

CONRAD MANSION MUSEUM

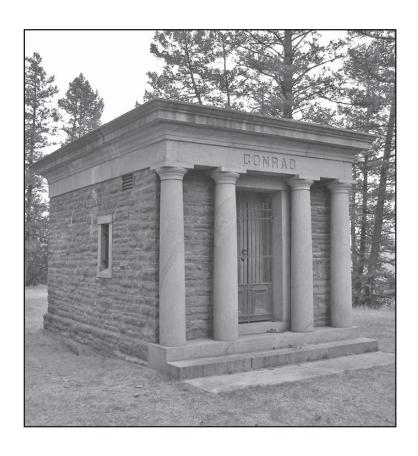
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www.conradmansion.com



C.E. CONRAD MEMORIAL CEMETERY

641 Conrad Drive • Kalispell, MT



Owned by a Flathead, private, non-profit association under Montana Law established by the Charles E. and Alicia D. Conrad family in 1902 as a special, unique place for Flathead families to bury their loved ones. It is managed by five, local, elected Trustees and a Sexton/Superintendent.

Certified on the National Register of Historic Places by the State Historic Preservation Office, the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service & National Register.

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Shortly before his death in November 1902, C.E. Conrad informed his wife that he would like to be buried on a promontory about a mile from the family home. The promontory, overlooking the Flatheaad Valley, is a peaceful, beautiful and natural setting. Conrad designed a mausoleum and asked that it be constructed. Mrs. Conrad embarked on carrying out her husband's wishes. She purchased the promontory and surrounding land for a community cemetery in memory of her husband.

In order to find a suitable design compatible with the existing natural setting, Mrs. Conrad and daughter Alicia Ann toured cemeteries across the country, Canada and Mexico. They chose a classic "Rural Garden" landscape, a burial ground inspired by the English garden movement that uses landscape in a park-like setting. Prior to this, urban burial grounds were generally sectarian and located on small plots within cities, often under church control.

In order to organize, carry out and build the cemetery, an *ad hoc* committee was formed.

Mrs. Conrad spearheaded the "perpetual care law" in the state of Montana that sets aside a portion of every grave sale for maintenance. Eventually, the cemetery was designated a tax exempt association whose trustees devote their service to maintaining Mrs. Conrad's original intent.

