(Oct. 1990)

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

#### **1. NAME OF PROPERTY**

HISTORIC NAME: Champoeg Cemetery OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER:

#### **2.** LOCATION

**STREET & NUMBER:** Champoeg Cemetery Road **CITY OR TOWN:** Aurora **STATE:** Oregon **CODE:** OR **COUNTY:** Marion

NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A VICINITY: ⊠ CODE: 47 ZIP CODE: 97002

2012

#### **3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X Nomination  $\Box$  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 X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_\_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_\_\_\_ statewidex\_locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official, State Historic Preservation Officer, Deputy

5 2003

State or Federal agency and bureau / Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

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

State or Federal agency and bureau

#### 4. NATIØNAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is: entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.	Signature of the Kreper	Date of Action $1/2/04$
determined eligible for the National	Register	
See continuation sheet.		
determined not eligible for the Natio	onal Register	
removed from the National Register		·····
other (explain):		

14.5

#### **5.** CLASSIFICATION

### **OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:** Private Non-profit **CATEGORY OF PROPERTY:** Site

#### NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:

#### **CONTRIBUTING:**

NONCONTRIBUTING:

0	1	<b>BUILDINGS</b> (MAINTENANCE SHED)
1	0	SITES (CEMETERY LANDSCAPE)
0	1	STRUCTURES (FENCE)
1	0	<b>OBJECTS</b> (GRAVEMARKERS, COLLECTIVE)
2	2	TOTAL

# Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: N/A

#### **6.** FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: FUNERARY - Cemetery CURRENT FUNCTIONS: FUNERARY - Cemetery

#### 7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: No Style

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION: WALLS: ROOF: OTHER: Monuments: Concrete, Granite, Marble, Aluminum

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION: See Continuation Sheets

#### **8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

### **APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA:**

- **X** 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 DISTI NCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, 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:**

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

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Exploration/Settlement PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1853-1952 SIGNIFICANT DATES: 1853, 1860, 1873, 1892, 1927 SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A ARCHITECT/BUILDER: N/A

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: See Continuation Sheets

### 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY:** See Continuation Sheet

### PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- \_ 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
- x Local government: Marion County Historical Society
- University
- <u>x</u>Other: Oregon Historical Society

#### **10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: 2 acres (5,000 SF)

UTM REFERENCES		Zon	e Easting	Northing		Zone Easting	Northing
	1 2	10	509810	5009300	3 4		

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:** The 1853 Champoeg Cemetery is located on Tax Lot 500, Section 12, T4S R2W of the Willamette Meridian in Marion County, Oregon.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:** The boundary is the legally recorded boundary lines for the building for which National Register status is being requested.

### **11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME/TITLE: John M. Tess, President
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b> Heritage Investment Corporation <b>DATE:</b> September 1, 2002
STREET & NUMBER: 123 NW Second Avenue, Suite 200 TELEPHONE: (503) 228-0272
CITY OR TOWN: Portland STATE: OR ZIP CODE: 97209
 ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
CONTINUATION SHEETS:
MAPS: See Enclosed
PHOTOGRAPHS: See Continuation Sheet
Additional items:
 PROPERTY OWNER
NAME: Champoeg Cemetery Association
<b>STREET &amp; NUMBER:</b> Mirza Dickel <b>TELEPHONE:</b> (503) 221-1017 2892 NW Upshur St.
CITY OR TOWN: PORTLAND STATE: OR ZIP CODE: 97210

Champoeg Cemetery Marion County, Oregon

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### Overview

The Champoeg Cemetery, officially established in 1853, is located in north Marion County at the end of Champoeg Cemetery Road, off Case Road approximately 0.7 miles north of the intersection of Case and Yergen Roads. Specifically, it is situated on Tax Lot 500, Section 12, T4S R2W from the Willamette Meridian. It is approximately 2 acres in size.

### Setting

The Champoeg Cemetery is located in a relatively isolated rural farm setting, approximately three-quarters of a mile southeast from the original Champoeg town site. It is two acres in size on flat land on a hill overlooking Case Creek. The parcel is a perfect rectangular in form, 208.56 feet east to west and double that (417.12) north to south.

