

Tour Number Two

This tour includes the cemeteries of **Cloride, Hermosa, Chachillo, Monticello, and Chiz.**

Cloride Mountain View Cemetery & Chloride Santo Nino Cemetery - approximately 42 miles NW from Truth or Consequences.

The town was founded when mule skinner Harry Pye discovered silver near this area. Within 6 months the area grew from a tent camp to a full fledged town and in the early 1880's, Chloride was reported to have 500 residents, 8 saloons, 3 general stores, 3 restaurants, 2 butcher shops, a newsstand, a lumber yard, an assay office, a boarding house, livery stable, post office and the Pioneer Stage Line. The valley below is peaceful now; no more Apache raids and rowdy miners. The origin of the Chloride cemetery was the grave of a 7 month old baby, buried in 1882. It is on a beautiful mesa overlooking the little village. Parents of the baby wanted the most peaceful place possible amongst the beauty of nature. Others chose the same hill for their loved ones until it became the community cemetery for Chloride and Winston as well as nearby ranches and mining camps. In 1915, the cemetery was incorporated and designated as The Mountain View Cemetery. Today, mining

activity is being renewed in the little town composed of a few buildings and a handful of people. A valuable piece of history of Sierra County was contributed by Henry Schmidt of Chloride. He arrived from Germany in the summer of 1882 and worked in an assay office. A bit later he set up his own assay business with a photo gallery. His uncle, August Cramer, had introduced dry-plate photography in America and assisted his nephew and supplied him with the best equipment available. Many of his photographs serve as an interesting record of the times and were donated to the U of NM and Geronimo Springs Museum.



HERMOSA Cemetery is on the S. fork of the Palomas River, 28 miles W of Truth or Consequences.

The town of Hermosa emerged in 1880 on the south fork of Palomas River with mining and the cattle interests. It was said to be a social, lively little town in the 80's (1880's) with two camps supporting a hotel and boarding house in each upper and lower camp.



UCHILLO Located approximately 20 miles NW of Truth or Consequences.

The name comes from the Spanish word,

'knife'. A farming community that was founded about 1850, it became a stage stop where horses were changed and passengers allowed to rest. Often these stages had military escorts when Apaches were on the warpath. Cuchillo today has some dozen buildings, including a general store and bar, a restaurant, church and community hall.



MONTICELLO, Located on NM 142, 21 miles NW of Truth or Consequences on Alamosa Creek.

Settled in 1856, the houses were built in a huge square forming a fortress, for protection against the frequent Apache raids. A natural gorge, dug through the mountains by flowing hot mineral waters from Ojo Caliente, is just above the community. The town square of Monticello still stands and Mass is still celebrated in San Ignacio Church. The once flourishing community that consisted of a hotel, many saloons, dance halls, stores for rancher's supplies, corrals and wagon sheds for horse teams that hauled freight now has one business — La Alamosa Bar. Today, ranching and farming, irrigated by the warm spring waters is conducted in the area.