

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate location or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name GOLDEN CEMETERY

other names / site number 5JF401

2. Location

street & number 755 ULYSSES ST. N/A not for publication

city or town GOLDEN N/A vicinity

state COLORADO code CO county JEFFERSON code 059 zip code 80401

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet.)

to W.T. 9/30/11
Signature of certifying official Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

GOLDEN CEMETERY
Name of Property

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

private
 public-local
public-State
public-Federal

Category of Property

building(s)
district
 site
structure
object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	3	buildings
1		sites
		structures
	1	objects
2	4	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

FUNERARY / cemetery

Current Functions

FUNERARY / cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

OTHER: WPA RUSTIC

Materials

foundation CONCRETE
walls STONE
roof WOOD
other N/A
other N/A

Narrative Description

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

GOLDEN CEMETERY
Name of Property

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- X A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
X B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1873-1962

Significant Dates

- 1873
1933

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all locations that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
B removed from its original location
C a birthplace or a grave
X D a cemetery
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure
F a commemorative property
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Significant Persons

- GEORGE MORRISON SR.
EDWARD L. BERTHOUD
GEORGE WEST

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Civil Works Administration

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
X Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

CITY OF GOLDEN

GOLDEN CEMETERY
Name of Property

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 54.6 ACRES

The UTM reference points were derived from heads up digitization on Digital Raster Graphic (DRG) maps provided to OAHF by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

UTM References (NAD 27)
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Table with 5 rows and 3 columns: Point Number, Zone, Easting, Northing. Data includes points 1 through 5 with their respective UTM coordinates.

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title RON SLADEK, PRESIDENT (FOR THE CITY OF GOLDEN, OWNER)
organization TATANKA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATES, INC. date 20 JUNE 2011 (REVISED 1/12)
street & number P.O. BOX 1909 telephone 970 / 221-1095
city or town FORT COLLINS state CO zip code 80522

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name CITY OF GOLDEN
street and number 911 10TH ST. telephone 303 / 384-8000
city or town GOLDEN state CO zip code 80401

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1Property GOLDEN CEMETERYJEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Location, Setting & Access

Golden Cemetery is located in the southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 2, Township 4 South, Range 70 West, within the corporate boundaries of the City of Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado (see *Figure 1*). The property is bordered by St. Joseph Catholic Church and an apartment complex to the north; the 6th Avenue Freeway (Highway 6) and industrial-warehouse buildings to the south; Ulysses Street, a small church and office building, single-family homes, part of an old railroad bed, a mobile home park, and vacant land to the east; and by the Jefferson County Government Center to the west across Johnson Road (see *Figure 2*).

The cemetery is situated in a developed suburban setting within Golden, on the western outskirts of the Denver metropolitan area. From the cemetery's western high point, at an elevation of approximately 5,970' above sea level, the view to the east is expansive and takes in much of central Denver and its western suburbs. The view to the north is dominated by South Table Mountain, and to the southeast by Green Mountain. To the west, the Jefferson County complex can be seen, along with the rolling horizon of foothills rising to heights of more than 7,000' above sea level.

The cemetery is reached by way of Ulysses Street between 10th Avenue and Highway 6. Two gates (described below) provide access into the site along the west side of the street. These entries are open from dawn until dusk, and the city-owned site welcomes all visitors.

Description of the Cemetery

Golden Cemetery opened in 1873 and is a rectangular site that is now almost fifty-five acres in size. The cemetery faces toward the east and occupies open ground that slopes upward in elevation from east to west, with a gradual gain of approximately fifty feet. The entire cemetery, except for interior roads and maintenance areas, is covered with a carpet of irrigated lawn. In addition to grass, vegetation on the site includes numerous mature deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. While many of these are planted along the roadways, others are interior to the burial blocks. The plantings on the site have transformed the former open prairie burial ground into a landscaped, park-like setting that provides the deceased and their loved ones with a final resting place of carefully planned and maintained beauty (see *Figure 3*).

An early 1980s metal milled-point fence supported by slender square posts and heavy stone piers borders the cemetery's Ulysses Street frontage. The squared piers are constructed of random slabs of sandstone held together with concrete mortar. Most of the piers have flat concrete caps, except for those flanking the entry gates, each of which is ornamented with a single concrete ball finial. Along the north, south and southeast edges of the cemetery, the metal milled-point fence supported only by metal posts marks the site's boundaries. The western property line along Johnson Road is bordered by a combination of chain link fencing and a tall concrete block retaining wall, both of which were installed in recent decades.

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Section number 7 Page 2Property GOLDEN CEMETERYJEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Two entrances to the cemetery are located along Ulysses Street, and both are designed for vehicular access. When these gates are closed, there is no pedestrian access to the site. Of these entrances, one is primary and the other secondary. An ornamental gateway with a collection of evergreen trees marks the primary entrance, which is situated on the east-central edge of the site. The squared stone piers described above flank this entry. Between the piers, tall square metal posts support a flat overhead panel with cutout metal letters spelling out "GOLDEN CEMETERY." Metal swinging gates spanning the entry hang from smaller metal posts of their own. The pair of metal milled-point gates is ornamented with a curvilinear design that rises toward the middle, along with large cutout metal letters "G" where the gates come together when closed. The secondary entrance, or north gate, is located in the northeast corner of the cemetery. This also holds metal gates flanked by stone piers and evergreen trees. While this gateway can be entered from Ulysses Street, it is primarily used as an egress point for vehicles leaving the cemetery (see *photographs 3 and 4*).

The cemetery's interior roads are laid out in accordance with a grid pattern that was established during the 1870s and expanded into the 1900s. Straight and narrow, the roads follow the cardinal compass points and are paved with asphalt. They are lined with greenery, and divide the burial sections from each other. In addition, the drives were provided with names such as Pioneer, Frontier, Centennial, Conestoga, Telegraph, Homestead, Stagecoach and Bison. These are posted on metal street signs at each of the intersections to help visitors navigate the site. While the driveway names and asphalt date from the past few decades, the grid pattern itself is an important historic characteristic of the site (see *photographs 5 and 6*).

A small non-contributing maintenance complex dating from the early 1980s is located in the southeast corner of the cemetery, outside of the burial area. This is hidden from view by a series of trees, and includes a shop building, small shed, and an aboveground fuel tank. The rectangular shop building has a flat roof and three vehicle bays on the west elevation.

Shelter House - 1933 (contributing building): Located in the south-central core of the site, on the northwest corner of Homestead and Centennial, is the cemetery's office building, known as the Shelter House (see *photographs 7 and 8*). This one-story masonry WPA Rustic building faces toward the east, rests upon a concrete foundation with a basement, has a footprint of 18' x 32', and contains about 484 square feet of main floor space. Its walls are constructed of granite rubble laid with concrete mortar in random coursing. The slabs of granite were evidently selected for their rough but relatively flat faces and do not appear to have been shaped on the exterior. The building has a side-gabled roof with fireproof faux-wood shingles, exposed rafter ends, gutters and downspouts, and a square granite chimney near the northwest corner.

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The primary elevation on the east holds the building's main entry. This is reached by way of a masonry stoop constructed with granite rubble sidewalls, five stone steps with concrete treads, a concrete floor at the top, and metal handrails. The entry itself holds a natural wood screen door and a natural wood panel door with a single light. Fenestration on the east elevation is limited to two windows that flank the centered entrance. The larger space (north of the entry) holds a two-light window that replicates the appearance of a one-over-one, double-hung sash window. The smaller space (south of the entry) holds a single-light window. Both retain their original concrete sills and lintels.

A small masonry wing that projects from the main body of the building dominates the south elevation. Original to the building, this projection formerly sheltered the basement stairway. It is constructed of randomly coursed granite rubble walls with concrete mortar. Lower than the building's main body roof, the projection roof is similarly finished with faux-wood shingles, exposed rafter ends, and gutters and downspouts. The south wall of the projection previously held a pair of wood doors. This space is now infilled with a painted panel and two small windows above. The original concrete exterior steps and lintel remain in place. Former door openings into the main body of the building on either side of the projection are now infilled with painted panels, but retain their original concrete thresholds and lintels. The infill panels are constructed so they can easily be removed. A new exterior basement entry is found at the southeast corner of the building. This is reached by way of concrete steps with metal handrails. Fenestration is limited to two small windows above the panel on the south elevation, and a single east-facing basement opening that is louvered and has a concrete lintel.

The building's west elevation holds a secondary entrance that is accessed directly from the sidewalk and small paved parking area. This entry holds a natural wood door with a single light, and an original concrete lintel. Flanking the doorway are two windows that are identical to those found on the east elevation. The north elevation primarily consists of a granite rubble wall. Centered below the wall is a concrete window well that provides light to a basement level window. The main floor holds a centered two-light window that replicates the appearance of a one-over-one, double-hung sash window. As on the rest of the building, this also retains its original concrete sill and lintel.

