

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 14 1993
NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Evergreen Cemetery

other names/site number Mt. Washington Cemetery, Mountain Home Cemetery 5EP 179

2. Location

street & number 1005 South Hancock Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Colorado Springs N/A vicinity

state Colorado code CO county El Paso code 041 zip code 80903

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] January 4, 1992
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper [Signature] Entered in the National Register Date of Action 2/11/93

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

El Paso County, CO
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>28</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>32</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque (chapel)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE
walls STONE

roof STONE: Slate
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

E1 Paso County, CO
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

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

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- SOCIAL HISTORY
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Period of Significance

1871-1942

Significant Dates

- 1871: Establishment of historically significant cemetery.
- 1876: Official operation of historically significant cemetery
- 1907: Construction of architecturally significant gazebo

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

- Blair, John (site)
- Pease, L. A. (chapel)

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

N/A

Evergreen Cemetery
Name of Property

El Paso County, CO
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 220

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	13	517620	42967000
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	13	518040	42962500

3	13	518040	42957700
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	13	517500	42957600

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Denise R.W. Oldach, Program Development Coordinator
City of Colorado Springs, Parks and
organization Recreation Dept., Patty Jewett Golf Course date 9/23/92
street & number 900 E. Espanola Street telephone (719) 578-6153
city or town Colorado Springs state CO zip code 80907

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name City of Colorado Springs
street & number 30 South Nevada, Suite 401 telephone (719) 578-6601
city or town Colorado Springs state CO zip code 80901-1575

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque
(first office building)

MATERIALS

foundation STONE
walls STONE
roof TERRA COTTA

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION

LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque
(fountain/gazebo)

MATERIALS

foundation STONE
walls STONE
roof STONE

NARRATIVE

Background

Evergreen Cemetery is a 220-acre site located in the southwestern section of Colorado Springs (See pictures #1 and #2.). Established in 1871, the cemetery is the resting place of many Colorado Springs residents. It is the oldest operating cemetery in the city.

Originally, Evergreen was called alternately Mt. Washington or Mountain Home Cemetery. The name became Evergreen Cemetery in 1876, at which time the city's founder General William Jackson Palmer officially deeded 36.1 acres of land to the City. This was the first of many gifts of land the General gave on behalf of the cemetery.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Since the spring of 1904, Evergreen Cemetery has had an endowment plan for perpetual care of the lots in the cemetery. Since then, all lots sold have been provided upkeep, with care consisting of mowing, watering and fertilizing the lawns. The upkeep of monuments, copings and other appurtenances was not included as a part of perpetual care.

The three most prominent residents buried in Evergreen are General Palmer, mining millionaire Winfield Scott Stratton and famous novelist Helen Hunt Jackson. As indicated on the enclosed sketch map, some of the other prominent Colorado Springs residents buried in the cemetery are as follows:

- Bob Womack -- very early settler of the area with his family, well-liked, part-time cowboy with a penchant for alcohol, credited with having first discovered gold in Cripple Creek but never struck it rich, died poor (See picture #3 in Block 39.);
- Tutt Family -- prominent pioneer family involved in mining in Cripple Creek and then in the development of the Broadmoor Hotel, family members remain actively involved in the community as civic leaders (See picture #4 in Block K.);
- Hibbard Family -- prominent pioneer family involved in retailing as well as community and charitable activities (See picture #5 in Block 58.); and
- Howbert Family -- prominent pioneer family involved with the early development of the area through the banking, mining and railroad industries, one family member was a noted author of early history books on the Pikes Peak Region (See picture #6 in Block 58.).

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 3

**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Contributing Resources

Site: Landscape Design

It is known that the famous landscape architect John Blair, who had laid out the parks in Chicago, was hired by the General to lay out the first parks, walking trails and bridges of Colorado Springs as well as Glen Eyrie and the Briarhurst, the residences of the founding father and one of his associates, Dr. W.A. Bell, respectively. It is believed the General used the services of Blair in laying out the original Evergreen Cemetery site.

The design of the cemetery was dictated by its available acreage and its outstanding mountain views to the west. Further early development of the cemetery was dictated by later donations of land by General Palmer. In addition to the original 36.1 acres the General set aside for a city cemetery in 1871, he donated acreages in 1887, 1898 and from his estate after his death in 1909.

Early on in Evergreen's history, veterans groups were given priority with their blocks placed in the heart of the cemetery. This is true for all veterans blocks.

In 1883, the City permitted the sale of some Evergreen acreage to a railroad with a line from Denver to Texas and a spur going through the cemetery acreage into Colorado Springs. The railroad proved to be a failure and, by 1917, the rails were taken out of the cemetery and scrapped. Twenty one years later in 1938, the City Manager suggested this acreage be repurchased for the cemetery. The enclosed sketch map illustrates the curved road where the railroad line existed, which is the principal road through Evergreen today.

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Continuation Sheet

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

As a result of the Cripple Creek gold rush in the 1890s, Evergreen Cemetery's landscape began to change in the first decade of the 1900s, with the addition of lavish mausoleums and highly ornamental monuments. The focal point for this new landscaping was a beautiful stone chapel, on the main road through the cemetery, which was built in 1909 (See picture #7 in Block 73.)

