

RESTORATION & PRESERVATION
OF
NEVADA'S HISTORIC CEMETERIES

BULLETIN NO. 51



NEVADA LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

AUGUST 1962

Carson City, Nevada

NEVADA LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION

B. MAHLON BROWN	Senate Member
CHARLES D. GALLAGHER	Senate Member
FLOYD R. LAMB	Senate Member
WALTER WHITACRE	Senate Member
JAMES C. BAILEY	Assembly Member
F. C. BUCKINGHAM	Assembly Member
GLENN JONES	Assembly Member
ARCHIE POZZI, JR.	Assembly Member

A. N. JACOBSON	Legislative Auditor
J. E. SPRINGMEYER	Legislative Counsel

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword i

Preface ii

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 16 iii

Scope of the Study 1

Methods of Study 2

Historical Backgrounds:

 Columbus, Mountain City, Cortez, Gold Hill,
 Silver City, Dayton, Belleville, Marietta 3

 Unionville 3

 Carson City 5

 Galena, Ophir, Washoe City 6

 Franktown, Washoe Valley, Massacre Lake, Ragtown. 7

 Belmont 7

 Pioche 8

 Virginia City 8

Restoration & Preservation of Virginia City Cemeteries:

 General 10

 Definition of Terms 11

Cost Analyses:

 Minimum, Exhibit No. 1 12

 Partial, Exhibit No. 2 13

 Complete, Exhibit No. 3 14

Suggested Program 15

Financing 17

Summary of Recommendations 18

FOREWORD

The Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau is a fact-finding organization designed to assist legislators, state officers, and citizens in obtaining the facts concerning the government of the State, proposed legislation, and matters vital to the welfare of the people. The staff will always be non-partisan and non-political; it will not deal in propoganda, take part in any political campaign, nor endorse or oppose any candidates for public office.

The primary purpose of the Counsel Bureau is to assist citizens and officials in obtaining effective state government at a reasonable cost. The plan is to search out facts about government and to render unbiased interpretation of them. Its aim is to cooperate with public officials and to be helpful rather than critical. Your suggestions, comments, and criticisms will greatly aid in accomplishing the object for which we are all working--the promotion of the welfare of the State of Nevada.

PREFACE

During the 1961 Session of the Nevada Legislature, the Assembly adopted Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 16, which memorialized the Legislative Counsel Bureau to study the feasibility of restoring to some measure of proper condition the historic cemeteries of this state. Investigation revealed that there are approximately 3,000 historic cemeteries in the State of Nevada; and thus, because of the enormity of the task, this study is limited to a discussion of a number of such cemeteries, with emphasis upon the cemeteries at Virginia City.

To execute the research necessary to carry out the wishes of the Legislature in this regard, the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau executed a contract with Mr. A. Earl Miller of Reno, a veteran of twelve years' experience in the operation and management of cemeteries. On the basis of this background, plus advice of other specialists, Mr. Miller has included in his report estimates of costs connected with his various recommendations made herein.

In the final formulation of this report, editorial assistance and additional historical information were furnished by Thelma Davis Calhoun of Carson City.

Copies of this study may be obtained without cost from the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada.

J. E. SPRINGMEYER
Legislative Counsel

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

Mr. Petrini

March 27, 1961

SUMMARY - Memorializes the Legislative Counsel Bureau to study the possibility of restoration of historic cemeteries.

WHEREAS, From the dawn of history, all nations and the people thereof have maintained a decent respect for the resting places of their deceased citizens; and

WHEREAS, On certain anniversary dates of all nations, religious and patriotic rites are held in most cemeteries to pay homage to those who rest there in eternal sleep; and

WHEREAS, Because vandals and the ravages of time, the condition of some of the historic cemeteries of Nevada has so deteriorated as to shock the sense of decency of all who visit them, whether Nevada's residents or visitors; and

WHEREAS, In some such cemeteries lie many of the illustrious pioneers who helped found and further the development of this State; and

WHEREAS, the present condition of such cemeteries is a state disgrace that demands immediate attention; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That a study be made of such cemeteries, the condition thereof, and an estimate of the approximate cost of restoring such cemeteries to the condition in which they should properly be kept; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the study also include consideration of ways and means to defray the cost of such restoration other than with public funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a report be made of the result of such study to the 1963 Session of the Nevada Legislature.