The Graves: Golden Cemetery holds thousands of graves that are spread throughout the entire site. The cemetery is a planned site in the sense that it is laid out in a grid pattern, with its rectangular burial sections divided by roadways. Within each section, the graves are laid out in long rows aligned on a north-south axis. As a whole, the cemetery is divided into a total of 314 blocks (each section holds multiple blocks), and it is estimated that at least two-thirds of the blocks hold graves. Those blocks that contain no graves, or perhaps just a few, are predominantly located along the eastern and western edges of the cemetery. They are available for future burials, and are obvious from their open appearance with undisturbed grassed lawns and a few trees.

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Approximately 8,000 burials are found on the site, about 5,000 of which hold gravemarkers identifying the individuals buried there. New graves are regularly added throughout the site in this active but historic cemetery. Many of the unmarked graves are likely to have originally held wooden crosses or tablets. Except for three standing but weathered wood tablets in the southeast quadrant of the cemetery, and a couple more in the area near Ute and Calvary streets, there are no visible remnants of early wood features on the site (*see photograph 9*). Maintenance personnel probably removed these many decades ago as they deteriorated and fell to the ground. The locations of unmarked graves are not evident to today's visitor, as decades of maintenance at the manicured cemetery ensured that sinking graves were soon re-leveled with the surrounding grounds.

Almost none of the burials retain fencing or the ground-level coping that often, but not always, outlined historic graves. One of the few surviving examples is at the 1890 grave of Birdie Hyatt, where finely carved marble coping lines the perimeter of the grave behind the headstone. Coping stones are likely to have been found not only around some of the individual graves, but also surrounding family plots. Footstones are also likely to have been present, but are no longer evident in the cemetery. These features were either removed decades ago to ease maintenance or have sunk beneath the turf and can no longer be seen.

In addition to general burial blocks open to anyone wishing to be buried there, the cemetery holds sections that are dedicated to specific groups or uses. The eastern half of the site contains reserved blocks for members of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternal organizations. Sections are set aside in the western half of the cemetery by the City of Golden and Jefferson County. These sections have historically been used for indigent burials.

A veterans' section is found in the cemetery's northwest quadrant, along the south side of Frontier between Trapper and Telegraph (*see photograph 10*). Numerous veterans' graves are located in this area, surrounding a flagpole and four masonry monuments. The circa 1960s monument east of the flagpole is pyramidal in shape and constructed of stacked sandstone blocks with concrete mortar. Its east side holds a bronze plaque with the following inscription:

(American Legion Emblem)
ERECTED BY
TAYLOR-MILLER POST NO. 21
AMERICAN LEGION
IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO
SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN WARS

The monument west of the flagpole is an upright granite die that rests upon a granite block. Its west face is inscribed with the following text:

(American Legion Emblem) (Flag)
Post 21

(Veterans of Foreign Wars Emblem)
Post 4171

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

DEDICATED TO
THE MEN AND WOMEN
WHO SERVED OUR NATION
IN TIMES OF WAR
AND ESPECIALLY TO
THOSE WHO GAVE
THEIR LIVES

REMEMBERED HERE
IN
"THE AVENUE OF FLAGS"
GOLDEN CEMETERY
DEDICATED JULY 4, 1992
IN MEMORY OF HARRY T. STOKES JR.

The veterans' burial section east of these flagpole-centered monuments holds another monument, this one to the nation's Civil War veterans. This is a tall white marble spire with an obelisk-shaped upper portion, resting upon two marble blocks. Mounted on the upper east face of the spire is a bronze emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic. The lower face holds the following inscription, surrounded by lightly carved ornamental banding and flowers:

T. H. DODD POST NO. 3
In memory of
CIVIL WAR
VETERANS
1861-1865

The back of the spire is inscribed with the following text:

DEDICATED
MAY 30, 1931

One final memorial is located near the Civil War monument, adjacent to a small tree. This flat granite marker holds the following inscription:

The Dwight D. Eisenhower
Green Ash Tree
Dedicated August 11, 2001 to those who
served at home and abroad in
World War II.
Veterans of Foreign Wars,
Department of Colorado.
Golden Post 4171 and its Ladies Auxiliary.

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

In addition to this dedicated area of veterans' graves and monuments, the cemetery holds numerous individual military markers that are scattered across the site. Most of the veterans buried in the cemetery served between the Civil War and the conflict in Vietnam. Their government-issue marble gravestones, as well as a number of privately fabricated markers, provide information about rank, service unit, and in some cases, military honors. Some of these graves include cast metal pins next to the gravemarkers that identify the deceased as former members of veteran's organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the Woman's Relief Corps (a GAR auxiliary), or as veterans of World War I.

Up the slope to the south of the veterans' section, between Trapper and Calvary, is a section of children's graves representative for its small gravemarkers. While some of these burials are from recent decades, others date back to the late 1940s and 1950s. Many hundreds of children's graves are located throughout the cemetery, some of them identifiable from their sculptural depictions of lambs and doves. These stand in testimony to the frailty of childhood. A cremation garden, or columbarium, is located along the east side of Prospector, between Frontier and Comanche, in the cemetery's northeast quadrant. Dating from the early 1990s, this feature holds six low two-sided, flat-topped granite vaults that radiate to the north, south and east of a central stone fountain. The surroundings are landscaped with concrete and stone walks, grass and mature trees, and benches and flowers beds.

The cemetery's thousands of historic gravestones dating from the 1860s through the 1950s are predominantly fabricated from blocks of granite and marble carved by skilled masons and sculptors. In addition, the site holds a smaller number of sandstone, bronze and concrete markers. Those that date from the 1860s through the early 1890s are mostly white marble dies and tablets, along with a smaller number of finely carved spires, pedestals and obelisks. Some markers from this time period involve the use of locally quarried sandstone. The inscriptions on many of these soft monuments have become very weathered, and in some cases unreadable. Only five gravestones with death dates from the 1860s were found on the site. Among these, Huldah Hunter also has the earliest birth date of anyone buried in Golden Cemetery. She was born in May 1801, shortly after Thomas Jefferson was inaugurated as the nation's new president (*see photographs 11-14*).

Many of the granite markers inscribed with death dates prior to the early 1890s appear stylistically to have been fabricated at a later time than when the deceased was buried. These could have replaced earlier wood or stone markers that deteriorated. In some cases, family members may have ordered their fabrication and placement years after the loved one died because they were too poor at the time of burial to afford the cost. In any case, these possible scenarios resulted in the presence of some gravestones with early dates whose materials and styles are anachronistic. Examples of this relatively common practice are seen in various locations throughout the site.

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JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Between the 1890s and 1950s, materials employed at the cemetery expanded to include not only marble and sandstone, but also granite, concrete and bronze. Most of these markers are shaped dies, often granite with rusticated sides and polished faces, along with a collection of smooth-faced marble tablets and granite slant markers. Sculptural monuments also appeared, such as Woodmen of the World treestones, larger and more ornate granite pedestals, and a few horizontal granite cylinders. Many of the small historic bronze plaque markers in the cemetery would have been ordered from foundries through mail-order catalogues or monument companies. Others are metal mortuary signs intended for temporary use but placed into permanent service to save costs. Most of the bronze plaques and metal mortuary signs were wet-set into concrete blocks or mounted onto masonry bases (*see photographs 15-18*). No monument fabricators' emblems or marks were found on the gravestones.

In addition to the gravestones described above, many of which were commercially available from area monument companies and through mail-order catalogues such as Sears & Roebuck, Golden Cemetery holds a small number of relatively unique or unusual markers. At least four examples of terra cotta slant markers with glossy glazes and either raised or engraved inscriptions are found on the site. Terra cotta markers were common to eastern states such as New York and New Jersey during the late 1800s and early 1900s, where large clay deposits supported extensive terra cotta industries. In Golden, these markers have dates that range from the 1910s to the 1940s. They appear to be primarily associated with the Bengsons, a sizable Swedish family that resided in town and the surrounding countryside. It is not currently known if a member of the family was employed with the Denver Terra Cotta Company, purchased the markers by mail order, or may have made them on their own.

Crudely inscribed, roughly fabricated concrete and sandstone blocks dating from the 1910s to the 1930s are also scattered throughout the cemetery, indicating that the surviving families were perhaps too poor to afford commercially available gravemarkers. Instead, family members created markers of their own design, allowing them to dedicate a loved one's burial location at little to no cost. A small number of rough boulders were also employed as gravemarkers, particularly during the 1920s and 1930s, with inscriptions carved into the sides (*see photographs 19 and 20*).

Finally, the cemetery holds eleven stacked marble family monuments, along with one of stacked granite and another of stacked marble and granite. These masonry markers are all hand-constructed of rough cobbles stacked to form upright boxes held together with concrete mortar. No two are alike, and they appear to date from the 1920s to the 1960s. One has no name present, but most are identified with metal or stone plaques on the front or top that provide at least a family name if not detailed information about the deceased. While some are surrounded by individual headstones and clearly serve as general family markers, others seem to serve as individual gravemarkers themselves (*see photographs 21 and 22*).

