

ONLY FOR OFFICIAL USE
EXP. 12/31/81

NPS Form 10-900
(7-81)

REVISED: 6-82

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received **SEP 13 1982**
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Clay Street Cemetery (AHRs SITE NO. FAI-164)
and/or common Fairbanks City Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 7th Avenue and Riverside Drive not for publication
city, town Fairbanks vicinity of ~~Congressional District~~
state Alaska code 02 county Fairbanks Division code 090

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>Historical</u>

4. Owner of Property

name City of Fairbanks; c/o Mayor Ruth Burnett
street & number City Hall, 427 First Avenue
city, town Fairbanks vicinity of _____ state Alaska, 99701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Assessor's Office/North Star Borough
street & number 520 Fifth Avenue
city, town Fairbanks state Alaska 99701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Eastside Study/AHRs has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date May 1, 1980/January 27, 1981 federal state county local
Office of History & Archaeology, 619 Warehouse Ave., Suite 210, Anchorage, AK 99501
depository for survey records Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Department
city, town Fairbanks state Alaska, 99701

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The abandoned Clay Street Cemetery currently comprises 3.5 acres of Fairbanks' most sacred ground. In recent years it has been surrounded by a chain link fence with locked gates, with a central driveway extending east to west through the grounds. An access road runs from the center of this oldest Fairbanks cemetery, north to south. The gated outlet on 7th Avenue is now the principal entrance of the old cemetery. Dimensions as well as topographic features can be identified on Map #1 (attachment). The present condition of this historic Alaskan cemetery ranges from "derelict" to "good." The grounds (which date from the founding of Fairbanks) over the years have suffered considerable ground settling. Some of the oldest wooden markers are in deteriorated condition (and deserve restoration). Vandals have destroyed some headstones. Many are in need of repair. All of the once-abundant bushes (both wild and cultivated shrubbery) could use careful trimming. More shade trees should now be planted, and the lawn grass re-seeded. Very few graves, particularly from 1902 to the 1930s had permanent granite markers. The small, old plastic plaques and temporary metal markers now illegible on unmarked graves, need to be better embedded and remarked. Markers that were removed by vandals -- aided by the harsh elements of wind, permafrost, and arctic temperatures, have aggravated preservation and maintenance.

The south side of Clay Street Cemetery is largely devoid of shade trees and shrubs. But fine, large birch trees line the access road running south to 7th Avenue. Other sound, large old birches add grace to much of the road running through the central section of Clay Street Cemetery. The north side (the oldest segment) still has several large pine and dark spruce trees -- as well as clumps of native bushes (wild rose and chokecherry) but these too are now in need of both fertilizing, and gardener's care.

Fairbanks' oldest (and only historic) cemetery, is located in what remains a quiet, old residential section of old Fairbanks. Its environmental characteristics blend in well with the neighborhood. They offer a "special spot" for summer walks, a leisurely lunch break, or a family picnic -- all within easy walking distance from downtown. Three concrete benches, once donated by a private citizen, are situated under several of the best shade trees. (Upgrading and beautification would be conducive to increased visitation and respect for the founders of Fairbanks who lie here.)

Clay Street Cemetery is beautifully located at the end of 5th Avenue. It is bounded, on the south, by 7th Avenue; and on the north by 4th Avenue; and at the east, by the newer Steese Expressway. It lies in that section known as "Eastside." This historic district includes all of Tract "B" (Fairbanks Townsite) plus Lots 20, 21, 22 of Block 89. In addition to city Lot 9 and all but the west 15' of Lot 8, Block 71 (also of Fairbanks Townsite) comprises the full site. (See attached plat map; also Trustee Deed and Quit Claim Deed for the West 5' of Lot 8, Block 71, and an aliquat description of the full Cemetery Plat.)

From 1903 to 1978 -- or over a span of 3/4 of a century -- Clay Street Cemetery was used for all local burials. These were not only of Fairbanks residents -- but of people from places in the region as distant as Brooks, Flat, Iditarod, Wiseman, Olnes, and Nenana. After October 1938, almost all Fairbanks burials were transferred to the new Birch Hill Cemetery, outside of the City limits. Burials were thus divided -- with interments at Clay Street quickly tapering off -- because of lack of space. The final, family plot burial at Clay Street Cemetery, however, took place in June, 1978. Since then the grounds have been considered

(Continued)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1903-1978 **Builder/Architect** City of Fairbanks

