

Tales Behind the Tombstones

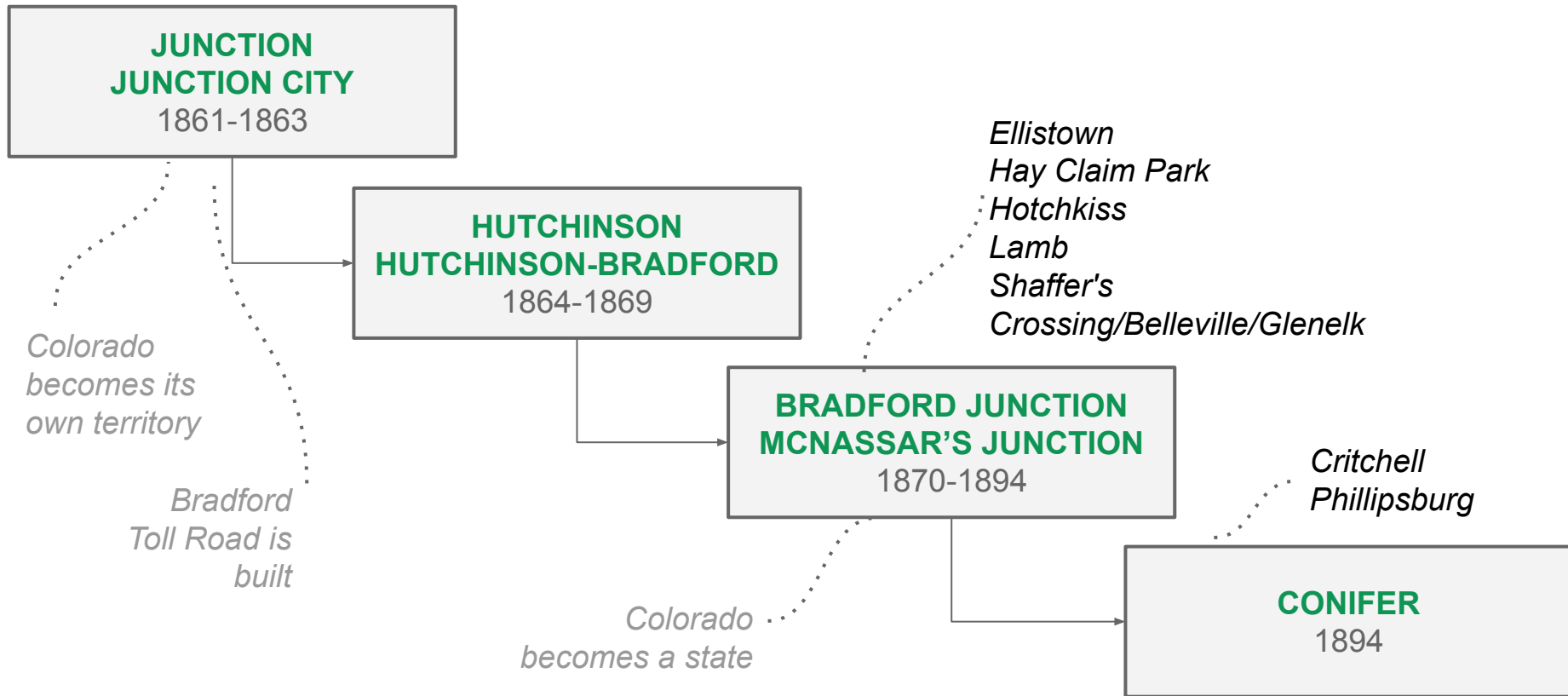
Conifer's Community & Family Cemeteries

*Christa Johnson, Researcher
Michelle Schulten, Researcher & Editor*



Conifer's Early Times

Jeff Co Pop 1860	1870	1880	1890	1900
839	2,390	6,804	8,450	9,306



Conifer Area Cemeteries

*Pioneers and contemporary residents
chose Conifer as their final resting place
- joining as families and as a community
in the place they loved*



14 cemeteries
with **over 430** known graves
dating back to **1875**
plus many more unmarked graves

Community Cemeteries (nearly all still in use)

- Ault Cemetery
- Conifer Cemetery
- Pleasant Park Cemetery
- Wamblee Valley Memorial Park

Family Cemeteries (all no longer in use)

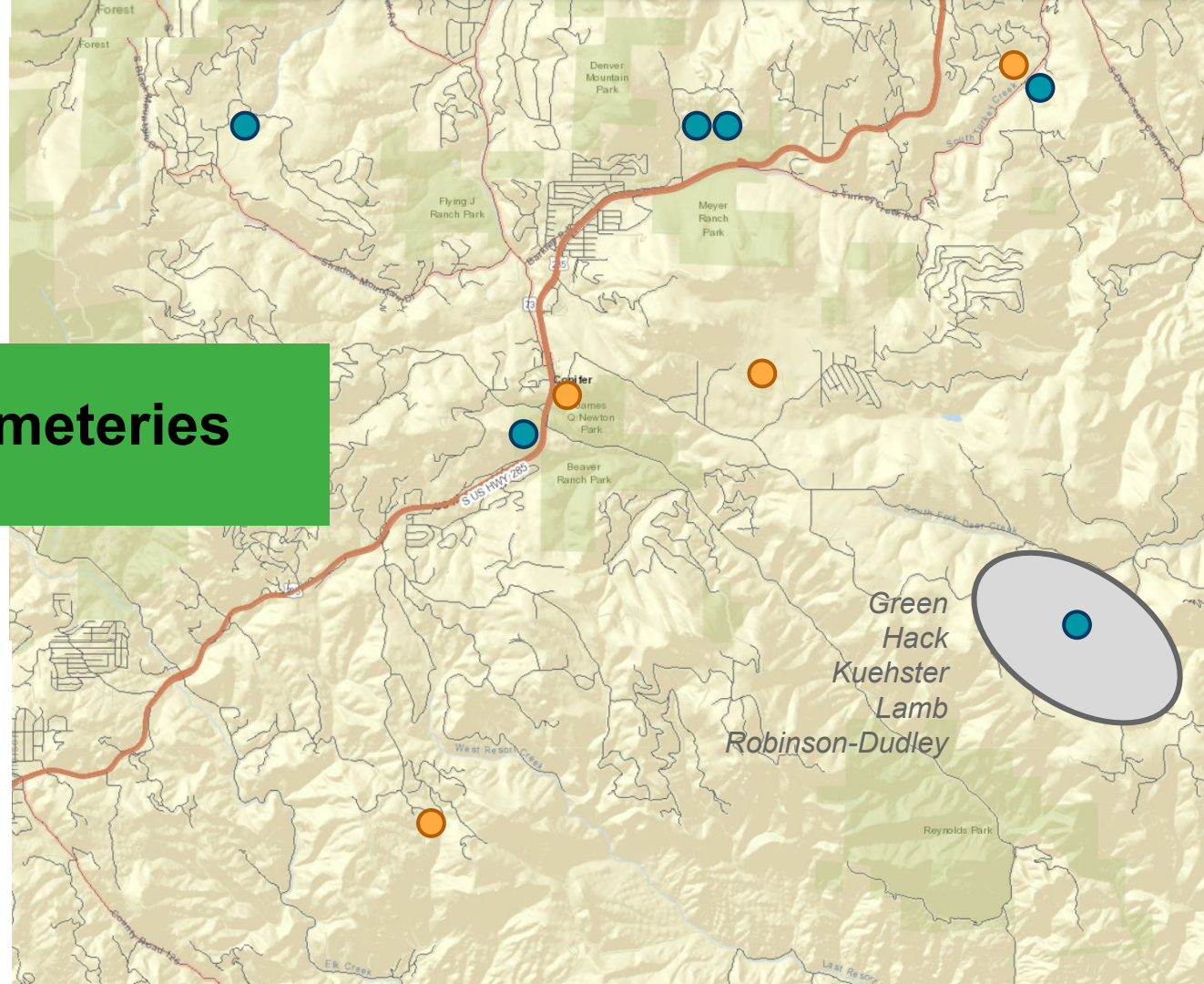
- Beaver Ranch Pioneer Cemetery
- Green Cemetery
- Hack Cemetery
- Kuehster Cemetery
- Lamb Cemetery
- Lehman Family Ranch Cemetery
- Lubin Cemetery
- McIntyre Cemetery
- Robinson-Dudley Cemetery
- Welch Cemetery

*(additional area cemeteries also served our area and
will be covered in a future presentation)*

