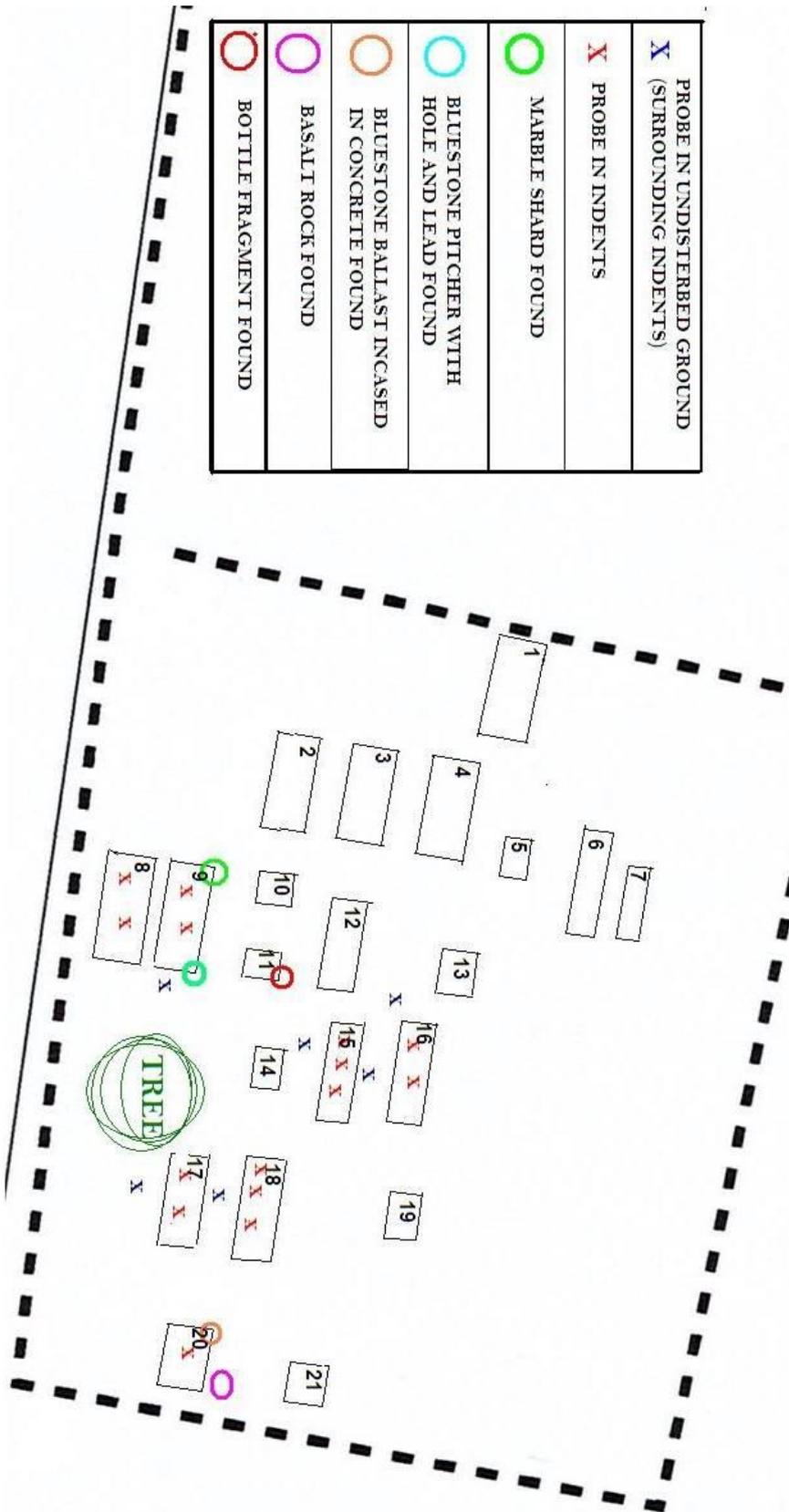
Photo point 3: 2016



# 9. Appendix 2 – Old Batesford Cemetery Site Map



10. Appendix 3 – Old Batesford Cemetery Grave Sites



## 11. Appendix 4 – Flora Species List

### Indigenous Species

Botanical Name	Common Name	Status
<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Late Black Wattle	Local
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle	Local
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden Wattle	Local
<i>Acaena echinata</i>	Sheep's Burr	Local
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoke	Regional
<i>Anthosachne scabra</i>	Common Wheat-grass	Local
<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>	Berry Saltbush	Local
<i>Austrostipa bigeniculata?</i>	Spear-grass	Local
<i>Austrostipa mollis</i>	Soft Spear-grass	Local
<i>Austrostipa scabra</i> ssp. <i>falcata</i>	Spear-grass	Local
<i>Dianella revoluta</i> var. <i>revoluta</i>	Black-anther Flax-lily	Local
<i>Dichelachne crinita</i>	Long-hair Plume-grass	Local
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed	Local
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Nodding Saltbush	Local
<i>Enchyleana tomentosa</i>	Ruby Saltbush	Local
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> ssp. <i>connata</i>	Melbourne Yellow Gum	State
<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort	Local
<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i> ssp. <i>tricolor</i>	Hoary Sun-ray	Planted
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i> ssp. <i>coriacea</i>	Wattle Mat-rush	Local
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i> ssp. <i>filiformis</i>	Wattle Mat-rush	Local
<i>Lysiana exocarpi</i>	Harlequin Mistletoe	Regional
<i>Maireana enchylaenoides</i>	Wingless Bluebush	Local
<i>Melicytis dentatus</i>	Shrub Violet	Local
<i>Microleana stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass	Local
<i>Oxalis perennans</i>	Grassland Sorrel	Local
<i>Rhagodia parabolica</i>	Fragrant Saltbush	State
<i>Rytidosperma caespitosum</i>	Common Wallaby-grass	Local
<i>Rytidosperma carphoides</i>	Short Wallaby-grass	Local
