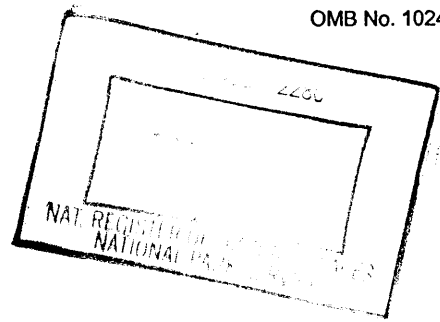


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



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

1. Name of Property

historic name Bluff View Cemetery Chapel

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 1/5 Mile south of intersection of Crawford Road and Pinehurst Drive not for publication N/A

city or town Vermillion Vicinity N/A

state South Dakota Code SD county Clay code 027 zip code 57069

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Jay D. Vogt  
Signature of certifying official

04-09-2006

Date

South Dakota SHPO  
State or 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 commenting or other official

Date

**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: Edson H. Beall  
 Date of Action: 5-31-06

**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**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	Buildings
_____	_____	Sites
_____	_____	Structures
_____	_____	Objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

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

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious Facility  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Storage  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival  
Neo-Classical/Gothic Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation Brick and Mortar  
Roof Asphalt shingles historic: wood  
Walls Brick and Mortar  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See Continuation Sheets

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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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.)**

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1901 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bluff View Cemetery Chapel  
Name of Property

Clay County, South Dakota  
County and State

Significant Dates 1901  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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: Clay County Historical Society Inc.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

### UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 14 671348 4737590  
Zone Easting Northing  
2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing  
4 \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Mike Vogel, Preservation  
Specialist

organization South Dakota State Historic Preservation  
Office date January 14, 2006

street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-6056

city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

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## Additional Documentation

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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)

Bluff View Cemetery Chapel

Name of Property

Clay County, South Dakota

County and State

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## Property Owner

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

name Vermillion Cemetery Association

street & number Section 19, Township 92, Range 51 telephone 605-624-4166

city or town Vermillion state SD zip code 57034

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**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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page # 1

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## Architectural Description

The Bluff View Cemetery, named for its location on the bluff overlooking the broad valley of the Missouri, was established in 1882.<sup>1</sup> It is located on the southeast edge of the city of Vermillion. The Bluff View Chapel is located next to the central entrance on the north side of the cemetery. The chapel built in 1901 is a mixture of Neo Classical and Gothic Revival architecture and features both a foundation and walls of brick and mortar. The present roof, which historically had wooden shingles, is comprised of asphalt shingles. The chapel is 20 feet long and 18 feet wide. Each side is gabled to a height of 16 feet.

The façade, or east elevation of the chapel has a stepped parapet gable. Centralized in the gable is a wrought iron sign with white lettering for Bluff View and centered right below that in wrought iron is 1901 which represents the year that the chapel was constructed. An open, full length pedimental porch supported with 6 hexagonal columns rises to the bottom of the roof line and provides overhead coverage for the main entrance door located in the center of the façade. The foundation of the porch is supported by brick and mortar some 3 feet high. A centrally located winged 3 step brick stairway leads to the porch entrance on the east side.

The gabled north elevation features a large window with a gothic brick window hood. The seven pane glass window has been replaced with wood infill that features muntin like dividers that replicate the original window pattern. A small basement window that has wood infill is also centered on this elevation.

The west elevation features a stepped parapet gable. The only opening on this side of the chapel is the exterior cellar entrance.

The gabled south elevation has only one opening, a large window exactly the same as the large window on the north elevation.

The main level on the interior of the chapel features only one room. The walls and ceiling are lathe and plaster, and the floor is wood. Historically this room was used for religious services. Presently it

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<sup>1</sup> Clay County Historical Society Inc., *Clay County Place Names*,  
(Broadcaster Press Inc. 1976) p30



(8-86)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 & 8 Page # 2

is used to store artificial flowers. The basement of the chapel was originally used to store caskets during the winter months until ground thaw allowed burial in the cemetery.

### Statement of Significance

The Bluff View Cemetery Chapel is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The chapel is an architectural mixture of simple neo-classical and Gothic Revival styles. The characteristics of these two styles are represented in the front porch columns, the parapets and the gothic arched windows of the chapel.

The majority of historic South Dakota churches are identified as either Gothic Revival or Romanesque Revival.<sup>2</sup> The Bluff View Cemetery Chapel is a vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival Style. Identifying characteristics of the Gothic Revival style found in the chapel include a cross gable, Gothic arch windows, and a shaped parapet roof-wall junction.

Early churches and chapels in South Dakota were simple log or frame structures frequently built out of indigenous materials such as sod, log, or fieldstone.<sup>3</sup> As settlement increased, first generation churches and chapels were constructed out of more sophisticated building materials. Popular first generation churches were what became known as "Prairie Gothic," were typically wood framed, gabled roof rectangular structures with gothic arch windows, steep roofs, and steeples. The Bluff View Chapel is a brick variation of this vernacular adaptation of the Gothic Revival style that was popular in South Dakota around the turn of the century.

Vermillion, located in Clay County in southeastern South Dakota, was one of the first settlements in Dakota Territory in the 1860's. The original town was located directly adjacent to the Missouri River until a devastating flood destroyed the town in 1881. Vermillion was rebuilt above the old town on top of the bluffs of the Missouri River outside the flood plain.

Vermillion's proximity to the Missouri River allowed it access to several deposits of red clay, which gave rise to several local brickyards. The readily available supply of bricks contributed to the construction of several brick buildings in the newly reconstructed Vermillion. The availability likely contributed to the decision to build the Bluff View Chapel out of brick.