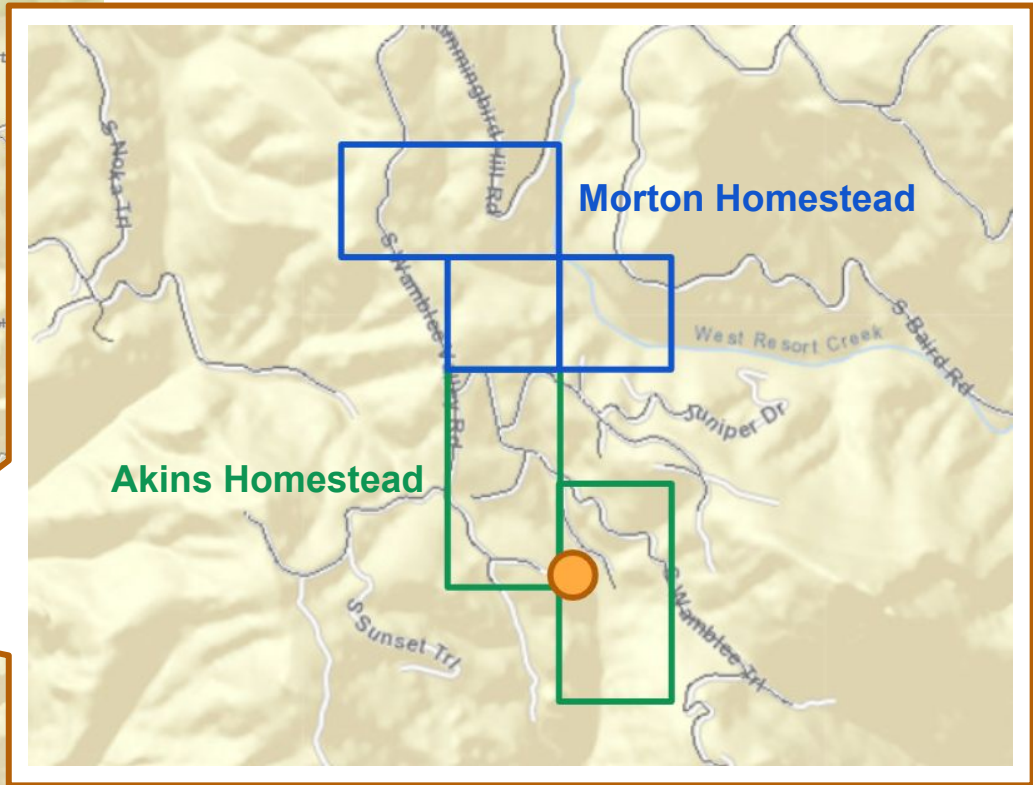
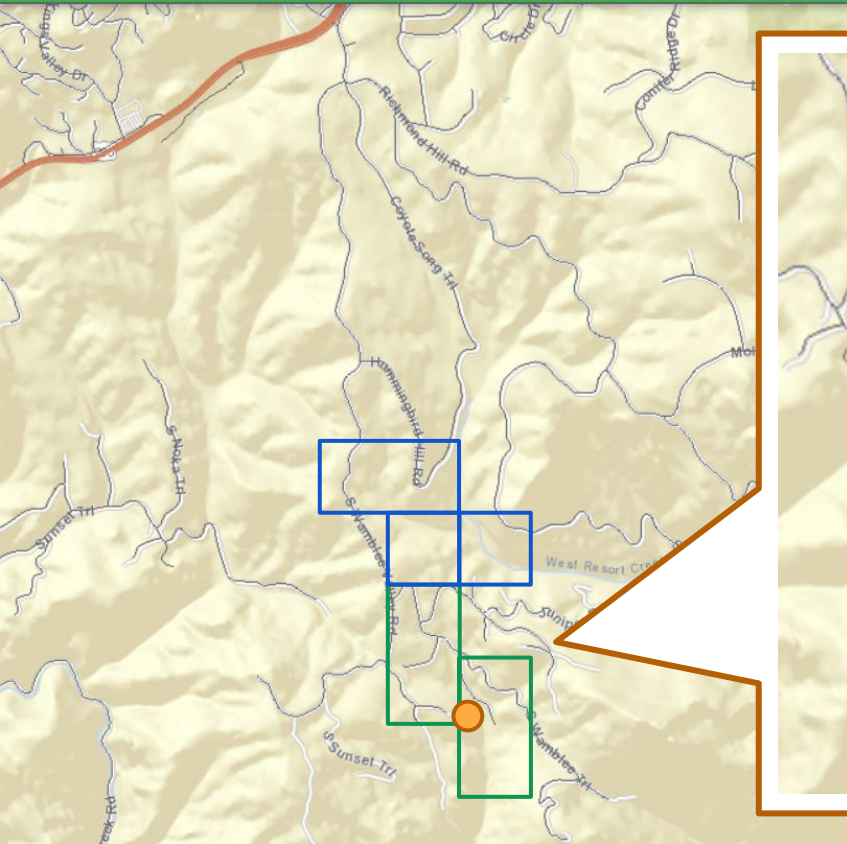
Conifer Area Cemeteries



- Community Cemetery
- Family Cemetery



Wamblee Valley Memorial Park



Wamblee Valley Memorial Park



LOCATION

Still in use

Publicly accessible, 28555 Memorial Park Way, off Wamblee Valley Road in Richmond Hill area

HISTORY

- Known to have served pioneer families from 1879-1887
- Contemporary burials occurred between 1970-1977, and 1996-2022 with several couples and families buried together
- The large number of unnamed markers may explain the seemingly large gap in burials
- Also known as the French Canadian Cemetery, but reason is not known
- Additional research needed, pending contact with an owner/manager of cemetery



- **Burial dates from 1879-2022**
- **27 known graves**
- **~68 metal posts, likely indicating graves**
- **Several family graves:**
 - Akins/Morton (pioneers): 4
 - Varnau/Poush family: 7
 - O'Shea family: 5
 - Several couples

Wamblee Valley Memorial Park

Johnnie Dennis Morton

1 years, 4 months old
10/20/1877 - 2/21/1879
Son of Francis & Ruby

Francis Asbury Morton, Sr.

37 years old
9/29/1849 - 8/23/1887
Father of Johnnie

The Story

Life in the frontier was sometimes filled with death and responsibility.

- 1874: Frank marries Ruby Akins in Idaho Springs (17 yrs old)
- 1875-78: Ruby & Frank have 2 boys and a girl, on a farm in the Last Resort area
- 1879: Johnnie dies a little over a year old - likely diphtheria
- 1879: Ruby's father Dennis Akins dies (59 ys old)
- 1881-1887: 2 more boys join family
- 1887: Frank dies, leaving Ruby with 4 children under 12, and 8 months pregnant
- 1 month later: Youngest son Ora is born a month later
- 1888: Ruby moves to Idaho with her widowed mother, her brother Charles, wife Katherine and their son John, and all Morton children
- 1889: Land Patent in Frank's name, Ruby lives a much longer life, dying when she was 91



