

Historical Society Inc

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Grave Stories of the Victoria Market 25 July 2012

Dr Celestina Sagazio is an historian, author and Cultural Heritage Manager at Southern Cemeteries Trust.

Her presentation covered the history of the Old Melbourne Cemetery, now the Victoria Market. When it was closed about 9,000 bodies were left behind, as their graves were unmarked. They now lie beneath the market.

The people buried there were the Pioneers of early Melbourne, including John Batman. It contained the usual burial sections but had special sections for Jews, Quakers and the Aboriginal community. The first people hanged in Melbourne were buried just outside the cemetery walls. The old walls now form part of the market.