Old Melbourne Cemetery

Information Collation
Stage 2 Documentation
Draft Report

Report prepared for City of Melbourne,
June 2013

City of Melbourne Public Access version
January 2017

Content Warning Statement

This Document contains information on burials, including burials of Aboriginal people at the Old Melbourne Cemetery in the 19th century and later disturbance and exhumation activities on the site of the cemetery in the 19th and 20th century.

We warn that there may be words and descriptions that may be culturally sensitive and which might not normally be used in certain public or community contexts. Terms and annotations that reflect the attitude of the author or the period in which the item was written, may be considered inappropriate today.

Preface

March 2017

The following report was commissioned by the City of Melbourne in December 2012 to assist with better understanding the history of the Queen Victoria Market site. It contains extensive information about the history and development of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, which is located on part of the market site.

The report was finalised prior to the City of Melbourne announcing its intentions to renew the Queen Victoria Market precinct in October 2013.

Later this year, the five-year renewal program, formally referred to as the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Program (QVMPR) will commence. This will signal the start of the largest single market renewal in the world right now.

The renewal program will seek to preserve, acknowledge and celebrate the market site's long history. Retaining the physical heritage of the market precinct is a key consideration as is equipping the market with better and more efficient trading facilities for the future and creating new public open space for customers and the community.

The renewal program presents us with an opportunity to find out more about the people buried in the former cemetery and understand more about other historical places on the site, with archaeological works planned to investigate the sites of the former Drill Hall, and a potential Temperance Hall.

There is a limited amount of information available on who was buried in the Old Melbourne Cemetery, as the report details, with research documents largely limited to newspaper articles and reports from the period.

In March 2017, the City of Melbourne publically released an updated version of this report to share the stories of early Melbourne and the role the market site, and former cemetery played in this era of early colonial history.

This significant body of research will help to provide guidance for archaeological planning and conservation management of the site through both renewal and the ongoing operation of the market. The Old Melbourne Cemetery site is situated between Queen, Franklin and Peel streets and the northern edge of the current D Shed. Part of the structure of F Shed includes a brick wall built in the late 1800s to mark the northern edge of the cemetery boundary. Today, this area is covered by the market's car park and some trading sheds. Through renewal, it is our intention to relocate the car park below ground elsewhere in the precinct, so this area can be transformed into public open space, creating a more fitting acknowledgement of the site's history.

The renewal team is committed to respectful management of the former Old Melbourne Cemetery site during renewal works, with no or minimal subsurface disruption a priority across the cemetery precinct. Where required, archaeologists will be on site to advise, investigate and monitor all works.

Anyone with any additional information or knowledge about the site's heritage or strong interest in the Old Melbourne Cemetery site and ways to acknowledge its history are encouraged to get in touch with the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal team. Email qvmrenewal@melbourne.vic.gov.au or phone: 9658 9658. For more information on the market renewal program you can visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/queenvictoriamarket

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

In December 2012 the City of Melbourne commissioned Godden Mackay Logan (GML) to collate available documentary and spatial information relating to the former Old Melbourne Cemetery (now the Queen Victoria Market site). The purpose was to incorporate relevant data into a Geographic Information System (GIS) and develop a predictive model of the archaeological potential of the site, to allow well informed decisions to be made during future planning for the site. This work has been undertaken in two stages:

- Stage 1 – Research and Review; and
- Stage 2 – Further Research and Documentation.

Stage 1 was completed in April 2013. Stage 2 commenced in late May and comprised three areas of research:

1. Historical Documentation;
2. Archaeological Analysis and Predictive Model; and
3. GIS Integration and Output This report documents Stage 2.

1.2 Site Location

The site is in the north of Melbourne CBD and bounded by Queen, Victoria, Peel and Franklin Streets. The Old Melbourne Cemetery was located on the area now occupied by the Queen Victoria Market car park and part of its 'Upper Market' section. QVM's 'Lower Market' on the eastern side of Queen Street is not part of this study.

Figure 1.1   Old Melbourne Study area. (Source: Google Earth)

1.3   Future Plans

The City of Melbourne is preparing to engage with the community regarding the potential future use of the market's car park site. If a suitable alternative location can be identified to house the market's car parking, then this opens up possibilities to identify a better future use of the land. The market car park's future land use site could involve: the consolidation of some roads and public land at the southern end of the site to create development opportunities; the extension of Franklin Street through the site; the commemoration of the history of the site; the creation of new open space and refurbishment of some or all of the existing market area.

An Assessment of Cultural Heritage Significance and Conservation Recommendations for the site prepared by Lovell Chen in 2011, recommends that any proposed development should minimise the requirement for disturbance of existing graves and should provide for an innovative interpretation of the former cemetery, in a way that encourages contemporary community use and engagement.

1.4 About this Report

This report documents all Stage 2 works. It begins with a revision of the history of the site based on new resources discovered during this phase of research (Section 2.0). It then presents a detailed summary of the methods and results of additional archival research conducted during this stage of work (Section 3.0). The report then discusses the archaeological implications arising from the available documentary evidence and presents a model for predicting subsurface remains of the Old Melbourne Cemetery below the current site (Section 4.0). In Section 5.0, recommendations for future work are identified. An updated, pictorial chronology is included in Appendix A and a summary of archaeological test trenches, 1991 to 2011 is included in Appendix B.

1.5 Limitations

During the course of Stage 2 Works staff from GML and the City of Melbourne made several enquiries to locate and access resources identified during Stage 1. Unfortunately, some organisations were not in a position to respond within the relatively short available timeframe, and others did not have the resources required to do so.

The scope of this report did not allow for an open-ended archival research and resources such as the Burial Records from the Melbourne General Cemetery which may provide further information on the 1877 exhumations were not able to be analysed.

As with any GIS-project this report is limited by the quality of copies of available maps, and by their accuracy. During the course of the work, it was realised that Selby's 1920 plan of graves is diagrammatic and therefore it was not utilised in any of the GIS analysis.

1.6 Abbreviations

Term	Definition
OMC	Old Melbourne Cemetery
MGC	Melbourne General Cemetery
PROV	Public Records Office Victoria
QVM	Queen Victoria Markets
SLVic	State Library of Victoria
RHSV	Royal Historical Society of Victoria

2. Historical Overview

2.1 Introduction

This historical overview has been updated from the Stage 1 report to incorporate new material reviewed, and additional analysis undertaken, during Stage 2 works. This research provides a background history to the development and usage of the Old Melbourne Cemetery and a brief historical background to the development of the Queen Victoria Markets. It then provides a detailed analysis of the burials, exhumations and buildings from the Old Melbourne Cemetery site.

2.2 Pre-1837 History

The area around Port Phillip and the Yarra Valley, on which the City of Melbourne municipality now stands, was the home of the Kulin people, an alliance of several language groups of Aboriginal Australians whose ancestors had lived in the area for an estimated 31,000 to 40,000 years. At the time of European settlement, the population of Aboriginal inhabitants was estimated to be under 20,000 who were hunter-gatherers from three tribes: the Wurundjeri, Boonwurrung and Wathaurong.

In the early years of European settlement, the north shore of Bass Strait was left to a few whalers and sealers until 1836 when John Batman and John Fawkner, both Launceston farmers, established a settlement in the area. Surveyor Robert Hoddle was engaged to lay out the first plan of Melbourne in 1836. On this plan the future location of the Old Melbourne Cemetery (Queen Victoria Market) lay north of the city grid in a Government Reserve.

2.3 The Old Melbourne Cemetery

In 1837 Governor Bourke set aside 10 acres in the Government Reserve (mentioned above) for a cemetery for the people of Melbourne, and the first burial occurred that same year.[1] The cemetery was divided into religious denominations. The Anglican (Episcopalian) and Presbyterian sections were set aside first and shown on an 1838 plan of the cemetery by Hoddle[2] (although the land was not officially granted to the Anglicans until 18 May 1843).[3] The earliest plan of the cemetery as a whole dates from 1843[4]; however, the Jewish Community was not officially assigned their land until December 1844, and the Society of Friends received their grant in November 1847.[5] By this time, there were eight sections (Figure 2.1): Jewish (1 acre), Society of Friends (Quakers) (½ acre), Independent (Congregationalists) (1 acre), Wesleyan (1 acre), Presbyterian (2 acres), Episcopalian (Anglican) (2 acres), Roman Catholic (2 acres) and 'Aborigines' where both Aboriginal people and later criminals were said to have been buried (½ acre).[6]

The site remained as Melbourne's main cemetery until 1853, by which time it was too small for the growing city and too close to the central town area to be suitable to continue this role. Governor La Trobe, writing in June 1850, urged the Sydney officials to hurry on plans for a replacement cemetery as 'the Church of England ground at the old cemetery would be used up in six months'.[7] Tentative plans were made for the Anglicans to use some of the spare burial ground in the Wesleyan and Independent sections but this land had not been consecrated and the plans were not acted upon.[8] Out of sheer necessity the first Anglican burial in the new Melbourne General Cemetery took place before it was formally opened.[9]

The Melbourne General Cemetery was established on a larger site (43 hectares) at Carlton, outside the one mile city boundary.[10] Since its opening in 1853, Melbourne's original cemetery was referred to as the Old Melbourne Cemetery and it was closed to new business in 1854.

While Melbourne contained a few additional small cemeteries, the Old Melbourne Cemetery was the only large scale burial ground operating in metropolitan Melbourne prior to 1854.[11] As such, it is probable that the vast majority of Melbourne's dead prior to 1854 were buried there. It is not possible to know the exact numbers buried in the cemetery due to a fire in 1864 that destroyed the original lodge where all the early records were stored.[12] However contemporaneous accounts, discussed in Section 2.5, suggest there were between 8,000 and 10,000.

Old Melbourne Cemetery was officially closed in 1854; however, those who had already purchased plots in the cemetery continued to be buried there until 1917. A further 371 individuals were buried in the cemetery between 1866 and 1917 and these are recorded in the burial register held at the Public Records Office Victoria.[13]

Prior to 1864 each section of the cemetery has been managed by its own denomination and a small group of trustees.[14] From 1865 until the final burial in 1917 the cemetery was managed by the Cemetery Trust consisting of an ever-aging small group of trustees. Cemetery Trust Records document the continued frustration of the trustees by the lack of funding available for the upkeep of the cemetery and its fall into disrepair.[15]

In 1877 the Melbourne General Site Market Act 1877, No. 572 was passed allowing the northern part of the cemetery, plus additional land to the north including Fulton Street, to be resumed for the creation of the Queen Victoria Markets. The remainder of the cemetery persisted intact until the passing of the Melbourne General Market Lands Act 1917, No. 2913, after which the burial ground was resumed for market purposes.

2.4   Queen Victoria Market

The Queen Victoria Market was established on the cemetery site over various stages from 1877 to 1936 and remains on the site today, using the former cemetery area for market trading and car parking. In 1969 Melbourne's Wholesale Market was moved from the Queen Victoria Market to a new location in Footscray. The relocation of the wholesale trade significantly reduced the level of trading at Queen Victoria Market, leading to its reinvention as a retail market. This transition from wholesale market to retail 'shopping centre' involved a range of changes to the market undertaken in the 1970s through to the 1990s. This included not only a large scale refurbishment of the market but also demolition of sheds and market buildings to make way for the construction of customer car parking to meet the changing demands of consumers. Table 2.1 below provides a summary of the construction and demolition of market buildings on the site. This is also illustrated in Figures 2.1– 2.4.

Table 2.1   Overview of construction on the Queen Victoria Market Site

Date	Construction	Demolition
1877–1888	Sheds A, B, C, D, E and F.	
1878	Shed C extended west to Peel Street.	
1887	12 single-storey terraces on Victoria Street.	
1890	8 single-storey terraces on Victoria Street west of the 1887 terraces.	
1891	Shed B extended, with free-standing extension, to Peel Street.	
1903	Sheds A–E extended east to Queen Street.	

Date	Construction	Demolition
1905	Orderly Room site purchased and Orderly Room removed. Small open market shed constructed on the land. Shed A extended west to Peel Street across the former Orderly Room site.	Orderly Room.
1920	Jewish section of cemetery becomes part of market site. Graves removed.	
1922	Sheds D, E and F extended west across the former Jewish cemetery site. The remainder of cemetery cleared and made part of the market site.	Small open market shed on the corner of Victoria and Peel Streets demolished.
1923	New shops constructed on the corner of Victoria and Peel Streets. Sheds K and L constructed.	
1923	Wall of F Shed, the original market/cemetery boundary, opened up in sections.	
1930	Franklin Street stores, Market stores and service areas constructed on the southern end of the market site.	
1936	Sheds M, N and O constructed.	
1970	Demolition.	Northern row of the 1930 Franklin Street Stores, the 1930 Market Stores and the service areas.
1986	Demolition.	Sheds N and O.
1992	Construction of New J Shed between F Shed and K and L Sheds.	

2.5   Records of Burials in the Old Melbourne Cemetery

It is not possible to know the exact numbers buried in the Old Melbourne Cemetery. Prior to 1864 the records were destroyed.[16] Records from 1866 to the final burial in 1917 list the names of a further 371 people buried in the cemetery during this period.[17] Numerous references indicate that the cemetery was full or almost full from the 1850s, especially in certain denominational areas. A report in The Argus in 1917 on the Old Melbourne Cemetery noted that '[a]ccording to statements

by gravediggers, the ground has been thickly covered with graves, in fact in 1914 it was estimated that room remained for only 40 additional interments'.[18]

Several documents discussed below indicate, or argue, that the total number of burials in the Old Melbourne Cemetery from 1837 to 1917 was between 8000 and 10,000.

- AH Padley, the Honorary Secretary of the Old Melbourne Cemetery Preservation League, writing in 1919, stated that the 10 acres of the cemetery land was surveyed into grave allotments of 8ft x 4ft and allowed 25% for 'paths and free graves there are left 10,200 allotments'.[19] Some indication as to the laying out of these allotments can be seen on the 1873 plan of the cemetery, especially in the Episcopalian section where the most tombstones are shown.

- Minutes from the Queen Victoria Markets Committee dated 16 February 1921 records; …the Minister may possibly insist upon exploratory work being carried out in order to find all and any

remains and that as the burials in the cemetery number between 8,000 and 10,000, the financial difficulty between this and the Committee's proposal would be approximately £50,000.[20]

- Writing in 1924, Isaac Selby also estimated there were 10,000 bodies buried at the Old Melbourne Cemetery, a conclusion he probably drew from his association with the Old Melbourne Cemetery Preservation League and with the Markets Committee who had commissioned Selby to select significant graves from the Old Melbourne Cemetery for relocation to Flagstaff Gardens, a plan that never came to fruition.

- The State of Victoria Early Pioneer Index (1836–1888) records that between 1836 and 1854, 7059 people living in the central Melbourne area had 'Melbourne' recorded as their place of death which is not inconsistent with the Market Committee's estimate.[21]

- A search of the denominational archives has provided some further information for this period. The Wesleyan burial register from 1840 to 1847 recorded 85 burials in the Old Cemetery (only 54 headstones are shown on the 1873 plan).[22] The new burial register which began in 1866, held by Public Records Office Victoria, contains 371 names listed alphabetically.[23] Associated with this register is the official entry book for all burials dating from February 1877 to 1917 listed in chronological order.[24] The information includes the name of the deceased, their denomination, age, occupation, residence, place of birth, date of funeral and cause of death. Jean Henderson, late of the Yarra Bend Asylum, is the last recorded entrant.

Following the decision to resume the northern part of the cemetery to establish the Queen Victoria Markets, a plan of the cemetery was produced by the government surveyor on behalf of Melbourne City Council in 1873. This plan recorded the surnames and locations of 855 tombstones.[25] While only one unnamed tomb is shown in the Society of Friends section and no tombstones in the Aboriginal section, historic records indicate that there were numerous burials in both these sections[26]; and in 1877, 69 exhumations were undertaken from these sections (see Section 2.6). The 1873 plan also locates the cemetery lodge (presumably rebuilt after the fire) in part of the Jewish section and a store at the southern end of the cemetery fronting Franklin Street in the Episcopalian (Church of England) section.

In 1913 the Society of Australian Genealogists, London, compiled the first record of the inscriptions on the tombstones in the Old Melbourne Cemetery. A copy of this record is located at the State Library of Victoria. This record was not compiled alphabetically nor under denominations, except for the Jewish section which was recorded separately.

Plans to resume the remainder of the cemetery in 1917 saw the Melbourne City Council Surveyor engaged to compile a detailed record of the names on tombstones, their inscriptions and the condition of each tomb—this he completed in 1918. This survey was recorded by denomination beginning with the Jewish section and the surveyor attached a number to each grave which were numbered 1 to 525.[27] The information in the surveyor's notebook was then copied into a book called 'Copy of Inscriptions on Tombstones in the Old Melbourne Cemetery'[28] and then transcribed onto index cards, the set of which is held at the Public Records Office of Victoria.[29] This survey was used to plan the exhumations which took place in 1920 and 1922.

In 1920, Isaac Selby produced his own plan of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, recording the names and locations of the remaining graves plus the location of graves where the inscription could no longer be read. Selby used his own numbering system and recorded 549 graves, 24 more than the council's survey. The numbers from both the 1918 survey (525 graves) and Selby's 1920 plan (549 graves) show a considerable reduction from the 855 tombstones shown on the 1873 plan (see Table 2.2).

Table 2.2   Comparison of grave numbers between 1873 and 1918.

Denomination	1873 Plan	1918 Survey
Jewish	19	18
Wesleyan	54	31
Independent	45	28
Roman Catholic	258	127
Episcopalian	296	184
Presbyterian	183	137
Total	855	525

As well as the number of graves recorded, the names on the tombstones were also listed. While 525 tombstones were recorded in 1918, the names on the tombstones amounted to 1017 people; and during the 1920 and 1922 exhumations, 945 remains were removed.[30]

It is also known that many graves in the cemetery were unmarked or marked only by timber crosses that would not have survived.[31] Writing in The Argus in 1914, one person stated that his father in the 1840s had witnessed 'many illegal and unhealthy burials at the Old Melbourne Cemetery. Migrants on ships had died of disease and were buried in mass graves; and if these were disturbed, there may be a recurrence of the plagues which had originally put these people in the cemetery'. [32]

Planning for the exhumations in the 1920s did not take into account areas without tombstones and there was no excavation of these areas. The contractors were instructed to only remove remains which were under clearly marked headstones, and any badly damaged graves and headstones were not to be repaired. If at a later stage bones were found in the digging of foundations for the new market buildings, they were to be sent to Fawkner.[33]

This could indicate that between seven and nine thousand remains may still remain under the Queen Victoria Markets.

Numerous Old Melbourne Cemetery records, letters, correspondence and other documents from 1866 to 1917 survive at the Public Records Office Victoria (PROV). These are detailed in Section 3.0.

2.6   Exhumations and Uncovered Remains

2.6.1   Period 1: 1877–1878

In 1877 the northern part of the cemetery, which included all the Society of Friends section, all the Aboriginal section and three quarters of the Jewish section, was resumed for the construction of the first phase of the Queen Victoria Markets.[34] The Melbourne General Site Market Act 1877, passed for the establishment of the Queen Victoria Market, required that bodies buried in the relevant land be reinterred in Melbourne General Cemetery (Carlton).[35]

The part of the Jewish section resumed for the markets was an area where no burials had taken place so there were no exhumations.[36] There was, however, the cemetery lodge which was demolished and rebuilt in the remaining section of the Jewish cemetery.

From the Society of Friends and the Aboriginal sections, a letter from Thomas Jennings, Undertaker, the man responsible for the exhumations from the Old Melbourne Cemetery to Melbourne General Cemetery from November 1877 to March 1878, stated that he had removed 'about 69 bodies from the old cemetery'.[37] Receipts and invoices from Thomas Jennings for the removal of these remains are also located in the Town Clerks Files at the Public Records Office, Victoria.[38] A rather interesting article appeared in The Argus 27 December 1877 providing information on some of the exhumations that appear to have come from the Aboriginal Section where it was known that criminals had also been buried.[39]. The report stated:

Owing to the necessity for a new market in Victoria-street, a portion of the old Melbourne Cemetery has been required. The particular corner wanted for market purposes, though within the cemetery fence, had never been consecrated, but had been used for the interment of such deceased persons as were deemed unfit to lie in holy ground. The number of bodies known to have been deposited in the place was 20, but there was little or nothing to show where they lay, and in order to remove them they had to be sunk and driven for in a systematic manner. Twenty-eight were found altogether, sometimes five in one hole and sometimes three, as happened. They were got at about 3½ ft. from the surface. In one place were found three skeletons, recognised as aboriginal, and it is believed that they were executed in Melbourne about 30 years ago. One had a magnificent skull, large, in perfect preservation, and strongly marked with the characteristics of his race. Several of the bodies had been buried in their boots, others in their belts, of which the brass clasps and portions of the leather remained. In one spot there were found along with the bones remains of expensive coffin furniture, and this deposit was supposed to indicate the resting-place (only temporary, as things have turned out) of a well-off woman, who was found dead many years ago under circumstances that seemed to indicate that she had made away with herself. Some shillings were found among the bones of one of the deceased, as if they had escaped from a pocket that had long since mouldered away. The remains of these eight-and-twenty all but unknown persons were duly interred in the New Cemetery. [40]

Thomas Jennings records provided no information on who the remains belonged to or in which part of the cemetery they were found. It is interesting to note that no Aboriginal section was set aside in the Melbourne General Cemetery and, while it can be assumed that the Quaker remains were reinterred into the Quaker section of the new cemetery, it is not clear where the remains from the Aboriginal section were reinterred. Melbourne General Cemetery hold detailed burial registers from 1854; however, burials were recorded on a daily basis and the scope of this report did not allow for such detailed research.[41]

In the remaining Jewish section, one body was exhumed and moved further north in the cemetery to allow a space for the construction of the new cemetery lodge.[42]

2.6.2   Period 2: 1920 and 1922

The remainder of the cemetery continued on the site until the passing of the Melbourne General Market Lands Act 1917, in October 1917, which allowed the cemetery to be resumed for the expansion of the markets.

