

**An Archaeological Assessment  
of the  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery (5AA 5132)  
Pagosa Springs  
Colorado**



**James Voorhees Gravestone**

**Prepared for the Town of Pagosa Springs  
State Historical Fund  
Project Number 2021-AS-0007**

**An Archaeological Assessment  
of the  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery (5AA 5132)  
Pagosa Springs  
Colorado**

Prepared for:  
The Town of Pagosa Springs  
551 Hot Springs Blvd.  
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

As part of  
State Historical Fund  
Project Number 2021-AS-007

Prepared by  
Ruth E. Lambert, Ph.D.  
Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting, LLC  
P. O. Box 1566  
Durango, Colorado 81302

With contributions from

Mona C. Charles  
Powderhorn Research, LLC  
44 River Front Place  
Durango, Colorado 81303

And

Shayleen M. Ottman  
ERO Resources Corporation  
1842 Clarkson Street  
Denver, Colorado 80218

November 2021

This project was paid for in part by a History Colorado, State Historical Fund grant (Project Number 2021-AS-007). The content and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of History Colorado.

---

ii | Page

Archaeological Assessment  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
SHF#2021-AS-007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract..... 1

Introduction..... 2

    Cemetery Name and Boundaries..... 3

Historic Background..... 6

    Pagosa Area Settlement..... 6

Pagosa Springs Cemeteries..... 12

    Pagosa Springs Cemetery..... 12

    Hilltop Cemetery..... 13

Pagosa Springs Cemetery Burials..... 16

    Individuals Buried at the Cemetery..... 16

    Individuals Reported Buried at the Cemetery..... 18

    Individuals Reported Moved from the Cemetery..... 33

Cemetery Documentation..... 50

    Goals & Objectives..... 51

    Methods..... 52

Field Investigations..... 59

    Surface Documentation..... 60

    Subsurface Surveys..... 83

    Interpretations..... 94

Evaluations of Significance..... 97

Recommendations..... 99

    Management Recommendations..... 99

    Recommendations for Further Work..... 101

Summary and Conclusions..... 102

References..... 103

Appendices..... After 106

    Appendix A –Roster of Individuals Reported Buried at Pagosa Springs Cemetery

    Appendix B – Pagosa Springs Cemetery UTM Points

    Appendix C – Subsurface Investigation Reports

    Appendix D – Genealogical Research

**LIST OF MAPS**

Map 1 Pagosa Spring Cemetery.....	63
Map 2 Large Grave Plot.....	82

**LIST OF TABLES**

Table 1 Individuals Buried with Headstones .....	16
Table 2 Soldiers Reported Buried at Cemetery .....	18
Table 3 Summary of Military Burials.....	23
Table 4 Individuals Buried in Unmarked Graves.....	24
Table 5 Individuals Likely Buried in Unmarked Graves.....	27
Table 6 Individuals Possibly Buried in Unmarked Graves .....	29
Table 7 Individuals Buried Elsewhere .....	30
Table 8 Individuals Reported Moved from Cemetery.....	33
Table 9 Community Members Reported Moved from Cemetery.....	44
Table 10 Summary of Burial Information .....	48
Table 11 Project Objectives and Strategies.....	51
Table 12 Recorded Graves .....	62
Table 13 Gravestone Recommendations .....	99

**LIST OF FIGURES**

Figure 1 Sketch of Fort Lewis, Pagosa Springs, 1880 .....	9
Figure 2 Metal Detector Targets.....	85
Figure 3 Subsurface Anomalies .....	86
Figure 4 Gradiometer Grid Anomalies.....	88
Figure 5 Overlay of Gradiometer Results .....	89
Figure 6 Possible Unknown Graves .....	90
Figure 7 GPR Survey Grids.....	92
Figure 8 GPR Survey Results .....	93

**LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

Cover Photograph: James Voorhees Gravestone, 2021

Photograph 1	Pagosa Springs Cemetery, 2021 .....	3
Photograph 2	Pagosa Springs Cemetery, northern area, 2021 .....	4
Photograph 3	Pagosa Springs Cemetery, 1984 .....	13
Photograph 4	Charles Bartholomew Headstone.....	35
Photograph 5	Lloyd Beall Headstone .....	36
Photograph 6	William Price Holt Headstone.....	37
Photograph 7	Mary Estella Holt Headstone.....	38
Photograph 8	James Latham Headstone .....	39
Photograph 9	Algernon Dutton Headstone.....	41
Photograph 10	Isaac Cade Headstone .....	42
Photograph 11	Elizabeth Dunnivant Headstone .....	43
Photograph 12	Volunteer Documentation.....	53
Photograph 13	Magnetometer Survey.....	55
Photograph 14	GPR Survey.....	56
Photograph 15	Volunteers Headstone Recording .....	57
Photograph 16	Volunteers Identifying Historic Era Trees .....	61
Photograph 17	James Voorhees Gravestone.....	64
Photograph 18	Inscription Detail .....	65
Photograph 19	Grave Enclosure .....	66
Photograph 20	Carrie Cooley Gravestone.....	68
Photograph 21	Thomas Chambers Gravestone .....	69
Photograph 22	George Gildea Grimes Headstone .....	70
Photograph 23	Howe Family Gravestone.....	71
Photograph 24	Keith Family Gravestone.....	73
Photograph 25	John O’Neal Gravestone.....	74
Photograph 26	Original John O’Neal Gravestone.....	75
Photograph 27	Grave with Tree .....	76
Photograph 28	Empty Base at Grave.....	77
Photograph 29	Unknown Child’s Grave.....	78
Photograph 30	Unknown Grave .....	79
Photograph 31	Unknown Grave (#25).....	80
Photograph 32	Large Grave Plot.....	81
Photograph 33	Grave Depression .....	83

**PHOTO & FIGURE CREDITS**

Photo 3: John Motter  
 Photos 13, 14, 16: Tanice Ramsperger  
 Photo 18, 26: Shari Pierce  
 All other photos Ruth Lambert from project

Figure1: Center of Southwest Studies, Durango

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank all who contributed to the success of this project and our sincere appreciation for their interest, assistance, and collaboration during all phases of the project. The Pagosa Springs Cemetery is a place with historical importance for the Town and deep meaning to many community members.

Our gratitude to the Town of Pagosa Springs for the development, direction and funding of this project. Our thanks to the Town Council Members; Dan Volger, Mayor; Matt DeGuise; Nicole Pitcher; Madeline Bergon; Matt deGraaf; Shari Pierce; Jeff Posey; and former Council member Rory Burnett.

The Town administration and staff were critical to this project and we appreciate their interest and assistance in all phases of the project. Many thanks to Andrea Phillips, Town Manager; Kathy Harker, Human Resource and Records Administrator; James Dichoff, Planning Director; Cindy Schultz, Senior Planner; Katelyn DeLuche, Associate Planner; Martin Schmidt, Public Works Director; Branden Lattin, Streets Supervisor; and Darren Lewis, Parks and Recreation Director, and his work crews. It should be noted that many of these people spent hours participating in the needed site clean up prior to field documentation.

Although there has been an interest in preserving the Cemetery in the past, these efforts were renewed with the conversations between community members from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Sarah Platt Decker Chapter, members of the Archuleta County Genealogical Society (ACGS), other community members, and the Town Manager, Andrea Phillips. Together they set this project in motion. Our thanks to Tanice Ramsperger, DAR Regent and Janie McKain, President, ACGS and members of the DAR and the ACGS: Rebecca Battles, Nancy Carter, Jeannine Dobbins, Sheryl Egy, Pam Hayes, Linda Hobbs, April Holthaus, Patty Joy, Debbie Kinnibrugh, Carolyn Paschal, Denice Perez, Mary Jo Pilcher, Rebekah Stafford, Lynniss Steinert, and Kathy Zilhaver. These volunteers assisted with field work and conducted important genealogical research for this project.

In addition to Town funding, the State Historical Fund provided major funding for this project. We are grateful for the efforts of Andrea Phillips to secure funding and to Katie Arntzen, Preservation Specialist at the State Fund for project guidance.

Other individuals assisted us in the course of this project. We are grateful to Hailey Harms, Director of Save the Site for her professional assistance and drone photography. Thanks to Lindsay Smith and Mark Roper of the San Juan National Forest for mapping assistance in the field and data post processing. Local historians provided valuable information and perspectives about the Cemetery. Our thanks to Ann Oldham, Director of the Pagosa Springs Museum; Shari Pierce, local historian and author; Raymond Taylor, military historian and Veterans Service Officer at Archuleta County; and Jill Seyfarth, archaeologist and architectural historian. Our sincere thanks to archivist Nik Kendziorski at the Center of Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College, Durango and Susan Jones, Animas Museum, Durango for records assistance. Finally, thanks to Brad Glover and staff at the Ruby Sisson Library, Pagosa Springs, for accommodating our requests for presentation space and library assistance for project researchers.

To all of these individuals, your interest and support has made this project a reality. With this collaborative effort we have begun the process to preserve the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

Ruth E. Lambert, Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting, LLC

Mona C. Charles, Powderhorn Research, LLC

Shayleen M. Ottman, ERO Resources Corp.

## ABSTRACT

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery (5AA 5132) was the first cemetery in the settlement and was active from about 1879 to 1902 during the brief presence of the Fort Lewis military post and during the development and establishment of the Town of Pagosa Springs. This project investigated the cemetery to better understand its history, association with the town, and its archaeological potential for future preservation. Community members and volunteers assisted with historical and genealogical research and in-field recording and documentation efforts.

Research and field investigations were focused to better understand the original name of the cemetery and its boundaries; the location of unmarked graves; the condition of the visible gravestones; and information concerning disinterments and reburials at the newer, Hilltop Cemetery.

Historical records indicate the cemetery was commonly known as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery during the period of its active use. Data assembled suggests that there were few military burials at the cemetery because of the brief active period of the post. However, documentation indicates there were many burials in subsequent years that are now unmarked graves. Surface recording identified unmarked graves. Subsurface investigations were conducted using a gradiometer, a metal detector, and ground penetrating radar (GPR). These instruments indicated unmarked graves were present at the cemetery. Research suggests there were disinterments, although these were not detectable during surface recording and the subsurface data is not definitive. Some of the gravestones exhibit stability issues and require lichen removal. Others are in good condition and require monitoring for future condition change.

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery was evaluated and determined to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contribution to the broad patterns of our history. It retains all elements of integrity and meets the Criteria Consideration D as it is associated with the historic events of the Fort Lewis military post and the development of the Town of Pagosa Springs



## INTRODUCTION

The small Pagosa Springs Cemetery has always been a source of interest to local historians and genealogists. Tucked away on the edge of the neighborhood with a few headstones, it has often been overlooked by the community and overshadowed by the larger more prominent Hilltop Cemetery. Nevertheless, its importance has always been recognized by historians; the cemetery has its origins with Fort Lewis (1878 to 1882) and it was the place for many community burials until the early 1900s. Previous research by historians and genealogists assembled information about the cemetery but there has always been a desire to obtain more and to answer some of the questions about unmarked graves and individuals that may be buried at the cemetery.

In early 2021, members of the community including the Sarah Platt Decker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Archuleta County Genealogical Society (ACGS), and local historians approached the Town to discuss the preservation of the cemetery. The Town Council and Administration supported the community concerns and efforts and worked to develop a project. The Town sought competitive bids for the project, provided funding and obtained an archaeological assessment grant from History Colorado's State Historical Fund.

The selected proposal formulated a comprehensive assessment of the Cemetery using several strategies. These included: historical and archival research; a surface assessment of the Cemetery including recording, photography, and mapping of marked and visible unmarked graves; and subsurface non-disturbing investigations using a fluxgate gradiometer, metal detectors and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to locate unmarked graves. The project components were conducted by Ruth Lambert (historical research and surface documentation), Mona Charles (fluxgate gradiometer and metal detector surveys), and Shayleen Ottman (GPR survey). Archaeologist and drone operator Halley Harms assisted with surveys and conducted drone photography. Throughout this project, several volunteers assisted with work. Community and organization volunteers as well as Town staff provided enthusiastic help at various stages of the project as we all worked collaboratively to better understand and preserve this important historic resource.

As part of the project, the Town posed four questions concerning the Cemetery that helped to focus our efforts.

- What is the true original name of the Cemetery and what were the platted boundaries?
- When were people moved from the Cemetery to other locations? How many were moved and why and how many remain?
- What is the condition of the current marked burials, and what should be done to restore or replace the markers?
- How many and what are the locations of unmarked burials?

These questions are discussed in various sections of this report where we provide the results of research, data collection and interpretation based on information and data collected to date. The cemetery name and boundaries are discussed below. Information on individuals reported to have buried, and/or moved from the cemetery are discussed below. Genealogical research conducted

2 | Page

Archaeological Assessment  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
SHF#2021-AS-007

for this project comprises Appendix D. The documentation and condition of the grave markers are described with the field investigations. The subsurface surveys and the results of data collection are summarized with the field work and the technical reports are found in Appendix C. Finally, the cemetery assessment includes an evaluation of its significance and recommendations for preservation, interpretation, and management of the site and the historic headstones.

## Cemetery Name

Over the years the Pagosa Springs Cemetery has been referred to by several names. These include the Fort Lewis Cemetery, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, the Pioneer Cemetery, and Boot Hill Cemetery. The cemetery name was investigated through the research of historical documents and records.



Photo 1. Pagosa Springs Cemetery, July 2021  
(prior to fence removal)



Photo 2. Pagosa Springs Cemetery, northern area, July 2021

Historical military records, post returns, orders and official correspondence were reviewed for any reference to the Fort Lewis Cemetery. To date, none has been found; Fort Lewis era (1878-1882) references mention 'Cemetery'. An early undated sketch map indicates Fort Lewis and the 'Cemetery'.<sup>1</sup>

In January 1881, Fort Lewis was relocated to La Plata County at Hesperus and the name of the post was changed to Pagosa Springs and it became a sub-post to Fort Lewis.<sup>2</sup> Early obituaries at this time cite the "Pagosa Springs Cemetery" as the burial location.<sup>3</sup> Obituaries for the latest documented burials at the cemetery (1900 and 1902) refer to the Cemetery as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. In later years, after the end of historic use of the cemetery, it continued to be referred to as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. A search of historic records, obituaries, and other documents indicates that the Pagosa Springs Cemetery was the name given to the cemetery throughout its use from 1881 to the early 1900s.

<sup>1</sup> *Remembrances, Military Matters*, Volume 12, n.d., Pg 10, San Juan Historical Society.

<sup>2</sup> General Order 10, January 21, 1881. Copy on file, Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

<sup>3</sup> For example, Mrs. Bertha Enderick, Durango Record, April 23, 1881; Charles Dollarhide, Pagosa Springs News, May 22, 1890.

The name Pioneer Cemetery appears to have been used by some historians, primarily as a descriptive term to acknowledge the burial place of early Pagosa Springs pioneers.<sup>4</sup> The Boot Hill Cemetery name appears in a single genealogical publication without explanation.<sup>5</sup>

Based on the information and records located, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery appears to be the historic name of the cemetery from about 1881. It may have been called the Fort Lewis Cemetery during the presence of the post, but no records were found providing that name. Given that the cemetery was always a community cemetery, it is very likely that it was always known as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Consequently, the historic cemetery name, Pagosa Springs Cemetery, will be used throughout this report.

## Cemetery Boundaries

The boundaries of the cemetery have been of interest to understand the extent of possible burials at the cemetery. To date, no historical map designating the cemetery boundaries has been located. One undated sketch map notes 'cemetery' but does not show its configuration or size.

In 1908, Mrs. Hannah Gross deeded two acres of land to be used as a cemetery.<sup>6</sup> The acreage was originally part of Lot 15 of the Pagosa Springs Military Reservation and acquired by Mrs. Gross through the homestead process. The stipulated boundaries are the only known legal boundaries.

Although the 1908 deeded parcel is two acres, it was questionable if this parcel reflected the actual use area of the historic Cemetery. It is possible that the Cemetery boundaries were not defined at the time of the sale and the two-acre parcel was an estimate of the Cemetery size. The subsurface magnetometer investigations were proposed to help locate any perimeter cemetery fencing that may have existed to provide additional information on the platted boundaries. Some suggestions of possible fencing is discussed later in this report. However, no additional legal documentation concerning platted boundaries was encountered during the research for this project. Today the cemetery is fenced along the south and west property lines. The north and east fences were recently removed for this project's metal-sensitive instruments. The Town is currently discussing replacement fencing.

---

<sup>4</sup> John Motter, *Pagosa Country: The First Fifty Years*. 1984

<sup>5</sup> Leah Smith, *Archuleta County Cemeteries One Hundred Years 1878-1978*. 1984

<sup>6</sup> Warranty Deed, 1908. Hannah Gross to the Town of Pagosa Springs. Book 23, page 468, Archuleta County Records.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The earliest occupation of southwest Colorado extends back to Native American use of the area. Seasonal and later permanent occupation of the area is estimated to have begun about 2000 years ago with use of the area by the Ancestral Puebloan, Utes and some Navajos. Native use of the land continued and it was followed by Spain's entradas from Mexico in the 1500s and the beginnings of permanent settlement in the 1600s and 1700s in present day New Mexico.<sup>7</sup>

### Pagosa Springs Area Settlement

Settlement in the Pagosa area was the result of early explorations and travels into the area by several waves of newcomers. In the late 1600s and 1700s, villages in the Tierra Amarilla and Upper Chama River valley began to use the area. By 1744, twenty families were living in the Abiquiu area and forty-six families around Ojo Caliente.<sup>8</sup> The families had a subsistence economy growing food for their needs and raising and herding sheep throughout the Pagosa area. Following seasonal traditions, the flocks were driven north during the summer to take advantage of the abundant forage in the high valleys and meadows. During the other seasons, herders grazed their sheep at lower elevations in northern New Mexico and along the Navajo and San Juan River areas. Over time and with repetitive use, settlement shifted northwestward and the traditional practices continued. Early townsites along the Navajo and San Juan Rivers at Edith, Juanita, Caracas, Gato (Pagosa Junction) and Arboles were the result of early Hispano family farms and ranches. Years later, Lieutenant McCauley's 1877 report to federal government detailed many "Mexican" herds of sheep driven into the valley.<sup>9</sup>

The Spanish government was also interested in the Southwest and Spanish expeditions passed through southern Colorado. In 1765, Juan Maria Antonio de Rivera explored the San Juan Mountains and in 1776 Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez and Fray Silvestre Velez de Escalante, left Santa Fe in search of a route to the missions of California (Monterey area). They crossed the Chama River near Los Ojos and ventured northwest through the Amargo River valley and entered Colorado at Carracas on the San Juan River. The notes from the expedition describe fertile valleys and available water.

---

<sup>7</sup> For prehistoric and historic sources see: Lipe, William; Varien, Mark; Wilshusen, Richard. Colorado prehistory: A Context for the Southern Colorado River Basin, 1997, Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists; Athearn, Frederic J., *A Forgotten Kingdom: The Spanish Frontier in Colorado and New Mexico 1540-1821*. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado. Cultural Resource Series No. 29. 1992.

<sup>8</sup> Frances Leon Swadesh, *Los Primeros Pobladores*, 1974. University of Notre Dame Press. Indiana. Pgs 34-36.

<sup>9</sup> John Motter, *Pagosa Country: The First Fifty Years*. 1984. Pagosa Springs. Pg 47 and McCauley 1877 report to Congress.

The federal government began expeditions into the area in the mid-1800s to develop westward routes for roads and railroads. A number of surveys were conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers to record detailed geographical, geological, and botanical information. An 1859 expedition led by Captain John Macomb passed through the Pagosa area and continued to the west, passing Chimney Rock. He was exploring parts of the San Juan drainage and the Colorado River to determine a route for a wagon road between New Mexico and Utah. The following year, Charles Baker led a party from Del Norte over the formable Stoney Pass into the San Juan Mountains and the Silverton area in search of gold. The expedition was a result of the 1859 gold discovery in the Denver area and the beginning of mineral interest in the San Juan Mountains. The Baker Party traveled south from Silverton into the Animas Valley, north of the future site of Durango. Baker also spent time in Abiquiu to procure supplies and in 1860 formed the Abiquiu, Pagosa, and Baker City Road Company.<sup>10</sup> Baker believed that this southern route was the best way into the Silverton area (Baker City). His inclusion of "Pagosa" in the route designation indicates he was aware of the location, most likely from Indian use of the hot springs rather than any settlement in the area. In succeeding years, the route was well used to access the Animas Valley, Animas City and the Silverton area, especially after the 1874 Brunot Agreement permitted legal non-Indian settlement in the San Juan Mountains.

In the 1860s and 1870s, the federal government continued expeditions into the area. In addition to general interest in westward migration, the government surveys, conducted by military officers, were increasingly concerned with the control and management of the area. Tensions with Ute and Navajo Indians prompted the desire to establish a military presence first to guard routes into the mining areas and later to protect settlers that were beginning to enter the area. In 1867, Lieutenant Bergmann conducted a reconnaissance of the general area for the establishment of a fort. He reported that the Animas Valley area was preferable to the Pagosa Springs area due to milder winter conditions and the proximity to the majority of the settlers.<sup>11</sup> In the mid-1870s, Silverton and new Animas Valley residents also favored a post in the general area.

In addition to the Animas Valley, the pioneers of the 1870s began to settle along the well-established wagon route from Tierra Amarilla to Animas City. The road passed just south of the well-known hot springs, Pagosa Springs (meaning "boiling waters" in the Ute language). By 1876, settlers were erecting cabins in the Pagosa Springs area. In the area of the springs, Welch Nossaman built a seasonal cabin but had on-going conflicts with local Utes. A post office was established in June 1878; the application documents declared that 100 settlers were served by the office. By 1878, Pagosa Springs is reported to have had a general store, post office, stables and livery, the Rose Bud Saloon, and a sawmill. These facilities indicate that between 1876 and 1878, there was a relatively rapid influx of new residents to the area.<sup>12</sup>

The increase in population in the Pagosa area was likely influenced by the development and improvement of roads through the area to the mining districts of the San Juan Mountains. In

<sup>10</sup> Allen Nossaman, *Many More Mountains, Volume 1: Silverton's Roots* (Denver, Co: Sundance Books, 2006, Second Printing), Pg 42.

<sup>11</sup> Lt. Bergmann report to General Carlton, March 15, 1867. Report copy at the Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

<sup>12</sup> Motter, 1984, Pg 52.

September 1876, the Parrott, Animas Valley, Tierra Amarilla Toll Road was incorporated along the route of the old Abiquiu, Pagosa, and Baker City Road. Later that year in December, the Conejos, Pagosa Springs and Rio Grande Toll Road Company was incorporated.<sup>13</sup> The traffic along the roads to the mining areas stimulated settlement and commercial developments.

The Pagosa Springs area was attracting settlers, businesses and travelers through the area who enjoyed these amenities and the hot springs. In 1877, Lt. McCauley conducted a survey of the area and reported on the area. On May 22, 1877, the townsite of Pagosa Springs was created by Presidential Order.<sup>14</sup> The townsite was centered on the hot springs; it was one mile square and included many of the existing cabins and buildings.

At this time, discussions were underway in Congress to designate a reservation for the Ute Indians. A reservation for the Ute people had been a troublesome issue for the government for several years. A favored area was south of the townsite of Pagosa Springs in the area of the confluence of the Navajo and San Juan Rivers. With this land designation, Pagosa Springs seemed the strategic location for a military post to oversight the reservation.

Consequently, the federal government decided to establish a post at Pagosa Springs in 1878. Although this camp location had been debated since the late 1860s, on October 15, 1878, federal troops from Fort Garland arrived to garrison the cantonment at Pagosa Springs. A few days later, orders were received to formally name the post Camp Lewis in honor of Lt. Colonel William Lewis, recently killed in Kansas.<sup>15</sup>

---

<sup>13</sup> Ibid, pg 62.

<sup>14</sup> Executive Order, May 22, 1877.

<sup>15</sup> General Order 6, October 26, 1878. Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

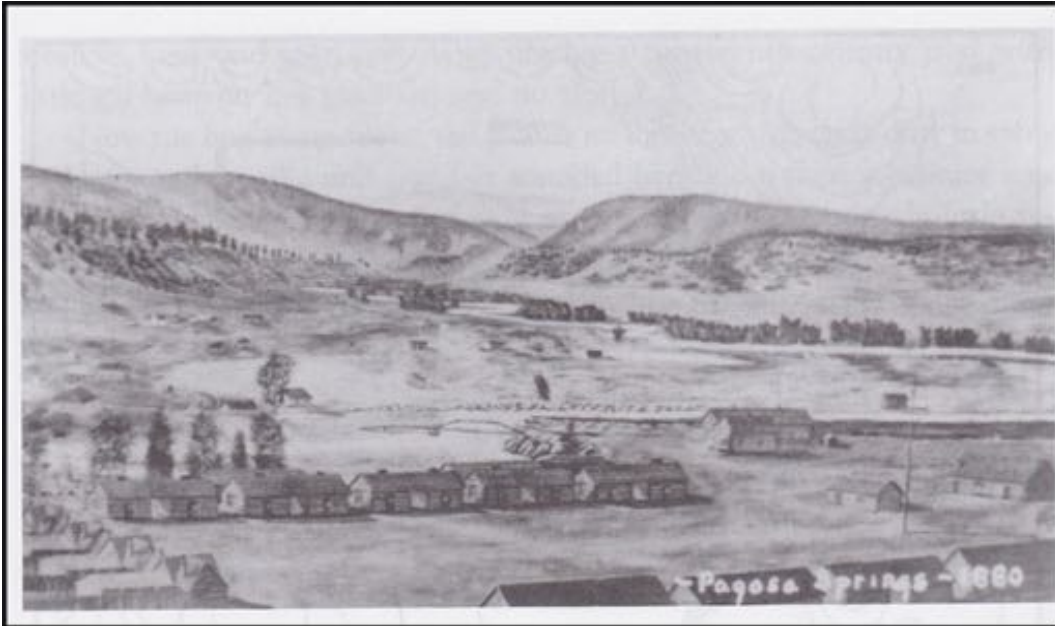


Figure 1. Sketch of Fort Lewis, Pagosa Springs, 1880

The initial troops garrisoned at the post included the Fifteenth Infantry (I Company) and the Ninth Cavalry (D Troop), the famous Buffalo Soldiers.<sup>16</sup> Construction began immediately and included log barracks, stables, commissary, and corrals. Approximately 100 troops and officers were housed at the camp. Local procurement of materials and supplies stimulated the local economy with the purchase of food, meat, hay, lumber, vegetables, and some mutton from herders.

Despite the growing town of Pagosa Springs, the early reservations about the fort's location proved to be true. The fort was isolated from the majority of the settlers it was designed to protect in the Animas Valley. Hay supplies due to the Camp did not arrive in the fall of 1878 as contracted with freighters in the Animas Valley.<sup>17</sup> The winter of 1878 was so harsh that basic food for soldiers and hay for horses could not be supplied and the Ninth Cavalry and their horses had to be temporarily relocated to Animas City.<sup>18</sup>

In January 1879, the camp was renamed Fort Lewis, indicating the military's intention that it was to become a permanent station, despite the early problems. In February 1879, the Pagosa Springs Military Reservation was established.<sup>19</sup> The reservation was 36 square miles and was centered on the hot springs. The one-mile square townsite of Pagosa Springs was within the reservation but

<sup>16</sup> Duane A. Smith, *A Time for Peace: Fort Lewis, Colorado, 1878-1891* (Boulder, Co.: University Press of Colorado, 2006), Pg 9.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, pg 10

<sup>18</sup> Ibid, pg 12.

<sup>19</sup> General Order # 2, Department of the Missouri, February 17, 1879.



excluded from military control.

In summer and fall of 1879, Fort Lewis troops were moved to the Animas Valley area. The tensions with the Ute Indians in the White River Indian Agency in Meeker were increasing and the local troops were staging in the Animas Valley in preparation for possible trouble. In addition, to the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry and the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry and traveled through Fort Lewis to the Animas Valley as reinforcements. The conflict with the Utes erupted in September 1879 and became known as the “Meeker Massacre”, alarming the local Utes, residents, and soldiers.

Although there were no local Indian problems, and the local Ute leaders worked to quell unease, the “Ute War” signaled the beginning of the end of Fort Lewis at Pagosa Springs. Military commanders revived the initial doubts about the isolated location of the Fort as they began discussing moving the post. Adding to the relocation argument was the decision to move the proposed Ute reservation farther west near the area of the 1877 Los Pinos Indian Agency in Ignacio. This decision rendered the Pagosa Springs post location ineffective.

As early as January 1880, General William T. Sherman and the Secretary of War, Alexander Ramsey, discussed moving the post. In May 1880, Colonel George Buell was ordered to begin a search for a new post location. The reconnaissance focused on the Animas Valley, Mancos and La Plata River areas.<sup>20</sup> On August 15, 1880, the verbal order was given to locate the new cantonment on the “Rio de La Plata”.<sup>21</sup>

In August, 1880, a temporary camp was set up while the new post was being constructed. Construction of the ‘Cantonment on the Rio de La Plata’, at present-day Hesperus, continued from September 1880 until completion in August 1881. However, January 21, 1881, the Secretary of War officially designed the new post as Fort Lewis, changing the name of the former post to Pagosa Springs.<sup>22</sup> The camp at Pagosa Springs became a sub-post to Fort Lewis and continued to have some troops garrisoned, however they were reported as ‘detached service’ [field service].<sup>23</sup> In November 1882, the post was officially abandoned.<sup>24</sup> A small detachment of soldiers remained at the post until June 1883, when all troops were removed.<sup>25</sup> Some of the post buildings were later sold to local residents and repurposed into homes and businesses.<sup>26</sup> Fort Lewis at Hesperus remained active until it was officially abandoned September 18, 1891.<sup>27</sup>

The loss of the fort from Pagosa affected the economic fortunes of the area and the demand for local food, hay, and mutton, supplied by the Hispano herding families, dramatically declined. Unlike the 1880 census, the Colorado State Census for 1885 for Archuleta County, does not list any soldiers as they were withdrawn in June 1883.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>20</sup> Smith, pg. 36.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid.

<sup>22</sup> General Order 10, January 21, 1881. Copy on file, Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

<sup>23</sup> Post Returns, Sub-station at Pagosa Springs, August 1880 through December 1880.

<sup>24</sup> Fort Lewis [Hesperus] Post Return, December 1882. Letter, District of New Mexico, November 23, 1882.

<sup>25</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, June 1883.

<sup>26</sup> *Remembrances, Military Matters*, n.d., pg34.

<sup>27</sup> General Order # 50, Secretary of War.

<sup>28</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1880, Conejos County; and Colorado State Census, 1885, Archuleta County.

Despite the change in fortunes at the Pagosa Springs post and in the town, the railroad surveys and construction pushed on. In 1881, the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad route was completed along the San Juan River about 25 miles south of Pagosa Springs. Small settlements that had existed along the river grew and developed and the majority of residents were Hispano settlers involved in subsistence farming and sheep herding and providing labor for the railroad operations. Hispano Catholic Churches and cemeteries were established at Trujillo, Juanita., Gato (later called Pagosa Junction), Carracas and Arboles. In 1900, a railroad spur, the Rio Grande, Pagosa & Northern Railroad was established, providing rail service to the town from Gato, which became known as Pagosa Junction during the operation of the line from 1900 to 1935.<sup>29</sup>

In 1883, the townsite was surveyed and laid out in lots and streets and the first plat of the Townsite of Pagosa Springs was produced.<sup>30</sup> The town lots were later auctioned off by the government, often to individuals who had already constructed their homes on the parcel.<sup>31</sup> The Military reservation was abolished in 1884 when it was turned over to the Department of the Interior, as it was no longer needed for military purposes. The bill enacting the abolishment stipulated that land for a public park and school be designated. It also stated that five acres of ground contiguous to the town-site be selected and dedicated as a cemetery.<sup>32</sup>

The town of Pagosa Springs continued to grow and it remained a hub providing needed services to travelers and residents. Early businesses included general merchandise, livery, hotels, stage companies, and saloons.<sup>33</sup> In 1885, Archuleta County was formed from Conejos County with Pagosa Springs as the County Seat. The population in 1884 was about 250 for the community and about 826 in 1890 for the County.<sup>34</sup> The area continued to grow and in March 1891, the Town of Pagosa Springs incorporated and the Board of Trustees seated in April, 1891.<sup>35</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> Gordon S. Chappell, 1971. *Logging Along the Denver / Rio Grande: Narrow Gauge Logging Railroads of Southwestern Colorado and Northern New Mexico*. Golden: Colorado Railroad Historical Foundation

<sup>30</sup> Plat of the Survey and Subdivision of the Townsite of Pagosa Springs, Conejos County, Colorado 1883.

<sup>31</sup> Motter, 1984.,Pg 80

<sup>32</sup> Senate Bill S.994, 48<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session. January 1884.

<sup>33</sup> Motter, 1984. Pgs 79-80. Also see, Shari Pierce, Pagosa Springs, Colorado, a Brief History. 2003. San Juan Historical Society.

<sup>34</sup> Colorado Business Directory, 1939, Gazetteer Publishing Company Denver; Archuleta County Population Records.

<sup>35</sup> Incorporation papers, Book 117, Pg 508. Reception # 69992. Town records.

## PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERIES

From the early beginnings of settlement in Pagosa Springs, a cemetery served the needs of the residents living in and around the town. With the establishment of residences, businesses and Fort Lewis in 1876 through 1878, a cemetery was needed. Although the date of the first burial at the cemetery is uncertain, the Cemetery is believed to have served Fort Lewis and the community from about 1878/1880 until the early 1900s. In the 1890s, a second cemetery, Hilltop Cemetery, was established and used. As a result, burials at the Cemetery were reduced and eventually discontinued as more burials occurred at Hilltop Cemetery. Although separate cemeteries, their histories are intertwined. Each cemetery is discussed below.

### Fort Lewis/Pagosa Springs Cemetery<sup>36</sup>

The Fort Lewis/Pagosa Springs Cemetery is believed to have its origins with the establishment of Fort Lewis in October 1878. Cemeteries established at military posts were required to be defined by fencing or walls and the graves marked.<sup>37</sup> While some temporary and short-lived posts and camps did not have military cemeteries, Fort Lewis did establish a cemetery. This is confirmed by reported military orders to visit the Pagosa Springs post cemetery and identify military burials for removal in 1886.<sup>38</sup> The cemetery's military origin is based on the lack of any historical documentation discovered to date that indicates a cemetery prior to the beginnings of the Fort. However, people were beginning to settle at the hot springs as early as 1876 and it is possible there were early burials before the establishment of the military post.

The earliest reported burial in Pagosa Springs is Jose M. Velarda in April 1879.<sup>39</sup> The location of his burial is not specified, however a Pagosa Springs official and business man, Ed Laithe, was reported to have conducted the service. This suggests the likelihood that the burial occurred in Pagosa Springs at the Cemetery.

Military deaths are reported during the existence of Fort Lewis from 1878 to 1882. The soldiers reported buried at the cemetery are discussed below. Community members, including several Civil War veterans, are reported to have been buried at the cemetery from about 1880 to 1902. Some of the reported burials have been documented, but others remain uncertain based on historical records known at this time. Grave markers visible at the cemetery indicate death dates from 1882 to 1902.

---

<sup>36</sup> As discussed previously, the historic name "Pagosa Springs Cemetery", was used during the active period of the cemetery. The cemetery may have been known as the Fort Lewis Cemetery when first established but no historic references were located to confirm this name.

<sup>37</sup> General Order 45, Post Cemeteries. July 14, 1868. Copy on file Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

<sup>38</sup> Ann Oldham, 1997. "Fort Lewis Cemetery" in Remembrances, Vol. 2.

<sup>39</sup> La Plata Miner, April 25, 1879.

Several individuals were reported to have been moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery with the establishment of Hilltop Cemetery. The individuals reported moved include Civil War veterans as well as family members and other community members. See the discussion below regarding reported moved burials.



Photo 3. Pagosa Springs Cemetery, 1984  
(James Voorhees Grave in foreground)

In 1908, Mrs. Hannah Gross deeded a two-acre parcel to the Town of Pagosa Springs officially transferring the Cemetery parcel to the Town. The last burial was in 1902. Today, some of the burials at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery are marked, other burials are unmarked with exact locations uncertain.

### Hilltop Cemetery

According to newspaper and other accounts, the community began discussing the need for another, larger cemetery in the early 1890s.<sup>40</sup> The town formed a cemetery committee to identify land for a cemetery in May 1893.<sup>41</sup> The three-person committee reported to the Town Council at the June 5, 1893 meeting recommending a parcel for the new cemetery. The committee recommended a

<sup>40</sup> Pagosa Springs News, May 15, 1890; Pagosa Springs News, September 8, 1892.

<sup>41</sup> Town Minutes, Meeting May 15, 1893. Pgs 58 – 59. Town Records

parcel of land adjoining the northwest corner of the Townsite and recommended that the town attorney prepare a bill for Senator Wolcott to introduce in Congress.<sup>42</sup> The Town minutes do not record any action following this recommendation. However, the County surveyor is reported to have begun surveying and platting the cemetery and surveying an access road in 1893.<sup>43</sup>

Despite the lack of an official outcome for the acquisition of land for the new cemetery, newspaper obituaries and announcements indicate that individuals began to be buried in the cemetery.<sup>44</sup> The obituaries and announcements during the period of 1893 to 1903 list burial locations as 'Pagosa Springs', "Pagosa Springs Cemetery", and Hilltop Cemetery. The Hilltop Cemetery designation is definitive, however references to Pagosa Springs and Pagosa Springs Cemetery are ambiguous and have created confusion. Both references have been used for burials at either the Pagosa Springs Cemetery or Hilltop Cemetery. As a result, burials occurring between 1893 and 1905, require research to determine if the specific cemetery for the burial can be determined.<sup>45</sup>

No further mention of the cemetery committee is made in the Town minutes until April 1901 when the cemetery committee is reestablished with three members.<sup>46</sup> Apparently, efforts are renewed to officially designate a cemetery in the area previously selected in 1893 and where burials had taken place over the past few years.

The acquisition of a new cemetery property began in 1902 when the Town paid \$110 for the sale of 25 acres of land from Kate Slick. Mrs. Slick had filed a homestead in February 1902 on a larger parcel and was willing to sell the cemetery land to the Town.<sup>47</sup> In June 1903, the Town had the cemetery surveyed and began to make a plan for lots and areas where burials were located.<sup>48 49</sup> Later in the year, the Town minutes indicate a concern over the problems with the cemetery title and the potential loss of the funds paid for the property.<sup>50</sup> Mrs. Slick's homestead was cancelled in 1904 for failure to fulfill the requirements for a patent.<sup>51</sup> As a result, she had no legal right to sell the land. Fortunately in August 1905, the Town was able to purchase 36 acres from the government thereby owning the cemetery property with numerous burials.<sup>52</sup>

In October 1903, the Town passed two ordinances related to the cemetery and burials. Ordinance 56 officially designated the cemetery as "Hill Top Cemetery", authorized a cemetery committee to develop rules and regulations for the sale of cemetery plots, and specified a records system.<sup>53</sup> Ordinance 57 required a license for undertakers and funeral officials, and required a burial permit for all burials in the Hill Top Cemetery.<sup>54</sup> Both ordinances provided the basis for existing records for

<sup>42</sup> Town Minutes, Meeting June 5, 1893. Pg 60. Town Records

<sup>43</sup> Pagosa Springs News, June 16, 1893.

<sup>44</sup> Numerous obituaries 1894 – 1905, Pagosa Springs News

<sup>45</sup> The earliest undertaking records for Hilltop Cemetery begin in 1905.

<sup>46</sup> Town minutes, meeting April 15, 1901, Pg 200. Town Records.

<sup>47</sup> Warranty Deed. Kate Slick to the Town of Pagosa Springs. March 21, 1902. Town records.

<sup>48</sup> Town Minutes, Meeting June 1, 1903.

<sup>49</sup> Apparently, this was a separate survey from that previously done by the county.

<sup>50</sup> Town Minutes, August 3, 1903.

<sup>51</sup> BLM Tract Book, Colorado Book 134, Pg 161.

<sup>52</sup> Patent. Town of Pagosa Springs, Book 25, pg. 5. August 30, 1905.

<sup>53</sup> Ordinance 56, Concerning a Town Cemetery. October 10, 1903. Town Records.

<sup>54</sup> Ordinance 57, Requiring Undertaker Licenses and a Burial Permit. October 29, 1903. Town Records.

Hilltop Cemetery. Today, the Hilltop Cemetery is the community cemetery along with an adjoining early 1900s addition of the Odd Fellows section.

## PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERY BURIALS

The burials at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery have been reported by several sources.<sup>55</sup> These materials reference burials throughout the cemetery's historic use from the Fort Lewis military period to the community use at the turn of the century.

Burial roster in Appendix A lists the individuals that are known to be buried, reported to be buried, or believed to be buried at the cemetery.<sup>56</sup> Individuals believed to have been buried at the cemetery and later disinterred and moved to Hilltop Cemetery are included in the table. The information in the table is a compilation of several sources and past research.

The individuals buried, reported to be buried, and likely to be buried at the cemetery are discussed below. Individuals reported to have been moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery to the Hilltop Cemetery are also discussed.

### Individuals Buried At Pagosa Springs Cemetery

Ten individuals are buried in the cemetery with a headstone marking their grave. These individuals are listed in Table 1. Information about these individuals is discussed below. The headstones were documented during fieldwork and they are described in that section of the report.

Table 1. Individuals Buried at Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
With Headstones

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death
James H. Voorhees	Feb 25, 1820	Aug 27, 1889
Carrie Cooley	Dec 30, 1880	Apr 20, 1887
Thomas Chambers	1809	1882
George Gildea Grimes	Oct 27, 1853	Nov 30, 1889
William I. Howe	1861	August 1892 <sup>57</sup>
Jennie M. Howe	1885 <sup>58</sup>	April, 1892
Abraham Howe	April 9, 1892	August 23 1892
E. B. Keith	1827	1899
Marinda B. Keith	1828	1902
John S. O'Neal	Jan 26, 1847	Feb 14, 1900

<sup>55</sup> Sources include Archuleta County Genealogical Society (1986); Leah Smith (1985); Colorado 1885 Mortality Schedule; A. Oldham (n.d.); on-line genealogical sites; U.S. Genweb Archuleta County; Pagosa Springs newspapers. See list of references for full citations.

<sup>56</sup> See Burial Roster, Appendix A.

<sup>57</sup> Death dates on the headstone for the Howe family are incorrect. They all died in 1892.

<sup>58</sup> Jennie Jellison Howe birth date is incorrect. It is likely 1875 based on her marriage record in 1891.

## James H. Voorhees, d. 1889

James Voorhees and his wife, Margaret, moved to Pagosa Springs in 1877/1878 and established a general store. They became well known members of the community. With the founding of Archuleta County in 1885, James Voorhees was appointed county judge. James' son, Henry Voorhees, came to Pagosa Springs in 1881 but died in 1884 and was likely buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Prior to 1889, James and Margaret moved to Amargo, NM. where James died in 1889. His body was returned to Pagosa Springs where he was buried in the cemetery, likely near his son Henry.<sup>59</sup>

## Carrie Cooley d. 1887

Carrie Cooley is reported to have been born December 1880 and died in 1887. She is reported to be the daughter of William and Nancy Gilliland Cooley and therefore, the granddaughter of Allen Johnson Gilliland, reported to be buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>60</sup> However, extensive research into Carrie's parentage failed to locate documentation of her family.<sup>61</sup> At present, this tombstone is the only record of this child's birth and death.

## Thomas Chambers d. 1882

Thomas Chambers was 71-year-old retired farmer and a widower who lived with his two young sons in the household of an older son, Robert by his first marriage. The household consisted of his sons, daughter-in-law and six grandchildren.<sup>62</sup> His son, Robert and wife, Annie McKinney Chambers became prominent members of the Pagosa Springs community in later years.

## George Gildea Grimes d. 1889

George Gildea Grimes was born October 27, 1853 to Sarah J. Gildea and Thomas Grimes in Indiana. He was a cattle dealer and lived in the vicinity of the Pine River with his widowed mother and siblings. There is no record of a marriage. He died November 30, 1889 at the age of 36 years.<sup>63</sup>

## Howe Family d. 1892

William Howe was born in Missouri in 1861 and came to Colorado about 1889. In February of 1891 he married Jennie Jellison in West Fork, likely the Howe ranch house. The judge who married them was Barzillai Price, a well-known community member. On April 9, 1892, Abraham was born. Mrs. Howe lived a few days longer and died the result of childbirth. She was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

---

<sup>59</sup> See detailed information on James and Margaret Voorhees in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, S. Egy, researcher.

<sup>60</sup> See discussion on Gilliland below.

<sup>61</sup> See extensive research into Carrie Cooley in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, P. Hayes, researcher.

<sup>62</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1880. Ancestry on-line database.

<sup>63</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1870, 1880. Ancestry on-line database.