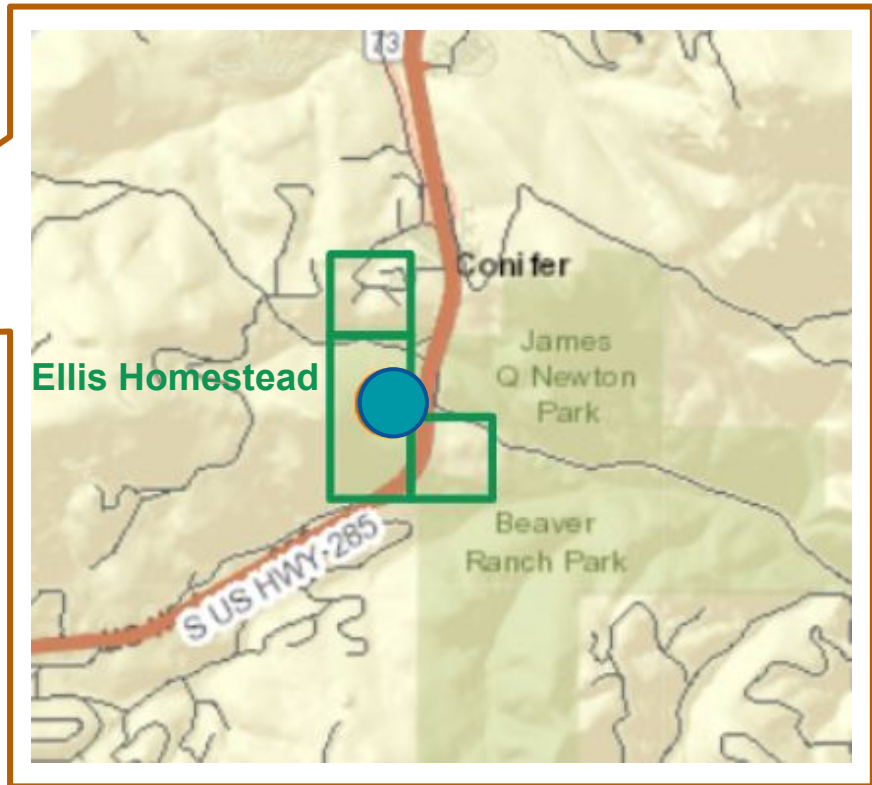
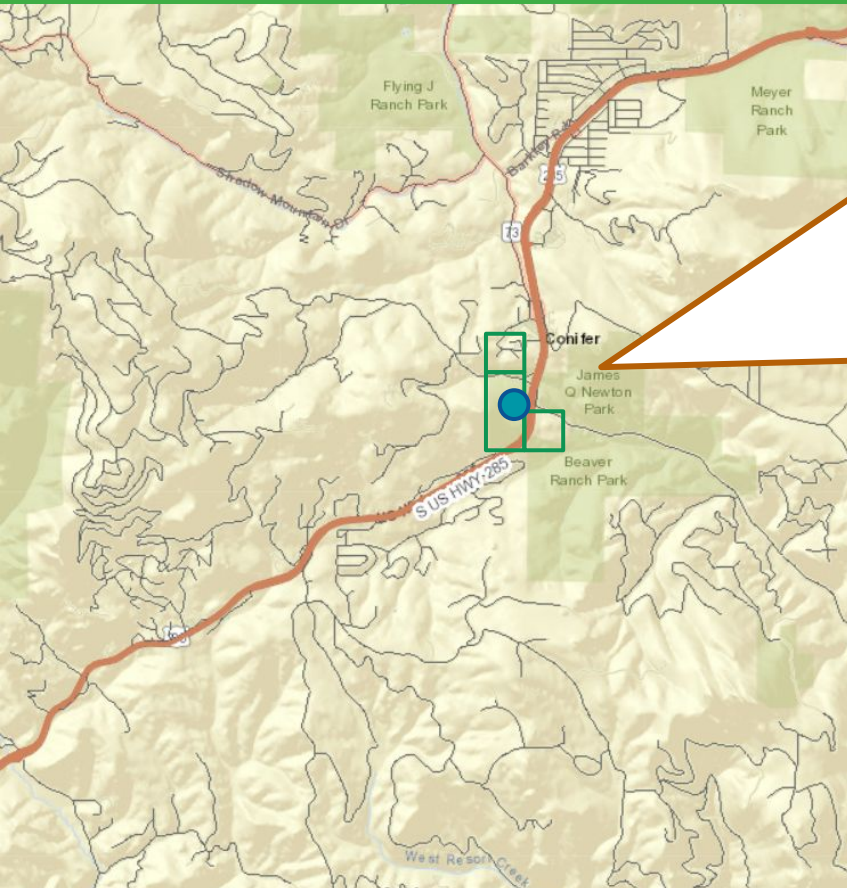
Ruby Akins
Died 7/25/1883
1 ½ yrs

Daughter of Charles &
Katherine



Dennis Akins
Died 12/3/1879
59 yrs

Beaver Ranch Cemetery



Beaver Ranch Cemetery

LOCATION

No longer in use

Access via Foxton Road, At the crest of the hill overlooking Hwy 285 & Foxton Road, on City & County of Denver land

HISTORY

- Originated by the Ellis family on land that became their homestead
- John and Agnes Ellis immigrated from England and came to Hutchinson in the early 1860s with their family: daughter Margaret and her husband George Kennedy and daughter Elizabeth (who later married Silas Elliott).
- John was an elder for the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (RLDS) and ran the tollgate at foot of Meridian Hill (later known as Elliott Ranch).
- The 320 acre ranch was later officially homesteaded by his wife in 1889



- **Burial dates from 1879-1893**
- **8 known graves:**
Ellis Family: 4
Head Family: 4 (also part of the RLDS)
- **New headstones added to supplement ones that weathered over time**

Beaver Ranch Cemetery

John Ellis Kennedy

9/3/1870 - 5/23/1891 (20 years old)

Born in Hutchinson

Son of George and Margaret, one of 13 children

The Story

When land access and resources are threatened, land can be thicker than blood and family ties can break.

- Shot dead at 1pm while riding with his father on the highway “by the hand of a bloodthirsty villain, who had secreted himself behind the roots of a tree which had been blown over the wind”
- Hit by 4 shots, Shots passed near, and one through, the rim of his father’s hat.
- Murder was on the heels of arguments with 2 parties:
Silas Elliott (uncle): Logging and access dispute on Kennedy family land, but also accused the Kennedys of shooting at him
William McQuary (Elliott employee): Was going to marry Maggie Elliott but had spoken ill of her to John
- Silas and William Thomas (an Elliott employee) were arrested and charged for the crime, but were eventually acquitted.
- In 1895 the Kennedy family sold their property and moved away.



John Ellis Kennedy.



“He was a good, obedient boy...but always...willing to go to the injured ones and ask their forgiveness with sorrow for the offense.”

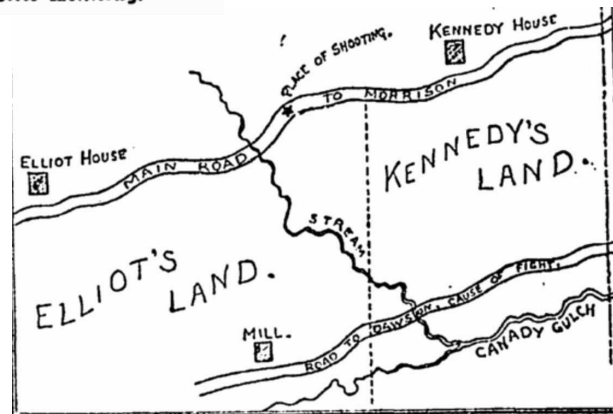


DIAGRAM SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE VARIOUS POINTS.

Estimated John Kennedy Shooting Location

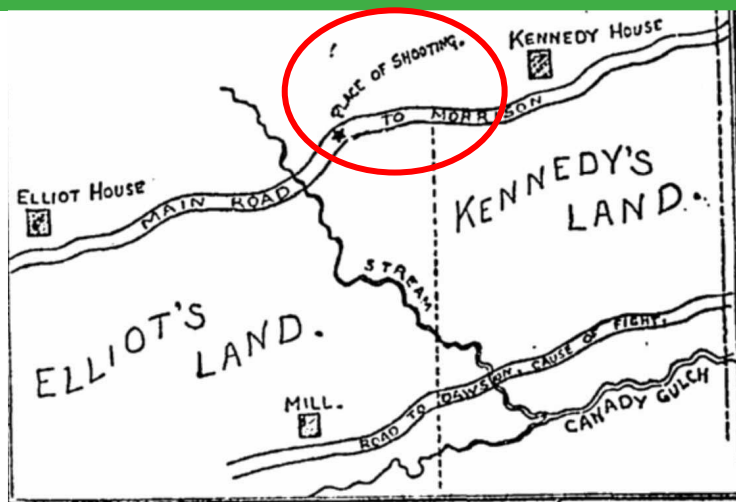
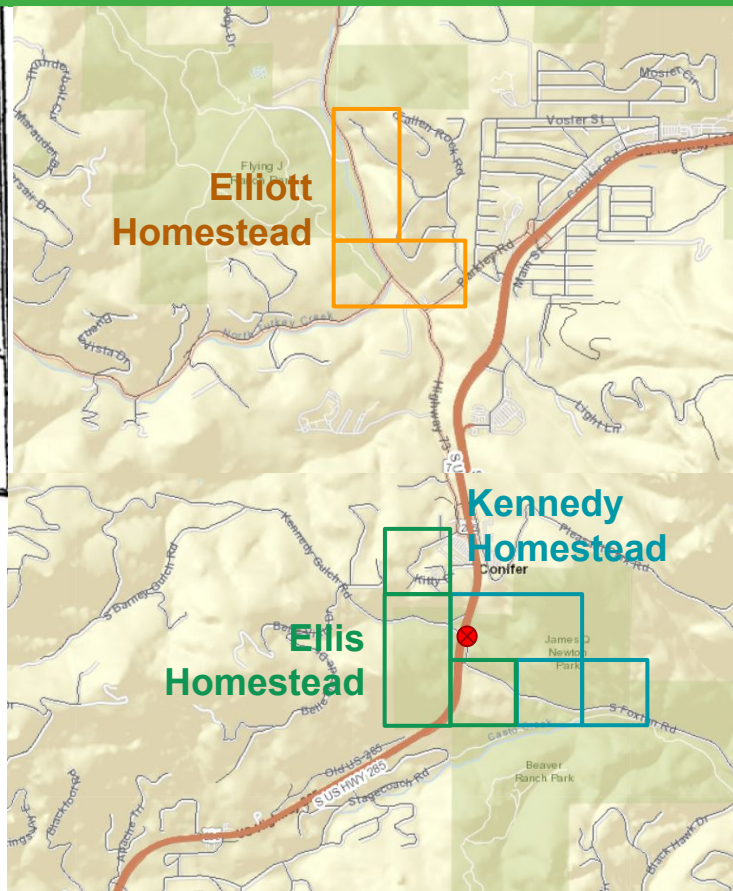


DIAGRAM SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE VARIOUS POINTS.

