

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

Historic name Greenwood Cemetery

Other names/site number KHRI # 103-780

Name of related Multiple Property Listing n/a

2. Location

Street & number Tonganoxie Road & Limit Street

n/a

 not for publication

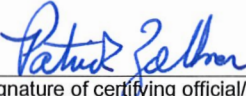
City or town Leavenworth

n/a

 vicinity

State Kansas Code KS County Leavenworth Code LV 103 Zip code 66048

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this x nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property x meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
___ national ___ statewide X local Applicable National Register Criteria: x A ___ B ___ C ___ D
 2-28-22
Signature of certifying official/Title Patrick Zollner, Deputy SHPO Date
Kansas State Historical Society
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
National Register of Historic Places - Listed May 13, 2022
Signature of commenting official Date
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:
___ entered in the National Register ___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register ___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:)
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>	
		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: Rural or Garden Cemetery

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: n/a
walls: n/a
roof: n/a
Other: STONE

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources, if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary

Greenwood Cemetery is one of the oldest existing cemeteries in Leavenworth, formally established on December 4, 1863, where burials occurred over nearly a century (1863 to 1955). It is now abandoned and faces an ongoing probability of vandalism and eventual disappearance. Although once a rural cemetery in Leavenworth County, surrounded by farm ground, the property is now located, by annexation, in the city limits of Leavenworth, Kansas at Tonganoxie Road¹ and Limit streets, within the northwestern portion of Delaware Township (Section 10, Township 9 South, Range 22 East). Over time, the town of Leavenworth grew up around Greenwood Cemetery. Originally consisting of 12 acres of mostly wooded land on a gradually upward sloping elevation above street level, the cemetery is now enclosed with a chain-link fence on the northern boundary with a metal entrance gate near the northwest corner. Intermittent fencing surrounds the acreage on the remaining three sides, with the eastern and southern borders abutting residential areas. There are no buildings or other construction on the property. A dirt road runs through part of the cemetery, with some evidence of previous roads and pathways. The physical cemetery grounds are uneven and hilly throughout.

An examination of an old Greenwood Cemetery map indicates there was sufficient space designed here for three to four thousand burials. Since the earliest original records have been lost, evidence of approximately two thousand interments in a century of time the property was in use has been discovered to date.² However, most of these known burials cannot all be associated with particularly defined lots. A little more than 500 grave markers have been located to date. However, these are in various states of deterioration, either attributed to initially being poorly or temporarily marked and having disappeared over time. Others have been consumed by overgrowth and natural occurrences. Re-interments to other cemeteries were common when the larger Mt. Muncie Cemetery was organized in the southern part of the city in 1867. However, there were a few re-burials to Greenwood from other cemeteries in earlier years. Over time, as the town grew up around the cemetery, its acreage was reduced to 8.6 acres. The major problem appears to be the destruction of headstones by ongoing vandalism or theft since many of the headstones have been knocked down, damaged, or destroyed.

The city of Leavenworth, Kansas is responsible for this property (since 1982), as it was formally deeded to the City on 22 February 1982 by the Davis Funeral Chapel, Leavenworth, Kansas (per Leavenworth County Register of Deeds). The Leavenworth City Department of Parks and Recreation cuts the grass and clears out tree branches, but major maintenance and restoration efforts of headstones is not conducted due to budgetary limitations. Over the past century, several civic minded groups conducted clean-up and restoration attempts, but those efforts were limited and short-lived. The last major restoration efforts were made just prior to the nation's Bicentennial celebration, an Eagle Scout project in 1996, and more recently in 2011. The cemetery retains great historic integrity as evidenced in and around the grounds, and a wealth of information can be extracted by researching the individuals buried here. The study of interments in Greenwood Cemetery offers a window to the earliest history and settlement of the first city of Kansas and throughout its first century.

Elaboration

Setting & Establishment

Located in the northeastern portion of Kansas, bordering the state line with Missouri, the City of Leavenworth is the county seat of Leavenworth County. The city runs approximately 8.3 miles, north to south along the Missouri River from the Sherman Army Air Field to the City of Lansing. In 2020, the U.S. Census showed approximately 37,300 residents in Leavenworth. The dense commercial core is located 3.4 miles northeast of Greenwood Cemetery, which is located on the western edge of the city limits. In 2021, the parcel consists of 8.6 acres at the southeastern corner of the Limit

¹ Tonganoxie Road is known as County Road 5 and historically was known as Lawrence-Tonganoxie Road or Old Lawrence Road

² Past studies of Greenwood Cemetery resulted in two databases of burials to include the Johanna Baum Study, conducted in the 1940s and the Erwin C. Baker & Charles F. Pierce Survey, conducted in the early 1980s. A third database was made available to the general public on the Leavenworth County website, utilizing these lists and a collection of other information. Since then, contributions are made on-line to the Findagrave website by various individuals but is not considered to be an authoritative source.

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Street and Tonganoxie Road intersection. Immediately surrounding the cemetery are planned residential subdivisions platted much later than the cemetery. Development around the cemetery consists of mid-century and later residential subdivisions. To the northwest and north was established c1960s, to the east est. c1970s, to the south est. c1980s. The first established public burial grounds in Leavenworth at Pilot Knob, also known as Mount Aurora or the "City Cemetery," were situated on the highest elevation just west of Leavenworth, and "north of the navigational rock pile that guided riverboat captains up the Missouri River."³

Formation of a new cemetery was described in the *Leavenworth Bulletin* near the end of 1863,

A cemetery is to be made in a much more appropriate place. On Lawrence road,⁴ about 1¼ mile from Delaware Street, Mrs. Mary A. Davis has purchased 12 acres of land, laid out in very tasteful manner. Location is good, one of most beautiful ever seen. It commands an elevated position, gradually descending upon three sides—to the east, south and west—and is covered with a natural growth of young trees, which have been trimmed up and underbrush cleaned from beneath them. Two main avenues, 16' in width, travers center of plat at right angles to each other and intersected by smaller ones for carriages. From the city it is easy of access, a good road leading directly to it, which can be macadamized at very small expense and made most desirable road to those wishing to take a short ride into the county. It will be a favorable contrast with the present burial place, difficult of access even in good weather and absolutely dangerous in bad. Pilot Knob Cemetery looks dismal and deserted and we do not wonder that our citizens have been afraid to die when they have been so unpleasantly impressed with the sullen gloom and sterile surroundings that pervade the spot that has been prepared for their final reception.⁵



Photo 9: Overview of the northeastern portion

Boundaries & Physical Description

While the cemetery originally had a wooden gate at the entrance and a wooden fence, this was replaced by a chain-link fence in 1975 on the northern boundary that extended from the northeast corner of the cemetery to the west near the intersection of Limit Street and Tonganoxie Road at the main gate. There is no fencing between the gate and Tonganoxie Drive. On the east and south boundaries of the cemetery there is no fencing belonging to the cemetery. However, the homeowners along those sides have put up individual fences of various types. On the east side, the fencing is fairly continuous. On the south side there are some gaps and places where the fencing has been pushed down. On the west side, along Tonganoxie Drive, there is no fencing of any kind but is heavily wooded on a sharp downward slope. The landscaping is filled with a variety of mature trees such as oak, elm and evergreen along with vegetation on three sides that serves to muffle the sound of street traffic. The overall landscape is hilly, and the graves are scattered throughout the property without much leveling of the terrain.

Mrs. Davis decided the name for the cemetery to be "Greenwood, after the celebrated and beautiful Greenwood Cemetery of New York City." The designer of the Greenwood Cemetery is unknown but from an 1867 map, the cemetery is laid out in four blocks with lots measuring fifteen feet by twenty feet in size. There are two main and wider avenues were named

³ Johnston, J.H., "Yesteryear: A Pictorial History of Leavenworth County", 1991, Heritage House Publishing, Marceline, MO, pg.4

⁴ H. Miles Moore, History of Leavenworth, KS, p. 254: "The old Lawrence Road at that time followed around the valley from near Pilot Knob south of the then George Fisher claim, now partially owned by Chauncey Flora (who married one of Fisher's daughters)."

⁵ Leavenworth Bulletin, August 10, 1863, "New Cemetery"

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Greenwood (north-south) and Washington (east-west) forming a cross. Smaller routes numbered from "First Avenue" up through "Twentieth Avenue," (running north to south) are included in the original design. Greenwood Avenue and Washington Avenue still remain the prominent crossing in the cemetery. However, the elements that remain visible are the widths of the roads, some ruts, and their intersection. Both roads show no evidence of paving but do feature some gravel.

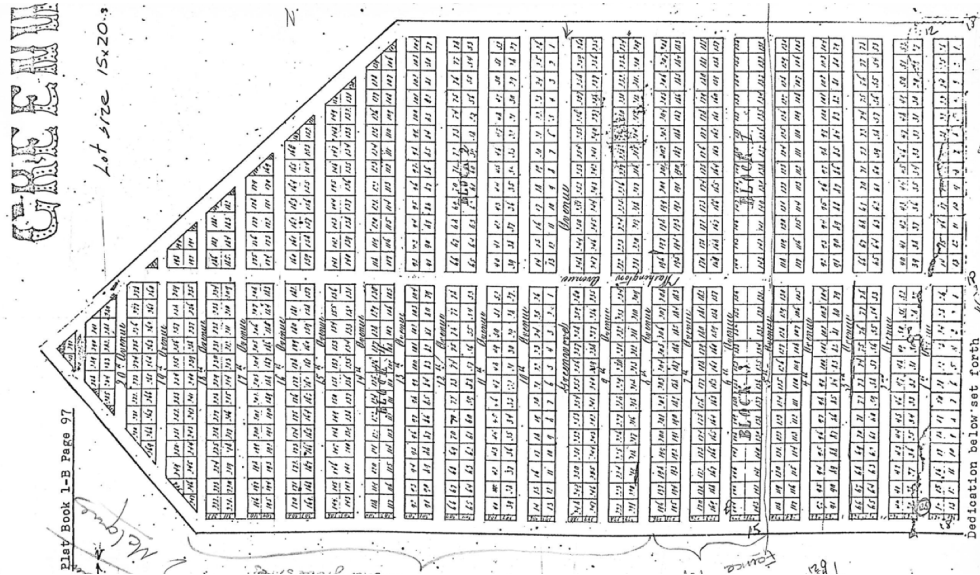


Figure 1: 1867 plat map shows the cemetery divided into four blocks, each with 206 lots.

There are hundreds of gravestones throughout the property that have been noted, photographed, and some identified. Mostly, the gravestones are scattered and though appear to have been in a more structured layout previously, have now suffered through weathering, storm damage, vandalism, or other influence that has removed them from their original position. Block 1 (northeast block) has 260 lots; all of which are accounted for on the 1967 plat map. Block 2 (northwest block) appears to have had 235 lots; but only 193 lots can be accounted for on the 1967 plat map. Lots 70 through 193 constitute the "Colored Section" set aside by Fisher and Barnes⁶ and may include many unrecorded burials. Block 3 (southeast block) has 280 lots; all of which are accounted for on the 1967 plat map (lots 261 through 280 are in a horizontal strip at the southern edge of the cemetery). Block 4 (southwest block) appears to have had 312 lots; 290 of which can be accounted for on the plat map (lots 295 through 312 are in a horizontal strip at the southern edge of the cemetery). None of the records ever specifically noted an area for a potter's field, although oftentimes, J.C. Davis, the undertaker, paid for the lot himself.⁷

⁶ Later cemetery owners.

