United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

<u>X</u> New Submission   _____ Amended Submission

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Park County, Colorado, Historic Cemeteries

B. Associated Historic Contexts

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965

C. Form Prepared by

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city or town Denver   state Colorado   zip code 80211

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [ ].)

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Signature and title of certifying official   Date

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Office, History Colorado
State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper   Date of Action

Table of Contents for Written Narrative

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheet in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

Page Numbers

Primary location of additional data:
   [ ] State Historic Preservation Office
   [ ] Other State Agency
   [ ] Federal Agency
   [ ] Local Government
   [ ] University
   [X] Other
Name of repository:
 Park County Local History Archives

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E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965

Introduction

Places for burial of the dead developed as integral components of settlement in Colorado, as vital as schools, stores, and other essential facilities supporting the creation of communities. Archaeologists have identified multiple burials in or near abandoned structural remains associated with Ancestral Puebloan habitation in southwestern Colorado dating to before 1300 A.D.[1] Early grounds dedicated to the graves of the dead were created at trading posts such as Bent's Old Fort, established 1832-34 in Otero County.[2] In addition, late 1850s Hispano settlements with graveyards, or *camposantos*, are present on the grounds of early Catholic churches in the San Luis Valley.[3] The Colorado gold rush brought the first large numbers of Euro-Americans hoping to find wealth, establish new homes, and create communities. Before settlements took shape, people coming to the area commonly were buried near where they died in isolated graves.[4] Despite some security found in areas of population density, the normal vicissitudes of daily life and the challenges of settling in a developing frontier produced human mortalities and the necessity of providing final resting places for the departed.

Cemeteries fulfilled not only the immediate purpose of hosting funerals and housing bodies in their eternal rest, but also documented the history of the community and its inhabitants; served as open air museums containing some of the finest, or only, works of art on display locally; offered locations for public and private mourning; became public meeting grounds where people gathered for commemorative activities and community events; and functioned as parks with inspiring vistas and serene settings for quiet contemplation. Linda Wommack, author of *From the Grave: A Roadside Guide to Colorado's Pioneer Cemeteries* (1998), observes: "From border-to-border, cemeteries reveal the lives and deaths of our Colorado pioneers. Their silent stones hold clues about early Colorado life, tragedy, disaster, hope and endurance. They also serve as a treasure hold of past community and social structure."[5]

What is perhaps the first published mention of an official provision for a formal private cemetery in the state appeared in the *Rocky Mountain News* in December 1859, when the fledgling settlements of Denver City, Auraria, and Highland were considering consolidation into the town of Denver. An act included in the laws of the provisional government of the Territory of Jefferson provided that the new town could "purchase, receive, hold, lease or convey property both personal or mixed, beyond the limits of the city, to be used for Burial of the Dead, for the erection of Water Works, for the establishment of Hospital, Poor Houses, Work Houses of Correction, or any purpose which may tend

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[1] Marilyn Martorano, Archaeologist, Martorano Consultants, Email to Tom and Laurie Simmons, 29 January 2015. Martorano indicates that "the burials are sometimes interpreted to be the result of warfare or perhaps disease …. If a Pueblo was occupied for a long period of time, they have also found many burials related to the entire time of occupation and those might also just be from natural causes." Only three prehistoric Native American graves have been recorded in Park County according to a History Colorado staff search in COMPASS. These isolated burials do not fall under the cemetery property types defined in this form.
[2] Carl McWilliams and Karen Johnson, Bent's Old Fort National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, 1984; Colorado Genweb, "Costilla County, CO, Cemeteries and Funeral Homes, cogenweb.com/Costilla/cemetery.htm, accessed 28 January 2015.
[3] Earliest gravesites in these cemeteries are unmarked today, likely due to deterioration of wood crosses or tablets.
[4] Annette Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries: Sculpture Gardens of the Old West* (Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 2008), 7.
[5] Linda Wommack, *From the Grave: A Roadside Guide to Colorado's Pioneer Cemeteries* (Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Press, 1998), 1.

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the general good of the city…."[6] Late in 1861 creation of Mount Prospect Cemetery in Denver was announced: "This cemetery is laid out into suitable burial lots and it is desirable for heads of families and the different denominations of Christians to secure good lots for decoration and improvement for the burial of the dead."[7] William Larimer, Jr., the 1858 founder of Denver City, served as president of the cemetery association. After the burial ground opened, citizens complained about its untamed appearance and cattle and wild animals passing through and damaging markers.[8]

Early Settlement and Growth in Park County[9]

Park County, located in central Colorado, takes its name from South Park, its level mountain valley (or "park") extending about fifty miles long and thirty-five miles wide. Irregular in shape, the county is large, covering 2,271 square miles. Aside from South Park, the topography is mountainous, with the western boundary formed by the Mosquito Range, rugged mountains including four peaks over 14,000' in elevation. On the west side of South Park salt springs attracted wild game, Native Americans, and mountain men, leading the Spanish to call the area "Valle Salado." French explorers and trappers referred to it as "Bayou Salade" and Americans as "Bayou Salado." The term South Park originated in the 1840s among hunters who traveled through the mountain valley abundant with herds of game. A number of mountain passes provided prehistoric and historic routes of travel to and from Park County, including Mosquito, Hoosier, Weston, Kenosha, Webster, Georgia, Trout Creek, Currant Creek, and Wilkerson. With the creation of Colorado Territory in 1861, Park became one of its seventeen original counties, covering nearly the same area as it does today.[10]

Prior to 1965, sixty-nine post offices opened in Park County, many operating for only a short span of years before closing.[11] The county's widely dispersed population included an average density of less than two persons per square mile. Incorporated towns remained small, numbering well under one thousand inhabitants in the pre-1965 period.[12] The continuing vitality of a few communities stemmed from a fortunate combination of factors, including their location on important roads, access to railroads, selection as sites for government offices, provision of services for nearby mining and agricultural enterprises, and proximity to scenic splendors and recreational areas. The larger and more enduring communities of Fairplay, Alma, Como, and Lake George became the locations of the county's largest and longest-operating cemeteries.

In Park County cemeteries were created in association with human settlement, whether as towns, mining camps, rural agricultural communities, or individual ranches. Although the county's initial population consisted of mostly young men and women, they were not immune to sickness, accidents,

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[6] *Rocky Mountain News*, 14 December 1859, 1.

[7] *Rocky Mountain News,* 27 December 1861, 2.

[8] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 40.

[9] A historic context developed in 2002 extensively addressed the topics of early settlement and townbuilding in the county and the intent is not to replicate that effort here. The overview in this section, focusing on communities with the most relevance to cemetery development, is drawn from that document. See, R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons with contributions by James F. Muhn, "Park County Historic Contexts: Townbuilding, Transportation, Mining, Ranching, Water Storage and Diversion, Tourism and Recreation," prepared for Park County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (Denver: Front Range Research Associates, Inc., 2002), Chapter II.

[10] In 1908 Park County gained a small amount of territory near its southeast corner when the projecting tip of Jefferson County was transferred to its jurisdiction.

[11] William H. Bauer, James L. Ozment, and John H. Willard, *Colorado Post Offices, 1859-1989* (Golden, Colorado: Colorado Railroad Museum, 1990).

[12] U.S. Census of Population, Park County, Colorado, 1870-2000. The peak census populations recorded during this era for each of the largest incorporated towns were: Alma, 469 persons (1940); Como, 411 persons (1910); Fairplay, 739 persons (1940).

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and violence resulting in death in the fledgling frontier settlements. Places to bury the dead quickly became a necessity.[13] Park County included numerous settlements that were founded, experienced rapid growth, and quickly faded, as well as others surviving to the present day. Mining activity, railroad construction, ranching, tourism, and strategic routes of travel were factors resulting in concentrations of population and the creation of cemeteries. A discussion of the principal types of settlements found within Park County follows, with a focus on communities possessing the most relevance to the development of area cemeteries. Figure 1 is a map showing the locations of current and historic settlements and rural post offices within the county.

Mining Camps

As news of gold discoveries spread eastward in 1858 and 1859, tens of thousands of prospective miners headed to the central Rocky Mountains to seek their fortunes. From the initial strikes along Ralston Creek and Cherry Creek in today's Denver region, the argonauts ventured into higher ranges, including the area that would become Park County. The prospectors formed mining camps located near the sites of mineral discoveries. A number of these early communities boomed with hundreds or thousands of residents and quickly died, some missing the opportunity to be enumerated in a census or recorded on maps of the area. Others enjoyed a longer existence, experiencing a series of revivals and evolutions based on advances in mining technology and new discoveries.

Among the early mining communities were the 1859 camps at Tarryall and Hamilton along upper Tarryall Creek.[14] Located about four miles northwest of today's Como, Tarryall boasted a reported three hundred dwellings by 1860 and became the temporary county seat the following year. Hamilton, on the opposite side of the creek, included forty cabins and hundreds of tents by 1860. Both quickly declined and were largely deserted by 1868 as other mining areas gained attention. Fairplay also dates to 1859, given its name by founders disillusioned with the perceived greediness of Tarryall. Located on the Middle Fork of the South Platte River, Fairplay emerged as the first mining camp of general importance in Park County. It became a supply center, received a U.S. Land Office, and acquired the county seat in 1867. The town encompassed between two and three hundred inhabitants by the next year. Today, Fairplay is Park's county seat and its largest municipality, containing on its eastern edge the county's largest cemetery.

Other early mining settlements included 1859 Buckskin Joe, as well as the 1861 camps of Montgomery, Jefferson City, and Mosquito.[15] Buckskin, two miles west of present-day Alma on Buckskin Creek, became the most important of these camps. Early historian Jerome C. Smiley described the 1860 activity at Buckskin, with "people flocking there from all parts of the mining region, living in shacks, tents, wagons, and under trees, until the gulch soon contained over two thousand."[16] Burials in Buckskin Cemetery date to ca. 1859. By 1863 the more easily worked gold deposits were exhausted, and news of other discoveries left the town mostly deserted by 1868.

Montgomery lay on the south side of Hoosier Pass five miles north of today's Alma. By 1861 the

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[13] This document addresses Park County's Euro-American cemeteries only.

[14] This Tarryall should not be confused with the later settlement of Tarryall below Tarryall Reservoir, which began in the 1890s as Puma City and only later adopted its current name.

[15] Jefferson City, located northeast of Tarryall at the foot of Georgia Pass, should not be confused with the later community of Jefferson near the west side of Kenosha Pass. Active in the early 1860s, Jefferson City was deserted by 1868.

[16] Jerome C. Smiley, *History of Denver* (Denver: Denver Times-Sun Publishing Co., 1901; reprint, Denver: Old Americana Publishing Co., 1978), 291.

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settlement contained seventy cabins and featured a public square and a cemetery (see Figure 3).[17] Mining declined in the late 1860s, and people moved several buildings to other locations. Mosquito (also known as Sterling) sprang up about two miles west-southwest of Buckskin. The area saw great gold mining activity in the early 1860s. After nearby mining dwindled, the town served as a key stop on the wagon road over Mosquito Pass to Leadville. By 1900 most of its inhabitants moved elsewhere.

The 1870s witnessed the creation of new mining camps in Park County. Dudley, eight miles north of Fairplay, established in 1871, contained mining-related facilities for the nearby Moose Mine, as well as retail and service businesses and a small cemetery. It received a post office in 1873 and reported an estimated population of 150 in 1874. Declining production at the Moose Mine led to virtual abandonment of the town by the 1880s.

Alma, about two miles east of Buckskin and seven miles northwest of Fairplay, came into existence in 1872 and received a post office the following year. The town provided services and supplies for mines in Mosquito and Buckskin gulches and on Mt. Bross and Mt. Lincoln. It grew to include three newspapers, a hose company, a bank, business houses, saloons, and a public library. Alma prospered, becoming a smelting center, and receiving a railroad connection in 1882. By 1890 it reported a population of 367. Today, Alma remains one of the county's two incorporated towns and retains one of the county's larger cemeteries, which incorporates the Buckskin burial ground.

Guffey, known as Idaville at the time of its founding in 1895, is located about twenty-four miles south of Hartsel near the southern border of Park County. Prospectors, drawn to the initial discoveries at Cripple Creek in Teller County, moved farther afield and found placer gold at this location in Freshwater Gulch. The federal government rejected the town's attempt to use the name Freshwater when it applied for a post office in 1896, and the populace selected Guffey for Pennsylvania oil baron James M. Guffey.[18] At its peak the community held more than five hundred residents, and businesses included three groceries, four saloons, three hotels, four restaurants, two bakeries, and three hardware stores, and a small cemetery. Mining activity proved short-lived, but the town continued to be the focus of the surrounding ranching community in later years and included a variety of commercial enterprises and summer homes.

Puma City, twelve miles northwest of Lake George, boomed in 1896 after prospectors found an outcropping of gold- and silver-bearing quartz in the area. Initially named after the nearby Puma Hills, a post office designation used the name Tarryall in recognition of the creek and road that passed through town; the original Tarryall mining camp about thirty miles to the northwest was long gone. As many as one thousand people lived in the area by 1897, with ore freighted by wagon to Lake George and loaded on the Colorado Midland Railway for smelting in Denver. Mining activity soon faded; by 1905, about twenty-five people resided in Tarryall.

Agricultural Settlements

Ranching areas also contained clusters of denser settlement, requiring schools, stores, cemeteries, and other facilities. In the early 1860s Pennsylvania native Samuel Hartsel began a celebrated cattle ranch at

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[17] *Park County Republican and Fairplay Flume*, 9 July 1953; Erica Duvic, email to Laurie Simmons, 7 January 2015. In 1953 Montgomery Reservoir construction associated with the Colorado Springs Blue River Water Project inundated the Montgomery townsite. Burials in the settlement's cemetery dated to 1863 and were relocated to a plot surrounded by chainlink fencing at the north end of the Fairplay Cemetery in Area D, Plot 24. An article on the exhumation of the bodies described one of the caskets as constructed of dark pine, "larger at the shoulders and tapering to half the width at the feet."

[18] Maxine Benson, *1001 Colorado Place Names* (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 1994), 92.

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the junction of the South and Middle forks of the South Platte River about seventeen miles southeast of today's Fairplay. With a location along a travel route from Colorado City to the mining areas to the north, Hartsel soon realized he could develop services for travelers and established a trading post, blacksmith shop, and other businesses. About 1866 the ranchman improved the nearby hot springs as a place for bathing. In 1875 the small community of Hartsel acquired a post office, and Samuel Hartsel erected a hotel there. A small cemetery was established on a hill to the south. Hartsel continues to provide services and supplies for the surrounding ranching area and passing visitors.

Bordenville, eleven miles south of today's Jefferson on Tarryall Creek, developed around the 1860s ranching homesteads of two New York brothers, Timothy and Olney A. Borden, who raised cattle and hay and operated a sawmill. A small nucleus of settlement known as Bordenville evolved by the 1870s and provided services for local ranch families. It included a post office (1879-1884), mercantile, stage stop, blacksmith shop, school and cemetery. Completion of the Denver and South Park Railroad line to Leadville in 1880 lessened traffic along the road and decreased Bordenville's population. A small cemetery a half-mile from Bordenville's nucleus began receiving local burials the same year.

Railroad and Tourism Settlements

Another group of settlements owed their existence to the arrival of two railroads in the county between 1879 and 1887. The communities served as service and supply centers for surrounding agricultural areas, jumping off points for tourism and recreation, and locations for local industries, such as logging, ice cutting, and charcoal manufacturing. Many of these settlements endure to the present day, as routes of the abandoned railroads became important highways through the county (U.S. Highways 24 and 285), thus maintaining their connections and accessibility.

The narrow gauge Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad (DSP&P) was built through Park County on its way from Denver to Leadville in 1878-79, entering near the county's northeast corner, passing over Kenosha Pass before crossing South Park, and exiting over Trout Creek Pass near the southwest corner. The 1887 goal of the standard gauge Colorado Midland Railway was also Leadville. It crossed the southern part of the county, entering from the east at Lake George and departing via Trout Creek Pass. Some of the railroad settlements, like the earlier mining camps, boomed briefly as end-of-track towns before they declined significantly or were abandoned. The initial railroad connection expanded the Park County economy and stimulated population growth, which increased from 447 in 1870 to 3,970 in 1880.

As grading and track-laying for the DSP&P proceeded across Park County, Bailey at its eastern edge became the first of several end-of-track towns and a transfer point for staging and freighting to Leadville. Established in 1878, Bailey's timber, ice cutting, and summer tourism became important industries. Fairville (also known as Slaght's) was platted 4.5 miles west of Bailey along the DSP&P tracks in 1878. In 1900 the Fairville post office moved a half mile to Shawnee, where a large resort lodge opened in 1900. The Shawnee area along the North Fork of the South Platte River contained various facilities catering to summer tourists, including Grand View Lodge, operated by the Price family, who also established a cemetery (Shawnee) at the location. The Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery also served the Platte Canyon area.

Webster, fourteen miles northwest of Bailey, dated to 1877 as a stop on the wagon road over Webster Pass to Breckenridge. It became a railhead in January 1879 and an active transshipment point. In the 1880s Joseph and James Lamping settled in the area and erected twelve charcoal kilns that operated until 1893, burning timber from surrounding forests. The Lampings also started a family

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cemetery at Webster.[19]

Descending into South Park west of Kenosha Pass, DSP&P construction motivated creation of Jefferson in 1879. Located on Jefferson Creek, Jefferson became an important shipping point for livestock and a service and supply center for cattlemen and hay raisers in the immediate vicinity and along the Tarryall Creek drainage to the south. Railroad facilities in town included pens holding stock for transport. Jefferson reached a maximum population of seventy-five to eighty residents and never established a cemetery. It remains as a small crossroads community on U.S. Highway 285.

In the same year Como sprang up in an area of important coal deposits and soon became the most significant railroad town in Park County. It served as a division point for the DSP&P with a roundhouse, hotel, and shop facilities. Branch lines extended southeast to the nearby King Coal Mines and north over Boreas Pass to Breckenridge and on to Leadville. Coal production began in the vicinity of Como about 1860, but large-scale mining came with the arrival of the DSP&P. The 1880 census counted 134 persons in town, and Como's population rose to 374 by 1890. An 1887 cemetery northwest of town became the second largest in Park County.[20] Como's fortunes declined as the Colorado and Southern (the DSP&P's successor) cut services in the early twentieth century; it eliminated the line in 1937.

Park County's other rail link, Colorado Midland Railway, built its line from Colorado Springs across the southern part of the county in 1887. This stimulated tourism-related development, including the 1890 construction of Lidderdale Reservoir by George Frost on the South Platte River at the eastern edge of the county. The settlement became known as Lake George when it received a post office the following year. Lake George developed as important place for cutting and shipping ice, as well as logging. An 1872 cemetery west of the settlement was known first as Snair's burial ground and later as Lake George Cemetery. The community never incorporated, but it continues to exist along U.S. Highway 24.

The Midland established stations across South Park ranching country at Howbert (1887), Spinney (1889), and Hartsel (1887). All were key livestock shipping points, with Hartsel serving as the most important Midland station in the county. Facilities at Hartsel included a large frame station/freight house, a section house, a bunk house, and large stock pens. The Midland was dubbed the "stockmen's railroad," since shipping livestock constituted an important sector of its business.[21] Service over the Colorado Midland ended in 1918, and tracks were removed in 1922. Reservoir construction later inundated Spinney and Howbert, while Hartsel continues to serve as a small service and supply center.[22]

Creation of Park County Cemeteries

Boot Hill Burials

Park County's first cemeteries represented what Professor Annette Stott calls the "boot hill" type, the earliest burial grounds established in response to rapid growth in population and a lack of traditional facilities and support systems for handling the dead. As she found in her study of Rocky Mountain pioneer cemeteries, such grounds "often began as an unkempt 'boot hill,' reflecting the violent early

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[19] Dake, established between Webster and the summit of Kenosha Pass in 1883, also served as a major charcoal production center with twenty-seven kilns, but it, too, faded by 1893 after depletion of local trees.
[20] The 1887 burial ground replaced and earlier one closer to town.
[21] Morris Cafky, *Colorado Midland* (Denver: Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, 1965), 289 and 292.
[22] Eleven Mile Reservoir inundated Howbert in 1932, while Spinney disappeared under Spinney Mountain Reservoir in 1981.

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days of mining camps and cattle towns . . . ."[23] Boot hills, associated in western legend with gamblers and gunslingers, served as the burial place for those who died "suddenly while fully engaged in living," or "with their boots on."[24] In reality, anyone who had the misfortune to die in a newly settled frontier area could wind up as a resident of boot hill. Characteristics of these graveyards included: a basically unaltered natural setting on land not considered valuable for other functions, often the top of a hill or mountain slope; graves scattered randomly around the site; simple markers, if any, of wood boards or native stone carved or placed in cairns; a diversity of occupants, with lack of separation based on ethnicity, race, or class; and little or no records created and retained to document burials.[25] As the land for a boot hill was casually appropriated, no fee was charged for a plot, no plan guided growth, no fancy monuments graced the grounds, no burial certificate was required, and "no questions were asked," according to Stott.[26]

Buckskin/Alma Cemetery retains much evidence of its early role as a boot hill cemetery. Established as the burial ground for the Buckskin Joe mining camp about 1859, it served a settlement that boomed enormously in its early years. The cemetery retains its natural topography on a hillside that appears ill-suited to commercial or residential needs of nineteenth-century residents. A number of graves are unmarked, due either to lack of concern for such a nicety, the complete deterioration of wood markers, or scattering of stone cairns. The marked graves appear somewhat randomly placed, and no apparent effort was made to remove large rocks or trees to make the grounds more uniform. Although an early resident of the area kept a book recording burials it no longer exists, thus rendering the identity of some occupants and the locations of some grave sites unknown. As Professor Stott recognized, "The particular qualities of Rocky Mountain pioneer cemeteries owe much to the era in which such cemeteries came into existence . . . ."[27] The loose regulation of Buckskin/Alma Cemetery, established in its boot hill era, persists to a strong degree to the present day. The graveyard has preserved its sense of place and continues to allow burial markers expressing individual tastes, a quality that sharply distinguishes it from twentieth-century corporate-operated burial grounds with manicured expanses of lawn and regulations for monument design.

Rural Cemetery/Fair Mount Influence

Few communities maintained the boot hill qualities of their burial grounds for long, choosing to incorporate aspects of cemetery and gravemarker design that reflected greater permanence and cultural sophistication. "However a community managed it, the rapid introduction of a fair mount cemetery, to which pioneers could point as evidence of their cultured condition and proof that they were no longer part of the wild west, became a milestone of civic development," Stott asserts.[28] She defines the fair mount as a western approach to the highly influential rural cemetery movement that developed in the eastern United States in the 1830s, which favored thoroughly planned landscape design, including enhancement of the natural setting, direction of views to broad vistas, installing gateways, constructing winding drives, and emphasizing magnificent displays of sculpture amidst the created setting. The movement led to cemeteries being appreciated as parks to be enjoyed for their beauty, serenity, and inspirational value.[29] The beautiful sepulchral works of art in a place open for all

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[23] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xi.

[24] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 10.

[25] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 10-11.

[26] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 13, 15.

[27] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, ix.

[28] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 9.

[29] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 8; Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, *U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service [hereafter cited as USDOI-NPS], National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering*

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to enjoy provided an important cultural experience at a time before art museums and public parks were widespread. [30] With this new type of use, cemeteries gained a much more active part in community life, with regular visits paid on clean-up days, birthdays, Memorial Day, Armistice Day, Easter Sunday, and other special occasions to decorate graves, socialize, picnic, and enjoy the outdoors.[31]

Many Rocky Mountain communities, responding to their specific environments, demographic characteristics, and histories, displayed their own free adaptations of the rural cemetery concept, principally through retention of their existing natural topographies and use of a distinctive regional iconography.[32] These fair mount cemeteries sought to achieve an ordered appearance of burial plots, artistic marble monuments, winding paths, fenced perimeters to set the cemetery apart from the open range, splendid mountain vistas, and benches providing opportunities for contemplation and serenity, as well as the addition of trees, shrubs, and flowers when irrigation was possible. As Stott notes, "Smaller towns and those with arid cemeteries that could not be watered nevertheless arranged their fair mount with either a grid or an organic park plan and filled it with carved sandstone, limestone, and marble monuments."[33]

Park County's larger towns (Fairplay, Como, and Alma) were much smaller in size than the Colorado communities that created most of the state's nineteenth-century fair mount cemeteries, perhaps the most celebrated burial ground being Fairmount Cemetery in Denver. Within the county Como Cemetery is the best representative of a fair mount (and thus reflects to some degree the influence of the rural cemetery movement). Only 1887 Como Cemetery appears to have involved a deliberate acquisition of land and development of a plan for blocks, lots, and internal circulation. This reflects the era of creation of the burial ground, while Buckskin/Alma and Fairplay cemeteries reflect earlier graveyards that adapted to the impact of the movement, with the latter achieving notable elements of it. Como is the only cemetery with an identified historic drawing of a plot plan, which shows an orderly division of burial sites and an internal circulation system (See Figure 12). The cemetery achieved regional distinction by incorporating the natural setting as a focal feature and took advantage of inspiring vistas to provide opportunities for contemplation. As Stott points out, western "landscape effects are often more dramatic or sublime than pastoral and picturesque."[34] The cemetery bowed to the realities of its arid, high altitude setting, by allowing native plants and trees that could survive the environment to flourish within its grounds. The creation of the cemetery coincided with a period of burgeoning population and growing prosperity, leading to a splendid array of beautiful monuments and tasteful markers in a variety of styles, sizes, and materials. The sepulchral art, maintenance practices, and small scale landscape features that came in later years did not detract from the original design, but harmonized with the existing elements.

Western Vernacular Cemeteries

Fairplay Cemetery, the largest and most active burial ground in the county, represents a highly individual western interpretation of aspects of a fair mount. In 1873, the local lodge of the Odd

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Cemeteries and Burial Places (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Interior, 1992), 6.
[30] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 15-16 and 240. The cemetery's function as an important place for viewing art declined in time, as public museums proliferated.
[31] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 281.
[32] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xii.
[33] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 15. Organic in this sense refers to "a relation between elements of something such they fit together harmoniously as necessary parts of a whole," as defined by Oxford Dictionary, www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/organic, accessed 28 January 2015.
[34] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 24.

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Fellows patented a tract of land east of town, including an existing cemetery dating to ca. 1863, and acquired additional acreage from a private landowner for use as a burial ground. Given the apparent randomness of graves within Fairplay Cemetery, it does not appear the fraternal group formally platted the grounds. The cemetery thoroughly employs its arid hillside setting, which incorporates a colorful landscape featuring red dirt, scattered boulders, and drought-tolerant vegetation. The elevated location, a short distance from the historic town center, reflected a popular nineteenth century combination of aesthetics and practicality. The magnificent view westward from the cemetery looks out over the community toward the distant Mosquito Range. The site bears out Stott's observation that "the independent spirit of westerners may also be evident in their refusal to expend energy and resources in altering the landscape any more than necessary."[35] The layout of the burial plots appears somewhat haphazard, and no historic plan has been located; some of the roads and paths likely were modified over time. Although the monuments seen in the cemetery include a variety of forms, sizes, styles and materials, and eras, it maintains the specific western and local vision of its founders.

Other cemeteries in Park County also made the western landscape the principal feature of what were highly localized vernacular designs. In addition to the town cemeteries, two other types of burial grounds were created, those serving rural communities and those established by families. Among the community graveyards, the largest, Snair/Lake George Cemetery, is a notable example set on a rocky hillside upslope from the South Platte River Valley. The cemetery served a wide area of agricultural settlement and contains the graves of pioneers and leaders important to the history of the surrounding community. Ed Smith buried two children on the land before it was surveyed; it was later found to be part of Richard Snair's property. As local historian Jerry Davis indicates, before the Original Survey of the township, "all they had to go on up to that time were their inexact preemption filings."[36] The graveyard displays a specific western emphasis: incorporating its isolated mountain setting, an informal arrangement of graves scattered around the site, vegetation such as yucca and pine trees, and existing rock formations. A variety of iron and wood picket grave enclosures, artistic stone monuments, unmarked graves, and burials denoted by piles and outlines of native stone indicate people were free to follow their own tastes and financial abilities in commemorating the deceased.

The rural nature and sparse population of Park County ensured that family cemeteries would find a place in the jurisdiction's funerary traditions. Most of the early residents came from the east and Midwest, where small family cemeteries were common, and the newcomers transplanted the concept to their new homes. The county's earliest family cemeteries developed in agricultural areas with insufficient population to support a centralized community cemetery. While representing a practical response to a lack of nearby burial options, family cemeteries also addressed the emotional needs of survivors in keeping departed family members on the home ranch. Five family burial grounds were created between 1872, when the Farnum Cemetery in the Tarryall drainage was established, and 1908, when the Miller Cemetery began receiving burials. The family graveyards encompassed small acreages and held small numbers of burials: three contain only a handful of graves and the two largest ones, the Lamping Family Cemetery and Shawnee Cemetery, encompassed approximately fifty-eight and twenty-two, respectively. Despite their general small size and few landscape improvements, some of the family cemeteries contain a variety of monument types reflecting their periods of operation.

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[35]Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 27.
[36] Gerald "Jerry" Davis, Park County Historic Preservation Advisory Commission, email to Tom and Laurie Simmons, 24 April 2015.

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Cemetery Development

While cemetery development generally followed the establishment of settlements in Park County, it does not appear that the creation of most burial grounds entailed extensive planning. A desirable site was removed from, but still readily accessible to a settlement. Western writer Ken Reyher, who studied death and dying in western Colorado, observed: "Hilltops were popular [cemetery locations] because they had a certain spiritual quality and seldom lent themselves to agricultural use."[37] The burial grounds at Hartsel, Bordenville, Miller, and Snair/Lake George represent hilltop locations, and several others are situated on hillsides or viewpoints overlooking rivers, South Park, or the community they serve. Fairplay, Old Fairplay and Como, for example, occupy elevated positions somewhat above their respective towns, while Farnum stands on a point overlooking the Tarryall Creek drainage and Green/Buffalo Springs lies on a sloping site facing South Park.

Some Park County cemeteries seem simply to have developed through a process of accretion. A site might initially begin with one or two burials, perhaps from the same family, and acquire more graves over time, until the location evolves into a community burial ground. This process appears to explain the origins of Snair/Lake George, Deer Creek/Horn, Rocky, and Green/Buffalo Springs cemeteries. An 1880 diphtheria epidemic along the Tarryall Creek drainage resulting in the deaths of several children may have motivated creation of Bordenville Cemetery.

As population and economic activity became more concentrated in the county's larger and more enduring towns, their cemeteries correspondingly captured more burials, particularly as they seemed to represent a greater likelihood of long term maintenance of the grounds and gravesites. Some communities were too ephemeral to establish a cemetery or too small to support or maintain one on a continuing basis. In instances when a cemetery fell into disuse, some graves were relocated to other active burial grounds. Reyher discusses these trends in western Colorado cemeteries:

> After statehood, scores of towns sprang up across the state, only to wither away after a few years. Nearly every ghost town included a burial ground containing anywhere from a handful of individuals to several score. When a town was abandoned so was its cemetery. Possession of the land usually passed to a private landowner. In some cases the graves were fenced and preserved, but more often they were left to the degradation of time and the elements.[38]

To better understand how individual cemeteries fit into the general evolution of the county, the development of the county's principal burial grounds is discussed below by chronological period.[39] Table 1 lists the cemeteries included and Figure 2 displays their locations on a county base map by the property subtypes discussed in Section F—town, community, or family.