From the 1920s to 1960s, hundreds of graves with rose-covered trellises decorated the landscape of the cemetery, earning Evergreen a listing by Ripley's Believe It or Not as the largest outdoor rose garden in the world (See picture #8 of Block 229.).

In modern times, the explosive growth of Evergreen has led to development of the cemetery in a grid-like fashion, with new blocks developed in the available outlying areas of the cemetery property. Irregular-shaped blocks are largely attributable to the topographical makeup of certain areas of the cemetery.

Structures: Fountain/Gazebo, Chapel, War Heroes Memorial, First Office Building, Mausoleums

In 1900, the Cemetery Aid Association formed to assist the City in improving the appearance of the cemetery. This group's efforts produced three important resources for Evergreen: a stone fountain/gazebo built in 1907 (See picture #9 in Block 1.), a stone chapel (See picture #7 in Block 73.) -- both of Romanesque architectural styling -- and a war heroes memorial erected in 1922 (See picture #10 in Block 73.).

The fountain/gazebo, found east of the chapel in Evergreen, was intended as a place of serenity for grieving people who visit the cemetery. Of Romanesque styling, it features stone masonry, arched openings, classic proportions, buttressed steps and an overall picturesque setting. Though still beautiful, the fountain/gazebo is in need of restoration. The architect for this structure is unknown.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

The chapel, located within 100 feet of General Palmer's family plot, was designed by local architect L.A. Pease to be the setting for burial services during inclement weather. Its lower-level crypts also served as a storage area for caskets during the winter months when graves could not be dug. A hand-operated casket lift, which still exists today and was the only one of its kind west of the Mississippi River when it was installed, was used for lowering and raising a casket between the main floor and the basement.

In 1927, an addition called a comfort station was added to the back of the chapel, offering restrooms to cemetery visitors.

The chapel's architecture is characterized by Romanesque Revival features that include masonry construction, semi-circular arched windows, and cushioned capitals (atop the square column porch supports). The most frequent application of the Romanesque Revival style was in church design.

The semi-circular arch, the chief characteristic of the Romanesque Revival style, is used for the chapel's window openings as well as for decorative elements such as the pair of louvered vents in the gabled end. The masonry construction consists of a coursed cut stone foundation with random uncut stone walls. The moderately pitched roof is of wood. The gabled porch sheltering the entrance is not atypical of those Romanesque Revival buildings with Victorian influences.

The straight forward treatment of the stone, the broad roof plane, the select distribution of openings, and the overall symmetry recall the medieval heritage from which the chapel is designed.

The chapel has endured the ravages of time, but is in need of restoration.

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Section number 7 Page 6

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Unfortunately, nothing could be found to provide documentation of the war heroes memorial, featuring a World War I soldier. Currently, all that is known is this memorial was donated by the Cemetery Aid Association in 1922 and is made of a stone base with a bronze statue. The statue is in need of restoration.

Evergreen's first office building, located just northwest of the chapel, is believed to have been constructed prior to the chapel's construction in 1909, but an exact date is unknown (See picture #11 in Block 73.). Its architect also is unknown. The walls of the rectangular plan building are comprised of random rough-cut stone, as is the inset chimney. The hipped roof is clad in tile with raised tile along each ridge line. The structure is in need of restoration.

In 1909, the first mausoleum was constructed in Evergreen for the Giddings and Lennox families, two prominent families in town (See picture #12 in Block 58.). The mausoleum, built by contractor G.W. Blake of Chicago, cost \$30,000. Constructed entirely of granite, the Giddings/Lennox mausoleum is of Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival architectural design with its rectangular plan, powerful columnade, characteristic pediment and classical order columns. Its cut-stone masonry and Ionic columns delineate the steadfast re-creation of this timeless architectural order. The Giddings family also held a strong architectural ethic in the Colorado Springs community that is reflected by the Giddings Block, a Downtown Colorado Springs building -- built by the Giddings family -- that is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival architectural style, represented by the Giddings/Lennox mausoleum, is commonly found in cemeteries throughout the nation and is illustrated by two other mausoleums in Evergreen (See picture #13 in Block 58.). The remaining 24 mausoleums in the cemetery fit into three additional architectural categories: Late Victorian/Romanesque (See picture #14 in Block 233.), Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Classical Revival (See picture #15 in Block 222.), and Modern Movement (See picture #16 in Block 222.).

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 7

**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

DESCRIPTION (continued)

All, except three marble mausoleums, are constructed entirely of granite. Only one, the Carlton mausoleum in Block 78, is in immediate need of restoration.

Noncontributing Resources

Structures: Maintenance Building, Modern Office Building

Evergreen Cemetery has a modern maintenance building on its premises, built in 1965 and designed by local architect Walter H. Weber (See picture #17 in Block 104.). This structure was expanded in 1981 and 1982; the local architectural firm for the expansion was Rex Slaughter Associates.

The most recent addition to the cemetery, as of 1989, is an office building of the Modern Movement/Post-Modern architectural style (See picture #18.). Designed by local architect Perry Lewis, it offers private rooms for client transactions, adequate space for office functions and much-needed restrooms.

General

Because they are not of substantial size or could not be categorized into the traditional resource categories, Evergreen's monument styles as well as its flora and fauna are not included in this description as a contributing or noncontributing cemetery resource. Nonetheless, since these items are equally important overall to the cemetery's worth, a written description is provided.

