#### 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property	
historic name Linkville Pioneer Cemetery	
other names/site number Linkville Cemetery	
2. Location	
street & number Corner of Lexington Ave and Upham Street	eet not for publication
city or town Klamath Falls	vicinity
state Oregon code OR county Klama	th code 035 zip code 97601
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic Prese	rvation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determined for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Prequirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.	
In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the be considered significant at the following level(s) of significant	
national statewideX_ local	
Signature of certifying office Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Office	5.22.14
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	Date
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Regis	ter criteria.
Signature of commenting official	Date
Title State or Fe	ederal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	determined eligible for the National Register
determined not eligible for the National Register	removed from the National Register
Lay Esan A. Beall	7-11-14
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

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5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)	Category of Property (Check only one box.)	Number of Resources within Prop (Do not include previously listed resources in		
		Contributing Noncontributing		
private	building(s)	1	– buildings	
<b>X</b> public - Local	<b>X</b> district		district	
public - State	site	1	_ site	
public - Federal	structure	3	_ structure	
	object	8	_ object	
		12	_ Total	
A1				
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a	pperty listing a multiple property listing)	Number of contributing resources listed in the National Register	previously	
N/A		0		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)		
		FUNERARY/cemetery		
FUNERARY/cemetery		FUNERAR 1/cellletery		
	_		_	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification		Materials		
(Enter categories from instructions.)		(Enter categories from instructions.)		
OTHER: cemetery		foundation: N/A		
		walls: N/A		
		roof: N/A:		
		other: STONE/marble; STONE/g	aranito:	
		METAL/ iron; METAL/bro	ize,	
		CONCRETE		

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**Narrative Description** 

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is located on a hillside within the city limits of Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon, approximately one half miles north of the downtown area. It is located on Tax Lot R-3809-029DB-00100-000 and is surrounded by single-family residential neighborhoods. The cemetery is 18.22 acres in size and has approximately 5,700 known and 300 unidentified burials, in addition to an undetermined number of burials in the Potter's Field. It has three main parts: the main cemetery; the I.O.O.F. cemetery to the north, which was deeded to the main cemetery in 1951; and the Potter's Field and related grassy area to the west. It contains primarily tablet-style markers within its rectangular boundary. The majority of markers were placed facing west and east. At the south end of the cemetery are two significant stone portals that mark the primary entrances, as well as two other minor entrances with iron gates. The majority of the rest of the cemetery is enclosed by a wire fence. Planted landscaping is prominent in the design of the cemetery, with several lanes, paved and unpaved, named after and mostly bordered by specific types of trees. These trees include maples, elms, and birches, among others. The design of the cemetery reflects the evolution and civic aspirations of the city of Klamath Falls in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Narrative Description** 

#### Setting

The cemetery is located on a hill to the north of Linkville's downtown, across the Ankeny Canal within a residential neighborhood. The cemetery is bordered on the south by Upham Street, but in every other direction is bordered by residential yards and housing. The surrounding area follows a loose, grid-like pattern, which is also reflected in the cemetery's drives. Because of its hilltop position, there are views from the cemetery of the surrounding area, though trees and nearby buildings partially obscure these views, which were historically more open.

#### **Cemetery Layout**

The cemetery is rectangular in plan with the short sides measuring approximately 617.76 feet and the longer sides measuring about 1261.92 feet. This rectangle is aligned so that the longer sides run north and south and the shorter sides run west and east. The cemetery is composed of three general sections. The largest is the Pioneer Cemetery grounds, which occupies the southern three-quarters of the cemetery. This section contains the major entrances. The second section is the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) cemetery, which is located to the north of the Pioneer Cemetery and begins at the northern side of Division Drive, an east-west drive that separates the two areas. This was historically a separate cemetery until they were combined in 1951, although it was still included as a part of the 1931 redesign. The last section of the cemetery is a grassy field that stretches along the entire western side of the cemetery. The northern portion of the grassy field, south of the I.O.O.F. section, is known as Potter's Field, which was an area of burial that was covered up by land improvements and is now a grass field. There are no clear visual boundaries for this section of the field.

There are two main paved drives by which vehicles enter and exit the cemetery, called Main Street and Elm Drive. These entrances are located off Upham Street. The southeastern Elm Drive entrance angles inwards near the southern end of the cemetery. There is an iron-gated, segmental-arched rubblestone and ashlar portal located on this short angled stretch (described in more detail in the Significant Features portion of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The majority of the unidentified burials refer to the unknown pioneers that were moved from the original cemetery located at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pine Streets.

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Section 7). The southwestern Main Street entrance has a same style gate as the Elm Drive entrance (described further in the Significant Features part of Section 7). The entrance for this gate is directly off Upham Street. In contrast to Elm Drive, Main Street angles inward at the north end of the cemetery, right before the I.O.O.F. section.

Two short paved drives connect Main Street and Elm Drive within the cemetery. These are Willow Drive, which is located at approximately the halfway point of the Pioneer Cemetery, and the aforementioned Division Drive, which separates the Pioneer Cemetery section and the I.O.O.F. section. Several unpaved drives also travel north and south across the Pioneer Cemetery section. The two drives that stretch from Willow Drive to Division Drive are Snowball Lane and Maple Drive. In between these two drives is a longer one called Birch Drive, which stretches from Upham Street to Division Drive. This drive is centered in the middle of the cemetery. At the Upham Street intersection of this drive is an entrance to the cemetery with an iron gate supported by slightly-tapering concrete posts. Short concrete walls retain the cemetery here where it is higher than the grade of the street. This gate echoes the design of the cemetery's fence, which encloses the cemetery except in a few locations where it abuts residential properties and the fence was removed. The fence is woven wire supported by iron posts and, in some locations, by iron poles. Elm Drive has the same style gate as Birch Drive on the dirt portion of the drive, which splits off from the paved portion, to the south.

The I.O.O.F. portion of the cemetery also has additional drives, though these are all paved. There is an unnamed connection at the most northern point of the cemetery between Elm Drive and Main Street, as well as two north-south drives that nearly align with Birch Drive and Maple Drive. The northern connection marks the end of the drives.

The graves in the cemetery are aligned to face towards the drives that run north and south, with the graves facing east-west. The oldest graves are located in the southern part of the cemetery to the east of Elm Drive. Generally, the newer graves are further west or north as one travels from this point.

A maintenance shed was once located east of Elm Drive. This building was demolished in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century due to its poor condition; the space is now vacant. There is one non-contributing building in the cemetery, a recently constructed storage shed. It is built of split-face concrete block and has a corrugated metal shed roof that slopes downwards to the north. Two entrances are located on the south façade of this building, a central, double steel door and a single, steel door to the east. An asphalt driveway on the south and east sides of the building connects to Main Street.

#### Landscape

Historically the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery landscape was relatively sparse. First developed as a rural cemetery, the landscaping features were either natural or planted by family members of the deceased. The lack of a formal plan meant the original landscaping features became unkempt as the years passed by, which led to a redesign of the cemetery in 1931.

The majority of Linkville's current landscape features were developed during the formalization of the original rural cemetery in 1931. Some of the character-defining features that were developed during this period are the rows of trees that line the drives. These drives were graveled during the 1931 redesign, but are now paved with asphalt. The trees surrounding the drives generally reflect the name of the drives, though there are also irregularities. Maple Drive displays the most trees, as well as the healthiest trees, which are Norway Maples. Birch Drive has the second largest number of trees, which include European White Birch. These trees, however, are not thriving in the climate and are smaller in stature. The elm trees on Elm Drive include the older Siberian Elms that are nearing the ends of their shorter lifespan, and the newer Dutch Elm disease-resistant elms. The older elms are in the northern section of the drive, while the younger trees are in the southern section. Willow Drive has one mature willow near the center of the lane; willows are important symbolic trees in cemeteries. The last planned tree-lined drive is Snowball Lane, which has no trees. Other

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sections of the cemetery display spruce trees and other species which are informally placed, in contrast to the orderly rows of trees along the drives.

Arbor vitae are among the common plantings near graves. There is no evidence that links these with personal plantings or as an element of the redesign. The Arbor vitae, because of their growth patterns and close proximity with some of the markers, have become destructive to a degree and have been the subject of recent grant-funded preservation work (discussed further in the Integrity portion of Section 7).

#### **Grave Markers**

Grave markers in the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery are representative of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Most of the grave markers are tablet-style markers with bases.<sup>2</sup> Historically, low walls surrounded the plots but due to landscape maintenance needs, a significant number of these walls have been removed. Most of the remaining walls are in the western end of the cemetery, which slopes to the west. Some of these plots had fences that sat atop the low walls, but most of these have also been removed for maintenance purposes.

