

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Nevada State Prison

Other names/site number: Nevada Territorial Prison

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 3301 East Fifth Street

City or town: Carson City (Independent City) State: Nevada County: Carson City

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

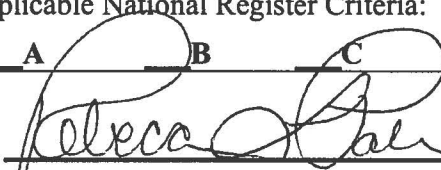
I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national x statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

x A B C x D


Signature of certifying official/Title:

7/27/15
Date

Nevada State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

Name of Property

County and State

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☐
Public – Local ☐
Public – State ☒
Public – Federal ☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☐
District ☒
Site ☐
Structure ☐
Object ☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

23

Noncontributing

3

buildings

6

sites

5

structures

objects

35

5

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT/correctional facility

INDUSTRY/Quarry

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

FUNERARY/cemetery

LANDSCAPE

INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

GOVERNMENT/correctional facility

GOVERNMENT/courthouse

FUNERARY/cemetery

LANDSCAPE

INDUSTRY/manufacturing facility

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classic Revival

MODERN MOVEMENT

OTHER: Mid-20th Century Minimal Traditional

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Foursquare

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: sandstone, concrete, metal, stucco, asphalt, other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Nevada State Prison (NSP) campus includes a complex of stone and concrete buildings south of Fifth Street, built along the northwest slope of a hillock overlooking Eagle Valley to the north and west. The landscape of the Prison complex is anchored by the Prison Yard, around which most of the buildings form a rectangular cluster. The majority of buildings in the historic district are made of quarry sandstone, with more recent buildings constructed of concrete and steel. The southern edge of the main complex is defined by a rock wall of the Quarry, measuring up to twenty feet, topped by a double-run of chain link fence marking the outer boundary of the prison-accessed spaces. West of the main cluster of prison buildings is a landscaped area with a small cluster of housing for prison staff. North of the main cluster, across the historic route of Fifth Avenue (which lies approximately 150 meters south of the current route), is a scatter of smaller buildings including the Kennel and Butcher Shop. The historic district includes elements of Classical Revival and Modernist architecture, as well as landscaping influenced by the Picturesque style. The spatial organization reflects the earliest developments of the state prison. However, significant demolition and reconstruction in the 1920s, followed by additions to the campus in the 1950s and 60s, have given the district its present overall character. To the east of the main building cluster, and excluded from the historic district, are a set of 1980s cell blocks known as the "Hill Units," built on top of the hillock. Within the district, the thirty-five contributing and five non-contributing resources represent developments at the prison that began in 1862 and ended with the closing of the prison in 2012.

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The Nevada State Prison (NSP) campus includes resources from three major phases of development resulting from its continuous use between 1862 and 2012, when the state closed the facility. The first phase resulted in a complete campus that developed periodically and operated between 1862 and 1920. The majority of buildings and structures from this first period of construction have since been demolished, but there is a potential for discovery of archaeological resources pertaining to this period, although the majority of the district has not been surveyed. The second phase, between 1920 and 1940 completely redeveloped the prison complex, resulting in the present core of the historic district. The final historic phase between 1940 and 1967 expanded the prison's capacity and modernized facilities. Currently only the early 1960s License Plate Factory remains in active use, although it is slated to close in 2015. The prison execution chamber and courthouse, within the Administration Building, are maintained in the event they may be needed for use. Future testing may reveal new archaeological resources pertaining to all periods of the Prison's occupation. As survey, testing, and excavation reveal new sites, it may be necessary to amend this nomination to include new archaeological sites and features.

Narrative Description

Campus Overview

The Nevada State Prison campus reflects an overall landscape that constantly evolved over the course of its 150-year operation, and resulted from administrative decisions, prisoner labor programs, and everyday use. The entire Prison complex, both in and out of the district, encompasses forty-five acres of land and contains more than forty buildings, structures, and sites, dating from between 1862 and 2002. The nominated area encompasses roughly twenty-five acres, consisting of the historic prison complex mostly constructed between 1920 and 1967. The Prison sits along the eastern edge of Eagle Valley, built into an active quarry that carved a large expanse of open space into a hillock at the northern end of Prison Hill. The historic downtown of Carson City is directly west, while the Carson River flows north a mile east of the Prison, below the eastern slope of Prison Hill. Remnant, channeled drainages for Kings Canyon and Ash Canyon Creeks lie just to the north of the Prison across Fifth Street. A small tributary to Mexican Ditch, which also runs north of the Prison, runs along the western edge of the prison complex, providing ground water for much of the complex's ornamental landscape features in this area.

Although the State of Nevada constructed and maintained corrections-related buildings on the site as early as 1862, periodic events and administrative changes constantly altered the built environment of the Prison. The State built a Classical Revival style prison campus by the 1870s, following a destructive fire in 1868. However, a major building campaign during the 1920s demolished most of the resources relating to this period and constructed a new campus that is largely present today. Throughout the Prison's operation, NSP administrators used sandstone from the prison Quarry to construct most of the contributing buildings in the complex including the Administration Building, the Warden's House, the Officer's Cottages, and Cell Blocks A and B. The sandstone buildings are similar in design and construction, predominantly un-adorned but often incorporating Classical Revival stylistic features. They are made from cut blocks of sandstone quarried and finished by prisoner labor. The masonry typically uses a running bond

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pattern, though some ragwork and random work patterns are also present. Beginning in the 1950s poured concrete, concrete block, and steel began to supplement the traditional stone construction in some cases, although stone was still frequently used. After 1960, the prison completed virtually all construction in concrete or steel.

The NSP's resources resulted from three general periods of development: the early period from 1862-1900, the Progressive Period from approximately 1900 to 1940, and the Modern period from 1940 to 1967. The early period consisted of the prison's first development, represented by the Quarry and the few remaining buildings from the nineteenth century. Future archaeological testing may discover additional sites and features with information potential to the Prison's formative years.. The Progressive period spans 1900 to 1940, and encompasses the dominant phase of prison development in the late-Progressive Era into the 1930s. This phase was dominated by a building campaign in the 1920s and includes the majority of contributing buildings and landscapes in the district, including the Administration Building, Cell Blocks A and B, and the Prison Yard. The Modern period from 1940 to 1967 expanded the complex including the establishment of a residential landscape along the west side of the prison, and addition of Cell Block C and the License Plate Factory. The majority of the prison grounds have not been evaluated for archaeological resource potential, however, the presence of twentieth century diagnostic surface scatter and refuse piles in the Prison Trash Dump suggest that other sites and deposits may exist within the historic district that could be discovered through future testing.

Character and Narrative of the NSP Campus Landscape

The NSP landscape evolved over time in response to administrative and labor needs that shifted on a frequent basis. However, there are certain aspects of the spatial organization and circulation patterns within the prison that have remained consistent since the early period of Prison development. The primary anchors of the NSP campus has been the spatial relationship between historic Fifth Street, also known as Warm Springs Road on Sanborn maps of Carson City, and the Quarry that continued expanding southward from the street over the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Since 1862, the various iterations of the prison campus have extended south from Fifth Street into the Quarry, as prisoners cut further and further into the hill, eventually consuming much of the hill's western quarter and creating a large, flat-bottomed "bowl" into which the Prison buildings have been constructed.

The spatial organization of the Prison has shifted over time within this guiding relationship. The original Warm Springs Hotel and Territorial Prison was linear, consisting of a string of various buildings running east and west along Fifth Street. The formal State Prison campus constructed over the 1860s and 1870s largely replicated the linear organization, with all of the cell blocks and administrative buildings fronting Fifth Street, with a rock wall-lined prison yard extending south into the Quarry. The current configuration resulted from the 1920s state building campaign. As a result of further expansion of the Quarry, the NSP's spatial organization shifted to center around the new Prison Yard, with stone buildings lining the Yard to form a rectangular organization, although the formal landscape and administrative buildings still fronted Fifth Street. This transition defined what has become the current spatial organization of the campus, as

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administrators constructed new buildings that extended the campus outwards from its center at the Prison Yard.

The resulting circulation patterns that are evident within the campus are defined by the permeable layers of control established in the landscape by the twentieth century. The present circulation pattern of the prison, which was established in the mid-twentieth century, involves three layers of resources related to control. The first is the outer Chain Link Security Fence, a non-contributing structure added in the 1980s. Outside of this fence lies an unregulated landscape that is largely ornamental, is publically accessible, but was used for labor programs for low-risk prisoners throughout the early twentieth century. Inside of the fence is a controlled space in which only prisoners, NSP staff, and approved visitors could enter. The access points for this second circulation layer were tightly controlled, with the main gate next to One Tower being the only public entrance. There are secondary staff entrances along the north and south fence to access utility buildings. The last layer is enclosed by fences, buildings, and the Quarry walls, and covers space that prisoners inhabited during the historic period. This includes the Cell Block buildings, the Prison Yard, the Culinary, and the non-contributing Gymnasium and Book Bindery to the south.

These layers of circulation affect the distribution and character of landscapes, buildings, and features within the NSP complex. While all landscape elements are generally vernacular, there is a decidedly utilitarian focus within the interior zone used for prisoner work and recreation, whereas the outer landscape elements are more ornamental in nature, and include irrigated grass lawns and Fremont cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*) and elm (*Ulmus* sp.) trees for shading staff and guests. Older historic buildings are anchored closely around the Prison Yard and built of Quarry stone, incorporating modest Classical Revival detailing, while newer buildings are scattered outside of this initial, rectangular development, and are constructed of either Quarry stone or concrete and steel, with mostly Modern stylistic elements, if any. In the 1980s, an extension of the complex to the east resulted in the replacement of nearly all of the security fences, and the addition of eight buildings and several open yards and landscape features. These 1980s complex additions have been excluded from the nominated property due to their geographic concentration and insufficient age.

Nevada State Prison, Resource List

Resource #	Resource Name	Date	Resource Type	Contributing/
1	Quarry	c.1861-1960	Site	Contributing
2	Butcher Shop	19th Century	Building	Contributing
3	Nevada State Prison Cemetery	1875-1881	Site	Contributing
4	Fifth Street Stone Walls	c.1880s	Structure	Contributing
5	Cell Block A	1920-25	Building	Contributing
6	Administration Building	1920-27	Building	Contributing
7	Warden's House	1920-25	Building	Contributing
8	Electrical Shop	c.1926	Building	Contributing

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9	Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel	c.1927-28	Structure	Non-contributing
10	Sally Port (Courthouse)	c.1928	Building	Contributing
11	Fifth Street Guard Tower	1929	Structure	Contributing
12	Pump House	1933	Structure	Contributing
13	Prison Yard	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
14	Front Yard and Parking Area	c.1920-1958	Site	Contributing
15	West Lawn and Garden	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
16	Stone Fountain	c.1962	Object	Contributing
17	Prison Trash Dump	c.1907-1967	Site	Contributing
18	Security Fence Foundations	1942	Structure	Contributing
19	Cell Block B	1948	Building	Contributing
20	Armory (Property Warehouse)	1950	Building	Contributing
21	Storage and Maintenance Building	1952	Building	Contributing
22	Cottage 1	1953	Building	Contributing
23	Cottage 2	1953	Building	Contributing
24	Cottage 3	1953	Building	Contributing
25	Cottage 4	1953	Building	Contributing
26	Cottage 5	1953	Building	Contributing
27	Cottage 6	1955	Building	Contributing
28	Northwest Stone Wall	1957	Structure	Contributing
29	Greenhouse Foundation	1954	Site (not counted)	Contributing
30	Boiler Plant	1958	Building	Contributing
31	Kennel	c.1962	Building	Contributing
32	Cell Block C	1960	Building	Contributing
33	License Plate Factory	c.1962	Building	Contributing
34	Two Tower	1962	Building	Contributing
35	One Tower (Main Gate)	1963	Building	Contributing
36	Three Tower	1966	Building	Contributing
37	Culinary and Dining Hall	1966	Building	Contributing
38	Gymnasium and Book Bindery	1976	Building	Non-Contributing
39	Chain Link Security Fence	c.1980s	Structure	Non-contributing
40	Shed	c.2000	Building	Non-contributing
41	Maintenance Shop	2004	Building	Non-contributing

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Early Prison Development, 1862-1920

Most of the buildings relating to the earliest period of prison development have since been demolished. As mentioned above, future archaeological testing may reveal new sites and features within the district that have information potential regarding the earliest years of the prison's operation. Construction during this period used prison quarry stone almost exclusively, and lined the south side of Fifth Street. Historic photographs from the period reveal that much of the construction was of Classical Revival style, and arrayed along Fifth Street from the current location of Interstate Highway 580 extending several hundred feet east.