Monuments: Prominent Grave Sites, Other Notable Cemetery Areas, Monument Styles in Cemetery's History

More than 70,000 people have been buried in Evergreen Cemetery during its 122-year existence. Three of the most notable monuments/grave sites are General Palmer's, Winfield Scott Stratton's and Helen Hunt Jackson's.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CODESCRIPTION (continued)

The General's grave site (See picture #19 in Block 74.) is best described by local architect Morrell Wright Bean in an architectural significance report on Evergreen Cemetery done for the City. It states that the site's simple orientation -- together with its low, random-laid, native sandstone wall and native boulder headstones -- perfectly reflects the General's sensitive natural ethic that was the cornerstone of his approach to careful urban development in the creation and protection of Colorado Springs. According to Bean, General Palmer's thorough and complete understanding of the inherent beauty of the Pikes Peak Region is symbolically reflected in the contemplative, Zen-like rock garden appeal of the grave site.

Winfield Scott Stratton's grave site (See pictures #20 and #21 in Block 72.) is prominently positioned along the main road leading through Evergreen. It is marked by a striking granite monument with weeping angels. The saying carved into the monument, "Tis not enough to help the feeble up but to support him after," is illustrative of the great benevolence Stratton exhibited to the less fortunate during his lifetime.

Helen Hunt Jackson's grave site (See picture #22 in Block 17.) is located in the Jackson family plot in the cemetery's southeastern section, far away from where everyone else was being buried at the time of her burial. Helen's husband chose this spot so that Helen would be in full view of her most beloved part of Colorado Springs: Cheyenne Mountain.

Also notable are the areas for veterans and other groups within the cemetery. The veterans areas are the Civil War section (See picture #23 in Block D.), Spanish-American War section (See picture #24 in Block 30.), the American Legion block containing veterans from WWI, WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War (See picture #25 of Block 221.), and the Zebulon Pike Disabled Veterans section containing disabled veterans from WWI, WWII and the Korean War (See picture #26 in Block 243.).

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Continuation Sheet

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Other groups are the Masons (See picture #27 in Block B.); the Elks (See picture #28 in Block 72.); the Union Printers Home, a haven for physical and medical care for aged, sick and indigent union printers for the last century and recently opened to the general public (See picture #29 of Block 241.); and the Myron Stratton Home, a home for poor persons who are without means of support and who are physically unable to earn a living by reasons of age, youth or sickness (See picture #30 in Block 71.).

The predominant monument styles found during certain time periods of Evergreen's history are as follows:

- 1870-1890: Tall upright monuments made of limestone were popular during the first two decades of the cemetery's existence. Limestone was the material of choice by monument dealers during this era. However, it does not weather well and, consequently, was replaced over time by other more durable materials. (See picture #31 of the Wiley monument in Block 31.)
- 1870-1910: What might be considered the Boot Hill of Evergreen can be found in three blocks of the cemetery. The markers in these areas are scattered, small and mostly in weeds. (See picture #32 of Block 47.)
- 1870-1930: Typically made of limestone during this time period, the classical styles of cap top, apex top (no accompanying picture) and spire can be found throughout the oldest sections of Evergreen. (See picture #33 of the Lynch monument [left] and the Sherman monument [middle] in Block 37.)
- 1880s: Simple upright monuments were a popular style during the 1880s. (See picture #34 of the Lee monument in Block 13.)

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 10

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

- 1890-1910: Monuments with round granite orbs affixed to the top are found in various sections of the cemetery. (See picture #35 of the Packer monument in Block 26.)
- 1890-1910: Copings around family plots served the purpose of grouping families together. They were quite expensive. Eventually, the popularity of copings faded because of two factors: 1. Copings created maintenance problems and 2. With the spreading out of the family unit, the need for family plots (around which copings may be placed) diminished. (See picture #36 of the Costa family plot in Block 21.)
- 1895-1920: Cap top monuments made of granite were extremely popular during this time frame. These typically had a tablet made of dark gray granite from Salida, Colorado with a base of light gray granite from Westcliffe, Colorado. (See picture #37 of the Zimmerman monument in Block 62.)
- 1900-1930: Monuments in the shape of a tree stump are found throughout the cemetery and were used to identify members of an organization known as Woodmen of the World. (See picture #38 of the Clay monument in Block 63.)
- 1900-1940: Made of granite, apex monuments featuring a drop wash base were typical during this period. The base was useful in keeping water and snow away from the attached monument. In addition, this base tended to be purchased by wealthier people since the extra cuts required in the base drove up the cost of the monument. (See picture #39 of the Murphy monument in Block 55.)

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

- 1920-1940: Variations of taller monuments were the significant style during this time period. Given the size and proportional cost of these monuments, they usually were purchased by wealthier people. (See picture #5 of the Hibbard monument in Block 58.)
- 1920-1960: Several blocks feature 12-inch, slant-style monuments covered by trellises, on which roses once grew in years passed. With 1200 to 1500 spaces per block, these sections were a virtual cornucopia for the senses when the roses were in bloom. They also were the source of fame for the cemetery when Ripley's Believe It or Not listed Evergreen as the largest outdoor rose garden in the world. (See picture #8 of Block 229.)
- 1930-1960: The flat marker section represents an era when this concept was very popular, primarily because cemetery officials were promoting the sale of flat markers. It was believed these markers would reduce maintenance costs. They did not, however; they created maintenance problems. In addition, loved ones were unhappy that grass had grown over much of the marker they had purchased. Though still used today, this concept has lost a great deal of its appeal in favor of upright monuments. (See picture #40 of Block 218.)
- 1950s: The Catholic sections were deeded to the City on the condition that the unsold spaces would be exchanged for perpetual care of all Catholic spaces. These sections are characterized by a number of monument styles, including more elaborate designs. A centerpiece monument stands at the corner of one of the sections. (See picture #41 of the centerpiece monument in Block 239.)

