

Your Walking Tour Guide To MT. MORIAH CEMETERY



Deadwood's Historic "BOOT HILL"

DEADWOOD, so named because of the dead timber on the surrounding hills, is not unlike many frontier towns with interesting histories. The discovery of gold in the Black Hills brought thousands of sober, hard-working people to the Deadwood area. However, some residents proved to be quite colorful as will become evident as you read through this Guide. Many were buried here at Mount Moriah or at its predecessor, the Ingleside Cemetery which was down the hill and to the left of the present cemetery.

The area of the Ingleside Cemetery is presently a residential section of Deadwood. Many buried in this old cemetery were later exhumed and reburied in Mount Moriah. However, some were not, and even today residents enlarging their homes or digging for other reasons may unearth remains from the old cemetery. Mount Moriah Cemetery was established in 1877 or 1878 because of the ever-increasing demands on the grounds at Ingleside. It is difficult to tell exactly when the use of Ingleside Cemetery was discontinued, but according to old records, by mid-1878 all burials, with the exception of those at the Catholic Cemetery, were at Mount Moriah.

Mount Moriah has numerous sections. At one time a large number of Chinese were buried in a section in the upper left portion of the cemetery. For religious reasons, the bodies were later exhumed and returned to China for reburial. Today only a few graves exist in this section. The Jewish section, complete with tombstones inscribed in Hebrew, is located in the upper portion of the cemetery. Many of the prominent citizens who founded Mount Moriah were Masons, and one of the most attractive sections is the Masonic section located in the center of the cemetery. Many of the roads throughout the cemetery also have names connected with Masonry.

Children's graves are found throughout the cemetery, and there are also three Potter's Fields, final resting places for a number of early-day indigents, prostitutes included. Most of these graves are unmarked. Beyond the Preacher Smith monument is a section called the War Memorial in which many Civil War veterans are buried.

To summarize the life stories of all those buried in Mount Moriah would be virtually impossible, as there are over 3,400 people buried here. Those included in this Guide have been selected because of their historical importance, or because of the special or unusual stories surrounding their lives in the Deadwood area.

Enjoy your walk through Mount Moriah Cemetery with your Walking Tour Guide. For more information on the Cemetery or the pioneers buried here, visit the Adams Memorial Museum and other historical attractions in the area. Many books have been written about the history of Deadwood and its people. Most of these are available at various retail outlets in Deadwood.

The first stop on your Walking Tour includes the final resting place of three of Deadwood's most famous residents – "Wild Bill" Hickok, Calamity Jane and Potato Creek Johnny.

A – JAMES BUTLER HICKOK, alias "Wild Bill" Hickok was murdered in Deadwood on August 2, 1876. Wild Bill came, as many others did, to the Deadwood gold camp in search of adventure and fortune. While pursuing what others often said was his only true passion – gambling – he was shot in the back of the head and killed instantly by a local rogue, Jack McCall. A hastily convened miners' court found McCall innocent, but he was later tried by a regular court, found guilty and hanged. Wild Bill's friends buried him in the Ingleside Cemetery, but two years later he was reburied at the present site in Mount Moriah. Wild Bill's colorful life included service as a marshal, an Army scout and numerous other tasks which called for a fast gun and no aversion to bloodshed.

POTATO CREEK JOHNNY, a name synonymous with Black Hills prospecting, was without a doubt, one of Deadwood's most colorful characters. The small, bearded figure of John Perrett was a familiar sight along the streams of the Tinton area where he may or may not have found one of the largest gold nuggets ever panned in the Black Hills. Some older area residents claim this huge nugget was actually several nuggets melted together. Potato Creek's later life saw him become somewhat of a Deadwood fixture as he took part in numerous parades and community activities. John, ever popular with the children, was an ambassador of good will with visitors to our community until his death on February 21, 1943.