Among the first buildings at the site was the Warm Springs Hotel, established by Abraham Curry in 1861 and leased to the Territory of Nevada as a prison beginning in 1862. According to Curry biographer Doris Cerveri, the two-story hotel measured 100-by-32 feet with an adjoining bath house measuring 160-by-38 feet with six pools about twenty-five feet square. Historic photos of the resort from this period show a two-story stone building of side-gable form fronted by a long porch, presumably the hotel portion of the resort. The Hotel was connected to a one-story building of considerable architectural distinction via two intervening stone structures. The one-story building was fronted by a porch and a façade of precisely cut, smooth-faced ashlar blocks, and topped by a stepped parapet with an eagle statuette at its crest. The function of this building is uncertain; it may have been the bathhouse.¹

The earliest operations at the Nevada State Prison involved adapting the Warm Springs Hotel to correctional use. The Warm Springs Hotel's row of connected buildings established the public façade of the nineteenth century prison. A report by Warden Howland dated December 9, 1864, described partial completion of a "new addition" that measured 41-by-28.5 feet and eighteen feet high at the eaves. Completed by Warden J.S. Crosman in 1865, the addition contained two tiers of cells, apparently eight cells to each side with a center passage on both floors for a total of thirty-two cells. The cells measured eight feet long and four feet wide and were constructed of stone on all sides with doors of double thickness two-inch planks. The cell doors were secured by a contraption consisting of "an iron bar which fastens each door at the same moment being worked by a brake from the Guard Room." The cell block, which seems to have been referred to in later years as the "Territorial Addition," survived the May 1, 1867 fire that destroyed most of the rest of the prison. In a report to the legislature following the fire, Warden James Slingerland described the main building that was destroyed as having measured 100-by-40 feet and to have been in deteriorated condition. The prisoner dining room may have been adobe, which would explain how inmates were able to dig a hole through its wall and escape in 1865. The Hotel and bath house had been demolished by the 1920s.²

¹ Lawrence & Houseworth, "State Prison and Warm Springs, near Carson City," c.1860s, Image #495, The Society for California Pioneers, Online Photographic Database, http://www.californiapioneers.org/lh/search_image.php?id=0495, accessed 12/8/2014.; Cerveri, *With Curry's Compliments: The Story of Abraham Curry*, (Elko, NV: Nostalgia Press, 1990), 13-14, 26-28; Jennifer E. Riddle, Sena M. Loyd, Stacy L. Branham, and Curt Thomas, *Images of America: Nevada State Prison*, (Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2012), 12-13.

² From its dimensions and other evidence the main building may have been the converted ca. 1861 hotel; "Warden's Report and Inventory, 1864," Nevada State Prison Papers, Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; John B.

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The early NSP campus appears to have evolved periodically over the 1860s and 1870s. As the complex developed, it featured workshops and other auxiliary buildings or wings that supported the operation of the facility. The blacksmith shop mentioned in the March 1864 deed is also referenced in the December 1864 Warden's Report at which time it contained a bellows, anvil, and other ironworking tools. The 1864 Report also mentions a carpentry shop, kitchen, armory, guard room, office, the prison yard, the cells, and a "cell room" which seems to have been the large space that contained the individual cells. In the Prison Yard, prisoners stockpiled worked stone for use in the ongoing construction of the cell block and perhaps other buildings. The prepared stone included "cut Sills" (window sills or door thresholds), "Ashleigh [ashlar] for fronts of buildings," "cut flag" (flagstones for floors or walkways), and "Moulded caps for Columns."³

Historic photographs provide a sense of the prison's physical appearance in the late nineteenth century. The prison complex was not only a prison; it included the residence of the warden and his family and at least some of the guards. The main front building where these apartments were located featured a second-story cantilevered bay window (technically an oriel window) which may have marked the location of the warden's parlor. Unlike most of the prison's windows the bay window and adjacent second-story openings were not barred. They looked onto a landscaped "front lawn" flanked by ornamental watch towers and shaded by trees. A photograph dated to the 1870s, taken from an elevated location above the south Quarry wall, shows an extensive complex of one- and two-story buildings. Most appear to be stone but there are accounts of adobe structures as well. The principal building, distinguished by a cupola with lancet-arched openings, a bracketed cornice, and a domical roof, occupied the site of the present Administration Building and served an administrative function with second-floor staff quarters and a rear wing with small windows that may have lighted cells. The complex appears to have grown incrementally over the course of the 1860s, as funding allowed, with an increase in construction to replace buildings destroyed in the 1867 fire. Another fire occurred in 1870. After the 1870s the complex appears to have grown more slowly until a new phase of construction commenced in 1920, demolishing and salvaging much of the early prison campus.

Newspaper accounts of a large prison break on September 17, 1871 provide incidental detail on the facility. The break began in the upper tier of the cell block which adjoined the apartments of Lieutenant Governor John Franklin Denver, who also served as warden and whose family lived at the prison. An account based on eyewitness testimony stated that the escaping prisoners, numbering around thirty, reached the roof of the main front building and cut a hole through it. Denver, his family, and guests "were seated in one of the Warden's rooms up stairs enjoying a nice little dinner" when "suddenly hearing the tramping of the prisoners along the roof with the clanking of their heavy chains they at first thought it was an earthquake." The prisoners jumped

Snyder, untitled manuscript – history of the Nevada State Prison, 2005, 4-5; Myron Angel, *History of the State of Nevada*, (Oakland: Thompson and West, 1881), 546, 547, 556; Cerveri, *With Curry's Compliments*, 26-28.

³ "Warden's Report and Inventory, 1864," Reports, Department of Corrections collection, Nevada State Library & Archives (hereafter NSLA); *Daily Territorial Enterprise*, September 19, 1871, Nevada Historical Society Library (hereafter NHSL); Riddle et al, *Nevada State Prison*, 12-18; Photos NSP 0006 and 0323, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

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down into the upper stair hall and secured the prison armory on the first floor. A gun battle ensued, with Denver shooting from above while guards and the proprietor and bartender from the adjacent Warm Springs Hotel fired at the emerging armed prisoners from outside. The account describes an “outer wall” that enclosed the yard in front of the prison and had provision for guards, either a parapet, platforms, or towers. It is possible the octagonal towers were in place by this time.⁴

By 1875, the prison had expanded further to provide larger facilities. An inventory taken that year describes, in addition to the shops and functional spaces described in the 1864 report, a tailor shop, laundry, bath house, prisoner’s dining room, guard dining room, store room, library, warden and guard lodging rooms, stable and barnyard, magazine (containing blasting powder, caps, and fuse), and Butcher Shop. An account of the buildings that existed prior to the destructive fire of May 1867 described the “old kitchen” as “nothing but a tinder box built of rock.” The 1875 inventory also described the equipment of the cells: 133 bunks, the same number of mattresses and pillows, and sixty buckets. The latter were presumably used as chamber pots and their number, roughly half the number of bunks, suggests two prisoners to a cell and possibly three in some instances.⁵

1. Quarry. c.1861-1960. Contributing site.

The Quarry served as a defining feature within the NSP complex during its historic period. Its walls wrap around the complex more or less continuously from the east side of Cell Block A around to the southeast corner of the Sally Port (Courthouse). The walls vary from a more terraced condition west of the License Plate Factory to sheer cliff faces on the south and west sides of the campus.

The Quarry walls are full of fossilized faunal and floral remains and excavation of stone revealed prehistoric animal tracks beginning in the nineteenth century. During the early days of the prison, prison staff used some of these caves for solitary confinement. During the 1940s, the prison repurposed the caves for prisoner activities such as use for the *Sagebrush Newspaper* office, a carpenter’s shop, and prison offices. Graffiti and a human face are carved into the stone near some of the cave entrances, which have iron barred or strap gates. One has a lintel inscribed with the name of Warden Denver S. Dickerson who served two terms as warden in the 1910s and 1920s.

In operation by 1861 as a private quarry for Abraham Curry, the Quarry has expanded significantly as prisoners removed stone for buildings both at the prison and in nearby Carson City. Generally removing rock southward away from Fifth Avenue, the Quarry attained its present shape by 1960, when the use of steel frames and concrete in prison buildings ended the practice of using quarry stone and prison labor for construction. The Quarry walls not only provided an additional barrier to escape, but the flat surface area left as the prisoners cut the walls back provided more space for the construction of new

⁴ *Daily Territorial Enterprise*, September 19, 1871, and *Nevada State Journal*, September 23, 1871, NHSL.

⁵ “Nevada State Prison Inventory and Account Book, 1875,” Nevada State Prison ephemera file, NSLA; Angel, *History of the State of Nevada*, 546, 547.

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buildings after the Second World War. Near the south end is an area with modern sweat lodge foundations and other features associated with Native and earth-based religions. A 1962 aerial photograph shows retaining walls along the east side of the Quarry that have since been removed, replacing the sheer cliff with a set of terraces sloping upward and eastward to the License Plate Factory.⁶

The Quarry retains good integrity to the period of significance. The Quarry reflects roughly a century of operation as part of the Prison between 1862 and the late 1950s. Although the Quarry bottom has since been in-filled with buildings and landscape features over the course of the twentieth century, the Quarry walls remain and define the present overall landscape of the Prison complex.

2. Butcher Shop, late nineteenth century, Contributing Building.

The Butcher Shop is the northern-most building within the complex and is located outside of the secure prison fence line. It is a 300-square foot, coursed sandstone rubble building. The west façade includes an off-center door opening. The original door is gone and has been replaced with a wooden door and a re-purposed three-light sash window with a vertical axis. The north side of the building has one off-center opening for a window. The opening is lined with a dressed sandstone lintel, jambs, and sill. The building's front-gabled roof is made of concrete slab supported by a metal ridge beam, likely added in the twentieth century. The Butcher Shop is currently not in use and the interior is in poor condition.

The first mention of a butcher shop is in an 1875 inventory. The building contained a chopping block, a large cupboard with twelve meat hooks, meat spikes, and a "large Force Pump & piping" presumably for hosing down the interior, as well as foodstuffs including large quantities of beans, potatoes, cabbages, and flour. However, an 1887 Warden's Report mentions the construction of a new butcher shop, indicating the building was replaced by that year. Researchers believe this building to be the 1875 Butcher Shop but cannot confirm due to lack of documentation. The concrete roof may be a replacement added along with similar modifications around the campus in the 1920s.⁷

3. Nevada State Prison Cemetery. 1875-1881. Contributing site.

Early prison staff buried unclaimed bodies of prisoners who died while incarcerated on a hilltop to the south of the prison. There are eleven marked graves and the potential for unmarked graves. Tablet-style stone grave markers with round-arched crests record death dates between 1875 and 1881 as well as brief biographical information such as name, birth date, and in some instances place of birth. The graves are defined by rock borders and were once mounded. One tombstone has a lightly pecked depiction of a cross on its obverse. Two graves are marked by unhewn sandstone blocks. Some graves have footstones. The area of marked graves is defined by a partial rock border. An undated

⁶ Snyder, 106.

⁷ "Nevada State Prison Inventory and Account Book, 1875," Nevada State Prison ephemera file, NSLA.

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photo (likely taken in the early twentieth century) suggests some tombstones have been moved or replaced. Separated from the cemetery, but possibly formerly part of it, is a broken obelisk tombstone discovered behind Cottage 2. The partially effaced inscription appears to read "Thomas Miller, died Feb. 2d 1865, age 42 years." The tombstone is most likely that of F. Miller, a convicted highwayman who died on February 2, 1865, after being shot in a failed escape attempt. The future information potential of the cemetery regarding early prison life makes it eligible under Criterion D as part of the larger historic district.