A 1918 survey conducted by Melbourne City Council provided the basis for the planning of the exhumations, identified 525 tombstones and provided the names of 1017 people buried there. From this information an alphabetical list was recorded, denomination by denomination, which provided the grave number from the Old Melbourne Cemetery (1 to 525) with the corresponding grave number in

the Fawkner Cemetery; or if the remains were going to another cemetery, the name of this cemetery.[43] No attempt was made to locate remains where there were no tombstones and these areas were not excavated. The exception was the Jewish section where a thorough search of all remains was undertaken.[44]

Exhumations in the Jewish section took place between September and October 1920. The Jews exhumed all those buried in the cemetery, which came to 58 or 59 remains, and 18 headstones. The Jewish Burial Society has a detailed account of all those exhumed, their location within the Old Melbourne Cemetery and their new location in Section D of the Fawkner Cemetery. This is confirmed by a report in The Argus which stated that the Jewish section was totally cleared of remains.[45]

Exhumations from the remaining sections of the cemetery took place from 20 February to 31 March 1922. During this time 886 bodies were exhumed.[46] A notebook on the exhumations recorded the number of exhumations each day and the number of remains found under each tombstone. It is interesting to note that in some graves the number of people listed in the tombstone was greater than the number of remains found, while in other graves the number of remains found was far greater that those listed on the tombstone.[47]

The total number of exhumations from the Old Melbourne Cemetery in 1920 and 1922 came to 945, and 449 headstones were also moved to Fawkner Cemetery.[48] The discrepancy between the 1,017 people named on the graves and the total of only 945 exhumed was not documented or discussed at the time.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria (RHSV) holds two volumes of photographs of the tombstones and grave plots in the Old Melbourne Cemetery taken just prior to its closure and their removal in the 1920s.

2.6.3   Period 3: 1923–1930

Following the exhumation of the remains and the clearing of the tombstones, the cemetery was cleared of all vegetation and ploughed. A photograph from 1923 shows two men levelling the cemetery site using a plough-drawn four horses.[49] A historic aerial photograph from 1928 shows the land cleared and vacant.[50] There are no records of additional recovery of remains, but it is likely that some disturbance to unmarked graves occurred at this time.

In 1930 excavations for the construction of the Franklin Street stores by a large steam digger unearthed human bones which were said to be later reburied in the Fawkner Cemetery.[51] In 1934 The Argus reported that bones had been found in a soil heap near Parkville Presbyterian Church which had come from excavations of the Old Melbourne Cemetery for the expansion of the markets. This was also recorded by Mills in 1991 recalling this event.[52]

2.6.4   Period 4: 1980s–Present

Excavations on the site from 1986 to 2012 have continued to uncover remains and various archaeological reports have been undertaken. These are detailed in Table 3.1.

One report recorded that approximately 150 remains were located during the 1991–1992 construction of the New Market Shed (J Shed).[53]

In 1982, Marjorie Morgan, a member of the Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies, made the first attempt to try to compile a list of Exhumations and Reburials from the Old Melbourne Cemetery using

resources available at the time. These she printed in her book, The Old Melbourne Cemetery 1837–1822, which provides a great platform for future research.

Table 2.3 presents a list of all the known disturbance events that have affected subsurface burial sites since the Old Melbourne Cemetery's last burial in 1917. They include systematic exhumations and archaeological investigations, along with unintended disturbance during construction and landscaping works.
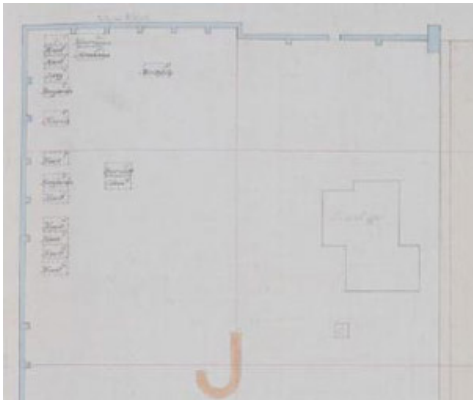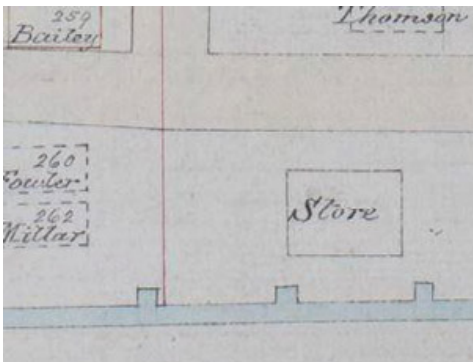
2.6.5   Summary of Disturbance to Burials, post-1917
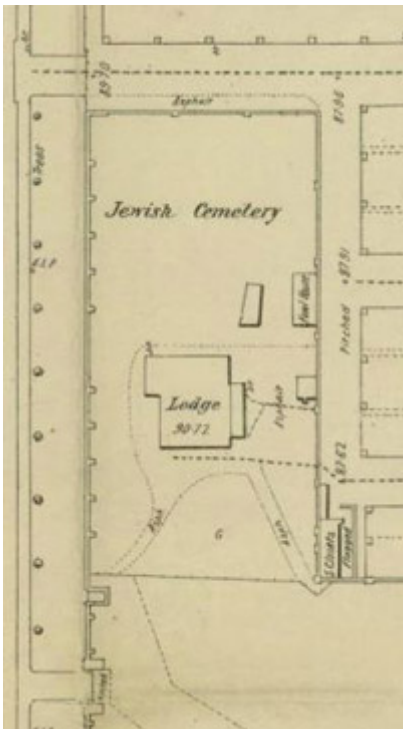
Table 2.3   Subsurface disturbance events following the closure of the Old Melbourne Cemetery in 1917.

Year	Purpose	Section	No. Burials	Final Resting Place	Source
1920	Exhumation.	Jewish	59 burials.	Fawkner Cemetery Section D	Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society),
1922	Exhumation.	Remainder	886 burials.	Interred Fawkner Crematorium and Memorial Park.	VPRS 9588 PROV
c1930s	Sewerage installation.	Not known	'Many bodies were excavated', 20 skeletons per week		Mills 1991; Lovell Chen 2010: 8
1934	Soil redeposition from QVM to Royal Park.	Not known (the sieving was carried out in Parkville).		Whatever human remains were found in the soil were collected and interred in Fawkner Cemetery.	Mills 1991
1986	Demolition of N and O Sheds: removal of concrete slab	Part of Roman Catholic and Episcopalian sections	2 sets of remains from N Shed, 2 sets of remains from O Shed alongside 'obvious forms of four or five other human remains'	Reinterred on site after consultation with Health Department.	QVM photo album
1987	Electrical cables: a narrow trench, 1 ft wide by 2 ft deep leading from the substation to Franklin Street.	Episcopalian and/or Presbyterian	About 10 bones were recovered They were found about 15 yards from the substation.	Reinterred on site, in the same trench. The Health Department was notified.	QVM photo album
1990	Fire hydrant installation in the area of F Shed.	Aboriginal	Two burials were disturbed during excavation works.	Not known.	Bennett 1991 QVM Pty Ltd Photo Album

Year	Purpose	Section	No. Burials	Final Resting Place	Source
1991	Archaeological investigation in advance of J Shed.	Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan	23 samples contained 'anomalies' suspected to be graves or exhumation sites.	In situ. There was no identifiable disturbance to any burial. One only core contained artefacts; a small fragment of timber, possibly from a coffin.	Austral 1991: 3
1991	September—excavation for J Shed construction.	Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan	Excavation of the 23 locations revealed 50-odd burial locations.	In situ. Following location of 50-odd burials, the footings of the new building were redesigned to avoid any impact on the subsurface features.	Austral 1993
1999	Franklin Street stores.	Presbyterian and Episcopalian	Five children's burials.	In situ. The graves were located and recorded then backfilled without further disturbance.	Austral 1999
2012	Archaeological test excavations for proposed sewer line.	Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan	Three burials.	The burials were retained in situ. Artefacts recovered during the excavation were lodged with Heritage Victoria. It appears that this assemblage includes a small number of skeletal remains of young children.	Alpha 2012: 14

2.7   Buildings of the Old Melbourne Cemetery site

Date	Building	Reference	Image
Pre-1864	Cemetery Lodge No. 1 burnt down in fire in 1864.	Letter dated 18 March 1879 from Trustees of Cemetery to M Mornage Esq, Solicitor. VPRS 9591 Public Records Office Victoria.	
1873 Plan	Shows Cemetery Lodge No. 2 in the part of the Jewish section being resumed for the first stage of the markets. This building was demolished in 1877–1878.	VPRS 9582 Public Records Office Victoria.	
1873 Plan	Store shown in the Episcopalian section fronting Franklin Street.	VPRS 9582 Public Records Office Victoria.	

Date	Building	Reference	Image
1895	Cemetery Lodge No. 3 built 1877/1878 in the remaining Jewish cemetery. North of the lodge is a fowl house and an additional shed. To the east of the lodge is an outbuilding. The lodge is surrounded by asphalt paths. Demolished c1920.	Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) plan of the site Plan Nos 1025 & 1026. SL Victoria.	

2.8 Archaeological Investigations

Five formal archaeological investigations are known to have been conducted on the Queen Victoria Markets site. This includes archaeological and physical anthropological investigations of remains disturbed by mechanical excavation works.

In May 2000, Austral Archaeology prepared a Conservation Policy for the Old Melbourne Cemetery at the Queen Victoria Market to govern future works at the site.

Table 2.4   Archaeological Investigations of the Old Melbourne Cemetery

Year	Type	Excavator	Location	Key Finds
1990	Salvage excavation, forensic anthropological investigation.	VAS Physical Anthropologist, Dr Mike Green supervised the exhumations.	Alley within F Shed (Aboriginal section).	The remains of two young males, 'probably Aboriginal, but of mixed racial origin'—one probably European, the other tentatively Asian.[54] Both individuals were missing key skeletal elements. The second burial displayed evidence of post- depositional disturbance predating damage caused by the mechanical excavator.[55]

Year	Type	Excavator	Location	Key Finds
May 1991	Sampling survey.	Austral Archaeology.	J Shed (Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan sections).	In May 1991, following a geotechnical survey, the archaeologists conducted a systematic sample of two 2m deep cores in the location of each foundation that was then proposed for the J Shed. Each core probe was inserted manually for the first metre and by machine hammer for the second metre. The sampling strategy revealed an overarching stratigraphic sequence of black silt over light–medium clay.[56]
				Twenty-three of the 66 sample footing locations were considered to have evidence for soil disturbance consistent with an in situ burial, or one which had been exhumed in 1920–1922. Nine of the 23 probable grave or exhumation locations overlapped with grave sites shown on the 1873 and 1920 plans.[57]
Sept 1991	Test excavations.	Austral Archaeology.	J Shed (Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan sections).	In September 1991, Austral Archaeology returned to excavate test trenches. They found 10 burials in five of seven test trenches, including two coffins in the location of regular core samples.
				Further excavation revealed a total of 56 in situ burials, partially and fully exhumed remains.[58]
1999	Test excavations.	Austral Archaeology.	Franklin Street stores (Presbyterian and Episcopalian sections).	Five small burials, all of which were probably children, were revealed. Two were excavated at depths of around 1m (northeast corner of Store 192—former Presbyterian section) and three 365–400mm (northeast corner of Store 172—former Episcopalian section).[59]
2012	Test excavations.	Alpha Archaeology.	New sewer line adjacent to M Shed (Roman Catholic, Independent and Wesleyan sections).	Three burials were located in fifteen 2m x 0.5m test trenches and were excavated between 7 September and 13 October 2012. Artefacts, including some human remains were uncovered in other trenches.[60]

Figure 2.1 Overlay of 1870s Plan of the Old Melbourne Cemetery with current aerial and shed outline. This overlay shows that the northern sheds of the Queen Victoria Market are outside the former Old Melbourne Cemetery boundary. (Source: 1870 Cemetery Plan, Department of Lands, overlay of buildings by GML; current aerial, Google Earth)
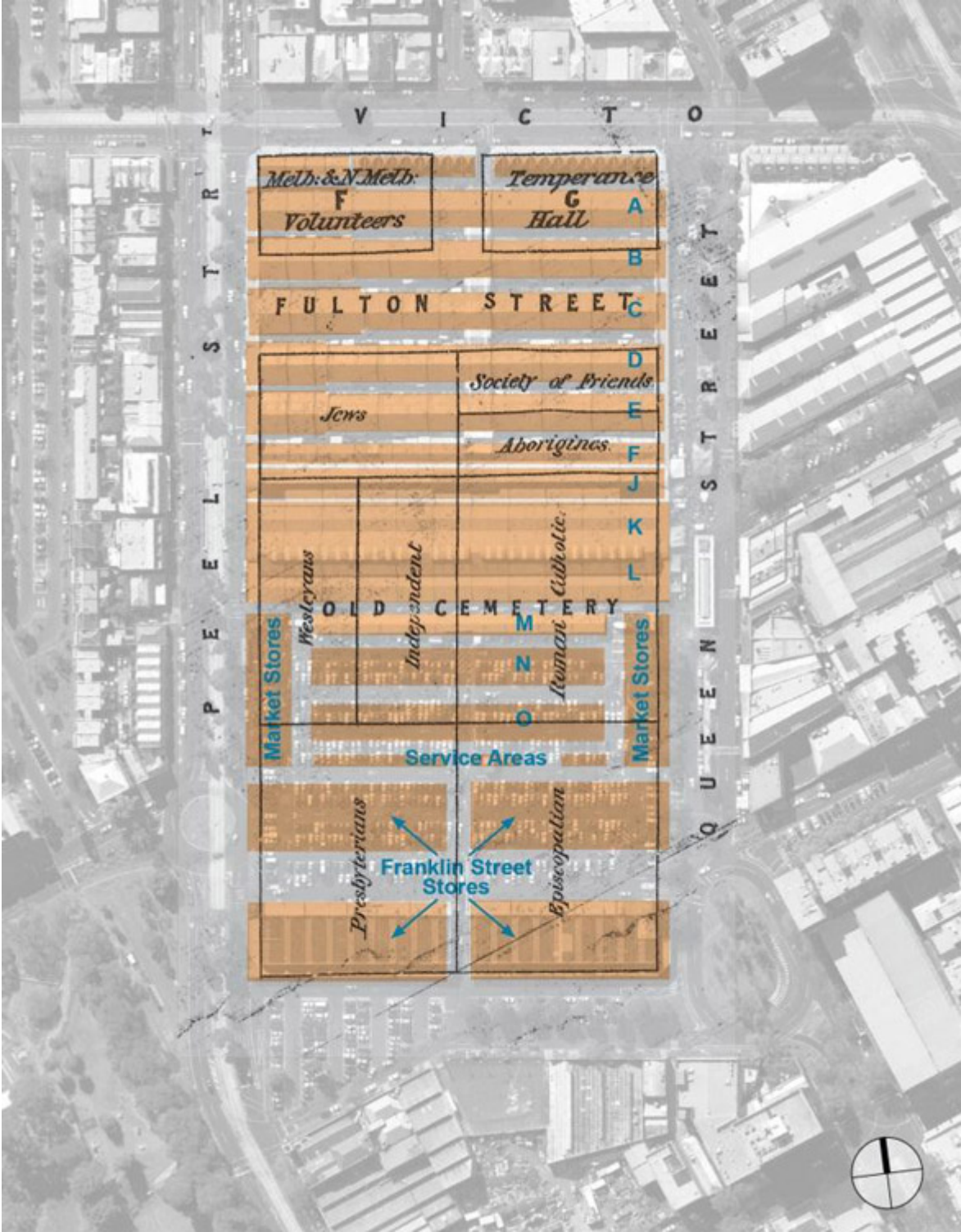
Figure 2.2 Overlay of Queen Victoria Market sheds on 1873 cemetery survey which shows tombstone locations within denominational boundaries. Note the density of tombstones is far greater in the Catholic, Church of England (Episcopalian) and Presbyterian sections than in the other sections of the cemetery. (Source: Public Records Office Victoria VPRS 9582)
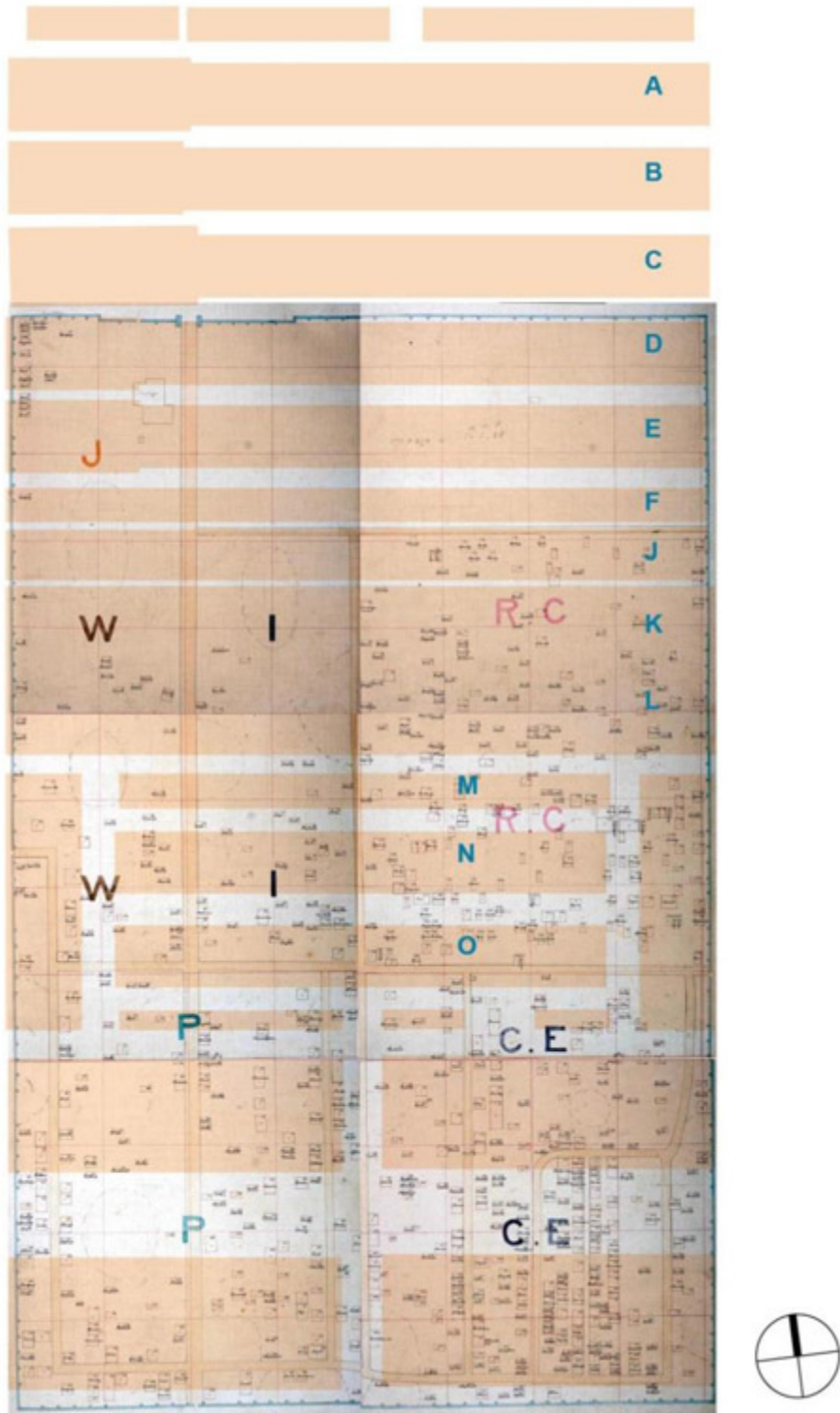
Figure 2.3 Plan showing sequence of construction of the Queen Victoria Market Buildings on the subject site. (Source: GML overlay on current Google Earth image)
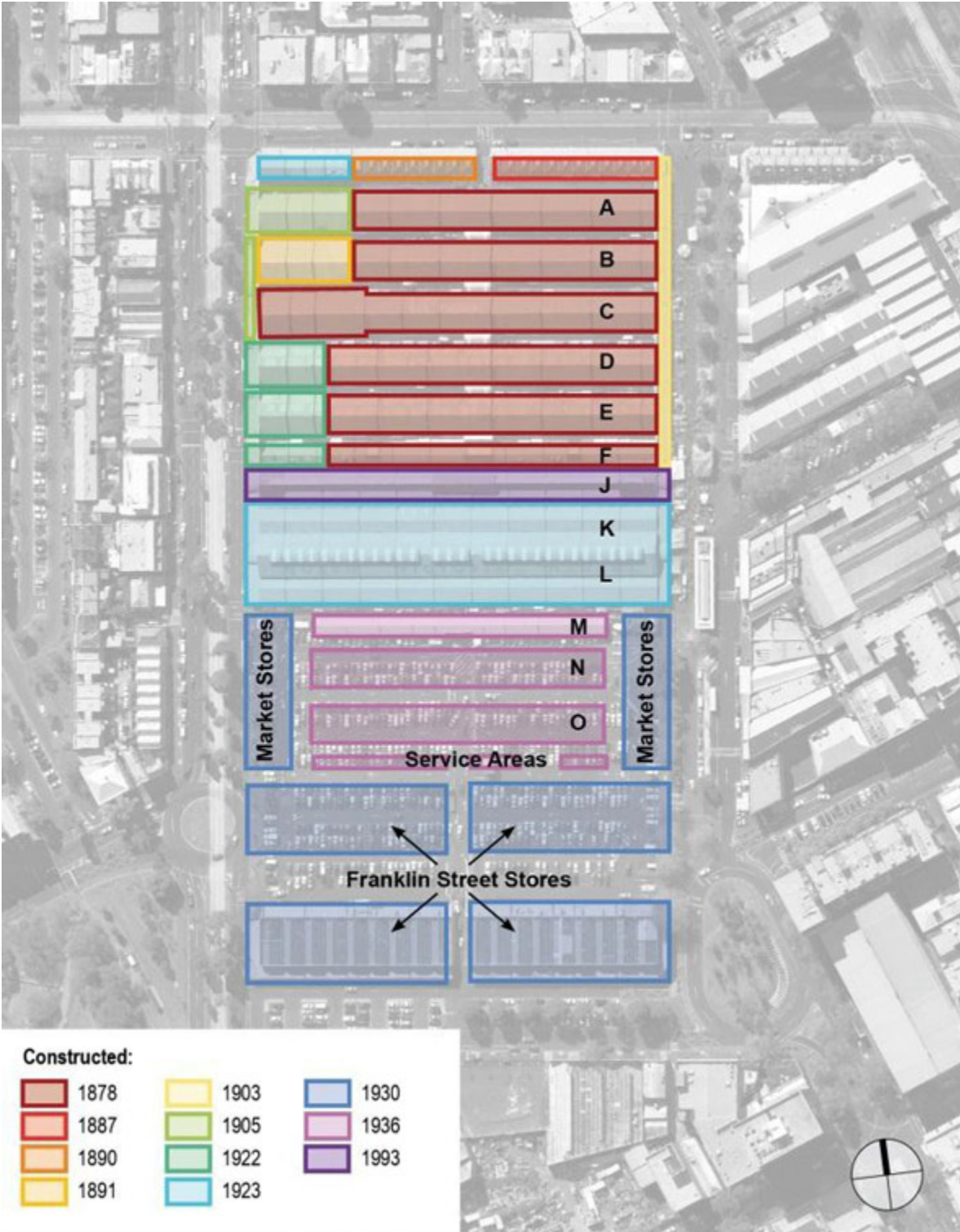
Figure 2.4   Plan showing the sequence of demolition of market buildings. (Source: GML overlay on current Google Earth image)

3. Methodology

3.1   New Research

For the Stage 2 report, resources identified in Stage 1 Section 5.4, Gap Analysis, were located and analysed. Higher resolution copies of Image 16 and 23 were sought and the records from the Public Records Office of Victoria (PROV) and the Queen Victoria Markets were thoroughly examined to maximise research potential. The finding of this analysis is set out below:

Name	Result
The index to the 1873 plan of the cemetery.	This was not an index to the 1873 cemetery plan but the official burial register of the cemetery from 1866 to 1917. (PROV VPRS 9583)
An analysis of the field books from 1918.	This record was found to be the first commissioned by Melbourne City Council following the passing of the Markets Act in 1917 which allowed the remainder of the cemetery to be resumed for market purposes. This survey numbered the graves 1–525 and recorded details from the tombstones and the condition of each tombstone. This information was used as the basis for all the exhumation planning. It was copied in 'Copy of inscriptions on tombstones in the Old Melbourne Cemetery' VPRS 9592, and Numerical Index Cards VPRS 9590. While a plan of the cemetery was said to have been drawn at this time, no record of it could be found either at the City of Melbourne or at the Public Records Office, Victoria.
An examination of the historic resources held by Queen Victoria Markets Pty Limited:	
1. 1980s information on human remains uncovered on four separate occasions.	1. See Table 3.1.
2. Folder containing various letters and documents relating to the Markets Committee dating from 1920.	2. Provided background information.
3. Series of slides relating to the market from the 1960s & 1970s	3. Provided background information.
4. Queen Victoria Market J Shed Archaeological Investigations Report by Austral Archaeology for the City of Melbourne, February 1993.	4. A document GML had already viewed.
5. Historic Photographs.	5. Historic photographs were not located.

