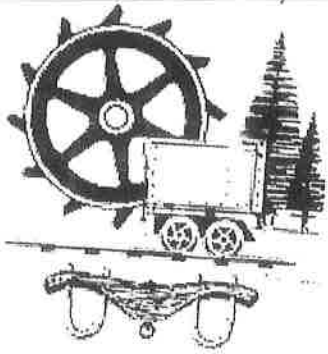


RECEIVED

APR 23 2019

NEVADA COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
950 Maidu Avenue  
Nevada City, CA 95959

April 19, 2019

Re: Request for approval of the Rough and Ready Cemetery (Site 19-1). Located at 14472 Stagecoach Way, Rough and Ready, CA 95975. Parcel number 53-270-03

Honorable Chairman and Board Members,

At the April 19th, 2019 meeting of the Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission, a motion was passed to approve the application for registration of the Rough and Ready cemetery, in Rough and Ready, a Nevada County Historical Landmark.

This cemetery was established in 1850 to serve a town that, in the same year, seceded from the Union, only to rejoin shortly thereafter. The cemetery has been maintained and is still in use since that time. Many of its early citizens are buried there, including the founder Captain A.A. Townsend, who named the Town in honor of General Zachary Taylor, nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready". Because of its many historical monuments and easy access, visitors would find it most interesting to see.

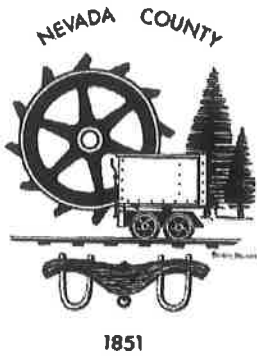
The cemetery site will be added to our operating interactive map online. The map locates each historical site and provided photos and information.

Attached are the required historic and legal documents necessary for historical marking. We request, as part of the approval process, the Board of Supervisors forward it to the Assessor's office for recording.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 530-273-0502. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Elinor Barnes, Commissioner  
Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission



County of Nevada  
State of California

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission  
Application for Registration of Historical Landmark

Name of proposed landmark Rough + Ready Cemetery

Location 14472 Stagecoach Way  
Rough + Ready CA

Name of applicant Nevada Cemetery District

Address Po Box 2400 Nevada City CA 95959

Home or work phone 268-3461 cell phone 401-6474

Name and address of landowner upon whose property proposed landmark  
is located, if owner is not applicant \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the placing of a plaque or marker on site.

Matt Infelberg  
Landowner' signature

12-15-18  
Date



1851

**Brief history and description of proposed landmark**  
(attach additional sheets as necessary) *attached*

**Unique aspects or properties of proposed landmark**  
*attached*

**How will the landmark be protected and maintained?**

*The cemetery is fenced. A drive thru gate is open when we are doing a service or maintenance. A walk in gate is always open for access*

**Bibliography. Cite or attach available books, records, articles or other materials pertaining to the proposed landmark.**

**Books and articles:**

*Attached*



Historical or civil records: (e.g., ownership, assessments etc.)

*Attached*

Other: (e.g. photographs, prints or drawings. Please list and attach separately)