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Alterations & Integrity: As an active burial ground that has been in use for almost 140 years, Golden Cemetery evolved throughout its history. The site was never intended to remain static. Instead, as a city cemetery the site was designed to accept future interments and to mature and grow and change as both a burial ground and living landscape. Although the cemetery evolved and experienced a variety of alterations since it was first established, it retains much of its original design and a preponderance of its historic features from a period of significance that runs from 1873 through 1961.

Historic gravemarkers on the site are numerous, even with the infill of additional burials over the past several decades. Close inspection of the burial blocks in 2010 and 2011 reveal that almost every section in the cemetery, with very few exceptions, holds numerous graves that date from the period of significance between 1873 and 1961. The historic graves are not isolated to certain areas, but are found throughout the cemetery. For this reason, the site is nominated as a whole, without the need to exclude a small number of blocks as non-contributing resources outside the nomination boundary. In addition to a profusion of historic funerary art, the site's original roadways, rectangular burial sections, and WPA Rustic Shelter House remain in place.

Historic changes to the site that occurred between the cemetery's founding in the 1870s and the early 1960s include the following:

- 1873-74: The cemetery was established, platted, graded with roads, and fenced.
- 1883: A well was completed to provide irrigation water for trees, grass and flowers. However, this proved to be inadequate to support extensive landscaping and the site remained dry prairie for years afterward.
- 1910: A military section was formally established in the northwest area of the cemetery for Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans.
- 1920: The empty southeast corner of the site, across the Denver & Intermountain Railroad tracks, was sold and removed from the cemetery.
- 1931: A Civil War monument was erected in the veterans' section.
- 1933-34: The office and tool storage building, known as the Shelter House, was constructed and the cemetery grounds beautified by the City of Golden, in conjunction with the federal Works Progress Administration.
- 1936: A nursery was established on the site to provide trees for the cemetery, and around one hundred fifty elm and pine trees were planted.

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- 1960-61: The cemetery sexton reported that nine thousand linear feet of new water lines had been installed, along with seventy-five faucets or spigots. These brought piped city water to the site to expand the 1930s system. The dirt roads were also improved with gravel, five hundred headstones reset with foundations, and ninety-five trees either planted or moved.

Non-historic changes to the site have been limited to additional burials and the following:

- 1965: Fifty-three of the fifty-five Catholic burials in the northern area of the cemetery were removed to Mt. Olivet in Wheat Ridge. (Two others were found there during the 1980s and also moved.) The grounds of the Catholic section were then separated from the cemetery. Since 1986, they have been occupied by St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
- 1982-83: Wrought iron fencing was installed along the north, east and south perimeters of the cemetery, along with new entry gates on the east along Ulysses Street. This replaced the earlier fencing and a gate that were in poor condition. A cemetery maintenance facility was constructed in the site's southeast corner and hidden with landscaping.
- 1988: The roads in the cemetery were named and provided with signage.
- 1992-93: The Cremation Garden was installed in the northeast area of the cemetery.
- Post 1995: The previously gravel roads were paved with asphalt, although they were not widened. Four new columbarium vaults were constructed, a new flagpole surrounded by flowers was installed in the Odd Fellows section, and unobtrusive block markers were placed throughout the site. In 2010-2011, a rehabilitation project was completed on the Shelter House, leaving most of its rustic details intact. However, it did result in the construction of an enlarged stone and concrete front entry stoop, closure of main floor entrances on the south elevation (leaving the locations visible), and the installation of new doors and windows.

Even with the changes that have taken place, the aspects of integrity -- location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association -- are present and evident throughout cemetery, especially when one considers that the period of significance runs into the early 1960s. By 1961, many of the improvements completed prior to that time had caused the site to take on the appearance of a landscaped garden cemetery. Today, Golden Cemetery exhibits a good level of integrity and is eligible for individual NHRP designation.

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Statement of Significance

Recognizing the importance of Golden Cemetery in the history of late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century Golden, this site is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places on the local level of significance under **Criterion A in the area of Exploration and Settlement**. The cemetery is associated with the history of Golden and its environs, specifically the period of settlement and town building that extended from the 1860s through the 1950s. Located at the mouth of Clear Creek where it exits the Rocky Mountains and enters the eastern plains, the Gold Rush town of Golden was established in 1860 and served as a gateway and supply center for the mining camps in the mountains above. During the 1870s, the Colorado School of Mines was established in Golden, providing the community with a stable population and economy that extended well into the 1900s, beyond the mining era. The settlement, growth and development of the town resulted in a need for a formal burial ground for area pioneers and residents. Golden Cemetery was established in 1873 to address this need.

Golden Cemetery is also nominated to the NRHP on the local level under **Criterion B in the area of Exploration and Settlement**, as the final resting place of significant persons in the history of Golden and central Colorado. While the cemetery holds the graves of thousands of average citizens, a number of prominent local business, agricultural, industrial and civic leaders who were active during the period of significance are also buried at the site. Among them are cattle rancher, coal mine owner, and extensive area landholder Alexander Rooney; members of the large Churches farming family; trader, hotelier, judge and road builder Ensign Smith; early Jefferson County sheriff and Golden civic leader Jonas Mott Johnson; county commissioner and prominent clay mine owner George W. Parfet (downtown Golden's Parfet Park is named for the family); Golden Flour Mill founder Jesse Quaintance; educator Gertrude Bell (Bell Middle School is named for her); county clerk and recorder, and operator of the first cherry orchard and greenhouse in Colorado, Charles Easley; county commissioner, sheriff, Golden mayor, coal mine operator, and proprietor of the Golden Opera House, John Nicholls; and contractor, miner and early Golden mayor Robert Millikin.

In addition to these local citizens, the cemetery holds the burial sites of three Colorado residents who played a larger role in the development of the state and the Golden area (*see photographs 23 and 24*). These include the following persons of note:

Edward L. Berthoud (1828-1908) – Edward Berthoud immigrated to the United States from Switzerland as a child, grew up in upstate New York, and in 1849 obtained a degree in civil engineering. During the early 1850s, he worked as an engineer on construction of the Panama Railroad, and then returned to settle in Leavenworth, Kansas, where he became interested in the development of railroads in the western frontier. In 1860, Edward and his wife Helen moved west to the foot of the Rocky Mountains, where they settled in the newly founded town of Golden. The following year, this area became part of the Colorado Territory, with Golden as its capital. Edward explored the mountains west of Golden in 1861 in search of a direct route that might connect Denver and Golden with Salt Lake

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City. During the course of his surveying, conducted with the help of famed frontier guide Jim Bridger, he discovered Berthoud Pass, which remains in use today as an important auto route. In 1862, Edward set aside his frontier ambitions when he volunteered to serve as a captain with Company D of the 2nd Colorado Cavalry during the course of the Civil War.

In Golden, Edward met town founder and railroad entrepreneur William A. H. Loveland, who offered him a position as chief engineer and secretary of the Colorado Central Railroad. Loveland was interested in pursuing a rail route through the mountains west of Golden. Although the rail line reached nearby mining camps, pushing beyond proved too costly of an enterprise. During the 1870s, Loveland and Berthoud shifted their sights to a much less complicated and costly route north of Golden, along the high plains just east of the mountains. Chief engineer Berthoud surveyed this route, which was completed in 1877. That year, the Colorado Central connected the communities of Golden and Denver with Boulder, Longmont, Loveland, Fort Collins, and Cheyenne. The town of Berthoud, between Longmont and Loveland, was named in his honor.

Prior to his death in 1908, Edward served in the Colorado legislature, was instrumental in founding the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, and taught civil engineering there for several years. He also served as Jefferson County surveyor, became the proprietor of Golden's Overland Hotel, and completed terms as town engineer and then mayor in 1890-1891. Berthoud Hall at the School of Mines was named in his honor.

George West (1826-1906) – George West was a native of New Hampshire who apprenticed in newspaper printing and then moved to Boston to pursue his trade. Hearing of the discovery of gold along the Rocky Mountains, in 1859 he moved again, this time to the Colorado frontier with a group of men calling themselves the Boston Company. Together with William A. H. Loveland, West became a founding father of the town, and he launched a short-lived newspaper there, the *Western Mountaineer*. However, West's career in Golden was interrupted by the Civil War, as he volunteered to serve as a captain in Company F of the 2nd Colorado Cavalry.

Following the war, West returned to Golden, where in 1866 he launched the *Colorado Transcript*. This weekly newspaper continued with West at its helm for forty years. In this prominent role, he became an ardent booster of the community and aided its early growth and development. In 1887, West accepted an appointment as adjutant general of the Colorado National Guard. Camp George West (NRIS.92001865; 5JF.145), a National Guard training facility on the east edge of Golden, was named in his honor.