Name	Result
Denominational archives from all the sections of the Old Melbourne Cemetery.	Each denomination was contacted and a summary of the findings is in Table 3.2.
Further research into the 1930 exhumations.	No further information on these exhumations was uncovered.
Review of resources at the State Library of Victoria.	See Table 3.3.
Further examination of the records at the Public Records Office of Victoria.	See Table 3.4.

Table 3.1 Exhumations recorded by Queen Victoria Market.

When	What was found
10 and 11 April 1986 during the demolition of N & O Sheds.	Thursday 10 April 1986, two sets of human remains were uncovered from the foundation of N Shed by staff from Whelan the Wrecker. On 11 April 1986, another two sets of human remains were uncovered from the O Shed foundation. Also sighted was rotten timber forming the boundary of the coffin.
	Alongside this were the obvious forms of four or five other human remains. The Health Commission of Victoria was called in and it was decided to rebury remains at same location. A five foot trench was dug and bones (remains) reburied.
6 March 1987 During car park renovations.	Wednesday 6 March 1987, the construction firm undertaking car park renovations dug up some human remains when digging a 2ft deep x 1ft wide trench from the substation in the car park to the entrance to the car park, Franklin Street, to lay electrical cables. Ten bones were found about 15 yards from the substation. A 2 ft hole was dug below the trench base and the bones reburied. A copy of photographs was sent to the State Health Department.
7 November 1990 During the fire service works.	Monday 7 November 1990, an archaeologist was engaged by Melbourne Council to rescue any bones found during the fire service installation. Jaw, shoulder and knee bones were found plus a rotted grave box.
12 November 1990	Further remains were uncovered in the same area adjacent to the grave site on 7 November 1990. A skull and hip bones were found and removed by the archaeologists for identification.

Table 3.2 Results from search of Denominational Archives.

Denomination	Resources
Anglican Archives, Melbourne	No historic records from the Old Melbourne Cemetery.
Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society)	Sent a complete list of the 59 exhumations in 1920 along with their new grave number in the Fawkner Cemetery and the date of reinterment. Also included was a plan of the 59 allotments and an indication as to which ones had tombstones.
Quakers Historical Society	Searching their records.
	Their two earliest minute books are held at SLVic. These were viewed (1854–1863) at SLVic (MS 9863) but no relevant information found.
Catholic Archives, Melbourne	No historic records from the Old Melbourne Cemetery.

Denomination	Resources
Presbyterian Archives, Melbourne	No historic records from the Old Melbourne Cemetery.
Uniting Church Archives	Have the Wesleyan Burial Register from 1840–1847. Here 85 names were recorded as being buried in the Wesleyan section of the Old Cemetery.
Independent (Congregationalist) Archives St Michaels' Church, Melbourne	No historic records from the Old Melbourne Cemetery.
Early Presbyterian Archives Scott Church, Melbourne	No historic records from the Old Melbourne Cemetery.

Table 3.3   Resources held by the State Library of Victoria.

Reference	Title	Description	Analysis
M839-858 Box 45/3D	Papers from OMC Preservation League 1917–c1920.	Included the booklet The Old Melbourne Cemetery by OMC Preservation League.	Background information.
MS 10996	Correspondence of the OMC Preservation League 1917–1920.	Included was a form collecting data on those buried in OMC but no completed forms were included. Some interesting press cuttings.	Background information.
MS 10243 MBS 185	Inscriptions from OMC by Society of Australian Genealogists, London, February 1913.	Record of monumental Inscriptions on the gravestones and monuments in 1913.	New list. Copy required.
MS 10392 Nine Volumes	Vol. 1 The Old Melbourne Cemetery Correspondence 1867–1873.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 15670.
	Vol. 2 The Old Melbourne Cemetery Correspondence 1867–1873.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 15670.
	Vol. 3 Old Cemetery Minute Book from 1886.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 15670.
	Vol. 3 Minutes of Cemetery Conference 1879–1884.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 15670.
	Vol. 4 The Old Melbourne Cemetery Order Book 1875–1917 Official forms for burials.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 9585.

Reference	Title	Description	Analysis
	Vol. 5 The Old Melbourne Cemetery Letter Book 1876–1906 & Letter Register.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 9581.
	Vol. 6 The Old Melbourne Cemetery Significant Graves.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 9591.
	Vol. 7 Old Melbourne Cemetery Register 1872–1899 Index of Surnames and Misc. Correspondence c1873–1917.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 9590. Mic correspondence new.
	Vol. 8 The OMC Index to Old Graves: correspondence and records relating to transfer of remains to Fawkner Cemetery.	Photocopy. Letters about the removal of bodies. Cost Exhumations OMC. Letter from Hebrew Congregation dated 12 Sept 1919 stating 60 interments, not 13 as stated in correspondence.	Original at PROV VPRS 9589. Some new information.
	Vol. 9 Inscriptions on tombstones on remaining part of cemetery, 1918.	Photocopy.	Original at PROV VPRS 9592.

Table 3.4   Examination of records held at Public Records Office Victoria (PROV).

Agency VA	VPRS	Description	Comment
VA 4779- Melbourne Old Cemetery Trust	9581	Outward Letter Books OMC. Book 1 1880–1900 (actually begins in 1876). Book 2 1905–1909.	Book 1—Letter about records being destroyed by fire in 1865. Letter dated 18 December 1895. Book 2—Nothing Relevant.
	15670	Minute & Letter Book OMC. Book 1 Old Cemetery Minutes 1864 to March 1869—the back of the book is a letter book of the same dates. Book 2 Minute Book Trustees of OMC December 1869 to December 1871 and letter book March 1869 to December 1872. Book 3 Feb 1882 to December 1885. Back of Book is OMC Letter book February 1872 to January 1885	Book 3—Has letters about the alienation of the northern part of the cemetery for market purposes 14 December 1874, 30 October 1877 and the sole body in the Jewish section was to be moved further north so the new lodge could be built. Letter dated 18 March 1879 stating records destroyed in a fire that destroyed the original lodge.
	15671	Cemetery Trust Records. Many loose pieces of paper, envelopes, newspaper cuttings, etc, all in separate plastic sleeves. Dating from 1843.	Background information. Contains document on the legal status of the ownership of the cemetery.
VA 511- Melbourne Town	9581	Outward Letter Books OMC.	See above.

Agency VA	VPRS	Description	Comment
	9582	1873 Plan of the Cemetery.	Available to download online.
	9583	Alphabetical Record of Burials OMC 1866–1917.	Available to download online.
	9584	List of Burials by Religious Denominations 1877–1917.	Unable to view.
	9585	Chronological Record of Permissions to Bury OMC. An official entry book of burials with tear off section listing all details of those buried 1877–1917.	Repeats the information in VPRS 9583.
	9587	Numerical List of Exhumations OMC.	Unable to view.
	9588	Notes on Exhumations OMC.	Contains detailed information on daily exhumations, numbers of remains found in each grave, remains and tombstones moved to Fawkner, and the costings.
	9589	Index of names on gravestones— OMC 1917–1920.	List organized denomination by denomination showing OMC grave number and corresponding Fawkner Grave Number, or record of alternate cemetery.
	9590	Numerical Index to Exhumations reinterred at Fawkner Cemetery OMC. Index and cards of graves removed from cemetery at QVM site.	Copy of information from the 1918 Melbourne City Council Surveyor's record of existing tombstones in OMC and their condition and inscription. Organized on a series of individual index cards (see also VPRS 9592). Cards 1–18: Jewish 19–49: Wesleyan 50–77: Independent 78–204: Roman Catholic 205–388: Episcopalian 389–525: Presbyterian
	9591	Record of Significant Graves OMC.	This is the record of those graves being considered for burial in a special pioneer section for significant Melbourne identities at Flagstaff Gardens. Each record contains a photo of the grave and hand written information about each person.
	9592	Copy of Inscriptions on tombstones OMC 1917–1920.	Hand written book being a copy of the information from the 1918 survey by Melbourne City Council and the index cards (VPRS 9590).
	987	Cemeteries Letter Book.	Background information.
	9283/2	Newspaper Cuttings Books re: Buildings City Engineer.	Very few entries. Almost empty. Nothing on the cemetery.

Agency VA	VPRS	Description	Comment
	9283/1	All on building 1925–1957.	Nothing on the OMC or the QVM.
	4030	Markets Committee Minutes: 1841–1935.	A small amount on the establishment of the QVM in 1877.
511	3181/526 & 527		
		Town Clerk's correspondence 1842–1909.	Records of Exhumations from 1877 and 1878 by Thomas Jennings, Undertaker, includes various invoices and receipts on the exhumations with descriptions of numbers of remains and coffins removed and a note from Jennings which says from his records he 'removed around 69 bodies from the Old Melbourne Cemetery'. All remains taken to Melbourne General Cemetery. No details of names of denominations given.

3.2   Repositories Contacted

The following repositories were visited:

1.   State Library of Victoria

2.   Queen Victoria Market Pty Limited

3.   Public Records Office of Victoria

4.   Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure, Library Telephone inquiries were made of the following repositories and organisations:

5.   Anglican Archives Melbourne & Sydney Diocese

6.   Catholic Archives, Melbourne & Sydney

7.   Presbyterian Archives, Melbourne & Sydney

8.   Quaker Archives, Melbourne

9.   Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society), Melbourne

10. Uniting Church Archives

11. Congregationalist (Independent) Church Archives St Michael's Church, Melbourne

12. Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, Fawkner Cemetery

13. Melbourne General Cemetery

3.3   New Research Analysed

3.3.1   Burials

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Jewish Burial Records to 1877	Letter 14 December 1876 from office of Old Melbourne Cemetery to the Secretary for Lands PROV VPRS 15670	There were no burials in the Jewish section of the cemetery which was exhumed in 1877.
Aboriginal and Quaker Burials to 1877	PROV VPRS 3181 Town. Clerk's Correspondence.	While the 1873 plan shows only one unmarked grave in these two areas, 69 bodies were exhumed between November 1877 and March 1878 from this area.
Wesleyan Burial Register from 1840–1847	Uniting Church Archives	This register recorded 85 burials for the Wesleyan Burial Ground between 1840 and 1847. This is more than both the 1873 plan (54 tombstones) and the 1918 survey (31 tombstones and 50 names).
Letter dated 18 March 1879 from Trustees of Cemetery to M Mornage Esq, Solicitor	PROV VPRS 15670	Letter stating that the records of the trustees 'only extend back to 1865 as all the early papers were destroyed in a fire that destroyed the original lodge'.
Letter dated 18 December 1895 from Trustees to Dr [ ] McKay Esq MLA Barrister Solicitor	PROV VPRS 9581	Letter stating that 'all the records were destroyed with the old lodge by a fire which occurred prior to the present trustees assuming control in 1865'.
Jewish Burial Records 1920	Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society), Melbourne	This record provides a list of all those buried in the remaining Jewish section of the OMC up to 1920. The total was 59 remains and 18 headstones. A map showing the location of the graves is also included in this record.
Alphabetical Record of Burials OMC 1866–1917	PROV VPRS 9583	This is the official register of all the burials in the OMC from 1866 to 1917. 371 burials are recorded. Names are recorded alphabetically. Details provided include name, denomination, age, occupation, last residence, place of birth, cause of death. There is also a summary of the number of interments each year according to denominations.
Chronological Record of Permissions to Bury OMC 1877–1917	PROV VPRS 9585	The official entry book for burials. Individual page for each entry with tear off section for relatives. Dates recorded went from 1877 to 1917.

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
List of Burials by Religious Denominations OMC 1877–1917	PROV 9584	Provides the list of burials from 1877 to 1917 under denominations.
Inscriptions from OMC by Society of Australian Genealogists, London, February 1913	MS 10243 MBS 185 SL Victoria	This is the first known record of all the inscriptions on the tombstones in the Old Melbourne Cemetery. Completed in 1913.
Inscriptions on Tombstones OMC 1918 by Melbourne City Council	City of Melbourne	Record of tombstones in the OMC in 1918, giving their inscriptions, condition and providing a number for each tombstone from 1 to 525. Used in planning the exhumations in 1920 and 1922.

3.3.2   Exhumations

1877: Society of Friends, Aboriginal and Jewish Sections

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Letter 14 December 1876 from the Office of the Old Melbourne Cemetery to the Secretary for Lands. All exhumations taken to Melbourne General Cemetery.	PROV VPRS 15670	It gives permission for the alienation of part of the cemetery for market purposes—being the 'unused portion' of the Jewish ground and the Society of Friends section— so long as 'the remains now in the ground be removed to similar ground in the new cemetery'. Of the Aboriginal section the letter states 'in the section of the plan marked Aborigines there are a number of bodies of criminals and of others which were placed there during the influx of population which followed the discovery of gold'.
Letter from Thomas Jennings 1878.	PROV VPRS 3181 Town Clerk's correspondence	Jennings said that from his records he had taken about 69 exhumed remains from Old Melbourne Cemetery to the Melbourne General Cemetery.
1877–1878 Receipts from the undertaker, Thomas Jennings	PROV VPRS 3181 Town Clerk's correspondence	Receipts date from November 1877 to March 1878 of various exhumations from OMC to MGC.
Letter dated 30 October 1877.	PROV VPRS 15670 Minute and letter Book OMC 1882–1885 (begins in 1874)	Book 1 has a letter dated 30 October 1877 about the sole body in the Jewish section being moved further north so that a new cemetery lodge could be built.
Burial Records Melbourne General Cemetery.	Melbourne General Cemetery	Dating from 1854 these records will provide information of those exhumed from the OMC in 1877/1878 which were reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery.

Exhumations 1920: Jewish Section

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
List of the remains exhumed from the OMC in 1920 and reinterred in Fawkner Cemetery	Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society), Melbourne	This list provides a record of the 59 Jewish remains exhumed from the OMC in 1920 and their corresponding grave number in the Fawkner Cemetery Section D, plus the date they were reinterred.

Exhumations 1922: Other Denominations

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Numerical List of Exhumations OMC	PROV VPRS 9587	No able to be viewed.
Notes on Exhumations OMC	PROV VPRS 9588	Notebook providing details of numbers exhumed each day from 20 February to 31 March 1922, including the number of remains found in each grave, their removal to Fawkner Cemetery and the costing involved.
Index to names on Gravestones OMC	PROV VPRS 9589	This index provides a list of names on tombstones under denominations with their OMC burial number and the corresponding grave number in the Fawkner Cemetery or other cemetery. Where there was more than one burial in a grave each person is listed. Unknown graves (ie graves where the names on tombstones could not be read) are also recorded in each denominational area. Jewish graves are not included. The information is based on the 1918 survey
Numerical Index to exhumations reinterred at Fawkner Cemetery (Card Index)	PROV VPRS 9590	This card index provides a description of each tombstone and its condition plus a record of the inscription. This index includes the Jewish tombstones. The information is based on the 1918 survey

3.3.3   Reburial

1877–1878: To Melbourne General Cemetery

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Melbourne General Site Market Act 1877, No. 572		Stated that all those exhumed form the OMC were to be buried in the MGC
Burial Records Melbourne General Cemetery	Melbourne General Cemetery	Dating from 1854 these records provide information of those exhumed from the OMC in 1877/1878 which were reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery.

1920 and 1922: To Fawkner Cemetery and Others

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Index to names on Gravestones OMC	PROV VPRS 9589	This index provides a list of those reburied at Fawkner Cemetery in 1922 and their new location. If the remains are not to be re-interred at Fawkner then the name of the cemetery is provided. Jewish section not included.
Jewish Reburials	Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society), Melbourne Morgan M 1882, The Old Melbourne Cemetery, pp 151–152	This index provides a record of the location of each reinterred Jewish person and their new location at Fawkner Cemetery Section D in 1920. Morgan also has a list which is set out alphabetically and also contains 59 names.
Protestant Reburials to Other Cemeteries in Melbourne (not Fawkner) in 1922	Morgan M 1882, The Old Melbourne Cemetery, p 153	Morgan appears to have compiled this list from the index of graves held at PROV VPRS 9589.

3.3.4   Cemetery and Markets Administration Records

Title	Location/Reference	Why it is Important
Outward letter Books OMC Book 1 1880–1900 (starts 1876) Book 2 1905–1909	PROV VPRS 9581	Includes letter written by cemetery trustees on various issues including destruction of early records by fire.
Minute & Letter Books OMC 3 books dating from 1869 to 1885	PROV VPRS 15670	Includes letters about the alienation of the northern part of the cemetery.
Cemetery Trust Records	PROV VPRS 15671	Many loose pieces of paper including names of original trustees from 1843. Mostly background information.
Markets Committee Minutes: 1841–1935	PROV VPRS 4030	Minutes from all the markets in Melbourne. Includes notes on establishment of the QVM in 1878 and on plans for the exhumations in the 1920s.

3.3.5   Register of Significant Graves

In 1921 Isaac Selby was assisting Melbourne City Council in a plan to remove a number of the most significant graves from the Old Melbourne Cemetery to the Flagstaff Gardens where a new Pioneer Memorial would be established. While this proposal was never executed, many of the selected graves were photographed and research on the person undertaken (PROV VPRS 9591). The Leader (January 13 1921) published a list of some of these names which included:

- Dr CE Hobson, founder of natural science in Victoria
- Dr J Watton, protector of Aborigines
- Dr McCrae, a distinguished physician of early Melbourne
- R Penn, second clerk of the Treasury
- J Rushton, the village blacksmith

- JD Lyon Campbell, the intimate friend of Governor La Trobe

- Dr P Cussen, who performed the first surgical operation in Melbourne

- CH Dight, whose name has been given to Dight Falls

- Captian JW Cain, who built the first sailing vessel in Melbourne

- Captain GW Cole, owner of the 'City of Melbourne', the first screw steamer built south of the equator

- Caption JS Spotwood

- Lutterell & H Wise, one of seven memorials that date back to 1839

- J Conway, who took to England the first cricket eleven and one of the fathers of Australian sport

- Timothy Lane, member of the City Council and founder of the Benevolent Asylum

- Michael Carr, the earliest memorial in the Roman Catholic Section (19 October 1839)

- E Curr, first secretary of the Van Diemen's Land Company

- Mrs Lachlan MacKinnon, whose tomb is the finest work of art in the cemetery

- Mr James Graham MLC, treasurer of the first Chamber of Commerce

- WEA Rucker, Melbourne's first banker

- Jos Raleigh, builder of the second wharf in Melbourne

- W Kerr, second town clerk and founder of 'The Argus'

- WM Coghill, one of the earliest overlanders

- T Elder Boyd, founder of Victorian banking

- JC King, first town clerk of Melbourne

- FW Craig & Martha Craig, the earliest memorial (1837)

- JHN Cassell, collector of customs and member of the first Executive and Legislative Council

- Lewis Hart, first Jewish burial (1843)

- W Pascoe Crook, grave of a pioneer missionary and founder of the Congregational Church of Australasia and a pacific explorer who died 1846.

3.4   Summary

Historical research has provided a better understanding of the heritage value of the cemetery as an under-represented element of Melbourne's history. Gathering and analysing this information has been important in exploring how to improve the level of interpretation and information available for the site.

Research suggests that allotment sizes in the Old Melbourne Cemetery provided for the burial of between 8000 and 10,000 people. The majority of these buried were in unmarked graves or in graves marked only by timber crosses that would not have survived. Official burial records from 1837 to 1864 were destroyed by a fire so it is not possible to know exactly how people were buried there, but by 1850 the cemetery was said to be almost full especially in the Episcopalian (Anglican) section.

The cemetery was closed in 1854 but burials for those who had already purchased their plots continued until 1917 during which time a further 371 people were recorded as being buried there.

In 1873, in preparation for the resumption of the northern part of the cemetery for market purposes, the City of Melbourne undertook a survey of the cemetery. This survey recorded 855 tombstones and provided a surname for each tomb. It did not record how many individuals were buried in each grave or attempt to provide information on those buried in the unmarked graves.

Sixty-nine exhumations from the Society of Friends section and the Aboriginal section of the cemetery were recorded by undertaker Thomas Jennings in late 1877 and early 1878; and these remains were reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery. The part of the Jewish section resumed at this time had had no burials so there were no exhumations. Recent archaeological excavations have uncovered further remains in the former Aboriginal and Society of Friends sections so it is apparent the 1877 exhumations were not thorough.