*Attached*

*Matt Muly*  
Applicant's signature

12-15-18  
Date

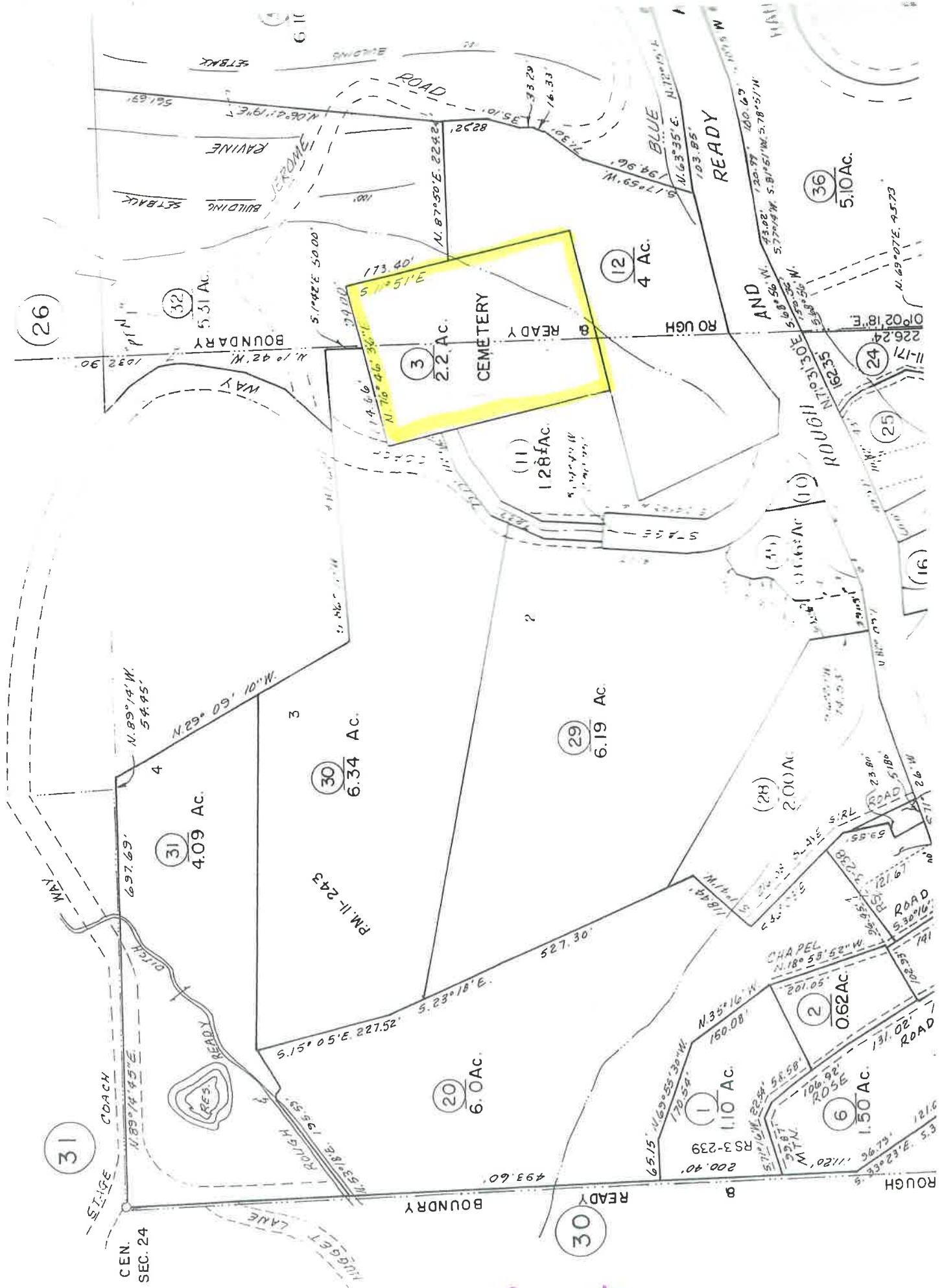
=====  
This completed form and all related documents shall be sent to the:

Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission  
Attention: Chairman  
P. O. Box 1014, Nevada City, Cal. 95959

An application must be considered solely on its historic or architectural merits and not for commercial gain, political benefits, or other non-historical reasons.

An individual Commissioner can advise and counsel an applicant, but all applications must be considered by the full Commission, meeting in regular session.

PTN. S.E.1/4, SEC. 24, T.16 N., R. 7 E., M.D.B. & M.



*Rough and Ready Cemetery*

## Rough and Ready Historic Cemetery

**History-** The cemetery was established in 1850. It has been in continuous use since that time and has more than 400 burials. The town's unusual name always attracts interest, being named after General Zachary Taylor, nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready", and the twelfth President of the United States. It contains an unusual amount of well-preserved grave monuments and cast iron fencing. Its easy access for visitors and well cared for.

**Unique Features-** Several old grave markers in unusually good condition for their age that are made of Scotch Marble with the maker's hallmark. Many graves are fenced in with cast iron, made by foundries back east that had to be transported here before the transcontinental railroad had been built. Visitors interested in horticulture will find many heirloom flowers growing at the site such as, roses, Iris, Lilly and rosemary. The town's founder is buried here as well, Captain A.A. Townsend.

### **Bibliography-**

Ward, Christopher "Cemeteries of the Western Sierra"

Nevada Cemetery District Historical Cemetery Guide

Wikipedia "Rough and Ready California"

"Cemetery Records of California" Volume 1 Salt lake City Utah

The Union "Area Cemeteries" Monday July 12, 1993

Cemetery Records of Nevada County, Volume 1,2, and 3



[\(http://www.nevadacemeterydistrict.com/\)](http://www.nevadacemeterydistrict.com/)

## Rough and Ready Cemetery



[\(http://www.nevadacemeterydistrict.com/locations/rough-and-ready-area/rough-and-ready-cemetery/\)](http://www.nevadacemeterydistrict.com/locations/rough-and-ready-area/rough-and-ready-cemetery/)

**Est. 1850. Currently open to burials.**

Sitting on a hill overlooking a town that briefly seceded from the Union in 1850 in order to not pay taxes only to rejoin a short time later, The Rough and Ready Cemetery is one of the oldest and largest of the 27 district cemeteries. Many of the first settlers of the town are buried there, along with family members and descendents.

The Rough and Ready Cemetery is located at 14472 Stagecoach Way in Rough and Ready, just off of the Rough and Ready Highway. It was established in 1850 and is an open and <sup>MENU</sup> active cemetery. To reach the cemetery, take West Main Street from Grass Valley which becomes the Rough and Ready Highway. When first entering the town of Rough and Ready, turn right on Stagecoach Way and proceed to the cemetery about a quarter of a mile up the hill.