The next most common headstone designs in the cemetery are pedestal markers and bevel markers. The pedestal markers are generally from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, while the bevel markers are generally from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Other types of markers within the cemetery include government-issue markers, lawn-type markers, an obelisk, a bedstead marker, and a pulpit marker. There are not many sculptures in the cemetery, with two notable exceptions. They are the Ella Lubke marker and the Jay Blaine Arrant marker. Both are Victorian-era designs in marble. Lubke's sculpture portrays Mary under the cross and the Arrant marker is a childlike angel. There are also markers that reflect fraternal organizations of the deceased. Examples include several markers designed to resemble tree trunks for the Woodsmen of the World, and within the I.O.O.F. cemetery, the three-linked chain symbol can be seen on many markers.

In addition to the stone markers, there are also three white zinc markers in the southeast portion of the cemetery. These were made by the American Bronze Company, or American White Bronze Company, of Chicago, Illinois. Due to the nature of the material, they have more delicate and distinct details than the stone markers.

There are several sections of the cemetery that can be identified as groupings of markers. Northeast of the original Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is a group of infant and child grave markers, forming three general rows. These are smaller, to reflect the size of the deceased, and are mostly of the tablet with base variety. Northwest of the original Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is another section of infants, most from the World War II years. These are similar in design to the other grouping of child and infant markers. Immediately south of this section is the American Legion Plot, another clearly-defined area of similar, government-issue markers.

#### **Significant Features**

The significant features described below are contributing features that are specifically mentioned due to their association with the Criteria under which the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is being nominated and/or an associated event in the Section 8 Narrative Statement of Significance. The numbered significant features also correspond to the numbered locations in Figure 3.

1. Lee and Joe Laws Grave Marker (Contributing object): This is a white marble pedestal-type marker with two bases, a white marble base and a concrete base. The tablet has two interconnected ovals which distinguish between the two different deaths, but which also shares their common information in the middle interconnected portion. This section reads: "-LEE- -JOE-/Children of/H.C. & M.T. LAWS./murdered by masked assassins./June 24, 1882/Aged 19 years. Aged 15 years." Above the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Grave marker terminology was primarily derived from the Michigan Historic Cemeteries Preservation Guide, available online at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal\_mhc\_shpo\_Cemetery\_Guide\_105082\_7.pdf.

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interconnected oval is a willow within an arched section. The top corners are beveled and there is a very small crown feature above the willow decoration.

- 2. Amon Shook Grave Marker (Contributing object): This is a grey marble pedestal-type marker with a vaulted, domed top. On the pediments of the vaulting are decorative branches. "SHOOK" is written in bold letters above a rusticated base and a cut base, and there is an arched detail with circles above the word. The main shaft of the marker has the words "AMON SHOOK/BORN NOV. 25, 1814/ DIED SEP 14, 1906." On both the top and bottom of the shaft are single bands with repeated detailing, though the two bands differ. The bottom band has chainlike detailing and the top has diamond-shaped detailing.
- Owen McKendree Grave Marker (Contributing object): This is a modest tablet marker on a base. It is grey marble with a very simple rectangular prism. The only words on this marker are: "OWEN T. McKENDREE/1875 – 1918."
- 4. Mary Wilcox and Maggie Jones Grave Marker (Contributing object): A grey marble pedestal-type marker with vaulted-roof detail<sup>3</sup> inscribed with the following on the shaft: "MARY A./ WILCOX/ASSASSINATED/FEB 8 1916/AGE 64 YRS." Underneath this text is "MAGGIE E./JONES/ASSASSINATED/FEB 8 1916/AGE 46 YRS." Beneath the marble monument is a rusticated stone base. Details on the monument include beveled edges, x-shaped detailing at the upper-corners of each side, and decorative swirls underscored by a line near the base.
- 5. Pete Williams Grave Marker (Contributing object): Pete William's grave marker is a standard government-issue, lawn-type marker for World War II military veterans. It is cast in bronze and placed on a concrete block. The marker reads: "PETE WILLIAMS/OREGON/PVT US ARMY/WORLD WAR II/SEPT 7 1921 JUNE 20 1949," with a cross above his name.
- 6. Tule Lake Segregation Center Grave Marker for J. Matsubara (Contributing object): This small fieldstone marker is a handmade example of a lawn-type marker. Etched on the surface is "DEC 6 1942/OUR BABY/J. MATSUBARA." Because this marker is handmade, the letters are not standard fonts.
- 7. Tule Lake Segregation Center Grave Marker for Kouzo Hamao (Contributing object): This small, cast-concrete marker is currently positioned as a lawn-type marker but it was once a vertical tablet-style marker, evidenced by historic photographs. The photographs also show that it is a thick marker. The marker is a simple, rectangular shape with a curved top and bottom. The lettering is also vertical and in Japanese script. This marker was translated as reading "THE GRAVE OF KOUZO HAMAO/DIED IN JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> SHOWA 18(?)/SIXTY-SIX(?) YEARS OLD." The text is in a recessed portion of the marker and the text is notably faded compared to the historic photographs.
- 8. Elm Drive Portal (Contributing structure): This is an iron-gated, segmental-arched rubblestone and ashlar portal located on the short, angled stretch of Elm Drive. The stones that compose the gate are obsidian from Glass Mountain, red rock from Geary's Ranch, and pinkish-colored granite. Above the pillars of the gate are two rough cones of rock, and above the middle of the arch on the southern side of the gate is a tablet dating from the construction of the gate that lists the mayor and councilmembers at the time. This tablet projects above the entrance portal. The Elm Drive portal was constructed during the 1931 redesign.
- 9. Main Street Portal (Contributing structure): This portal on the southwestern Main Street entrance reflects the same design as the Elm Drive portal, with the exception that this portal has segmental arches that meet at a keystone and there is no additional columnar support below their connection point. The keystone has the date "1931" on it with a grooved-circle detail above. Below the "1931" are

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As shown in Michigan Historic Cemeteries Preservation Guide, p. 38.

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several words that are partially obscured. Above the keystone is a triangular pediment with a central, triangular red rock. At the spring line of the segmental arch on the western end of the south side is a plaque that says: "Erected by Tewineek Tribe No. 73, Improved Order of Redmen."

- 10. Wire Fence (Contributing structure): Around the perimeter of the cemetery is a wire fence from the 1931 redesign. Iron posts, with a simple wavy embellishment along the edges, support this fence, although at some locations these have been replaced with round iron poles. These poles are bulkier that the original posts. The fence itself is made up of woven wire stretched between the supports, with additional woven wire between the rows, creating triangular patterning.
- 11. Balloon Bomb Victims Marker (Contributing object): This granite, bevel-type marker commemorates three individuals who were killed by an Imperial Japanese Army balloon bomb. At the top is engraved, "ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY HE SAVED US." This text is encircled and flanked by flower details on either side. Below this text are three, side-by-side rectangles, one for each of the three victims. The name of the victim is along the top of each rectangle, while the birth and death dates flank porcelain portraits of the victims. The three victims from left to right are: Edward Engen (1931-1945), Joan Patzke (1931-1945), and Dick Patzke (1930-1945). At the base of the beveled portion, it reads "ALL KILLED BY AN ENEMY BALLOON BOMB." The base of the marker is unfinished and sits on a poured concrete slab.

#### Integrity

The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery was completely redesigned in 1931. No evidence remains of the 1885 design, other than the general placement of the three sections of the cemetery and placement of the individual markers that pre-date the 1931 redesign. Integrity under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development, is assessed below based on this 1931 design, as it represents a change in the way that Klamath Falls began to see itself during this prosperous period. The site retains good integrity, based in part on the high degree of original fabric remaining, which contributes to its integrity of materials and workmanship. The original workmanship of the stonework of the gates, in particular, is a major, highly visible feature of the site. It conveys a strong association with the 1931 redesign. The vast majority of original markers are still present at the site. They have not been moved since the creation of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, contributing to the cemetery's integrity of location. The major landscape features, which include the trees, the layout, and the drives/pathways, are still extant. Other original elements of the 1931 redesign, such as the entrance portals and the surrounding fence, are still in place and virtually unaltered. These elements contribute to the site's integrity of design and feeling.

The setting of the site has changed somewhat with the development of Klamath Falls. The cemetery was originally rural in character, but since its initial construction residential development has grown up around the property. However, because the cemetery is sited on a hill, the original scenic vistas are intact because most of the surrounding development is lower than the cemetery. It can be easily imagined that walking through the cemetery today creates much of the same feeling that it did historically.

While the majority of cemetery features are intact, there are some minor detractions from the site's overall integrity. The removal of large portions of individual walls and fences surrounding the plots is noteworthy, as it changes to a degree the appearance of the personal plots. Note, however, that the design of the original plots was left to the original plot owners, even in the redesign. A period of vandalism occurred in 1990, affecting the appearance of the cemetery. One of the changes was a reduction in the number of complete crosses; many have been either damaged or removed by vandals. Another focus of vandalism was the heads of lambs. There is only one lamb grave marker that is complete. Additional damage has been caused by plants, whose roots have lifted up the concrete bases of some markers.