MARTHA "Calamity Jane" CANARY (1850? – 1903). In her short 53 years Calamity Jane lived more than most. She worked on a bull train, performed in a wild west show and was a prostitute of little repute – we assume because of her appearance. One story most historians claim to be strictly a figment of Calamity Jane's imagination was her claim to have been Wild Bill Hickok's sweetheart. Her acts of charity and her willingness to nurse the sick attest to the warm, soft side of this rough and ready denizen of the Old West. In 1903 Calamity Jane died in the mining camp of Terry from a variety of ailments, chief among which was acute alcoholism. One can only wonder what the elegant and fastidious Wild Bill would have had to say of Calamity's dying wish – which as you can see was granted – that she be buried next to him.

B – DORA DUFRAN – sporting house proprietor. Miners, or anyone else down on his luck were fortunate that Dora, like many early-day prostitutes and madams, apparently had hearts of gold. Dora's industry spread beyond Deadwood. Her brothels were found in Lead, Rapid City and Belle Fourche. Perhaps her most lasting claim to fame was that of befriending Calamity Jane whom she occasionally employed as a maid. After living sixty years in the Black Hills, Dora and her parrot, Fred, were laid to rest at Mount Moriah next to her husband, Joseph. Note the gargoyle columns stationed at each of the four corners of the lot.

C – HENRY WESTON SMITH – "Preacher Smith". Deadwood's first ordained minister truly lived his faith, and was an outstanding individual liked by the entire community. During his brief stay at Deadwood, he worked at menial jobs during the week and preached on Sundays. Smith was an ordained Methodist minister and a medical doctor. On Sunday, August 20, 1876, while enroute from Deadwood to the nearby mining camp of Crook City, Smith was murdered, presumably by Indians. Wild Bill's death had caused little stir in Deadwood, but the killing of Preacher Smith filled the community with rage, and for a time a bounty was placed on Indians. Before being exhumed and reburied at Mount Moriah, Smith reposed in the old Ingleside Cemetery.

D – CIVIL WAR VETERANS' SECTION – Mount Moriah contains the remains of many Civil War veterans, but this section contain the largest concentration of burials. You will note that nearly all the gravestones of these veterans are alike, provided by the government upon request of relatives.

E – FREEMAN KNOWLES – congressman, attorney, civil war veteran and flaming Socialist. Knowles published *THE LANTERN*, Deadwood's Socialist weekly newspaper. He served numerous jail terms for his biting editorials which usually defended the miners' union. At one point Knowles was jailed for writing about abortion, a risqué subject during the early 1900's. Knowles was a vocal champion of the underdog, was never questioned for his courage or for where he stood on a particular subject. Freeman Knowles underwent surgery in early 1910 and died in April of that year. After his death, Socialism was short-lived as a political force in Lawrence County.

F – RICHARD GIBSON ANDERSON (April 2, 1852 – Dec. 2, 1898). Anderson was a noted mining engineer and surveyor who had a brilliant future ahead of him in the Black Hills. Unaccountably, he was rendered insane and taken to a hospital where he attempted suicide. His first effort was unsuccessful; however, later in the evening he succeeded in mortally wounding himself with a screwdriver taken from the wall of his room. Richard Anderson was included in the Guide primarily because of the ornate scrollwork on his tombstone.