*GPS Coordinates N 39,13.900 W 121,08.166*

### **Nevada Cemetery District**

### **Nevada Cemetery District**

10523 Willow Valley Road  
Nevada City, CA 95959

### **Mailing Address:**

PO Box 2400  
Nevada City, CA 95959

**530-265-3461**

Hours: 7am - 3:30pm

Monday – Friday



# Cemeteries

NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARY  
HISTORY BRANCH

=p. 4 of 5

The Union Mon. July 12, 1993



The Union/John Hart

Rough and Ready Cemetery has a 19th-century atmosphere, one cultivated by the Nevada Cemetery District.



BALMISTIE S.

Daughter of

A. G. S. S. S.

B. B. M. M.

DIED

April 27, 1863,

Age 24 Years

8 Months 16 Days

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

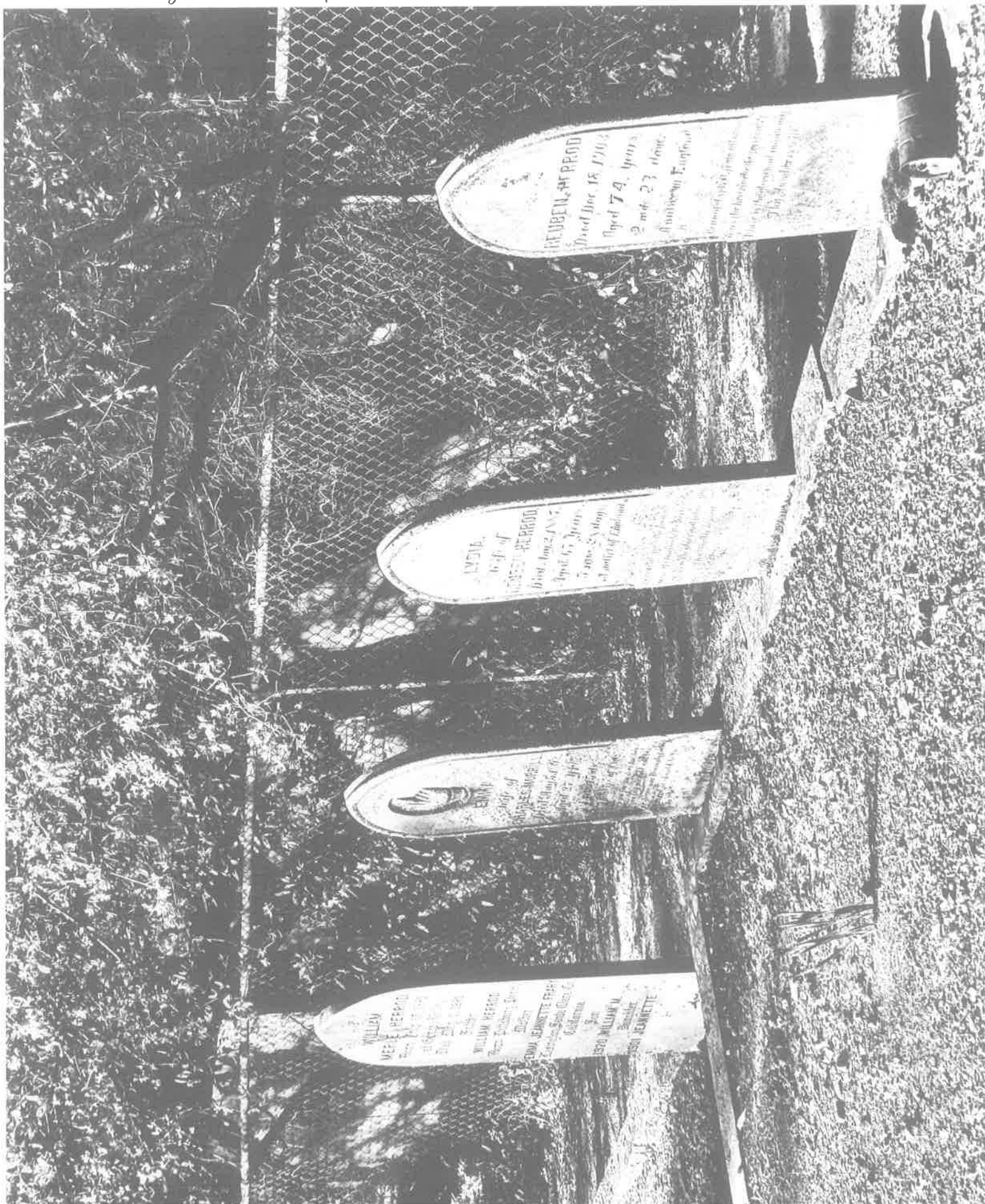
W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

Herrod & Merrill  
 Rough & Ready Cemetery



RUBEN HERROD  
 Died Dec. 18, 1902  
 Aged 74 years  
 2 mo. 27 days  
 Buried in England  
 To those who read of his death  
 from the above date for 20 years  
 that he has been in the cemetery  
 for 74 years and 27 days