<i>Rytidosperma geniculatum?</i>	Kneed Wallaby-grass	Local
<i>Rytidosperma setaceum?</i>	Bristly Wallaby-grass	Local
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass	Local

## Exotic Species

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Acetosella vulgaris</i>	Sheep Sorrel
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Brown-top Bent
<i>Aira</i> spp.	Shivery Grass
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass
<i>Aparagus asparagoides</i>	Smilax
<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Capeweed
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Wild Oat
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking Grass
<i>Briza minor</i>	Lesser Quaking Grass
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Great Brome
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Boneseed
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle
<i>Dactylis glomeratus</i>	Cock's-foot Grass
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Paterson's Curse
<i>Ehrhata longiflora</i>	Annual Veldt-grass
<i>Erodium botrys</i>	Big Heron's-bill
<i>Galenea pubescens</i>	Blanket Weed
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog Grass
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> ssp. <i>veronense</i>	St Johns Wort
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Flatweed
<i>Lolium</i> spp.	Rye-grass
<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	Chilean Needle-grass
<i>Nassella trichitoma</i>	Serrated Tussock
<i>Oxalis purpurea</i>	Large-flower Wood-sorrel
<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>	Toowoomba Canary-grass
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort
<i>Romulea rosea</i>	Onion Grass
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Variegated Thistle
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow Thistle
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sow Thistle
<i>Sporobolus africanus</i>	Rat's Tail Fescue
<i>Trifolium arvense</i> var. <i>arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover
<i>Trifolium subterraneum</i>	Clover
<i>Vulpia muralis</i>	Squirrel-tail Fescue