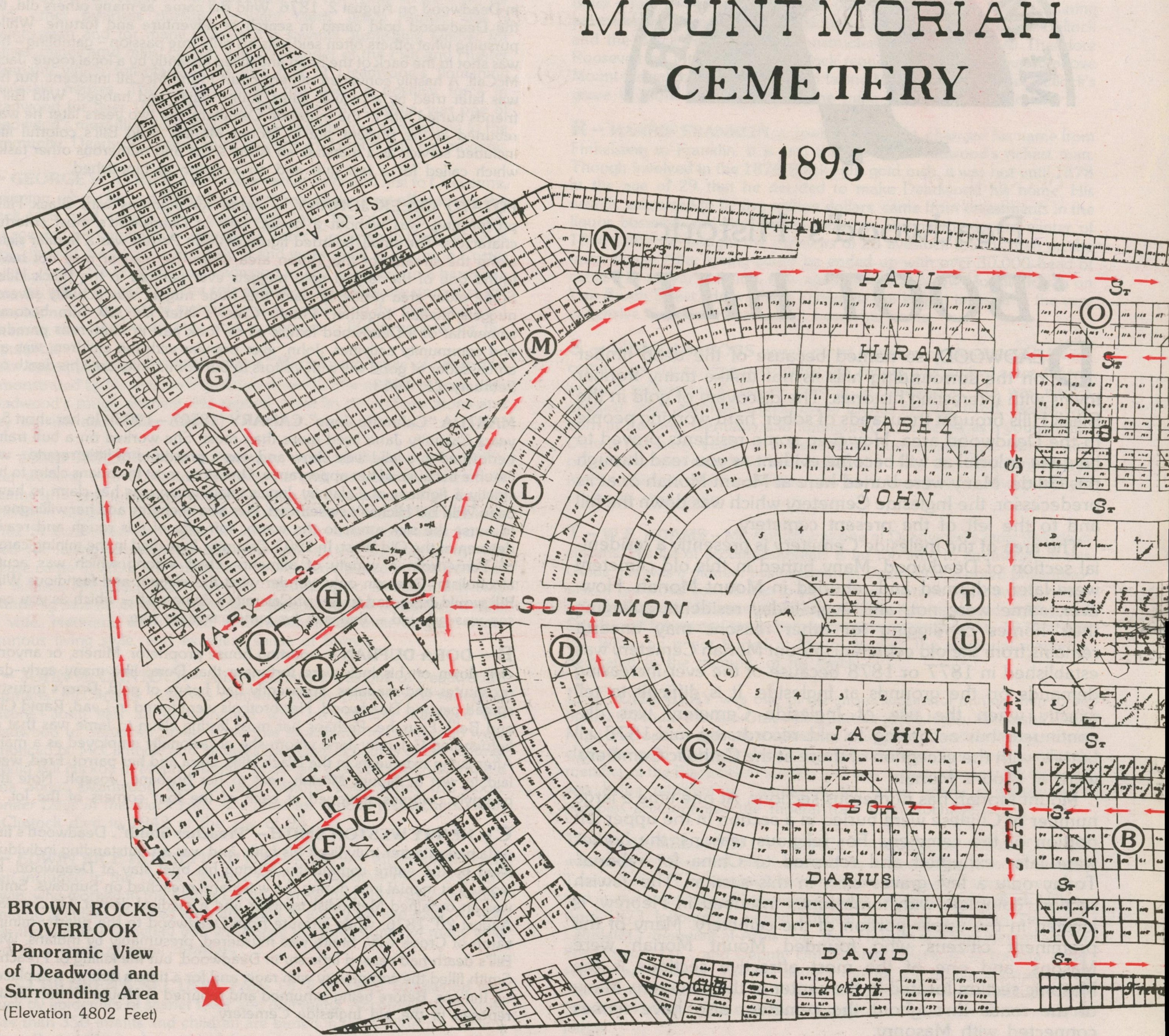
(Sites G through W continued on the back page)

MAP

OF

MOUNT MORIAH CEMETERY

1895



BROWN ROCKS OVERLOOK
Panoramic View of Deadwood and Surrounding Area
(Elevation 4802 Feet)

See reverse side of map for additional information about points on the tour indicated

- A - JAMES BUTLER "WILD BILL" HICKOK
MARTHA "CALAMITY JANE" CANARY
"POTATO CREEK JOHNNY" PERRETT
- B - DORA DUFRAN
- C - HENRY WESTON "PREACHER" SMITH
- D - CIVIL WAR VETERANS' SECTION
- E - FREEMAN KNOWLES
- F - RICHARD GIBSON ANDERSON
- ★ BROWN ROCKS OVERLOOK

