

Cemetery identified by historian

C. Patrick Cleary
Daily Sentinel

The old graveyard in Ptarmigan Ridge where human bones were found Wednesday is Fairview Cemetery No. 1, and not Hope Cemetery, according to local historian Dave Fishell.

Fishell said he received calls from local residents who have lived for more than 70 years near where the bones were found and who said it wasn't Hope Cemetery.

Construction workers Wednesday discovered the bones in dirt dug up by a front-end loader on a housing site. It is located on what is now a dirt road extending beyond the end of the paved 15th Street and its intersection with Ridge Drive.

Fishell also said that the remains found were not Indian.

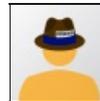
"They found pieces of casket," he said.

Fishell on Thursday used the 1965 Colorado Cemetery Directory to determine which of 27 cemeteries in Mesa County the workers found. The directory is produced by the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies.

The description of Fairview Cemetery only indicates the cemetery is three-quarters of a mile north of Main Street.

Fishell then pulled up an 1896 plat of Mesa County. That plat clearly marked the area where the bones were found as Fairview Cemetery.

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