A SURVEY OF RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION

OF

NEVADA'S HISTORIC CEMETERIES

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

It is estimated that there are over 1,500 historic towns and settlements in Nevada, most of which had cemeteries of some description. In addition, there were cemeteries and burying grounds along many of the established immigrant trails throughout the State. Most of the old ranches and lumber camps, too, had their own designated burial places. Approximately 3,000 such sites might be included in the category of "historic cemeteries." Through time, neglect and vandalism, even surface indications of many of these have been completely obliterated.

Obviously, within the scope of this study, it would be impossible to consider all of Nevada's historic places of interment. In conversations with residents of the State, I found that each "old timer" and historian had his or her favorite candidate. However, most of these have been investigated in field trips and eliminated since they are beyond restoration. The only feasible approach seems to be that of protecting representative pre-1880 cemeteries and recommending restoration of only those where vandalism and neglect have not completely destroyed what should be consecrated ground.

The cemeteries considered in this report are not listed according to importance, but by the order in which they were studied. Cost sheets included are estimates of the consultant, with the advice of specialists, and these, together with recommendations made, are based upon his twelve years experience in the field of operation and management of cemeteries.

METHODS OF STUDY

There are no established methods for conducting such a survey and no available reports to use as guidelines since most restorations of this nature have been on a volunteer and local level. There are no existing records of costs of programs where restorations such as this have been undertaken.

It would not be reasonable to embark on such a program without thoroughly familiarizing oneself with the situation as it exists in Nevada. This was accomplished by research and study of maps and plat records to determine what cemeteries, or parts of cemeteries, existed prior to 1880; by studying records available in county courthouses, the Nevada State Library, the Nevada Historical Society, newspaper files, books compiled by researchers of early Nevada history, and other sources of documentation.

Field trips were made to individual sites, damage surveyed at each, conversations held with many residents of the area under study, and other pertinent data noted. Where indicated, cost studies were made and estimates given of recommended restoration and/or preservation projects. In arriving at cost estimates, bids were frequently secured from specialists in the field.

The amassed data were then analyzed and reduced to their basic elements to permit formulation of a general plan.

Recommendations were then formulated on the basis of the general plan.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF REPRESENTATIVE SITES STUDIED

General

Cemeteries still exist in many historic pre-1880 towns, among them:

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Established</u>	<u>Max. Population</u>
Aurora	Mineral	1863	6,000
Ione	Nye	1863	2,000
Camdelaria	Mineral	1865	7,000
Tuscarora	Elko	1871	6,000 Occidental 2,000 Oriental
Tybo	Nye	1866	No Information

Columbus in Esmeralda County, established in 1865, was the home of Pacific Coast Borax Company which alone imported 1,000 Chinese coolies. The ruins of the cemetery contain many open graves testifying to the exhumation of "Celestials" for removal to their ancestral homes. Some were vandalized in the belief that Oriental custom required the burial of money with the body. Of the estimated 300 burials remaining, not one board marker is decipherable.

Mountain City in Elko County, established in 1872, boasted that 1,800 votes were cast in the Grant presidential election, and without the impetus of woman suffrage! This would indicate a considerable population. This cemetery is still in use.

Ruins are still evident of the cemetery at Cortez, Lander County, founded in 1865, and claiming at its hayday some 1,000 residents.

Gold Hill in Storey County and Silver City and Dayton in Lyon County, all contemporaries of Virginia City, have cemeteries still in use established prior to 1880.

No markers remain in the cemeteries of Belleville and Marietta, both once populous, active towns of Esmeralda County.

Some of these cemeteries are still in occasional use and are probably maintained after a fashion by nearby residents, others are far from normal travel routes and devoid of surveillance, hence, have been destroyed.

Undoubtedly some traces are still evident of other historic burying places in the many remote ghost towns that stud Nevada's glittering history, but to seek them out would be impractical.

Unionville, Pershing County

Unionville is located in a valley about four miles west of Highway 50, south of Mill City and northeast of Lovelock.

The first white men to settle in the valley were either Captain Peffensdorff

and J. C. Hannan, or Ed Kelly and party; the title is still disputed. Other early arrivals were Christ Lark and George Wortman, the latter breaking the trail for the hundreds to follow when he entered the valley driving a four-mule team hitched to a heavy wagon. Thus, in the spring of 1861, Unionville, or as it was then known, Buena Vista, was born.