- G - HUI TA MEI-FEN
- H - JOHN HUNTER
- I - GEORGE V. AYRES
- J - JOHN TREBER
- K - JOHN McCLINTOCK
- L - EDWIN RICE HORSEFIELD
- M - CHILDREN'S SECTION
- N - MASS GRAVE
- O - BLANCHE COLMAN

- P - PRENTIS "VINEGAR"
- Q - SETH BULLOCK
- R - HARRIS FRANKLIN
- S - SIDNEY JACOBS
- T - W.E. ADAMS
- U - JOHN GRAY
- V - COLONEL JOHN
- W - WILLIS H. BONHOMME

Walking Tour Guide to MOUNT MORIAH CEMETERY

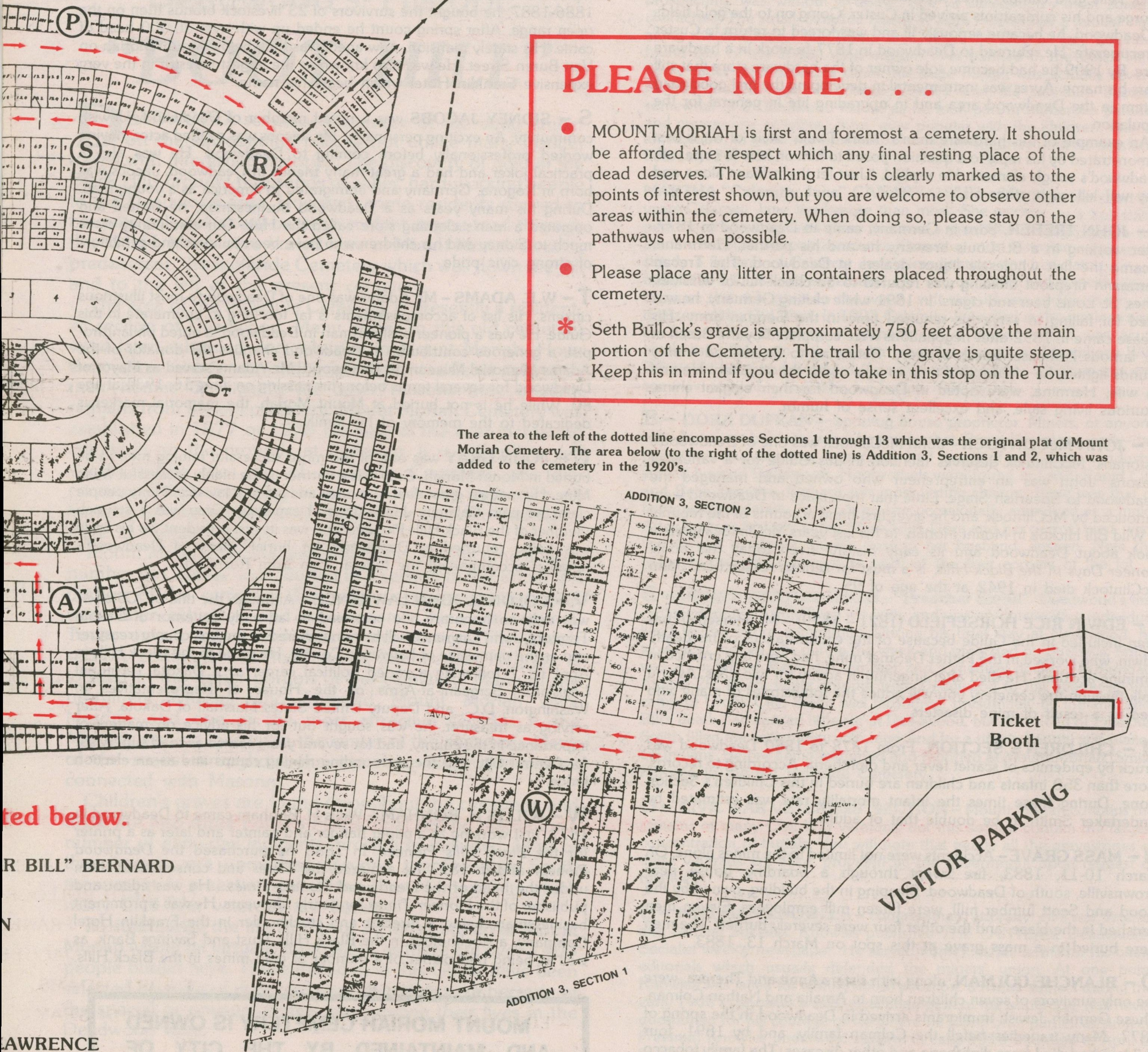
Deadwood, South Dakota

MAIN TOUR ← ← ←

OPTIONAL TOUR*
(To Seth Bullock's Grave)

To Seth Bullock's Grave*
(Not to scale)

Scale: |—————| = 100 Feet



PLEASE NOTE . . .

- MOUNT MORIAH is first and foremost a cemetery. It should be afforded the respect which any final resting place of the dead deserves. The Walking Tour is clearly marked as to the points of interest shown, but you are welcome to observe other areas within the cemetery. When doing so, please stay on the pathways when possible.
- Please place any litter in containers placed throughout the cemetery.
- * Seth Bullock's grave is approximately 750 feet above the main portion of the Cemetery. The trail to the grave is quite steep. Keep this in mind if you decide to take in this stop on the Tour.

The area to the left of the dotted line encompasses Sections 1 through 13 which was the original plat of Mount Moriah Cemetery. The area below (to the right of the dotted line) is Addition 3, Sections 1 and 2, which was added to the cemetery in the 1920's.

ted below.

R BILL" BERNARD

LAWRENCE

AM

BROWN ROCKS OVERLOOK - At this point on the walking tour you will be overlooking Deadwood Gulch with its breathtaking panoramic view of Deadwood and the surrounding mountains. To the west can be seen the Yates shaft headframe and a small portion of the surface operations of the famous Homestake Mining Company at Lead, three miles up the gulch. The American flag at the overlook flies 24 a day by act of Congress. It is one of the few spots in the country which is afforded this honor.