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

- 1950-1990: As the popularity of rose trellises over graves faded, taller (16-inch) slant-style monuments became in demand and a resurgence of the popularity of modern upright monuments occurred. These monuments were primarily made of granite. (See picture #42 of Block 214.)
- 1960-1990: See picture #43 of Block 227 for another example of modern upright and 16-inch, slant-style monuments, also both primarily made of granite.
- 1980-1990: See picture #44 of Block 118 for yet another illustration of modern memorialization trends of upright and 16-inch, slant-style monuments, also both primarily made of granite.

Some of the oldest cemetery monuments need restoration and/or repair because of the effects of weather and the passage of time.

Flora and Fauna: Trees, Shrubs, Wildflowers, Birds, Mammals

Evergreen Cemetery, situated within the Colorado Springs city limits, is an urban sanctuary. As such, it offers visitors a wide variety of flora and fauna for their enjoyment. More than 2,500 trees provide shade and beauty to the cemetery. This would include evergreen -- for which the site was originally named -- elm, silver maple and many others. Several different kinds of shrubs also decorate the landscape, namely Cotoneaster, Dogwood, Euonymous, Juniper, Lilac, Mahonia, Mockorange, Rose, Russian Olive, Spirea and Three-leaf Sumac. Virginia Creeper vines can be found throughout Evergreen, including on the exterior walls of the chapel. The cemetery's shrubs and vines are necessarily drought-resistant because of the site's manual watering system and Colorado Springs' semi-arid climate.

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Continuation Sheet

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

DESCRIPTION (continued)

Despite the area's climate, wildflowers flourish in two undeveloped areas of the cemetery. As evidenced in a survey done during the summer 1992, the following family groups have found their way to Evergreen: spiderwort, sunflower, evening primrose, pea, geranium, rose, goosefoot, mustard, cactus, currant, blazing star, poppy, figwort and four o'clock.

In addition to the flora, cemetery visitors are often treated to the sights and sounds of animals. Surveys done during the summer of 1992, in 1979, and from 1971 to 1976 show an astounding variety of birds inhabiting the cemetery at different times of the year. The summer 1992 survey also confirmed the existence of several mammals in Evergreen: rock squirrel, fox squirrel, raccoon, striped skunk, red fox, white-footed deer mouse and white-tailed deer.

Conclusion

A summary of the items mentioned within this description of Evergreen Cemetery follows:

Contributing	Evergreen Cemetery -- Site	1
	Fountain/Gazebo--Structure	1
	Chapel--Building	1
	War Heroes Memorial--Object	1
	First Office Building--Building	1
	Mausoleums--Structures	27
Noncontributing	Maintenance Building	1
	Modern Office Building	1
*General	Monuments	0
	Flora and Fauna	0
TOTAL		34

*As mentioned earlier, these items were not counted as a contributing or as a noncontributing resource because they were either not of substantial size or could not be categorized into the traditional resource categories.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 14 a

**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Evergreen Cemetery, the oldest operating cemetery in Colorado Springs, is being nominated under Criterion Exception D and meets Criterion A for its significant association with the social history of Colorado Springs and the town's early development. Many who are buried there, such as General William Jackson Palmer and Winfield Scott Stratton, were key players in the founding and successful growth of the town. The cemetery also meets Criterion C for the distinctive funerary design characteristics of the cemetery's plan, buildings, grave markers and monuments.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 14 b

Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE

The period of significance for Evergreen Cemetery is from 1871 to 1942, the National Register's 50-year cut-off date for identifying significance. This time frame encompasses the following historical events:

- establishment and later official opening of the cemetery in 1871 and 1876, respectively;
- construction of the fountain/gazebo in 1907;
- construction of the first office building, believed to be built prior to the chapel's construction;
- construction of the chapel in 1909;
- construction of several mausoleums in the cemetery, 1909-1942;
- placement of the war heroes memorial in 1922; and
- construction of the chapel addition.

While Evergreen's period of significance officially ends in 1942, the cemetery's importance continues. As years pass, the still-operational cemetery's more modern structures also will become historical assets to the site.

SIGNIFICANT DATES

Unknown:	Construction of first office building that is of architectural importance
1909:	Construction of chapel that is of architectural importance
1909-1942:	Construction of mausoleums of architectural importance
1922:	Placement of the war heroes memorial, a significant object in the cemetery
1927:	Construction of architecturally important addition to the chapel

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 15

**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

ARCHITECT/BUILDER

Unknown (chapel addition)
Unknown (first office building)
Unknown (fountain/gazebo)
Unknown (mausoleums)
Unknown (war heroes memorial)
Weber, Walter H. (maintenance building)
Lewis, Perry (modern office building)

NARRATIVE

Evergreen Cemetery is historically significant for two reasons:

1. Its unique association with the development of the Colorado Springs community, and
2. The distinctive design characteristics of its structures and monuments, representing several architectural styles.

