

Teton County Historic Site Survey

1. Name of Property

historic name Granite Ridge Cemetery

other name/site number Teton Community Cemetery

2. Location

street & number Off Granite Loop Road ☐ not for publication

city or town Teton Village ☒ vicinity

state Wyoming code WY county Teton code 039 zip code 83025

3. Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

4. Category of Property

(check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☐ district
☒ site
☐ structure
☐ object

5. Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Property Owner

name/title Ideal Log and Timber Solutions, Inc.

street & number P O Box 4877 telephone

city or town Jackson state WY zip code 83001

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

National Register Status:

- ☒ Eligible ☐ Unevaluated
☐ Not Eligible ☐ District Potential

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: cemetery

Current Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

Funerary: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

walls

roof

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

Social History

Period of Significance

c. 1900-1955

Significant Dates**Significant Persons**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation**Architect/Builder**

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Jackson Hole Historical Society

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property** less than 5 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/2 5/1/4/2/4/6 4/8/2/6/3/7/8
Zone Easting Northing2 1/2 / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing3 1/2 / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing4 1/2 / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

☒ See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10**11. Form Prepared By**

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Maps**
- **Photographs:** Representative photographs of the property.

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Continuation Sheet

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

Narrative Description

Granite Ridge Cemetery is an obscure, and even well-concealed, cemetery located just north of Teton Village in the Granite Ridge Development. Turning north from the road approaching Teton Village onto Granite [Ridge] Loop Road, follow the road up the winding path until you come to the electric power substation on the right (north) side of the road. Park near that location but cross the road to the southwest and climb the hill. (A cemetery access easement is located across from and just prior to the substation.) Alternatively, a new road (Garnet Road) intersects with Granite Ridge Loop Road and the cemetery is visible and accessible along that road. Use the attached map for specific location information.

The cemetery is an irregular shape and is enclosed with a rail and post fence. It contains an indefinite number (between two and three dozen) of graves, some marked, some unmarked. Most of the graves scattered in this location are from the 1930s and 1940s, but some precede and a few are much later. Included names that are legible are

Waterman, Georgia, (d. 1944)
Waterman, George
Waterman, Grace
Miller, Forest
Miller, Margaret
Ross, George T. (d. April 28, 1941)
Ross, Gene Olden, (1936)
Ross, Hattie (1915-1926)
Ross, Elbert (1917-1919)
Ross, Blanche (1909-1910)
Ross, Verne
Mangum, Albert (d. 1931)
Mangum, Albert Leonard (d. 1916)
Mangum, Earnest
Mangum, Ellen (d. 1968)
Mangum, Jessie
Mangum, Myrtle
Clark, Elizabeth
Masterson, William Edward, 1907-1924
Baldwin, Ila

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

The grave markers are scattered in the cemetery although some are arranged in clusters, usually by family. Most graves are located along the west edge. The markers themselves vary in design and materials, with none elaborate and perhaps some graves no longer marked. Although some individuals in the valley are aware of the cemetery and visit the graves on occasion, the overall appearance of the cemetery often is one slight use, and artificial flowers decorating graves can be found at most any time, although the vegetation is natural and generally unmanaged.

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Granite Ridge Cemetery



Granite Ridge Cemetery, near Teton Village, Wyoming. Some graves, looking west. Photo: Michael Cassity, 2005.

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Granite Ridge Cemetery



Granite Ridge Cemetery, near Teton Village, Wyoming. Mangum grave, diphtheria victims, 1902.
Photo: Michael Cassity, 2005.

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Granite Ridge Cemetery



Granite Ridge Cemetery, near Teton Village, Wyoming.
Waterman Grave. Photo: Michael Cassity, 2005.

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

Narrative Statement of Significance

Although the prime homesteading lands appear to have been taken up first in the last two decades of the nineteenth century around Wilson and South Park and at some locations clustered north of the town of Jackson, homesteading in the general area north of Wilson on the west bank was less attractive and generally came later. As National Park Service historian John Daugherty notes, it was settled “less intensely than the lands east of the river” but some ranchers began to move north from the Wilson area. Many of those who made the effort did not succeed and quickly a second generation of homesteaders—and potential homesteaders—moved in in the early years of the twentieth century. The land, and its potential, however, did not improve and Struthers Burt described one parcel as “absolutely useless for ranching purposes—even the sparse grass that grew under the trees was pine-grass and would not feed horses” an assessment that could be applied with equal accuracy to large areas of the land west of the Snake River. By the 1910s and 1920s much of the homesteading was being taken over by different kind of enterprises. On the one hand there were the emergent dude ranches of people like Louis Joy, Struthers Burt, and Horace Carncross. On the other hand there were the ranches being established by people in the East who could afford a second home in the West, people like the Resor and Huyler families and Owen Wister too. As some of these families developed working cattle ranches, they needed to expand and that expansion came as the already beleaguered ranchers on the west bank faced the declining prices for cattle. Gradually the homesteaders in the Granite Creek area were replaced by the large holdings of dude ranches and second homes. In 1927 President Coolidge ordered the federal lands in Jackson Hole removed from the homesteading lands, so there was to be no more homesteading after that date.

Not many vestiges of that earlier settlement remain in the valley, but one still bears the marks—and the names—of the families who homesteaded here.

The cemetery appears to have served the small cluster of settlers in the area served by Granite Creek, like Albert Mangum and George Waterman. Jack Huyler, himself a long resident of the west bank on the Huyler family’s Rocking H Ranch, provides one of the rare discussions of homesteading in this area, and his family acquired some of those lands. Huyler recounts in particular the story of Eliza Hubbard Waterman Seaton—the woman from whom his father purchased the beginnings of their ranch in 1926. He follows her, and others in the neighborhood, to their final resting place in this cemetery. That story needs to be consulted more fully by those interested in this part of the county, but Huyler’s discussion of the cemetery is of pointed interest:

That cemetery, just north and east of Teton Village, in which her wooden headstone may still be found by the careful searcher, was the result of the diphtheria epidemic of 1900 and of the flu epidemic of 1917. Altogether, three dozen men,

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

women, and children are buried there. It was there that Pete Hansen, father of Senator and Governor Cliff, lost his eye. Pete was helping bury those who had died of diphtheria when a piece of gravel flew up from his pick into his eye, which started bleeding. Pete just put his bandanna over it and kept on working. A few days later, infection set in, and his eye had to be removed right there on the ranch. There was no resident physician in Jackson's Hole in 1900.¹

This property is of clear historical significance because of its association with the settlement of Jackson Hole. Cemeteries are ordinarily not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and one will generally be listed only if it can be demonstrated that it derives its significance from "graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events." In this case, a strong argument could be made that the significance of the cemetery derives from its association with historic events, those events being the early settlement of the west bank of the Snake River.

¹ Jack Huyler, *and That's the Way It Was in Jackson's Hole* (Jackson, Wyoming: Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum, 2000), 42.

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

Bibliography

Burt, Struthers. *The Diary of a Dude Wrangler* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1924).

Daugherty, John. *A Place Called Jackson Hole* (Moose, Wyoming: Grand Teton National Park, 1999).

Huyler, Jack. *and That's the Way It Was in Jackson's Hole* (Jackson, Wyoming: Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum, 2000).

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Granite Ridge Cemetery

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

This property lies within undivided parcel or lot 46 of Granite Ridge Subdivision, Teton County. (This is located in NE ¼, Section 24, T42N, R117W.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes the property historically associated with Granite Ridge Cemetery.