Access to the Cemetery is off Case Road to the west along the gravel Champoeg Cemetery Road. Along the road at the south is a line of mature Western Red Cedar and Douglas Fir trees, likely planted at the time the cemetery was established. Bordering the road on the north and south is active farmland simply fenced with metal post and metal wire mesh.

Approximately 400 feet from Case Road, Champoeg Cemetery Road turns 90 degrees to the north along the eastern boundary of the cemetery. That boundary is defined by a modern white wood picket fence with three wooden gates (two pedestrian, one vehicle) for access. In front of the fence (further to the east and opposite the road) and legally not part of the parcel is a grass lawn running the north-south length of the cemetery and approximately 50 feet in width. Beyond and further to the east is active farmland.

The perimeter of the cemetery on all four sides is defined by mature Western Red Cedars, also likely planted at the time the cemetery was established. To the north and west, the trees form a line defining the limits of landscape maintenance and beyond the land is overgrown. To the south, the cemetery abuts farmland and is defined by a metal post and wire-mesh fence.

### Description

The cemetery is essentially flat and grassy, divided into two equal sized halves with a central grass walk way between. Along the perimeter are mature red cedar trees. On the east boundary, these are located within the cemetery boundaries. Within the cemetery are plantings associates with specific plots; these include lilac, holly, boxwood and arbor vitae.

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The graveyard itself is laid out in basically rectilinear grid. The southern half has 72 plots in 12 rows that run north and south. Each row consists of 6 abutting plots. Each plot is 32 feet north to south and 8 feet east to west. Each plot contains more than one grave. Rows are separated by a 6-foot grass walkway. The graves and markers face east. Apart from markers, plots are not defined or outlined. Markers are an array, though mostly variations of tablets, bevel markers and flush markers Historic marker materials are granite, marble or concrete. More modern markers are marble and granite. While marble is used in both historic and modern, the historic are white and the modern rose. Headstones are generally simple, though with some allegorical simple relieves. Most markers are in good condition, though several are worn. There is evidence of past headstone theft or vandalism; the Champoeg Cemetery Association has replaced stolen markers with a flush cast aluminum marker set in a concrete base; in cases where possible, the association has also repaired headstones.

The northern half has 120 plots in 10 rows that also run north and south. Each row has 12 abutting plots, 16 feet wide. The rows however have some variation in width. The eastern-most and western-most rows are 8 feet wide; the remaining are 16 feet wide. The rows are divided by 6-foot grass walkways. The one anomaly to the grid is the second row from the east where the first three southernmost graves are only 8 feet wide; the remaining being 16 feet wide. To accommodate this anomaly, the walkway width is expanded. Again, graves and markers face east.

The northern half is more varied than the southern half. The north half has more family plots with some defined with a low concrete border and includes some plantings. Headstones are generally simple, though often more elaborate than those on the southern half. Again, historic materials are concrete, marble and granite, though marble and granite are more frequent. The north half also contains evidence of past headstone theft or vandalism and again the Champoeg Cemetery Association has replaced the markers with flush cast aluminum markers set in a concrete base.

Chronologically, the southern half and the eastern-most row and half of the northern half contain the oldest graves. The most modern ones are located at the western end of the southern half. In total, the cemetery contains 367 known graves. Of these, approximately 85% fall within the period of significance.

At the center along the west boundary is small crude wood maintenance equipment storage shed, approximately 6 feet square with a gabled roof. The shed, built in the early 1960s, is in poor condition. It is of modern wood and poorly constructed.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Integrity

The Champoeg Cemetery retains its original character as a small private cemetery with an intact setting and plan. Trees and landscape in the cemetery reflect the land's appearance at the time the burial ground was established. The burial ground's monumentation is essentially intact and clustered such from more recent grave markers so integrity will be maintained. Most markers are in good condition, although occasional vandalism has occurred over the years. For over a century, the cemetery has been under the care of the current owner, the Champoeg Cemetery Association.

In feeling and association, the Champoeg Cemetery represents pioneer community cemeteries of the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The cemetery remains a place associated with first generation of settlers in Champoeg and the French Prairie, and provides a link between the early periods of settlement.

