

HISTORIC CEMETERY RE-OPENS

Consumer Protection B.C. has appointed the Granite Creek Preservation Society the Operator of the re-opened Granite Creek Pioneer Cemetery.

Nestled on the plateau of a hill overlooking the ghost town, the Granite Creek Cemetery was created out of need during the 1885 gold rush. Since 2004, locals have unofficially looked after the Cemetery by removing dead trees and brush, and tending to forgotten graves. In 2016, when a representative from Consumer Protection B.C. approached the Society to act as the Operator and re-open the Cemetery, the Granite Creek Preservation Society was happy to oblige. It has taken 6 years to work through the red tape to make this happen.

The Cemetery, which is also a recognized heritage site, was mapped and bylaws were created. Due to limited space, interments will only be allowed for those who have lived in Coalmont, Blakeburn or Granite Creek or are a direct relation to a person who has lived in one of those three areas. The Granite Creek Preservation Society must be contacted for approval of any burial or scattering of ashes in the Cemetery.

Areas of the Cemetery have been designated with names. The Chinese Memorial Glen is the location of exhumed graves and no new burials of any kind will be allowed there. The fenced Rice Plot will be overseen by the Rice family. Behind the Rice Plot is Whisky Jack Flat. This area is suitable for cremains or full body burials. The old section of the Cemetery is called Pioneer's Rest and only cremains will be allowed in this area with the exception of plots which were previously reserved by families. Valley View is the treed, triangular point of the Cemetery, and will be for the scattering of cremains only.

The Granite Creek Preservation Society will maintain all records, maps, and documents relating to the Cemetery. Plots are available for full body burial, and for the interment of cremains. Old reservations will be honoured at no charge, new plots carry a modest fee, with no pre-sale of plots. For more information please contact the Granite Creek Preservation Society at: operator@cemetery.granitecreekbc.ca