On August 23, 1892, Abraham died of dysentery and was scheduled to be buried August 24<sup>th</sup> at the cemetery. However, on that day, William Howe was shot and killed in a gunfight with shepherders. The incident was widely covered in several newspapers. On Thursday, William and his son were buried together in the Cemetery. The marker on the family grave incorrectly lists the death date as 1902.<sup>64</sup>

Keith Family, d. 1899 and d. 1902

Elisha B. Keith and Marinda Blair Keith share a headstone at the cemetery. Elisha Keither was born in Texas on December 2, 1827 and married Marinda Blair in 1849. The couple had six children. The family lived in Animas City from 1879 to 1891 where Mr. Keith was a hotel keeper. The family moved to the Pagosa Springs area in 1891. Mr. Keith was sickly over the last years of his life and he died on January 14, 1899. Mrs. Marinda Keith was born in Georgia in 1828. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Keith lived with her daughter, Louisa Virginia O'Neal, the widow of John S. O'Neal. Mrs. Keith died in 1902 and is buried with her husband.<sup>65</sup>

John O'Neal d. 1900

John O'Neal was a local rancher and prominent community member that served on Town, County, and school boards. He and his family had moved to Colorado in 1877, arriving in the Pagosa Springs area in about 1887. He died February 14, 1900 and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>66</sup> He is buried next to the Keith family.

Individuals Reported To Be Buried  
In The Pagosa Springs Cemetery

Fort Lewis Military Burials

Several soldiers serving at Fort Lewis are reported to have died and been buried in the cemetery. Table 2 lists the soldiers reported to have been buried at the cemetery during the time Fort Lewis was in use at Pagosa Springs from 1878 to 1882.

Table 2.  
Soldiers Previously Reported Buried at Fort Lewis Cemetery<sup>67</sup>

Name	Company	Date of Death	Comments
Henry Akens	9thCav. Co D	9-11-1878	Buried Dolores area
Unknown	15 <sup>th</sup> Inf.	11- 1878	Due to Disease

<sup>64</sup> Pagosa Springs News, August 25, 1892; September 1, 1892.

<sup>65</sup> U.S. Federal Census, 1880, 1900. Ancestry on-line database.

<sup>66</sup> See detailed information and an interview with son, Gorden O'Neal in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, S. Pierce, researcher.

<sup>67</sup> During the existence of Fort Lewis at Pagosa Springs, the cemetery may have been known as the Fort Lewis Cemetery.

Lt. Oscar D. Ladley	22 <sup>nd</sup> Inf.	1-11-1880	From Pneumonia
Pvt Reese Turnbull	9thCav.Co D	1-9-1880	Murdered by John Only
Robert W. Kane	9thCav.Co K	4-30-1880	Killed by Indians
Connice Cuningham	9thCav Co K	? of injuries	Attacked at Piedra
Unknown	9thCav.Co.K	5-1880	Due to Disease
Unknown	9thCav.Co K	5-1880	Due to Disease
Unknown	15 <sup>th</sup> Co. I	9-1880	Due to Disease
Unknown	15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Co B	9-1880	Due to Disease

Military Record Sources

Research into the reported military burials at the Fort Lewis Cemetery relied on compiled rosters of enlistments, burial registers, U.S. 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry returns, and military post returns.<sup>68 69</sup> Post returns were filed by the post commander at the end of each month. These returns listed officers, presence/absence of military units, numbers of soldiers present, on detached service [serving in the field] and various stores and supplies, such as horses, munitions etc. The condition of the soldiers were also noted, including sick, deserted, and dead with cause.

Returns from the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry were filed separately but referenced on the post returns. The returns for the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry included several companies in the field at various locations throughout Colorado and New Mexico. These returns listed all soldiers by name and by company and their official duty station. Because these troops spent long periods of time in the field, the returns from the cavalry were often months late and reports of sick or dead soldiers took months to arrive at their official duty station when they would be reported in the station post returns.

Individuals listed in Table 2 were researched and the information known about these individuals is discussed below.

Private Henry Akens

Henry Akens (also noted as Aikens, Atkins) was a private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Co. D. of the Buffalo Soldiers.<sup>70</sup> Akens died during patrols of his company on September 11, 1878. The company military return notes the location of death as Big Bend, Rio Dolores, Utah Territory.<sup>71</sup> The cause of death was inflammation of the lungs as a result of military duties.<sup>72</sup>

<sup>68</sup> Sources include: Register of Enlistments US Army, 1798-1914, NARA M233; U.S. Military Burial Registers 1768-1921. Record Book of Interment in the Post Cemetery; U.S. Buffalo Soldiers, Returns from Regular Army Cavalry Regiments, 1866-1916 NARA M744; Returns from U.S. Military Posts, 1800 – 1916. NARA M617: U.S. Registers of Deaths in the Regular Arm7, 1860-1889. RG 94.

<sup>69</sup> Sources in Footnote 68 are hereafter referred to as: Register of Enlistments, Burial Registers, Buffalo Soldier Returns, Post Returns, and Registers of Deaths.

<sup>70</sup> See Henry Akens research, Appendix D, Genealogical Research, R. Battles, researcher.

<sup>71</sup> Buffalo Soldier Returns, November 1878.

<sup>72</sup> Register of Deaths. RG 94, NARA.

The location of his burial is not indicated on the company return. The small town of Big Bend (about two miles west of present-day Dolores) has a small cemetery, Riverside Cemetery, that would have served local residents at the time of Akens death. However, there is no known grave for Akens at the cemetery. His company was stationed in Santa Fe, N.M. and there is no known grave in that area for Akens. Because cavalry troops traveled widely, it is likely that Akens was buried where he died and that his grave is unknown.

Akens death was a month before Camp Lewis was garrisoned in October 1878. The post returns from Fort Garland indicate that the designation of the future camp was known.<sup>73</sup> However, it is very unlikely that his body was transported eighty plus miles to Pagosa Springs and buried in an as yet to be designated post cemetery. Akens is believed to have been buried near where he died.

#### Lieutenant Oscar Derostus Ladley<sup>74</sup>

Oscar Ladley was a lieutenant in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry that passed through Fort Lewis in summer 1879 on route to the Animas Valley where soldiers were congregating because of Indian troubles.<sup>75</sup> In October 1879, Ladley returned to Fort Lewis and was in the post hospital due to illness.<sup>76</sup> He remained in the hospital until he left the post on November 9, 1879 despite being ill.<sup>77</sup>

Shortly after, Ladley died in Farmington, NM. on January 11, 1880 of pneumonia.<sup>78</sup> Along with the entry of his death, a note reads: "Buried at Farmington, N.M., Jan 11, 1880 – Re-intered,[sp] at this post Nov 11, 1883. Removed to Ft Leavenworth, KS 1886." This register of deaths lists deaths and burials at Fort Lewis (Hesperus) until the close of the Fort in 1891. The comment "at this post" seems to indicate that Lt. Ladley was buried at Fort Lewis (Hesperus) and then moved to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. If so, he was never buried at Fort Lewis in Pagosa Springs.

Another records source lists Lt. Ladley and includes a comment adjacent to his and other burials that reads, "Dec. 26/85 Sec. of War authorizes removal of remains from Old Fort, i.e., that is prior to June /84 to Ft Leavenworth Nat'l Cemetery."<sup>79</sup> Research into this order located the correspondence, " the Secretary of War authorizes ...remains in the post cemeteries at... Pagosa Springs, Colorado... transferred to the National Cemetery at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in the proper season and in the most advantageous terms."<sup>80</sup>

<sup>73</sup> Post Returns, Fort Garland, September 1878.

<sup>74</sup> See detailed genealogical information provided by A. Oldham, Appendix D, Genealogical Research, Lt. Oscar Ladley.

<sup>75</sup> Smith, A Time for Peace, 2006.

<sup>76</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, October 1879.

<sup>77</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, November 1879.

<sup>78</sup> Record of Deceased Officers & Soldiers Buried at Fort Lewis Col., Lieutenant M.C. Martin, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. A.A. Quartermaster, U.S.A., Center of Southwest Studies, Col 118, Box 4, Series 7, File Folder 25, Durango.

<sup>79</sup> U.S. Military Burial Registers 1768-1921. Record Book of Interment in the Post Cemetery at Fort Lewis Colorado. Ancestry. On-line database.

<sup>80</sup> Office of the Adjunct General, Letters, August 18, 1885- May 19, 1886. NARA M565, Roll 59. Letter, December 30, 1885, Pgs 455-456.

This order likely prompted the directive from Fort Leavenworth in 1886 to locate and identify graves at Pagosa Springs for reburial at Fort Leavenworth.<sup>81</sup> It is reported that the visit to the cemetery on May 5, 1886, "...after a careful inspection of the graves and of the headboards set up over the graves therein, I failed to identify the grave of an officer, soldier, or ex-soldier there."<sup>82</sup>

However, it seems unlikely that Lt. Ladley would be buried in the former post cemetery at Pagosa Springs as the post was officially abandoned in May of 1882, his burial occurred a year later, and Fort Lewis (Hesperus) cemetery was closer to Farmington and active at that time.

#### Private Reese Turnbull

Reese Turnbull was a private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Calvary, Company K. While the company was in the field and operating out of Santa Fe, he was shot in the left leg by John Only and died of his wounds at the Fort Union hospital on January 9, 1880.<sup>83</sup> He was buried in the cemetery at Fort Union in New Mexico.<sup>84</sup> In May 1892, his remains were removed and reburied in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in the National Cemetery. He is buried in Section E, Grave 2648.<sup>85</sup> John Only was dishonorably discharged and tried for the murder of Private Turnbull. He was sentenced to prison in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.<sup>86</sup> Private Turnbull was murdered in New Mexico and buried in Fort Union, he was not buried in Fort Lewis, even though Fort Lewis was his duty station.

#### Private Robert W. Kane

Robert Kane was a private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company K. He enlisted on January 23, 1879 in Cambridge Massachusetts. While on patrol with the company as a courier, he was killed by Indians near San Jose, NM on March 22, 1880.<sup>87 88</sup>

Although his duty station was Fort Lewis, it is unlikely that his body was returned to the post for burial as his company remained in the field for the following months.<sup>89</sup> A search of Fort Union and Fort Marcy cemetery records did not locate a burial for Private Kane and it is presumed that he was buried in the field near where he died. His death was reported by his post and it is likely that his death is noted in the Fort Lewis post return of May 1880, although he was not buried at Fort Lewis.<sup>90</sup>

---

<sup>81</sup> Ann Oldham, 1997. "Fort Lewis Cemetery" in Remembrances, Vol. 2, Pg. 37.

<sup>82</sup> Ibid.

<sup>83</sup> Post Returns, Fort Union, January 1880.

<sup>84</sup> Burial Registers. Post Record Book of Interments, Fort Union, Ancestry, on-line database

<sup>85</sup> Archuleta County Records, ACGS. 1986, Pg2.

<sup>86</sup> Post Returns, Fort Union, March 1880.

<sup>87</sup> Buffalo Soldier, Returns, March 1880.

<sup>88</sup> Register of Enlistments, NARA M233, Roll 38.

<sup>89</sup> U.S. Buffalo Soldiers, Returns. April – June 1880.

<sup>90</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, May 1880.

## Private Charles Cuningham <sup>91</sup>

Charles Cuningham was a private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company K. His duty station was Fort Lewis and he was assigned duties as a courier for messages between field companies and other posts. While at a station on the Piedra River in January 1880, he was reported to have been attacked along with Company K soldier Simeon Davis. <sup>92</sup> Joseph Morris, 19th Infantry was also present.

Cuningham was wounded and Davis shot and seriously injured, reportedly by a 'Mexican'. Subsequent investigation revealed Morris to have been responsible and he was discharged, convicted, and sent to Fort Leavenworth prison for one year. <sup>93</sup>

Cuningham and Davis remained in the post hospital from January through July, 1880. <sup>94</sup> Cuningham was later transferred and discharged for disability at Fort Wingate, NM. In June 1881. <sup>95</sup>

## Unnamed Military Burials

There are seven unnamed deaths reported in the Fort Lewis post returns. These include deaths of infantry unit soldiers and soldiers with the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Companies D and K.

The first death noted in the post returns occurred in November 1878 for a soldier in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company D. <sup>96</sup> Although the soldier is not named in the post return, research into the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry returns, indicate that the deceased soldier was David Lewis. <sup>97</sup>

David Lewis, enlisted in the army in August 1878 and was a new recruit assigned to Fort Lewis. <sup>98</sup> While in the field, he became ill and died of gastro enteritis on November 2, 1878 at the Fort Union hospital. <sup>99</sup> He is buried in the Fort Union Cemetery. <sup>100</sup> Army regulations required that the post commander at the soldier's duty station be informed of deaths and they reported the deaths, regardless of location.

The post return for May 1880 lists four deaths. One death is reported as a 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company K soldier 'killed by Indians'. This is the death of Private Robert Kane previously discussed. His death occurred in March near San Jose, NM and the site of his burial is unknown.

---

<sup>91</sup> Earlier reports refer to Cuningham as 'Connice Cuningham' [Motter, 1984 and ACGS, 1985]. This may be a corruption of his duty as Courier Cuningham.

<sup>92</sup> Motter, 1984, Pgs 74-75. Unfortunately, Motter omits a citation for a lengthy quotation of the event, but research into post returns provide clarification.

<sup>93</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, August 1880.

<sup>94</sup> Buffalo Soldiers Returns, February - August, 1880.

<sup>95</sup> Register of Enlistments, Vol 72-73. NARA M233, Roll 38.

<sup>96</sup> Post Returns, Fort Lewis, November 1878.

<sup>97</sup> Buffalo Soldier Returns, November 1878.

<sup>98</sup> Buffalo Soldier Returns, October 1878.

<sup>99</sup> Registers of Death in the Regular Army & Post returns, Fort Union, November 1878.

<sup>100</sup> Burial Register, Record Book of Interments at Fort Union, NM.

Three deaths are reported from disease; all from the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company K. Although these deaths are reported on the May 1880 post return, cavalry returns are received weeks or months later. Two of these deaths are believed to be Reese Turnbull and Simeon Davis. Turnbull was murdered and died in January 1880 at Ft. Union (see above discussion). He was buried in the Fort Union Cemetery and later reburied at Fort Leavenworth.

Simeon Davis was severely injured in a shooting in January 1880 by Joseph Morris, a soldier from Fort Lewis in the 19 Infantry. He and Private Cunningham were injured and remained in the post hospital from January through July 1880. Cunningham later recovered but after May 1880, there is no further information concerning Davis. Research indicates that Davis does not appear on any subsequent returns. The lack of any information after May for Davis and the fact he was in the post hospital, suggests that he may have been one of the deaths reported and that he may be buried in the Fort Lewis Cemetery. The third reported death in the May 1880 return is unknown. Given that it is associated with a 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Company K soldier, it is possible that the death occurred elsewhere and the individual is not buried at Fort Lewis.

Two deaths are reported in the September 1880 post returns for soldiers in the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Company B and I.<sup>101</sup> A note on the return states that the return is an aggregate of the months August and September 1880. The deaths are due to disease and there is no indication of the names of the soldiers. Given that the infantry units appear to have shorter forays into the field than the cavalry, it is possible that these soldiers were buried at the post cemetery. However, additional research would be needed to identify these individuals.

Table 3 provides a summary of this research information and the burial location of the individuals.

Table 3. Summary of Military Burials at Fort Lewis

Name	Military Unit	Date of Death	Burial Location
Henry Akens	9thCav. Co D	9-11-1878	Near Dolores
David Lewis	9thCav. Co D	11-2- 1878	Fort Union, NM
Lt. Oscar D. Ladley	22 <sup>nd</sup> Inf.	1-11-1880	Fort Lewis (Hesperus) <sup>102</sup>
Pvt Reese Turnbull	9thCav.Co K	1-9-1880	Fort Union, NM <sup>103</sup>
Pvt. Robert W. Kane	9thCav.Co K	3-22-1880	Near San Jose NM
Pvt. Charles Cuningham	9thCav Co K	-	Discharged 6-6-1881
Simeon Davis	9thCav.Co K	1880	Possibly Fort Lewis
Unknown	9thCav.Co K	5-1880	Possibly Fort Lewis
Unknown	15 <sup>th</sup> Co. I	9-1880	Possibly Fort Lewis
Unknown	15 <sup>th</sup> Inf. Co B	9-1880	Possibly Fort Lewis

<sup>101</sup> Post Returns, Sub-Station at Pagosa Springs, September 1880.

<sup>102</sup> Lt. Ladley was buried in Farmington NM in 1880. In 1883, he was buried at Fort Lewis (Hesperus) and later reburied at Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery in 1886

<sup>103</sup> Reburied at Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery in 1886

As shown on the table, very few soldiers are believed to have been buried at the post cemetery. The post was garrisoned from establishment in October 1878 to November 1882 when it was abandoned. However, troops from Fort Lewis (Hesperus) remained at the post until June 1883 when all soldiers in detached service were withdrawn.<sup>104</sup> During this time military units stationed at the post included the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Companies B and I and the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Companies D and K.

A review of the post returns indicates that the infantry units were often in the field for several days. In contrast, the 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry companies were in the field for several weeks at a time. Seven of the ten deaths associated with the post cemetery are of 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry companies and it is documented that most of these deaths occurred far away from Fort Lewis. Given distance and logistics, it is reasonable that these soldiers were buried near where they died and not at Fort Lewis. The most likely soldiers buried at Fort Lewis are those from infantry units that would have died near or in camp. Until further information is found, it appears that four soldiers may have been buried at Fort Lewis.

Individuals Reported To Be Buried In Unmarked Graves <sup>105</sup>

Several individuals have been reported to be buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in unmarked graves. This assertion is based on the burial information provided in the obituaries, and death dates that predate the use and establishment of Hilltop Cemetery and there is no other known grave for the individual. Because these graves are unmarked the specific locations of specific individuals within the cemetery are unknown. Unmarked small graves that are detectable on the surface may indicate a child, providing some general information. Table 4 lists the individuals believed buried at the cemetery in an unmarked grave based on past and current research. Information about the individuals is provided below.

Table 4. Individuals Buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in Unmarked Graves

Name	Birth Date	Death Date
Mrs. Christian Enderich		April 11, 1881
Anna Malloy		January 26, 1882
W. F. "Billy" Robbins	June 1854	October 1883
Sophie Bond		November 1884
Karl H. Dollarhide	Oct 14, 1884	April 27, 1890
Charles R. Dollarhide	1858	May 20, 1890
John Williams	1858	June 14, 1890
Lewis M. Clark	Nov 25, 1805	March 5, 1891
Mrs. Millpaw	1809	May 12, 1891

<sup>104</sup> Post Return. Fort Lewis, June 1883.

<sup>105</sup> In January 1881, the post name was changed from Fort Lewis to Pagosa Springs and the cemetery was likely known as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery from that time.

Ethel Grimes	1889	September 1, 1891
Ethel Parrish	1887	May 20, 1892

Mrs. C. Enderich, d. 1881

Mrs Bertha Enderick was born about 1852 in Prussia and she was married to Christian Enderich a hotel keeper in Rico and later a bakery owner in Silverton.<sup>106</sup> Together the Enderick's had four children, three boys and a girl. Mrs. Enderick was an invalid and was traveling with three of her children to her original home in Newark, New Jersey by way of Pagosa Springs. At Pagosa Springs she died and was buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Her husband, following behind her arrived a few days after her burial.<sup>107</sup>

Anna Malloy, d. January 26, 1882.

Anna Malloy was a tailoress from Ireland about 45 years old. She died the night of January 26, 1882 in a house fire at her lodging at the home of John Ninety, the tailor for Fort Lewis. The home burned down and she was trapped upstairs and burned to death. She had been at Fort Lewis for only a short time. The home where she died was about one mile west of the Fort. Given her employment with the Fort and the early date of her death, she is believed to have been buried in the Fort cemetery.<sup>108</sup>

W. F. "Billy" Robbins, d Oct 1883

William Frank Robbins was born in Iowa on June 27, 1854. He was the son of Thomas Hawkins Robbins and Elizabeth Fisher. Research indicates that he moved with his family to Colorado in 1863 and later lived with his sister Nancy Robbins Foster in the Bayfield area of La Plata County. He was a stock raiser and single.<sup>109</sup>

In October 1883, Robbins was hunting in La Plata County where he was attacked by a grizzly bear. He made his way to Durango and died on October 19, 1883 at the age of 29 years.<sup>110</sup>

His obituary states that the funeral was to be held at his family ranch in Rocky, south of Fairplay. A search of records for Park County cemeteries and issues of the Fairplay Flume do not indicate that the funeral was held in Rocky or that he is buried at the small Rocky Cemetery.<sup>111</sup> Research also yielded a memorial to Robbins that states he is buried at Hilltop Cemetery in Pagosa Springs.<sup>112</sup>

Billy Robbins is believed to have been buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery because the Hilltop Cemetery was not in existence in 1883 and there is no record of his burial at his family home in

<sup>106</sup> Allen Nossaman, 2003. *Many More Mountains, Trails into Silverton*, Vol 1. Sundance Publishing, Denver.

<sup>107</sup> Durango Record, April 23, 1881.

<sup>108</sup> Dolores News, January 28, 1882.

<sup>109</sup> See Billy Robbins, Appendix D, Genealogical Research, K Zilhaver, researcher.

<sup>110</sup> Obituary, Fairplay Flume, November 8, 1883.

<sup>111</sup> US Gen Web, Tombstone Project, Park County, Colorado.

<sup>112</sup> William F. Robbins, Find-a-Grave. On-line database.



Park County. No direct rail service existed to Park County and it was likely that his body was to be transported to Park County from Durango by wagon or stage. It is likely he was buried along the way at Pagosa Springs.

Sophie Bond d, 1884

Sophie Bond was born in Virginia in 1855 and was a single mulatto woman. She is reported to have been a servant and died of consumption in Pagosa Springs in November of 1884.<sup>113</sup> She is likely buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery as it was the only community cemetery at the time of her death and she appears to have had no family in the area.

Karl H. Dollarhide, d Apr 27, 1890

Charles R. Dollarhide, d May 20, 1890

Karl Dollarhide, the son of Charles R. and Belle Z Dollarhide, died of diphtheria that he contracted while in Denver with his father. He died April 27, 1890 at five years of age. He was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>114</sup>

Charles Dollarhide contracted the disease from his son and was reported ill a few days after his son's death. On May 20, 1890, Charles died of diphtheria and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery next to his son.<sup>115</sup>

John Williams, d Jun 14, 1890

John Williams died on June 14, 1890 at the home of J.C. Bell in Pagosa Springs. He was 32 years of age with no known family and in poor health. He was buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery on June 14, 1890.<sup>116</sup>

Lewis M. Clark, d Mar 5, 1891

Lewis Clark died in Pagosa Springs on March 5, 1891 at 85 years of age and reported to be the oldest citizen in the county at the time of his death. He moved to county in 1877 and had been a Methodist preacher prior his move. He died of old age, Bright's disease and dropsy. He was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>117</sup>

Mrs. Millpaw, d May 1891

Mrs. Millpaw died May 12, 1891 at the home of her daughter. She was 82 years old and was buried on May 14, 1891 at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>118</sup>

---

<sup>113</sup> Colorado State Census 1885; Federal Mortality Schedule, Colorado 1885.

<sup>114</sup> Pagosa Springs News, May 1, 1890.

<sup>115</sup> Pagosa Springs News, May 22, 1890.

<sup>116</sup> Pagosa Springs News, June 19, 1890.

<sup>117</sup> Pagosa Springs News, March 12, 1891.

<sup>118</sup> Pagosa Springs News, May 14, 1891.

Ethel Grimes, d 1891

Ethel Grimes was born June 18, 1889 and died September 1, 1891 from inflammation of the bowels. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grimes. She was buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. <sup>119</sup>

Ethel Parrish, d May 20, 1892

Ethel Parrish was the five-year old child of Dr. William Parrish, the local pharmacist in Pagosa Springs. <sup>120</sup> She died after a sudden illness on May 20, 1892 and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. <sup>121</sup> Although there is no marked grave for Ethel in the cemetery, she is listed with other individuals with headstones in the cemetery. <sup>122</sup>

Individuals Likely Buried At The Pagosa Springs Cemetery

There are several individuals that are likely buried at Pagosa Springs Cemetery based on death dates that predate the use and establishment of Hilltop Cemetery. These people are considered 'likely' to be buried at the cemetery, however there is incomplete or minimal information about their deaths. Table 5 lists these individuals and they are discussed below.

Table 5. Individuals Likely to be Buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery

Name	Birth Date	Death Date
Kate Brown		1878/1879
Jose M. Velarda[e]		April 1879 <sup>123</sup>
Henry Voorhees		1885
Captain Lewis Stewart		December 1886
Allen Johnson Gilliland		1887
Tully Kemp		1888
Matilda Richards Kemp	1819	1901

Kate Brown, d. 1879

Based on local anecdotal information, Kate Brown is reported to have been a black woman that died of smallpox in 1878 or 1879 while she was nursing Fort Lewis soldiers during an epidemic. <sup>124</sup>

<sup>119</sup> Pagosa Springs News, September 3, 1891.

<sup>120</sup> See Appendix D, Genealogical Research, C. Paschal, researcher.

<sup>121</sup> Pagosa Springs News May 26, 1892.

<sup>122</sup> Burial Ledger, Pg 1. Town records.

<sup>123</sup> Reported to be the 'first death at Pagosa' by the La Plata Miner, April. 25. 1879

<sup>124</sup> Leah Smith, 1985. Pg. 2.

A review of all Fort Lewis post returns does not indicate any evidence of an epidemic of illness among soldiers. While it is likely Kate Brown was buried in the cemetery, given her reported death date, the details surrounding her death seem unlikely.

Jose M. Velarda[e], d. April 1879

Mr. Velarde was an elderly Hispanic man from Terra Amarilla that is reported to have been the 'first burial at Pagosa...' <sup>125</sup> The location of his burial is not specified, however a Pagosa Springs official and business man, Ed Laithe, was reported to have conducted the service. This suggests the likelihood that the burial occurred in Pagosa Springs at the Fort Lewis Cemetery.

Capt. [Lewis ?] Stewart, d. December 4, 1886

Captain Stewart is reported to have died in Pagosa Springs and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in 1886. Information on this death and burial is minimal and based on some Forest Service papers. <sup>126</sup> Given the death date, it is possible Captain Stewart is buried in the cemetery but addition research is needed.

Allen Johnson Gilliland d. 1887

Allen Johnson Gilliland is reported to have died in 1887 in Pagosa Springs. He is the father of Nancy Gilliland the reported mother of Carrie Cooley who is buried with a marker at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. <sup>127</sup> Mr. Gilliland was a blacksmith and later a grocer in Pagosa Springs. He and his wife Martha lived next door to the Cooley family. <sup>128</sup>

Although no obituary or death record could be located to date, he is believed to have been buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery because it was the sole community cemetery at the time and the family history. <sup>129</sup>

Henry Voorhees, d November 1884

Henry J. Voorhees was born in Michigan about 1848 to James H. and Deliliah Bonebright. James and Deliliah divorced in 1869 and Deliliah moved with her daughter and son-in-law to Gilpin County, Colorado. However, Henry was not in the household in 1870. <sup>130</sup> Henry apparently moved to Pagosa Springs in 1881 and died of pneumonia in 1884. <sup>131</sup> His death in Pagosa Springs predates Hilltop Cemetery and it is likely he is buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. In addition, James

---

<sup>125</sup> La Plata Miner, April 25, 1879. Historical research into the events of Fort Lewis and the Pagosa Springs area suggest that this is highly unlikely that no deaths occurred before 1879.

<sup>126</sup> Personal Communication, Ann Oldham, October 2021.

<sup>127</sup> See previous discussion about Carrie Cooley.

<sup>128</sup> Colorado 1885 State Census, Archuleta County.

<sup>129</sup> See Gilliland and Cooley family report in Appendix D, Genealogy Research, P. Hayes, researcher.

<sup>130</sup> See detailed research on James and Henry Voorhees in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, S. Egy, researcher and Henry Voorhees Timeline, D. Kinnibrough, researcher.

<sup>131</sup> US. Federal Mortality Schedule, Archuleta County, 1885.

Voorhees, Henry's father, was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in 1889.<sup>132</sup> James Voorhees died in Amargo New Mexico, but he was buried in Pagosa Springs, possibly next to his son.

Tully Kemp, d 1888

Matilda Richards Kemp, d., 1901

Tully Kemp and his wife, Matilda Richards Kemp settled in Pagosa Springs in 1878.<sup>133</sup> Mr. Kemp was appointed the postmaster in 1879 and served as a Justice of the Peace. He is reported to have died in 1888 in Pagosa Springs. Mrs. Kemp continued to live in Pagosa Springs and died July 30, 1901.<sup>134</sup> Mr. Kemp is believed to have been buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery because his death predates the establishment of Hilltop Cemetery. Although there is no burial information in her obituary, Mrs. Kemp is believed to be buried in the cemetery beside her husband; the cemetery was still active at the time of her death and there is no record of a grave at Hilltop Cemetery.

Individuals Possibly Buried At Pagosa Springs Cemetery

There are several individuals that may be buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery or at Hilltop Cemetery. As noted before, the town began a search to identify a location for a large community cemetery in 1893 with the establishment of a cemetery committee.<sup>135</sup> A parcel of land was identified in 1893 and there was discussion to acquire the parcel. However, this effort seemed to lag and there was no official establishment of the Hilltop Cemetery until 1903 when the parcel was surveyed. Despite an official designation, burials occurred from about 1893 with obituaries stating 'Pagosa Springs', "Pagosa Springs Cemetery" used interchangeably for both cemeteries. It was not until 1903 that the new cemetery was officially named Hilltop Cemetery. As a result, reports of burials occurring between 1893 and 1903 are problematic and require additional documentation to be certain of burial location.

The individuals listed in this report as 'possibly' buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery have death dates that fall within this ambiguous timeframe. Table 6 lists individuals that may be buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery based on information provided in their obituary, the death date when both cemeteries were in use, and the lack of a grave at Hilltop Cemetery or another cemetery. These individuals are discussed below.

Table 6. Individuals Possibly Buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery

Name	Birth Date	Death Date
Louis Blank		1895
Joseph S. York	2/14/1842	July 4, 1897

<sup>132</sup> See previous discussion of James Voorhees in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, S. Egy, researcher.

<sup>133</sup> See Appendix D, Genealogical Research, J. McKain, researcher.

<sup>134</sup> The Weekly Times, August 1, 1901.

<sup>135</sup> Town Minutes, Meeting May 15, 1893. Pgs 58 – 59. Town Records

Louis Blank, d. 1895

According to his obituary, Louis Blank died October 15, 1895 and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. He had been ill and died peacefully at the age of 70 years. He was born in Germany and served for a short time in the Union Army during the Civil War.<sup>136</sup> Although burials were beginning to take place at Hilltop Cemetery, there is no record of his burial at the new cemetery and he is believed to have been buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

Joseph Sylvester York, d. July 4, 1897

Joseph Sylvester York was born in Maine, February 14, 1842. He enlisted in the Union army in July 1863.<sup>137</sup> His occupation was a stone cutter and he became the president of the Battlefield Granite Works in Fredericksburg Virginia. He was in poor health in the 1890s and traveled to Pagosa Springs for his health. He died at the age of 55 years of consumption [tuberculosis] Sunday, July 4, 1897 and is buried in Pagosa Springs.<sup>138</sup> Because there is no documentation of his burial at Hilltop Cemetery or a headstone, it is believed that he is buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

Individuals Buried Elsewhere

Some individuals listed on the Burial Roster (Appendix A) have been reported to be, or possibly to be buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Research conducted for this project indicates that it is unlikely that some individuals were buried, at the cemetery. Table 7 lists the individuals previously reported to possibly be buried at the cemetery that are buried elsewhere based on research conducted for this project.

Table 7. Individuals Buried Elsewhere.

Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Burial Location
J. H. Lusk	1840	1881	Rural Location
Stage Driver		February 3, 1881	Poncha Springs, CO
J. M. Archuleta, Jr		1885	Edith Cemetery
Flaugh daughter		July 21, 1890	Family Cemetery
W.D. Hover	1857	November 1885	Lima, Ohio
James Patterson		March 8, 1892	Denver, Co.
Mary Patterson		November 26, 1894	Denver, Co.
Rola Thomas Harn	10/2/1877	9/6//1900	Viola, Wisconsin

<sup>136</sup> Pagosa Springs News, October 18, 1895.

<sup>137</sup> U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations 1863-1865. Ancestry on-line database.

<sup>138</sup> Alexandria Gazette, July 12, 1897, Pg 2.

J. H. Lusk, d Feb 1881

J.H. Lusk was a 40 year-old widowed laborer at a tie camp in the Conejos Valley.<sup>139</sup> Given the distance to Pagosa Springs Cemetery, it is likely he was buried somewhere near the tie camp. However, it is possible that he was transported to Pagosa Springs and buried at the cemetery.

Stage Driver, (employed by J. L. Sanderson), d Feb 3, 1881

Several robberies of the Barrow and Sanderson stage line occurred in January and February of 1881, primarily by the Allison Gang along the Pagosa Springs to Amargo route and around Del Norte. Although the robberies occurred, there are no mention of deaths of the stage drivers.

The death of Bill Updike, a former stage driver, was reported in error by the Colorado Miner Weekly to have occurred at Pagosa Springs.<sup>140</sup> Mr. Updike lived in Poncha Springs and died there according to all other newspapers consulted.<sup>141</sup>

It is possible that the reference to a stage driver buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery is based on the initial incorrect reporting. At present, additional research is needed to determine if a stage driver is buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

J. M. Archuleta, Jr., d January 1885

J.M. Archuleta Jr. is believed to be Jose Marcelino, son of Jose Marcelino Sr. Jose Sr. was a stock raiser and made his home with his wife Maria Eduvigelas in Edith. Jose Sr. homesteaded in the Edith area and received a patent in 1890 for property in the area.<sup>142</sup> The Archuleta or Edith Cemetery is located on Jose Sr. property where he was buried in 1920.<sup>143</sup> Jose Jr., a three-month old infant, is reported to have died in Archuleta in 1885.<sup>144</sup> Because Jose Sr. was living in the area in 1885, it is likely that the infant child was buried in the family cemetery on the property rather than in the distant town of Pagosa Springs.<sup>145</sup>

Flaugh (infant female) d. 1890

The 16-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Flaugh died on June 21, 1890 due to complications of membranous croup. She was buried in a private family cemetery and not at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>146</sup>

<sup>139</sup> U.S. Federal Census 1880, Conejos County.

<sup>140</sup> The Colorado Miner (Weekly), Vol XIV, Number 4, February 18, 1881.

<sup>141</sup> The Gunnison Daily News, Silver World (Lake City), the Leadville Daily.

<sup>142</sup> General Land Office records, Bureau of Land Management. On-line database.

<sup>143</sup> Ann and Leroy Oldham records at the US Gen Web project. On-line records.

<sup>144</sup> U.S. Federal Mortality Census, Colorado 1885.

<sup>145</sup> Colorado State Census, 1885.

<sup>146</sup> Pagosa Springs News, June 26, 1890.

W. D. Hover, d Nov 1885

Watt D. Hover was the 23year-old son of Newton Hover and Sarah Watt. In 1880, he lived in the Pagosa Springs area with his widowed father and brothers.<sup>147</sup> He married Mary Thompson in 1883 in Ohio and returned to Colorado. He died in November 1884 of inflammatory rheumatism.<sup>148</sup> His body was returned to Lima, Ohio where he was buried in the Shawnee Cemetery on December 6, 1884.<sup>149</sup> Although Watt Hover is listed on the Archuleta County mortality list because he died in Pagosa Springs, he was never buried at Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

Patterson (male) d, 1892.Patterson (female) d, November 26, 1894

These Patterson deaths appear to reference the son and daughter of Thomas Macdonald Patterson, editor of the Rocky Mountain News in Denver. Patterson was a prominent businessman and politician in the Denver area and his articles were frequently published and cited in the Pagosa Springs News. Patterson's daughter, Mary Grafton Patterson, died on November 26, 1894. Her obituary references her brother, James Patterson's death on March 8, 1892. Because their father was well known in the Pagosa area, it is likely that reports of their deaths incorrectly became linked to the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Both of these individuals are buried at Fairmount Cemetery in Denver.<sup>150</sup> Obituaries for other Pattersons with these death dates were not located as of this date.

Rola Thomas Harn d. September 6, 1900

Rola Harn died in Pagosa Springs on September 6, 1900 as the result of an accidental shooting.<sup>151</sup> His obituary states that he will be temporarily buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in a 'fine metallic casket' and later reburied in his hometown in Wisconsin.<sup>152</sup> Pierce's research confirms that Rola Harn was reburied in Viola, Wisconsin but the records do not indicate the date.

Given that both cemeteries were often referenced as the 'Pagosa Springs Cemetery', it is unknown if Harn was temporarily buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery or Hilltop Cemetery. However, temporary burial at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery was a good possibility as Mrs. Margaret Harn Latham [a relative of Rola Harn] is believed to have buried her veteran husband, James Latham, at the cemetery the year before in 1899.

---

<sup>147</sup> US Federal Census 1880, Conejos County.

<sup>148</sup> U.S. Federal Mortality Census, Colorado 1885.

<sup>149</sup> The Times-Democrat, Lima Ohio. Saturday December 6, 1884.

<sup>150</sup> Boulder Daily Camera, March 10, 1892; Boulder Daily Camera, November 27, 1894.

<sup>151</sup> See detailed information in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, S. Pierce, researcher.

<sup>152</sup> Pagosa Springs News, September 7, 1900.

### Individuals Reported Moved From Pagosa Springs Cemetery To Hilltop Cemetery

One research topic for this project has been the issue of burials that may have been moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Past research on the Pagosa Springs Cemetery has suggested that several individuals were moved to Hilltop Cemetery. The individuals reported to have been moved include Civil War Veterans as well as family and community members.<sup>153</sup> The primary reason for reinterments at Hilltop Cemetery was the establishment and the future use of the cemetery. As a result, burials at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery appear to have ended in the early 1900s with the increasing frequency of new burials at Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>154</sup> The individuals reported to have been buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery and later moved to Hilltop Cemetery are listed in Table 8.

Table 8. Individuals Reported to Have Been Moved  
From Pagosa Springs Cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery

<b>Name</b>	<b>Veteran</b>	<b>Birth Date</b>	<b>Death Date</b>
Charles A. Bartholmew	X	1839	November 24, 1897
Capt. Lloyd Beall	X	1820	October 23, 1898
Isaac Cade	X	1829	July 8, 1888
Stanford C. Cotton	X	1839	October 30, 1911
Algernon S. Dutton	X	1830	December 14, 1885
William Price Holt	X	1839	May 2, 1890
James Latham	X	1839	August 25, 1899
Lemuel L. Laughlin	X	1834	May 29, 1894
Annie Chambers		1851	November, 1891
Elizabeth M. Dunnivant		1859	1900
Mary Estelia Holt		1875	August 13, 1890
Sallie Nossaman		1893	February 9, 1895
Jacob V. Opdyke		1818	August 9, 1895

#### Civil War Veterans and Family Members

Several Civil War veterans are buried at Hilltop Cemetery. Of these, eight veterans are reported to have been buried at Pagosa Springs and later moved to Hilltop Cemetery. These soldiers are listed in Table 8. Research indicates that two veterans, Stanford C. Cotton and Lemuel L. Laughlin, were originally buried in Hilltop Cemetery.

<sup>153</sup> Archuleta County Records, ACGS, 1986.

<sup>154</sup> The last documented burial at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery was 1902.



Sanford Cotton d. 1911

Sanford Cotton was a Civil War veteran that served in the U.S. Navy. He died October 30, 1911, and according to his obituary, he was buried in Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>155</sup> He was never buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery as it had become inactive by 1911.

Lemuel Luke Laughlin d. 1894

Lemuel Luke Laughlin [Loughlin], died May 30, 1894 and was buried in Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>156</sup> A small announcement appeared in the newspaper by Barzillai Price stating that on Sunday June 10, 1894, at 3pm "I will stand by the grave of L.L. Laughlin in the new cemetery for the purpose of discharging my personal duty to him."<sup>157</sup>

Soldiers Block at Hilltop Cemetery

Several Civil War veterans are buried in Block 24 at Hilltop Cemetery. The burials in this block are only veterans and their death dates range from 1897 to 1935 with one more recent death in 1962. The majority of the deaths of the individuals buried in this area occurred before 1910. In 1911, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) Pagosa Springs Post # 104 acquired Lots 6, 7, and 8 where the soldiers had been buried.<sup>158</sup>

Because obituaries and other records can be confusing during the period when both cemeteries were in use and were both referred to by the same name, additional records were sought including the applications for military headstones for veterans. These records provide information about the veterans' grave markers including the inscription and the cemetery destination for the headstone.

<sup>159</sup>

Four veterans reportedly moved to Hilltop Cemetery, died between 1892 and 1903 when records show that burials occurred at both 'Pagosa Springs Cemeteries'.<sup>160</sup> These soldiers are Charles A. Bartholomew, Lloyd Beall, William Price Holt, and James Latham.<sup>161</sup>

Charles A. Bartholomew d. 1897

Charles Bartholomew was a Civil War veteran in the Iowa Infantry; he died in Pagosa Springs November 24, 1897. He resided in La Plata County but had traveled to Pagosa Springs for his

---

<sup>155</sup> Pagosa Springs Sun, September 1, 1911.

<sup>156</sup> Pagosa Springs News, June 1, 1894.

<sup>157</sup> Pagosa Springs News, "Announcement", June 1, 1894.

<sup>158</sup> Burial Certificate # 92, September 4, 1911. Town Records.

<sup>159</sup> Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans. NARA M1845.

<sup>160</sup> Hilltop Cemetery was officially named in 1903, Town Ordinance 56. However, it was commonly referred to as Hilltop Cemetery before that time.

<sup>161</sup> Two additional veterans, Isaac Cade and Algernon Dutton are reported to have been moved to Hilltop Cemetery. Their deaths predate the use of Hilltop Cemetery and they are discussed later in this report.

health. His obituary states he was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>162</sup> However, the card record for his headstone application lists the destination for his marker as Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>163</sup> His burial was the first in Block 24 and it was followed by others in 1898. Because burials soon followed his, and the card record shows his marker's shipping destination was Hilltop Cemetery, it is believed that he was never buried in Pagosa Springs Cemetery.



Photo 4. Charles Bartholomew Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery

Lloyd Beall d, 1898

Lloyd Beall was a veteran that died suddenly on October 23, 1898.<sup>164</sup> Information on his military career and life is minimal and it has been reported that he served in the Confederate Army during

---

<sup>162</sup> Pagosa Springs News, November 26, 1897.

<sup>163</sup> Card Record, NARA M 1845, Roll 1.

<sup>164</sup> Pagosa Springs News, October 28, 1898.

the Civil War.<sup>165</sup> <sup>166</sup> This may be incorrect as he has a Union military marker.<sup>167</sup> The card record for his military headstone application, states that the destination of his military marker was "Hilltop Cemetery".<sup>168</sup> Beall is believed to have been buried in Block 24 at Hilltop Cemetery because other soldiers were beginning to be buried in the military plot and because of the designation of his marker.



Photo 5. Lloyd Beall Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery

In contrast to the Batholomew and Beall burials in the veteran area, Holt and Latham are buried in Block 18 in family plots.

---

<sup>165</sup> Motter 1984, Pgs 183-184.

<sup>166</sup> In 1901, a legal notice appeared in an attempt to locate his wife and children to settle his estate, indicating that little was known of his personal life. The Pagosa Springs Weekly Times, April 11, 1901.

<sup>167</sup> A record of a pardon by President Andrew Johnson, was found. However, it is uncertain if it refers to this Lloyd Beall. U.S. Pardons Under Amnesty Proclamation 1865-1869. NARA A1 1005, RG 59. November 28, 1866. If so, it would help to explain Motter's statement and the presence of a Union veteran shield on his grave.

<sup>168</sup> Card Record NARA M 1845, roll 2.

William Price Holt, d. 1890

William Price Holt died on May 2, 1890 leaving a wife, Emma Holt [Rippy] and three daughters, Estella, Elvira, and Edna. The funeral services were conducted at their home and he was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>169</sup> Today, Mr. Holt is buried at Hilltop Cemetery in the family plot in Block 18, Lot 12 next to his daughter Mary Estella Holt.<sup>170</sup>

William Price Holt is reported to have been moved to Hilltop Cemetery sometime after his original burial in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in 1890. The card record of the application for his military headstone application states the marker destination was Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>171</sup> Because Mr. Holt's death predates the use and establishment of Hilltop Cemetery, and his marker application specifies the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, he is believed to have originally been buried in that cemetery and later moved to Hilltop. Mrs. Holt remarried John M. Rippy who died in 1914. Records suggest that Price Holt was moved to Hilltop after the death of Mrs. Rippy's second husband (see below).



Photo 6, William Price Holt Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

<sup>169</sup> Pagosa Springs News, May 8, 1890.

<sup>170</sup> See discussion below.