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<sup>2</sup> South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, *Churches in South Dakota, 2002, p.22*

<sup>3</sup> Churches 18

Bluff View Cemetery Chapel

Name of Property

Clay County, South Dakota

County and State

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The Bluff View Chapel is a fine example of a vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival style in South Dakota.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 & 10 Page # 4

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## Bibliography

Clay County Historical Society, *Clay County Place Names*,  
Broadcaster Press Inc., Vermillion, SD 1976

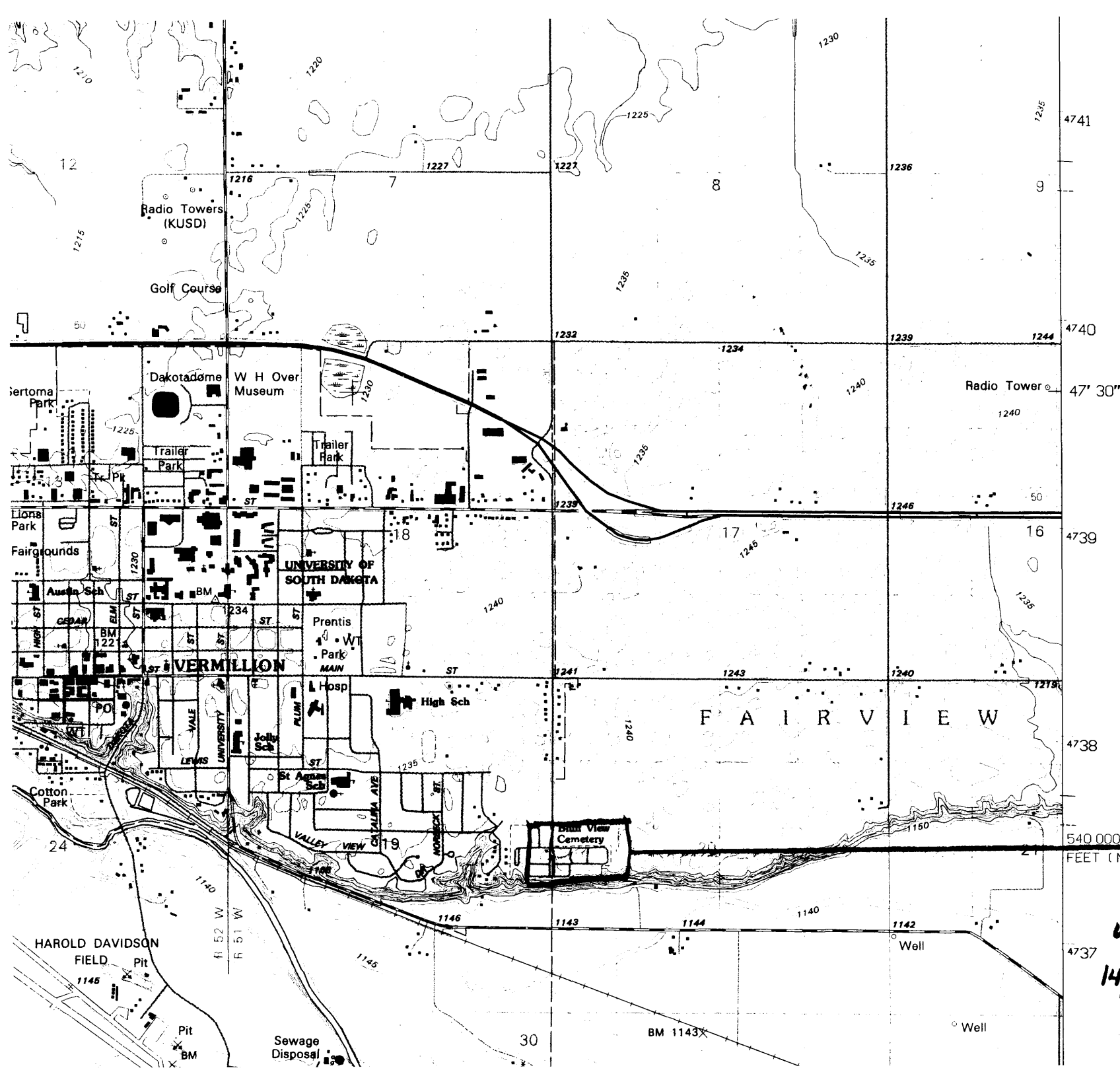
South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office,  
*Churches in South Dakota, 2002*

## Verbal Boundary Description

Only the area surrounding the chapel

## Verbal Boundary Justification

The boundary includes only the chapel. No other parts of the cemetery including the graves, gravestones or other buildings in the cemetery are included in this boundary.



Bluff View Cemetery  
 S.E. Vermillion  
 Clay County  
 Vermillion SD 57069

UTM Reference:  
 14/671348/4737590

4741  
 4740  
 47' 30"  
 4739  
 4738  
 540 000  
 FEET (NEB.)  
 4737

BM 1143X

Well

Well

30

Sewage Disposal

Pit

Pit

1145

HAROLD DAVIDSON FIELD Pit

1140

1144

1143

1146

540 000

FEET (NEB.)

4738

F A I R V I E W

VERMILLION

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Radio Towers (KUSD)

Golf Course

Dakotadome

W H Over Museum

Trailer Park

Trailer Park

Radio Tower

Austin Sch

Prentis Park

High Sch

St Agnes Sch

Bluff View Cemetery

bertoma Park

Lions Park

Fairgrounds

Cotton Park

HAROLD DAVIDSON FIELD Pit

Pit

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