G - HUI TA MEI-FEN. This is the only tombstone of a Chinese left in the cemetery. One can assume that he must have been a person of some importance in Chinatown because his grave is marked with a regular tombstone rather than with a piece of wood as was usually the case. Hui is the last name; Mei-Fen is the given name; Ta means "man" or "great".

H - JOHN HUNTER - Many pioneers did not come to the Hills for gold; other business pursuits brought them. John Hunter was a businessman and for many years ran a sawmill, furnishing lumber for homes, mines and mills. Hunter was co-founder of the Fish and Hunter Company which for many years was one of Deadwood's flourishing wholesale houses. The Hunter family has been a positive force in Deadwood for over 100 years. John Hunter's son, George, was one of Deadwood's most illustrious citizens, donating his time and fortune to the community. Deadwood owes much to John H. Hunter and his progeny.

I - GEORGE V. AYRES, a Nebraska native, migrated first to Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he and a small group of gold seekers set off afoot for the Black Hills gold camps. After seventeen days, ten of which it snowed, George and his compatriots arrived in Custer. Going on to the gold fields in Deadwood, he became seriously ill and was forced to return to Custer to recuperate. He returned to Deadwood in 1877 to work in a hardware store. By 1909 he had become sole owner of the hardware store that still bears his name. Ayres was instrumental in developing the first good road system in the Deadwood area and in upgrading life in general for the population.

An example of this hardware man's "Mark Twain" style of wit is best demonstrated by his reply to a question posed to him on how to cope with Deadwood's rough element. He replied, "Just let the ruffians alone and they will kill each other off."