<sup>171</sup> Card Record, NARA M1845, Roll 10

Mary Estella Holt, d. 1890

Mary Estella Holt was the 15-year-old daughter of Emma and Price Holt. She died August 13, 1890, just three months after her father. The funeral was held at the Holt home however there is no statement about her burial location.<sup>172</sup> Today, she is buried next to her father at Hilltop Cemetery. Estella Holt is reported to have been moved to Hilltop Cemetery, probably at the time that her father was disinterred and moved. Because her death predates the use and establishment of Hilltop Cemetery, she is believed to have been moved to that cemetery when her father was moved, probably in 1915.

It is likely that the reburial of William Price Holt and Mary Estella was prompted by the death of Elvira Holt Dutton. Elvira was the daughter of Price Holt and Emma Holt [Rippy] and Estella's sister. Elvira was married to George Albert the son of Algernon S. Dutton and Harriet W. Dutton. Elvira died April 3, 1915 from a 'possible rupture'.<sup>173</sup> Four days later, April 7, 1915, burial certificates were purchased by Oral [Oliver] Dutton and Mrs. Emma Rippy.<sup>174 175</sup> Because of Elvira's recent death, purchase of burial permits for the family plot, and the marital relationship of these families, it is very likely that William Price Holt, and Mary Estella Holt were moved from Pagosa Springs Cemetery in April 1915 at the time of Elvira Holt Dutton's death.



Photo 7. Mary Estella Holt Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

<sup>172</sup> Pagosa Springs News, August 1890

<sup>173</sup> Hatcher "Undertaking Business" Ledger, Town Records.

<sup>174</sup> Dutton Burial Certificate # 126. Town Records

<sup>175</sup> Rippy Burial Certificate # 125, Town Records.

James Latham d.1899

James Latham died August 25, 1899 leaving a wife, daughter, son and sister. His services were held at the Methodist Church but no burial location was mentioned in his obituary.<sup>176</sup> He is believed to have been buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery because the card record for his military headstone application states that the marker destination was the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>177 178</sup> In April 1915, his wife, Margaret Harn Latham purchased a burial certificate.<sup>179</sup> No family members had died at this time and the purchase of this permit strongly suggests that Latham's body was moved at this time. As discussed above, permits had been obtained the same day by the Holt and Dutton families for adjacent plots.<sup>180</sup> Mrs. Latham died suddenly in 1925 and she was buried in Hilltop Cemetery "next to her husband".<sup>181</sup> Together this information suggests that Mr. Latham's body was moved from Pagosa Springs Cemetery in 1915.



Photo 8. James Latham Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

<sup>176</sup> Pagosa Springs News, September 1, 1899.

<sup>177</sup> Card Record, NARA M1845, Roll 12

<sup>178</sup> The card records for Batholomew, Beall, Holt and Latham were all processed by the federal government under the same contract with the marble fabricator. The marker destinations were specific to the cemetery stating either Hilltop Cemetery or Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

<sup>179</sup> Latham Burial Certificate # 124, April 7, 1915.

<sup>180</sup> Also see following discussion for Algernon Dutton reburial.

<sup>181</sup> Pagosa Springs Sun, October 30, 1925.

Civil War veterans, Isaac Cade and Algernon S. Dutton died prior to the use and establishment of Hilltop Cemetery; they were both buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. At present, there are military markers for them at Hilltop Cemetery in their family plots in Block 5 Lot 18, and Block 18, Lot 13, respectively.<sup>182</sup>

Algernon Sidney Dutton d. 1885

Algernon Dutton died in Pagosa Springs in December 14, 1885.<sup>183</sup> Dutton was married to Harriet Dodge Woodard and had two sons, George Albert who married Elvira Holt and William Oliver who married Idelia Hatcher. Although there is no mention of the burial location in Dutton's obituary, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery was the only community cemetery at that time. The card record for the military headstone application states "Pagosa Springs Cemetery" for the destination for his marker.<sup>184</sup>

Mrs. Dutton died May 14, 1900 and is buried in the family plot in Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>185</sup> Burial permits at Hilltop Cemetery were required after 1904, and no permit for her burial was needed or located. However, on April 7, 1915, Oral [likely William Oliver] Dutton purchased burial Certificate 126.<sup>186</sup> This permit was for the burial of his sister-in-law, Elvira Holt Dutton and likely for the reburial of his father, Algernon Dutton. As previously noted, the death of Elvira Holt Dutton may have prompted the Holts and Mrs. Latham to purchase burial permits on the same day to move their family members to Hilltop Cemetery. Consequently, it is believed that Algernon Dutton was moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in 1915 and reburied in the Hilltop Cemetery at or near the same time as the reburial of James Latham, and the Holts.

---

<sup>182</sup> Hilltop Cemetery Maps, Town Records.

<sup>183</sup> See detailed information about Dutton, Appendix D, Genealogical Research R. Stafford, researcher.

<sup>184</sup> Card Record, NARA M1845, Roll 12.

<sup>185</sup> Pagosa Springs News May 18, 1900.

<sup>186</sup> Dutton Burial Certificate 126, April 7, 1915. Town Records.



Photo 9. Algernon Dutton Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

Isaac Cade d, 1888

Isaac Cade died July 8, 1888 and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. The card record for the application for a military headstone lists the destination for the marker as “Pagosa Springs Cemetery”.<sup>187</sup> Today, Mr. Cade’s military marker is next to his wife, Mary Margaret Cade, who died in 1923. Two of his daughters, Elizabeth Dunnivant (d, 1900) and Katie Clark (d, 1921) are nearby.<sup>188</sup>

In November 1915, Mary Cade’s grandson, Lester Clark died in Arizona and was shipped to Pagosa Springs for burial at Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>189</sup> A few days prior to the funeral, Mrs. Cade

---

<sup>187</sup> Card Records, NARA M1845.

<sup>188</sup> Pagosa Springs Sun, August 1923.

<sup>189</sup> Pagosa Springs Sun, November 19, 1915.



purchased a burial certificate for Lester Clark's burial.<sup>190</sup> It is very likely that Isaac Cade and his daughter, Elizabeth Dunnivant, were moved from Pagosa Springs Cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery at the time of Lester Clark's burial.



Photo 10. Isaac Cade Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

Elizabeth Dunnivant d. 1900

Elizabeth Dunnivant was the daughter of Isaac and Mary Cade. She died in 1900 and was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>191</sup> At present, there is a marker for Elizabeth next to her mother

<sup>190</sup> Burial Certificate #129, November 19, 1915.

<sup>191</sup> Archuleta County Records, ACGS, 1986.

at Hilltop Cemetery. She is believed to have been moved to the cemetery at the same time as her father, around the time of her nephew's, Lester Clark, death in November 1915.

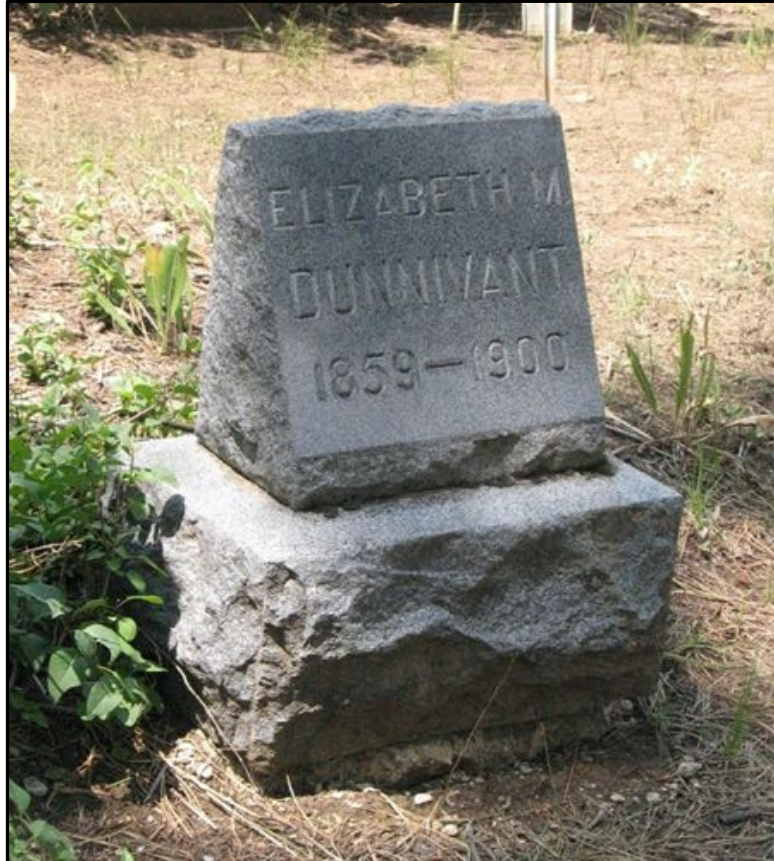


Photo 11. Elizabeth Dunnivant Headstone, Hilltop Cemetery  
(relocated from Pagosa Springs Cemetery)

#### Summary of Civil War Veteran Burial Information

The information compiled for this project indicates that Sanford Cotton and Lemuel Laughlin were buried in Hilltop Cemetery based on obituary and other information. Bartholomew and Beall were likely buried in Block 24 in lots later formally obtained by the G.A.R. posts. Their burials were the

first in the block. Their military headstones were designated for Hilltop Cemetery and there is no information to suggest that they were buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

William Holt and James Latham are believed to have been buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery; Holt died in 1890, prior to the establishment of Hilltop Cemetery. Latham died in 1899 while there were still on-going burials at the cemetery and other veterans were buried there. Further, Mr. Holt's card record for his military headstone stipulates "Pagosa Springs Cemetery". The family burial permit suggests that Holt and Estella were moved in April 1915 when Elvira Dutton was buried. The Holt and Latham families purchased burial permits the same day as the Dutton family, although there were no deaths in the Latham family and no other Holt death other than Elvira who was buried by the Duttons. Consequently, it appears that William and Estella Holt, Algernon Dutton, and James Latham were all moved to Hilltop Cemetery at the same time, around April 1915. It appears that Isaac Cade and Elizabeth Dunnivant were both reburied in Hilltop Cemetery in November 1915 at the time of Lester Clark's burial.

The Civil War veterans that were moved to Hilltop Cemetery were reburied in family plots and the move was likely organized by the individual families. The Holt, Dutton, and Latham families likely coordinated the family reburials and may have contracted with the same individual/business to conduct the disinterments. Likewise, the Cade family reburials occurred later but were also organized by that family.

Importantly, all of the military markers were erected at or close to the time of death at the original burial location. Therefore, military markers for Latham, Holt, Dutton, and Cade were originally at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. These markers are documented for this project because they are original to the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, even though they were moved at the time of reburial. The grave markers of Mary Estella Holt and Elizabeth Dunnivant have also been documented as they were likely to have been originally erected at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. The markers for Bartholomew and Beall were also erected near the time of death at Hilltop Cemetery. These markers were all fabricated prior to 1903 when military markers dimensions changed from 10 inches in width to 12 inches in width.

Community Members Reported to Have Been Moved  
From Pagosa Springs Cemetery

Table 9 lists the community members that have been reported to have been moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery. These individuals are discussed below that the results of the research conducted for this project presented.

Table 9. Community Members Reported Moved

Name	Birth Date	Death Date
Annie McKinney Chambers	1851	November 1891
Roscoe Frederick Chambers	1888	June 1890

Edna C. Chambers	1884	June 1890
Edwin Garvin	1891	1892
Mable Carrie Parr	1890	August 12, 1892
Sallie Nossaman		February 9, 1895
Jacob V. Opdyke	1818	August 9, 1895
Rosena Seavy Story	1830	December 14, 1897

Annie McKinney Chambers d. November 1891

Laudema Ann McKinney Chambers was the first wife of Robert J. Chambers, who was the son of Thomas Chambers buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Annie was the mother of nine children. Mrs. Chambers died on Thanksgiving in 1891 after a sudden illness.<sup>192</sup> The services were held at the Chambers home on the Blanco River and she was buried in the private family cemetery.<sup>193</sup> In 1896, Robert Chambers married May Thompson. Mr. Chambers died in 1916 and he is buried in the Hilltop Cemetery where he shares a headstone with Annie Chambers. The second Mrs. Chambers died unexpectedly in 1917 and she is also buried in the Chambers family plot.

It is unlikely that Mrs. Chambers was ever buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Her remains were likely buried next to her two children that died in 1890.<sup>194</sup> The children's remains were moved to Hilltop Cemetery in 1915 and it is likely that her remains were moved at the same time.<sup>195</sup>

Roscoe Frederick Chambers, d. June 23 1890

Edna C. Chambers, d. June 28, 1890

Both Chambers children were reported to have been moved in 1915 from family burial cemetery at the family homestead on the Blanco Rive because of a new road.<sup>196</sup> Undertaking reports indicate that they were disinterred and placed in a casket and box and moved June 5, 1915.<sup>197</sup> They were moved to Hilltop Cemetery as there is no notation of a burial at any other location, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery was inactive in 1915 and there would have been no need for a burial permit. At present, the location of their graves at Hilltop Cemetery is unknown but it is likely that they are buried in the family plot and their graves are unmarked.

Edwin Garvin, d. 1892

Edwin Garvin was an infant and the son of Mary Rainig and John S. Garvin of Summitville. He is buried next to his father and uncle A. Douglas Garvin. No information on his possible move could

<sup>192</sup> Pagosa Springs News, December 3, 1891.

<sup>193</sup> Ibid.

<sup>194</sup> See discussion for Roscoe Frederick and Edna C. Chambers.

<sup>195</sup> Research to date has not provided documentation on the removal of Mrs. Chambers remains.

<sup>196</sup> ACGS report Pg 38.

<sup>197</sup> Hatcher 'Undertaking Business' Ledger, Pgs 18- 19.

be located, but it is likely that he was moved to Hilltop Cemetery around the time of Douglas Garvin's death in 1930.

## Mable Carrie Parr, d. 1892

Mable Carrie Parr was born in 1890 and died August 12, 1892 of whooping cough. She was the only daughter of Melvin, M. and Mary Parr. She was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>198</sup>

In 1903, Mable's mother, Anna Parr, died and was buried at Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>199</sup> No records of Mrs. Parr's burial could be located as she died one year prior to the requirement for burial permits by the Town. It is very likely that Mable's body was reinterred at that time. There are currently burial markers for both Mrs. Parr and Mable at the Hilltop Cemetery.

## Sallie Nossaman, d. 1895

Sallie Nossaman was the young daughter of Welch Nossaman. She died on February 9, 1895.<sup>200</sup> Her obituary does not mention a burial location. Presently, there is a grave marker at Hilltop Cemetery and it has been reported that her body was moved to the cemetery from Pagosa Springs Cemetery. To date, no records have been located to indicate that she was moved to Hilltop Cemetery. If this occurred, it may have been in 1937 when her father, Welch Nossaman, died and was buried at Hilltop Cemetery.

## Jacob V. Opdyke, d. 1895

Jacob Opdyke died August 9, 1895 at 77 years of age of paralysis and old age. The services were held at the family residence with burial at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.<sup>201</sup> It has been reported that Mr. Opdyke's body was moved to Hilltop Cemetery where there is a marker for him. To date, no records have been located to verify that statement. His wife, Catherine Young, died in 1920 and is buried at the Hilltop Cemetery and it is possible that Mr. Opdyke may have been moved at that time. The undertaking records for Catherine do not mention Mr. Opdyke, so the issue of his reinterment is uncertain.<sup>202</sup>

## Rosena Weaver Seavy Story, d. 12/14/1897

Rosena Seavy Story was born May 22, 1830 in Nova Scotia and married William E. Seavy in Wisconsin in 1848. They had several children, including Sarah Elizabeth "Lizzie", Grant, and Clinton. The Seavy's arrived in Colorado after 1885 and lived in the Pagosa Springs area. Sometime before 1892, William died and in May 1892, Rosena married James M. Story in Amargo,

---

<sup>198</sup> Pagosa Springs News, August 18, 1892.

<sup>199</sup> Hilltop Cemetery records, Town Records.

<sup>200</sup> Pagosa Springs News, February 15, 1895.

<sup>201</sup> Pagosa Springs News, August 16, 1895.

<sup>202</sup> Hatcher "Undertaking Business" Ledger, 1920. Town Records.

NM.<sup>203</sup> In 1895, Lizzie died after two years of being confined to her bed. She was buried in Hilltop Cemetery.<sup>204</sup>

In December 1897, Rosena Story died in Pagosa Springs.<sup>205</sup> In 1912, her second husband, James Story died and was buried in Archuleta County.<sup>206</sup> Mrs. Story is buried at Hilltop Cemetery and it is reported that her remains were moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery after the death of Mr. Story.<sup>207</sup> Her grave is located near her adult children’s graves. However, no record of her reinterment was found during a search of funeral records from 1912 to 1925.<sup>208</sup>

### Summary of Burial Information

Table 10 summarizes the burial information for individuals discussed above. Along with name and death date, the table indicates if the individual was buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in a marked grave, an unmarked grave, and the likelihood of burial at the cemetery based on research data. Individuals buried at the Cemetery but later moved to Hilltop Cemetery are noted as well as individuals originally buried at Hilltop Cemetery. Individuals buried at locations other than the Pagosa Springs Cemeteries are noted. Previous tables provide additional information for burials.

A total of 61 individuals were researched for this project. The research was based on previous burial lists, obituaries, past research, and conversations and information from knowledgeable individuals. Other sources and/or future information may expand or amend the information presented here.

Table 10 indicates that of the 61 individuals investigated for this project, there are ten individuals buried in marked graves and eleven individuals are buried in unmarked graves at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. In addition, there are seven individuals that are likely buried at the Cemetery and six individuals possibly buried at the Cemetery. The individuals in the unmarked grave categories are based on their death dates (i.e., predating the use of Hilltop Cemetery) and the amount of historical information located.

Thirteen individuals were researched to determine if they were moved from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery to the Hilltop Cemetery. Project information indicates that nine individuals were likely moved to the new cemetery and four were originally buried at Hilltop Cemetery. Research on fourteen individuals indicates that they were never buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery but were buried elsewhere.<sup>209</sup>

<sup>203</sup> Pagosa Springs New, May 26, 1892.

<sup>204</sup> Pagosa Springs News, April 26, 1895.

<sup>205</sup> Pagosa Springs News, December 17, 1897

<sup>206</sup> "Undertaking Business, 1912" Funeral records at Town of Pagosa Springs.

<sup>207</sup> Family member communication to Ann Oldham, October 2021.

<sup>208</sup> "Undertaking Business, 1912" Funeral records at Town of Pagosa Springs.

<sup>209</sup> See the above tables and discussion for information on specific individuals.

Table 10. Burial Summary Information

Name of Individual	Date of Death	Burial Location						
		Pagosa Springs Cemetery				Hilltop Cemetery		Other
		Marked	Unmarked	Likely	Possible	Original	Moved	Place
James H. Voorhees	1889	X						
Carrie Cooley	1887	X						
Thomas Chambers	1882	X						
George Gildea Grimes	1889	X						
William I. Howe	1892	X						
Jennie M. Howe	1892	X						
Abraham Howe	1892	X						
E. B. Keith	1899	X						
Marinda B. Keith	1902	X						
John S. O'Neal	1900	X						
Henry Akens	1878							X
David Lewis	1878							X
Lt. Oscar D. Ladley	1880							X
Pvt Reese Turnbull	1880							X
Pvt. Robert W. Kane	1880							X
Pvt. Charles Cuningham	?							Dis- charged
Simeon Davis	1880				X			
Unknown	1880				X			
Unknown	1880				X			
Unknown	1880				X			
Bertha Enderich	1881		X					

# PRESENTATIONS V.1.

Anna Malloy	1882		X					
W. F. "Billy" Robbins	1883		X					
Sophie Bond	1884		X					
Karl H. Dollarhide	1890		X					
Charles R. Dollarhide	1890		X					
John Williams	1890		X					
Lewis M. Clark	1891		X					
Mrs. Millpaw	1891		X					
Ethel Grimes	1891		X					
Ethel Parrish	1892		X					
Kate Brown	1878/9				X			
Jose M. Velarda[e]	1879				X			
Henry Voorhees	1884				X			
Captain Lewis Stewart	1886				X			
Allen J. Gilliland	1887				X			
Tully Kemp	1888				X			
Matilda R. Kemp	1901				X			
Louis Blank	1895					X		
Joseph S. York	1897					X		
Charles A. Bartholmew	1897						X	
Capt. Lloyd Beall	1898						X	
Isaac Cade	1888							X
Stanford C. Cotton	1911						X	
Algernon S. Dutton	1885							X



# PRESENTATIONS V.1.

William Price Holt	1890						X	
James Latham	1899						X	
Lemuel L. Laughlin	1894					X		
Annie Chambers	1891						X	
Elizabeth M. Dunnivant	1900						X	
Mary Estelia Holt	1890						X	
Sallie Nossaman	1895						X	
Jacob V. Opdyke	1895						X	
J. H. Lusk	1881							X
Stage Driver	1881							X
J. M. Archuleta, Jr	1885							X
Flaugh daughter	1890							X
W.D. Hover	1885							X
James Patterson	1892							X
Mary Patterson	1894							X
Rola Thomas Harn	1900							X

## CEMETERY DOCUMENTATION

### Project Goals And Objectives

The goal of this project is a better understanding of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery to help in the preservation planning of the site. Within this broad goal, the Town of Pagosa Springs posed four areas of investigation to help understand the Cemetery and its importance. These include information on: 1) the historical name and boundaries of the cemetery; 2) the location of unmarked graves; 3) the condition of, and recommendations for, the headstones; and 4) burials that may have been moved from the cemetery.

In order to investigate these goals, several objectives and strategies have been developed to assist these efforts. Table 11 summarizes the objectives and the strategies to accomplish the objectives.

Table 11. Project Objectives and Strategies

Objective	Strategy
1) Assemble and expand existing cemetery data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Compile existing data from local sources, inventory lists, archival records, land records, historical records</li> <li>- Collaborate with local knowledgeable individuals</li> <li>- Conduct historical &amp; genealogical research as needed</li> <li>- Update cemetery information</li> </ul>
2) Collect new cemetery data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct surface documentation, including recording markers, photographing markers, individual grave maps, marker evaluation.</li> <li>- Conduct subsurface documentation including use of non-invasive magnetometer, GPR, and metal detection instruments.</li> </ul>
3) Evaluate the history, condition and archaeological potential of the site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyze and evaluate individual data sets.</li> <li>- Analyze and evaluate combined data sets.</li> </ul>
3) Provide project information in an accessible format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Produce a project report discussing findings and recommendations.</li> </ul>

	-Disseminate project report to local libraries and societies - Provide field records and data to Town
4) Facilitate community engagement in the project	- Provide community presentations to introduce the project, invite participation, and share results. - Conduct volunteer trainings -- Provide project report to public

### Project Methods

#### Historical Information & Data

To achieve these goals and objectives, information was collected from a range of sources. The sources included historical data from published and unpublished sources (see list of references). File searches were conducted at the Center of Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College; Ruby Sisson Library; Town of Pagosa Springs records; and Archuleta County Assessors and County Clerks records. The holdings at the Denver Public, Durango, Ignacio, Bayfield, and Reed (Fort Lewis College) Libraries were also consulted. On-line searches were conducted at Colorado Historic Newspapers, Genealogy Bank, National Archives, Family Search, Ancestry, the General Land Office (BLM) records, and the US Genealogical Website, Tombstone Project. To meet these objectives, cemetery information from the file search was compiled and used as a guide during field documentation. In addition, information obtained from genealogical research and interviews about the cemetery and the buried individuals was used.

#### Documentation Procedures

Field documentation included surface recording and mapping and subsurface investigations using non-invasive instruments. The surface and subsurface investigations were conducted at the Cemetery in the same session to maximize information sharing.

#### Surface Documentation

Surface documentation included site mapping using a Trimble-Geo XT Geoexplorer 6000 Series to collect Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) points of the site boundaries, features and graves.<sup>210</sup> Surface documentation combined the mapping data with the documentation of the individual graves and features. To document the individual graves, the project participants photographed the headstones, recorded the

<sup>210</sup> See the field work description for additional information.

inscriptions and made a sketch map of the graves. The graves were documented using the Individual Grave Marker Form developed for this project.<sup>211</sup> A Marker Form was completed for each identified grave, including defined graves without headstones and illegible headstones. Marker type, material and condition were recorded. Marker forms were not completed for suspected graves where there was no grave definition (such as a stone outline) or any other artifact or feature denoting a grave. Marker forms and photographs were also completed for graves that were documented to have been moved to Hilltop Cemetery. These markers were recorded because they were originally located at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery even though the grave is now at Hilltop Cemetery.



Photo 12. Volunteer Linda Hobbs Documenting a Headstone

The documentation of the cemetery included mapping and photographs of the cemetery graves and the completion of the Colorado Historical Society Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's forms. The cemetery mapping was performed using a Trimble instrument to collect UTM points. Readings were taken

---

<sup>211</sup> Copies of the Individual Grave Marker Form completed for this project are on file at the Town Hall.

at the corners of the cemetery parcel, graves and suspected graves, features, subsurface magnetometer and GPR analysis grids and all 'targets' identified by the metal detector within the grids.<sup>212</sup>

The cemetery documentation procedure followed the guidelines of the Colorado Historical Society Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's *Colorado Cultural Resource Survey Manual*. After the cemetery was visited and the field recording completed, the site was recorded on the Colorado Historical Society *Colorado Cultural Resource Survey Management Data Form* (#1400) and the *Colorado Cultural Resource Survey Historic Archaeology Component Form* (#1402). USGS topographic maps and aerial photographs were used to define the project area. Terms from the various lexicons were used whenever possible.

The field visits to document the cemeteries were oriented to visible gravesites; there was no attempt at invasive subsurface investigations. However, the project director is a trained field archaeologist and she used her field survey skills when documenting and assessing the cemeteries.

## Subsurface Investigations

Two types of subsurface investigations were conducted at the cemetery; the fluxgate gradiometer, or magnetometer; and ground penetrating radar (GPR). Both instruments are non-invasive and can detect subsurface anomalies. In addition, a metal detector was used within the magnetometer survey grids.

### Fluxgate Gradiometer

The fluxgate gradiometer works on the principle that buried artifacts, features or subsurface disturbances produce minute changes in the earth's magnetic fields and these are detectable. Data was collected in six large 20 meter (65 foot) square grids. The survey was conducted in a large area focusing on the area in the trees and the cleared areas to the north and west of the marked graves. The purpose of the gradiometer survey is to: 1) Identify a possible original fenced boundary; 2) Identify possible rows of unmarked graves, and; 3) Narrow down areas that are most likely to contain unmarked graves for survey with the ground-penetrating radar (GPR).

The fluxgate gradiometer was used over the broader area because it can cover a large area in a relatively short time; the data can be down-loaded and examined quickly; the survey parameters can be altered if necessary; and given what is known about historic cemeteries—in particular historic military cemeteries—there is a high probability that some type of boundary would have been in place designating the cemetery's perimeter.

---

<sup>212</sup> See Appendix B, Cemetery UTM Points.



Photo 13. Archaeologist Mona Charles Conducting Magnetometer Survey

Metal Detector Survey

A metal detector survey was conducted using a White and Garrett metal detector to locate and detect all types of surface and shallow subsurface metal. Surveys were conducted in all of the gradiometer grides. UTM points were taken of all targets detected during the surveys.

Ground-Penetrating Radar (GPR)

The subsurface investigations using ground-penetrating radar (GPR) were conducted with the purpose of identifying potential unknown burials. The north-northwest area of the Cemetery was selected as the most likely to produce useful information because GPR results can be affected by vegetation, ground cover, fencing and transmission lines. The survey used an antenna and survey wheel which moved along the ground surface in a tightly spaced grid of parallel transects. Radar energy is directed into the ground and reflections are created by energy reflected back to the antenna as radar waves encounter materials of differing chemical and physical properties. Each pass with the antenna produced a profile of buried features and deposits along that transect. When combined, these profiles revealed the survey area's geologic context as well as buried cultural materials. The GPR survey was conducted in two adjacent rectangular survey grids in the northern portion of the site. Project volunteers assisted with this work. Volunteers were needed to help set up grids and to move tapes and ropes to facilitate data collection.



Photo 14. Archaeologist Shayleen Ottman Conducting GPR survey

The GPR results were analyzed in combination with archival/historical information and the results of the surface survey. A synthesis of these types of data helped to interpret the subsurface results. The data were processed using post-processing and mapping software.

### Cemetery Data

Cemetery data collected during documentation are summarized in this report. The complete technical reports for the subsurface data are found in Appendix C, Subsurface Investigation Reports. Other project data can be found in various files and tables. These include tables of individuals buried, or reported to be buried in the cemetery; field recording forms; field maps; project photographs; and genealogical research reports. Some of this information is provided in the Appendices of the report. Other information is provided as separate pdf files and original field forms that are housed at the Pagosa Springs Town Hall.

### Interviews

Several interviews and discussions were conducted for this project. Knowledgeable local historians provided information and insight into the complexities of the cemetery history. Discussions were

held with Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the Archuleta County Genealogical Society (ACGS) members regarding their recording project at the Hilltop Cemetery that is important to the history of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Finally, Town staff members provided important information and access to archival records for this project. Their information was critical to learning about the cemetery. Information about the cemetery was solicited from the public. The Town circulated project information and invited the community to the initial project presentation where individuals were invited to participate in the project. A community presentation sharing the project results is scheduled for December 2021.

## Project Volunteers

This project was initiated by local community members that expressed an interest and concern for the cemetery. Fortunately, that interest was matched by the Town's Management and the Town Council. One of the leading organizations to advance this project was the Sarah Platt Decker Chapter of the DAR. In addition to community volunteers, the call for project volunteers was enthusiastically met by the DAR and the ACGS. These volunteers participated in community presentations, trainings, field preparation, field work, and they conducted important new research for the project. To date, the estimated hours contributed by these individuals is about 400 hours. In addition to their field preparation and documentation work, their research provides important new information on the individuals buried, or reported to be buried, at the cemetery. Their research is cited in this report and their reports are found in Appendix \_\_\_ of this report.



Photo 15. Project Volunteers Lynn Steinert and Pam Hayes Documenting Headstones



## Educational Materials

Several types of educational experiences and materials were part of this project. These include public presentations on the cemeteries; in-field cemetery documentation for volunteers; cemetery database; and the project report. In addition to the Town of Pagosa Springs, the cemetery information compiled in this report is provided to the State Historical Fund. The report hard copy and/or electronic copies and may be found at the Pagosa Springs Town Hall, Ruby Sisson Library, the Pagosa Springs Museum, Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College, Ignacio, Bayfield, and Durango Libraries, TARA Library (Arboles) and the Animas Museum (Durango). The original Individual Grave Marker Forms, maps and cemetery maps are retained at the Town Hall in Pagosa Springs.

## FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

### Introduction

Field investigations at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery were conducted during August 2021. Preliminary work included several pedestrian surveys and initial photographs. UTM points were initially collected of the property boundaries, site features, and visible and suspected grave locations. Later, after site preparation (described below), additional points were taken of site features, graves, magnetometer grids, and targets identified by the metal detector surveys. A list of the UTM points is included in Appendix B.

The site inspections revealed an accumulation of approximately five inches of pine needles and tree debris in the area under the trees. The open northern area of the cemetery was covered with weeds and grasses. In order to document surface features including graves and other site features that may be present, it was necessary to remove the pine duff and mow the grasses and weeds.

To maximize the effectiveness of the site clean-up, a massive raking and weed removal took place the day before field documentation. Numerous volunteers from the DAR Chapter, the ACGS and the community, along with two entire Town crews and senior staff, hand raked pine needles from under the trees; weeds and grasses were mowed. This debris was removed by the Town from the site. The Town also removed the chain link fence along the north and east property lines to reduce interference with instruments used for the subsurface investigations.

Following the removal of debris, new site features were exposed and additional UTM points were taken. The baselines for the subsurface investigation grids were staked in preparation for data collection the following day (see subsurface discussion below).

Field documentation began the following morning.<sup>213</sup> Several volunteers returned to the cemetery to assist with surface and subsurface activities. For the surface documentation, the trained volunteers were assigned graves to record on the Individual Grave Marker Form. For each grave, volunteers made sketch maps noting the UTM points. Only sketch maps were completed for unmarked graves/depressions because there was insufficient information to complete a recording form. Photographs of each grave and discernable unmarked grave were taken.

Volunteers assisted with subsurface documentation and helped with analysis grid set-ups, and transect alignments. Following subsurface investigations with the GPR unit and the magnetometer survey, a metal detector was used in the survey grids. Volunteers helped identify the location of 'targets' for later recording.

---

<sup>213</sup> Field documentation was conducted August 16- 19, 2021. Some preliminary inspections and documentation follow up occurred in August before and after these dates.

Some tasks remained after field documentation, and volunteers returned the following day to assist with final grave recording and mapping. Locations of 'targets' identified by the metal detector were recorded with UTM points. To obtain a current aerial perspective of the site, drone photography was conducted. Professional drone photographs were taken with a Yuneec Typhoon H with a 4K/12mp camera that was launched from the open northern area of the cemetery during the morning when light conditions were optimal.<sup>214</sup>

### Surface Documentation

The cemetery parcel is a rectangle measuring about 88 meters (E/W) by 86 meters (N/S) or about 1.87 acres. The topography on the site is varied. The southern boundary of the site is along a ridge top that slopes downward to the north to a drainage. The drainage runs downhill from the west to the east. To the north of the drainage, the ground slopes gently up to the northern portion of the site and to the hillslopes north of the cemetery parcel. The vegetation on the site consists of ponderosa pine trees and some oak brush on the southern two-thirds of the site; the northern third of the site is open with grasses and weeds. In essence, the parcel is comprised of three roughly equal east/west zones; the steep wooded slope along the southern portion of the site; the middle zone consisting of a drainage and relatively flat tree covered area; and the northern open area of the parcel.

The soils in the open area are loamy clays; soils under the trees are pine duff covered and have a high organic content. Pine needles and duff cover under the trees appear to be about five to six inches in depth. An electric power line runs east/west to the north of the cemetery parcel; a paved residential road bounds the eastern edge of the cemetery parcel. Parcels to the south, west, and north are privately owned. Residences are located on the southern and western parcels, but not visible from the cemetery.

As previously noted, the southern portion of the site consisted of an approximately 45-degree slope that terminated at the east/west drainage. Given this topography, the presence of graves in the slope or the drainage seemed highly unlikely. The visible graves are located about 20 or more feet north of the drainage and extend into the open area. As a result, the investigations were focused to the north of the drainage up to the parcel boundary.

### Historic Trees

While ponderosa trees are found on the majority of the cemetery site today, most of the trees post date the historic use of the cemetery (1878 to about 1902). This was determined from a ponderosa measuring about 52 inches in circumference (about 16.5 inches) in diameter growing in the middle of a defined, but unmarked grave (see discussion of Grave # 8 below). This tree provided a basis to identify historic trees at the cemetery: larger trees pre-date and were contemporaneous with the historic use of the cemetery and smaller trees post-date the historic use. Ponderosa trees present

---

<sup>214</sup> Professional drone services were donated to the project by Ms. Haley Harms, Director of Save the Site, a nonprofit organization specializing in aerial drone photography for archaeological sites.

during the historic use of the cemetery were also identified by volunteers. These trees were measured and identified and UTM points taken.

Approximately, 23 trees were identified in the area of field investigations. There are several very large trees on the southern slope of the parcel indicating that some trees were present in that area during the historic use of the cemetery. A few large historic trees were visible along the edges of the open northern portion of the site.



Photo 16. Volunteers Rebecca Battles and Debbie Kinnibrugh  
Identifying Historic Era Trees

### Recorded Graves

A total of 20 marked and unmarked graves were recorded during the surface documentation. Of these, seven were marked with a headstone identifying the buried individual(s). Five graves did not

have headstones but were well-defined; eight graves appeared as depressions. Table 12 lists the burials that are discussed below.

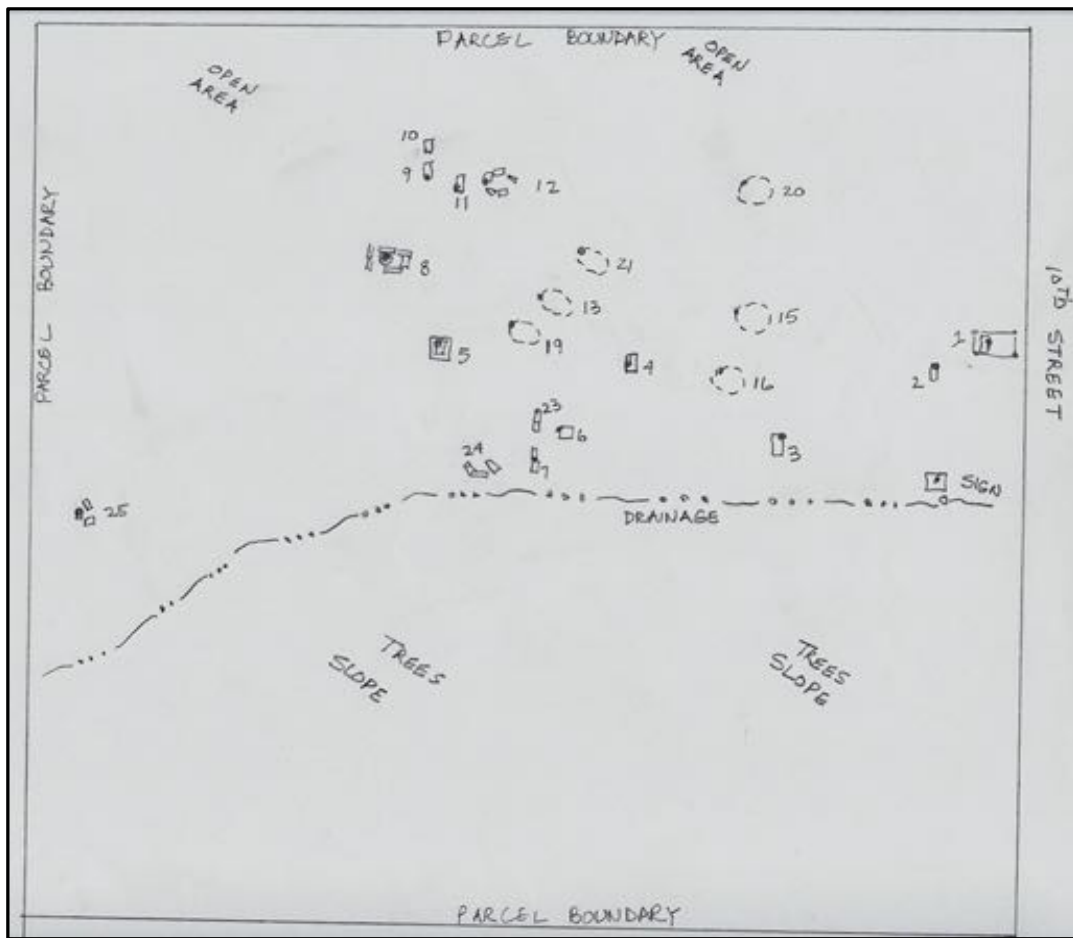
Table 12 Pagosa Springs Cemetery Recorded Graves<sup>215</sup>

Grave #	Name	Death Dates
1	James Voorhees	8/27/ 1889
2	Carrie Cooley	4/20/1887
3	Thomas Chambers	1882
4	George Gildea Grimes	11/30/1889
5	Howe Family	8/1892
6	Unknown – Base only	
7	Stone Alignment	
8	Unknown – Grave w/tree	
9	Keith Family	1899 & 1902
10	John O’Neal	2/14/1900
11	Unknown	
12	Unknown child	
13	Depression	
14	Depression	Unable to relocate <sup>216</sup>
15	Depression	
16	Depression	
19	Depression	
20	Depression	
21	Depression	
22	Depression	Unable to relocate
23	Stone Alignment	
24	Unknown	
25	Unknown	

Map 1 indicates the location of these marked and visible unmarked graves identified during the surface surveys and recording.

<sup>215</sup> Grave numbers were assigned sequentially during initial surveys of the site. After the surface clean up, some initially identified ‘graves’ were determined to be spurious resulting in gaps in the grave numbers.

<sup>216</sup> Graves number 14 and 22 were not located after initial site survey.



Map 1. Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
(see Table 12 for Grave Names)

James Voorhees (Grave #1)

The gravestone of James Voorhees is an upright marble marker mounted on a stepped marble base. The grave is surrounded by an ornamental wrought iron fence or enclosure. The overall height of the marker is about 47 inches and the width of the marker is 18 inches. The inscription is located on the east facing side with the decorative treatment extending to the sides and top of the marker. The west, or back of the stone, is blank. The condition of the marker is fairly good. However, the stone is chipped at the bottom where it attaches to the base and on the face of the

inscription. There is lichen growth in a crevasse in the center of inscription and small amounts on the sides and back. The marker is deteriorating and 'sugaring' is visible on the top.<sup>217</sup>



Photo 17. James Voorhees Grave  
(Metal poles from modern fence, now removed)

The inscription and iconography on the stone are elaborate. The upper portion of the stone is covered in an elaborate drape that is symbolic of mourning as well as the separation between earthly life and heaven. The drape extends to the top and sides of the stone. Centered in the stone is a large raised shield. Within the shield at the top, is an oval with a woman and a man's joined hands over a shamrock. These represent good wishes and a farewell of a married couple. Over the oval with the hands is a ribbon band with the inscription "in memory of". Beneath the oval is the following inscription:

James H. Voorhees  
Born Feb. 25,  
1820  
Died Aug. 27, 1889

---

<sup>217</sup> Sugaring is deterioration of stone where the surface becomes grainy and falls away like sugar. It is very common on marble.

Below the shield long the lower edge of the marker is the inscription:

Not lost, blest thought  
But gone before,  
Where we shall meet,  
To part no more



Photo 18. Detail of Gravestone Inscription

The grave of Mr. Voorhees is surrounded by an ornamental iron fence that is oriented east/west and that measures just over eight feet long by 40 inches wide. There is gate at the northeast corner



of the enclosure that measures three feet in width. The grave is located at the east edge and the front of the cemetery and would have been very prominent during the historic use of the cemetery.

The enclosure is fabricated of a combination of wrought and cast iron. Four cast iron posts support the corners of the structure with a fifth post to support the gate. The posts are composed of five upright iron rods that are seated in a flat plate. The tops of the rods are covered by four-sided vaulted plate that is topped by a four-sided arrow shaped finial. The post is secured by four spiral rods that extend into the ground. All of the posts for the enclosure are only partially in the ground with the base plate about 8 to 10 inches above the ground surface. The panels between the corner posts are fabricated of wrought iron. The fence panels are composed of a series of vertical rectangles that are interspersed with upright rods that are capped with decorative stylized arrow shaped finials. There are two horizontal banks of rectangles in each panel. Along the top runner of the panels, upright rods with decorative finials are present. Several of the finials within the panels and along the top are broken or missing. The gate mimics the pattern of the fence panels and has an arched top with two scrolls topped by a finial. The manufacturer's identifying plate, usually found on the gate, is missing. The fence was painted green; today many places are worn and/or faded. The posts, fence and gate are typical of cemetery ironwork of the late 1800s.



Photo 19. Iron Grave Enclosure and Gate

The condition of the marker and the enclosure fence should be prioritized for treatment. The marker should be evaluated for treatment and preservation by a conservator specializing in marble gravestones. The ornamental fencing should also be evaluated for repair and reseating of the posts.

## Carrie Cooley (Grave #2)

The marker for Carrie Cooley is a sandstone upright that is fitted into a sandstone base in a prepared socket. The marker type is not common and it is an early method of securing an upright marker on a base. It is the only marker at the cemetery that uses this form of attachment.<sup>218</sup> The sandstone marker is about 25 inches tall. The height of the base is about seven inches and the depth of the socket could not be determined. The top of the marker is an arch shape and the one inscribed surface faces east. The marker is unstable and has been temporarily stabilized by the insertion of a small rock in the socket. Nevertheless, the marker is tilted to the east and there is lichen on the top, sides, and west face of the marker. The front and especially the back of the marker have evidence of some type of white paint on the marker. This paint is not original to the marker and it may represent vandalism at some time in the past.

The inscription on the east face of the marker is worn and eroded in places. The legible portions of the inscription include the name and parts of the birth and death dates.

---

<sup>218</sup> The Cooley marker is a 'die in socket' type of marker that is an early form of marker attachment. Later markers were positioned on bases with bolts that screwed into the upright or with adhesive around the edges of the base. At the Pagosa Springs Cemetery both later types of upright attachments were identified.



Photo 20. Carrie Cooley Gravestone

Extensive research has provided the missing dates as well as some information about Carrie Cooley's genealogy and history.<sup>219</sup> Above the inscription is a stylized three leaf plant with berries. There are three curious indentations on the top of the marker as well as two areas with straight incised marks about one inch long. The incisions may be related to the stone quarry process and the indentations may be due to erosion, although this is not certain. If decorative, they seem to be incomplete.

---

<sup>219</sup> See previous discussion about Carrie Cooley and the detailed research in Appendix D, Genealogical Research, P. Hayes, researcher.

This marker should be prioritized for stabilization; if it should fall, it is likely that it would break. In addition, the marker should be carefully cleaned of lichen and the white paint removed if possible.