Champoeg Cemetery Marion County, Oregon

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### Overview

The Champoeg Cemetery, officially established in 1853, is located in north Marion County at the end of Champoeg Cemetery Road, off Case Road approximately 0.7 miles north of the intersection of Case and Yergen Roads. The burial ground is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion "A". By era, siting, internal arrangement, and internments, the largely intact burial grounds reflect significantly the pattern of settlement in the lost town of Champoeg, site of the first government by Americans on the Pacific Coast and the provision government for the region until the formation of the Oregon Territorial Government. Although cemeteries normally are not eligible for the National Register, Champoeg Cemetery qualifies under Criteria Consideration "D" whereby it derives it primary significance from its association with the Champoeg town site.

### History of the Cemetery

Early settlement is often romanticized as a hardscrabble pragmatic existence where inhabitants struggled to survive without much consideration for civilized endeavors. Thus, it is fascinating to consider a pioneer cemetery. Less than three decades from the first settler in the Pacific Northwest, settlers in the Champoeg area created a formal if simply landscaped secular burial ground as the final resting place for their dearly departed. This burial ground was not affiliated with a church and while convenient to Champoeg, removed sufficiently to allay health concerns. In this context, it is not surprising that the town of Champoeg also included a church, school and Masonic Hall – while also being described as "a straggling settlement."

The first known grave to the cemetery dates to 1853. However, the burial ground may have existed earlier. William Bailey served as doctor in the burgeoning town. Having studied medicine in London, he came to the Willamette Mission from California in 1835, settled in the French Prairie in 1837 and began practicing medicine in Champoeg. Bailey laid claim on land along Case Creek and established a practice in his home. Letters from his wife in the period talk of taking patients that have died at the hospital on their property to a burying ground also on the property. In 1850, Bailey sold this property to Robert Childers.

The land adjacent to the north was claimed and abandoned by Andrew Bower. James Henshaw claimed the Bower property and filed a donation land claim in January 1852. In August of that year, fire destroyed Henshaw's house and mortally injured him. Robert Childers cared for Henshaw in his, Childers', home for nearly a year and a half until Henshaw died. Henshaw's estate then deeded his land to Childers, suggesting that Henshaw died without succeeding wife or family. It was during this time of convalescence that Henshaw donated the land that is known as Champoeg Cemetery.

Further advancing this notion that the cemetery existed earlier is that the first known graves are occupied by persons unrelated and in some ways culturally different from Henshaw or Childers. The

Champoeg Cemetery Marion County, Oregon

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first grave is Eugenia Mathiot. Mathiot was born in France in 1828 and was the wife of Louis Bichenot. She was buried on June 15, 1853. The second grave is Albert G. Hall. Hall was the 17-year-old son of James E. Hall, a stonemason from Virginia who settled in Champoeg in 1846. He was buried August 22, 1853. Henshaw is the third oldest grave, with him laid to rest in March 1854. The following year, Robert Childers died and was laid to rest at Champoeg Cemetery in October 1855. Other graves from the 1850s include Mary Jefferies (August 8, 1856), Caroline Hershberger (July 9, 1857), Henry Jefferies (1858), Mary Ann Randall (October 9, 1860) and Phoebe Carnes Rhodes (March 20, 1860).

During this time, the cemetery was essentially self-maintained and the land owned by the Childers. In 1860, the Burying Ground Association, comprised of eleven people, filed a formal burial plat survey. Organizing members included William Case, William Parish, G Rhoads, J. J. Mathiot, F. X. Matthieu among others. Two years later, the Childers family formally deeded the southern-most acre to the association and sold the acre to the north to the Masonic Lodge No. 27 for \$150. In 1873, the Burying Ground Association incorporated. In 1892, for \$25, the Masonic Lodge deeded the northernmost acre to the Burying Ground Association, providing that the eastern row of plots be reserved for Masons. In 1927, the Burying Ground changed its name to the Champoeg Cemetery Association.