Cemeteries of the 1850s and 1860s

Park County includes several cemeteries dating to its earliest period of settlement in the late 1850s and 1860s, including two of its larger town burial grounds: Buckskin/Alma Cemetery and Fairplay Cemetery. Old Fairplay (or Ranger Station) Cemetery at the northwest edge of town also received burials in the 1860s, but was soon supplanted by the cemetery east of town. Some mining camps with a relatively short period of activity established graveyards. The Rocky or Caylor Cemetery, a

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[37] Ken Reyher, *Through the Valley of the Shadow of Death: Death and Dying in Early Western Colorado* (Lake City, Colorado: Western Reflections Publishing Company, 2009), 58-59.
[38] Reyher, *Through the Valley of the Shadow of Death*, 58-59.
[39] This discussion focuses on cemeteries with information collected through surveys and nominations. Only two cemeteries in the county have been intensively surveyed. Section H of this document elaborates on this topic.

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small community burial ground, also dates to this period. A summary background on each of the cemeteries is provided below.[40]

Buckskin/Alma Cemetery (ca. 1859)

According to cemetery historian Christie Wright, Buckskin/Alma Cemetery (5PA.397) dates to ca. 1859, when burials from the settlement of Buckskin Joe and surrounding mining areas began.[41] The name honors local mountain man Joseph Higganbotham, who wore buckskin clothing. The earliest burial noted in inventories of the cemetery markers is that of Sophia R. Richardson, who died in 1866, although most of the very early markers were wood and have long since disintegrated. The 2013 Park County reconnaissance survey form for the cemetery observed it appeared "that many of the earlier burials are unmarked or have received rudimentary wood and/or mortuary markers" (see Figure 4).[42] At least two fraternal groups, the Improved Order of Red Men and the Knights of Pythias, had sections for their members within the cemetery.[43] William M. "Banjo Mike" Foley, who died in 1907, served as sexton for many years and kept a journal (no longer extant) listing all burials.[44]

In 1900 the Town of Alma received a patent from the federal government for thirty acres including the existing burial ground. Federal legislation enacted in 1890 permitted incorporated towns to receive up to 160 acres of public domain land within three miles of a town "for cemetery and park purposes."[45] Only a small portion of this tract is occupied by the cemetery. Visiting Buckskin/Alma Cemetery in 1942, artist Muriel Sibell Wolle described the site: "Some of them [the graves]. . . were marked by weathered, wooden head-boards. At least half of them were surrounded by wooden or iron fences, while in some plots small evergreens or aspen saplings had seeded themselves."[46] Wolle's ca. 1940s photographs show much denser vegetation on the grounds than today, including many aspen trees (see Figure 5). By 1970 the USGS map for the area indicated a 4.9-acre, roughly triangular developed area.[47] The burial ground contains an estimated three hundred burials and is still in active use, managed by the Town of Alma.

Fairplay Cemetery (1863)

The earliest burials in Fairplay Cemetery (5PA.387, 0.4 miles east of town) date to 1863.[48] South Park Lodge No. 10 of the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) in Fairplay, chartered in 1870, played a major role in developing the cemetery. The first Odd Fellows chapters in America organized in 1819, and members saw it as their duty to visit the sick, relieve the distressed, bury the dead, and educate orphans. The IOOF took the lead in creating cemeteries in many locations across the country:

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[40] It is not the intent of this section to provide a full history of each cemetery. Only one (Farnum Cemetery) has a current intensive survey form. Fuller discussion of each cemetery's history will be developed during future survey and nomination efforts.

[41] Christie Wright, *All That Lies Beneath: Selected Historic Burials in the Alma/Buckskin Cemetery, Park County, Colorado*, 2nd ed. (Fairplay, Colorado: Christie Wright, 2012), 3.

[42] Erica Duvic and Hanna Eckroth, Buckskin Cemetery, 5PA.397, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 14 November 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[43] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 11 August 1905, 1; Wright, *All That Lies Beneath*, 5.

[44] *Fairplay Flume*, 1 November 1907, 1.

[45] John A. Mallory, comp., *Compiled Statutes of the United States, 1901*, vol. 2 (St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1902), 1461-62.

[46] Muriel Sibell Wolle, *Stampede to Timberline* (Athens, Ohio: The Swallow Press, 1974), 95.

[47] U.S. Geological Survey, Alma, Colorado, 7.5 minute quadrangle map (Reston, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey, 1970).

[48] It is unknown whether any graves in Old Fairplay Cemetery were moved to this cemetery when it opened, as was often the case when one burial ground supplanted another.

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Burying the dead was taken very seriously by early Odd Fellows, and most lodges purchased land and established cemeteries as one of their first activities in a new town or city. In many areas all phases of burials (sometimes including services now provided by undertakers) were provided by Odd Fellows in the earlier days. Cemeteries were often open to the public, and plots were sold for a few dollars each.[49]

In 1877 the Fairplay Odd Fellows acquired an area encompassing the existing burial ground along with considerable room for expansion. The group purchased forty acres from the public domain and an adjoining forty acres from landowner August Rische.[50] The fraternal order continued the land's cemetery function and oversaw its operation. In 1881 the Odd Fellows sold five-acre parcels of its tract to Fairplay's Doric Lodge No. 25 of the Free and Accepted Masons and the Town of Fairplay for cemetery purposes. The *Fairplay Flume* reported the town council's decision to purchase "a tract of five acres, now known as the Fairplay cemetery. The understanding is that it can be had for eighty-five dollars. This is a good move. It has been asking a good deal of the order to furnish a general burial place. As soon as the town owns the land steps should be taken to fence and otherwise improve it."[51]

These transactions produced a rectangular north-south oriented burial ground, with the Odd Fellows section to the north, the Masonic area in the center, and the portion owned by the town to the south. No plat map dividing the cemetery into blocks and lots has been located, and the arrangement of graves appears to follow a generally random alignment (see Figure 6). The cemetery includes a number of fenced family plots (see Figures 7 and 8) and contains 650 estimated burials and 546 marked graves. It is in active use, operated by the Town of Fairplay.[52]

Old Fairplay (1863)

Old Fairplay Cemetery (5PA.386, sometimes known as the Ranger Station Cemetery) lies within the Town of Fairplay off 2nd Street, a quarter-mile northwest of the county courthouse (see Figure 9).[53] This cemetery received burials during the 1860s and 1870s, and a 2013 Park County cemetery reconnaissance form noted that "it is unclear how the Old Fairplay and current Fairplay cemeteries developed simultaneously."[54] This burial ground contains just three marked graves, with their death dates ranging from 1863 to 1872. The earliest tombstone commemorates Abram Shoup, who was killed by the Espinosa brothers in 1863.[55] Local cemetery historian Harold Warren, who surveyed the

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[49] Don R. Smith and Wayne Roberts, *The Three Link Fraternity—Odd Fellowship in California* (Linden, California: Linden Publications, 1993), online extract, www.ioof.org (accessed 5 January 2015).

[50] Board of Trustees of South Park Lodge Number Eleven [sic] of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, cash entry, document number 23, 15 May 1877 and August Rische, cash entry, document number 41, 5 November 1878, www.glorecords.blm.gov, accessed 12 January 2015. Rische did not receive a formal patent for the land until 1878, but it was not unusual for patentees to sell lands based on anticipation of General Land Office approval.

[51] *Fairplay Flume*, 14 July 1881, 3; Park County Clerk and recorder, book 14, page 558, 15 August 1881 and book 28, page 276, 10 October 1881, Fairplay, Colorado. The agreed upon price was $87.50 each for the Masons and the town.

[52] Erica Duvic and Hanna Eckroth, Fairplay Cemetery, 5PA.387, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 18 November 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[53] It is referred to as Ranger Station Cemetery because the parcel on which it is located was acquired by the federal government in the late 1930s or early 1940s for use as a U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station.

[54] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Old Fairplay Cemetery, 5PA.386, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 24 October 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[55] Virginia McConnell Simmons, *Bayou Salado*, rev. ed. (Boulder: Fred Pruett Books, 1992), 114-17; Charles F. Price, "The Rampage of the Espinosas," *Colorado Central Magazine* (October 2008). Simmons asserts Vivian and Felipe Espinosa and their nephew José claimed seven victims in Park County, while Price tallies six. Various motives for their actions are offered.

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cemetery in 1976, noted four unmarked graves and speculated they may contain four other victims of the Espinosas.[56] A 2014 ground-penetrating radar study identified three or four possible unmarked burials.[57] The cemetery is no longer active and is still owned by the federal government.

Rocky/Caylor Cemetery (1863)

Rocky/Caylor Cemetery (5PA.383) is a small community cemetery with an estimated five burials situated roughly three miles west of Lake George on County Road 90 in the Adamans Creek drainage. J.D. Addleman, a mail station operator, resided in the area in the 1860s, and the creek through the area was named for him, misidentified on maps as "Adamans. In 1863 the Espinosa brothers killed Addleman. Park County cemetery historian Harold Warren reported Addleman's grave is in this cemetery, "outlined by rocks and sixty feet from Badger's grave."[58] In 1873 Michael and Louisa Caylor began cattle ranching here; their homestead became a stopping point for freighters. The following year the ranch received a post office known as Rocky. Over time a few infants and children were buried in the cemetery, which also contains the 1897 marked grave of rancher and war veteran John Badger (mentioned above). A 2014 reconnaissance survey estimated the inactive cemetery contained five burials.[59]

Cemeteries of the 1870s

Most Park County burial grounds established in the 1870s served small communities, including those at Snair/Lake George, Dudley, Deer Creek/Horn, and Currant Creek. Snair/Lake George Cemetery in the southeastern part of the county is the largest community burial ground, with approximately 175 burials. One small family cemetery, Farnum, traces its beginning to this period.

Farnum Cemetery (1872)

The tiny Farnum family cemetery (5PA.4460), located along Tarryall Road about six miles below Tarryall Reservoir, is associated with the pioneer ranching family of William and Mahala Farnum. The burial ground contains just four graves, all from the 1870s. The earliest grave is that of seventeen-year-old Francis F. Farnum, who died in 1872. The only marker present bears the names of Francis and his brother Walter R., who died at age twenty-eight in 1878. The two other burials in the cemetery are those of two-year-old Dollie Allen, a family member, and Luna Tappan, a teenage Navajo who lived on the Farnum Ranch.[60]

Snair Burial Ground/Lake George Cemetery (1872)

Lake George Cemetery (5PA.382), an irregularly-shaped plot of about 6.6 acres, lies atop a hill on the west side of County Road 77 (Tarryall Road), a short distance before its junction with U.S. Highway 24 (see Figure 10). The unincorporated community of Lake George is located 1.1 miles southeast on U.S. Highway 24. The oldest burials are at the top of a roughly 8,000' hill in the north central part of the property. The graves of Edward J. and Nannie L. Smith's two children have the earliest markers: Cooper, 1872, and Elizabeth L., 1874.[61] This hill became part of rancher Richard Snair's property.

[56] Harold Warren, Ranger Station Cemetery, 5PA.386, Inventory Data Form, 1 March 1976.

[57] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Rocky Cemetery, 5PA.383, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 24 April 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[58] Harold Warren, Rocky Cemetery, 5PA.383, Inventory Data Form, 1 March 1976.

[59] Duvic, Eckroth, and Unger, Rocky Cemetery.

[60] R. Laurie and Thomas H. Simmons, Farnum Cemetery, Architectural Inventory Form, 5PA.4460, October 2010, in the files of History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

[61] Jon Horn and Brandon Symbrowski, Lake George Cemetery, 5PA.382, Management Data Form, 2 July 1995, in the files of History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

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Other graves followed, and the site evolved into a community cemetery referred to as Snair's Burial Ground.[62] After the establishment of Lake George in 1891, the graveyard became known by its present name. In 1904 Dora J. Kolle informed the county she was securing twenty acres for cemetery uses, including the land already in use as a burial ground.

The cemetery contains the graves of persons important to the history of the Tarryall Road agricultural area to the north and the Lake George vicinity, including pioneer rancher Anson A. Allen, Richard Snair, members of the John E. Williams family, Sidney and Eleanor Derby, Jacob and Dora Kolle and family members, and Eli E. and Catherine Portis. A 1995 archaeological survey of the cemetery found approximately 175 graves, of which about 100 were marked. The Lake George Community Association has undertaken efforts to mark known and unmarked graves. A 2012 ground penetrating radar study identified six unmarked graves.[63] This largest community cemetery is still active, with new burials occurring mostly in the lower southern part of the site.

Dudley (1875)

The small Dudley Cemetery (5PA.365) is located at the former townsite of that the same name, an 1870s mining camp a mile north of Alma. Now part of a parcel of land containing a ca. 1970s residence, the burial ground contains an estimated ten burials. The only marked grave is that of ten-day-old Nancy Catherine Brown, who died in 1875. During construction of the 1970s house, one grave was uncovered and reburied elsewhere on the property. Daniel Poor, an 1882 stabbing victim may be buried here.[64] Two burials encountered during power pole installation ca. 1970s were exhumed and reburied in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery. This community cemetery was abandoned in the early 1880s.[65]

Deer Creek Cemetery/Horn Cemetery (1875)

The 1875 interment of Robert S. Kelso is the oldest known burial at Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery (5PA.376) at Deer Creek, located along U.S. Highway 285 3.1 miles northeast of Bailey. Deer Creek postmaster Leonard Alkire received a patent for the land containing the cemetery in 1878. Peter O. and Melissa Horn subsequently acquired the land and sold it to Deer Creek Fishing and Boating Association (predecessor of Deer Valley Park Association) in 1887. In the same year, the Association deeded approximately one acre containing the cemetery to Park County but continued maintaining the burial ground and enclosed it with a barbed wire fence about 1900.[66]

Obituaries appearing in local newspapers in the early twentieth century referred to this graveyard as Deer Creek Cemetery.[67] According to Park County cemetery historian Harold Warren it received the name Horn Cemetery "because there are more members of the Horn family buried in marked graves than of any other family."[68] Burials at the site declined after the 1910s. Still in active use, the cemetery includes an estimated two hundred burials, with a fairly large proportion being more recent graves.

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[62] Steve Plutt, Lake George, Colorado, email to Thomas H. Simmons, 27 January 2015.

[63] Nicholas Kramer and Matthew Fackler, "Unmarked Grave Identification at Lake George: Senior Design Final Report," Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado, May 2012, 20.

[64] *Fairplay Flume*, 23 March 1882, 3.

[65] Erica Duvic, Dudley Cemetery, 5PA.365, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 14 March 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado; Harold Warren, Dudley Cemetery, 5PA.365, Data Inventory Form, 1 March 1976.

[66] Robert I. Woodward, *Deer Valley: The Story of the Deer Valley Park Association* (Denver: Prairie Publishers, LLC, 2004), 84.

[67] See, for example, *Fairplay Flume*, 24 March 1905, 5 and 26 April 1918, 5.

[68] *Corridor Corral*, 27 May 1982.

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Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery (1877)

Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery (5PA.368) is located west of Antero Reservoir fifteen miles south of Fairplay along U.S. Highway 285 (see Figure 11). The cemetery appears to represent a burial ground holding one or two family graves that evolved into a community resource. In earlier years it was called Green Burying Ground, Green Cemetery, or 63 Cemetery (for the nearby 63 Ranch). Ranchers George H. and Elizabeth Green settled immediately east of the cemetery in 1870, and he received a homestead patent for 160 acres in 1882.[69] Although the site contains a marker for the couple's infant daughter, Ida Belle, with a death date of 1864, it appears unlikely the burial pre-dated their settlement. The first burial appears to be George W. Green, the couple's three-year-old, who died in 1877. The cemetery contains early interments of area ranching families, including the Parmelee, Shoemaker, Sweet, and Rich families. The active community burial ground contains approximately forty-five graves.[70]

Currant Creek Cemetery (1879)

Currant Creek Cemetery is situated on private land in the southern part of the county along Colorado Highway 9, about four miles north of Guffey. William B. White settled on the land containing the burial ground in 1870 and received a homestead patent in 1882. The cemetery dates to 1879, beginning with the burial of infant William A. Lloyd, whose parents, William C. and Jane E. Lloyd, ranched nearby. Included are graves of area ranching families such as the Beerys, Lloyds, and four generations of Benders. Two children of William and Mary Beery, James and Julia, died within a week of one another in 1881, James of diphtheria and Julia of "cerebro spinal meningeis [sic]." The *Fairplay Flume* commented: "Such a series of afflictions as have befallen this family are seldom recorded."[71] The cemetery remained active until 1929 and contains about eighteen graves.[72]

Cemeteries of the 1880s

The 1880s saw the creation of new family, community, and town cemeteries, including Hawxhurst family burial ground on a Tarryall Ranch; community graveyards at Bordenville, Park City, and Hartsel; and Como Cemetery, which grew into one of Park County's larger town cemeteries.

Hawxhurst Cemetery (1880)

The Hawxhurst Cemetery is located on the former Hawxhurst Ranch 3.1 miles southeast of Jefferson, close to Jefferson Creek. In the early 1860s George and Hannah Hawxhurst arrived in Park County, where he engaged in mining. The couple settled on a Tarryall ranch in the late 1870s and received a homestead patent in 1881.[73] The burial ground contains only two graves, those of their daughters, Emma and Annie. The two sisters fell victim to an 1880 diphtheria epidemic that also prompted creation of Bordenville Cemetery. The Hawxhurst family moved to Colbran, Colorado, shortly after the deaths of their daughters.[74] The inactive family cemetery is located on private land.

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[69] George H. Green, homestead patent, document number 51, 20 March 1882, www.glorecords.blm.gov, accessed 12 January 2015.
[70] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Buffalo Springs Cemetery, 5PA.368, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 12 November 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.
[71] *Fairplay Flume*, 15 September 1881, 3.
[72] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Currant Creek Cemetery, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 6 November 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.
[73] George Haurhurst [sic], homestead patent, document number 30, 6 October 1881, www.glorecords.blm.gov, accessed 14 December 2014.
[74] Erica Duvic and Amy Unger, Hawxhurst Cemetery, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 23 April 2014, in the files of

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Bordenville Cemetery (1880)

Bordenville Cemetery (5PA.369), sometimes referred to as Centerville Cemetery, is located on a hill a half mile east-southeast of Bordenville in the Tarryall Creek drainage between Jefferson and Tarryall Reservoir (see Figure 12). The site is located on the ranch of Olney Borden, who settled in the area in 1865; its earliest known burial is the 1880 grave of Louis E. Troppe, the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. George F. Troppe. Noting the boy's death, the *Fairplay Flume* reported "another case of diphtheria on Tarryall creek has resulted fatally," describing the situation as an epidemic.[75] The cemetery holds the remains of many prominent pioneers of the area, including Timothy and Adelia Borden, Olney and Mary Borden, Borden family descendants, and members of the Barlow, Bonis, Dunbar, Eavenson, McCartney, Miller, Paige, Ratcliff, Robbins, and Wallace families. Most of the sixty-five estimated interments in the still-active cemetery occurred from 1880 to the first half of the twentieth century.[76]

Park City Cemetery (1880)

The Park City Cemetery (5PA.341) lies in the Mosquito Creek drainage along County Road 10, about 0.75 miles east of the Park City townsite and the same distance southwest of Alma. The settlement sprang up in 1879, located along an important wagon road accessing mining areas farther up Mosquito Gulch. The first documented burial in the cemetery was that of hotel operator W.H. Hosang in October 1880. According to a 2013 reconnaissance survey, burials in the small community cemetery "include local children, miners, and railroad workers."[77] The 1883 marble tombstone of Leola M. Noel is the only extant marker, but a 2014 forensic canine study identified more than forty possible burial locations.[78] Cemetery historian Linda Wommack asserts "during the late 1950s, thieves stole all the tombstones in the Park City Cemetery, save one, little Leola's."[79] The burial ground was donated to Park County in the 2000s.

Como Cemetery (1887)

The 1879 arrival of the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad motivated Como's formal platting and creation of a small initial burial ground close to town northwest of the school. In 1887 the Union Coal Company donated a five-acre plot about a mile northwest of Como for cemetery uses.[80] The Town Board enacted an ordinance requiring all burials in the old cemetery removed to the new one, with the

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the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[75] *Fairplay Flume*, 22 January 1880, 3.

[76] Hanna Eckroth, Bordenville Cemetery, 5PA.369, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 18 November 2012, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado; Chuck Borden, "Bordenville Cemetery Photos," http://www.usgwarchives.net/co/park/costones/bordenville.html, accessed 28 May 2012; Find a Grave, "Bordenville Cemetery," www.findagrave.com accessed 28 May 2012; Erica Duvic, South Park National Heritage Area, Email to Thomas H. Simmons and R. Laurie Simmons, 31 March 2014; Harold Warren, State Inventory Form for Bordenville Cemetery, 5PA.369, 1976.

[77] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Park City Cemetery, 5PA.341, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 21 October 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[78] Harold Warren mapped ninety-one grave locations in his 1976 survey of the cemetery. See, Harold Warren, Park City Cemetery Map, 1976, in the files of the Park County Local History Archives, Fairplay, Colorado.

[79] Linda Wommack, *From the Grave,* 409.

[80] Chester W. Washburne, "The South Park Coal Field, Colorado," 307, in U.S. Geological Survey, *Contributions to Economic Geology, 1908*, U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin Number 381-C (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1910); Gordon Chappell, Robert Richardson, and Cornelius Hauck, *The South Park Line: A Concise History*, Colorado Rail Annual No. 12 (Golden, Colo.: Colorado Railroad Museum, 1974), 40; Simmons, *Bayou Salado*, 164; Allison Chandler, "The Story of Como and King Park, Colorado," *Denver Westerners Monthly Roundup* (February 1963): 4. Union Coal was a successor firm to the South Park Coal Company, which obtained coal lands from George Lechner.

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Town Marshal tasked with notifying the next of kin of the deceased.[81]

A number of gravestones in Como Cemetery (5PA.385) list death dates prior to 1887 and appear to represent relocations from the old burial ground. G.L. Hawxhurst's marker bears the earliest death date (1868), and seventeen other gravestones indicate dates between 1871 and 1886.[82] Como's cemetery is the county's second largest, and the only one with a documented formal platting. An early map of the cemetery shows an arrangement of five blocks divided into mostly square plots (see Figures 13 and 14). According to local historian Mary Dyer: "Cemetery lots were not for sale, but on interment, the next of kin was issued a quit claim deed. Fencing was provided by the I.O.O.F. Lodge."[83] Notices appeared in the local newspaper referencing sales by specific lot number by the Town of Como and conveyances of lots between private parties in the early twentieth century. Dyer indicates families of loved ones planted native flowers on the site.[84] The fortunes of Como declined in the early twentieth century with those of the railroad, and by 1950 only thirty-nine residents remained in the community. The town disincorporated in the 1950s, but the cemetery remains active, now managed by Park County.

Hartsel Cemetery (1888)

Hartsel Cemetery (5PA.381) is located a quarter-mile south of the community of Hartsel on a hill overlooking the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. The first documented burial in the cemetery appears to date to 1888, when Samuel B. Hartsel, the infant son of town founder Samuel Hartsel, was laid to rest. Hartsel's brother, Joseph, was killed by lightning in 1903 and also buried here, but relatives had his and Samuel's graves exhumed in 1910 for relocation to Denver's Fairmount Cemetery. The handful of other documented burials in the cemetery includes an elderly resident of Balfour and a Colorado Midland Railway worker. A 2014 Park County reconnaissance survey form estimated a total of ten graves. This community cemetery was abandoned in the early twentieth century and only three grave markers remain, the oldest one dated 1907.[85]

Cemeteries of the 1890s and Later

Park County cemeteries established in the 1890s and later mostly consisted of family burial grounds, such as those of Lamping, Shawnee, and Miller. Mining activity led to creation of Guffey Cemetery. The presence of established town and community cemeteries in the county by the 1890s lessened the need for the formation of new ones.

Lamping Family Cemetery (ca. 1892)

Lamping Family Cemetery (5PA.372) is located at the former settlement of Webster along U.S. Highway 285 about fourteen miles northwest of Bailey (see Figure 15). With an estimated fifty-eight graves, it is the largest family cemetery in Park County. The Lamping family settled in the area in 1885, later operating charcoal kilns. The earliest burial is apparently that of Jimmy White, the infant son of Henry and Esther (Lamping) White, who died in 1892. Family information, however, generally cites the 1900 death of Susan J. Lamping as the initial interment, and that date appears on a recently-installed gate. A list of burials produced for the cemetery notes that, with three exceptions,

[81] S.E. Cook, Town Marshal, letter to R. McGallelan, 11 October 1887, reproduced in Mary Dyer, *Echoes of Como, Colorado, 1879 to 1988* (N.p: N.p., 1974), 82.
[82] G.L. Hawxhurst was the son of George and Hannah Hawxhurst (see under Hawxhurst Cemetery above).
[83] Mary Dyer, *Echoes of Como: 1879 to 1988* (N.p.: Mary Dyer, 1974), 81.
[84] Dyer, *Echoes of Como*, 81.
[85] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Hartsel Cemetery, 5PA.381, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 24 April 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

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"all those buried in this cemetery are related by blood or marriage to the Lamping family."[86] The burial ground, sometimes referred to as Webster Cemetery Number 2, is currently active.

Shawnee Cemetery (1895)

Shawnee Cemetery (5PA.366) is a contributing resource within the National Register-listed Shawnee Historic District (NRIS number 10000434, listed 2010). The burial ground is located between County Road 67 and U.S. Highway 285 in the unincorporated community of Shawnee, approximately 4.5 miles west of Bailey (see Figure 16). Established in 1895 the cemetery sits on land homesteaded by English immigrant J.W. Price in 1886. Price played a leading role in developing facilities aimed at making Shawnee a summer resort destination. The earliest burial was that of Perry James Price, the infant grandson of J.W. All of the burials are related to J.W. Price through blood or marriage, including such families as the Bonnifields, Tylers, and Kniselys. This family cemetery contains an estimated twenty-two burials and is maintained but is no longer in use. The most recent burial took place in 1965.[87]

Guffey Cemetery (1897)

The unincorporated community of Guffey is located in southeast Park County about four miles from the southern county line. Guffey Cemetery, a community burial ground serving the area, lies near the center of the developed area, east of County Road 59/102 in a valley flanked by pine trees. The first burials occurred in 1897, a year after Guffey's creation, with thirty-year-old Thomas H. Burge sharing a gravemarker with infant Buford Swope. A 2014 Park County reconnaissance survey form for the cemetery indicates that "the Guffey community appears to have used the cemetery somewhat sparingly," but the burial ground remained in use until 1945, resulting in an estimated thirty graves.[88]

Miller Family Cemetery (1908)

Tiny Miller Family Cemetery lies along Tarryall Road about five miles south of Jefferson. The cemetery contains just two graves, the 1908 burial of Mary Miller and the 1918 burial of her husband, William H. Miller. Mr. Miller came to the area with his siblings in the 1880s and engaged in ranching. He purchased the land containing where the cemetery is located in 1887. Mrs. Miller's 1908 obituary noted her "remains were laid to rest in a quiet spot in the hills near the house."[89] The 2014 Park County reconnaissance survey form found that "it appears to be a randomly selected, albeit scenic, location."[90] The cemetery is maintained but not in use.

County Deaths, Funerals, and Burial Practices in Park County

Dying on the Frontier

The harsh realities of life in the early Park County settlements led to the ever-present danger of death

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[86] Lamping Family, "Lamping Family Cemetery, Webster, Colorado," January 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado; Erica Duvic and Amy Unger, Lamping Cemetery, 5PA.372, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 23 June 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado; Tom Locke, "Fence Brings Lamping Family Together," *Park County Republican and Fairplay Flume*, 29 September 2006, 27.

[87] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Shawnee Cemetery, 5PA.366, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 22 October 2013, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[88] Erica Duvic, Hanna Eckroth, and Amy Unger, Guffey Cemetery, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 24 April 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[89] *Fairplay Flume*, 17 April 1908, 1.

[90] Erica Duvic and Amy Unger, Miller Cemetery, Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 24 April 2014, in the files of the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

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by accident, violence, and disease. Historian Duane Smith, discussing the conditions in early mining camps, noted "these frontiersmen were not weak, unhealthy specimens susceptible to every illness, but in the crowded and unsanitary environment a host of diseases could emerge."[91] He judged, "Only the cautious and lucky citizen survived in this natural breeding ground of sickness," based on examination of camp cemeteries that contain large numbers of adults who died in the prime of life.[92]

In May 1860 the *Rocky Mountain News* published one of the earliest Colorado newspaper reports of a death in what would become Park County. Under the headline "Sad Accident at Tarryall," an account of the death of J.W. Ellis in a mining mishap appeared. This early article testified to the dangers and tragedies common to the lives of early miners and the obligations their fellow wealth-seekers felt toward them. Citing it as "one of the most painful and heart-rending accidents . . . that has ever been in our province to record," the newspaper described how the ill-fated man from Illinois was sinking a shaft 30' below the surface when the walls gave way, trapping him below. People in the area gathered to dig Ellis out, but the shaft continued to fill as they removed the debris. By the following morning only his head was uncovered, leaving his body still entombed in the earth. Nonetheless, the victim was able to drink a cup of coffee and talk with his rescuers. Ellis believed he wasn't much injured, although he complained of being cold and numb. That night the unfortunate man became delirious, and he died the following morning. The newspaper commented, "The people of Tarryall and vicinity done [sic] all in their power to rescue him alive, both by day and night . . . ." Finally workers were able to extricate his body on the fourth night, and the local citizens held a meeting to make arrangements for his burial. Following an inquest, the community passed two resolutions:

> Resolved. That we the miners of Tarryall and vicinity do most heartily and sincerely sympathize with the wife and relatives of the deceased in their great bereavement, so suddenly brought upon them by order of Divine Providence. Resolved. That the proceedings of this meeting and the cause thereof be published in the *Rocky Mountain News* and a copy be sent to his wife. Tarryall Diggings, May 18th.[93]

The newspaper did not contain specific details of the arrangements for Ellis's body, but it seems likely that due to lack of mortuary services and a transportation network he became one of many prospectors quickly buried near where they died. Records indicate James W. Ellis was born in New Jersey about 1825, previously worked as a farmer in Lacon, Illinois, and left a wife and eight children ranging in age from one to fifteen years old back home. For an unknown reason, the 1860 Federal Mortality Schedule listed James W. Ellis's cause of death as "shot by Indians-Pike's Peak."[94]

Very few women lived in Park County's pre-territorial mining camps. An examination of the 1860 U.S. Census for "Tarryall South Park" found 960 people recorded, only 13 of them female.[95] Of the females, four were children, five were in their twenties, two in their thirties, and two in their early forties. Thus, all of the adult women were of child-bearing age and living in an area far from medical facilities. Almost all of the men identified themselves as miners, most being in their twenties. Surprisingly, five men stated they were doctors, although their actual qualifications are unknown; one

[91] Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps*, 194-95.
[92] Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps*, 194.
[93] *Rocky Mountain News*, 30 May 1860, 1.
[94] *1860 Federal Mortality Schedule,* ancestry.com, accessed 8 January 2015.
[95] Included were three women of the Taber [sic] family: Mary, Hannah, and Augusta, first wife of the well-known Coloradan Horace Tabor.