LINDA  
 WIFE OF  
 RUBEN HERROD  
 Died Aug 2, 1887  
 Aged 67 years  
 7 mos. 24 days  
 at death of Ruben  
 Buried in England

EMMA  
 WIFE OF  
 RUBEN HERROD  
 Died Aug 2, 1887  
 Aged 67 years  
 7 mos. 24 days  
 at death of Ruben  
 Buried in England

WILLIAM  
 VERE HERROD  
 Died Dec 18, 1902  
 Aged 74 years  
 2 mo. 27 days  
 Buried in England  
 RUBEN HERROD  
 Died Dec 18, 1902  
 Aged 74 years  
 2 mo. 27 days  
 Buried in England  
 EMMA JENNETTE HERROD  
 Died Dec 18, 1902  
 Aged 74 years  
 2 mo. 27 days  
 Buried in England  
 LEO WILLIAM M.  
 BORN JENNETTE

John Balch  
Rough & Ready Cemetery

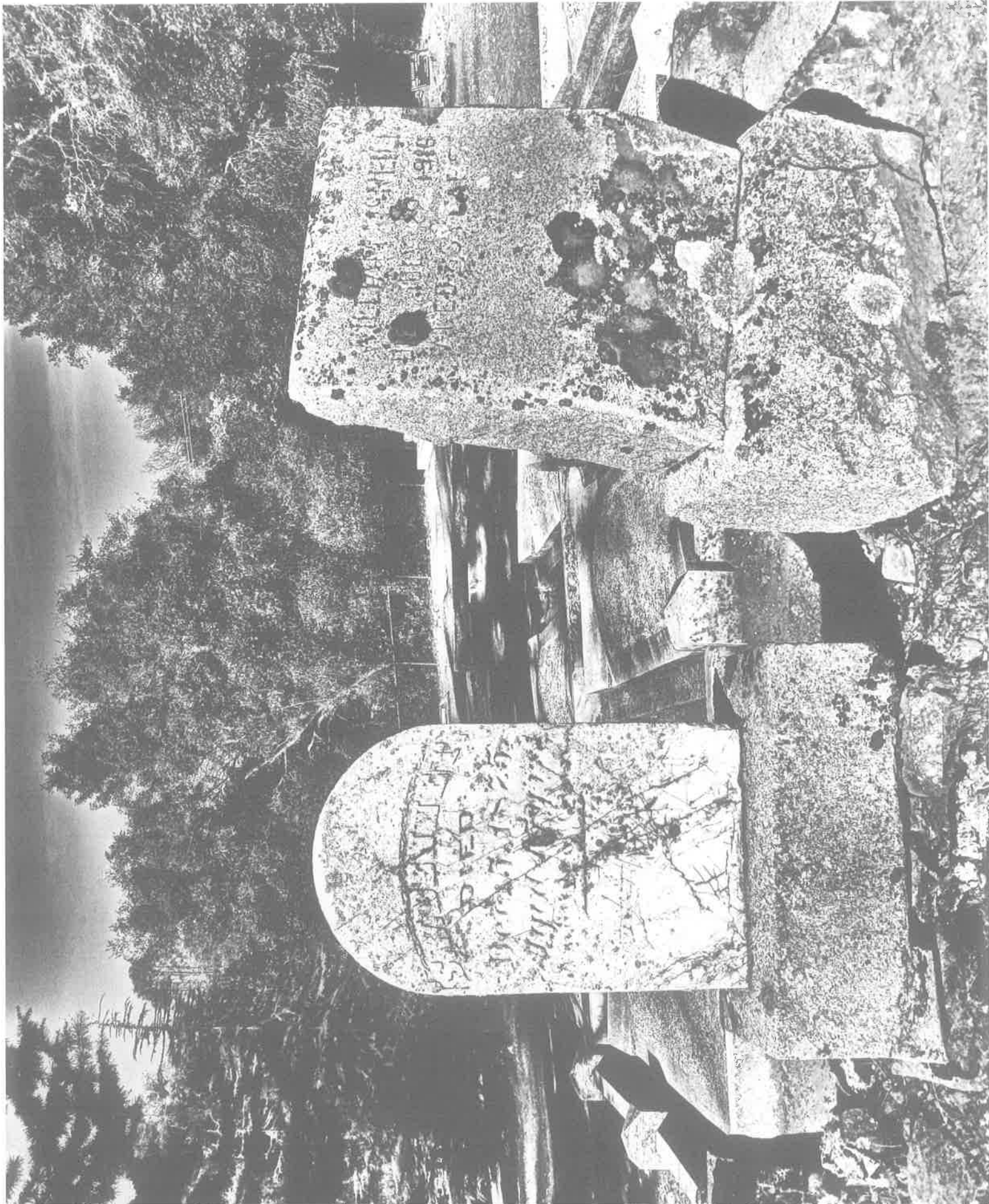
JOHN G. BALCH  
BORN  
MAY 5 1860  
DIED  
Oct. 23 1880  
AGED 11 Yrs 7 Mo 18 DYS

