

# Apex Pioneer Memorial Park (Urch Street Cemetery)

## Location of Gravesites



### *A Sad Story*

Consider the sad story of William Gale and his two sons, Frank Ernest and John Scott. Gale was a prominent and popular business owner in Geraldton during the 1860s when a diphtheria epidemic gripped the town. On the 18 May 1865, his fifth son John Scott (aged 2 years) died from the disease, only then to be followed by his father (aged 37 years) on the 24 May. Five days later on the 29 May, Gale's second son, Frank Ernest Gale (aged 9 years) also succumbed to the disease. Tragically many families were affected by this epidemic.

In 1967 the Urch Street Cemetery was surveyed and all remaining headstones and graves were plotted on the above map. Over the years, many grave markers had been lost due to deterioration and, in some cases, vandalism. The numbers on each grave correspond to the Location of Gravesites list. The \* symbol indicates an unknown burial.