

W F - Broomfield



WORTH SAVING: *Frank Varra owns the land near the 96th*

NOT TO BE TAKEN

DAVID R. JENNINGS / For the Enterprise

Street interchange where Joe Jaramillo died in a coal mine explosion. Varra is working with the developers of the Flatiron Crossing Mall to have the memorial moved from its current location, right where the stores are planned, to a spot near the mall entrance.



Memie Doud Eisenhower
Public Library
1 DesCombes Drive
Broomfield, CO 80020

Grave Matters

Development brings to the surface the presence of long-buried bodies

By W. BRYON CAVER

Noting the absence of a traditional cemetery in the city, people often quip that you can live here and you can die here, but you can't be buried in Broomfield.

That wasn't always true. Dozens of bodies rest across the street from Broomfield High School at the historical

Lakeview Cemetery, which now is closed to all but burial of cremation urns.

And in other parts of the city lay the bodies of a miner killed by an underground explosion, a young child killed by an influenza epidemic, and a famous dog killed by old age.

Growth and develop-

ment in Broomfield is raising questions about those graves and prompting efforts to preserve them.

Joe Jaramillo

In an undeveloped field southwest of the 96th Street interchange, sharp-eyed travelers along U.S. 36 can spot a reddish-brown memorial surrounded by a silver fence.

About 375 feet below the memorial rests the body of Joe Jaramillo, the victim of a catastrophic explosion that occurred at 6:30 a.m.

Jan. 20, 1936, a mile south of the entrance to the Monarch coal mine.

No cause for the explosion was ever discovered, but workers had known for some time that the mine had dangerous infractions of safety regulations, say historical records at the Miners Museum in Lafayette.

Seven bodies were found after the explosion, but searchers had to give up on Jaramillo, the mine's mule boss. Out of respect to the wife and four children

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KILLED AT WORK: Joe Jaramillo, a miner pictured here with his wife and four children, died in an explosion at the Monarch coal mine, near the 96th Street interchange along U.S. 36. Although his body was never found, a memorial stands 375 feet above where Jaramillo is thought to have perished.