Thomas Chambers (Grave # 3)

Thomas Chambers gravestone is a granite marker positioned on a cement rectangular base. The overall height of the marker is about 20 inches and it is about 25 inches wide. The marker is inscribed on one surface, the east facing side. The inscription reads:

Grandfather  
Thomas Chambers  
1809 – 1882

The inscription is framed by a scored border with flowers and buds at the corners of the stone. The marker is in good condition and there is no evidence of lichen on the stone or base. The gravestone should be monitored on a periodic basis.



Photo 21. Thomas Chambers Gravestone

George Gildea Grimes (Grave # 4)

The George Gildea Grimes marker is a 32 inch tall granite pedestal with a vaulted top positioned on an eight inch high stone base. The four sides of the vaulted top are incised with wheat, lilies, and cat tail stems that are broken indicating a shortened life. The base on all sides is scored with a

decorative band. The marker faces east. It is inscribed with "At Rest" in the vaulted top with the name "Gildea Grimes" and birth and death dates below. Under the dates a weathered verse is inscribed. It reads:

Dearest brother thou hast left us  
Here thy loss we deeply feel  
But tis God who has bereft us  
He can all our sorrows heal

Although his full name does not appear on the grave marker, research triggered by the inscription revealed that the marker is in fact of George Gildea Grimes; Gildea was his mother's family name.



Photo 22. George Gildea Grimes Gravestone

The marker appears upright and stable; the condition is good although there are minor chips at the top. There is lichen on the base that should be removed. The gravestone should be monitored for stability and lichen growth. The extending out from the gravestone is a slight depression about seven long by about five feet wide. There are no artifacts or features on the grave.

Howe Family (Grave # 5)

The Howe family marker is an upright granite marker on top of an upper and lower base. The overall height of the stone is about 40 inches and it is inscribed on the east face. The marker appears stable and sound but it has considerable lichen on the inscription face and upper base.



Photo 23. Gravestone of William, Jennie, and Abraham Howe

A decorative fan and scroll is located over the marker inscription that includes the family; husband William I. Howe, wife Jennie Jellison; and their son Abraham, an infant. The inscription on the stone reads:

William I.  
Howe  
1872 – 1902  
Jennie M.  
Wife of  
W.I. Howe  
1885 – 1902  
Abraham  
Son Of  
W. I. & J.M. Howe  
1902

Interestingly, there are several errors in the marker dates. All of the family members died in 1892, 10 years before the death dates on the stone. The family was well known and the causes of their deaths were well documented in the local papers. William was prominent in the community and his death, due to a shoot-out in August 1892 was highly publicized. Jennie died in childbirth in April 1892, a few days after giving birth. The baby son, Abraham, died in August 1892, one day before the death of his father.<sup>220</sup> Apparently, Jennie was buried in this location in April and in August the father and son were buried together in this plot. Although their deaths all occurred within a few months, it is possible that no formal marker was erected soon after the August burials. The remaining family consisted of Howe's brothers and the visiting mother-in-law, Mrs. Jellison. A delay in erecting the marker may be a reason for the error in the death date.

The condition of the family marker is fairly good, however the lichen on the inscription face and upper base should be removed as it is eroding the stone matrix and the inscription is becoming difficult to read.

Keith Family (Grave # 9)

Elisha B. Keith and Marinda Blair Keith share a marble upright headstone that is positioned on a sandstone base. The overall height of the marker and base is 27 inches. The marker is 18 inches wide and it is positioned slightly off-center on the sandstone base. There is evidence of an adhesive material used to secure the upright marker to the base. The base has visible scoring on the east face and the west face in covered by the slightly upward slope of the ground surface. The surface of the base is irregular and the marker has been installed off-center and it does not appear to articulate well with the surface. This suggests that the original marker for Mr. Keith may have been replaced with the combined marble marker after Mrs. Keith's death a few years later. Another possibility is that the stone was removed, and the combined inscription made and the stone reset.

---

<sup>220</sup> See report section on cemetery burials for additional information.

This is suggested because a small fragment of cement was found on the surface with an indentation of a corner of the base. In addition, the inscription lettering appears to have been done by the same individual and at the same time. The stone is relatively small supporting the notion that it was removed and reinstalled.



Photo 24. E. B. and Marinda Keith Gravestone

The marker is incised on two surfaces; the east facing side and the top of the marker. The east face has beveled edges and incised horizontal scallops at the top beneath a scored horizontal line. The inscription reads:

E. B. Keith  
1827-1899  
Miranda Keith  
1828-1902

The inscription at the top of the marker is in script and reads:

In Heaven we'll greet three  
Where no farewell tear is shed



The marker is in sound condition although there are some chips and there is lichen growth on west and north facing sides. The lichen should be removed and the stone monitored for stability.

John O'Neal (Grave # 10)

John S. O'Neal's marker is a granite upward-facing rectangular stone positioned on a larger sandstone base. The marker is about 12 inches high and slopes upward to about 14 inches on the west edge of the stone. The marker is centered on the base that is scored with Xs on the east and south faces. The north and west faces of the base are covered by soil. There is one incised upward facing surface that is bordered by a scored framing line. Within this border, his name and birth and death dates are incised. The marker appears to be in sound condition and should be monitored for condition and possible future lichen growth. The base appears to be stable.



Photo 25. John S. O'Neal Gravestone

This marker is a replacement for the original that was removed by the family sometime after 2012.<sup>221</sup> The original marker was an upright marble stone with beveled edges on the east face. See Photo 26. The stone was positioned on the current sandstone base and it is estimated to have been about 24-30 inches high. In triangular panels in the upper corners of the stone, roses and flowers were cut in relief. Beneath these decorative elements John S. O'Neal and his birth and death dates were incised. Below this inscription, the phrase, "Those who knew him best, loved him most" appeared. When the marker was photographed in 2012, prior to its removal, the marker was broken in three horizontal pieces and showed evidence of attempts at repair using cement.

<sup>221</sup> Family communication to Shari Pierce, August 2021.



Photo 26. John S. O'Neal Gravestone (2012)

Unknown Grave with Tree (Grave # 8)

This unknown grave consists of an unmarked grave that is defined by a rectangular course of field stones. The defined grave measures about seven feet by five and half feet, indicating it is the grave of one person. The grave is oriented east/ west and the terrain slopes slightly downhill to the east. There are 12 contiguous stones that surround the grave with an 18 inch break on the west side. The stones range in size from about eight to 24 inches in length. Lichen is present on portions of some of the stones. There is no indication of the identity of buried individual.



Photo 27. Unmarked Grave with Tree

Within the grave is a large ponderosa tree. The tree measures about 16.5 inches in diameter and clearly post-dates the burial. As such it provides important information about the trees present at the cemetery during its historic use. Using the size of this tree as a rough measure of contemporaneity, we estimate that trees larger than this tree were present on-site during it with the cemetery's historic use. Therefore, all smaller trees grew later and do not represent the cemetery's historic environment.

#### Empty Base (Grave # 6)

This unknown grave consists of a slight depression measuring about seven feet by about four feet, oriented east/west. The size of the depression suggests a single adult grave. At the west end of the of the depression is a gravestone base without a marker. The base is composed of cement and it is rectangular measuring 21 by 15 inches. Only the east side of the base is visible, the other three sides are covered with soil as there is a slight upward slope to the ground surface. The visible west face is scored in a series of Xs, often found on bases. The surface of the base appears to be somewhat concave. Given the dimensions of the base, it is estimated that a rectangular marker measuring approximately 18 by 12 inches or slightly smaller was likely on the base. There is no evidence at the cemetery of the missing marker. Two small stone fragments were located in the vicinity of the base but they do not seem to be part of the base.



Photo 28. Empty Base without Upright Gravestone  
(Stone alignment in background)

Unknown Child's Grave (#12)

This unknown child's grave was identified to the east of the Keith family, John O'Neal markers and an unknown grave in the open area to the north of the trees. The grave is identified by a large flat fieldstone at the west end of the grave. About seven large fieldstones form a ring defining the grave. There is no indication of the identity of the buried person other than the size indicates it is the grave of a child. There are about four children that are reported to be buried in the cemetery and this may be one of those. (See following discussion on the interpretations of the field documentation.).



Photo 29. Unknown Child's Grave

#### Unknown Grave (#11)

An unknown grave was identified uphill to the west of the unknown child's grave (# 12 on map). The grave is oriented east/west and marked by a flat fieldstone that measures about 18 inches by 6 inches. The stone is positioned at the west end of the grave and there is a very slight depression extending to the east. The depression is estimated to be about six feet, but it is not distinct. A stone fragment, about six inches square was noted about 18 inches to the northwest of the headstone and may or may not be related.



Photo 30. Unknown Grave (foreground)  
(Keith and O'Neal stones in background)

#### Unknown Grave (#25)

A possible grave represented by a cluster of rocks was identified at the west end of the cemetery. (See # 25 on site map). The possible grave consists of four clusters of three to four rocks around an area of compacted soil. The area measures about four-by-four feet. There were no artifacts found in the area.



Photo 31. Unknown Grave (# 25)

#### Large Cemetery Plot<sup>222</sup>

During the initial survey of the site two areas of stones were identified for further investigation.<sup>223</sup> Following the site clean-up of raking and sweeping an additional area was identified.<sup>224</sup> Sweeping and troweling away compact surface needles and debris revealed two rows of stone that likely intersect. While the rows of stone are discontinuous in places, they appear to form the east and south sides of what would be a large plot that is estimated to measure about 12 feet on a side. Probes of the soil with pin flags and trowel tip indicate that there are some stones just beneath the surface. (See Map2). The stones form a distinct line along the east side of the feature with a break of about three feet slightly to the north of the center of the line. Probes indicate that there are no stones present in this area, or that the stones are at depths greater than about 8 to 10 inches if present. Stones along the south edge of the feature are larger and measure about 24 to 30 inches in length and they are very slab-like in appearance. Their alignment is slightly less regular but they appear to form an alignment. Probes indicate some subsurface stones in this area. The west and north edges of the feature are not visible at the surface due to the upward slope of the ground surface. There are three trees within the plot, all post-date the historic use of the cemetery. There

<sup>222</sup> This plot includes 'graves' 7, 23, and 24, initially thought to be separate graves/features.

<sup>223</sup> See numbers 7 and 24 on cemetery map. These were initially noted as Graves 7 and 24 on Table 12.

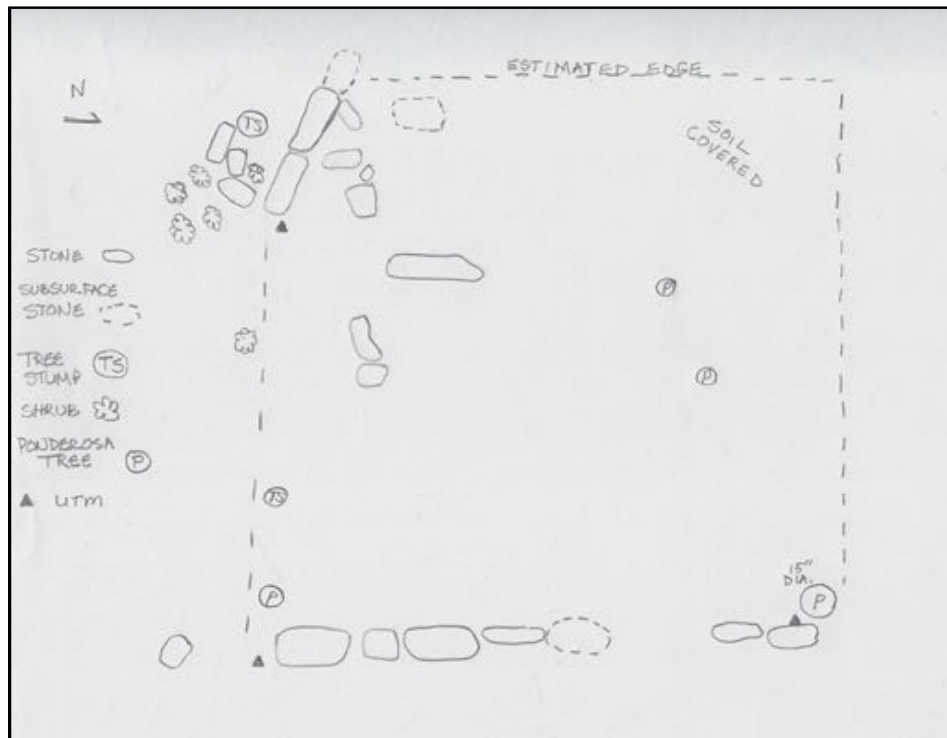
<sup>224</sup> See number 23 on cemetery map, also initially noted as Grave 23.

are no depressions visible within this feature, but there is an area of compact soil in the southwest area.



Photo 32. Large Grave Plot





Map 2. Plan View Map of Large Grave Plot

### Grave Depressions

Several depressions were observed at the site that appear to be unmarked graves. Although there are no stones or features associated with these depressions, they may be unmarked graves as they appear to be located in roughly north/south rows. These include depressions numbers 15, 16 and 20 in what appears to be a row. Depressions numbers 13, 19, and 21 also appear to be in another row. (See the site map.)<sup>225</sup>

<sup>225</sup> Depressions # 14 and 22 could not be relocated after site raking and clean up.



Photo . Grave Depression # 15

## Subsurface Surveys

### Metal Detector and Fluxgate Gradiometer Surveys

The metal detector and fluxgate gradiometer surveys were conducted by Mona Charles assisted by Haley Harms and several volunteers. The report of the metal detector and fluxgate gradiometer surveys is included in Appendix C. The results are summarized below with abstractions and figures taken from the full report.

The gradiometer survey of the Pagosa Spring Cemetery occurred in August of 2021 using a Geoscan Research FM 35. Six 20m x 20m grids, oriented to magnetic north, were surveyed across the cemetery. The majority of the survey area was conducted within the treed area of the cemetery. It does not appear that the trees interfered with the accuracy of the gradiometer data. Anomalies were recognized in the data that are attributed to cultural activities. Some anomalies are identified that could represent potential older use and demarcation of the cemetery while more subtle anomalies may represent unmarked graves. The use of metal detectors at the site to identify surface and shallowly buried metal artifacts and spurious metal enhanced the interpretation of the gradiometer data by comparing the metal at the site with the results of the gradiometer data and identifying possible patterns in both data sets. It also identified areas of spurious metal that could be eliminated from the interpretation of the gradiometer data.

It was anticipated that the cemetery would have a large quantity of metal that could be detected with the metal detectors. This would include metal related to the cemetery care and maintenance, family memorabilia, old fence lines or fencing around individual graves or family plots. The quantity of surface and subsurface metal detected was a bit surprising and a lot probably of a recent nature (See Figure 2). Metal detecting was primarily limited to the six gradiometer grids with a slight spill over in some places. A large amount of metal along the northern portion of the cemetery is fencing debris related to both a previous post-and-wire fence and the more recent chain-link fence that had been removed just prior to the survey. Metal decreased in areas south of the northern fence line. There continued to be a significant number of metal objects within the treed area of the cemetery and just outside of the trees, most noticeably in Grids 5 and 6. The patterning of metal targets became visible when combined with gradiometer data.

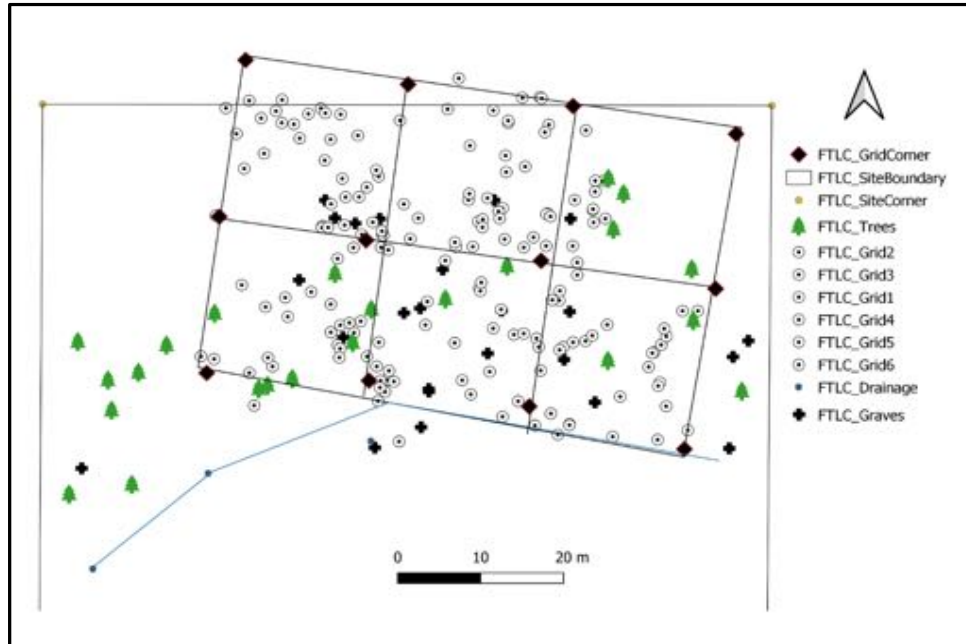


Figure 2. Metal Detector Targets within Gradiometer grids 1-3, 4-6 (left to right)  
(From Figure 9 of report)<sup>226</sup>

The gradiometer data for the Pagosa Springs Cemetery are excellent primarily because the underlying soils and bedrock contained very little natural iron, which is excellent for detecting archaeological anomalies (non-metal) in the soil. The high amount of metal at the cemetery necessitated post processing the data with several different filters. The final gradiometer maps were then overlaid on the GIS maps which included the graves, large trees, and metal detector targets.

The raw data indicated three very distinct anomalies; the two parallel lines in the north east grid area and continuing in a southwest direction; the large anomaly in the bottom center; and a very bright anomaly to in the south east area of the grids. The data was post processed to reduce the influence of the metal and to better reveal non-metal anomalies such as unmarked graves.

The three salient features that were visible in the raw data are very visible in the post-processed maps. The single most easily recognizable pattern is the two linear anomalies that run from northeast to southwest across Grids 2, 3, 5, and 6. A very strong anomaly appears in the central western portion of Grid 6 along with two identical anomalies just west/northwest of the strong

<sup>226</sup> See Appendix C, Results of the Gradiometer and Metal detector Surveys of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. 2021.

anomaly, and the last strong anomaly is the cluster of reading in the southwest corner of Grid 4 and the southeast corner of Grid 5 (Figure 3).

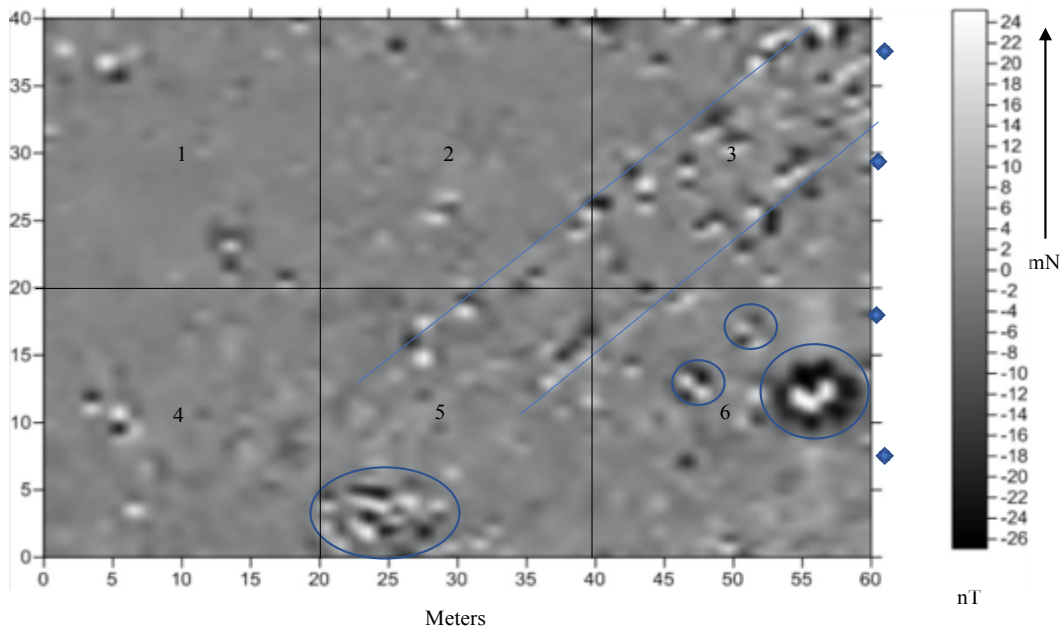


Figure 3. Subsurface Anomalies

Post-processed gradiometer data with anomalies outlined. The blue diamonds represent possible anomalies on the very edge of Grids 3 and 6. Low magnetic values are darker and high values are lighter. (From Photo 12 of report)

Linear features such as those in the data from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery are cultural in origin and the pattern is not random. It is not clear from the data the northeast extent of either anomaly. The distance between the lines is between 6 to 10 meters or 20 - 32 feet. It is possible that there are perpendicular anomalies between the lines that may indicate subdivisions. The underlying source of these linear anomalies is probably metal of some kind. It is possible they represent the boundaries of an earlier cemetery or a cemetery entrance with an orientation different than the one that we assume based on the present layout and the demarcation resulting from the recent arbitrary fencing.

In addition, the presence of probable metal along the far eastern edge of these grids is evident in Figure 3. It is possible the gradiometer survey detected a feature such as a fence. Without surveying further to the east this is speculative, however, the data do suggest that something may be showing along this line.

Figure 4 shows the individual gradiometer grids with the depressions, known, and unknown graves identified. The gradiometer detected these anomalies and there is a one-to-one correspondence

among most of the surface features and the subsurface anomalies identified in the gradiometer data.

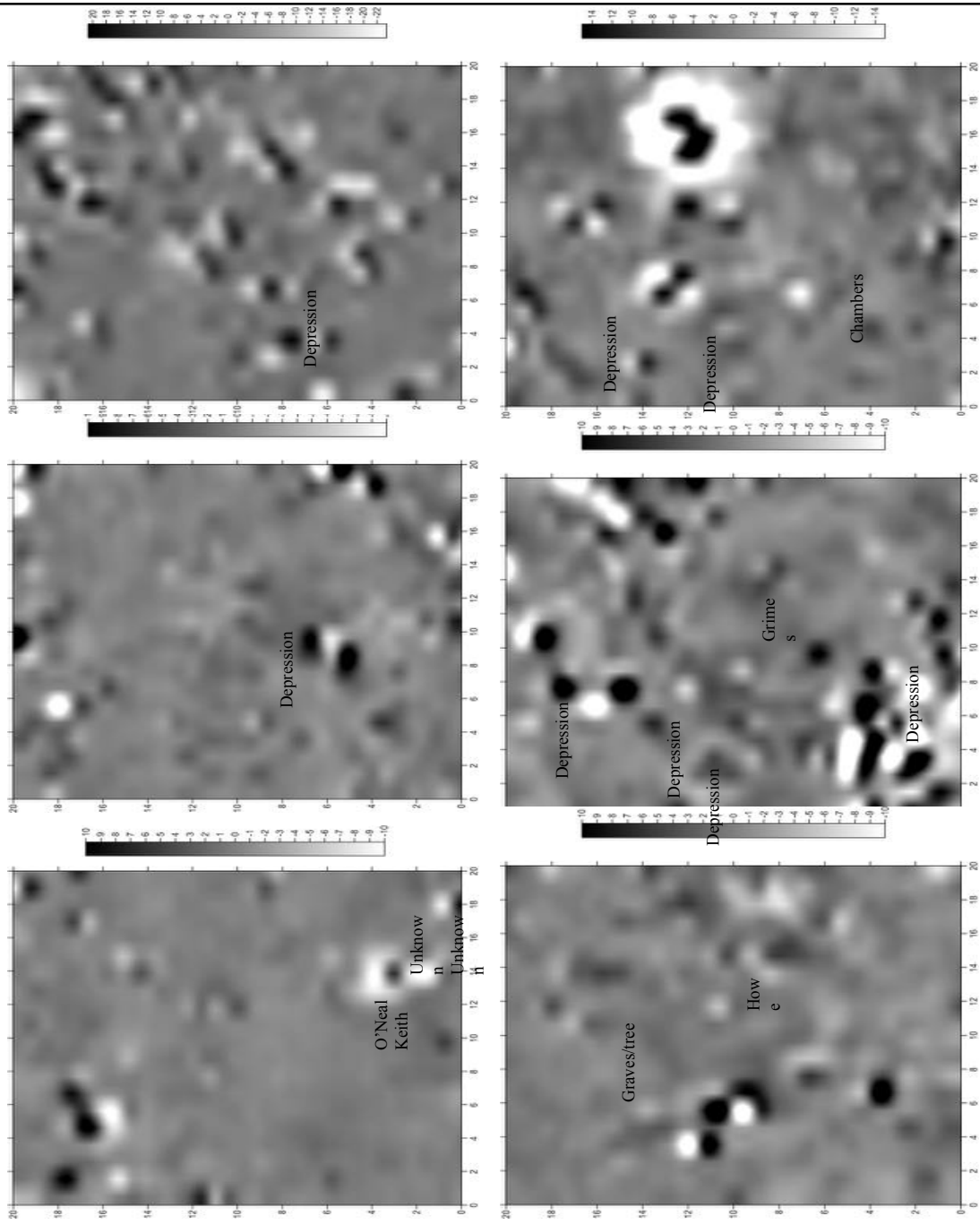


Figure 4 . Analysis Grids. With graves and depressions ( From Photo 14 of the report)

Figure 5 is a composite overlay with the gradiometer data, the metal detector targets, and the features identified on the surface such as known and unknown graves, depressions, areas of rock concentrations, the drainage, and the larger trees identified as on-site during historic use of the cemetery. This image indicates the metal detector targets show some consistency with the gradiometer data especially along the linear anomalies. Another potential association might be between the larger ponderosa pines and the linear anomalies.

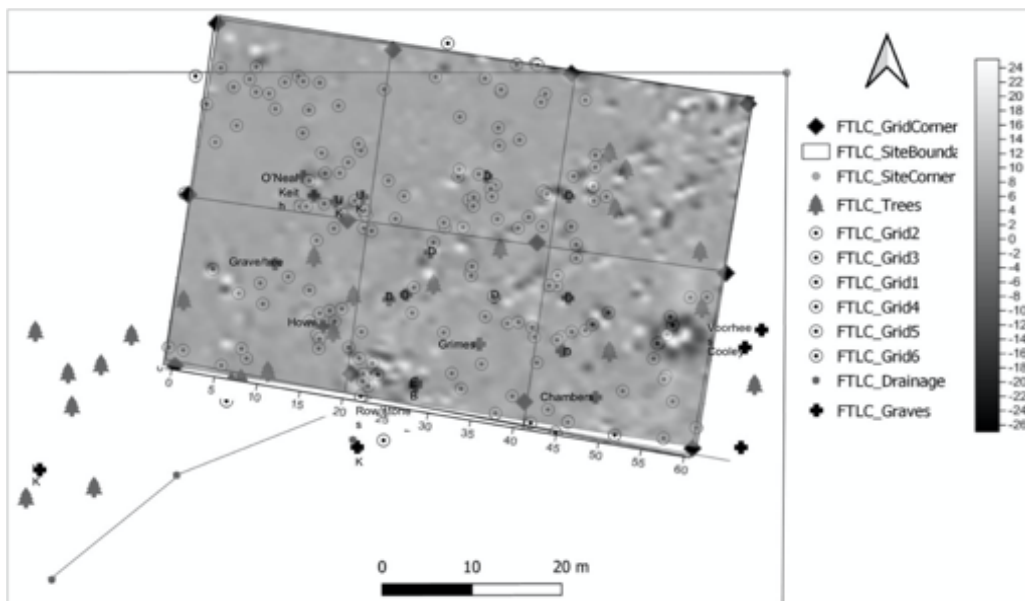


Figure 5. Overlay of Overlay of metal detector targets, large trees, graves (known and unknown) and depressions over gradiometer data. Note in the lower image the known graves are identified by name. (Figure 15 from the report)

Figure 5 identifies areas where there are anomalies that may indicate unknown graves. Several of these compare well with the depressions already mapped from the surface. Others are signatures that compare well with known graves mapped on the surface.



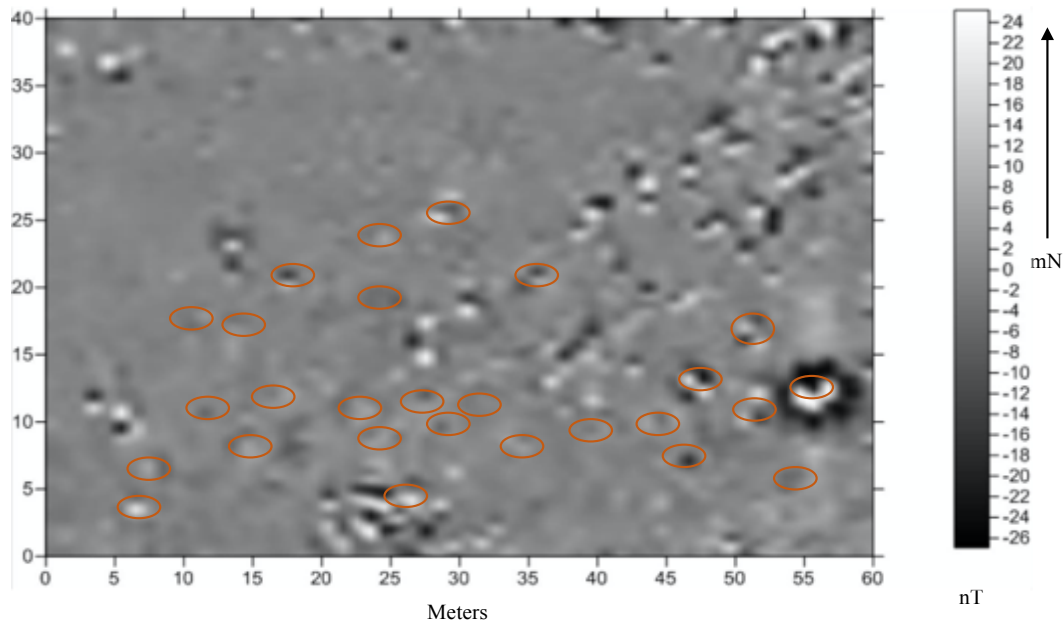


Figure 6. Possible Unknown Graves (Figure 16 from report)

The technical report concludes,

“ Caution is urged in reading too much into the data without subsequent ground truthing; however, it does appear that there are anomalies in the gradiometer data from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery that most likely represent unmarked graves. In addition to the strong anomalies identified above there are anomalies that could be related to the early historic use of the cemetery. Cautiously, this author suggests that the area of the two linear anomalies may represent an older use and demarcation of the cemetery. It is also possible that these anomalies were made more recently and reflect some type of subsurface activities that occurred at the cemetery. Either way, these are most probably not natural and reflect human use of the cemetery. The large anomaly at the bottom of Grid 5 corresponds to a group of stones and these also reflect some historic use of the cemetery, perhaps demarcating an area of graves. The very strong anomaly near the southeast corner of the gradiometer survey represents a significant piece of metal. If there was a metal container in use at the cemetery, this would be candidate. The gradiometer data are unclear as to where the soldiers from Camp Lewis were buried and posthumously exhumed. There is too much ground disturbance and spurious metal in the data to make an interpretation about the

90 | Page

Archaeological Assessment  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
SHF#2021-AS-007

whereabout of the original graves, especially because there were so few. If the linear alignments are part of an older use of the cemetery, then it would be possible that this area may have been used for the military burials.<sup>227</sup>

## Ground- Penetrating Radar Study

The ground penetrating radar (GPR) investigations were conducted by Shayleen Ottman, assisted by Mona Charles and several volunteers. The report of the GPR survey is included in Appendix C.<sup>228</sup> The results are summarized below with abstractions and Photos taken from the full report.

The GPR investigations were conducted in two adjacent survey grids that encompassed 17,176 square feet (ft) (0.39 acre). The grids were located in the north-northwest portion of the cemetery because this area was determined to have the best potential to contain unmarked graves that may be visible with GPR. Grid 1 measured 52 ft east-west and 118 ft north-south. Grid 2 measured 120 ft east-west and 92 ft north-south (Figure 7). Grave markers indicated at least three burials are present in Grid 2.

---

<sup>227</sup> See Appendix C, Results of the Gradiometer and Metal detector Surveys of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, Pagosa Springs, Colorado. 2021. Pg.19.

<sup>228</sup> Appendix C. Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey, Pagosa Springs Cemetery, Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado. Shayleen Ottman, ERO Resources, November 2021.

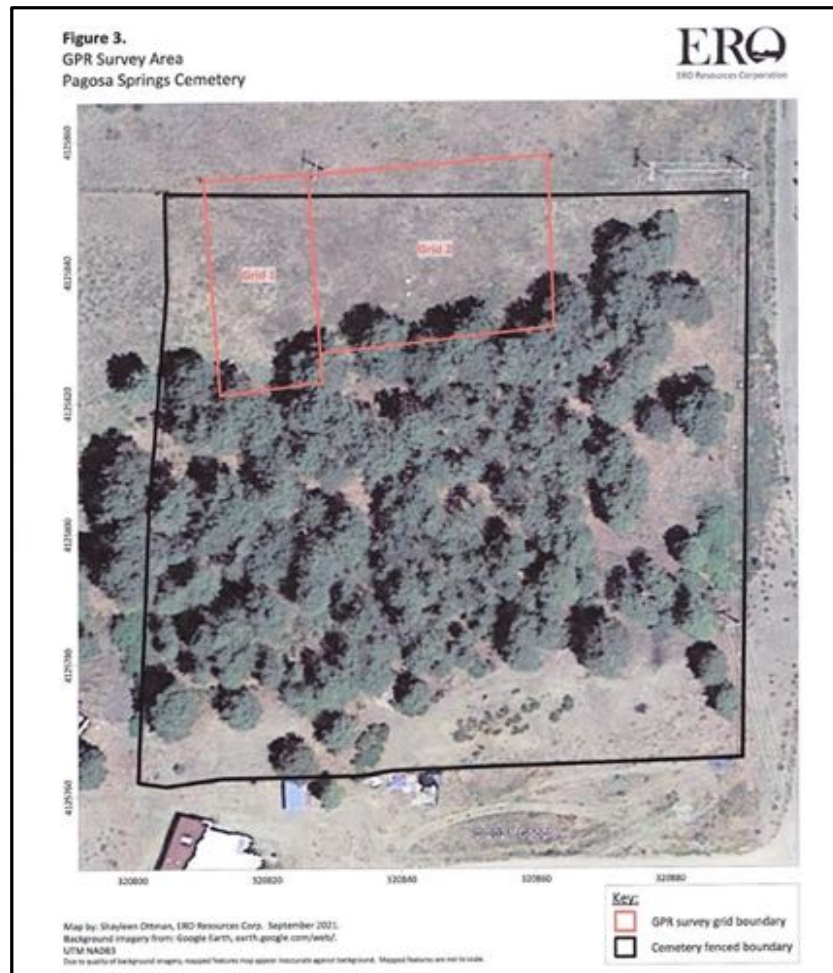


Figure 7. GPR Survey Grids. (Figure 3 of report).

The GPR report identified 16 signatures indicating graves in the south portion of the survey area. Eight of the 16 signatures fall within the expected size, shape, and depth of typical burial signatures (GS6, GS7, GS8, GS10, GS12, GS13, GS15, and GS18), including five that are adjacent to surface features that indicate burial locations. Eight signatures are assigned as Possible Grave Signatures (GS1-GS5, GS9, GS11, and GS14). One area was identified as a Possible Disinterment. The grave signatures are generally clustered in the southern portion of the survey area, nearest to the tree-lined drainage where surface features indicating graves were identified during surface documentation that uncovered grave markers, field stones, rock outlines, and depressions under the pine duff and vegetation (Figure 8).

GPR has limitations in the detection of graves as no geophysical method is 100 percent accurate without verification from “ground truthing” (i.e., excavation or probing to verify the geophysical survey results). Limitations can be caused by the condition of the burial itself, from surface and subsurface ground conditions, and from discrepancies between records and real-world locations of burials. For example, no grave signature was identified adjacent to the O’Neal marker, which may indicate the O’Neal burial is too deteriorated to create a grave signature. This suggests other burials of similar age and condition are possibly present in the GPR dataset and are unable to be identified through data analysis due to deterioration over time (see report for discussion on limitations).

Another possible limitation is burial depth and the depth of the radar penetration. At the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, 600 MHz energy generally attenuated (or dissipated and did not return radar reflections) at about 4.5 ft below ground surface and the 200 MHz energy attenuated at about 11 ft below ground surface. Typical grave signatures, produced by the tops of caskets or coffins, are generally calculated at 3.9 to 4.9 ft below ground surface, or even shallower, depending on the individual grave digger or the conditions of the ground at the time of burial. Due to potential variance in burial depth, the GPR results may be limited in cases where a coffin or casket top is located below the approximate 4.5-ft depth of 600 MHz attenuation because grave reflections are better identified using 600 MHz data than through 200 MHz data.

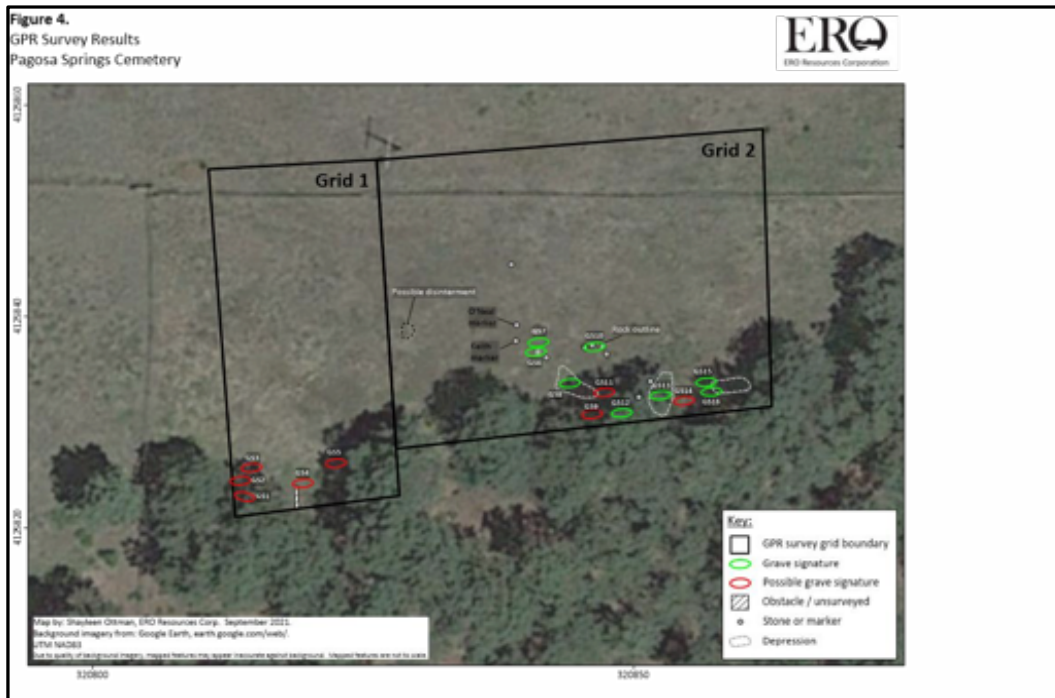


Figure 8. GPR Survey Results (Figure 4 of report).

## Interpretations

The historic research conducted for this project in combination with the information from the surface and subsurface documentation provides a basis for interpreting the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

### Military Use of the Cemetery

Historic information indicates that the Fort Lewis post was active during a relatively short period, October 1878 through November 1882 with a small contingent at the post until June 1883. Historic post documents indicate that there were ten military deaths associated with Fort Lewis during the 1878 to 1882 period. In addition, research indicates that many of these individuals were buried elsewhere, although their deaths were reported at their official duty station. Four military deaths are believed to have occurred at Fort Lewis and those individuals may have been buried at the post.

No surface indications of military burials were identified during the field documentation at the cemetery. However, the subsurface magnetometer and metal detector data indicate two linear anomalies that appear as two parallel lines that extend from the northeast portion of the cemetery to the southeast. The lines are space about 20-32 feet apart and it is possible that there are perpendicular anomalies creating subdivisions between them. Military Order # 45 stipulated that military post cemeteries must be fenced or walled with appropriate material.<sup>229</sup> These lines and possible cross sections may represent the fencing at the Fort Lewis Cemetery. With few burials during the short life of the military component of the cemetery, the disturbances detected by these surveys may be the remains of large plot fencing around the few military graves. Historical research also indicates that one and possibly two individuals affiliated with the post, may have been buried with the military burials.<sup>230</sup>

### Unmarked Graves at the Cemetery

Historical research indicates that several individuals were buried at the cemetery in graves that are now unmarked. Most of these individuals were buried without other family members. Some of these singular individuals were children. There are some exceptions such as the Elisha and Marinda Keith, the Howe family, the Dollarhide father and son, Tully family and James Voorhees and his son Henry. Field documentation identifies the marked graves of Keith and the Howe family. However, there are no other surface indications of double plots or large family plot (however, see discussion below).

---

<sup>229</sup> See previous discussion on this Order in this report. The cemetery at the second Fort Lewis at Hesperus has been documented by M. Charles to have had a fence.

<sup>230</sup> Annie Malloy and Kate Brown. See previous discussion on burials at the cemetery.

The subsurface investigations provide some additional information. The GPR survey identified two definite pairs of burials and three possible pairs. These may indicate the location of the burial of a parent/child, couple burial or another burial. One child's burial was identified during mapping and there are a few children reported to be buried in the cemetery. Ethel Parrish, a young child is recorded to be buried at the cemetery however, there is no marker for her.<sup>231</sup> Although highly speculative, this could be her grave.

## Burials Moved from the Cemetery

Several individuals are reported to have been moved from the cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery. These include Civil War veterans, some with a family member, and community members, including children.

Historical research indicates that some of the Civil War veterans were originally buried at Hilltop Cemetery and were never buried at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Other documentation provides strong information to support the initial burial in the cemetery and later reburial in Hilltop Cemetery.

Four veterans are believed to have been buried in the cemetery and moved to Hilltop Cemetery in about 1915.<sup>232</sup> The military markers for these individuals were fabricated prior to 1903 and were therefore erected at the cemetery.<sup>233</sup> When the individuals were moved, their markers were also moved.<sup>234</sup>

Surface documentation recorded an area believed to be the location of these veteran burials. The feature is a large plot believed to be about 12 feet on a side with an opening on the east side. (See Photo 32). The plot consists of stone alignments on the east and south side. The north and west sides of the plot are not exposed due to the slope of the ground; shallow excavation would be needed to expose any alignments. About 4-6 graves could be accommodated in the estimated space. Because there are no family burials at the cemetery and no other known groups requiring a large plot, this area is believed to be where the Civil War veterans, Isaac Cade, Algernon Dutton, James Latham, and William Price Holt were buried. Two veterans had daughters who were also believed to have been buried and later moved to Hilltop Cemetery, likely when their fathers were reburied.

The subsurface magnetometer data indicates a grave in the southwest area of this plot. This may represent a possible disinterment as the subsurface signature of a disinterment may be similar to a burial.<sup>235</sup>

---

<sup>231</sup> Burial Ledger, Town Records.

<sup>232</sup> See previous discussions about Isaac Cade, Algernon Dutton, James Latham, and William Price Holt in the section reporting burials at the cemetery.

<sup>233</sup> The dimensions of military markers changed after 1903.

<sup>234</sup> Because these markers are part of the historic features of the cemetery than have been documented for this project, even though they are no longer on-site.

<sup>235</sup> M. Charles states that these signatures are similar and suggests caution without 'ground truthing', i.e., excavation or probing.

Historical and genealogical research indicates that individuals were likely moved from the cemetery to Hilltop Cemetery when other family member died and were buried in the new cemetery. This is believed to have been the case with the Civil War veterans and their family members as well as other individuals, particularly children. One possible disinterment was identified during the GPR survey. Some of the graves identified with the magnetometer may represent disinterments.

### Summary/Conclusions

The historical and genealogical research combined with the surface and subsurface documentation provide additional information about the importance of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. The cemetery use during the military post was brief and there were only a few burials. The remaining traces of the military use of the cemetery are likely associated with the curious linear anomalies that may indicate some type of fencing that surrounded burials. Burials at the cemetery tended to be singular with single graves identified on the surface or through subsurface detection. Because burials were of individuals, often without families, their graves tend to be less pronounced on the surface. As the Hilltop Cemetery became established and family members were buried there, family members that were buried earlier at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery were reburied at Hilltop Cemetery. This pattern included the Civil War veterans who were moved by their families. The evidence of disinterments either on the surface or subsurface is limited; there are no surface expressions after many years and the subsurface signatures require additional information.

## EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery (5AA.5132) is a historic cemetery site that was evaluated for archaeological potential and preservation under the requirements of the archaeological assessment grant program of the State Historical Fund. In addition, the site was evaluated for its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (the Register) and the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties (the State Register) to determine its significance. In 2008, the cemetery was designated as a local historic landmark.<sup>236</sup>

The information gathered for this project from field documentation, and historical and genealogical research, indicates the site is eligible for listing on the Register and the State Register. The cemetery is significant in the area of exploration and settlement for its association with the early brief Fort Lewis military post (1878-1882) and the establishment and development of the Town of Pagosa Springs, beginning in about 1876. The settlement was located adjacent to the regionally known hot springs and situated along important wagon routes from northern New Mexico, the San Luis Valley, and the mining activities in the San Juan Mountains. The cemetery's period of significance extends from 1879 to 1902, the dates of the earliest burial to the latest documented burial.