"...while riding with his father on the public highway....behind the roots of a tree which had been blown over the wind, about fifty feet from the road and about half a mile from our home. "



Beaver Ranch Cemetery

Orilla, Charles, Celia, Willard Head

Orilla, 2 years: 11/28/1876 - 1/30/1879

Charles, 7 years: 11/26/1871 - 2/4/1879

Celia, 9 years: 10/4/1869 - 2/13/1879

Willard, 16 days: 2/3/1879 - 2/19/1879

Children of Willard and Christie Head (2 oldest, 2 youngest)

The Story

Diphtheria, the "strangling angel of children," was considered a death sentence until treatment became widely available in the 1920s since 1 in 10 every ten children infected died.

- Willard and Christie had 5 children at the time, 4 died within 20 days of each other, including their 16 day old child born a day before Charles died
- "Their young lives were snuffed out...when diphtheria swept through the mountain country....Mr. Head almost lost his mind with grief"
- Their middle child, Helena "Lena" survived and they had 4 more children after this, starting one year later in February 1880 thru December 1888
- After loss the Heads work for the railroad being built over Kenosha Pass, Homesteaded 160 acres - 40 to plat Jefferson



4-sided gravestone for
the Head children
(original)



1880 Census Report: Mortality in the Western Plains Region



The causes of death in this region to which are attributed more than an average proportion of the deaths reported are as follows: Small-pox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping-cough, fever unspecified, enteric fever, puerperal septicæmia, pneumonia (especially in Denver), pleurisy, and accidents and injuries, more especially exposure and neglect, gunshot wounds, and homicide.

The proportion of deaths from diphtheria is very high in Dakota, Colorado, and Kansas, and is high in Nebraska, being low in the northern and southern extremities of this region. The proportion from scarlet fever is very high in Wyoming, and high in Kansas and Nebraska, being very low in the extreme northern and southern portions of the region. The proportion of deaths from malarial fever is high in Montana, Texas, and Kansas, and very low in Nebraska, Colorado, and New Mexico. From diarrhœal diseases the proportion is very high in Texas, and high in Kansas and Nebraska. From pneumonia the proportion is very high in Dakota, and very low in Texas, New Mexico, and Montana.

The causes of death in this region to which are attributed less than an average proportion of the deaths reported are as follows: Malarial fever, still-births, debility, old age, rheumatism, scrofula and tabes, consumption, hydrocephalus, cancer, tumor, dropsy, diseases of the nervous system, more especially meningitis, apoplexy, paralysis, tetanus and trismus nascentium, and convulsions, diseases of the heart, dentition, Bright's disease and diseases of the kidney, and diseases of the bones and joints.

The proportion of deaths from consumption is very low in Texas, New Mexico, Wyoming, Kansas, and Montana; it is somewhat higher in Colorado. The proportion from heart disease and dropsy is very low throughout, being slightly higher in Texas than in the rest of this region. The proportion from enteric fever is very low throughout this region, except in Kansas and in Texas. The proportion of still-births is low throughout the region, except in Kansas and Nebraska, where it is very high. The proportion of deaths from old age is very low throughout.

1880 Census Report: Rural vs City Death Rates per 1000

2x more likely
than cities

10x more likely
than cities

1.5x more likely
than cities

TABLE 26.—SHOWING FOR RURAL AND CITIES THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM SPECIFIED DISEASES IN 1000 DEATHS FROM KNOWN CAUSES.

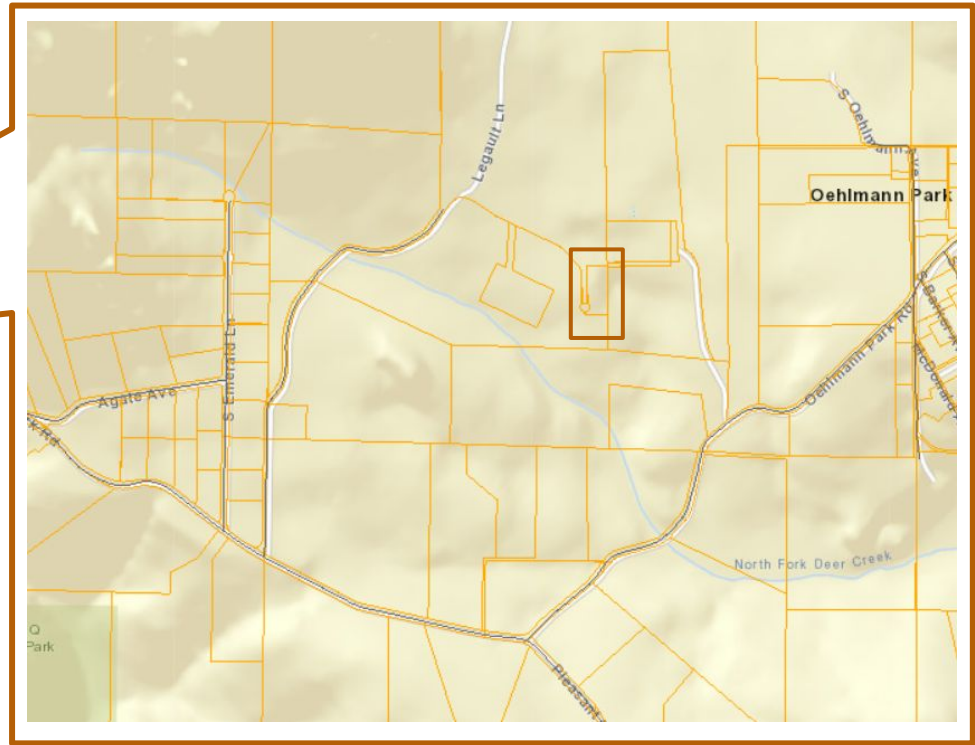
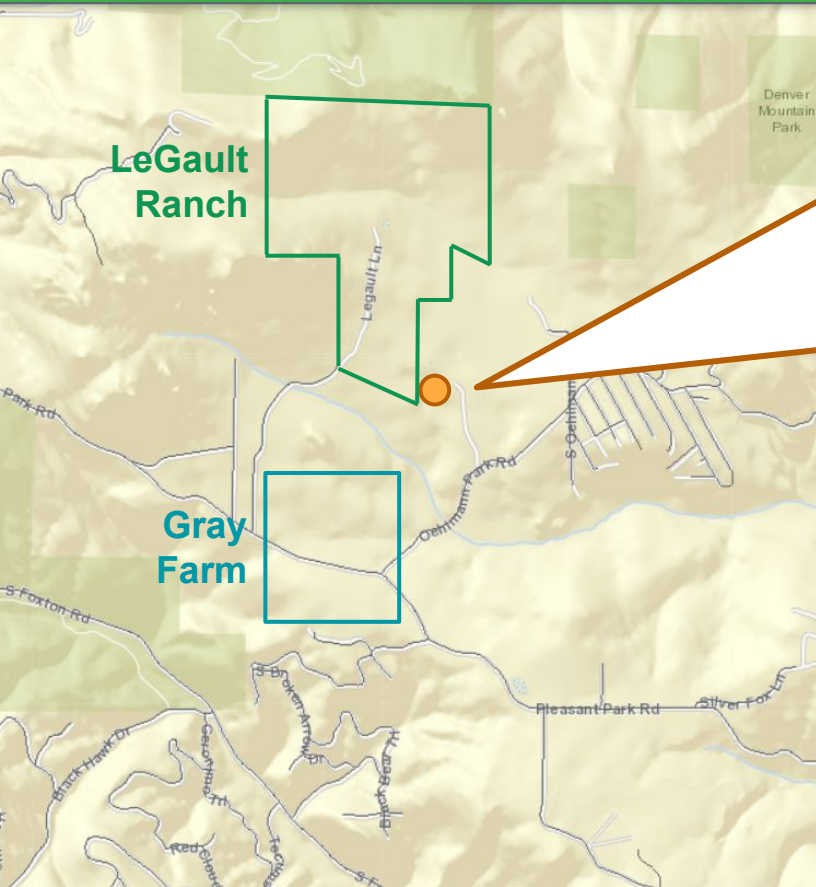
Diseases.	Rural.	Cities.	Diseases.	Rural.	Cities.
Pneumonia	92.9	69.0	Menses	12.3	7.4
Heart disease and dropsy	59.7	46.4	Scrofula and tabes	7.5	4.7
Diphtheria	57.1	38.0	Tetanus and trismus nascentium	2.7	6.1
Accidents and injuries	52.4	40.8	Peritonitis	3.0	7.9
Enteric fever	36.0	10.7	Cancer	17.0	18.7
Malarial fever	32.8	11.8	Scarlet fever	21.0	28.7
Croup	26.6	10.1	Diseases of the digestive system	45.4	46.7
Child-birth	19.5	4.7	Still-born	28.0	54.9
Whooping-cough	16.9	9.7	Diseases of the nervous system	110.8	124.1
Puerperal septicæmia	12.8	9.7	Consumption	123.6	137.8