To rectify some of this damage, restoration work has been undertaken by the Klamath Falls Parks Department using a Historic Cemeteries Grant. The first example of restoration work was the Patzke-Engen Marker, where

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porcelain faces had been removed and overgrown arbor vitae shrubs had caused damage to the concrete. The shrubs were removed and the concrete replaced. The fence of the Ella Lubke marker was damaged, as were the concrete masonry blocks beneath it. Some concrete blocks were replaced, a new concrete cap was added, and the fence was fixed. The Sleeper, a bedstead marker, had suffered concrete damage. An entirely new concrete marker of the same design that replaced it. The Jay Blaine Arant marker fell off its base and was repaired with epoxy and metal pins. Several other markers were restored as well, improving the historic character of the cemetery.

Integrity under Criterion A, Social History, is maintained by the presence of the specific markers or group of markers that are associated with the major events discussed in this nomination. The gravestones that mark these events date from the 1880s or the establishment of the cemetery, with the markers for victims of the range wars, to post-World War II, with the 1949 grave of Pete Williams. All markers that are called out as contributing features maintain integrity from the time of their placement, a minor exception being the fact that one of the Tule Lake Segregation Center grave markers has fallen over and is now a lawn-type marker. Additionally, the collective presence of the minor cemetery features and ordinary markers associated with Klamath Falls' citizenry and social history from its establishment to the present are virtually intact.

In conclusion, the cemetery retains a high degree of integrity under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development, for the presence of most of its major design features from that era of its redesign. Exceptions noted above include the removal of some walls and fences around family plots and some vandalism. It also retains excellent integrity under Criterion A, Social History, for the presence of the graves of the cross-section of Klamath Falls' ordinary citizens and a number of extraordinary occurrences in the region's history, evidenced by the markers and monuments that remain from these events.

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8. Sta	tement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)		Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.)
		COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our		DEVELOPMENT
	history.	SOCIAL HISTORY
В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
Пс	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics	
	of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high	Period of Significance
	artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1885-1949
D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
		1885: Creation of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery
		1931: Redesign of the cemetery
		1945: Balloon bomb victims
	ia Considerations " in all the boxes that apply.)	1946: Tule Lake Segregation Center burials
Property is:		moved to Linkville after closure of camp
		1949: Pete Williams burial conflict
A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.		Olamin and Barrara
		Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
H	removed from its original location.	N/A
c	a birthplace or grave.	14/71
<b>x</b>   <sub>D</sub>	a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation
	a comoto.y.	N/A
E	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	14/71
F	a commemorative property.	
G	less than 50 years old or achieving significance	Architect/Builder
	within the past 50 years.	Van Camp, J. E. (Supervisor)

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#### Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance begins with the establishment of the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery in 1885 and ends in 1949 when the Pete Williams burial conflict occurred. This encompasses the redesign of the cemetery in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the period in which the significant, related events of social history occurred.

#### **Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery meets Criterion Consideration D due to its association with important historical trends and events during the period of significance, which is 1885 through 1949. These trends and events include the planning and development of Klamath Falls in the 1920s and 1930s, a period of economic growth; the social history of the range wars; and the social history of racism surrounding the events of World War II. This includes the Tule Lake Segregation Center burials and the Pete Williams burial conflict. The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery embodies these areas of significance through the graves of a cross section of Klamath Falls' ordinary citizens, including its earliest citizens, as well as the graves of a number of extraordinary players in the region's history, evidenced by the markers and monuments that commemorate these events. The latter are rare reminders of this history.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is locally significant under Criterion A for Community Planning and Development and for Social History, with a period of significance of 1885 to 1949. The 1931 redesign of the cemetery represents the concerns of the Klamath Falls citizenry with improving their image. The city of Klamath Falls aspired to create order from what was initially organic development. The cemetery was part of this vision, because it suffered from a lack of fencing and informal burial techniques. The new design, which was much more formal, reflects a time when the city became concerned with planning and design, as well as civic amenities.

Representing the social history of the range war conflicts, this cemetery has multiple graves that relate to the disputes that defined the culture of feuds over land and animals for the ranchers. This group of grave markers within the cemetery is a vivid, graphic reminder of these events. The cemetery also portrays the social history of racism associated with events surrounding World War II. It contains markers from the Tule Lake Segregation Center, observing the incarceration of Japanese-American citizens during World War II, as well as a marker from an African-American veteran whose burial caused controversy and reform.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Community Planning and Development** 

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Klamath Falls was one of the fastest growing communities in Oregon. Having been connected to the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1909, and due to its strong timber industry, Klamath Falls grew exponentially at this time. The 1931 redesign of the cemetery coincided with this period of growth for the city. It was a time when the city aspired to civic improvements to better represent its newfound status. The cemetery's improvements represent a landscape aesthetic whose goal was to formalize the cemetery and create a park-type environment for visitors.

The previously rural cemetery design was engulfed by the city's growth by the late 1920s and early 1930s. The new improvements included built structures as well as a formal landscape scheme that turned an unkempt space into a desirable location within the city. The majority of features that were developed during this time are

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still extant and retain a high degree of integrity, including such design features as formal, tree-lined lanes and stone portal entries. This design was felt to more appropriately represent the young community.

#### **Social History**

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, since its beginning as Klamath Falls' first permanent cemetery and through its continual use, embodies and reflects many of the city's significant events in its historic fabric. In a broader context it has sections dedicated to the IOOF, the American Legion, the unknown pioneers of the region, the victims of the Houston Hotel fire, and the balloon bomb victims. It also, however, portrays several more unusual events in the social history of Klamath Falls, including the range wars, the Japanese-American internment at Tule Lake Segregation Center, and the Pete Williams burial controversy.

The Linkville Pioneer Cemetery contains a series of grave markers that convey the social history of the ranchers that resided around Klamath Falls and within Klamath County. In particular, these markers convey the range wars that took place between cattle ranchers and sheep ranchers. These events illustrate the social relations between the ranchers as they fought each other over land and livestock, which was a significant issue in ranching life in the area at that time. It also exhibits the distrust and loathing between stockmen and sheep herders. These groups often found themselves in conflict with each other over land because unregulated ranching allowed sheep to decimate expanses of plant life for feed. Linkville Pioneer Cemetery's related burials are direct results of these conflicts.<sup>4</sup> The burials occurred from 1882 to 1918, during the initial ranching settlement and development of the area. Note that the range of dates representing these markers begins before the period of significance because some graves were moved from the earlier, downtown cemetery that was removed during the city's expansion.

There are four known events portrayed by the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery markers. These markers are: 1. the Lee and Joe Laws grave marker; 2. the Amon Shook grave marker; 3. the Owen McKendree grave marker; and 4. the Mary Wilcox and Maggie Jones grave marker. These markers retain high integrity and are the only visible physical reminders of these conflicts outside the written record. Their association with the range war events is further illustrated by text on two of the markers, which proclaims that the victims were "murdered" and "assassinated."

In addition to the social history of the ranchers around the turn of the past century, the cemetery also portrays the history of racism in the United States surrounding the events of World War II. The first example is the incarceration of Japanese Americans from the West Coast during World War II. In 1946, after the Tule Lake Segregation Center was closed, the burials were moved to Linkville Pioneer Cemetery. These eleven burials represent a small portion of the deaths in which the remains were not cremated at the camp, which was the usual practice. It is a rare example of a site that has a grouping of burials from a War Relocation Authority camp and is also the only grouping of burials from the Tule Lake Segregation Center. This gravesite within Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is important because it represents a tragic period of time when Japanese-Americans were discriminated against based on race and were forced to live in internment camps. The markers have good integrity and still convey the meaning that underlies their significance. Additional memorials have been added over time around the markers since their introduction into the cemetery. This collection of markers has also been used as a pilgrimage site for families of the Tule Lake Segregation Center internees.

The second example racism in the immediate post-World War II era is the burial of Pete Williams, which sparked a controversy in 1949 due to his African-American heritage and the Jim Crow laws of the time. His grave marker and its location are indicative of the issues of racial discrimination and treatment of African-American veterans in the region prior to the civil rights movement. In addition, it displays how an unassuming request for burial-rights equality for a war veteran caused a controversy that overturned a discriminatory stipulation and led to further debate on racial inequalities. Pete Williams' final resting place in Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, the cemetery that allowed him an equal burial, is the best site to convey this important historic event

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Note that most – but not all – of the burials that from range war conflicts at the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery are a result of conflicts between cattle ranchers, which also occurred.

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as it is the physical reminder symbolic of the larger issue of being an African American during a period of prejudice in the region.