In 1918, following the decision to resume the remainder of the cemetery for market purposes, the city surveyor was again engaged to record the inscriptions on the existing tombstones in the OMC. At this time only 525 tombstones were recorded; however, all the names on the tombstones were recorded, totalling 1017 names. Again no attempt was made to survey the unmarked graves.

This survey was used as the basis of the exhumations which took place in 1920 (Jewish section) and 1922 (the remainder). At this time 945 remains were exhumed and mostly reinterred in the Fawkner Cemetery. Contractors involved in these excavations were instructed to only exhume remains under existing tombstones.

After the exhumations and the removal of the tombstones, the former cemetery was ploughed and levelled in preparation for the construction of further market sheds.

Excavations on the site in the 1930s during the construction of the Franklin Street stores uncovered further remains; and from 1986 to 2012 disturbance events have continued to uncover human remains.

If there were between 8000 and 10,000 people buried in the cemetery and only around 1000 remains have been excavated then it is possible that a further 7000 to 9000 individuals remain buried under the Queen Victoria Markets.

4. Archaeological Analysis

4.1 Introduction

Predicting the survival of archaeological remains under any given historic site is a challenging task. Twentieth-century development typically disturbs and frequently destroys the subsurface remains of previous occupation. Cemeteries are a special case, as there is greater respect for the relics that lie beneath the surface. This leaves some detailed records of historic intervention (such as the 1877 and 1920–1922 exhumations) and recent disturbances, such as construction works in 1986 and 1987. These are, however, limited as precise locations of disruption were not recorded. Archaeological test trenching provides the most reliable account of the location, integrity and depth of surviving human remains and associated material culture. The earliest works are imperfect in offering a precise location suitable for high resolution GIS mapping.

In this section, all available evidence useful for predicting extant human remains which survive under the site, within each former denomination, is examined. This draws on, and where appropriate, duplicates, information provided in Sections 2.0 and 3.0.

This analysis considers only the potential for extant remains to survive, not their full research potential. That should be considered in a detailed archaeological research design should further disturbance be proposed.

This analysis relies on geo-referenced and digitized overlays.

4.2 Archaeological Works

A total of 79 trenches (2m x 1m or 2m x 0.5m) have been systematically explored, most in the vicinity of J and M Sheds, with two in the Franklin Street stores (see Appendix B).[61] A total of 142m2 of subsurface remains have been systematically explored by archaeologists. On a typical archaeological site, this would be a considerable sample. In the case of Old Melbourne Cemetery, this was originally 10 hectares, which represents 0.14% of the original site. A total of 64 burials (13 of them disturbed) have been recovered and a further three robbed trenches (evidence of exhumation) have been uncovered. Setting aside the robbed trenches, this is equivalent to one skeleton uncovered every 2.22m2. Given the narrow size of the sample, this is a coarse measure, but it provides a useful yardstick to the density of remains which survive under the present site.

The knowledge gained from the test excavations is discussed throughout the analysis which follows.

Figure 4.1 Approximate[62] location of archaeological trenches, 1990–2011.

Figure 4.2   Number of burials recorded in each archaeological trench, overlaid on 1873 gravestones (overview).

Figure 4.3 Detail of burials recorded in each archaeological trench, overlaid on 1873 gravestones, showing the 1991, 2011 and 1999 test pits from top to bottom.

Figure 4.4 Depth of archaeological trenches (overview).
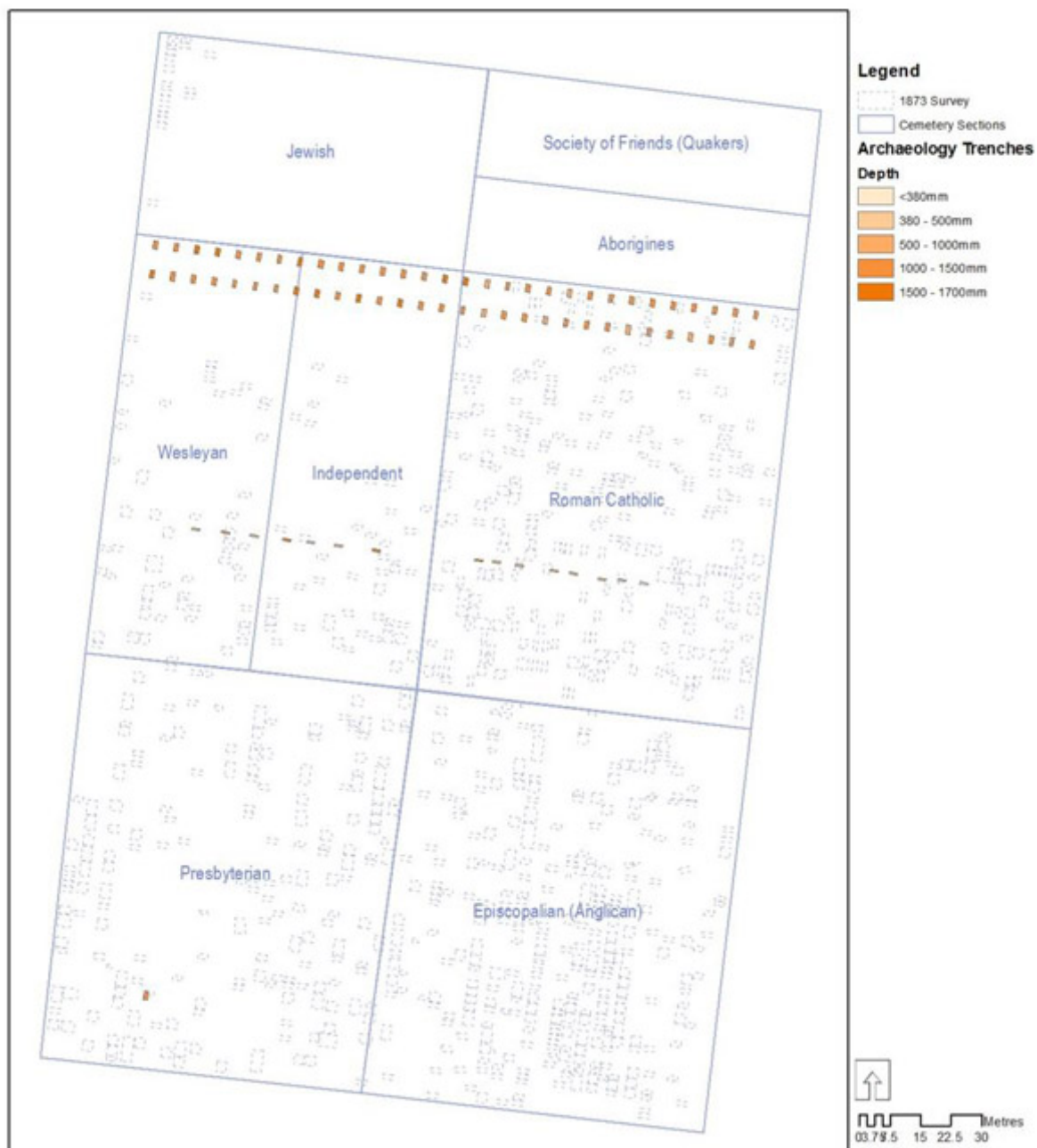
Figure 4.5 Depth of archaeological trenches, showing the 1991, 2011 and 1999 test pits from top to bottom.

4.3 Historical Considerations

4.3.1 Burials

As discussed in previous sections, there is no finite number of burials in the Old Melbourne Cemetery, but it is believed there were between 8000 and 10,000 in total. Plots were sold by trustees for each denomination who presided over services and oversaw the work of undertakers. It is not known who oversaw the Aboriginal burial ground, but it is known through contemporary accounts that criminals were also buried in this section of the cemetery.

The standard grave allotment was 8ft by 4ft (2.4m x 1.2m)[63] and coffins were to be buried no less and 4ft (1.2m) deep.[64] Only a portion of graves were marked with a permanent gravestone. Some plots were fenced in and some grave furniture, such as vaults, were above ground. Most had simple wooden crosses or perhaps more portable grave stones. Multiple bodies were buried in individual plots; either at the same time (in the case of the 'criminals' exhumed in 1877) or over the years in the case of family plots.

Tombstones and grave furniture were subject to vandalism and neglect over the entire period of the cemetery. There were accounts in 1848 of 'a whole drove of pigs…seen rooting up the graves, in some of which the mouldering bodies were distinctly visible'.[65] In 1868, 14 years after its closure, the cemetery had fallen into distressing disrepair and 'bones were visible above ground'.[66] The cemetery as a whole was subject to the typical erosion from rainfall but it is unlikely that animals could have dug pits 1.2m deep. While it is possible that such burials were later interments in family plots, or not all undertakers observed the 4ft minimum requirement for graves, it is expected that such deterioration during the historic use of the cemetery was isolated.

4.3.2 Exhumations

The greatest physical intervention into the subsurface features of the Old Melbourne Cemetery were the two episodes of exhumation of remains for the purpose of clearing the ground for market buildings in 1877–1878 and 1920–1922.

As discussed in Section 2.0, it is known that 69 bodies were recovered by undertaker Thomas Jennings and removed to the Melbourne General Cemetery in late 1877 and early 1878. Based on his invoices, bodies were removed slowly; two bodies from two coffins were removed on 29 November, one body in one coffin on 1 December, nine bodies in three coffins on 1 March 1878. Twenty-five 'Bodeys or Boans [sic] in Fourteen Coffins' had been removed on or before 27 November 1877.

These comprise the 28 burials described in The Argus on 27 December 1877. According to the report, it was believed at the time that 20 bodies had been buried in the northeastern 'corner' but it is not clear whether this includes both the quarter acre plots allocated to Aborigines (by 1842) and the Society of Friends (Quakers) to the north. Based on the descriptions, it certainly includes the Aboriginal section as at least three bodies were 'recognised as aboriginal, and it is believed that they were executed in Melbourne about 30 years' prior, that is, in the 1840s.[67]

Being unmarked, the 28 skeletons were located by systematic probing; 'them they had to be sunk and driven for in a systematic manner' and were recovered about 3½ ft (1.06m) below the surface.[68] The recovery of 28 bodies when only 20 were expected might suggest that the area was cleared in 1877, but works near the F Shed in 1991 recovered two skeletons identified by C Bennett to be partially Aboriginal. No records have yet been located to give precise details of the depth of the burials but they appear to be about 2m, probably lower than the exhumers' 'systematic' probe used in 1877.

In contrast, the 1920–1922 exhumations focused solely on graves marked by extant tombstones. In fact, contracts were instructed to 'only remove remains which were under clearly marked headstones'.[69] The 1920s exhumations were carefully documented, but regrettably not all of the documentation survived. There is an index of headstones and corresponding numbers of bodies found below each, but not an original map showing their location. Many unique names can be identified from the 1873 survey, but common names cannot be so easily matched.

In principle, it could be assumed that all graves which appear on the 1873 plan with a unique name that corresponds with a name on the 1922 index were exhumed in total; however, an overlay of the 1873 survey above archaeological trench records show burials directly below 'exhumed' graves (see discussion below).

Figure 4.6 Overlay of the 1873 survey on the current street grid and showing current building footprints. The majority of the graves visible on this were exhumed in 1920–1922.

4.3.3   Market Buildings

A range of documentary sources survive showing the construction of the market buildings in their various stages. It proved too time-consuming to digitise all of these to show accurate depths during the course of Stage 2. The footings for K and L sheds were sunk 7 feet deep, but spaced every 15 feet. They are shown on Figure 4.7 in approximate locations.

Figure 4.7   Overlay of 1873 graves over market building footings, 1947.
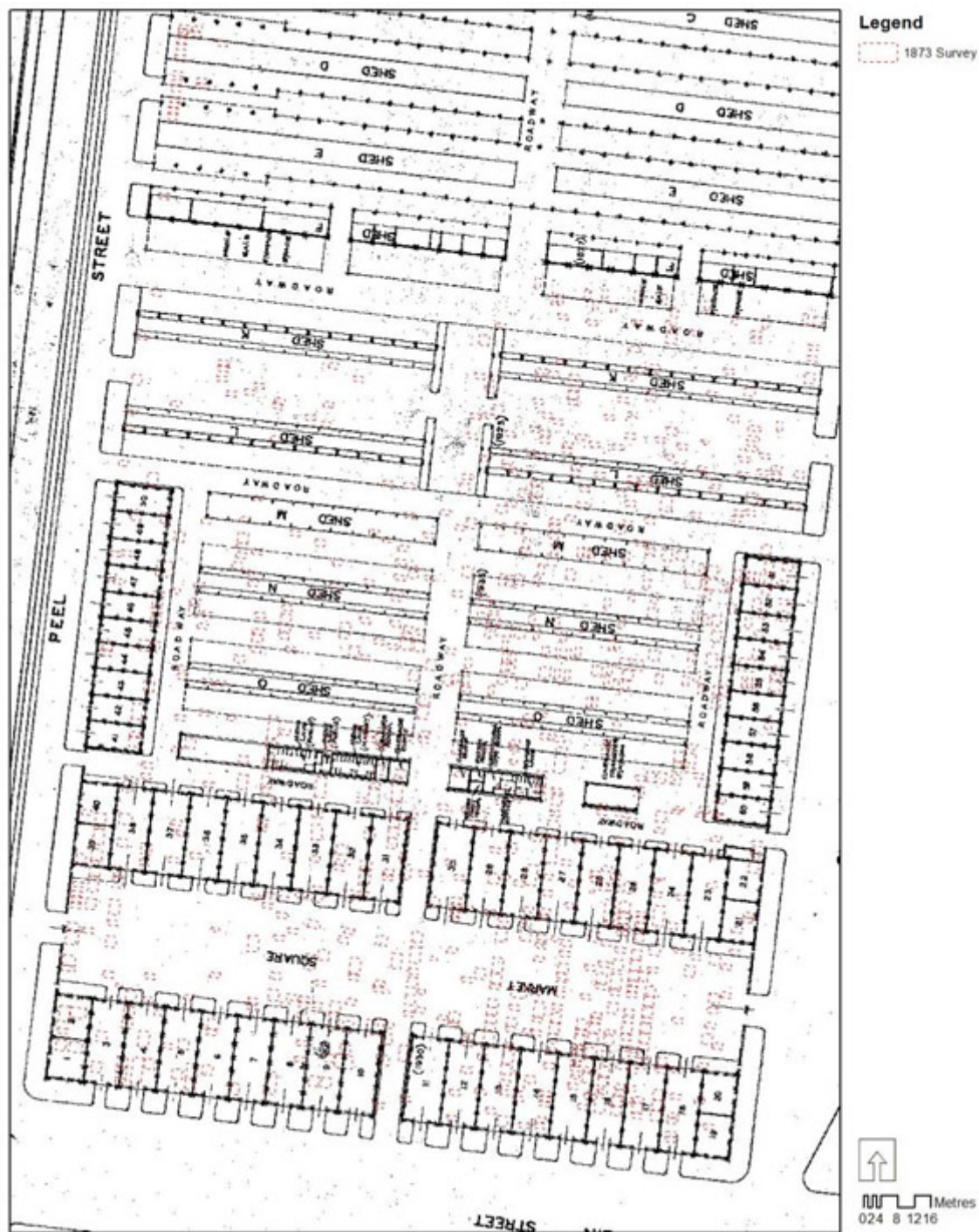
4.3.4   Service Repairs and Other Disturbance

At least six bodies, and likely dozens more, have been recovered from service works since 1917 (see Table 2.3 for details).

 The demolition of N and O Sheds in the 1980s revealed remains from four skeletons, alongside four or five other skeletons that were not excavated. They were reinterred the following day (11 April 1986) following inspection from the Health Department. There were no detailed records, nor a location plan of their discovery, but the works were shallow and probably recovered 30–50 cm below the base of the slab. The reburial pit is at least 1m below the slab in an area that is quite disturbed.

O Shed straddled the border of the Roman Catholic and Episcopalian sections, and N Shed is well within the Episcopalian division. Based on the background buildings, the remains were found in the western side of this division.

Installation of a fire services gave rise to the exhumation of two skeletons from the vicinity of F Shed in 1991 which lay over the original Aboriginal division of the cemetery, as discussed above. Archaeologists from the Victorian Archaeological Survey were called in to supervise the exhumation of the remains, which were identified as being 'probably Aboriginal, but of mixed race'.

Figure 4.8 Estimated location of disturbance from service works.
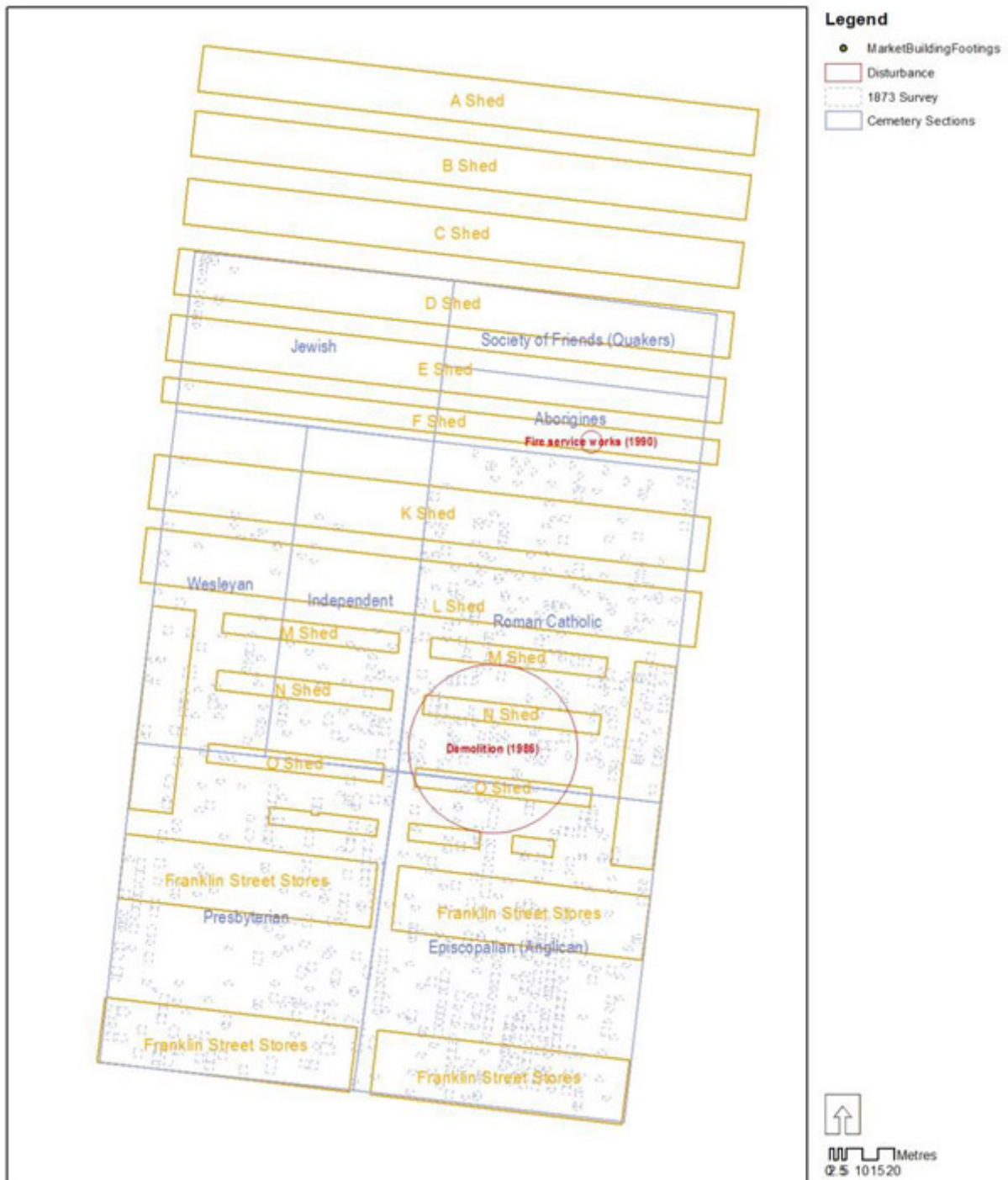
4.4 Analysis

4.4.1 Topography

An aerial photograph of the former cemetery site in 1928[70] shows a significant slope from the northeast of the site (where Therry Street meets Queen Street), down to Franklin Street in the southeast. Today, there is a decline of over 1.8m from the mid-section of the site to Franklin Street.[71] Excavations in the Franklin Street stores in 1999 revealed over a metre of fill below the current concrete slab in Store 192 on the western side of the site, suggesting significant infilling of the site in the 1920s. However, levels in Store 172, on the eastern side, had been cut back and burials were found 375mm below ground surface.

Figure 4.9 1928 aerial showing the former cemetery site cleared of tombstones and vegetation. (Source: Image by Air Spy)

4.4.2 Depth of Known Burials

A total of four graves exposed during archaeological excavation were immediately below the base of the current concrete slab: Trench 02 in Austral Archaeology's 1999 excavations in the Franklin Street stores (with three burials present), and Trench 15 of Alpha Archaeology's 2011 test trench excavations.[72] A further 20 graves (including one robbed grave) in eight trenches were discovered 72–98cm below the surface and the remainder were all over 1m below ground surface. Most of the remains disturbed during construction works appear to be relatively shallow (below 50cm), but no measurements were taken at the time. No measurements of the excavation of Indigenous remains in 1991 were documented, but based on the available information, the trench was nearly 2m deep.

4.4.3   Impact of Exhumations

As discussed above and in Section 2.0, 69 bodies were exhumed in 1877–1878 and 945 in 1920–1922, totalling 1014. Exhumations in 1877 appear to have focused on the removal of unmarked graves using 'systematic' probes of some kind. Exhumations in 1920–1922 were explicitly targeted on 525 graves below headstones and surviving grave furniture. While there is no surviving plan on the graves, there are detailed lists and indices, and many names can be cross-matched with surnames as they appear on the 1873 survey. From this it is inferred that if a grave marked on the 1873 survey corresponds to a name marked on the 1922 index, all bodies in that location were exhumed in 1922.

Since digitising the 1873 survey and geo-referencing sketches from test trenches in the Franklin Street stores in 1999, this theory can be tested. Trench 01 in Store No. 192 shows two burials: a child (Burial 1, 945mm from ground surface) and Burial 2 (1040mm from ground surface). The overlay with the 1873 survey shows that the trench intersects Grave No. 108 in the name of 'Markwell' in the Presbyterian division (Figure 4.13). David Markwell, two year old son of David and Sarah, is No. 484 in the 1922 exhumation list and he was reinterred as No. 479 at Fawkner. The child's grave identified in 1999 (Burial 1) is well outside the boundary, but Burial 2 is well within the boundary. There was noted to be a 'Disturbance abutting this burial', suggesting another burial (or possibly exhumation) nearby.