3x more likely
than cities

2.5x more likely
than cities

4x more likely
than cities

Pleasant Park Cemetery



Pleasant Park Cemetery

LOCATION

Still in use

Restricted access by permission only, Off Legault Lane, abutting 340 acre Legault ranch 340 acre that dates back to 1870

HISTORY

- Land was likely originally owned by Isaac Brown and family as early as 1877 and then purchased by Peter Rosen
- Land surrounding the cemetery was historically owned by the Legault, Gray, Corbin families
- The Pleasant Park Cemetery Association was organized in 1919 and accepted an acre of land from Thomas Madison Gray
- In 1979 Alden and Betty Legault donated another acre of land to expand the cemetery
- Plots of four grave sites at one time cost \$2.50



- **Burial dates from 1875-2023**
- **161 known graves**
- **The first burial is said to have been for Mrs. Brown in 1875 before the cemetery became official, grave is unmarked but fenced**
- **Notable pioneer families buried here:**
Corbin, Granzella, Gray, Huebner, Kuehster, Legault, Rogers

Original Families of Pleasant Park



LEGAULT	CORBIN	GRAY	ROGERS
<p>Arrived ~1868 from Canada</p> <p>Joseph LeGault originally intended to pursue gold but found Pleasant Park instead</p> <p>Initially cut timber for the McIntyres</p> <p>Then brought wife Delphine and son Noah in 1871 and began his homestead</p> <p>Family holdings built over time, over generations</p>	<p>Arrived in 1870's from North Carolina</p> <p>Harvey Corbin had 3 wives and 8 children, spurring many families in the area</p> <p>Home was "Echo Valley Ranch" in Pleasant Park</p> <p>Significant land holdings in Pleasant Park and Resort Creek</p> <p>Last Resort area named from Harvey using this area as his last resort for hay for his cattle when he ran short on hay during a hard winter</p>	<p>Arrived in 1913 from Oklahoma</p> <p>Purchased 480 acres to start their life here</p> <p>Farm grew many things, but most notably potatoes (50-60 tons in a year) and hay</p> <p>Son Glenn worked on his family's ranch and the Corbin's</p>	<p>Arrived in 1895 from Colorado</p> <p>Frederick Jerome Rogers came to Denver from Iowa, worked in the brickyards, married in 1890 and brought wife Nellie and 2 children, eventually having 10 children</p> <p>Ranch raised cattle, horses, chickens, pigs, cows</p>
<i>7 graves with LeGault last name</i>	<i>12 graves with Corbin last name 3 with Corbin maiden name</i>	<i>2 graves with Gray last name 4 with Gray maiden name</i>	<i>4 graves with Rogers last name 1 with Rogers maiden name</i>

Pleasant Park Cemetery

“Doc” & Madge Corbin

Torrence White Corbin: 9/6/1903 - 11/5/1979

Madalyn Hallie (Brown) Corbin: 3/3/1908 - 4/5/2003

*Joint headstone for
Doc & Madge*



The Story

Sons and daughters of original homesteaders continued the legacy of cultivating the land and making a mark on Colorado

- 1878: Harvey & Lucinda Corbin settle in Echo Valley Ranch, now in Pleasant Park area, plus hundreds of add'l acres
- 1920's: Bert & Bessie Brown begin homesteading 320 acres
- 1926: Madge & Torrence marry

Madge: 6th child of homesteaders Bert & Bessie

Torrence: 3rd child of 2nd generation homesteaders Henry & Lulu Corbin and grandson of the Harvey & Lucinda Corbin

- 1927+: Madge & Doc have 6 children (2 sons, 4 daughters)
- Originally a cowboy, ranch hand, blacksmith and bronc rider, Torrence works for JeffCo in roads, court bailiff, election judge, JeffCo Schools president, deputy assessor
- Sold Echo Valley Ranch in 1977, Selected in 1972 Colorado State Fair as longest continued ownership of a farm and ranch land in Jefferson County



Pleasant Park Cemetery

Winona Morey

7 years old

4/16/1886 - 5/18/1893

Sarah & Warren's daughter

Sarah Florence (Dale) Morey

70 years old

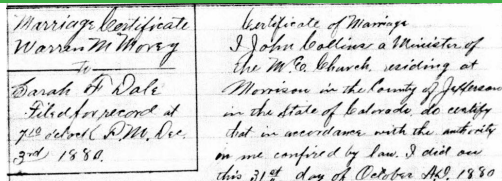
11/26/1861 - 3/17/1932

Mother of Winona

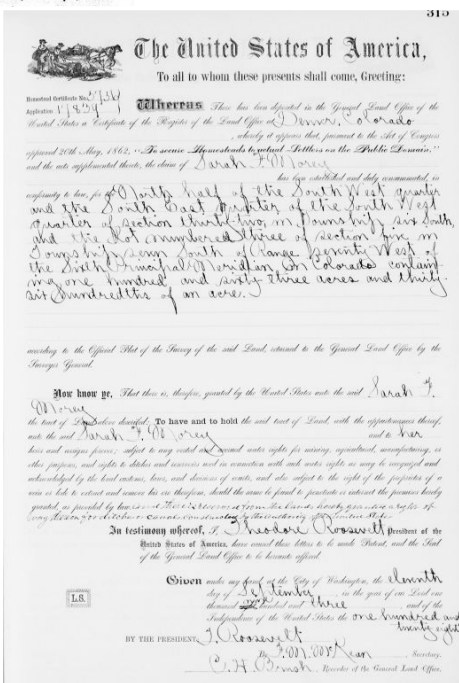
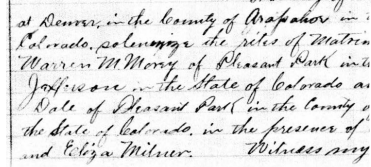
The Story

Frontier marriages didn't always turn out as planned, but sometimes people came out with unexpected benefits.....

- 1880: Sarah Florence Dale marries Warren M. Morey at 19
Sarah: 4th child of Robert & Sarah Dale, 160 acre homestead in now Oehlmann Park, 9 children
Warren: 4th child of Alvin & Margaret Morey, homesteaders along the South Platte/Foxton area, 12 children
- 1883: William is in Seattle, without Sarah, listed as married
- 1885: William & Sarah both in Washington
- 1886: Daughter Winona is born
- 1893: Winona dies
- ~1888: Sarah & Warren divorce
- 1903: 163.36 acre homestead in Sarah's name
- 1910+: Sarah lives out her life in Colorado with her family
- 1920: Warren dies in California, but Sarah listed herself as widowed beginning in 1910 census