⁷ "Deaths & Funerals", Leavenworth Times, 9 Jun 1914, p.8

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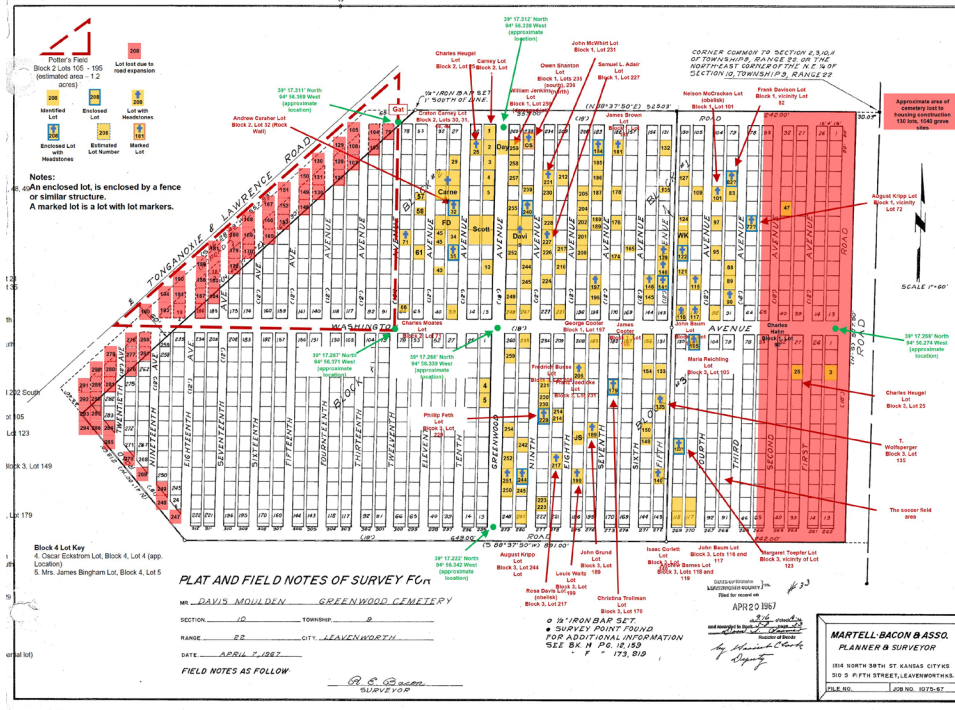


Figure 2: 2021 Jim Claunch Map (derived from 1967 survey) indicating from road lost lots of expansion & housing development

After 1976, a housing subdivision on the eastern border is thought to have included cemetery ground up to Lot 53 through 65 in both Block 1 and Block 3 of the original plat. This removed 130 lots from the original design of the cemetery property. By examining historical aerial photographs, it appears that this area may have been used for very few burials. A 1966 aerial (Figure 3) suggests the parcel was rather used for farming. The west side of the cemetery has lost lots in Block 2 and Block 4; thought to have been lost when the road along that border was built and later widened in the 1970s. With these alterations over the years, the original 12 acres is now approximately 8.6 acres.

Cemetery lots were 15' x 20' in size, allowing for eight individual graves in each lot. While research indicates lots in Blocks 1 and 3 were nearly sold out, either burials were not recorded, or perhaps never used since actual recorded burials are significantly lower than the total number of the planned burial spaces of approximately 4,000 for the entire cemetery. As of 2021, approximately 2,000 known burials have been found to occur on the grounds from possibly as early as 1855 to 1955.⁸ Since family lot ownership records are incomplete, it is unknown how many spaces within those lots were used or the actual number of burials that occurred. Graves, now without visible markers, are not known with any certainty. The lots were generally this size, but due to weather, damage, or other occurrences, the markers have been moved, fallen, or gone missing.

Generally considered by the public as a private cemetery, families individually cared for their cemetery plots and often enclosed them with fences of wrought iron, woven wire, wood-framed chicken wire, brick or stone walls and stone-post fencing. In Greenwood, there are at least a dozen such extant fenced family lots. Also, in the early days, when a family purchased a plot, wherein several generations would eventually be buried, the family was issued a warranty deed for the purpose of burial. Oftentimes these deeds were recorded at the Register of Deeds at the County Courthouse (Figure 4).⁹



Photo 21: McCracken monument

⁸ The burial estimates are derived from two previous surveys completed by Mrs. Baum in the 1940s, the Baker & Pierce Index in the 1980s, and the Leavenworth Count Burial Index by Jim Claunch, based on obituary and newspaper research.
⁹ These warranty deeds offer an additional area for future research and evaluation.

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Only three imposing monuments (one now toppled over) and a number of enclosed family lots serve to romanticize the pastoral setting of the cemetery. Nearly all markers have been damaged and a great many have been broken, pushed or fallen over, and in need of repairs. Most of these markers are of a unique design and structure with some in old style German and French. The monuments are obelisks some with engraving on all sides, and others with a single name. The fencing styles around family lots varies from straight iron to looped woven iron.

Approximately 500 markers, scattered about in no discernable order, make up the stones in various stages of decay throughout the cemetery, some represented merely by broken pieces of stone. An ongoing (as of 2021) effort is being made to reconstruct a database of a century of burials in Greenwood, utilizing previously compiled databases, information gleaned from old newspaper accounts, and inscriptions on surviving headstones. Twelve known burials pre-date Kansas statehood. The earliest of these is **Margaret Sherer**, wife of Robert, who died 28 April 1855, only a year after the Territory of Kansas was established and six years before Kansas statehood. Additionally, there are another dozen or so grave markers of those who died prior to the establishment of Greenwood, some of which are known to have been originally interred at Pilot Knob.

The first known burial with a headstone, recorded after the establishment of Greenwood, was that of Kentucky-born **Adeline Hardin**, wife of A.D. Hardin, born 17 December 1818, who died 25 December 1863. She is buried with Alice Hardin (13 December 1863 – 23 February 1864), who was likely her daughter. Their headstone is one of the few from that era that still exists. Adeline's husband was later buried in Greenwood but his headstone is unrecognizable.

The last known burial in 1955 does not have a marker, but is recorded in death records, to be that of a stillborn infant by the name of Hunt by the Sexton Funeral Home.¹⁰ Peak activity in the number of burials in the cemetery occurred in the 1890s and 1900s, then experienced a sharp decline until by the mid 1950s, interments came to a complete stop.

Condition & Integrity

Greenwood Cemetery is now classified as abandoned with over 500 extant grave markers and a roster of approximately 2,000 burials. A weathered sign over the gate reads: "Greenwood Cemetery, Est. 1863." From its founding in 1863 through to 1955, what was once planned to be a tranquil and pastoral place for the repose of those buried and visited here, is perhaps now too quiet. Evidence continues to show the actions of those who have no reverence nor respect for the final resting place of those who have gone before us and made significant contributions to the town's unique history. Greenwood Cemetery continues to be vandalized and disrespected, despite clean-up efforts over the years and maintenance of its grounds by the City of Leavenworth. Additionally, because of removal of many interred to other cemeteries, sizeable indentations have been left in the soil. Over the decades the grounds have been used for soccer and baseball games, teen-age parties, game hunting and even paranormal investigations. The most destructive actions are by individuals who have purposely toppled and desecrated many of the remaining grave markers. The ravages of time have also taken a toll. During a major clean-up effort in 2011, an August storm took out sizeable trees and further damaged existing markers.¹¹ In early 2020, the fence and portions of a retaining wall on the north side (along Limit



Photo 20: typical lot markers

¹⁰ Sexton Funeral Home is no longer in operation

¹¹ In 2011 Esther Berveiler, the last surviving member of the Greenwood Bi-Centennial Committee, toured the cemetery with Jim Claunch, current member of the Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Commission, and was horrified to see many grave markers missing. Having personally mowed the grass at the cemetery and organized an on-going effort through the early 1980s to maintain the property, she also recalled the most decorated section to be of the Black burial section on the northwestern side.

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Street), were partially taken out by a drunk driver. The size of the original cemetery has also been whittled down by the construction and widening of streets to the north and west and a housing subdivision to the east.

To initiate and encourage ongoing preservation efforts, the cemetery was named to the Leavenworth County Register of Historic Places by the Leavenworth County Historical Society in 2020 with the thought of fostering a sense of pride in its history through research and a continued effort for an improvement in the upkeep of its physical appearance and preservation going forward. There is significant historical value in the burial ground due to many of the early pioneer settlers being buried there.

Clean up and Maintenance

A renewed effort to clean up the cemetery and take restorative steps was initiated as Leavenworth prepared to celebrate the Bicentennial in 1976. At that time, it was noted that efforts for upkeep had transpired over the years at irregular intervals by remaining descendants of lot owners who were rapidly decreasing in number and not being interred at Greenwood. Retired Leavenworth County Sheriff Arden Rhyne¹² chaired a cemetery cleanup and restoration committee for the Bicentennial project in Leavenworth County and collected funds to enclose part of the grounds within a chain link fence and entrance gate. The cemetery was in complete disrepair with stones knocked over and broken. The damp, shady grounds nourished irises, rose bushes, rose of sharon, orange blossom and tiger lilies, planted decades prior, and also a large overgrowth of trees, brush, and weeds. Rhyne wrote letters to the local paper explaining his motivation: To respect the dead and to see that they have not been forgotten...over 900 of them. He suggested the grounds become a historical site, a memorial to the dead pioneers not only of Leavenworth but the State of Kansas. A moral obligation was assumed to thus ensure that pioneer settlers would not be forgotten.

Regular maintenance did not occur until 1982 when the property was deeded to the City of Leavenworth on February 22. The cemetery is now considered abandoned and the City is responsible for its maintenance under state statute. Periodically, Greenwood Cemetery draws local attention to its condition and continued deterioration with sporadic and fleeting interest in clean-up efforts. Scout Troops, the local Masonic Lodge, veterans from the VA, senior citizens, and interested parties have spent hours of volunteer time clearing the grounds. It was 25 years ago that Boy Scout David N. Jeannin earned his Eagle Scout rank by organizing and leading a major clean-up and headstone adjustment at Greenwood Cemetery. This not only fostered a respect for the property but an interest in learning more about its history and those pioneer citizens who were the co-makers of that history in Leavenworth. Jeannin earned accolades from congressmen and then- President W.F. Clinton as well as earning him the Kansas Governor's Award for Special Achievement from Gov. Bill Graves as well as a certificate of appreciation from the City of Leavenworth.¹³

Other clean-up and preservation efforts have occurred over the succeeding decades with a more recent endeavor taking place in 2011 when a group named "Friends of Greenwood Cemetery" met to clear brush, search for lost markers, survey, and photograph the cemetery. Beginning with a major clean-up in June, the group had to essentially begin again when an August storm took down large trees within the cemetery.

In addition to naming Greenwood as a local historic site, the Leavenworth County Historical Society is working with the City of Leavenworth and other interested entities to form the Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Commission to put into action an immediate plan to ensure its preservation. Listing in the State and National Registers of Historic Places should encourage the preservation and respect of a place unique to the history of Kansas.

In 1975, local resident Arden Rhyne appealed to the community to care for and respect the final resting place of the early pioneers of Leavenworth and the State of Kansas, and to see that they would not be forgotten. The Greenwood Cemetery is a vital element of cultural heritage from the early years of the first city of Kansas. By preserving not only this physical place and memories coexisting with its history, this notable cemetery will also enhance the history of this place in time.

¹² Rhyne (1907-1978) was Leavenworth County Sheriff when Ray Hamilton, named on FBI's Most Wanted List and who had been a member of the Bonnie and Clyde gang, along with his brother, spent 22 years in prison, for armed robbery, 18 of which were spent in Leavenworth and Alcatraz. Hamilton's final years of his sentence were in Ft. Leavenworth. When released he shook hands with County Sheriff Arden Rhyne and thanked him for the treatment he received while in prison. Twelve years later, Rhyne and his wife visited Hamilton and his family in Texas during a vacation, sharing the notion with others that Hamilton had truly been reformed. [Last of Bonnie & Clyde Gang, True Story of Floyd Hamilton article.]