Evergreen enjoys a unique relationship with the development of Colorado Springs because the cemetery's existence is directly related to the town's development. In fact, the history of Evergreen provides a bird's eye perspective on the town's development from its fledgling beginnings to the booming Cripple Creek gold rush era in the 1890s to more modern times. The cemetery also enjoys serving as the common thread for the community's early social history; many of those resting in Evergreen were key contributors to implementing and carrying out the systems that made the Colorado Springs development possible. Finally, because it is the oldest operating cemetery in the area, Evergreen provides an ideal forum to learn about mausoleum and monument art history, specifically regarding the evolution and use of design elements.

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**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Chronological History of Property

Established in 1871, Evergreen Cemetery has officially provided funeral and burial services to the Colorado Springs community since 1876.

Association with the Development of the Colorado Springs Community

By virtue of being the oldest operating cemetery in the area, Evergreen Cemetery offers an interesting and worthwhile historical profile of the Colorado Springs community.

For instance, the story behind Evergreen Cemetery's founding is not only an interesting tale, but also is indicative of the community's struggle to establish itself during the early 1870s. One of the first cemeteries of the Pikes Peak area, the El Paso County Cemetery, happened to be located within visibility from the Colorado Springs Denver & Rio Grande Railroad depot. So, visitors traveling to what was widely known as one of the healthiest spots in the world found it startling to get off the train, only to see a cemetery with about as many graves in it as there were people in the town. The large number of burials in the county cemetery was accounted for because it had been in use for 11 years. Nonetheless, early in 1872, bodies were removed from this cemetery and many were buried in Evergreen Cemetery, east of Colorado Springs proper. Thus, a potential impediment to the early development of the town had been eliminated.

As a point of interest...It might seem that Evergreen Cemetery's unceremonial beginning would suggest that its location was unappealing. In fact, a quote from a eulogy offered by famous novelist Helen Hunt Jackson at Evergreen proves much the opposite: "Surely never did a little colony find ready to its hand, a lovelier burial place than this."

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Section number 8 Page 17

**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The tremendous wealth from the Cripple Creek gold rush era of the 1890s evidenced itself at Evergreen in the form of lavish mausoleums and highly ornamental monuments during the early 1900s. The generosity of the Colorado Springs community was reflected by the formation of the Cemetery Aid Association, a group of women who sought to make the cemetery a better place during the early 1900s. This group spearheaded efforts to build the cemetery's fountain/gazebo, chapel and war heroes memorial.

During the mid-1900s, the community's dedication to the burial spaces of its loved ones earned Evergreen a spot in Ripley's Believe It or Not as the largest outdoor rose garden in the world.

Additionally, Evergreen is significant from a social history perspective because people important to the development of Colorado Springs are buried there.

In particular, three pioneer residents buried in Evergreen underscore the social significance of the cemetery: General William Jackson Palmer, city founder and benefactor; Winfield Scott Stratton, carpenter-turned-millionaire from the Cripple Creek gold rush in the 1890s and city benefactor; and Helen Hunt Jackson.

To illustrate the broad impact the events of these people's lives had on the Colorado Springs community's history, biographies of these individuals follow.

General William Jackson Palmer
1836-1909

General William Jackson Palmer, the founder of Colorado Springs, was a soldier, explorer, empire builder, statesman. More importantly, he was the primary benefactor to Colorado Springs. By several accounts, Palmer is remembered as a kind and considerate gentleman.

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

He was born in 1836 in Delaware. Despite strong Quaker pacifist beliefs, Palmer served in the Civil War with distinguished success. At the end of the war, he was put in charge of building the Kansas-Pacific railroad from St. Louis to Denver. While surveying for this railroad company, Palmer saw the beautiful spot which is now Colorado Springs, but could not convince the railroad officials to build the extension of their railroad along the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains.

Palmer conceived the idea of building his own railroad and was forced to find funding for its development. Substantial fundraising efforts in 1870 and early 1871 by the General and his close friend Dr. W.A. Bell in both the United States and Europe ensured the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad was on its way to becoming reality for the Rocky Mountain West.

Just three months after the first stake was driven on July 31, 1871, the railroad was completed from Denver to Colorado Springs.

General Palmer was devoted to the development of this city at the base of Pikes Peak. It was no small feat given the semi-arid climate in which water was scarce. However, the General solved this problem by building an engineering marvel, the El Paso Canal.

Palmer concentrated on fostering quality of life in Colorado Springs. It became a health resort for those suffering from tuberculosis.

He believed in a good transportation system, abundant park lands, quality education, and covenants prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquor within the city limits.

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Among the gifts General Palmer generously gave to the City of Colorado Springs are many acres of land throughout the city for parks, boulevards and trails, and for Colorado College, Cragmor Sanitorium, the Deaf and Blind School, Penrose Public Library and churches. Overall, it is estimated that the General's gifts to the city and region during his lifetime were worth nearly \$4 million. During his lifetime, he kept up his gift of parks at his own expense. Upon his death, the General left a descending sum of money in his will -- \$45,000 in total -- for upkeep of the park land that he donated to the city.

In March 1909, General William Jackson Palmer died. He is buried facing Pikes Peak in Evergreen Cemetery.

