

Gilpin County Colorado

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History Colorado

Attn: Patric Eidman - Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 1200 Broadway | Denver, CO 80203

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery
Nomination to the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

Re: Russell Gulch Cemetery 300 Block of Dakota Ridge Rd. Gilpin County Historic Landmark

Dear Mr. Eidman,

On May 9th, 2023, the Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted in the affirmative to designate the Russell Gulch Cemetery (Independent Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery) as a local historic landmark. Local designation signifies that the property is of historic significance to the origins of the County and worthy of protection. It is an honor to know that those associated with the Cemetery are taking the next steps in protecting the future of the Cemetery and having this property designated at the State level. Should the designation of the Cemetery be approved by the Review Board, this will be of the utmost compliment to the National Register nomination of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall #41 – Wagner and Askew; listed on December 15th, 2011.

The cemetery was designated by the Board of County Commissioners for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to history; as it exemplifies cultural, political, economic, and ethnic heritage of the County. Sections of the cemetery correspond to various ethnic groups that lived and worked in the area; including the Welsh, Italian, Cornish and Austrian. It was also designated due to its distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction, or artisan; as it demonstrates superior craftmanship or high artistic value. Stone masons crafted several monumental headstones by hand for those that were part of the Woodmen of World, emblematic of the Golden Age of Fraternalism.

The Gilpin County Board of County Commissioners support this recommendation for nomination to the State Register of Historic Properties.

Sincerely,

Susan Berumen

Marie A. Mornis

Sandy Hollingsworth

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