¹³ Jeannin, David, Greenwood Cemetery Eagle Scout Project book, Oct. 1996

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

c1850s - c1920

Significant Dates

1863

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

n/a

Period of Significance (justification)

The period begins with the first documented burial on the property and continues through c1920. The period reflects the significance of exploration and settlement of Leavenworth and connection with the town founders as well as to early Black and German settlers, which were influential and significant to the Civil War period in the city. It should be noted that burials began to significantly drop around the 1920s, and the last known burial was in the 1950s.

Criteria Considerations (justification)

The Greenwood Cemetery site meets criteria considerations D for cemeteries because it is historically significant for its history and association with the exploration and settlement, and growth of the first city in Kansas - Leavenworth.

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Narrative Statement of Significance

(Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Summary

Greenwood Cemetery meets National Register Criteria A for exploration and settlement associated with Kansas and local history beginning in the territorial period and the first century of history in Kansas. In proximity to the oldest fort west of the Mississippi, Fort Leavenworth, much activity occurred in Leavenworth County, where major trails traversed the land, accommodating westward expansion as well as the settlement of Leavenworth. The impetus for the founding of Greenwood Cemetery is the first non-sectarian cemetery in the vicinity, Pilot Knob/Mount Aurora, was becoming increasingly difficult to access. Greenwood was founded in 1863 with the purchase of 12 acres of rural farmland by Mrs. Mary A. Davis, wife of Dr. James Davis, local physician. It is a good example of the rural or garden cemetery design, popular in the United States and Europe in the mid-nineteenth century. Now considered abandoned, it is important to preserve the cemetery due to its connection to early Leavenworth history. Researching this history will be an ongoing project since there are an estimated 2,600 burials attributed to Greenwood.¹⁴ Ongoing research will continue to divulge the history of the early pioneers and their roles in the settlement of the first city of Kansas.

Elaboration

Leavenworth – Founding and Early Settlement (1854-1865)

The history of the area actually began long before the City of Leavenworth was founded on June 13, 1854, with the residence of American Indian tribes, missionaries, gold seekers, fur traders, western expansion, and the establishment of Fort Leavenworth in 1827. The history related to this nomination takes place during the first century of Leavenworth's history, began with the opening of the Kansas Territory in May 1854 by the Kansas-Nebraska Act. Although the City of Leavenworth had its ultimate origins from Fort Leavenworth it can be noted that, due to political circumstances, area settlement began with the illegal occupancy of white people on Delaware Indian land.¹⁵ The illegal sale of lots began in 1854, but it would be two years before purchasers could legally claim the land and therefore it was actually considered a squatter city during that time. Squatter claims made by property seekers were settled by judges of their own choosing under laws of their own making and often by acts of violence.

The *Centennial Leavenworth 1854-1954 souvenir booklet* says this about the settlement of Leavenworth, "The prairies of Kansas are said to be richer in historic lore than any other region of the West. Leavenworth, oldest settlement in the Sunflower State, is considered unique among American cities in records of spectacular happenings—of alternating triumphs and tragedies—of continuous struggles to reach those ever-expanding frontiers that open only to men (and women) of vision and purpose."¹⁶

When the original Leavenworth Town Company, consisting of a group of 32 men who had met in Weston, Missouri to draw up articles of incorporation for the first city in Kansas,¹⁷ the new territory would determine by popular sovereignty whether Kansas would enter the Union as a free or slave state. Many members of the town company were initially hopeful for the extension of slavery into Kansas. However, the New England Emigrant Aid Company, founded specifically to send settlers of antislavery sentiment to the newly opened prairies of Kansas, was in direct competition to their ideas for settlement. The issue quickly caused great turmoil with political strife resulting in much violence and bloodshed, which came to a climax for Leavenworth in particular, on September 1, 1856, and known as Bloody Monday. Many suspected

¹⁴ Baum, Johanna Leavenworth County Cemeteries Study, conducted in 1940s

¹⁵ Carman, J. Neale, *Account of Settlement & Settlements in Kansas*, 1974, University Press of Kansas for Foreign Language Units of Kansas, Vol II, p 584

¹⁶ "Centennial Leavenworth 1854-1954" by Historical Program Committee, 1954, p.3

¹⁷ Ibid

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anti-slavery men were either run out of town, murdered, or burned out. Thomas Slocum, former Leavenworth mayor, estimated that actually one-third of the permanent population of the town was driven away at this time.¹⁸ Many targeted as free-state supporters were not actually abolitionists but rather preferred a non-violent approach to the free-state movement.

Early Settlers

Nelson McCracken, whose towering monument is today the centerpiece of the Greenwood Cemetery, was numbered among those robbed, burned out, and shipped out of Leavenworth on a riverboat during that time of terror. A determined McCracken, who operated a wholesale grocery, eventually returned to minimize his losses and later was one of the signers of a November 1859 letter of invitation to Abraham Lincoln, to visit Leavenworth.

Early settlement in Leavenworth has been noted in Cutler's *History of the State of Kansas* to not have begun until "...Adam and **George Fisher** made their appearance. Both of them did much for the early development of Leavenworth. Adam, especially, was one of the most energetic, capable and public spirited men that ever lived in the city. ... his brother George living on a farm near the city, on the Lawrence road. When they first settled in Leavenworth, in October, 1854, Mrs. Geo. Fisher carried with her the first baby which had ever blessed the community - her three months' old boy. "¹⁹ Cutler also mentions several buildings in the early stages of settlement: Lewis N. Rees' warehouse at the corner of Main and Delaware streets, Uncle Keller's Leavenworth House, and Jerre Clark's residence.

In October 1854, the steamer "Polar Star," from St. Louis, brought Andrew Reeder, of Easton, Pa., to Leavenworth; he was the first Governor of the Territory of Kansas. Accompanying him was **Gen. Andrew Jackson Isacks** (1825-1865) of Alexandria, La., the newly appointed Attorney General of the Territory. Although a Slave-state man, Gen. Isacks always counseled moderation, and was therefore almost as objectionable to the Pro-slavery party as though he had been openly a Free-state advocate.²⁰ Isacks purchased land adjacent to that of Adam and George Fisher and became one of the earlier burials in Greenwood Cemetery when he died in 1865. His widow later married Marcus Parrott, another pre-statehood settler, whose name appears in early Kansas history in Leavenworth.

When the Fisher brothers arrived in Leavenworth by steamboat from Ohio in October 1854, Adam Fisher and his brother George, along with their wives, who were sisters, brought with them their household goods and lumber to erect a house. While living in a tent on the riverbank a home was built and run as a hotel. Adam was involved in the construction of houses and hotels and the general upbuilding of the town, while also purchasing area properties. One of these properties consisted of 160 acres in the Delaware Township, NE quarter of Section 10, which he soon deeded to his brother, George. This is where George and his wife, Catherine lived for the rest of their lives, becoming leading fruit and berry growers of the county.²¹ The Fisher family were figures prominent throughout the history of Greenwood Cemetery.

Dr. James and Mrs. Mary A. Davis, arrived in April 1855 from Maryland, via Indiana. Davis was prominent in business and society and actively engaged in the politics of the day, serving in the territorial legislatures.²² Dr. Davis was one of the physicians to determine the cause of death for Rees Perkins Brown, an early victim of Bleeding Kansas in January 1856²³ and buried at Pilot Knob. Although initially a pro-slavery advocate, Dr. Davis eventually sided with the free staters and was among those driven from Leavenworth on "Bloody Monday in 1856."²⁴ When Mark Delahay invited his wife's cousin, Abraham Lincoln to visit Kansas, in December 1859, Dr. Davis was among the signers of the letter.

¹⁸ Napier, Rita G., "Origin Stories & Bleeding Kansas" Kansas History, Vol. 34, No. 1, Spring 2011,

¹⁹ William G. Cutler's History of the State of Kansas, Leavenworth County, Part Y, early Leavenworth history, part 1.

²⁰ Cutler's History of Kansas

²¹ *An Early Settler*, Leavenworth Weekly Times, Jan 17, 1884; *Lived Here Since '54*, Leavenworth Standard, Nov 9, 1896; *Came to Leavenworth in '54*, The Leavenworth Times, Oct 22, 1901, pg 4.

²² *Death of an Old Citizen*, Leavenworth Daily Commercial, Jan. 10, 1873; *History of State of Kansas*, Andreas, p. 162

²³ *House Documents of U.S. House of Representatives, Vol. 89, 1856*, p.1004

²⁴ Richmond Weekly, Indiana, Oct 9, 1856

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A few years of uncertainty continued, and the tide turned with Kansas finally entering the Union as a Free State in 1861. Settlers poured into Kansas, coming from as far away as Germany, who traveled by train, steamboat, stagecoach or covered wagon to reach the land of opportunity.²⁵ Soon the “town seemed tantalizingly near becoming the permanent metropolis of Kansas.”²⁶

German Settlement

An unprecedented influx of immigrants to the United States occurred in 1854, numbering over 215,000. Prominent among these were refugees of the failed 1848-49 revolution in Germany. German immigrants were the largest European group to settle in Kansas and contributed significantly to a shift from proslavery to Free State settlers. Their arrival from Cincinnati, Ohio, nearly coincided with the arrival of other Germans from Massachusetts with Eli Thayer and his Emigrant Aid Company. Possessed with political experience and organizational skills, they were in a good position to revive the spirit of a failed struggle for liberty in a new cause – that of fighting against slavery in the U.S. In Leavenworth, the early population was 50% German.²⁷

Several German newspapers published locally served as an integral tool in garnering support for the Free-State movement. Dr. Charles Kob published the *Kansas Zeitung* in a frame of mind that was prepared for armed conflict. The publication was later taken over by Leopold Soussman when Dr. Kob died at the age of 40 and was buried in the Pilot Knob Cemetery. Every issue of the paper expressed a sense of crisis in the prevailing political climate with an “urgency to protect a vulnerable island of freedom with a revolutionary spirit.”²⁸ In later years, **Col. John M. Haberlein** published the *Freie Presse* and upon his death in 1873 was buried in Greenwood. Both the Soussman and Haberlein families were buried in Greenwood.²⁹

The unsettling border-ruffian days of 1855-56 came to a climax in 1856 when a number of early settlers, including Germans, were driven from their homes and businesses. Still, many returned with increased numbers and a determination to maintain their creed, “Universal Freedom.” In the Spring of 1857, the Leavenworth Turnverein (Turners) was organized and ready to defend the right of freedom. The objective of the Turners, as they were often described, focused on physical exercise, including gymnastics and a social network. Their motto was “A healthy mind in a healthy body.” In the spirit of the Forty-Eighters, the Turners played a significant role in the social/political life of the community. During the Civil War, local Germans made up a great portion of the 1st Kansas Regiment, Company I. Several of these veterans (**Charles Boehme, Ferd Duerr, Gothard Hoehl and George Schmidt**) are buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

It was **Henry Deckelman** (1829-1895), first president of the Leavenworth Turnvereins, and its members who greeted Lincoln at the city limits in 1859 with a brass band and crowd of residents, escorting him through the streets of Leavenworth. A salute with the Kickapoo cannon was offered on that memorable day, following remarks by Turnverein president Deckelman and Col. J.C. Vaughan, then owner of the Leavenworth Times newspaper. Deckelman, along with the family of his brother, John, as well as many of the Turnvereins were buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Most German funerals were conducted by the Turners and included a service from the residence from which a brass coronet band and singing led the funeral cortege to the cemetery where a sermon was given.