Trench 02 overlaps with Grave 218 on the 1873 survey, named 'Nicholson', in the Anglican (Episcopalian) section (Figure 4.14). This corresponds to Grave 340 on the 1922 exhumation list (and 22 at Fawkner) and three names appear: Ann, Jane E and Thomas. Three coffins were recovered in this trench, but as can be seen in the figure, there is not a direct overlap between the two areas. This may reflect a problem with the 1873 survey (which is otherwise sound) or a problem with the precise location of the trench (which has been estimated). In total eight trenches were underlying marked graves contained with bodies (see Figures 4.15–4.18). It is not necessary to conclude that these graves were not exhumed as recorded, or not completely exhumed (ie only one of multiple burials may have been taken) but this is an inquiry which should be explored if there are future opportunities for archaeological investigation.

Regardless of the reason, for the purposes of developing a predictive model it appears likely that some burials, or partial burials, still survive below the location of graves which have been opened and where remains may have been removed for re-interment.

Figure 4.10   Overlay of Grave 108 from the 1873 survey over sketches of Trench 01 in the Franklin Street stores.
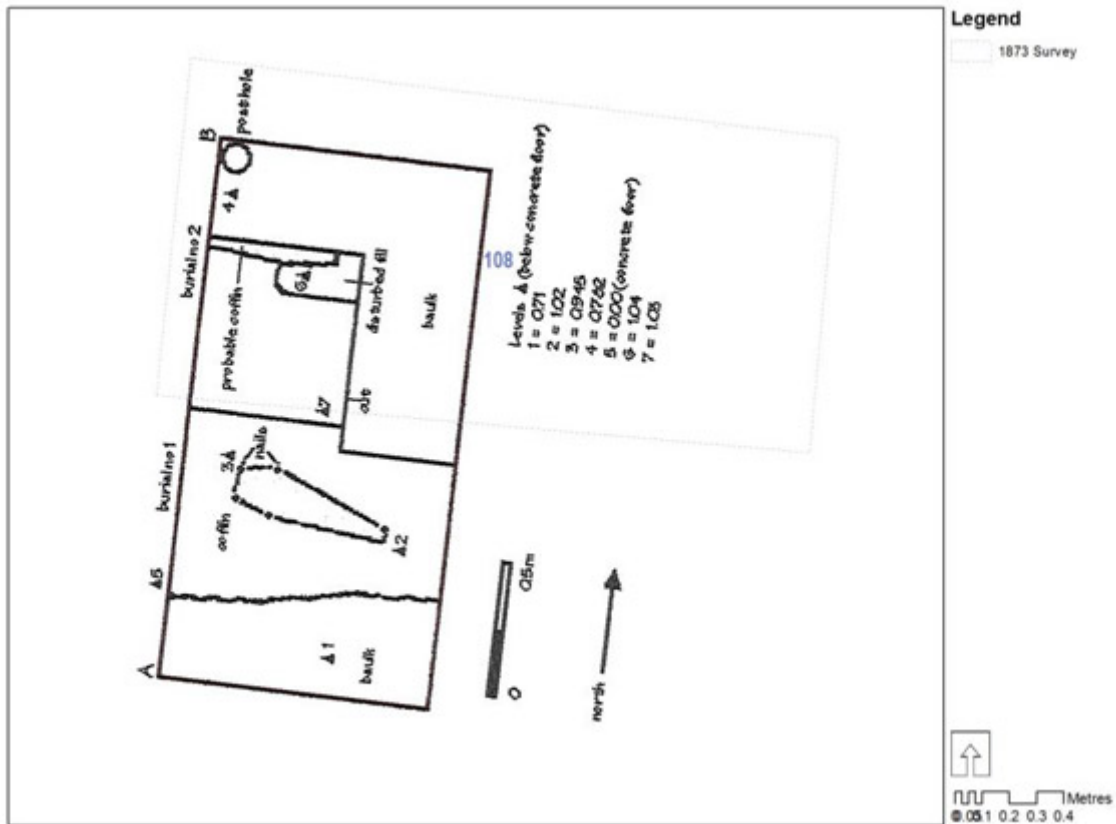
Figure 4.11 Overlay of Grave 218 from the 1873 survey over sketches of Trench 02 in the Franklin Street stores
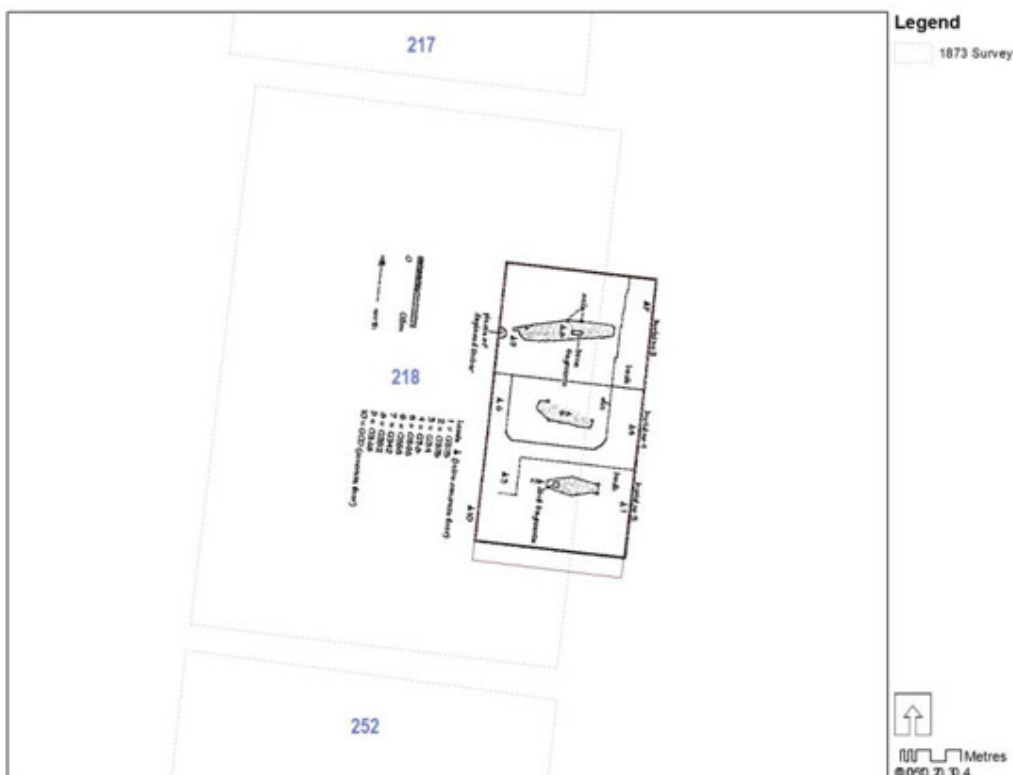
Figure 4.12 Overlay of graves from the 1873 survey over the eastern trenches from the 1991 excavations.
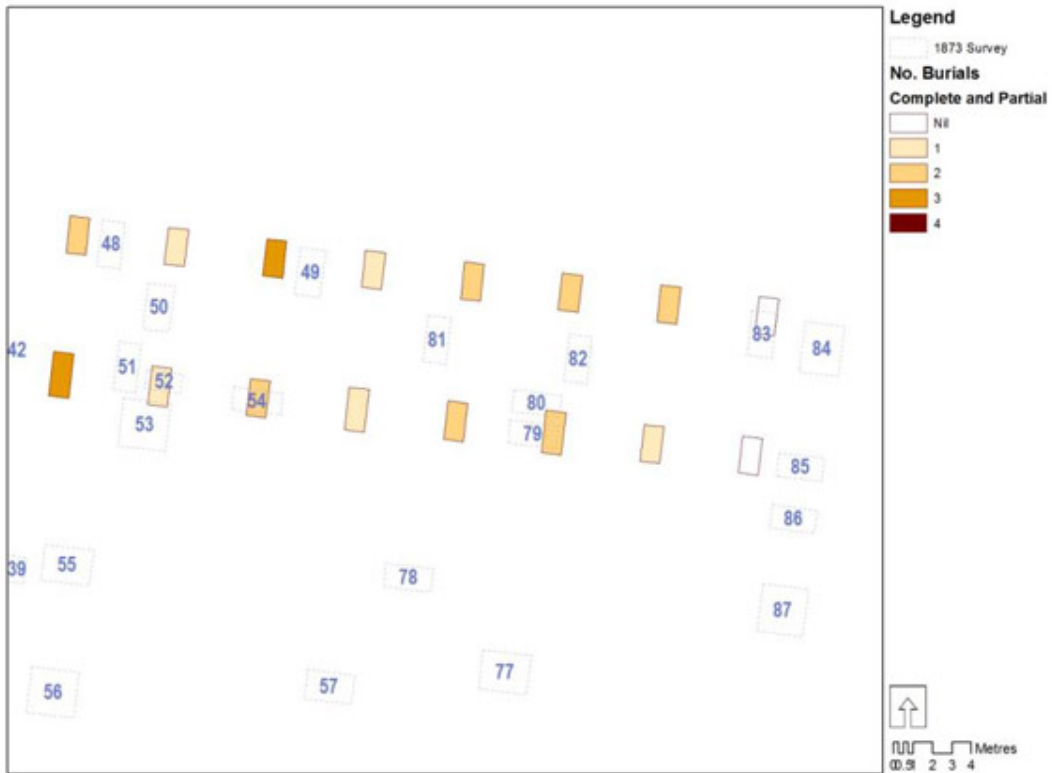
Figure 4.13 Overlay of graves from the 1873 survey over the western trenches from the 1991 excavations.
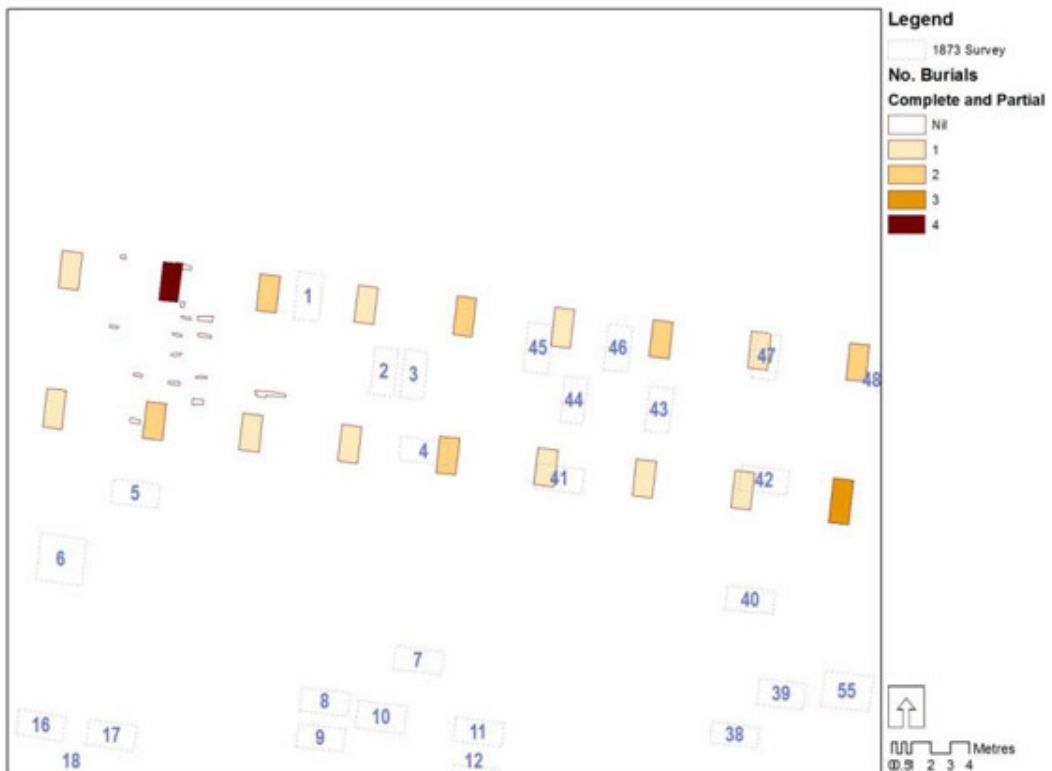
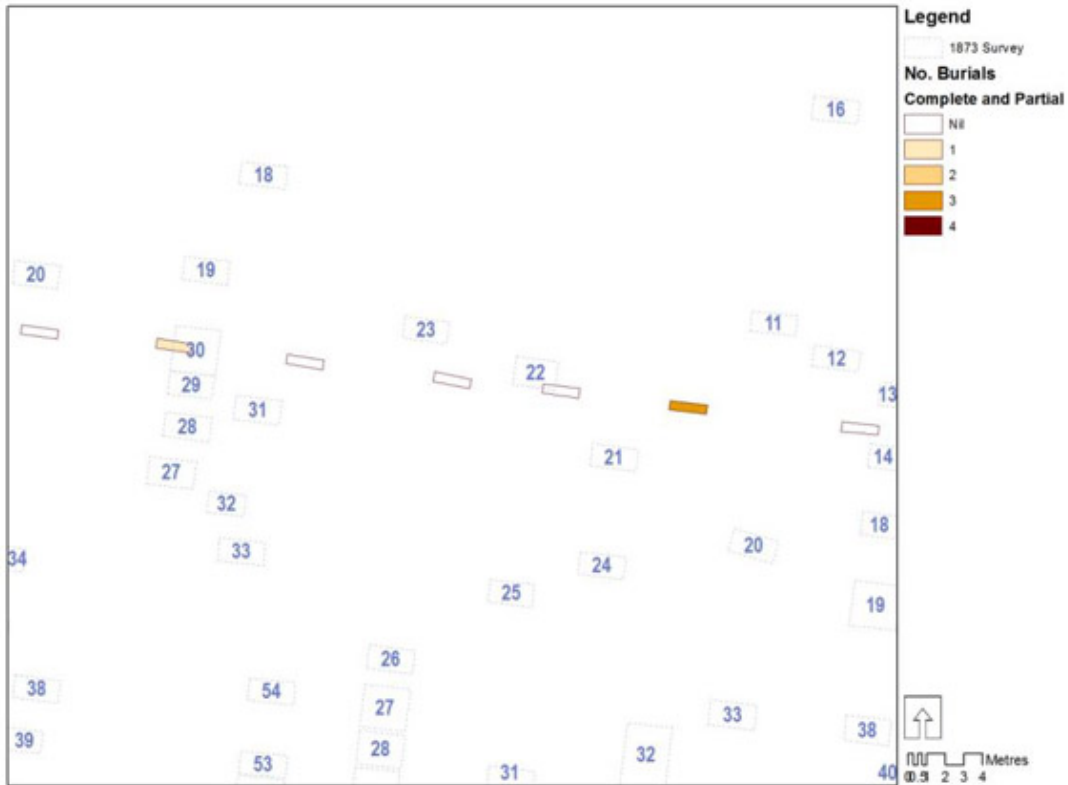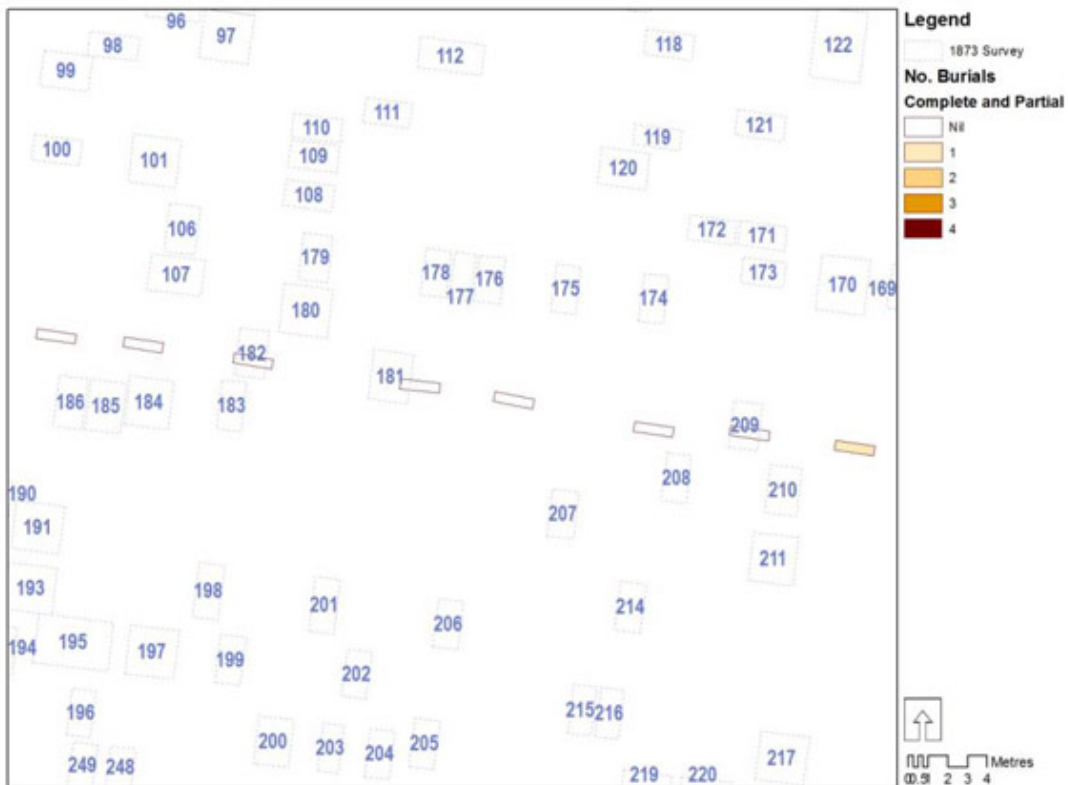**Figure 4.14** Overlay of graves from the 1873 survey over the western trenches from the 1991 excavations.

Figure 4.15 Overlay of graves from the 1873 survey over the eastern trenches from the 1991 excavations.

4.5   The Predictive Model

The overarching considerations for predicting the likelihood of extant subsurface deposits include:

- sparseness of tombstones and visible grave furniture in 1920–1922;
- disturbance from early twentieth-century works; and
- disturbance from late twentieth-century works.

Prior archaeological works are the most useful in predicting the integrity, depth and nature of surviving remains.

The findings of this report concur with Lovell Chen (2010: 9) that the majority of burials, probably more than 6500, remain undisturbed. Specifically, the following predictions are offered about the archaeological remains:

Prediction	Details
Coverage	No single zone of the site can be considered to have no archaeological potential.
	Some discreet areas (such as trenches) are known to be sterile, but their locations are imprecise and cannot be plotted with accuracy.
	The side of the site appears to have the most remains: probably a reflection of historic burials.
Density	Expect one complete or partial burial for every 2.15m2 of exposed ground (excluding evidence of exhumed graves).
Depth	The majority of graves are likely to be more than a metre deep below the current surface, but a small number will survive immediately below the current ground level owing to twentieth-century levelling.
Disturbance	Market construction works, while extensive, have had very localised impact on underlying burials. Even in locations of heavy cutting, burials have been recovered.
	Late twentieth-century works have been extensive, but appear to have affected only the upper layers of deposit. Burials are likely to survive below. Future works may rediscover remains recovered and reinterred in the 1980s.
Integrity	Many burials identified during archaeological works are undisturbed and remain intact within the timber remnants of coffins, in association with surviving grave goods. Other skeletal elements have been cut through and re-deposited by later works and establishing their minimum numbers may be difficult. Remnants of tombstones and grave furniture may also appear in these mixed fills.

Figure 4.16   Overlay of predicted disturbance and potential survival across the Old Melbourne Cemetery site. No single division can be considered to have no archaeological potential.
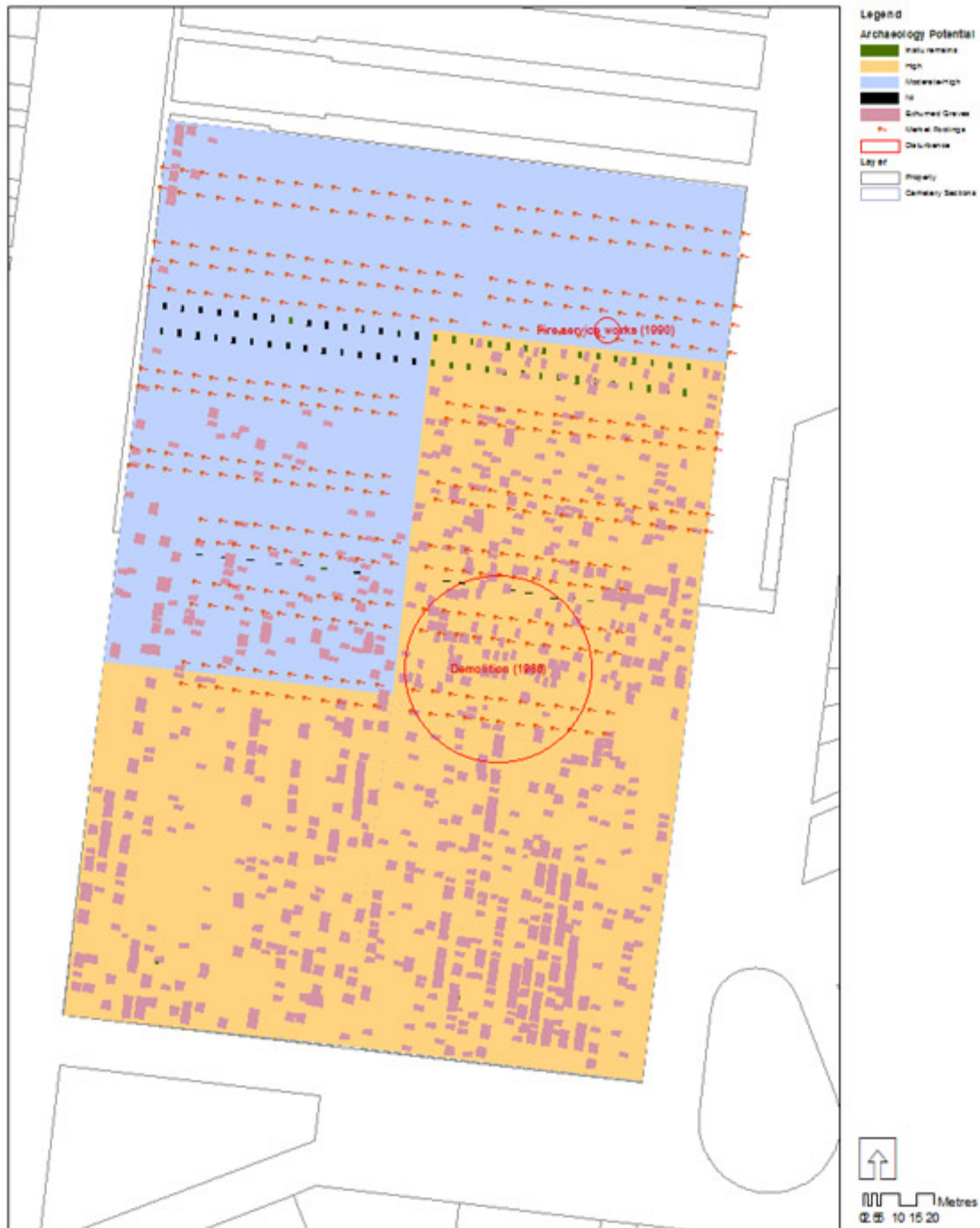
5. Recommendations

5.1 Conservation and Interpretation

1. Prepare a revised assessment of significance (ie: heritage value) for the Old Melbourne Cemetery, focusing particularly on the scientific research potential, historical association and social values of the site.