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the Clay Street Cemetery (first in the new settlement of Fairbanks) lies in the fact that it holds the last remains of many outstanding Alaskans. Through their tireless efforts these pioneers laid the foundation for Alaska's second largest city. Many of these men and women were not just socially, politically, or economically prominent -- they were a cross section of Alaska's late 19th and early 20th Century collective heritage. The pioneers who arrived in the Northland during the great gold strikes -- who experienced extreme adversities of weather and the vagaries of frontier mining boom camp life -- have consecrated this ground. Clay Street Cemetery documents a time, a place, and people who were significant in the vast Interior of Alaska.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

American historian Morgan Sherwood, has classified the period 1865 to 1900 as "The Exploration of Alaska Era," when the total white population -- mostly located in Southeastern -- barely aggregated some 5000 persons in all of Alaska. With the great gold strikes, ranging from the Klondike to Nome (1897-1907); or a decade later, Interior Alaska, miraculously, had established several "instant cities" of 5,000 to 10,000 people each -- at Fairbanks, Skagway, Dyea, Nome, and Juneau (to the south). Fairbanks, soon after 1903, became "the gateway" to this vast, frozen, Interior empire of Northcentral Alaska south of the Arctic Circle. Thus, most of the people buried at Clay Street Cemetery, witnessed and actively participated in the kaleidoscopic, dramatic, swift transition period between "exploration" and "pioneer settlement." They were prime movers in the speedy development of this huge interior expanse of tundra, mountains, lakes, and rivers -- larger than any single State in the Union.

The Clay Street burials represent a broad spectrum of race, creed, geographic origin, and avocations -- much more than might be expected. The people buried at Clay Street were essentially rugged and typical sourdough prospectors, miners, craftsmen and itinerant frontier traders. They also represent (a surprising number of) men and women who made important contributions to law, religion, medicine, metalurgy, science, commerce, linguistics, government, public service, writing, art, publishing, and journalism. At least 50 of the deceased buried here epitomized the unique frontier expertise of riverboat captains, freighters, stagecoach drivers, and dog-sled mushers -- all of whom adapted to the specialization of this time and place. Of those who made contributions in this rich blend of history and significant events, more than half had been born before the end of the U.S. Civil War -- when the Nation still sought "Manifest Destiny" in the Western Frontier beyond the Mississippi River. Most of them had arrived in Alaska in the later part of the 19th Century. The oldest, at bereavement, was 84; the youngest was 43. All but a small number of the total male and female burials at Clay Street occurred before 1931 (when the city's population had declined to 2500 people).

Clay Street Cemetery, therefore, is a microcosm -- as well as a sizeable cross-section of the final remains of sturdy Alaskan pioneers -- who contributed, substantially, to the rapidly-evolving historic transition between the period of exploration to the burgeoning settlement of a sub-arctic region extending from the Canadian Yukon to the shores of the Bering Sea.

The hundreds of burials during the peak years at Clay Street (1903 to 1931) are of men,

(Continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Fairbanks News Miner 1903-Current | 5) Presbyterian Church Records |
| 2) Fairbanks City Hall Records | 6) Episcopal Church Records |
| 3) Edby Davis Collection/University of AK Archives | 7) Personal interviews with old time Fairbanks residents (K. Erickson) |
| 4) Catholic Church Records | 8) Fairbanks Historic Properties Survey, 1978-1980 |

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3.5 acres

Quadrangle name Fairbanks (D-2) Alaska, USGS

Quadrangle scale 1:63 360

UMT References

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7	1	9	1	0	1	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification The Clay Street Cemetery lies in the section of Fairbanks known as the "Eastside." It includes all of Tract "B", Fairbanks Townsite, plus Lots 20, 21, & 22 of Block 89. In addition, Lot 9, and all but the west 15' of Lot 8, Block 71, also of Fairbanks Townsite. (See attached maps plus Trustee Deed and Quit Claim Deed.)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ms. Karen J. Erickson/Assisted by M.S. Kennedy, State Historian

organization

date January 24, 1981

street & number 117 Duke Way

telephone (907) 479-4120

city or town Fairbanks

state Alaska 99701

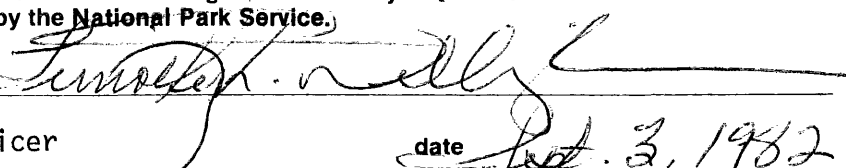
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



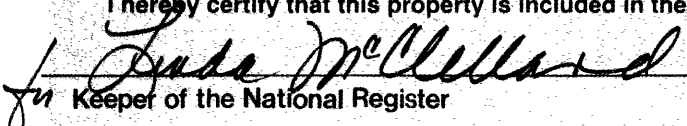
title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