The Leavenworth Turnverein observed their 50th anniversary in 1907. Remarks reviewed a resolution adopted by the Leavenworth Turnverein during the Civil war that “no Turner should be admitted to office until after he had avowed his allegiance to the Union on his word of honor and declared that he would not approve of peace until it was a peace that

²⁵ Johnston, Linda S., *Hope Amid Hardship: Pioneer Voices from Kansas Territory*, 2013, Globe Piquot Press, pages xiii-2

²⁶ *Account of Settlement & Settlements in Kansas*, J. Neale Carman, 1974, University Press of Kansas for Foreign Language Units of Kansas, Vol II, p 584

²⁷ *Abraham Lincoln & the German Immigrants: Turners & Forty-Eighters*, Frank Baron, 2012, University Press, Lawrence, KS

²⁸ *Ibid*

²⁹ The wife and son of **Leopold Soussman**, Charles Soussman (1850-1912) was a marine engineer on the famed Willie Cade Ferry at Leavenworth, are also enumerated.

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would forever banish slavery from the American republic." It was noted that at that time there was not a number of male Turners in Leavenworth to compose a quorum sufficient to hold a meeting, as the majority had enlisted in the army.³⁰

One custom the Germans brought with them was the brewing of beer, as noted by William Downard, "Wherever Germans are to be found there also you will find beer, the bourgeois democratic beverage." Leavenworth was considered a beer-making hub with at least six breweries in the 1850s. An essential component of beer making is pure water and this was found in the spring water from Pilot Knob hill.³¹ Beer gardens were an integral part of the German social culture, and in Leavenworth, could be readily found. In 1880, Prohibition passed in Kansas signaling a decline and eventual extinction of local breweries and wineries, although in Leavenworth, production continued for a number of years, especially with efforts by the German population made to battle the law. Some of those buried in Greenwood include **John Baum, August Lange, Jacob & Barbara Kaufman, Gus Schmeckel, Henry Krezdorn, Henry Holbein and Fred Felix.**

Buried in Greenwood was **Otto Ehm** (1834-1883) who was a driver for the Brandon & Kirmeyer Brewery, but also had been among the Germans who captured "Old Kickapoo" and had fought in the Battle of Wilson's Creek during the Civil War. The **Rebsamen** family buried here was headed by Charles F. who initially was associated with J.C. Grund's Kansas Brewery prior to taking over the Wehrle & Kihm Brewery that he re-named the City Brewery.³² **Henry A. Deckelman** (1860-1910), son of John Deckelman, while for most of his life worked in his father's jewelry shop, was once noted in a city directory as a bottler for the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co. and as a driver for the J.M. Pickarts Vinegar Factory in Leavenworth.

An area of early German settlement in the Fifth Ward of Leavenworth was called "Little Cincinnati" and later known as "Goosetown." Considered a suburb, it was located along Three-Mile Creek in the then northwest section of Leavenworth. Within the area in vacant lots grew mayweed or dog fennel, as it was more commonly known, that attracted the appetites of gaggles of geese, brought here by Germans for use in their feather beds and pillows. So prized were goose feathers that Leavenworth women often had trouble with swindlers who, collecting a fee to clean these items, switched the goose feathers with cheap chicken feathers.³³ While known for its beautiful and lush gardens, Goosetown also became politically known as a tightly knit community since whenever they chose a candidate for public office, the entire Fifth Ward would vote for them. A Goosetown resident, **Julia Birkhauser** (1845-1886) and wife of Civil War veteran, Theodore Birkhauser, was buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

Black Settlement

The Kansas Territory became a symbol of freedom to many African Americans as a land of opportunity. Although both former slaves and freed Blacks were early residents here,³⁴ the Kansas Territory and in particular Leavenworth served as a stop on the underground railroad to accommodate escaped slaves as they passed through on their way to freedom in Canada. During the early years, 1854-1856, fugitive slaves initially came from Missouri, due to its proximity to K.T. on the Missouri River. Although Leavenworth was at first settled by proslavery people it became predominantly free-state in the late 1850s. Local residents such as Col. Daniel Read Anthony, brother of Susan B. Anthony, Gen. J.G. Blunt, stationed at Fort Leavenworth, and others joined with Capt. W.D. Matthews to assist with escape routes. Matthews had arrived in Leavenworth in 1856 and opened the Waverly House, near Shawnee & Main streets, which served as a stage on the Underground Railroad. Blunt would later be involved in the organization of the first colored troop during the Civil War.³⁵

Capt. W. D. Mathews was an influential citizen of Leavenworth, arriving in 1857, having been born free in Maryland in 1829 to mixed-race parents. He not only became a driving force in the Underground Railroad but was instrumental in

³⁰ "Festivities of Turners Opened; Picnic is Today", The Lv Times, 4 Aug 1907

³¹ "Kansas Breweries & Beer: 1854-1911" by Cindy Higgins, 1992, Ad Astra Press

³² Leavenworth City Directories, 1859-1866.

³³ Evening Standard, Sep 133, 1899, Leavenworth Times, Dec 4, 1906, Labor Chronicle, Sep 12, 1901

³⁴ After the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, Southern men moved to the territory with their slaves. In the late 1850s these slaves were replaced by free Negroes, fugitive or runaway slaves, many aided by the UGRR. "Historic Preservation in Kansas, Black Historic Sites: A Beginning Point, Kansas State Historical Society, Sept. 1977

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forming numerous Black Freemasonry groups in the west. One such passenger on the UGRR was **Henry Hill** (1852-1906) who settled in Leavenworth and found work as a waiter at the famed Planter's Hotel. He became a high Mason and is buried in Greenwood. The grandson of **Grandma Jamina Craig** was another such passenger and later described the tunnel built by Col. D.R. Anthony under the Mathews property to hide slaves as they awaited their continued journey to freedom in the north.³⁶ A number of Black citizens buried in Greenwood Cemetery were personally acquainted with Capt. Matthews as he was always eager to help his fellow man. Capt. Matthews is often noted as giving the sermon at the funeral services in Greenwood.

The African-American population of Kansas increased from 627 in 1860 to 12,527 in 1865 with 30 percent residing in the state's seven leading towns. By far the greatest concentration of contraband was in Leavenworth, representing one-fifth of African Americans in the state.³⁷ Many secured work locally as house servants, laborers, hired farm hands and cooks—all manual labor. At the outbreak of the Civil War, slaves fled to Kansas in much greater numbers due to its continued appeal as the land of John Brown. In January 1863 the first Regiment of Kansas Colored volunteers was raised by Sen. James H. Lane.³⁸ Whenever Lane was in Leavenworth, he could often be found at the Mansion House at Fifth & Shawnee, located on "Abolition Hill." One of the regiment's Black officers was William D. Mathews.

The Townsends were the enslaved, mixed-race children of a wealthy white cotton planter in Alabama, Samuel Townsend, who freed them and also willed them his large estate when he died in 1856. Of the group of forty, at least five are known to be buried in Greenwood Cemetery. In particular, **Margaret Townsend** (1839-1887), whose marker remains intact, was the mother of W.B. Townsend who became a prominent journalist, lawyer and activist in Leavenworth. He earned a reputation for defending Black men but when he spoke out against the burning and lynching of Fred Alexander in Leavenworth in 1901 by an angry white mob, his Black brethren remained silent.

When members of the **Townsend** family settled in Leavenworth in the 1860s and '70s, they entered a city with one of the largest black populations in the state—as well as one of the most politically organized. Black Kansans had the numbers to form social networks and independent community institutions, protect fugitive slaves from recapture, and mobilize large numbers of African American recruits to serve in the Union Army during the Civil War. Community leaders stressed unity above intra-racial divisions, and mixed-race individuals neither occupied a distinct legal category nor created an exclusive social stratum within the wider black community during this period.³⁹

The Buffalo Soldiers, formed on September 21, 1866, at Fort Leavenworth, were members of the 10th U.S. Cavalry Regiment and the first peacetime all-Black regiments for the U.S. Army. It is possible that Greenwood Cemetery could be the final resting place for a few of these men, such as **Silas Saunders**, born in 1834 in Arkansas and enumerated in the Leavenworth census in 1860 as a dealer in hemp and in 1865 as a teamster. His wife, Annie and two daughters Harriet and America are buried in Greenwood. Their grave marker appears to be a more recent addition to the cemetery, perhaps to replace an older or missing marker, but has been toppled.

The formation of the Freedmen's Bureau in 1865 offered support for transition from slavery to freedom by providing medicine, land, rations of clothing and food, education, and overall support.⁴⁰ Susan B. Anthony, nationally recognized suffragist, briefly resided in Leavenworth at this time and worked with the bureau. Another familiar name in this time frame was Benjamin "Pap" Singleton (1809-1900), considered the "Black Moses" as he led African American Exodusters to

³⁵ "The Glorious First: Gen. Blunt's Speech at the Celebration at Rieger's Grove", Leavenworth Times, 3 Aug 1878, p.4, col.3

³⁶ Leavenworth Weekly Times, March 7, 1895

³⁷ *Brown, Mary Ann Sachse, Remembering Lowemont, 2006, Lulu Publishing, p100-101*

³⁸ "Historic Preservation in Kansas Black Historic Sites: A Beginning Point" Sep 1977 Topeka: Kansas State Historical Society.

³⁹ Morales, Rita Isabella, "Willing Freedom: An American Family & the 19th Century Landscape of Race", Sept 2019, unpublished manuscript, with permission

⁴⁰ Warren, Kim "Seeking the Promised Land: African American Migrations to Kansas" "Civil War on the Western Border", Kansas City Public Library website:

<https://civilwaronthewesternborder.org/essay/seeking-promised-land-african-american-migrations-kansas>,

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Kansas between 1877 and 1879,⁴¹ and encouraged them to strive for economic independence. Although “Pap” was a proponent of establishing separate Black colonies in Kansas, he soon realized the existence of racism. Following the second wave of nearly 20,000 African American to Kansas in 1879-80, composed of Exodusters with no money, communities struggled to meet the increase in population economically. The Kansas Freedmen’s Relief Association was created in 1879 to collect and distribute resources,⁴² which mainly came from out of state. In May of 1880, the Leavenworth chapter held their annual meeting and noted there were nearly 150 immigrants at the local barracks, with departures keeping pace with arrivals.⁴³

Two important issues for these freed slaves were religion and education. The Bethel African American Church was organized in 1859 on Kiowa street in north Leavenworth and by 1861 a brick church was constructed with a bell tower that could be seen from across the river. A lantern, placed in the tower at night, served as a beacon to escaped slaves which guided them to safety.⁴⁴ The sub-basement of the church became known as a station on the UGRR. Black preachers buried in Greenwood included **Dennis Jones** (1815-1884), **A.B.H. Turner** (1816-1889), and **Frederick Creasy** (1811-1898). Rev. Dennis Jones was a resident of Leavenworth for 30 years and was widely known and respected. He worked statewide for equal rights, along with Capt. Mathews and Col. D.R. Anthony in 1876.

Of additional importance was the matter of education. Many freed and escaped slaves could not read nor write. The first provision for the education of “colored” children was actually offered by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth until state law dictated it be provided. Charles Langston (1817-1892) was active in Leavenworth aiding in the cause for freedom and especially in the schooling of the increasing Black population. At that time two schools for Black children were organized. What would later become Lincoln School was in north Leavenworth and Sumner Elementary in south Leavenworth. Langston oversaw the north Leavenworth school.⁴⁵ Both segregated schools were eventually replaced, with Sumner School closing after desegregation in the late 1960s. **Miss Harriet Saunders** (1858-1876), daughter of Silas and Annie G. Saunders and sister to America Contee, taught in the North Leavenworth Colored School and died from a high fever at a young age.

