



Landmarks Commission

City of Albuquerque  
Planning Department  
Landmarks Commission  
P.O. Box 1293  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

Date: August 14, 2024

### OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

**PR-2024-010622**  
**SI-2024-00968**  
**Nomination of Landmarks Status**

**The City of Albuquerque Planning Department, agent for Historic Fairview Cemetery, requests Nomination of Landmark Status for the Historic Fairview Cemetery, located at the northern portion of 700 Yale Blvd SE, described as Tract A, Plat of Tracts A,B,C,D, between Yale Blvd SE and Columbia Dr SE, zoned NR-SU (K-15-Z/K-16-Z/L-16-Z).**

On August 14, 2024, the Landmarks Commission voted to forward a Recommendation of Approval to City Council for Project # **PR-2024-010622/SI-2024-00968**, based on the following Findings and Conditions of Approval.

Findings for Approval:

1. This application is a request for Designation of a Landmark or Structure for the Historic Fairview Cemetery, located at the northern portion of 700 Yale Street SE, described as Tract A, Plat of Tracts A, B, C, D (Replat of Fairview Park Cemetery), zoned NR-SU.
2. The subject site is 17.57 acres.
3. The Historic Fairview Cemetery is listed under HALS (Historic American Landscapes Survey) NM-6 as part of the Heritage Documentation Programs (HDP) administered by the National Park Service.
4. IDO Section 14-16-6-7(C) establishes procedures for Adoption or Amendment of Historic Designation.
6. IDO Section 6-7(C)(3)(c) states that an application for designation of a landmark site or structure shall be approved if it is of particular historical, architectural, cultural, or archaeological significance and meets any of the following criteria:
7. The request meets the Designation of a Landmark or Structure Review & Decision Criteria in IDO Section 14-16-6-7(C)(3)(c) as follows:

2. It is identified with a person who significantly contributed to the history of the city, State, or nation.

This cemetery was officially established by notable local businessmen Elias Stover, Franz Huning, and William Hazeldine, who formed the Albuquerque Cemetery Association (ACA) in December 1882.

Huning's Highland is named after Franz Huning, a German immigrant who settled in New Mexico in the mid-1860s. By 1880, Huning had become a notable figure with substantial land holdings to the east of the town. The land he owned east of the railroad was divided and sold as building lots, initiating the Huning's Highland Subdivision, which expanded and developed until around 1925. This new subdivision became home to many of Albuquerque's prominent business and professional citizens.

Elias Stover was elected the first President of the University of New Mexico in 1891. He was a County Commissioner of Bernalillo County from 1881 to 1883, a member of the new Mexico Constitutional Convention of 1889, and an elected member of the New Mexico Senate in 1891.

William Hazeldine, together with Elias Stover and Franz Huning, founded the New Town Company, which acquired all the land for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Depot and shops in the 1870s.

In addition, the cemetery includes the gravesites of many notable Albuquerque businessmen, civic leaders, and citizens. These include:

Arthur T. Hannett (governor, 1925-27); Neil Brooks Field (mayor, 1893-94); Lyman Beecher Putnam (businessman) Bernard S. Rodey (founder of University of New Mexico, 1889 & U.S. congressman, 1901-1905); Edmond G. Ross (Territorial governor, NM 1885-1889); Albert G. Simmins (NM state representative, 1925-1927, U.S. representative, 1929-1934); John F. Simms (governor, 1955-1957), Ruth Hanna McCormick Simms (U.S. representative, 1929-1931); Elias S. Stover (businessman; first president of the University of New Mexico), Henry B. Westerfeld (mayor, 1916-1917).

4. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.

The cemetery's layout integrates elements from the Rural and Picturesque cemetery movements, popular in the East and Midwest, reflecting a blend of natural beauty and landscaping from its period of significance beginning in 1881 through the 1920s.

The Rural Cemetery Movement originated in the early 19th century as a response to overcrowded urban graveyards. These cemeteries were located on city outskirts and

designed to offer a park-like setting for solace. Key features included natural landscaping that emphasized the land's contours, winding paths, extensive use of trees, shrubs, and flowers to create a tranquil environment, and sculptural elements like statues, obelisks, and monuments strategically placed to enhance the landscape's beauty.

The Picturesque Cemetery Movement emerged later, influenced by the aesthetic principles of the Picturesque movement in landscape design, focusing on creating visually compelling and artful spaces that evoked a sense of romanticism. Key features included irregular design (asymmetrical and irregular shapes) for a natural and less formal appearance, variety in plantings, and the incorporation of architectural features such as chapels and mausoleums designed to complement the natural surroundings.

Historic Fairview Cemetery embodies both cemetery movements with its meandering paths following the natural terrain, naturalistic plantings (though minimal at present), harmonious monuments, including thoughtfully placed gravestones and monuments to enhance the overall aesthetic, and the integration of small buildings designed to complement the cemetery's natural quality.

10. It is included in the National Register of Historic Places or the New Mexico Cultural Properties Register.

In July 2011, Drs. William A Dodge and Sarah R. Payne submitted HALS (Historic American Landscapes Survey) NM-6 to the National Park Service in order to document and record the site.

The Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) was established in 2000 to acknowledge the significance of landscapes and the need for varied documentation methodologies. HALS records historic landscapes, including formal gardens, public spaces, traditional cultural landscapes, agricultural sites, and residential neighborhoods. These landscapes are vital touchstones of national, regional, and local identity, fostering a sense of community and place. Similar to historic buildings, landscapes reflect our country's origins and development through their form, features, and historical use. The National Park Service collaborated with the Library of Congress and the American Society of Landscape Architects to create HALS.

### **Recommended Conditions of Approval:**

1. This is a recommendation to City Council which is the decision-making body of this action.
2. LC staff will work with the Historic Fairview Cemetery board to provide detailed design criteria for any proposed changes to the site within 60 days of approval by City Council.

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APPEAL: IF YOU WISH TO APPEAL A **FINAL DECISION** YOU MUST DO SO IN THE MANNER DESCRIBED BELOW. A NON-REFUNDABLE FILING FEE WILL BE CALCULATED AT THE LAND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION COUNTER AND IS REQUIRED AT THE TIME THE APPEAL IS FILED.

The applicant or any person aggrieved by decision of city staff may appeal the decision of the city staff designated by the Mayor relative to a Certificate of Appropriateness to the Commission. The applicant or any person aggrieved by decision of the Commission (LC) may appeal the decision to the City Council. Any city staff or Commission decision is final unless appeal is initiated by application to the city within 15 days of the decision. The date the determination is not included in the 15-day period for filing an appeal, and if the 15th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday as listed in §3-1-12, the next working day is considered as the deadline for filing the appeal. A building permit dependent on a case shall not be issued and a proposed project not requiring a building permit shall not be initiated until an appeal is decided or the time for filing the appeal has expired without an appeal being filed.

The City Council, after consideration of the appeal record, may decline to hear an appeal if it finds that all city plans, policies and ordinances have been properly followed. If it decides that there is substantial question that all City plans, policies and ordinances have not been properly followed or are inadequate, it shall hear the appeal.

ALL CASES THAT RECEIVED APPROVAL ON **August 14, 2024** WILL BE MAILED A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS, AFTER THE 15-DAY APPEAL PERIOD HAS EXPIRED ON **August 29, 2024**.

*Silvia Bolivar*

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