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was only twenty years old.[96]

The prospect of giving birth and raising a child in a frontier mining camp must have been daunting, given the high rates of maternal and infant mortality in the nineteenth century. Many of the women who succumbed during childbirth received only passing notice, if any, in newspapers. An exception was Clara L. Cozad Black, who died at the Tarryall mining camp in October 1861. An obituary in the *Rocky Mountain News*, apparently placed by her husband, reported the twenty-eight-year-old wife of L.W. Black, formerly of Newton, Jasper County, Iowa, was "an affectionate wife, a tender mother, a loving sister and a kind friend . . . called to her long home, leaving those who loved her to mourn her premature departure and their own loss." Two days after Clara Black's passing her infant daughter, Clara Laura, also died, as the newspaper noted.[97] A search for information about Clara Black's grave found nothing documented in Colorado or Iowa; it is likely the mother and child were interred in an area near the mining camp. By the early twentieth century the circumstances of their deaths had been forgotten. A 1912 history of Jasper County, Iowa, reported Clara, who was born in Ohio in 1833 and married Luther W. Black in 1857, had gone to the Colorado mining camp "for her health."[98]

Once settlements were established most deaths by far in Park County resulted from what were termed "natural causes," such as illness, age-related diseases, and malfunctioning of the body. People often died in their own beds at home surrounded by family and friends, who viewed death as a normal conclusion to life. During the late nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth, doctors could do little to reverse the course of a severe illness or the breakdown of the body. Examples of several other types of deaths are provided below to illustrate the variety of stories associated with graves found in county cemeteries.

Disasters and Accidents

King Coal Mine Disaster and Mining Accidents

Park County historian Gary Minke reviewed county coroner records for the period 1872-1913 and found mining was a dangerous profession and "by far the most hazardous job in Park County was working the slope coal mines at King, the little mining village in Park Gulch three miles east of Como."[99] Coal mining constituted an important but short-lived industry of Park County during the nineteenth century. As Minke noted, it provided work for a single generation of miners, including large numbers of Chinese and Italians, as well as some Austrians, Swedes, and native-born Americans; at its height of production about 350 miners worked at the Union Pacific Coal Co. mines at King. Many of the Italians lived in the small company town established in association with the mine, which included sixty-nine log or frame dwellings, many of them partial dugouts on a hillside.[100] On 10 January 1893 an explosion in the No. 5 mine at King, later attributed to combustion of methane gas and coal dust and improper blasting, killed twenty-five men, the largest percentage consisting of Italian workers. The tragedy received more detailed newspaper coverage statewide than most cases of fatality in Park County and is instructive in terms of funeral and burial procedures.

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[96] Ancestry.com, U.S. Federal Census [database online], Population Schedule, Kansas Territory, Tarryall South Park, 1860, www.ancestry.com, accessed December 2014.

[97] *Rocky Mountain News*, 6 November 1861, 3.

[98] James B. Weaver, ed., *The Past and Present of Jasper County* (Indianapolis, Indiana: B.F. Bowen Co., 1912), 629, www.ancestry.com, accessed 10 January 2015.

[99] Gary Minke, "Deadly Jobs in Park County," *Colorado Central Magazine*, May-August 2006, cozine.com/2006-august/deadly-jobs-in-park-county-1872-1913, accessed 13 January 2015.

[100] Edwin A. Bathke, P.M. Bathke, and Nancy Bathke, "The Doctor is Out . . . With his Camera: Clinton H. Scott, Railroader, Physician and Photographer," *Denver Westerner's Roundup*, November-December 1997, 4."

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As families and friends of workers in No. 5 waited at the entrance of the mine for news of their loved ones, rescuers entered the site of the explosion. Bodies of twenty-four men who died in the mine were bought out and placed side by side in the carpenter's shop.[101] Como Cemetery became the final resting place for seventeen of the miners. South Park historian Richard C. Barth reported that in preparation for the burials "a 'large force' of men started digging two trenches, each eight by twenty feet, at the Como cemetery that overlooks South Park. Because the ground was frozen, the men used dynamite to make the excavations."[102] Undertaker W.B. Fowler worked "night and day with a force of men to get the caskets and bodies in readiness."[103]

A special funeral train, composed of two box cars and two passenger cars, carried the bodies and grieving families from King to Como. Funeral services for most of the victims took place at the Catholic Church in Como with Rev. Father John Fogerty of Breckenridge officiating. Due to space limitations in the church, only one casket symbolizing the group was brought into the building. After the service the coffin returned to its railroad car, and the funeral train moved up the branch line to a point closer to the cemetery, where the dead and mourners were disembarked. Approximately one hundred miners attended the services: "Every man wore a black suit, and pinned on each lapel was a black and orange ribbon tied in the form of a cross."[104] Local author Laura Van Dusen found that one week after the explosion one hundred miners went on strike over safety concerns at the mine.[105]

The only man to make it out of the mine alive, James Carmosini (sometimes reported as Carmincini) never regained consciousness and died after enduring more than a week of great "agony." The day after his death the King mines suspended work and a special train carried all the miners and friends of the sole survivor to the Como Cemetery for his burial under the auspices of Father Fogerty. In regard to the company's workforce the *Rocky Mountain News* commented, "A number of coal miners have arrived to take the place of the absent ones."[106] By 1900 the village of King stood abandoned and many of its houses were moved to other communities or sold for scrap. Foundation remnants at the site of the village and waste mounds at the collapsed entrances of the mines are the only obvious signs of the coal era today. As Minke notes, "Today, when you gaze across the lonely landscape, you can barely tell that King ever existed."[107]

The lack of remaining historic resources at King emphasizes the importance of cemetery monuments as records of past lives, industries, conflicts, triumphs, and disasters. A white marble monument found in Como Cemetery marks the shared grave of the miners. The monument displays the inscribed names of only four of those buried, as well as the towns where they came from: Celeste Corrozzolla of Tres; Antonio Tachelini of Carciato; Angelo Giuliani of Malgolo; and Francesco Pomarolli of Pressero. An inscription in Italian translates as "Died on 10 January 1893 in a mine of King Park, Colo."

Other mining accidents continued to add to the number of graves in Park County cemeteries. In July 1891 George Simmonds, an English immigrant, placed a shot of blasting powder that did not explode until he returned to check on it, killing him instantly. A newspaper account described Simmonds as

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[101] Laura Van Dusen, "January 1893 King Coal Mine Explosion Kills 25," *Winter in the Park, 2014-15*, 24, www.theflume.com, accessed 24 January 2015.

[102] Richard C. Barth, *Pioneers of the Colorado Parks* (Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Press, 1997), 230.

[103] Rocky Mountain News, 13 January 1893, 1.

[104] Barth, *Pioneers of the Colorado Parks*, 231.

[105] Van Dusen, "January 1893," 24.

[106] Rocky Mountain News, 22 January 1893, 2.

[107] Gary Minke, "The Coal Mines of South Park," *Colorado Central Magazine*, October 2005, cozine.com/2005-october/the-coal-mines-of-south-park, accessed 12 January 2015.

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"an old man, 50 years of age" and "an old and experienced miner." As a member of Tarryall Lodge No. 61 of the IOOF, the miner's burial occurred under the auspices of the fraternal organization, thus relieving his wife of that responsibility.[108] The Simmonds family suffered other tragedies during their time in Como. Two children, Lottie, age four, and Samuel, age two, both died in April 1886, and share the same monument as their father in the cemetery. Mining continued to take a toll on Park County workers in the twentieth century through accidents such as rock falls, timber collapses, premature blasts, cave-ins, and other accidents.[109]

Railroad Accidents

Early railroading also involved a variety of dangers, both for those working on trains and people trying to hop on them or inadvertently getting in their path. Sam Speas, a longtime railroad employee residing in Como, reported: "Railroaders lived with constant danger."[110] He recalled that when the people of Como heard of a "wreck on the line," everything came to a standstill. "Women, children, and those railroaders who happened to be in town hurried to the dispatcher's office for news, hoping their husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers were safe."[111] From Speas's perspective, "In the days before workmen's compensation, disability pensions, or pensions of any kind, it was more expensive to replace a wrecked boxcar than a dead engineer or a maimed brakeman."[112] The company kept track of accidents and mistakes, firing those who accumulated too many and causing the others to be very careful. Nonetheless, accidents occurred. The names of persons killed were not always recorded in the county coroner's records.

In 1882 the London Junction area of the London & South Park railroad was the scene of a fatal accident when a London & South Park narrow gauge locomotive proved no match for a burro on the tracks. The resulting collision caused the engine to tip over and kill conductor John Bledsoe and two Swedish laborers—identified only as Johnson and Zetterberg.[113] Speas recollected, "Railroaders in Como never stopped talking about the freight train that ran away and piled up at the foot of Trout Creek Pass in 1884, killing four railroaders from Como. Nor did they forget the other wrecks that claimed the lives of their friends."[114] In 1901 a wreck on Kenosha Pass injured seventeen passengers and killed a railroad laborer, W.A. Phillips, and a young and much-respected engineer, Webster Ballinger, Jr. His monument in Como Cemetery is designed to resemble the shape of a train headlight and etched with a stone arch, open gates, and a shining star.[115]

Other Accidents

Park County residents also died as a result of accidents while pursuing everyday activities. Peter Marinelli, died in 1898, when a gun he was removing from his wagon accidentally discharged. The *Fairplay Flume* judged the thirty-five-year-old Austrian immigrant and King mining camp saloon keeper "one of Park's most influential citizens."[116] He received a large dark gray stone monument in

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[108] *Rocky Mountain News*, 22 July 1891, 1. The article misspelled his name as Simons.
[109] Western History Department, Denver Public Library, "Colorado Mining Fatalities, 1844-1981,"
https://history.denverlibrary.org/sites/history/files/coindexmine1_0.pdf, accessed 12 January 2015.
[110] Margaret Coel, as told by Sam Speas, *Goin' Railroading* (Niwot, Colorado: University of Colorado Press, 1998), 67.
[111] Speas, *Goin' Railroading*, 67.
[112] Speas, *Goin' Railroading*, 69.
[113] *Fairplay Flume*, 19 October 1882, 4.
[114] Speas, *Goin' Railroading*, 71.
[115] A "dreadful wreck" in July 1909 killed several people on the Colorado & Southern line about a mile above Bailey. Leaving Shawnee nineteen people, including Park County residents, tourists and railroad employees, embarked on a push car that collided with a special freight train on a sharp curve. *Fairplay Flume*, 16 July 1909, 1.
[116] *Fairplay Flume*, 15 July 1898.

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Como Cemetery carved with a cross and inscribed "RIP." Nearby was the polished granite marker for "Baby Marinelli" dated 1895. When Peter's wife, Annunzieta, died in 1922, her name was added below her husband's on his monument. In addition, the mutual benefit organization she belonged to, the Neighbors of Woodcraft, added their emblem to the marker. One of the organization's mottos, "Courage, Loss, Remembrance," was featured in the emblem.

Fatal accidents associated with riding horses and operating wagon teams were not unusual. Runaways, when a horse is suddenly frightened and gallops away, appear to have been the cause of most equine-related fatalities. For example, Joseph Carpenter of Guffey died from a fractured skull sustained in a runaway horse accident in 1906.[117] Rancher John E. Radford was killed in 1915 in a runaway accident in Fairplay, when his head hit a rock while unhitching his horse from its buggy.[118] Lucy Cheney, a teacher at Black Mountain School, succumbed after her horse became frightened and threw her from her buggy against a tree. The *Fairplay Flume* remarked "she was called from her earthly duties to take up her work in the Heavenly realms."[119] Cheney is buried in the Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery. In later eras, automobile-related accidents began to take a toll, resulting in new burials in Park County cemeteries.

Violent Deaths

Espinosa Brothers

Intentional homicides attracted substantial attention and often evolved into legends, especially those resulting in more than one death. The 1863 mass killings by the Espinosa brothers remain a controversial topic, continuing to generate questions of fact and motivation. Between January and May 1863, brothers Vivian and Felipe Espinosa claimed six random victims in Park County and attempted to kill a seventh. At least four other men were slain in the San Luis Valley and near Pikes Peak. Various reasons were ascribed for the killings. Felipe alleged: "They [the Anglos] ruined our family—they took everything in our house; first our beds and blankets, then our provisions. Seeing this we said, 'We would rather be dead than see such infamies committed on our families!'"[120] A group of vigilantes killed Vivian near Grape Creek outside of Park County and decapitated his body. The commander of Ft. Garland tasked mountain man and Indian scout Tom Tobin with capturing the remaining fugitive. A month later Tobin and a squad of soldiers killed Felipe and his nephew José and brought their severed heads to Ft. Garland.[121] The bodies of five of the Espinosas' victims reportedly lie in Old Fairplay cemetery, and a single one was buried at Rocky Cemetery.

Hoover Lynching

Although some cemeteries in other Colorado communities refused to bury criminals amidst law-abiding citizens, it appears Park County residents did not always insist on such segregation. Laura Van Dusen studied the case of John Hoover, who vigilantes lynched in Fairplay in 1880. He was in the jail at the courthouse waiting to be moved to the state prison in Cañon City after his conviction in the shooting death of Thomas Bennett when masked men, dissatisfied with the sentencing outcome, removed the prisoner and lynched him. At trial Hoover was shown to have killed the victim "in cold blood," but claimed an earlier fall down a mineshaft had resulted in his fits of insanity. He was allowed

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[117] *Fairplay Flume*, 9 February 1906, 1.
[118] *Fairplay Flume*, 19 November 1915, 1.
[119] *Fairplay Flume*, 7 October 1921, 1.
[120] Charles F. Price, "The Rampage of the Espinosas," *Colorado Central Magazine* (October 2008). These allegations were contained in writings found on Felipe Espinosa's dead body.
[121] Charles F. Price, "The Rampage of the Espinosas," *Colorado Central Magazine* (November 2008).

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to enter a plea of manslaughter, receiving what was considered by some a light sentence of eight years.[122] Not unusual in design or size, Hoover's grave in Fairplay Cemetery is marked with a stone column and inscribed with an interesting epitaph: "He sleeps well." His wife, Euphrasia, continued to live in Fairplay and operate a hotel after his death.

Schoolhouse Shooting

A violent incident in a Park County schoolhouse in 1895 caused reverberations extending to the present day. Disabled Civil War veteran Benjamin Ratcliff's wife died in childbirth in 1882, leaving him to raise their three children in a log cabin on an isolated ranch.[123] The children attended Michigan Creek School, which only operated in the winter months and was six miles from their home. Ratcliff confronted three members of the school board regarding a dispute over his children's education and his belief a board member had spread unjustified gossip about his relationship with one of his daughters.[124] Reportedly, he arrived at the schoolhouse and threatened the members with his rifle, which discharged accidentally, causing an "excited discussion" that led Ratcliff to fire at each member before departing.[125] He immediately turned himself in to authorities at Como and was transported to the county jail in Fairplay. One of the wounded men, George D. Wyatt, lived four hours after the shooting and described the events to rescuers. The *Rocky Mountain News* called the incident "one of the most sensational that ever occurred in this [Park] county."[126]

Two of the board members are buried in Como Cemetery. Lincoln F. McCurdy's grave is marked by a red granite monument with his name, date of death, and age. As evidence that old grudges never die, someone at an unknown date affixed a small plaque at the base of his monument reading "McCurdy spread immoral lies about a handicapped girl." George Wyatt is buried with a marker of a very similar design, but composed of white marble heavily veined with black. Attached to his memorial is a small plaque of unknown date reading, "Wyatt shouldn't have been shot. Sorry." Records indicate the third board member, Samuel F. Taylor, who came to America from England and became a prominent rancher of the Tarryall area, is buried in Denver's Fairmount Cemetery. Benjamin Ratcliff, convicted and sent to the state prison in Cañon City to await his fate, claimed his actions were justified due to slanders by McCurdy as detailed in a letter to him by a local resident. He was hanged at the state prison on 7 February 1896. Ratcliff's grave is located on his former homestead.[127]

Suicides

Suicides also claimed the lives of Park County residents. Gary Minke's study of Park County Coroner inquest records found ten cases of suicide between 1872 and 1913. Half of the deaths came by self-inflicted gunshot, three by taking poison, and two by self-inflicted cut throats.[128] Obituaries culled by Park County staff from local newspapers yielded details of several reported suicides. Mary A.

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[122] Laura Van Dusen, *Historic Tales from Park County: Parked in the Past* (Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2013), 89-96.

[123] Mrs. Ratcliff's gravestone in Bordenville Cemetery reads "Elizabeth Ratcliffe."

[124] Chris O. Andrew, *The Legend of Benjamin Ratcliff: From Family Tragedy to Legacy of Resilience* (N.p.: Bookends Press, 2010); *Fairplay Flume*, Special Publication, 2 September 2011, 1; *Colorado Springs Gazette*, 27 July 1895, 1 and 8.

[125] *Rocky Mountain News*, 7 May 1895, 1.

[126] *Rocky Mountain News*, 7 May 1895, 1.

[127] Erica Duvic, Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado, "Comments on draft MPDF," March 2015. A forensic canine team confirmed the location of the burial.

[128] Minke, "Coroner Inquest Records, Park County, 1872-1913;" *Fairplay Flume*, 12 July 1901 and 14 July 1911. The coroner's records are incomplete. Inquests were not conducted into all deaths that occurred.

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Glassman, for example, ended her life in 1898 by self-poisoning with Rough on Rats.[129] Cyanide was used in the 1899 deaths of Walter Banes, his wife, and young child. The *Fairplay Flume* described Banes as despondent due to sickness and concluded "it is fairly clear to nearly everyone that it was a case of murder of the child and suicide of the older ones."[130]

William Trevan, despondent over his loss of sight in a mining accident, hung himself in 1901.[131] Hanging was also used by William Pasco, a miner who killed himself near Como in 1883, while "under an aberration of the mind brought on by excessive drink."[132] Joseph Lukke, an Austrian woodcutter at the Webster charcoal kilns, hung himself from a tree there in 1911.[133] In the same year, Willis L. Davis, a young ranchman committed suicide by gunshot less than three weeks after his secret marriage, leaving a short note to his bride: "Goodbye, and God bless you."[134] Roy Teter, twenty-three-year old former University of Colorado football player, cut his throat at his parents' home in Fairplay in 1914.[135] All of these deaths by suicide received burial in Park County cemeteries.

Acts of Nature

Acts of nature, particularly those relating to weather, cut short some lives. With its high altitude, the county often experienced freezing temperatures, winds, ice, and snow in the winter. Avalanches were not uncommon. In December 1880 an avalanche of snow, dirt, and rocks buried John F. Dunn while he tried to open a trail to a mine on Mt. Bross. A companion on the trip removed the body, "fearfully mangled," to the cabin where Dunn's wife and children waited. Three days later, snow made it impossible to reach the deceased with a wagon or other conveyance. Friends arrived on snow shoes and placed the coffin on two long snowshoes, transporting the deceased to Alma for a funeral.[136] Park County Coroner inquest records for the period 1872-1913 indicate several persons died from exposure during snowstorms.[137]

Encounters with wild animals also proved deadly to Park County residents. The *Fairplay Flume* described the 1883 death of pioneer Jacob Radliff (a cool and intrepid "dead shot") of "singular interest to all who know the constant perils that a hunter undergoes in the wilds of this western world." Radliff, hunting with companions at the southern end of South Park, was attacked by a large cinnamon bear, suffering broken bones, a clawed cheek, and a scalped head. Jerry Davis indicates the attacker is usually cited as "Old Mose, the famous killer grizzly who terrorized the Black Mountain country for years."[138] Radliff's fellow hunters carried his "mangled form" to a nearby ranch, where he recounted the attack before dying the following day.[139]

Epidemics

Diphtheria, typhoid fever, small pox, scarlet fever, measles, influenza, and other contagious diseases claimed residents of Park County. In 1883 Alma instituted a quarantine after the owner of the local

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[129] *Fairplay Flume*, 5 August 1898, 2.
[130] *Fairplay Flume*, 6 October 1899, 2.
[131] *Fairplay Flume*, 12 July 1901.
[132] *Fairplay Flume*, 15 February 1883, 4.
[133] *Fairplay Flume*, 7 September 1893, 1.
[134] *Fairplay Flume*, 14 July 1911, 1.
[135] *Denver Post*, 8 March 1914, 1.
[136] *Fairplay Flume*, 2 December 1880, 2.
[137] Gary Minke, comp., "Coroner Inquest Records, Park County: 1872-1913," Park County Local History Archives, http://www.parkcoarchives.org, accessed 14 January 2015.
[138] Davis, email to Simmons, 24 April 2015.
[139] *Fairplay Flume*, 29 November 1883, 4.

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newspaper died of small pox. The action caused dissension in the county, as some people did not want the local presence of small pox known and others considered the quarantine unnecessary.[140] A particularly sad case was that of Verna W. Armstrong of Como, who died in November 1893. Her husband had contracted typhoid while working in Cripple Creek, and she went there to nurse him back to health. After returning to Como she suffered with the same disease and passed away after two weeks at the age of twenty-six. Adding to the tragedy, her two-year-old child also contracted typhoid. Reverend B.F. Todd conducted Mrs. Armstrong's funeral service at the Como Church, with the Doric Lodge of Fairplay making arrangements for her burial.[141]

Children became frequent victims of epidemics. As Duane Smith suggests, "The grim evidence . . . can be found in any camp's cemetery. Walk through one and notice how many children there are, and if possible, compare death dates to see how many succumbed during an epidemic."[142] Mr. and Mrs. George Hawxhurst lost two daughters, ten-year-old Annie and thirteen-year-old Emma, in an 1880 diphtheria outbreak. The girls are buried at the site of the family's ranch south of Jefferson.[143] In 1912 six-week-old Bernard Overholt died after nine days of illness from whooping cough and was buried in Fairplay Cemetery, with services led by Reverend G.W. Dudley. The family offered a "card of thanks" to neighbors for their kindness during their son's illness. Numerous markers in Park County cemeteries record the short lives of children; the number who died after contracting a contagious disease is unknown.[144]

Park County Funeral Services and Burial Practices[145]

Once a death occurred, family members, friends, employers, lodge members, or others were responsible for making arrangements for the deceased's funeral service and burial. The funeral process included preparation of the body for burial, determination of a location for the service and securing an officiant, and selection of a burial place. Describing these steps in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, sociologist Vanderlyn R. Pine observed "religious services were usually held in the home or in the church; in either case, the funeral concluded with a procession to the cemetery."[146]

Preparing the Body for Burial

During the nineteenth century and into the twentieth in rural Colorado, preparation of a body for burial generally fell to members of the deceased's family, usually older females.[147] As Pine noted, in some cases "certain members of the community became expert at the 'laying out' of the dead after a number of such experiences" and felt an informal responsibility to assist other families.[148] There is

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[140] *Fairplay Flume*, 3 and 8 March 1883, 1.

[141] *Fairplay Flume*, 2 November 1893, 4.

[142] Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps*, 194.

[143] *Fairplay Flume*, 15 January 1880, 3, and 5 February 1880, 3.

[144] *Fairplay Flume*, 21 September 1912.

[145] The source materials for this and following sections are a sampling of 1880-1932 obituaries for burials in Park County cemeteries primarily from the *Fairplay Flume* collected by Erica Duvic and Amy Unger of the Park County Office of Historic Preservation and Park County obituaries in other Colorado newspapers examined by the preparers of this nomination. Not all obituaries provided complete information for each item of information discussed.

[146] Vanderlyn R. Pine, *Caretaker of the Dead: The American Funeral Director* (New York: Irvington Publishers, Inc., 1975), 17.

[147] See Richard T. Scott, "Mortuary Customs of Weld County, Colorado." (MA thesis, Colorado State Teachers College, 1934), 7 and Michael J. Steiner, *A Study of the Intellectual and Material Culture of Death in Nineteenth Century America*, Studies in American History, vol. 45 (Lewiston, New York: Edwin Mellen Press, 2003), 84.

[148] Pine, *Caretaker of the Dead*, 16.

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scant mention in *State Business Directories* or published obituaries of undertakers in Park County. As in other areas of the state, undertaking often evolved as a sideline to an existing cabinet-making, livery stable, or furniture business, since a wood casket was viewed as an essential element in the burial process.[149] The small population of the county, with a density of less than two persons per square mile during the historic period, probably made operation of a full-time mortuary problematic and undertakers generally held more than one job.

No undertakers were shown in the *State Business Directory* in any of the county's towns in 1880. During the 1884-1911 period, three Fairplay undertakers appeared in directories or were mentioned in obituaries: 1888-90, W.D. Mackay; 1884-07, A.B. Crook; and 1910-11, P.W. O'Brien, who also served as county judge and clerk of the district court. Crook, who also served as town postmaster, published an 1884 display advertisement in the *Como Head Light* offering: "Undertaking. A full line of metallic coffins and caskets, kept constantly on hand."[150] Mackay's 1888 directory listing identified him as an undertaker and painter. W.B. Fowler operated an undertaking business in Como from about 1890 to 1900. He also provided insurance and notary public services.

Fairplay possessed a funeral home from the 1930s to the late twentieth century. The Humphrey Chapel funeral home, conducted by H. L. Humphrey and his son, Frank L., operated from 1933 to 1949. The 1950 and 1956 *State Business Directories* listed the Paul R. Stranahan Mortuaries. William R. Pauley ran the Pauley Mortuary in Fairplay in the latter part of the twentieth century.[151]

Funeral Locations

Park County funeral services were staged in various locations, including churches, private homes, public buildings, and at graveside in cemeteries. According to Pine, during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries "funeral services were normally conducted in the deceased's home."[152] A person died at home, the body was prepared for burial, and it remained in the house until the funeral service occurred. Analysis of obituaries collected as part of the 2013-14 reconnaissance survey and other research found about 32 percent of Park County funeral services occurred in the home of the deceased or in another private residence, such as that of a relative, friend, or a prominent resident of the vicinity.[153] The latter phenomenon included the funeral for Nattie Rich, staged in 1883 at the house of Buffalo Springs pioneer George H. Green.[154]

When the deceased had many friends and lived in a rural area, outdoor services near the family home became appropriate. Pioneer Timothy Borden, who had resided on his Tarryall-area ranch since 1865, passed away in 1907 and was buried in true western style with an outdoor funeral on his own land. Born in New York in 1826 and a veteran of the 1861 placer diggings in Breckenridge, Borden outlived many of his contemporaries. Known locally as "Uncle Tim," the old gentleman received memorial services led by the pioneer preacher Rev. Thomas A. Uzzell, formerly of Fairplay. Borden's fellow pioneers served as pallbearers, and an "impromptu local choir" provided music. The *Fairplay Flume* described the ceremony in some detail:

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[149] Duane A. Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps*, 103 and Steiner, *A Study of the Intellectual and Material Culture of Death*, 84-85.
[150] *Como Head Light*, 5 November 1884, 1.
[151] Donald M. Chase, "Colorado Funeral Service History to 1997," 24, online resource, Colorado Funeral Directors Association, www.cofda.org, accessed 3 December 2014.
[152] Pine, *Caretaker of the Dead*, 16.
[153] The analysis was based on a sampling of approximately 169 obituaries, mostly collected by Park County Historic Preservation Office staff and supplemented with additional obituaries from the Park County Bulletin accessed by Tom Simmons.
[154] *Fairplay Flume*, 18 January 1883, 4.

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The services were out-of-doors in the big ranch yard, the burial being in the adjacent neighborhood burying ground [Bordenville Cemetery], beside the remains of Aunt Delia, the wife of Uncle Tim, who had died fifteen years ago. The funeral was attended by a large and affectionate following of neighbors and friends.[155]

The *Flume* eulogized, "They now finally rest side by side in the kind ground of the beautiful valley which first gladdened their eyes, then young, nearly half a century ago. May they rest in peace, and may their good lives live after them."[156] Adelia Borden's grave had received a white stone column rising from a red sandstone base. A scroll ornamented the top of the column, displaying lilies in high relief (symbolizing purity and resurrection) and her name, date of death, and age at death, as well as an inscription. A small Odd Fellow's emblem of three linked chains with the letters "F L T" (standing for friendship, loyalty, and truth) appeared on the scroll, indicating that organization's involvement; Timothy Borden was a longtime member of the Doric Lodge of Masons in Fairplay. The monument marking his grave is a large dark gray stone tablet etched with information about the pioneer's life, together with a lengthy tribute.

Local churches provided a venue for about 32 percent of funeral services based on a sampling of obituaries for the 1880 to 1932 period. Churches referenced in obituaries included the Mission Chapel in Alma, Presbyterian Church in Fairplay (now known as the Sheldon Jackson Chapel (5PA.26, NRIS 77000382, listed in 1977), and Methodist or Methodist Episcopal and Catholic churches in Fairplay and Como. Obituaries referred only to graveside funeral services in 28 percent of cases.

Public buildings hosted about 8 percent of funeral services, including the Fairplay and Guffey town halls and the Buffalo Springs School. In the nineteenth century, as today, funeral services of prominent residents of the county often were more elaborate than those for the average person. The funeral of the Hon. John G. Randall, as described by the *Fairplay Flume*, illustrates how such citizens were commemorated. Born in New York in 1832, Randall died in Fairplay in 1897 after a long, adventurous, and successful life that included two terms in the Colorado Territorial Legislature. His funeral took place in the Town Hall, which was filled with people from all parts of the county. Rev. William John spoke at length about the deceased man's noble attributes, and a choir sang appropriately dignified songs. A large procession followed the casket to Fairplay Cemetery, with other prominent pioneers of the county serving as pallbearers.[157] However, Randall's gravemarker is surprisingly modest: a smooth boulder with one side displaying, in raised letters, his name, the epitaph "A Pioneer of Colorado," and the dates of his birth and death.

Officiants

Historian Louisa Ward Arps observed that in the early mining camp era: "When a minister was not available, burials were conducted by anyone who had a *Bible*, a *Book of Common Prayer*, or knew 'Now I lay me down to sleep.'"[158] In the early 1860s Father Joseph Machebeuf traveled from Denver to South Park to offer Catholic masses and visit the mining camps.[159] Rev. John Dyer (known as "the Snow-Shoe Itinerant"), who arrived in Buckskin Joe in July 1861, reported only three preachers visited South Park before that date.[160] A variety of individuals who officiated at Park County funerals

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[155] *Fairplay Flume*, 2 August 1907, 1.
[156] *Fairplay Flume*, 9 August 1907, 1.
[157] *Fairplay Flume*, 16 April 1897, 2.
[158] Louis Ward Arps, "Signs of Faith in Territorial Colorado," 3, in Louisa Ward Arps, *Faith on the Frontier: Religion in Colorado Before August 1876* (Denver: Colorado Council of Churches, 1976).
[159] St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Fairplay, Colorado, "History," www.stjoesfairplay.org, accessed 28 January 2015.
[160] Van Dusen, *Historic Tales*, 32.