Winfield Scott Stratton
1848-1902

Winfield Scott Stratton, born in 1848, learned the carpentry trade in his hometown of Jeffersonville, Indiana. When word spread of gold being found in the Colorado Rockies, young Stratton set out for the West, reaching Colorado Springs in 1872.

Stratton began working as a carpenter and, shortly thereafter, as a contractor. In early 1874, he purchased interests in a mine in the San Juan Mountains, near Durango, Colorado.

The San Juan prospecting venture proved fruitless, as did Stratton's prospecting efforts for the next 17 years. Often during these years, Stratton became discouraged, returning to work in his carpentry trade when he was broke. Also during this time, he studied geology at Colorado College, hoping formal education would help him with his prospecting.

Stratton met with no luck at prospecting until the night of July 3, 1891. He had been prospecting close to home on the southern slope of Pikes Peak at Cripple Creek, a mining camp. That night, he had a vision in his dreams telling him that a location he had passed was to be a great mine.

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The next morning, Stratton rode to this spot and staked two claims: the Independence and Washington mines, both named in honor of the national holiday. Though he had acquired other mining interests in the area, the Independence was his motherlode, making him Cripple Creek's first millionaire and making him known as "Winfield Scott the Great," Colorado's greatest mining king. This treasure chest produced for Stratton \$27 million and earned him \$10 million upon its sale.

Stratton spent his new-found money helping the poor people of the community. Some examples of his generosity follow:

- Donated \$85,000 to the Salvation Army.
- Gave the City the ground at the northeast corner of Kiowa Street and Nevada Avenue to build a City Hall, now the City's municipal courthouse.
- Bought the old, dilapidated El Paso County courthouse at the southwest corner of Kiowa Street and Nevada Avenue, so the County could build a new one in Alamo Park, now the Pioneers Museum.
- Purchased bicycles for all the laundresses in the community to make their work easier.
- Sent a poor local teenager, Louis Persinger, to Germany to study music, after hearing the teen's extraordinary musical talent. Persinger later became one of America's finest violin teachers at the Julliard School of Music in New York City.
- Built Stratton Park, located in the Cheyenne Cañon area.

One of Stratton's notable contributions to the city involved the street car system. In 1900, he bought the old electric Colorado Springs Transit Company and transformed it into the major transportation system in the city. He spent \$2 million improving the system and extending it to all corners of Colorado Springs. Residents could go anywhere in the city for just a nickel.

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Stratton's greatest contribution to Colorado Springs still exists today: the Myron Stratton Home, named in memory of his father. It houses the poor who are without means of support and are physically unable to earn a living. Stratton's will dictated that most of his money would be used to establish and maintain the home.

Ample space is reserved in Evergreen Cemetery for the burial of residents of the home. Stratton, who died in 1902, also rests there. His grave is marked by weeping angels that are carved on his memorial stone.

Helen Hunt Jackson
1831-1885

Famous novelist Helen Hunt Jackson was born in New England in 1831. In 1873, she moved to Colorado Springs as a result of two tragedies: the death of her two small children and, separately, the accidental death of her husband in a diving bell. Helen's health began to fail and she developed a respiratory infection. Her doctor suggested the health resort of Colorado Springs could cure her bronchial catarrh.

When she arrived in the city, the gray overcast sky depressed her. However, after 24 hours, the sun was shining. Within two weeks, Helen's health improved; she decided to stay in Colorado Springs.

On October 22, 1875, she married William Sharpless Jackson. Mr. Jackson, brought to the Springs by founder General Palmer, was also a prominent figure in the city's early days. He worked with Palmer to start many important enterprises such as the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Company and Colorado College. He also helped start the Colorado Springs Gas Company and founded the El Paso County Bank.

Mr. Jackson bought Helen a small cottage on the corner of Weber and Kiowa Streets, featuring the carpentry of Winfield Scott Stratton.

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Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

During this marriage, Helen wrote some of her greatest works. These included a book on American Indian policy titled A Century of Dishonor, which led to her appointment as an Indian commissioner; and her most famous novel, Ramona, a fictional account of the tragic life of a Mission Indian girl of California. Ramona earned Helen worldwide notoriety.

After Helen published Ramona in 1884, she contracted a cancerous infection from which she did not recover. She died August 12, 1885 in San Francisco.

Before her death, Helen requested that she be buried on Cheyenne Mountain. Due to the desecration of her grave there, Mr. Jackson had her casket exhumed and brought for burial to the Jackson family plot in the southeastern section of Evergreen Cemetery.

**Distinctive Design Characteristics of Cemetery's
Buildings/Structures and Monuments**

The distinctive design characteristics of the various structures and the more than 70,000 monuments at Evergreen Cemetery contribute substantially to the cemetery's historical significance.

The 32 buildings/structures on the site offer Evergreen an interesting variety of architectural styles, such as Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival, Late Victorian/Romanesque, Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Classical Revival and Modern Movement. The design elements of the cemetery's monuments are varied to an even greater extent. Thousands of monuments convey by their very appearance the trends regarding material usage and styles during certain time periods since the 1870s. Evergreen's collection of monuments comprises the most comprehensive monument art history story available in the community. In addition, the site's monuments provide an educational profile of the monument industry during the past 120 years or so.