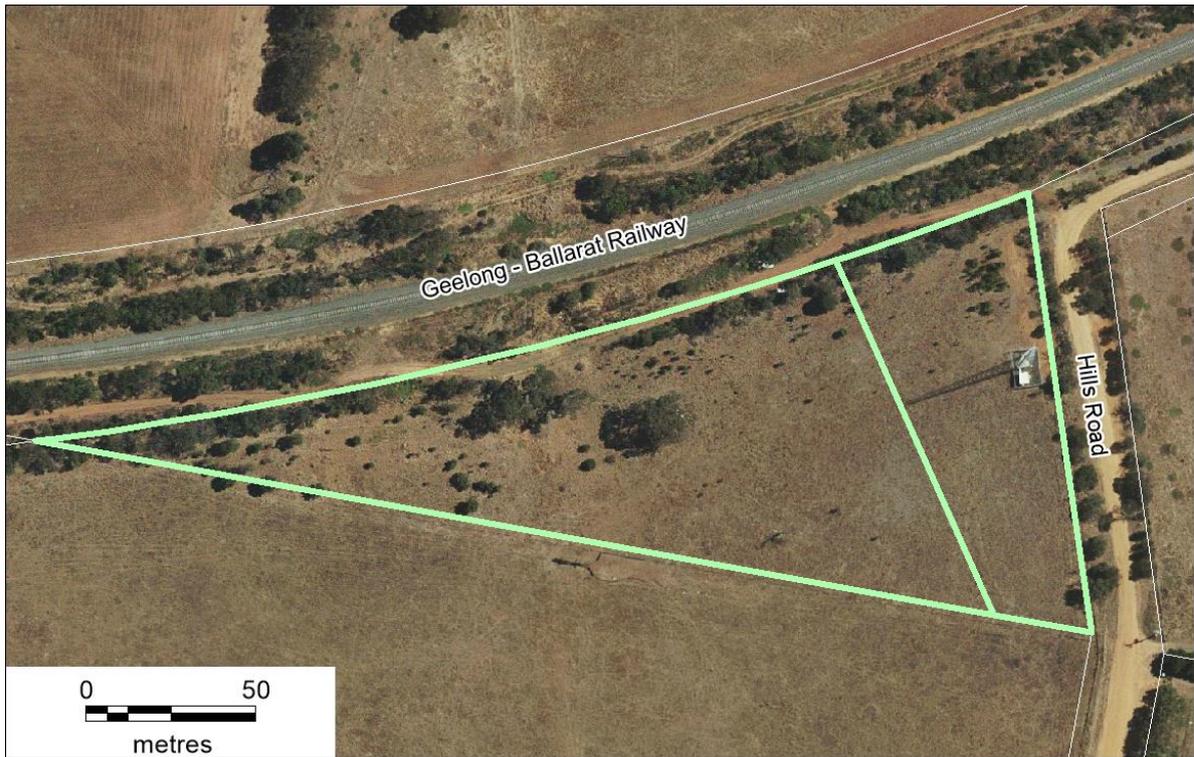
## 12. Appendix 5 - Aerial imagery



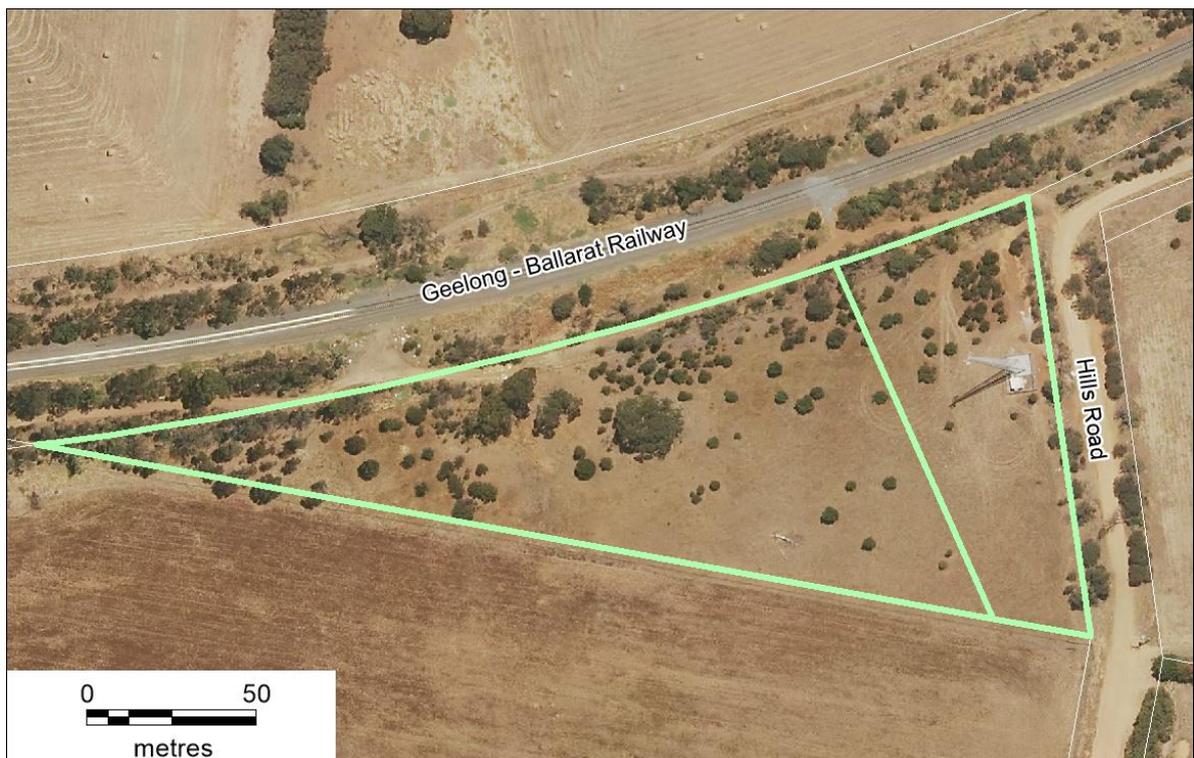
**Figure 8: Old Batesford Cemetery 2007**