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are mentioned in collected obituaries; the largest proportion (84 percent) were clergymen of various denominations. Some were circuit riders, serving a number of mountain communities. For example, Rev. Thomas A. Uzzell received an assignment to serve Fairplay, Alma, Como, and surrounding areas. Writing of early mining camps, historian Duane Smith observed that "to minister to the camps was physically demanding work. It required, especially in the first decade of the 1860s, traveling long, hard miles in all types of weather to visit the various congregations in the parish."[161]

Among the local clergy who officiated at funerals during the 1880-1916 period were: Rev. James Campbell (1880), Rev. T. P. Cook (1880), Rev. H. J. Huston (1881-82), Rev. John Shannon (1883), Rev. B. F. Todd (1893), Rev. H. Carlyou (1894), Rev. William John (1897), Rev. G. E. Burton (1898), Rev. J. F. Mossip (1900), Rev. C. K. Powell (1902), Reverend Stillman (1906), Rev. R. Titmarsh (1907-09), Reverend Johnson (1907), Reverend Walder (1909-10), Rev. J. B. Youngblood (1911-12), Rev. G. W. Dudley, Father Hilbig (1915), and Rev. H.S. Beavis (1915-16). In a few instances religious figures from outside Park County conducted funeral services, such as an Episcopal Archdeacon from Denver, a Christian Science Reader from Denver, Rev. Prof. William J. Gregory of Westminster, and a Presbyterian theological student from Pennsylvania. Obituaries also identified non-religious figures leading a few funerals, including a local judge. Mrs. J. J. Shuck offered the rites for the Charles R. Foreman funeral in 1916, and Mrs. A.M. Anderson conducted the services for the 1907 burial of Margaretha Moulton.[162] Fraternal organizations such as the Odd Fellows, Red Men, and Knights of Pythias also undertook funeral services.

Nature of Funeral Services and Procession to the Cemetery

Most of the collected obituaries from local newspapers did not provide extensive details on the character of funeral services. However, the handful with lengthier descriptions may illustrate the general nature of Park County funeral practices. For example, Mrs. Clara I. Mulock's 1899 funeral at the Mission Chapel in Alma was conducted by Rev. F. F. Passmore. The newspaper reported the services "were very largely attended and quite impressive. The casket was covered with beautiful flowers …. A quartette [sic] of Alma singers … with Mrs. Lindgren as organist, sang sweetly appropriate hymns and anthems. The remains were followed to their last resting place in Buckskin cemetery by many loving friends."[163]

Common elements, such as a sermon or eulogy, music, flowers, and accompanying the casket to the cemetery, were mentioned in many obituaries. For the 1899 funeral of James Dowd "a profusion of flowers decorated the altar and casket."[164] In addition to "hothouse flowers," the services for Carrie C. Davis at Buffalo Springs in 1923 included "an abundance of her much loved wild Roses, Columbines and Mariposa lilies [that] nearly covered her casket."[165] A sermon by Reverend Walker, a "profusion of flowers on the casket" and musical selections performed by the choir comprised the Mission Chapel funeral of German immigrant Maria Neuhaus in Alma in 1909.[166]

Members of organizations the deceased joined or their work colleagues occasionally attended funerals as a group. Following a deadly 1905 blast at the South London Mine that killed two employees, the mines closed and "the miners attended en masse" at the funeral of Charles Fondren

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[161] Smith, *Rocky Mountain Mining Camps.*
[162] *Fairplay Flume*, 7 July 1916, 1 and 6 April 1917, 1.
[163] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 27 January 1899, 1.
[164] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 8 September 1899, 1.
[165] *Fairplay Flume*, 27 July 1923, 4.
[166] *Fairplay Flume*, 29 October 1909, 1.

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in Buckskin Cemetery.[167] The 1906 funeral of twenty-three-year-old Paul Fortune, employed at the Moose Mine, was attended by "practically all the miners."[168] In some instances friends and co-workers donated funds to defray the costs of the funeral for indigents. In 1899 Mrs. Hunter of Alma undertook "the painful task" of collecting funds from area miners for the burial of James Dowd.[169] Pat Kilduff and other friends of William M. "Banjo Mike" Foley contributed funds for his 1907 funeral in Alma.[170]

The deaths of Civil War veterans brought much attention and solemn commemoration by the community at large. Charles L. Cass was buried with full military honors in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery in 1904. The funeral included a service in the Mission Chapel in Alma with town veterans and the Fairplay Band leading the cemetery procession. The *Park County Bulletin* observed that "the services were impressive and largely attended."[171]

A large cortege or concourse of family and friends typically escorted the casket to the cemetery for interment. The *Fairplay Flume* published this description of the 1905 burial of nine-year-old Julia Shortt in the Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery: "Despite the inclement weather, a large congregation of friends, relatives and schoolmates of the little girl were present, and with tearful faces, they witnessed the last sad rites over the remains of their dear little friend as she was laid to rest by the side of her mother, who died seven years before."[172]

Role of Fraternal Organizations

Throughout the nation fraternal groups such as the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Knights of Pythias provided their members with the assurance they would receive dignified services and commemoration after death. Reception of this type of fraternal benefit offered comfort to many who faced death in the mining camps and other rough and isolated new communities of Colorado and to their surviving families. Among the earliest recorded instances of this activity was in January 1860, when H.P. Bennett published a card of thanks to the Odd Fellows, who had provided for his Denver brother's burial.[173] In December 1860 a newspaper article reported the Masons recovered the dead body of a fraternal brother and transported it to Denver, where they formed a procession to accompany the deceased to the grave. A band played while the lodge members walked to and from the burial grounds.[174] Fraternal groups also commemorated deceased members by publishing resolutions extolling the virtues of dearly departed, as evidenced in numerous *Fairplay Flume* tributes.[175]

In addition to playing a role in Park County's cemetery development, various fraternal organizations were involved in local burials, including the South Park Lodge No. 10 of the International Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), Doric Lodge No. 25 of the Free and Accepted Masons, the local chapter of the Improved Order of Red Men, and Lodge No. 75 of the Knights of Pythias (Alma).[176] Pioneer Jacob

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[167] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 29 September 1905, 1.
[168] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 27 July 1906, 1.
[169] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 8 September 1899, 1. This may have been Hannah Hunter, wife of William Hunter, a prominent Alma citizen and owner of the Capital Hotel.
[170] *Fairplay Flume*, 1 November 1907, 1.
[171] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 18 March 1904, 1. Cass served in a Pennsylvania Regiment in the Civil War before joining the Colorado Volunteers and participating in the Sand Creek Massacre.
[172] *Fairplay Flume*, 24 March 1905, 5.
[173] *Rocky Mountain News*, 18 January 1860, 3.
[174] *Rocky Mountain News*, 19 December 1860, 2.
[175] Davis, email, 24 April 2015.
[176] Improved Order of Red Men, "History of the Red Men," www.redmen.org, accessed 8 January 2015. The Red Men

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Radliff's 1883 funeral in Fairplay is illustrative of fraternal participation by the Odd Fellows:

> The funeral services were conducted by the officers of South Park Lodge, No. 10, of which the departed citizen was a highly respected member. The parade of the local members of that lodge, including a number from Alma and Como, together with the Coleman Hose company in uniform, the town authorities and a large concourse of citizens in carriages, was an imposing spectacle, and testified to the estimation in which the deceased was held in the community.[177]

Obituaries mention the Masons conducting funeral services for members of their order, sometimes in conjunction with a church service. The 1915 funeral for Fairplay justice of peace Charles S. Wells included a service at the local church "conducted by Dr. H.S. Beavis, [and] the last rites by the Masons at the cemetery."[178] The Red Men took part in the burial of Sam Swank at the Mosquito Cemetery in 1905. Alma Lodge No. 75 of the Knights of Pythias conducted the funeral for Henry Anderson in 1906.[179]

Commemoration of the Dead

Residents of Park County went to cemeteries not only to bury the dead, but to remember them. Burial grounds served as places for quiet contemplation and meditation about the lives of those no longer present. People traditionally recognized deceased loved ones by visiting and tending to their graves and decorating them with flowers, boughs, and wreaths. Following the Civil War with its horrific loss of human life, this type of commemoration became an activity shared by community members on a day set aside specifically for remembering and honoring the departed.

Originally known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day grew out of the desire to honor the more than 750,000 soldiers who died in the Civil War. On 1 May 1865 African Americans in Charleston, South Carolina, reburied Union soldiers lying in mass graves and held a parade of an estimated ten thousand people to honor them. The event included songs, speeches, flowers, picnics, and exhibitions of military skill.[180] Local communities in the north and south subsequently commemorated fallen soldiers in similar ways. In 1868 General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a Union veteran's organization, proclaimed May 30th as a day designated for "the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land."[181] In that year the graves of soldiers on both sides of the conflict received decorations at Arlington National Cemetery, and towns throughout the nation celebrated with parades.[182] In 1873 New York became the first state to officially recognize the day, with most northern states participating by 1890.[183]

The *Fairplay Flume*, which began publishing in 1879, described Decoration Day as an annual holiday

formed in 1813.Employing Native American terminology and icons in its rituals, the group grew to a membership of more than 150,000 by the late 1870s and included more than half a million by 1920.

[177] *Fairplay Flume*, 29 November 1883, 4.

[178] *Fairplay Flume*, 17 September 1915, 1.

[179] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 1 February 1906, 1.

[180] History Professor David W. Blight rediscovered this event, which he detailed in "Forgetting Why We Remember," *New York Times*, 29 May 2011.

[181] "Memorial Day," http://www.usmemorialday.org, accessed 15 January 2015.

[182] The Library of Congress, "Soldier's Memorial Day," http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/may30.html, accessed 15 January 2015.

[183] "Memorial Day."

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in that year.[184] In 1883 the newspaper noted the event was observed in much of the United States, with the GAR in charge of most ceremonies.[185] The following year Alma's GAR post invited all members of the organization and the town, the Sunday and high schools, and the people of Fairplay and the region to attend its observance, which began with a procession to the cemetery in Buckskin.[186]

In 1885 Colorado Governor Benjamin Eaton proclaimed the day a legal holiday "for the purpose of giving the people of the state an opportunity to commemorate the lives and services of our honored dead. . . . It is a solemn duty that every citizen owes to the living as well as the dead to make some personal sacrifice and perform some public act in recognition of the personal sacrifices and public services of the dead soldiers of his country."[187] The governor requested all citizens to join in public ceremonies to decorate soldier's graves. The *Flume* mentioned closed businesses, parades, speeches, music, prayers, and decoration of graves as components of ceremonies across the state.[188] Citizens of Fairplay participated in the services at Alma, which included a procession of the GAR, Order of Sons of America (SOA), and private citizens led by the Fairplay cornet band. Participants marched through Alma's principal streets and on to Buckskin Cemetery, where the GAR post led ceremonies that included "handsome flowers placed upon the graves." In the afternoon an oration by M.J. Bartley of Alma at a local hotel was followed by the town's GAR delegation visiting Fairplay Cemetery.[189]

When former Union general and President Ulysses S. Grant died in 1885, Colorado and Park County commemorated him with elaborate ceremonies. Citizens of Alma, Como, Fairplay, and other county communities marked his passing with special events. The decorated Fairplay town hall hosted memorial exercises including a catafalque "adorned with memorial emblems," appropriate music by band and orchestra, and formal addresses "to pay the last sad tribute to the memory of General Grant, the departed hero."[190] A large procession included members of the GAR, SOA, IOOF South Park and Tarryall lodges, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Labor, firemen, and the general citizenry. The Denver & South Park Railroad sold special tickets for passengers from London Junction to Fairplay's event.[191]

As the Civil War grew more distant in people's memories, the original intent of Memorial Day gradually evolved from honoring the dead of that conflict to a holiday for remembrance of all deceased loved ones. In 1902 Alma's *Park County Bulletin* described "appropriate memorial services" in that town, with businesses closed and graves at Buckskin Cemetery decorated—"not only those of the old soldiers, the nation's dead—but also the graves of loved ones of bereaved families, whose forms had been laid to rest on the sunny slope of picturesque Buckskin gulch."[192] In the evening the Ladies Kinnikinnick Club arranged appropriate services. The recognition of soldiers and other loved ones continued the following year, with the placing of flowers and evergreens at Buckskin Cemetery and memorial services at the local chapel.[193] Fairplay publicly memorialized the departed in 1905 with

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[184] *Fairplay Flume*, 27 November 1879, 1.
[185] *Fairplay Flume*, 31 May 1883, 1.
[186] *Fairplay Flume*, 22 May 1884, 4.
[187] *Fairplay Flume*, 14 May 1885, 2.
[188] *Fairplay Flume*, 4 June 1885, 2.
[189] *Fairplay Flume*, 4 June 1885, 4.
[190] *Fairplay Flume*, 30 July 1885, 4. A catafalque is a decorated platform or framework on which a coffin rests during a funeral.
[191] *Fairplay Flume*, 6 August 1885, 4.
[192] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 6 June 1902, 1.
[193] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado) , 5 June 1903, 1.

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three hundred people attending a picnic at Wilkin grove, talking, dining, rejoicing the living, paying tribute to the dead, decorating graves at Fairplay Cemetery, and listening to speeches.[194] In Alma, graves received flowers and those of old soldiers were also decorated with flags.[195]

In 1906 the *Fairplay Flume* printed the letter of a soldier's daughter, who requested, "Do not encourage the decoration of family lots on this [Memorial] day: you have every other day in the year for that purpose."[196] The newspaper reported the governor of Kansas was considering a law to make it a misdemeanor to play ball, race horses, or engage in other sporting events on the day.[197] Park County continued to recognize Memorial Day as a major event of solemn commemoration. In 1908 ceremonies in Fairplay were described as "the best celebration of its kind ever held in Park county" and included an army dinner, the Fairplay orchestra, military maneuvers and field movements, patriotic songs and recitations by students, orations, and a talk by James Moynahan about his experiences in the Civil War. The *Flume* judged: "The influence of such a memorial, especially upon the children of the county, is excellent…."[198] However, by 1911 no formal public arrangements for a Memorial Day program were scheduled, and the *Flume* urged each citizen was urged to place flowers on local graves, while the Knights of Pythias lodge celebrated the day in June.[199] On the eve of World War I, the *Flume* asserted Memorial Day might change, but it would never die, and the event gained new meaning and support as a result of the conflict.[200]

Operation and Maintenance of Park County Cemeteries

Cemeteries provided other opportunities for community activities showing respect for the dead through occasions such as clean-up days. As was typical of many cemeteries in rural areas, the details regarding maintenance, assignment of plots, and decoration of graves often were not written down in Park County. Community members assumed these responsibilities as they did other necessary tasks of benefit to the area or town where they lived. The understanding of cemetery upkeep and burial practices was passed from one generation to the next and was somewhat influenced by trends occurring in the larger environment. The western concept of independence prevails in the operation and care of many cemeteries in the county, which continue to set their own rules.

Over the years various mechanisms existed for operating and maintaining Park County cemeteries. Organizations involved in the ongoing operation of area cemeteries have included fraternal orders, town governments, private families, area volunteers, and the county. In 1899, for example, approximately thirty citizens of Alma worked for two days to get Buckskin Cemetery "cleaned up in first class shape and fenced in."[201] The Lamping Family Cemetery at Webster is privately owned and maintained by members of that family. In 2006 the family pooled resources to erect a fence around the burial ground.[202]

Just as the Fairplay Odd Fellows played an important role in establishing the town's cemetery and operating it in its early years, other fraternal groups exhibited an interest in burial grounds in other

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[194] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 2 June 1905, 1.

[195] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 2 June 1905, 1.

[196] *Fairplay Flume*, 25 May 1906, 4.

[197] *Fairplay Flume*, 31 May 1907, 2.

[198] *Fairplay Flume*, 5 June 1908, 1 and 4. A train carrying many of the participants ran off the tracks, but caused no injuries.

[199] *Fairplay Flume*, 26 May 1911, 1.

[200] *Fairplay Flume*, 23 May 1913, 3.

[201] *Park County Bulletin*, 16 June 1899, 1.

[202] Locke, "Fence Brings Lamping Family Together," 27.

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areas of the county. In 1904 members of the Kayuga Tribe of the Improved Order of Red Men of Alma spent some time fixing up the Buckskin Cemetery grounds and suggested "it would be a popular move on the part of the town to aid in completing the good work," suggesting the site "can be nicely improved and made very beautiful."[203] Today, the Town of Alma is responsible for the burial ground, now known as the Buckskin/Alma Cemetery. A volunteer town and cemetery clean-up day occurs in early October.[204]

Efforts were made to formalize the status of at least one of the smaller cemeteries in the county. In 1938 articles of incorporation were filed for creation of a Buffalo Springs Cemetery Association by Melvin C. Davis, Ralph M. Harrington, and Alfred T. Sherman. The stated purpose of the non-profit organization were "to procure and establish, enlarge, renovate, improve and maintain as a cemetery and place of sepulture the cemetery site now known as the Buffalo Springs Cemetery…."[205] It does not appear this group succeeded in acquiring the cemetery grounds.

The Town of Fairplay acquired a portion of Fairplay Cemetery in 1881, and it now manages and maintains the grounds. Presently, a town ordinance specifies that a Cemetery Board set regulations for the burial ground. By 1956 the developed area of the cemetery was shown as a roughly sixteen-acre rectangle on the USGS map of that year, with smaller discontiguous cemetery uses shown short distances to the north (0.42 acres) and northwest (0.26 acres).[206] The parcel owned by the town holding the cemetery now contains twenty-five acres.

Although Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery was deeded to the county in 1887 by the Deer Valley Association, the latter group continued to maintain the grounds and installed a barbed wire fence about 1900. The county and other parties overlooked the deed transfer until 1976, when descendants of an individual buried in the cemetery reminded the county of its ownership and prompted it to begin maintenance. The county installed a chainlink fence in that year, and, since then, burials have increased. In 1992 the Deer Valley Association gave Park County an additional 0.47 acres to expand the cemetery.[207] The Park County Cemetery Board manages the facility and installed a metal fence resembling wrought iron in 2003.

In 1904, when Dora J. Kolle dedicated twenty acres for the Snair/Lake George Cemetery, she informed county officials that neighboring residents assisted in fencing the grounds.[208] Volunteers from the area have always maintained the grounds, according to local historian Steve Plutt. He indicates survivors do not have to purchase burial plots, and into the 1980s there was no charge to be buried in the cemetery.[209]

In the 1990s Park County established a Cemetery Board to manage burial grounds owned by the county. The eight-member board now oversees the following cemeteries: Como, Deer Creek/Horn, Snair/Lake George, Park Cemetery, and Shawnee. Burial policies adopted by the county covers such matters as eligibility for burial, permits, locations, funeral procedures, and activities within the cemeteries. Family members bear the responsibility for maintaining graves and plots. The Park

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[203] *Park County Bulletin* (Alma, Colorado), 6 May 1904, 1

[204] Alma Foundation, www.almafoundation.org, accessed 23 January 2015.

[205] Buffalo Springs Cemetery Association, certificate of incorporation, filed with the Colorado Secretary of State, 21 May 1938, Denver, Colorado.

[206] U.S. Geological Survey, Fairplay East, Colorado, 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle map (Reston, Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey, 1956).

[207] Woodward, *Deer Valley*, 85-86.

[208] F.B. McIntyre, Park County Treasurer, letter to Dora J. Kolle, 18 July 1904, copy provided by Steve Plutt, Lake George, Colorado.

[209] Steve Plutt, Lake George, Colorado, email to Thomas H. and R. Laurie Simmons, 21 January 2015.

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County Road and Bridge Department performs opening and closing of graves for burials; the cost ranges from $400 to $2,000.[210]

Cemetery Components

Entire published books discuss gravemarker types, materials, symbolism, iconography, styles, and manufacturers. It is not the intent of this section to replicate those works. This discussion is limited to the major components found in Park County cemeteries, as identified during the reconnaissance survey and additional fieldwork. In general, the larger Park County town and community cemeteries tend to include a fuller range of gravemarker types and represent more national patterns and trends than family burial grounds. Since thirteen of the county's principal twenty cemeteries have fewer than fifty graves each, it is reasonable they display a narrower range of gravemarker types and materials.

Cemetery Gravemarkers

Glossary of Gravemarker Types

The following glossary utilizes definitions provided in *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* and additional terms recognized by other sources to encompass the principal types of gravemarkers found in Park County cemeteries. The National Register terminology is noted with an asterisk (*).[211] Monument makers call the top member of a monument the die or block, the middle the base or upper base, and if there is a third piece, the bottom base.[212] The terms below describe the basic form of the marker, but a number of variations exist for each type. In addition to monuments designed for individuals, Park County cemeteries contain several for couples and a few serving multiple family members. Figure 17 provides some illustrations of monument types from county cemeteries. No mausoleums are known to exist in Park County.

> Bevel Marker.* A rectangular gravemarker, set low to the ground, having straight sides and uppermost, inscribed surface raked at a low angle.

> Cairn.* "A mound of stones marking a burial place." Mounds of rock and stone borders are simple ways of marking graves used throughout the county's history.

> Column. An upright cylindrical shaft atop a base, which may be broken at the top and may or may not have a capital.

> Flush marker.* "A flat, rectangular gravemarker set flush with the lawn or surface of the ground." Also known as a "lawn-type" marker and more likely to be found in post-World War II burial grounds or newer sections of older cemeteries.

> Footstone. A small upright block marking the foot of the grave; usually composed of the same material as the headstone and often inscribed with the initials of the deceased.

> Monolith.* "A large, vertical stone gravemarker having no base or cap."

> Obelisk.* "A four-sided, tapering shaft having a pyramidal point; a gravemarker type

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[210] Park County Cemetery Board, "Park County Cemetery Burial Policies" and "Rules and Regulations of Park County Owned Cemeteries," www.parkco.us, accessed 17 July 2014.
[211] Elisabeth Walton Potter and Beth M. Boland, U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service [hereafter cited as USDOI-NPS], *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Interior, 1992), 28-29.
[212] Roberts Marble Company, *Monuments of Georgia Marble & Granite* (Ball Ground, Georgia: Georgia Mable Company, n.d.), 2.

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popularized by romantic taste for classical imagery."

Pulpit. An upright shaft having a slanted top (often displaying a book) set atop one or more bases.

Pedestal. An upright four-sided shaft that may have a vaulted top or be topped by an urn, orb, or symbol. The pedestal may have inscriptions on more than one side.

Slant Marker.* "A rectangular gravemarker having straight sides and an inscribed surface raked at an acute angle."

Tablet. "A rectangular gravemarker set at a right angle to the ground, having inscriptions, raised lettering or carved decoration predominantly on vertical planes, and top surface finished in straight, pedimented, round, oval, or serpentine fashion." During Park County's early days wood tablets were utilized often, but most have deteriorated in the high altitude environment. In the twentieth century, stone slabs of 6" to 8" in thickness, polished and inscribed on one side and placed vertically on a base, were common.

Material Types

The different eras of burials within Park County cemeteries are recognizable through examination of monument materials, styles, epitaphs, and symbols. Often, markers of similar age are found together, with the cemetery expanding burial areas outward over time. Reports indicate early gravemarkers in some cemeteries of the county were wood tablets or crosses that soon deteriorated in the high altitude climate. Some early graves were outlined or covered with native fieldstones, and some larger pieces of native stone were carved to serve as headstones. Many of Park County's nineteenth-century monuments included bases of buff or gray sandstone or imported white or gray marble. These bases were often placed on bottom bases of red sandstone or other stone of contrasting color. Granite became popular for gravestones in the late nineteenth century and continuing into the twentieth, including shades of gray, black, or red. Limestone also was utilized for markers. Metal cemetery and funeral home markers are present for some graves.

Zinc or "white bronze" monuments manufactured from the 1870s into the early twentieth century were seldom acquired in Park County. The only known example is the 1886 monument for the three Koehler children in Como Cemetery. Concrete, infrequently employed for markers, represented an affordable alternative material that could be used by amateurs. An example of concrete construction is a group of four tablets ornamented with pieces of white quartz (one dated 1948) and displaying inscribed red sandstone plaques in Como Cemetery. An example of a faux bois (artistic imitation of wood, usually as a tree trunk) marker is present in the Bordenville Cemetery, marking the 1891 grave of Thomas M. Dunbar and emblematic of his participation in the Woodmen of the World fraternal order (see below).

Monument Makers

According to local historian Jerry Davis, members of the Malpuss family of Como produced sepulchral monuments in the 1880s and early 1890s, and some of the markers in the town cemetery "are very likely their work."[213] The Malpuss Brothers, William L. and Charles E., operated the Leadville Marble Works starting in 1894, and historian Annette Stott has identified examples of their work in that city's

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[213] Jerry Davis, Colorado Springs, Colorado, email to Tom and Laurie Simmons, 11 August 2014; Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 102. Annette Stott's *Pioneer Cemeteries* includes a photograph of an elaborate *faux bois* monument in Leadville's Evergreen Cemetery by Malpuss.

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Evergreen Cemetery.[214] The brothers also operated the Como Marble Works and advertised in the *Fairplay Flume* in 1895 as dealing in foreign and American marble and granite. The company offered "monuments, tombs, tablets, headstones, cemetery copings and iron fencing."[215] No examples of their work have been identified in Park County.

Several noted monument craftsmen and manufacturers are represented in Park County cemeteries.[216] As Stott observes, by the 1880s Salt Lake City, Helena-Butte, and Denver "all became monument-making centers, sending their products throughout the region."[217] The Fairplay Cemetery includes markers by Bills & Pierce (later Bills Brothers) of Denver. The partnership of William Z. Bills and William R. Pierce was listed in Denver city directories from 1881 to at least 1892. Bills was joined in the business by his brothers and H.C. Hefner, and the company remained an important regional monument producer into the early decades of the twentieth century. Advertisements described the firm as "designers and builders of monuments, mausoleums, statuary, iron fence, vases, settees."[218]

Fairplay Cemetery also features an 1882 monument for Emma Pascoe produced by Greenlee Drake & Co. of Pueblo. The Western White Bronze Company of Des Moines, Iowa, produced the 1886 Koehler monument in Como Cemetery. Incorporated in 1884, the firm preferred the more artistic term "white bronze" over zinc for the material employed to fabricate its markers, which were shipped to several states in the Midwest and Rocky Mountains.[219] Peter M. Flanagan (1853-1909), a noted marble and granite carver of Richford, Vermont, produced the Inez (Snair) Derby marker in the Snair/Lake George Cemetery.[220] Both Sears Roebuck & Company and Montgomery Ward & Company offered stone monuments by mail order with customized carved inscriptions, as well as grave fencing.[221]

Epitaphs and Emblems

The National Register defines an epitaph as an inscription on a gravemarker identifying and/or commemorating the dead. These words can be an original message identifying important attributes of the deceased, such as "Loving wife and mother" or "Colorado pioneer." Biblical and literary quotes appropriate for the dead person are also found on markers. Monument makers published lists of popular epitaphs that could be inscribed, with some relating general sentiments such as "Rest in peace," "Our loved one," "Our darlings," and "Gone, but not forgotten." Others expressed religious messages such as "Asleep in Jesus" and "Farewell my wife/and children all./From you a father Christ doth call."[222] Many of the monuments in Park County cemeteries display longer quotations of several lines along their bases; some are now difficult to read due to deterioration.

Organizational Emblems. Park County fraternal lodges, workers' unions, and mutual benefit societies

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[214] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 101-02.

[215] *Fairplay Flume*, 15 February 1895, 4.

[216] A comprehensive survey and inventory to identify monument makers in county cemeteries has not been undertaken. The examples provided were noted in the field examination of cemeteries.

[217] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 98.

[218] *Rocky Mountain News*, 1 January 1917, 1.

[219] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 214-15.

[220] Steve Plutt, Lake George, Colorado, email to Thomas H. Simmons, 8 September 2014; *St. Albans Daily Messenger* (St. Albans, Vermont), 17 July 1909.

[221] Historic monument catalogues for both companies and others are available online.

[222] The latter sentiment is found on the Como Cemetery broken column monument of Edward F. Reed, who died in 1893, aged thirty-seven. Nearby is a monument for three of Reed's sons who died in 1896 and 1897 at ages three, six, and seven and a monument for his daughter, Susan Adelia Reed, who died in 1905. His wife, Adelia Cecelia Borden Reed, later married Norvil Wilson and lived until 1957.

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who provided assistance with burials had their symbols or emblems carved onto cemetery monuments of their members. These symbols included the Masons' compass and square, the Odd Fellows' three linked chains, and the Woodmen of the World's circular emblem containing a felled log or tree stump. These emblems are found on both men's and women's gravemarkers. A star-shaped emblem of the women's auxiliary of the Masons, the Eastern Star, is also inscribed on some graves in Park County.

Symbolism. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries people understood a number of symbols employed to convey additional meanings on gravestones. A wide variety of such symbols are found in Park County cemeteries, ranging from those with religious meanings to those conveying a message about the character of the deceased to those reflecting the manner of death or the feelings of those left behind to mourn. Interpretation of the meaning of these symbols varies somewhat according to source. A few of the more popular symbols found on gravemarkers in Park County and their common meanings include: angels (agents or messengers of God), banners (victory), books (learning, the Bible), cornucopias (full life), crowns (immortality, righteousness, faith), pointing finger (ascent to heaven, departed), garlands (victory in death), gateways (entrance to heaven or afterlife), stars (spirit in heaven, rebirth), urns (mourning and death), wheat sheaves (divine harvest), rose buds (a child), blooming roses (a young adult), tree stumps or broken branches (life interrupted), and vines (God). Many additional symbols exist, for example, a number of flowers represent some specific quality, such as lilies (purity, innocence, love), morning glories (youth), and poppies (death, eternal sleep). Certain trees are also frequently etched on monuments, such as oaks (strength) and weeping willows (sorrow). Popular animal images, mostly found on children's graves, include doves and lambs, with lambs the most common symbol.

A relatively small proportion of monuments in Park County cemeteries display explicitly religious symbols such as crosses. Como Cemetery, particularly a small area in the northern section of the grounds, has a much higher concentration of religious-themed grave markers. The cemetery includes three tall monuments topped by large crosses (those of Andrew Dooner, 1889; Loretto and Mary Gallagher, 1887; and Anne Delaney, 1901), monuments with an etched cross on their faces (Joann Murphy, 1945; Mayme D. Champion, 1968; and Peter and Annunzieta Marinelli, 1898/1922), a bas relief of Jesus with three children (on the shaft of the white bronze marker for the three Koehler children, 1886), and two religious statues. The Irish and Italian ethnicity of those buried suggests the monuments in this section reflect Catholic burial practices.

A very large monument in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery honoring members of the Swanson family is topped by a sculptural angel. Fairplay Cemetery contains a few examples of religious markers, including: large stone crosses on two graves (Frederick Galloway, 1904 and Thomas Edmonson, 1898); a tall granite monument with a large carved cross on its face (Adolphe and Marie Guiraud, 1875/1909), and a few more recent markers featuring etched crosses. The Lamping Family Cemetery contains a shrine with religious statuary, three graves with concrete crosses and embedded stones, and several stone monuments with etched or carved crosses.

Differences in Markers by Age and Gender

Children's Gravemarkers. Children's deaths were especially poignant, and many details of their gravemarker designs convey this fact. Younger children's markers were often smaller in size than those of adults, the diminutive monuments invoking extra pathos. Many children's markers utilized white sandstone or marble, no doubt symbolizing the innocence and purity of youth. Children's memorials often displayed special images and inscriptions intended to bring solace to the bereaved. Lambs, the symbol of innocence, were among the most popular images for children's markers in Park

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County, including etched and carved sculptural representations. Four-year-old Louis E. Troppe's marker in Bordenville Cemetery displays a resting lamb and the inscription "Asleep in Jesus," while two-day-old "Baby Drake" in Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery is commemorated with a marker topped by a carved lamb. Other popular symbols for the young included angels, birds, buds, and flowers.

During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries children's gravestones typically provided their exact ages, including the number of years, months, and days.[223] Lennie DeBarneure's 1886 white marble marker in Como Cemetery is ornamented with a banner reading "Our Baby" entwined with carved morning glories (understood as a symbol of youth and often associated with the death of a child). His age is recorded as "3Ys. 8Ms. 10 Ds."[224] Flowers adorn many monuments to children in Park County. Thirteen-year-old Daisy Stark's 1887 gravestone in Como Cemetery appropriately displays carved daisies, another symbol of innocence. Thomas "Tommy" Oliver's final resting place in Como Cemetery is enclosed with a Stewart Iron Works fence and contains a miniature wood and metal sled placed in front of the gravemarker.