2. Prepare a new conservation policy informed by the new assessment of significance and previous work of both Austral Archaeology and Lovell Chen.

3. Use the findings of this report, the new assessment of significance and new conservation policy to guide further strategic planning for the site; with emphasis on both in situ conservation and innovative and engaging interpretation of the site's history and significance

5.2 Future Archaeological Works

4. Prepare a detailed archaeological research design that identifies appropriate archaeological resource management procedures for areas within the total site, based on research presented in this report.

5. Assess the potential for ground-penetrating radar to enhance predictions about the archaeological potential of the site.

6. Use the archaeological research design and ground-penetrating radar results (if available) to guide any proposed physical disturbance of the site.

5.3 Documentation

7. Partner with PROV to complete the digitisation of historical records relevant to the Old Melbourne Cemetery.

8. Consolidate data in a central, GIS compatible database for future research.

9. Continue to pursue the location of original materials, particularly:

    a. site records from the 1991 excavations;

    b. artefacts from all pre-2011 excavations; and

    c. skeletal material (especially those excavated in 1991).

5.4 Public Benefits and Interpretation

10. Prepare an Interpretation Strategy for the Old Melbourne Cemetery which addresses the site's history, significance and particularly its unique subsurface archaeological relics.

11. Utilise the rich historical resources already assembled and incorporate new digitised material (as recommended above) in a cutting-edge digital media resource to re-image the cemetery landscape, revive links to the early pioneers of Melbourne and write new histories of the forgotten people of Melbourne who were buried in the Old Melbourne Cemetery.

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62. Only the 2011 trenches, which were plotted by Alpha Archaeology using differential GPS are accurately located. The dimensions and orientation of the 1999 Franklin Store trenches are

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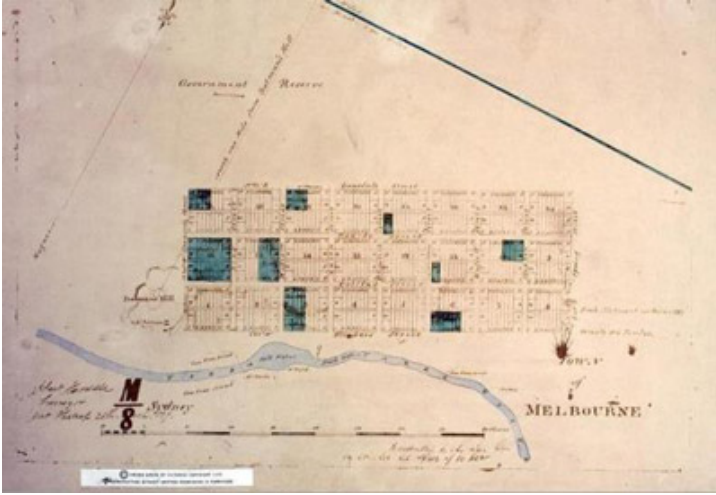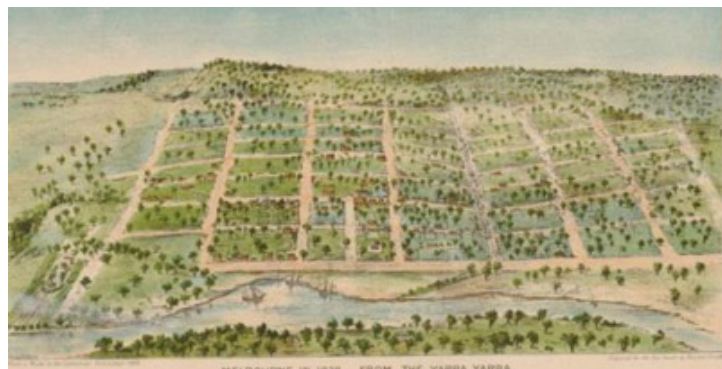
72. Alpha Archaeology, p 75

8. Appendices

Appendix A - Queen Victoria Markets Chronology—Upper Market Site

Phase 1: Foundation of Cemetery to Full Usage: 1837–1877

Old Melbourne Cemetery (OMC) Queen Victoria Markets (QVM)

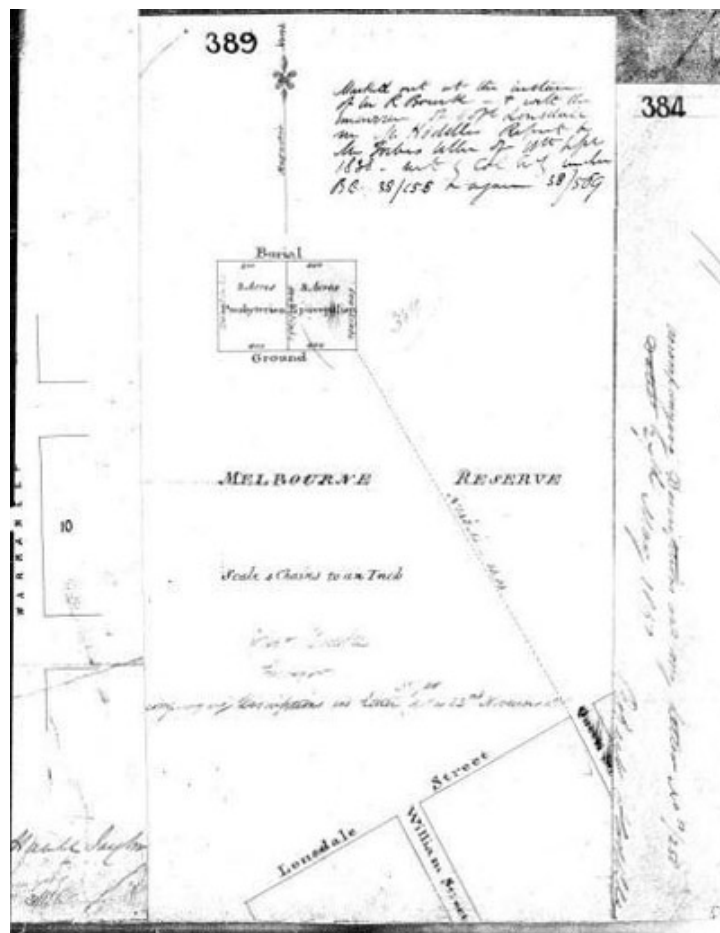| Date	Event	Evidence
1836	Establishment of Melbourne First burials at Burial Hill (today's Flagstaff Gardens) approx 6– 10 burials in total. OMC site lies just to the north of the town grid in Government Reserve.	 1836 First plan of Melbourne by Robert Hoddle, Surveyor, known as The Hoddle Grid. Old Melbourne Cemetery site (Queen Victoria Market site) located north of marked out town area on land referred to as Government Reserve. (Source: SLVic) 1838 sketch of Melbourne just after it was laid out, from the Yarra River. (Source:SLVic) Melbourne 1836 by R,Hofman. (Source: SLVic)

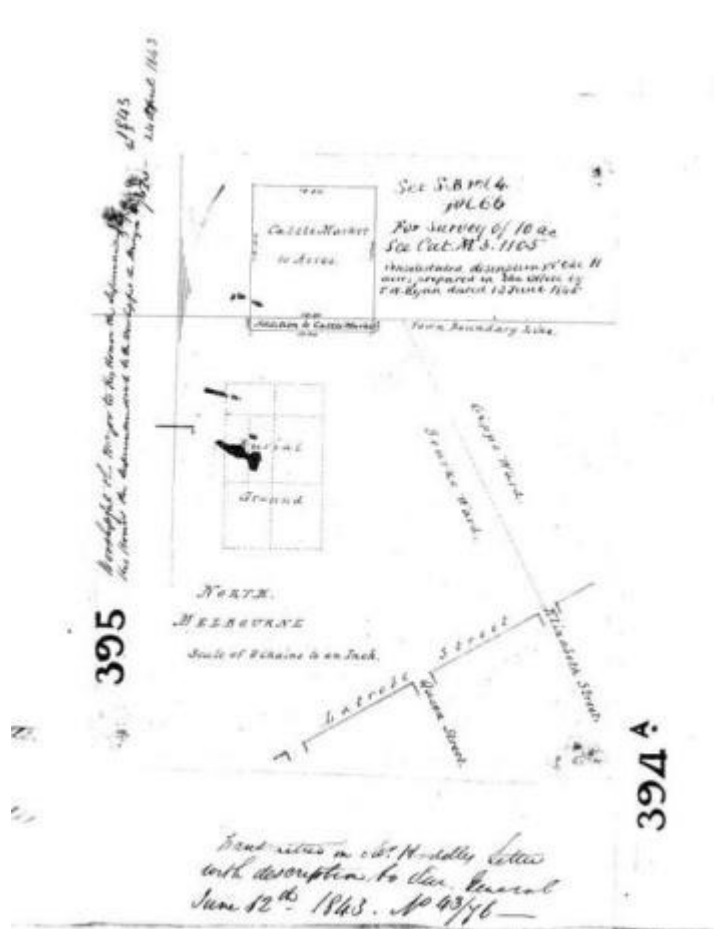| Date	Event	Evidence
1837	When township of Melbourne was laid out, Governor Richard Bourke reserved 10 acres of Crown Land just north of the grid to be set aside for religious and educational purposes. 1837 First burial.	M.Cannon (ed), Historical Records of Victoria, Vol 3, 1984, p 479, pp 487–88, p 586.) Morgan M, 1982, pxiii
1838	Episcopalian section of cemetery was consecrated by Bishop of Australia, William Grant Broughton who declared it to be 'for the dead bodies of the Christian inhabitants of Melbourne'. The Presbyterian and the Episcopalian sections were the first to be formerly laid out. By 1842 the Wesleyan, Independent and Roman Catholic sections had been laid out as well as one for Aboriginal people. Beyond planning and pegging out, the government of the day do not appear to have done any further management of the cemetery. Each denominational section was managed by its own trustees Jewish cemetery land officially granted in December 1844. Society of Friends land officially granted in November 1847. (Source: Chambers D 2003, The Melbourne General Cemetery p 98).	M.Cannon (ed), Historical Records of Victoria, Vol 3, 1984, pp 485–486, p 492. First Plan of cemetery, 1838. Only Presbyterian and Church of England sections shown. (Source: SLVic Historic Plan Collection CEM 389) The official land grant from Sydney issued to Bishop Broughton as sole trustee for the United Church of England and Ireland was on 18 May 1843. The grant stated that this portion 'be held forever on quit rental of one farthing per year and if not used for burial land to be reverted to the Crown' (Anglican Archives, Diocese of Sydney).

Second plan of Cemetery, 1842. Additional sections added including Aboriginal section which is labelled. (Source: SLVic Historic Plan Collection CEM 394)
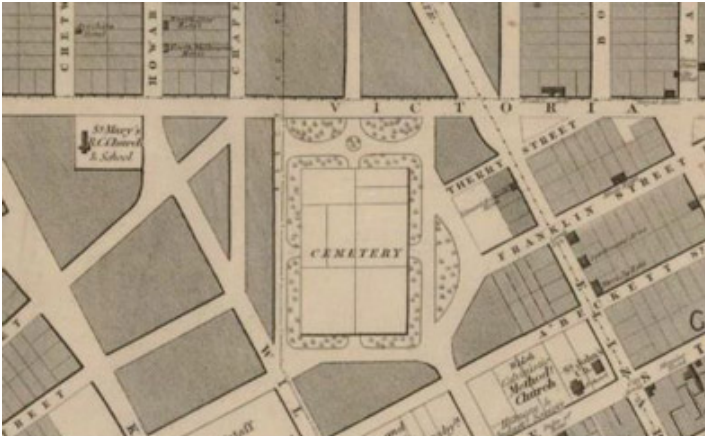
Date	Event	Evidence
1839	Surveyor Robert Hoddle officially divided the 10 acre cemetery into seven sections according to denominations and groups. Presbyterian, Episcopalian (Anglican) and Roman Catholic—two acres each. Wesleyan, Jewish and Independent (Congregationalist)—one acre each. Society of Friends (Quakers) and Aboriginals—half an acre each.	Robert Hoddle was queried on his authority for laying out the cemetery as it was not located on any survey map (Morgan, pvi). He stated that he was acting on the verbal order of the Governor of NSW. The division of the cemetery into sections for allocation on a denominational basis was prompted at least in part by a request by the Presbyterian Church.

Date	Event	Evidence

Earliest known plan showing the full size of cemetery layout dated 1843. (Source: SLVic Historic Plan Collection CEM 395)

Date	Event	Evidence
1849	By the late 1840s the council were looking dangerous for another cemetery site further away from the centre of town. Old Melbourne Cemetery by this time was overcrowded.	Melbourne City Council claimed that the Melbourne Cemetery ground was 'in dangerous proximity to the inhabited portions of the city. (Source: Sagazio C 1992, *Cemeteries: Our Heritage, National Trust of Australia* (Victoria), Melbourne, p 13). Soon after, the council approached the government, and plans for a new cemetery were drawn up in 1850. Governor La Trobe, writing in June 1850, urged the Sydney officials to hurry on plans for a replacement cemetery as 'the Church of England ground at the old cemetery would be used up in six months'.[73]
1853	Land in Carlton Road purchased for new cemetery.	Land set aside for new Melbourne General Cemetery in Carlton Road (Melbourne General Cemetery). It opened for burials in June 1853. Melbourne General Cemetery hold their burial index dating from 1854.
1854	Old Melbourne Cemetery closed but continued in some capacity until 1867, last burial was in 1917.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1855	Early maps show that plans for the cemetery were to surround it with formal gardens but these never eventuated. Fulton Street was constructed across the northern boundary of the cemetery, between the cemetery and Victoria Street. The Cemetery was managed by trustees from the various denominations. Allotments were sold at £1 each for the land. This was the only large scale burial ground operating in Melbourne prior to 1854 and was the first official cemetery in Melbourne	 Part of 1855 plan of Melbourne & Suburbs by Kearney showing the 10 acre old Melbourne cemetery site laid out in its eight divisions within a garden setting. Fulton Street and formal gardens to the north. 1868 Sands & McDougall Plan of Melbourne. (Source: SLVic) The Cemetery Trust Records from 1866 to 1909 are located at PROV. Each year's annual report provides numbers of burials (usually only about one or two). There are also the names of the trustees from each denomination and letters from the trustees to various government organisations, etc. (Source: VPRS 9581, 15670, 15671). The official record of those buried in the OMV from 1866 to 1917 is held by PROV VPRS 9583. The first caretakers lodge in the cemetery was destroyed by a fire in 1864 (Letter dated 18 March 1879 VPRS 15670 PROV and letter dated 18 December 1896 VPRS 9581 PROV.) The caretaker's residence or lodge was reconstructed in the grounds of the cemetery in the original Jewish section and is shown on the 1873 plan of the cemetery. This plan also shows a store fronting Franklin Street. Lodge No. 2 was demolished in 1877 and a new lodge constructed in the remaining Jewish section. This is shown on Selby's 1920 plan of the cemetery and on the 1895 MMBW plan.
1864	Fire destroyed the original cemetery lodge and all the cemetery records which were being stored in the lodge.	Letter dated 18 March 18[7]9 from the Trustees of the Cemetery to M.Mornage Esp Solicitor, Minute and Letter Book Old Melbourne Cemetery, VPRS 15670, PROV, states that all the early records were destroyed in a fire in 1864. Letter dated18 December 1895 from OMC Trustees to Dr Mackay Esq MLA Barrister, Solicitor (VPRS 9581, PROV) states 'all the records were destroyed with the old lodge by a fire which occurred prior to the present trustees assuming control in 1865'.
1865	Land between Fulton Street and Victoria Street just north of the cemetery, set aside as a reservation in 1865, and occupied by a Temperance Hall on the eastern side; and by the Melbourne and North Melbourne Army Volunteers Orderly Room, and Metropolitan Rifle Corps, on	Earliest map reference to these buildings is dated 1865.

Date	Event	Evidence

the western side. The Orderly Room was used by A Company of Infantry Brigade.

Parish Map c1870 showing Melbourne & North Melbourne Volunteers and Temperance Hall at the northern end of the site plus Fulton Street. (Source: Lands Victoria).

This area was subdivided for sale as house blocks but this proposal was abandoned before the date set for the sale. Department of Land records bear witness to the fierce competition for reservations of Crown land in the vicinity of the Cemetery.
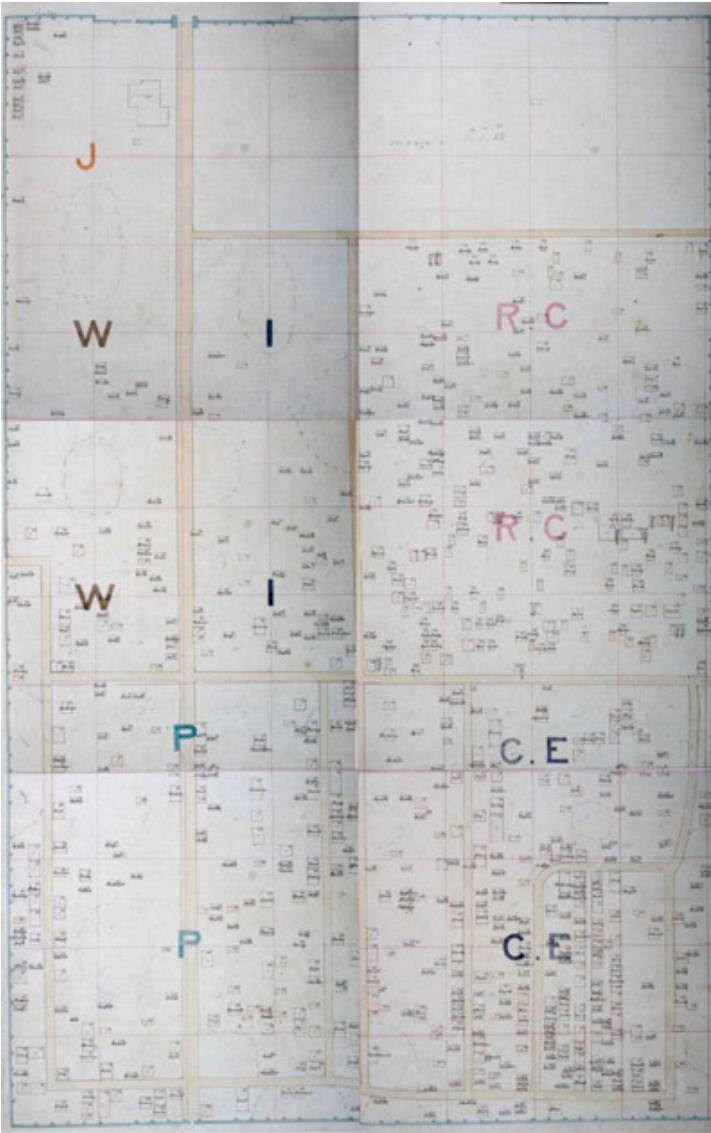
Eventually in 1878, the claims of the market for expansion ousted all the other competitors.

1869

Cemetery fences in order were:

1. Post and rail fence.
2. Picket fence.
3. 1869 iron railing fence on blue stone foundation

View of the Old Melbourne Cemetery from Franklin Street showing the iron railing fence on blue stone foundation. (Source: Morgan M, 1982, The Old Melbourne Cemetery 1837– 1922)

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Date	Event	Evidence
1873	In 1873 Melbourne Council surveyed the OMC site recording the location of graves and the surname of the people buried.	

855 gravestones in total plus one unnamed grave in the Society of Friends Section.

This plan showed:

Jewish—19.

Society of Friends— 1.

Unnamed—

Aboriginal—0.

Wesleyan—54. Catholic—296

Presbyterian—183.

C of E—296.

PROV also hold Alphabetical Record to burials OMC 1866–1917 VPRS

9583 are available to view online Chronological record of permissions to bury OMC 1877–1917, the official entry book for burials VPRS 9585.

Both these records contain information about the person's name, denomination, age, occupation, late residence, place of birth, cause of death.

Burials OMC

While three detailed accounts of location and names on tombstones exist (1873, 1918, 1920).

There is no official record of the numbers buried in the OMC as many tombstones recorded multiple burials and it is known that there were many unmarked graves.

The suggestion of 8000 to 10,000 remains has been given. The evidence for this figure is provided here.

1873 Plan of Old Melbourne Cemetery. (Source: VPRS 9582, PROV)

- AH Padley, the Honorary Secretary of the Old Melbourne Cemetery Preservation League, writing in 1919, stated that the 10 acres of cemetery land was surveyed into grave allotments of 8ft x 4ft and allowing 25% for 'paths and free graves there are left 10,200 allotments'.[74] Some indication as to the laying out of these allotments can be seen on the 1873 plan of the cemetery, especially in the Episcopalian section where the most tombstones are shown.

- Minutes from the Queen Victoria Markets Committee dated 16 February 1921 records:…the Minister may possibly insist upon exploratory work being carried out in order to find all and any remains and that as the burials in the cemetery number between 8,000 and 10,000, the financial difficulty between this and the Committee's proposal would be approximately £50,000.[75]

- Writing in 1924, Isaac Selby also estimated there were 10,000 bodies buried at the Old Melbourne Cemetery, a conclusion he

Date	Event	Evidence

probably drew from his association with the Old Melbourne Cemetery Preservation League and with the Markets Committee who had commissioned Selby to select significant graves from the Old Melbourne Cemetery for relocation to Flagstaff Gardens, a plan that never came to fruition.

