

**WINSTON CEMETERY  
(Formerly Placer Cemetery)  
BROADWATER COUNTY  
WINSTON, MONTANA  
OCTOBER 2006**

This cemetery is located on Cox Road, Township 9 North, Range 1 West, Section 25, northwest of Winston, Montana. Numerous graves are sunken and unmarked. Several graves are marked "Unknown US" and these are some of the re-interred graves from the Beaver Creek Cemetery which is now underwater from the Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

"WINSTON CEMETERY or Placer Cemetery. One grave is dated 1883, another, Robert Herd died in 1890, age 37 years, Murray MacMillan, a war veteran, died in 1991 and is marked with a metal monument. The present Winston Cemetery was first known as the Placer Cemetery. It was established by the Miner's Union. Here the miners or members of their families could be buried at the expense of the union. In the northeast corner are white markers on graves of these miners. In the northwest corner of the cemetery are the Beaver Creek graves, moved in 1950. Placer was established about 1880 and had a population of 14 people. It was a stopping place for travelers driving between Helena and Townsend. It had a hotel, store, post office and saloon. Placer was moved when the railroad was built and given the name Winston. Winston and the Winston area still use the cemetery as a burial ground." (page 179, Broadwater County Cemetery book, located in the Broadwater County Museum, Townsend, Montana)

"Winston is between Townsend and Helena. Among the early settlers there was the Beatty family, ancestors of Norma Beatty Ashby, who currently hosts "Today in Montana," a statewide television program. Winston began with Fred Goudy's Saloon, which was followed by the Duncan Hotel (sic-Dernen Hotel), a combined restaurant and rooming house. The Duncans (sic-Dernens) worked to promote the town after it was platted by the Northern Pacific Railroad, and farmers and ranchers settled the area. The Dodge brothers operated a rooming house in a rock building that still stands, though deserted and crumbling. Mines in the area were active 1908-18 and 1926-28, producing gold, silver, copper and lead. The biggest mine was the East Pacific, which was almost a town in itself, with shops, offices, two saloons, and a three-story bunkhouse for 150 workers. This place was sometimes referred to as Eagle City (Barbara Baum in *Broadwater Bygones*).

"The post office was established in 1892 with Warren Dodge as postmaster, but another record shows George Lamb in the position -- annual compensation, \$304.21. Winston was named during the railroad-building days for P.B. Winston, a contractor for the NP. Previously the area was known as Placer; the depot known by that name was loaded on a flatcar and moved to Winston. There was also a railroad siding and community near here called Beaver Creek and later, Placer.

“One of the first settlers around Winston was George Beatty\*. He was a young New York man who was “doomed to die” -- presumably from tuberculosis -- who set out for Montana in the 1860's, hoping the mountain air would add a year or two to his life. He even brought his tombstone with him, and carved on it: *My mother's prayers kept me out of Hell. Thank God for a blessed hope beyond the grave.* Beatty stored the tombstone in a back shed and when he died -- at age ninety-two -- they put it on his grave in Helena, where it can be seen.” Roberta Carkeek Cheney, *Names on the Face of Montana, The Story of Montana's Place Names*, Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, 1983.

\*George Beatty is buried in Helena, Benton Avenue Cemetery, Helena, Montana. He has two tombstones, the tombstone that he brought with him, and another one with his second wife, Maggie.