4. Fifth Street Stone Walls. c.1880s. Contributing structure.

The Fifth Street Stone Walls are two separate features on either side (north and south) of the historic route of Fifth Street that runs along the north edge of the Front Lawn and Parking Area. The walls are built of three courses of rectangular, cut sandstone quarried from the Prison. The wall on the south side of Fifth Street is capped with blocks of poured concrete. The southern course runs approximately seventy meters and creates the north border of the Prison's Front Yard. The northern course is in poor condition, and sits outside the Chain-link Security Fence built in the 1980s. It also consists of three courses of sandstone, but does not have a concrete cap. The existing remnant of this wall begins along the historic route of Fifth Street, approximately twenty meters northwest of the Fifth Street Guard Tower. It runs 225 meters east along historic Fifth Street, past the Kennel, terminating along the road approximately thirty meters south of the Butcher Shop.

The walls appear in historic photographs of Fifth Street by approximately 1880, although its workmanship appears to have changed throughout its life. While the wall appears to have been constructed early in the Prison's development, historic photographs, the use of poured concrete as a cap course, and the fact that the Fifth Street Guard Tower is built into the wall, suggests that at least the southern portion was demolished and rebuilt in 1929.

There is a possibility of additional archaeological resources dating to this earliest period of operation. . Despite periodic ground disturbance from re-grading and new construction since 1920, sites such as the Prison often contain intact subsurface features such as privies, wells, cellars, and burn piles, and the like. Within the historic district, a number of buildings along the north end of the historic route of Fifth Street, near the Butcher Shop, have since been demolished, but their foundations and other residual archaeological evidence may be retained in situ. It is not possible to determine integrity of pre-1920 archaeological resources at this time, but archaeological testing in the future could determine the nature and degree of integrity of these unevaluated resources. A field survey of the Trash Dump Site (Resource #15) revealed few nineteenth century diagnostic artifacts.⁸

Late Progressive Era Developments – 1920 to 1940

⁸ Dr. Sarah E. Cowie to Jim Bertolini, personal communication, July 24, 2015.

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NSP administrators commenced a significant building phase in 1920 alongside nation-wide reforms in many aspects of American political, social, and cultural life, a period known as the Progressive Era. As in the previous period of development, prison administrators used prisoner labor for the construction, but contracted architects including the regionally-renowned Frederic DeLongchamps to design new buildings. Sources suggest that architect Edward E. Hoxie was also involved in some designs. State Engineer W.J. Boudwin oversaw the majority of new construction. Other individuals involved with the project in 1920 included W. Heidenreich, likely William M. Heidenreich, a Carson City contractor active in the 1910s and 1920s.⁹

The developments at the NSP between 1920 and 1927 constructed the core of the prison complex's current form. Historic photos from 1924 illustrate the demolition of the nineteenth-century buildings on the north end of the campus, making way for the construction of the present Administration Building and Cell Block A. Changes in the stonework pattern suggest that construction of these buildings proceeded in stages. The Administration Building and Cell Block A together gave the present rectangular form to the prison yard which, prior to that point, had evolved continuously since the 1860s. The Administration Building perpetuated the general outline of the old prison and continued the north-facing front established by the Warm Springs Hotel buildings in the 1860s. NSP administrators removed the last standing portions of the hotel around 1920, the former site now being occupied by the parking lot in front of the Administration Building's west wing and main entrance. Future archaeological testing in this area may reveal features related to this earliest period.¹⁰

After the remodel, the NSP was described as "modern in every respect, being sanitary and fireproof." The flammable wood roofs and combustible interiors of the old prison had been replaced with reinforced concrete roofs and interiors finished with cement parging on metal lathe. Prisoners landscaped the grounds inside the walls and out, including setting out a large American flag made from painted river cobbles, located on a manicured sloping embankment at the south end of the Sally Port. Nevadans generally thought that prison should be a humane place and the newly renovated NSP became a source of pride for the city and the state.

5. Cell Block A. 1920-25. Contributing Building.

Perpendicular to the northeast end of the Administration Building is Cell Block A. Constructed between 1920 and 1925, it is a rectangular, four-story, coursed sandstone building with its north side connecting with the Administration Building. Entrance to the building is via an exterior metal staircase in the Prison Yard on the northwest corner of the building. The building has a flat roof with a surrounding metal railing to allow guards to use the roof as a patrol space. The cells are arranged "back-to-back" in two rows, facing outward toward the prisoners corridor and the windows. Each cell has three concrete walls and an open wall with bars facing the exterior, where there are multi-pane sash windows to provide natural lighting. A pipe chase runs between the row of cells,

⁹ "Prison Construction Claims, July-October 1920," Nevada State Prison ephemera file, NSLA; Drawings NAA1/005, NAA1/061, NAA1/116, Frederic J. DeLongchamps, Nevada Architectural Archives, University of Nevada – Reno (hereafter NAA-UNR); *R. L. Polk and Company's Reno, Sparks, Washoe County and Carson City Directory, 1917*, 237, 260; *Polk's Reno City, Washoe County and Carson City Directory, 1923*, 452.

¹⁰ NSP Photos 102 and 104, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

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providing electricity and ventilation, and a corridor from which guards could access water and electricity for each cell without opening the cell door.

Work crews commenced construction of the cell block in 1920 using designs from Nevada architect Frederic DeLongchamps. However, construction appears to have been delayed persistently by poor funding and weather until the building's completion in late 1925. DeLongchamps designed the cell block with thirty-two concrete cells on each of the four floors, and sandstone quoins on the southeast and southwest corners. Each cell housed one prisoner (though the inmates quickly found themselves with a bunkmate as the population increased) and was sparsely furnished with a metal bed, a toilet, and a sink.¹¹

Warden R. B. Henrichs directed the construction work, which was most active in 1920-21. A period newspaper article noted:

With the cell house completed the new prison will begin to pay for itself through the decreases made possible in the force of guards, at the rate of about \$9000 per year. Construction of the first floor of the cell house has been practically finished and work has been started on the walls of the second story. When completed, under present plans, the cell house will be a four-story building, made of stone cut in the prison yard by convict labor, and will have a housing capacity of 125.¹²

During the construction of Cell Block B in 1948, attached to the south end of the Cell Block A, construction crews removed the gun posts and quoins on the south elevation. Since that time, a metal fire escape has been added to the west elevation, new flood lights have been installed at the roofline and on the roof, and some window unit air conditioners have been added. Later, prison administrators enlarged the cells of Cell Block A by removing selected concrete partitions between them and inserting new steel partitions as needed. Other than this interior modification, Cell Block A preserves its essential 1920s character. It remained in use for housing prisoners until the State legislature decommissioned the NSP in 2012.

6. Administration Building. 1920-27. Contributing Building.

The Administrative Building served as the official visitor entrance and administrative hub for the prison. The two-story building has an L-shaped footprint and is built of sandstone ashlar with a running bond and some random ashlar pattern stonework. Except for the simple Classical Revival entrance surround, the building has no identifiable style. The main public entrance to the building is on the west elevation of the building and consists of double doors. Surrounding the doors are square sandstone Doric pilasters. The Nevada State Seal is painted above both pilasters. The words "Main Entrance" are painted on wood and attached above the double doors. Flanking either side of the entrance are electrical sconces with wrought iron light fixtures. A simple corbelled cornice above the

¹¹ John B. Snyder, unpublished manuscript on the NSP, (2005), 52, 57-58; Drawings NAA1/005 and NAA1/061, Frederic DeLongchamps, NAA-UNR.

¹² "Prison Plans told at Lunch." *Reno Evening Gazette*, February 16, 1921, NHSL.

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entrance repeats the cornice on the building. On the northeast section of the building, there is a third story addition of poured concrete with a flat roof, extending east from the midpoint of the north ell to the east elevation of the building where it joins with Cell Block A. The building retains its original wooden one-over-one sashes with either sandstone or concrete sills and lintels throughout. An inscription stone over a doorway on the east elevation identifies the west wing as the prison's first license plate factory which operated in this building from 1931 until 1962. The third floor addition has wooden four-over-four windows but with no lintels or sills. All windows are secured with exterior bars. The roof is flat and composed of tar and gravel. Metal staircases access the second and third stories from the Prison Yard.

Frederic DeLongchamps provided designs for this building, which was constructed in stages between 1920 and 1927. Like much of the prison's built environment at that time, prisoners provided the labor, cutting and laying the stone from the Prison Quarry. In 1950, a third story was added to the east end, constructed with poured concrete and known as the Hospital Wing. A plaque at the top of the stairs near the east end of the addition notes architect Edward S. Parsons provided the plans for the addition, and that Nevada Engineering Construction Company and G. Panicari constructed it.¹³

In 1931, Warden Penrose added the NSP's first license plate factory to the south ell of the building. That extension connected the Administration Building to the Sally Port. In Penrose's 1931 report he described the newly-constructed addition:

"The building was planned and erected under my direction. Construction started May 1, 1931 and was finished the latter part of 1932. It is a two-story structure of prison limestone [*sic*] and reinforced concrete, matching other prison buildings. All labor, stone which was cut by hand, crushed stone and rock was supplied by the prison without cost to the state. Only one-half of the ground floor is being used for the license plate factory. The other half, and the entire second floor is vacant, and could be used to house other prison industries which would not interfere with anything in our state. Such industries would not only save the state money, as the license plate factory is doing, but would provide education and more work for the inmates. The several pieces of machinery are the most modern, and are electrically driven. The factory runs about one month and a half each year as no outside work is done. Most states [have] their own plants, the same as ours. An average of 20 inmates are employed during the most part of the time, and about 15 during the remainder, finishing up."¹⁴

The building served as the northwest barricade, keeping the inmates confined within the prison proper. Historic photos show wooden double doors with nearly full-length glazing, however, these have been replaced and covered with plywood. "Nevada State Prison" also appeared above the door in historic photos, but has since been removed.¹⁵

¹³ Snyder, 52, 58; Drawings NAA1/005 and NAA1/061, Frederic DeLongchamps, NAA-UNR.

¹⁴ Penrose report in c.1931?

¹⁵ NSP Photo 0327, NSP Photograph Collection, NSLA.

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7. Warden's House. c.1921-1925. Contributing Building.

Constructed between 1921 and 1925, the Warden's House is a two-story, Four Square style building approximately forty-five feet wide and thirty feet deep. It has a concrete foundation with a sandstone ashlar first floor, and a stucco second floor, with a low-pitched, hipped, asphalt composition shingle roof. Windows on the front and side elevations are generally symmetrically placed sash windows, although all window openings are boarded over with plywood. All jambs have been retained, but many sashes have been removed. The porch has also been boarded over, with an unlit entry door at the top of the stoop. The rear elevation has ghost marking indicating a gabled hood was placed over the rear entry at some time, but later removed. The rear concrete stoop has also been removed. There are three chimneys constructed of coursed sandstone masonry: two interior chimneys and an exterior chimney on the north elevation.

The as-built house is slightly different than the drawings provided by Frederic DeLongchamps in 1920. While the form and style of the building is the same, DeLongchamp's plans called for a main entry with a half-view wooden door and a twelve-light glaze, with flanking two-by-four sidelights. The second story included two sash windows and what appears to be glazing for a sleeping porch along the northeast corner of the building, with a ribbon of four fixed windows or screens. The designs did not specify beyond sash windows, showing options for either one-over-one or four-over-one vertically-divided units. Plans called for two sandstone chimneys, one on the rear of the building and one on the north elevation.

The most significant alteration was the addition of a second story porch. This is evidenced by the replacement of the porch roof with a shallow, shed roof, and the presence of two doorways on the second story of the façade. The second-story doors were French doors and the roof of the front porch was surrounded by a wood balustrade which was removed at an unknown date (post 1950). The French doors and most of the second story windows are missing and the openings have been covered with plywood.¹⁶

Toward the end of the period of significance, Warden Fogliani oversaw the conversion of the Warden's Residence into an investigation facility. It was then left vacant for many years and the condition deteriorated. The interior suffered extensive water damage and prison labor was used to remove all of the lathe and plaster, down to the studs. The original tongue and groove wood floors, stairway, turned banisters, and some historic trim remain intact.¹⁷

8. Electrical Shop. c.1926. Contributing Building.

South of the Maintenance Shop is a single-story coursed sandstone building known as the Electrical Shop, built in 1926. It was possibly constructed to house the electrical plant for the prison, also completed that year. However, it may have acquired that use in the 1950s when the prison used the building as a shop for electrical, television, and radio

¹⁶ Riddle, 36-37.