The Champoeg Cemetery Association continues as a private, non-profit organization to manage the cemetery. In recent years, the association has endeavored to improve the maintenance of the property and the documentation of graves. In the 1980s, using oral histories and association records, it has identified over 100 unmarked graves, of which it found 85. These have been denoted with flush metal markers in a concrete based with identifying name and dates. The cemetery continues to be active, plots can still be purchased and several new graves are added each year.

### The Settlement of the French Prairie and the Town of Champoeg

The first permanent independent farm settlement in the Pacific Northwest was located in an area called French Prairie. Located along the east bank of the meandering Willamette River, French Prairie ran east 7-8 miles to the Pudding River and south 15-20 miles to Lake La Biche. The Prairie was first settled in the 1810 and 1820s by free French fur trappers, first living in transient camps and later in permanent homes. Soon enough, fur trading gave way to farming. In 1829, one of the freeman – Etienne Lucier -- selected a suitable site, built a home and broke the sod for the establishment of the first farm in the Pacific Northwest not directly connected with the fur trade. Settlement on the prairie was rapid, growing from 26 families in 1838 to 83 in 1842 and over 600 in 1845. Most were French Canadians, many formerly in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company. But beginning in the mid 1820s, the establishment of the Methodist Missions centered American interest and activities in the Oregon Country.

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As it's enormous natural wealth determined the farming future of the French Prairie, so too did natural attributes lead to the development of the Champoeg town site. As Nathaniel Wyeth suggested in 1832 "if this country is ever colonized this is the point to commence". As early accounts state, Champoeg "was the only point between the Willamette Falls and Salem where a trail or road could be opened to the river without having to cut through a heavy body of timber." The most generally used land route from Ft. Vancouver south to the valley reached the river nearly opposite Champoeg. And finally, from Champoeg south, the Willamette meanders for 30 miles to the Gervais farm – a trip of 10 miles by land. It was these transportation advantages that led Webley Hauxhurst to build the first gristmill on the Willamette in 1835. Two years later, Champoeg was the point of organization and departure for the Willamette Cattle Company. It became a convenient place for settler meetings and a useful point of departure for overland expeditions southward.

It is difficult to surmise the exact location and magnitude of Champoeg in the 1830s. One traveler found about twenty families living at "McKay settlement" and at "Jarvis settlement" twelve miles away. Residents were French Canadian with a few Americans interspersed. There were no religious ministers in the valley, so Methodist missionaries were frequently called to assist the Willamette community at large to meet its religious needs, despite the fact that most inhabitants had been brought up as Roman Catholics. From 1834-39, missionaries occasionally preached and conducted religious meetings at Champoeg. Baptisms, burials, and marriages were also performed there from time to time. However, in 1839, with the arrival of Catholic missionaries in nearby St. Paul, protestant services came to an abrupt end.

In the early 1840s, John McLoughlin chose Champoeg as the site for the first Hudson Bay Company's warehouse on the Willamette and thusly establishing the town as one of the dominant commercial centers for the area. Champoeg's role as a center in the region was never more evident than in 1843. On May 2 of that year, by a majority of votes, the "Citizens of the Willamette Valley" voted to organize a provision government. Then on July 5, a subsequent public meeting adopted the first organic laws of the new country and formed a provisional government that continued until statehood.

Despite the provision government selecting Willamette Falls over Champoeg as its official seat in 1844, the town benefited from the town building vision of Robert Newell. Newell, an Ohioan-born fur trapper, was prominent during the movement to organize a provisional government. In 1843, he moved to Champoeg and acquired a square mile parcel of land along the river abutting Andre Longtain's claim. At a time when many visions of town building swept the region, Newell was to be the champion of Champoeg. He joined with Longtain in forming town lots and promoting commercial ventures such as Francis Pettygrove's granary and warehouse in competition with the Hudson Bay. They hired Jesse Applegate to survey and plat the town. The following year, a ferry across the Willamette was established at Champoeg, further strengthening the town's commercial core. In 1845, Newell hoped to attract the provisional government back to Champoeg with an offer

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to donate a city block and 30 lots for the government seat. The same year, Newell established regular water transportation between the Willamette Falls and Champoeg, while the Territory of Oregon surveyed a direct road from Salem along with a matrix of connecting roads to the east and west. By 1851, regular steam navigation operated routinely south of the falls; with deep water reaching the very foot of its banks, Champoeg became a prominent port of call and point of transfer. In 1852, E. Depuis established regular overland stage service connecting through Salem to Marysville (now Corvallis).