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George Morrison (1822-1895) – George Morrison was born in Montreal, Canada and developed a career there as a stonemason and contractor. He arrived in Colorado in 1859 and initially settled along the foothills south of Golden near the mouth of Mount Vernon Canyon. Morrison constructed and operated the Mount Vernon House (NRIS.70000162; 5JF.185), an early inn and stage station on the route from Denver to the early goldfields in the mountains. In 1865, he and his wife Isabella moved a short distance south to a site along Bear Creek, where George founded the Morrison Stone, Lime & Townsite Company. There he quarried building stone, built the Morrison School (NRIS.74000585; 5JF.194), and constructed a family residence known as the Cliff House (5JF.176.27 within the Morrison Historic District NRIS.76000561). His work there established the area as an excellent source of building stone that was shipped to Denver and other locations along the central Front Range. Known as the founder of the town of Morrison, George also raised livestock and owned the Morrison & Bergen Toll Road, which provided access to the Evergreen area. Mount Morrison, near Red Rocks, and the Morrison Formation (a fossil-rich geologic layer dating from the Late Jurassic period) are also named in his honor.

Golden Cemetery is also significant on the local level under **Criterion C in the area of Architecture** for its early 1930s WPA Rustic style Shelter House. The Shelter House was erected in 1933-34 by the Civil Works Administration (CWA), in conjunction with the City of Golden, to replace an inadequate wood frame building that had been constructed there in 1888. Construction of the new Shelter House was part of a concerted Depression-era effort to beautify the cemetery, which remained in use but suffered from a lack of adequate water for irrigation and had been sliding into disrepair. The building was erected with granite rubble walls laid in random coursing, and a side-gabled roof with exposed rafter ends and a square granite chimney. Its overall appearance was, and still is, that of a stone cottage used to house the sexton's office, with tool storage in the basement. The Shelter House remains a good local example of WPA Rustic architecture applied to a cemetery setting, along with local craftsmanship and the use of native building materials in the form of granite rubble.

Significance of the Shelter House is tied to its architectural style and its origins as one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, Depression-era projects. Although built by the CWA, the building's design features contain those found in WPA Rustic style buildings found on Colorado's eastern plains, which emphasized the use of local native materials that allowed it to blend with its surroundings and the employment of hand craftsmanship rather than machined or non-indigenous materials and processes. The CWA was an experimental program to employ people quickly during the winter months of 1933-1934 until other relief programs such as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) or the Public Works Administration (PWA) became fully operational. The CWA required its projects to "take place on public property, be constructive in nature, and have a cost ratio of approximately 70 percent labor to 30 percent materials" and be complete within ninety days from the commencement (Wolfenbarger, *New Deal Resources on Colorado's Eastern Plains* p. 22). The program encouraged communities and local businesses to donate building supplies, leaving most of the federal funds for wages. Due to its brief existence, CWA buildings in Colorado

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are rare and few are differentiated from WPA projects. However, the overall design and materials are indistinguishable between the two programs.

Character-defining features of the WPA Rustic style found in the Golden Cemetery's Shelter House include a simple and functional design compatible with the local topography, geology, and cultural influences, the use of native materials, indigenous forms and construction methods, a low-pitched gabled roof, and a blending with its surroundings. In Colorado, no other CWA buildings and only a few WPA Rustic buildings associated with cemeteries have been documented through the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's database. The Shelter House in Golden Cemetery is currently the only known CWA-built rustic building of its type that has been documented in association with a Colorado burial ground.

Golden Cemetery is also eligible on the local level under **Criterion C in the areas of Art and Landscape Architecture** for its association with the development of funerary art and planned and landscaped community cemeteries in Colorado between the 1870s and mid-1900s. Although not the first planned, community-established burial ground in the region, Golden Cemetery was created in 1873 as one of the state's earliest memorial parks, or garden cemeteries. Different from home place burials, minimalist small town graveyards, or those located in the backyards of country churches, the urban-associated garden cemetery was designed to transform the natural environment (in this case, the high plains prairie) on the edge of town into a place of planned verdant beauty. The basis of this plan was laid out at each site, and each was then expected to develop and change over time as burials increased, improvements were made, and landscaping matured.

Garden cemeteries emerged in the eastern United States starting in the 1830s as part of what is known as the "rural cemetery movement." Early American proponents of cemetery design were influenced by the development of European romanticism, especially in England and France, as it was applied to private and public gardens, parks and other landscapes such as cemeteries. Among these, the 1804 Pere-Lachaise Cemetery in Paris was considered the finest example. The first planned American cemetery to be developed in accordance with principles of the rural cemetery movement was the 1831 Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts (NRIS.75000254). Among the concepts employed there were that the cemetery be substantial in size, located on the outskirts of town, offer visitors a good view, be laid out with a pattern of carriage roads and defined burial sections, hold a variety of funerary art, and exhibit landscaping that over time would mature into a park-like setting with an expanse of grass, trees, shrubs and flower beds.

Throughout the western frontier, particularly during the earliest years of settlement, cemeteries started out as utilitarian burial grounds rooted in practical necessity more than lofty concepts such as beauty and solace. However, among settlements that grew into permanent towns and cities, many pioneer graveyards were replaced or evolved into larger, more sophisticated planned, landscaped, park-like garden cemeteries of varying sizes. Each western community created its

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own version of the garden cemetery that reflected local topographic conditions, community size, design preferences, the availability of water, and cost considerations.

For residents of Golden and the surrounding countryside during the late 1800s and early 1900s, Golden Cemetery became that community's version of the garden cemetery. It was substantial in size, located on the outskirts of town, and offered visitors a panoramic view of the mountains and plains. Imitating the grid pattern of western settlements, the site was laid out with a linear pattern of carriage roads and burial sections, and was landscaped over time to create a park-like setting. Also typical of high plains locales, what the site lacked during its early decades was access to water. However, this issue was resolved between the 1930s and 1950s, finally allowing the cemetery's planned greenery to take hold and mature.

Review of garden cemeteries established by Colorado's high plains pioneer communities shows that Golden Cemetery was among the earliest to be founded:

Evans Cemetery, Evans (1869)	Mountain View Cemetery, Longmont (1876)
Littleton Cemetery, Littleton (1869)	Lakeside Cemetery, Loveland (1880)
Columbia Cemetery, Boulder (1870)	Grandview Cemetery, Fort Collins (1887)
Golden Cemetery, Golden (1873)	Fairmount Cemetery, Denver (1890)
Linn Grove Cemetery, Greeley (1874)	Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge (1892)
Evergreen Cemetery, Colorado Springs (1875)	Olinger Crown Hill, Wheat Ridge (1907)
Riverside Cemetery, Denver (1876)	

All of these sites are similar to Golden Cemetery in that they were designed as garden cemeteries and evolved over time. Most struggled to secure adequate water to irrigate their dry prairie grounds. Golden Cemetery is significant not only as one of the oldest planned garden cemeteries in the region, but as a good representative of landscape architecture applied to a city-owned cemetery that evolved over many decades.

Over time, the cemetery was populated with a variety of styles of funerary art that reflect the evolution of styles and materials from the nineteenth to the twentieth centuries. Most are carved stone tablets, spires, pedestals, obelisks, slant markers, and a host of squared and shaped upright dies. Also present in smaller numbers are metal plaques, stacked marble monuments, government-issue veterans' stones, glazed terra cotta slant markers, and a few boulders with carved faces. From the beginning, Golden Cemetery provided special burial sections for fraternal organizations, different religious denominations, veterans, children, and a county section for indigent burials. Carvings on the headstones provide biographical information about the deceased; reflect society's evolving interest in faith, symbolism, mortality, and art; and tell of participation in fraternal, veterans, and other community organizations. Fabricated predominantly by monument companies, most of their designers are anonymous.

Finally, Golden Cemetery is eligible for the NRHP under **Criteria Consideration D** for its history as a burial ground that derives primary significance from its age, distinctive design features, and direct

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association with the pioneer town of Golden. Among the many important physical remnants of every historic community, the cemetery is a microcosm of that environment. These sites reflect and tell us a great deal about the ethnic diversity, cultural values, social and economic stratification, and burial traditions of the community. They are an important part of each community's social landscape. Historic cemeteries also provide evidence of early landscape design and examples of funerary art as these features evolved over time. Golden Cemetery is an important historic resource, and is nominated with justifiable boundaries and the consent of its owner, the City of Golden. Because the cemetery remained in use and continued to evolve throughout the twentieth century, its period of significance runs from 1873 to 1962, in keeping with the National Register guidelines for properties with significance fifty years old or older. Although the site has experienced some changes since then, it still exhibits a good level of integrity and merits NRHP designation.

Historical Background

Golden Cemetery's origins trace back to the Colorado Gold Rush and the founding of the City of Golden. Gold was discovered in 1858 near the confluence of Cherry Creek and the South Platte River, adjacent to today's downtown Denver, and in 1859 in the mountains to the west at the present site of Idaho Springs. A new Gold Rush was on, and a flood of pioneers and prospectors began to arrive in the scenic area at the mouth of Clear Creek Canyon, nestled by North and South Table Mountains, Mount Zion and Lookout Mountain. They either settled there or paused temporarily to rest and forage their animals on the short-grass prairie along the creek before launching into the mountains. On the way out of the high country, the area also served as a convenient stopping point before heading to Denver and points east.