Women's Gravemarkers. Women's monuments in Park County also testify to the short lifespans experienced by many, and those of the late nineteenth century often provide the exact number of years, months, and days lived. The marker of Nettie Keirstead, "Wife of H.W. Keirstead/Died/June 4, 1892/aged 16 years," found in Como Cemetery documents the changing views of American society toward the appropriate age for marriage. Born in Joplin, Missouri, to Irish immigrants John and Mary Nethery, Nettie married Hazen W. Keirstead at Webster, Park County, in February 1892 and died in June of the same year. The *Fairplay Flume* reported briefly on her marriage, but no mention of her death was found.[225] High maternal mortality rates continued well into the twentieth century, as evidenced by numerous gravemarkers for women of childbearing age.

Nineteenth-century women's markers demonstrated the significance of husbands in defining their lives by including as a basic piece of information the inscription "wife of" together with the man's name. Twenty-seven-year-old Sara J. Cameron's 1882 monument in Fairplay Cemetery is an example of this frequently employed convention. Produced by the monument firm of Bills & Pierce of Denver, the marker features a female and a male hand clasping, which symbolized the departure from this life and perhaps a future meeting of the couple in heaven. Andy M. Cameron selected the inscription, "In memory of her I loved so well," for the monument. Some markers provided the deceased's maiden name; the 1882 marker for Marie Reichenecker in Como Cemetery includes the notation "nee Trefz." An 1889 monument in Snair/Lake George Cemetery reads "Inez S. Snair, Wife of W.A. Derby," recognizing her ancestry as a member of the pioneering Snair ranching family of Park County. Women's markers are often of light-colored stone and decorated with floral or foliate carving, birds, or open gates. Affiliation with a women's organization is sometimes revealed through an emblem, such as the symbol of the Order of Eastern Star, a women's auxiliary of the Masons, on Hannah Dixon's 1911 monument in Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery.

Men's Gravemarkers. Gravemarkers of men in Park County cemeteries often mention their spouse's names and include inscriptions indicating "Husband" or "Father." Nineteenth-century markers often provide the exact age at death in years, months, and days. The 1894 marker for William Henry Holthusen avows: "He was a kind and affectionate father." Emblems identifying membership in fraternal orders or military service are commonly found on men's monuments. For example, Solomon

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[223] In Park County, many adult markers also provided the exact number of years, months, and days the deceased person lived.

[224] His father served as mayor of Como and in other positions of community leadership in the 1880s.

[225] Nettie Kierstead, Como Cemetery, Park County, Colorado, http://www.findagrave.com, accessed 20 January 2015.

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B. Roth's large 1909 gravestone in Como Cemetery proclaims: "Here lies a Woodman of the World." William McCartney's 1891 Bordenville Cemetery gravemarker displays a Masonic emblem, while Thomas J. Berry's 1914 marker in Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery contains a symbol of the Odd Fellows. Some non-government headstones for men describe military service. Fred P. Turner's 1918 marker states: "His life for his country," and Wilson Mathews' 1899 marker records his participation in the Civil War with a "GAR, 1861-1866" inscription. Geometric and foliate designs are among the most popular on men's monuments, as are open gates. Few markers provide an indication of occupation or leadership roles.

Military Gravemarkers. The distinctive headstones marking the graves of military veterans are found throughout Park County. Examination of their inscriptions and styles provides information about the conflicts that citizens of the county participated in around the world. Standardization of military headstones began before the Civil War, as soldiers in frontier areas died and were buried on military posts or where they succumbed. Marking such graves with a round-top wood board bearing a registration number or inscription became the first effort to memorialize and record such deaths. During the Civil War Union commanders were given the responsibility of burials and grave marking, and the Quartermaster General was charged with providing wood headboards and books to record burials in. The wood headboards had a life expectancy of less than five years.[226]

By the end of the Civil War the government began to look for a more permanent way to mark graves. In 1873 the first design for headstones of Union Army veterans in national cemeteries was authorized: a "slab of white marble or other durable stone" with a rounded top, precise measurements, a slightly polished front, and a sunken shield inscribed with the grave number, rank, name of soldier, and name of his state. This design became known as the "Civil War type." In 1879 Congress authorized such stones for the unmarked graves of veterans in private cemeteries, including those who served in earlier wars. The basic design was utilized until after World War I, when the "General type," with a slightly rounded top white marble headstone, was authorized. Those markers displayed the deceased's name, rank, regiment and division, date of death, and state. Religious emblems for Christian and Jewish affiliation could be added. Flat markers were authorized in 1937 and a flat bronze style in 1940. Birthdates as part of the inscribed information were approved in 1944.

Park County author Laura Van Dusen examined Park County's Civil War veteran's graves and found those with military headstones appear to be exclusively Union Army veterans. She reports, "The few Confederate graves found do not have military headstones. Only the single word 'Confederate' in a newspaper obituary tells readers of that part of a pioneer's history."[227] The common link between the veterans was their presence in Park County after the conflict and their patriotism in honoring the fallen on Memorial Day, such as in 1905 when men of both sides shared their war memories and picnicked on the types of food they consumed during the war.[228] Van Dusen's research identified veterans' graves in Buckskin/Alma, Como, Fairplay, Shawnee, Guffey, Green/Buffalo Springs, Snair/Lake George, Deer Creek/Horn, and Lamping cemeteries. An example of a Civil War type monument recorded by Van Dusen is found in Fairplay Cemetery marking the grave of Captain E.W. Hershe. He joined an infantry company in Iowa before being assigned as a white officer with the

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[226] Information in this section is summarized from U.S., Department of Veterans' Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, "History of Government Furnished Headstone and Markers," www.cem.va.gov/history/hmhist.asp, accessed 24 January 2015.
[227] Laura Van Dusen, *Historic Tales from Park County: Parked in the Past,* American Chronicles History Press Series (Charleston: The History Press, 2013), 59.
[228] Van Dusen, *Historic Tales*, 60.

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Eighth Louisiana Colored Infantry. In 1864 the latter group merged into the Forty-seventh U.S. Colored Infantry, which consisted mostly of freed or escaped slaves and white officers. After sustaining injuries in a battle in Mississippi, Hershe applied for an invalid's pension. He married in 1871 in Iowa, but his wife died the following year. After arriving in the Horseshoe mining district of Park County he lived thirty-two years in a one-room shack and was described as a "quaint character with an education that placed him far above the average man."[229]

Minority and Ethnic Graves

Few examples of minority or ethnic gravemarkers were noted in cemeteries examined during the Park County reconnaissance and nomination projects. Obituaries provided few descriptions of such demographics. One account commemorated Archibald Alexander, "the colored mining man of Alma," died in 1906 and was laid to rest in the Buckskin/Alma Cemetery. Described as "a kindly old man, well liked by the whole community," Archibald was celebrated at a funeral in Alma's Mission Chapel "where a large audience paid its last respect."[230]

Chinese miners who worked at the King Mine and placers along the rivers and streams constituted one of the largest minority groups in Park County in the 1880s. Annette Stott reports that before 1900 the Chinese custom was to mark a grave with a simple wood board. After a few years the deceased's bones were exhumed and returned to China for reburial and grave maintenance by family members. The wood markers were likely discarded. She indicates that no nineteenth-century headboards with Chinese inscriptions have been found in the Rocky Mountain region.[231]

An 1885 account by the *Fairplay Flume* concerning two Chinese miners whose bodies were taken to Denver for burial provides some insight into the traditional ceremonies surrounding such events. After their deaths, the two men's bodies were placed in an old barn to await their funerals, reportedly because their countrymen believed it was bad luck to place a murdered person in a dwelling. A group of about fifty Chinese people wearing mourning sashes of white and red, scattered along the route of the coffins "holy money," a type of tissue paper inscribed with writing reported to ease the way for the deceased in death.[232]

In 1914, the *Fairplay Flume* noted the death of Ah Yut, "the last Chinaman in Park County." Yut came to the area to work on placer mines with other Chinese in the 1880s. While others departed, Yut continued sluicing and lived the life of a hermit on Beaver Creek. The newspaper opined, "The Chinese are a very clannish people and usually prefer to bury their dead with their own peculiar rites." The "Chinese Colony in Denver" declined to attend to Yut since he did not belong to any of their lodges. His burial took place in Fairplay Cemetery.[233]

In 1921 a gold dredge working near Fairplay shoveled out numerous human skeletons, each buried with a "little idol," as reported in the *Rocky Mountain News*. The bones were said to be those of Chinese cooks who arrived with the gold rush fifty years previously. The newspaper reported, "The idols were to serve as guides to lead the spirits of the departed to the land of the poppy." A local laundryman, Lu Chin, verified the skeletons were those of people from China "buried in a secret burial ground to prevent other countrymen from knowing that they had not been shipped to their native country." Lu Chin stated it was "considered a disgrace for any self-respecting Chinese to be buried in

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[229] Van Dusen, *Historic Tales*, 64-65.
[230] *Fairplay Flume*, 3 August 1906, 1
[231] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 89.
[232] Fairplay Flume, 3 and 10 September 1885.
[233] *Fairplay Flume*, 6 February 1914, 1.

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America."[234]

The Farnum family cemetery, associated with one of the ranches along Tarryall Road, is one of the few burial grounds that reportedly contains the grave of a Native American.[235] Luna Tappan, a young Navajo boy who was stolen from his people in southern Colorado was later traded for a sack of flour to a Mr. Tappan, who provided his surname. Luna escaped and fled to the Farnum Ranch, where he lived until late 1877 before dying when in his teens of pneumonia. His unmarked grave lies within a burial ground enclosed by a wrought iron fence, where two Farnum sons are buried under a shared monument, and a young granddaughter rests in an unmarked grave.[236]

Some people who took pride in their ethnic roots received gravemarkers with their place of origin carved on them. Others' indicated their heritage through symbolism on their burial monument. For example, John T. Taylor, "late of Twickenham, London, England," died in Victor, Colorado, in 1896, and has a monument in Fairplay Cemetery enclosed with a wrought iron fence. Thomas Edmonson, whose 1898 headstone notes he came from Castlerigg, Kewsick, England, is commemorated with a large upright marble cross atop a stone base inscribed, "In Thee O God, is our home." Johannes Hoffmann's gravestone, which features clasped hands and carved leaves, is inscribed on the front and back in German and indicates the town where he lived and his death on Mt. Cameron in 1882. Julia Ryan, buried in Fairplay Cemetery, has a marker carved with shamrocks and a harp.

Cemetery Fencing

Cast and wrought iron, wood picket, and woven wire grave enclosures surround some individual graves and larger family plots within Park County cemeteries and may reflect the impact of national tastes in funerary design.[237] Metal grave fencing, available by catalogue in component sections from a distant manufacturer, was assembled on the site by an agent (often a local monument dealer). Professor Stott suggests "the common occurrence of these metal grave enclosures in rather isolated mountain cemeteries suggests an attempt not only to mark the boundaries of the grave mound, making it visible in the tall grass, but to keep animals and people off the grave."[238] Different styles were produced by combining vertical fencing members, including pickets, hairpins, bows, and scalloped pickets. A metal shield or raised lettering often identifies the manufacturer.

Fairplay Cemetery displays the largest number and greatest variety of metal grave enclosures and includes the work of such firms as Stewart Iron Works (Cincinnati, Ohio); J.H. Van Dorn Manufacturing Co. (Cleveland, Ohio), W.T. Barbee Fence Works (Lafayette, Indiana), Muncie Architectural Iron Works (Muncie, Indiana), Bills Bros. (Denver), and E.T. Barnum (Detroit, Michigan). Two fence makers were identified in Como Cemetery: Stewart Iron Works (Wichita, Kansas) and Muncie Architectural Iron Works. Two grave enclosures found in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery are the work of Bills Brothers (Denver) and Stewart Iron Works (Cincinnati, Ohio). Stewart Iron Works, founded in Covington, Kentucky, in 1886, was "one of the largest manufacturers of iron fencing found in cemeteries," according to the Chicora Foundation, a cemetery preservation source. The company also operated offices in Wichita, Kansas, and Cincinnati, Ohio, during the early twentieth century.[239]

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[234] *Weekly Rocky Mountain News*, 27 October 1921, 5.

[235] Walter F. Allen account quoted in Harbour, *The Tarryall Mountains*, 24-28.

[236] R. Laurie Simmons and Thomas H. Simmons, Farnum Cemetery, 5PA.4460, Architectural Inventory Form, October 2010, on file at History Colorado, Denver, Colorado.

[237] A comprehensive survey and inventory to identify grave enclosure manufacturers in county cemeteries has not been undertaken. The examples provided were noted in the field examination of cemeteries.

[238] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 28-29.

[239] Chicora Foundation, "Brief Synopsis of a Few Cemetery Fence Companies, Columbia, South Carolina,"

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Wood grave enclosures are also found in Park County cemeteries. A 2010 survey of Como Cemetery identified seven wood grave enclosures featuring flat pickets. Several examples of wood grave enclosures (some deteriorating) are found in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery, featuring square pickets and elaborated corner posts (see Figure 3). Wood grave enclosures are also found in Deer Creek/Horn, Snair/Lake George, and Rocky. Guffey, Hartsel, and Currant Creek cemeteries feature collapsed and/or partially collapsed wood grave fencing. Guffey Cemetery contains one grave enclosure with barbed wire on wood posts, while the Park City Cemetery has an enclosure with wood corner posts and metal rails. Cemeteries with no extant historic grave enclosures include Green/Buffalo Springs, Miller, Lamping Family, Old Fairplay, Hawxhurst, and Dudley. Woven wire fencing is also present in county cemeteries, displaying a variety of patterns and most featuring stiffeners to keep the fence fabric even. The Chicora Foundation observed "these were the least expensive and many were very intricate. Unfortunately they are also the least well preserved, often being damaged by mowing and quickly corroding."[240]

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www.chicora.org. The organization specializes in cemetery research, surveys, and restoration.
[240] Chicora Foundation, "Brief Synopsis of a Few Cemetery Fence Companies."

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Table 1
PARK COUNTY CEMETERIES

Name	State ID No.	Cemetery Type	Elevation	Early Date	Active	Approx. Acres	Approx. Num. of Burials	Survey 2013-14
1. Buckskin/Alma*	5PA.397	Town	10,616	ca. 1859	Yes	6.00	300	Yes
2. Bordenville*	5PA.369	Community	8,973	1880	Yes	2.46	65	Yes
3. Green/Buffalo Springs*	5PA.368	Community	8,962	1877	Yes	0.28	45	Yes
4. Como*	5PA.385	Town	9,855	1887	Yes	4.48	481	Yes
5. Currant Creek	N/A	Community	8,808	1879	No	0.18	18	Yes
6. Dudley	5PA.365	Community	10,275	1875	No	0.13	10	Yes
7. Fairplay*	5PA.387	Town	9,818	1863	Yes	25.00	650	Yes
8. Farnum*	5PA.4460	Family	8,627	1872	No	0.01	4	No
9. Guffey (Freshwater)*	N/A	Community	8,736	1897	No	5.00	30	Yes
10. Hartsel	5PA.381	Community	8,960	1888	No	0.39	10	Yes
11. Hawxhurst	N/A	Family	9,171	1880	No	0.01	2	Yes
12. Deer Creek/ Horn*	5PA.376	Community	8,222	1875	Yes	1.20	200	Yes
13. Snair/ Lake George*	5PA.382	Community	7,891	1872	Yes	9.08	176	No
14. Lamping Family/ Webster No. 2	5PA.372	Family	8,996	1892	Yes	2.36	58	Yes
15. Miller	N/A	Family	9,302	1908	No	0.01	2	Yes
16. Old Fairplay*	5PA.386	Community	9,973	1863	No	0.22	7	Yes
17. Park City	5PA.341	Community	10,418	1880	No	1.35	30	Yes
18. Rocky (Caylor)*	5PA.383	Community	8,219	1863	No	0.14	5	Yes
19. Shawnee	5PA.366	Family	8,027	1895	No	0.09	22	Yes

NOTE: Numbers are keyed to locations shown in Figure 2. Isolated burials are not considered cemeteries and are not included. Acres and number of burials are approximate. An asterisk denotes cemeteries examined in 2014 or earlier years by the nomination preparers. "Survey 2013-14" indicates which cemeteries were included in the recent reconnaissance survey by Park County staff.

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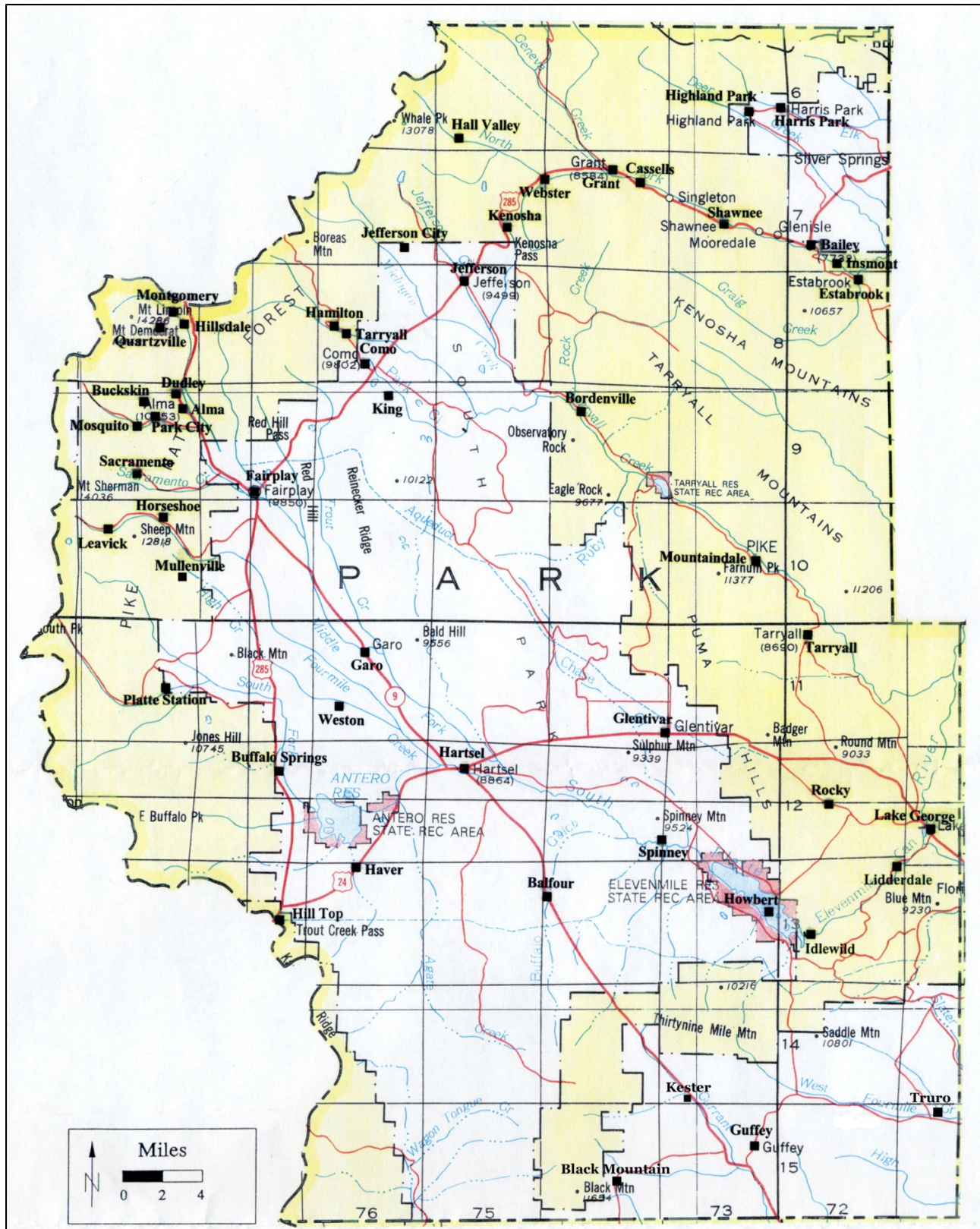Section number E   Page 47   Park County, Colorado, Historic Cemeteries

Figure 1. Current and Historic Park County Towns, Mining Camps, Other Settlements, and Rural Post Offices. Courtesy of Simmons and Simmons, "Park County, Colorado, Historic Contexts" (2006), extract of Figure II-1. Base map is extract of U.S. Geological Survey, Colorado State Map.

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CEMETERY LOCATIONS
Park County, Colorado

Legend

Cemetery Type
● Town
■ Community
⬢ Family

No.	Name
1	Buckskin/Alma
2	Bordenville
3	Green/Buffalo Springs
4	Como
5	Currant Creek
6	Dudley
7	Fairplay
8	Farnum
9	Guffey (Freshwater)
10	Hartsel
11	Hawxhurst
12	Deer Creek/Horn
13	Snair/Lake George
14	Lamping Family (Webster Cemetery No. 2)
15	Miller
16	Old Fairplay
17	Park City
18	Rocky (Caylor)
19	Shawnee

Figure 2. Park County Cemetery Locations.

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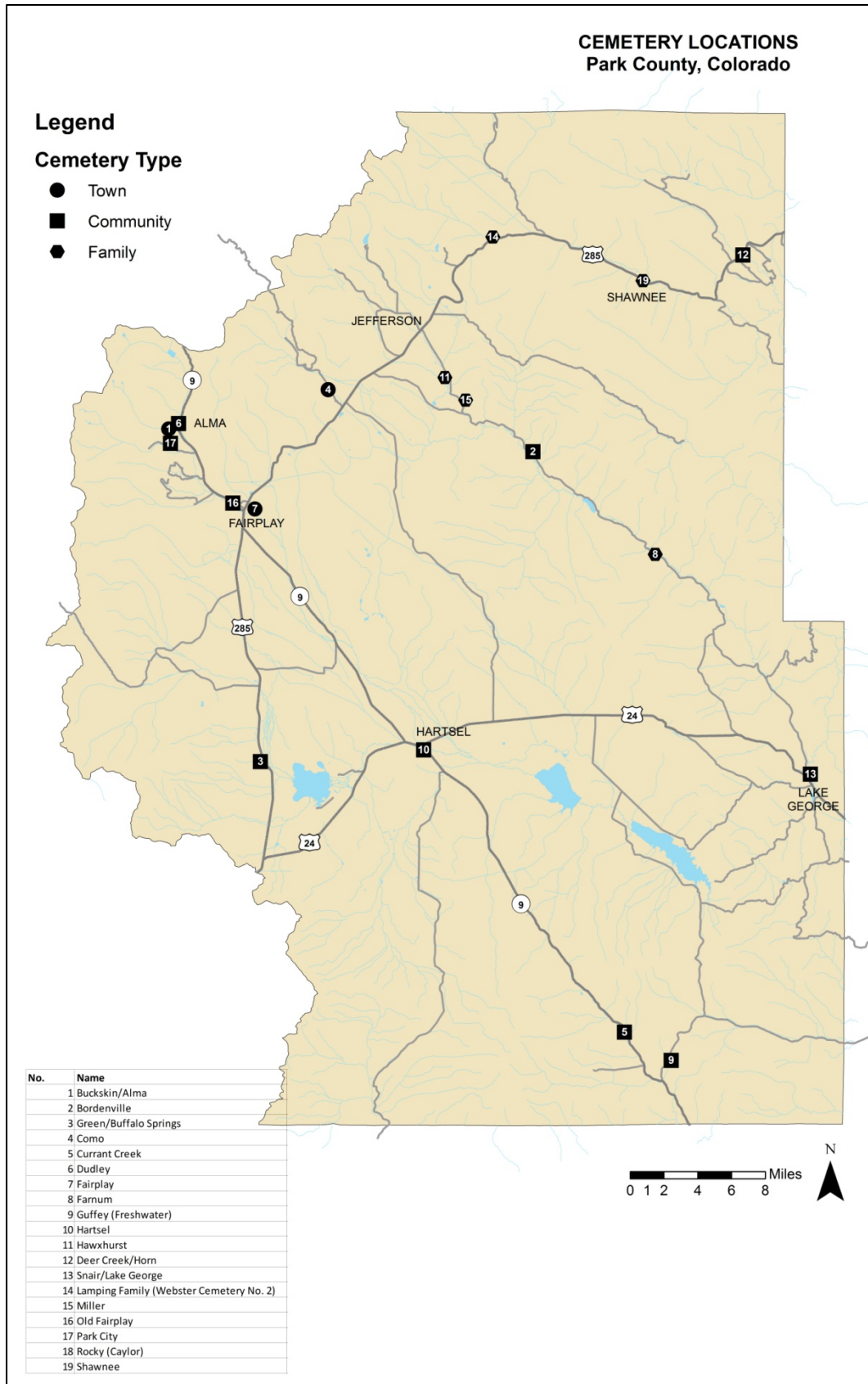Section number E   Page 49   Park County, Colorado, Historic Cemeteries

Figure 3. Founded in the early 1860s on Hoosier Pass, Montgomery Cemetery featured this wood picket grave enclosure with a wood gravemarker. Its graves were relocated to Fairplay Cemetery in 1953 when reservoir construction for the Colorado Springs water supply inundated the Montgomery townsite. Courtesy of South Park Historical Foundation, image number 2273, undated (pre-1953), in the files of the Park County Local History Archives, Fairplay, Colorado.

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Figure 4. In 1949, a wood marker in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery identified the grave of infant Johnny Jurgen, who died in 1881. Courtesy of Park County Local History Archives, photographic collection, Fairplay, Colorado.

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Figure 5. Muriel Sibell Wolle captured this photograph of Buckskin Cemetery on a ca. 1942 trip to Colorado's mining areas. Courtesy of Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, image number X-5468, ca. 1942, Denver, Colorado.

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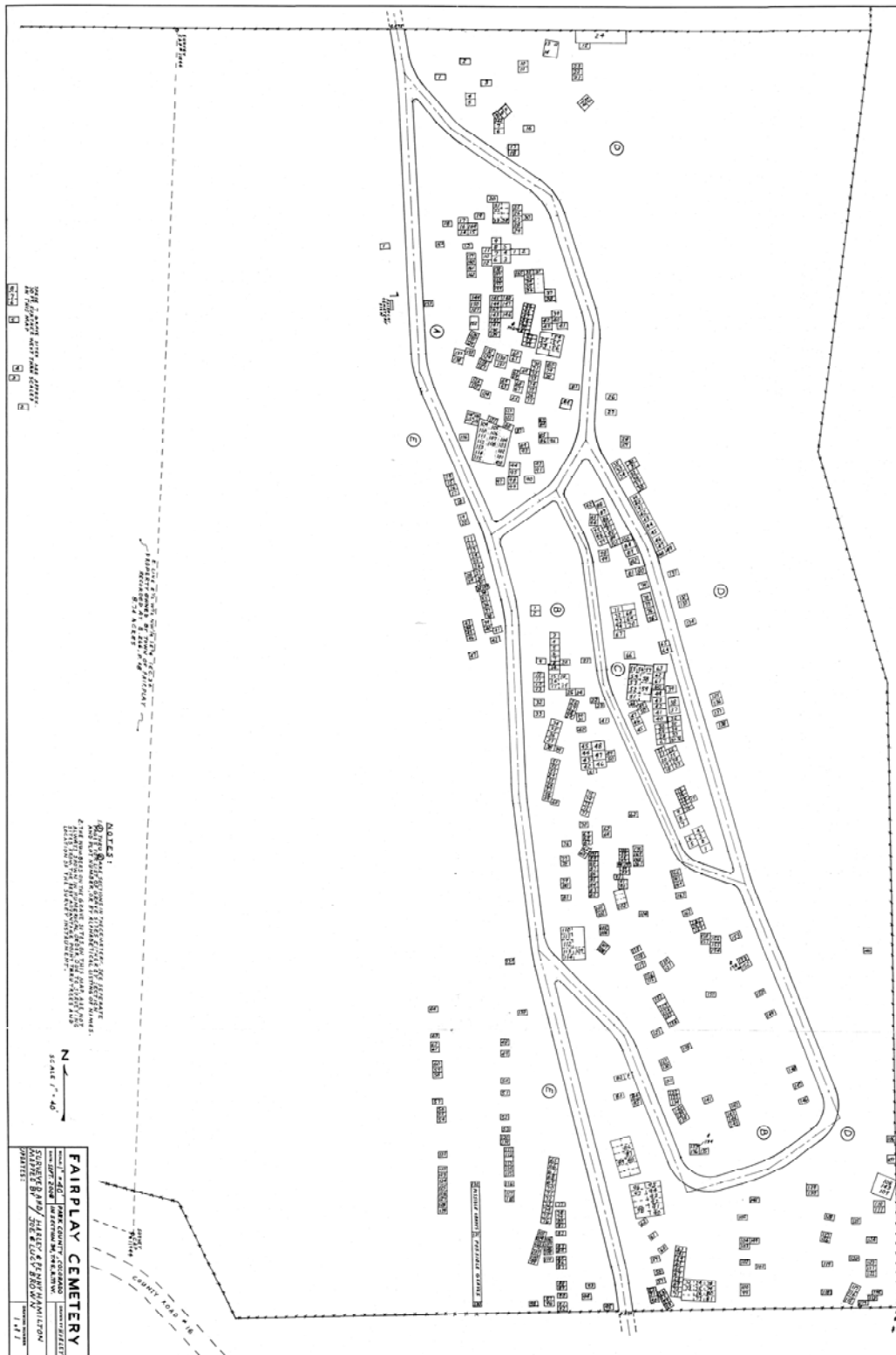
Figure 6. A 2008 survey of Fairplay Cemetery produced this map showing the arrangement of graves. The configuration does not appear to reflect formal platting of the grounds. Harley and Penny Hamilton and Joe and Lucy Brown, "Fairplay Cemetery", September 2008, Courtesy of Park County Local History Archives, Fairplay, Colorado.

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Figure 7. This early 1900s view of the grave of Ruth Smith in
Fairplay illustrates the use of metal grave enclosures and
shows a number of aspen trees growing in the plot. Courtesy of
Park County Local History Archives, image 2584, Isaac S.
Smith collection, Fairplay, Colorado.

Figure 8. Colorado artist Muriel Sibell Wolle took several photographs of Fairplay Cemetery ca.
1942. The image shows a dense growth of aspen trees and the 1941 grave of Anitra A. Richardson
near the center, with a pattern of light-colored stones in the foreground. Courtesy of Western
History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, Muriel Sibell Wolle, photographer,
image number X-4013, Denver, Colorado.

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Figure 9. This ca. 1880s view shows a wood picket grave enclosure at the Old Fairplay Cemetery, with the town of Fairplay in the background. The stone gravemarkers within the enclosure are for Louisa A. McLaughlin (left, who died in 1868) and Mime McLaughlin (right, who died in 1872). Courtesy of Park County Local History Archives, image number 3290, Fairplay, Colorado.

