

THE ELTHAM CEMETARY

The Eltham Cemetery Trust, established in 1858, selected the existing burial site at Mount Pleasant Road on high ground overlooking the village of Eltham. Trustees appointed from various church and local organisations have administered and maintained the cemetery to this day.

The cemetery, set in natural bushland adjoining Montsalvat, is the resting place of Sir William Irvine, a former Premier and Chief justice of Victoria.

It is of great significance for the Carrucan clan as it marks the final resting place of many of those early Eltham pioneers who forged new lives in what was then an untamed and wild land. Bridget, Patrick and Peter, who all came from Ireland to start new lives in Eltham, are all buried at the Eltham cemetery as are their spouses and many of their children. The burial details of this first Eltham generation is as follows:

Peter Carrucan	Born 1837	Buried 28 Nov 1895	Noted in records as Cemetery ID 2746
Hannah Carrucan (nee Woods)	Born ?	Buried 3 March 1920	Noted in records as Cemetery ID 2888
Patrick Carrucan	Born 1831	Buried 9 Oct 1894	Noted in records as Cemetery ID 2741
Mary Carrucan (nee O'Brien)	Born 1838	Buried 4 Nov 1927	Noted in records as Cemetery ID 2774
Bridget Coleman (nee Carrucan)	Born 1833	Buried 29 Sept 1901	Noted in records as Cemetery ID 2753
John James Coleman	Born 1811	Buried 30 Oct 1886	Incorrectly noted in Eltham Cemetery records as S. Coleman – ID 2729

Only Patrick Carrucan's headstone remains as a reminder of those early Irish immigrants. He died on 6 October 1894 at age 63 and is buried in the family plot shown below, in the Catholic section of the Eltham Cemetery. His gravestone was in such disrepair that Betty Erickson (nee Carrucan) paid to have a new one erected in the late 1970s. Unfortunately, this gravestone, like the original, only honours Patrick and does not record the other family members buried here. His wife Mary Carrucan (nee O'Brien) is also buried in this family plot as are some of their children.



This and much more information can be gleaned from the Eltham Cemetery records which are accessible via the Eltham Cemetery Trust website at <http://www.elthamcemetery.com/>

The cemetery records show the following

Burial Date	Name	Age	ID No.
03/07/1867	Thomas Carrucan	9 months	2707
10/09/1894	Patrick Carrucan	74	2741
11/28/1895	Peter Carrucan	58	2746
02/14/1907	Peter Carrucan (Jnr)	38	2763
07/14/1913	Dennis Carrucan	38	2771
11/04/1927	Mary Carrucan	90	2774
10/16/1916	Kathleen Carrucan		2854
03/30/1920	(Mrs) H. Carrucan		2888
11/07/1940	Jane Carrucan		2431
12/15/1943	Michael Carrucan		3046
11/23/1961	Mary Frances Carrucan	85	3047
05/05/1976	John Francis Carrucan	62	390
06/25/1987	Francis Kenny Carrucan	70	319
09/02/1996	Ruby Carrucan	82	415
07/01/1895	Christina Long	16	2743
01/06/1899	Andrew Long	58	2749
03/01/1907	Patrick Long	70	2744
11/20/1915	Bridget Long	76	2750
02/06/1906	Johanna Long	75	2761
07/08/1919	B. Long		2882
08/03/1946	Ellen Hannah Long		3098
09/21/1981	Catherine Long	75	4155
09/14/1989	Maureen Hilda Long	41	1326
05/04/1992	Thomas George C. Long	82	1341
06/28/1995	Alan Charles Long	63	1350
05/13/2003	Josephine Samson Long	55	5605
10/30/1888	S. Coleman	76	2729
09/29/1901	(Mrs) Coleman (Snr)	71	2753
04/11/1909	G. H. Coleman	42	2764
02/02/1927	Mary Anne Coleman		2970
12/12/1952	Hannah May Coleman	52	3244
08/03/1953	George Laurence Coleman	46	3260
03/05/1965	John Laurence Coleman	31	3530
12/02/1969	John Raymond Coleman	74	3628
12/03/1984	Edward Coleman	87	4592
09/19/1997	Margaret Coleman		3531
09/09/1867	Thomas Sweeney	65	2712
08/24/1869	Annie Maria Sweeney	21	2714
10/03/1884	Margaret Sweeney (Snr)	73	2713
09/07/1913	Margaret Sweeney (Jnr)	72	2715
10/02/1884	Margaret Sweeney	75	2728
08/19/1872	Johanna Sweeney	22	2755
08/01/1902	Caroline Sweeney		2756
05/26/1909	John Sweeney	65	2757
03/08/1910	Ellen Sweeney		2758
09/14/1917	Elizabeth Agatha Sweeney		2862
06/17/1919	P. Sweeney		2880
10/07/1883	Mary Sweeney		1073
03/23/1955	Nellie Sweeney	84	3305

A visit to the Eltham Cemetery is well worth the effort and there are a number of family members available to help with a guided tour