With settlement came the selection of an official name for the embryonic town. Since the populace was composed of more northern than southern sympathizers, the name "Unionville" won out over "Dixie" in a hotly disputed election.

Seekers for gold began arriving daily, and others came to serve the fortune hunters. Tom Hadley set up the first blacksmith shop, while Homer Davis and Tom Barmbry established a wagon shop. Others, like Jim Langdon and Bill Branin, catered to lighter of the miner's wants and flourished in the saloon business despite the fact that every fourth drink was "on the house."

Hopes were high in Unionville. Jesse King established the Arizona Mine, abandoned it, and when Ed Kelly and William Graves acquired it, they struck a large body of ore, news of which brought hundreds of new settlers. Later came the Hanitouwak, Inskip, Peru, Millionaire, Luck Dog, National, Jackson, Seminole Mines, and scores of others.

A large mill was necessary and, since rock crushers were not in use, a horde of Chinese immigrants was employed to reduce the rock for milling.

New homes sprang up, many of adobe, poles, and stone, with roofs thatched with bundles of rye grass bound with rawhide. The better homes were constructed of lumber from Honey Lake brought in by Si Springer and McClure in great wagons, with the larger timbers destined for mill construction and shoring the mines.

As the population grew, Frank Curieux established a brewery where free lunch was dispensed with the purchase of beer, and Paul Laveaga expanded his store to accommodate a saloon.

Names of some of the early settlers taken from grave markers indicate that the British Isles were well represented: Meager, Woolcock, Hancock, Davey, Reid, Mooreheas, Miles, O'Connell, Pearce, Lathlean, Davids, Fellows, Campbell, Northey, Spors, Pfluger, Rutherford, Cuthrie, Carpenter, Evans, Origan, Brown, Zimmershead, Clark, Hampton, Wagerman, Thornton. John Boyer, Dave Johnson, and Jim McCormick were millmen. Kinkaid later became Governor of Nevada. The Bonni-fields worked in the mines and studied law in their spare time becoming famous jurists in later years. Judge Berry, J. H. McMillan, and O. R. Leonard were prominent attorneys, and Unionville's medical care was provided by Drs. Luther, Grove and Banks.

To handle the terminal requirements of its citizenry, the town established a "Dead Man Hall" (morgue) and an area was designated for a cemetery. Death was a common occurrence and funerals well attended providing as they did an opportunity for respite from the difficult task of wresting a livelihood out of the earth and a social get-together, as well as an occasion for paying one's last respects.

Men like these, who worked hard and played hard, frequently met violent ends as attested to by inscriptions on headstones and other records:

Geisleman, Waddy & Wedlake - killed in an explosion at the Arizona.

Fred Harris - blasted while mining at Indian Creek.

Smith - mortally wounded by George Lister, who went free.

N. Brown - shot, on Christmas night, by Bob Ferris, who went free.

Tommy Grant - went out selling books and was later found at the mouth of American Canyon, his body partially eaten by coyotes. It was presumed he froze to death. (The walls of his cabin still stand and both a canyon and Grant Rock are named for him.)

George Ward - killed by Mexican Joe during an argument over gambling. Mexican Joe was freed after a speedy trial.

Dick Snowden - stabbed by a man named Baker at Star City.

A. D. McCulloch - found dead beside his cap and ball pistol. An unpopular verdict of suicide was rendered.

Vance Nelson - blasted. He carried giant powder in his shirt pocket and his body was found scattered near the entrance of his mine by Dan Glen.

Tom Redman - found in his tent in Spring Valley. (He had killed himself with his shotgun.) The weather was warm and two Irishmen volunteered to hasten with his remains back to Dead Man Hall. To face their ghoulish chore, they proceeded to fortify themselves with liquid courage and, by the time they had Tom rolled in his blankets, they saw two roads where there had been one. They took the wrong one and were found later at the foot of a hill "sleeping it off" under a juniper tree. Tom, still in his blanket shroud, was basking in the sun.

In 1901, Andy Springer and E. Joe Thornton erected a fence and did a general clean-up job on the grounds. Public subscription provided \$700 for the job.

The cemetery has suffered from vandals and time. Many of the headstones and markers have been taken and others have fallen. Fencing is destroyed and weeds are rampant.

Restoration here would include new fencing, resetting some 30 stones, filling sunken graves, and clearing brush and weeds. It is estimated that this project could be completed for \$1,000.