Sept. 3, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register



date

10/25/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

000 10 1901 0018
7-2 10/81/84

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

CLAY STREET CEMETERY (AHRS SITE NO. FAI-164)

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

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closed -- and to some observers -- "abandoned." Over the years lack of city funding and low public priority, meant that only at intermittent times of public pressure and "outrage" was the cemetery adequately cared for. Such, for example, was the case in 1964, when the protective fence was finally installed. At that time a map was also drafted by the City Engineers' Office -- showing where each grave was located (to the best of anyone's knowledge). Belated metal markers were placed at graves that no longer had any identity. Because there was only intermittent organized programs for maintenance and general upkeep, the cemetery grounds (for almost half a century) received rather haphazard care. Fraternal and civic groups who came in intermittently, would upright toppled stones, pick up trash, and sometimes replace decayed markers. Yet this was a low-priority, infrequent task.

Some of the sunken areas are not big enough for a modern power lawn mower to reach; yet they are deep enough to twist an ankle when someone is walking through. These sunken graves need to be filled and leveled. Existing mounds of surplus grave dirt, in some areas, should also be removed and leveled. Grass, weeds, broken bottles (and general rubbish removal on a regular basis) is a necessary chore.

Over the years since 1903 a variety of families, groups, and organizations have been represented by designated plots, within the cemetery. This includes the Masonic Lodge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Moose, Elks, Pioneers of Alaska, Oddfellows, and many religious groups, the Catholic Church principally (although other denominations are also represented). If upgrading of the aged cemetery does take place, organizations such as these will be expected to provide most caretaking and patrolling. This will be shared, on a rotating basis without any one group feeling that they are carrying a disproportionate share of the load. Other concerned citizens may be motivated to take part -- if restoration and upgrading re-inspires community and family pride; although few relatives of many of those buried remain in Alaska now. Vandalism has diminished in recent years -- but motorized vehicles still occasionally drive over the graves. ("Pranksters" seem to find ghoulish pleasure in mixing up markers or removing them altogether.) (This may soon be avoided by having all stones and markers framed in concrete and set flush to the ground.)

The old cemetery is indeed a significant Alaskan Heritage Site, and a venerable Landmark for Alaskan pioneers. It deserves more public recognition -- and much more loving and appropriate care than has been the case over most of its three-quarters of a century existence.

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CLAY STREET CEMETERY (AHRs SITE NO. FAI-164)

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women (and some children) who not only witnessed, but were a vital part of an extraordinary chain of historic events -- essentially related to four significant gold rushes. They developed the pioneer life-style, since called "Sourdough Alaskan" by novelists and other romanticists as well as by historians.

A high percentage of the people buried in Clay Street Cemetery were associated with events that represent broad contributions to the patterns of our history. In many cases, these graves are the only remaining physical evidence of once-prominent Alaskan miners, prospectors, madames, riverboat captains, postmistresses, roadhouse managers, ministers, bankers, doctors, lawyers, and others who contributed in some measure to this highly significant evolutionary era. This Fairbanks cemetery, therefore, represents an archival repository of pioneering people -- both substantial as well as commonplace citizens -- representative, in large measure, of a most important time and place. It constitutes the only known physical record extant of at least 100 pioneers who participated in some aspect of Alaska's greatest and most fabulous gold rush era. Clay Street Cemetery merits historic recognition, preservation, interpretation, and study. It fully qualifies for The National Register of Historic Places under established criteria.

Clay Street graves constitute an exceptionally rich ancestral heritage. Some of these people came to the rich new gold camp, searching for fortunes -- which most of them never found. (Many pioneer miners did not live long enough to establish families.) Many died, disheartened, with no way to get back home. But most of these early pioneers helped create the unique character of the Territory of Alaska. A typical cross-section of the persons who are buried here includes:

ANDERSON, Jorgine Mrs. - (1865-1917) She arrived in the Far North with the Klondike Strike and came to Fairbanks shortly after the first stampede following Felix Pedro's fabulous discovery. She was one of the pioneer gardeners in this area -- contributing much to advancing agricultural pursuits in Interior Alaska.

ANDERSON, Theodore - (1856-1939) A miner, who had operated the Cassiar Roadhouse during its historic heyday. He also worked on the construction of the first telegraph line from Fairbanks to Tanana -- now a forgotten chapter of Alaskan history.

