Alex Dirksen

CDES 430B

Project 2 | The Designed Environment

Spring 2019

Central City/ Blackhawk

Site Description

Central City and Blackhawk are now home to some to one of the most popular casino sites within a reasonable distance from the Denver-Metro area. It is a historic mining town that was founded in 1859 during the gold rush. It was an extremely prolific town until the early 1900's when the mining industry started to decline. I wanted to potentially focus on the cemetaries, as there are four in very close proximity to each other but I could also focus on the history of the town.

Audience

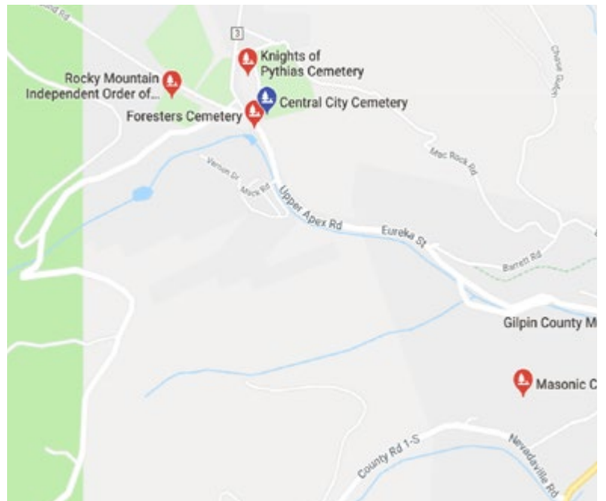
The majority of the people that come to central city/ blackhawk are adults, as it is now a gambling town.

Map

Cemetary locations

Design Problem

This town is highly trafficked but the majority of the visitors are people who are there to gamble, not explore the town or dwell in the cemetaries. This could be where the history aspect could come in, it could encourage the visitors to explore outside of the casinos and learn about the history of Colorado. There are many opportunities within the city, as an historical site, to find information about the town and its history, this would be in addition to those resources.



Design Brief

Title
Central City Cemetery Circle
Explore the....

Participants
Myself, Art Director, Design Fabricators
City Officials

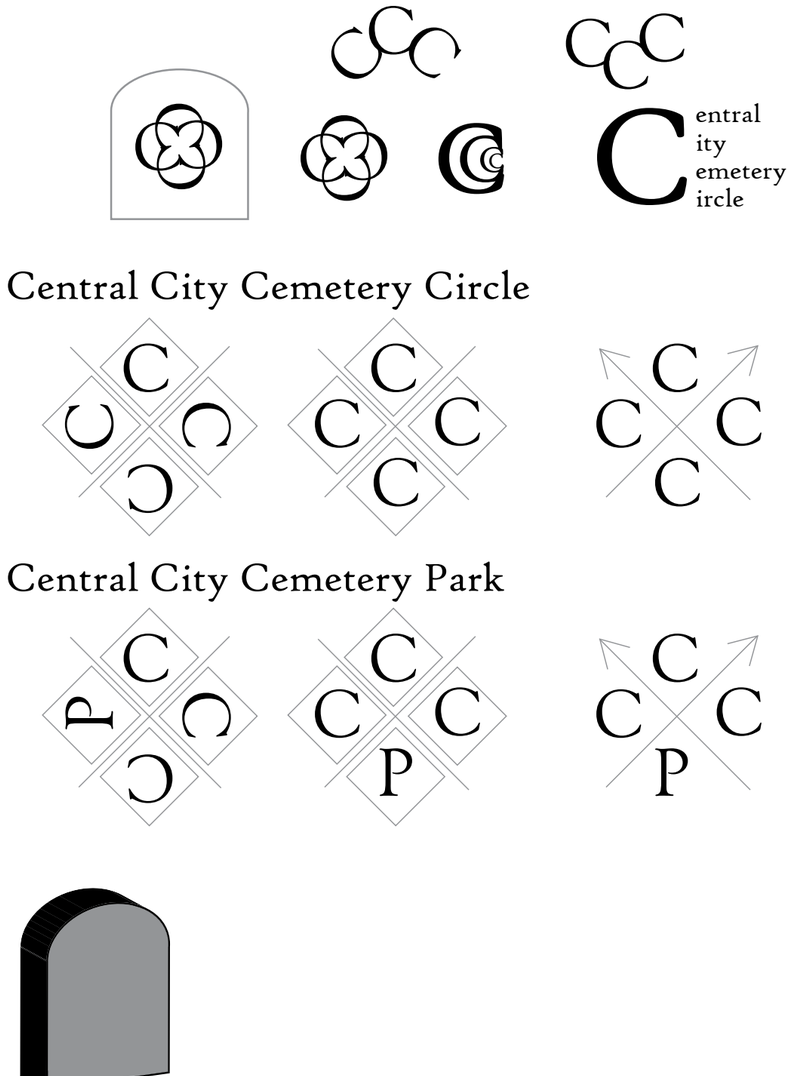
Introduction
Create an interactive exhibition and installation in and around the Central City cemeteries in order to provide information for an historical tourist location.