Within a short period of time, a growing settlement of residences and commercial buildings emerged on the open prairie that extended to the north and south of Clear Creek. Golden City was established in June 1859 by a group of bright, ambitious men that included George West, William Austin Hamilton Loveland, and Edward Lewis Berthoud. By early 1860, the townsite held around eight hundred pioneers and more were arriving daily. One year later, in February 1861, President James Buchanan approved legislation that created the Territory of Colorado, and Golden City was chosen as its capital.

After the Homestead Act was passed in 1862, claims were filed on numerous 160-acre parcels of land surrounding Golden, where prior to that time the pioneers were encroaching on Indian territory. Although mining remained attractive, a growing number of pioneers found that they could do better financially as merchants, as property investors, and raising livestock and planting crops to feed a growing population. Agricultural development was aided by construction of the first irrigations ditches off Clear Creek in 1859. A number of additional irrigation canals were launched and improved over subsequent years to transport water across the countryside to lands with rich soils that were otherwise too dry to farm.

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Although Golden initially experienced tremendous growth, the Civil War depopulated the town by more than forty percent as it pulled many of the men back east to participate in the conflict. Golden held on due to the efforts of leading pioneers such as W. A. H. Loveland and its important location along a primary route to the mining camps. However, in 1867 the town lost its status as territorial capital when that honor was claimed by nearby Denver. After the war, the mining boom continued and a new flood of pioneers and prospectors headed west to Colorado. The City of Golden was incorporated in 1871, and over the following decade grew to hold more than 2,500 residents (it remained around that size into the early 1900s). Also during the 1870s, Golden became a center of rail transportation and mining supply, as well as home to the Colorado School of Mines. A downtown district emerged, surrounded by residences, schools, churches, railroad shops, and a few factories, foundries and mills. Clay and coal deposits discovered nearby supported a local brick factory and coal mines.

When death came to migrants crossing the frontier, the funeral ceremony and burial typically took place by the side of the trail. There was often no other option, and the numerous graves that lined emigrant trails underscored the hazards of the journey. Pioneers who settled in towns or on rural farms often held funerals in their front parlors, occasionally in a chapel if one was available, and burial occurred on the home place or in the nearest graveyard. Municipal burial grounds were established, grew and evolved along with the communities they served. If population grew, the burial ground expanded to accommodate additional interments or new cemeteries were started. But if an area's population remained stagnant or even declined, the cemetery grew little and in some cases became abandoned.

By 1860, a burial ground was needed for those migrants and residents who had the misfortune of dying in or near Golden. Historic Native American tribes such as the Arapaho, Kiowa, Cheyenne and Ute maintained a presence in the area for generations prior to the 1860s, and their prehistoric predecessors had lived in the region for centuries. However there was no existing cemetery when the first Anglo-Americans arrived, as the creation of cemeteries was foreign to indigenous tradition. Golden's first cemetery was an unplanned, unregulated, and unmaintained burial ground located across Clear Creek on a hillock just north of town. Established in early 1860, Cemetery Hill was open to anyone needing a place to bury a loved one. Although located on land that had not yet been released for settlement, burials continued to take place there. Dr. Levi Harsh and town founder W. A. H. Loveland claimed the cemetery grounds, exercising their rights under the Homestead Act of 1862. However, they were uninterested in operating a cemetery and wanted the site cleared for future development.

By the late 1860s and early 1870s, the cemetery on the north edge of town had received numerous burials, but was in poor condition. There was also no carriage or wagon road that would allow hearses and mourners to ascend the hill's slope. On 13 November 1872, the *Colorado Transcript* published an anonymous letter that argued the following:

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I have been not a little surprised to see the apathy and cold indifference manifested on the part of the citizens of this place with regard to proper burial grounds. It is a fact remarked by strangers as well as by many citizens that the present place for interring the dead is a shame, if not a disgrace to the place. The graves are strewn around promiscuously without order or system, and beside, the grounds can never be ornamented, as water cannot be gotten upon them. And still further, the grounds belong to private individuals, and every one who inters upon these grounds is a trespasser, and will doubtless sooner or later have to negotiate for the land or remove the dead.

The author of the letter (one cannot help but wonder if it might have been Harsh or Loveland) went on to encourage readers to petition town officials for a new cemetery. In the next issue, *Colorado Transcript* editor George West printed an endorsement of the comments about the need for a new city cemetery.

On 15 May 1873, Golden's Board of Trustees met to discuss the question of what to do about the city cemetery. In agreement that a new location was necessary to serve the long-term needs of the community, the Board appointed W. A. H. Loveland and a Mr. Mallon (probably livestock dealer Barnard Mallon) to form a special committee empowered to locate and purchase a new site. Within one week, a parcel was located less than two miles southeast of town near what was known as the Cold Spring Ranch. The grounds were purchased from O. C. Haines, and it was reported that the Catholic Church, Masons, and Odd Fellows had signed on to establish reserved burial sections (the Catholic Church reserved twenty acres on the north end of the site). The open prairie sloped downward toward the east, providing a scenic view of both Denver and the mountains (see *Figures 4 & 5*).

In October 1873, the town Board of Trustees passed an ordinance that established the legal basis and rules for Golden Cemetery, which included all of the acreage in the east half of the southwest quarter of Section 2 (this description included what was to become the Catholic section north of the current boundary fence). James Baker was appointed to serve as the cemetery's first sexton for a period of one year. In late 1873 and 1874, the site was platted and graded with roads and burial sections. In October 1874, the cemetery's second sexton, undertaker D. N. Gardner, was paid \$716 for fencing the site. Gardner also served as a sales agent for the Denver Marble Works, a monument and gravestone manufacturer, and began placing regular advertisements in the *Colorado Transcript* for his services, which included "transfers from the old to the new cemetery." Around December 1874, Gardner launched into the lengthy, unpleasant task of exhuming as many as one hundred bodies from Cemetery Hill and moving them to Golden Cemetery. The process was still taking place one year later. Included with some of these re-interments were marble headstones, still located there today, that predate the cemetery's 1873 founding (see *Figure 6*).

In January 1876, Jefferson County's Board of Commissioners paid \$150 for blocks in the southwest quadrant of the cemetery that would be set aside for indigent burials. Golden Cemetery started to receive new burials immediately after it was established, and over the following years the

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open grounds began to fill with memorials to the dead. As the area's population grew, funerals became a regular and sobering element of daily life. During the early years, some bodies would have been transported to the cemetery on wagons, accompanied by family, friends and a preacher. Those who could afford the luxury, engaged undertaker Gardner or one of his competitors to prepare the body and provide a horse-drawn hearse. In many towns, the undertaker employed a team of black horses if the deceased was an adult, and white horses for children.

In addition to natural death from old age, mortality rates in Colorado climbed with the increase in population as illnesses and diseases such as diphtheria, typhus, smallpox and tuberculosis took their toll. An endless variety of accidents, combined with inadequate medical care, sent many victims to their final resting place in Golden Cemetery. Common to the era, primitive medical practices surrounding childbirth took a toll on both mothers and their children. Maternal mortality was high, as it had been for centuries, due to complications of birth for which doctors had few effective treatments. Giving birth was a dangerous time for both mother and baby. Child mortality

was also particularly high as young people succumbed to a diversity of accidents, illnesses, and diseases. In the cemetery today, one can see the many children who died, along with mothers lost to complications associated with childbirth (evidence is found in cases where mother and child died within a few days or weeks of one another).

Golden Cemetery had been planned to become a garden cemetery laid out on a grid pattern, yet it was located at a high point on the arid plains with no ditch or surface body of water nearby. Although improvements were made to the site, families burying their loved ones there were disappointed with its lack of irrigation water for beautifying the cemetery with grass, trees and ornamental plants. In March 1883, the *Colorado Transcript* reported that a movement was brewing to acquire water for the cemetery. Donations were solicited in Golden to complete a well on the property. The well was dug and groundwater located, and by June 1883 a windmill with a pump was being erected to draw water to the surface. However, the well proved to be inadequate to support any extensive landscaping and the site remained dry for the next several decades. A small wood frame tool shed was erected for the sexton's use in 1888.

By the early 1880s, crowds visited the cemetery each Memorial Day to decorate graves, listen to speeches, sing patriotic songs, and watch a twenty-one-gun salute. They were accompanied by a detachment of veterans from Golden's T. H. Dodd Post of the Grand Army of the Republic. Veterans' graves were scattered throughout the site. In early 1910, a dedicated section was established in the northwest area of the cemetery in response to a state statute passed the previous year that encouraged the creation of burial grounds for the nation's veterans of the Civil War and Spanish-American War. The GAR post erected a tall marble obelisk Civil War veterans' monument there in 1931. Additional veterans' monuments have been added to this section of the cemetery over the years.