Carson City, Ormsby County

In 1961, the Nevada Legislature enacted into law Chapter 195, Statutes of Nevada, which provided for the formation of cemetery districts. Such a district was formed by Carson City for the purpose of redesigning and maintaining the various lodge and church areas now in use at Lone Mountain Cemetery. Therefore no program of restoration is suggested for this area.

The original cemetery for the Carson City area is in imminent danger of complete destruction. It is located a few blocks west of the present city limits in King's Canyon and in the direct path of subdivision development.

At one time many interments for the U. S. Army were made here, but they were later removed to the post cemetery at the newly established Fort Churchill. Major Ormsby was one of the officers originally buried here. The site of his grave is still evident adjacent to that of the last man to be killed in the Indian wars, William S. Allen. Allen was a civilian and consequently not eligible for burial in a military cemetery.

His headstone is inscribed:

Sacred to the memory of William S. Allen of Callaway County, Missouri. Born Oct. 25, 1828, and shot by Indians near Pyramid Lake while at the head of a scouting party called out by Col. Hayes, June 5, 1860. Erected by his brother, David Allen. (And on the ironwork:) O. Gori, San Francisco, Wm. McKibben, Maker, Pine St. near Montgomery, San Francisco.

Allen's death apparently provided the catalyst that moved the U. S. Army to establish a post at Fort Churchill to prevent future affrays with the "redman."

Vandals have attempted to remove this stone and, in our field trip we reset it as best we could. This stone should be permanently reset, the grave and that of Major Ormsby's first interment restored, a memorial marker placed on Major Ormsby's grave site, and the iron fencing replaced. The estimated cost of restoring both graves and placing the memorial tablet would be about \$400.

Galena, Ophir, Washoe City, Washoe County

Galena was established in 1860-61 west of Washoe City. It was never notable for its mining or milling, but did a big business as a lumber town. Its roistering existence was brief, however, and it ran out of lumber and population in 1865.

Although there were many violent deaths at Galena, no cemetery was ever established, interment being in nearby Washoe City cemetery.

Ophir grew up around the mill constructed in 1861 for the reduction of ores from the famous Ophir Mine. It reached a population in 1862 of 1,500, second in size to Washoe City, then the largest town in Washoe County. The mill ceased operations in 1866 and the town died.

There is no evidence of a separate cemetery and it is assumed that Ophir, too, utilized the Washoe City facility.

Washoe City, founded in 1861, was the first seat of government for Washoe County and boasted at its height 5,000 residents. A few old stores, ruins of the assay office, and some feed barns remain.

The most prominent relic of the old town is its cemetery situated on Highway 395 right-of-way about midway between Reno and Carson City. This cemetery is in good condition indicating that relatives and friends of those buried there and/or residents of the area have had a voluntary maintenance program of sorts. A general

clean-up and resetting of stones could be accomplished for approximately \$250.

Franktown and Washoe Valley, Washoe County

From all reports and research, Franktown apparently had no cemetery. However, there are at least seven private ranch cemeteries in Washoe Valley. Apparently each ranch established its own burial grounds and there was no need of a community facility.

No restoration is advised for these private places of interment.

Massacre Lake, Washoe County

Massacre Lake is situated in a remote area of northern Washoe County and is reached by State Highway 8-A, a graded road.

In the summer of 1850, a large number of well-equipped wagons left the main train and headed for Oregon over the Applegate Cut-off. Followed by Indians, the emigrants attempted to discourage them by taking flurries of pot-shots at them, wounding and possibly killing some. Later, after circling the wagons, a large contingent of the men was organized, left the train, and drove off the Indians. Assuming their efforts had been successful, they rejoined their party.

However, the Indians returned in force and there ensued a violent battle. At its conclusion, the wagon train counted forty of its men dead. The women and children, together with the few able-bodied men remaining, dug a common grave for the bodies, driving the wagons back and forth over the burial to obliterate any traces and thus protect it from desecration.

No restoration is, of course, possible, but a memorial marker could be placed at the site for an estimated \$70.

Ragtown, Churchill County

Ragtown is located on the Carson River west of Fallon on Highways 95 and 50. It is known today as Leeteville.