is not  
filled  
filled

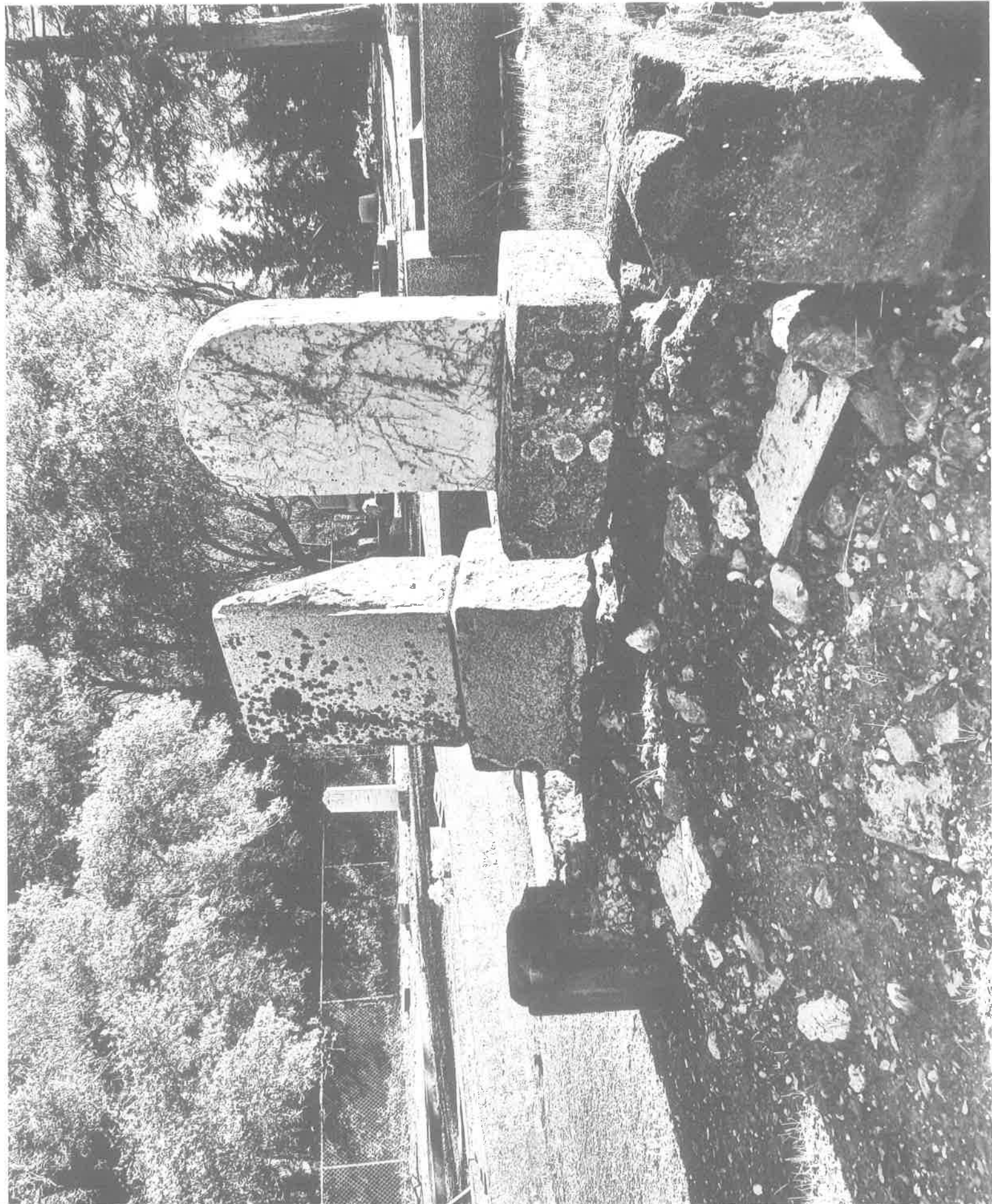
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Sennet and McNeil  
Rough + Ready Cemetery



Rough + Ready Cemetery



# Rough and Ready, California

**Rough and Ready** is a census-designated place in Nevada County, California, United States.<sup>[2]</sup> It is located west of Grass Valley, California, approximately 62 miles (100 km) from Sacramento. The population was 963 at the 2010 census. It has frequently been noted on lists of unusual place names.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Contents

**History**

**Present day**

**Popular culture**

**Geography**

**Demographics**

**Politics**

**See also**

**References**

**External links**

## History

The first established settlement in Rough and Ready was made in the fall of 1849 by a mining company from Wisconsin, known as the Rough and Ready Company, during the California Gold Rush.<sup>[4]</sup> Their leader, Captain A. A. Townsend, named the company after General Zachary Taylor (nicknamed "Old Rough and Ready") who had recently been elected the 12th President of the United States. Captain Townsend had served under Taylor when he commanded the American Forces during the Blackhawk War. California had three towns so named of which this one survives.<sup>[5]</sup>

The town declared its secession from the Union as "the Great Republic of Rough and Ready" on 7 April 1850, largely to avoid mining taxes, but voted to rejoin the Union less than three months later on 4 July.<sup>[6]</sup> The old republic is celebrated annually as a way to attract tourism.