Sarah & Warren's
marriage certificate



Sarah's Land Patent

Fun Fact: A (different)
Sarah Dale in Conifer had
a patent for 160 acres

Pleasant Park Cemetery

Ora & Leslie Shanks

Ora, 11 months, 12 days: 1/9/1883 - 12/21/1883

Leslie, 9 months, 24 days: 4/19/1884 - 2/12/1885

The Story

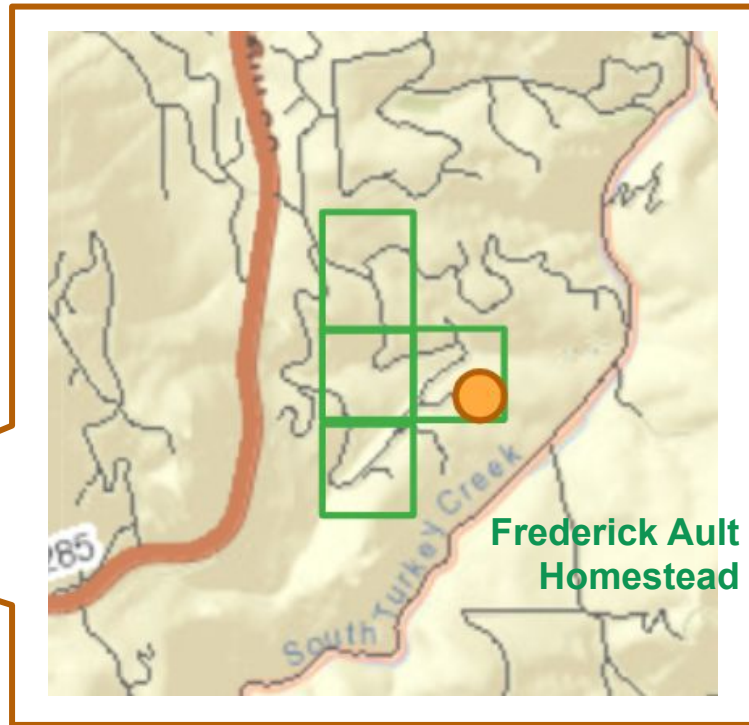
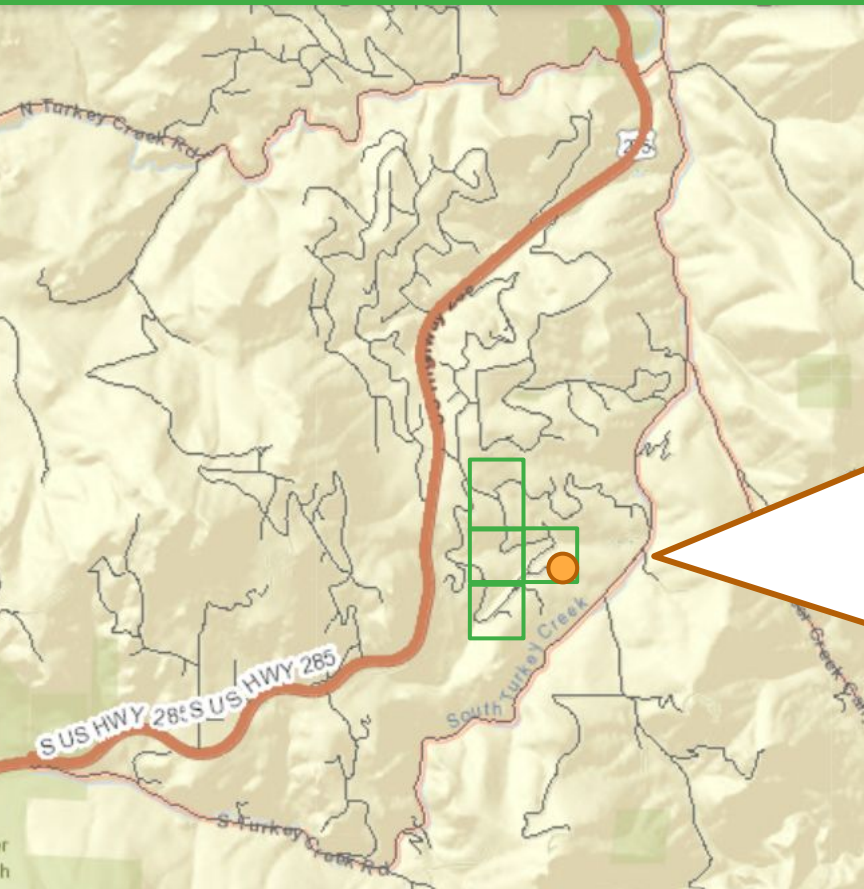
The thrill of claiming land, developing a legacy or hitting gold wasn't always outweighed by the hardships endured. Sarah Ellen and William Shanks are evidence that.

- 1880: 17 year old Sarah Ellen Thompson, born in Iowa, living in Denver with her mother and 3 sisters
- 1881: Marries William Shanks on July 10th, 1881 in Brownsville (a former settlement on South Turkey Creek) and settle in Bradford Junction
- 1883: Ora is born and dies the same year, Sarah is 6 months pregnant
- 1884: Son Leslie is born but dies 9 months later
- 1887: On May 4, 1887 Sarah and William are divorced, 5.5 years after marrying
- Census records show Sarah back in Iowa in 1895
(no conclusive records for William found to-date)



Headstones and footstones
for the Shanks children

Ault Cemetery



Ault Cemetery

LOCATION

Publicly accessible, still in use
8798 Ault Lane, Morrison

HISTORY

- Initially part of Frederick Ault's 168.83 acre homestead with burials for the Ault family
- Originally named Medlen Cemetery and available to the community, even though it was on private land
- Frederick donated one acre of his property to the Ault Cemetery Association in 1903, formally establishing the cemetery
- Ault Family were well known in the Conifer area, arriving in 1881 from Wisconsin
- Cemetery remains much the same as it was in its beginning, including the entry gate/arch made and installed by Glenn Vinning 1918-1990, who is interred near the sign



- **Burial dates from 1882 - 2022**
- **133 burials**
- **Notable pioneer families buried here:**
Ault, Biggar, Crow, Fender, Hennessey, Kirkpatrick, Maple, Wilson
- **Also previously known as:**
Medlen Cemetery, Reid's Old Mill Cemetery

Ault Cemetery

Byrd Hamilton "B.H." Biggar

44 years old

1875-1919

The Story

Local rancher turns construction leader, uniting our community to Denver

- 1884: Byrd, his parents and siblings move from Pennsylvania to Turkey Creek Canyon
- Biggar family were farmers, ranchers and owned Switzer Lode Mine near Fenders (near Turkey Creek Road and Deer Creek Canyon Road)
- 1894: Marries Josephine Ault
- 1895 - 1913: BH and Josephine have 7 children
- Once captured an escaped convict and received a reward of \$100, however was not able to determine who shot a mule owned by a neighbor
- 1916: Received funding for and oversaw construction of South Turkey Creek Road, transforming the crude wagon trail and "shelf road" that connected Conifer to Denver
- 1919: Severely injured in construction accident and died after three months of suffering



Ault Cemetery

Maggie E (Maple) Crow

84 years old

11/12/1866 - 7/7/1950

The Story

Mountain women made their mark, sometimes with a gun & whip

- 1881: Arrives in Morrison at age 15, via a covered wagon from Iowa with her parents and settles in Turkey Creek Canyon area
- 1887: Marries William Crow at age 21
- 1892: William and Maggie move to Creede during silver mining boom, where Maggie works in a factory making tents by hand while William worked in the silver mine
- 1896: First mail carrier in the mountains between Morrison and Conifer, carrying mail twice each week
"packed a gun and cracked a whip as well as any man, earning a total of 76 cents her first year"
"...kept her seat warm by sitting on a big rock she had heated the night before in her wood-burning range."
- 7/1950: Dies after living in area for 66 years and still owned mining property at the time of her death