BAILEY, Hallett - (1873-1936) A merchant by trade, Hallett Bailey started in Alaska as part-owner of the famed 19th century "Tagish Roadhouse" on the Dawson Trail. He built the second trading post in Fairbanks after Barnette. In 1912 Bailey entered into partnership with Robert Lavery. Lavery & Bailey's Grocery was an important Alaskan business house for more than a quarter century.

BARTLETT, Ed - (1870-1935) A popular early day resident -- he first operated a major hydraulic mine on Independence Creek in the Circle mining country. He was the father of E.L. (Bob) Bartlett, the first U.S. Senator elected from Alaska after Statehood.

BAXTER, Susie Elma - (1870-1913) This hardy pioneer woman came to the new Interior gold camp from Dawson (Yukon Territory) in 1902. She was the first postmistress of the lower-river settlement of Chena.

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BELLOWS, George - (1867-1920) He started the first newspaper at Chena; published until the population declined. He then moved into Fairbanks and started a newspaper, which he printed in a small shop on Garden Island. This hand-press operation soon developed into the popular Weekly Alaskan Citizen.

BENNETT, Richard H. - (1862-1929) was one of the small, but significant, fraternity of pioneer riverboat skippers on the extensive Yukon River drainage. He once lived at Hamilton; also owned and operated a trading post at Old Point -- on the south mouth of the Yukon River near historic Fort St. Michael.

BERGERSON, Charles - (1867-1938) was a Scandinavian stonecutter (and cement mason) by trade who laid many of the early sidewalks in Fairbanks. He was responsible for laying the first sidewalk in front of the old Masonic Temple, which replaced the initial boardwalk.

BROOKS, Stay - (1885-1925) In the days when the "legitimate" was stage or vaudeville -- and "movies" had not been heard of -- Ms. Stay Brooks was considered among the top vaudevillian "step dancers" in the United States. In 1904 she walked away with the capital prize for step-dancing at the Mid-Winter Fair at San Francisco, California.

BUTEAU, Frank - (1856-1937) Buteau was a French-Canadian miner who came to the North long before the 1897-8 Klondike strike electrified the world. He crossed Chilkoot Pass in 1887 with a party of 22 -- an epic event which predated the great trek to the goldfields by a decade!

BUZBY, Harry - (1863-1931) Buzby arrived at the new Camp of Fairbanks in 1904. He homesteaded on the banks of the Chena, about 1 1/4 miles above where the wireless station was built. He contributed much to the knowledge of farming and stock raising in early 20th century Alaska.

CLEVELAND, Jane Mary Mrs. - (1858-1926) She and her husband (F.A. Cleveland) brought the first team of draft horses into the Fairbanks Mining District. She then operated the Grand Hotel at Dome Creek and "probably grubstaked more miners than anyone else at the time; except possibly 'Captain' Barnette," who founded Fairbanks in 1902.

CREW, Fred Sr. - (1852-1929) Born on the Island of Malta, was a printer (by trade) who gained a reputation for being an expert newspaper compositor. Crew became the author of a popular leather-bound book, "Poems of the Klondike's Early Days and Alaska's Long White Trail," published in 1921.

DE LA VERNE, Frank R. Dr. - (1866-1935) Served as mayor of Fairbanks six times between April 1925 to April 1931. As an able doctor of medicine, he was respected and beloved in the community of Fairbanks and in the surrounding mining camps.

DILLION, John F. - (1862-1919) A lawyer who practiced at Skagway in Soapy Smith's day (1897-8) before coming to Fairbanks in the first days of the new camp. In Fairbanks was prominent in the practice of law and was also U.S. Commissioner for this region of the gigantic Territory.

DUNNEAN, John - (1871-1936) A Spanish-American War Veteran, served on Admiral Dewey's flagship at the Battle of Manila Bay, in 1898, and was with the American squadron which destroyed the

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Spanish flotilla in Philippine waters. He was popular in local veterans fraternal circles.

FENDELER, Peter - (1861-1909) was well-known as owner of the early-day Rapids Roadhouse, located on the historic Valdez Trail.

FONAAS, Eric - (1856-1909) Came to Fairbanks in 1904, was a carpenter and contractor by trade, he built the U.S. Government wireless station here.

FORSBLOOM, Louis - (1865-1919) Was regarded as "an open-handed pioneer" who arrived in Alaska in 1898. He engaged in teaming and freighting to the creeks and to the gold mines north of Fairbanks.

FRISS, Bernard - (1867-1938) Trained as a baker and confectioner in his native country of Prussia, he brought his wife (one of the first white women) over the Valdez Trail in 1903. They established the Vienna Bakery in Fairbanks on Second Avenue. This later became the location of the old Piggly Wiggly Store. Their daughter Katherine was among the first white children born in this community, in the spring of 1905.