Although the present site indicates nothing of its former importance, it was once a sizeable trading post and the first watering place for the thirsty immigrants who had traveled the Overland Trail. Here they stopped to rest and repair their gear after a long and arduous trip across forty miles of desert. The name "Ragtown" is alleged to have originated from the custom of women of the wagon trains, upon reaching the river, to do their long accumulated laundering, and the sagebrush was "draped for miles" with washings hung out to dry.

There was a cemetery at Ragtown containing over 200 graves. Today the new highway crosses the site and no restoration could be accomplished. However, a memorial marker should be placed near the highway where it traverses the old cemetery. The estimated cost of such a marker is \$100.

Belmont, Nye County

Belmont, in 1875, at the height of its economy, claimed 10,000 residents.

The flourishing town indicated by advertisements in its three newspapers that there were available the services of at least three attorneys-at-law, a dentist, assayer, medical men, as well as wares of mercantile, livery stables, numerous cafes and palaces of pleasure, hotels and lodging houses, brewery, and, with a bow to "culture," a theater where traveling troupes presented their chaste entertainments, as well as an active glee club, and, finally, a public croquet court. The municipal affairs of Nye County were conducted in Belmont's impressive three-story courthouse and the future was bright.

Early in 1880, the good ladies of Belmont, roused by the neglected condition of the cemetery in the canyon below town, launched a series of bazaars, food sales, and other fund-raising enterprises which resulted in sufficient funds to fence the cemetery.

All available men were enlisted to erect the fence and, when it was completed, the ladies painted it themselves.

In the early 1880's Belmont entered a decline and, with the discovery of silver at Tonopah Springs in 1900, the remaining populace quit the dying town in a stampede. The next general election found only 36 qualified voters remaining and the county seat went to Tonopah.

In 1952 a group of ladies from Manhattan and Tonopah erected a new fence around the Belmont cemetery. The only cost of restoration would be labor involved in weeding and cleaning. This could be accomplished by volunteers such as the Washoe County Jeep Squadron. No other expense is anticipated.

Pioche, Lincoln County

Settled in 1864 as the result of a mining boom, "Pioche was a wild town--one of the wildest in the West!" recalled the memoirs of an old-timer. "Once when I was there with a load of lumber, 17 men were killed in a single night, and a murder a day was considered about average!" Seventy-five graves were filled with the casualties of gun fights before the first resident died a normal death.

The cemetery at Pioche was started immediately with the town's beginnings. In 1871 a fire burned out part of the town and touched off many barrels of gun-powder killing many residents and adding to the population of its already populous burial site.

The cemetery is still in use and no restoration is indicated in the program under consideration. A memorial tablet could, however, identify this as an historic cemetery at a cost of about \$75.

Virginia City, Storey County

This Bonanza town is so well-known in history, folklore, and travel brochures that we will devote little time to its background.

Regarding the establishment of its several cemeteries, Charles Collins, in his 1864-65 "Mercantile Guide and Directory for Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City," has this to say:

This city can now boast a public burial place for the dead. The ground formerly known as Flowery Hill was purchased from its owner, J. B. Wallard, by the city at a cost of \$2,500. The city council is taking the necessary steps to have the grounds laid off in a manner which, when completed, will reflect credit to the good taste of its projectors. The tract contains 27 acres. A portion of the grounds has been reserved and laid off for the exclusive use of the firemen of this city.

Mount Saint Mary's (Catholic) Cemetery, under the charge of Rev. Father Manogue, is situated one mile east of the city. A good road is now constructed and when the grounds, which are now being tastefully laid out, together with other improvements which are now commenced, are completed, it will be one of the ornaments of the city. A cross forty feet high is being erected in an appropriate portion of the grounds which will be seen from all parts of the city. About one hundred have already been buried there. Father Manogue has laid off and presented to the firemen of Virginia City a plot of ground in two parcels for their exclusive use.

The Eureka (Hebrew) Society has purchased a plot of ground on Cedar Hill to be used as a cemetery which they have fenced in and otherwise improved. The Society has displayed a great deal of taste and expended a large sum of money in ornamenting their grounds.

Two of these cemeteries are still in existence, but the original Flowery Hill Cemetery has been completely demolished with the exception of the grave of Julie Bulette which has been moved some 50 feet from its original location. The present public cemetery is also known as Flowery Hill.

All the existing Virginia City cemeteries are still in use and, with the space still available, will probably continue to be used for many years.