Ault Cemetery

Loren D Fender

84 years old

5/17/1903 - 8/25/1984

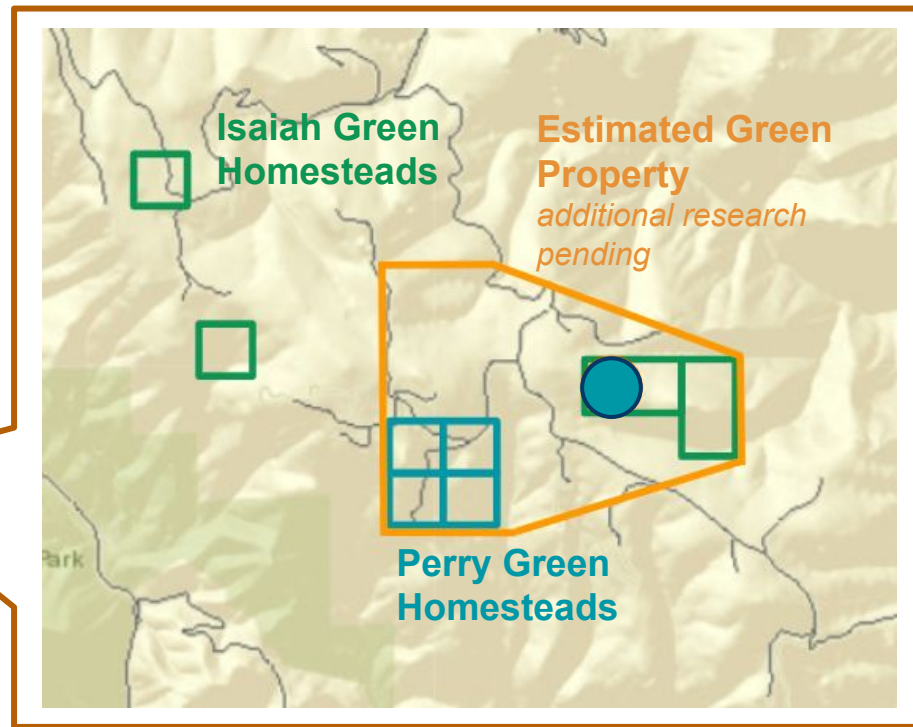
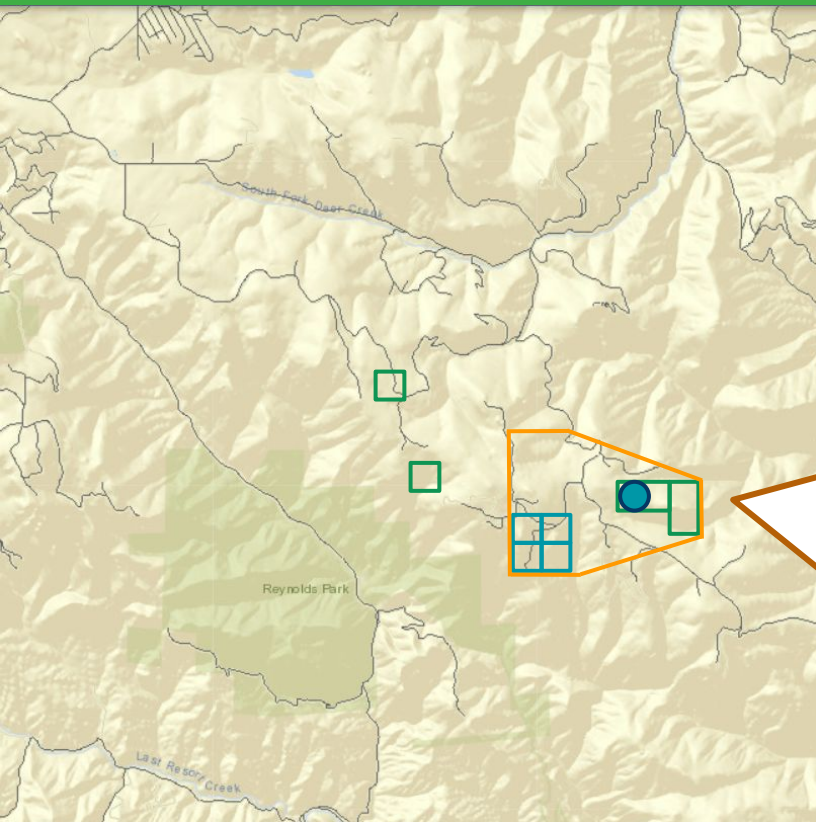
The Story

As the Conifer area grew, community leaders were essential to establishing critical infrastructure and services.

- 1924: Marries Thalia Alice Crawford in Des Moines, Iowa
- 1938: Intermountain Rural Electric Association (IREA) is founded, constructing 99 miles of line for 316 customers
- Much of the pioneering was done by the first members, with Loren on Board of Directors
- Loren operates a service station on Turkey Creek Road near the junction with Deer Creek
- The area around his store is known as “Fender's Junction” and “Fenders”
- 1954: Loren leads the effort to build a volunteer fire department and donated space in his garage to house the equipment.
- Loren serves as fire chief and later becomes member of board, stores the community's fire truck on his site



Green Family Cemetery



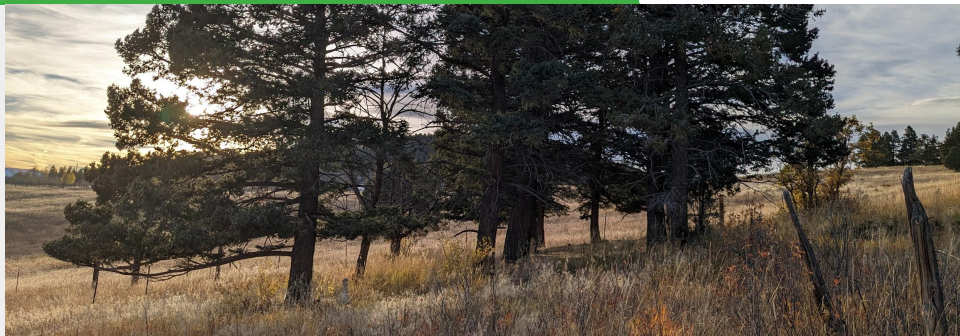
Green Family Cemetery

LOCATION

Private land, not accessible, no longer in use
South of Critchell, east of Kuehster Rd

HISTORY

- On the Green family property, in Lamb (SE of Critchell between Foxton and Waterton with a Post Office 1890-1908 and also a school)
- Property was comprised of land patents + various purchased parcels (exact boundaries pending additional research)
- 3 land patents awarded to Green family:
Isaiah: 166.43 acres in 1888, 160 acres in 1892
Perry: 160 acres in 1899
- Isaiah, Ella and 6 children settled in area in mid 1870's (eventually 11 total)
- Ridge along Kuehster Road is named "Green Ridge"



- **Burial dates from 1876 - 1941**
- **12 known graves, 3 headstones remain**
- **Green family & Lamb family**
Isaiah & Ella Green
5 of their 9 sons
1 daughter and her husband
3 Lamb children

Green Family Cemetery

Isaiah Green

86 years old

2/2/1828 - 8/13/1914

Ella (Bowman) Green

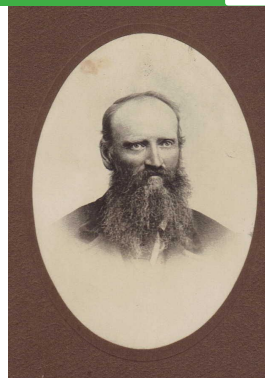
78 years old

9/22/1848 - 3/31/1927

The Story

After the Civil War, ex-servicemen entered the frontier and forged new lives, filled with new and different challenges.

- 1861: Isaiah enlists in Army, Serves as a private in the Civil War in Company G, 7th Regiment, Ohio Infantry for 3 years
- 1862: Wounded in Aug 1862 in Cedar Mountain, VA with a shell to the head, causing partial deafness
- 1867: Isaiah marries Ella Bowman
- 1868-77: Have 6 children in Vermont, Living as farmers but also mining for gold
- 1880: Move to "Lamb" Colorado
- 1881-1890: 5 more children (11 children total)
- 1884: Johnie, their 8th child, dies at 23 days
- 1887: Isaiah is on Lamb school board, likely 5 of the 19 students were from the Green family
- 1888-1892: 2 land patents, totaling 326.43
- 1892: Frank Isaiah (10th child) dies, Additional burials occur to 1941



