

HATZIC CEMETERY MISSION, BRITISH COLUMBIA

INTRODUCTION AND PLOT MAP

A Christian mission was established on the north bank of the Fraser River in 1861 by Father Fouquet, an oblate priest from France. The city was known as Mission City to differentiate it from the mission. If you look up in a southwesterly direction from the cemetery you will see Westminster Abby, a Benedictine abbey. In 1891 the property in Mission City which had been bought by James Welton Horne was auctioned off in the Great Land Sale of Mission City. The cemetery is in Hatzic, a district of Mission. Mission is approximately 15 minutes north of the Canada-US border and approximately 70 km east of Vancouver. To get there take Highway 7 (Lougheed) to Mission. Just east of Mission turn north on to Dewdney Trunk Road, go past the Hatzic Elementary School, up the hill and around the corner to Cemetery Avenue. The cemetery address is 34867 Cemetery Avenue.

Hatzic Cemetery has 4 gates. The first is usually locked but the next 3 are open from 9 AM to 4 PM daily. The pedestrian gate is always open. Parking is permitted on the sides of the roads in the cemetery. There is also some parking room at the back by the shed. Do not park on Cemetery Avenue as the shoulders are too narrow and it is a busy street. Another parking area is in the northwest corner entered off at the north west corner of the cemetery but the gates to this area may be locked. Do be on the lookout for local wildlife which comes to the park. The deer will disappear when they notice you but beware of bears who are not as cooperative and remember bears can run faster than you and probably climb trees quicker. This is a well maintained cemetery. There is a water tap on the east side of the shed at the back and another in the central garden by the columbarium. The onsite office is located in the mobile office at the west end. If a cemetery worker is on site they would be able to look up locations for you and help you find a location, otherwise go to the Mission Leisure Center.

Hatzic cemetery is located on 5 acres of land donated in 1892 by Mr. D. Anthony. The legal definition is the NW corner of Section 20. The total land available is 25 acres which is not all developed. In 1896 the area was laid out in a grid pattern and in 1920 the cemetery was enlarged. The Columbarium was laid out in 1997 and has 48 niches for cremains. A scattering garden is in the planning stage. The first noted burial was in 1875 (in South 0-5 and obviously moved from a previous burial or just a marker and no burial). In the East section the earliest noted burial was 1899. In full burial plots 6 cremains or 1 full burial plus 5 cremains are allowed. In cremation plots 2 cremains are allowed and in Columbarium niches 1-2 cremains. There is an on site crematorium in partnership with the Indo-Canadian community. Some burials are not marked. We have included as many of these known burials with no marker seen in 2007 as we could find. Please note that the spellings and locations of these added names may vary. When checking for names do use variation spellings. Ask cemetery staff for exact locations of these known burials without markings.

All sections are named according to the Hatzic Cemetery map except for the eastern sections Blocks AA-XX, Blocks A-Z and Blocks 1-14 which we have called East as we could not identify where the dividing lines were. The oldest area of the cemetery is on the eastern side and includes sections East, North 0-4 and South 0-5. The oldest markers are in East and the first two rows of this section were reserved for baby and child burials with none of the graves marked. South 0-5 is Japanese burials and North 0-4 was a Roman Catholic section with the extreme east area for indigents whose graves are unmarked.

All sections were walked from south to north except the Columbarium area. The rows are numbered from east to west. So all areas were started in the southeast corner. The Columbarium area is the newest area and the graves are scattered and few as yet and the row markers on the road are used to identify the locations. The row numbers and marker numbers are just a guide to help you locate a grave; new burials or removed markers will alter these counts.