**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (if appropriate)

#### **Community Planning and Development**

#### The Founding of Linkville

Linkville was founded about March 12, 1867, by George Nurse at the site of his cabin.<sup>5</sup> Prior to Nurse's occupation of the site, the Klamath Tribe had occupied the general area, and had thrived due to the lakes and wetlands. By 1871, Nurse began construction of a hotel and by 1877 he built Linkville's first sawmill on the west bank of the Link River.<sup>6</sup> On February 26, 1878, there was a dedication for the town site of Linkville, and it grew nearby the Link River into a mass of wood-framed buildings.<sup>7</sup> The name Linkville disappeared by 1893, when the name of the young town was changed to Klamath Falls. The City of Klamath Falls was incorporated by the state legislature in 1905.<sup>8</sup> The primary industry of Klamath Falls was timber harvesting, though ranching was also a major industry in the region.

#### **Establishment of the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery**

The first burial ground for Linkville was located somewhere around 3<sup>rd</sup> and Pine Streets (downtown Klamath Falls presently). It was established some time between 1860 and 1885, evidenced by graves that date to that period. In 1885 the digging of William Steel's ditch, which later became the Ankeny Canal, forced the movement of the original cemetery. To direct this process, the citizens of Linkville formed an organization called the Linkville Cemetery Association, which included twelve members: W.C. Hale, R.E. Davis, Paul Breitenstein, J.R. McClellen, E.M. Devoe, G.W. Smith, George T. Baldwin, E.R. Reames, J.A. Bowdoin, Charles S. Moore, J.P. Roberts, and J.W. Hamaker. Additional citizens could become members if they purchased a burial lot for \$5.00.

Baldwin and Reames purchased 20 acres of land for the cemetery from the Croutch ranch.<sup>10</sup> The land was chosen by the association because it was "out in the country." The cemetery was initially designed as a rural cemetery on a hill overlooking the town. This land was also adjacent to the existing Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery.<sup>11</sup> The 300 burials from the original cemetery, which dated from the 1860s to the 1880s, were moved to this new location. However, many of these graves were never identified. They were later honored with a monument inscribed, "Erected to the Memory of the Unknown Pioneers Sleeping Here." Some of the first significant graves within Linkville Pioneer Cemetery were ranchers who died while involved in a range war. They mark an early, more lawless period of social history for Klamath Falls, which is discussed in detail under the Social History section.

#### Issues Leading to the 1931 Redesign

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Devere Helfrich, "The Founding of Linkville," *Klamath Echoes: Centennial Issue, Part 1*, ed. Klamath County Historical Society (Klamath Falls: Klamath County Historical Society, 1967), 13-14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Devere Helfrich, "Linkville Hotel," *Klamath Echoes: Centennial Issue, Part 1*, ed. Klamath County Historical Society (Klamath Falls: Klamath County Historical Society, 1967), 22-24.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> F.A. Shaver et al., *An Illustrated History of Central Oregon* (Spokane, WA: Western Historical Publishing Company, 1905), 976-980.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Beverly Aper, *Linkville Cemetery Founding* (From Klamath Basin Genealogical Society meeting, 1994), 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Aper, Linkville Cemetery Founding, 1.

Note that later records stated that the property was purchased by Breitenstein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> This cemetery may have been dedicated as early as 1880 as an Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery.

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By the 1920s, the range wars were no longer a common theme for Klamath county. The city of Klamath Falls had grown and changed, and the roughness of the earlier years became an increasingly distant past by the 1920s. The connection of the Southern Pacific Railroad to the city in 1909 and the booming timber industry of the area fueled this growth and demand for new amenities. 12 During this time, there was concern for the appearance of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery; that it was unkempt and in disrepair. On August 10, 1921, an article in the Evening Herald entitled "Cemetery is Typical Abode of Desolation" inspired a movement to better manage the cemetery. 13 The paper reported that, "Tombstones list heavily towards all directions of the compass over unkempt graves," and that there was a custom of digging graves in advance, which was commented upon as "ghoulish and inhuman." This concern coincided with a period of rapid growth and development in the city. During the 1920s Klamath Falls was the fasting growing city in Oregon. 14 As it developed, citizens began to desire that the cemetery improve as well.

An article on November 10, 1925, in the Evening Herald continued to express frustration at the lack of improvement in the cemetery's condition. 15 A band of stray horses had entered the cemetery the day before and trampled over "what little evidence there was of care of the plots." The author of the article continued to express his concern when he noted that the reason the horses wandered into the city cemetery was "the same reason a prowler walks into unlocked houses. The cemetery was not even enclosed with a fence, hence there was nothing to stop them from coming or going." The publicity around this event continued to spur the search for a solution to better the cemetery.

On April 23, 1929, the Klamath Falls Mausoleum Company proposed a solution by offering to improve the cemetery through construction of a mausoleum on the south slope. 18 Construction of mausoleums was a popular trend in Oregon during the early 1900s, examples which included Hope Abbey Mausoleum and Mount Crest Abbey Mausoleum by Ellis Lawrence. The proposed mausoleum for Linkville Pioneer Cemetery. however, was never built.

#### The 1931 Redesign

The longed-for solution emerged as a plan in 1931, drawn up under the supervision of J.E. Van Camp of the city council, to modernize and formalize the cemetery. 19 Van Camp was a city councilman and chairman of the cemetery committee. An article in the March 4, 1931, Evening Herald describes the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery improvements in detail. The main features named are the "attractive wire fence," the "colorful rock gateways," the "row of trees," and the service houses, or storage facilities. The first three main features were built, still exist, and retain most of their integrity. Only one of the mentioned service buildings was built. It no longer exists, as it was in poor condition around the time it was demolished in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

During the redesign process, the hill that the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery was located on was cleaned thoroughly of boulders, old tin cans, sticks, and other rubbish.<sup>20</sup> There was also mention of an old wooden fence that was removed. When the clearing was complete, the new features were built. Because the I.O.O.F. cemetery was also included in the plan, a fence was built to enclose both cemeteries and Potter's Field. The two main stone portals were built as stately entrances for motorists. The effect of using the "rock from Glass Mountain...red rock from Geary's ranch and other rock" was so that the portals would "offer a pleasing, motley effect, sturdy as well as attractive." <sup>21</sup> It was also noted that there was a possibility that there would be electric

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "History of Klamath Falls," *City of Klamath Falls*, accessed August 21, 2013, http://ci.klamath-falls.or.us/visitors/history.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Cemetery is Typical Abode of Desolation," *Evening Herald*, August 10, 1921, 1.

<sup>14 &</sup>quot;History of Klamath Falls," City of Klamath Falls.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Grave Yard Disturbed, Horses Trample Plots," *Evening Herald,* November 10, 1925.

<sup>16 &</sup>quot;Grave Yard Disturbed, Horses Trample Plots," *Evening Herald,* November 10, 1925. 17 "Grave Yard Disturbed, Horses Trample Plots," *Evening Herald,* November 10, 1925.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Klamath Falls Mausoleum Company, "Klamath Falls Mausoleum to be Erected in Linkville Cemetery, Klamath Falls, Oregon," Evening Herald, April 23, 1929.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "City is Modernizing Linkville Cemetery," Evening Herald, March 4, 1931, 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "City is Modernizing Linkville Cemetery," Evening Herald, March 4, 1931, 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "City is Modernizing Linkville Cemetery," 5.

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lights added to the portals in the future, though these were never installed. The streets of the cemetery were covered in gravel. Despite the cemetery overhaul of the public spaces and features, it was still up to the individual plot owners to upgrade their family plots, because the redesign did not encompass those spaces.

Several planned elements were never realized. The portal pillars were meant to be tapered, but this was never done. This may be due to the unfinished nature of the stones being difficult to work into a successful taper. There were fewer trees planted than planned, but enough to clearly define the spaces by those landscape features. An example of a clearly defined space in the cemetery is Elm Drive, which includes enough elms to give it a sense of identity.

#### **Social History**

#### The Range Wars of the Klamath Basin

Klamath Falls was a central point for ranchers in the Klamath Basin. Starting in 1867, the federal government opened up lands in the area to sell to settlers. Following this ranchers began occupying the basin.<sup>22</sup> By 1890, the number of sheepmen was growing exponentially in Oregon, with wool surpassing wheat in importance.<sup>23</sup> Sheep, however, when unregulated can crop the grass so close to the ground that cattle cannot thrive, which in turn fueled conflicts.<sup>24</sup> Due to the lack of strict laws regarding ranching lands, several feuds came about between families in the Klamath Basin. These feuds became a significant part of ranching life and Klamath county history during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Issues these feuds revolved around were generally land rights regarding ownership and boundaries or matters of livestock. One of the primary conflicts was between sheepmen and cattlemen. This conflict emerged since sheep tended to overgraze because of the lack of legal statutes to regulate the herds.<sup>25</sup> In addition, the two groups had further differences that caused contempt between them. The fact that sheepmen tended their animals on foot, compared to the cattlemen's use of horses, was one of these differences that drew them further apart as social groups, since walking was considered inferior to riding horses.