**1949, November 24, The Independent Record:**

Canyon Ferry Cemetery Being Moved. Two public hearings regarding movement of graves from Beaver Creek and Canyon Ferry cemeteries, both within the reservoir area of the new dam, were conducted at Townsend and Helena recently by the bureau of reclamation. The nearest relatives of the dead have been, wherever possible, contacted and given a choice of locations to where the graves will be moved. The bureau is moving the graves to either Helena, Townsend or Winston cemeteries without charge. As the Canyon Ferry cemetery will not be inundated but will be on an island in the lake, relatives were given an option of leaving the grave at the present location but they were required to sign a waiver alleviating the government from any obligation of providing transportation from the shore to the grave. The Beaver Creek cemetery will be completely flooded and all of the graves will be moved to new sites. The unmarked graves, many of which are found at Canyon Ferry, will be moved to a plot in the old Placer cemetery near Winston. A section of the Winston cemetery, originally established as a resting place for dead miners, has been purchased from the county for that purpose. According to some of the early day residents of the area, many of the unmarked graves at Canyon Ferry were those of victims of the famed claimjumpers war in Cave gulch in the early days. However, many were marked with wooden slabs, but time has erased the marking or the boards have been carried away leaving the mound undesignated. The 50 odd graves at Canyon Ferry include many names which are synonymous with the pioneer area. Family names, often duplicated on the headstones, include Nolan, Harris, Dwyer, Gustafson, Elston, Byrd, Robertson, Clegg, Hoffer, Aastrup, Cassedy, Conable, Williams, Maloney, Angel and Dotson. Names on the grave markers at Beaver Creek, also including many pioneer residents, are Filson, Carpenter, Bruce, Reynolds, Karstrom, Rotz, Fisher, Davies, Herd, Thompson, Hammons, Grandolene, Donaldson, Falen, Hart, McLaughlin, True and Ridgeway.

LAST	FIRST	MIDDLE	T	BIRTH	DEATH	AGE	REMARKS
Aitken	David	R	x	1863	1918/04/21	55	#090
Ballentine	George	R	x	1863	1935/12	72	#039, Retz Funeral Home
Ballentine	Sophia	Boyer (Slavens)	x	1862	1927	65	#040, Wife of George R. Ballentine
Baum	Barbara	R	x	1915/11/19	1995/01/14	80	Same stone as Charles
Baum	Charles	G	x	1918/09/30			Charles' name and birthdate is on stone but no death date.

Baum	Elsie	M	x	1896	1982	86	Same stone as George
Baum	George	C	x	1893	1971	78	Same stone as Elsie
Baum	Harry	Clarence	x	1920/04/10	1990/11/04	70	Sgt. U.S. Army, WWII
Bernhard	Lee		x	1864	1949	85	#053, Same stone as Nancy
Bernhard	Nancy	Louisa	x	1873	1960	87	Same stone as Lee
Bisby	Annie		x	1890/08/03	1988/04/21	98	Same stone as Jack
Bisby	Jack		x	1883/03/13	1960/05/17	77	Same stone as Annie
Brooks	George	M	x	1830	1912	82	#091
Chapman	Amelia	M	x	1878	1931	53	#033
Chellew	John		x		1893/02/26		#095, Footstone also
Cox	Cynthia		x	1949	1949	0	Next to James (daughter?)
Cox	James	E	x	1920	1995	75	Marines
Coyle	Edna	L	x	1881	1919	38	#020
Crockett	John	Henry		1855	1929/09/15	74	Miner, coroner's case, died in accident, Connors Funeral Home, per Broadwater County Clerk and Recorder's records "buried Winston"
Dewitt	M	Porter	x	1898	1968	70	
Dewitt	Pearl	M	x	1904	1988/02/26	84	
Diehl	Catherine		x	1905/02/26	1911/08/29	6	#076, Diphtheria
Dobler	Louis	Leopold		1885	1903/11/22	18	Listed in Broadwater County death records, assisted father on ranch, single, white, died of gun shot accident, John H. Dent, M.D. attending physician, <b><u>moved to Forestvale Cemetery from Clasoil on 6/23/1938</u></b> , s-Leopold and Albertha. Helena Daily Independent, 11/23/1903. Accidentally Killed. One of the Dobler brothers shot at his ranch near Clasoil yesterday. News was received in Helena last night from Townsend that one of the Dobler brothers, living on a ranch about seven miles from East Helena, had been killed during the day by the accidental discharge of a shotgun. Clasoil is the nearest point to the accident, and as there is no telegraph operator there the news of the affair was very meager. From what could be learned at Townsend it appears that one of the brothers while going out the door accidentally discharged his gun, the trigger catching on the frame. His brother was behind him, and he received the full discharge, dying almost immediately. Deputy Sheriff Daniel McDonald, of Broadwater county, was in Helena last evening, and he was notified by telephone of the accident, and requested to meet the coroner of Broadwater county at East Helena. It appears that the body was to be brought to East Helena last night, and probably the inquest held there. Broadwater county men in town did not recall but one Dobler, Leopold, but from the advices from Townsend it appears there were two at the ranch