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Crabapple Lane



Notice Board



Veterans graves on November 11, 2007



Westminster Abbey

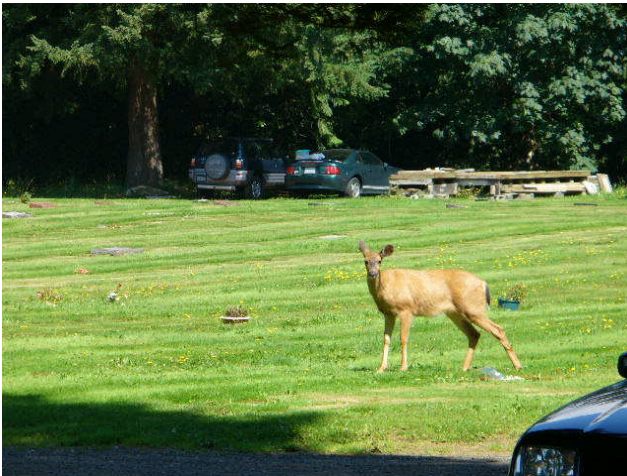


In the East section some shrubs have covered the graves

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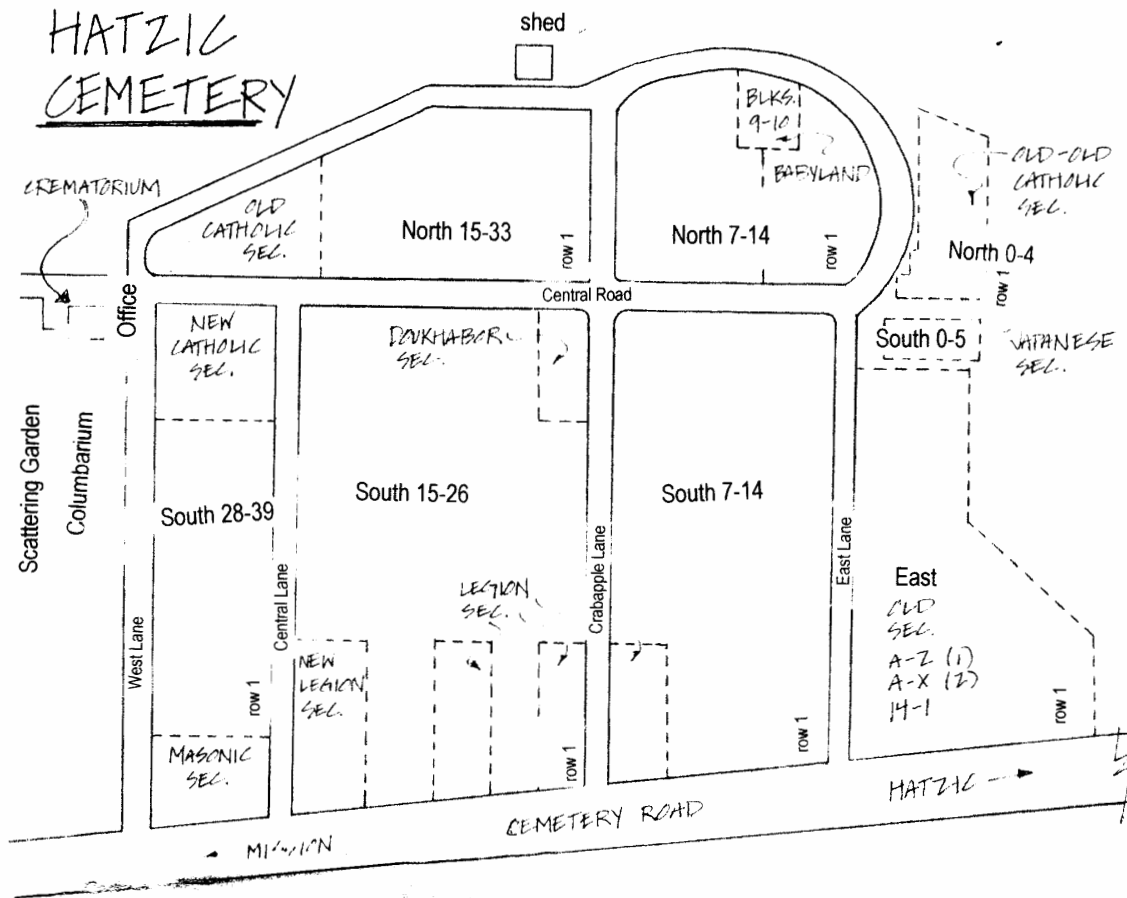
Buddhist monument



Deer in the cemetery

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PLOT MAP



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For further information about burials at Hatzic Cemetery contact:

Mission Leisure Centre
7650 Grand St
Mission, BC, V2V 3T3

We would like to acknowledge the help of recorders, Lois Richardson, Wendy Graham, Lynda Cunningham, Pearl Phillips, Elizabeth Christie, Lorraine Irving and Valerie Hooper. The recording was compiled by Valerie Hooper with Section South 15-33 compiled by Elizabeth Christie.