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Maintenance activities and other improvements took place in Golden Cemetery during the first six decades of the twentieth century. A new survey of the site was completed in 1910, together with staking out and remarking the blocks. The roads were re-graded and several bodies found in the roadways were moved to the burial blocks. In 1920, the unused southeast corner of the cemetery, across the tracks of the Denver & Intermountain Railroad (5JF.817.6), was transferred to private ownership. After several decades of improvements, by the early 1930s the cemetery was still dry and lacking in greenery. In 1933-34, the site finally received a level of attention that launched it on the road to becoming the garden cemetery that it remains today. During that period, the masonry office and tool storage building known as the Shelter House was constructed, and the cemetery grounds were beautified and irrigated for the first time with piped city water. This work was completed by the City of Golden in conjunction with the federal Civil Works Administration. A nursery was also established on the site in 1936 to provide trees for the cemetery, and around one hundred fifty elm and pine trees were planted (*see Figures 7 & 8*). Since the site had no water prior to that time other than from precipitation, no plantings are known to exist there today that date from the period before the 1930s.

Other than ongoing maintenance and burials, the final work completed at the cemetery during its period of significance occurred in the late 1950s and very early 1960s, when nine thousand linear feet of new water lines were installed, along with seventy-five faucets or spigots. During the same period, the dirt roads were improved, five hundred headstones were reset with foundations, and ninety-five trees were either planted or moved.

Since that time, the cemetery has received additional burials and undergone several changes and improvements. In 1965, fifty-three of the fifty-five Catholic burials in the northern area of the cemetery were removed to Mount Olivet Cemetery in Wheat Ridge. The two remaining burials were found during the 1980s and moved at that time. The grounds of the Catholic section were then separated from the cemetery and since 1986 have been occupied by St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In 1982-83, wrought iron fencing was installed along the north, east and south perimeters of the cemetery, along with new entry gates on the east along Ulysses Street. These replaced earlier fencing and a gate that were in poor condition.

A cemetery maintenance facility was constructed in the site's southeast corner during the early 1980s, although it was hidden from the main burial areas by planted trees. The roads in the cemetery were named in 1988 and provided with signage, and in 1992-93 the Cremation Garden was installed in the northeast area of the cemetery. Finally, during the past two decades the previously gravel roads were paved with asphalt but not widened, four new columbarium vaults were constructed, a new flagpole surrounded by flowers was installed in the Odd Fellows section, unobtrusive block markers were placed throughout the site, and the Shelter House underwent restoration and minor alterations in 2010-2011.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property includes, and is limited to, the following parcel of land:

This nomination includes all of the cemetery grounds within parcel #40-023-00-009, including the graves and their associated monuments, the mature landscaping, and all cultural artifacts found within the fence line that marks the perimeter of the site. Approximately 55 acres in size, the property is bordered by a fence line on the north, Highway 6 on the south, Ulysses Street on the east, and Johnson Road on the west.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property consists of the fenced cemetery that was established in 1873 to serve as a burial ground for the community of Golden. This area includes all of the known burials associated with the cemetery. These boundaries are preferred due to the fact that they include all of the property historically associated with the cemetery and its decades of use, except for parcels to the north and southeast that were removed from the original boundaries many decades ago. Inclusion of the entire cemetery in the nomination is crucial to protecting the site and its integrity.

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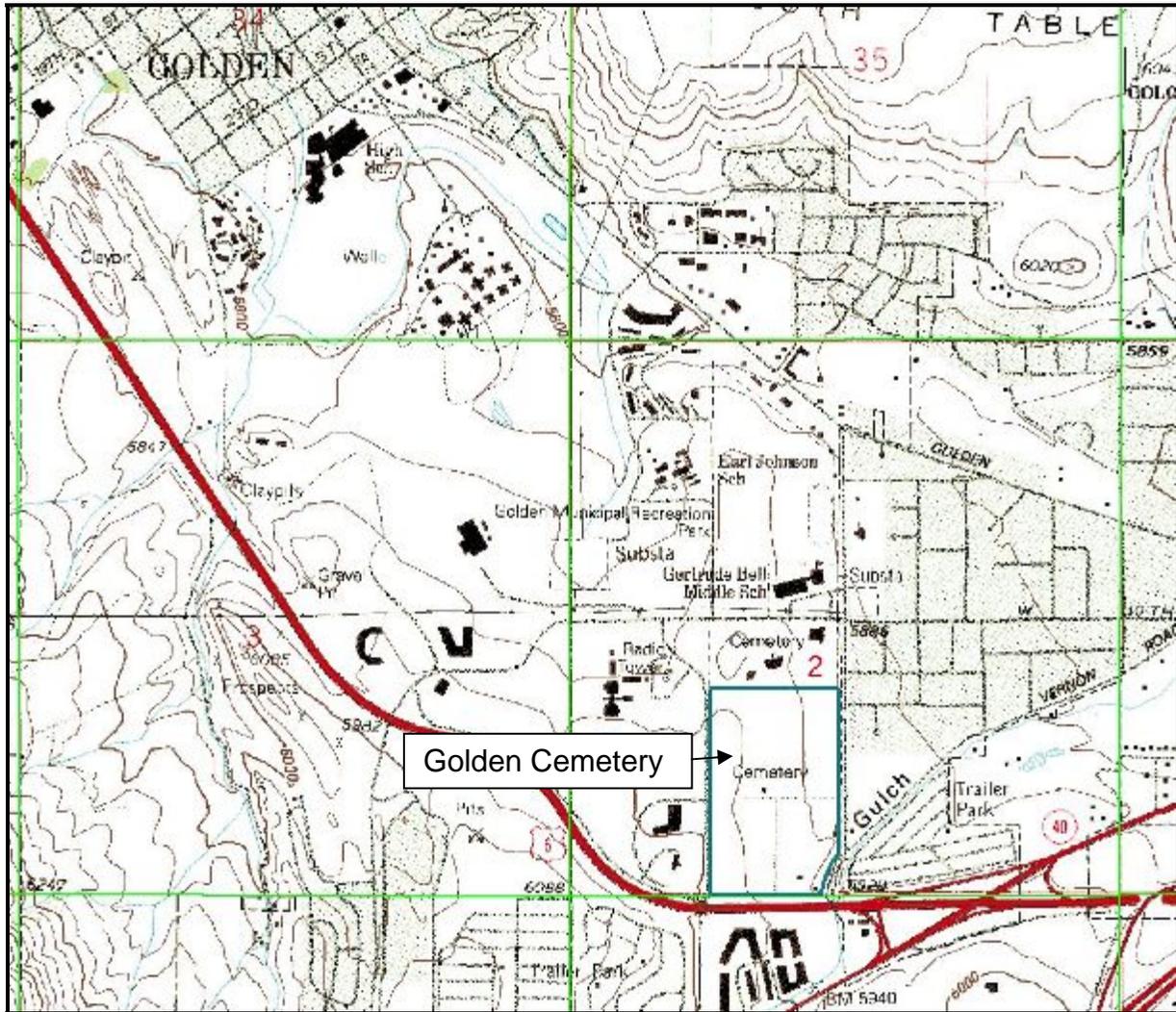
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JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Cemetery Location Map



**USGS Morrison 7.5' Quadrangle
1980**

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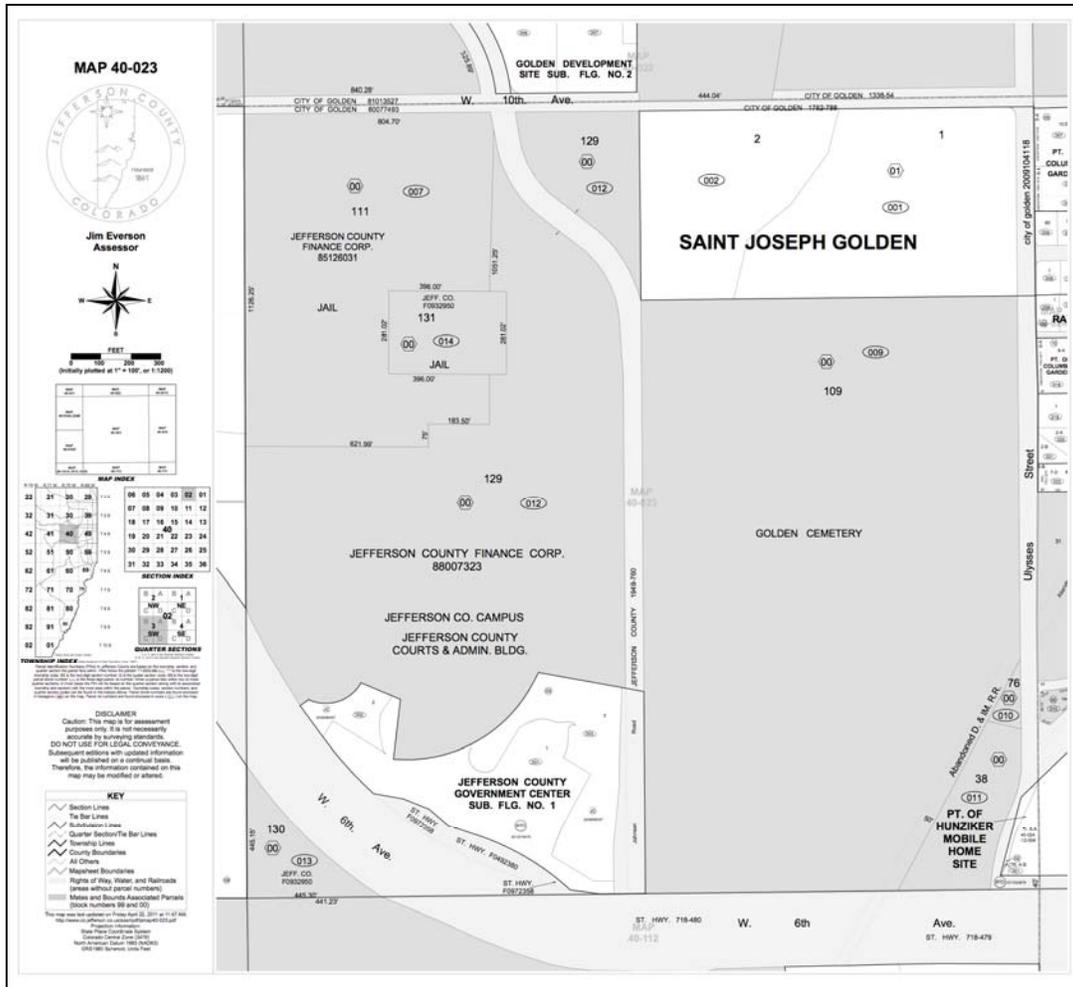
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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Jefferson County Plat Map #40-023