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**Evergreen Cemetery
El Paso County, CO**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Conclusion

Throughout its existence, Evergreen Cemetery has been integral to the Colorado Springs community's history. Even today, the appeal of the cemetery's history continues to attract people interested in it as a final resting place, ensuring Evergreen remains a strong part of the community's heritage.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See USGS map for boundaries.

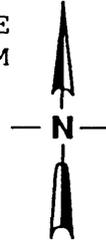
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries drawn on the USGS map for Evergreen Cemetery encompass those lots historically associated with the cemetery, and owned by the City of Colorado Springs.

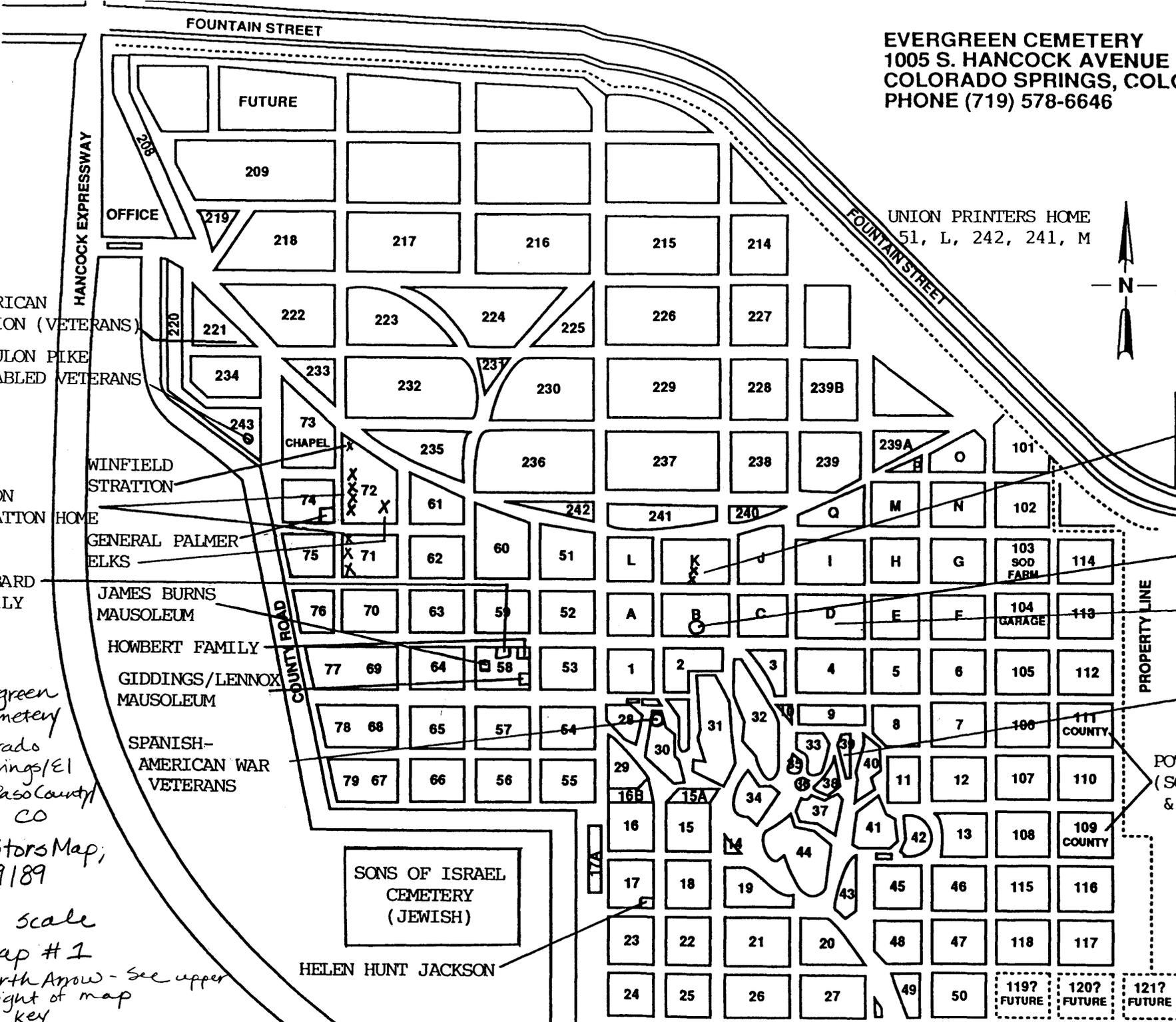
UTM REFERENCES (continued)

5.	13	517500	4295670
6.	13	517100	4295890
7.	13	517080	4296700

EVERGREEN CEMETERY
1005 S. HANCOCK AVENUE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80903
PHONE (719) 578-6646



CATHOLIC-OWNED
BLOCKS 239, 239A
239B, M, N, O, P
101, 102



TUTT FAMILY

MASONS

VETERANS OF
WORLD WAR I
& CIVIL WAR

BOB WOMACK

POTTERS FIELD
(SOCIAL SERVICES
& COUNTY BURIALS)

PROPERTY LINE

UNION PRINTERS HOME
51, L, 242, 241, M

FUTURE

OFFICE

AMERICAN
LEGION (VETERANS)

