

Grovedale Public Cemetery, 6 Church Street, Grovedale Statement of Significance

May 2025

Heritage Place: Grovedale Public Cemetery,
6 Church Street, Grovedale

PS ref no: HO2044



Source: City of Greater Geelong, May 2025

What is significant?

The Grovedale Public Cemetery at 6 Church Street, Grovedale, is locally significant to the City of Greater Geelong. Significant elements include:

- The cemetery, comprising the allotment and graves.
- The gravel paths contribute to the setting of the Cemetery.

Non-significant elements include:

- All plantings and fencing are not significant.

How is it significant?

Grovedale Public Cemetery is of historical and social significance to the City of Greater Geelong.

Why is it significant?

The Grovedale Public Cemetery is historically significant to the City of Greater Geelong as an early public cemetery in the municipality dating to the early 1850s, as well as for being a physical representation of the first wave of German migration to the region. This period of German migration ultimately saw the emergence of Lutheranism in Victoria and the founding of Grovedale (then Germantown) as a suburb. The Cemetery is historically important as the original location of the first Lutheran school and church in Geelong, constructed in wattle and daub and replaced with a stone church on Torquay Road in the late nineteenth century. The cemetery features the interred remains of the first German families to arrive in Geelong from Hamburg and the Silesian region. (Criterion A)

The Grovedale Public Cemetery is of social significance to the City of Greater Geelong as an intact example of a public cemetery which has serviced the local community since its founding in the early 1850s. The Cemetery also has significance to the local German and Lutheran communities as the resting place of many of the first German pioneers to the region, as well as the site of the first Lutheran Church in Geelong. (Criterion G)

Primary sources

Grovedale Public Cemetery, author: Benjamin Petkov, May 2025, peer reviewer: Mim Butcher, The Heritage Conservancy, May 2025.

Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study. Stage 2, Volume 16, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd, 1998-2000.

This document is an incorporated document in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*