- The State of Victoria Early Pioneer Index (1836–1888) records that between 1836 and 1854, 7059 people living in the central Melbourne area had 'Melbourne' recorded as their place of death which is not inconsistent with the Market Committee's estimate.[76]

- A search of the denominational archives has provided some further information for this period. The Wesleyan burial register from 1840 to 1847 recorded 85 burials in the Old Cemetery (only 54 headstones are shown on the 1873 plan).[77] The Quakers records show xx burials between xx and xx (awaiting information from the Quakers).

Further references to the burials:-

The Argus, 1 August 1870, p 6 letter from Sergeant Summerhays, Caretaker of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, notes that graves were dug no less than four feet deep.

The Argus, 22 April 1914, p 13—one person stated that his father in the 1840s had witnessed many illegal and unhealthy burials at the Old Melbourne Cemetery. Migrants on ships had died of disease and were buried in mass graves, and if these were disturbed there may be a recurrence of the plagues which had originally put these people in the cemetery.

The Argus 11 October 1917, p 6—a report on the Old Melbourne Cemetery notes that '[a]ccording to statements by gravediggers, the ground has been thickly covered with graves, in fact in 1914 it was estimated that room remained for only 40 additional interments'.

Elsie C Graham's compilation of Births Deaths and Marriages from the Port Phillip Herald 1840–1848 indicates that 329 deaths were recorded. These would have mostly been the wealthier families who could afford to publish death in the paper, but again this provided some indication as to the number of deaths at this time.

While two additional small burial grounds were known to have existed at this time—a small Jewish cemetery near Merri Creek and a small graveyard at Point Ormond (plus a number of church yard cemeteries)—Old Melbourne Cemetery was the only large scale burial ground operating in metropolitan Melbourne prior to 1854.

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Phase 2: First Encroachment by Queen Victoria Markets: 1877–1922

Date	Event	Evidence
1877	Passing of Melbourne General Market Site Act. Melbourne Council took over the area from Fulton Street to Victoria Street plus 1.75 acres at the northern end of Old Melbourne Cemetery which included all of the Society of Friends and Aborigines' sections plus three quarters of the area originally allotted to the Jews. The Jewish section resumed in 1877 had not been used and therefore had no burials and no exhumations.	Acts of Parliament of Victoria, Act to Enable Certain Lands to be Granted to the Corporation of the City of Melbourne for the establishment of a general Market, No. 572, 11 October 1877. This Act stated that all exhumed remains be reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery.
		Thomas Jennings, Undertaker responsible for the exhumations, said that he had taken about 69 exhumed remains from the OMC to Melbourne General Cemetery (VPRS 3181 Town Clerks Correspondence PROV). Receipts for a number of these exhumations are also found here.
	From the Quaker and Aboriginal sections, about 69 remains were exhumed and taken to Melbourne General Cemetery. Fulton Street and the southern end of Cobden Street were removed and the Temperance Hall was demolished. Orderly Room, on the corner of Victoria and Peel Streets, remained until 1905.	Land officially granted 20 September 1878—4 acres, 1 rood, 10 perches, for General Market Purposes. Volume 4220, Folio 974. See area shaded green below.
	The name Queen Victoria Markets was first used in 1878.	
		The Markets Committee Minutes first use the name Queen Victoria Markets on 4 April 1878 (Market Committee Minutes 1841–1935 VPRS 4030 at PROV).
1877	69 exhumations took place. Remains reinterred in the Melbourne General Cemetery	Austral Archaeology's Conservation Policy for Old Melbourne Cemetery at the Queen Victoria Markets makes an unreferenced suggestion that 45 bodies were exhumed. We now know that this

Date	Event	Evidence
		was not accurate. Thomas Jennings said he exhumed 69 bodies (see Phase one discussion on Burials above).
		Some evidence to these exhumations can be found in the minutes of the Trustee of the Melbourne Cemetery outlined below.
		Old Melbourne Cemetery Trust letter to Secretary of Lands dated 14 December 1876 states '…the Jewish body are not opposed to giving up the unused portion of their ground provided that the portion of which has been used be properly protected.' This indicates that the land resumed at this time from the Jewish section had no burials as it was referred to as unused.
		The same letter mentioned above states 'The Society of Friends will not oppose the proposal if the remains now in the ground be removed to similar ground in the new cemetery and the gravestone now on the ground be re-erected there'. This letter continues 'there are other remains in the portion belonging to the Society of Friends besides those marked by the solitary tombstone there'.
		Of the Aboriginal Section this letter states 'the Trustees are aware that in the portion of the Old Cemetery marked on the plan Aborigines there are a number of bodies of criminals and of others which were placed there during the influx of population which followed the discovery of gold.'
		(Letter dated 14 December 1876 from the Office of OMC to the Secretary of Lands VPRS 15670 PROV)
1877/ 1878	Sheds A, B, C, D, E and F built on the Upper Market site. Shed F formed the boundary wall between the market and the cemetery. Shed C, originally the shortest shed, was extended west to Peel Street in 1878.	1878 Site Development Plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)

Date	Event	Evidence

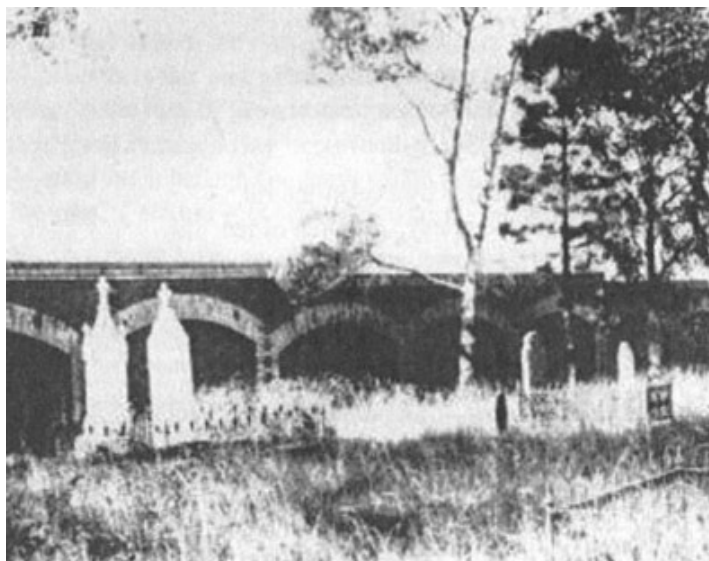1878 opening of the Queen Victoria Markets. (Source: SL Victoria)

c1907 Sheds A to E Queen Victoria Market. (Source: SL Victoria)

Victoria Markets Christmas 1907 showing Sheds A to F. (Source: Picture Victoria).

| | Shed F was the boundary wall. | |

c1900 view from Old Melbourne Cemetery looking north to F shed boundary wall. (Source: Reproduced from The Victoria Market 1984, by Ellen McCaughey and Mary Hoban)

The two farthest graves belong to the Parnell Family, arrived in Melbourne in 1839. Two graves contain 11 remains. The nearest grave is for James and Margaret Reardon. These graves are in the Catholic section of the OMC and are recorded on both the 1873 and the 1920 plans. Shed F wall in the background. (Source: VPRS 9591 PROV)

Detail of the above Parnell Graves. (Source: VPRS 9591 PROV).
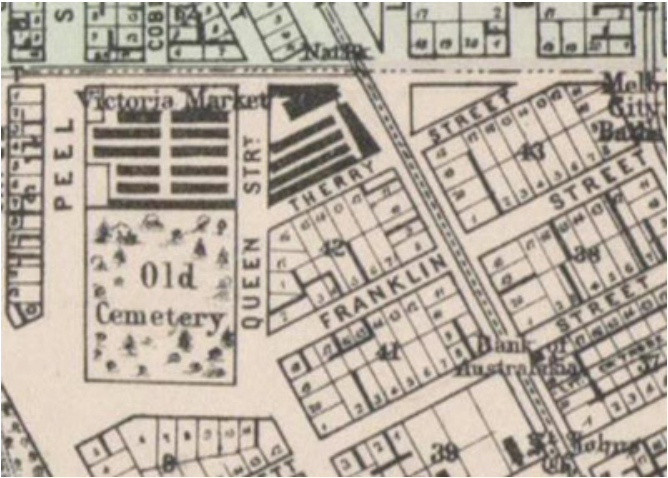
| 1881 | Construction of John Batman's memorial in the Old Melbourne Cemetery. | |

Old Melbourne Cemetery prior to 1923 looking north across the cemetery towards Shed F boundary wall. (Source: Queen Victoria Markets)
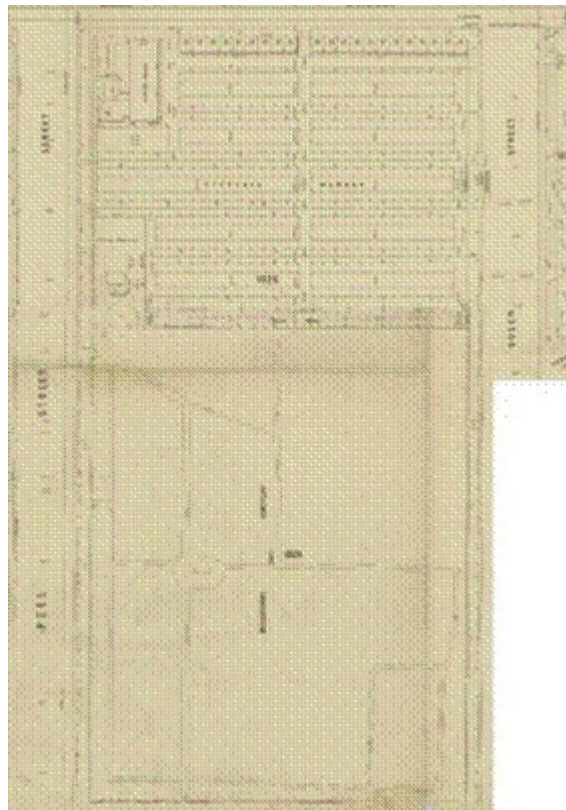

Unveiling of the Batman Memorial on the Old Melbourne Cemetery 1881. (Source: SL Victoria)

Date	Event	Evidence
1887	To create a nice frontage to Victoria Street, 12 single storey terraces were constructed (83-5 to 127-9 Victoria Street). These were initially used to store fruit and vegetables.	1888 Plan of Melbourne & Suburbs by AC Allan. Plan shows terraces constructed on the lower market site fronting Elizabeth and Victoria Streets but not yet constructed on the Upper Market site. (Source: NLA) View along Victoria Street in the 1940s looking west showing the 12 terraces constructed in 1887 and eight terraces constructed in 1890. (Source: Picture Victoria)
1890	In 1890 a further eight single-storey terraces with an amenities block were constructed west of the original 12 terraces constructed in 1887.	
1891	Shed B extended to the west with a narrow free standing extension to Peel Street on the Upper Market site.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1895	No changes shown to remaining cemetery site.	 1895 MMBW Plan of the Upper Market site showing the group of 12 (1887) and the group of eight (1890) single-storey terraces fronting Victoria Street. Shed B extended west to Peel Street (1891) and the Orderly Room complex in the northwest corner and the Cemetery Lodge in the southwest corner, within the Jewish Section of the Cemetery. This plan does not show the location of the graves. (Source: SLVictoria Detail Plans 1025, 1026) Detail of the above 1895 MMBW Plan of the Orderly Room and the Cemetery Lodge (Source: SLVic Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Detail plan)
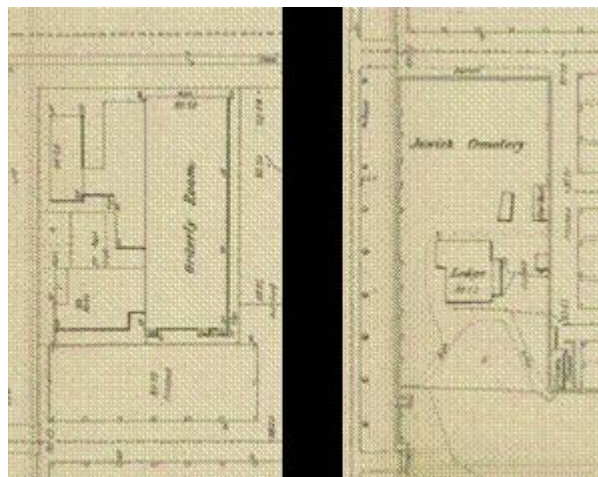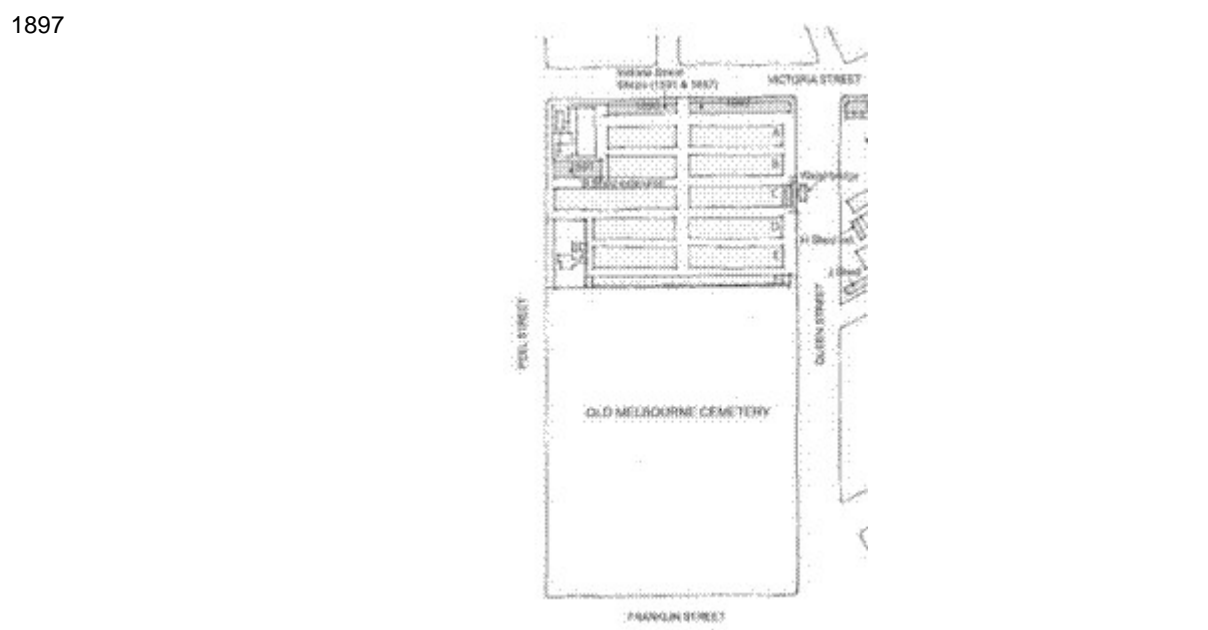
Date	Event	Evidence
1897		1897 Site Development Plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)
1903	Sheds A to E extended east to Queen Street.	
1905	Additional Land Purchased, Orderly Room site, corner Peel and Victoria Streets. Orderly Room removed to the east side of Elizabeth Street.	Conveyance from Commonwealth of Australia for market purposes, dated 6 April 1905. Areas shaded brown below.

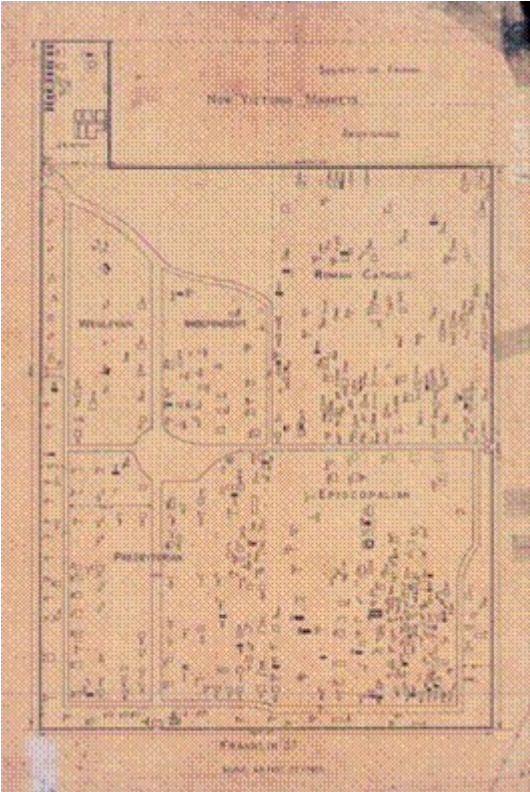| Date	Event	Evidence
1905	Shed A extended to Peel Street across former Orderly Room site. Sheds B and C extended a small portion further to reach Peel Street. Present verandah and parapets constructed. Small open market shed constructed on part of former Orderly Room site corner Victoria and Peel Streets.	 1910 Site Development Plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)
1915	Legislation to take over the remainder of the cemetery land begins.	Bill revoking the Crown Land grant for the Old Melbourne Cemetery was passed and provided for the further development of the site and the exhumation of bodies.
1917	Last burial in Old Melbourne Cemetery.	Cemetery Trust Records. The last burial was the late Jean Henderson, of the Yarra Bend Asylum, aged 52 on 30 October 1917 Source: Alphabetical Record of Burials OMC 1866–1917 (VPRS 9883 PROV and Chronological Record of Permissions to Bury OMC 1877– 1917, VPRS 9585 PROV)
1917	Melbourne General Markets Lands Act allowed for the remainder of the cemetery to be incorporated into the Queen Victoria Market site.	This Act required all remains be exhumed from the cemetery and reinterred in the cemetery of choice of identified relatives at the expense of the council. Lovell-Chen 2010 p 6. For much of the 80 years the old cemetery was in existence, it received very little funding and was in a state of neglect.

Phase 3: Markets Expanded, Cemetery Removed: 1920—1969

Date	Event	Evidence
1918	Melbourne City Council engaged their surveyor to record the location and names of all the remaining tombstones.	City Surveyor's Office Field Books 6 & 7 are held by the City of Melbourne. Recorded were the inscriptions and the condition of the tomb and each tomb was given a number from 1 to 525. Names on the tombstones came to 1017 people. This information was then used for the planning of the exhumations.
	The information from the surveyor's notebook was copied.	Copy of Inscriptions on Tombstones in the OMC (VPRS 9592 PROV).

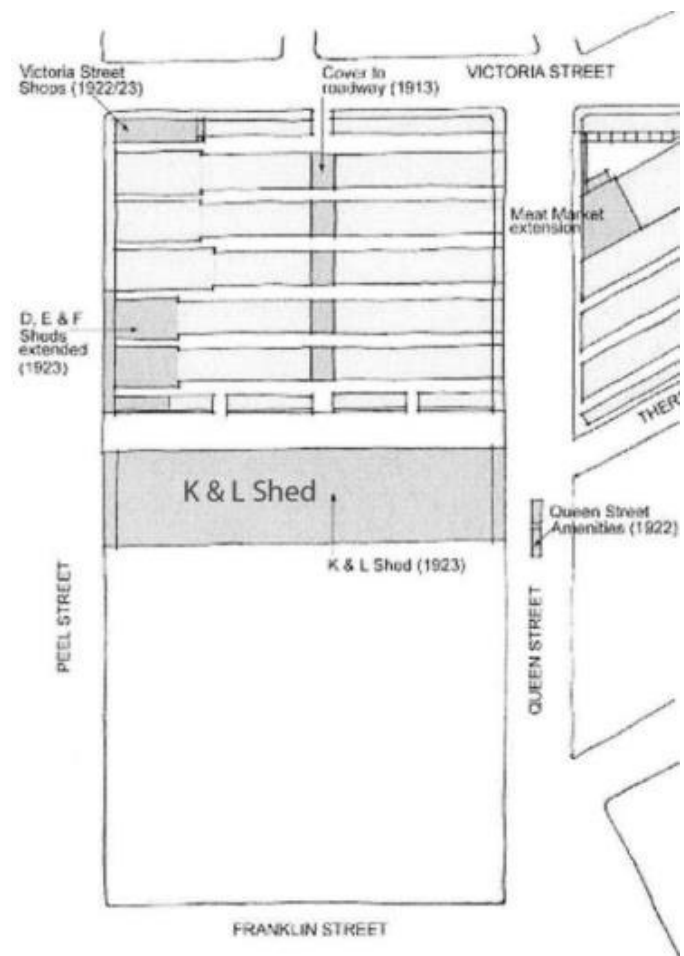| Date	Event	Evidence
	The information from the surveyor's notebook was transcribed onto index cards.	Numerical Index to Exhumations (VPRS 9590 PROV).
1920	Isaac Selby compiled his own plan in 1920 but did not use the council's numbering system. Selby's plan records a total of 549 tombstones, 24 more than the official council survey in 1918. Jewish—17 Wesleyan—30 Independent—28 Catholic—121 Presbyterian—124 Episcopalian—155 These numbers are significantly less than the numbers recorded in the 1873 plan prepared by City of Melbourne Council.	Selby 1920 Plan of the Old Melbourne Cemetery. (Source: City of Melbourne)

Date	Event	Evidence
1920	Jewish Section first to be handed over to the Queen Victoria Market in 1920. 18 graves are shown on Selby's 1920s plan in the Jewish Section but the list of exhumations is recorded as 58/59. The exhumations took place in 1920. The reburials took place between 11/9/1920 and 22/10/1920 (Morgan Appendix 1) The Jewish section was completely cleared of remains at this time.	The Jewish Chevra Kadisha (Burial Society) hold the record of all those exhumed from the OMC and reinterred in Fawkner Cemetery Section D which included 59 names. The Jewish section was completely cleared of remains. From the Melbourne Council 1918 survey, the Jewish graves were numbered 1 to 18. Marjorie Morgan in her book, The Old Melbourne Cemetery 1837-1922, Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies Inc, records that in September 1919 Solomon M Solomon, the Secretary of the Melbourne Hebrew Congregation, in anticipation of the impeding exhumations at the Old Melbourne Cemetery, wrote to the Public Health Department setting out opinions and requests of the Congregation. He enclosed a list of the people buried in the Old Melbourne Cemetery together with two maps showing the location of the graves. While only 18 graves were shown, the list revealed 60 names. The list of names is reproduced in Appendix 1 of Morgan's book. The reference to the letter is stated by Biddington in his article 'Death of the Old Melbourne Cemetery' Victorian Historical Journal Vol.65, No.1 June 1994, endnote 71, as Solomon to Department of Health, 12 September 1919, Old Melbourne Cemetery File 26, Melbourne Town Hall Archives. Argus 22 October 1920, pp 5 or 8 stated—by late October 1920, all Jewish remains had been removed to consecrated ground at Fawkner Cemetery. Nineteen graves are shown on Selby's 1920 plan of the cemetery in the Jewish section and Selby records the 19 names in his index. The Numerical Index to Exhumations reinterred at Fawkner Cemetery—Old Melbourne Cemetery, recorded 18 graves only but with multiple burials. (Source: Numerical Index to Exhumations reinterred at Fawkner Cemetery—Old Melbourne Cemetery VPRS 9590 PROV)
1921	Those opposed to the cemetery's removal continued to lobby the government but lost their fight.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1921	Department of Health gave the Town Clerk instructions about the removal of remains.	The contractors were instructed to only remove remains which were under clearly marked headstones, and any badly damaged graves and headstones were not to be repaired. If at a later stage bones were found in the digging of foundations for the new market buildings, they were to be sent to Fawkner. (Source: Health Department to Town Clerk, 19 October and hand writted page (nd) 1921, Old Melbourne Cemetery File 26, previously held at the Melbourne Town Hall Archives,(current location not identified) cited in Biddington Ralph, 1994, Death of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, Victorian Historical Journal, Vol 95, No. 1 p 21) 1920s image showing Jewish graves along Peel Street. (Source: RHSV Collection)
1922	Sheds D, E and F extended west to Peel Street across the former Jewish Cemetery site.	
1922	January 1922—Council advertised that all remains would be transferred to Fawkner Cemetery unless a special case for other arrangements was made to the Town Clerk.	From 8 February 1922, the number of remains exhumed daily was recorded (estimated 21.88 remains per day resumed). Each grave number was recorded against the number of remains found in it, and if coffins were uncovered in the grave they were also recorded. Some graves were recorded with up to seven burials in them. (Source: Notes on Exhumations—Old Melbourne Cemetery VPRS 9588, PROV. This record did not include the Jewish exhumations) Some of these are summarised in the table following this table. The 886 exhumations in 1922 plus the 59 from the Jewish section comes to 945 exhumations. Marjorie Morgan in her book Old Melbourne Cemetery 1837–1932 records the names and grave numbers of 914 people who were exhumed from the Old Melbourne Cemetery as well as 46 unidentified graves This is a similar total to that mentioned above.