**Figure 9: Old Batesford Cemetery 2010**



**Figure 10: Old Batesford Cemetery 2013**



**Figure 11: Old Batesford Cemetery 2017**

## 13. Appendix 6 - List of Burials

## Batesford Cemetery : Burials

Surname	First Name	Date	Age	Parents	Married To	Comments
ALLAN,	William	02/02/1864	4	John & Charlotte (Hunt)		V.P.I., buried Moorabool Viaduct
ANDERSON,	Jane	23/07/1874	46	unknown	unknown	VP.I.
BALMAIN,	Robert James	15/10/1879	21	James & Ann (Holden)		V.P.I., died Anakie
DARDEL,	Alice Elizabeth	23/07/1864	2 wks	James & Mary (Burrows)		V.P.I.
DARDEL,	Ernie Albert	14/05/1876	4	James & Margaret (Weitnauer)		V.P.I., Geelong Advertiser
DAWSON,	unnamed male	20/07/1863	20 hrs	Francis & Louisa (Corry)		V.P.I.
DESAULES,	Alfred	26/02/1882	27	unknown	not married	V.P.I.
GRANT,	Jane Robinson	26/05/1860	5	John & Agnes (Turnbull)		V.P.I.
HAWKINS,	Patrick	08/10/1869	13	Patrick & Ann (Reilly)		Geelong Advertiser, not on V.P.I.
HIND,	Mary Georgina	11/05/1862	1	John & Honora (Murphy)		V.P.I.
KENDALL,	unnamed female	18/12/1865	1 day	James & Eliza (Hollis)		V.P.I.
KENNEDY,	Elizabeth	27/01/1876	15 mins	James & Elizabeth (Holm)		V.P.I.
KNEEBONE,	John	05/03/1860	3 days	John & Mary Ann (Chapple)		V.P.I.
KNOX,	Mary	30/04/1877	20 mins	Samuel & Ciara (Smith)		V.P.I., twin of Sarah Jane
KNOX,	Sarah Jane	29/05/1877	1 mth	Samuel & Ciara (Smith)		V.P.I., twin of Mary
MALCOLM,	Alexander	06/06/1865	9 mths	William & Ann (Black)		V.P.I.
MALCOLM,	Elizabeth Alice	13/04/1867	1 yr 4 mths	William & Ann (Black)		V.P.I.
O'DONNELL,	Eliza	14/06/1872	21 days	Margaret Mary O'Donnell		V.P.I.
PETTIT,	Marion	16/10/1867	1 hour	Peter & Marion (Wood)		V.P.I.
RIBAUX,	Sarah	05/08/1883	58	unknown	Douglas & mother unknown Aime	V.P.I.
RYNIKER,	Mary Ellen	09/08/1863	2	Rudolf & Ellen (Keilon)		V.P.I.

Surname	First Name	Date	Age	Parents	Married To	Comments
SUMNER,	Thomas	25/09/1866	10	Robert & Isabella (Fauset)		V.P.I.

Codes in Comments Field:  
V.P.I. (Victorian Pioneer Index)  
V.F.I. (Victorian Federation Index)  
V.E.I. (Victorian Edwardian Index)  
G.W.I. (Victorian Great War Index)  
V.D.I. (Victorian Death Index)  
V.M.I. (Victorian Marriage Index)