¹⁷ Snyder, 53, 58.

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maintenance. The Electrical Shop is built into the hillside and has a lower level walk-out on the west façade. The flat roof is concealed by a low parapet wall. Modern wood stairs lead to the upper level which is entered through a wooden door with two-by-six glazing, sheltered with a metal gabled hood. Beside the door is a large, eight-over-eight wooden window. The other windows in the building are narrow, horizontal, single-glazed windows with iron bars on the exterior.¹⁸

9. Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel. c.1880-1928. Non-Contributing Structure.

Excavated into the Quarry wall behind Cell Block B is the c1880s Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel. The tunnel entrance is adjacent to the Shed, but has been closed and filled with concrete.

After the discovery of fossilized footprints in the Prison Yard/Quarry in the nineteenth century, prison administrators oversaw prisoners who excavated tunnels into the Quarry walls in an effort to uncover more footprints. The undertaking was successful and resulted in two more tunnels in 1882-83. In 1927-28, prisoners extended the horseshoe shaped Footprint Tunnel and installed viewing stations, complete with lighting. A sloth statue was placed at one of the tunnel entrances. Unfortunately, today the entrance to the Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel is permanently closed by a block of poured concrete. The Footprint Tunnel was filled with concrete in the 1990s due to fears that in an earthquake the tunnel would undermine the stability of the License Plate Factory, built just above it. Before the concrete was poured, the Nevada State Museum advised prison administrators to place sand and wood barriers on top of the prints so that if the cement were removed the prints might remain. The condition and integrity of the footprints is unknown.¹⁹

10. Sally Port (Courthouse). c.1928. Contributing Building.

Connected to the southwest corner of the Administration Building is the Sally Port/Courthouse. Sally Ports were the primary entry and exit of the prison grounds for incarcerated individuals. As was the case with the NSP, many sally ports were un-roofed structures with gates on the interior and exterior. The exterior walls are constructed of rusticated ashlar with a running bond. The archways are Classically-influenced with well-defined voussoirs and a keystone with a molded stone cap. The east archway into the Prison Yard is inscribed with the name Penrose, a former warden, and the date "1928." The archways are filled with square concrete blocks and flush metal doors. The building

¹⁸ M.R. Penrose, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Penitentiary and Supt. Nevada State Police For the Period July 1, 1926, to June 30, 1928, Inclusive*, NSLA..

¹⁹ There is a lively discussion in national journals regarding the discovery of the footprints at the Nevada State Prison. Despite their significance to late-nineteenth century zoology, the prints are now covered by concrete, and thus non-contributing to the historic district at this time. See "Ancient Footprints: A Record of Post-Tertiary Man-Gigantic Sandals and Small Men," *The Helena Independent*, August 20, 1882, 1; "Find relics of the Days of Civil War," *The Carson City News*, February 2, 1928, 1:6; "Footprints of Monster Men," *New York Times*, August 18, 1882; Mark Twain, "Carson Footprints," *Sacramento Daily Record-Union*, March 25, 1885, 1; Robert H. Davis, "Nevada Footprints," *The Californian Illustrated Magazine*, 4(1893):598-605, available via Google Books; Gene Hattori, Nevada State Museum, personal communication, 2013.

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has no windows except for glass blocks randomly placed among the concrete blocks within the arches. A concrete wheelchair ramp has been added to the exterior doorway on the building's north elevation. The flat roof has wood trim around the cap of the stone walls, and is a single-ply membrane.

When constructed in 1928, the building functioned solely as a sally port, a controlled entry corridor into the Prison Yard. It was hollow and roofless, with arched entryways and iron gates on the north and east elevations, providing access between the exterior and the Prison Yard. In 1966, crews of prisoner and Synanon²⁰ labor filled in and finished the Sally Port for use as a Courthouse. Workers filled in the arched entry points on the north and east elevations and added the metal doors. They added a roof, and finished the interior, creating a 1,475-foot Courthouse for the prison.²¹

11. Fifth Street Guard Tower. 1929. Contributing structure.

Near the Administration Building, inside the prison fence line but inaccessible to inmates, is the only remaining example of three free-standing, stone guard towers built in 1929 under Warden Penrose. The octagonal tower is a 10' by 10' structure built of coursed sandstone masonry. Seven of the building's sides have window openings and the eighth has an entry, but all openings are boarded over with plywood. Original windows appear to have been one-over-one wooden sash units. The decorative metal sheathed roof has an ornamental metal weathervane-like finial, a decorative overhanging fascia, and a molded base. A round-arched opening at the base, under a modern wraparound deck, has a decorative wood door on iron strap hinges. The style of the tower mimics those of free-standing stone towers that were built as part of the c.1868 NSP grounds. The original towers were taller and narrower, but were demolished as part of construction in the 1920s. Of the other two 1929 towers, one was located south of the Sally Port above the Quarry, and the other was located farther east on Fifth Street near the current Storage and Maintenance Building.²²

12. Pump House. 1933. Contributing structure.

In the parking lot on the west side of the Administration Building and Sally Port is the Pump House. Built in October of 1933 under Warden Penrose, the Pump House is an 8' by 8' structure made of coursed sandstone ashlar with a barrel-vaulted concrete roof studded with small river cobbles for ornament. Prison administrators located the Pump

²⁰ Synanon was a prison reform organization that attempted to provide work experience for prisoners in preparation for eventual release. More on the Synanon movement at the NSP can be found in Section 8.

²¹ Snyder, 57..

²² Calisphere, University of California Digital Library, digital image A8825, <http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/kt5h4nc5w8/?layout=metadata&brand=calisphere>, (accessed April 10, 2015); "Warden Calls for Books for Library at the State Prison", *Carson City News*, January 6, 1928, 1:5; "Beautifying Grounds At State Prison", *The Carson City News*, April 13, 1928, 1: 3; NSP 0005, Nevada State Prison Photograph collection, NSLA.

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House here above the original springs to source fresh water for the remainder of the prison, as well as the garden and spring house to the west of the building.²³

13. Prison Yard. c.1920-1967. Contributing site.

The Prison Yard achieved its present rectangular form in the 1920s with the construction of the Administration Building, Cell Block A, and Sally Port, however, its current form reflects post-war redevelopment of the complex. The Yard includes mostly open unplanted areas, with raised, rock-lined planting beds along its south border, and flat, ornamental planting beds and rectilinear concrete walkways along its north. An asphalt basketball court surrounded by chain link fence dominates the western half of the Yard. Three concrete walkways cross the remainder of the Yard at angles.

The earliest prison campus from the 1860s contained a rear yard for prisoners, defined by the collection of buildings lining Fifth Street. During the nineteenth century, historic photographs reveal the yard as a simple, dirt enclosure surrounded by a high stone wall. However, the redevelopments of the 1920s demolished this and constructed a new Prison Yard into a form of parterre with broad walkways, rectangular lawn areas, and topiary-like coniferous plantings. Prisoners built and maintained most of the landscape features, which included examples of decorative stonework and stone carving. The grass lawn that appears in a c.1930 aerial photo disappeared by 1962, likely as a result of water prioritization amid an expanding prison population. During the first half of the twentieth century, several stone buildings, referred to as “the Bullpen,” defined the south wall until construction crews razed them in 1967 to make way for the Culinary.²⁴

Historic Associated Feature: *Raised planting beds* – rock-lined raised planting beds on south edge of Prison Yard.

Historic Associated Feature: *Flat planting beds* – grade-level planting beds along north edge of Prison Yard lined with rocks.

Historic Associated Feature: *Concrete walkways* – concrete pathways that cross the Prison Yard both symmetrically and diagonally, and appear to have been added later in the prison’s administration.

Historic Associated Feature: *Basketball court* – asphalt, single court basketball court with a chain-link fence surrounding it. The basketball court appears by the 1961 aerial imagery series. It appears to have been a component of expanded recreational opportunities for prisoners under Warden Fogliani.

14. Front Yard and Parking Area, c.1920-1958. Contributing Site.

The Front Yard and Parking Area includes the designed landscape covering the northwest corner of the prison along the approach from Fifth Street. The landscape abuts the north and west elevations of the Administration Building. It provided visitors with an

²³ M.R. Penrose, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Penitentiary and Supt. Nevada State Police For the Period July 1, 1932, to June 30, 1934, Inclusive*, NSLA.

²⁴ Snyder, 106; NSP 0005, Nevada State Prison Photograph collection, NSLA.

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ornamental introduction to the prison's sandstone buildings, and established a visual border between Fifth Street and the complex.

At present, the Front Yard retains the triangular, grass lawn established in the 1920s. The deciduous trees, mostly elms (*Ulmus* sp.) lining its northern edge have matured since their planting along Fifth Street in the late-nineteenth century. There is a coursed stone wall that runs an abbreviated course from the prison entrance 200 feet to the east along the historic route of Fifth Street. A semi-rectangular space adjacent to the west façade of the Administration Building is the open, paved Parking Area. Designed and built by the time of a 1931 aerial photo, the Parking Area is defined by open parking and turn-around space, anchored around an oval planting bed near the main entrance to the Administration Building. Painted stones similar to those used in the American flag structure (described on page 23) border the planting bed, which is now surrounded by an additional concrete curb.

Early historic photos show very few alterations in spatial organization, circulation, and built features in the site. A ca. 1930 pamphlet about the prison stated, "Today [there are] beautiful lawns [and] every conceivable variety of flower . . . lending a soothing touch to offset the necessary 'Spanish Lace' that bars the doors and windows."²⁵ Aerial photographs from the 1930s indicate that the formal appearance of the lawn retained its character into the late Progressive era, with the addition of what appear to be garden or sculpture features (no longer extant). In the 1931 photo, a small grassy strip fronted the access road, and spelled the words "N. S. PRISON" in river cobble. Prison crews paved most of the exterior road and parking areas with asphalt between 1956 and 1958.²⁶

Historic Associated Feature: *Elm alley* – planted early in the prison's development, likely the 1860s, there are four elm (*Ulmus* sp.) trees remaining, of what had once been a solid line of elms flanking Fifth Street on its route west into Carson City.

Historic Associated Feature: *Traffic circle rock border* – on the interior of the parking circle is a patterned rock border that used to mark the circle when this portion of the Prison's parking was dirt. Since the area outside the circle has now been paved, a concrete berm has been added around the rock border. Historically, there was a tree (likely an elm [*Ulmus* sp.]) in the center of this feature, and planted grass. The tree has since been removed, and since the closing of the Prison and end of irrigation, the grass and most of the plantings have perished.

Historic Associated Feature: *Oval planting bed* – twenty meters south of the traffic circle, and three meters southeast of the Pump House is an oval, rock-lined planting bed, halved by a rock-lined dirt path running east-west. Due to lack of maintenance and watering, the planting areas are mostly dirt. Historic photos suggest the rocks were periodically white-washed.

²⁵ *Picture Story of Nevada State Prison*, undated pamphlet (c.1930), Pamphlet HV9475 N32 P53, Nevada Historical Society Archives, Reno, Nevada; "Perils of Fire Faces Many U.S. Prisons." *Syracuse Herald*, April 25, 1930, 21.

²⁶ Snyder, 106.

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15. West Lawn and Garden. c.1920-1967. Contributing site.

The West Lawn and Garden encompasses landscaping, retaining walls, water features, and various artistic and structural features on the west side of the campus, outside the prison walls. Situated around and west of what became housing for prison guards, this area reflects developments begun as Warden Penrose's beautification program in the late 1920s and refined under Wardens Bernard and Fogliani in the 1950s and 60s. The construction of this designed landscape provided not only a gardening opportunity for low-risk prisoners outside the prison fence, but also created a residential landscape for prison staff who lived on site with their families. The area straddles a service road, and is defined by a the outer security fence running along its east side along the edge of the controlled prison grounds, along its west by an irrigation ditch, hedge, and remnant stone wall, and on the north by a dressed sandstone wall.