Historic properties considered significant and eligible for listing on the Register, and State Register, must possess integrity based on factors of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

An evaluation of the site relative to these elements of integrity indicates the Cemetery possesses sufficient historic integrity to convey its associations, functions and appearance it had during the period of significance. It retains integrity in terms of location, design, setting, and feeling. With the exception of some natural ponderosa tree growth on a portion of the site, the area remains unchanged in appearance from the period of significance. The integrity of association is sufficient as the Cemetery is clearly associated with the early settlement in Pagosa Springs as several notable community members are buried in marked graves. There are seven marked graves of 10 individuals in the Cemetery and possibly up to 30 unmarked graves.<sup>237</sup> Of the burials with known death dates, all date to the period of significance. The elements of materials and workmanship of the historic grave markers are apparent and in keeping with a small rural pioneer cemetery. The removal of some graves has not diminished the historic integrity of the site.

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery meets the age guidelines for properties included on the Register. Generally, properties considered eligible for listing on the Register must be 50 years in age or older.

---

<sup>236</sup> Ordinance 708, An Ordinance Designating The Pagosa Springs Cemetery Within The Town Of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, As A Local Historic Landmark, February 5, 2008.

<sup>237</sup> This number is based on a combination of historical research, surface recording and subsurface non-invasive investigations that provided defined subsurface burial signatures.



The Register guidelines state that properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years are not eligible for inclusion in the Register unless the property is considered exceptional.

In addition to the evaluation of a property relative to its integrity and age, properties must meet one or more of the following National Register Criteria.

Criterion A: Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

Criterion B: Association with lives of persons significant in our past

Criterion C: Embodiment of distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or representation of the work of a master, or possession of high artistic values, or representation of a significant distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction

Criterion D: Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery was evaluated relative to the criteria for the National Register. The site was evaluated for Exploration /Settlement in the Area of Significance and the relevant historic context of Colorado Plateau Country. Based on this evaluation, the site is eligible for inclusion on the Register under Criterion A for its association with the historic events during the time of the Fort Lewis military post at Pagosa Springs and the development and establishment of the Town of Pagosa Springs during a period of significance, 1879 to 1902. The beginning of the period of significance is the first reported burial in the cemetery and the end date is the last documented burial in the cemetery

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery was evaluated for inclusion in the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. Generally, properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register are evaluated as eligible for listing on the State Register. The State Register Criteria mirrors the National Register Criteria with an additional Criterion. These include A) the property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history; B) the property is connected with persons significant in history; C) the property has distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or artisan; D) the property is of geographic importance; and E) the property contains the possibility of important discoveries related to prehistory or history. As discussed above, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery is eligible for inclusion on the State Register under the State Criterion A as a property associated with events that have made a significant contribution to history.

Criteria Consideration D: The Cemetery also meets the special requirement of Criteria Consideration D as it derives its primary significance from the direct association with the early brief presence of the Fort Lewis military post and the development of the settlement of the Town of Pagosa Springs. This is evidenced by the graves of members of the notable pioneers who are buried in the cemetery. While a later cemetery was developed (Hilltop Cemetery, 1890s to present), the Pagosa Springs Cemetery is the only reminder of the earliest history and pioneer beginnings of the Pagosa Springs settlement.

**RECOMMENDATIONS<sup>238</sup>**

Based on the collection of information from historical and genealogical research, surface recording, and the subsurface investigations, the following recommendations are made.

The stability of gravestones is an issue in all historic cemeteries. When gravestones fall they frequently break and can cause serious safety issues to cemetery visitors. Stability issues are generally followed in frequency by deterioration of the marker surfaces from lichen and moss growth on the stone, base, or the junctures between the base and the upright. Lichen can be prevalent in crevasses, particularly on inscriptions. Cemetery vandalism can be an issue depending on the location of the cemetery, visibility of cemetery activities, and the attention and care of the community. Fortunately, the Pagosa Springs Cemetery does not appear to have experienced vandalism to the cemetery markers, with one possible minor exception.<sup>239</sup>

Marked Graves

Overall, the condition of the historic gravestones in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery is fairly good. However, the condition of the headstones varies with three markers needing priority attention and four needing periodic monitoring for future issues. Table 13 summarized the issues associated with the gravestones and provides recommendations to address the condition of the marker.

Table 13. Gravestone Recommendations

Gravestone Name	Priority	Issue	Recommendation
Carrie Cooley	1 <sup>st</sup>	Stability/Cleaning	Stabilize; clean paint
Howe Family	1 <sup>st</sup>	Lichen	Remove lichen
James Voorhees	1 <sup>st</sup>	Marble Deterioration	Stabilize marble
Gildea Grimes	2nd	Possible stability	Monitor for change
John O'Neal	2nd		Monitor for change
Keith Family	2nd		Monitor for change
Thomas Chambers	2nd		Monitor for change

At the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, the Carrie Cooley, Howe Family and James Voorhees markers need priority attention.

<sup>238</sup> The State Historical Fund can provide contacts to preservationists specializing in cemeteries.

<sup>239</sup> See notes on the Carrie Cooley gravestone.

The Cooley marker is a 'die in socket' type of marker that has the upright placed into a carved socket in the base. This is an old style of fabrication and can be unstable if the upright becomes loose. The Cooley upright is loose and it has some temporary stone and sticks inserted to stabilize the upright, but an expert should be consulted to design a permanent stabilization method. This method should be historically sensitive to the 134 year old marker that is the only known historic record of the life of this child. In addition, a white substance has been applied to the upright sometime in the past. This appears to be unrelated to the stone or its condition and it may have been vandalized some years ago. This material should be assessed and removed if possible, without damaging the sandstone marker.

The Howe family marker is a granite upright stone and a granite upper base erected on a concrete lower base. Lichen is prevalent on the marker and upper base. The lichen should be removed as the inscriptions and family name is becoming difficult to read. The stone appears stable but should be monitored for any change in condition.

The James Voorhees gravestone is marble and it is exhibiting a condition called 'sugaring'. This is a deterioration of marble when the crystals become defined and detached from the stone matrix. A conservator, experienced with marble, should be consulted for options to stabilize this condition. In addition, small areas of lichen should be removed from the stone. The iron enclosure surrounding the grave should be evaluated by a metal preservationist for possible repairs and stability of the posts.

The Geoge Gildea Grimes marker is in good condition and appears stable. Because it is an upright stone, it should be monitored for any future instability.

The John O'Neal, Keith family, and Thomas Chambers grave markers are in good condition and they are stable. They should be monitored for any change in condition.

### Unmarked Graves

The surface recording and the subsurface investigations have provided information on the location of the unmarked graves of individuals buried in the cemetery. While the historical and genealogical research may suggest possible individuals that may occupy the unmarked graves, the identities of the individuals will remain unknown without additional information. With the precise locational data provided by the subsurface investigations and the surface information, these graves can be identified with a marker. Providing an identification marker helps to provide cemetery visitors with a better understanding of the historic use of the cemetery.

### Cemetery Fencing and Signage

The cemetery is currently fenced along the south and west boundaries; the north and east fences were recently removed to facility the investigations for this project. It is recommended that the Town work with interested individuals and groups to develop a plan for new fencing that is

compatible with the historic character of the cemetery. The fence should be installed along the former fence lines with a pedestrian gate centered on the east fence.

The current cemetery sign has deteriorated and is difficult to read. The Town should include signage repair or replacement in the community discussions about the fencing.

### Recommendations for Further Work

This project provides the Town with new information to plan for cemetery preservation. It is recommended that the Town develop a preservation plan for the cemetery that includes interpretive materials, preservation steps for marker cleaning and repairs, identification of unmarked graves, and cemetery signage and fencing. Interested individuals and groups should be invited to participate in the development of the plan. The preservation tasks could provide a venue for community educational opportunities such as on-site assistance with marker cleaning. In addition, a monitoring program could be developed for citizens to periodically check on the condition of the cemetery and markers and report their observations to the Town.

As with all historical projects, new information can be found that adds to or changes our interpretation of past events. With the wealth of local historical knowledge, local individuals and groups can assist the Town with the development of interpretive information about the cemetery. Website information, brochure, a walking map, and other materials can help to educate the community and visitors and preserve the cemetery as an important place to the Town of Pagosa Springs.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The research and field assessment of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery (5AA 5132) indicated that the cemetery was the burial location of individuals associated with the Fort Lewis military post when active in 1878 to 1882 and the burial location for Pagosa Springs community members from 1879 to 1902. Project historical and genealogical research provided new information about the individuals buried at the cemetery in marked and unmarked graves, the individuals disinterred and buried at the new Hilltop Cemetery, and the patterns of family behavior that surrounded the reburial of family members.

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery is determined to be eligible for inclusion on the National and Colorado State Registers. The site retains all elements of integrity, meets the age criteria guidelines and it is associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history (Criterion A). In addition, the cemetery meets the special requirement of Criteria Consideration D as it derives its primary significance from the direct association with the early presence of the Fort Lewis military post and the development and settlement of the Town of Pagosa Springs. This is evidenced by the graves of members of the notable pioneers who are buried in the cemetery. The Pagosa Springs Cemetery is the only reminder of the earliest pioneer burials at the Pagosa Springs settlement.

It is recommended that the Town develop a preservation plan for the cemetery that includes steps to address condition issues for a few gravestones, identify unmarked graves, develop interpretative materials, update cemetery fencing and signage, and engage community site monitors. Given the wealth of historical knowledge in the Town and the community interest, planning efforts would benefit from public involvement.

The Town interest and project support, the State Historical Fund grant, and the high level of community involvement, has resulted in a project that has generated important new information. The combination of historical and genealogical research, surface recording and subsurface investigations has provided new data to better understand the cemetery and its role in the early settlement in the Pagosa Springs area.

REFERENCES

Archuleta County Genealogical Society. 1986. Archuleta County records, Volume II. Pagosa Springs.

Athearn, Frederic J. 1992. *A Forgotten Kingdom: The Spanish Frontier in Colorado and New Mexico 1540-1821*. United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado. Cultural Resource Series No. 29.

Chappell, Gordon S. 1971. *Logging Along the Denver / Rio Grande: Narrow Gauge Logging Railroads of Southwestern Colorado and Northern New Mexico*. Golden: Colorado Railroad Historical Foundation

Colorado Business Directory, 1932. Denver. The Gazetteer Publishing and Printing Company

Colorado State Census 1885. Denver, Colorado.

Debartolo Carmack, Sharon. 2002. *Your Guide to Cemetery Research*. Betterway Books, Cincinnati.

Frazer, Robert 1972. *Forts of the West: Military Forts and Presidios and Posts Commonly Called Forts West of the Mississippi River to 1898*.

Lambert, Ruth E., 2014. *The Wooden Canvas: Arboglyphs as Reflections of Hispano Life Along the Pine-Piedra Stock Driveway*. Durango.CO. San Juan Mountains Association.

Lipe, William; Varien, Mark; Wilshusen, Richard. Colorado prehistory: A Context for the Southern Colorado River Basin, 1997, Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists;

Motter, John M.,1984. *Pagosa Country: The First Fifty Years: Pioneer History of Archuleta County*. Pagosa Springs, Co: Privately Published.

Newspapers

- Alexandria Gazette
- Boulder Daily Camera
- Colorado Miner Weekly
- Dolores News
- Durango Record
- Fairplay Flume
- The Gunnison Daily News
- La Plata Miner
- Leadville Daily.
- Pagosa Springs New Era
- Pagosa Springs News
- Pagosa Springs Sun

Pagosa Springs Times – Observer  
Pagosa Springs Herald  
Pagosa Springs Times  
San Juan Prospector  
Silver World (Lake City),  
Silverton Standard  
Weekly Times (Pagosa Springs)

Nossaman, Allen. 1993. *Many More Mountains: Rails Into Silverton*. Volume 3. Denver, Colorado: Sundance Publishing.

\_\_\_\_\_, 2006. *Many More Mountains: Silverton's Roots*. Volume 1. Denver, Co: Sundance Books, 2006, Second Printing.

Oldham, Ann, 1997. "Fort Lewis Cemetery" in *Remembrances*, Vol. 2, Pg. 37. San Juan Historical Society

Oldham, Leroy and Ann Oldham. N.d. Archuleta County Cemeteries, U.S. Genweb , on-line database

Pierce, Shari, n.d. "Camp Lewis" in *Remembrances, Military Matters*, Volume 12, Pg 10, San Juan Historical Society.

Swadesh, Frances Leon. 1974. *Los Primeros Pobladores: Hispanic Americans of the Ute Frontier*. Notre Dame, University of Notre Dame Press.

Smith, Duane A. 2006. *A Time for Peace: Fort Lewis, Colorado, 1878-1891*. Boulder, Co.: University Press of Colorado.

Smith, Leah. 1985. *Archuleta County Cemeteries One Hundred Years 1878-1978*. 1884. Privately Published.

Thompson, Gregory Coyne, *Southern Ute Lands, 1848-1899: The Creation of a Reservation*. Occasional Papers of the Center of Southwest Studies No. 1, Fort Lewis College, Durango, 1972.  
Town of Pagosa Springs Records

Hatcher "Undertaking Business" Ledger

Hilltop Cemetery Burial Certificates

Hilltop Cemetery burial rosters

Hilltop Cemetery Maps

Hilltop Cemetery Patent. Town of Pagosa Springs, Book 25, pg. 5. August 30, 1905

Town Minutes, Board of Trustees

Ordinance 56, Concerning a Town Cemetery. October 10, 1903

Ordinance 57, Requiring Undertaker Licenses and a Burial Permit. October 29, 1903

104 | Page

Archaeological Assessment  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
SHF#2021-AS-007

Ordinance 708, An Ordinance Designating The Pagosa Springs Cemetery Within The Town Of Pagosa Springs, Colorado, As A Local Historic Landmark, February 5, 2008.

Plat of the Survey and Subdivision of the Townsite of Pagosa Springs, Conejos County, Colorado 1883.

Warranty Deed, Hannah Gross to the Town of Pagosa Springs. 1908. Book 23, page 468, Archuleta County Records

Warranty Deed. Kate Slick to the Town of Pagosa Springs. March 21, 1902. Town records.

U.S. Government Orders

General Order 6, October 26, 1878. [Establishing Fort Lewis military post]. Copy on file, Center of Southwest Studies, Durango

General Order # 2, Department of the Missouri, February 17, 1879 [ Establishing the Pagosa Springs Military Reservation]. Copy on file, Center of Southwest Studies, Durango

General Order 10, January 21, 1881. [Renaming Fort Lewis to Pagosa Springs]. Copy on file, Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

Executive Order, May 22, 1877. [Establishing the Townsite of Pagosa Springs].

General Order # 50, 1891.Secretary of War. [Ording the abandonment of Fort Lewis (Hesperus)]

General Order 45, Post Cemeteries. July 14, 1868. Copy on file Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

U.S. Government Records

General Land Office Records.

Bureau of Land Management, Tract Book records. Colorado Vol. 134

Senate Bill S.994, 48<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session. January 1884.

Letter, District of New Mexico, November 23, 1882. [Ordering abandonment of Pagosa Springs military posts]. Cited in Fort Lewis [Hesperus] Post Return, December 1882.

U.S. Census

Population Schedules – Colorado, Conejos County, Archuleta County  
1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920

Federal Mortality Census – Colorado 1885



## U.S. Military Records

Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans. NARA M1845.

Historical Information Relating to Military Posts & Other Installations, 1700-1900. NARA M661, Roll4

Office of Adjunct General. Letters Sent August 18, 1885 to May 19, 1886. NARA M565, Roll 59, Vol 76-77. Letter, December 30, 1885. Pgs. 455-456.

Record of Deceased Officers & Soldiers Buried at Fort Lewis Col., Lieutenant M.C. Martin, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. A.A. Quartermaster, U.S.A., Center of Southwest Studies, Durango. Collection 118, Box 4, Series 7, File Folder 25.

Register of Enlistments US Army, 1798-1914, NARA M233, Roll 38.

Returns from U.S. Military Posts, 1800 – 1916. NARA M617

Report, Lt. Bergmann report to General Carlton, March 15, 1867. Report copy at the Center of Southwest Studies, Durango

Report, Lieutenant McCauley. 1877. Copy at the Center of Southwest Studies, Durango.

U.S. Buffalo Soldiers, Returns from Regular Army Cavalry Regiments, 1866-1916, NARA, M744.

U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations 1863-1865. Ancestry on-line database

U.S. Military Burial Registers 1768-1921. Record Book of Interment in the Post Cemetery; Fort Lewis, Fort Union. Ancestry on-line database.

U.S. Pardons Under Amnesty Proclamation 1865-1869. NARA A1 1005, RG 59. November 28, 1866

U.S. Registers of Death in the Regular Army, 1860-1889. Records of the Adjutant General's Office, RG 94, NARA. Ancestry on-line database

**APPENDIX A**

**ROSTER OF INDIVIDUALS  
REPORTED TO BE BURIED AT  
THE PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERY**

FORT LEWIS/ PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERY BURIALS							
Grave Number	Last Name	First Name	Other Name	Date Of Birth		Date Of Death	
				Year	Month Day	Year	Month Day
	Adams	Henry				1876	8 11
	Leddy	Lt Oscar D.	2nd Inf.			1880	1
	Turnbull	Pvt. Reese	9th C. Co D			1880	1 8
	Kane	Robert W	9th C. Co K			1880	4 26
	Cunningham	Carroll	9th C. Co K				
	Meloy	Anne	Civilian @ Ft.			1882	
	Amtholte Jr	J.M.		1884	11	1888	1
	Bark	Louis				1888	10 18
	Bond	Sophie		1888		1888	11
	Brown	Kate				1879	
1	Chambers	Thomas		1888		1882	
	Chambers	Ethel C.		1884		1890	8 28
	Chambers	Roscoe	Frederick			1890	8 20
	Clark	Lewis M.		1885	11 25	1891	3 5
2	Coady	Carrie		1880	12 30	1887	4 20
	Dobson	Charles		1880		1890	8 20
	Dobson	Karl H.		1884	10 14	1890	4 27
	Enderich	Mrs. C.				1881	4 11
	Freeman	Carrie				1888	
	Gilbert	Alex J.				1887	
	Gomes	Ethel	Sec of Fleet	1886			
4	Gomes	George Gides		1873	10 24	1889	11 30
	Han	Rola Thomas		1877	10 2	1900	9 8
	Howe	W. D.		1887		1888	11
1	Howe	Abraham		1882	4	1892	8 23
2	Howe	Jennie	Jackson	1885		1892	4
1	Howe	William I.		1881		1887	8
1	Kath	E. B.		1827		1884	
1	Kemp	Mattie M.	Richards	1919	3 19	1991	7 30
	Kemp	Tuly				1888	
	Lusk	J.H.				1881	
	Milgate	Mrs.		1889		1891	5
	Olsen	Vick				1911	10 27
10	O'Neil	John S.		1847	1 28	1900	2 14
	Parrish	Ethel		1887		1890	3 20
	Patterson	Jennie				1894	11 26
	Patterson		Male			1892	
	Rubins	W.F. "Bry"				1887	10
	Stumpf	J.H.				1885	7 8
	Viola	Joan A.				1879	4
1	Voorhees	James H.		1820	2 25	1899	8 27
	Voorhees	Henry		1850		1885	9
	Wiley	Adam				1880	7 29
	Williams	John S.		1858		1880	4 14
	Yuk	Joseph		1842	2 17	1897	7 4
	Unknown	Stage Driver				1881	2 3
	Reported Moved to	Hilltop Cemetery	Civil War Vets				
	Bartholme	Charles A.	1st Iowa Inf	1838		1897	11 24
	Beal	Ltjrl. Capt.	2nd US Inf	1820		1884	10 23
	Cade	Isaac	Co E, 22 Inf			1888	
	Chambers	Annie	McKinney	1881		1881	
	Cotton	Sanford C.	USA	1838		1911	10 30
	Dummar	Elizabeth M.		1859		1900	
	Dutton	Algonson S.	Co D	1830		1885	12 14
	Gavin	Ezra		1881		1890	
	Holt	Mary Estella		1875	1 22	1895	8 13
	Holt	William Price	Lt Co S	1830	8 18	1890	8 2
	Letten	James	Co D	1839	11 23	1899	8 25

Laughlin	Lamuel L.	Command	1834		1894	5	20	
Mechy	Rosa Marie		1905	12	19	1901	4	20
Rossman	Satie		1893			1895	2	8
OpDye	Jack V.		1818	5	11	1885	8	8
Paci	Mable	Came	1890			1892	8	12
Seery	Rosena	Weaver	1830	8	22	1857	12	14
Stewart	Capt.	CIV Veteran				1888	12	4
York	Joseph Sylvester	CIV Veteran	1842	2	17	1887		

**APPENDIX B**

**PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERY  
UTM POINTS**

**Archaeological Assessment  
Fort Lewis/Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
SHF Project # 2021-AS-007**

**UTM Log**

<b>Grave #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>
1	James Voorhees	320891.21	4125821.01
2	Carrie Cooley	320889.37	4125819.02
3	Thomas Chambers	320872.71	4125813.41
4	Gildea Grimes	320859.77	4125819.44
5	Howe Family	320842.31	4125821.41
6	Empty Base	320852.66	4125815.05
7	Row of Stones	320851.74	4125810.33
8	Grave with Tree	320837.02	4125828.51
9	Keith Family Marker	320841.35	4125836.19
10	John O'Neal	320840.18	4125838.37
11	Unknown Grave	320843.79	4125835.52
12	Unknown Grave	320846.75	4125836.07
13	Depression	320851.61	4125825.02
14	Depression	320861.45	4125824.72
15	Depression	320869.65	4125824.61
16	Depression	320868.98	4125818.68
19	Depression	320849.67	4125824.44
20	Depression	320869.77	4125836.07
21	Depression	320854.34	4125829.82
22	Depression	320860.56	4125838.37
23	Stone Alignment	320852.68	4125814.74
24	Unknown Grave	320846.15	4125807.80
25	Unknown Grave	320810.80	4125805.25
Sign	Boy Scout Cemetery Sign	320888.91	4125807.71
Drainage	West end	320812.17	4125792.87
	West Middle	320826.09	4125804.67

	East Middle	320845.71	4125808.66
Site Corners	NW-SurveyPin - JJ & Assoc LS 23499	320806.11	4125850.24
	NE-GLO Survey Pin	320894.07	4125850.09
	SE Corner	320893.32	4125762.14
	SW-Survey Pin - JJ& Assoc LS 23499	320805.61	4125764.59
Grid Corners	G1-SW Corner	320827.42	4125836.37
	G1-NW Corner	320830.60	4125855.71
	G1-NE Corner	320850.21	4125852.71
	G1-SE Corner	320845.13	4125833.45
	G2-SW Corner	320845.13	4125833.45
	G2-NW Corner	320850.21	4125852.71
	G2-NE Corner	320870.10	4125850.03
	G2-SE Corner	320866.25	4125830.92
	G3-SW Corner	320866.25	4125830.92
	G3-NW Corner	320870.10	4125850.03
	G3-NE Corner	320889.76	4125846.58
	G3-SE Corner	320887.30	4125827.46
	G4-SW Corner	320825.91	4125817.06
	G4-NW Corner	320827.42	4125836.37
	G4-NE Corner	320845.13	4125833.45
	G4-SE Corner	320845.49	4125816.12
	G5-SW Corner	320845.49	4125816.12
	G5-NW Corner	320845.13	4125833.45
	G5-NE Corner	320866.25	4125830.92
	G5-SE Corner	320864.81	4125812.93
	G6-SW Corner	320864.81	4125812.93
	G6-NW Corner	320866.25	4125830.92
	G6-NE Corner	320887.30	4125827.46
	G6-SE Corner	320883.53	4125807.65
Grid 1			

1	Target	320827.03	4125836.49
2	Target	320830.43	4125842.30
3	Target	320829.49	4125846.60
4	Target	320828.23	4125849.78
5	Target	320831.03	4125850.70
6	Target	320832.47	4125848.53
7	Target	320834.96	4125847.96
8	Target	320834.26	4125849.41
9	Target	320835.00	4125850.80
10	Target	320836.42	4125847.79
11	Target	320832.82	4125844.17
12	Target	320837.12	4125846.05
13	Target	320838.18	4125849.07
14	Target	320839.69	4125849.75
15	Target	320840.23	4125849.16
16	Target	320842.06	4125849.00
17	Target	320840.85	4125845.91
18	Target	320840.16	4125843.32
19	Target	320839.87	4125835.22
20	Target	320839.83	4125835.01
21	Target	320840.55	4125835.03
22	Target	320840.90	4125837.93
23	Target	320842.54	4125835.33
24	Target	320843.61	4125832.53
25	Target	320842.66	4125838.78
26	Target	320842.26	4125841.07
27	Target	320844.15	4125846.40
28	Target	320845.23	4125840.00
29	Target	320844.29	4125838.80
30	Target	320845.95	4125835.68
31	Target	320844.60	4125834.16
32	Target	320846.94	4125832.57
33	Target	320847.82	4125832.26



34	Target	320846.65	4125841.33
35	Target	320846.36	4125842.11
36	Target	320847.10	4125834.16
Grid 2			
1	Target	320847.21	4125834.04
2	Target	320849.23	4125848.25
3	Target	320847.05	4125834.58
4	Target	320850.46	4125833.63
5	Target	320849.69	4125837.92
6	Target	320851.44	4125836.18
7	Target	320855.85	4125833.20
8	Target	320858.01	4125832.66
9	Target	320858.66	4125835.76
10	Target	320857.48	4125838.42
11	Wire #1	320857.59	4125839.20
12	Target	320859.78	4125838.66
13	Target	320859.21	4125836.04
14	Target	320859.17	4125835.05
15	Target	320861.61	4125837.41
16	Target	320861.11	4125837.02
17	Target	320861.25	4125836.14
18	Target	320862.04	4125841.88
19	Target	320861.96	4125843.91
20	Wire #2	320857.66	4125845.13
21	Target	320860.48	4125849.49
22	Target	320862.27	4125847.95
23	Target	320864.33	4125842.55
24	Target	320863.99	4125851.05
25	Target	320862.27	4125848.22
26	Target	320867.18	4125847.73
27	Target	320866.11	4125851.12
28	Target	320866.33	4125850.98

29	Target	320854.97	4125849.65
30	Target	320856.32	4125853.45
31	Target	320866.70	4125846.79
32	Target	320866.89	4125836.67
33	Target	320867.37	4125836.39
34	Target	320865.32	4125833.82
35	Target	320864.16	4125832.56
36	Target	320861.85	4125833.58
Grid 3			
1	Target	320855.97	4125832.65
2	Target	320866.85	4125832.75
3	Target	320870.06	4125832.74
4	Target	320870.61	4125830.71
5	Target	320872.58	4125835.65
6	Target	320874.00	4125836.12
7	Target	320872.50	4125837.21
8	Target	320872.76	4125839.45
9	Target	320873.65	4125840.75
10	Target	320872.78	4125840.80
11	Target	320872.52	4125837.30
12	Target	320870.30	4125838.42
13	Target	320867.04	4125836.77
14	Target	320871.65	4125847.03
Grid 4			
1	Target	320825.22	4125819.11
2	Target	320826.81	4125818.78
3	Target	320831.63	4125813.04
4	Target	320831.06	4125817.06
5	Target	320833.85	4125817.86
6	Target	320833.30	4125818.95

7	Target	320833.00	4125825.21
8	Target	320835.39	4125826.37
9	Target	320838.51	4125827.07
10	Target	320835.69	4125824.01
11	Target	320840.88	4125822.08
12	Target	320841.70	4125820.54
13	Target	320842.00	4125820.06
14	Target	320841.91	4125818.96
15	Target	320842.01	4125822.96
16	Target	320843.12	4125823.25
17	Target	320844.49	4125823.45
18	Target	320843.68	4125822.02
19	Target	320830.14	4125827.92
20	Target	320840.87	4125825.55
Grid 5			
1	Target	320846.57	4125813.60
2	Target	320847.43	4125816.00
3	Target	320847.42	4125814.73
4	Target	320847.70	4125816.22
5	Target	320848.49	4125816.00
6	Target	320849.11	4125808.59
7	Target	320846.67	4125820.85
8	Target	320841.69	4125831.18
9	Target	320845.24	4125819.10
10	Target	320846.87	4125816.10
11	Target	320846.42	4125817.87
12	Target	320846.80	4125815.26
13	Target	320847.90	4125817.33
14	Target	320852.52	4125825.88
15	Target	320852.30	4125822.99
16	Target	320856.72	4125816.16
17	Target	320857.77	4125814.41

18	Target	320860.04	4125817.21
19	Target	320855.82	4125820.77
20	Target	320860.47	4125822.57
21	Target	320859.02	4125828.24
22	Target	320854.69	4125830.94
23	Target	320862.97	4125821.79
24	Target	320861.42	4125824.91
25	Target	320864.16	4125821.93
26	Target	320861.59	4125811.66
Grid 6			
1	Target	320863.47	4125813.57
2	Target	320865.50	4125810.58
3	Target	320866.20	4125817.36
4	Target	320865.70	4125821.33
5	Target	320865.96	4125820.27
6	Target	320868.91	4125820.26
7	Target	320868.48	4125819.91
8	Target	320867.42	4125812.05
9	Target	320869.67	4125810.72
10	Target	320868.27	4125809.44
11	Target	320869.66	4125810.63
12	Target	320874.88	4125809.19
13	Target	320880.31	4125808.81
14	Target	320883.94	4125809.99
15	Target	320881.33	4125812.95
16	Target	320875.78	4125814.14
17	Target	320880.58	4125815.87
18	Target	320880.37	4125815.46
19	Target	320879.22	4125817.80
20	Target	320879.87	4125819.60
21	Target	320879.65	4125819.52
22	Target	320881.15	4125018.88

23	Target	320880.73	4125820.53
24	Target	320881.35	4125821.59
25	Target	320881.09	4125822.54
26	Target	320883.31	4125824.72
27	Target	320885.16	4125824.73
28	Target	320885.66	4125626.20
29	Target	320870.10	4125820.85
30	Target	320871.61	4125821.00
31	Target	320872.42	4125821.68
32	Target	320874.22	4125823.02
33	Target	320868.44	4125826.03
34	Target	320858.80	4125827.51
35	Target	320858.91	4125827.19
36	Target	320867.59	4125826.08
37	Target	320868.51	4125827.21
38	Target	320870.61	4125829.17
Trees			
1	Contemporaneous Tree	320810.36	4125820.97
2	Contemporaneous Tree	320814.43	4125812.50
3	Contemporaneous Tree	320809.31	4125802.14
4	Contemporaneous Tree	320816.88	4125803.33
5	Contemporaneous Tree	320814.00	4125816.24
6	Contemporaneous Tree	320817.67	4125817.17
7	Contemporaneous Tree	320821.06	4125820.54
8	Contemporaneous Tree	320833.26	4125815.57
9	Contemporaneous Tree	320826.86	4125824.46
10	Contemporaneous Tree	320832.18	4125815.15
11	Contemporaneous Tree	320836.22	4125816.40
12	Contemporaneous Tree	320843.51	4125820.85
13	Contemporaneous Tree	320841.38	4125829.37
14	Contemporaneous Tree	320845.77	4125824.96
15	Contemporaneous Tree	320854.70	4125826.24

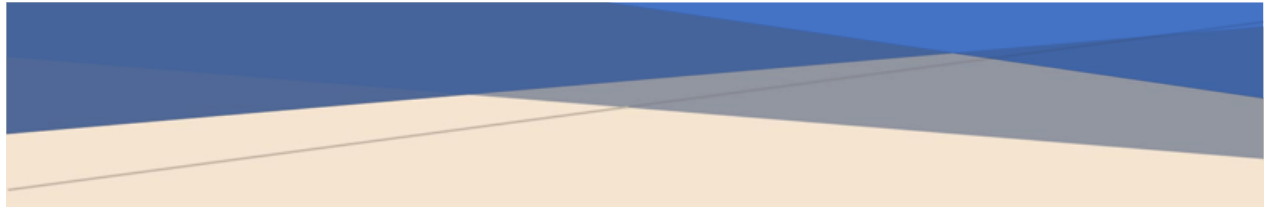
16	Contemporaneous Tree	320862.14	4125830.28
17	Contemporaneous Tree	320874.96	4125834.85
18	Contemporaneous Tree	320874.35	4125841.14
19	Contemporaneous Tree	320876.19	4125839.25
20	Contemporaneous Tree	320884.60	4125823.57
21	Contemporaneous Tree	320884.42	4125829.95
22	Contemporaneous Tree	320874.31	4125818.63
23	Contemporaneous Tree	320890.46	4125814.85

Page 127 of 204

**APPENDIX C**

**SUBSURFACE**

**INVESTIGATION REPORTS**



THE RESULTS OF GRADIOMETER AND METAL  
DETECTOR SURVEYS OF THE PAGOSA  
SPRINGS CEMETERY, PAGOSA SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

Report prepared for the Town of  
Pagosa Springs  
October 2021

Mona C. Charles, Powderhorn Research LLC.  
monaccharles@gmail.com



## Introduction

The Pagosa Springs Cemetery includes a fenced area of approximately 2 acres within the town limits of Pagosa Springs, Colorado (Figure 1). Powderhorn Research LLC. conducted metal detector and gradiometer surveys of 2,400m<sup>2</sup> from August 23, 24, and 25 at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. These surveys were conducted by Mona Charles and Haley Harms of Powderhorn Research LLC. and Savethesite.org respectively. Haley Harms also took drone photographs of the cemetery and the areas surrounding the cemetery (Figures 2 and 3). The survey area consisted of six 20m x 20m grids that included areas within the trees where known graves and potential unmarked graves were recorded and in the cleared area to the north between the recently removed chain-link fence and the trees. A few known graves and possible unmarked graves were noted in this area as well. But the focus of the gradiometer survey was mostly within the trees. The area chosen for the six grids was done so to cover as much of the cemetery as possible but staying clear of fencing in the form of chain-link fencing around the cemetery perimeter and of iron fencing around the graves near the road. Both of these would drastically affect the quality of the gradiometer data.

The cemetery was cleared of debris, the duff was raked, and the grass was mowed by a crew from the Town of Pagosa Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and many volunteers. This was a great advantage to the high quality of the gradiometer data and the efficacy of the metal detector survey.



Figure 1. Overview of the 2-acre plot designated as the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Google Earth image. The road running parallel to the cemetery is 10<sup>th</sup> Street.



Figure 2. View to the north of Pagosa Springs from a drone flight over the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. Photograph courtesy of Haley Harms at SaveTheSite.org.



Figure 3. View from a drone flight over the Pagosa Springs Cemetery with approximated area of gradiometer survey. Photograph courtesy of Haley Harms at SaveTheSite.org.

## Metal Detector Surveys

Metal detector use on historic sites has been in practice for quite some time (Bray 1958; Gregory and Rogerson 1984; McLeod 1985;) and their use has become more common on battlefield and military sites (Scott and Fox 1987; Scott et al 1989). Only recently has Powderhorn Research LLC. employed them as another technique to be used along with the gradiometer. The primary reason for a metal detector survey prior to a gradiometer survey is normally to identify and remove spurious metal before the gradiometer survey. However, there are other advantages to conducting metal detector surveys. Powderhorn Research LLC. proposed that the use of the metal detector in addition to the gradiometer survey at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery could enhance the interpretation of the gradiometer data.

Metal detectors are an active geophysical instrument. The principles behind metal detecting are fairly simple. The internal working of metal detectors is based on the science of electromagnetism. Metal detectors use technology to harness the unique relationship that exists between electricity and magnetism. If electricity is moving in a piece of metal, it must create some magnetism. A metal detector contains a coil of wire wrapped around a circular head at the end of the handle known as the transmitter coil. A battery in the top of the metal detector activates the transmitter circuit that passes electricity down through a cable in the handle to the transmitter coil at the bottom. As electricity flows through the transmitter coil, it creates a magnetic field all around it. When the detector is swept above a metal object, the magnetic field penetrates through the object causing electric currents (eddy currents) in the object. The eddy currents induce their own magnetic field all around the metal object. The magnetic field makes electricity flow around the receiver coil and up into the receiver circuit of the instrument box at the top of the machine, making a loudspeaker buzz and alerting that a target has been located. The closer the transmitter coil to the target, the stronger the magnetic field in the transmitter coil. In turn the stronger the magnetic field created in the target, the stronger the magnetic field in the receiver coil.

Metal detectors were used across all six of the gradiometer grids. Professional quality detectors (White and Garrett) were used along with headphones to detect all types of metal that might be present. The sensitivity and discrimination functions were used to control for spurious metal such as pull tabs, aluminum cans, etc. Undoubtedly some of these type objects were noted and mapped as targets, but without unearthing the objects there is no way to know the content of the object.

Metal detecting was conducted by Mona Charles and Haley Harms. Each gradiometer grid was surveyed with the metal detector either before or after the gradiometer survey but never simultaneous due to the distortion that could occur between the two instruments. Detecting was conducted in a side-to-side sweeping motion up and down each grid. When a target was located a pin flag was placed at the location. Ruth Lambert and volunteers took GPS points on all the targets. There was no attempt to identify the source of the targets.

## Gradiometer and Magnetometer Surveys

The use of magnetometers, gradiometers, electrical conductivity meters, and electrical resistance measures have been used successfully on many historic sites (Mitchell 2014) some of which include historic cemeteries (De Vore 2002). Some of the best uses for magnetic survey on historic sites comes from their use on historic military forts such as Fort Phil Kearny (Somers

1998). This author has successfully used the gradiometer on two historic cemeteries: Fort Crawford in Montrose, Colorado, and Fort Lewis in Hesperus, Colorado.

Magnetic surveys are nonintrusive and are passive geophysical techniques. Magnetometers and gradiometers measure distortions in the subsurface but without injecting an external force. These instruments work on the principle that buried artifacts, features, or changes in the soils produce minute changes in the earth's magnetic field. The earth's magnetism is caused by an east west flowing current regime at the core-mantle boundary deep within the earth's core (Figure 4 ). Interactions between the hot, liquid metal outer core as it rotates and convection within the inner core create circular currents. These currents create the earth's magnetic field. The earth's magnetic field has a distinctive dip from the poles to the equator (Clark 2003).

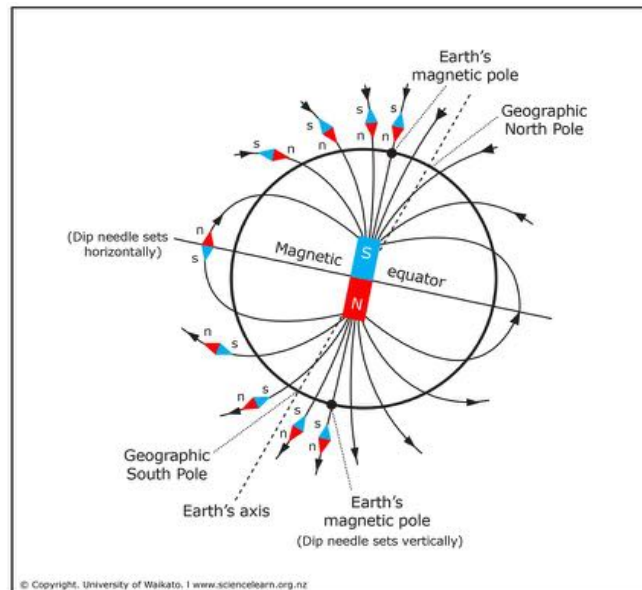


Figure 4. Earth's magnetic field and dip from poles to equator.

Magnetometers and gradiometers measure either the total strength of the magnetic field in the case of proton magnetometers or they measure the component of the field along the axis of the sensor as is the case with gradiometers (Mussett and Khan 2000). In either case, they are all measuring the same thing: the strength or amplitude of the earth's magnetic field (Bevan 1998). Magnetic field strength is measured in nanoteslas (nT;  $10^{-9}$  Tesla). The earth's magnetic field strength ranges from about 40,000 to 50,000 nT (Weymouth, 1986:341). On the other hand, magnetic anomalies of potential archaeological interest can on-the-average lie within  $\pm 5$  nT, and soil unit differences can be as subtle as 0.1nT or less (Kvamme 2001).

Soils or obstacles beneath the earth's surface (or on the surface) can locally modify the earth's magnetic field (Figure 5). In a magnetic survey, the instruments measure the warping or

distortion of the earth's magnetic field caused by ferrous materials (iron) and by oxides of magnetite, hematite, and maghaematite (Clark 2003). In archaeological sites the oxides are usually the most significant compounds and are most often subtle and can only be detected with sensitive instruments that extend beyond the simple metal detector. These magnetic anomalies can retain a permanent or remnant magnetization when placed in a magnetic field or they can acquire a temporary magnetization that is lost when the field is removed. An example of temporary magnetism is when a paper clip comes in contact with a magnet. If the magnet is strong enough the paper clip becomes temporarily magnetized but over time the magnetism is lost.

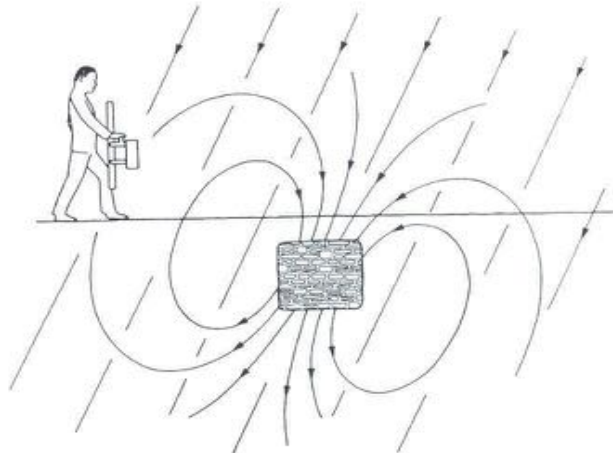


Figure 5. Magnetic field induced by object or feature. In this example the feature is a brick pottery kiln.

Thermoluminescence is permanent magnetization and can be caused by firing beyond the Curie point, which effectively demagnetizes the oxides. Upon cooling, the oxides are re-magnetized by the earth's field and aligned with the geomagnetic field at the time of the firing. This concept is inherent in thermoluminescence dating. In cases of pottery kilns, hearths, and roasting pits, the magnetism is relatively strong and can be easily detected (Figure 5). More subtle features such as unfired pits, houses fills, unfired pitstructures, kivas, ditches, and perhaps historic graves can also be detected with the magnetometer because topsoil is normally more magnetic than underlying subsoil or bedrock, which are in the process of leaching these magnetic minerals. When features are filled, either intentionally or unintentionally with topsoil, they will produce a positive magnetic signal. Less magnetic material intruding into the topsoil such as many kinds of masonry, can be detected by a subtractive effect, which gives a negative magnetic reading (Clark 2003). If the feature is filled with leached sediments such as a leached substratum, this would also produce a subtractive effect as well. Highly magnetic (ferrous) items can produce dipole reading (high and low).

Magnetometers and gradiometers come in a variety of types. Two main categories of instruments are the proton instruments (magnetometers), the alkali vapor magnetometers (cesium or rubidium magnetometers), and the fluxgate gradiometers. Proton magnetometers

were the first to make it feasible for archaeological work. The proton group of magnetometers has the advantage of absolute readings that require no calibration; they measure total field without any direction sensitivity and they require no setting up procedure, high precision construction, or rigid support system (Clark 2003). These instruments employ a single detector in the instrument holding and a reference detector in a fixed position outside the survey area. Single detector instruments are most affected by background variations and interferences, which can lead to erroneous measurements. The most significant of the natural interferences is the diurnal variation of the earth's magnetic field due to the interaction of the earth's field with the solar wind and the flux of charged particles from the sun (Clark 2003:67). To reduce the problem with the single detector, a second identical reference detector placed away from the survey area provides for compensation for diurnal variations. The difference in signals between the two is measured and the difference is displayed (differential measurement). The underlying principle is that interference will be affected equally by both instruments with no net effect on the readings (Clark 2003:67).

The problem with the two separate detectors as designed above with the proton magnetometers is solved in the built-in, closely spaced directional-responsive detectors of the fluxgate gradiometers. Until recently, the fluxgate gradiometers although fast, were regarded as relatively insensitive because they were prone to drift and heading problems. Proton magnetometers had the advantage of omni-directional measurements in the total field and fluxgate gradiometers are highly directional measuring only the component in the field parallel to its axis (along its length) (Clark 2003:69). Much of these issues have been solved in the gradiometers by using two sensors arranged as a gradiometer, with the output of one subtracted from the other. The biggest disadvantage of the fluxgate gradiometers is that of problems with unidirectional sensitivity and tilt. It is a highly sensitive instrument and must be accurately aligned and balanced (calibrated) throughout the day to reduce the effects of directional sensitivity. This is accomplished by pointing the instrument north and south, then east and west, balancing in the earth/sky direction and adjusting the controls so that the zero changes are minimal. The new instruments like the Geoscan fluxgate gradiometer series have solved many of the problems with earlier directional machines. They are quick, and compact, somewhat less expensive, and suitable for high-resolution automatic readings. Fluxgate gradiometers are now the workhorse of many if not most geophysical surveys (Clark 2003).

