

Safety for All Burial Areas

By Susan Schwartz, Historian of Historic Fairview Cemetery

Wandering through Historic Fairview Cemetery looking at headstones and discovering the history of Albuquerque is always quite intriguing. But with these new discoveries comes a responsibility to keep yourself safe from collapsing graves, goat-heads and disease.

As I have gone through the burial records, I have made a list of diseases that I have found. Some of these are viral and some bacterial. During my training at the cemetery, I was cautioned to be careful because it is possible that some of the pathogens could still be in the ground.

I remember a disinterment we had of an 80-year-old burial. The family wanted the body to be sent to another state to be in the family plot there. Our disinterment team dressed in hazmat attire. They were taking no chances with catching or spreading a disease. In other-words, you do not want to disturb an old grave.

Here is the list of the diseases that I found:

Cholera Dysentery Measles Polio Pneumonia (quite a bit) Scarlet Fever Smallpox (a few) Spanish Flu (not as much as one would have thought) Tetanus Tuberculosis (25% of burials) Typhoid

Some of the bodies were embalmed and some were not. Some were buried without a coffin or casket.

The terrain of the cemetery has greatly changed in the 140 years which means some burials may be deeper than they were originally buried, and some may be closer to the surface. There are small rodents that pull bones out of the ground so **never** touch one of these bones without gloves.

Remember- be safe!

Historic Fairview Cemetery, Albuquerque, New Mexico Self-Guided Tour: Please stay on the roadways, graves can collapse if you walk on them!

The first official form of government in New Albuquerque was The Albuquerque Board of Trade, which was founded in 1881-1882. The Board was comprised of Albuquerque's leading merchants and professional men. Franz Huning, William Hazeldine and Elias Stover were among the Board members. People realized in 1882, that local citizens were burying their dead on the "sand hills" to the east of downtown, Elias Stover wrote an editorial in the *Albuquerque Morning Journal* requesting that a "proper" cemetery be created. These men founded the Albuquerque Cemetery Association, first listed in the 1883 City Directory. Fairview Cemetery was managed by the association. The city directory lists Elias Stover as President and Oren Strong as superintendent and general manager in 1900.

Look for the numbered markers to learn about the local history:

#1 at Freedom Road and Gov. E.G. Ross Road: The Unknown Dead Obelisk



There are two military burial areas in Historic Fairview Cemetery: In American Legion #1, the area before you, there are 94 burials, and the burial dates range from 1926 to 1941. The obelisk next to this section is labeled "To The Unknown Dead" and may have been placed sometime during the 1920s. In American Legion #2, there are 205 burials in this area, and the burial dates range from 1944 to 1988.

#2 on Huning Harwood Road: Franz Huning and Family



Franz and Charles Huning immigrated from Hanover, Germany to New Orleans in 1849. They made their way to St. Louis, Missouri for a brief stay. Then working their way down the Santa Fe Trail, Franz settled in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In Albuquerque, Franz established several businesses such as F & C Huning Mercantile and a steam powered flour mill. He was involved in several endeavors such as the placement of the railroad, Santa Fe Trail trade and the Albuquerque Board of Trade Commission.

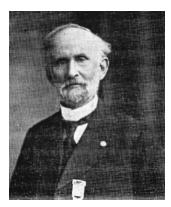
In 1863 while in St Louis, Franz married Ernestine

Franke, also a native of Germany. Franz returning to New Mexico in 1864 with his new bride settled in their first home, La Glorieta (now Manzano Day School). There they raised their four children: Clara Mary, Arno, Lina and Elly. Franz gifted Clara and her husband Harvey Fergusson the Glorieta home.

In 1883 the Huning family moved just down the street to Castle Huning. Franz had this home built for his wife in the manner of homes in Huning's German homeland. It was located on Central and 15th Street. She lived there until her death in 1923. Only two of their children outlived them: Clara and Arno. Elly died in 1880 at six years of age and Lina died in Los Angeles in 1894, two weeks short of her 22nd birthday. Clara and Franz made the voyage to Los Angeles to bring Lina's remains home.

From Fairview's cemetery records, it appears that Franz, Elly and Lina were buried on the family property/properties, all three being moved to Fairview on December 20, 1907. The obituary for Franz, dated November 7, 1905, states that his body was sent to Denver for cremation at the time of his death. This agrees with the cemetery records that his cremated remains were interred in Section: 10C Family, Plot: 61 as well as those of his daughters, Elly and Lina.