### Rough and Ready census-designated place



A scene in Rough and Ready near the Historic Toll House



Location within the state of California  
Coordinates: 39°13′49″N 121°8′6″W﻿ / ﻿39.23028°N 121.135°W﻿ / 39.23028; -121.135

<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>State</b>	California
<b>County</b>	Nevada
<b>Area</b> <sup>[1]</sup>	
• <b>Total</b>	3.170 sq mi (8.210 km <sup>2</sup> )
• <b>Land</b>	

The post office at Rough and Ready was established by February 1851; the first postmaster was Marcus Nutting.<sup>[7]</sup> The ZIP Code is 95975. The community is inside area code 530.

The post office was closed for a time in 1855, again for a time in 1913, and again from 1942 to 1948.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Present day

What little is left of the town is located on the Rough and Ready Highway. It was bypassed by State Route 20 in the mid-1980s. Among the oldest buildings are the blacksmith shop (1850s), the Odd Fellows Hall (1854), and the Old Toll House.

The town of Rough and Ready is honored as a California Historical Landmark (#294).<sup>[9]</sup>

## Popular culture

The New York City-based music duo The Great Republic of Rough and Ready takes its name from the town.<sup>[10]</sup>

The band Hella used "Republic of Rough & Ready" as a title to a track on their 2002 album, Hold Your Horse Is<sup>[11]</sup>

	3.170 sq mi (8.210 km <sup>2</sup> )
• <b>Water</b>	0 sq mi (0 km <sup>2</sup> ) 0%

### Population (2010)

• <b>Total</b>	963
• <b>Density</b>	300/sq mi (120/km <sup>2</sup> )

**Time zone** UTC-8 (Pacific (PST))

• **Summer (DST)** UTC-7 (PDT)

**ZIP codes** 95975

**Area code(s)** 530

**GNIS feature ID** 2628785

U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Rough and Ready, California ([https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3::NO::P3\\_FID:2628785](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3::NO::P3_FID:2628785))

### California Historical Landmark

**Official name** Little Town of Rough and Ready

**Reference no.** 294

## Great Republic of Rough and Ready

Rough and Ready Republic

1850–1850



Flag

**Status** Unrecognized state

**Capital** Rough and Ready

**Common languages** English

**Government** Republic

• 1850-1851 Captain A. A. Townsend



The syndicated western television series, *Death Valley Days*, told the story of Rough and Ready in two different episodes. In the 1957 episode "Rough and Ready," the town secedes from the Union solely to expel a miner the townsmen accuse of sharp dealing. Rough and Ready returns to the United States the following 4 July. In this version, A.A. Townsend is played by Fred Coby and E. F. Brundage is played by Harry Fler.<sup>[12]</sup> In the 1965 episode "Birthright," President Zachary Taylor levied a tax on California mines in California. Opponents declared "taxation without representation" and led by a prominent businessman named Brundage (R. G. Armstrong), decide to secede from the United States. Jason Evers was cast as Dan Hardy, who guides the community back into the federal Union.<sup>[13]</sup>

### History

- Secession April 7 1850
- Rejoined the Union July 4 1850

#### Preceded by



#### Succeeded by



## Geography

According to the United States Census Bureau, the CDP covers an area of 3.2 square miles (8.2 km<sup>2</sup>), all of it land.

## Demographics

The 2010 United States Census<sup>[14]</sup> reported that Rough and Ready had a population of 963. The population density was 303.8 people per square mile (117.3/km<sup>2</sup>). The racial makeup of Rough and Ready was 886 (92.0%) White, 3 (0.3%) African American, 6 (0.6%) Native American, 16 (1.7%) Asian, 6 (0.6%) Pacific Islander, 11 (1.1%) from other races, and 35 (3.6%) from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 56 persons (5.8%).

The Census reported that 963 people (100% of the population) lived in households, 0 (0%) lived in non-institutionalized group quarters, and 0 (0%) were institutionalized.

There were 428 households, out of which 95 (22.2%) had children under the age of 18 living in them, 203 (47.4%) were opposite-sex married couples living together, 31 (7.2%) had a female householder with no husband present, 28 (6.5%) had a male householder with no wife present. There were 33 (7.7%) unmarried opposite-sex partnerships, and 2 (0.5%) same-sex married couples or partnerships. 132 households (30.8%) were made up of individuals and 50 (11.7%) had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.25. There were 262 families (61.2% of all households); the average family size was 2.77.

There were 160 people (16.6%) under the age of 18, 60 people (6.2%) aged 18 to 24, 184 people (19.1%) aged 25 to 44, 385 people (40.0%) aged 45 to 64, and 174 people (18.1%) who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 49.5 years. For every 100 females, there were 108.0 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 104.8 males.