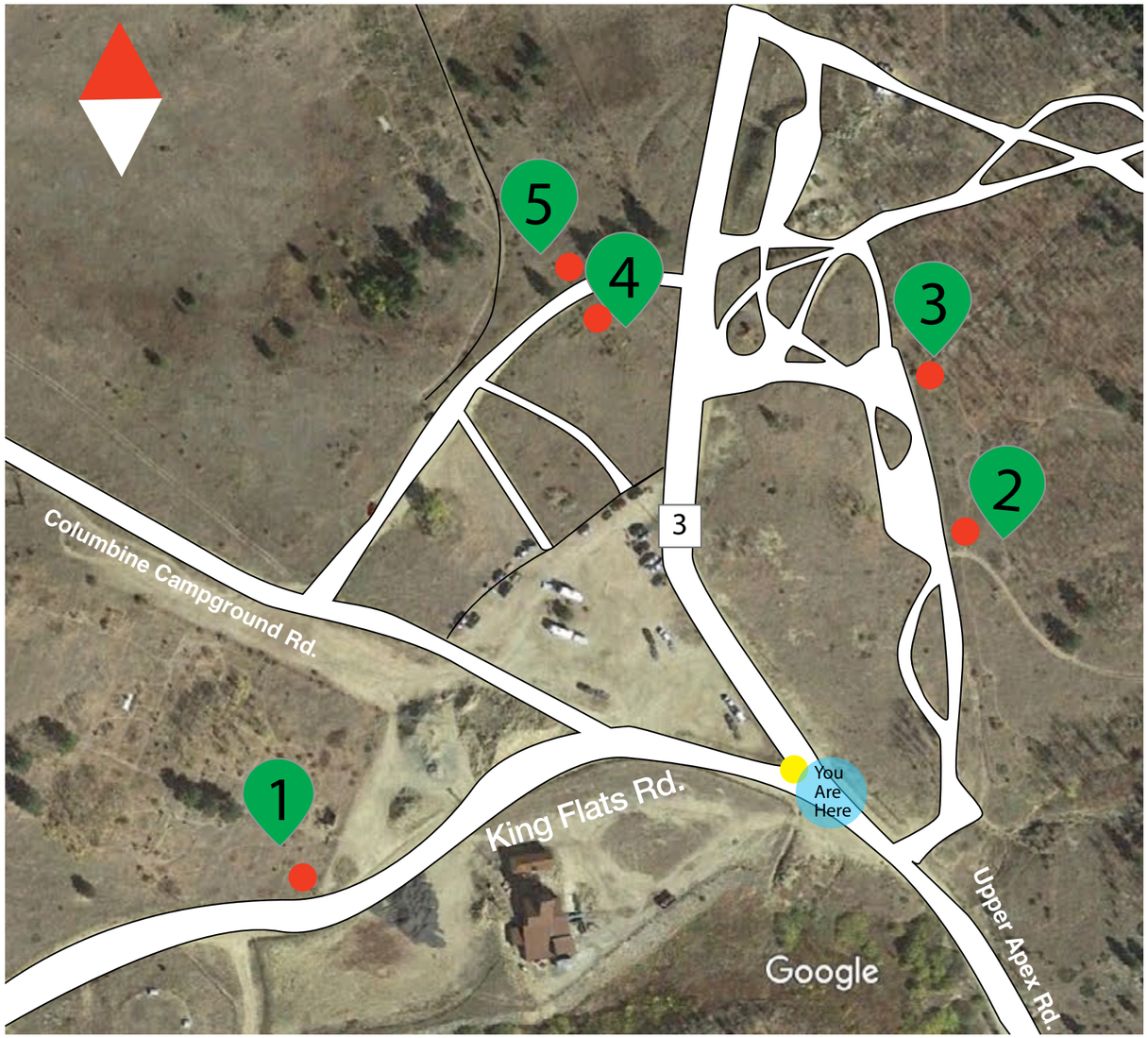
Problem Identification
The city has lost a lot of the tourism that kept it running, it's very seasonal and the big attractions are the casinos that have taken over the historic buildings. Blackhawk is much more popular so Central City has been falling into disrepair over the last couple decades. There is a niche group of people that enjoy finding and exploring the creepy and odd sites around the country, especially cemeteries. This wouldn't completely make up for the issue but any amount of people taking interest in the city could be beneficial.