In Leavenworth County, Black communities were concentrated in the northeast section of Leavenworth, with small districts located in the county near Lowemont, Easton, and Reno. Townsfolk were of the opinion that as long as the Black emigrants became self-sufficient, they were welcome. “Separate but equal” was the prevailing thought toward the Black population. Still, there were often periods of strife as seen over the decades with the occurrence of death threats and lynch mobs accompanying racial discord.

Black Americans were excluded from White-owned cemeteries and some built their own cemeteries, but Greenwood owners allotted three acres of space on the northwestern side of the cemetery for Leavenworth Black burials. It has yet to be definitively determined if indeed, all the Black burials were segregated or not. As of 2021, over 250 Black burials have been determined in a list of nearly 2,000 burials. Of the 250, only twenty percent have markers. Among those interred in Greenwood, a history of their existence in Leavenworth can be determined through the study of their lives.

A good number of the known Black internments were former slaves, most making a living by manual labor in Leavenworth. Many of these former slaves were women whose children became successful and prominent citizens of Leavenworth and the United States, such as **Emily Jane Franklin** (1834-1908) the grandmother of W.T. Vernon, registrar of the U.S. Treasury in Washington, DC from 1906 to 1911. Her husband, Samuel was a well-known chef in local hotel restaurants.

⁴¹ The Leavenworth Weekly Times, “The Colored Moses”, 8 May 1879, page 2, col.3

⁴² “Benjamin ‘Pap’ Singleton, Kansapedia, Kansas Historical Society, <https://www.kshs.org/kansapedia/benjamin-pap-singleton/12205>, 6/13/2021

⁴³ “Kansas Freedmen’s Relief Association”, Leavenworth Weekly Press, 13 May 1880, p. 1.col 9.

⁴⁴ “Bethel AME Church 145th Anniversary Celebration, Pub. 2004

⁴⁵ Ruff, Candy “Turning the pages of time”, Leavenworth Times, 23 Feb 1886

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Peaceful Expansion (1866-1889)

Despite several setbacks, specifically the national panic of 1873 followed by a grasshopper plague and a major flood, Leavenworth had financial stability by attracting and maintaining a strong manufacturing environment. City founders, aware of the changing climate, had determined to focus on steady growth based less on freighting and steamboats and more on factories, mines, railroads and civic improvements.⁴⁶ The inflated population of Leavenworth at the close of the Civil War began to shrink as residents returned to their homes and businesses in other parts of the state. One large upset to the continued and sustainable growth of the city occurred when Kansas City obtained major railways instead of Leavenworth. The construction of the Hannibal Bridge, the first permanent rail crossing of the Missouri River, established Kansas City as a major city and rail center.⁴⁷

Leavenworth, still an important river port, continued to develop its small industries and wholesale commercial establishments which supplemented Fort Leavenworth. "Leavenworth had for many years enjoyed a splendid business in furnishing supplies to the government at the fort and outfits for the overland trains."⁴⁸ The merchants had become wealthy and some gained a national reputation. While Kansas City worked for the major railroad connections, Leavenworth was making money and building up a great city with broad streets, substantial warehouses, and lavish private residences. Subsequent construction of State and Federal penitentiaries and the Old Soldiers' Home at Wadsworth dulled the town's disappointment at not becoming the imagined metropolis on the Missouri River.⁴⁹

The successful sinking of a coal shaft in Leavenworth opened a large field of employment and enabled Leavenworth to market an excellent quality and abundant quantity of coal in 1870. Subsequent mines were opened and employed at least 1,000 men and offered a large payroll which, in turn, helped support local merchants. City directories at this time listed 106 manufacturing companies, which brought additional immigrants from Ireland, Poland, and Italy to work the mines, mills, factories, building trades and consequent businesses.⁵⁰ Also employed in the coal mines were Black emigrants.

Cemeteries in Leavenworth

As an integral piece of history and a causative factor in the establishment of Greenwood Cemetery, Pilot Knob (aka Mount Aurora), just outside the city limits of Leavenworth, was the first burial ground in the immediate area. Located on the highest elevation just west of Leavenworth and due north of present-day Greenwood Cemetery, the burial ground came to be considered "difficult of access even in good weather, and absolutely dangerous in bad." Two other cemeteries were also organized shortly after the settlement of Leavenworth to include a Catholic Cemetery, Thorne Hill, and a Jewish Cemetery, Sons of Truth, both in proximity to each other and near Pilot Knob. A new Catholic cemetery was founded in 1870 on the Desoto Road, south of the city, and bodies from the Thorne Hill location re-interred there. By this time very few interments were occurring at Mt. Aurora/Pilot Knob.

Pilot Knob had accepted onto its grounds the earliest pioneer settlers and several early casualties of the Border warfare/Bleeding Kansas era such as Reese Perkins Brown, Thomas Shoemaker, Barclay Coppoc, Isaac & Mary Cody, Col. H.P. Johnson, and William Phillips, whose names are found in the pages of local and often forgotten early history. Locations of many of these early burials were lost by either being overlooked for re-interment, unidentified when removed during excavation of the city water reservoir in the early 1880s, or with lost or deteriorated markers. An undetermined number of burials and re-interments occurred from this cemetery and evidence suggests many were left behind.

⁴⁶ "Centennial Leavenworth 1854-1954" pub Centennial Historical Committee, p 14

⁴⁷ "Bottoms Up/Kansas City History", <https://kchistory.org/blog/hannibal-bridge-keeping-it-rail-1869>, March 5, 2021

⁴⁸ The Daily Journal of Commerce, KC, Mo, June 8, 1871, p.1, col.3

⁴⁹ Carman, J. Neale, "Account of Settlement with Settlements in Kansas", 19174, University Press of Kansas, p. 584.

⁵⁰ "Centennial Leavenworth 1854-1954" pub. Centennial Historical Committee, p. 14-15

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Establishment of Greenwood Cemetery

Several cemeteries in Leavenworth pre-date Greenwood, but the inaccessibility of the main public cemetery precipitated the formation of the 12-acre Greenwood Cemetery. Mrs. Mary A. Davis⁵¹ was active in the community and in 1863 determined to establish a new cemetery, close to town with easier access. Having purchased 12 acres of land from George M. Fisher, a little more than a half mile from Pilot Knob, she named it Greenwood, after the celebrated and beautiful Greenwood Cemetery of New York City.⁵² Dr. James Davis, husband of cemetery founder, Mary A. Davis, could be contacted to view available family lots for purchase.⁵³ Greenwood Cemetery, sited on the old Leavenworth-Lawrence Road in Delaware Township of Leavenworth County and now known as Tonganoxie Road, is about a mile and three-quarters from Delaware street in Leavenworth and within two miles of Pilot Knob. The property had been purchased from a well-known fruit and berry grower of the county, George Fisher, who along with their wives had arrived here with his brother, Adam, and were considered among the first white families to settle in Leavenworth in 1854.

The Leavenworth-Lawrence Road was one of the historical highways of Kansas. First marked as an American Indian trail in 1827, it was opened in 1856 as a wagon road. The route ran from Pilot Knob to the Kansas River in Lawrence⁵⁴ and became known as the most noted and most traveled roads in early Kansas history. Supplies for new settlers were hauled over this road to be distributed to various settlements.⁵⁵ There were taverns or roadhouses along the way in addition to farms and vineyards. There was also a one-room Greenwood school southwest of the cemetery, known as School District No. 51, that was organized in 1868 with a board consisting of Jacob Swagger, G.W. Gordmen, and **George M. Fisher**. Many of the neighbors were subsequently buried in Greenwood, including **Col. C.R. Jennison** (1834-1884), the famous leader of Jennison's Jayhawkers who owned a sizeable farm on the "Old Lawrence Road" where he raised thoroughbred horses. Burials in Greenwood cemetery include a substantial number of early residents of Leavenworth County because of Fort Leavenworth, the key supply base in the settlement of the West.

Although there was an additional 35 acres available, the cemetery never grew beyond its original acreage; perhaps due to the competing 180 acres at Mount Muncie, three miles south of Leavenworth on old Muncie Indian lands, opened in the summer of 1866. At that time there were then five cemeteries: Catholic, Jewish, Mount Aurora/Pilot Knob, Greenwood and Mount Muncie. With news of the opening of Mt. Muncie, Mrs. Davis sold Greenwood to George M. Fisher and **Andrew Barnes** (1828-1906) near the end of the year for \$2,000. Barnes, a pioneer and Free State man, had emigrated with his family from Connecticut in 1858, driving an ox team across the country from his New England home.⁵⁶ The new owners were intent on repairing and beautifying the grounds, to be "kept carefully for burial of dead."⁵⁷ Three acres west of the present ground would be set apart for the benefit of local Black citizens. Barnes assumed the role of sexton for the cemetery. He had been the custodian of Pilot Knob Cemetery and became the on-site overseer of Greenwood for the next 25 years. After his death in 1906, his son, **Oscar Barnes** (1865-1945), carried on the family tradition until his own death. The following year the Greenwood Cemetery Company Corporation was formed and registered with the State of Kansas.

⁵¹ Mrs. Davis was the sister of Elizabeth who married James L. Abernathy, another early settler who founded the Abernathy Furniture Co. in Leavenworth and Kansas City. His brother, **William H. Abernathy** (1830-1869) joined him in the business but died in 1869 and was buried in Greenwood as were members of the Davis family and their descendants.

⁵² *New Cemetery*, Leavenworth Bulletin, Aug 10, 1863

⁵³ The Davises had arrived in Leavenworth in 1855 with pro-slavery leaning but soon became disgusted and sided with the Free-Staters. Dr. Davis was very patriotic, was interested in politics, entertained socially and had a drugstore on Delaware street.

⁵⁴ The Leavenworth Times, Sun., Aug 18, 1918, page 2, col. 4 & 5.

⁵⁵ Gable, Frank M., "Memoirs of a Pioneer of Kansas", Collections of Kansas State Historical Society, 1925, p. 576

⁵⁶ Mooney, V.P., History of Butler County, Kansas, 1916, p.579.

⁵⁷ Leavenworth Times, Dec. 18, 1866 Notice.

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History and Ownership⁵⁸

At a stockholders meeting in April 1892, the purchase of 27 acres of additional ground was considered but not acted upon. The committee consisted of J.C. Feller, chairman, Jacob Rodenhaus, **John Baum** (1840-1935), **Jacob Kunz** (1830-1910), George Linck, and **Henry Jansen** (1830-1902). The next recorded cemetery meeting was for lot owners in June of 1910 and again, the purchase of additional ground and beautifying the grounds was considered. Within four years complaints were being aired regarding the upkeep of the cemetery. Previous owners, George Fisher and Andrew Barnes had passed away in 1896 and 1906 respectively. Ownership passed to their descendants with Oscar Barnes assuming the role of caretaker and sexton. It was suggested that lot owners clean up their own lots and take better care of the graves. Owners were also encouraged to invest in improvements since lot prices at Mt. Muncie were prohibitive.

By 1914, the cemetery grounds were described as “graves lost in brush, young trees/weeds cover lots owned by prominent families.” Hundreds of graves were being lost in these thickets of brambles and young trees. Some feared Greenwood would share the fate of the Pilot Knob Cemetery.⁵⁹ Three years later, plans were again afoot for clearing the cemetery of graves lost in brush. Located in a “beautiful spot, many old timers of the city are buried there and ought to be well cared for. It is not credible that this resting place of so many of the former citizens of LV should be allowed to grow up to underbrush and weeds.”