## Field Methods

The fluxgate gradiometer survey conducted in August of 2021 at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery employed a Geoscan Research FM36 Fluxgate Gradiometer. For the fluxgate gradiometer, the orientation of the survey grids must be magnetic north. The declination between magnetic and true north Pagosa Springs is currently at about 9 degrees. All survey grids were 20m x 20m in size. It is imperative that the operator have no metal on them or within their body.

Calibration of the fluxgate gradiometer took place each morning in a designated place off of the survey grids to the west. Each morning the instrument was left to warm up for ~15 minutes prior to calibration. The instrument was balanced first from sky to earth and was then aligned in the four directions until the reading fluctuation was  $\pm 1$ nT in each direction. Calibrations occurred after the data were collected for each grid. For the fluxgate gradiometer, the survey interval was one meter and the number of readings was always eight samples per

meter. This results in 3,200 data points per 20m x 20m grid. The capacity of the Geoscan FM36 is 16,000; therefore, it is possible to collect five 20m x 20m grids in a single day at the survey and sample intervals described above.

Six gradiometer grids were laid out at the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. A north line was established using a small, portable Ushikata transit. The southwest corner of Grid 1 was designated as the datum point. A tape was pulled from the datum out 40 meters and aligned with magnetic north. A stake was placed at 20 and at 40 meters along the north/south line. The transit was turned to magnetic east and three stakes were placed at 20, 40, and 60 meters along an east/west line. From here the hypotenuse method was used to place the remainder of the grid stakes. The cemetery sloped rather sharply from north to south and west to east and much of the survey was within the trees. These slopes and trees made it difficult to impossible to accurately set in square 20m x 20m grids; therefore, when the GPS points were taken on the gradiometer grid stakes, the problems with the hypotenuse method is noticeable (Figure 6). However, without other instruments such as a Total Station, the hypotenuse method is the most accurate and small differences in laying out the grids is not viewed as significant to the overall accuracy of the data. Contributing to the slope and vegetation challenges, the unintentional removal of one of the grid corner stakes along the middle line of grids was unfortunate.

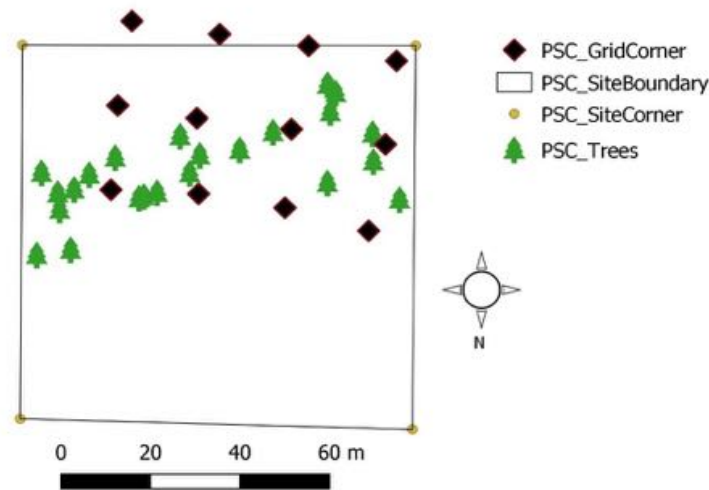


Figure 6. Gradiometer grids showing problems with the hypotenuse method due to slopes in both directions and vegetation at the cemetery.

To set a grid for survey, fiberglass tapes were pulled between both the grid stakes on the north and south lines while the east/west tapes were mobile and moved down the grid from west to east (Figure 7). The gradiometer surveys always begin in the SW grid corner along a tape laid out south to north. The first survey line began at .5m along the south line and ended .5m before the 20<sup>th</sup> line. The survey proceeded from south to north and west to east. At the end of each line, the gradiometer was stopped and the surveyor moved east to the next line (Figure

7). This method is known as the zig zag method and is quicker than the parallel method where the surveyor has to return to the south line after every line surveyed. Four tape lines were laid out at one time and after each line was surveyed, two volunteers on either end of the mobile tape would move the tape down to the next meter after the four lines. The survey went very quickly and the volunteers kept up with the surveyor.

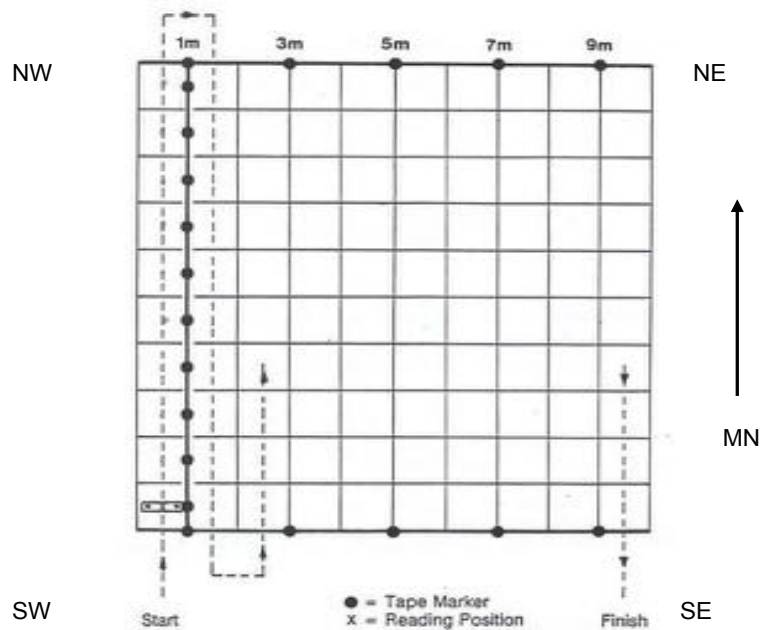


Figure 7. Example of zigzag survey collection method used during the 2021 Pagosa Springs Cemetery. The above example is a 10m x 10m grid.

During the process of the survey, a form was completed on each grid. The most important information collected on the survey forms concerns the methods of collecting the data and the settings for the instrument. A scaled grid on the second page of the form allows for accurate plotting of any surface anomalies that might be of concern for data interpretation. All of the anomalies noted on the gradiometer forms were also noted and mapped with a GPS by Ruth Lambert.

The memory in the Geoscan Research RM15 resistance meter is such that it can hold an entire day's worth of data; therefore, it was not necessary to download during the day. All data were downloaded at the end of each day. It is imperative that once the data are downloaded onto the laptop that the data be cleared from the memory; otherwise, this could lead to scrambled data (Geoplot Instruction Manual). Using the survey strategy of 8 samples



per meter with 1-meter intervals, 5 grids can be surveyed before downloading. Two grids were surveyed on Day 1 and 4 on Day 2.

Dr. Ruth Lambert of Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting took GPS points on the known graves, possible graves, depressions, large ponderosa pine trees, and the limits of the recent fencing around the cemetery. Dr. Lambert also took GPS points on the corner stakes of the gradiometer grids and on all of the metal detector targets. (See section on field methods by Dr. Lambert for more information on GPS methods and techniques.)

## Laboratory Methods

Geophysical data collection for the Geoscan instruments are downloaded as a string of information whereby the parameters set during downloading allow for the grids to be separated. Each grid (grd, dat) is assigned a grid number. A master grid (plm) is made with the individual grids positioned in relation to the other grids at the site. Figure 8 illustrates a Master Grid Template for an individual site. Individual grids are stored independently and the master grid does not itself contain any data, just the names of the grids. Once the master grid is created a composite (cmp) is made from that data. As a precaution against overriding raw grid data individual grid data cannot be post-processed. Post-processing can only occur in a composite file. This ensures that if a mistake has been made during data processing, it can be recreated. Once the composite is created it can be post-processed. The composite grids are the principle files manipulated in Geoplot. At the completion of post-processing, the composite data are exported into a Surfer binary file (grd) extension. These grd files are brought into Golden Surfer software where the final maps are created. Finally, maps are exported to a jpeg or bmp format for final publication.

Post processing is a vital step in preparing the data for interpretation. A number of processing functions are performed on the raw data. For the purpose of this project, functions that were regularly used on the data include the zero mean traverse, interpolate, clip data, despiking, edge match, low and high pass filters and other functions that were necessary because of the fluctuations in the data as a result of weather conditions, user flaws and the large area covered by this survey. Once the data are post-processed in Geoplot they are exported to Surfer 10. In Surfer 10, a color ramp is added and colors are changed to try and tease out the cultural anomalies. At times, the data were clipped after they were brought into Surfer and the interpolation option was always selected. However, actual data processing does not occur in this program. The final text and scaling are done in Surfer 10 and finally the maps are exported into jpeg or bmp format. Overlay maps were created in Surfer and in PowerPoint and exported as .png files.

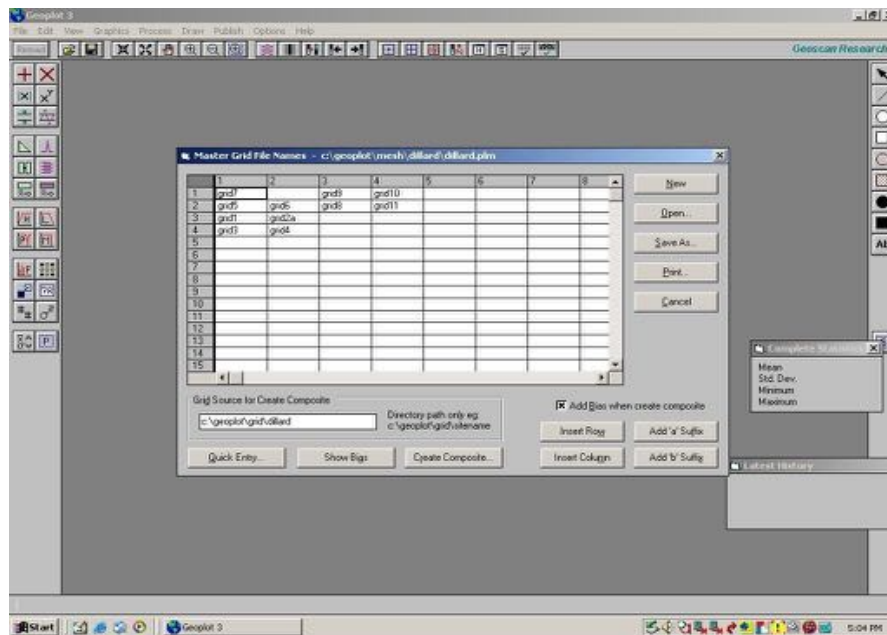


Figure 8. Example of setting up the master grid in Geoplot.

## Results

It was anticipated that the cemetery would have a large quantity of metal that could be detected with the metal detectors. This would include metal related to the cemetery care and maintenance over time as well as memorabilia left by family members. The possibility existed that metal artifacts could indicate designated areas such as old fence lines or fencing around individual graves or family plots. The quantity of surface and subsurface metal detected by the metal detectors was actually a bit surprising (Figure 9). A lot of the metal; however, is probably of a recent nature. Metal detecting for the purpose of the gradiometer survey was mostly confined to the six gradiometer grids with a slight spill over in some places (Figures 9 and 10). A large number of fencing debris along the northern portion of the cemetery (Grids 1 and 2) is related to both a previous post-and-wire fence and the more recent chain-link fence that had been removed just prior to the survey. As the gradiometer grids veered away from the northern fence line (visible in Grid 3, Figure 9s and 10), the metal decreased. There continued to be a significant number of metal objects within the treed area of the cemetery and just outside of the trees. In particular this is most noticeable in Grids 5 and 6. Determining if there are patterns any patterns in the metal on the site is difficult and nothing readily stands out due to the large amount of metal present. As will be discussed later, when the metal is compared with the gradiometer data some patterns are visible.

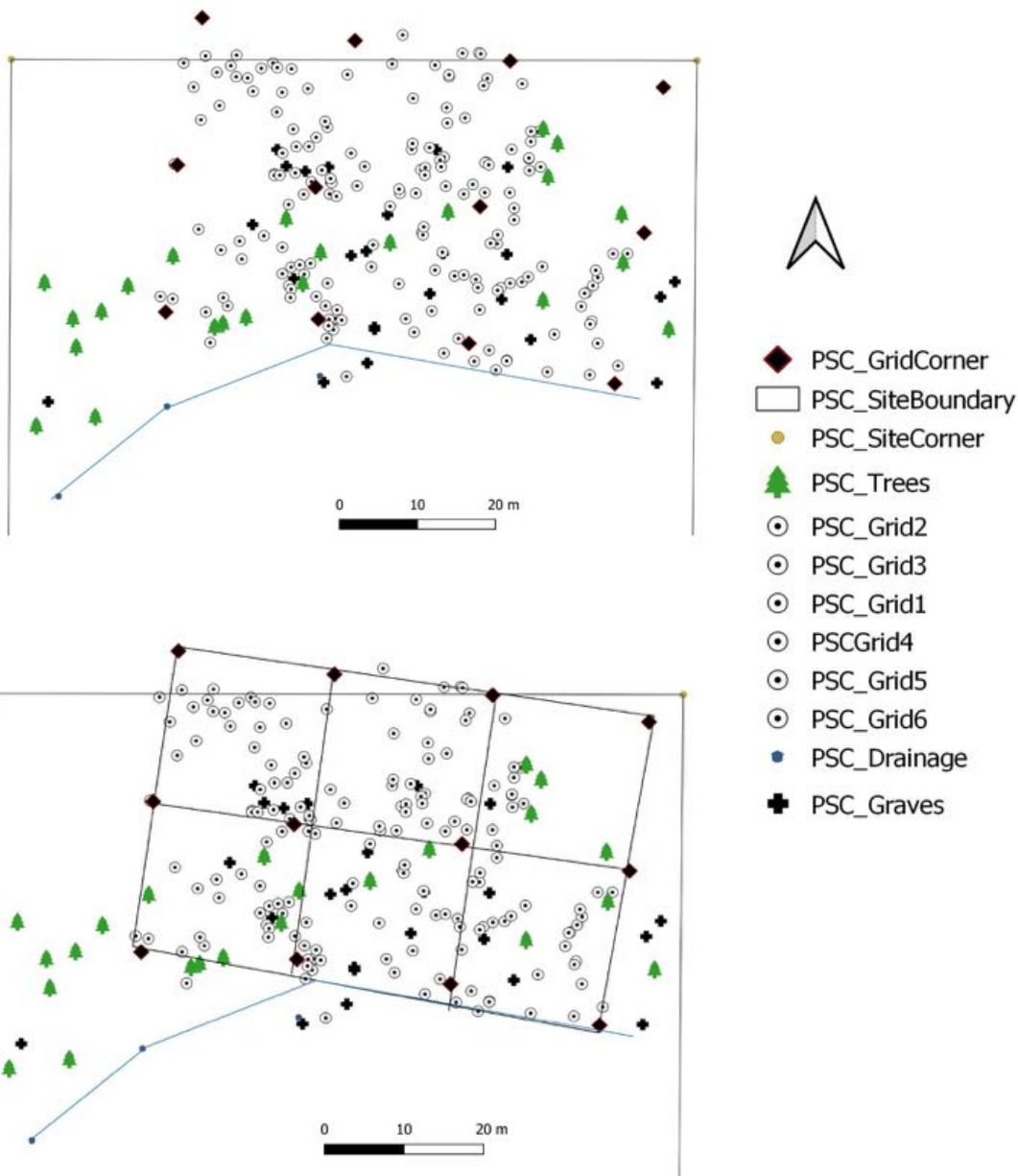


Figure 9. Metal detector targets. The bottom image has the gradiometer grids overlaid on the metal detector targets.

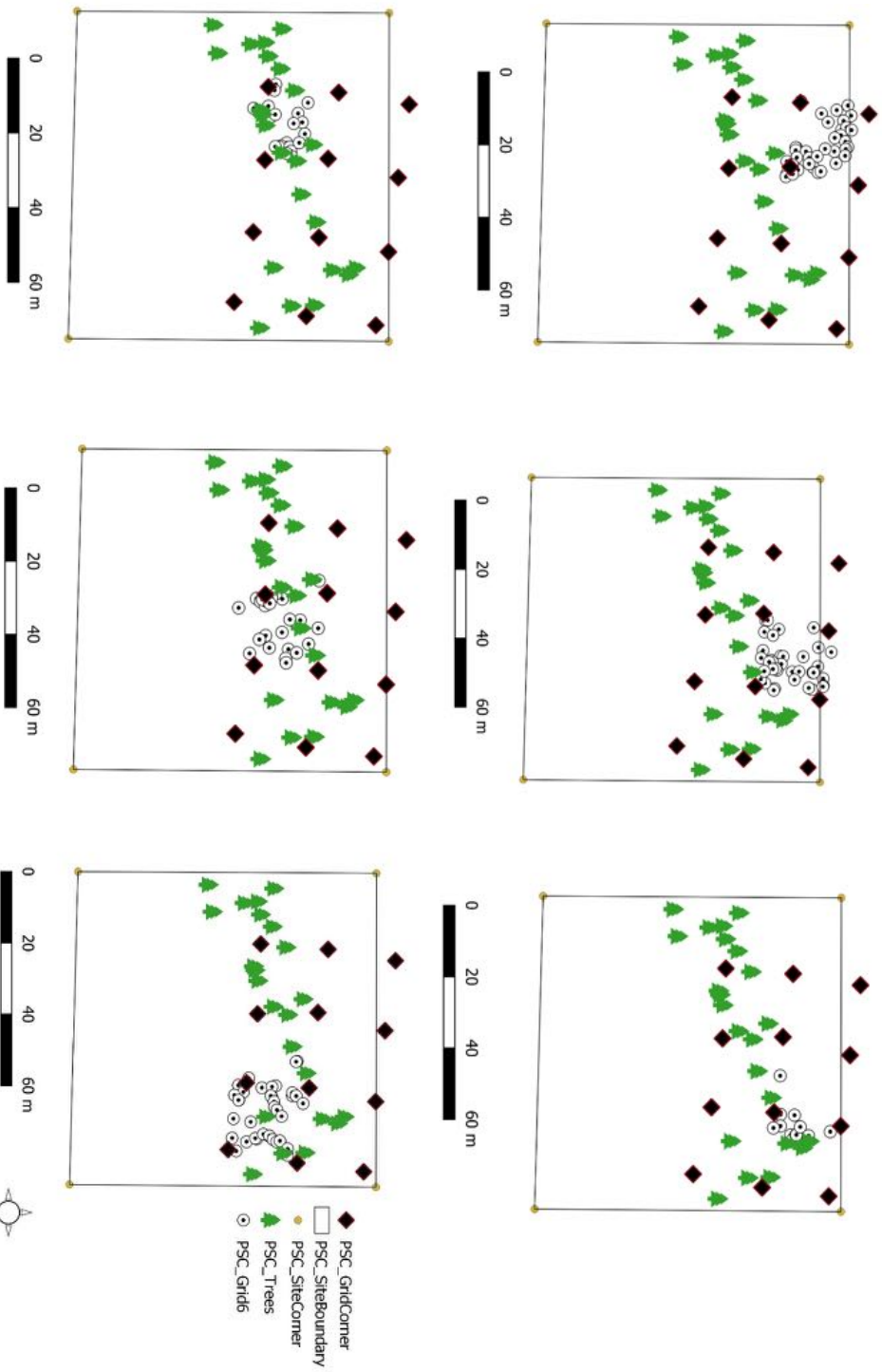


Figure 10. Metal detector targets by gradiometer grids. Top row left to right are Grids 1-3. Bottom row left to right are Grids 4-6.

The gradiometer data for the Pagosa Springs Cemetery are excellent. The primary reason that the data are of such high quality is that the underlying soils and bedrock contained very little natural iron. It was easy to calibrate the instrument and get the base readings close to  $\pm 1$  nT, which is excellent for detecting archaeological anomalies (non-metal) in the soil. The high amount of metal at the cemetery did affect the ability to differentiate between spurious metal and metal objects associated with the use and care of the cemetery. To aid in discriminating between spurious metal and magnetic anomalies, the data were post processed several times using different parameters and later the data were clipped in Surfer 10. The final gradiometer maps were then overlaid on the GIS maps which included the graves, large trees, and metal detector targets.

The full extent of the unprocessed gradiometer survey is presented in Figures 11. Figure 11 is a print screen taken directly from the software Geoplot. The data although they are the raw data are clipped at  $+90$  and  $-85$  nT. The very colorful anomalies are metal at the site or potentially very metallic rocks. Probably much of the black/white anomalies are some type of metal or metallic rock as well. In the unprocessed, raw data, there are several very distinct anomalies: (A) the two parallel lines emanated in the upper right-hand corner and continuing in a southwest direction; (B) the large anomaly in the bottom center; and (3) the very bright anomaly to in the lower right center.

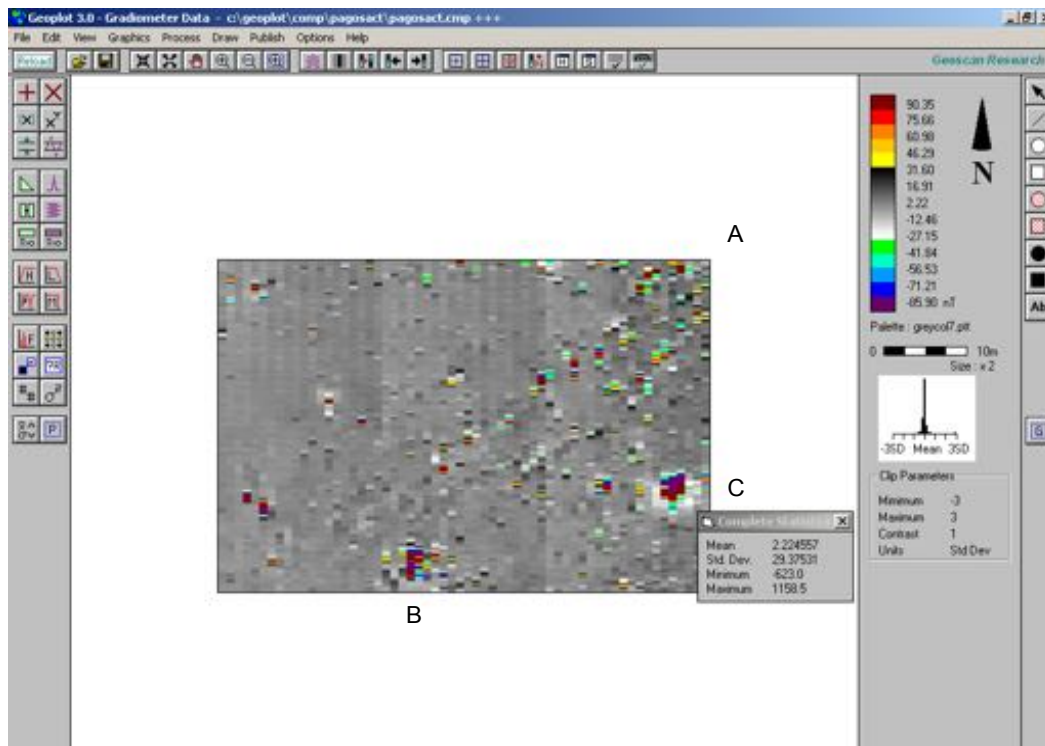


Figure 11. Screen short of raw gradiometer data from Geoplot. Note the stripes from the zig-zag survey method prior to post-processing. The metal is distinctive in this screen shot.

In Figure 12, the data have been post-processed. The post-processing of these grids was aimed at trying to despoke and clip the metal from the data so as to identify subtle anomalies such as potential unmarked graves. The metal is still visible but the more subtle anomalies are visible. The three salient features that were visible in the raw data are very visible in the post-processed maps. The single most easily recognizable pattern is the two linear anomalies that run from northeast to southwest across Grids 2, 3, 5, and 6 (Figure 12). A very strong anomaly appears in the central eastern portion of Grid 6 along with two identical anomalies just to west/northwest, and the last strong anomaly is the cluster of readings in the southeast corner of Grid 4 and the southwest corner of Grid 5 (Figure 12).

Linear features such as those in the data from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery are almost always of a cultural nature. For the most part, linear features that would be picked up by the gradiometer do not exist in the natural environment. There is no doubt that these anomalies are cultural in origin and that the pattern is not random. It is not clear from the data the extent on either end of the linear anomalies. The distance between the lines is between 6 to 10 meters or 20 – 32 feet. It is possible that there are subdivisions between the lines. It is noted that there is a magnetic quiet space between the lower linear anomaly and the rock scatter at the bottom of Grid 5. The grave of Gildea Grimes is in this quiet space. This shows really well in Grid 5 in Figure 14. The underlying source of these linear anomalies is probably metal of some kind. Could they represent the boundaries of an earlier cemetery? Certainly this is a possibility. It could even be possible that the cemetery entrance was in a different location than where we typically think that it should be based on the present layout and the demarcation resulting from the recent arbitrary fencing.

Something of interest that is visible in Figures 11 and 12 is the presence of probable metal along the far eastern edge of these grids. Possibly the gradiometer survey was just catching the edge of something like a fence. Without going further to the east with the survey this is speculative, but the data do suggest that something may be showing along this line.

The map in Figure 13 shows the overlay of the gradiometer grids with known and unknown graves, depressions, and rock concentrations that were mapped by Dr. Lambert. In Figure 14, each gradiometer grid was post-processed separately but with mostly identical parameters. In these grids, the depressions, known, and unknown graves are identified. For the most part, it is clear that the gradiometer picked up these anomalies. There is a one-to-one correspondence among most of the surface features as identified by Dr. Lambert and the subsurface anomalies identified in the gradiometer data.

The two images in Figure 15 are composite overlays with the gradiometer data, the metal detector targets, and the features identified on the surface such as known and unknown graves, depressions, areas of rock concentrations, the drainage, and the larger trees as identified by Dr. Lambert. In these images (the lower one has the known graves identified) the metal detector targets show some consistency with the gradiometer data especially along the linear anomalies. Another potential association might be between the larger ponderosa pines and the linear anomalies.

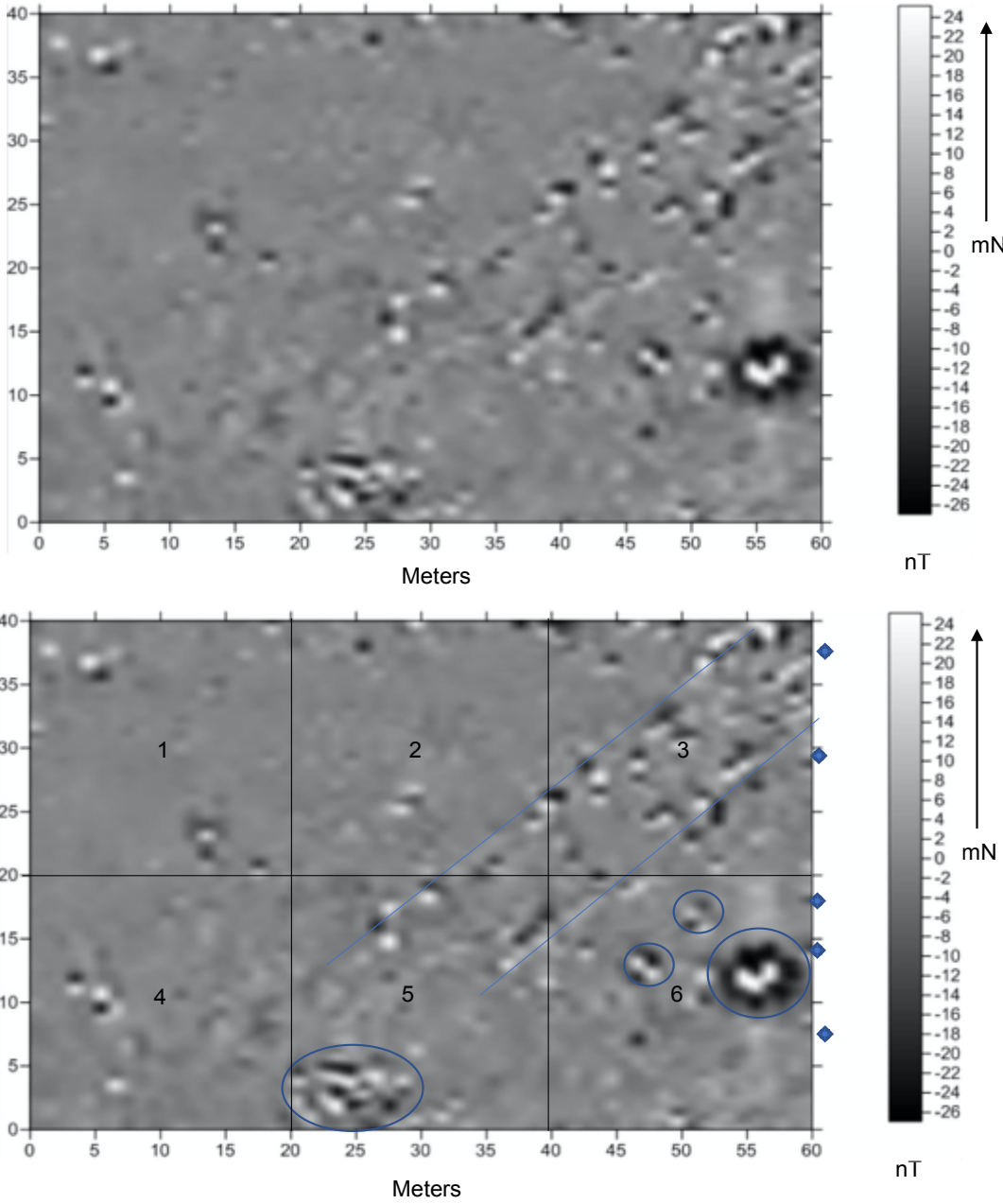


Figure 12. Post-processed gradiometer data, Pagosa Springs Cemetery with the most salient anomalies outlined. The blue diamonds represent possible anomalies on the very edge of Grids 3 and 6. Note that the low magnetic values are darker and the high values are lighter.

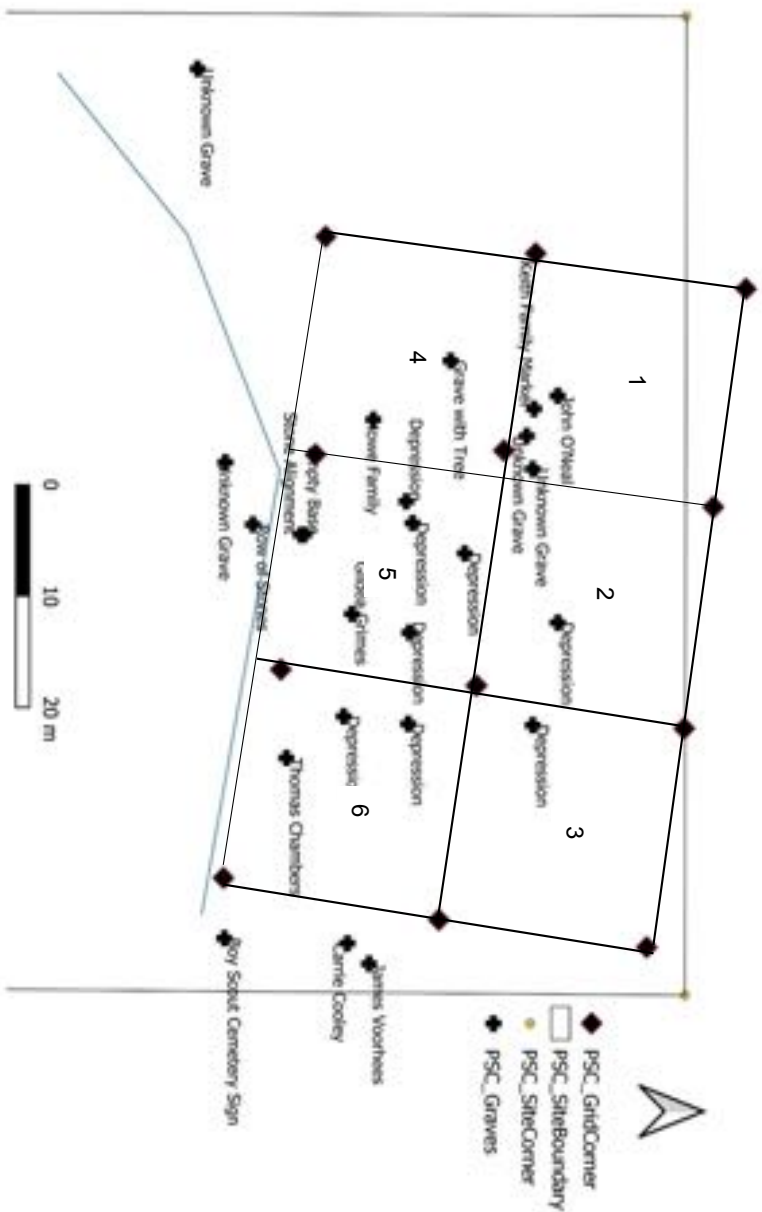


Figure 13. Gradiometer grids with mapped graves (known and unknown) and depressions.



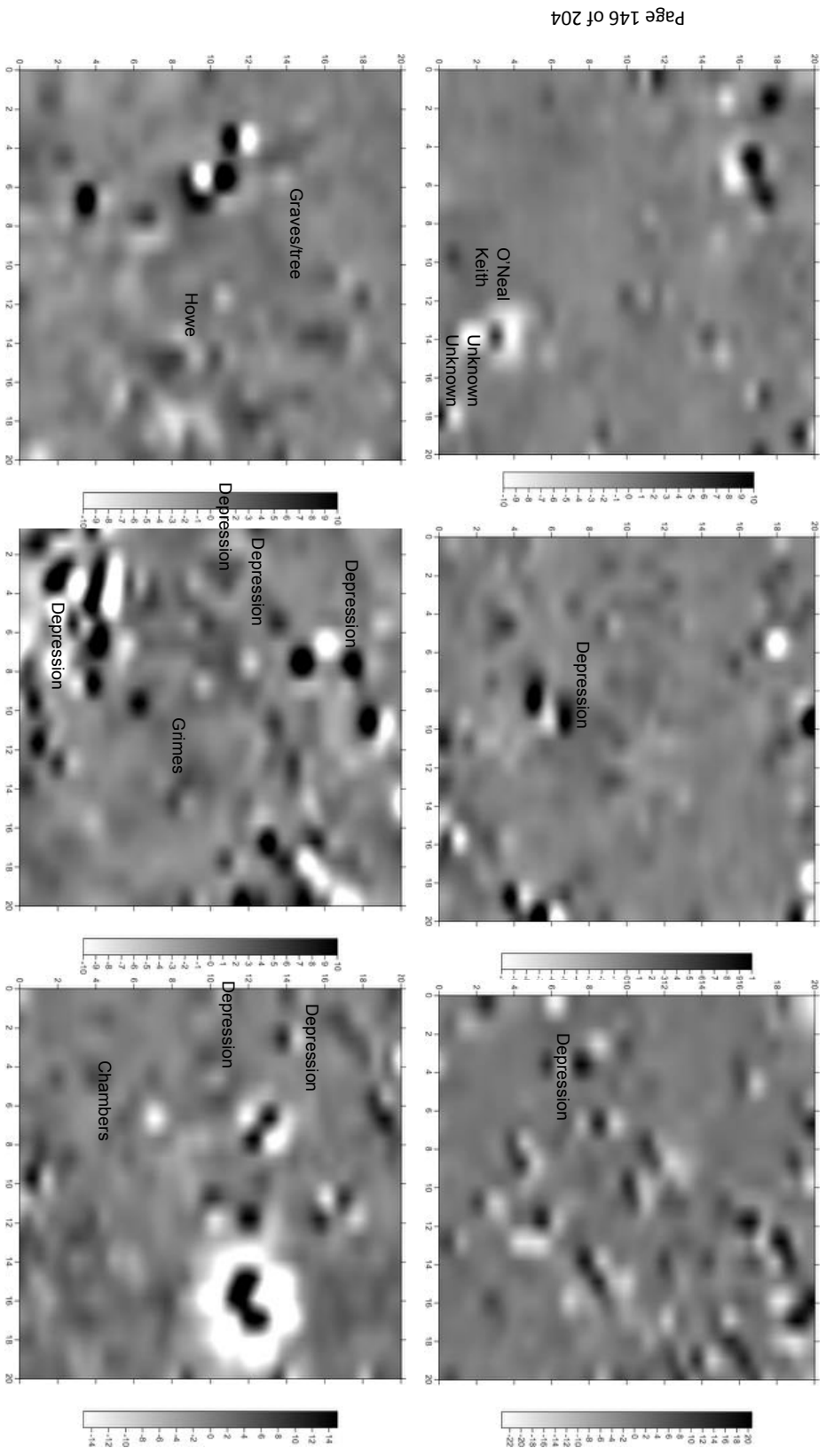


Figure 14. Post-processed individual gradiometer grids with graves and depressions. Top left to right Grids 1 – 3. Bottom left to right Grids 4-6. Note that the low magnetic values are lighter in color and high magnetic values are darker. (The opposite of Figures 12 and 13).

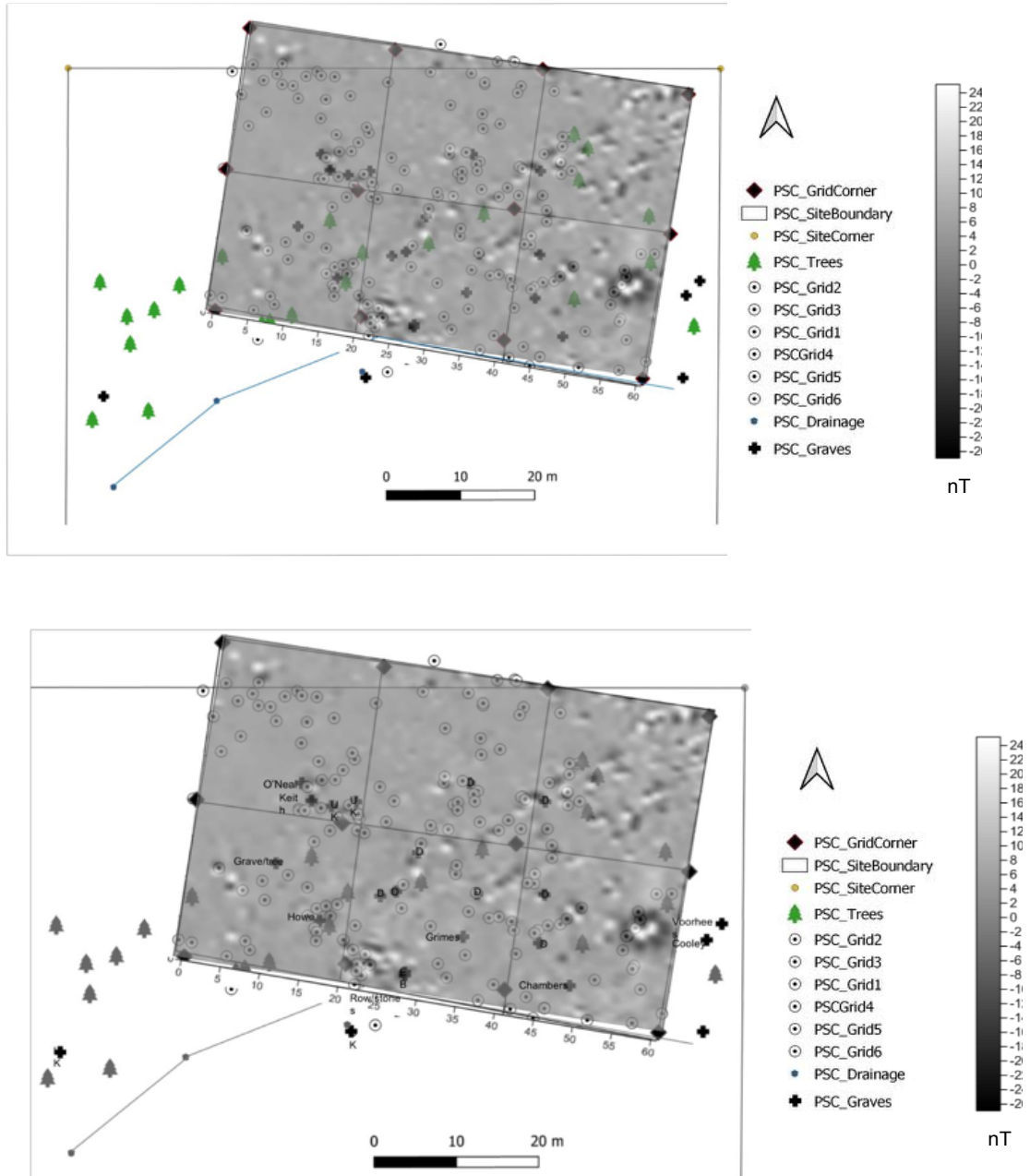
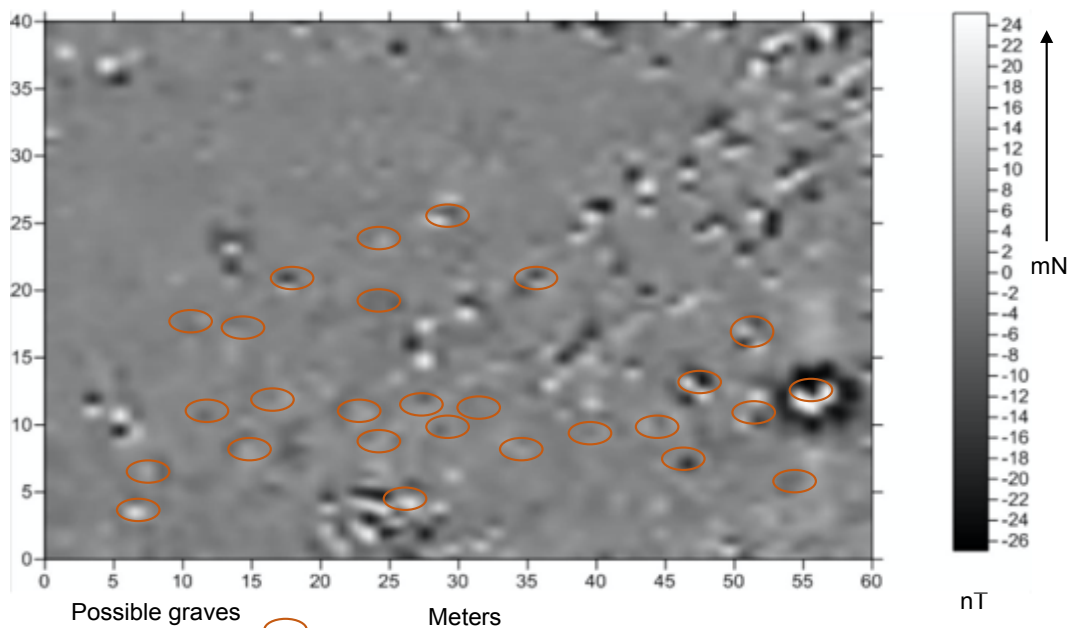


Figure 15. Overlay of metal detector targets, large trees, graves (known and unknown) and depressions over gradiometer data. Note in the lower image the known graves are identified by name.

It is tempting to over interpret geophysical data. This is especially true when there is an overabundance of metal on an archaeological site and the goal of the geophysical survey is to find subtle non-metal features such as unmarked graves. In Figure 16, the author has identified areas where there are anomalies that may indicate unknown graves. Several of these compare well with the depressions already mapped from the surface. Others are signatures that compare well with known graves mapped on the surface. Caution is urged in reading too much into the data without subsequent ground truthing; however, it does appear that there are anomalies in the gradiometer data from the Pagosa Springs Cemetery that most likely represent unmarked graves. In addition to the strong anomalies identified above there are anomalies that could be related to the early historic use of the cemetery. Cautiously, this author suggests that the area of the two linear anomalies may represent an older use and demarcation of the cemetery. It is also possible that these anomalies were made more recently and reflect some type of subsurface activities that occurred at the cemetery. Either way, these are most probably not natural and reflect human use of the cemetery. The large anomaly at the bottom of Grid 5 corresponds to a group of stones and these also reflect some historic use of the cemetery, perhaps demarcating an area of graves. The very strong anomaly near the southeast corner of the gradiometer survey represents a significant piece of metal. If there was a metal container in use at the cemetery, this would be candidate. The gradiometer data are unclear as to where the soldiers from Camp Lewis were buried and posthumously exhumed. There is too much ground disturbance and spurious metal in the data to make an interpretation about the whereabouts of the original graves, especially because there were so few. If the linear alignments are part of an older use of the cemetery, then it would be possible that this area may have been used for the military burials.



8 | P Figure 16. Possible graves overlaid on gradiometer survey data.