On the south side of the Northwest Stone Wall is the Greenhouse Foundation site (an uncounted, contributing feature) and a roughly square irrigation reservoir. The reservoir has both coursed stone and rock pilings lining its banks, and was in use to support irrigation on State land including the prison by 1911.²⁷

The landscaped grounds follow the west side of the access road to the Cottages and the Warm Springs Correctional Center (WSCC) and include an open, terraced lawn area to the south of the Armory. Aerial photographs show this area attained its present spatial organization and tree composition by the 1930s, although the grounds were mostly used for gardening. Trees are a mixture of Fremont Cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*) and elm (*Ulmus* sp.). A 1962 aerial shows a transition in the intervening years towards open lawns with modest landscape features.²⁸

There are several landscape features in the lawn area with unknown dates of construction, although all appear to date from the 1950s or later. On the north side of the lawn is an approximately six-foot Stone Fountain. circular fountain constructed of white, reddish, and green stone with an octagonal walkway border of the same stone. The 1962 aerial photograph shows the fountain in this location. Near the midpoint of the lawn area are stone walkways, a stone-lined swale, and a footbridge paved with white, green, and reddish rock, as well as a double terrace with stone and concrete retaining walls. Just north of, and below, the retaining walls are white river cobblestones that spell out "WSCC" (for Warm Springs Correctional Center). The rise with the terraces appears to be the remnants of a filled-in swimming pool constructed by 1954. The grounds continue as a narrowing triangular lawn opposite the cottages, shaded by cottonwood and elm trees, slightly raised above a marshy area on the west side and ending opposite Cottage 6.

²⁷ Snyder's history relates a 112,000 gallon reservoir constructed west of the prison that captured Warm Springs water for use to irrigate farmland north of 5th Avenue. It is quite likely that the extant pool is the reservoir, constructed in 1910. The pool appears in the first aerial photographs of the prison taken in 1931; NSP Photo 0005, Nevada State Prison Photograph collection, NSLA; Snyder, 61.

²⁸ NSP 0005 and NSP 004, Nevada State Prison Photograph collection, NSLA.

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Just south of Cottage 6 is a grotto-like feature with a small sunken pool of cold water, rock faces, sandstone rubble-paved slopes, stone-lined beds and walkway, and a stone bench. The feature appears in the 1962 aerial photo series, and was possibly constructed along with the Cottages in the 1950s.

The steep slope south of the Sally Port was graded, planted at the top with cottonwood trees, converted to lawn, and ornamented with a large US flag formed of painted river cobbles between 1929 and 1931. Stones painted red, white, and blue form the letters USA at the top. South of this, behind the Cottages, are remnant rock terraces and concrete planting beds that were previously interspersed into a post-war residential landscape. There is also an entrance to a tunnel of unknown original function which appears in a c. 1931 aerial photo, located east of Cottages 1 and 2. At the foot of the slope are vestiges of a line of garages that formerly stood behind the Cottages.

Historic Associated Feature: Irrigation reservoir – this feature covers most of the northwest corner of the West Lawn and Garden, and appears to have been first constructed between 1909 and 1911. The rock-lining along the banks, especially the east bank, served as both a decorative feature and as foundation stabilization for the Greenhouse.

Historic Associated Feature: Cottonwoods – planted in the 1930s, the west Lawn and Garden is heavily shaded with mature Fremont cottonwoods (*Populus fremontii*).

Historic Associated Feature: Paths and walkways – there are several short concrete and rock-lined pathways within this site, almost all of which appear in the c. 1962 aerial photograph and appear to date to the Bernard era, when there was still gardening practiced in this portion of the Prison.

Historic Associated Feature: Stone bridges – there are two mortared stone bridges over a water channel along the west edge of the Lawn area. Both of these bridges are still present.

Historic Associated Feature: Retaining wall – there is a terraced set of retaining walls towards the middle point of the Lawn, west of the access road. Historic photos indicate this was the location of a residential parking area in 1962, and may have been the former location of the swimming pool, built along with the Cottages.

Historic Associated Feature: Concrete water channel – this channel runs west from the access road into the water channel along the west end of the Lawn, emptying just north of the southernmost stone bridge.

Historic Associated Feature: Stone American flag – along the west fence-line of the Prison, east of the access road, is an American flag comprised of painted stones. This feature appears in the c.1930 aerial photographs and has been maintained since that time.

Historic Associated Feature: Grotto – at the south end of the Cottages is the Grotto, a small water feature that is indented into the southwestern corner of the ridge comprising the west boundary of the Prison Yard. The Grotto is a rock-lined

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pool measuring approximately seven meters wide (north-south) and five meters long (east-west), and has a rock-lined path running southeast from Cottage 6 approximately ten meters to the pool's edge.

16. Stone Fountain. c.1962. Contributing Object.

On the north side of the West Lawn and Garden is an approximately six-foot, circular Stone Fountain, constructed of white, reddish, and green stone with an octagonal walkway border of the same stone. The aerial photographs of the Prison show no fountain in 1931, but show the fountain by 1962, suggesting it was built under either Warden Bernard or Fogliani.

17. Prison Trash Dump. Early. c.1907-1940. Contributing Site.

The Nevada State Prison trash dump is a disperse scatter of prison related refuse located east of the prison fence and extending almost to Fairview Drive. The trash dump consists of domestic and industrial debris widely scattered over an irregular area measuring approximately 1300 feet by 450 feet. The dump contains thousands of diagnostic artifacts, characterized by concentrated trash mounds as well as scatters of diagnostic glass, ceramic and metal fragments including tin cups and license plate fragments. Most of the dump surface is composed of scattered individual fragments of discarded materials. However, a concentration of trash mounds containing high densities of cultural materials occurs near the center of the dump. Diagnostic artifacts in these piles include cut nails and colored glass, and an applied lip bottle neck indicating a possible association with the mid-nineteenth century period. Larger mounds, perhaps the result of mechanical clean-up and dumping by truck are also present. Temporal indicators (maker's marks, trademarks, distinctive manufacturing elements) indicate that most of the mounded and scattered debris dates to the early and mid-twentieth century. A concentration of construction debris is located in the northwest quadrant of the dump and includes dressed sandstone blocks, "I" beams, concrete slabs and heavy iron doors. A granite mano and red chert secondary flake indicate that the area was likely used prehistorically.

While it appears debris is not in its primary context, extant portions of the dump retain integrity of materials, setting, feeling, and association. While the movement of the dump materials has disrupted its depositional integrity, the volume of cultural materials present allows for reasonable "presence-or-absence" information potential. Subsequent cleanup of the area resulted in mounding of refuse and topsoil, but all debris remains within the dump extent. Mounds and scatters of debris within the trash dump contain data that can address research questions relating to prison operation and use over time. Functional artifact categories observed within the dump include: domestic items relating to food preparation and consumption; personal items relating to hygiene, grooming and health; activities, including those related to prison industries and maintenance; and architectural items consisting of construction hardware, materials, and utilities.

The association of the dump site with the prison, and the presence of prison-related cultural materials in volume, allow the dump site to contribute information potential to

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the significance of the prison. Future archaeological analysis of the dump site may help researchers answer questions about the daily social lives of prisoners and guards, the material culture of the prisoners and guards, and the diet of both prisoners and guards. The building refuse may also contribute to analysis of any changes in construction over time, differences in workmanship or materials used in buildings that are no longer extant, and perhaps even what tools were used to work the stone in what periods. By retaining clear association with the prison's historical context, and possessing integrity in materials, setting, feeling, and association, the dump site contributes to the significance of the NSP under Criterion D.

There may be additional archaeological features within the historic district relating to the 1920-1940 period, but a formal archaeological survey and evaluation will be needed to confirm their presence and integrity.

The Modern Period – 1940 to 1967

Following the Second World War, the NSP underwent a second major phase of development as administrators sought to expand and update the prison campus. Development of new technology alongside expansion of services led to the addition of new buildings and some modification of existing buildings to suit new needs. NSP administrators converted the once-hollow Sally Port into an enclosed Courthouse. Dedicated library and culinary facilities freed space in the cell blocks to house more prisoners as the number of incarcerated persons in State facilities rose steadily in the 1950s and 60s. While the prison continued to expand after 1967 due to massive increases in the number of incarcerated citizens in Nevada, modifications after that date were generally concentrated in the "Hill Units" located on the eastern side of the NSP campus and outside the historic district boundary.

18. Security Fence Foundations. 1942. Contributing Structure.

There are concrete and stone foundations for chain link fence courses interspersed atop the Quarry wall and running southward toward the Cemetery, likely completed in 1942. The fences were replaced and upgraded on these courses in 1960 under Warden Fogliani. Many of these historic fence lines have been demolished and built over with new courses of modern chain link fence, likely in the 1980s. By that time, the expansion of the NSP to include the Hill Units required the replacement of most of the fences with new materials and courses. Among the best intact foundations of the 1942 fence can be found along the ridge top east of the Cottages and north of the Prison Cemetery.²⁹

19. Cell Block B. 1948. Contributing Building.

South of Cell Block A, and connected to it, is Cell Block B, a four-story, coursed sandstone masonry building constructed in 1948. The window openings are barred and have sandstone lintels and sills. The metal window sashes feature a nine-by-nine glazing pattern. The roof is flat and has a railing around its perimeter to allow guards to patrol. As built, NSP staff projected that Cell Block B would house 216 inmates. During the building's construction, crews removed the stone tower guard posts on the corners of the

²⁹ Snyder, 97, 109; NSP 0002, NSLA.

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adjacent Cell Block A, replacing them with steel and glass towers at the south corners of Cell Block B. A plaque on the interior identifies the architect as Edward S. Parsons and the contractor as the Walker Boudwin Construction Company.³⁰

20. Armory (Property Warehouse). 1950. Contributing Building.

Just south of the Greenhouse is the Armory, a one-story, gabled building with wood lapboard siding and a concrete block half wall around the perimeter above the foundation. The windows and doors are boarded over. Prisoners constructed the building in 1950. It originally served as a warehouse and armory storage building. It has been vacant since at least 2009. Aside from the addition of a newer composition shingle roof, there have been no significant changes to this building.

21. Storage and Maintenance Building. 1952. Contributing Building.

East of the Warden's House is the Storage and Maintenance Building, a one-story, rusticated sandstone building with a side gabled roof, measuring 30' by 100'. In the southeast corner of the building is an inscription stone carved with name of Warden A. E. Bernard and the date 1952. The roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The building is elongated with four entrances on the west façade and garage bays and doors on the rear/east elevation. One of the front entrances has been filled in with concrete slump block, and another contains a modern air conditioner unit. Prison administrators made at least two additions to the building prior to 1962, both of which extended it to the north. The first of these was a single car garage built with a coursed sandstone foundation and panel and batten walls, and the second, a ragwork stone addition extending north to the historic route of Fifth Street.³¹

The Cottages (#22-27)

On the west end of the complex, outside the prison fence, are a set of cottages designed and built in the 1950s to provide on-site residences for prison guards and their families. All of the cottages are constructed of rusticated sandstone laid in a running bond and low-pitch, asphalt composition shingle roofs. They all have inset porches supported by wooden posts and containing a large picture window on their west façades. All other windows are wooden one-over-one sash units. The boxed eaves on the five hipped-roof units appear to have been reconstructed recently, and the roofs recently replaced. However, some of the units have slight modifications that distinguish them from the others, detailed below. There were sandstone, front-gabled garage buildings constructed for these cottages in the late 1950s, but these were demolished between 2004 and 2006.³²

22. Cottage 1 – Hipped Roof Box. 1953. Contributing Building.

³⁰ NSP 0107 and 0108; Richard H. Sheehy, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison For the Period July 1, 1946, to June 30, 1948, Inclusive*, NSLA.

³¹ NSP Photo 0002, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

³² John Snyder, *Nevada State Prison History*, State of Nevada – Department of Transportation, Carson City, NV (March 2005), 106, and Attachment photos NSP-27 and NSP-28; NSP 0002, Nevada State Prison Photograph Collection, NSLA.; Aerial photographs available at Carson City's public GIS webpage show the garages present in 2004, but absent in the next series in 2006.

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At an early date, likely before 1960, a stone pony-wall was added around the porch of this cottage. The pony-wall uses a random un-coursed pattern. A sandstone exterior chimney is on the north side of the house. The front picture window has an octagonal accent window. There are remnants of an enclosed, lapboard shed roof entry added onto the rear elevation that has since been partially removed.³³

23. Cottage 2 – Hipped Roof Box. 1953. Contributing Building.

Aside from the features listed above, this unit has a small, enclosed shed addition on the east elevation.