Range wars included a variety of intimidation and violence that would sometimes result in extremes such as mass killings of animals or deaths of ranchers. A major nearby conflict was the Central Oregon Range Wars, which lasted from 1896 to 1906 and centered on the sheepmen versus cattlemen conflict. Thousands of sheep were killed and vigilante groups began to take the law into their own hands, one example being the Crook County Sheep-Shooting Association. It was not until 1906, when the federal government began regulating the use of public lands, that violence began to decrease between the two groups. The Taylor Grazing Act of 1936 ended the range wars completely, as it prevented overgrazing and its accompanying soil deterioration. The following described range war conflicts portray that aspect of the Social History for ranchers in the Klamath Basin. While the majority of events are surrounding cattle rustling, the Owen McKendree marker represents events surrounding conflict between sheepmen and cattlemen.

#### Range War Conflicts Portrayed by the Cemetery

http://www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/historical\_records/dspDocument.cfm?doc\_ID=8A032B61-99BB-85F8-059105E03E7F13D6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Robert Donnelly, "Klamath Falls, 1941," The Oregon History Project, last modified 2003, http://www.ohs.org/education/oregonhistory/historical\_records/dspDocument.cfm?doc\_ID=1AAD47E1-9B93-5D22-5C8F95A3DB254096.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> D.W. Meinig, *The Great Columbia Plain: A Historical Geography, 1805-1910* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1968), 293.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Meinig, *The Great Columbia Plain*, 291.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Melinda Jette, "Central Oregon Range Wars," *The Oregon History Project*, last modified 2004, http://www.obs.org/education/oregon/bistory/bistorical\_records/dsp.Document.cfm2doc\_ID=8403286

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Jette, "Central Oregon Range Wars."

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One of the larger range war conflicts represented in the cemetery, which resulted in the death of Lee and Joe Laws, was between the Laws and the Calavans, both ranching families of Langell Valley. One of the Calavans found their cattle, along with several other neighbors' cattle, in the Laws' herd. Arguments and threats continued until later in February, when there was a shootout during a confrontation between James and Frank Calavan and Old Man' Laws. Frank Calavan was shot and killed. The death of Frank resulted in a retaliatory mob that killed a deputy sheriff in an attempt to reach Old Man Laws, who was brought to the Linkville Hotel for trial. Old Man Laws was not charged with the murder of Frank Calavan. As a result, an act of possible vengeance occurred soon after when an unknown party of men hiding in the rimrock above the Laws' cabin shot into the cabin and killed Old Man Laws' relatives, Lee and Joe Laws, on June 24, 1882. This was the end of the feud, because the Laws family left Langell Valley and no further records on the Calavans were found. Their gravestone portrays the conflict and anger of the feud with the engraved text, "murdered by masked assassins."

Another conflict that occurred in the Klamath Basin was the feud between the Shooks and Goodlows, cattle ranchers of the Alkali Valley. The Goodlows were accused of changing brands on animals belonging to the Shooks and Colohans, and during the summer of 1890 an altercation between George Goodlow and David Shook in the town of Dairy led to a later confrontation at Shook Ranch. It was there that a relative of David Shook, John Shook, was sitting on his porch reading a newspaper when approached by George Goodlow. John Shook shot and killed George by firing off a pistol concealed behind the newspaper. David Shook, the relative initially involved in the feud at Dairy, was also an active part of the range wars as a part of his cattle business, and he vigorously resented the introduction of sheep in Klamath County and continually participated in the range wars. He is buried nearby John Shook. 29

The range wars continued into the 1900s. The next conflict represented in the cemetery involved two women, Mary Wilcox and Maggie Jones, who were killed on 1916 in Langell Valley by William Doyle. The three lived together on a nearby ranch, but their living situation led to conflict. It was initially claimed that the fight was between the two women, but it was known that there had been a history of disagreement among the three, as Doyle refused to sell his rights to a future crop and also refused to leave the ranch. When investigating officers discovered contradicting ballistic evidence at the crime scene, they realized it was more complex than initially claimed. This evidence was put together with a report that Doyle had recently refused to waive his rights to the future crop, forcing a sale to fall through with a potential buyer. This led to threats and forced attempts to make Doyle leave by Wilcox and Jones. During a heated argument, Doyle shot both Wilcox and Jones with a shotgun, and the officers soon discovered this and charged him with murder. This case illustrates the fighting that would even occur among owners of the same ranch, and the marker for Wilcox and Jones describes them as "Assassinated."

The last of the major markers that relate to the range wars is the Owen McKendree marker. McKendree had been involved in the Central Oregon Range War (1896-1906) when 63 of his sheep were shot near the Klamath-Lake County line in April, 1905.<sup>31</sup> This series of events continued with the burning of a sheep camp and stored hay, the latter causing the death of Archie White from asphyxia, who a sixteen-year-old boy trying to help control the fire. On April 20, 1918, McKendree was involved in another conflict over grazing territory, this time with William Holbrook, another sheep herder. McKendree rode into Holbrook's camp starting a quarrel over the range rights. After shots were fired by both sides, Owen McKendree was found dead, but the incident

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Devere Helfrich, "It Happened in Cloverleaf Country," *Klamath Echoes*, 10, ed. Klamath County Historical Society (Klamath Falls: Klamath County Historical Society, 1972), 86-87.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Carol Mattos, "The Amon Shook Family," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2013, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/shookfamily.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Mattos, "The Amon Shook Family."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Carol Mattos, "Mary Wilcox and Maggie Jones," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2013, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/wilcox-jones.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Carol Mattos and Elizabeth Budy, "Owen McKendree (1875-1918)," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2013, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/owenmckendree.pdf.

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was declared self-defense. Owen's wife, Hypatia Klum McKendree, took over the sheep business after the death of her husband, which she continued for 30 more years.<sup>32</sup>

#### **Balloon Bomb Victims**

World War II marked a period of time during the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery's history when several momentous events occurred. One of these events happened on May 5, 1945, in what is now the Mitchell Recreation Area, when an Imperial Japanese Army balloon bomb killed six civilians who were out on a picnic.<sup>33</sup> During the war, balloon bombs were sent across the ocean at an altitude of 30,000 feet via the jet stream with the intent of causing disruption of American life by starting forest fires. 34 They were a total of 70 feet tall with paper canopies of 33 feet that were connected to the main incendiary devices by shroud lines. The balloons were rigged to explode on impact.<sup>35</sup> While they proved to be generally ineffectual in their purpose, the May 5 bombing became the only case of war-related fatalities in the mainland United States.<sup>3</sup>

On that day, pastor Archie Mitchell, his wife Elsye, and five children who attended his Sunday school, were out on a picnic while on their way to a fishing trip near Gearheart Mountain.<sup>37</sup> While Archie was unloading lunch from the automobile everyone else, who at that point were a distance away, discovered a balloon. Archie heard their voices calling out that they found a balloon. He tried to warn them of the danger by calling back to them, having known about the balloon bombs, but he heard an explosion before he could get there. Elsye and the five children, Joan Patzke, Dick Patzke, Edward Engen, Jay Gifford, and Sherman Shoemaker, were found dead at the scene.<sup>38</sup> Three of the victims, Joan, Dick, and Edward, were buried at Linkville Pioneer Cemetery; this site comprises of the largest burial group of the victims.<sup>39</sup>

#### The Tule Lake Segregation Center and Discrimination Against Japanese Americans

Another momentous event occurred when neighboring Siskiyou County, California, Klamath Falls, and Linkville Pioneer Cemetery became linked during and after World War II with the largest of the Japanese-American incarceration sites, originally called the Tule Lake War Relocation Center, then converted to the Tule Lake Segregation Center in 1943. Tule Lake was one of ten permanent detention centers in the United States and the closest camp to Oregon. Japanese-American discrimination was an issue prior to World War II, but once Imperial Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, there was an immediate backlash against citizens of Japanese ethnicity. The false rumor that spies were relaying information back to Japan in order to help in the war effort against the United States caused a panic. Two months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt issued his Executive Order 9066, which authorized the forced removal of Americans of Japanese descent and Japanese resident aliens to these incarceration sites. 40

The Tule Lake Segregation Center was constructed to detain people of Japanese descent from Western Washington, Oregon, and Northern California. This site was the largest of the War Relocation Authority camps, with a peak population of 18,700. It was also the only camp that was turned into a high-security segregation center and ruled under martial law through occupation by the United States Army. 41 An initial group of 477

<sup>32</sup> Mattos and Budy, "Owen McKendree (1875-1918)."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Bridget Burns and Elizabeth Budy, "Balloon Bomb Victims," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2013, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/balloonbomb.pdf.