Since these are the largest cemeteries considered in this report, and since much of Nevada's history stems from this area, a detailed study was made and several alternate plans proposed.

RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF VIRGINIA CITY CEMETERIES

General

Location and Access:

All cemeteries considered in this group are located in one general area northeast of Virginia City. All are served by one road with feeder branches to the different cemeteries. Traffic does not present a problem, but the roads would have to be widened and parking areas established. All roadways are dedicated.

Area:

The sites are of sufficient size for some time to come comprising approximately 33 acres. Any restoration done will, of course, enhance the value of adjoining vacant land and should not meet with opposition.

Utilities and Soil:

The sites are on windblown, rocky hillsides and the feasibility of transporting sufficient soil to permit planting or any extensive landscaping is nil. Power is available but, except as it is needed for the actual restoration work, is unnecessary.

For a complete restoration program, the work should include:

1. Rebuilding and restoring entrance gates, which should be used as pedestrian ways and not vehicular.
2. Surrounding the various cemeteries with chain link fences for protection and limited maintenance.
3. Rebuilding and restoring the original copings around family plots. These are variously of wood, concrete or stone.
4. Resetting and replacing of stones and markers. Some stones which have been stolen or broken should be replaced. Wooden markers should be repainted or replaced if original is undecipherable. All stones and markers should be set in concrete.
5. Fencing, which is of wrought iron or pickets, around the individual plots should be restored or replaced where necessary.
6. All sites should be weeded and perhaps treated against further growth of weeds. Trees should be pruned and a general cleaning of each area undertaken.

Definition of Terms as Used in Estimates for Virginia City Cemeteries

- Copings - the foundations or fences or curbings placed around family lots and individual graves, made of wood, concrete or stone.
- Roads - includes grading and graveling. Interior roads are to be of same material, but will be walkways.
- Walks - will be marked off and graveled.
- Fencing - includes outside fences of chain link and interior walkway fences either of chain link or pickets.
- Lot Fences - includes the picket fences, wrought iron, picket fences placed around family plots or individual graves.
- Main Entrance I - is the present entrance to the Masonic section of the Virginia City Cemetery.
- Main Entrance II - is the entrance to the older section down the hillside from the Masonic section and consists of two gateways on either side of the road.
- Main Entrance III - is the entrance to the Catholic Cemetery lying behind the Virginia City Cemetery.
- Main Entrance IV - is the entrance to the Hebrew Cemetery.
- Main Entrance V - is the entrance to the original Catholic Cemetery.
- Foundations - are the bases for markers and stones that need replacement.
- New Stones - are considered under the complete replacement program and are those stones which have been broken.
- Repair of Stones - is the resetting and mending broken stones when they can be restored to their original state by such method.
- New Wooden Markers - includes setting and painting most of the wooden markers in the cemeteries since weathering has destroyed most of the lettering.
- Information Markers and Tablets - are bronze tablets replacing markers which have been taken from some of the more interesting graves. In addition, tablets should be placed at the main entrance giving the history of the cemetery and hours for visiting.
- Paint - will be used for the markers and for repainting the fences.
- Ground Supplies and Equipment - include hand tools and supplies, such as nails, paint brushes, etc.
- Engineering - is staking out the roads, parking, walkways. This need not be done by a professional engineer, but should be done by someone familiar with the program of restoration.
- Advertising and Public Relations - are necessary to inform the public of the restoration program and to seek assistance in compiling records and data concerning the cemeteries.
- Management Costs - are salaries paid to the supervisor of the restoration program.
- Contingency - is allowed for acceleration of costs and to provide some money for future care and upkeep. It is based upon a five-year care program and must be replenished at the end of this time to provide care beyond this period.

VIRGINIA CITY CEMETERIES
Cost Analysis for Minimum Repair and General Cleaning

Copings:	
Concrete (reset by filling)	\$ 750.00
Rock (reset by filling)	575.00
Wood (reset or renail)	350.00
Roads:	
Exterior (no work included)	
Interior (establish boundaries and clean)	700.00
Walks (establish boundaries and clean)	750.00
Fences:	
Exterior (repair and clean)	275.00
Interior (repair and clean)	800.00
Lot fences:	
Repair on iron work	240.00
Repair on pickets	200.00
All other	35.00
Main Entrance I	1,000.00
Main Entrance II	250.00
Main Entrance III	270.00
Main Entrance IV	400.00
Main Entrance V	250.00
Stones and Markers:	
Repair and clean stones	500.00
Repair and clean wooden markers	350.00
Miscellaneous Supplies, etc.:	
Paint	50.00
Ground equipment and supplies	550.00
Advertising and public relations	100.00
Records research	50.00
Contingency	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Cost Minimum Repair and Cleaning	\$10,445.00

The above costs do not include any management costs since most of the items covered are labor costs and include manager's costs.