Ownership of the cemetery over the years passed to descendants of George Fisher—to Chauncy Flora and his wife Jennie Fisher Flora (daughter of George M. Fisher) in 1896 and eventually from the Barnes family to the Fisher family. The cemetery association took responsibility for maintenance, but that organization ceased functioning and the cemetery began its journey and decline into disrepair. Over the years, numerous efforts were made to clean up the cemetery grounds. The first known clean-up effort at Greenwood occurred as early as the spring of 1879 when the Odd Fellows volunteered and invited citizens and lot owners to renovate, repair and beautify the grounds. A basket dinner was provided so volunteers could work all day.

The land title remained with individual lot owners instead of being transferred to the cemetery corporation, who had been selling lots until 1892. By the end of WWI, the Flora family, descendants of George Fisher, owned the property but Jennie Flora owed a debt to James C. Davis. Upon her death in 1923, Davis collected the money owed him by seeking ownership of property in the cemetery. Even by that time, few burials were taking place at Greenwood. News articles have noted that as the city expanded to the southwest, the Greenwood Cemetery was left untended for much of the 1930-50s. Oscar Barnes died in 1945 at the age of 80 and the cemetery became nearly forgotten. In the 1950s the City of Leavenworth began paving and improving streets in the area, edging closer to cemetery property. The DAR initiated efforts to record cemetery headstones and efforts to secure ownership of the cemetery by the Davis family had not been successful. Burials in the cemetery ceased in the 1950s, with the last known burial in October 1955. A small group of volunteers and family descendants kept the grounds as clear as they could in the 1960s and '70s, but those volunteers grew old, and care fell to individual private groups with a passion for preservation.

History and Internments

Research of Greenwood cemetery interments also offers a study in burial customs, beginning when funerals were conducted from the parlors of private residences and coronet bands were followed by mourners on foot or in horse-drawn

⁵⁸ Due to the absence of original cemetery records, information has been collected from previous research by local individuals and supplemented with newspaper accounts. From 1942 to 1947, Mrs. Johanna Engel Baum,⁵⁸ Chairman of Genealogical Records, copied early records from the Andrew Barnes family held by J.C. Davis (1873-1947), local undertaker. Baum found that many burials were not recorded and pages of the records were missing and/or contained poor handwriting and misspelled names. (Baum, Johanna Engel, “Kansas: Leavenworth County Cemeteries, 1942-1947”) Several efforts to research and update the records have been pursued including Erwin Baker & Charles Pierce, in the 1980s, for what became the Baker & Pierce Cemetery Index for Leavenworth County. Efforts to update records continued in 2020 by searching for obituaries and collecting information from individuals involved in cleaning up the cemetery and its headstones. (Esther Berveiler (1918-2017), the last surviving member of the Bicentennial Committee, toured Greenwood Cemetery in 2011 with Jim Claunch as he was developing the latest county burial index.)

⁵⁹ Leavenworth Post, Oct 9, 1914, “Public Opinion”, Leavenworth Times,

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carriages; types and styles of markers and adornments used in family lots, designated with various types of materials; the variety of ethnicities and types of work carried on by settlers, and a plethora of causes of death including a high percentage of infant children buried here. Since a substantial percentage of burials from the earlier years of settlement are those of German immigrants and former slaves there is a strong association of the cemetery to the early history of Kansas Territory. Study of Greenwood Cemetery and its preservation will offer years of ongoing research and insight to the settlement of the area.

Many of those interred at Greenwood Cemetery are associated with events that occurred in Kansas history. Some names are listed in Cutler's *History of Kansas* for Leavenworth County or in Hall & Hand's 1921 *History of Leavenworth County* and the *Portrait & Biographical Record of Leavenworth, Douglas & Franklin Counties of Kansas*. Other historical documents such as Kansas Claims of 1859 for losses incurred during Bleeding Kansas, a letter written by Mark Delahay inviting Abraham Lincoln to Leavenworth in 1859, lists of Civil War soldiers, pioneer settlers, as well as histories of Leavenworth County, are found to be associated with those interred at Greenwood Cemetery.

Burials also encompass people who contributed to the building of the first city of Kansas - from Germany, England, Ireland, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, and Italy. Others were from at least 20 other states; many were the first generation of Kansans who established the state. Many African Americans came here to escape slavery in the South and to begin anew as free citizens; represented in a significant number of burials in the cemetery. Burials in Greenwood Cemetery count numerous pre-statehood settlers and many well-known but also long forgotten names of Leavenworth history. Families such as Ackenhausen, Barth, Carney, Estes, Fairchild, Goddard, Helmers, Laing, Schmeckel, Scott, Taschetta, Tholen, and Vanderschmidt also included the parents of those who later founded manufacturing companies and successful businesses which contributed to local success for a good number of years.

The actual number of re-interments from other cemeteries, in particular, Pilot Knob, remains unknown. This is suggested from the headstones in Greenwood Cemetery dated prior to its founding in 1863 and a few news articles mentioning re-interments from Pilot Knob when the City excavated that area for a water reservoir in the early 1880s. When Pilot Knob was re-purposed, the re-interments were not recorded and many lost graves there were discovered in subsequent years and could no longer be identified. This included graves of the parents of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, who came to the Salt Creek Valley, near Leavenworth, in pre-statehood days who were joined by several early victims of Bleeding Kansas years.⁶⁰ A number of re-interments from Greenwood Cemetery to larger cemeteries in Leavenworth also occurred, mainly to Mount Muncie, founded in 1866, and Mount Calvary in 1869; no inclusive list exists. The formation of these early cemeteries is important to the early history of Greenwood Cemetery and its burials. However, a large percentage of immigrants in the early settlement of Kansas came from Germany and found their final resting place in the cemetery.

Notable Burials⁶¹

A large percentage of burials at Greenwood include employees of these manufacturing businesses, especially the coal mines of Leavenworth⁶² but also in the manufacture of stoves at Great Western and furniture at the Abernathy plant. Associates represented in the cemetery burial list represent additional firms such Goodjohn Sash & Door, Kerr & Brandon Brewery, Great Western Stove Mfg, Lysle Milling, Weaver & Odell, Globe Caning, Rolfs Cracker Factory, and the Leavenworth Times. Occupations of those interred covers a kaleidoscopic array, reflective of the century of time, from blacksmiths, brewers, carpenters, cigarmakers, druggists, horticulturalists, steamboat captains, farmers, prison guards, freighters, grocers, iron molders, laundresses, ministers, musicians, publishers, saddlers, seamstresses, shoe makers, stone masons, tailors, tavern keepers, teachers, wagonmakers and well diggers.

⁶⁰ "Buffalo Bill", Lv Weekly Times, 13 Oct 1881, p.6; "More History", Lv Standard, 11Aug 1891, p1

⁶¹ Causes of death vary greatly as well, many from diseases common in early day settlement—cholera, typhoid, consumption, diphtheria, la grippe, apoplexy, and summer complaint. When Johanna Baum conducted her cemetery survey, she recorded 30% of the deaths being infants and children, not unusual for the times. Coal mine, train, and on-the-job accidents claimed others. Drowning in local creeks or in the Missouri River was common, but also gunshot wounds, suicide, starvation, childbirth, heart disease, senility, asthma, heat exhaustion or hypothermia appear on the list. As of 2021, we do not have access to this information, due to health information privacy (HIPAA) restrictions.

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One German citizen whose final resting place is Greenwood Cemetery is **John Baum, Sr.** (1840-1935). He was one of Leavenworth's earliest pioneers and figured prominently in the expansion and growth of the city. Baum left his native homeland at the age of 18, where he had apprenticed as a blacksmith. Upon his arrival in the U.S. in 1858, he went to St Louis, Missouri, where he was employed in steamboat engine rooms. His first introduction to Leavenworth was on one of these boats, that had put in at the city wharf to winter in early 1860. Baum served during the Civil War and fought in the Battle of Shiloh and other battles in Kentucky and Tennessee. He married Miss Marie German in New York and after two sons were born and Marie died in Leavenworth, he married Sophia Endebrock with whom he had five children. Having settled in Leavenworth in 1864, he was first employed by Carney & Fenlon Grocers as a stock manager and by 1872 was associated with John Hannon in the wholesale liquor business. As one of the organizers of the Leavenworth Turnverein, he was a trustee when the Turner Hall was built. He was also an active member of the early-day German American Club and as its president, the club celebrated German-American Day in 1905. Baum was a GAR member and officer. He amassed considerable wealth and property.⁶³ In his later years, Baum kept the wooden gate to the cemetery locked, as he lovingly cared for the cemetery at one time but feared when he died, the property would spiral into ruin. The Baum monument and markers for the family remain in Greenwood, although the centerpiece of the plot has been toppled.

Florella (Brown) Adair (1816-1865), half-sister of John Brown of Harpers Ferry fame whose husband, Rev. Samuel Adair was stationed at Fort Leavenworth as an army chaplain during the Civil War;

Phiip Feth (circa 1822-1885), early Leavenworth builder and father of William Feth, noted architect; **Nelson McCracken** (1823-1864), early merchant driven from the town in September 1856 by the Pro-Slavery faction, and later returning; active public figure and Free Stater;

Craton Carney (1827-1885), brother of Kansas Gov. Thomas Carney;

Abram Brown (1808-1876) lawyer, judge and signer of the letter written to Abraham Lincoln, inviting him to Leavenworth in 1859; 2nd wife had been married to Thomas C. Shoemaker, who had studied law with A. Lincoln and appointed receiver for public money in the Land Office for Kansas, who was later a casualty in Bleeding Kansas era in 1857.

Charles H. Tholen (1818-1899) leader of the German element and pioneer lawyer, also signer of Lincoln letter previously described, and great-grandfather of current Leavenworth County Attorney, Todd Thompson;

Mary A. Moates (1870-1892), first wife of Dr. Charles M. (C. M.) Moates (1861- 1925), a prominent Black physician who founded the Kansas State Protective Home for "aged and orphan colored people" of Leavenworth;

Lyman Scott, a wealthy local banker, later re-interred at Mount Muncie; and

Brigadier Charles "Doc" Rainsford Jennison (1834-1884), colonel of the 7th Kansas Cavalry, Commander of Fort Leavenworth, Mayor of Leavenworth, Kansas State Legislator and Senator, who was later re-interred in Mt. Muncie prior to his final resting place in San Francisco, California.

Representation of German Immigrants

In addition to the struggle to make Kansas a free state, immigrant Germans, who then comprised a large percentage of the local population, also made long-lasting contributions with their Turnverein Society, German newspapers, the capture of the Kickapoo Cannon, and the establishment of early breweries and wineries. German revolutionaries, who became known as Forty-Eighters, having lost their fight for greater freedoms in 1848 and 1849 in their native land, immigrated to

⁶² Coal Mine workers were from the Carr, Home Riverside and Brighton mines in Leavenworth.

⁶³ "An Early Settler who has Made His way in Leavenworth", Weekly Standard, May 28, 1886; "A Temperance Lesson", Leavenworth Times, Oct. 14, 1909.

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the United States in great numbers. With the publication of their own newspapers, these immigrants became a well-organized group and made the journey to the newly opened Kansas Territory where the decision by popular sovereignty would determine how it would enter the Union – as a free or slave state. The fight by these German Forty-Eighters became known as the “struggle against slavery and slavery’s extension.”⁶⁴ Aside from the great extent of their support of Kansas entering the Union as a Free State, Leavenworth can boast of several German owned and operated breweries in the early years such as John Grund’s Kansas Brewery, Keim & Werhle, later known as the City Brewery, and the long-lived Kuntz Brewery.

