

Gunnison County Register of Historic Landmarks

The members of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), along with the Gunnison County Commissioners, are very excited about the Register of Historic Landmarks. The Gunnison Country is rich in history and now with the register, we can recognize those important properties within our county.

The register serves as a means to educate the public about our interesting past and to preserve that history for future generations.

If you own an old house, ranch, or other historic property in The Gunnison Country, and are interested in discovering more about your local history, you may be interested in listing your property on the Gunnison County Register of Historic Landmarks.



Photo courtesy of the Pioneer Museum

Individuals may nominate a property to be listed on the Gunnison County Register of Historic Properties in one of the following two categories:

Landmark: A landmark is an individual structure, object, feature, site or area.

District: A district is a related group of historic structures, objects, features, sites or areas.

We are interested in hearing from you. As a Commission, we are able to provide assistance as necessary to help with research.

Benefits to being a local Historic Landmark

- Protecting a physical link with our past.
- Serving as a source of area pride and identity.
- Distinction signified by a bronze plaque at the property.
- Possible financial or technical assistance to property owners through state or federal agencies.
- Adaptive re-use of properties.



About the Gunnison County Historic Preservation Commission

In 1993 The Gunnison County Commissioners formed the Gunnison County Historic Preservation Commission. It consists of a five member volunteer board. The HPC is charged with the identification and nomination of historic landmarks to be placed on Gunnison County's Register of Historic Landmarks.

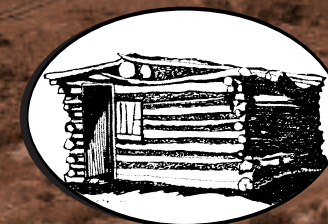
For more information on how to be a part of this exciting local program, please contact the Gunnison County Historic Preservation Commission. Phone: (970) 641-0495, e-mail: gchpc@co.gunnison.co.us, website at: www.ci.gunnison.co.us/hpc.htm, or 200 E. Virginia, Gunnison, CO 81230.



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Preserving our past...

...early graves of Gunnison County



Gunnison County Historic Preservation Commission

Photo courtesy of the Pioneer Museum



Mary Brambrough died of natural causes July 31, 1881 at the ghost town to-be of Irwin, which lay some seven miles west of the new Town of Crested Butte near the top of Kebler Pass. A romantic version of her demise said that she was shot in a barroom brawl, but alas, such was not the case.

According to mortician Charles Julian, who went from Crested Butte to Irwin to help bury Mary, the gravediggers struck a vein of silver while digging the grave, so they buried her in a different spot on top of Kebler Pass where the fenced enclosure protects her and her colorful epitaph. Mary was to have been married on the following Sunday, and her first grave opening, which contained silver, became part of the Forest Queen Silver Mine.



Ten year old Priscilla Gomez disappeared from her family's sheep camp near Highway 114 and the famous Flying M Ranch on August 17, 1930. Her pitiful remains were found in 1935 and buried on the spot. To see it, you can drive on Highway 114 thirteen miles from Highway 50 to mile marker thirteen. Drive another quarter of a mile to where a big bunch of willows grow on the right side of the road and where a highway sign denotes a section of curved road. Park and walk some 300 yards to the west, or to the right. The grave is barely out of sight behind some trees.



A cemetery comprised of three lonely unmarked graves from early years, apparently from Civil War gold rush times, lays on a rocky knob in Union Park. No pioneer person or pre-1800 resident was ever able to identify the graves' occupants.



*My good people, as you pass by
as you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, soon you must be
prepare yourselves, to follow me.*



Speculation has it that the photo above is possibly an unmarked Indian grave.



About nine miles east of Gunnison, the Sewell graves are located in Sewell Gulch. The Sewell family were Gunnison pioneers. This is one of eight historic sites listed on the Gunnison County Register of Historic Landmarks. The Gunnison County Register of Historic Landmarks offers an opportunity to identify significant contributing elements of our County's heritage and to protect these elements from exterior changes that would diminish their authentic or distinctive features.