J - JOHN TREBER, born in Germany, came to Deadwood in 1877. After working in a St. Louis brewery, he and his partner, Herrmann, became the first wholesale liquor dealers in Deadwood. The Treber-Herrmann fireproof building was reputed to be chock-full of whiskies, wines, St. Louis beer and cigars. In 1891 while visiting Germany, he was jailed for failing to serve his required time in the German army. His release came in 1892 after negotiations were completed by the Busch of the famous Anheuser-Busch brewery. Returning to Deadwood twenty pounds lighter, he often found time to joke about the situation. He and his wife, Hermina, were noted in Deadwood for their elegant china, luxurious living style, and excellent sense of humor.

K - JOHN McCLINTOCK - John McClintock was one of Deadwood's historians. McClintock deserves mention in this Guide for a variety of reasons. John was an entrepreneur who owned and managed the Deadwood to Spearfish Stage. Little that took place in Deadwood went unnoticed by McClintock, and he gives first hand accounts of the reburial of Wild Bill Hickok in Mount Moriah. In his last years McClintock wrote a book about Deadwood and its early history. Even today this book, *Pioneer Days in the Black Hills*, is a must for serious researchers. John McClintock died in 1942 at the age of 95.

L - EDWIN RICE HORSEFIELD (1821 - 1879) - Mr. Horsefield has been included in the Guide because of the circumstances of his death. Edwin, who worked in the Father DeSmet mine, had both legs crushed in a mining accident. He died after lingering in agony for two days. As you walk through the cemetery you will notice the tombstones of many who died as a result of mine disasters.

M - CHILDREN'S SECTION. From 1878 to 1880 Deadwood was struck by epidemics of scarlet fever and diphtheria. According to records, more than 350 infants and children are buried in this Children's Section alone. During these times the infant mortality rate was estimated by Undertaker Smith to be double that of adults.

N - MASS GRAVE - Accidents were not limited to the mines alone. On March 10-11, 1883, fire swept through a boarding house near Brownsville, south of Deadwood. Sleeping in the building, owned by the Hood and Scott lumber mill, were fifteen mill employees. Eleven men perished in the blaze, and the other four were severely burned. The men were buried in a mass grave at this spot on March 13, 1883.

O - BLANCHE COLMAN, along with sisters Anne and Theresa, were the only survivors of seven children born to Amalia and Nathan Colman. These German Jewish immigrants arrived in Deadwood in the spring of 1877. Many tragedies befell the Colman family, and by 1891, four children had died from diphtheria and other diseases. The family tobacco and grocery store burned in 1879 and in 1894 they lost both their store and home. Being of true pioneer stock, they rebuilt again. Blanche graduated from Deadwood High School in 1902 and worked for a while in Washington, D.C., as secretary to South Dakota Congressman Parker. But missing the Black Hills, she returned to take a job in the law office of Chambers Kellar, son-in-law of Deadwood's first sheriff, Seth Bullock. Blanche never attended college, but studied law on her own. At the age of 27 she was admitted to the South Dakota Bar, and thus became the first woman lawyer in South Dakota.

P - PRENTIS BERNARD, alias "Vinegar Bill", died December 8, 1907. Colorful characters are a hallmark of Mount Moriah Cemetery, "Vinegar Bill" being a prime example. Bill's infatuation with a soiled dove inhabiting the "Mansion", a notorious Deadwood brothel, caused his demise. After finding her in a compromising position with another man, Bill pulled a gun and grievously wounded his supposed rival. Struggling for his pistol, the paramour shot Bill dead. The local mortician kept his remains for ten days, but no one claimed the body so it was buried stark naked in a coffin which was several inches too short. The County Commissioners, upon hearing of the outrage, forced his reburial at Mount Moriah in Potter's Field.