#3 on Huning Harwood Road: Rev. Thomas Harwood and Emily Harwood



Born in Maryland, Thomas Harwood was licensed to preach in 1855. He joined the West Wisconsin Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1868. By 1870 Reverend Harwood had traveled nearly 10,000 miles as a circuit preacher. He was appointed to New Mexico in 1869 where he served with his wife, Emily, for nearly 33 years. Education was a high priority to them both, they founded or helped to establish six elementary schools, and two academies: The Harwood School for Girls and the Albuquerque Boy's Industrial School.

Harwood made a determined effort to learn Spanish, being assigned to a primarily Spanish speaking area. The Methodist mission conference in 1880

elected Harwood to edit and publish a bilingual newspaper; *El Abogado Cristiano*. He and Emily equally shared the duties of the newspaper. The newspaper was in circulation until 1901.

Harwood strongly believed that all men were equal. He wrote in *El Abogado Cristiano* that the General conference of 1880 failed to:

- 1. Elect a Colored Bishop
- 2. Did not provide for the ordination of Women
- 3. Did not provide for the publication of Methodist Literature in Spanish

#4 on Huning Harwood Road: Lizzie Stauffer



Lizzie Stauffer was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan to Benedict and Elizabeth Tanner Stauffer, who were born in Switzerland. Lizzie died of smallpox in 1882 at the age of 18. "The Death of Lizzie Stauffer" in the newspaper tells her tale, which echoes our experiences during the coronavirus pandemic:

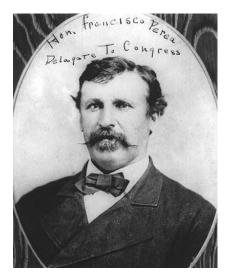
At an early hour yesterday morning, Miss Lizzie Stauffer bade farewell to earth and departed for the spirit world, a victim to that dreadful scourge – smallpox. It is always sad to see one's friends gathered in by the hand of death, and 'tis doubly so when they have barely commenced the life which is so sweet to everyone. Less than a week ago, she was in the best of health when some cruel fatality struck her down with that infectious disease.

The nature of the ailment necessitated her removal from those who were near and dear to a treatment place where the danger of the contagion would not be so great. Although the best nurses and comforts which could be obtained were given the sufferer, she could not help but feel the absence of

her relatives. It is truly sad that one so young should be taken away in the very midst of those whom she held as dearest of all on earth, and yet not be allowed to gaze upon their faces.

Lizzie Stauffer, at the time of her death, was eighteen years and six months of age. She came to Albuquerque from Peoria, Illinois two years ago with Mr. & Mrs. A. Harsch, she being the sister of Mrs. Harsch. She was industrious and cheerful, and always had a pleasant smile and kind word for everyone she met. Her generous nature and noble impulses endeared her to all and drew to her side a large circle of friends. Her remains were lain away yesterday morning. Rev. J.M. Ashley will preach the funeral sermon in honor of the departed in the Congregational church at 11 o'clock next Sunday morning.

#5 on U.S. Rep. Perea Road: Francisco Perea



Francisco was born to the influential Juan Perea and Josefa Chavez de Perea in 1830. He attended Albuquerque and Santa Fe schools in his young years, a Jesuit college in St. Louis, Missouri from 1843-1845, and New York City's Bank Street Academy in 1847 – 1849. Pursuing a career in New Mexico imports of manufactured goods and exports of sheep to California, Perea invested in the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad.

Perea, a staunch Republican was elected to New Mexico's Eighth Legislative Assembly in 1858. Perea advocated for New Mexico to remain in the Union and in 1861 at his own expense, he organized a volunteer battalion. He was commissioned as a regimental lieutenant colonel. "Perea's Battalion" was stationed near Albuquerque where he led campaigns against the Apache and Navajo Indians believing that the two cultures could not coexist. He

resigned his commission in 1862 and returned to civilian life.

Still interested in a political career, Perea won the Republican nomination for the position of Territorial Delegate to the U. S. House in the 38th Congress (1863-1865). His platform was to remove the Indians to reservations which would open up more land to settlers and allow exploitation of New Mexico mineral resources. He was re-elected in 1865 on the same platform. Perea's continued political influence won him election to the Territory's Sixteenth and Twenty-Sixth Legislative Assemblies (1866–1867, 1886-1887) representing Bernalillo County. In addition to his political career, he owned a resort hotel (1881) and served as postmaster in Jemez Springs (1894-1905).