All cleaning work includes the hauling of brush and the filling of graves, walks, etc., where necessary.

This much of the restoration program must be done at all costs if we are to save any of the cemetery for the near future.

VIRGINIA CITY CEMETERIES
Cost Analysis for Partial Restoration and Cleaning

General cleaning costs	\$10,445.00
Concrete copings	1,500.00
Rock copings	300.00
Wood copings	200.00
Exterior roads	2,000.00
Interior roads	1,500.00
Exterior fencing	18,000.00
Lot fences, iron	1,715.00
Lot fences, wood	4,690.00
Lot fences, all other	260.00
Main Entrance I	800.00
Main Entrance II	100.00
Main Entrance III	100.00
Main Entrance IV	300.00
Foundations for stones and markers	13,500.00
Repair of existing stones	9,000.00
Repair of wooden markers	2,000.00
Paint	80.00
Ground equipment and supplies	1,600.00
Engineering	700.00
Advertising and public relations	300.00
Records and research	1,500.00
Management and caretaker costs	18,000.00
Contingency	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total Cost of Partial Restoration	\$92,590.00

All costs of cemetery material and supplies have been figured on a wholesale basis.

This program should take five years to complete and there should be provision for additional money after that time to provide care and maintenance.

VIRGINIA CITY CEMETERIES
Cost Analysis for Complete Restoration and Cleaning

General cleaning costs	\$ 10,445.00
Concrete copings	2,500.00
Rock copings	912.00
Wood copings	2,088.00
Exterior roads	15,000.00
Interior roads	8,500.00
Exterior fences	18,000.00
Interior fences	2,000.00
Walkway fencing	2,000.00
Parking lot fencing near Main Entrance	1,000.00
Lot fences, iron	1,715.00
Lot fences, wood	4,690.00
Lot fences, all other	260.00
Main Entrance I	1,500.00
Main Entrance II	200.00
Main Entrance III	200.00
Main Entrance IV	900.00
Main Entrance V	400.00
Foundations for stones and markers	13,500.00
New stones and markers	24,000.00
Repair stones	4,000.00
New wooden markers	4,000.00
Repair wooden markers	1,500.00
Twenty information tablets	1,000.00
Paint	80.00
Road to Hebrew Cemetery	400.00
Ground equipment and supplies	1,600.00
Engineering	1,000.00
Advertising and public relations	500.00
Records and research	1,500.00
Management and caretaker costs	18,000.00
Contingency for restoration	<u>5,000.00</u>
 Total Cost of Complete Restoration	 \$148,390.00

All costs of stones and cemetery equipment have been figured at wholesale since they can be obtained through regular cemetery supply houses. The cost of replacing all stones could not be figured since many have been removed and there is no record of them.

This complete restoration program should take at least five years and additional money must be obtained at the end of that time for future care and maintenance.

SUGGESTED PROGRAM

The historic cemeteries of our nation are becoming more and more tourist attractions. The traveling public is becoming increasingly aware of the tremendous amount of history available in the inscriptions and epitaphs, in the design of the tombstones, and in the beauty of the wrought iron work employed. This is a phase of our past that is fast vanishing from the American scene with the present antiseptic and utilitarian approach to interment.

Many people touring the country, and providing a great portion of Nevada's economic support, wouldn't consider passing through an historic town without visiting its graveyard. I have talked, too, to many who boast about having a fine old tombstone embedded in their patio "back home in Podunk Center" or wherever. I have seen the intricate and beautiful "Lamb of God" pattern in wrought iron fencing, designed expressly for enclosing grave plots, gracing a balcony in San Francisco!

While I was inspecting the Washoe City Cemetery on busy Highway 395, a family driving a car with California plates, father, mother, and teen-age son, were busily engaged in attempting to load a fallen tombstone into their trunk. I was finally able to convince them that the stone belonged where it was and not in their garden. They were, however, quite disappointed and resentful--"all our friends have one!"--and probably got one from some other site before they left the state.