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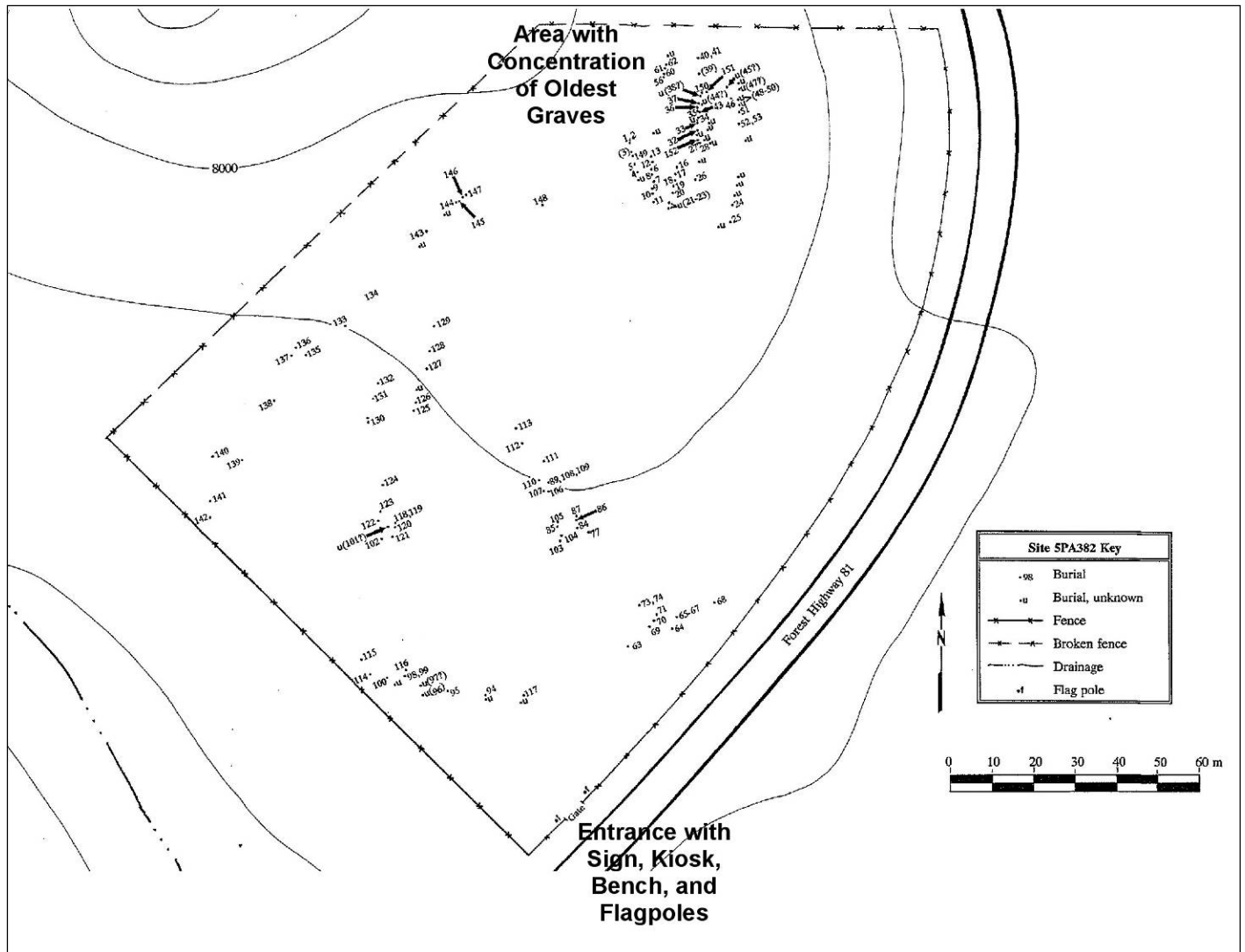
Figure 10. Most of the oldest graves at the Snair/Lake George Cemetery at the south end of Tarryall Road are found at the highest point on the site. The burial ground has a number of fenced grave enclosures, including one manufactured by the Hassell Iron Works of Colorado Springs. Courtesy of Front Range Research Associates, Inc., Lake George Cemetery, 5PA.382, Re-evaluation form, August 2010.

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Figure 10. The Buffalo Springs/Green Cemetery is shown in this 1976 view southeast, prior to the development of the Campground of the Rockies now located on the slope of the hill in the distance. Courtesy of History Colorado, Harold Warren, Buffalo Springs Cemetery, 5PA.368, Inventory Data Form, 1 March 1976.

Figure 11. The hilltop landscape of the Bordenville Cemetery in the Tarryall Creek drainage is illustrated in this early 1900s view. Courtesy of Park County Local History Archives, Wilkin Collection, image number 1093, Fairplay, Colorado.

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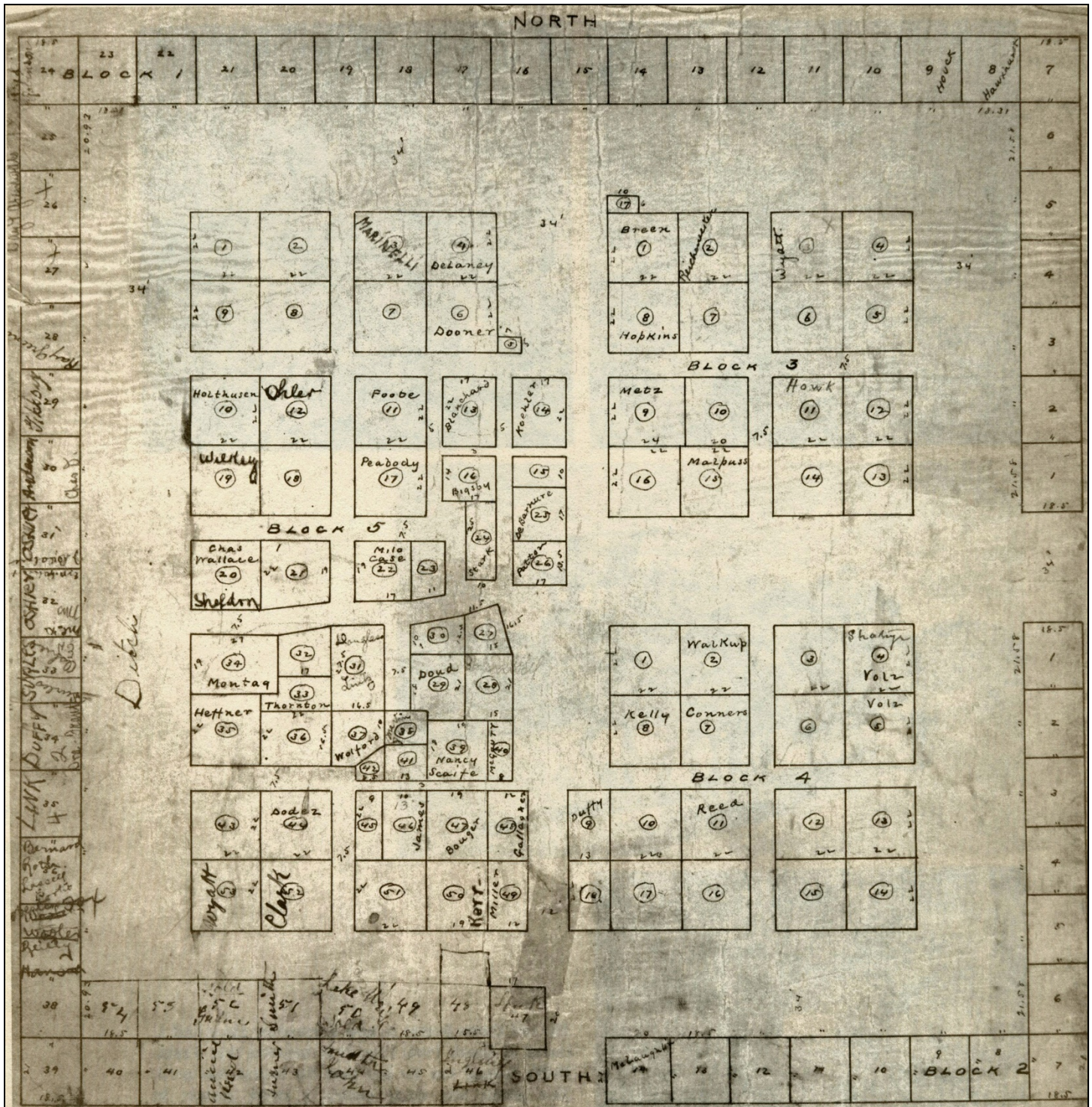Section number E   Page 57   Park County, Colorado, Historic Cemeteries

Figure 12. This early undated map of Como Cemetery indicates its original platting into five blocks divided by internal roads/paths. The labels appear to be family names. Grave plots are mostly square. Courtesy of Mary Dyer, *Echoes of Como*, 83.

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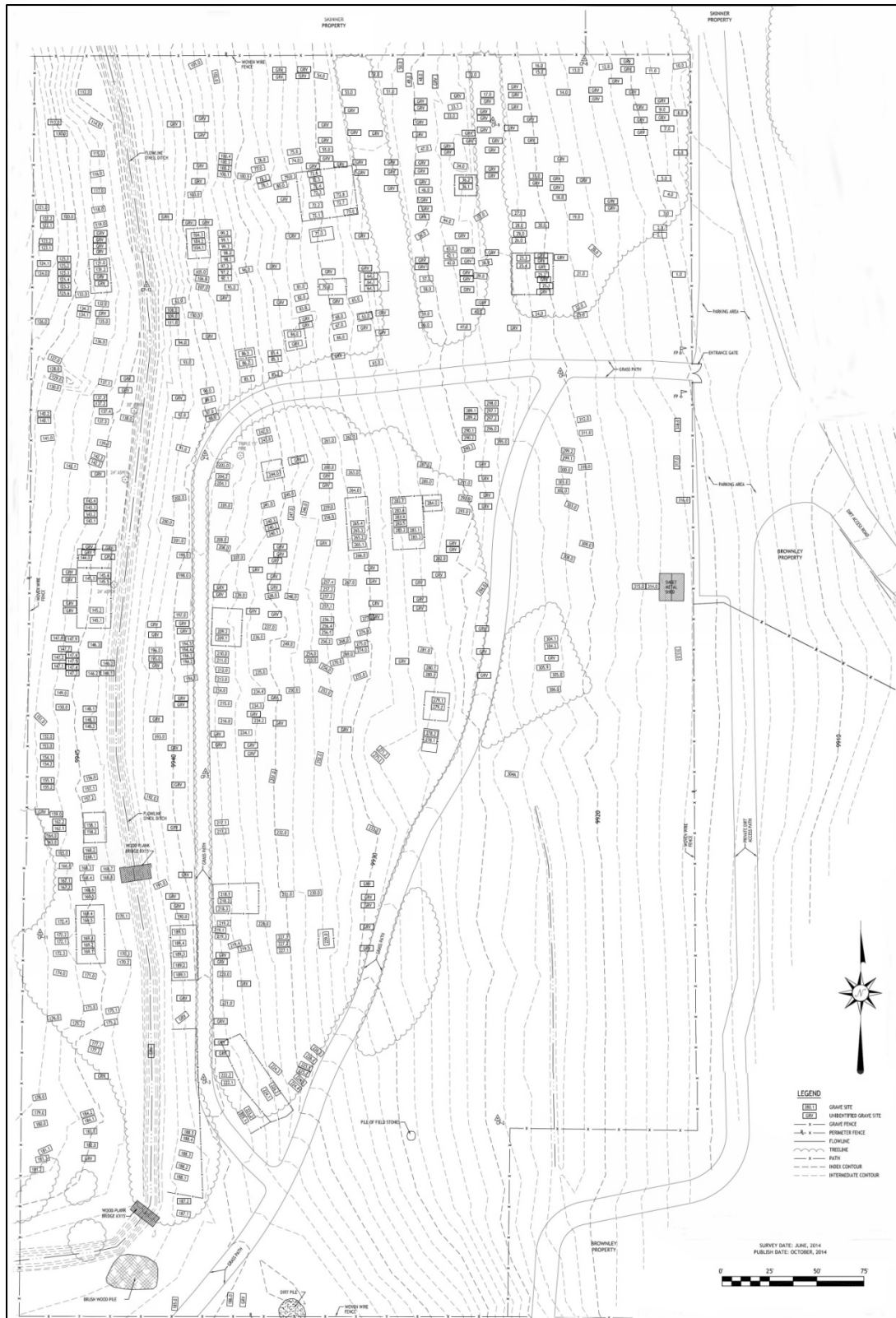
Figure 13. Como Cemetery, the only county graveyard with a building on its grounds, displays several fenced plots and a more linear alignment of graves. Courtesy of Park County Historic Preservation Office, Como Cemetery Map, 2014.

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Figure 14. The upper portion of the Lamping Family Cemetery at Webster is shown in this ca. 1971 view. Courtesy of Western History and Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library, image number X-14032, Denver, Colorado.

Figure15. Park County historian Harold Warren recorded this view of the small Shawnee Cemetery in 1976. U.S. Highway 285 is above the fence to the right. Courtesy of History Colorado, Harold Warren, Shawnee Cemetery, 5PA.366, Inventory Data Form, 1 March 1976.

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Bevel Marker (Guffey)

Cairn (Snair/Lake George)

Flush Marker (Deer Creek/Horn)

Slant Marker (Shawnee)

Tablet (Buckskin/Alma)

Pedestal (Snair/Lake George)

Figure 17. Examples of some monument types found in Park County cemeteries.

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Pulpit Marker (Como)

Tablet and Footstone (Park City)

Column (Como)

Obelisk (Old Fairplay)

Figure 17 (con't.). Examples of some monument types found in Park County cemeteries.

F. Associated Property Types

1. Name of Property Type

Property Type: Park County Cemetery

Subtypes: Town Cemetery

                      Community Cemetery

                      Family Cemetery

Associated Historic Context: Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965

Description-General

A reconnaissance survey of Park County, Colorado, burial grounds and related research identified one property type (Park County cemetery) that encompasses three subtypes (town cemetery, community cemetery, and family cemetery) associated with the historic context.[241] Each of the three property subtypes has a few of its own identifying characteristics, but the resources as a group share some attributes, associations, areas of significance, and integrity considerations that relate them to the broader property type and are discussed in this section to avoid repetition. For purposes of this MPDF, a cemetery is defined as a burial ground or graveyard representing two or more burials. This document does not cover isolated individual burials. A reconnaissance survey of twenty of Park County's burial grounds was undertaken to inform this document, including examination of three town cemeteries, eleven community cemeteries, and five family cemeteries (see Table 1). Only three cemeteries have been intensively surveyed to current standards (Section H contains a discussion of previous surveys).[242]

Depending upon its characteristics, a cemetery may be classified as a site or a district; the latter applies if the property is complex and encompasses "a multitude of burials, developed landscape features, and buildings."[243] If a district is nominated, its component parts of substantial size and scale are enumerated and described and their contribution to the significance of the cemetery is evaluated. Only one identified graveyard, Como Cemetery, would represent a district whose character is conveyed by elements such as the site with its variety of grave markers and landscape features such as paths, a fence, and a bench; a building (a 13' x 15' storage shed), and structures (a ditch and two bridges). Park County's family cemeteries, community cemeteries, and most town cemeteries would be considered historic sites including basic cemetery features if they retain sufficient integrity and significance for nomination.

Cemeteries are found throughout the county, principally near settlements and along roads and drainages (see Figure 1). Several examples of the property type date to the earliest period of permanent settlement in the county. Some burial grounds have long histories of continued active use, while others functioned for a brief period and then closed to additional burials. The cemeteries range in design from small, simple, and pragmatic burial grounds utilizing materials found at or near the site,

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[241] Erica Duvic, Amy Unger, and Hanna Eckroth of the Park County Historic Preservation Office completed fieldwork for the reconnaissance survey. Amy Unger developed the survey form. Erica Duvic conducted the research and completed associated survey forms in 2014. Survey products are on file at Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

[242] Earlier work undertaken by local historians, genealogists, and others identified fifty-three burial grounds/graves within the county. Thirteen of these were isolated graves, not cemeteries, and are not included under this MPDF. Another nineteen comprised sites with uncertain locations, no recent historical surveys, and presumably small numbers of burials. Due to this lack of information the latter group is also not discussed within this MPDF.

[243] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 24.

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to larger graveyards that include a range of monument styles and materials, several landscape features, and some works of noted monument artisans and grave enclosure manufacturers.

Most Park County cemeteries do not represent formally recognized landscape styles attributed to burial grounds, such as those emblematic of the rural cemetery movement inspired by the celebrated design of Mount Auburn in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1831). Park County cemeteries are typified by pragmatic, vernacular designs that incorporate the local topography and native vegetation and acknowledge the local climate, burial practices, and demographics. This supports Professor Annette Stott's finding that the Mountain West's "unique geography and demography caused its cemeteries to develop somewhat differently than those in other parts of the country."[244] These burial grounds are not pure representatives of Stott's "fair mount" cemeteries, the Rocky Mountain version of the rural cemetery design.[245] Only Como Cemetery exhibits formal platting and has a historic map of its layout and references in deeds to specific gravesites providing some means of identifying burial places.[246]

None of the cemeteries is associated with a known professional designer, and there appear to be no formal landscaping plans detailing patterned layouts, sweeping lawns, curvilinear roads, or park-like atmospheres.[247] The layout and arrangement of graves often appears to be random. The landscape elements remain generally as they naturally occurred; added features serve practical purposes and meet visitor needs. Artistic and ornamental work, other than that relating directly to the gravemarkers, is rare. A few more recent types of landscape features are found in the cemeteries, including gazebos and kiosks. Only one cemetery, Como, includes a historic building.

There is no apparent division of the cemeteries by military service, ethnicity, or economic class, although one section in Como Cemetery appears to contain a concentration of several Catholic burials. This egalitarian approach to burials may reflect part of the reason why people were drawn to Park County—the belief the frontier was a level playing field where anyone could make a fortune or lose one.

No Park County cemetery is currently individually listed in the National Register. However, four graveyards are contributing elements of larger identified historic districts. Shawnee Cemetery contributes to a designated National Register historic district (5PA.4177, NRIS 10000434). The Bordenville, Farnum, and Snair/Lake George cemeteries are contributing resources within the pending Tarryall Rural Historic District (5PA.879), while the two Hawxhurst graves are included therein as ranch landscape features.

The following discussion is an overview provided to enhance an understanding of the general qualifications for members of the Park County Cemetery property type and its subtypes. Not all resources related to the property type will necessarily meet the requirements of the significance criteria discussed or possess the required integrity for eligibility. Additional information for specifically evaluating each subtype falling under this property type, in terms of significance in relation to the context, characteristics, qualities, information potential, application of criteria, and degree of integrity

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[244] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xii.
[245] See, for example, Jeffrey DeHerrera, "Masonic Placer Cemetery-Valley Brook Cemetery," National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, 2014. Stott's concept of the "fair mount" cemetery is discussed in detail later within the "town cemetery" subtype. Some prefer the term "Rocky Mountain garden cemetery" to fair mount cemetery.
[246] The general lack of grave platting makes it somewhat difficult to determine whether some burial sites are occupied today in some county cemeteries. Non-invasive technology such as ground-penetrating radar and the use of forensic canines may be useful in determining the location of historic gravesites.
[247] This absence of a patterned layout is in contrast to such National Register-listed burial grounds as Masonic Placer Cemetery in Breckenridge and Greenwood Cemetery in Cañon City.

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required for eligibility, is presented following this section.[248]

Significance-General

National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places explains the significance of American cemeteries: "Individual and collective burial places can reflect and represent in important ways the cultural values and practices of the past that help instruct us about who we are as a people."[249] Many scholars have studied the importance of cemeteries in recent decades. Professor Richard E. Meyer finds the resources make broad changes in our national culture visible.[250] In his 2010 book, *Cemeteries*, Professor Keith Eggener asserts cemetery grounds are significant as "didactic landscapes, repositories for history and knowledge, showcases for fine art and horticulture, schools for the living." He adds, "They are important cultural documents, conveying information about religious and philosophical beliefs, cultural transmission, demographics, economics, and other matters."[251] Professor Kenneth T. Jackson summarizes: "Tombstones, as we now know, are not only a critical component of our material culture, but they record priceless information about gender relations, family structure, public health, religious values, ethnic assimilation, racial prejudice, and artistic taste."[252]

University of Denver Professor Annette Stott's work focuses specifically on early burial grounds in the Rocky Mountain region. She is author of the 2008 *Pioneer Cemeteries: Sculpture Gardens of the Old West*, which details a number of aspects of significance for the property type. Stott views cemeteries and their grave markers as testifying to both the diversity of the nation's population and its desire for cultural unity.[253] She observes that the region's early cemeteries became "one of the first symbols of culture in what was perceived to be a wild and lawless land. Before the advent of art museums, public libraries, or civic sculpture, the western cemetery functioned as a repository of art and history."[254] Stott believes cemeteries "functioned as an open-air gallery of public sculpture, at once a site for relaxation, learning, and social ritual."[255] Indeed, she argues western cemetery monuments and sculpture may be viewed as more authentically representative of the region than much work commonly identified as "western art," because sepulchral works were often produced, sold, and acquired by its residents; composed of native materials; and "experienced in a western environment."[256]

Stott asserts mountain cemeteries, which generally did not discriminate by income or faith, constituted a "democratic art form," that today helps us understand the role of art in frontier life.[257] Burial grounds became places where local history, as transmitted by monuments and markers, was evident and lasting. Western cemeteries also represented the local population's fulfillment of Manifest

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[248] Barbara Wyatt, historian, National Register of Historic Places, Comments, 24 September 2015. As Wyatt points out, "The same application of criteria or areas of significance cannot be assumed for each of the three [sub]types of cemeteries presented, because of differences in scale and differences in those interred (such as, family members vs. community members)."

[249] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 1.

[250] Meyer is author of *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers* (1992) and numerous other publications on the topic. His view is mentioned in Keith Eggener, *Cemeteries* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2010), 201.

[251] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 25 and 201.

[252] Kenneth T. Jackson, review of *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture*, by Richard E. Meyer, in *The Public Historian*, 12(Winter 1990)1: 96-98.

[253] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, x.

[254] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xi.

[255] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xi.

[256] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xix.

[257] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xiv.

Destiny, its ties to a particular place, investment in the community, and evidence of frequent participation in activities of ceremony, celebration, remembrance, and maintenance. As a result, these cemeteries became an agent in the transmission and preservation of American culture on the frontier.[258]

Significance under National Register Criteria-General

Criterion A

Park County cemeteries may be significant under Criterion A as "properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history."[259] Potential areas of significance under Criterion A may include ethnic heritage, exploration/settlement, industry, and social history. All areas of significance are not applicable to all cemetery subtypes or all burial grounds within each subtype. Instead, they represent a range of potential areas of significance based on the context information provided in Section E. It is possible that further research may uncover other potential areas of significance. Discussion of likely applicable areas of significance is provided below in the discussion of each specific subtype.

Importance in some of these areas may be most strongly argued as aspects of exploration/ settlement. *National Register Bulletin 41* states that "the events or trends with which the burial place is associated must be clearly important, and the connection between the burial place and its associated context must be unmistakable."[260] To meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D (see below), such cemeteries must be "of sufficient age and scope to represent [broad themes such as] patterns of early settlement or the values of a society generally."[261] To qualify for its age, a cemetery must represent "an early period within its geographic and cultural context," including such factors as exploration, settlement, and development of an area.[262] An eligible cemetery also may be associated with a single important historic event.

Park County cemeteries significant in the area of settlement are historic resources associated with the pioneer era of permanent habitation and development by Euro-American settlers. A cemetery may be among the oldest shared community resources within an area and its markers and designs may record important information about the community's early history. A gravestone may display the state or country where the deceased was born, as well as the dates of birth and death, identifying individuals as present during the first period of permanent Euro-American settlement and providing clues about ethnic heritage. Several cemeteries in Park County contain the graves of persons associated with a town or local area during its earliest era of land ownership and development. The associated gravestones may tell us about causes of death as well as the origins of pioneers.

Burials within some cemeteries may reflect aspects and periods of development and important trends and events, including the types of industries and employment, influence of national conflicts, and impact of disasters or epidemics. Some information may be directly provided by the cemetery monuments, while other data may be gleaned from obituaries. Veterans of the Civil War, the Sand Creek Massacre, and subsequent historic conflicts are buried in Park County cemeteries, with most graves identified by standardized government-issued white marble markers.[263]

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[258] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xi and xiv.
[259] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9. For a full discussion of the National Register significance criteria and criteria considerations as they apply to cemeteries, see *National Register Bulletin 41*.
[260] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[261] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[262] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[263] See www.nps.gov/sand/parknews/the-sand-creek-massacre-nov-2014.htm, accessed 6 January 2015. Lieut. Charles

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Criterion B

As author and historian Keith Eggener observes, cemeteries are about the past and the lives of those buried in them, as well as future generations who will look upon their monuments and remember the dead.[264] Under Criterion B, some Park County cemeteries may contain a grave or graves of significance for their association with an individual or persons important within a specific historic context.[265] These graves must be associated with persons of *outstanding* importance who helped determine the course of local (which is the most likely case), state, or national history or whose activities reflected significant cultural trends of the time, as specified by Criteria Consideration C; further explication of this concept is found in *National Register Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons*.[266] To determine outstanding significance, the area of history in which the individual made an important contribution must be determined, as well as the geographical extent of their impact. As *National Register Bulletin 32* instructs, it may be more difficult to prepare a nomination for an individual with a local level of significance "because the specifics are less widely known in these cases, and must be documented as part of the explanation of significance."[267]

National Register Bulletin 32 provides examples of the types of persons who may be locally significant, such as town founder, "entrepreneur who developed a local business into one of the community's main economic bases," and "politician who secured water rights for an area." Persons elected to office are not automatically assumed to have significance; their achievements and influence must be explained. As the bulletin notes, "When specific individuals cannot be identified, or the significance of the activities, accomplishments, or influence of specific individuals cannot be identified or explained, significance rests more in a property's representation of a pattern of history, and the appropriate criterion is A rather than B." [268] Possible areas of significance under Criterion B for Park County citizens may include agriculture, commerce, exploration/settlement, industry, politics/government, and transportation. Other areas of significance may be possible, depending on the contributions and influence of the significant person(s). Although a grave is not eligible merely because a person was a member of a certain profession, class, or group, if the person was individually significant locally for their own accomplishments a grave potentially may be eligible. Generally, a property listed for association with a significant person must be directly associated with his or her productive life; graves are not eligible unless they are the only surviving resource with integrity associated with the person.

Please see additional information relating to evaluating the significance of graves representing the lives of important persons under Criteria Considerations C and D, below.

Criterion C

Under Criterion C, some Park County cemeteries may be significant for embodying the distinctive

Cass, who is buried in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery, joined the Third Colorado Cavalry led by John Chivington and was present at the Sand Creek Massacre, an attack on a village of Native Americans encamped on Colorado's eastern plains in November 1864.

[264] Eggener, *Cemeterie*s, 10.

[265] An eligible cemetery may possess added significance by containing the grave(s) of a person or persons of outstanding importance. An ineligible cemetery may contain an eligible grave of an outstandingly important person.

[266] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 11 and Beth Grosvenor Boland, USDOI-NPS, *National Register Bulletin 32: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Properties Associated with Significant Persons* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1989), 5.

[267] Boland, *National Register Bulletin 32*, 5.

[268] Boland, *National Register Bulletin 32*, 5.

characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. A few may be significant for containing monuments representing the work of master designers and craftsmen. Some cemeteries may be important for representing a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The National Register requires that cemetery monuments, artworks, buildings, and landscapes "must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication" to be evaluated as significant.

The likely area of significance for Park County cemeteries under this criterion would be art. *National Register Bulletin 41* states "a cemetery that does not contain 'high style' master works of funerary art nonetheless may be eligible under Criterion C as a distinguishable entity made up of a significant array of markers and monuments representing the common artistic values of a historic period."[269] Although architecture and landscape architecture are frequently areas of significance for cemeteries, they do not apply to burial grounds in Park County. Only one historic building, a shed without architectural significance, is present in the county's cemeteries. The landscapes of Park County cemeteries do not represent a formally recognized style or celebrated designer, although they are a reflection of a particular place, period, and method of construction. They may be representative of historic cemeteries in high altitude rural areas that incorporate the existing landscape, vegetation, and geologic features as important characteristics.

Park County cemeteries may be locally significant for their excellent representation of a wide range of monument types, funerary art, and burial customs. As Professor Keith Eggener notes, some cemeteries encompass a diversity of monument styles comparable to that seen in American architecture.[270] Larger Park County cemeteries display markers ranging from highly decorative marble obelisks to simple piles of native stone. Iconography in the cemeteries ranges from crudely inscribed names and dates to carved doves, sculptural lambs, etched pictures, and a variety of funerary symbols. These monuments reflect changing tastes and the evolution of grave markers over a period of time in terms of materials, design, and workmanship.

Park County cemeteries are known to contain the works of noted monument manufacturers and carvers, although most of the graveyards have not been intensively surveyed. Reconnaissance of some of the cemeteries identified monuments produced by the following companies or individuals: Bills & Pierce (later Bills Brothers) of Denver; Greenlee Drake & Co. of Pueblo; Western White Bronze Company of Des Moines, Iowa; Peter M. Flanagan of Richford, Vermont; and possibly the Malpuss family of Como and Leadville. Some monuments were likely ordered by mail with customized carved inscriptions from both Sears Roebuck & Company and Montgomery Ward & Company. It appears the great majority of markers are not signed by the makers, although there has been no intensive examination.

Exterior boundaries of nearly all Park County cemeteries are marked by a fence, which serves to delineate the solemn purpose of the burial ground from the surrounding land, as well as to protect the treasured tombstones and graves from roaming livestock. Fences are composed of a variety of materials, including woven wire, barbed wire, wood, chainlink, and wrought iron. Entrances to cemeteries are placed at a location convenient for funerals and visitors, often facing the public road. To guide visitors to the entrance, many cemeteries have paths leading to entrance gates, which in Park County are often fittingly simple.

Cemetery interiors include fencing of various types used as grave enclosures around individual

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[269] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 12.
[270] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 18.

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graves and larger family plots.[271] Materials used include cast and wrought iron, wood pickets, woven wire, and barbed wire. National and Colorado-based firms produced metal cemetery fencing found in Park County cemeteries, including: Stewart Iron Works, J.H. Van Dorn Manufacturing Co., W.T. Barbee Fence Works, Muncie Architectural Iron Works, Hassell Iron Works, Bills Brothers, and E.T. Barnum. The county's larger cemeteries, Fairplay, Buckskin/Alma, Como, and Snair/Lake George, feature the largest number and greatest variety of metal grave enclosures. Smaller cemeteries with at least one metal grave enclosure include Currant Creek, Bordenville, and Farnum.[272]

Criterion D

Under Criterion D, for yielding information important in history, Park County cemeteries may be eligible for their potential to provide significant information about cultural and ethnic groups. Ethnic heritage is the likely potential area of significance. *National Register Bulletin 41* notes that anthropologists and historical archaeologists can gain important information about American spiritual beliefs and cultural practices from cemeteries. This is especially important when no written historical documentation exists, as is the case in Park County. Because no historic burial records and only one historic plat is available for Park County town cemeteries, there is still much information to be gained by answering questions about the location of unmarked burials, the use and quantity of commercial markers, the types of materials employed to mark graves, the data to be derived from inscriptions, and materials and types of grave enclosures. Information about ethnic groups, such as Italian and Scandinavian miners, may be uncovered at some burial grounds. Other questions might involve the physical evolution of cemeteries over time. Graveyards nominated under Criterion D are exempt from the requirements of the Criteria Considerations unless they are the graves of important historical figures.[273]

Criteria Considerations

Criteria Consideration C relates to graves of historical persons of outstanding importance who made exceptional contributions that stand out from others active in the same field and era. As the *National Register Bulletin15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* explains: "The lives of persons significant in our past normally are recognized by the National Register through listing of properties illustrative of or associated with that person's productive life's work."[274] As graves represent the end of life and are removed from the person's important activities in terms of time and place, they are not usually considered eligible. A grave may be individually eligible if it is the most substantial extant link to a person of outstanding importance. National Register guidance indicates, "When a geographical area strongly associated with a person of outstanding importance has lost all other properties directly associated with his or her formative years or productive life, a birthplace or grave may be eligible."[275] Containing an individually eligible grave does not make a cemetery eligible; however, an eligible grave may contribute to the significance of an eligible cemetery with other important features. It is unknown whether such resources exist in Park County.