Date	Event	Evidence
1922	While the majority of remains were reinterred at Fawkner Cemetery, a few went to Melbourne General, St Kilda, and Cheltenham. 'Index of names on Gravestones OMC' VPRS 9589 PROV.	This record provided the OMC grave number with its corresponding Fawkner Cemetery Grave number or the name of the cemetery where the remains were taken if it was not Fawkner Cemetery.
1922	New structure.	A convenience block built fronting Victoria Road at the eastern end of 1890 terraces.
1923	New structures.	Four additional single-storey shops were constructed on the site of the former Orderly Room following the demolition of the small market shed which had been constructed there in 1905. These shops are numbered 153–159 Victoria Street.
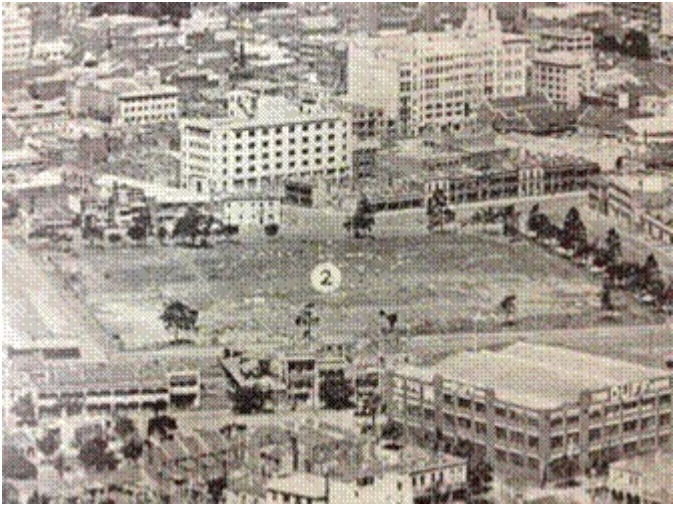
| 1923 | Sheds K and L constructed on land formerly occupied by part of the Wesleyan, Independent and Roman Catholic portions of the cemetery. These sheds lay south of the original dividing wall between the cemetery and market. The wall of Shed F, which was the original boundary, was opened up in several places to provide access through to the new sheds. | |

1923 Site Development Plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)
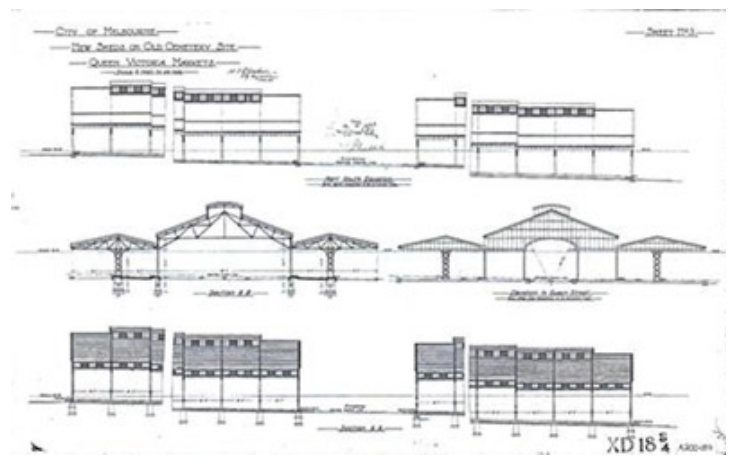
1922 Plans Shed K and L on Old Melbourne Cemetery Site. (Source: City of Melbourne)

Date	Event	Evidence
1923	Remainder of cemetery south of Sheds K and L cleared (see Lovell Chen 2010). In March 1923, the Argus published a picture of a ploughman at work on the old Melbourne Cemetery site. The fence had gone and all graves, tombs, monuments and trees were all removed. In 1928 this aerial photograph was taken showing the former cemetery site cleared and levelled.	 1923 image of ploughing Old Melbourne Cemetery site following exhumations. (Source: The Argus, 2 March 1923, p 7) 1928 aerial showing the former cemetery site cleared of tombstones and vegetation and the site levelled (Source: Image by Air Spy, published in Report of the Melbourne Town Planning Commission 1929, held at Royal Historical Society of Victoria)

Date	Event	Evidence
1924	Land officially granted for extension to market. Area shaded blue on adjoining image.	Crown Grant dated 15 January 1924—land included surface down to 50 feet and was granted in the name of Melbourne General Markets Land (for Market purposes). It contained 10 acres, 1 rood, 11 perches.
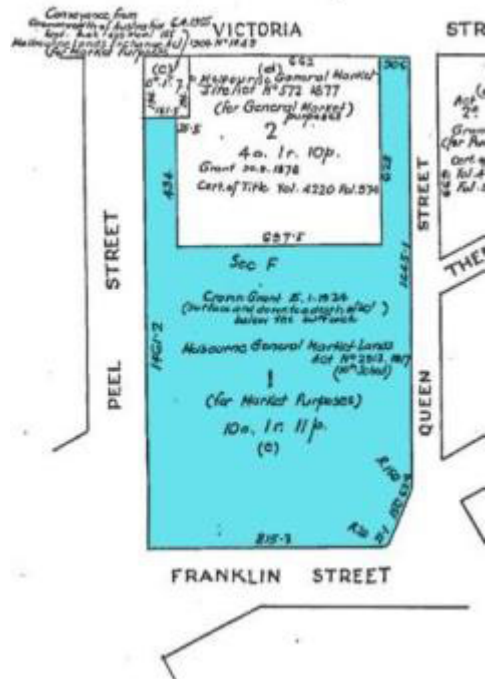
Plan of the Queen Victoria Market showing dates land officially acquired for market purposes.

Date	Event	Evidence
1930	In 1930 excavation began for the construction of the Franklin Street stores. A large steam digger was used to excavate the site. 1930 excavation unearthed many bones. They were stored in a shed and later placed in boxes to be buried in Fawkner Cemetery. (Source: SMH 1 March 1930 p 21) Franklin Street stores and Market Square stores constructed as part of a market square. Franklin Street stores consisted of 60 red brick stores around a square, fenced at each end. Today the remainder of these stores are mostly used for storage.	 1930 excavation of Old Melbourne Cemetery for Franklin Street stores and Market Square stores. (Source: The Argus, 18 February 1930, p 18) 1930 Plan of the Franklin Street stores. (Source: City of Melbourne)
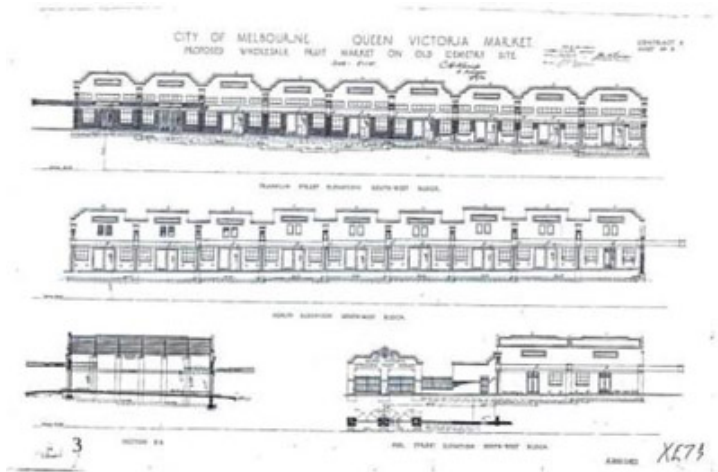
Date	Event	Evidence
1931	Franklin Street stores and market stores completed.	
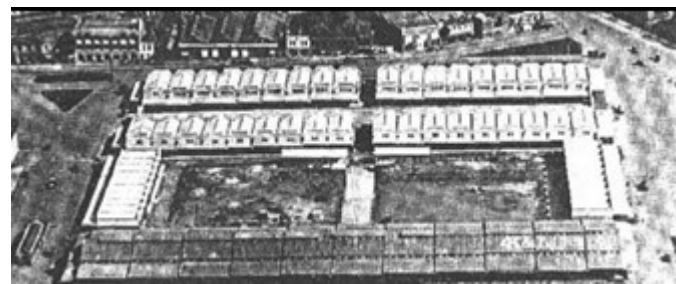
1931 aerial Franklin Street at top of page, showing Franklin Street stores and Market Square. (Source: as reproduced in Melbourne Markets)

c1930 Market Square. (Source: as reproduced in Melbourne Markets)

1931 aerial photograph of the Queen Victoria Market.

Date	Event	Evidence
1936	Sheds M, N and O constructed between Sheds K and L and the Franklin Street and Market Square stores. Site now fully developed.	 1936 aerial of Queen Victoria Market. (Source: As reproduced in Melbourne Markets) c1940s image of Queen Victoria Market site looking south along Queen Street towards Franklin Street showing Sheds A–F, Sheds K and L and then the Market and Franklin Street stores. (Source: Queen Victoria Markets: Historic 19) 1936 Site Development Plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)

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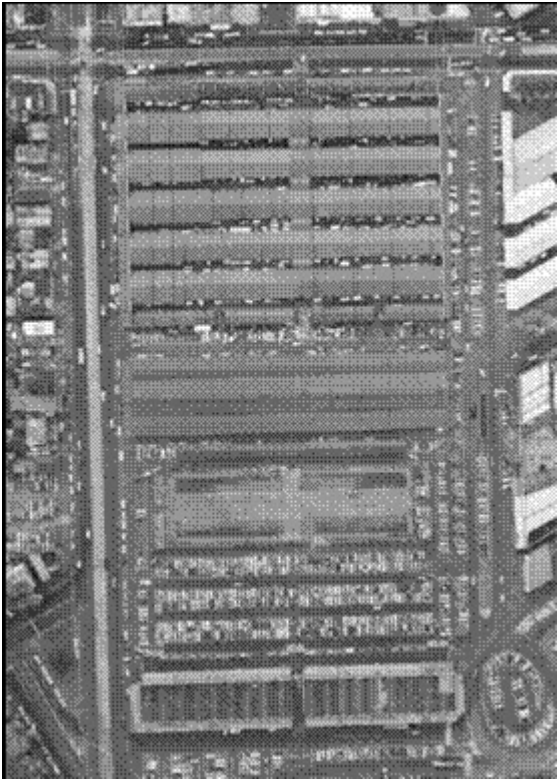
Date	Event	Evidence
1937	Bones from excavation of Old Melbourne Cemetery for market expansion found on spoil heap near Parkville Presbyterian Church.	The Argus January 28 1937, p 13.
1943		1943 image in front of Shed D. (Source: Picture Victoria)
1945	Market site fully developed	1945 aerial view of Queen Victoria Market. (Source: University of Melbourne Map Collection)
1956	In 1956, Melbourne City Council granted 50 acres on Footscray Road to establish a new wholesale market. The retail market remained on the existing Queen Victoria Market site, and the wholesale market opened at Footscray Road in 1969.	1956 image of the Franklin Street stores looking east along Franklin Street. (Source: Picture Victoria)

Denomination	Graves recorded by the City of Melbourne Surveyor, 1918	Graves on Selby's Plan Index 1920	Total number of names on the tombstones 1918	Exhumations recorded 1920-1922 (VPRS 9588, RPOV) and Jewish Records	Marjorie Morgan's Record
Jewish	18	19		59	
Wesleyan	31	Protestant Graves 368		43	52
Independent	28			37	50
Roman Catholic	127	135		258	318
Presbyterians	137			244	265
Episcapolian (Church of England)	184			304	296
Total	525	549	1017	945	981

Phase 4: Demolition and Revitalisation: 1969–Present

Date	Event	Evidence
1969	In 1969 Melbourne's Wholesale Market was moved from the Queen Victoria Market to a new location in Footscray. The Queen Victoria market was reinvention as a retail market involving a range of changes in the 1970s through to 1990s. This included refurbishment demolition of sheds to make way a customer car park.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1970	Demolition of the northern Franklin Street Stores, the Market Stores and the service areas. Initial car park created	1973 aerial showing the area formerly occupied by the northern Franklin Street Stores, Market Stores and service areas now in use as a car park. (Source: Land Victoria)
1972	Keep Victoria Market Association formed.	
1977	Sheds A–E, Upper Market site, refurbished.	
1978	100 year anniversary of the opening of the Queen Victoria Markets.	
1979	Sunday market trading began.	
1980s	Extensive renovation to Queen Victoria Market site.	
1982	Sheds K and L (Upper Market site) refurbished. Used for general market trade.	
1985	Therry Street Queen Victoria Market Memorial unveiled.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1986	 Sheds N and O (Upper Market site) demolished to make way for car parking. Demolition of N & O Shed. (Source: QVM Pty Ltd)	 1986 aerial showing the demolition of sheds N & O (Source: Land Victoria)
1986	10 & 11 April during the demolition of N & O Sheds. Two sets of human remains were uncovered from the foundation of N Shed by Whelan the Wrecker on 10 April and another two sets of remains were uncovered from the O Shed foundations plus the boundary of a coffin. The Health Commissioner of Victoria said to rebury the remains at the same location and a 5ft trench was dug.	
1987	Refurbishment of terraces fronting Victoria Street. Extended car parking facilities 1989 aerial showing extended car parking area (Source: Land Victoria)	
1987	During car park renovations, human remains were uncovered. A 2ft trench dug and bones reburied. Photographs sent to the State Health Department.	

Date	Event	Evidence
1990	Two bodies discovered when constructing new fire hydrant in alley near F Shed. From Aboriginal Section of cemetery. Both of mixed parentage.	
1992	New J Shed constructed on Upper Market site. 150 burials identified during the construction of Shed J but not disturbed.	Austral Archaeology 1993, Queen Victoria Market J Shed: Archaeological Investigation Reports, unpublished report for the City of Melbourne, February 1993 (Council Reference: 0069). Austral Archaeology 1991, Archaeological Investigation of the Proposed J Shed site, Queen Victoria Market, unpublished reports for the City of Melbourne, May 1991 (Council Reference: 0123). Mention of 150 burials in Austral Archaeology 2000, Conservation Policy for the Old Melbourne Cemetery at the Queen Victoria Market, unpublished report for City of Melbourne, May 2000, p 9 (Council Reference: 1222).
1995	Formation of the Queen Victoria Market Company to manage the site.	
1997	Queen Victoria Market Company incorporated. Establishment of hawkers market, market tours, night market and cooking school.	
1999	Archaeological Report on Franklin Street stores. 5 child burials found.	Overlay 1920s plan with Franklin Street stores. (Source: Austral Archaeology 1999) Austral Archaeology 1999, Archaeological Report on the Franklin Street stores, Queen Victoria Market, Melbourne, unpublished report for Melbourne City Council, September 1999 (Council Reference: 0858).
2003	Lower market gentrified with addition of Organic Section and a wine tasting area now in Shed I.	2002 Site Development plan. (Source: Queen Victoria Market CMP, 2003 by Allom Lovell & Associates)
2011	Excavations for sewer line near M Shed. Burials and human remains found in three of the 15 trenches excavated. If only c1000 remains have been removed and we know that between 8000 and 10,000 were buried in the OMC, then between 7000 and 9000 remains are still buried under the QVM.	Mitchell, Jodie 2012, Archaeological Test Excavations for proposed new sewer line adjacent to M Shed, Queen Victoria Market (H7822- 0073): Historical Report by Alpha Archaeology for Queen Victoria Market Pty Ltd, 16 February 2012. Remains continued to be found in excavations in the 1930s, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1993 (150 burials located during construction of the new J Shed), 1999 and 2011. References to these are found in a photograph album held by QVM dating from the 1980s and from the various archaeological reports undertaken for the site (see Section 2 of the report).

Endnotes

73. Chambers D 2003, The Melbourne General Cemetery, National Library of Australia, p 100.

74. Padley AH 1919, The Old Melbourne Cemetery, Old Melbourne Cemetery Preservation League. M839-858 Box 45/3D, State Library Victoria.

75. Markets Committee Minutes, 16 February 1921, VPRS 4030, Unit 13, Public Records Office Victoria.

76. Victoria Early Pioneer Index (1836–1888), State Library Victoria.

77. Uniting Church Synod Archives, Melbourne.

Appendix B - Archaeological Test Trenches, 1991 to 2011

Year	Trench Reference	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Square Metres	Depth (mm)	Burials	Partially Exhumed	Exhumed	Total
1991	J1-02	2000	1020	2.04	1500				0
1991	J1-03	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-04	2000	1000	2	1560				0
1991	J1-05	2000	1020	2.04	1520				0
1991	J1-06	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-07	2000	1020	2.04	1500				0
1991	J1-08	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-09	1900	1020	1.938	1590	1			1
1991	J1-10	1900	1180	2.242	1500				0
1991	J1-11	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-12	1900	1020	1.938	1450				0
1991	J1-13	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-14	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-15	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J1-16	1900	1020	1.938	1530				0
1991	J1-17	1920	1040	1.9968	1600	1			1
1991	J1-18	2000	1000	2	900	2	2		4
1991	J1-19	1910	1020	1.9482	1270	1	1		2
1991	J1-20	1900	1020	1.938	1500	1			1
1991	J1-21	2000	1000	2	1500	1	1		2
1991	J1-22	2000	1000	2	820	1		1	2
1991	J1-23	1900	1020	1.938	980	1			1
1991	J1-24	1900	1020	1.938	1010		2		2
1991	J1-25	1900	1020	1.938	1160	1		1	2
1991	J1-26	1900	1040	1.976	1200	2			2
1991	J1-27	1910	1020	1.9482	1460	1			1
1991	J1-28	1900	1020	1.938	1220	3			3
1991	J1-29	1900	1020	1.938	1500	1			1
1991	J1-30	1900	1060	2.014	1480	2			2
1991	J1-31	1920	1030	1.9776	1140	2			2
1991	J1-32	1900	1020	1.938	1460	2			
1991	J2-02	1900	1020	1.938	1610				0
1991	J2-03	2300	1020	2.346	1499				0
1991	J2-04	2000	1000	2	1480				0

Year	Trench Reference	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Square Metres	Depth (mm)	Burials	Partially Exhumed	Exhumed	Total
1991	J2-05	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-06	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-07	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-08	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-09	1900	1020	1.938	1520				0
1991	J2-10	1900	1020	1.938	1530				0
1991	J2-11	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-12	1900	1020	1.938	1530				0
1991	J2-13	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-14	1900	1020	1.938	1540				0
1991	J2-15	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-16	1900	1020	1.938	1500				0
1991	J2-17	2000	1000	2	1100	1			1
1991	J2-18	1900	1020	1.938	760	2			2
1991	J2-19	1900	1030	1.957	1260	1			1
1991	J2-20	1900	1020	1.938	1300	1			1
1991	J2-21	1900	1020	1.938	880	2	1		3
1991	J2-22	1900	1020	1.938	720	2			2
1991	J2-23	1900	1020	1.938	1220	1			1
1991	J2-24	1920	1020	1.9584	1180	1			1
1991	J2-25	2300	1030	2.369	1440	1			1
1991	J2-26	2000	1000	2	810	3			3
1991	J2-27	1900	1020	1.938	1500	1		1	2
1991	J2-28	2210	1030	2.2763	1460	2			2
1991	J2-29	2000	1000	2	1000	1			1
1991	J2-30	2200	1030	2.266	1300	2			2
1991	J2-31	1900	1030	1.957	1420	2			2
1991	J2-32	1900	1020	1.938	1300	1			1
1999	Trench 01	2000	1000	2	1040	1	1		2
1999	Trench 02	2000	1000	2	375	2	1		3
2011	TP01	2000	500	1	650				0
2011	TP02	2000	500	1	1700	1			1
2011	TP03	2000	500	1	830	0			0
2011	TP04	2000	500	1	1690	0			0
2011	TP05	2000	500	1	760				0

Year	Trench Reference	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Square Metres	Depth (mm)	Burials	Partially Exhumed	Exhumed	Total
2011	TP06	2000	500	1	830		3		3
2011	TP07	2000	500	1	1650				0
2011	TP08	2000	500	1	1650				0
2011	TP09	2000	500	1	730				0
2011	TP10	2000	500	1	850				0
2011	TP11	2000	500	1	750				0
2011	TP12	2000	500	1	850				0
2011	TP13	2000	500	1	870				0
2011	TP14	2000	500	1	810				0
2011	TP15	2000	500	1	380		1		1
				142.06		**51**	**13**	**3**	**67**