Representation of African Americans

African Americans journeyed to Leavenworth to escape slavery in the South while others were freed by their owners, such as wealthy Alabama cotton planter, Samuel Townsend who’s last will and testament freed his nine enslaved children, along with the bulk of his \$200,000 estate for their support.⁶⁵ Buried in Greenwood are **Sy** (1847-1915) and **Bell Townsend** (1849-1886) and their descendants. Others include **Jamini Craig** (1796-1896), a freed slave following the Civil War who came to Leavenworth with children from two fathers, one her husband and the other her previous owner in Missouri. Her descendants and their offspring found their way in the world through education and hard work, all to lead successful lives. Another former slave, **Chanie Canterbury** (? – 1884), came to Leavenworth in search of six children who had been sold away from her prior to the Civil War. Known burials include:

Alice Adams (1851-1912) whose parents, Milton & Elizabeth Busey are also buried in Greenwood, was a laundress and a cook for the deputy warden at the Federal prison.

Benjamin Anderson (1843-1891) worked as a porter for P.J. McDonald, coal dealer.

Henrietta Calamese (1859-1908) was a servant in the mansion of Dr. Brock, a Civil War surgeon.

Caroline Clark (1795-1895) became a centenarian, having served as a domestic at the abolitionist Mansion House and often appeared in the role of a servant on stage at the Opera House. Later she worked for Charles Peaper, a prominent local citizen, whose son worked for the famed Fred Harvey.

George L. Craig (1857-1917), a member of the Craig family from Missouri that included another centenarian, his “Grandma” **Gemina/Jemima Craig**, a former slave. His father was **Jefferson Craig**, also a former slave who owned a one-horse express business in Leavenworth. George served on the Leavenworth police force for a number of years.

William Henderson (1835-1870) was freed by his owner and sent to Liberia. He returned to the U.S., the country of his birth and to Leavenworth in 1859. During the Civil War he was a servant to Gen. John Sedgwick.

Randal Nash (1844-1899), former slave, enlisted in Missouri’s 4th Reg. Colored Infantry of Missouri Volunteers during the Civil War, as Randall Talbot, a common practice among enlisting slaves, to avoid being recaptured by their owners.⁶⁶

James Olden (1813-1917) arrived in Leavenworth after the Civil War as a freed slave, entertained generations of young people with the stories he told; 105 years old at the time of death.

Nathan Self (1875-1895) was a member of the Garfield Rifles, also known as the “Independent Colored Company of Kansas,” activated in the mid-1880s. The company served longer than any other Black militia company in Kansas with the unique distinction of being the only African American unit to be activated for domestic disorder within the state.⁶⁷

⁶⁴ Yearbook for German-American Studies, 40 (2005): 3-26

⁶⁵ Morales, R. Isabela, “Mixed Race Studies-Scholarly Perspectives on the Mixed Race Experience” and personal correspondence. <http://www.mixedracestudies.org/?tag=samuel-townsend>

⁶⁶ “Civil War Era Tintypes: Randall Nash, USCT, Inf” at Rediscovering Black History, Jan. 21, 2016 by Tligon, <https://rediscovering-black-history.blogs.archives.gov/2016/01/21/civil-war-era-tintypes-randall-nash-usct-inf/> (12 Jun, 2021)

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William Taylor (1854-1873) was among the earliest known Black burials in Greenwood. Murdered by ruffians in Dodge City, where he was running an express line while visiting his brother. Capt. W.D. Matthews personally brought his body back to Leavenworth on a special train and arranged a Masonic funeral at Greenwood.⁶⁸

Daniel Webster (1831-1899) served during the Civil War on the 83rd Kansas Colored Infantry, Co. A, and for 17 years as the quartermaster for Shaw Post No. 208 of the GAR.

So far, the 250 identified Black burials are early pioneers and contributors to local history as freed slaves. Many have greatly contributed to Leavenworth and national history.

Greenwood Cemetery, while still sacred ground, is directly tied to many figures important to the history of the region. Soldiers, farmers, lawyers, doctors, preachers, factory workers, coal miners, and merchants are buried in Greenwood, their wives and their children. Most were immigrants from other countries --England, Ireland, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and France. A great percentage of early immigrants were German, a group known as the Forty-Eighters, who left Germany after their failed attempt to gain freedom. Because Kansas was the Land of Opportunity, especially prior to and following the Civil War, many African Americans came here to escape slavery in the South while others were freed by their owners. Many served as the first generation of Kansans who went on to leave a significant mark on the pages of our history.

The study of interments in Greenwood Cemetery also offers a lesson in the first century of Leavenworth history, from opening of the territory for settlement, Bleeding Kansas days, the Civil War, years of prohibition, and the emergence of the first city as a manufacturing hub. The final resting place of early German settlers and African American freed slaves constitute a great percentage of burials in Greenwood. Preservation and research of this cemetery in the first city of Kansas that accepted those who died over a century of time will continue for many years into the future.

⁶⁷ Cunningham, by Roger D., "The Black Citizen Soldiers of Kansas 1865-1901" 2008

⁶⁸ "A Funeral Pageant. Burial of Wm Taylor the Victim of the Dodge City Butchery," The Leavenworth Times, June 10, 1873

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 8.6 acres

Provide latitude/longitude coordinates OR UTM coordinates.

(Place additional coordinates on a continuation page.)

UTM References

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ x NAD 1983

A 15 S 332739 4350588
Zone Easting Northing

D 15 S 332646 4350423
Zone Easting Northing

B 15 S 332883 4350585
Zone Easting Northing

E 15 S 332606 4350471
Zone Easting Northing

C 15 S 332872 4350419
Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The location of the Greenwood Cemetery is located at Tonganoxie Road & Limit Streets, Leavenworth, Kansas, Section 10, Township 9 South, Range 22 East (39° 17' 19" North, 94° 56' 22" West). The cemetery is currently approximately 8.6 acres in an irregular pentagon shape as seen in the attached aerial photo. The five sides are north, east, south, southwest, and northwest.

It is bounded on the north by Limit Street with a stone retaining wall and a chain-link fence that runs from the northeast corner to the cemetery gate, about 20 feet to the east of the northwest corner. The northwest corner of the cemetery is heavily covered with trees and brush.

The eastern boundary is residential housing, with a series of small, homeowner-built fences. Much of this fence-line is covered with trees and brush, especially in the southwest corner.

On the south side is another housing addition and a series of small, homeowner-built fences. Much of this fence-line is lined with trees and brush and in some cases the fences have fallen down and are not contiguous.

The southwest boundary is significantly shorter than the other sections and is bordered only by trees and brush. It is not fenced.

The northwest boundary of the cemetery runs along Tonganoxie Road and is also not fenced. There is a steep hill along this side of the cemetery, and it is heavily covered in brush and trees, especially in the southwest corner.



Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

Although the cemetery initially encompassed twelve acres, the current acreage has been reduced to 8.6 acres due to an addition of a housing subdivision on the east boundary and widening of Tonganoxie Road. This reduced acreage constitutes the historically significant cemetery boundaries.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Committee
organization Leavenworth County Historical Society date _____
street & number 1128 Fifth Avenue telephone 913-682-7759
city or town Leavenworth state KS zip code 660448
e-mail maryannsachsebrown@gmail.com

Property Owner: (complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name City of Leavenworth
street & number 100 N. 5th Street telephone 913-680-2600
city or town Leavenworth state KS zip code 66048

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Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
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Name of Property: Greenwood Cemetery
City or Vicinity: Leavenworth
County: Leavenworth State: KS
Photographer: Jamee Fiore, KS-SHPO
Date Photographed: December 21, 2021

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include a description of view indicating the direction of camera:

Photo Number	View	Description
1	W	Overview of Limit St, north boundary of the cemetery
2	E	Overview of Limit St, north boundary of the cemetery
3	S	Entrance to the cemetery
4	SW	Overview of Tonganoxie Dr, west boundary of the cemetery
5	E	Overview of the northeastern part of the cemetery
6	S	Overview of the northeastern part of the cemetery
7	SE	Overview of the northeastern part of the cemetery
8	SE	Typical lot marker/stones
9	SE	Overview of the southeastern part of the cemetery
10	W	Washington Avenue remnants
11	N	Overview of the southern part of the cemetery
12	NW	Overview of the western part of the cemetery
13	SW	Overview of the northern part of the cemetery
14		Close up of Mary Ann Davis marker
15		Close up of family monument
16		Close up of family monument
17		Close up of markers for a German family (marker is in German)
18		Close up of lot marker
19		Unique marker for a baby
20		Typical lots and markers
21		McCracken monument
22		Close up of McCracken monument
23		Example of unique bounded lot
24		Unique fenced lot
25		Unique stone bound lot divided into 5 burials

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Photo 1



Photo 2

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

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Photo 3



Photo 4

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 5



Photo 6

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 7



Photo 8

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 9



Photo 10

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 11



Photo 12

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 13



Photo 14

Greenwood Cemetery

Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas

County and State



Photo 15



Photo 16

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 17

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 18



Photo 19

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Photo 20



Photo 21



Photo 22

Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

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Photo 23



Photo 24

Greenwood Cemetery

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Photo 25

Figure list:

Figure 1: 1867 plat map shows the cemetery divided into four blocks, each with 206 lots

Figure 2: 2021 Jim Claunch Map (derived from 1967 survey) indicating from the road lost, expansion and housing development

Figure 3: 1976 Aerial of the cemetery

Figure 4: Register of Deeds document

Figure 5: Topo map of the cemetery boundary

Figure 6: Overview of the cemetery in relation to Leavenworth

Figure 7: Overview of the cemetery boundary

Figure 8: Notable markers within the Cemetery and the cemetery crossroads.

Greenwood Cemetery

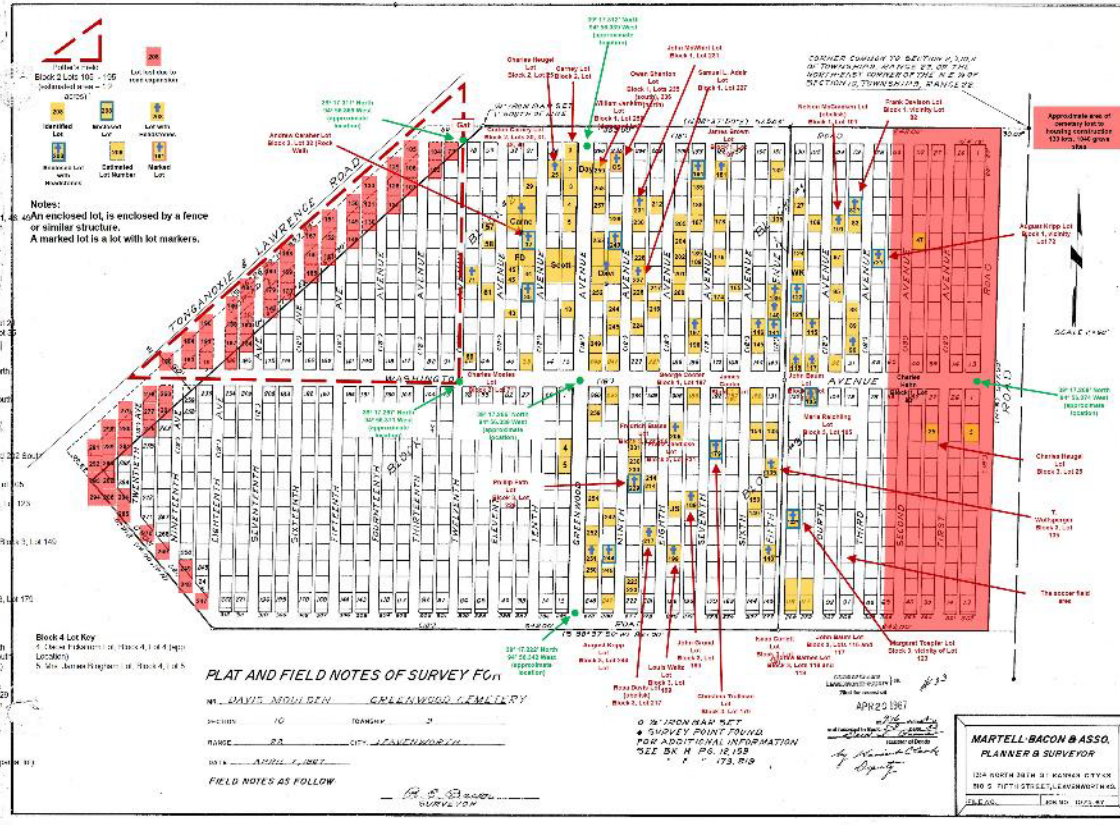
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Greenwood Cemetery
Leavenworth, Kansas
Compiled Lot Map
Compiled by Jim L. Claunch
2 August 2021
Leavenworth, Kansas
[Lot names listed are not necessarily a matter of record]