Burns and Budy, "Balloon Bomb Victims."
 Johanna Rizzo, "Japan's Secret WWII Weapon: Balloon Bombs," National Geographic, last modified May 27, 2013, http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/05/130527-map-video-balloon-bomb-wwii-japanese-air-current-jet-stream/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Mary Ellen Rodgers, "Mitchell Recreation Area National Register of Historic Places Registration Form," (Salem, OR: State Historic Preservation Office, 2002), Section 8, Page 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Burns and Budy, "Balloon Bomb Victims." Burns and Budy, "Balloon Bomb Victims."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Due to the inclusion of the Mitchell Recreation Area on the National Register, the site where the bombing occurred, this burial grouping is does not rise to the level of significance to be individually eligible for listing in the National Register. This, however, is still an important contributing feature of the cemetery.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Franklin D. Roosevelt, "Executive Order No. 9066," *History Matters*, http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Barbara Takei and Judy Tachibana, "History," Tule Lake Committee, last modified 2012, http://www.tulelake.org/.

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the internees were forced to leave.

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internees arrived at the camp on May 26, 1942, to begin preparing it. 42 It was designed so that the internees could farm the lands, but had no right to ownership because the United States owned it. Once the site closed,

Conditions in the camp were poor and mishandled by the War Relocation Authority, causing internal tensions between groups, food shortages, segregation based on "loyalty," and riots, among other issues. On March 28, 1946, following the end of World War II, the camp was closed. It was the last incarceration site to close. 43 Afterward the few grave markers at the camp were moved to Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, along with the

#### **Burials of Tule Lake Segregation Center**

The burials at Linkville Pioneer Cemetery included ten babies and one elderly man who died while incarcerated. There is also a grave marker for one additional elderly man that is unconfirmed. The deceased were part of a group, most of which were too small to be cremated. 44 The known deceased listed are Yamamoto (baby), Okada (baby), Seki (baby), Tetsuo Kiyono (baby), Mitsuzo Asao (adult), Yamamuro (baby), Matsubara (baby), George Uyeda (baby), Loni Miyoko Toriumi (baby), Kazuo Harry Nishizaki and Hirao Dick Nishizaki (twin babies). 45 The first markers placed were two markers from the internees, displaying a mixture of Japanese and American culture in the use of language and design. One has prominent English text for "Our Baby J. Matsubara," that is hand-carved, most likely due to either limited funds or limited resources. The text shows that they are adapting the English language and not completely refraining from cultural assimilation. The other is for an elderly man that displays Japanese writing on a grave marker with more traditional Japanese styling for "The Grave of Kouzo Hamao," indicating, however, that there is still Japanese culture influencing internees.46

While little is known about most of the deceased, Mitsuzo Asao, due to his age, has a clearer trail of records. He was born in Japan, Southern Division, on July 15, 1874, and died on June 5, 1943, while incarcerated. 47 During World War I, he submitted a draft registration card which listed him as a barber and a non-declarant alien. living in Los Angeles. 48 His nearest relative was his daughter in Hiroshima City, Japan. At the time of his relocation, he was a widowed man listed as a kitchen worker and a farm hand for fruits. 49 This information is evidence of Asao's long stay in the United States and emphasizes the disheartening nature of his imprisonment at Tule Lake Segregation Center, where he would die, adding to the cultural significance of the grave.

The site of these graves has become significant as a location of remembrance, and has attracted former internees and their families to honor the deceased. For example, the 18th Tule Lake pilgrimage was held Klamath Falls in 2010.<sup>50</sup> On September 10, 1989, the Japanese American Citizens League added a bronze memorial honoring the 11 burials at the site.<sup>51</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Stanton B. Turner, "Japanese-American Internment at Tule Lake, 1942 to 1946," *The Journal of the Shaw Historical Library* Volume 2 Number 1 (Fall 1987), 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Turner, "Japanese-American Internment at Tule Lake, 1942 to 1946," 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Lee Juillerat, "Japanese-American Internees Remembered," *Herald and News*, July 04, 2010, accessed July 11, 2013, http://www.heraldandnews.com/news/article\_fa126248-873a-11df-b9c1-001cc4c03286.html?mode=jqm.

They are located at block 32 lot 5, plots 21 and 28 of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, as seen on the cemetery's block maps.

Hamao's name is not listed on the cemetery ledgers nor found in searching the records of the Tule Lake camp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Barbara Takei and Elizabeth Budy, "Burials from the Tule Lake WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY Prison Camp, 1942-1946," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2012, accessed July 11, 2013.

Mitsuzo Asao, Draft Registration Card 1917-18, accessed August 21, 2013, www.ancestry.com.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Japanese Americans Relocated During World War II," *Ancestry.com* [on-line database]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup>Juillerat, "Japanese-American Internees Remembered."

<sup>51</sup> Barbara Takei and Elizabeth Budy, "Burials from the Tule lake WRA Prison Camp, 1942-1946," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2012, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/relocation.pdf.

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#### A Brief History of Jim Crow Laws in Oregon

Discrimination during and after World War II was not limited to the Japanese. It also occurred with respect to African-Americans, even those who served during the war. Oregon had a history of discrimination against African Americans, beginning as early as the 1840s when territorial laws decreed the expulsion of African Americans from Oregon and the state constitution prohibited African Americans from residing in the state.<sup>52</sup> Although these laws were not necessarily enforced and were repealed in 1926 and 1927, they show the degree of discrimination that was present in the state early on. These laws included a ban on interracial marriage in 1867 and laws passed during the 1920s that made it more difficult for immigrants and African Americans to vote. 53 The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed in 1909 to combat discrimination and the first Oregon chapter was formed in Portland, Oregon in 1914 with Dr. J.N. Merriman as its first president.<sup>54</sup> When Pete Williams' place of burial became an issue in 1949, this organization fought for equal burial rights in Klamath Falls and against the related discriminatory laws.

#### **Pete Williams Burial Controversy**

Pete Williams was an African-American veteran of the Army from McCaskill, Arkansas. He was born on September 7, 1921, and was raised in a rural farm setting. He served in the army from March 5, 1941, until the time he was discharged on October 1, 1943, after which he found work with the Southern Pacific Railroad in Klamath County, Oregon. He died on June 20, 1949, when he was 27 years old; the cause of death is unknown. At the time of his death, it was planned that Williams would be buried at Klamath Memorial Park in a section that was established for indigent veterans. However, the cemetery ordinance had a stipulation that stated, "said land shall be used for underground burial of human dead of the white race as defined by decisions of the United States Supreme Court and none other."55 This led to the burial of Williams at Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, which did not have a similar stipulation.

On July 16, 1949, citizens of all races, who were protesting the ruling that Williams could not be buried at Klamath Memorial Park, confronted the Klamath Memorial Park Cemetery Committee. An article in the Herald and News entitled "Jim Crow Ruling Prevents Negro Burial at Cemetery" had recently enraged the citizens, including NAACP president Mrs. Ben Peters. 56 The committee was unable to resolve the issue, so it was forwarded to the City Council. It was there that the city attorney decided that the stipulation was unconstitutional and that a separate plot for non-Caucasians would be set forth in Klamath Memorial Park Cemetery. However, the NAACP, along with other supporters, opposed this because it still represented segregation. Despite opposition, the plan continued, but further controversy would eventually lead to the removal of all racial policies regarding discriminatory practices at Klamath Memorial Park Cemetery. The burial of Williams was the impetus for this significant event in racial equality for the region and relates to the struggles of African-Americans during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century in Oregon.

#### Conclusion

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery's significance in Community Planning and Development and Social History makes it an integral part of Klamath Falls and Klamath County heritage. Its landscaping and grave markers illustrate a story of its past, reflecting its rich local history from 1885 to 1949. From its portrayal of the range wars of Klamath Basin, the development of Klamath Falls in the early 20th century, and the social injustices caused by discrimination, Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is a high-integrity historic district. The historic fabric of the cemetery,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> "African American History in Oregon," *The Oregon Historical Society*, accessed August 21, 2013, http://ohs.org/education/focus/african-american-history.cfm.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Joan Gross and Janet Nishihara, "A History of Difference, Power, and Discrimination at Oregon State University," last modified June 28, 2012, http://oregonstate.edu/dept/dpd/history-difference-power-and-discrimination-oregon-state-university. <sup>54</sup> "African American History in Oregon."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Dave Mattos and Carol Mattos, "American Legion Plot," Klamath County Museums, last modified 2013, http://www.co.klamath.or.us/museum/linkvillecemetery/americanlegion.pdf.

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which reflects a cohesive and clear image of the time, contributes to this high degree of integrity and creates an unique experience that can only be linked to Linkville Pioneer Cemetery.

#### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Expires 5/31/2012)

# Linkville Pioneer Cemetery Name of Property Previous documentation on file (NPS): \_\_\_preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested) \_\_\_\_\_Note that the county, Oregon County and State Primary location of additional data: \_\_\_\_\_\_X\_State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency

previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
precorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Tecorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

#### 10. Geographical Data

#### Acreage of Property 18.22

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

(Provide a digital location map on a continuation sheet in the appendices) (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

#### Datum if other than WGS84:

1. Latitude: 42.2354339 Longitude: -121.7840628

2. Latitude: 42.2354741 Longitude: -121.7819048

3. Latitude: 42.2320235 Longitude: -121.7811789

4. Latitude: 42.2320507 Longitude: -121.7840335

#### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.) NAD83

1	10 T Zone	600424 m E Easting	4676444 m N Northing	3	10 T Zone	600241 m E Easting	4676410 m N Northing
2	10 T Zone	600333 m E Easting	4676427 m N Northing	4	10 T Zone	600150 m E Easting	4676393 m N Northing

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated area is the boundary of the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery property, which follows the rectangular fence line around the property.

#### **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary was selected because it is the extent of the cemetery and includes all related resources.

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery  Name of Property	Klamath County, Oregon  County and State
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title David Casteel	
organization Oregon State Historic Preservation Office	date <u>8/1/2013</u>
street & number 1840 Mill Street Apartment E	telephone <u>571-251-6149</u>
city or town Eugene	state OR zip code 97401
e-mail CasteeD@PRD.STATE.OR.US	
Additional Decomposition	

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• 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. Key all photographs to this map.

- Continuation Sheets
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery Name of Property

Klamath County, Oregon

(Expires 5/31/2012)

County and State

#### Photographs:

Photo 12 of 14

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Linkville Pioneer Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Klamath Falls

County: Klamath State: Oregon

Photographer: Diana Painter

Date Photographed: July 1-2, 2013		
Description of Phot	ograph(s) and number:	
Photo 1 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0001.tif) Elm Drive portal, facing northwest	
Photo 2 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0002.tif) View of cemetery near intersection of Willow Drive and Elm Drive, facing northwest	
Photo 3 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0003.tif) View of Birch Drive from Division Drive, facing south	
Photo 4 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0004.tif) View of I.O.O.F. section from intersection of Division Drive and Elm Drive, facing northeast	
Photo 5 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0005.tif) View of Main Street portal, facing north	
Photo 6 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0006.tif) Example of plot fencing within cemetery, facing southwest	
Photo 7 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0007.tif) View of western slope, facing southeast	
Photo 8 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0008.tif) View of Birch Drive gate, facing north	
Photo 9 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0009.tif) Shook grave marker, facing west	
Photo 10 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0010.tif) Pete Williams grave marker, facing west	
Photo 11 of 14	(OR_KlamathCounty_LinkvillePioneerCemetery_0011.tif) Tule Lake burials section, facing northwest	

(OR\_KlamathCounty\_LinkvillePioneerCemetery\_0012.tif) Balloon bomb victims grave marker, facing southwest

(Expires 5/31/2012)

Linkvi	lle l	Pioneer	Cemetery
	-	-	•

Name of Property

Klamath County, Oregon
County and State

Photo 13 of 14 (OR\_KlamathCounty\_LinkvillePioneerCemetery\_0013.tif)

Close-up detail of Main Street portal, facing north

Photo 14 of 14 (OR\_KlamathCounty\_LinkvillePioneerCemetery\_0014.tif)

Close-up of 1931 redesign fence, around Elm Drive entrance

Property Owner: (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)				
name City of Klamath Falls Parks and Recreation Department				
street & number 226 South 5 <sup>th</sup> Street	telephone 541-883-5316			
city or town Klamath Falls	state OR zip code 97601			

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

OMB No. 1024-0018

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery
Name of Property
Klamath County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

ion number <u>Additional Documentation</u> Page <u>25</u>	(:)	ocumentation Page	Additional Documentation	Section number
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Figures	
Figure 1:	General location map
Figure 2:	United States Geological Survey 7.5 minute map
Figure 3:	Detailed cemetery map displaying significant features
Figure 4:	1930 Linkville Pioneer Cemetery plat map
Figure 5:	Historic photos of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery prior to 1931 redesign
Figure 6:	Additional historic photos from a collection from the 1970s and 1980s

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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Figure 1 – General location map highlighting Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, image courtesy of Google Maps (2013)

A. Latitude: 42.235433 Longitude: -121.784062
B. Latitude: 42.235474 Longitude: -121.781904
C. Latitude: 42.232023 Longitude: -121.781178
D. Latitude: 42.232050 Longitude: -121.784033

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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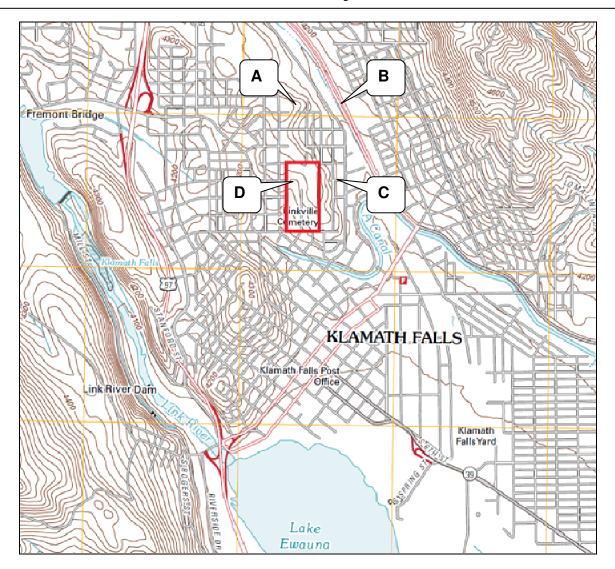


Figure 2 – United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Map, Linkville Pioneer Cemetery is highlighted

A. Latitude: 42.235433 Longitude: -121.784062
B. Latitude: 42.235474 Longitude: -121.781904
C. Latitude: 42.232023 Longitude: -121.781178
D. Latitude: 42.232050 Longitude: -121.784033

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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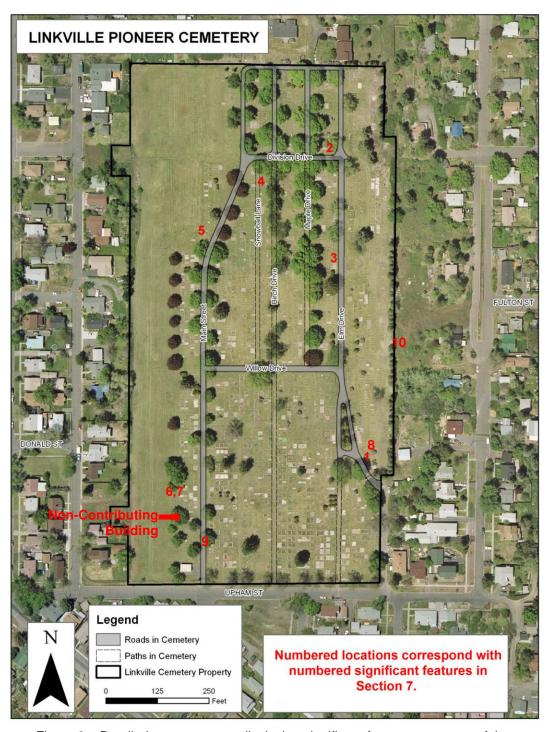


Figure 3 – Detailed cemetery map displaying significant features, courtesy of the City of Klamath Falls Parks Division

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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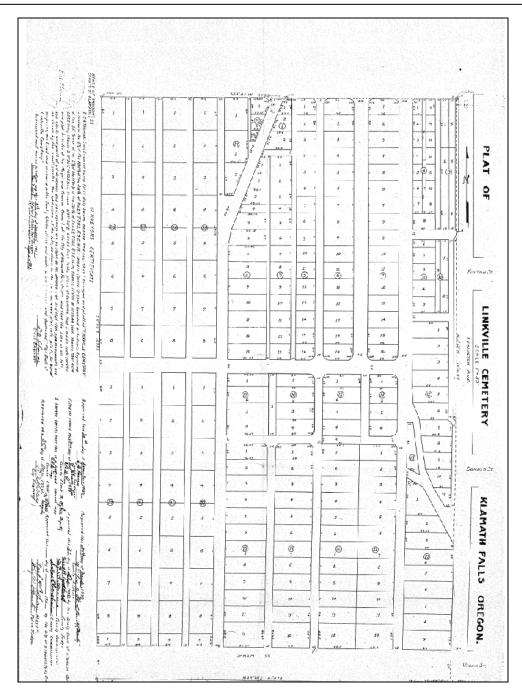


Figure 4 – 1930 plat map of Linkville Pioneer Cemetery, courtesy of the City of Klamath Falls Parks Division

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Linkville Pioneer Cemetery

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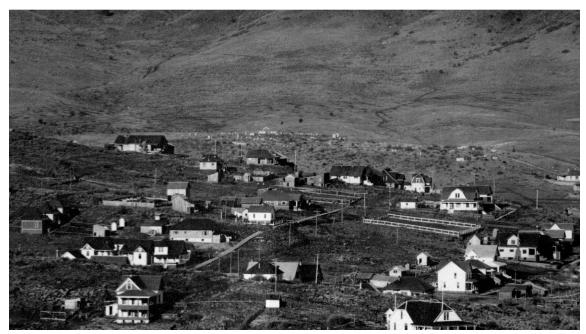




Figure 5 – Historic photos of the cemetery prior to the 1931 redesign. The above picture is from 1910 with the cemetery in the background, and the lower picture is from the 1915 Decoration Day in the cemetery. Courtesy of the City of Klamath Falls Parks Division.