Current as of April 2011

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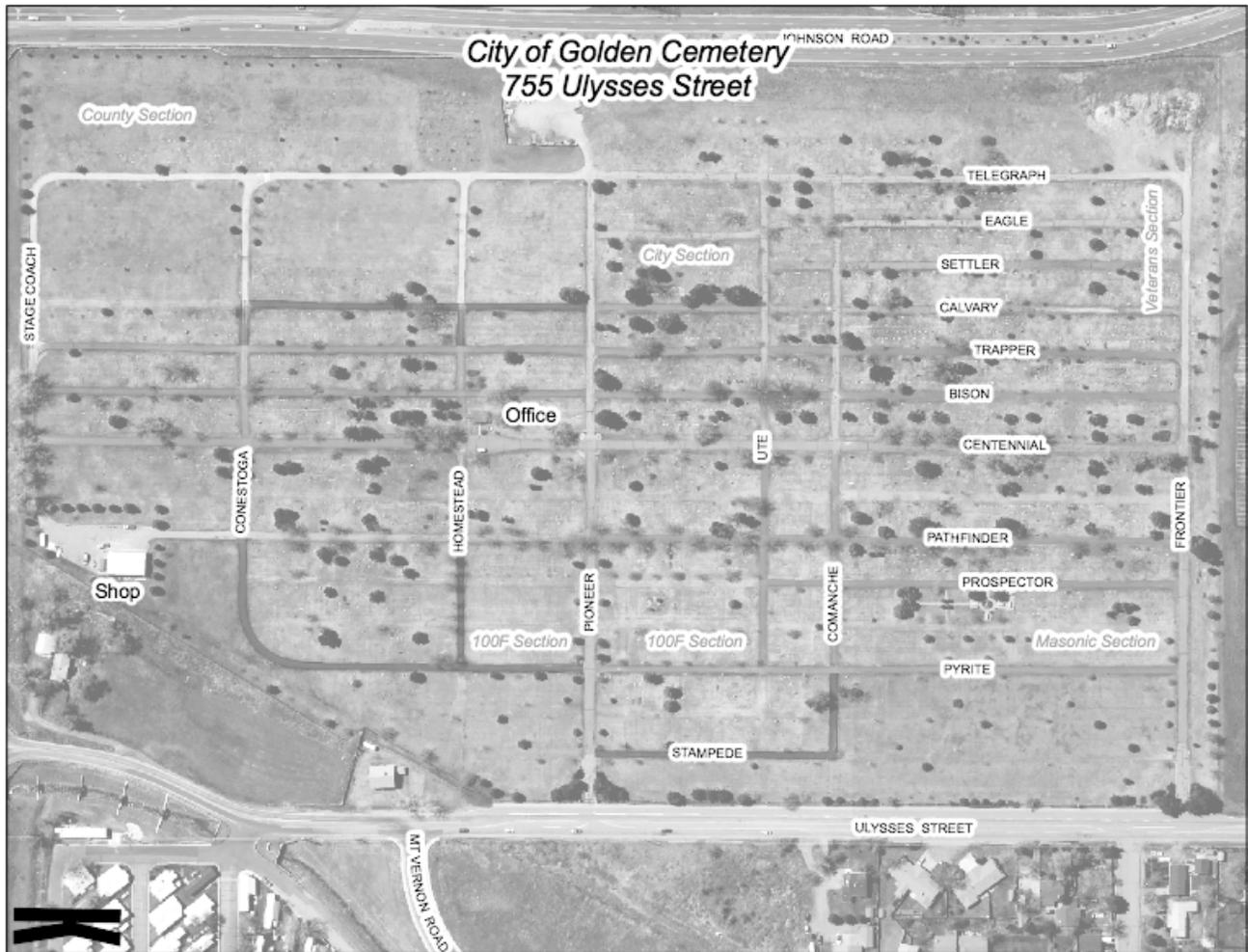
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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Cemetery Aerial Map



Showing Current Features

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Photograph Log

The following information applies to all photographs submitted with this registration form:

Name of property:	Golden Cemetery
City, county and state:	Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado
Photographer:	Ron Sladek
Dates of photographs:	31 January 2011 / 14-15 February 2011 / 18 May 2011
Location of negatives:	Tatanka Historical Associates Inc. 612 S. College Ave., Suite 21 P.O. Box 1909 Fort Collins, CO 80522

- Photograph #1: Golden Cemetery, general view showing the park-like setting as it appears during the summer months. View to the northwest, with the Jefferson County Government Center in the background.
- Photograph #2: Golden Cemetery, general view showing the park-like setting as it appears during the winter months. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #3: Main entry gate and primary east-west road in the cemetery. View to the west.
- Photograph #4: Cemetery frontage along Ulysses Street. View to the north-northwest.
- Photograph #5: The grid pattern of roads and burial sections. View to the southeast.
- Photograph #6: One of the main north-south roads, with adjacent burial sections. View to the south.
- Photograph #7: The Shelter House, primary east elevation. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #8: The Shelter House, rear west elevation. View to the northeast.
- Photograph #9: Early wood and marble gravemarkers. View to the west.
- Photograph #10: Veterans Section in the northwest quadrant of the cemetery. View to the southwest.
- Photograph #11: Marble monument for Huldah Hunter (1801-1862). View to the west.
- Photograph #12: Marble monument for Johnnie Parker (1879-1881). View to the west.
- Photograph #13: Sandstone monument for the Morrison family (circa 1895). View to the east.

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Photograph Log

- Photograph #14: Sandstone monument for George Dunn (1869-1902). View to the northwest.
- Photograph #15: Granite monument for W. H. Carter (1843-1904). View to the northwest.
- Photograph #16: Granite monument for Mark Hackett (1872-1912). View to the northeast.
- Photograph #17: Bronze marker set in stone for Minnie Claus (1870-1892). View to the west.
- Photograph #18: Metal mortuary marker set in concrete for John Warren (1870-1944). View to the west.
- Photograph #19: Concrete marker for E. R. Wilcox (1861-1930). View to the west.
- Photograph #20: Glazed terra cotta marker for Mary Bengson (1878-1949). View to the west.
- Photograph #21: Stacked marble Clayton family monument. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #22: Stacked marble Rudin family monument. View to the northwest.
- Photograph #23: Gravemarker for Civil War veteran, western explorer, railroad surveyor and chief engineer, Colorado School of Mines engineering instructor, and Golden mayor Edward Berthoud (1828-1908). View to the west.
- Photograph #24: Gravemarker for pioneer town founder (the town of Morrison is nearby), stage stop operator, contractor, building stone supplier, rancher and toll road operator George Morrison (1822-1895). View to the west.
- Photograph #25: Gravemarker for pioneer newspaper publisher, Golden town founder, Civil War veteran, community booster, and Colorado National Guard adjutant general George West (1826-1906). View to the west.
- Photograph #26: Gravemarker for World War II-era Colorado Governor John Vivian (1887-1964). View to the east.

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Historic Image Log

The following information applies to the historic images

- Figure #1 Willits Farm Map, 1899. Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
- Figure #2 Denver Tramway Company Map, 1919. Denver Public Library, Western History Collection.
- Figure #3 Sexton & Undertaking Advertisement, *Colorado Transcript*, Golden, Colorado, 2 December 1874.
- Figure #4 Photograph of main entry gate, view to the west (this appears to have been at the current north gate location), 1935. Denver Public Library, Western History Collection #X100001.
- Figure #5 Photograph of general view along the main north-south drive, view to the north (note the recently constructed Shelter House at center), 1935. Denver Public Library, Western History Collection #100002.