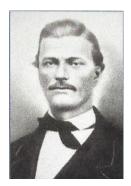
After being introduced to President Abraham Lincoln, by New Mexico Territorial Delegate John Watts, Perea became close friends with the President. He claims that while in office, he met with the president many times. Perea was at the theater sitting in the pit directly below President Lincoln on the night of April 14, 1865 and heard John Wilkes' Booth shot that fatally wounded the President.



#6 on John Braden Road: Kiku Honda and John Braden

Kiku (Kihu) "Mabel" Honda – A "woman of the night" who worked for Albuquerque madame Lizzie McGrath, Kiku was murdered July 12, 1896, by a jealous lover she was getting ready to leave for another man. Kiku's brother, Masahachiro Honda, worked as a clerk in the silk department of a large dry goods house in Portland, Oregon. He came to Albuquerque but missed arriving in time for his sister's funeral. He stayed for several weeks to take care of settling her affairs. He paid for this marble headstone, which was broken at some point. Her headstone was fixed thanks to the HFC nonprofit organization. A newspaper story said of her burial, "Kiku Honda, the Japanese woman who was recently murdered at Albuquerque, prepared a surprise for St. Peter by having her bicycle suit placed in the casket with her. Just what disposition St. Peter will make of that female applicant for permission to enter the Holy City clothed in bloomers, is necessarily of much interest to the new woman."

Right next to her is the grave of **John Braden.** He was a former Indian scout and stagecoach driver. On October 16, 1896, during a Fiesta parade in Old Town Albuquerque, he was driving a wagon of ammunition, and someone tossed a lit firecracker onto the wagon. The ammunition exploded, the horses and the crowd panicked. Keeping a clear head, Braden brought the runaway horses and burning wagon safely away from the crowd. He died of his burns. He died while saving the lives of others.



#7 on Rodey Road: The Bryan Family



Behind overgrown juniper bushes is the family plot for the Bryan family. Two upright markers memorialize the achievements of the family members.

Richard William Dickinson Bryan was an Artic explorer, educator and lawyer. He served as a government astronomer on the Hall Arctic Expedition, 1871-1873 under Captain Hall. In 1882 he came to Albuquerque to become superintendent of the Albuquerque Indian School until 1886. He helped to organize and was the first president of the Territorial Educational Association of New Mexico. At

the time of his death in 1913, he was President of the University of New Mexico Board of Regents. He died from a ruptured gall bladder and sepsis after an operation.

His wife, Susie Hunter Patten Bryan was a representative in the state legislature for Bernalillo County in 1925-26. Another marker in the family plot is for their son Kirk Bryan, who was a geologist in the U.S. Geological Survey, he was a 2nd Lieutenant in the A.E.F. during World War I, and was a Professor of Geology at Harvard University. His wife, Mary MacArthur Bryan, was from Wagon Mound, NM. She died in 1990 and was buried in the family plot, one of the last burials in the historic section of the cemetery.



#8 on Gov. E.G. Ross Road: Edmund G. Ross

Edmund G. Ross was born in Ohio, third of fourteen children. At eleven he began an apprenticeship with the Huron (Ohio) Commercial Advertiser. Ross married Fannie Lathrop Ross in 1848, and in 1849, the couple moved to Milwaukee, WI where he worked for the Milwaukee Daily Sentinel and the Milwaukee Free Democrat. Ross moved to Kansas in 1856, became interested in politics and switched to the Republican Party. He was delegate to the Wyandotte Constitutional Convention in 1859. He was part owner of the *Kansas Tribune* and founded the *Kansas State Record*.

Ross served as a Major in Company E of the 11th Kansas Cavalry during the Civil War. He was appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1866, to fill the seat of deceased Kansas Senator James Lane. He served until 1871.

There was a political campaign in 1868 to impeach President Andrew Johnson, and Senator Ross cast the deciding vote against this. He became a pariah, was heavily criticized, and felt pressured to leave the Republican Party. He returned to his newspaper interest in 1871 and in 1882 he came to New Mexico as a political exile. He was immediately given a position with the *Albuquerque Morning Journal* by editor, W.S. Burke.

Senator Ross was appointed Territorial Governor of New Mexico by President Grover Cleveland in 1885 and served until 1889. Before leaving office, he signed the bill creating the University of New Mexico. Governor Ross learned before his death that Kansas had forgiven him, and his name was no longer blemished. He was alleged to have said, "I will be a bigger man dead than I have been alive."