For the percentage that desecrate such places, there are infinitely more who are sincerely interested and reverent. It is quite remarkable that people who appear to be normal in other respects feel no compunction about such outright vandalism. Perhaps the general decay and neglect prevalent in most of our historic cemeteries gives the impression, mayhap rightly, that "nobody cares."

In order to effect a restoration program of this sort, there must be foresighted and intelligent planning. An overall chairman should be selected to coordinate the work. This would concentrate responsibility and permit integration of various phases.

Vice-chairmen would be selected in each locality and would have the privilege of selecting committee members to work with them. The whole program must be carried out at the local level. We are dealing with a very sentimental and personal matter, and resentment would be engendered at the idea that "outsiders" might tell the residents what to do with their cemeteries.

Each vice-chairman, with the assistance of the chairman, would be charged with the responsibility of reassigning the work to be done in his particular area, contacting local service clubs, churches, historical associations, morticians, florists, etc., and ascertaining what services or funds could be raised locally. From this he would submit a report to the general chairman who would then be able to coordinate services, purchase of materials, etc.

No county involved can afford the initial cost of restoration. Some State help would undoubtedly be necessary to get the program underway. It is to be hoped that some plan could be evolved to maintain the cemeteries once public interest is sparked by the establishment of such a program.

The basic aims as directed in this report are:

1. Restoration of historic cemeteries in the State of Nevada.
2. Continued maintenance of such cemeteries.
3. Preservation from vandalism.

The steps necessary to restoration are:

1. Field trips to all such cemeteries.
2. Platting each grave, marker, stone, etc., with a master map. (This would involve intensive research and correspondence with survivors.)
3. Listing of each item necessary to repair and restoration. (Copings, fencings, stones, walkways, entrances, etc.)
4. Securing cost estimates covering all work planned.
5. Providing the funds to accomplish the restoration.

The steps necessary to maintenance are:

1. Placing responsibility for maintaining of records.
2. Planning for trusts and continuing financial support.

To prevent vandalism we must:

1. Enact laws with teeth in them to provide appropriate punishment for vandals and to provide enforcement.
2. Eliminate public vehicle entrances. All entrances should be pedestrian only. For cemeteries still in use, locked gates would bar the casual visitor. (People are more apt to indulge in vandalism when they can be screened by their cars.)
3. Establish regulations to apply to visitors to cemeteries, regular visiting hours, etc.

FINANCING

Essential to such a program of restoration and preservation is an efficient and realistic method of immediate financing and continuing aid for maintenance. To undertake the first without adequate provision for maintaining the program is unthinkable.

The cost of such an endeavor would be too great to be handled on a city or county level, and a state-wide program for raising the necessary financing would receive scant support from counties not actually involved. This eliminates our most populous areas.

It is not practical to consider a professional fund-raiser since his own services would probably run \$2,000. per month. In a discussion of this aspect with Mr. Frank Terry, who has had 20 years of experience in professional fund raising, I was advised that no legitimate practitioner in this field would attempt a project of this nature.

Several suggestions have been made by interested persons, among them the following:

1. Charge admission to visit the cemeteries (in some instances the amount realized would not defray the expense of having a person to handle admissions).
2. Prepare and publish a booklet on the history of the various cemeteries for sale to visitors (a well written text with perhaps some line illustrations might sell surprisingly and would be something to consider for maintenance costs).
3. Contact relatives of persons interred requesting financial aid.
4. Request financial assistance from historical groups and veterans' organizations.
5. Request financial assistance from various morticians and undertaking establishments.
6. Interest civic groups in adopting such a restoration as a joint project.
7. Make the restoration program a project of the Park Commission.
8. Make funds available from the State General Fund for the restoration.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Create a joint State-County Committee to handle the restoration program, to institute action, and to maintain continuing supervision and aid.
2. Develop citizen interest through an intensive publicity program, publication of brochures, etc.
3. Coordinate activities of Park Commission, State Historical Society, DAR, Veterans' groups, Legislature, county officials, service clubs, business groups, etc., to direct all assistance toward the master goal.
4. Establish restrictions to apply to all cemeteries, regulate hours when visitors are welcome, limit vehicle traffic.
5. Enact proper statutory controls to curb vandalism and protect improvements achieved under the program.
6. Plan an effective fund-raising program to insure continuing maintenance and protection.