24. Cottage 3 – Hipped Roof Box. 1953. Contributing Building.

See description of “The Cottages.” No special features present on this unit.

25. Cottage 4 – Hipped Roof Box. 1953. Contributing Building.

See description of “The Cottages.” No special features present on this unit.

26. Cottage 5 – Hipped Roof Box. 1953. Contributing Building.

See description of “The Cottages.” No special features present on this unit.

27. Cottage 6 – Minimal Traditional. 1955. Contributing Building.

Cottage 6 is a Minimal Traditional type house with one story and a side-gabled roof. Cottage 6 was built from sandstone cut to the dimensions of standard bricks. Red bricks have been used as an accent around the windows to mimic shutters. The front porch has ladder-like wood supports. There is a small, enclosed shed addition on the east elevation.

28. Northwest Stone Wall. 1957. Contributing Structure.

The dressed sandstone wall at the northern edge of the lawn is an historic associated feature. It runs along the south side of the parking lot. The wall incorporates a stone carved with the name “Warden A. E. Bernard” and the date “1957,” and it terminates at both ends at pillars with decorative molded tops.

29. Greenhouse Foundation. 1957. Contributing Site (not counted).

West of the main gate and south of the Northwest Stone Wall are the remains and stone foundation of the former Greenhouse. The remains and foundation include a two foot high stone foundation made of uncoursed sandstone masonry and capped with a poured concrete sill. A rectangular, concrete trench in the middle of the floor is fed with water from the warm springs. Historic photos show that a similar building appears to have been constructed in the 1920s and included a wood framed, front-gabled greenhouse building set on the foundation and designed to keep the plants from freezing in the winter. However, records and a carved block reading A.E. Bernard, Warden, 1957, indicate it was demolished and reconstructed in that year. The site is not a counted resource in the

³³ The Quarry stopped active production by 1960, so it is unlikely that any stone work on the campus was completed after that date.

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historic district, as it is already within the larger West Lawn and Garden, with which the Greenhouse was functionally related during the period of significance.³⁴

30. Boiler Plant. 1958. Contributing Building.

South of the License Plate Factory is the Boiler Plant, a 65' by 40', painted, pre-cast concrete building constructed in 1958. It has a primary one and a half story section on its south side consisting of the boiler and utility room, with a two-story section to the north. Both sections have a flat roof, and multiple pedestrian and freight doors with multi-light glazing. Windows are predominantly paired, two-by-two steel frame windows. The building's west elevation includes a ribbon of paired windows along the full length of the two-story section, providing light into the boiler and utility room.³⁵

31. Kennel. c.1950s. Contributing Building.

Southwest of the Butcher Shop, but still north of the prison fence line, is a 60' by 25', side-gabled building constructed from coursed sandstone masonry. The building has a moderately pitched gable roof sheathed with corrugated metal. The gables have wood siding. On the north elevation, toward the northwest corner are three large sliding bay doors. There are some paired, fixed windows on the building. The construction date and original function of the building is unknown but it appears to have been built between the 1930s and 1950s as a maintenance or storage building. However the use of quarry stone indicates it was built prior to 1960, after which the Quarry was no longer in use. It served as a kennel for guard dogs in the 1970s.³⁶

32. Cell Block C. c. 1960. Contributing Building.

Cell Block C is a two-story building connected to the south elevation of Cell Block B. It is constructed of pre-cast concrete and has an asphalt, low-pitched gabled roof and barred windows. Constructed in about 1960, this building became a separate block to house high-security inmates, and for use as a solitary confinement facility. Although possessing a separate floor plan, it served as an addition onto the south elevation of Cell Block B, extending the east definition of the Prison Yard southward by several hundred feet. The construction of the Culinary eventually eliminated this relationship to the Prison Yard.³⁷

33. License Plate Factory. c. 1962. Contributing Building.

East of Cell Block A is the License Plate Factory. The factory is a 180' by 40' concrete masonry building constructed by 1962. It has a shallow gable roof, high ribbon windows in multiple sets, and billboard-style painted signage on the north gable end. There is a two-story, shed-roof projection on the west elevation. The first story of the projection is

³⁴ Arthur E. Bernard, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison For the Period July 1, 1952, to June 30, 1954, Inclusive*, NSLA.

³⁵ NSP 0001, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

³⁶ The construction date of the Kennel is unknown but it does appear in the 1962 aerial photograph set. NSP 0001, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

³⁷ NSP 0001, Nevada State Prison photograph collection, NSLA.

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concrete block, with a single door on its north elevation. The second story of the projection is corrugated steel.³⁸

34. Two Tower. 1962. Contributing Building.

South of the Electrical Shop is a 12' by 12' pre-cast concrete guard tower with an asphalt roof with a wide overhang. An interior staircase climbs up three stories to the guard room at the top. The majority of the tower has squared concrete walls. The guard post portion has a concrete half wall and glass picture windows that are canted outward to the roof overhang and provide a full view of the prison.

35. One Tower (Main Gate). 1963. Contributing Building.

One Tower, a pre-cast concrete 18' by 18' building constructed in 1963 sits at the northwest entrance to the prison. The first floor is canted inward, and contains ribbons of aluminum framed windows on all four sides. The walls of the second story are made of canted glass windows. The roof is flat with a wide overhang, and is topped by several utility and communications modules.

36. Three Tower. 1966. Contributing Building.

Three Tower stands on a single, round steel support with an octagonal guard room at the top. The structure contains twenty-five square feet and is accessed by a spiral steel stair outside the prison fence, with the entrance via a platform on the south face of the octagon. The guard room itself has a metal half wall canted inward, joining a continuous ribbon of steel-frame windows that are canted outward. The roof is flat, with flat metal faces approximately two feet in height above the windows.

37. Culinary and Dining Hall. 1966. Contributing Building.

North of the southern Quarry wall is the one-story Culinary and Dining Hall. Built in 1966 with International stylistic influences, the Culinary consists of a 65' by 125' primary building, with a 40' by 100' addition onto its east elevation. Both sections of the building are constructed from concrete block and share a flat, single-ply membrane roof with a large face along the eave with evenly-spaced block brackets. Though of concrete and steel construction, the exterior walls are faced with square tile. The compatible east addition was added in 1999.³⁹

³⁸ The License Plate Factory does not appear in an aerial photo series from 1962. However, it was constructed shortly thereafter and appears in photographs of the prison from the late 1960s. It is also mentioned in subsequent reports by Warden Fogliani prior to his removal in 1967.

³⁹ "1998 Aerial Photos" and "2001 Aerial Photos" layers, Carson City public GIS web tool, <http://ccapps.org/publicgis/>, accessed 3/9/2015;

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Post-Modern Construction

After 1967, there remained some modest construction within the main prison complex for basic needs and further increases in the prison population. The dominant construction phase after the historic period was the addition of the "Hill Units" east of the historic NSP campus. There have also been infrastructural upgrades including a larger water tank and accessory buildings constructed on the east side of the campus. Both the Hill Units and accessory buildings are not within the historic district.

38. Gymnasium and Book Bindery. 1976. Non-contributing Building.

South of the Boiler Room is the Gymnasium and Book Bindery Building, a prefabricated building with metal siding and a metal gabled roof. It was constructed in 1976. The Book Bindery occupies 4,137 square feet of the building and the Gymnasium occupies 7,980 square feet of the building.

39. Chain Link Security Fence. c.1980s. Non-contributing Structure.

Most of the historic campus is surrounded by two runs of chain-link fence of approximately twelve feet, topped with concertino wire. Aluminum posts are spaced at approximately ten feet. These courses of chain-link were most likely added after the construction of the Hill Units to provide additional security. Many of the fence courses run along historic courses established in 1942 or 1960.⁴⁰

40. Shed. c. 2000. Non-contributing Building.

Beside the blocked off entrance to the Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel is a small shed built from concrete blocks with a front gabled roof. The construction date of the shed is approximately 2000.

41. Maintenance Shop. 2004. Non-contributing Building.

East of the Storage and Maintenance Office is the Maintenance Shop, a 40' by 100' prefabricated building with metal siding and a metal roof. It is on a concrete slab foundation and was built in 2004.

Integrity of the District

The Nevada State Prison retains good integrity in all seven aspects during its period of significance from 1862-1967. The campus as a whole reflects the result of continuous evolution in administration at a site that has been used by the State of Nevada as a prison from 1862 to 2012. The built environment of the historic district best represents the period between 1920 and 1967 when the Prison refined its rehabilitative methods of correctional administration. The overall integrity of setting, feeling, and association of the NSP has been well retained.

The buildings themselves retain strong integrity in design, workmanship, and materials. The heavy use of prisoner-crafted sandstone from the Quarry prior to 1960 is still very evident. Most

⁴⁰ Snyder, 109.

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historic buildings within the district have received very few modifications to their design or finishes since the historic period, with most changes being interior infrastructural upgrades. The non-contributing buildings within the district are compatible with the significance of the NSP as a prison complex. A small number of resources date from before the 1920 reconstruction phase, and represent the vestiges of the NSP's earliest built environment. Although the NSP complex best represents its use and development after the construction campaign of 1920, remnant resources, and the presence of the Quarry walls, provides enough historic fabric from the earliest period of the prison to begin the period of significance in 1862.

Although no formal archaeological investigations have been completed, there is an expectation of information potential in the Prison Trash Dump site within the district. There is reasonable information potential within the prison grounds for other archaeological deposits that are not known at this time. Despite years of landscape alteration and surface re-grading, institutional settings such as these often possess intact archaeological resources preserved underneath the disturbed layers and under parking lots. Even within the upper, disturbed layers, there could be diagnostic artifacts with information potential. Careful monitoring of excavation within the district, and future archaeological testing will be necessary to determine the nature and extent of these resources.

The various landscapes and associated features retain strong integrity to the period of significance in their spatial organization, species composition, land use patterns, and topography. Most changes since the period of significance have been minor additions or subtractions of designed landscape features. Most of the new landscape features are decorative elements in the West Lawn and Garden that are compatible with the overall character of the site as a park-like recreational space.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☒ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHAEOLOGY

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Period of Significance

1862-1967

Significant Dates

1862 – Establishment of the Nevada Territorial Prison

1864 – Establishment of the Nevada State Prison

1920 – Construction begins on main campus

1967 – End of rehabilitation-focused methods at NSP

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

DeLongchamps, Frederic J.

Parsons, Edward S.

Heidenreich, William M.

Nevada Engineering Construction Company

Panicari, G.

Walker Boudwin Construction Company

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Nevada State Prison is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, in the Area of Politics and Government for its association with Nevada's administration of a correctional system, especially its adoption of rehabilitation-focused prison reforms in the nineteenth century, and the refinement of those reforms in the twentieth century. The Nevada State Prison (NSP) best represents Nevada's implementation of rehabilitative methods of penology by 1920, and the expansion of those practices after the Second World War. The NSP is

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also significant under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology for its potential to yield information about prisoner and guard life in the nineteenth and twentieth century. The period of significance begins in 1862 with the establishment of the Territorial Prison and ends in 1967 with the transition from rehabilitative methods of corrections to contemporary, security-based modes of prison administration. Between 1862 and 1967, NSP administrators created a built environment that emphasized the treatment of prisoners as patients who could be rehabilitated through labor. Among the various work programs established for NSP inmates was the quarrying and cutting of sandstone, the construction of prison campus buildings, and the development and maintenance of the prison's landscape. In 1967, the administration of the prison, and the treatment of its prisoners, changed dramatically towards a system that emphasized security and control, leading into the contemporary age of prison management in the United States.⁴¹

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Corrections in the State of Nevada

The Nevada State Prison (NSP) is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government as a reflection of Nevada's correctional policies beginning with the establishment of a territorial prison in 1862. The NSP became the only correctional institution for the State of Nevada until the 1960s when nation-wide increases in incarceration rates required expansion of the state's prison system. During most of the NSP's operation in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, administrators utilized rehabilitative correctional practices developed after the American Civil War and refined during the Progressive Era, but phased out in many areas by the late-twentieth century. During that time, NSP administrators developed a campus of buildings and landscapes that were designed around concepts of prisoner rehabilitation through labor and cost-saving measures for state administration, including stone-quarrying, gardening, and building construction and maintenance. Until 2012, the NSP was the anchor facility of Nevada's oldest state agency, and served as the only territorial and state correctional institution in Nevada from 1862 through 1964. Rehabilitation practices at the NSP continued from the late-nineteenth century to 1967, after which administrative changes at the NSP, and national trends in incarceration beginning in the 1960s, precipitated a shift away from rehabilitation as the primary focus of the Prison.