#9 on Simms Road: Herbert & Celeste Galles Mausoleum



Herbert Louis Galles Sr. was the president of the Galles Motor Company of Albuquerque, established in 1908. The company sold the first 11 automobiles in the New Mexico Territory and was the third oldest Cadillac dealer in the United States. He was a Mason and a member of one of the first UNM football teams. Celeste was supreme guardian of the Order of Job's Daughters and involved with community support activities.

The Galles family has been part of transportation in New Mexico since Nicholas Galles arrived in the territory via the Santa Fe Trail and set up business as a wagon maker in the mid 1800's. In 1933, Galles Motor Company purchased the Cadillac, Oldsmobile and Chevrolet franchises. Galles is the oldest and largest family automotive business in the state.

#10 on Simms Road: The Simms Family Plot

This is the burial site for Albert G. Simms, Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms, and John Medill McCormick.



Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms was born into the privileged family of Republican Senator Mark Hanna and Charlotte Rhodes Hanna of Ohio. As a youth, she was educated at elite private schools but elected not to attend college. Instead, she became her father's private secretary in D.C. She married Joseph Medill McCormick, son of the *Chicago Tribune* family, in 1903. The couple lived in Illinois where he was the paper's editor for eight years. Ruth was President of Rockford's Consolidated Newspapers, Inc.

The couple raised three children; one of whom needed a special type of milk. Unable to purchase the milk and appalled by the unsanitary

conditions of Illinois dairies, Ruth opened her own dairy near Byron, Illinois.

Ruth was appointed director of the Republican Women's National Executive Committee in 1918 She was the first elected national committeewoman from Illinois in 1924. After her husband's death in 1925, Ruth continued her political career and won the election in 1928 to the US House of Representatives and served one term. Being defeated in the 1930 election for the U.S. Senate, Ruth returned to her newspaper interest.

She met and married Congressman Albert G. Simms from New Mexico in 1932. They purchased an 800acre ranch in Albuquerque's north valley which became their home, dairy, farm, cultural, and education center named Las Poblanos. Ruth commissioned architect John Gaw Meem to renovate the house and build La Quinta as a cultural center for the community.

Ruth's Hanna McCormick Simms's concern for superior education and culture is active today. She founded Manzano Day School, still operating, and Sandia School for Girls, known today as coeducational Sandia Preparatory School.

Congressman Albert Simms – A native of Arkansas, he moved to Monterrey, Mexico in 1906 at



the age of 24 and worked as an accountant. He moved to Silver City, NM in 1912, the year New Mexico became a state. He studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1915 and practiced law in ABQ until 1919. He was a member of the city council and the Bernalillo County Commissioners. He was president of Albuquerque National Bank in Albuquerque and a mortgage company. He served in the NM House of Representatives 1925-1927 and was elected to the US Congress as a Republican 1929-1931. He met Ruth while they served in Congress, and they married in 1931. A banker, farmer and rancher, he and Ruth made Albuquerque Academy possible with gifts of land and bank stock.



On June 25, 1938, Ruth's son, **John Medill McCormick** (age 21) went hiking with another young man, Richard Whitmer (age 20) in the Sandia Mountains. The boys appeared to have been climbing a cliff and fell from the top. The story, though not confirmed, is that they were struck by lightning and fell from a 2,000-foot cliff. Also, part of the story is that Congresswoman McCormick had the boulder brought down from the mountains because it was where they found her son's lifeless body.

Front Gates - Angelo DeTullio



Angelo DeTullio was a general contractor and builder and is known for his cast concrete work, called "cast stone". His business was located in the 100 block of Edith Boulevard N.E., just east of his home at 126 Arno St. He was involved with the construction of the Barnett Building, Masonic Temple, Central Milling Company, Anchor Grocery Store, and the lion fountain in Las Vegas, New Mexico. He patented the 'Carpenter's Level" in 1916.

In 1921-1924, he built much of the original curbing that surrounds the Family Plots in historic Fairview. He also built the fence, pilasters and front gates in 1924 that were the original cemetery entrance into the cemetery.

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Thank you to Historian Susan Schwartz for collecting all of this fascinating information about our permanent residents.

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Historic Fairview Cemetery c/o Gail Rubin, President P.O. Box 36987 Albuquerque, NM 87176-6987