There were 477 housing units at an average density of 150.5 per square mile (58.1/km<sup>2</sup>), of which 332 (77.6%) were owner-occupied, and 96 (22.4%) were occupied by renters. The homeowner vacancy rate was 1.2%; the rental vacancy rate was 10.2%. 755 people (78.4% of the population) lived in owner-occupied housing units and 208 people (21.6%) lived in rental housing units.

## Politics

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In the state legislature, Rough and Ready is in the 1st Senate District, seat currently vacant,<sup>[15]</sup> and the 1st Assembly District, represented by Republican Brian Dahle.<sup>[16]</sup>

Federally, Rough and Ready is in California's 1st congressional district, represented by Republican Doug LaMalfa.<sup>[17]</sup>

## See also

---

- [History of California](#)
- [Republic of Indian Stream](#)

## References

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1. "U.S. Census" ([https://www.webcitation.org/64vfLAeJ2?url=http://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/files/Gaz\\_places\\_national.txt](https://www.webcitation.org/64vfLAeJ2?url=http://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/files/Gaz_places_national.txt)). *census.gov*. Archived from the original ([https://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/files/Gaz\\_places\\_national.txt](https://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/files/Gaz_places_national.txt)) on 24 January 2012. Retrieved 19 April 2018.
2. U.S. Geological Survey Geographic Names Information System: Rough and Ready, California ([https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3:::NO::P3\\_FID:2628785](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/f?p=gnispq:3:::NO::P3_FID:2628785))
3. "13 Town Names We Can't Stop Laughing Over" (<http://www.cosmopolitan.com/entertainment/celebs/news/g1894/funny-town-names/>). *Cosmopolitan*. Retrieved 13 July 2014.
4. Gallant, Frank K. (May 17, 2012). *A Place Called Peculiar: Stories About Unusual American Place-Names* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=yzk9g9TuMNYC&lpg=PA42&dq=fleatown%20ohio&pg=PA29#v=onepage&q=fleatown%20ohio&f=false>). Courier Dover Publications. p. 30. Retrieved 2013-04-19.
5. Gudde, Erwin G. (1998). *California place names : the origin and etymology of current geographical names* (4th ed., rev. and enl. ed.). Berkeley: University of California Press. p. 322. ISBN 0520213165.
6. "The Great Republic of Rough and Ready, by Arthur Winfield Knight [secession, California, CA]" (<http://theava.com/03/0910-roughready.html>). *theava.com*. Retrieved 19 April 2018.
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9. "Rough and Ready" (<http://ohp.parks.ca.gov/ListedResources/Detail/294>). Office of Historic Preservation, California State Parks. Retrieved 2012-10-10.

10. "The Great Republic of Rough and Ready performs tonight" (<http://www.theunion.com/article/20100401/BREAKINGNEWS/100409985/1055&parentprofile=1055>). *The Union*.
11. "Hold Your Horse Is" ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hold\\_Your\\_Horse\\_Is](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hold_Your_Horse_Is)). *Wikipedia*.
12. "Rough and Ready on *Death Valley Days*" ([https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0556717/?ref\\_=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0556717/?ref_=fn_al_tt_1)). *Internet Movie Data Base*. December 7, 1957. Retrieved June 12, 2017.
13. "Birthright on *Death Valley Days*" ([https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0556561/?ref\\_=tt\\_ep\\_nx](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0556561/?ref_=tt_ep_nx)). *Internet Movie Data Base*. May 6, 1965. Retrieved August 25, 2015.
14. "2010 Census Interactive Population Search: CA - Rough and Ready CDP" (<https://www.census.gov/2010census/popmap/ipmtext.php?fl=06:0663106>). U.S. Census Bureau. Retrieved July 12, 2014.
15. "Senators" (<http://senate.ca.gov/senators>). State of California. Retrieved March 10, 2013.
16. "Members Assembly" (<http://assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers>). State of California. Retrieved March 2, 2013.
17. "California's 1st Congressional District - Representatives & District Map" (<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/CA/1>). Civic Impulse, LLC. Retrieved March 2, 2013.

## External links

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- Ghosttowns.com: Rough and Ready (<http://www.ghosttowns.com/states/ca/roughandready.html>)
  - The California Gold Country, Highway 49 Revisited: Rough and Ready & the Malakoff Diggings (<http://www.malakoff.com/roughnr.htm>)
  - About Nevada County.com: Rough and Ready (<http://www.aboutnevadacounty.com/cities/Rough&Ready/>)
- 

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rough\\_and\\_Ready,\\_California&oldid=884867201](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Rough_and_Ready,_California&oldid=884867201)"

This page was last edited on 24 February 2019, at 15:01 (UTC).

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# Close-up

## Area cemeteries

By PAUL SHIGLEY  
*The Union*

Walking through the Rough and Ready Cemetery, a visitor almost expects to see a weary miner and his mule emerge from the brush.