							yesterday.
Edwards	John		x		1901/07/28		#097, Winston Miners Union, #25 W F of M, Footstone also
Ellison	Alice		x	1866	1948	82	#035, Headstone says 1866, Footstone says 1867, Retz Funeral Home
Ellison	Sutton	W	x	1861	1926	65	#034
Farrell	Baby				1901/10/05		
Fitten	Charles		x	1864	1912	48	#092
Gillis	Angus	I	x	1856	1928	72	#059, "Father"
Gillis	Dixie	L	x	1866	1924	58	#060, "Mother"
Gillis	Ella	Mae	x	1899	1943	44	#054, Same stone as John
Gillis	John	A	x	1869	1902/08/02	33	#054, Same stone as Ella Mae, killed at Martha Mine
Gillis	Marjorie		x	1900	1901/10/23	1	#056, Herrmann & Co.
Gillis	Robert		x	1907	1908	1	#057
Gravel	Joseph			1863	1928/09/23		#051
Gravel	Modena		x	1851	1925	74	#052
Hansen	Jens	George	x	1882/11/12	1962/07/09	80	Same stone as Maren Dora, brother to Maren
Hansen	Maren	Dora	x	1885/03/30	1967/10/06	82	Same stone as Jens George, sister to Jens
Hendrickson	Donald	E.	x	1939/10/05	2004/01/13	64	h-Evelyn
Hendrickson	Evelyn	M.	x	1941/10/09	1989/07/06	48	w-Donald
Herd	Robert		x	1853	1890	37	#39, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #210, Footstone also
Hobson	Burke		x				#52, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #205
Hobson	Steve	D.	x	1840	1890/05/22	50	#50, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #204, Herrmann & Co., born Iowa, miner, died St. Johns Hospital, Helena.
Isaacson	John		x		1894		#48, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #203
Isaacson	John (Mrs)		x		1896/12/14		#49, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #202, Herrmann & Co.
Johnson	Ralph		x	1907	1979	72	
Jones	John		x	1861	1898/02/09	37	#099, Age 37, accidentally killed, Winston Miners Union, #25 W F of M, born Ireland, service at Sacred Hearts
Kirch	Anna		x	1863	1917	54	#042
Kirch	Ludwig		x	1860	1949/06/21	89	#043
Koch	Paul		x	1866/01/01	1902/03/06	36	#041, Footstone also LUL--SULL, stabbed at East Pacific
Lambert	Infant		x		1884/08/28		#47, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #211, dau. of Geo. and Celinda
Lenahan	James				1904/03/26*		*Per Townsend Star of 3/26/1904
Lokowich	Doris	A	x	1893	1967	74	Same stone as Ralph
Lokowich	Ralph	D	x	1918/10/27	1965/02/16	47	Montana PFC, Co. E 343 Infantry, WWII, BSM
Lokowich	Ralph	S	x	1892	1976	84	Same stone as Doris
M.	M.	N.	x				#005, Headstone