FULLER, Veryl Dr. - (1896-1935) Pioneer Dean of the Physics Department at the old Alaska Agriculture College and School of Mines (predecessor to the University of Alaska). In 1929, Dr. Fuller was given funds through the Rockefeller Foundation, for important work on Aurora Borealis. His scientific pioneering work is the basis for much that is known today on this phenomena of the arctic.

GEOGHEGAN, Richard - (1866-1943) Was widely known in the United States for his work as a linguist. Geoghegan first attended Oxford University, to learn Chinese. After arriving in Alaska he learned to speak both Aleut and Eskimo; taught Russian; and also Cambodian as well as Gaelic (his native tongue). Geoghegan became secretary to pioneer Judge James Wickersham (and later first Delegate to Congress) and is said to have exercised great influence on many of the writings attributed to bibliophile Wickersham. At the time of his death Geoghegan's "Dictionary of the Aleut Language" was in the process of being published by the U.S. Department of the Interior, as an important Alaskan teaching tool.

GRIFFIN, Judge Andrew J. - (1860-1932) Was City Clerk of Fairbanks in the founding days. He was the first postmaster at Richardson; and also served as U.S. Commissioner starting in 1909 -- until Tanana precinct was combined with the Fairbanks precinct near the end of his life.

HILTY, Al - (1865-1937) came to Cleary in 1903, was a sourdough miner (all of his life). He is credited with sinking the first prospect hole at Cleary camp north of Fairbanks.

HOPKINS, Paul - (1899-1936) A widely known, outstanding Metallurgist and Analytical Chemist, was first associated with the University of Alaska in the Geological Department. He came to Fairbanks as an assayer for the Fairbanks Banking Association during the richest gold-mining years.

KAHON, Edward Joseph - (1893-1940) A miner, he was the sole winner of the Nenana Ice Pool in 1926 (the amount being \$35,000). He died destitute -- as was the fate of so many pioneer miners and prospectors.

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KELLEY, John - (1874-1941) Arrived in Fairbanks in 1905. Commercially trained, John Kelley was associated with the old Alaska Commercial Company (later, Northern Commercial Co.) for more than 20 years. He was a leading citizen, who, in his off moments turned out verse considered "as literary as Robert Service." He became a prominent member of the Board of Trustees for Alaska Agricultural College, serving from April 1931 to April 1939, preceding his death.

LIVINGSTON, Calvin Captain - (1879-1939) Another noted pioneer steamboat man of Interior Alaska. Livingston started his career well before the founding of Fairbanks. He was master of the well-known stern-wheeler "Alice," at the time of his death.

MARTIN, John E. - (1859-1933) Came to Alaska before the great gold strikes, in 1890 -- first going to the old Forty-Mile digs. He operated trading posts at Forty-Mile and Tanana, and was widely known throughout all of central Alaska.

NORTHWAY, James A. - (1855-1923) This pioneer, whose place name survives him, (Northway) drove the first stages over the Valdez Trail to Fairbanks. He owned the Kern Creek (Railroad) Roadhouse at Mile 71, which he sold in 1918. He also owned the stern-wheel steamer Little Delta, well-known during the peak river-boat era in Alaska.

QUINN, Ed - (1862-1933) Some accounts credit Ed Quinn as the first discoverer of gold in the Fairbanks district. Others say that although he came down the Chena in 1900; he took no part in the 1902 gold discovery. There is no question, however, about his being the discoverer of antimony ore in the district. This find was made on Treasure Creek. Ed Quinn also discovered and operated the Eva Creek Gold Mine.

TOMPKINS, Robert W. Rev. - (1850-1908) A pioneer minister, was founder of the first Christian Science Church in Fairbanks.

There are many others -- itinerants, miners, women of ill-repute, homemakers, children and early bush pilots -- buried here. Most of these are today known only on church or public death records. Yet they, too, were part of the lifestyle of the emerging place which was once called the "largest log cabin city in the world."

The Clay Street Cemetery -- like the local archival, library, and church records centers -- provides a continuum of Fairbanks history (as well as that vast segment of the once-abundant gold fields which surrounded the 1902 gold discovery site at Pedro Creek). It is a special place -- not only of reverence for the Pioneer Spirit of Old Alaska -- but for continuing historical research. Clay Street Cemetery deserves preservation, so that future generations may know more about the uncommon frontier heritage which existed from 1880 to 1930, throughout the Yukon River drainage region of Alaska during a highly significant period.

Map #3 Aerial Photo taken 09 Sep 1965

Clay Street Cemetery
AHRIS SITE NO. ANC-135