The headstones mark the graves of miners, homesteaders, merchants and their families who emigrated from England, Prince Edward Island and the Eastern United States. The landscape is oak trees and red earth.

Although a cyclone fence surrounds the cemetery and modern headstones and plastic flowers dot the graveyard, the site has the feel of 19th-century Nevada County.

The historic atmosphere is not an accident. The Nevada Cemetery District maintains the Rough and Ready Cemetery and 22 others in unincorporated Nevada County, spread from Clear Creek to Meadow Lake. District Foreman Gary Plunkett is a cemetery fanatic who pushes the agency's motto, RPM — restore, preserve and maintain.

Voters in precincts from French Corral to Spaulding formed the Nevada Cemetery District in 1942, after the Rev. Fathers P.J. O'Reilly and John McGary appealed to the Board of Supervisors for an entity that would provide and maintain graveyards. Voters in other unincorporated areas in 1946 expanded the district to cover much of western Nevada County, according to records at the Searls Historical Library in Nevada City.

The cemetery district today is one of the more obscure, and certainly one of the smallest, governmental agencies in the county. The district has two full-time employees, a contract secretary, five governing trustees appointed by the Board of Supervisors and an annual budget of about \$150,000, which comes from a slice of property taxes. Yet, according to a county grand jury report released last month, the

When he is in the field, Plunkett will interview people visiting the cemetery in hopes of gathering information about people buried there. Family members can pass along a wealth of information the district can acquire from no other source, Plunkett said.

Both Plunkett and district Trustee Ed Tyson maintain historical records, and NCD cemeteries contain plenty of history. Settlers were buried in district cemeteries as early as 1850, but one graveyard in the district is far older — a Native American burial ground on Cement Hill Road.

The Nevada County Historical Society insists on protecting that site, said Tyson, a historical society leader.

"When they started developing up there, they were just going to build right over it," Tyson said.

The district fenced the site to keep out construction and to prevent scavengers from hunting for artifacts. District officials are now considering accepting a small Native American burial ground discovered at a new subdivision adjacent to Lake Wildwood, Plunkett said.

Plunkett estimates Nevada County has about 47 cemeteries, defined by the state as locations where at least five people are buried. The district cares for those west of the summit that are not in Nevada City or Grass Valley and those not

evoked earlier times

cont.  
rom p. 1

# Cemeteries

= p. 2 of 5

NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARY  
HISTORY BRANCH

However, interest has grown in recent years and the district has handled as many as 100 in one year. District cemeteries have room for about 2,000 additional full-body interments, many at the Penn Valley Cemetery, and 2,000 more cremation burials, notably at Rough and Ready and Indian Springs.

However, only the terminally ill may make reservations, Plunkett said.

District officials are looking for cooperative landowners so they may expand a cemetery, said David Ray, a member of the

district's board of trustees.

"We are, frankly, running out of space in our cemeteries," Ray said.

A few years ago, the district restored You Bet Cemetery, clearing mounds of manzanita bushes and erecting a fence. About a half-dozen people have been buried there since, Plunkett said.

**V**andalism is one of the biggest problems plaguing the Nevada Cemetery District and everyone else who maintains a graveyard. Many people who live near cemeteries are happy to keep an eye out for unusual activity, but a number of district cemeteries are remote, Plunkett said.

About the only people who see the Moores Flat Cemetery, northeast of Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park, are a few people with mining claims in the area and the occasional Forest Service employee. A miner spied vandals carting away headstones from the Moores Flat Cemetery a while back and ordered the people to return them, according to Plunkett.

"I don't know why anybody would want a headstone," Plunkett said. "I've heard some people use them for patio steps. That's kind of sick."

Vandals have hit North San Juan cemeteries, but the Yuba River Lions Club helped clean them.

In fact, said Plunkett, the district relies on volunteers, jail inmates and prisoners on work release to do a great deal of labor. "If we didn't have them, we couldn't get this

The Union Mon. July 12, 1993

Plunkett defends herbicide spraying as the only way to keep sites clear, especially since most cemeteries do not have water available for landscaping.

**T**he district last year built the first headquarters building of its own, a 3,000-square-foot, two-story facility behind the HEW Building in Nevada City. Plunkett said the building, which has some unfinished floors, ceilings and rooms, is intended to serve the district for at least 50 years. The district spent \$125,000 accumulated in savings over a number of years and received a small loan to fund construction, he said.

Ray, a trustee who took his seat last year, said the green barn at the corner of West Broad Street and Highway 49, where the cemetery district was based, was too small and run-down.

"We outgrew the little barn and we needed a place to call home. Now we're able to run the cemetery district in a professional manner," Ray said.

"We'll be there forever, and that's a nice feeling," Ray said of the new building.

Conveniently enough, the new headquarters is only a few yards from a cemetery used in the late 1800s. The neglected site is covered with trees and bushes, but Plunkett hopes to make it a showplace for the district.