- Block 2 Lot Key**
1. 11 to 15
2. 16 to 20
3. 21 to 25
4. 26 to 30
5. 31 to 35
6. 36 to 40
7. 41 to 45
8. 46 to 50
9. 51 to 55
10. 56 to 60
11. 61 to 65
12. 66 to 70
13. 71 to 75
14. 76 to 80
15. 81 to 85
16. 86 to 90
17. 91 to 95
18. 96 to 100
19. 101 to 105
20. 106 to 110
21. 111 to 115
22. 116 to 120
23. 121 to 125
24. 126 to 130
25. 131 to 135
26. 136 to 140
27. 141 to 145
28. 146 to 150
29. 151 to 155
30. 156 to 160
31. 161 to 165
32. 166 to 170
33. 171 to 175
34. 176 to 180
35. 181 to 185
36. 186 to 190
37. 191 to 195
38. 196 to 200
39. 201 to 205
40. 206 to 210
41. 211 to 215
42. 216 to 220
43. 221 to 225
44. 226 to 230
45. 231 to 235
46. 236 to 240
47. 241 to 245
48. 246 to 250
49. 251 to 255
50. 256 to 260
51. 261 to 265
52. 266 to 270
53. 271 to 275
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- Block 1 Lot Key**
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Greenwood Cemetery

Leavenworth County, Kansas

Name of Property

County and State

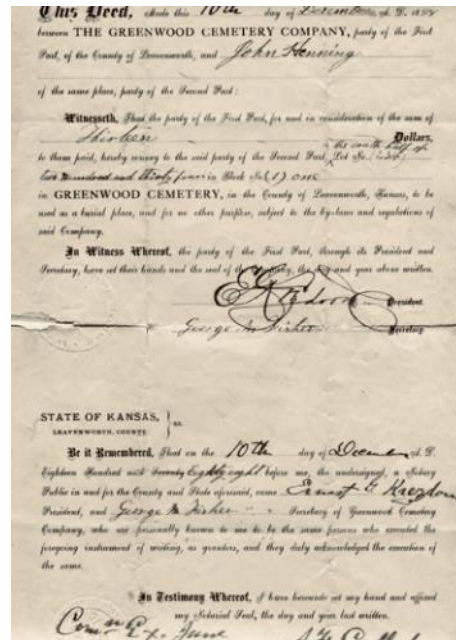


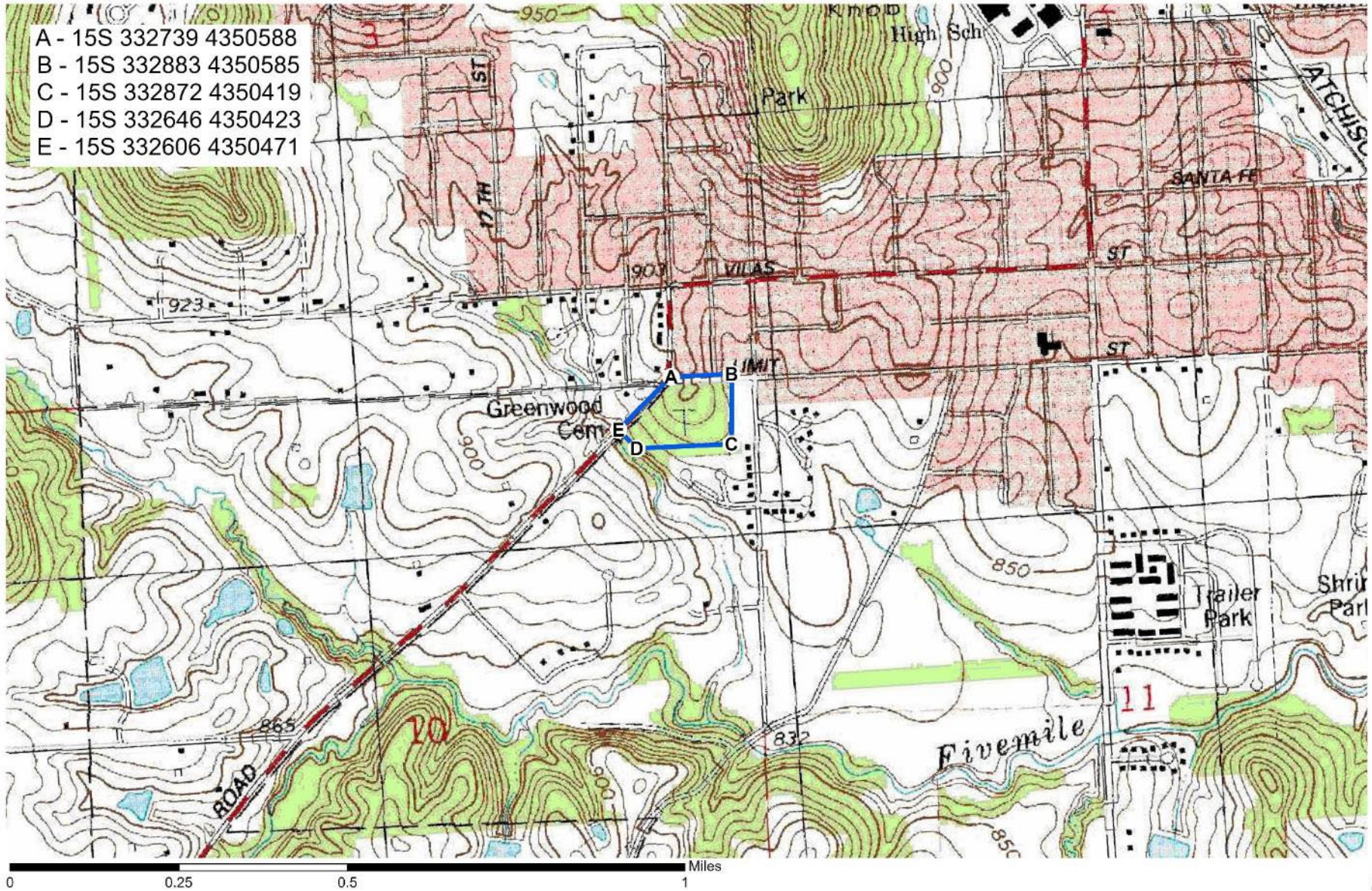
Figure 4

Greenwood Cemetery

Leavenworth County, Kansas

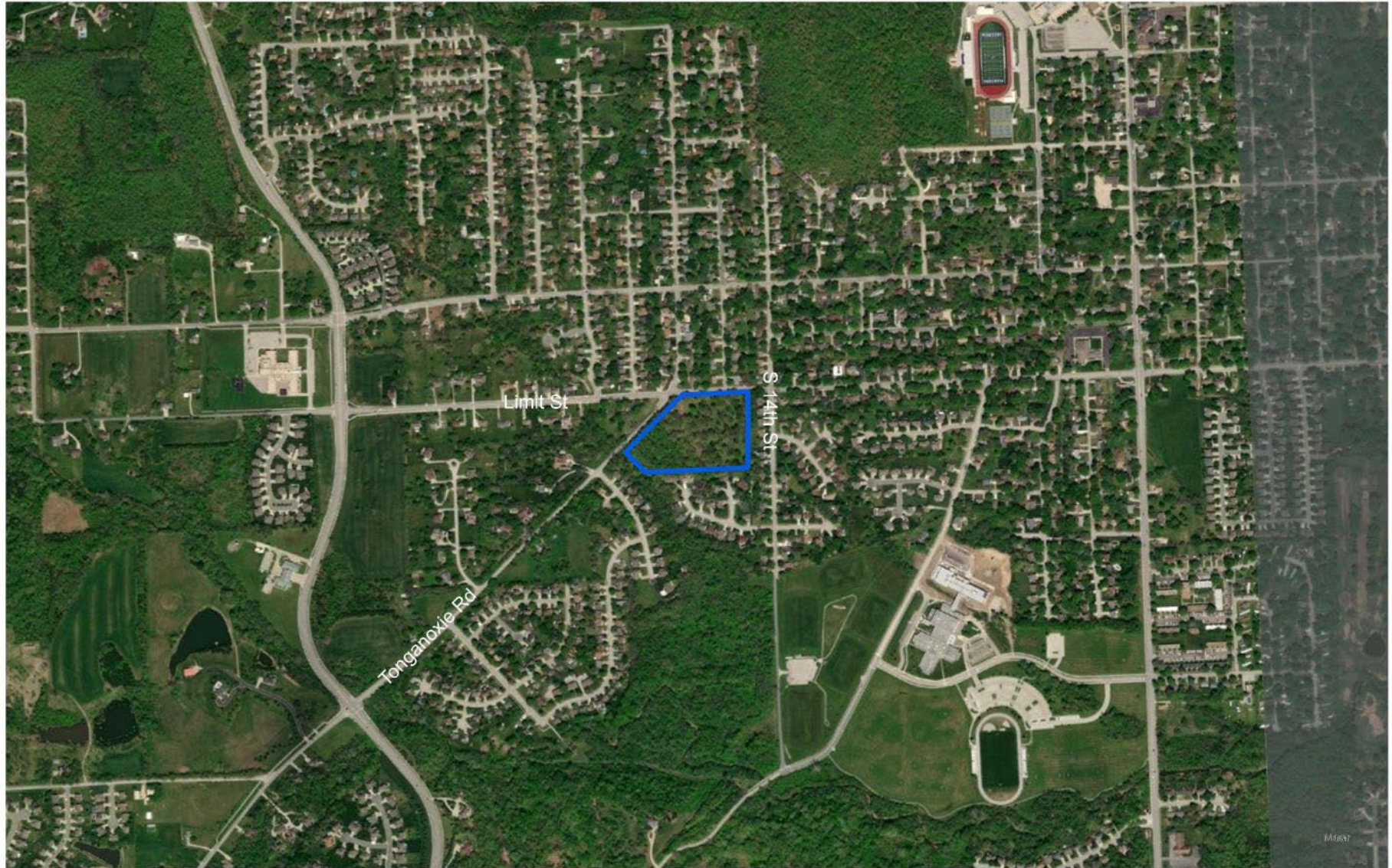
Name of Property

County and State



Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



Greenwood Cemetery
Name of Property

Leavenworth County, Kansas
County and State



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Greenwood Cemetery

Leavenworth County, Kansas

Name of Property

County and State

