

## Park Hee Byung

b. 1871 – 10 June 1907

Interned 12 June 1907 at Riverside, Denver, Colorado in Block 12, Lot 3, Section 83

### Park Hee Byung's past and present Headstone epitaph's tell his story

Original Epitaph: 1871 - Born in Kangwon-do, Korea; 1894 - Graduates from Royal English Academy; 1895 - Studies at Kolya University in Japan; 1897 - Studies at Roanoke College, VA with Prince Yi Kang; 1899 - Manager at Wounsang Gold Mine at Youngbyun. Establishes Shinsung Academy in Shinehun. Recruits young patriots and sends them to Denver. 1905-6 - Special envoy to Mexico to investigate Korean slave laborers. Ordained a missionary by Union Theological Seminary. Established a dormitory and employment office in Denver to assist young patriots arriving from Korea. Leads independence movements for his native country. Establishes the foundation for the Provisional Government in overseas of Republic of Korea. 1907 -- Dies a mysterious death at age 37.

The original headstone was sent over from Korea. It was replaced with the existing headstone that is here today. While Mr. Park was here in the U.S. he helped raise money to buy guns to send Koras to help fight the Japanese.

#### Present Headstone Epitaph:

Korean Patriot

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the death of Park Hee Byung we, the Korean Society of the Denver area, now recognize him as the founding father of Korean immigrants in Colorado. During the height of the Japanese occupation of Korea, Mr. Park was a true patriot and a leader in the Korean Independence Movement.

Mr. Park studied modern ideology in both Japan and the United States of America.

As

a government official, he served as a translator at the Unsan Mine in Korea. He eventually sent many Koreans to work as laborers in the Denver area.

Mr. Park arrived in Denver in 1906. He started the Korean Independence Movement

organizing Koreans living in the United States

to influence the U.S. government to recognize the Independence of Korea.

See headstone pictures below



