

**HOG-EM CEMETERY  
(SPRINGVILLE CEMETERY)  
BROADWATER COUNTY  
NEAR TOWNSEND, MONTANA  
JUNE 2008**

This *inactive* cemetery is located on *private property* near Townsend, Montana, Township 7 North, Range 1 East, Section 23. Turn west on the Indian Creek Road, turn left on Springville Lane, left at College and Sixth. The location of the Hog-Em town is on the right just past the warm springs and the graves are west of the old townsite.

“Hog-Em was once a mining camp between Radersburg and Bedford that was later the village of Springfield. The colorful name was originated by disappointed miners, who found that a few men had “hogged up” the pay claims in the area. (Western Interpretive Services). Two other camps there had equally descriptive names: Cheat-Em and Rob-Em.” Roberta Carkeek Cheney, *Names on the Face of Montana, The Story of Montana’s Place Names*, Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, 1983.

“Springville was one of the first named towns in the Territory of Montana located in Jefferson County (now Broadwater), one of the eight original subdivisions, (Territorial map, 1870, by W.W. Lacey from surveys 1855 by Stevens for N.P.). It was located at the source of the Warm Springs three miles northwest of what is now Townsend, just above the present Wm. Higgins ‘51 ranch and was an acceptable spot for the first trail blazers, hunters and trappers (1864) and later a stopping place for freighters and stages. By 1866 the first stores, cabins and corrals appeared, followed by the first stage in 1869.”

“Springville (Jefferson) was one of the first-named towns in Montana Territory and was located at the source of a warm springs three miles northwest of what is now Townsend – or so it is depicted on an 1855 survey map made by Isaac Ingall Stevens as he pioneered a route for the railroad across Montana and the Northwest. Early trailblazers, hunters, trappers, and later, freighters and stage drivers, stopped at Springville. The first stage came in 1869. Tough and not easily discouraged, prospectors began drifting in, hoping to find another Eldorado or Montana Bar. They were so greedy in staking out claims for miles around that Springville soon became known as “Hog ’Em”; neighboring settlements and camps were known as “Beat ’Em” or “Cheat ’Em.” Only a few crumbling foundations, some broken glass and rusty square nails now mark the spot where Springville once flourished. The post office was active 1869-79 (Wellington Stewart was first postmaster); thereafter Bedford became the postal station.” Roberta Carkeek Cheney, *Names on the Face of Montana, The Story of Montana’s Place Names*, Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, 1983.

LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	BIRTH	DEATH	AGE	REMARKS
O’Keefe	Michael		1818	1878/08/13	60	Born Ireland, died inflammation of lungs and/or “He fell down a shaft and died sometimes after rather suddenly.” Joseph Guidi, SJ attending priest from the Sacred Hearts Catholic

						Church, Helena, Montana.
Unknown*						See below for story.
Williams	George		1821	1871/06/15	50	Helena Daily Herald, 6/20/1871, page 3: Died. At Springville, on Thursday, the 15 inst., George Williams, aged 50 years. Wisconsin papers please copy.
Wright	Jack					Suicide, walked into river, see below.

There are no tombstones or markers but there are eight or more mounds and/or sunken graves. According to the *Broadwater Bygones*, "...the outlines of eight or ten graves to mark the first cemetery where old-timers said several children and some adults were buried prior to 1872, after that the Centerville cemetery was used."

The following entry was found in the Helena newspaper. Could he have been buried here?

*Helena Independent*, 8/16/1887, page 3: Died. At Springville, M.T., at the residence of John Murray, esq., on Tuesday, August 13, at 11:30 p.m., Michael O'Leary, from inflammation of the lungs, aged 57 years.

\*Daily Independent, Helena, 1/16/1892, page 5: **HE WAS NOT KILLED.** – Was Supposed to Have Been Killed at Bedford, Writes to a Friend. Independent readers will remember an account published in the early part of the fall of the murder of a man by a section hand near Bedford, in Jefferson county. From a letter found in his pocket the victim was supposed to be Z. A. Short, of Butte. The man accused of the murder was Peter Woods. The latter gave himself up, claiming he acted in self-defense. He was tried for the crime and sentenced to Deer Lodge for life. Now comes the sequel. When Short quit Butte he left his property in the hands of E. S. Tebo, a merchant of that city. The Butte Miner finished the story: After leaving Butte, Short went to Townsend, from which place Tebo received a letter from him, but owing to the fact that Short was on the wing, Tebo did not answer the letter. From Townsend Short went to Castle, and a letter sent to Townsend by Tebo did not reach him. About two weeks after Short's departure from Townsend a man was shot and killed at Bedford, near there, by Peter Woods, and in the dead man's pocket was found a letter addressed to Z. A. Short. This epistle was signed by E. J. Tebo, and the acting coroner of the county returned the latter to the sender with the following explanation: "**The body of Mr. Short was buried at Bedford to-day.** He was shot by one Peter Woods, who worked on the section here. Woods gave himself up and claims he acted in self-defense. The verdict of the coroner's jury was that he 'came to his death by a gunshot wound inflicted by a thirty-two-caliber revolver in the hands of Peter Woods, feloniously.' Nothing of value was found on his person. A letter from yourself requesting his return to settle some land matters in Butte was the only paper found." In reply to this information Tebo wrote the acting coroner asking him to send the bill for burial to him. After the supposed tragedy, Public Administrator Murphy applied for and was granted letters of administration on the estate, after which he had the property appraised and then published a notice to creditors to come to the front and present their claims against the estate. Yesterday morning, however, matters took another turn, for in the morning mail came a letter to Mr. Tebo from the supposed dead man, making inquiries about his property and saying that he had not lately heard from Mr. Tebo (undecipherable). The letter was dated Salesville, Gallatin county. Mr. Tebo compared the signature with that on a power of attorney given him by Short some time ago, and found them to be identical with each other. The thought of the money he had paid out to bury his supposed dead friend flashed through his mind. He took the letter to the public administrator, who immediately instructed his private secretary to order the cancellation of the notice to

creditors. Now the question arises, who was the man killed? From the fact that he had in one of his pockets a letter from Tebo addressed to Short, it would seem that his name was also Short and that he had come by the letter in this way. However, a man was killed and Woods is now doing time for it, but the man was not Z. A. Short.

**References:**

Index Record of Interments, Church of the Sacred Hearts, Helena, Montana Territory, provided by the Diocese of Helena.

Broadwater Bygones, Broadwater County, Montana, 1897, A History of Broadwater County, Copyright, 1977, Broadwater County Historical Society.

Broadwater County Cemetery book, page 30, which is located in the Broadwater County Museum: "MAN BURIED IN HOG'EM. This little squib reveals the name of one man buried in the Hog'em Cemetery where all the others are still unknown. An incident in which Moore's Ferry was mentioned in the newspaper printed in the '80s is quoted here: 'Harley Burch discovered the body of a man lodged on a bar in the Missouri River near the Diamond "R" crossing and though the features were unrecognizable the clothing and articles found thereon proved it to be the body of Jack Wright, who last January committed suicide by walking into the river near Moore's Ferry. An inquest was held at the Bedford Hotel by Coroner Fisk. The body was put in a coffin and buried at Hog'em.' It has been said that of the nine graves at old Hog'em only one was a natural death -- the others were murders or suicides (this is rather doubtful). These graves are still discernible."

Observed by Charleen Spalding and John Stoner  
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