MacMillan	J.D.	Murray	x	1870	1901/09/30	31y10m	#010, Navy
Madden	James	M	x	1923/01/17	1977/10/24	54	Seumas
Mattson	Edla	M			1902/08/25		Died of bronchial pneumonia, moved to Forestvale 10/9/1935
McHose	Anna	R	x	1906	1928	22	#047
McLaughlin	Ida	(Squires)	x		1891		#38, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #212
Miles	Morris	L	x	1888	1955	67	Beloved father
Mires	Marie	Angeline		1889	1925/02/03	35	#046, (grave vacated per Broadwater County records). Moved to Forestvale Cemetery on 10/15/1941, Mountainview Section, lot 166, grave 2, w-George (he died 10/6/1941 and was buried Forestvale)
Mitchell	Mary	Vincent	x	1848	1896/03/02	47y11m9d	#019, Wife Edwin Mitchell, Herrmann & Co.
Moody	George	S	x	1871	1929	58	#031, records in Broadwater County state DOD 1928
Moody	Jesse	D	x	1879	1908	29	#022, Per Townsend Star of 11/23/1906, he was 35, died of suicide
Moody	Mary	N	x	1848	1943	101	#028, records in Broadwater County state age 95
Myles	Jeanette			1881	1898/03/29	17	<b>Per Forestvale Records, moved from "Clasoil" to Forestvale on 5/6/1919,</b> died septicemia, born Scotland, d-David and Mary (Hurd), per Herrmann & Co., coffin purchased by C. Sweeney, Winston for Mr. Mills (Myles), gloss white casket 5/6 and outside box, 6 pair gloves and arm crepe, fluid and hat crepe, \$48.00.
Myles	Mary	(Hurd)		1864	1906/11/04	52	<b>Per Forestvale Records, moved from "Clasoil" to Forestvale on 5/6/1919,</b> died heart disease, born Scotland, w-David. Per Townsend Star of 11/20/1906, buried at Beaver Creek, per Herrmann & Co., casket purchased by James Herd (or Hurd) of Winston, Montana, cloth casket and outside box and 6 pair gloves, \$60.75.
Myles	Norvaal		x	1919	1920/03/07	1	#068, Son of Robert
Myles	Robert	D	x	1874	1927	53	#067, Son of David
Nelson	P	S			1901/12/28*	74	*Per Townsend Star of 12/28/1901
Northey	Thomas			1851	1905/05/06	54	
Olney	Martin		x		1896/08/28	34	#101, Winston Miners Union, #25 W F of M
Pauley	James	E	x	1818	1898/03/05	80	#002
Pauley	John						#001
Pauley	Josephine		x	1882/12/11	1883/07/16	7m6d	#004, Daughter of J.E. Pauley and B.A. or D.A., gloss white child coffin \$12.00, paid, J. E. Pauley, Herrmann & Co.
Pauley	Maria	L	x	1817/03/14	1888/06/23	71	#006, Wife of T.H. Pauley, Footstone also
Pauley	Samuel			1845	1901/12/28	56	
Pauley	Thomas	H	x	1820/06/15	1892/01/10	72	#003, Herrmann & Co.
Prevel	Traci	Ann	x	1967/04/27	1988/12/07	21	
Rawlings	John	Benjamin			1899/02/16*	4	*Per Townsend Star of 2/16/1899, he was buried in the Beaver Creek Cemetery (could be one of the unknowns)
Reynolds	Frank		x	1868	1923	55	#027, Footstone also, Harmon True and Frank Reynolds on same tombstone

Rouse	Reuben			1864	1905/05/30	41	Born Germany, lived in Winston one day, miner, white, died pneumonia, J.L. Belcher, M.D. attending physician, died at county farm in Winston.
Rowley	Lyman				1904/04/28		Herrmann & Co.
Sass	Anna		x	1891	1936/11/08	45	#066
Sass	John		x	1890	1923	33	#065
Schmidt	Lillias		x	1904	1999	95	Same stone as Reinhold
Schmidt	Reinhold		x	1898	1985	87	Same stone as Lillias
Schroepel	Lewis		x		1901/09/24		#098, Winston Miners Union, #25 W F of M
Slavens	Carol	R.E.	x	1910/02/18	1974/09/27	64	
Slavens	Daniel	E	x	1859/01/29	1900/04/10	41	#038, Herrmann & Co.
Slavens	Ellen	C	x	1867	1947	80	#045, born Beaver Creek
Slavens	Henry	L	x	1863	1940	77	#044
Slavens	Perry	L	x	1902	1960	58	
Slavens	Walter	Lee	x	1899/10/07	1966/03/14	67	Masonic emblem
Slavens Jr.	Fred		x	1928	1930	2	Same stone as Fred Sr.
Slavens Sr.	Fred		x	1882	1934	52	Same stone as Fred Jr.
Sprague	Walter				1897/06/12*		*Per Townsend Star of 6/12/1897, drowned
Squires	Kate		x		1890		#37, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #213
Stevenson	David				1897/05/08		
Thompson	Andrew	T	x	1843/04/14	1909/12/13	66	#42, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #207, Corpl. Co. D Second Wisconsin Infantry, h-Cora, m. 12/13/1879-1880
Thompson	Calvin		x	1863	1925	62	#049
Thompson	Knud		x	1837	1885/01/09	48	#43, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #214, Civil War, served in 82 <sup>nd</sup> Illinois Infantry, 48 years old, Native of Skandaborg, Denmark "Honest Soldier Lies Here" bust relief of soldier on the back of metal tombstone. Herrmann & Co.
Thompson (Filson)	Cora	B	x	1858			#41, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #206, w-Andrew, d-George M. Filson
True	George		x		1891/08/11		#45, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #209, partner of J. Z. Collins, Herrmann & Co.  Campbell, William C., <i>From the Quarries of Last Chance Gulch, Volume II, Continuing the "News-History" of Helena, Montana</i> , Printed by The Helena Independent Record Publishing Company, Helena, Published by the Bell-Arm Corporation of Helena, Montana, 1964, page 31, "The first mention of the "Placer Hotel" in the Herald did not refer to the hotel in Helena today, but to the one at Placer, Mont., located between Winston and Louisville (Clasoil). The reference in the paper stated that the proprietor of the "Placer Hotel" took his own life when his wife said she didn't love him any more. The victim was