## Conclusion

The gradiometer survey of the Pagosa Spring Cemetery which occurred in August of 2021 was accomplished with a Geoscan Research FM 35. Six 20m x 20m grids were surveyed across the cemetery. The majority of the survey area was conducted within the treed area of the cemetery. It does not appear that the trees interfered with the accuracy of the gradiometer data. Anomalies were recognized in the data that are attributed to cultural activities. Some anomalies are identified that could represent potential older use and demarcation of the cemetery while more subtle anomalies may represent unmarked graves. The use of metal detectors at the site to identify surface and shallowly buried metal artifacts and spurious metal enhanced the interpretation of the gradiometer data by comparing the metal at the site with the results of the gradiometer data and identifying possible patterns in both data sets. It also identified areas of spurious metal that could be eliminated from the interpretation of the gradiometer data.

## References Cited:

Beven, Bruce W.

1998 *Geophysical Exploration for Archaeology: An Introduction to Geophysical Exploration*. Midwest Archeological Center Special Report No. 1. Lincoln, NE.

Bray, Robert T.

1958 *A Report of Archaeological Investigation at the Reno-Benteen Site, Custer Battlefield National Monument*. MS on file in Midwest Archeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Clark, Anthony

2003 *Seeing Beneath the Soil prospecting methods in archaeology*. Routledge, New York.

De Vore, Steven L.

2002 Geophysical Investigations at the Kane Cemetery (48BH3104), Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Wyoming. *Midwest Archeological Center Technical Report No. 76*. United States Department of the Interior National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Gregory, T. and J. G. Rogerson

1984 Metal-detecting in Archeological Excavation. *Antiquity* 58(224): 179-84.

Kvamme, Kenneth

2001 Current Practices in Archaeogeophysics: Magnetics, Resistivity, Conductivity, and Ground Penetrating Radar. In. *Earth Sciences and Archaeology*, edited by P. Goldberg, V. T. Holliday and C. R. Ferring. Pp.353-382. Kluwer Academic, New York.

McLeod, K. David

1985 Metal Detecting and Archaeology. An Example from Eblf-12. *Manitoba Archaeological Quarterly* 9 (2): 20-31.

Mitchell, Mark D. (editor)

*Archaeological and Geophysical Investigations Durango 2012 at Fort Clark State Historic Site, Mercer County, North Dakota*. Paleocultural Research Group, Research Contribution No. 90. Arvada, Colorado.

Mussett, A. E. and M. A. Khan

2000 *Looking into the Earth: An Introduction to Geological Geophysics*. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.

Scott, Douglas D. and Richard A. Fox, Jr.

1987 *Archaeological Insights into The Custer Battle: An Assessment of the 1984 Field Season*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman.

Scott, Douglas, Richard A. Fox, Jr., Melissa A. Connor and Dick Harmon

1989 *Archaeological Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman and London.

Somers, Lewis

1998 Geophysical Remote Sensing Survey of the Quartermaster Depot Dump at Fort Laramie National Historic Site. In *Archeology at the Fort Laramie Quartermaster Dump Area, 1994-1996*. D. N. Walker, editor. Cultural Resource Selections Intermountain Region, No. 13. Intermountain Region, National Park Service, Denver.



Consultants in Natural Resources and the Environment

**Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado**

Prepared for—

Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting LLC  
P.O. Box 1566  
Durango, Colorado 81302

*and*

Town of Pagosa Springs  
P.O. Box 1859  
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

Prepared by—

ERO Resources Corporation  
1842 Clarkson Street  
Denver, Colorado 80218  
(303) 830-1188

Written by—

Shayleen M. Ottman, GPR Specialist

Prepared under the supervision of—

Jonathan Hedlund, Principal Investigator

State Permit No. 2021-79494  
ERO Project No. 21-165

November 2021

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

## Abstract

On behalf of the town of Pagosa Springs (Pagosa Springs), Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting LLC (Client) contracted ERO Resources Corporation (ERO) to conduct a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey in the historical Pagosa Springs Cemetery in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado (Figure 2). The GPR survey, results analysis, and reporting was undertaken to support the Client's work, conducted for Pagosa Springs, to identify areas of potential unmarked graves on the Pagosa Springs Cemetery property (contract Category B). The scope of the Client's work for Pagosa Springs is broad and includes assessing the cemetery and the condition of existing grave markers (Category A); promoting community outreach and involvement (Category C); training volunteers in preservation, restoration, and data collection (Category D); and collating historical information and burial records pertaining to the cemetery (Category E). The results of this GPR report will be included as part of the Client's final report, which will include recommendations based on the information gathered during work conducted under the above categories (Category F).

ERO identified 16 signatures indicating graves in the south portion of the survey area. Eight of the 16 signatures fall within the expected size, shape, and depth of typical burial signatures, including five that are adjacent to surface features that indicate burial locations. Eight signatures are assigned as *Possible Grave Signatures* because tree roots, age and deterioration of the graves, and natural attenuation increase the potential for false positive results. One area was identified as a *Possible Disinterment*.

Despite limitations in the dataset, the GPR survey results can be used to help define a boundary of historical burials in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. As part of the larger project, which included archival research, magnetometry survey, and work that uncovered grave markers, field stones, rock outlines, and depressions in the tree-lined drainage, the GPR survey results provide information that can be used for decisions relating to the management of the cemetery and for the protection and recognition of existing graves in the survey area.

To assist the Client and Pagosa Springs in meeting their management goals, a georeferenced map and GIS locations of the grave signatures are submitted with this report.



Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

**Contents**

**Abstract** ..... i

**Glossary of Terms** ..... iii

**Project Description** ..... 1

**Methods** ..... 5

Archival Research..... 5

GPR Survey and Data Analysis ..... 5

**Limitations**..... 6

Burial Conditions..... 6

Depth and Resolution ..... 6

Surface and Subsurface Conditions ..... 7

**Results**..... 7

Possible Grave Signatures..... 12

Possible Disinterment ..... 12

**Summary** ..... 13

**References Cited**..... 14

**Figures**

Figure 1. An overview of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, view to the northwest..... 2

Figure 2. Pagosa Springs Cemetery location..... 3

Figure 3. GPR survey area. .... 4

Figure 4. GPR survey results..... 9

Figure 5. Overview of survey area, view to the northeast..... 10

Figure 6. Grave markers and field stones identified under trees, GPR survey area in background, view to the north-northwest..... 10

Figure 7. Rock outline over burial (GS10), view to the north. .... 11

Figure 8. Profile-view of possible disinterment or grave shaft (not to scale, depth is exaggerated compared to lateral extent). .... 13

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

## Glossary of Terms

**Attenuation** – Sometimes described as “noise” or “background noise,” attenuation refers to the reduction or dissipation of radar energy both as it is transmitted from the antenna and as it is reflected back toward the antenna.

**Burial** – The buried remains of an individual, including the container.

**Container** – Generally a coffin, casket, urn, shroud, or other container that holds an individual’s remains for burial.

**GPR** – Ground-penetrating radar.

**Grave** – The location of an individual’s burial, including physical remains, container, and associated grave goods subsurface.

**Grid** – The area, generally square or rectangular, surveyed with GPR; generally part of the “survey area.”

**Profile** – The data collected by the GPR unit along a transect, which produces a “cross-section” of the geologic deposits and any buried objects in the ground along that transect.

**Reflection** – A visible indication of an object within the GPR dataset caused by radar energy reflecting from an object back to the antenna.

**Signature** – Several reflections that together contain enough information to ascertain the source of the reflections (e.g., a grave signature).

**Transect** – One straight line of data collected with the GPR unit.

**Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado**

**September 2021**

**Project Description**

On behalf of the town of Pagosa Springs (Pagosa Springs), Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting LLC (Client) contracted ERO Resources Corporation (ERO) to conduct a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey in the historical Pagosa Springs Cemetery in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado (Figure 1, Figure 2, and Figure 3). The GPR survey, results analysis, and reporting was undertaken to support the Client's work, conducted for Pagosa Springs, to identify areas of potential unmarked graves on the Pagosa Springs Cemetery property (contract Category B). The scope of the Client's work for Pagosa Springs is broad and includes assessing the cemetery and the condition of existing grave markers (Category A); promoting community outreach and involvement (Category C); training volunteers in preservation, restoration, and data collection (Category D); and collating historical information and burial records pertaining to the cemetery (Category E). The results of this GPR report will be included as part of the Client's final report, which will include recommendations based on the information gathered during work conducted under the above categories (Category F).

ERO established two adjacent survey grids (survey area) that encompassed 17,176 square feet (ft) (0.39 acre). The grids were established in the north-northwest portion of the cemetery because this area was determined, by ERO and the Client, to have the best potential to contain unmarked graves that may be visible with GPR (i.e., few obstacles were present). ERO identified 16 signatures indicating graves in the south portion of the survey area. Eight of the 16 signatures fall within the expected size, shape, and depth of typical burial signatures, including five that are adjacent to surface features that indicate burial locations. Eight signatures are assigned as *Possible Grave Signatures* because tree roots, age and deterioration of the graves, and natural attenuation increase the potential for false positive results. One area was identified as a *Possible Disinterment*.

Despite limitations in the dataset, the GPR survey results can be used to help define a boundary of historical burials in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery. As part of the larger project, which included archival research, magnetometry survey, and work that uncovered grave markers, field stones, rock outlines, and depressions in the tree-lined drainage, the GPR survey results provide information that can be used for decisions relating to the management of the cemetery and for the protection and recognition of existing graves in the survey area.

To assist the Client and Pagosa Springs in meeting their management goals, a georeferenced map and GIS locations of the grave signatures are submitted with this report.

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

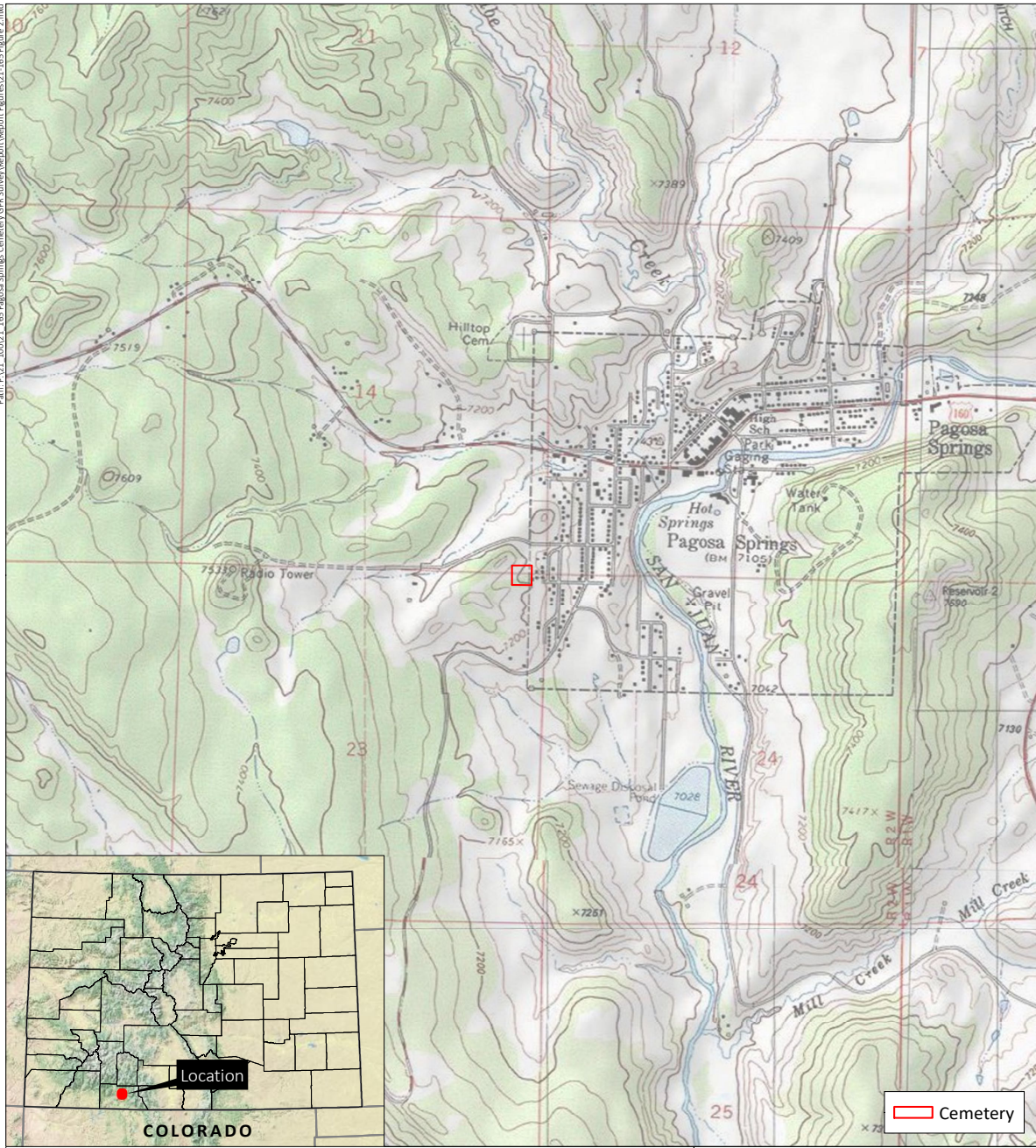
---

On August 17 and 18, 2021, ERO GPR specialist Shayleen Ottman conducted a GPR survey with the assistance of volunteers Patty Joy, Linda Hobbs, Tanice Ramsperger, Nancy Carter, and Jeanne Dobbins, as well as magnetometry specialist, Mona Charles. The survey took place in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery in Pagosa Springs. The legal location of the cemetery is Lot 10 and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 14, and Lot 15 and the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 23, Township 35 North, Range 2 West of the New Mexico Principal Meridian in Archuleta County, Colorado (Figure 2).



**Figure 1. An overview of the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, view to the northwest.**

Path: P:\21\_100\21\_105 Pagosa Springs Cemetery GPR Survey\Report\Figure2\1-165 Figure 2.mxd



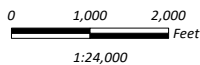
**Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Archuleta County, Colorado**

Sections 14 and 23, T35N, R2W; New Mexico PM  
USGS Pagosa Springs, CO Quadrangle (1:24,000; 1967)  
Archuleta County, Colorado



**Figure 2  
Cemetery Location**

Prepared for:  
Blue Canyon Cultural Consulting LLC  
and  
Town of Pagosa Springs  
File: 21-165 Figure 2.mxd (ME)  
September 29, 2021





Portions of this document include intellectual property of ESRI and its licensors and are used herein under license. Copyright © 2021 ESRI and its licensors. All rights reserved.

**Figure 3.**  
GPR Survey Area  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery



Map by: Shayleen Ottman, ERO Resources Corp. September 2021.  
Background imagery from: Google Earth, earth.google.com/web/.  
UTM NAD83  
Due to quality of background imagery, mapped features may appear inaccurate against background. Mapped features are not to scale.

**Key:**

-  GPR survey grid boundary
-  Cemetery fenced boundary

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

## Methods

### Archival Research

Prior to data collection, the Client conducted archival research to identify any potential graves that may exist in the survey area and to identify any conditions that may affect the analysis of GPR survey results. Results of the archival research were communicated to ERO prior to GPR survey and helped to influence interpretation of the survey results.

In addition, ERO analyzed publicly available information including topographic and geologic maps and aerial images. The reviews were undertaken to inform the interpretations made during data analysis as well as inform the specifications for equipment to be used during GPR data collection.

### GPR Survey and Data Analysis

GPR data were collected using an IDS GeoRadar FourLite system with a 200/600 megahertz (mHz) dual-frequency antenna array. Data collection began in the southwest corner of each grid, with data collected in north-south transects spaced at 1 ft, perpendicular to the expected east-west grave orientation. Grid 1 measured 52 ft east-west and 118 ft north-south. Grid 2 measured 120 ft east-west and 92 ft north-south (Figure 3). The grids were placed in areas mostly free from trees and other obstacles that can affect the collection and quality of the GPR data, and in an area of the cemetery that was identified to potentially contain unmarked graves. Grave markers indicated at least three burials are present in Grid 2.

GPR is a method of geophysical analysis that requires no digging or ground disturbance to collect subsurface data. GPR datasets are acquired by collecting and analyzing reflections of radar energy produced by an antenna that is moved along the ground surface. The antenna propagates energy into the ground, and reflections are created by velocity changes in the energy reflected back to the antenna as the energy encounters materials of differing chemical and physical properties (Conyers 2012). Each pass of the antenna along a transect produces a profile of the geology and archaeology in the ground. When collected in a tightly spaced grid, these profiles can reveal the geologic context of a site, as well as buried features and materials, such as coffins or caskets. This process requires careful analysis and an understanding of the geologic and historical background of the area.

In addition to collecting GPR data, ERO used a sub-ft-capable Trimble Geo7X Global Positioning System (GPS) unit to map the corners of each survey grid and any features within the survey grids including trees, grave markers, possible grave markers or field stones, depressions, or other features. ERO used the GPS data to overlay the survey grids onto aerial imagery from Google Earth to create Figure 4, which maps the locations of grave signatures identified with GPR in the survey area.

After data collection, the GPR data were analyzed using GeoRadar's OneVision GPR processing and displaying software. A two-step process was used to analyze and then interpret the data. First, both the 200 and 600 mHz GPR data were displayed in what is known as an "Amplitude Map" – a birds-eye view

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

map of larger, more expansive features buried at depths expected for graves. The second step is known as “Profile Analysis” and involves analyzing the data in cross-sections to view the depth and extent of subtle reflections created by graves and other buried features. Comparing the results of the two steps allows the ERO to “weed out” reflections that may be created by nongrave features. Profile Analysis was used as the primary method of analysis because it provides higher resolution and detail to each reflection. Data were analyzed according to established methods of grave identification (Conyers 2012).

## Limitations

GPR has limitations in the detection of graves. No geophysical method is 100 percent accurate without verification from “ground truthing” (i.e., digging to verify the findings of GPR or any geophysical method). Limitations can be caused by the condition of the burial itself, from surface and subsurface ground conditions, and from discrepancies between records and real-world locations of burials or grave rooms. Below is a discussion of general limitations within any GPR dataset, and more specific limitations encountered in each survey grid are outlined in the *Results* section when applicable.

## Burial Conditions

The physical properties of graves and the surrounding sediments can limit the results of GPR. Identification of graves almost always relies on reflections from the burial container within the grave and not the individual or the individual’s bones. Therefore, burials conducted without a sturdy container, such as those in a burial shroud or other materials that will deteriorate quickly, often retain insufficient differences in their chemical and physical properties to be discerned from the surrounding sediments. Coffins or caskets that have deteriorated due to ground conditions, time, or both, are often difficult and are sometimes impossible to identify with GPR. It should be noted, however, that even when no reflection can be identified from a burial container, other methods can sometimes be used to identify or infer the presence of a burial. For example, if stratification of local sediments can be identified with GPR, a burial shaft that truncates the strata can sometimes be identified. However, such methods require additional time, analysis, and interpretation, and are often considered a low-confidence identification and identified as a “possible grave signature”.

In the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, ERO identified no grave signature adjacent to the O’Neal marker, which may indicate the O’Neal burial is too deteriorated to create a grave signature. This result suggests other burials of similar age and condition are possibly present in the GPR dataset and were unable to be identified through data analysis due to deterioration over time.

## Depth and Resolution

Soil and sediment characteristics of the survey area affect the depth of radar penetration at different frequencies. Attenuation, or the reduction or dissipation of radar energy both as it is transmitted from the antenna and as it is reflected back to the antenna, affects the depth of penetration and what can be “seen” in a GPR profile. High-frequency antennas generally produce higher resolution GPR data, can be used to identify smaller objects, and emit energy that is attenuated at shallower depths. Low-frequency



Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

antennas generally have low resolution, can be used to identify only larger objects, and emit energy that is attenuated at deeper depths.

In the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, 600 MHz energy generally attenuated at about 4.5 ft below ground surface. The 200 MHz energy attenuated at about 11 ft below ground surface. Typical grave signatures, produced by the tops of caskets or coffins, are generally calculated at 3.9 to 4.9 ft below ground surface, or even shallower, depending on the individual grave digger or the conditions of the ground at the time of burial (Conyers 2012:132). Excavations conducted by ERO in a historical cemetery in La Plata county demonstrate the variability in historical burial depth: “Depth range [of casket *bottom*] is from 1.14 feet to 4.44 feet, with an average depth of 2.53 feet and a median depth of 2.18 feet. The difference between depths from the shallowest to the deepest is well over three feet.” The depth range is obtained from the burials of 21 child and adult graves interred between about 1890 and 1912 (Mulhern et al. 2014).

Due to potential variance in burial depth, the GPR results may be limited in cases where a coffin or casket top is located below the approximate 4.5-ft depth of 600 MHz attenuation because grave reflections are better identified using 600 MHz data than through 200 MHz data. Although 6 ft is commonly believed to be the standard for grave depth, no federal or Colorado state standards exist or have existed that mandate a standard grave depth. Additionally, sediment deposition or erosion after a burial can affect the depth of the container below the present-day ground surface.

## Surface and Subsurface Conditions

Some ground conditions can affect the analysis of the GPR results. For example, areas containing numerous buried objects, such as tree roots, utility lines, and rocks, or areas that have been subject to major compaction, are not ideal for analysis of the subtle reflections caused by graves. Such subsurface obstacles can create low-confidence assessments or obscure grave reflections entirely, creating a “false-negative” – a situation in which a burial is in fact present, but cannot be identified with GPR. Conversely, numerous buried objects may also create a “false-positive” signature. False-positive signatures can be difficult to differentiate from actual grave signatures, especially in the identification of child burials due to a variation in size and burial depth.

Obstacles at the surface that prevent the collection of GPR data in straight and evenly spaced transects or that prevent the GPR unit from making contact with the ground surface for prolonged periods can also affect the quality of the GPR data and the data analysis. In Grid 1, a tree was encountered and caused a portion of the grid to be unsurveyed (Figure 4). Subsurface tree roots in the south portion of both survey grids caused a number of grave signatures to be assigned as “possible grave signatures” because of the possibility for false-positive results.

## Results

ERO surveyed two grids totaling 17,176 square ft (0.39 acre; Figure 4 and Figure 5), and ERO identified 16 signatures indicating graves in the south portion of the survey area. Eight of the 16 signatures fall

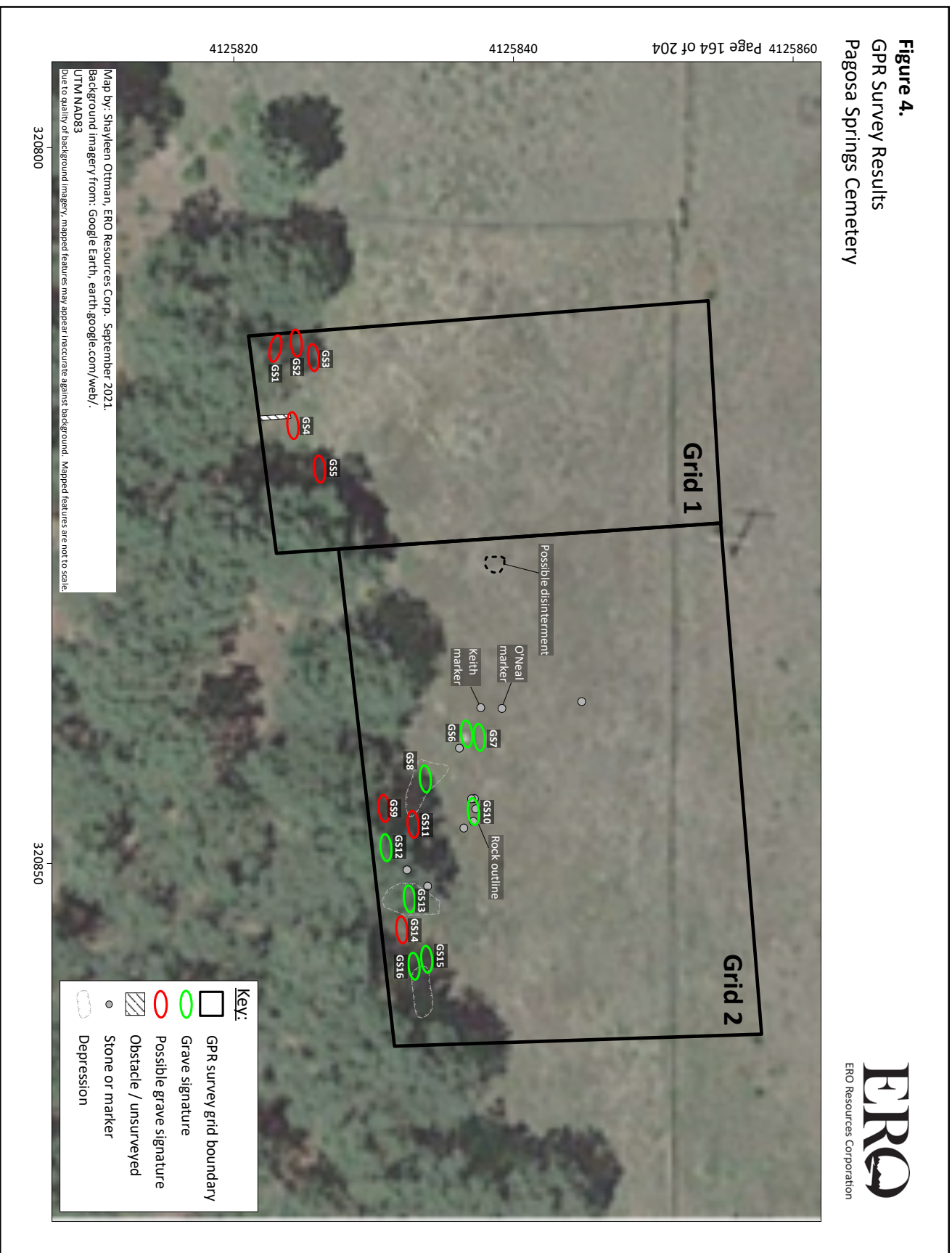
Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

within the expected size, shape, and depth of typical burial signatures (GS6, GS7, GS8, GS10, GS12, GS13, GS15, and GS18), including five that are adjacent to surface features that indicate burial locations. Eight signatures are assigned as *Possible Grave Signatures* (GS1-GS5, GS9, GS11, and GS14), and one area was identified as a *Possible Disinterment*.

The grave signatures are generally clustered in the southern portion of the survey area, nearest to the tree-lined drainage where surface features indicating graves were identified during the work conducted by the Client and volunteers. The work uncovered grave markers, field stones, rock outlines, and depressions under the pine duff and vegetation (Figure 6).

**Figure 4.**  
GPR Survey Results  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery



Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado



Figure 5. Overview of survey area, view to the northeast.



Figure 6. Grave markers and field stones identified under trees, GPR survey area in background, view to the north-northwest.

ERO identified eight grave signatures that fall within the expected size, depth, and orientation of historical grave reflections. Five of the eight signatures are located adjacent to surface features that

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

indicate burial locations. Such surface features include surface depressions, field stones, grave markers, and possible marker bases that ERO mapped in the survey area (Figure 4).

ERO mapped three depressions in the south portion of Grid 2. ERO identified two grave signatures in the locations of the western and central surface depressions (GS8 and GS13, respectively), which appear to be the result of slumped overlying sediments following coffin collapse. Two grave signatures (GS15 and GS16) are adjacent to the remaining, easternmost depression. No grave signatures were identified in the eastern depression, which may be a natural depression, or may be caused by either the collapse of a deep or highly deteriorated burial not visible with GPR or the settling of sediments following a disinterment. GPR does not make clear the cause of the eastern depression.

During surface survey, the Client uncovered a 5-ft-long rectangular rock outline feature that indicates the location of a burial in the GPR survey area (Figure 7). ERO identified one grave signature beneath the rock outline (GS10, Figure 4).



**Figure 7. Rock outline over burial (GS10), view to the north.**

ERO mapped two grave markers. The Keith grave marker bears two names, indicating two adjacent burials, and ERO identified two grave signatures (GS6 and GS7) adjacent to the Keith family grave marker. The O'Neal grave marker indicates one burial, and ERO identified no grave signature adjacent to the O'Neal marker, which may indicate the O'Neal burial is too deteriorated to create a grave signature. This result suggests other burials of similar age and condition are possibly present in the GPR dataset and were unable to be identified through data analysis due to deterioration over time. Despite the likelihood of deteriorated burials, the results of the GPR data analysis can be used to help identify a likely extent for the historical burials (Figure 4).

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

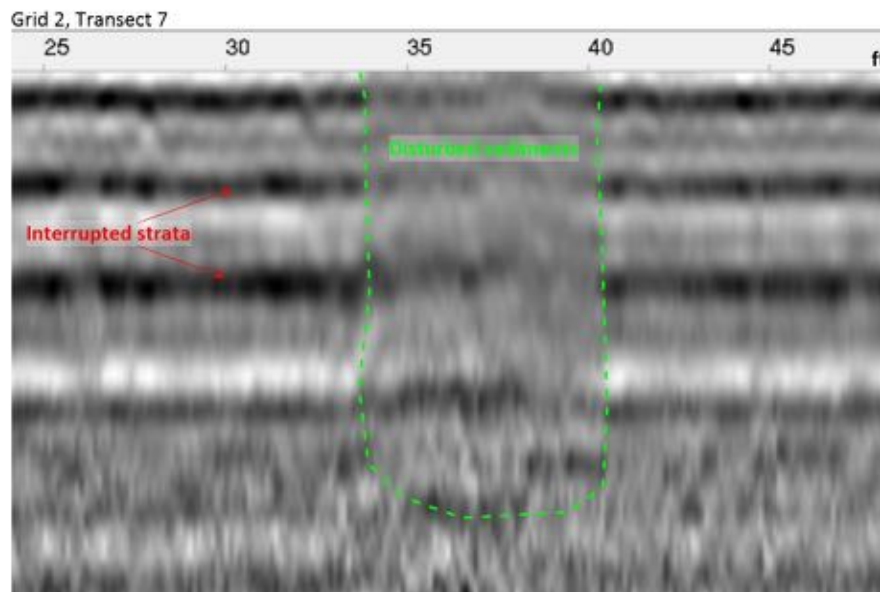
## **Possible Grave Signatures**

Of the 16 grave signatures, ERO identified 8 as possible grave signatures (Figure 4). Grave reflections are assigned as *possible* grave signatures when the reflections visible with GPR fall outside a standard or expected size, depth, or orientation of a grave, but still retain features that indicate the reflection is caused by a burial. Possible grave signatures are also described in areas where GPR data may be obfuscated by site conditions such as roots, rocks, or other buried objects that may create a “false-positive” result. The designation is subjective because it takes into account the expected age and assumed condition or deterioration of burials.

## **Possible Disinterment**

A disturbed area within the survey grids may represent a possible disinterment. When viewed in profile, sedimentary strata appear truncated by vertical walls, typical of a grave shaft, but no reflections indicating a burial container are present (Figure 8). The disturbed area is unusual, and it should be noted the characteristics of the area do not conform to an expected size of a disinterment. The area measures about 4 ft east-west and 4 ft deep, although attenuation obscures the lower part of the reflections and its actual depth may be slightly deeper. The 4-ft east-west length indicates the burial container, if one was disinterred, was smaller than a typical adult casket and would be more consistent with the casket size of a child or infant. Additionally, because attenuation obscures the lower portion of the profile, a deteriorated burial or burials may be present within the grave shaft that cannot be identified with GPR due to either attenuation depth, deterioration, or a combination of both. Additionally, the area may be disturbed for other reasons altogether and, therefore, the area is identified only as a *possible* disinterment.

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
 Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
 Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado



**Figure 8. Profile-view of possible disinterment or grave shaft (not to scale, depth is exaggerated compared to lateral extent).**

## Summary

GPR analysis identified 16 grave signatures clustered in the south portion of the survey area. Tree roots, age and deterioration of graves, and natural attenuation created moderate limitations in the dataset. Limitations caused 8 of the 16 signatures to be assigned as *Possible Grave Signatures*, primarily because of the possibility of a “false positive” result caused by tree roots. Despite limitations, the GPR survey results indicate historical burials outside of the tree-lined drainage are clustered near the trees and around known grave markers in Grid 2, and that graves are unlikely to continue upslope. A second potential cluster is present along the treeline in Grid 1, but the signatures are described as possible grave signatures due to limitations within the dataset. The GPR survey results can be used to help define a boundary on historical burials in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery.

Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey  
Pagosa Springs Cemetery  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado

---

## References Cited

Conyers, Lawrence B.

2012 *Interpreting Ground-penetrating Radar for Archaeology*. Left Coast Press, Inc., Walnut Creek, California.

Mulhern, Dawn, Mona C. Charles, and Sean Larmore

2014 *Ignacio School District, Cemetery Mitigation and Relocation Project, La Plata County, Colorado*.

Prepared by ERO Resources Corporation for Ignacio School District 11-JT, Ignacio, Colorado.



**APPENDIX D**

**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

## Genealogical Research

Genealogical research was conducted for this project by several historians and genealogists who generously volunteered their assistance to this project. Their work has added important new information to our knowledge about the historic Pagosa Springs Cemetery and the individuals that are buried at the cemetery. We gratefully acknowledge the research conducted by these individuals. The name of the person/topic of study and the researcher are below.

Private Henry Akens.....	Rebecca Battles
Carrie Cooley.....	Pamela R. Hayes
Algernon S. Dutton.....	Rebekah Stafford
Pagosa Cemetery Land.....	Jeannine Dobbins
Rola T. Ham.....	Shari Pierce
Kemp Family.....	Jane McKain
Lieutenant O. Ladley.....	Ann Oldham
John S. O'Neal.....	Shari Pierce
Ethel Parrish.....	Carolyn Paschal
William 'Billy' Robbins.....	Kathy Zilhaver
James H. Voorhees.....	Sherryl L. Egy
Henry J. Voorhees.....	Debbi Kinnibrugh

## Henry Akens

By Rebecca Battles

Alias: Akins, Aikens, Aken

Henry Akens was a colored (as listed in ranks) soldier in the Army, 9<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Company D. He served as a "Buffalo Soldier" during the Indian Wars. Fort Garland was home to the Buffalo soldiers of the Cavalry from 1876 to 1879. The soldiers at Fort Lewis were moved to Animas City during the winter of 1878 because there was no hay available for the horses.

He was reported as deceased September 11, 1878 in the U.S. Registers of Deaths in the Regular Army, 1860-1899. His cause of death was due to inflammation of lung.

A search in the Archuleta County Records Volume I and II did not turn up any reference to Pvt. Akens, except a one-line entry stating " Henry Akens - d. Sep 11, 1878 Big Bend Rio Delores, La Plata County Colorado". This date is incongruent with the Fort Lewis cemetery in Pagosa Springs, Colorado as opening in October 15, 1878. This leaves some doubt as to Pvt. Akens place of burial.

A search of several skirmishes in the area during this time was conducted.

In September 1879, there was a large battle that started on the 29th of Sept. and ended on October 5, 1879. It is referred to as the Meeker incident on Milk Creek in Rio Blanco County. There were several run-ins with the Indians prior to this date. On Sept 29, Major Thomas Thornburg was killed along with several soldiers. The Major was taken back to the fort the fallen soldiers were buried on-site in unmarked graves.<sup>1</sup>

This battle is significant to Pvt. Akens. Though he died the year before this battle, it states that the soldiers were buried where they fell.

The Cheyenne were raising a ruckus in Wallace Kansas in fall of 1878. "The adjutant General's report on the fight in Scott Count, Kansas, September 27, 1878, and on the death of Lieutenant Colonel William H. Lewis, contained a list of wounded and "return of wounds and injuries in action"<sup>2</sup>. This battle is relevant because of the time frame to Pvt. Akens' death. Deborah Goodrich and Jane Pierce at Fort Wallace Museum in Wallace Kansas assisted with a search for Pvt. Akens within their records and nothing was found.

<sup>1</sup> Encyclopedia Staff. "Battle of Milk Creek." Colorado Encyclopedia, <https://coloradoencyclopedia.org/article/battle-milk-creek>.

<sup>2</sup> Kansas State Historical Society Microfilm M5 1227.01, Indian Campaigns Collections: Cheyenne Indians

Records of Fort Lewis, Pagosa Springs reveal that the soldiers' graves were moved to the new fort site in Hesperus, Colorado and to Fort Leavenworth. A search of the records at Fort Lewis College was unfruitful. The records at Leavenworth National Cemetery also did not produce Pvt. Akens' grave site. The bodies that were at the new Fort Lewis of "military personnel were exhumed and moved to Fort McPherson National Cemetery in Maxwell, NE"<sup>3</sup> The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs/National Cemetery/Nationwide Gravesite Locator , was used to search records for Leavenworth National Cemetery, Fort McPherson National Cemetery and Fort Lewis Cemetery. All results were negative.

There are two references to Pvt. Akens in the Military records. The first is a return from active field duty. It records his name as Henry Akins and states that the action date was June 4, 1878 at Fort Garland with regiment return date of July 1878.<sup>4</sup> The second document identifies him as Henry Aikens with his death on Sept 11, 1878 in the Utah Territory.<sup>5</sup>

Several discrepancies were found through -out the research material and it is possible that Pvt. Akens name was inadvertently added to the graves list due to the timing of his reported death and the opening of the cemetery. It is also possible that Pvt. Akens was wounded or ill and brought back to the fort and died in-route causing some confusion.

It is my belief that Pvt. Akens is buried where he fell "in the field Utah Territory".

This is submitted by Rebecca Battles on 8-31-2021

---

<sup>3</sup> Center of Southwest Studies: Fort Lewis College

<sup>4</sup>Ancestry.com U.S., Buffalo soldiers, Returns from Regular Army Cavalry Regiments, 1866-1916

<sup>5</sup> Ancestry.com U.S., Registers of Deaths in the Regular Army, 1860-1889

## Report on Carrie Cooley

By Pamela R. Hayes

According to an earlier recording in Archuleta County Records, Death and Burial Records, Volume II, undated, but believed to be compiled prior to 1997, the following is a transcript of Carrie Cooley's tombstone:

Carrie Cooley  
BORN DEC 30, 1880  
DIED APR 20, 1887

As of the date of this report, there has been partial flaking of the sandstone tombstone as shown below. Today it would be difficult to recognize her birth date and the year of her death except for the 7 in 1887.



As she was said to be born in December of 1880, she would not appear in the 1880 census. She is not listed in the 1885 Colorado census for Archuleta County, or in the 1885 Archuleta County Mortality Schedule. There is no record of her death in the San Juan Prospector or the La Plata Miner. At the end of this report there will be a listing of all records investigated for any record of this child.

This tombstone is the only record of this child's birth and death.

In the 1885 Colorado census for Archuleta County is the family of William Frank and Nancy Catherine Gilliland Cooley

<sup>2</sup>. These are the only Cooley family or individuals by that name located in the county in 1885.

Cooley, W. [William] F. [Frank], 33, teamster, born Ohio, Father born Ind., Mother born Ger.

N. [Nancy] C. [Catherine], 21, cook, born Texas, Father born Mo., Mother born Texas

L. [Louis] J., son, age 4, born in Colorado

A. [Anna] G. [Grace], daughter, age 2, born in Colorado

M. [Mary] J. [Idella], daughter, age 0/4, born March, in Colorado

On the 1880 census William Frank Cooley's birthplace is given as IL<sup>2</sup>, on the 1900 census it is Iowa<sup>3</sup>, and on the 1885 CO census it is OH<sup>4</sup>, with Father born in Indiana and Mother born in Germany. This has made it difficult to trace him back on any earlier census.

William Frank and Nancy Catherine Gilliland Cooley were married 28 June 1880, in Custer County, Colorado.<sup>5</sup>

Further research on this family revealed that listed above the Cooley family on both the 1880 (Custer County, CO)<sup>6</sup> and 1885 census were the parents of Nancy Catherine Gilliland Cooley, Allen Johnson and Martha W. Gilliland with their children.<sup>7</sup>

They are as follows on the 1885 census:

Gilliland, A. [Allen] J. [Johnson]<sup>8</sup>, 63, blacksmith, Unemployed for the previous 12 months, unable to read the nature of his disability, born Mo., Father born Ky., Mother born Ky.

M. [Martha] W., 47, wife, cook, born Texas as were both of her parents.

N. [Medora] H., 23, daughter, single, cook, deaf and dumb, born Texas, Father born Mo., and Mother born Texas

J. [James] M., 22, son, single, farmer, attended school, born Texas, Father born Mo., Mother born Texas

L. [Lewis] M. [J.], 19, son, single, farmer, attended school, born Texas, Father born Mo., Mother born Texas.

On page 4 of the same 1885 census was found the family of Nancy's half-sister, Serena Texas Gilliland Smith with her husband, George F., and sons George W. 6, R. 4, R. 2 and daughter, T. 1.<sup>9</sup>

Upon checking the family trees on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org and MyHeritage.com, numerous trees list Carrie Cooley as the daughter of William Frank and Nancy Catherine Cooley. Inquiries as to proof, or even family tradition that Carrie was their birth child produced no results. The 1880 census for Custer County, Colorado, dated 13 July, lists them as married. Wm. F. was 28, and Nancy only 16.

Louis J. Cooley, son of W. F. and N. C. Cooley is listed as 4 years old on the 1885 Colorado census,<sup>10</sup> dated June 1885. On the 1900 census his birth month is listed as March and year as 1881. He died in Chama, New Mexico in 1902 per his tombstone in the Chama Cemetery, Chama, New Mexico. No other record was found to confirm his birth month and year.

If Louis was born in March 1881, it would be impossible for Nancy to be the mother of Carrie who was said to be born in December of 1880.

A further search of the Colorado 1885 census,<sup>11</sup> revealed a Catherine Cooley in Custer County, Colorado, age 6, born in Kansas. Her parents were James W. and Abbie A. Doan Cooley. They were in Colorado in 1884 when their son, Arthur was born. Thinking she may have been a relative staying with the Pagosa Cooley family, I continued further research into this family. James W. did have a brother, Francis, but he died in his youth and was buried in Kansas. The 1850 census gives his parents names as, Edmund Cooley, born 1803 in New York and Catherine his wife as born in 1815 in Pennsylvania.<sup>12</sup> This contradicts the information W. F. Cooley gave on his parents in the 1885 census, if they were to be brothers. The 1910 census<sup>13</sup> shows Abbie as the mother of 5 children, only 2 of which were still living. Those two were her sons, James and Edward. A search of the cemetery records of Custer and Huerfano Counties (where they later removed to) revealed no record of their children's burials except for one son, Oscar F., 16 JUL 1884 – 9 MAY 1898.<sup>14</sup> I found no record connecting the two Cooley families.

Is Catherine the Carrie buried in Ft. Lewis cemetery? I found no evidence to prove or disprove that possibility, but think it highly unlikely as no connection between the two Cooley families was discovered other than both families had lived in Custer County.

Another possibility is that Carrie was the daughter of Medora Gilliland. She was listed on all found census records as deaf and dumb. Possibly she was taken advantage of because of her condition and had a child out of wedlock. Did W. F. and Nancy Cooley unofficially adopt Carrie? If so, why was she not found in either household in 1885?

Unfortunately, my research has turned up no conclusive evidence of who Carrie's parents were. The only possible confirming clue was that she was counted among Nancy's children on the 1910 Census of Chama, New Mexico.<sup>15</sup> Nancy states that she was the mother of 6 children, 3 of whom are still living. Her youngest, Claude Monroe is living with her and her new husband, John Boyer. One daughter, Anna Grace Russell is living in Denver with her husband, John E. Russell. Her second daughter, Mary Idella Cooley Swartout, is living in Chama, NM with her family. Two sons, Louis J. and Charles W. are buried in Chama Cemetery, Chama, NM. That leaves one child no longer living unaccounted for. Could that be Carrie?

The Cooley's divorce was finalized in September 1983<sup>16</sup>. Nancy most likely moved to Chama before that date as there was a custody battle involved over the children. He was awarded custody, but she had them in her custody on the 1900 census and the youngest, Claude Monroe still with her on the 1910 census where she is found with her new husband, John Boyer, whom she married in 1904 in Chama, NM. Also living with them is her sister, Medora. Their mother, Martha W. Gilliland, died prior to the 1910 census, recorded 5 April 1910.

By the late 1920's, Nancy is living in Denver, CO with her daughter, Anna Grace, and her husband, John E. Russell. She died in Denver on 21 June 1933.<sup>17</sup> Her death notice stated she was buried at Mt. Olivet cemetery, but there is no record of her burial there.

William Frank remarried 30 May 1898 to Ida Goodwin, mother of two children from a previous marriage.<sup>18</sup> She filed for divorce, most likely not long after the 1900 census was taken.<sup>18</sup> W. F. liquidates his holdings around the same time and leaves the Pagosa area as well. No conclusive further evidence was found on him. Interestingly, there is a William Cooley buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Wheat Ridge<sup>19</sup>. There is no further information and no marker.

William F. and Nancy's daughter, Anna Grace Cooley, and her husband, John E. Russell are buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, but their plot number is not given.<sup>21</sup>

The Chama Cemetery family plot contains numerous Cooley and Gilliland burials. It is surrounded by an iron fence and sits near the top of the hill. Unfortunately, only Louis J. and his brother, Charles W. Cooley have the only Cooley headstones. L. M. "Doc" Gilliland, Nancy's brother, has a marker. There are several children and "Doc" Gilliland's wife who died in Chama and are likely buried there as well. Nancy's second husband, John Boyer died in Chama 14 June 1929<sup>21</sup>, so is also likely buried there. Enclosed in the fence are the tombstones of husband and wife, George W. and Adeline J. Batters. I do not know of a family connection, but found that they were in a business partnership with one of the Gilliland brothers.