Q - SETH BULLOCK was undoubtedly one of Deadwood's most notable citizens. His accomplishments are legendary. Bullock was Deadwood's first sheriff, a friend of Theodore Roosevelt, a member of the Black Hills Rough Riders in the Spanish-American War, a mining promoter and mine owner. A life-long promoter of Deadwood, Bullock and the Black Hills Pioneers constructed the monument to Theodore Roosevelt on Mt. Roosevelt. Bullock requested that he be buried above Mount Moriah on a plot of ground facing Mt. Roosevelt. (Note: Bullock's grave is about 750 feet above the main part of Mount Moriah.)

R - HARRIS FRANKLIN, a Jewish immigrant, changed his name from Finkelstein to Franklin. It is said that he was Deadwood's richest man. Though involved in the 1876 Black Hills gold rush, it was not until 1878 at the age of 29 that he decided to make Deadwood his home. His wealth, estimated to be five million dollars, came from investments in the liquor business and the mining industry. During the severe winter of 1886-1887, he bought the survivors of 23 livestock brands then on the open range. After spring count he ended up with over 30,000 head of cattle. His stately mansion, now aged, was built below Mount Moriah on Van Buren Street. He was also known as the largest investor in the very expensive Franklin Hotel which bears his name.

S - SIDNEY JACOBS was a noted member of Deadwood's Jewish community. An exciting personality, Mr. Jacobs was a gifted actor, having worked professionally before coming to Deadwood. He was also a practical joker and had a great many friends in Deadwood. Jacobs was born in Rogona, Germany and immigrated to America as a young man. During his many years as a Deadwood businessman, he owned and operated a men's clothing store called the Hub. Our community owes much to Sidney and his children who have been builders and exhibitors of strong civic pride.

T - W.E. ADAMS - Mr. Adams was one of Deadwood's most illustrious citizens. His list of accomplishments is far too long to enumerate in this Guide. He was a pioneer businessman in Deadwood, a noted philanthropist, a generous contributor to Deadwood charities the donator of the Adams Memorial Museum to Deadwood. Mr. Adams served as Mayor of Deadwood for several terms before his passing on June 16, 1934 at age 80. While he is not buried at Mount Moriah, the memorial marker is dedicated to the memory of his family.

U - JOHN GRAY was one of the more successful mining men to be buried in Mount Moriah. Gray was a partner in the highly successful Wasp Mine. He made a great deal of money and spent it lavishly. Many people claim he paid Calamity Jane's funeral expenses. Gray was a staunch member of the Black Hills Pioneers and was its first president. As his body was being returned to Deadwood for burial, many of Deadwood's notables accompanied the funeral train from Rochford.

V - COLONEL JOHN LAWRENCE - Although the title of "Colonel" was only an honorary title bestowed by an early governor of Dakota Territory, John Lawrence will be remembered as the first county treasurer and as the namesake of Lawrence County. He came to the Black Hills in April 1877 following a varied political career as a Dakota Territorial Legislator, Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C., and Deputy United States Marshall of Dakota. After serving as treasurer, he was sought out for his advice on matters of importance in the county, and for several years served as road supervisor for Central City and the surrounding mining camps and as an election judge.

W - WILLIS H. BONHAM - Willis H. Bonham came to Deadwood in 1877, first working as a paper hanger and painter and later as a printer for the *Black Hills Pioneer*. In 1883 he purchased the *Deadwood Pioneer* and in 1897 he acquired the *Times* and consolidated them under the head of the *Deadwood Pioneer-Times*. He was editor and publisher of the *Pioneer-Times* for nearly fifty years. He was a prominent businessman, being a director and stockholder in the Franklin Hotel Company, a stockholder in the Black Hills Trust and Savings Bank, as well as being part owner of a number of gold mines in the Black Hills.

MOUNT MORIAH CEMETERY IS OWNED AND MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA.

THE WALKING TOUR AND THE TICKET BOOTH ARE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE PARKS, CEMETERY AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF DEADWOOD.