							George True.”
True	Harmon		x	1890	1920	30	#026, Harmon True and Frank Reynolds on same tombstone
Tucker	Mary	J	x	1843	1899/09/27	56y5m5d	#062
Tucker	Philander		x				#061, Co. F, Wisconsin Infantry
Unknown							#40, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #215
Unknown							#51, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #216
Unknown							#53, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #217
Vacant							#218
Walker	Henry	Infant	x				#44, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #208
Whyte	Alexander	Harvey	x			31y26d	#024, 31 yr, 26 da “May he rest in peace”, Footstone also
Whyte	Robert	F	x	1859	1936	77	#025
Wimpey*	Alice		x		1867		#46, Moved from Beaver Creek Cemetery August 1950, grave #201, has large boulder for marker.

\*Montana GenForum message dated April 28, 2000 from Merla Sears Van Norman: “I recently ran across an older newspaper article that included information about the first burial in a cemetery in Montana. It included the information about the grave of a young girl that died on a Wagon Train en route to Helena, Montana. There was a boulder used as a headstone and the name Alice Wimpey engraved in it with the year of 1867 below. Her birthdate could not be distinguished. She is buried in what is known as the Beaver Creek Cemetery over looking the Missouri River. It is believed that her parents only stayed in the area for a brief time and then moved on. No one was able to contact any relatives of this family in later years. They were possibly following the Gold Rush Trails. I hope this information will benefit someone researching this family”. Sincerely, Merla Sears Van Norman.

#### T-Tombstone

#### **References:**

Broadwater County Cemetery book, page 19, which is located in the Broadwater County Museum, Townsend, Montana.

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

Plot Plan, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Region 6, Missouri Basin Project, Canyon Ferry Unit, Montana, Beaver Creek Cemetery, dated October 3, 1949, no. 296-613-169.

Plot Plan, United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Region 6, Missouri Basin Project, Canyon Ferry Unit, Montana, Placer Cemetery, near Winston, Montana, dated October 3, 1949, no. 296-613-177. “Note: Lots #201 through #217 contain remains of persons

formerly buried in the Beaver Creek Cemetery and are relocated by the Bureau of Reclamation in July of 1950 due to flooding of the Canyon Ferry Reservoir area.”

Coffin Book from Herrmann & Co. dealers in *All Kinds of Styles of Furniture, Bedding, Upholstery, Etc.*, METALLIC AND WOOD CASKETS ALWAYS ON HAND, Helena, Montana, located on October 6, 2005 at the Montana Historical Society, collection SC 1673. Also in collection was an advertisement pasted on a little square of wood, stating the date of 1871, furniture and “metallic and wooden coffins.”

Compiled by Charleen Spalding, Helena, Montana.