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

### **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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Figure 6 – Additional historic photos from a collection from the 1970s and 1980s, documenting conditions before removals were conducted. The top photo is an example of arbor vitae that was removed, and the lower picture is an example of walls that were removed. Courtesy of the City of Klamath Falls Parks Division.



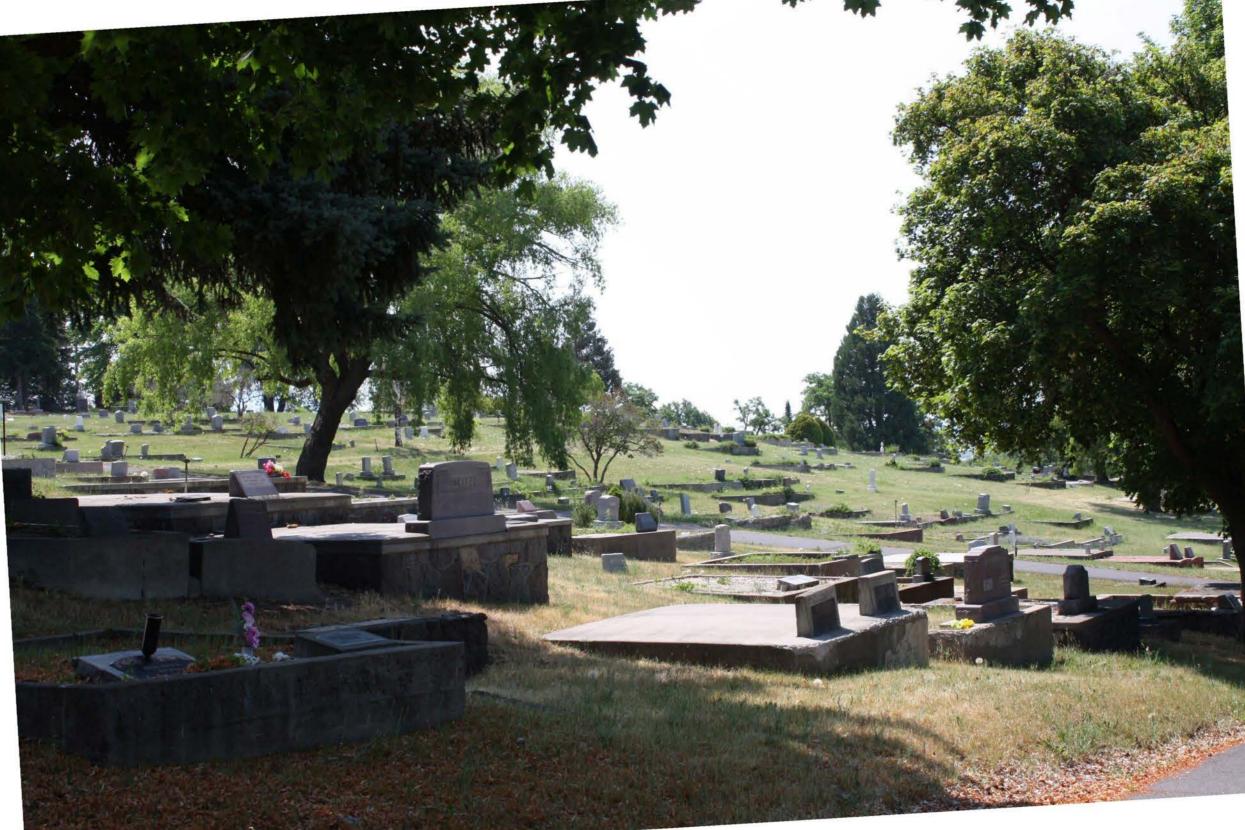




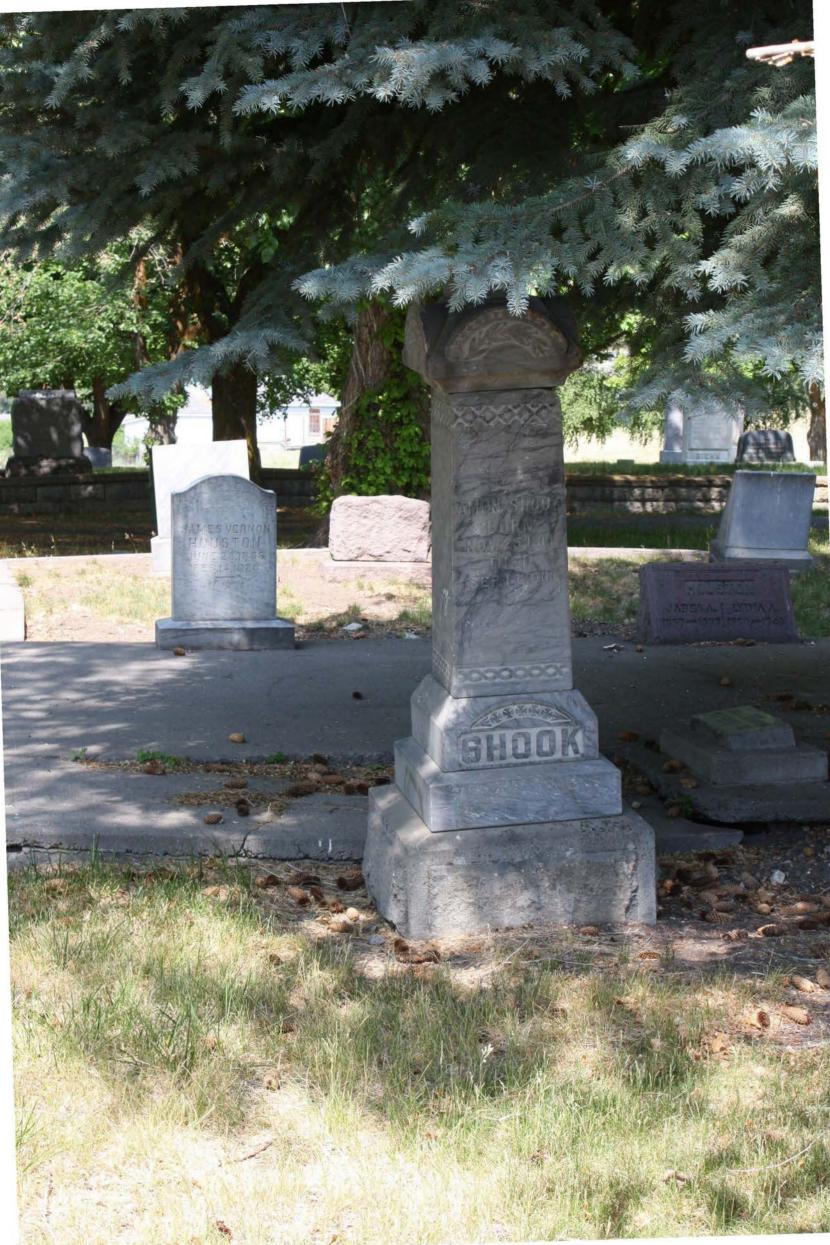






















### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION			
PROPERTY Linkville Pioneer Cemetery NAME:			
MULTIPLE NAME:			
STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Klamath			
	OF PENDING LIST: 6/20/14 OF 45TH DAY: 7/14/14		
REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000400			
REASONS FOR REVIEW:			
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT:	N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N		
COMMENT WAIVER: N	. 1. 1.1		
	1.11.19 DATE		
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:  Entered in  The National Register  of  Historic Places			
RECOM./CRITERIA			
REVIEWER DISCIPI	LINE		
TELEPHONEDATE			
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N			
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.			



Parks and Recreation Department

State Historic Preservation Office 725 Summer St NE, Ste C

Salem, OR 97301-1266 (503) 986-0690 Fax (503) 986-0793

MAY 28 20 www.oregonheritage.org

M. PREGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



May 23, 2014

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources
1201 "Eye" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Shull:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

#### LINKVILLE PIONEER CEMETERY

UPHAM & EAST STS KLAMATH FALLS, KLAMATH COUNTY

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Linkville Pioneer Cemetery to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Diana Painter, Architectural Historian, at (503) 986-0668.

Sincerely,

Roger Roper

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.