Establishing Nevada State Prison, 1862-1864

The site that became the NSP began as a makeshift territorial prison following the establishment of Nevada as a territory in 1862. Americans and immigrants flocked to what became western Nevada in 1859, seeking riches from the newly discovered Comstock Lode in Virginia City. As a result, Congress officially recognized the Nevada Territory in 1861, and the following year the territorial legislature provided that a prison be established at the capital of Carson City. The population boom following the "Rush to Washoe" exposed the need for an organized

⁴¹ James W. Hulse, *The Silver State: Nevada's Heritage Reinterpreted*, (Reno and Las Vegas: University of Nevada Press, 2003), 291-92.

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correctional system in Nevada, precipitating the development of one of Nevada's oldest institutions.⁴²

Nevada adopted the tiered correctional system that had become the standard throughout the United States. Tiered corrections established a combined system of county jails, state prisons, and federal prisons, each with its own purpose. While federal penitentiaries exclusively housed those who had violated federal laws, state and county institutions interacted more closely. Each tended to house convicts under state or county law, respectively, but state prisons often housed convicts with long-term sentences from throughout the state, regardless of whether local or state law had been violated. The Nevada legislature formed a Prison Commission in 1862 and charged it with finding a suitable building to serve as the state prison. Because no such building existed, legislator and Carson City founder Abraham Curry offered to board prisoners at his Warm Springs Hotel east of Carson City for \$500 per month. Curry's land featured a warm freshwater spring and a sandstone Quarry, upon which he built a stone bathhouse and hotel.⁴³

Upon its conversion to a prison in 1862, the Hotel housed four prisoners who spent their time laboring in the Quarry. Curry served as their warden, agreeing to "keep all convicts for their labor, and a bonus of \$6,000 more or less per annum. He will employ them in his extensive stone Quarry, and has already prepared cells etc., for their safe retention."⁴⁴ Curry sold the property to the Nevada Territory for \$80,000 in March of 1864. The twenty-acre purchase included the thirty-eight-cell former hotel building that measured thirty-two by ninety-six feet, the sandstone Quarry with its tools and horse teams, and use of Curry's adjacent toll road. Despite its reuse as a prison, the property retained the impression of a crude frontier hotel: canvas lined the interior walls, the roof was composed of wood shingles, and no fences or walls existed around the building's perimeter. Period newspapers also indicate that the hotel portion remained available for public accommodations for several years after the transfer.⁴⁵

The Reformatory Movement at the Nevada State Prison, 1864-1900

On October 31, 1864, Nevada made the transition from territory to statehood, and on November 5, the prison officially became a state-administered institution. From its earliest days through the modern era, the NSP sought to adopt nationally-recognized correctional practices. However, limited funding often hampered this goal, leading to only scattered adoption of Reformatory practices until the twentieth century. Despite the institution's status as Nevada's first state agency, its management remained somewhat provincial in its early years. In 1864, Warden Howland added the first cell block, known as the Territorial addition, to the campus to house the nineteen inmates of the prison. In 1865, J.S. Crosman assumed wardenship, inheriting twenty-two inmates and a dismal budget. In spite of fiscal constraints, Crosman successfully secured funding to complete construction of a twelve-foot high security fence around the Hotel, Quarry, and Prison Yard, as well as guardhouses, two water wells, an icehouse, an enclosed garden, and a

⁴² Hulse, *The Silver State*, 75.

⁴³ Snyder, 2-3.

⁴⁴ Undated newspaper article, "Nevada State Prison," ephemera file, Nevada State Library, Carson City.

⁴⁵ Snyder, 4; Nevada Statute 1864: 66 "An act to provide for a territorial prison;" Ormsby County Deed Book 8, 63; Raymond Smith, *Carson City Yesterdays*, Vol. 1, (Minden, NV, 1999), 29.

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cellar. He also constructed an addition to the Hotel measuring thirty-two by forty-one feet, which provided fourteen additional two-person cells.⁴⁶

Among the consistently defining features of the prison was the stone Quarry, included in the 1864 deed. The deed granted to the State of Nevada “all the quarried stone now on said premises.” In addition to the spring waters, the NSP’s outcrop of sandstone provided raw materials for building purposes and began operation by 1861. While early stonecutting at the Quarry was a commercial venture of Curry’s, stonecutting soon became a source of revenue and an occupation for prisoners. Nevertheless, as late as 1870, non-inmate quarrymen worked alongside the prisoners to blast out rock for the Nevada State Capitol (NRIS#75002126).⁴⁷

A prison escape in December of 1865 illuminated the need for improved security, in spite of the new fence. A group of inmates were able to loosen mortar and dig their way out of the main building. As a result, Warden Crosman plastered the interior walls of the prison, in addition to raising the southwest security wall by four feet. In 1866, Crosman also increased the size of the prison yard by blasting out the Quarry, constructed a masonry water tank that delivered water to the kitchen, and added a twenty-two by seventy-eight foot room to the rear of the main building.⁴⁸

The subsequent management of the NSP responded both to national trends in prison management and Nevada’s population trends in the second half of the nineteenth century. The expansions and improvements outlined below were a response to overcrowding at the NSP, mirroring national trends that saw a swell in inmate population between 1868 and 1878. The NSP’s population increases correlate with the state’s early mining boom between 1859 and 1879. According to Warden James Slingerland, the population at the NSP tripled from 41 in 1867 to 128 in 1869. Because of the crowded conditions, the 1873 Legislature passed a law mandating a new prison, large enough to house 300 inmates and to be constructed in nearby Reno. However, the project ran over budget, and the massive spending resulted in only a partial perimeter wall being built at the Reno location. The 1877 Nevada State Legislature refused to provide additional appropriations for the construction of the state prison at Reno, and the site was abandoned. In 1877, the inmate population at the NSP ballooned to 144, forcing guards to house the prisoners in the prison’s fifty-three cells. According to early-twentieth century historian Blake McKelvey, the overpopulation problem was a result of Nevada “thronging with desperadoes” in the “boom days” of the 1870s, but may have been influenced by a rise in crime following the end of ‘bonanza’ mining in the late-1870s. The prison’s population remained relatively steady until 1888, when it declined to 99, reflecting the decrease in Nevada’s population as people began to

⁴⁶ Snyder, 4-5.

⁴⁷ Ormsby County Deed Book 8, 64; Robinson, *Nevada Directory of 1862*, 1, 3, 5-8, 11; “Warden’s Report and Inventory, 1864,” Nevada State Prison ephemera files, NSLA; Dolan, “Pages from the Past,” April 30, 1972. The 1862 business directory lists five stonecutters as boarders at Curry’s Warm Springs Hotel, presumably cutting and facing stone for projects in the Eagle Valley region.

⁴⁸ Snyder, 6-7.

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leave the state for employment elsewhere. After this drop, the prison population remained steady into the 1900s.⁴⁹

The appointment of James Slingerland to the NSP wardenship in 1867 signaled the beginning of the prison's early Reformatory period. Despite Nevada's relative youth as a state, the legislature and administrators attempted to adopt contemporary strategies for prison management. Shortly after Slingerland, assumed wardenship, a kitchen fire consumed much of the prison, largely sparing the "Territorial Addition," but precipitating some of the first Reformatory changes at the institution. Slingerland began a reconstruction project that helped establish the prison as a state institution, replacing the improvised frontier hotel with a dedicated iron-and-stone penitentiary, adding two dungeons for solitary confinement, iron gates, and a locking mechanism that he designed himself. Compared to other Gothic and Romanesque Revival style state prisons that were popular during the late nineteenth century, the NSP was relatively modest in appearance, yet it did possess a number of architectural flourishes. The ornamental gates, medievalist octagonal watchtowers, and roof-top cupola seen in historic photographs suggest a conception of the prison as a State institution worthy of such embellishments. The prison's proximity to the Warm Springs resort may also have encouraged a more decorative approach.⁵⁰

Slingerland's developments echoed an ideological shift in American penology away from the harsh discipline of the Auburn System, which enforced absolute silence and solitary confinement at night. Prisons throughout the country began adopting a rehabilitative approach known as the Reformatory System, compelled by an 1867 report on correctional institutions. In that year, the New York Prison Association employed Enoch Wines and Theodore Dwight to examine prison conditions in the United States and Canada. Wines and Dwight emerged from their investigation with a list of recommendations, including larger cells, better sanitation, rehabilitation incentives, and non-corporal punishment. Despite the call for improved conditions for prisoners, the report also espoused simplicity of construction. To Wines and Dwight, "highly ornamental" prisons were "objectionable" because they were more expensive to build, increasing the cost of crime to society. Wines and Dwight argued that investment in architectural adornment would discourage prison authorities from modifying or replacing their facilities in the event that evolving prison theory suggested better arrangements. The authors also claimed that ornamental prisons lent "dignity" to crime. While their suggestions were not broadly adopted until the 1876 establishment of Elmira Reformatory in New York, their influence became apparent in Warden Slingerland's sanitation improvements at the NSP. Beginning in 1867, Slingerland implemented several improvements to the facility, including increasing ventilation by installing transoms over doors and draining the adjacent marshland. Despite his desire to improve health and hygiene at

⁴⁹ Blake McKelvey, *American Prisons*, (University of Chicago, Chicago: 1936), 76, 197; Snyder, 17, 28, 33; Hulse, *The Silver State*, 101, 162; C.C. Batterman, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the Nevada State Prison for the Years 1877 and 1878*, NSLA; Frank J. McCullough, *Biennial Report of the Warden of Nevada State Prison for the Years 1889 and 1890*, NSLA.

⁵⁰ James Slingerland, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the Nevada State Prison for the Years of 1867 and 1868*, NSLA; Riddle et al, *Nevada State Prison*, 12-18.

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the prison, Warden Slingerland insisted that he had “not proposed to consume precious time in trying to make an unmitigated rascal an honest man.”⁵¹

Among the key Reformatory developments at the NSP was the creation of a Public Account system of penal labor, which involved producing goods onsite and selling them on the open market. This was common for correctional facilities in the nineteenth century, which largely administered prisoner labor for two reasons: to cover operating expenses and to dispense punishment. Warden Crosman reported that prisoners were put to work cutting stone in the Quarry, and the prison sold much of the sandstone that it produced. The quarried sandstone, either rubble or dressed, often went to projects in nearby Carson City, including the First United Methodist Church (NRIS# 11000785, contributing resource to the Westside Historic District), the United States Mint (NRIS# 75002127), the Nevada State Printing Office (NRIS# 78003212), the Governor James W. Nye Mansion (NRIS# 75002128) and the Armory building. In 1869, the Nevada State Legislature passed the Capitol Building Act, which required that the new capitol building (NRIS# 75002126) in Carson City be constructed of sandstone cut from the Nevada State Prison Quarry. According to the act, the NSP did not receive compensation for the stone. In order to supply the amount of stone required, the legislature charged Slingerland with expanding the Quarry operation, which including demolishing the yard’s south fence and employing 60-70 inmates at a time to cut stone.⁵²

Although Slingerland only tacitly adopted Reformatory concepts, the 1873 appointment of P.C. Hyman introduced a period of formal incorporation of Reformatory principles. Hyman arrived in the wake of a prison riot and prison break occurring within ten months of each other. Witnessing an inadequate prison wall as a security threat, Hyman commissioned a fourteen-to-eighteen foot high wall that connected to the high Quarry wall. In an effort to ensure the prison was adequately managed, the Nevada Prison Commission sent Warden Hyman to the 1874 Prison Congress of the United States. The National Prison Association held these annual meetings beginning in 1870, during which the organization adopted a Declaration of Principles that recommended the reformatory concept. The yearly meeting served as a gathering to share new ideas, models, and trends in American penology. Hyman returned with new designs for the NSP based on the reformatory model. During his tenure, Hyman oversaw the construction of a new dining room, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, shoemaking shop, and tailor shop. The warden sought additional opportunities to employ inmate labor, and he intended to use the shoemaking shop to do so. The enterprise was successful from 1874 to 1877, after which shoe production and sales steadily declined.⁵³

Frank McCullough succeeded Hyman and continued operations at the Quarry and shoemaking shop during his tenure beginning in 1887. Under McCullough, prisoners continued to cut stone to be used in onsite construction as well as other state projects; in 1887, the warden commissioned the construction of a Butcher Shop, water building, and improved walls using prison-quarried

⁵¹ John W. Roberts, *Retribution and Reform: An Illustrated History of America’s Prisons*, (American Correctional Institution by United Book Press, Inc., Baltimore: 1997), 61; Slingerland, 1869; Wines and Dwight, *Report on the Prisons and Reformatories*, x, 109-111.