A cemetery does not typically qualify for National Register listing unless it meets the requirements of

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[271] This discussion is based on the 2013-14 reconnaissance survey and the 2014 field examination by the preparers of this nomination.

[272] Jerry Davis reports he was told Dr. Edward Milligan, who was raised near Jefferson, put up the fences at Farnum and Bordenville Cemeteries from material he salvaged from his home at Geary, Oklahoma, perhaps in the 1930s when he had a summer place on Allen Creek.

[273] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41,* 14.

[274] Antoinette J. Lee and Linda F. McClelland, *How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form* (Washington, D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1991), 32.

[275] Boland, *National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*, 32.

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Criteria Consideration D, which provides that "a cemetery is eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events."[276] A cemetery must meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D if nominated individually for significance under Criteria A, B, or C.[277] Some cemeteries do not need to meet Criteria Consideration D, including: a cemetery nominated for information potential or a cemetery that is part of a nominated district but not the "focal point of the district." This document evaluates cemeteries as collections of graves. Individual burial sites are not eligible under this document. It is possible that a cemetery itself may not possess significance although an individual marker or monument within the cemetery may be individually eligible for nomination if it meets the burden of Criteria Consideration C.[278]

Other Criteria Considerations and their applicability to Park County cemeteries are discussed below.[279]

Unlike many cemeteries in other parts of the country, Park County cemeteries were not established in association with and were not managed under the auspices of religious institutions, thus the requirements of Criteria Consideration A, dealing with church-affiliated properties, do not apply.

Criteria Consideration B concerns resources moved from their original or historically significant location. These resources can be eligible if they are significant primarily for architectural value or as the surviving resource most importantly associated with a historic person or event. For example, an entirely relocated graveyard would be required to be justified under this consideration. However, National Register Bulletin 41 indicates that "a graveyard or cemetery in which a few reinterments have taken place; in which a small number of gravemarkers original to the grounds are missing or separated from their historic positions; or for which the age or historical associations are of overriding rarity and significance" do not need to be justified under Criteria Consideration B.[280] Some cemeteries in Park County, such as Fairplay and Como, are known to contain a few graves moved from other cemeteries, and some, such as Buckskin, are known to have wood markers that deteriorated and are no longer present.

Criteria Consideration E, addressing reconstructed properties, does not apply to any existing Park County cemeteries.

Criteria Consideration F covers a property primarily of commemorative intent, which may be eligible "if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance."[281] *National Register Bulletin 41* advises that "a cemetery significant chiefly because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of a historic period or school of landscape design or of an important tradition of vernacular or folk design" does not need to be justified under Criteria Consideration F.[282]

Criteria Consideration G relates to resources less than fifty years old that are of exceptional importance. All of the Park County cemeteries are more than fifty years old. An active Park County cemetery established more than fifty years ago with a majority of markers and monuments at least fifty years old would not need to meet the requirements of this criteria consideration. Individual graves

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[276] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 16.
[277] Lee and McClelland, *National Register Bulletin 15,* 34.
[278] Lee and McClelland, *National Register Bulletin 15*, 32.
[279] Further discussion of Criteria Considerations is found in *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.*
[280] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 15,
[281] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 17.
[282] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 17.

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or monuments less than fifty years old may be potentially eligible if they have exceptional significance and simultaneously meet Criteria Consideration C. Individual graves are not eligible under this form.

Levels of Significance

The level of significance of a property is determined by examining its importance within a historic context at the local, state, and national scales. Properties significant beyond a local area or throughout the state possess a statewide level of significance. Properties significant on the national level are those that represent an aspect of history important to the country as a whole. In the case of cemeteries, a type of resource found throughout the state and beyond, Park County's burial grounds are likely to be of local importance. This document provides a historic context for properties nominated at a local level of significance.

Integrity-General

To be eligible for listing in the National Register, a cemetery must possess sufficient historic physical integrity to convey its appearance during its period of significance. Except for cases falling under Criteria Consideration B, retention of the original location of the cemetery will be of utmost importance. A setting with a moderate level of integrity that retains the cemetery's original views and pastoral qualities will add to the property's ability to convey its associations with the past and its historic feeling.

In terms of design, materials, and workmanship, a moderate to high level of integrity for the majority of monuments and markers is important to convey significance. Annette Stott notes there are variations in the mortuary art between regions of the country, an important aspect of understanding the complexity of the industry. In addition, the use of particular kinds of stone and development of new techniques of working with the materials reflect the influence of national and international monument design on local producers.[283] Preserving these differences and similarities is important to understanding the resources. However, cemeteries were not intended to remain static, but to grow and change with the addition of graves, maturation of the landscape, and adoption of new monument styles and materials over time. As Stott observes: "For the historian, there is no pristine, original state of the cemetery to get back to. It has always been a work in progress."[284] She explains that all mountain cemeteries have undergone changes since their creation through events such as avalanches and rock slides, the growth and death of trees, damaging wind storms, winter freezing and thawing, and decay and removal. Other alterations may result from vandalism, theft, repair, and neglect.[285]

Some improvement of cemetery features is in conformity with their anticipated development. Unless a cemetery terminated all new burials at a point in the past, ongoing addition of graves is a part of its active life. Families also might have cared for their plots in different ways over succeeding generations.[286] Generally, retention of the basic historic layout of the cemetery (including the orientation and location of graves), majority of the historic markers and monuments, and character of the landscape features is desirable. The cemetery should reflect in most aspects the original design and its evolution during the period of significance. Replacement or addition of some landscape elements in Park County cemeteries, such as perimeter fences, benches, and flagpoles, is common due to deterioration and/or improvement of materials, but these replacements and improvements should not significantly alter the nature of the cemetery and its landscape. It is important that the

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[283] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xii and xiii.
[284] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xviii.
[285] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xvi and xvi.
[286] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, xviii.

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simple, vernacular design of the grounds with natural topographic features be maintained and not disrupted by the addition of many new elements.

The overall integrity of cemeteries is not adversely impacted by a small percentage of nonhistoric, damaged, or missing markers. However, a large percentage of markers must be historic and display integrity of design, materials, and workmanship. Monuments and gravestones placed after the period of significance should not detract from or overwhelm the historic gravesites and overall appearance of the site. If a section within a cemetery was not historically part of the property and has no exceptional significance, it may be excluded from designation. Likewise, if a portion of the cemetery historically associated with the burial ground lacks integrity, it may be excluded.

PROPERTY SUBTYPES

The following information about property subtypes is to be used in conjunction with the general information provided above to evaluate how the subtypes may embody the significance and integrity necessary for eligibility.

SUBTYPE 1: TOWN CEMETERY[287]

Description

Town cemeteries are identified as the burial grounds in Park County containing hundreds of burials, which were established in association with a nucleus of development that functioned as a town historically and continues to exist today. These cemeteries were managed and maintained by individual towns historically, contain the widest range of grave monuments and fencing, and possess an interior circulation pattern of roads. The cemeteries are publicly accessible, continue to be maintained, and are in ongoing use. *National Register Bulletin 41* indicates town cemeteries may qualify for listing as resources "whose creation and continuity reflect the broad spectrum of the community's history and culture."[288]

Three town cemeteries exist in Park County and were examined in the reconnaissance survey: Buckskin/Alma (300-plus burials on 6 acres), Como (approximately 481 burials on 4.48 acres), and Fairplay (650-plus burials on 25 acres) (see Figures 4 through 6).[289] The three cemeteries are associated with the early and continued development of the towns and surrounding areas and were impacted by and reflect significant historical events such as wars, disasters, and epidemics, as well as broad patterns in local, state, and national history. The cemeteries include a diverse cross-section of the towns' and surrounding areas' populations in terms of economic class, ethnic background, place of origin, and religious, labor, military, and fraternal affiliation. As other centers of population in the county faded, the town cemeteries increasingly drew from larger geographic areas, thus adding to their importance.

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[287] Cemeteries are listed under the property subtype they currently represent. Some historically evolved from other subtypes to the current ones, such as family cemeteries that became community cemeteries.

[288] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 3.

[289] See Duvic and Eckroth, "Fairplay Cemetery," Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 2014 on file at Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado. All of the town cemeteries have unmarked graves. The earliest known burial in Fairplay Cemetery was in 1863, Como's earliest marker dates to 1868, and Buckskin/Alma's oldest is dated 1866. However, cemeteries are known to have received burials predating the acquisition of land from the federal government, based on information obtained in the reconnaissance survey. Because Buckskin/Alma Cemetery is associated with the mining camp of Buckskin Joe established in 1859, the beginning of the period of significance for the town cemetery property subtype starts approximately in 1859, when the cemetery is known to have received its first burials. Each of the three town cemeteries continues in its funerary function, thus a date fifty years from the present was selected as the ending date for the period of significance as no other more appropriate date was identified.

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In terms of design, the town cemeteries, especially that of Como, are the closest Park County subtype to resemble Annette Stott's "fair mount" classification in the forms and materials of many of their monuments and iconography, as well as their inclusion of elements such as pathways, vistas, perimeter fences, and benches. Most commonly found in larger centers of population, "fair mounts consciously sought an aesthetic ideal and instituted rules and regulations to bring it about," although Park County's town cemeteries continued to allow great freedom of materials, design, and plan.[290] Like the western "fair mounts," Park County's town cemeteries preserve "the character of their natural topography and a sense of the independence that flourished in this rugged environment. As a result, the landscape effects are more often dramatic or sublime than pastoral and picturesque."[291] Despite lacking some of the principal design features of fair mounts, Park County's town cemeteries fulfilled many of the same functional roles, serving as beautiful and serene public spaces displaying monuments that recorded family and local history and introduced local citizens to artistic sculpture. These Park County cemeteries, embodying some of the same ideals as the fair mounts (such as inspiring views, a quiet setting, artistic monuments, and opportunities for commemoration and contemplation) tied themselves in their own fashion to the professionally designed rural cemeteries originating in the East.[292]

The town cemeteries are found on the historic outskirts of each of the three towns, generally within a distance allowing residents convenient access, yet separate from areas of the town's active life. While embodying common characteristics, each graveyard is differentiated by its response to the local setting and topography. All are located in areas encompassing level and gently sloping sites. Como and Fairplay cemeteries provide picturesque views of the towns they are associated with, as well as scenic vistas. Locating a burial ground on a hill utilized land less suitable for residential, commercial, and agricultural purposes, but also represented a place "above the fray and that much closer to heaven," according to Professor Keith Eggener.[293] Buckskin/Alma Cemetery incorporates a somewhat steeper slope with more irregular ground and denser tree growth; it lacks the open views of the other two town cemeteries.

Rather than the fair mount's "orderly park with neatly laid out burial plots," Fairplay and Buckskin/Alma's town cemeteries display an often random-appearing layout of gravesites.[294] No overall printed design plans for those cemeteries have been discovered to date. The cemeteries reflect evolution from early mining camp, settlement, or fraternal burial grounds into larger graveyards drawing burials from larger areas. Buckskin/Alma Cemetery clearly retains elements of its boot hill days, while Fairplay Cemetery represents western vernacular design.

Only Como Cemetery was platted, either at its outset or early in its development (see Figure 13). A historic hand-drawn plat displays the burial ground divided into five blocks, with mostly square plots within the blocks and a system of internal roads.[295] Such spatial organization is perhaps attributable to the fact that the 1887 Como Cemetery replaced an earlier burial ground, suggesting residents may have desired a more orderly approach. Newspaper accounts from 1904 and 1915 reference ownership transfers of numbered lots within the cemetery, further supporting the existence of platting. Today, Como Cemetery exhibits a roughly rectangular perimeter and some regularity in the alignment

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[290] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 17.

[291] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 24.

[292] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 17. As Stott notes, "All [fair mounts] had distant roots in the rural cemeteries of the East Coast." At the same time, she observes, "… western geography, environment, character, and culture created some distinct differences" from eastern rural cemeteries.

[293] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 72.

[294] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 15.

[295] Mary Dyer, *Echoes of Como, Colorado, 1879 to 1988* (N.p: N.p., 1974), 83.

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of graves, which are mostly found in the western and northern sections of the tract (see Figure 8).[296]

Fairplay Cemetery displays a rectangular perimeter, although the actual area of burials currently is irregular, with generally random siting of graves (see Figure 6). Buckskin/Alma Cemetery is irregular in shape, with random grave locations, and is notable for its inclusion of the earliest type of non-Native American western burial ground, which Stott calls the "boot hill" type, an unplanned burial site with haphazardly placed graves, both marked and unmarked and little alteration of the landscape.[297]

The town burial grounds exhibit a vernacular and pragmatic mountain landscape aesthetic incorporating existing native trees (such as aspen, pine, spruce, and fir), shrubs, flowers (such as orange paintbrush, yarrow, fairy trumpet, asters, wild rose, and subalpine larkspur) and ground cover that survive well in the high altitude environment, as well as other elements, such as scattered exposed rocks and dirt roads tinted by the colorful native soil.[298] The cemeteries contain coniferous and aspen trees mixed in among burials and/or providing borders for the grounds; some large, old tree stumps are present. Limited numbers of non-native trees, shrubs, and flowers are generally associated with particular graves or family plots. Native stone is utilized in the form of some monuments, signs, and grave covers and borders.

Historian Thomas J. Noel's study of Colorado's historic places leads him to conclude that "cemeteries mirror their communities," and "cemetery sculpture, often beautiful compositions trying to capture grief, hope, and love, distinguish even small funeral grounds."[299] The town cemeteries include a wide range of burial eras, marker and monument styles ranging from basic to elaborate, and varied iconography, epitaphs, designs, and construction techniques. Monuments and markers are varied in form and materials are diverse, including marble, granite, sandstone, concrete, wood, metal, and other materials. Town cemeteries contain monuments ranging from those displaying artistic distinction and the work of noted monument firms to very basic markers created by nonprofessionals from local materials. Some original gravestones are missing due to deterioration, theft, or vandalism; some of the missing markers are replaced by substantial newer monuments, others by simple metal markers or wood crosses. Burial plots include a variety of enclosing grave fences, often marking shared use by a family. Some fences were fabricated by national companies recognized for the quality of their designs. Gravestones in the town cemeteries generally are in good to excellent condition and there is no evidence of widespread vandalism, although gradual deterioration of some markers of less durable materials has occurred.

The town cemeteries are the only property subtype with an interior circulation pattern of roads (see Figures 7 and 8). Buckskin/Alma Cemetery features a graveled teardrop-shaped interior loop, with two spurs to the northeast and southeast. Fairplay Cemetery has graveled perimeter roads flanking a center section containing the bulk of graves, as well as an east-west road and an interior road through the southern burial area. The interior roads of Como Cemetery are open grassy passages forming a rough right triangle connecting to the cemetery gate.

Town cemetery landscapes include features such as boundary fences, plain or decorative entrance gates, grave enclosures, informal pedestrian trails, interior roads, and small-scale elements such as benches, sculptures, planters, trash receptacles, flagpoles, outdoor lighting, signs, and cattle guards. As noted above, some of these features, such as trash receptacles, outdoor lighting, and sculptures

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[296] *Fairplay Flume*, 18 March 1904, 2 (sale of "Lot 52" in the cemetery by the Town of Como) and 13 August 1915, 1 (quit claim transfers of an unspecified lot).
[297] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 9-10.
[298] No study of the specific types of vegetation in the cemeteries has been conducted to date.
[299] Thomas J. Noel, *Buildings of Colorado* (New: Oxford University Press, 1997), 20-21.

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may not be historic. Como Cemetery is the only town cemetery with a building (a small vernacular metal-clad shed) on the grounds. The Como landscape also contains a ditch and two wood bridges, resources not found in the other town cemeteries.

Significance

The most likely significance for town cemeteries will be under Criteria A and C. Based on the currently available evidence, it appears Criteria B and D are less likely to apply and will require further research to justify. It is likely that eligible town cemeteries will have significance within the context of their local history only, unless comparative research indicates a cemetery is important at the state or national level.

Town cemeteries may be significant under Criterion A as "properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history."[300] Most likely potential areas of significance for town cemeteries include ethnic heritage, exploration/settlement, industry, and social history.[301] Because the cemeteries contain markers and monuments representing hundreds of people, they may have more than one area of significance. Ethnic heritage might be an area of significance for a cemetery with a number of graves representing the presence of a particular ethnic group, such as the Italians, Swedes, and persons from the British Isles who are known to have lived and worked in Park County. Industry as an area of significance may be represented by a large number of graves of Park County's mine or railroad workers and markers with union-related emblems. Social history may be represented in the creation and operation of cemeteries by fraternal orders, burial and commemoration ceremonies that occurred in the graveyards, and markers identified with fraternal or mutual benefit society emblems.

A town cemetery may be important for its association with significant activities or events characterizing an important aspect of its social history. For example, Fairplay Cemetery is associated with the common practice of fraternal lodges founding, operating, and/or improving early cemeteries, as it was acquired in 1877 by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and later became the town cemetery.[302] Likewise, Como Cemetery reflects activities of its local Odd Fellows group who established a plot for their members and improved the grounds with fencing. These activities reflect the influence of fraternal groups in the lives of nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century Americans, the development of towns, and the burial and commemoration of the dead and is associated with social history as an area of significance. Alma/Buckskin Cemetery was the site of Decoration/Memorial Day ceremonies during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

However, as noted above, importance in most areas of significance may be most strongly argued as aspects of exploration/settlement. National Register *Bulletin 41* states that "the events or trends with which the burial place is associated must be clearly important, and the connection between the burial place and its associated context must be unmistakable."[303] To meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D, such cemeteries must be "of sufficient age and scope to represent [broad themes

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[300] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9. For a full discussion of the National Register significance criteria and criteria considerations as they apply to cemeteries, see *National Register Bulletin 41*.
[301] Further research for these cemeteries may reveal other appropriate areas of significance.
[302] Erica Duvic and Hannah Eckroth, "Fairplay Cemetery," Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 2014, on file at Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado. Fairplay Cemetery received burials from the Montgomery mining camp cemetery in 1953 before a reservoir inundated the site, thus it encompasses some of the few tangible elements of that settlement. The Montgomery burial area may be considered a significant component of the development of the cemetery if the period of significance includes the relocation date.
[303] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.

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such as] patterns of early settlement or the values of a society generally."[304] These Park County cemeteries are themselves part of early town development and contain the graves of persons associated with the earliest era of land ownership and development. The associated gravestones may illuminate patterns of history, such as challenges of living in a fledgling settlement, historic causes of death, the nature of family relationships, accomplishments of local leaders, and origins of the pioneers.

An eligible cemetery also may be associated with a single important historic event, such as Como Cemetery's inclusion of a shared grave for victims of the 1893 King Mine explosion, a disaster of major significance to the area's history that tells us much about working conditions in the mines. This event represents the cemetery's significance under industry (see Figure 18).

Buckskin/Alma Cemetery is associated with an 1860s mining camp and began its history as a "boot hill" burial ground. Such graveyards generally were associated with frontier settlements where life was cheap and the dead were buried quickly and with little ceremony; the nature of the early settlement determined the character of the cemetery.[305] The cemetery is strongly associated with the pioneer stage of today's Alma and an area of significance would be exploration/settlement.

Town cemeteries may possess significance under Criterion B for containing the grave or graves of a person or persons of transcendent importance within the historic context of our past if no other more appropriate resource survives to represent their accomplishments. Generally, in the case of town cemeteries, the person will be important at the local level of significance and their activities will have been influential in determining the course of local history. Potential areas of significance could be diverse, depending on the contributions and area of influence of the person(s). Likely areas of significance for Park County include agriculture, commerce, exploration/settlement, industry, and politics/government. For example, the grave of a local citizen who made important contributions to the founding, development, and direction of a town may be present (exploration/settlement or politics/government), merchants whose businesses set local trends or were essential to the continued growth of the town (commerce), a founder and leader of the local cattle industry and its organizations (agriculture), or the owner or superintendent of a mine or railroad official important to the development of a town or a leader of union workers whose actions affected the quality of life of its members (industry or transportation). Note the additional information relating to evaluating the significance of graves representing the lives of important persons under Criteria Considerations C and D, above, when considering significance under Criterion B. While the presence of graves of locally important persons may add to the significance of a cemetery, it seems unlikely that any town cemeteries will be nominated under Criterion B alone.

Under Criterion C town cemeteries may be significant for possessing the distinct characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction and/or for comprising a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. Art will be the likely area of significance for these cemeteries. Cemetery monuments, artworks, buildings, and landscapes "must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication" to be evaluated as significant. Significance in the area of art might result from a cemetery's inclusion of several examples of high quality markers and monuments expressing the artistic tastes of the period of significance through the use of particular materials, styles, decoration, and symbolism or the work of a noted designer or craftsman. However, a cemetery does not need to contain "high style" master

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[304] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[305] Lenore Warren, "Gleanings from Park County," *The Foothills Inquirer* 7(February 1987): 20. Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries*, 9-10. An amateur historian, Lenore Warren surveyed Buckskin-Alma Cemetery in 1974 and reported an existing "legend" that burials outside the cemetery fence were the graves of "slaves brought in by southern residents of the time."

works of funerary art if it is a distinguishable entity with a significant collection of gravemarkers representing the popular aesthetic of a historic period.[306] Town cemeteries display markers ranging from highly decorative marble obelisks to simple piles of native stone. Iconography in the cemeteries ranges from crudely inscribed names and dates to carved doves, sculptural lambs, etched pictures, and a tremendous variety of funerary symbols. These monuments reflect changing tastes and the evolution of grave markers over a period of time in terms of materials, design, and workmanship.

Significance in landscape architecture will be difficult to establish for Park County cemeteries due to the general absence of documentation for planning or design. The landscapes of the town cemeteries, while not representing a formally recognized style or celebrated designer, are important for their reflection of a particular western place and period and for their method of construction; they may be notable as representative of historic cemeteries in high altitude rural areas that incorporate the existing landscape, vegetation, and geologic features as important characteristics. They may include features such as boundary fencing, entrance gates, roads and paths, and grave enclosures. Elements contributing to the significance may include natural features, plantings, and areas of open space. To be potentially eligible under this criterion, these cemeteries must meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D for deriving their primary importance from distinctive design features, as reflected in such aspects as their funerary monuments, construction techniques, or landscape architecture.[307]

Although less likely as an area of significance, due to the lack of documentation relating to Park County's cemeteries Criterion D is included as a possible criterion for the information potential that cemeteries may possess in supporting areas of significance such as ethnic and social history.

Integrity

Of the three property subtypes of Park County Cemeteries, town cemeteries are larger and their periods of operation extend from the early days of settlement to the present. Due to their larger size and a greater number of historic markers, monuments, and other features, these cemeteries can accommodate more recent burials or the loss of some markers more readily than the other two subtypes without losing their historic integrity. These cemeteries may exhibit changes based on their planned continued operation, including addition of markers and monuments, as long as their size and numbers do not overwhelm the character established by the historic grave markers. Likewise, the loss of a few of these elements to deterioration or vandalism does not diminish the integrity of the property. Addition of a few small features such as a bench, flagpoles, trash receptacle, or social paths may support the continued operation of the cemetery and make it more accessible and easier to maintain without damaging its character. However, addition of elements that impact the essential qualities established during the historic period will affect the integrity and eligibility of a cemetery. Examples of such changes might include a modern boundary fence that restricted historic views, new monuments of a scale and number that overwhelm the historic ones, and reshaping of the terrain and circulation system so that the characteristic simplicity of the layout and inclusion of native vegetation and materials is lost. In the case of a discrete section of the cemetery representing an era after the period of significance or a section of a cemetery that has undergone alterations resulting in impacts to its character, that portion of the cemetery may be excluded from a nomination, provided the nominated portion is contiguous.

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[306] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 12.
[307] See also USDOI-NPS, *National Register Bulletin 18: How to Evaluate and Nominate Designed Historic Landscapes.*

Registration Requirements

To qualify for listing in the National Register, a town cemetery must:

- have been present in its current location in Park County during the period of significance (1859-1965) and have been associated with the development of a town

- be associated with the historic context "Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965"

- embody identifying physical characteristics of a town cemetery, as described above, that make it a good representative of the subtype, including: a large percentage of markers dating to the period of significance; a landscape that reflects influences of the cemetery's location and climate, displays a preponderance of native vegetation, incorporates the natural topography, and preserves important vistas; a circulation system retaining much of its historic character, with few changes to interior roads; and nonhistoric markers and other features that represent the continued use of the cemetery for burials and do not overwhelm it in numbers or scale

- possess significance in at least one of the National Register Criteria discussed above and meet requirements of applicable Criteria Considerations

- retain sufficient level of integrity in the seven aspects of integrity to convey its historic character, with integrity of location, setting, materials, design, and feeling being the most important aspects

2. PROPERTY SUBTYPE: COMMUNITY CEMETERY

Description

Community cemeteries in Park County contain substantially smaller numbers of graves than town cemeteries, were not (with the exception of Guffey) associated with an incorporated town, were created or evolved to serve less densely populated settlements including rural ranching areas, display a smaller range of monuments and less fencing than the town cemeteries, and often do not possess an internal system of roads. This subtype includes cemeteries associated with large sparsely populated rural areas, small loosely organized settlements, and camps associated with industries such as mining. Some of the cemeteries are still admitting burials, while others received them for only a limited period. Some of these cemeteries evolved from early family burial grounds to serve a wider community. Although smaller than town cemeteries in terms of number of burials, community cemeteries include some properties with total acreage greater than some town cemeteries, as well as some that are extremely small; the surveyed cemeteries range in size from 0.13 acres (Dudley) to 9.08 acres (Snair/Lake George). The reconnaissance survey examined eleven community cemeteries in Park County: Bordenville (65 burials), Green/Buffalo Springs (45), Currant Creek (18), Dudley (10), Guffey (20-plus), Hartsel (10), Deer Creek/Horn (200), Snair/Lake George (176), Old Fairplay (7), Park City (30), and Rocky (5). The numbers of burials noted above do not account for potential unmarked graves not yet documented.

Like most town cemeteries, community cemeteries display vernacular landscape designs incorporating the local setting, existing topography, and native vegetation (see Figures 9 and 10). These burial grounds are located on hilltops, land that slopes gently and provides beautiful scenic vistas, or fairly level ground. For example, the Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery rests on a gentle hillside affording views of rock outcroppings and forested areas. Hartsel Cemetery sits on a hilltop with extensive vistas of the Mosquito Range, Pikes Peak, and South Park. Some of the cemeteries are still maintained, while others are abandoned and overgrown. Like the town cemeteries, some of the

community cemeteries represent places of reflection and serenity, a record of the area's history, and sometimes a place displaying works of artistic skill.

A smaller number and more limited variety of monuments (in terms of era, materials, style, and design) are present in these cemeteries than in town cemeteries, although those with larger numbers of graves display several examples of marker designs and materials. Few or none of the monuments in community cemeteries are as elaborate as some in the larger burial grounds. Some display an apparently random siting of graves (Snair/Lake George), while others contain simple linear alignments (Green/Buffalo Springs) (see Figures 11 and 12). Some community cemeteries exhibit markers representing more than one historic period, while others represent a brief era. Monuments are composed of materials such as native rocks, marble, granite, metal, and other materials; some shared family and individual plots are enclosed by fences.

The designed landscape may include perimeter fences and entrance gates, as well as small-scale features such as signs, benches, sculpture, lighting, and flagpoles, although some of the cemeteries have few or no such features. Fences are mostly composed of materials commonly used in rural areas, such as woven and barbed wire, wood, stone, and chainlink. Entrance gates range from the Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery gate displaying its name and curvilinear ornament to the plain and simple metal gate at Green/Buffalo Springs burial ground. Aside from perimeter fencing, few designed features are present in some of the abandoned cemeteries associated with mining camps and early settlements.

A dirt road may lead to the community cemetery, although some inactive burial grounds have no formal paths of access. These cemeteries do not display an interior road pattern and many do not include footpaths. For example, Old Fairplay Cemetery is located on a hillside overgrown with dense vegetation. There is no road or path leading to the cemetery and no paths are present within the burial ground. Park City Cemetery is on a level site with coniferous trees, large boulders, and wildflowers some distance from the road, without an obvious means of access.

Significance

Eligible community cemeteries will likely be significant under Criteria A and/or C. Criteria B and D will be less likely and will require additional research to justify. It is likely that eligible community cemeteries will have significance within the context of their local history, unless comparative research demonstrates a cemetery is important at the state or national level.

Community cemeteries may be significant under Criterion A as "properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history."[308] Likely areas of significance for community cemeteries will be exploration/settlement and social history. More than one area of significance may be possible and others not mentioned may be possible. In the area of exploration and settlement, some community cemeteries arose as a result of the presence of surrounding agricultural communities, it is likely that graves contained therein include those of persons who established pioneer ranches; participated in organizing important community amenities, such as schools and burial grounds; developed farming and ranching practices that shaped the natural environment; became leaders in early ranching organizations; and through their perseverance weathered national events that impacted the success of agriculture. For example, the Snair/Lake George Cemetery was established on the homestead lands of the Snair family and has continuously served as the burial place of choice for local ranching families from pioneer days to the present,

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[308] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9. For a full discussion of the National Register significance criteria and criteria considerations as they apply to cemeteries, see *National Register Bulletin 41*.

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including among them the Allens, Snairs, Williams, Derby, Kolle, and Portis families. In some cases, a grave in a community cemetery is the best remaining physical evidence of a pioneer's attempt to forge a living in the agricultural area. In terms of Social History, community cemeteries may also contain graves representing important social aspects of community life, such as fraternal affiliations, interconnections of families, the importance of ties between community members living in isolated rural locations, and participation in activities that honored and commemorated the dead or maintained the graveyard.

Importance in most of these areas may be most strongly argued as aspects of exploration/settlement and "the events or trends with which the burial place is associated must be clearly important, and the connection between the burial place and its associated context must be unmistakable."[309] To meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D, such cemeteries must be "of sufficient age and scope to represent [broad themes such as] patterns of early settlement or the values of a society generally."[310]

Community cemeteries in Park County may contain the graves of persons associated with an area during its earliest era of land ownership and development. A community cemetery may be the most intact, or in some cases, the only historic resource remaining from a small settlement or a long-inactive mining camp. These cemeteries remind us of the isolated and difficult locations where settlers moving west tried to fashion a successful life, as well as the very common hope to be remembered and their relatives' desire to commemorate and remember them despite the location of burial.[311]

An eligible cemetery also may be associated with a single important historic event. For example, Old Fairplay Cemetery contains the graves of people who met their deaths as a result of the legendary and controversial Espinosa killings. The 1863 Espinosa family's saga began in the San Luis Valley and impacted a wide region. It has been the subject of much discussion and writing, both at the time it occurred and in the years since. Perspectives on the events have shifted over time, with some recent researchers believing the episode strongly reflects the cultural divide between ethnic groups present in Colorado. The graves in the cemetery pay mute testimony to this painful chapter in the state's history, with ethnic history or law as the area of significance.