Client Service Analysis
This project aims to educate tourists and attempt to attract visitors, to learn about the city and the cemeteries. Each of the cemeteries has its own story, the fact that they're so close to each other is just convenient. I want to do brief background information on the few that it would make sense, as well as an interactive aspect of some kind that provokes people to want to explore further. There will be a timeline, and maybe a directory if applicable.

Audience Considerations
Demographics:
Anyone, generally ages 18-50
Phychographics
People interested in history
People interested in cemeteries
People in the area for gambling in Central City or Blackhawk
Geographics
Colorado residents
Colorado Tourists
Central City/ Blackhawk Residents and tourists

Site Map and Logo Sketches

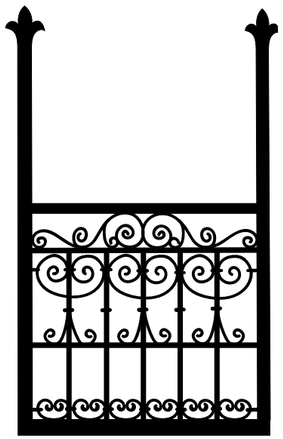




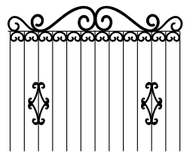
Sign Inventory

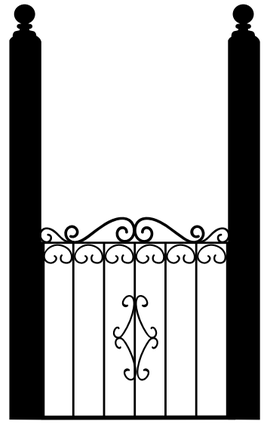
Name	Center Monolith	Knights of Pythias Cemetery	Central City Cemetery	Red Men Lodge Cemetery	Catholic Church Cemetery	Independednt Order of Odd Fellows
Number	6	3	2	4	5	1
Type	Ground Mounted	free standing	free standing	free standing	free standing	free standing
Size	3 ft x 6 ft	1.5 ft x 3.5 ft	1.5 ft x 3.5 ft	1.5 ft x 3.5 ft	1.5 ft x 3.5 ft	1.5 ft x 3.5 ft
Location	Between Upper Apex Rd and Columbine Cmpgrd	KOP Gate Entrance	CeCC Gate Entrance	RML North Entrance	CaCC South Entrance	IOOF South Entrance
Content						

Knights of Pythias

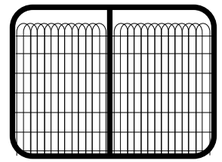


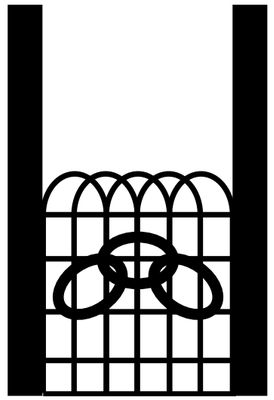
Central City Cemetery



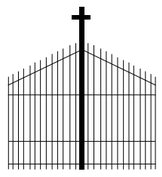


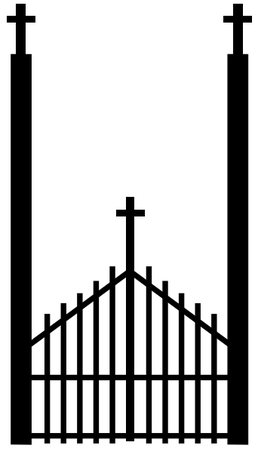
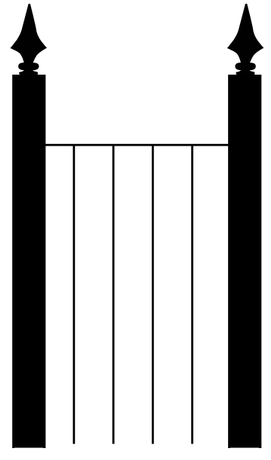
Independent Order of Odd Fellows





Catholic Cemeteries





Red Men Lodge Cemetery