

Cemetery History

The Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery evolved out of the William R. Kirk donation land claim. William arrived in Oregon in 1846, settled his claim on September 20, 1847, which consisted of 642.36 acres. William was born on November 18, 1826 and died September 24, 1901.

William Kirk

- ★ Prominent in State and County politics
- ★ Member of the Pioneer Association
- ★ Member of the State Pioneer Association
- ★ President of Eagle Woolen Mills Co. of Brownsville
- ★ Member of IOOF (over 25 years)

June 17th, 1869

Brownsville Masonic Lodge accepted Title to the original Kirk Cemetery from William R. Kirk

November 20th, 1969

Brownsville Masonic Lodge purchased an additional one acre of land adjacent to the cemetery from William R. Kirk.

January 11th, 1939

Brownsville Masonic Lodge sold the cemetery to the City of Brownsville.

First Burial:

Eliza Hart Spaulding, wife of the Reverend Henry H. Spaulding was the first burial in Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery occurred in 1851. Her remains were later disinterred and reburied beside her husband in Lapwai, Idaho.

The Spaulding's two daughters, Eliza Spaulding Warren, and Amelia Spaulding Brown as well as several grandchildren are buried in the Brownsville Pioneer Cemetery.