In 1853, Newell recorded a plat of the town at the Marion County Recorder's Office. It included 70 numbered whole or partial blocks, four unnumbered blocks, and one or more unnumbered fragments. All bocks were 210 feet square, each containing two alleys ten feet wide which crossed at right angles. Each block was subdivided into 8 lots, 50 x 100 feet. All streets were 60 feet wide, crossing at right angles.

Shortly after filing his plat, the Great Flood of 1853 washed over Champoeg and swept away buildings all along the riverbank. The flood however did not discourage Newell. Over the next five years, he sold 22 lots while his partner Longtain sold 8. Among the purchasers was John McCloughlin who bought an entire block. Champoeg remained a key transportation link and transfer point for shipping wheat from the prairie and for points south. By the end of the decade, Champoeg included a schoolhouse, Masonic Hall, bowling alley, stables, hotel, and church. Newell claimed that 60 houses were located in the town.

Whatever prospects Champoeg had as a center of population and commerce were terminated by a catastrophe of nature. Toward the end of November 1861, the entire Pacific Coast was deluged in rain. West of the Cascade Range in Oregon, the downpour continued for 18 days. At the close of the month, rising temperatures melted the snow on the mountain, and soon excess water was pouring down every tributary into the Willamette Valley. The river rose to terrifying heights, an estimated 55 feet over its lowest level – perhaps 30 feet deep in bottomland depressions. Newspaper accounts summed up the losses: "The flood swept this town clean of houses, and the site is now as bare as sand beach." The flood brought financial disaster to almost every resident of the town and most left. The few residents and merchants that remained rebuilt on the higher ground, a half-mile south of the river in a new concentration now called "Newellsville." As late as 1880, "Newellsveille" had as yet four houses and 27 people, continuing to use the river landing for shipping. However, as rail and truck replaced the river access, Champoeg continued to decline. In 1892, the townsite was officially abandoned.

### Pioneer and Donation Land Claim Settlers Buried at Champoeg

Even though the Cemetery is not being nominated under Criteria B, its history would be incomplete without information about the early pioneers buried there. The Champoeg Cemetery is the final

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resting place for eight pioneering settlers, including seven with donation land claims. The eighth was Donald Manson, a defining figure in the settlement and history of the French Prairie. Champoeg Cemetery is also the final resting place of at least 26 early settlers who either purchased land and became farmers or plied their trades in Champoeg and surrounding towns.

### **Donation Land Claim Settlers:**

*William Case*: Born in 1820 in Indiana, Case married Sara in 1841 in Missouri. He arrived in Oregon in 1844, where he settled and established a successful farm. The nearby William Case Farm is listed on the National Register. Sarah Case (1822-1877) and several of her children are also buried in Champoeg Cemetery.

*Robert Childers*: Born in 1802 in West Virginia, married in 1828 in Ohio, arrived in Oregon in 1850 and died in 1855. Mary Ann Childers is also buried in Champoeg Cemetery, though dates are unknown.

John Goodell: Born 1820; died 1875.

John Guerin: Born in Derry, Ireland in 1808, Guerin arrived in the United States in 1834, moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana, married Ellen Burns in 1849. Arrived in Oregon in 1851; died in 1893.

James Henshaw: Born in 1815 in North Carolina, settled in Oregon in 1851; died in 1854.

*Barney Kennedy:* Born in Donegal, Ireland in 1811, moved to Joliet, Illinois where he married, then to Iowa and finally to Oregon in 1847. Died in 1865. Arah Underwood Kennedy, his wife, born in Orange County, Indiana, is also buried in Champoeg, born 1819 and died 1904.