ZEBULON PIKE
DISABLED VETERANS

WINFIELD
STRATTON

GENERAL PALMER
ELKS

JAMES BURNS
MAUSOLEUM

HOWBERT FAMILY

GIDDINGS/LENNOX
MAUSOLEUM

SPANISH-
AMERICAN WAR
VETERANS

SONS OF ISRAEL
CEMETERY
(JEWISH)

HELEN HUNT JACKSON

AMERICAN
LEGION (VETERANS)

ZEBULON PIKE
DISABLED VETERANS

MYRON
STRATTON HOME

HIBBARD
FAMILY

Evergreen
Cemetery

Colorado
Springs/EI
Paso County
CO

Visitors Map;
9189

No Scale
Map # 1

North Arrow - see upper
right of map
No key

EVERGREEN CEMETERY
1005 S. HANCOCK AVENUE
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO 80903
PHONE (719) 578-6646

Evergreen Cemetery
Colorado Springs / El
Paso County / Co
Visitors Map with
Photograph Numbers,
9/89
No scale
Map # 2
North Arrow - see
upper right of map

HANCOCK EXPRESSWAY

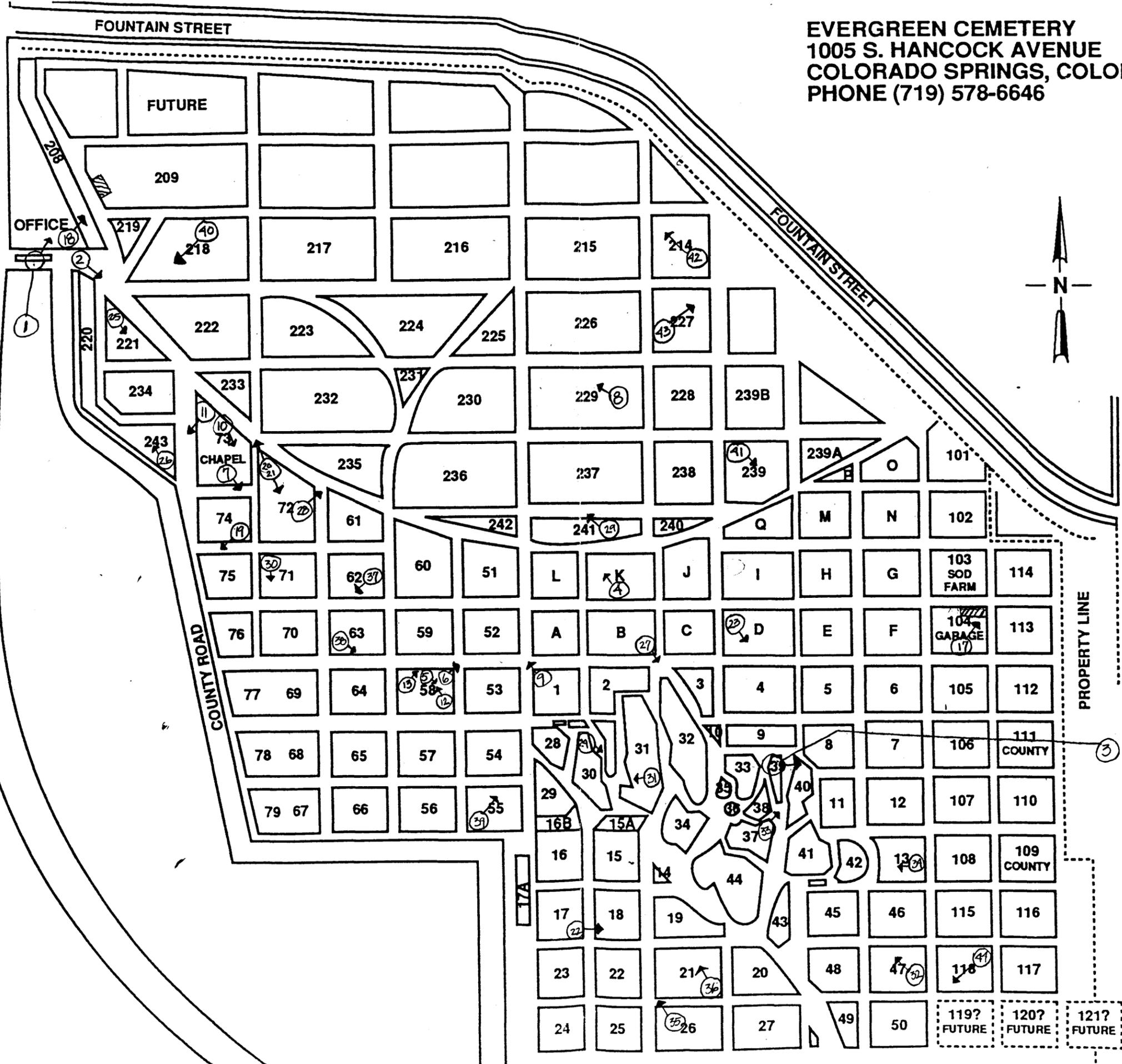
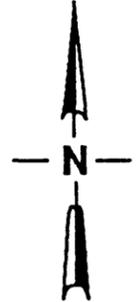
FOUNTAIN STREET

FOUNTAIN STREET

COUNTY ROAD

17A

PROPERTY LINE



2 Noncontributing Buildings

3

119? FUTURE
120? FUTURE
121? FUTURE