There is no indication or record of Martha W. Hunter Gilliland's burial. No death record was located. One family tree states she died in Monero, NM<sup>23</sup> which would be about half way between Chama and Pagosa Springs. Her remains may be buried in Chama, where she was living prior to the time of her death or they possibly were brought to Pagosa Springs to be interred beside her husband, A. J. Gilliland, who died in 1887 in Pagosa and is most likely buried at the old Ft. Lewis Cemetery.

<sup>1</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census. The National Archives at Washington, D.C.; Washington D.C.; Record Group Title: Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790-2007; Record Group Number: 29; series Number: M158; NARA Roll Number: 2. Archuleta County, District 1, Page 2, lines 6-10, Dwelling and Family Number 18. Accessed 2 August 2021 at Ancestry.com. Colorado, U.S. State Census, 1885 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006. [www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6837/images/cot158\\_2-0006?treeid=177563012&personid=282305857598&hltid=&queryId=c6caa297d8c9d49e85fcd8526c64795&usePUB=true&\\_phsrc=AUr1&\\_phatart=successSource&usePUBs=true&pid=24116](http://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6837/images/cot158_2-0006?treeid=177563012&personid=282305857598&hltid=&queryId=c6caa297d8c9d49e85fcd8526c64795&usePUB=true&_phsrc=AUr1&_phatart=successSource&usePUBs=true&pid=24116)

<sup>2</sup> Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1880 United States Federal Census (Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010), Year: 1880; Census Place: Texas Creek and Uta, Custer, Colorado; Roll: 89; Page: 292B; Enumeration District: 032.

<sup>3</sup> Ancestry.com, 1900 United States Federal Census (Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004), Year: 1900; Census Place: Pagosa Springs, Archuleta, Colorado; Page: 5; Enumeration District: 0001; FHL microfilm: 1240121

<sup>4</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census, Archuleta County. Lines 1-5, Dwelling and Family Number 17.

<sup>5</sup> Ancestry.com, Colorado, County Marriage Records and State Index, 1862-2006 (Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016).

<sup>6</sup> Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1880 United States Federal Census (Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010), Year: 1880; Census Place: Texas Creek and Uta, Custer, Colorado; Roll: 89; Page: 292B; Enumeration District: 032.

<sup>7</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census, Archuleta County.

<sup>8</sup> *ibid.* Note that Allen J. and family's surname is interchangeably spelled Gilliland, Gilliland or Gillard.

<sup>9</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census, page 4, lines 21-26.

<sup>10</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census, page 2, line 8.

<sup>11</sup> 1885 Colorado State Census. The National Archives at Washington, D.C.; Washington D.C.; Record Group Title: Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790-2007; Record Group Number: 29; series Number: M158; NARA Roll Number: 3. Custer County, District 2, Page 9, lines 11-16, Dwelling and Family Number 129. Accessed 28 August 2021 at Ancestry.com. Colorado, U.S. State Census, 1885 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2006. [www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6837/images/cot158\\_3-0170.17pid=62653](http://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/6837/images/cot158_3-0170.17pid=62653)

<sup>12</sup> Seventh Census of the United States, 1850; [National Archives Microfilm Publication M432, 3009 rolls]; Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C. 1850; Census Place: Wica, Sandusky, Ohio; Roll: 726; Page: 499b.



<sup>13</sup> Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910 (NARA microfilm publication T624, 1,178 rolls). Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29. National Archives, Washington, D.C. Ozark, Texas, Missouri; Roll: T624\_826; Page: 5A; Enumeration District: 0307; FHL microfilm: 1374839.

<sup>14</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/73072039/oscar-f-cooley> ; accessed 06 September 2021), memorial page for Oscar F Cooley (16 Jul 1884–9 May 1898), Find a Grave Memorial ID [73072039](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/73072039), citing Gardner Cemetery, Gardner, Huerfano County, Colorado, USA ; Maintained by David Stearns (contributor [47028017](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/73072039/oscar-f-cooley)).

<sup>15</sup> Ancestry.com, 1910 United States Federal Census (Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006), Year: 1910; Census Place: Chama, Rio Arriba, New Mexico; Roll: T624\_916; Page: 4A; Enumeration District: 0365; FHL microfilm: 1374929.

<sup>16</sup> The Pogos Springs News, 8 September 1893 [www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org](http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org). "The September term of the county court convened on Tuesday, Monday being a legal holiday. The following business was transacted: — Wm. F. Cooley was granted a divorce from Nancy C. Cooley and was also granted the custody of three minor children."

<sup>17</sup> Denver Post, 22 & 23 June 1933 courtesy of Western History & Genealogy Dept., Denver Public Library, 30 West 14th Avenue Parkway, Denver CO 80204-2731

<sup>18</sup> The Pogos Springs News, 3 June 1898

<sup>19</sup> Archuleta County Court Records, Cooley, Ida F. vs Cooley, William F., 2-27.

<sup>20</sup> Find a Grave, database and images, Plot 20-11-0-205 (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/189484319/william-cooley> ; accessed 30 August 2021), memorial page for William Cooley (unknown–unknown), Find a Grave Memorial ID [189484319](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/189484319), citing Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge, Jefferson County, Colorado, USA ; Maintained by VDR (contributor [47292775](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/189484319/william-cooley)) -

<sup>21</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59687517/anna-g-russell> ; accessed 31 August 2021), memorial page for Anna G Russell (1880–1961), Find a Grave Memorial ID [59687517](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59687517), citing Mount Olivet Cemetery, Wheat Ridge, Jefferson County, Colorado, USA ; Maintained by VDR (contributor [47292775](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59687517/anna-g-russell)) -

<sup>22</sup> New Mexico, U.S., Deaths, 1889-1945 [database on-line]. Lehi, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2021. Original data: New Mexico Deaths, 1889-1945. Salt Lake City, UT, USA: FamilySearch, 2020.

<sup>23</sup> Various news articles refer to the Gilliland family being in Monero, New Mexico. As they were cattle ranchers, and did some lumbering, they may have owned land there.

## Algernon Sidney Dutton

By Rebekah Stafford

Algernon Sidney Dutton was the son of Oliver Dutton Jr. and Polly Jones and he was born in Delaware County, New York in 1833. He had 4 sisters and 2 brothers.

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1862 in Empire City (a mining town), in the territory of Colorado at the age of 32 years and 4 months Algernon enlisted for 3 years in the civil war. He became a soldier in Company D, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of the Colorado Cavalry and was discharged on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1865 when his service had expired. According to his military records he was 5'7 1/2" tall with blue eyes, brown hair and a light complexion. His occupation at that time was a miner. During his enlistment he fought in 8 battles which include: Little Blue River, Big Blue, Westport, Little Osage River, Drywood Creek and Newtonia.

He married Harriett M. (Dodge) Woodard who was the widow of John B. Woodard on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1866 in Geary Kansas. Combined sources say the Dutton's had moved to Pagosa Springs somewhere around 1878- 1879 and before that Algernon had been prospecting possibly in the San Juan Mountains before the civil war. Their original homestead is near Dutton Creek hence the name.

When Archuleta County was established in 1885, the governor of Colorado appointed him as the county commissioner. Another source lists him as also being the 1<sup>st</sup> secretary or treasurer of the school board and a descendant says he was also the sheriff at one time.

Algernon and Harriett had two sons who were both born in Kansas. They were: William O. Dutton who married Idolla Hatcher and George A. Dutton who married 1-Elvira Holt, 2-Elsie Brown.

Algernon died December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1885 and was originally buried in what is referred to as the Old Pioneer Cemetery. The date of his body being moved to Hilltop cemetery is unknown. His Father Oliver died just months before Algernon on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1885.

Sources: Newspaper Articles, Obituaries, Wills and Probate Records and Military Records

PAGOSA SPRINGS CEMETERY LAND

The two-acre site of the "first" Pagosa Springs Cemetery was deeded to the city of Pagosa Springs in March 8, 1908 by Hannah E. Gross. The site was a portion of land that she had received in a land patent from the United States in 1902. There was no specific description of the two acres other than 'two acres in the northeast corner of Lot 15'.

Her original patent described her holdings as Lots 12, 13, 15, and 16 of Section 23, Township 35 North, Range 2 West of New Mexico Meridian in Colorado, containing 144 and 13/100 acres.

In 1908 she sold the entirety of her original patent to George E. Speelman, except for a reservation of 30 acres in the southeast corner of Lot 15, the 2 acres deeded to the city for the cemetery, and previous right of ways to railroads. The sale price to Speelman was \$1.

No reason could be found for Hannah selling the majority of her land to George Speelman for \$1. No familial relationship could be determined, so it is reasonable to speculate that there was other consideration given that was not specified in the deed.

Hannah Gross was born Hannah Susan Chase in 1847 in Maine. She married Alerto Frances "Frank" Gross in 1865. Their first child (Eugene) was born in c. 1866 in Illinois. A daughter was born in 1870 in Iowa, and a son born in Nebraska in 1874. Hannah was a milliner by trade. The family is in Colorado by 1891 when Frank patents lands in Mesa and La Plata Counties, both adjacent to Archuleta County. The only reference to Frank that this researcher could find was a note in the Pagosa Springs news of July 1898 that 'Frank Gross and his sister Mrs. Hulet' had gone to Phoenix for the summer and that he would return in the fall.

Whether Frank Gross died or the couple divorced, Hannah Gross remarried to Jasper O. Walker in 1900. Hannah was about ten years his senior. In 1910 the couple are not living together, but it is unknown whether they divorced or merely separated.

## Document list for Cemetery Land

1. Archuleta County Deed Hannah E. Gross to town of Pagosa Springs, March 20, 1908
2. Land patent Hannah E. Gross January 17, 1902
3. Map of U.S. Military Reservation covering Pagosa Springs, Colorado
4. Archuleta County Deed Hannah E. Gross to George E. Speelman, August 15, 1906
5. Marriage Record Alonzo F. Gross and Hannah E. Chase, familysearch.org
6. 1880 Federal Census, Sutton, Clay, Nebraska
7. Land Patent Frank Gross November 23, 1891
8. Land Patent Frank Gross August 16, 1894
9. Pagosa Springs News, July 22, 1898
10. Colorado Marriage Record Archuleta County Jasper Walker and Hannah Gross January 28, 1900
11. 1900 Federal Census West Pagosa, Archuleta, Colorado
12. 1910 Federal Census West Pagosa Archuleta Colorado
13. 1910 Federal Census Flora Vista, San Juan New Mexico

## Rola Thomas Harn

Research by

Sharl Pierce, historian, author, councilmember Town of Pagosa Springs at time of this project

Rola Thomas Harn passed away Thursday, September 6, 1900, in Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado.

According to his obituary (copy attached), Harn was to be buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery temporarily and would be moved "in the near future back to the home of his boyhood."

My research task was to determine if Harn was buried at the S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street cemetery or in Hilltop, and if he was exhumed and moved to Wisconsin.

The easier question is whether he was exhumed and moved to his childhood home. The answer to that is yes. Harn has a headstone in the Hopewell Cemetery, Richland County, Wisconsin. This is the area in which he was born October 2, 1877, according to his obituary.

Information from the Reynolds Family Association does indicate that he was buried in 1900 in Wisconsin. A copy of this will be attached.

Findagrave.com has a photo of Harn's headstone in the Hopewell Cemetery, Richland County, Wisconsin, along with information about Harn. A copy of this will be attached.

In an August 30, 2021, telephone conversation with John Matthes, chairman of Forest Township in Richland County, Wisconsin, Harn is buried there. Matthes indicates that the current headstone, which is a gray granite stone, is likely not the original stone, but one that family installed to replace the original. The Hopewell Cemetery Foundation is in charge of the cemetery. Harn is buried in the "old section" of the cemetery. There are no records to indicate in what year the burial took place.

Crystal Foley, Historian, Richland County History Room, Brewer Public Library, 325 N Central Ave, Richland Center, Wisconsin 53581, provided an obituary for Harn from there, but there is no mention of the plans to inter Harn in Wisconsin.

I was unable find records to determine when Harn was exhumed and moved to Wisconsin. Kathy Harker, Town of Pagosa Springs Human Resources/Records departments, wrote in an email on August 17, 2021, "The Cemetery records I have begin in October 1903 for Burial Permits (Gean Gross, Undertaker) and end in June 1908. I did not find a Burial Permit for Rola Thomas Harn." Records at the town hall do not date back to the time of Harn's passing.

Was Harn interred in the S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street cemetery, or in Hill Top cemetery? This remains unknown. While his obituary states that he was buried in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, we do not know which cemetery that refers to. In 1900, both cemeteries were being used. In a 1989 interview with Gordon O'Neal, he indicated that John S. O'Neal was the last person buried in the S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street cemetery, he passed in February 1900. Based on this statement, with Harn passing in September of 1900, it would seem that he may have been buried in Hill Top, but since the obituaries for both John S. O'Neal and Rola Thomas Harn both cite "Pagosa Springs Cemetery" as burial place, it remains unknown. Interview with Gordon O'Neal will be attached.

#### **More about Rola Thomas Harn**

Harn went by "Tom" or "Thomas." He was born in Richland County, Wisconsin on October 2, 1877. He arrived in Pagosa Springs on January 24, 1898.<sup>1</sup>

The death of Harn was a result of an accidental shooting, which took place as he was mistaken for a bear by J. S. "Sig" Brown. He was tended to by Drs. Winter and Clock and was brought to town, where he later passed.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Pagosa Springs News, Friday, September 7, 1900.

<sup>2</sup> The Pagosa Springs News, Friday, August 31, 1900.



The Pagosa Springs News, Friday, September 7, 1900.



The Pagosa Springs News, Friday, August 31, 1900.



Rola Thomas Harn (1876-1900) - Find a Grave Memorial

10/01, 3:03 PM



Photo added by Rick Rudie

### Rola Thomas Harn

**BIRTH** 2 Oct 1876  
**DEATH** 6 Sep 1900 (aged 23)  
Archuleta County, Colorado, USA  
**BURIAL** [Hopewell Cemetery](#)  
Viola, Richland County, Wisconsin, USA  
**MEMORIAL ID** 85733967

#### Family Members

##### Parents

- [John Thomas Harn](#)  
1848-1924
- [Sarah Jane Harn](#)  
1856-1903

##### Siblings

- [Walter & Helen Harn](#)  
1878-1907



Photo added by Rick Rudie

Maintained by: [Rick Rudie](#)  
Originally Created by: [Sunshine](#)  
Added: 25 Feb 2012  
Find a Grave Memorial 85733967

Find a Grave, database and images ([www.findagrave.com/memorial/85733967/rola-thomas-harn](http://www.findagrave.com/memorial/85733967/rola-thomas-harn); accessed 31 July 2021), memorial page for Rola Thomas Harn (2 Oct 1876-6 Sep 1900), Find a Grave Memorial ID 85733967, citing [Hopewell Cemetery, Viola, Richland County, Wisconsin, USA](#); Maintained by [Rick Rudie](#) (contributor 4711803).

Copyright © 2021 Find a Grave®

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/85733967/rola-thomas-harn>

Page 1 of 1


Findagrave.com, accessed July 31, 2021

Not Found: 447 of 22 Oct 1978 Wisconsin & The 1927 Pagosa Springs Cemetery
0:11:21 3/20/19

**Search**

Search

Home Search Login Add Media Info



**The Reynolds Family Association**  
Originally Organized 1862 - Reorganized in Salt Lake 1977

Print Bookmark

### Rola Thomas Harn <sup>(1, 2, 3, 4)</sup>

b. 1876 - 1900

---

02 Oct 1876	Wisconsin <sup>(1, 2)</sup>
Male	
1900	Forest, Richard, Wisconsin <sup>(1)</sup>
Sep 1900	Pagosa Springs, Colorado <sup>(1)</sup>
1928	Utah <sup>(1)</sup>
21 Feb 2019	

---

John D Harn, c. 22 Apr 1848 Ohio <sup>(1)</sup> - d. 26 Jan 1934
Natural
Susan Yell, b. 14 Feb 1836, Pennsylvania <sup>(1)</sup> - d. 20 May 1915
Natural
02 Jan 1876
F276 <span style="float: right;">Utah, Utah</span>

---

1. [1:10] 1880 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, (Name: Online publication - Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2005. 1880 U S Census Index provided by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints All Copyright 1999 Intellectual Reserve, Inc. All rights reserved. All use is subject to the license, Year: 1880, Census Place: Spring Valley, Richard, Wisconsin, Roll: 13-1449, Family History Film: 1255449, Page: 18,3000; Enumeration District: 230, Image: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSK3-93?i=114&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521>)

2. [1:10] 1900 United States Federal Census, Ancestry.com, (Name: Online publication - Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2004. Digital data - United States of America, Bureau of the Census, Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1900. 1423, 1. Year: 1900, Census Place: East Pagosa,

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSK3-93?i=114&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521&cc=2082521>
Page 1 of 2

Reynoldsfamily.org, accessed July 31, 2021

A Report on the Genealogy of Tully Kemp and Matilda Richards Kemp  
 Early residents of Pagosa Springs, CO  
 One or both of whom may be buried in the Pioneer/Ft. Lewis Cemetery  
 Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, CO  
 August 31, 2021

By Jane McKain

I have researched and found information on both Tully and Matilda. Some information has a citation and a few pieces of information have no documentation other than an article in the newspaper.

**Tully Kemp**      Born: 1818, in Virginia (no citation)  
 Died: 1888, Conejos County, CO (no citation)  
 Burial: No record of any kind was found regarding his burial place.

Married: 11 May 1842 in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama to Matilda Richards  
 Of Tuscaloosa, County, Alabama

**Matilda Richards Kemp**      Born: 10 March 1819  
 Died: 30 July 1901, Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, CO  
 Burial: There is a listing in the U. S. Find a Grave Index for Matilda Kemp  
 indicating she is buried in Hilltop Cemetery, Pagosa Springs, CO  
 It is said of Matilda that she was one of the oldest settlers in Pagosa  
 Springs and that she was the first white woman to make her home in  
 the area. (*The Weekly Times*, August 1901) and repeated in *The Pagosa  
 Springs Sun*.

They had 4 children but only two surviving. Both children were born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Born: 1847, John Kemp (1847-) (No record of birth found) Possibly lived in Silverton, CO  
 Born: 1849, Melvina Mary Kemp (1849-1900) (No record of birth found)

From 1842 -approximately the later 1850's, the Kemps remained in Alabama.

They are shown to be residents of Brenham, Washington County, TX in the 1860 Census. At that time,

Tully Kemp served in the Confederate Army, stationed in Texas. He was a Private in Kennard's Battalion, Texas Infantry and he also served as a Second Lieutenant in the 16<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Texas Infantry (Fournoy's).

The Tully's remained in Texas until sometime during the 1870s. They are listed in the 1880 Census as being residents of Pagosa, Conejos County, CO. They are listed in the 1885 Colorado Census as being residents of Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, CO.

(Note: Hispanic communities such as Trujillo, Juanita, Pagosa Junction, and Carracas were settled with the arrival of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in 1881. Archuleta County was created by the Colorado legislature on April 14, 1885, out of western Conejos County.) (History of Archuleta County)

During their time in Pagosa Springs, Tully served as the Justice of the Peace. I can find no citation for this other than a note in a newspaper article. (The Pagosa Springs Sun, November 13, 2014, John Motter)

He was also appointed as Postmaster of Pagosa Springs, CO, on July 2, 1879. I have found nothing indicating when he was no longer the Postmaster.

In 1880, Kemp also participated in the Trial of the Case the United States Vs John W. Dorsey, Vol. 1, 1882, having to do with the Post Office. He also is found mentioned in a case about contested elections in the House of Representatives, 1871-1876. (See citations found in My Heritage)

**Citations - See attached PDF file - these sources were all found in Ancestry.**

Alabama, U. S. Select Marriage Indexes, 1816 – 1942

Alabama, U. S. State Census, 1820 – 1866

1860 United States Federal Census-Texas

U. S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861 – 1865 – Confederacy First enlistment

U. S. Civil War Soldiers, 1867 – 1865 – Confederacy Second enlistment

1870 United States Federal Census – Texas

1880 United States Federal Census – Colorado

1885 Colorado U. S. State Census

1879 U. S. Appointments of U. S. Postmasters

Capt Oscar Derostus Ladley

BIRTH 25 Sep 1840, Ohio, USA

DEATH 11 Jan 1880 (aged 39), New Mexico, USA

BURIAL Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery

Fort Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, Kansas, USA

PLOT Section A, site 1884 In memory of Oscar D Ladley, 1st Lieutenant, 22nd Infantry. Born September 25th 1840. Died at Farmington, New Mexico January 11th 1880.

Local resident Oscar Ladley enlisted as a private in the Union Army at the start of the Civil War. He eventually was promoted to first lieutenant of Company G, 75th Ohio, and was one of only two 75th Ohio officers at Gettysburg to escape the battle unharmed. Photo from 'Hearth and Knapsack: The Ladley Letters, 1857-1880.'



Md Clementina Eulalia Davidson Ladley, 1858-1924

Oscar Derostus Ladley

Company D 22nd Infantry

DOD 01/11/1880

Oscar Derostus Ladley was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 25, 1837.

In early 1861 he enlisted as a Private in Company E of the 16th Ohio Volunteer Infantry for a period of 90 days. At the end of his enlistment he reenlisted for a three year term in Company G of the 75th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being appointed Sergeant.

On November 1, 1862 Ladley was given a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on January 29, 1863. He was promoted to Captain of Company E on May 12, 1864.

He was honorably mustered out of the 75th Ohio on January 17, 1865. He had participated in many battles with the 75th Ohio, and at Gettysburg was one of only two officers in his Company who were not killed or wounded.

On October 2, 1867 Ladley was given a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 22nd U.S. Infantry. He joined Company C at Fort Sully, Dakota Territory on December 25, 1867. He served with his Company on frontier duty at various posts in the Dakota Territory for the next seven years.

From 1874 through 1878 he was with Company C at New Orleans, Madison Barracks, New York and Fort Wayne, Michigan. In 1878 he was at Fort Mackinaw, Michigan. On June 28, 1878 he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and assigned to Company D.

In 1879 Ladley was stationed with Company D at Fort Gibson, Indian Territory (Oklahoma) when trouble with the Utes caused his Company to be sent to Colorado in anticipation of an outbreak there. Following the campaign Company D was ordered to Fort Clark, Texas.

During the move to Texas, Ladley was struck down by a resurgence of a fever he had been suffering since October of 1879, and had to be left at Farmington, New Mexico, where he died of pneumonia on January 11, 1880.

#### 1st Lieutenant Oscar D. Ladley's decorations

Oscar D. Ladley was originally buried in the Post Cemetery at Fort Lewis, Colorado. At some later date his remains were re-interred in the Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery.

## John S. O'Neal

Research by

Shari Pierce, historian, author, councilmember Town of Pagosa Springs at time of this project

John S. O'Neal passed away on February 14, 1900.

According to his obituary, which appeared in The Pagosa Springs News of Friday, February 16, 1900, Mr. O'Neal was interred in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery on Friday, February 16, 1900.

A photograph of Mr. O'Neal's headstone is below. This photo was taken by Shari Pierce in August of 2012.



A photograph of Mr. O'Neal's current headstone is below. This photo was taken by Shari Pierce in July of 2021.



As part of this project, I was asked to determine what happened to the original headstone, who replaced it and when.

In a telephone interview with Vernon O'Neal, grandson of John S. O'Neal, on July 31, 2021, it was learned that Vernon O'Neal felt that the stone "just needed to be replaced" and he did so in 2020. He buried the original stone locally.

#### More about John S. O'Neal

John S. O'Neal's history with the Pagosa Springs area began about 1887, when he brought his wife, Virginia, and two children, twins Lucy and John Eben "Buck", to the area from La Plata County.<sup>1</sup>

The family purchased 320 acres in the Piedra valley about 15 miles northwest of Pagosa Springs. They raised hay and other feed on this ranch along with cattle.<sup>1</sup>



In 1895, O'Neal built a home on Lewis Street in downtown Pagosa Springs. This served as their winter home.<sup>1</sup>

The Town of Pagosa Springs was incorporated in 1891. O'Neal was active in this effort, later serving as a town trustee. He also was elected to the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners and served as chair of that board, along with serving on the local school board.<sup>2</sup>

O'Neal passed away on February 14, 1900. According to his son, Gordon O'Neal, John S. O'Neal was the last person to be interred in the Pagosa Springs Cemetery, located on South 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Pagosa Springs.<sup>3</sup>

O'Neal was born January 26, 1847, in Texas. He was engaged in the cattle industry there.<sup>3</sup>

The O'Neals moved by wagon to New Mexico in 1873. They moved on to Colorado in 1877, settling near the Los Piños River at La Boca in La Plata County before moving on to the Archuleta County area in about 1887.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Pagosa Springs, Colorado Centennial Edition, editor David C. Mitchell, writer Shari Pierce, published April 1991, a publication of The Pagosa Springs SUN.

<sup>2</sup>Interview with Gordon O'Neal by Shari Pierce, January 20, 1989, Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado. Pertinent portion of interview is attached.

<sup>3</sup>John S. O'Neal obituary, The Pagosa Springs News, February 16, 1900. Copy attached.

John S. O'Neal obituary, The Pagosa Springs News, February 16, 1900.

**PAGOSA**  
PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA CO

**John S. O'Neal.**

The subject of this sketch was born in Texas January 16, 1847, and with his family and relatives traveled westward to New Mexico, three years later they journeyed to La Plata county, Colo., and about eleven years ago became residents of Archuleta county.

Deceased was known for his great generosity in his dealings with mankind. His friends were many and a glow was cast over the whole community when it was learned that his light had gone out.

He died at 7 o'clock p. m. on Wednesday, February 14, 1900, of pneumonia. Mr. O'Neal had been in his ranch in the park last week and while there took sick. On Saturday evening he was brought to town and seemed to be getting along nicely until Tuesday night when a change for the worse occurred. Few people knew of his dangerous condition until shortly before death occurred.

October 2, 1869, Mr. O'Neal married Virginia Keith, by whom he has two children (widow), Eben and Lory. The widow and children survive him; also several brothers and many other relatives.

His career in Texas was an active one, being then largely interested in cattle raising. When on the trail from Texas to New Mexico he and party were attacked by Indians and his partner, Mr. Keith, was killed and the Indians stole about one thousand head of cattle.

Mr. O'Neal was active in local politics. He has served as a member of the board of county commissioners and also as a member of the town board.

The rancher will be interred in the Pagosa Springs cemetery today.

The bereaved ones have the sympathy of the entire community.

**Concerning Archuleta County.**

Representative Dill introduced the following bill in congress:

"A bill to provide for the sale of lands of the Archuleta Co. within the State of Colorado."

The bill of Representative Dill was introduced in the House on February 14, 1900, and it was killed in the committee on Indian Affairs, of which Mr. Dill is a member. The bill was reported out of the committee on February 15, 1900, and it was passed by the House on February 16, 1900. The bill was then sent to the Senate, where it was also passed on February 16, 1900. The bill was then signed by the President on February 16, 1900.

**A portion of Shari Pierce's interview with Nellie Tallman O'Neal and son Gordon O'Neal, Friday, January 20, 1989, at Nellie Tallman O'Neal's home on "Schoolhouse Hill" in downtown Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado.**

Shari Pierce: Do you know where the Fort Lewis people buried the soldiers?

Gordon O'Neal: Well, I don't know. The way I understood, an old fellow, Bay Chamber's father, come and got me one day. He was probably in his nineties when he died. This has been quite a few years ago. He said, "Come on and get in here will you? I want to go and show you what shape the old cemetery is in." So, I went up there with him. I couldn't hardly believe it either. They had sold the cemetery to Clifford Lucero and he had put a hog pen out there. People had dumped up close to the fence. He said, "Do you see those six holes there, those low places?" I said, "Yes." He said those were Fort Lewis soldiers, and their relatives, kids and grandkids, had ordered them moved from there up to Hill Top. And he said the only one that is left there he thought was that James Voorhees.

Shari Pierce: We wondered if the cemetery ended at the road, or if the graves go on down the hill and the road is on graves.

Gordon O'Neal: He didn't tell me that himself, but I kind of gathered that from the way he was talking. These guys went up there and they gave him a quit claim deed. They didn't pay any attention to where the cemetery lots were at. Clifford just went in there and took over the place. Not only Clifford, but them other guys around there. I do know this, first cousin of my dad's, one of those Cooper brothers, went to my grandfather's funeral and he was a civil war veteran, but he lived here in Pagosa. In fact, he was police judge.

Shari Pierce: What was his name?

Gordon O'Neal: E. Keith. Cooper told me that Grandpa Keith was the last man they buried in the cemetery. The old one. John O'Neal died before him, in 1900, and then Keith. [unintelligible] John O'Neal was the last one, and Keith was right next to him. That took up the last space that was left in that cemetery. All the rest of the family was buried up here [Hill Top Cemetery]. Grandma was buried up here and all the rest of my dad's aunts and uncles. So, the only two that is relatives that is over here is Elisha Keith and John O'Neal. They're on the right lower end.

I don't think I've ever heard anybody say anything about the Fort Lewis soldiers being there other than U.S. Chambers told me himself that they moved six of the Fort Lewis soldiers from that cemetery and they were on the south end.

## Ethel Parrish

1887-1892

by Carolyn Paschal

Ethel Parrish was born in 1887.<sup>1</sup> She was most likely born in Missouri, although this is not documented as "Missouri only began requiring birth certificates in 1910, and recording before then varied year to year and county to county. It's possible that a birth record for Ethel was either never created or not preserved."<sup>2</sup> Her father Dr. William Milton Parrish was 43 when she was born and her mother, Alice L. Patterson Parrish was 29 years old. Ethel had two older sisters, Opal Chloe, 7 years old, and Meredith who was 5 years old when she was born.<sup>3</sup>

Ethel most likely spent her early years in Missouri, but at the age of 3, she moved with her family to Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Her father suffered from rheumatism and had travelled to Pagosa Springs during the summer of 1889 to spend several months in the healing waters. He saw such an improvement in his health and was so impressed with Pagosa that in April of 1890 he moved to town with his family<sup>4</sup> and subsequently established a medical practice.<sup>5</sup> In July of 1890, Dr. Parrish built a home for his family northeast of town.<sup>6</sup>

On May 18, 1892, Dr. Parrish decided to head into the Weminuche Wilderness to check out the "new excitement".<sup>7</sup> This excitement may have been due to the discovery of silver outside of Creede.<sup>8</sup> When he left that Tuesday about noon, his five year old daughter Ethel was bright and cheery. However, by Wednesday, she was feeling ill and rapidly growing worse. On Thursday, a rider was sent to bring the doctor home, but by the time her father arrived home on Friday, Ethel had already passed away. On Sunday, May 22nd, Ethel was laid to rest by Rev. Henry Harpit,<sup>9</sup> the first full-time pastor of the Methodist church.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Archuleta County Records, *Death and Burial Records: Volume II*. Transcribed by the Archuleta County Genealogical Society; pg.5.

<sup>2</sup> Missouri State Archives; Missouri Birth and Death Records Database; Research Request; 2021; (Email Correspondence).

<sup>3</sup> United States Federal Census; 1900; Rio Grande County, Colorado; Precinct 7, District 101; Sheet no. 3; Ancestry.com.

<sup>4</sup> The Pagosa Springs News; 10 April 1890; Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

<sup>5</sup> The Pagosa Springs News; 10 July, 1890; Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

<sup>6</sup> Pagosa Springs News; 10 July 1890; Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

<sup>7</sup> Pagosa Springs News; 28 May 1892; Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

<sup>8</sup> The Creede Conde; 7 January 1892; Vol.1, No.1; "It's Mines and Mineral resources, It's Camps and Business Men"; Colorado Historic Newspapers.

<sup>9</sup> Pagosa Springs News; 26 May 1892; Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

---

<sup>20</sup> *100 Years of Pagosa Springs Methodists; Community United Methodist Church; Pagosa Springs, Colorado; 1996.*

## William F. "Billy" Robbins

**Birth** 27 Jun 1854  
Iowa, USA

**Death** 19 Oct 1883 (aged 29)

**Burial** [Hilltop Cemetery](#)  
Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado, USA

Memorial ID 84538403 - Find A Grave

William Robbins was born in Iowa and moved to Colorado with his family in 1863. The family first settled on a ranch near Bear Creek in Jefferson County. In 1867, they moved to the Pike's Peak Region, and in 1874, moved to southern Park County.

As a young adult, William moved to La Plata County with his sister and brother-in-law, Nancy and Mike Foster. While out hunting in 1883, William was attacked by a grizzly bear and was fatally wounded.

William "Billy" Robbins does not have a gravestone at Pagosa Springs cemetery, but there is a burial record for him.

Nancy Robbins was the eldest daughter of Thomas Hawkins Robbins and Elizabeth Fisher. She was born in Iowa but spent most of her years in Colorado. She came to Colorado in 1863 with her parents. While living on a ranch near Colorado City in the Pike's Peak district, she met and married Michael Foster in 1872.

They eventually moved to a ranch near Bayfield, Colorado. The couple had 4 known children: Harriet (Hattie), Ida May, Fields, and Charles.

NOTE: Nancy's birth date in her parent's family bible is listed as Dec. 14, 1855, and so I will go with that one as the most accurate. Nancy's parents were married in October of 1853.

### Nancy A. Foster

- **Created by:** [Diane & Tony](#)
- **Added:** 5 Feb 2012
- **Find a Grave Memorial 84538403**
- *Find a Grave*, database and images  
(<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/84538403/william-f-robbins> ; accessed 30 August 2021), memorial page for William F. "Billy" Robbins (27 Jun 1854–19 Oct 1883), Find a Grave Memorial ID [84538403](#), citing Hilltop Cemetery, Pagosa Springs, Archuleta County, Colorado, USA ; Maintained by Diane & Tony (contributor [47716297](#)) .

The Ignacio Chieftain, Volume 31, Number 8, November 8, 1940

Funeral services for Mrs. Nancy A. Foster, 93, were held at 2:30 last Friday afternoon at the Bayfield Presbyterian 1 church with Mrs. Lyda Wood officiating. She passed away at her home in Bayfield early Thursday morning following an extended illness. Sixty-three years ago Nancy Robbins, then 10 years old, left her Iowa home with her parents, coming to Colorado in a prairie schooner drawn by a yoke of oxen. She was married to Mike Foster at Manitou in 1872. In 1880 the Fosters moved to the Pine River valley to make their home. Mr. Foster passed away in 1929 in Denver. In 1935 Mrs Foster moved from Wallace Gulch to Bayfield to make her home. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs Foster, two daughters, Hattie and Ida, and two sons, Fields and Ollie. Both sons preceeded their mother in death.

## **Archuleta County Colorado**

### **History and Genealogy**

**Buried Pagosa Springs Cemetery, location unknown.**

W. F. "Billy" Robbins - d. Oct 1883 (Killed by a bear.) *(Note: Buried in Hilltop Cemetery, born June 27, 1854 and died October 19, 1883)*

## James H. and Henry J. Voorhees

Sherryl L. Egy

James Voorhees remains, for the most part, a man of mystery. He was born in New York state, as were his parents. His birth date has been documented as February 25, 1820, most likely because that is the date on his gravestone. The exact year cannot be certain. His Marriage Certificate states he was twenty-two in 1842. However, various census' specify his birth year anywhere from 1821 to 1824.

Nothing is known about his early years. In 1842 he was living in Mottsville, St. Joseph, Michigan. On June 12 of that year he married Della (Delliah) Bonebright, from Constantine, St. Joseph, Michigan, who was eighteen years old. The marriage took place in Constantine. His profession was listed as blacksmith and farmer. The couple had two children, Mary J., born about 1845, and Henry J. was born about 1848.

In 1850 the family was living in Mottsville, St. Joseph, Michigan. For reasons unknown, daughter Mary is not listed. Henry was nine months old. James is listed as a merchant with real estate value shown as \$400.

The next information about the family comes from the 1860 US Federal Census. By this time they had relocated to 3rd Ward Atchison City, Atchison, Kansas. Interestingly, Henry's birthplace is listed as Germany. This is probably incorrect, as his birthplace in 1850 was listed as Michigan. Again, James' profession was listed as merchant. The value of his real estate was \$1,000, and the value of his personal estate was \$200.

By 1869 the Voorhees marriage was on the rocks, and they were divorced on March 10. Daughter Mary had married Oliver H. Harker and in 1869 welcomed their daughter Mary. Sometime between 1869 and 1870 the family, along with mother Delliah, relocated to Central City, Gilpin, Colorado Territory. According to the 1870 census, Oliver was involved in mining, and Delliah, at age 45, was listed as a miner!

James also made his way to Colorado where he continued his trade as a merchant, taking his stock of goods from one gold strike to the next. One article suggested that he spent some time in Salt Lake City, but no records have been found to support that. At some point he met Margaret, maiden name unknown, an aristocratic woman, beautiful and charming, spunky and independent, who had immigrated from England. It is said that she came at an early age and was among the first women on the American frontier. She first married to a man named Hopkins, location unknown. They had one daughter, Lillian, who died at a young age while traveling in Europe. She was next married to a Lieutenant Delano of the US Army. Some-

time, either before, after or in between marriages, she became a "dominant figure in the gold seeking days of the west commanding men and money with apparent will." It was reported that she drifted between numerous mining camps, accumulating her riches.

It must have been some time during these travels that James met Margaret. One article reports that they were married on March 11, 1869, at the old town of Loma near Del Norte. Soon thereafter, they set out to run a stock trade at various mining camps. They arrived in the Pagosa Springs area around 1871 but then moved south to Amargo in the New Mexico Territory. It is reported that they next went back to Loma where they ran a boarding house, then to Garland, Colorado Territory. It has also been suggested that they spent some time in Alamosa where they established a store. What seems fairly accurate is that they had settled into Pagosa Springs by 1878 where they opened a general store. James became a member of the Masonic order.

In 1881 James' son Henry came to Pagosa Springs. According to the Mortality Schedule, he remained in town for three years. Very little is known about his life. His profession was listed as engineer, and apparently he never married. He passed away from pneumonia in 1884.

On April 14, 1885, Archuleta County was created from part of Conejos County. James was appointed the county judge.

Just prior to settling into Pagosa Springs in 1877, James had written a will leaving \$5.00 to daughter Mary and son Henry and all of his real estate to Margaret. After Henry died, the will was rewritten in September of 1888. It directed that \$100 be paid to his daughter, Mary, who was then living in the Capital Hill area in Denver. The remainder of the estate was to go "to dearly beloved wife Margaret Voorhees."

Sometime before 1869 James and Margaret moved to Amargo, New Mexico, located in Rio Arriba County, approximately half way between Dulce and Chama. James' health declined throughout 1888, and he passed away on December 27, 1889. Margaret made arrangements to have his body transferred to Pagosa Springs where he was buried at the Fort Lewis cemetery (Pagosa Springs Cemetery). It is reported that his casket cost \$175, the tombstone \$325 and the wrought-iron fence \$85. Margaret then moved back to Pagosa, where she continued to manage the store that she and James had opened years before. The business operated on the ground floor, and Margaret lived upstairs.



Following his passing, James' daughter Mary, her husband Oliver H. Harker, and her mother Dallah sued to get more of James' estate, alleging that Dallah was still his legal wife. It has been reported that Oliver was an attorney, but no information has been found to corroborate that. Margaret apparently did not contest the suit because reportedly everything in the store was inventoried, marked down and sold. Margaret then settled the estate. It is unknown what Dallah and her daughter received. There were a considerable number of townspeople indebted to the Voorhees'. It is unknown how much she was able to collect. She also had to deal with debt for items purchased for the store.

As very interesting side note, it is not known when the auction took place. In April of 1920 the Pagosa Springs Sun reported that W. S. Mote purchased 1,160 spools of thread weighing 33 pounds at the auction several months previous. It was all sold to a Pagosa Springs lady and is believed to have been one of the largest individual retail sale of thread in Pagosa or elsewhere.

On April 26, 1894, Margaret married William T. Ewell in Amargo, New Mexico. William was described as a well-known business man and Margaret as a former resident who had done business there for several years. Sadly, this marriage did not last. By September of 1899 divorce proceedings were in progress.

Margaret returned to Pagosa Springs and lived on the second floor of the old store building. She lived as a recluse and eventually suffered from dementia. In 1917 she was stricken with paralysis and found nearly dead at the foot of the stairs leading to her "home." For three years she was cared for in the homes of Mrs. Tom Mee and Mrs. C. B. Miner. She passed away on December 20, 1920. Her epitaph, "A Real Pioneer."

## Henry Voorhees Timeline

Debbie Kinnibrugh

c1848 born St Joseph Co MI

1850C Motville Twp St Joseph Michigan Dwelling #424 James Voorhees age 25 born NY Merchant value of real estate 400, Delleh age 26 born NY & Henry J age 2 born Michigan; Mary J Voorhees age 5 born Michigan listed in dwelling #427 with head of household El( )nth( )mond Clark age 24 born Michigan

1881 Henry Voorhees arrives in Archuleta County CO/ Conejoe Co CO. Had resided in area for 3 years. 1885 Federal Mortality Schedule Archuleta County Colorado

1884 Sept Henry Voorhees dies of Pneumonia. He is a white male age 35 and born in Michigan. Stated a single male and occupation Engineer. Father's birth place NY. 1885 Federal Mortality Schedule Archuleta County Colorado =====

==

Constantine St Joseph Michigan Dec 2 1868 Oliver H Harker & Mary J Voorhees both of Colo Territory, Oliver born Ohio age 30 a Merchant & Mary J born Michigan age 23; ;

1870C Central City Gilpins County Colorado Dwelling #74 Oliver H Harker age 32 Mining born Ohio, Mary J Harker 24 keeping house born Michigan, Mary 7 months born Aug Michigan & Deletat Voorheis 45 miner born Michigan;

According to History of St Joseph County Michigan "...Jacob Bonebright was born in Pennsylvania, and moving from there to Stark county, Ohio, he married Barbara Myers, also from Pennsylvania. together they came to Constantine, Michigan, arriving the 20th of May , 1829..." "... Mr Bonebright died on the 3rd of February, 1857and his wife survived until the year 1880..." Their daughter"... Delleh, born July 16, , 1828, is the widow of James H Voorhees and the mother of two children; Mary J. is the wife of Oliver Harker , of Denver, Colorado;..." History of St Joseph County Michigan Prepared under the Editorial Supervision of H. G. Cutter, General Historian Vol II, The Lewis Publishing Company, 1911, ancestry.com

The above information supports the information in the Remembrance Book article on Margaret J Voorhees written by Ann Oldham. James H Voorhees had married Delleh Bonebright .Their children were Mary J Voorhees Harker wife of Oliver Harker and Henry J Voorhees.

New information for Henry J Voorhees:

He is the grandson of Jacob Bonebright and his wife, Barbara Myers both born in PA. His mother is Delleh, born July 16, 1828 in Stark County, Ohio. Delleh lived with her daughter Mary J Harker and family in Central City Colorado 1870 as a miner. Also the information on the 1885 Federal Mortality Schedule Archuleta County Colorado

### Voorhees Resources:

1. Linda Wommack. *From the Grave : A Roadside Guide to Colorado Pioneer Cemeteries.*
2. Prepared Under the Editorial Supervision of H. G. Cutler, General Historian. *History of St. Joseph County, Michigan., Volume II.* Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago and New York.
3. Ann Oldham. *Remembrances : A Woman's Work : Margaret J. Voorhees, Volume 10.* Pagosa Springs Colorado.
4. John M. Motter. *"Pagosa Country: The First Fifty Years."* 1984.
5. "Pioneer Lady Passes Away." *The Pagosa Springs Sun*, December 24, 1920, p1.
6. Married at Amargo, New Mexico. *The Pagosa Springs News*, May 18, 1894.
7. Ewell vs Ewell Divorce. *The Pagosa Springs Sun*, September 30, 1899.
8. Auction Items Sale. *The Pagosa Springs Sun*, April 23, 1920.
9. *Rio Arriba County, New Mexico History and Genealogy, Marriage Announcements.*  
[http://genealogytrails.com/newmex/rioarriba/news\\_marriageannouncements.html](http://genealogytrails.com/newmex/rioarriba/news_marriageannouncements.html)
10. Oliver H. Harker, "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925."
11. Oliver H Harker, "Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1940."
12. 1850 US Census, Molville Township, St. Joseph County, Michigan.
13. 1860 US Census, 3rd Ward Atchison City, Atchison County, Kansas.
14. 1870 United States Census, Central City, Gilpin, Colorado Territory.
15. 1880 United States Census, Pagosa, Conejos, Colorado, ED29.
16. Colorado, U.S. State Census, 1885 for J H Voorhees.
17. *Archuleta County History and Genealogy. Archuleta County 1885 Census.* <http://genealogy-trails.com/colo/archuleta/1885census.html>.
18. Colorado State Business Directory, 1885.
19. 1885 Federal Mortality Schedule, Archuleta County, Colorado.
20. 1910 United States Federal Census for Margaret Voorhees.
21. 1920 United States Federal Census for Margaret Voorhees.
22. "The People Behind the Names: The Archuletas." *The Pagosa Springs Sun*, April 8, 2018.