Silver Creek Trail ❶

🥾 Hike   🚲 Bike   🐎 Horse   ⛷ X-Country Ski

0   1/2   1 mile

Approximate Scale 1:27,500

LEGEND

🛣 70	Interstate
═══	Major Road
───	Minor Road
======	4wd Road
40	US Highway
712	Forest Road
▪▪▪▪	Silver Creek Trail
─ ─ ─	Other Trails
🚻	Restrooms
P	Parking
TH	Trailhead

County use regulations apply.

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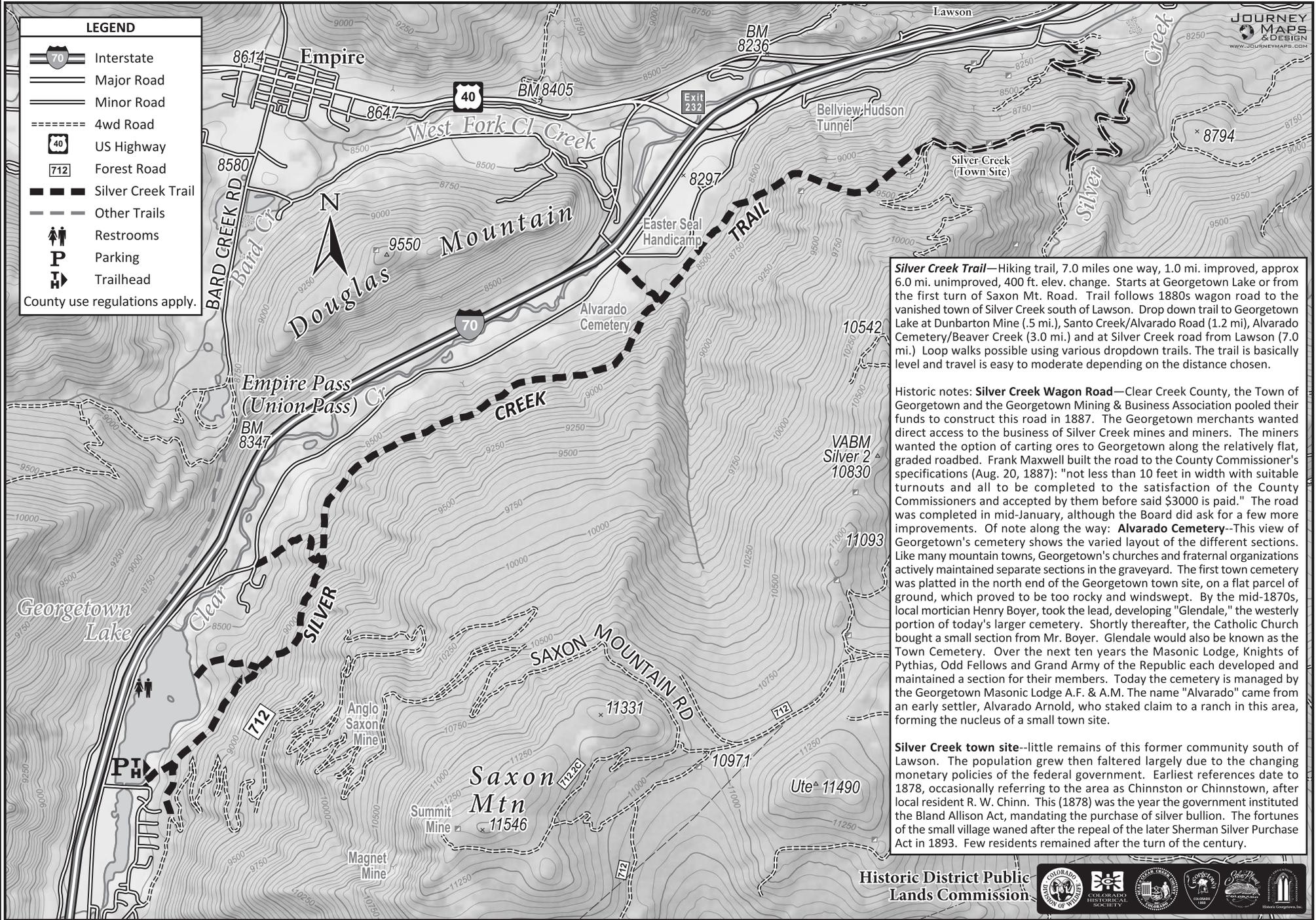
Silver Creek Trail—Hiking trail, 7.0 miles one way, 1.0 mi. improved, approx 6.0 mi. unimproved, 400 ft. elev. change. Starts at Georgetown Lake or from the first turn of Saxon Mt. Road. Trail follows 1880s wagon road to the vanished town of Silver Creek south of Lawson. Drop down trail to Georgetown Lake at Dunbarton Mine (.5 mi.), Santo Creek/Alvarado Road (1.2 mi), Alvarado Cemetery/Beaver Creek (3.0 mi.) and at Silver Creek road from Lawson (7.0 mi.) Loop walks possible using various dropdown trails. The trail is basically level and travel is easy to moderate depending on the distance chosen.

Historic notes: **Silver Creek Wagon Road**—Clear Creek County, the Town of Georgetown and the Georgetown Mining & Business Association pooled their funds to construct this road in 1887. The Georgetown merchants wanted direct access to the business of Silver Creek mines and miners. The miners wanted the option of carting ores to Georgetown along the relatively flat, graded roadbed. Frank Maxwell built the road to the County Commissioner's specifications (Aug. 20, 1887): "not less than 10 feet in width with suitable turnouts and all to be completed to the satisfaction of the County Commissioners and accepted by them before said $3000 is paid." The road was completed in mid-January, although the Board did ask for a few more improvements. Of note along the way: **Alvarado Cemetery**--This view of Georgetown's cemetery shows the varied layout of the different sections. Like many mountain towns, Georgetown's churches and fraternal organizations actively maintained separate sections in the graveyard. The first town cemetery was platted in the north end of the Georgetown town site, on a flat parcel of ground, which proved to be too rocky and windswept. By the mid-1870s, local mortician Henry Boyer, took the lead, developing "Glendale," the westerly portion of today's larger cemetery. Shortly thereafter, the Catholic Church bought a small section from Mr. Boyer. Glendale would also be known as the Town Cemetery. Over the next ten years the Masonic Lodge, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows and Grand Army of the Republic each developed and maintained a section for their members. Today the cemetery is managed by the Georgetown Masonic Lodge A.F. & A.M. The name "Alvarado" came from an early settler, Alvarado Arnold, who staked claim to a ranch in this area, forming the nucleus of a small town site.

Silver Creek town site--little remains of this former community south of Lawson. The population grew then faltered largely due to the changing monetary policies of the federal government. Earliest references date to 1878, occasionally referring to the area as Chinnston or Chinnstown, after local resident R. W. Chinn. This (1878) was the year the government instituted the Bland Allison Act, mandating the purchase of silver bullion. The fortunes of the small village waned after the repeal of the later Sherman Silver Purchase Act in 1893. Few residents remained after the turn of the century.

Historic District Public Lands Commission