Under Criterion C some community cemeteries may be significant for representing a type, period, or method of construction, for representing the work of a master (such as the Inez Snair Derby marble monument in Snair/Lake George Cemetery produced by Peter M. Flanagan of Richford, Vermont), or for comprising a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The applicable area of significance would be art. The National Register requires that cemetery monuments, artworks, and landscapes "must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication" to be evaluated as significant.

Community cemeteries may be significant if they contain a noteworthy collection of markers and monuments that reflect "the common artistic values of a historic period," although they may not necessarily represent works reflecting a high style or creation by a noted master.[312] Lake George Cemetery is an example of such a cemetery that reflects these common artistic values, with many of its monuments reflecting a pragmatic western aesthetic sensibility. Although community cemeteries may have a limited number of monuments and markers, they may range from highly decorative marble obelisks to simple piles of native stone, include a variety of iconography, incorporate several

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[309] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[310] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[311] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 80.
[312] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 12.

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types of grave enclosures, and reflect a range of periods, materials, and designs.

Community cemeteries may be less likely to possess significance under Criterion B, relating to inclusion of the grave(s) of a person or persons of outstanding local importance within the historic context, given the small number of graves in most of them. For properties associated with several community leaders or a prominent family, it is necessary to identify specific individuals and explain their significant accomplishments. In evaluating such importance, the grave must be the only surviving resource extant to represent a person's outstanding achievements.[313]

Generally, in the case of community cemeteries, the person will be important at the local level of significance and their activities will have been influential in determining the course of local history. For example, the Snair/Lake George Cemetery may be significant for inclusion of the graves of members of the Snair family who were early ranchers in the area in 1875 and who established a site on their land for burials that evolved into the current cemetery. Potential areas of significance could be diverse, depending on the contributions and influence of the significant person(s), but likely areas may be agriculture and exploration/settlement.

Significance under Criterion D, for yielding information important in history, is unlikely to apply to community cemeteries, given their limited number of burials that could be studied to answer questions about spiritual beliefs and cultural practices. The criterion is mentioned as a possibility because there appear to be no extant documents relating to burials at these cemeteries.

Integrity

Although its acreage may be larger, the largest community cemetery holds far fewer markers, monuments, and other features than the smallest town cemetery. Therefore, alterations of historic features and additions of recent burials have the potential to impact community cemeteries more dramatically than the town cemeteries. Likewise, the larger community cemeteries will have the capacity to accommodate more changes than smaller ones. However, any alterations that dramatically change the character of a cemetery will diminish integrity. This is true whether changes come from an accumulation of newer landscape features; alterations to the setting by new development; deterioration, damage, or removal of historic monuments; or addition of numerous newer burials. In cases of community cemeteries that include large expanses of land, an area of newer burials that is discrete from the location of historic graves (such as Snair/Lake George) may be excluded from the nominated boundary.

Registration Requirements

To qualify for listing in the National Register, a community cemetery must:

- have been present in its current location in Park County during the period of significance (1859-1965) and have been associated with the development of a community

- be associated with the historic context "Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965"

- embody identifying characteristics that make it a good representative of the community cemetery subtype, as described above, including a large percentage of markers dating to the period of significance; a landscape reflecting the influence of the cemetery's location and climate, displaying predominantly native vegetation, and incorporating the natural topography;

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[313] Barbara Wyatt, "Comments: Park County, Colorado Historic Cemeteries," 24 September 2015.

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and for, cemeteries in operation beyond the period of significance, more recent grave markers and other features that do not overwhelm the historic resources in number or scale.

- possess significance in at least one of the National Register criteria discussed above and meet requirements of applicable Criteria Considerations

- retain a sufficient level of integrity in the seven aspects of integrity to convey its historic character, with location, setting, materials, design, and feeling receiving the highest priority

3. PROPERTY SUBTYPE: FAMILY CEMETERY

Description

National Register Bulletin 41 defines a family cemetery as "a small, private burial place for members of the immediate or extended family; typically found in rural areas, and often, but not always, near a residence; different from a family plot which is an area reserved for family members within a larger cemetery."[314] Eggener describes "farm and family graveyards" as occupying a small piece of fenced, often hilltop, land "adjacent to the land that the dead had worked while living. It might include the graves of an extended family and also their friends, neighbors, employees, and slaves."[315] These are generally the smallest cemeteries within Park County, with a limited range of monuments and fencing and no internal road system.

Park County's family cemeteries are burial grounds mostly on private land, generally established at a distance from the active residential and agricultural portions of a property (see Figures 13 and 14). Families living in relatively isolated areas that owned enough land to set aside a portion as a dedicated burial ground sometimes created their own cemeteries. This tradition began in rural areas of the East and Midwest and continued once settlers arrived in remote parts of Park County. Such cemeteries appear to be relatively uncommon in Park County; only five family cemeteries were examined during the survey: Farnum (4 burials), Hawxhurst (2), Lamping Family (58), Shawnee (22), and Miller (2).[316]

The location, layout, and materials utilized in these cemeteries were determined by the boundaries of the property owner's land, local setting, available funds and materials, and family tastes. Most family burial grounds originated from the necessity of interring a relative during the early days of settlement on the land. Such is the case with the Hawxhurst burial ground, the site of two daughters who died of diphtheria and received monuments before their grieving parents moved on to homestead elsewhere in Colorado. Some cemeteries evolved to include the graves of friends, neighbors, and others of close acquaintance with the founding family. For example, the Farnum Cemetery is reported to contain the unmarked grave of a young Native American who escaped from servitude elsewhere in Colorado and was taken in by the Farnum family.[317]

Family cemeteries incorporate the existing landscape and topography with little or no alteration. The Miller Cemetery is an example of a small family cemetery established on the natural sloping, rocky, and scenic landscape without any boundary fence or other features other than two graves. However, the extent of a family cemetery is often marked and protected by a perimeter fence. Some fences may be collapsed and deteriorated and others are nonhistoric. The Farnum Cemetery is enclosed

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[314] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 28.
[315] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 73.
[316] Jerry Davis adds that Liebelt, Surles, and Witherspoon family cemeteries are rumored to exist, but they could not be accessed for this project.
[317] Stott, *Pioneer Cemeteries,* 292. Stott indicates Native Americans were "almost universally excluded from pioneer community cemeteries…."

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with a wrought iron fence manufactured by the noted Stewart Iron Company of Cincinnati, although most family cemeteries are composed of types of fencing also used for other purposes throughout the area.

Most family cemeteries received burials for a short period of time and have only a few markers corresponding to the period of active use, thus their period of significance is often very limited. Some of the burial grounds may be the only remaining physical evidence that a particular group of people lived at a site. Most contain two to four graves and range in area from .01 acre to 2.36 acres. The Lamping Cemetery, with more than fifty burials, contrasts with other family cemeteries. It is accessed by a footpath and contains a dirt road and interior pathways; most family cemeteries do not have these features. The Lamping Cemetery includes "statuary and unique headstone materials and designs" uncommon to other Park County cemeteries.[318] Small-scale elements observed at the Lamping Cemetery include a bench, flagpole, planter, ornamental sculpture, and an entrance sign.

Significance

Family cemeteries may be the most difficult cemetery subtype to establish eligibility for, given their extremely small size, limited array of monument types, lack of landscape features, and the challenge of establishing significant associations of individuals whose lives have not been studied within broad patterns of history. The most likely criteria for significance will be A and C and the level of significance is likely to be local.

Family cemeteries may be significant under Criterion A as "properties that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history."[319] It is likely that eligible family cemeteries will have significance within the context of their immediate local history, unless comparative research indicates a cemetery is important to a wider area. Often, these cemeteries may be more appropriately nominated in conjunction with an associated dwelling or ranch as part of a historic district.

Most likely potential areas of significance for family cemeteries under Criterion A are ethnic heritage and exploration/settlement. Other areas of significance are possible, depending upon the particular cemetery and its history and characteristics. The Farnum Cemetery may be significant in ethnic heritage for containing the rare grave of a Native American who was adopted as part of the family.. Events or trends with which the burial place is associated must be important, and the connection between the burial ground and the area of significance should be strong.[320]

As noted above, to meet the requirements of Criteria Consideration D, such cemeteries must be "of sufficient age and scope to represent [broad themes such as] patterns of early settlement or the values of a society generally."[321] Family cemeteries in Park County may contain the graves of persons associated with a place during its earliest era of land ownership and development. In cases such as a small family cemetery, the burial ground may be the most tangible physical link marking the distant past of a specific property or local area and can tell us about family ties, lifestyles, and culture of that time. As in community cemeteries, family graveyards remind us of the isolation of remote locations where people moving west established homes, as well as the ongoing desire to

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[318] Erica Duvic and Amy Unger, "Lamping Cemetery," Park County Cemetery Survey Form, 2014, on file at Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.
[319] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9. For a full discussion of the National Register significance criteria and criteria considerations as they apply to cemeteries, see *National Register Bulletin 41*.
[320] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.
[321] Potter and Boland, *National Register Bulletin 41*, 9.

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commemorate departed loved ones.[322]

Under Criterion C family cemeteries may be significant for representing a type, period, or method of construction or for comprising a distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. With very small numbers of graves, it appears uncommon for Park County family cemeteries to meet the requirements of this criterion. The National Register requires that cemetery monuments, artworks, and landscapes "must be good representatives of their stylistic type or period and methods of construction or fabrication" to be evaluated as significant. The most likely area of significance for family cemeteries under this criterion would be art, and it is important to remember the role of burial monuments in spreading the opportunity to view art to isolated western communities.

Family cemeteries may possess significance under Criterion B for containing the grave(s) of a person or persons significant within the historic context of our past "if they are the only property that survives to represent the achievements of a person."[323] It appears that the family cemeteries listed in this document would likely not meet this criterion. For example, James W. Price platted the town of Shawnee, promoted the area to tourists, and established a hotel and summer cottages, making him extremely important to the area. However, the hotel is still standing and is a better illustration of his active career.

Under Criterion D, for yielding information important in history, family cemeteries may be eligible for their potential to provide significant information about cultural and ethnic groups. Anthropologists and historical archaeologists can gain important information about American spiritual beliefs and cultural practices from cemeteries. This is especially important when no written historical documentation exists, as is the case for most family cemeteries. However, Park County family cemeteries are unlikely to have significance under this criterion due to the limited number of graves available for research purposes and the limited scope of information that might be obtained.

Integrity

The generally small size of family cemeteries and often limited period of significance necessitates that a high level of historic integrity be present for potential eligibility. Any accumulation of newer features that diminish the qualities of the historic landscape (such as flowers and other plantings not historically present, a replacement fence or gate that does not replicate the simple, unobtrusive design of those historic features, a kiosk or structure of a type not present during the historic period; recent burials that overwhelm those of the period of significance in number and scale; or an accumulation of deteriorated, damaged, or altered gravestones that no longer retain their historic character) may change the character of most of these graveyards and reduce their integrity. [324]

Registration Requirements

To qualify for listing in the National Register, a family cemetery must:

- have been present in its current location in Park County during the period of significance, 1859-1965 and been established as a family cemetery

- be associated with the historic context "Historic Cemetery Development in Park County, Colorado, 1859-1965"

- embody identifying characteristics that make it a good representative of the family cemetery

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[322] Eggener, *Cemeteries*, 80.
[323] Barbara Wyatt, "Comments: Park County, Colorado Historic Cemeteries," 24 September 2015.
[324] Note that a deteriorated or damaged condition may still possess integrity if it retains its historic characteristics such as materials and design.

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subtype as described above, including having a small number of burials associated with a family or extended family and friends, displaying a limited range of monument types and landscape features, and exhibiting the use of the natural topography and native vegetation

- possess significance in at least one of the National Register criteria and meet requirements of applicable Criteria Considerations

- retain a sufficient level in the seven aspects of integrity to convey its historic character, with integrity of location, materials, and design being the most important aspects

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Figure 18. This white marble marker on a tooled red sandstone base in Como Cemetery commemorates the deaths of Italian miners lost in an 1893 mine disaster at the nearby King Park Mines. Courtesy of R. Laurie Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

Figure 19. A wood picket grave enclosure with elaborate corner posts stands in Buckskin/Alma Cemetery. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

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Figure 20. Fairplay Cemetery, on a hill east of town, displays a number of fenced family plots and a view west toward the Mosquito Range. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

Figure 21. Buckskin/Alma Cemetery, northwest of town, features a much denser tree cover and steeper slope than many county cemeteries and a variety of grave enclosures. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

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Figure 22. Como Cemetery, northwest of the town, contains diverse grave enclosures and monument types and many aspen trees. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

Figure 23. The Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery along US 285 lies on a gentle slope and displays newer elements, including a gazebo, a kiosk, and numerous white wood crosses. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

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Figure 24. South of Fairplay on US 285, the Buffalo Springs cemetery is located on a gently sloping site with rows of graves in generally linear alignments. Courtesy of Thomas H. Simmons, fieldwork photograph, 2014.

Figure 25. The still active Lamping Family Cemetery, on a sloping site at Webster, is the largest family cemetery in Park County, with more than fifty graves. Courtesy of Park County Historic Preservation Office, fieldwork photograph, June 2014.

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Figure 26. The isolated graves of two daughters of the Hawxhurst family lie on the west side of Tarryall Road a few miles south of Jefferson. Courtesy of Park County Historic Preservation Office, fieldwork photograph, April 2014.

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G. Geographical Data

This Multiple Property Documentation Form covers the entire extent of Park County, Colorado, one of seventeen Territorial counties created in 1861 (see Figure 27). The county, whose boundaries are essentially unchanged, is irregular in form and covers 2,211 square miles. Park County's topography is mountainous except in South Park, the level high altitude valley near its center. The Continental Divide in the rugged Mosquito Range forms the western boundary of the county. The range, with summits standing more than 14,000' in elevation, contains the headwaters of the South Platte River. The lower Tarryall Mountains, Kenosha Mountains, and Puma Hills are found in the northeastern portion of the county, which also includes the Mount Evans and Lost Creek Wilderness Areas. The Pike National Forest covers a large part of the county.

The 2010 U.S. Census enumerated 16,206 persons within Park County, but it contains just two small incorporated towns: Fairplay, the county seat, with a population of 679 and Alma with 270 residents.[325] The nine other unincorporated communities in the county include: Bailey, Como, Grant, Guffey, Hartsel, Jefferson, Lake George, Shawnee, and Tarryall. Park County's principal roadways include U.S. Highways 24 and 285 and Colorado State Highway 9. Historically, the county enjoyed good railroad service from Denver supplied by the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad (from 1878 to 1937) and from Colorado Springs by the Colorado Midland Railway (from 1887 to 1918), whose routes are incorporated into highways today.

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[325] Como had been an incorporated municipality but disincorporated between 1950 and 1960.

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Figure 27. Shaded relief map of Park County. Courtesy of Park County.

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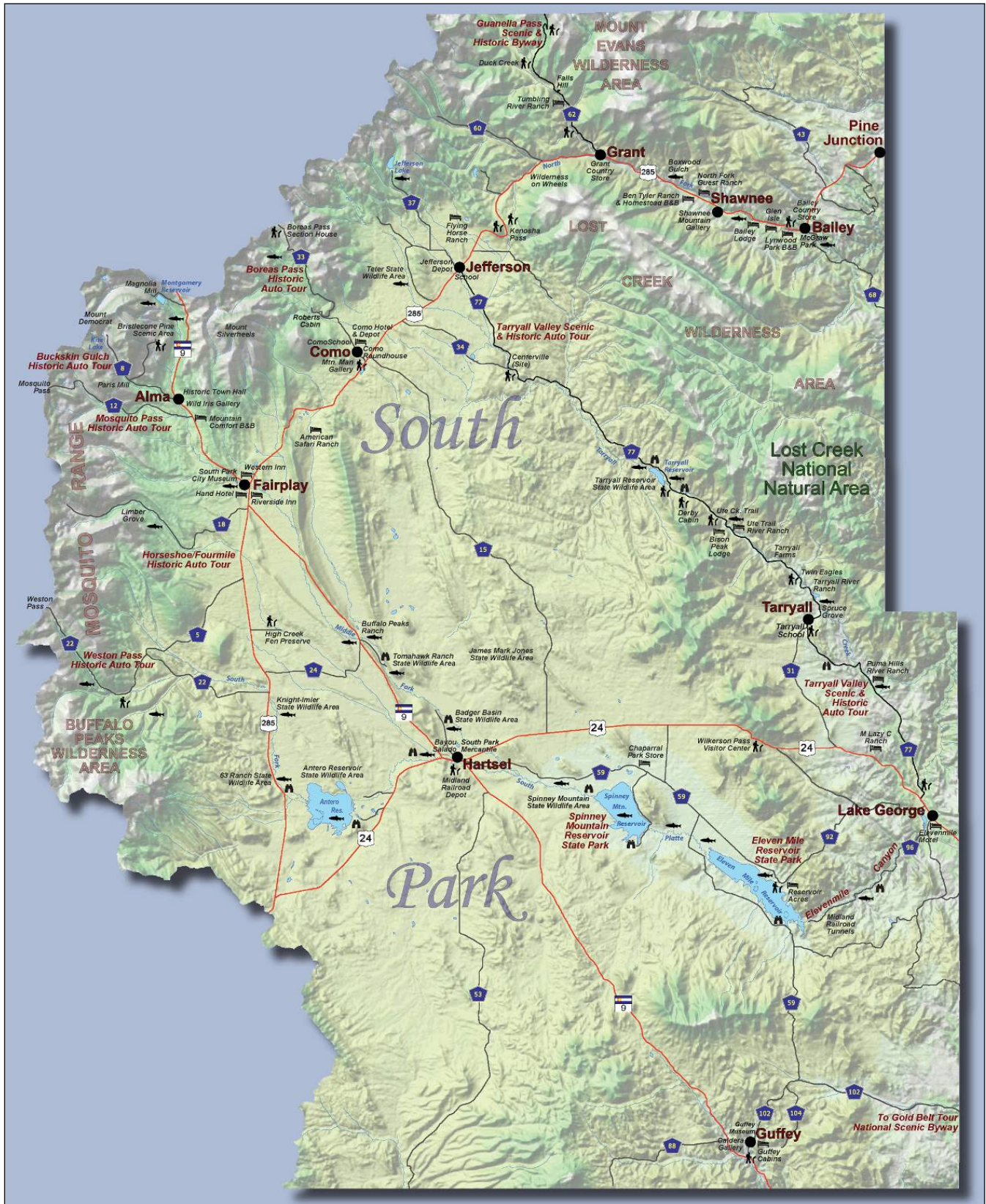Section number H   Page 92   Park County, Colorado, Historic Cemeteries

H. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Literature Review and Surveyed Resources

Literature Review

A comprehensive history of Park County cemeteries does not exist. A few published works cover individual cemeteries in the county or Colorado cemeteries generally. Christie Wright discusses the history of Buckskin/Alma Cemetery in *All That Lies Beneath* (2012) and describes many of its individual plots and gravemarkers. Laura Van Dusen's *Historic Tales from Park County* (2013) contains information about veterans' graves and other topics relating to the county's cemeteries. Linda Wommack's *From the Grave: A Roadside Guide to Colorado's Pioneer Cemeteries* (1998) provides a brief overview of early funerary practices in the state, including four Park County cemeteries and notable burials for Como, Old Fairplay, Fairplay, and Park City. Thomas J. Noel wrote a brief summary of Colorado cemeteries in his *Buildings of Colorado* (1997). Annette Stott's scholarly *Pioneer Cemeteries* (2008) examined Colorado and other Rocky Mountain graveyards with an emphasis on the design qualities of monuments and cemeteries and monument makers. It is the most thorough examination of early western cemeteries available. The nation's cemeteries have received much attention in recent years in books such as Richard E. Meyer's *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers (1992)* and Keith Eggener's *Cemeteries (2010)*, as well as numerous articles in publications such as *Markers*, the journal of the Association for Gravestone Studies, and *The Public Historian*.

Designated and Surveyed Cemeteries

Research identified previously recorded cemeteries within Park County. Based on a 2014 Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation COMPASS search, no Park County cemeteries are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places, although four are contained within historic districts. Shawnee Cemetery is included as a contributing resource within the Shawnee Historic District (NRIS 10000434, listed 2010). The Bordenville, Snair/Lake George, and Farnum cemeteries are contributing resources within the pending Tarryall Rural Historic Landscape District.

According to a COMPASS file search of the records of the Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, seventeen cemeteries within the county have been surveyed (see Table 2). This count does not include isolated burials. Longtime Park County residents Harold and Lenore Warren documented several county cemeteries in the 1970s. More recent survey efforts include a 1995 survey of Snair/Lake George Cemetery (5PA.382) by Alpine Archaeology and the 2006 Front Range Research Associates documentation of Farnum Cemetery (5PA. 4460) and re-evaluation of Snair/Lake George (5PA.382) and Bordenville (5PA.369) cemeteries. A 2013-14 effort by Erica Duvic, Amy Unger, and Hanna Eckroth, Park County Historic Preservation Office staff, not yet reflected in the COMPASS file search, documented fifteen cemeteries on reconnaissance survey forms (see Table 1 above). Only three cemeteries have been intensively surveyed and documented to current standards of History Colorado.

Cemetery Locations and Transcriptions

Prior work by researchers with interests in genealogy and cemeteries identified known Park County cemeteries and inventoried burials through tombstone transcriptions. Donald R. and Doris S. Elliott's 2006 publication on Colorado cemeteries listed thirty-six cemeteries within Park County, located by Township, Range, and Section and (for most) latitude and longitude. The authors also provided information on isolated individual burials. Historic and current U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle maps show the locations of many cemeteries within the county.

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No official cemetery burial records for any of the Park County cemeteries were found, although some coroner records may provide insights into individual causes of death. Only Como Cemetery has a historic plat map documenting the layout of the grounds into blocks and lots as are typically found for cemeteries associated with larger communities. The relatively random placement of burials suggests most were never formally platted. These factors make efforts to systematically transcribe gravestones an important approach to producing a tabulation of burials. Harold and Lenore Warren pioneered cemetery documentation in the county in the 1970s, when they produced transcriptions for a number of cemeteries. Park County Local History Archives maintains a list of historic obituaries and family history files.

More recently, national organizations built upon local efforts to create a national database of burials by cemetery. Founded in 1995, the Find A Grave website is a crowd-sourced effort to produce cemetery inventories covering the United States and other countries. The site includes a searchable database of cemeteries indicating number of identified interments and data for individual interments, such as name, birth and death dates, gravestone images, and other contributed data including obituaries and historic photographs. Nineteen Park County cemeteries are listed on the site. The USGenWeb Project, a volunteer internet-based genealogical effort dating to 1996, organizes data by county and includes lists of selected cemeteries and transcriptions of gravestones. The site lists twenty-one Park County cemeteries (as well as additional isolated graves) and includes transcriptions for fifteen.[326] The online blogs of individuals also contain photographs and narratives about some cemeteries.

Local surveys/updates of the county's three largest cemeteries took place in the 2000s: Fairplay (Harley Hamilton, Joe and Lucille Brown, and Shirley Murphy; survey 2001, update 2008), Buckskin/Alma (Ellen McMichael; survey 2010), and Como (Tina Carpenter and Shelley Barnes, survey and update 1999; and Ellen McMichael, survey 2010). Park County resident Steve Plutt is now engaged in a similar effort to identify and describe graves in the Snair/Lake George Cemetery. These projects concentrate on identifying, locating, and describing individual graves and recording transcriptions rather than producing an overall description of the cemetery landscape or its historical background.

Reconnaissance Survey, 2013-14

In support of this MPDF, Erica Duvic, Amy Unger, and Hanna Eckroth of the Park County Historic Preservation Office undertook a reconnaissance survey of fifteen county cemeteries and three isolated burials. Unger developed a two-page reconnaissance survey form that Duvic completed for each cemetery containing information on geographic location, ownership, type, condition, landscape description and features (such as signs, benches, and flagpoles), circulation, markers (approximate number, earliest and latest dates, and materials), predominant surnames, brief historical background, sketch map, and photographs.[327]

Duvic also examined historic newspapers, searching by name of cemetery and such terms as "interred" and "buried." Obituaries and/or news items relating to known burials were associated with the appropriate cemetery or assigned to "unlocated burials" if the burial site was undetermined. The photography task of the project attempted to record notable or unique iconography and inscriptions, although for the larger cemeteries only a sampling of markers was reviewed. Surveyors endeavored

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[326] See, U.S. Gen Web project, The Tombstone Transcription Project, Park County, Colorado, www.usgwtombstones.org/Colorado/Park.html, accessed 9 March 2015.
[327] Products of the survey are on file at the Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado.

to identify gravestones with inscriptions in foreign languages, evidence of ethnic, occupational, or fraternal groups, and religious iconography. The reconnaissance survey also employed ground-penetrating radar and forensic dog studies of portions of selected cemeteries to determine the presence of unmarked graves. Park County contracted with Katharine Hemingway of PinPoint LLC to conduct ground-penetrating radar studies of areas within four Park County cemeteries in June and July 2014. Park County staff identified areas in the cemeteries to be examined based on perceived likelihood for unmarked graves. The study found a total of twenty graves in the surveyed tracts, as follows: Park City (four unmarked graves); Old Fairplay (one unmarked grave); Como (none detected); and Shawnee (fifteen graves).[328] Forensic canine investigations were undertaken at Dudley, Buckskin/Alma, and Park City.

Examination of Selected Cemeteries, 2014

To facilitate development of MPDF property types and registration requirements, the nomination preparers reviewed the reconnaissance survey results and conducted field examinations of eight cemeteries reflecting different cemetery property types, locations, and levels of significance. Elements studied included burial layouts, circulation patterns, monument makers and fence manufacturers, gravestone types, materials, style, iconography, design, buildings, landscape features, views, and vegetation. All of the town cemeteries were visited.

Historic Context

As noted above, no general history focusing on all Park County cemeteries exists. Intensive and reconnaissance survey forms, historic newspaper accounts, gravestone transcriptions, histories of South Park and Park County, histories of specific cemeteries and Colorado cemeteries, and general works on American cemeteries and monuments were utilized to develop the historic context. Local historians shared information they gathered during years of study, including Christie Wright, Steve Plutt, and Jerry Davis. Genealogists and others have documented and researched many of the cemeteries in Park County, compiling useful information. Christy Wright's 2012 book on Buckskin/Alma Cemetery, *All That Lies Beneath*, and Linda R. Wommack's 1998 *From the Grave: A Roadside Guide to Colorado's Pioneer Cemeteries* provided knowledge about specific cemeteries in the county. Gary Minke's analysis of Park County coroner records from 1872 through 1913 supplies insights into causes of death. As most county cemeteries were associated with settlements, the Townbuilding context of the "Park County Historic Contexts" (2002) proved useful.[329] Annette Stott's *Pioneer Cemeteries*, which focuses on burial grounds in the Rocky Mountain region, contributed substantial information, and the author also answered specific research questions and provided advice.[330]

Erica Duvic of the Park County Office of Historic Preservation met with the County Coroner, whose historic materials on deaths include inquest records from the late nineteenth century and files for deaths from 1953 to the present. She discovered that very few people were being buried in Park County by the 1950s, when the only local mortuary was Stranahan in Fairplay.[331]

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[328] Katharina Hemingway, PinPoint LLC, Morrison, Colorado, "Locating Graves with Ground-penetrating Radar in Park County," letter report to Erica Duvic, South Park Heritage Area, Fairplay, Colorado, 17 July 2014. The Shawnee Cemetery graves are marked, but the GPR study was undertaken at the request of local citizens who wanted further confirmation of the burials."
[329] Thomas H. and R. Laurie Simmons, "Park County Historic Contexts: Townbuilding," prepared for Park County Historic Preservation Office, Fairplay, Colorado, 2002.
[330] Annette Stott, University of Denver, Emails to Tom and Laurie Simmons, August 2014.
[331] Erica Duvic, Park County Office of Historic Preservation, Email to Tom and Laurie Simmons, 15 August 2014.

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As part of the research for this nomination, a number of cemeteries recorded in the reconnaissance survey were examined for information about monument styles, materials, iconography, inscriptions, and other characteristics of burial monuments. In addition, cemetery landscapes and associated features were studied. Newspaper accounts were compiled to prepare discussions of causes of death and types of funerals and burials.

Determination of Property Types

No previous MPDF for cemeteries in Colorado exists. Relevant MPDF documents for cemeteries in other states were examined for guidance on general methodology and identified property types, including: Historic Cemeteries of Ashland, Oregon and Environs, 1851-1925 (NRIS 64500506, accepted 1995); Historic Cemeteries of the Town of Southampton [New York], 1640-1930 (NRIS 64501088, accepted 2010); and Cemeteries in Puerto Rico, 1804-1920 (NRIS 64500543, accepted 1988). Other extant MPDFs on cemeteries in other states focused on cemeteries linked to religious groups and buildings, ethnic groups, or specific monument carving techniques, none of which were applicable to Park County cemeteries. Recent National Register nominations for Colorado cemeteries provided useful information, including those for Golden Hill Cemetery, Hill Section (Golden, NRIS 940001230, listed 1995), Golden Cemetery (Golden, NRIS 12000200, listed 2012), Ute Cemetery (Aspen, NRIS 02000291, listed 2002), Masonic Placer Cemetery-Valley Brook Cemetery (Breckenridge, NRIS 14000422, listed 2014), and Greenwood Cemetery (Cañon City, NRIS 13000661, listed 2013).

Previous survey and context studies, the reconnaissance survey, and examination of selected Park County cemeteries provided the baseline information by which cemetery property types were identified. The work of scholars such as Richard Meyer, Keith Eggener, and Richard Francaviglia proved useful in consideration of the cemeteries. Professor Annette Stott's work in the Rocky Mountain region also informed the discussion of property types, as did the opinions of the Park County staff members, who completed the reconnaissance survey, and the comments of Erika Warzel, Colorado National and State Register Historian.

Determination of Integrity Requirements

Integrity requirements are based on National Register standards for assessing integrity, as described in National Park Service publications: *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (Bulletin 16A) and *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places* (Bulletin 41). The requirements were crafted in consideration of the resources known to exist in Park County.

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Table 2
PREVIOUSLY SURVEYED
PARK COUNTY CEMETERIES

State ID Number	Cemetery Name
5PA.341	Park City Cemetery
5PA.365	Dudley Cemetery
5PA.366	Shawnee Cemetery
5PA.368	Green/Buffalo Springs Cemetery
5PA.369	Bordenville Cemetery
5PA.371	White Cemetery, Webster Cemetery 1
5PA.372	Lamping Cemetery, Webster Cemetery 2
5PA.375	Webster Cemetery
5PA.376	Deer Creek/Horn Cemetery
5PA.379	Hallstown Cemetery
5PA.380	Harris Park Cemetery
5PA.381	Hartsel Cemetery
5PA.382	Snair/Lake George Cemetery
5PA.383	Rocky Cemetery
5PA.385	Como Cemetery
5PA.386	Old Fairplay/Fairplay Ranger Cemetery
5PA.387	Fairplay Cemetery
5PA.397	Buckskin/Alma Cemetery
5PA.4460	Farnum Cemetery

SOURCE: Colorado OAHP, COMPASS file search, June 2014.
Isolated burials (5PA.367, 377, 378, and 384) are not included.

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