

## Harney City – Ghost Town – Pennington County, SD

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This old abandoned cemetery lies in the woods, on a hillside about one hundred yards from the old Harney Ranger Station which has been closed for the past several years. All lies on Government Forest Reserve. Most of the old markers are gone and no one apparently kept records of the burials. The following are taken from records taken in 1940 and by contact with some older residents of the area.

Grave #1 & 2 were unmarked in 1940

Grave #3 Quiner, Ruby A. died 1884 age 7 (another source states Ruby Quiner died 1895 at age 7)

Grave #4 Quiner, Henry C. (or O.) d. 1886 age 51 (date from other source died 15 June 1886 age 51 years 5 months 28 days)

Grave #5 – 11 all unmarked according to 1940 copiest

Grave #12 Gay, Peter died 1887 age 24 native of Quebec, Canada (Martha Linde, old time resident states there was a large marker which was recently removed marking the final resting place of a Canadian soldier killed near Harney City. As near as we can ascertain these appear to fit together, and appear to refer to the same individual.)

Grave #13 – 15 all unmarked in 1940

Grave #16 Stevens, Hellie tin tag marker in 1940

Grave #17 – 21 all unmarked in 1940

Found on the hillside are two markers bearing initials; one partially buried the other is loose upon the ground. One reads R. A. Q. and the other H. O. O. and could belong to the Quiners.

There is also a stone in place that appears to bear crude lettering. There are three individually fenced plots, and what appear to be wooden markers all illegible lying about on the ground.

Mrs. Martha Linde also tells of a Mr. Atchinson being interred here. There is no marker to be found for him though several in our party conducted a thorough search. His son was Herbert Atchinson, formerly of the Rockerville area. This Mr. Atchinson was killed in a runaway – horses that is – not a car.

**HARNEY CITY** (Pennington Co) was laid out in 1876 and was named for nearby Harney Peak, which was named for Gen. William Harney. During 1877 and 1878 the new mining camp flourished and grew into a prosperous town with a post office and school house in addition to the usual business establishments. But the placer mines proved difficult to work because of the depth of the gravel and the difficulty of putting down bed rock flumes. Within a few years the town had nearly disappeared and today only the old school building remains. South Dakota Writers Project Book South Dakota Place Names WPA project 1940