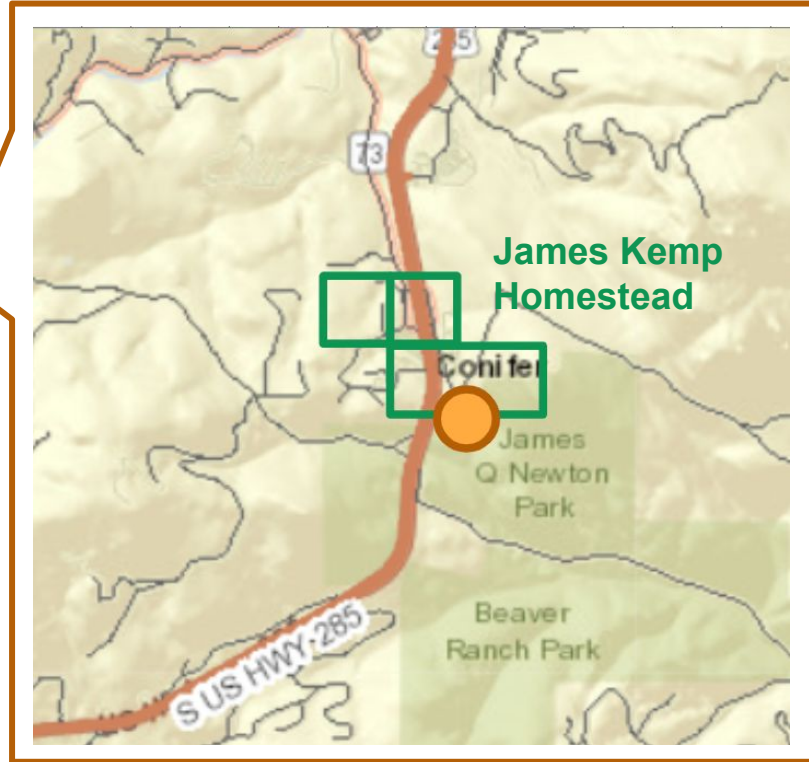
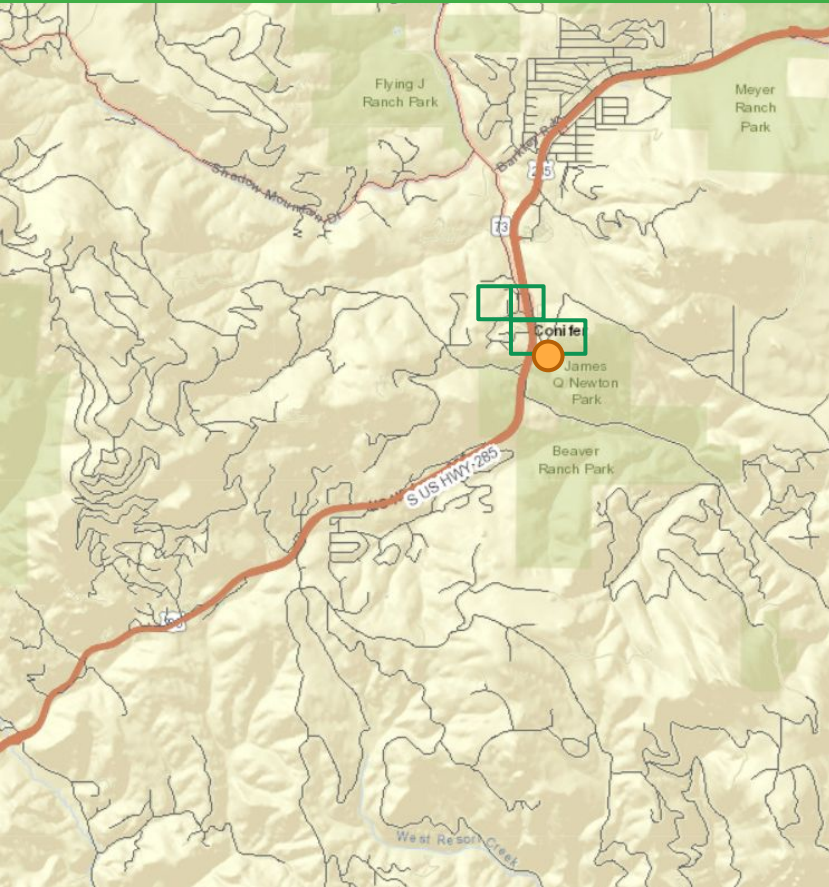
Mr. John Angus, gardener to Gov. Smith of St. Albans, furnished his table during the last week in July with ripe tomatoes, cantelopes and grapes. Well done for Northern Vermont.

Mr. Isaiah Green of Bethel is engaged in digging gold from the bank of Locust Creek in that town. He realizes from two to five dollars worth per day, and prospects are still very encouraging.

The Congregational church at Bennington, with all its contents, including a large organ, was burned on Thursday morning. The fire is supposed to have been set by an incendiary. The loss is \$12,000.



Conifer (Kemp) Cemetery



Conifer (Kemp) Cemetery

LOCATION

No new graves permitted, Ash distribution may be allowed

Publicly accessible, on Pleasant Park Road, at the hard corner after Conifer Medical Center

HISTORY

- On the Kemp family property that was homesteaded in 1886 (Land Patent in 1890)
- James and Frances Kemp were born in England and married before immigrating
- Came to Hutchinson in July 1879, and had a family of 15 children and cared for 8 orphans
- Rev James lead the RLDS church and Frances also served as a community nurse
- Church served an interfaith community and also the local schoolhouse



- **Burial dates from 1889-2016**
- **84 known graves, plus unmarked graves**
- **Notable pioneer families buried here:**
Corbin, Cruse, Jones, Kemp, Long, McQueary, Ramboz, Wheeler

The Kemps at Conifer Cemetery

1906-2005

James Kemp

Frances Mary
Goodsell

Alfred James

Lucy Elizabeth

Joseph R Cruse

Charles W

Bryan Mitchell

Lucy P

Henry Kelsey

Jesse Sims

Frankie Burgess

Charles Edward

Joseph Edwin

Lydia Francis

Helen "Nellie"
Margaret

Grant McQueary

Eska Earl

Mary Gladys

Sarah Nancy

Andrew Mickey

Bryan Blakeslee

George William

Robert John Lucian

Lulu "Lula" May

Roy Cecil

Roy Leslie

Sarah Hannah

Fred Delbert Arthur

Dorothy Adell

Harold Scott

Paul Casner

Long Family Introduction

Family History: Then to Now

The Long Family is a part of Conifer's fiber and played integral roles in establishing who we are today. Donna Long Beck will guide us through their presence in Conifer Cemetery.

- 1870: Rudolph Pollitz & brother Herman file for a 300 acre homestead, Herman becomes homesick and ill, but dies at Staten Island before returning to Germany
- 1875: Rudolph marries Mary Long, with son Charles Frederick Long
- Pollitz homestead was a farm but home was expanded into a 2-story, 14-room home with white siding, and inner plastered walls to become Clifton House - serving as a hotel and first telephone switchboard
- Donna Long Beck is a direct descendent of Charles Frederick & Tillithy Long, with Rudolph Pollitz her great-great-grandfather who started the legacy
- A large number of her ancestors and immediate family are buried in Conifer cemetery:
 - Great-grandparents: Charles Frederick Long & Tillithy Honor Cruse Long
 - Infant child of Charles & Tillithy: Charles Dawson Long
 - Great-Great Uncle: Albert Dake (married to Lily Pearl Cruse)
 - Grandparents: Rudolph Wesley Long, Sr. & Eunice May Eggleston Long
 - Great-Aunts: Mary Hazel Long Fitzsimmons, Maxine Jean Long Brown,
 - Uncles: Lowis Fredrick Long, Robert Charles Long
 - Siblings: Joseph "Freddie" Frederick Long, Timothy Clark Long, Beth "Bug" Ann Long

*Charles Long
& Rudolph
Pollitz
circa 1920*



*Charles F Long
circa 1875*



Early Life on the Long Homestead



*Charles F & Tillithy Long
Clifton House
circa 1910*



*Clifton House, built 1887
Long Brothers Garage, built 1917
Sawmill & Barn*



*Maxine Long cutting hay in meadow
1926*

Long Family in the 1930's



*Long family gathering
Clifton House
circa 1935*



2nd Long Brothers Garage, built 1939

Long Family 3rd & 4th Generation



Rudolph Long Sr & Eunice May
Eggleston wedding 9/5/1920



Rudy & May Long in uniform for ambulance service
they operated
~1948 - 1980



Wes & Betty Long Jr
circa 1945

Conifer Cemetery Parking

Take Pleasant Park Road

Turn left by 285 Rental

Park in lot on bend

Do not proceed around curve

Limited parking by gate



Conifer Cemetery

Grant McQueary

35 years old

July 1872 - 8/23/1907

The Story

The grit and toughness of the Colorado west was real.
And so was swift justice - for better or for worse..

- ~1876: McQueary family move to Colorado, settling in Junction in the 1880's
- 1895: Tall, handsome, red-headed Grant marries lovely Helen "Nellie" Kemp in Conifer
- 1898-1900: Nellie & Grant have 2 children - Earl and Mary Gladys, Brother-in-law Delbert lives and works with them on their farm
- 1901: Grant kills a mountain lion with a pitchfork!
- 8/23/1907: Grant threatens Albert Schaffer, accusing him of stealing some railroad ties from his property, Albert shoots McQueary after Grant threatens to kill him with a 5-foot pipe
- 8/24/1907: Coroner's jury clears Albert, citing self-defense
- Bert, his brother and sister-in-law leave the area
- Nellie and children remain, although son Earl dies in 1911



Boy Who Witnesses Tragedy
Supports Claim That the
Shooting Was Done
in Self-Defense.

PINE GROVE TRAGEDY
EXCITES COMMUNITY

Sheriff and Coroner Called and
Prisoner Taken to Golden
for Inquest.



Conifer Cemetery

Charles Edward Weinholdt

15 years old

1921 - 7/27/1936

The Story

Life-threatening hazards lurked within simple, daily tasks and had the potential to impact large swaths of neighbors

- 1921: Charles Jr. born to Charles & Louise Weinholdt living in Hot Sulphur Springs, Louise was related to the Conifer McQueary's - niece of Grant McQueary
- By 1930: Louise is divorced, living back in Denver with her father and 2 sons, Charles Sr. remains in Grand County
- 1936: Charles Jr now living with father in Fraser, along with Louise's 23 yr old sister Hazel and brother in-law Donald
- July 1936: Charles pours kerosene on a fire in the kitchen stove in his father's apartment to speed up breakfast, causing an explosion.
- Fire wipes out \$20,000 worth of property in the Fraser business district (combination store/apartment/dance hall)
- Six people burned and taken to Denver for treatment- including Charles' father, Charles and Hazel die

