

# Old Cemeteries of Victoria B.C.

by Mary Barton

If you are attending the club's Victoria, B.C. rally in September, "A Little Bit of Britain," in your free time you may want to try something a little different—cemetery hop. This 150-year-old British colonial settlement is the capital of British Columbia, and has an impressive history and lineage of former pioneers: madams, doctors, policemen, murderers, and authors.

The Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria catalogues, cleans, and restores monuments, as well as conducts walking tours of Victoria's heritage cemeteries. Victoria is home to one of Canada's oldest and largest surviving Victorian cemeteries, Ross Bay. Some of the best graveyards with the most impressive monuments to visit are:

- Ross Bay Cemetery: 1516 Fairfield Road
- Chinese Cemetery: Harling Point, on Crescent Road
- Jewish Cemetery: Fern Hill Road at Cedar Hill

Road (limited access)

- Pioneer Square Cemetery: Quadra Street and Rockland Road
- St. Luke's Anglican Church Cemetery: Cedar Hill Road and Cedar Hill Cross Road (contact church for access)
- St. Stephen's Anglican Church Cemetery: Saanich Peninsula, Mount Newton Cross Road and St. Stephens Road
- Holy Trinity Church Cemetery: West Saanich Road at Mills Road
- Shady Creek Church Cemetery: 7180 East Saanich Road
- St. Mary the Virgin Church Cemetery: 4354 Metchosin Road, in the town of Metchosin
- Veteran's Cemetery: on Colville Road, near the entrance to the town of Esquimalt

For more information about the cemeteries, or to arrange a custom, guided tour, contact The Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria at (250) 598-8870, or visit [www.oldcem.bc.ca](http://www.oldcem.bc.ca).