*Donald Manson*: Considered one of the most colorful and prominent personalities in Champoeg, Donald Manson was born in 1798 in Scotland, joined the Hudson Bay Company in 1817, and spent four decades in service to that company, serving as Chief Trader. In 1828, he married Felicite Lucier (daughter of the French Prairie's first settler) and settled in Champoeg in 1857. Manson purchased Robert Newell's donation land claim and remained a fixture in the French Prairie community to his death in 1880

Phoebe Carnes Rhodes: First wife of Alphonse Rhodes. Born 1822; died 1860.

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Champoeg and French Prairie Pioneers

Oliver Abernethy. Born 1832; died 1891.

Teraca Bauer. Born 1810; died 1869.

Robert Bell. Born in Washington County, PA in 1806; died 1892.

Lavinia Bell (wife of Robert). Born in Virginia in 1810; died 1885.

Franklin Bell (son of Robert and Lavinia). Born in Rockbridge County, Virginia in 1836; died 1889.

Thomas Collinson. Born in England in 1822; died 1908.

Sarah Collinson (wife of Thomas). Born in 1833; died in 1886.

Lucy Countryman (wife of S. Countryman). Born in New York in 1829; died in 1884.

J. George W. Eberhard. Born in 1833; arrived in Oregon in the 1850s; died 1912.

James E. Hall. Stonemason born in Virginia in 1798; settled in Champoeg in 1846; died 1870.

Cynthia Ann Hall (wife of James E. Hall). Born in 1804; died 1897.

John Hoefer. Born 1816; cabinetmaker, partner in the Champoeg Bowling Alley; died 1909.

Annie Hoefer (wife of John Hoefer). Born 1837; died 1894.

John Q. A. Hoskins. Born in North Carolina in 1829; died 1901.

Stokley Lawson Jones. Born 1812; died 1898.

Juliza McAlister Jones (wife of Stokley Jones). Born 1825; died 1883.

J. J. Mathiot. Born in France in 1804; died in 1876.

Catherine Vernon Mathiot (wife of J. J. Mathiot). Born in France in 1811; died in 1878.

Eugenia Mathiot (wife of Louis Bichenot). Born in France in 1828; died in 1853.

Andrew Rowan. Born 1818; died 1886.

Sarah A. Rowan (wife of Andrew). Born in 1821; died in 1881.

A. J. Seelig. Born 1814; died 1878.

Frederick Stocker. Born in 1814; died in 1888.

*William Yergen.* Born in Germany in 1825, emigrated to the United States in 1831, first settling in Illinois and then St. Louis. Arrived in Oregon in the 1850s. Died in 1897.

Casper Zorn. Born in 1828; partner in the Champoeg bowling Alley; died 1910.

John Zorn. Born in Germany in 1802, died 1875.

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### Conclusion

Champoeg Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion "A". By era, siting, internal arrangement, and internments, the largely intact burial grounds reflect significantly the pattern of settlement in the lost town of Champoeg, site of the first government by Americans on the Pacific Coast and the provision government for the region until the formation of the Oregon Territorial Government. Although cemeteries normally are not eligible for the National Register, Champoeg Cemetery qualifies under Criteria Consideration "D" whereby it derives it primary significance from its association with the Champoeg town site. Champoeg is the site of the first government by Americans on the Pacific Coast and the provision government for the region until the formation of the Oregon Territorial Government. Early settlement is often romanticized as a hardscrabble pragmatic existence where inhabitants struggled to survive without much consideration for civilized endeavors. Thus, it is fascinating to consider a pioneer cemetery. Less than three decades from the first settler in the Pacific Northwest, settlers in the Champoeg area created a formal if simply landscaped secular burial ground as the final resting place for their dearly departed.

Champoeg Cemetery Marion County, Oregon

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### **OTHER SOURCES**

Champoeg Cemetery Association Records

Heritage Consulting Group historic research files.

Interment.net (Cemetery Transciption Library) – Champoeg Cemetery

Marion County Historic Society Records

Marion County Tax Assessor Records

National Park Service, William Case Farm National Register Nomination

Oregon Historical Cemeteries Association Records

Oregon Pioneer Cemetery Survey, "Champoeg Cemetery Association" Survey Form, 2001.

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Photograph Collection, Oregon Historical Society