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JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Historic Maps

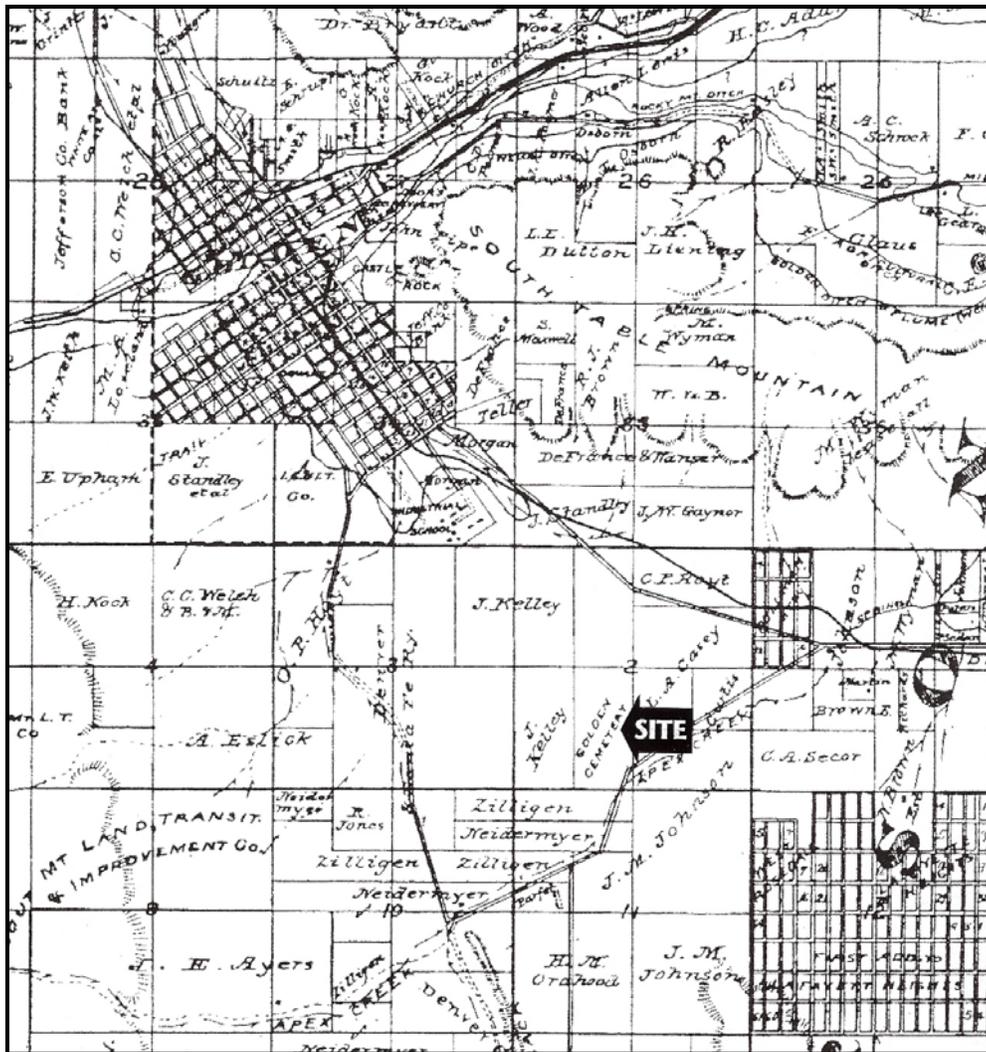


Figure 1
Willits Farm Map
1899

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JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

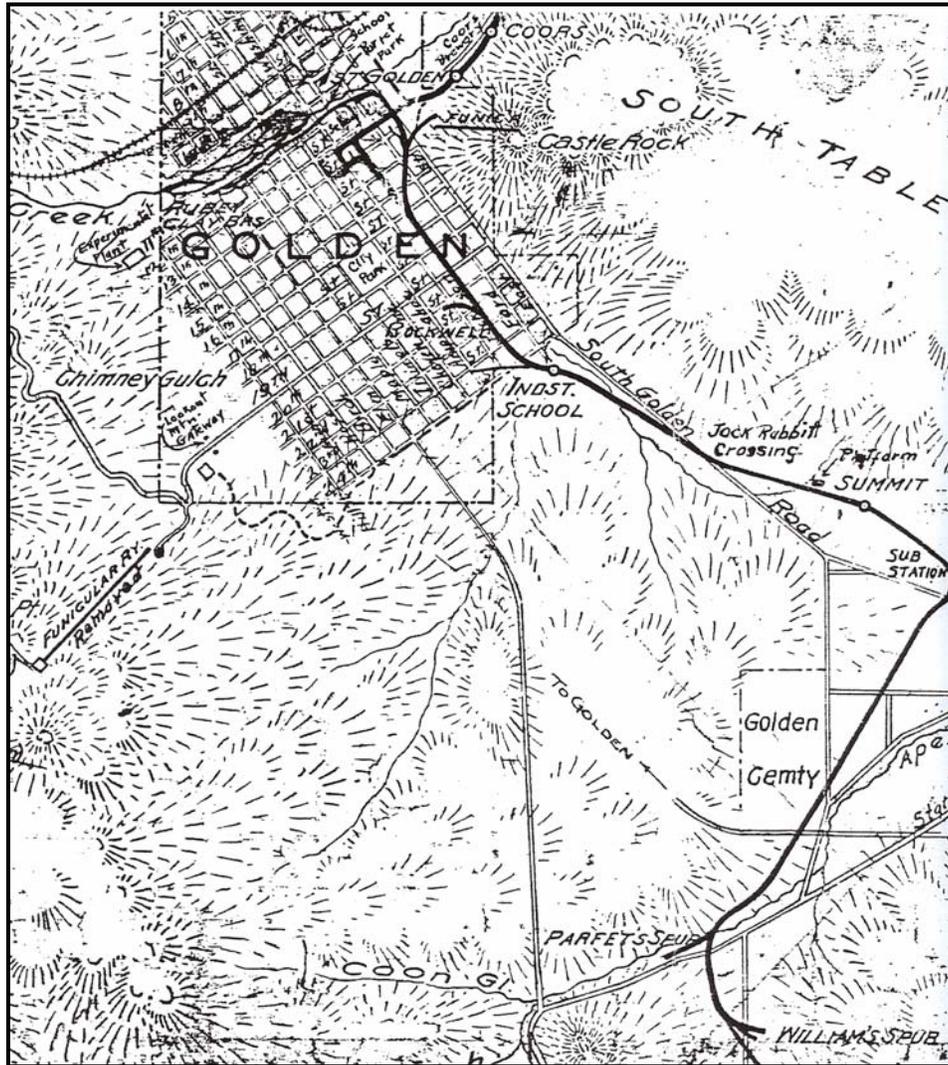


Figure 2
**Denver Tramway Company Map
1919**

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Historic Advertisement

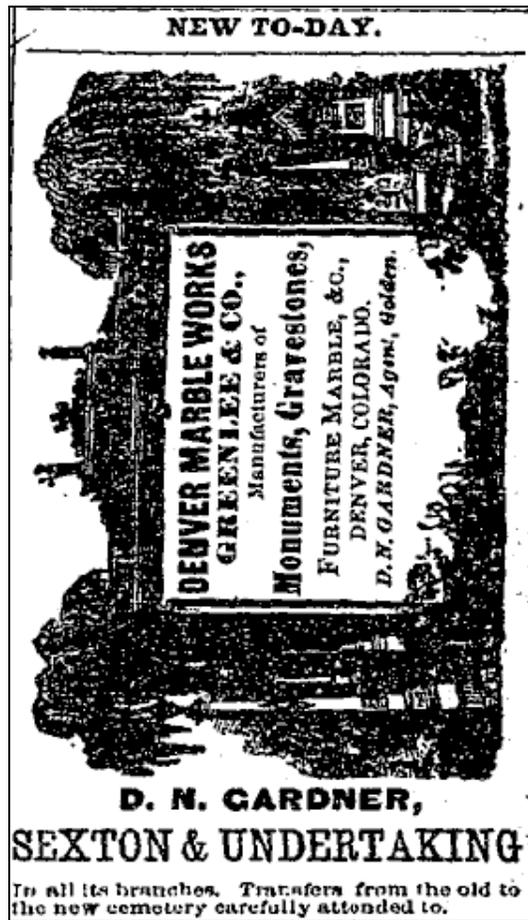


Figure 3
Colorado Transcript
Golden, Colorado
2 December 1874

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

Historic Photographs



**Figure 4
Main Entry Gate
View to the West
(This appears to have been at the current north gate location.)
1935
(Denver Public Library, #X100001)**

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Property GOLDEN CEMETERY

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO



Figure 5

**General View Along the Main North-South Drive
View to the North
(Note the recently constructed Shelter House at center.)
1935
(Denver Public Library, #X100002)**