⁵² Slingerland, 1869, 82; Snyder, 9, 13, 32.

⁵³ Snyder, 16-17; Roberts, 62.

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stone. In his 1887 report, Warden McCullough insisted that the shoemaking shop, despite its operation at a deficit, proved valuable for the rehabilitation and vocational training of inmates. He recommended maintaining the shoemaking shop in order to provide employment to inmates, in spite of its poor economic returns. However, when Warden Frank Bell assumed the wardenship in 1893, he closed the shoemaking shop, unable to justify its continued deficit.⁵⁴

Amid the adoption of Reformatory practices, the NSP became nationally celebrated for a discovery unrelated to corrections. In 1882, prisoners in the quarry discovered fossil tracks in the sandstone that became not only a unique tourist attraction for the prison but a source of revenue to expand the institution's Reformatory program. Though fossil discoveries were common in the NSP Quarry, the discovery of oddly shaped, eerily human-looking fossilized footprints prompted a formal investigation by the California Academy of Sciences. The Academy dispatched C. Drayton Gibbs, H.W. Harkness, and Joseph LeConte to the scene and the investigators documented footprints measuring eighteen to twenty inches long and eight inches wide. Despite theories about the prints belonging to a prehistoric humanoid, scholars eventually determined that the tracks were made by a prehistoric sloth. The press and scholarly attention devoted to the footprints drew more than 5,000 visitors over a two year period, and the tourist interest influenced the physical development of the prison grounds. The prison could not curtail quarrying to accommodate the interest; therefore, inmates excavated a tunnel into the Quarry wall with the hope of uncovering more of the footprints, assuming that if prints were inside the tunnel, they could be protected without impeding the everyday function of the prison and the Quarry. The effort was successful, and the revenue raised from the collection of visitors' fees helped to further expand the facility supporting the construction of a prison library as well as the acquisition of a prison chaplain. The sloth prints also provided a degree of international attention, featured in history books, scientific journals, and satire of the period.⁵⁵

The Progressive Era and the Nevada State Prison, 1900 – 1940

The Progressive Era as a national movement is generally defined as the period between 1890 and 1920, and began as a drive for social reform. Among the tenets of American Progressivism was the concept that social problems should be addressed by providing education, safety, and efficiency in economics and the workplace. Nevadans shared these ideals, and became active in the Progressive movement by 1900, seeking to make their State government a "responsive and effective instrument in relieving the social and economic distress of the people." The movement greatly influenced American penology in the early twentieth century, reflecting a refinement of

⁵⁴ Snyder, 32-33.

⁵⁵ Garrard, William, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the Nevada State Prison for the Years 1881 and 1882*, NSLA; McKelvey, 197; Snyder, 31; There is a lively discussion in national journals regarding the discovery of the footprints at the Nevada State Prison. Despite their significance to late-nineteenth century zoology, the prints are now covered by concrete, and thus non-contributing to the historic district at this time. See "Ancient Footprints: A Record of Post-Tertiary Man-Gigantic Sandals and Small Men," *The Helena Independent*, August 20, 1882, 1; "Find relics of the Days of Civil War," *The Carson City News*, February 2, 1928, 1:6; "Footprints of Monster Men." *New York Times*, August 18, 1882; Mark Twain, "Carson Footprints," *Sacramento Daily Record-Union*, March 25, 1885, 1; Robert H. Davis, "Nevada Footprints." *The Californian Illustrated Magazine*, 4(1893):598-605, available via Google Books.

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the Reformatory concept that the NSP fully embraced by 1900. This echoed national prison trends of the time, as the Auburn System's influence disappeared from American penitentiaries, with the exception of Auburn-style architecture. Moreover, prison commissions widely accepted Reformatory practices that emphasized prisoner rehabilitation and improved sanitation while rejecting exploitation and degradation. The quintessential Progressive reformer, Theodore Roosevelt further extolled a prisoner's right to "proper work, health, reasonable moral and mental training, and...rehabilitation" in his 1913 work *The New Penology*, arguments that became the defining philosophy for Nevada's corrections in the early 1900s. These new techniques, along with a rise in prisoner population, eventually compelled NSP administrators in the 1920s to demolish the original prison and construct a new campus.⁵⁶

While the use of rehabilitation-focused labor was a carryover from the Reformatory period, Progressive ideology also necessitated the provision of improved sanitation and enhanced quality of life for prisoners. NSP administrators sought to adopt Progressive practices even before the construction of a new campus in the 1920s. During this period, the prison adopted new technologies to improve sanitation and security, as Warden J.L. Considine replaced the pump room's steam engine with an electric engine, installed an electric alarm system, and positioned incandescent lights outside the prison between 1904 and 1905. Between 1907 and 1908, Warden W.J. Maxwell oversaw the construction of an eight-foot electrified fence along the rear of the prison yard, in addition to a new iron door installed on the armory and three guard houses built at the prison gate and along the south and west perimeter. In an effort to further improve health and sanitation, Warden Denver Dickerson added a modern steam laundry and outfitted the hospital with modern operating equipment in 1913. These improvements mirrored contemporary technological developments in national prisons that saw plumbing and electric lighting installed in prisons through the country, and the replacement of iron-latticed, hinged cell doors with case-hardened, cylindrical barred doors that slid on tracks.⁵⁷

The Progressive Era practices utilized by the NSP advocated inmate rehabilitation through the individualized treatment of prisoners, indeterminate sentences, and convict employment programs. Warden Maxwell recommended the construction of a separate cell house in order to segregate first-time offenders from hardened criminals, following national recommendations to classify inmates and prescribe specialized treatment plans. These plans aimed to create reformed, contributing members of society. Maxwell also recommended that the State form a committee to address inmate employment issues, in addition to considering an indeterminate sentence system to reward prisoners for good behavior. By 1923, the prison established a credit system that reduced sentences based on good behavior and time spent working for the benefit of the prison. This signaled a shift in the emphasis of prisoner labor from a means to cover operating costs to a rehabilitation method that offered vocational training and eliminated idleness. In 1909, Warden Maxwell reported that twenty-five percent of inmates were addicted to opium, and he attributed

⁵⁶ Russell R. Elliot, *History of Nevada*, 2nd ed., (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1987), 239; McKelvey, 213; Roberts, 79.

⁵⁷ J.L. Considine, *Biennial Report of the Warden of Nevada State Prison for the Years 1903 and 1904*, NSLA; W.J. Maxwell, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1907-1908*. Nevada State Archives, NSLA; Snyder, 45; Roberts, 95-104.

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this statistic to the lack of available work at the prison. Maxwell believed that prisoner idleness, in combination with the current penal system, harmed inmates rather than reforming them for a return to public life. In his report for the 1925-26 years, Maxwell stated that “there are some men, serving their first prison terms, who are not at heart criminals. We find law-breakers and we find criminals in prison . . . Idleness, especially in a prison, does more . . . toward making criminals of these law-breakers than anything else.” Although under Maxwell’s wardenship, the Quarry continued to supply stone and cracked rock for Carson City construction and infrastructure projects, he contended that the Quarry did not provide enough work for the inmate population.⁵⁸

The aim to provide work opportunities to aid in reforming prisoners precipitated the proliferation of prison honor camps at state penitentiaries, including the NSP, in order to relieve overcrowding and provide more rehabilitation opportunities. Through work such as road building and farming, these honor camps provided an opportunity for well-behaved inmates to work in minimum-security conditions. In 1911, the Nevada Legislature authorized the NSP to establish road camps, which allowed inmates to work on the roads between Carson City and Reno, between Carson City and Glenbrook, and along the east side of Washoe Lake. These road camps were common throughout the United States, although they were particularly common in the West. In fact, western prisons pioneered the concept of employing trustworthy inmates, primarily prisoners facing imminent eligibility of parole, to work in these camps. Motivated in part by the increasing number of automobiles on American roads, Colorado first developed the inmate road-building model which quickly spread to Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. Convict road-building in Nevada lasted only two years, until the 1913 Legislature declined further appropriations for the expensive program.⁵⁹

A longer lasting labor program adopted by the NSP was an off-site farm to provide both work opportunities and food for prisoners. In 1910 the Nevada Board of Prison Commissioners purchased the Schultz Farm, located between the prison and Stewart Indian School (NRIS# 85002432), with the intent of expanding opportunities for inmate labor and establishing self-sufficiency amid consistently inadequate funding for the prison. At the NSP, a foreman supervised inmate farm-workers, ensuring that they did not leave farm property. Aside from this restriction of movement, prisoners on the farm enjoyed full liberty. Warden Maxwell lauded the opportunities for rehabilitation, and the prison administration anticipated the potential of the farm to meet the prison’s need for meat, vegetables, and hay. Under the subsequent leadership of Warden Henrichs, the farm expanded to include a dairy that met the needs of the prison in excess. Despite the farm’s success, Henrichs noted in 1919 that inadequate employment opportunities for inmates persisted, particularly during the winter, which interrupted work at the Quarry and farm. To ease the lull, he leased prisoners to nearby, privately-owned farms and ranches to assist in harvest activities. The warden requested appropriations to build a manufacturing shop to bolster inmate employment; however, the Legislature did not approve

⁵⁸ Roberts, 121; Maxwell, 1908, NSLA; Snyder, 54; Roberts, 82; Maxwell, *State of Nevada Biennial Report of the Supt. Nevada State Police and Warden State Penitentiary: 1925-1926*, 6, NSLA.

⁵⁹ *The American Prison: From the Beginning...A Pictorial History*, (The American Correctional Association, 1983), 114; Roberts, 90; Snyder, 43, 46; McKelvey, 223.

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them. As another effort to reduce inmate idleness, the state promoted increased inmate exercise, which included the installation of a tennis court in the Front Yard of the NSP in 1915.⁶⁰

Alongside the popularity of prisoner labor was a movement to provide compensation to prisoners for their labor. These developments grew out of the 1910 formation of the National Committee on Prisons and Prison Labor, which stated its “intention to investigate the prison labor problem broadly and systematically and to promote appropriate remedies.” The NCPPL urged state prison boards to abolish contract and forced labor, based on Director D. E. Staggs Whitin’s work *Penal Servitude*, which argued that forced labor was akin to economic slavery and therefore in direct conflict with rehabilitation. The committee recommended paying a fair wage to working inmates and promoted education and exercise as integral to rehabilitation. In 1923, amid the NSP’s significant expansion project, which primarily employed convicts, the Prison Board instituted a daily wage schedule for inmate labor.⁶¹

Nevada’s population, and subsequently the prison’s, rose significantly in the early twentieth century, placing added pressure on the existing facilities of the prison. During Warden Considine’s 1903-1907 tenure, the prison housed an average of 106 prisoners. After W.J. Maxwell assumed wardenship in 1908, the population doubled to 217. Simultaneously, the state experienced its second mining boom in copper, gold, and silver, resulting in a significant population increase from 1900 into the early 1920s. Considering the overcrowded conditions at the NSP, the 1909 State Legislature allocated \$205,000 for the construction of a new prison.⁶²

Beginning plans to expand the prison, the state commissioned prominent Nevada architect Frederic DeLongchamps in 1910 to design a new prison. His blueprints, inspired by the Auburn and Eastern State Penitentiaries, called for an imposing Gothic Revival style penitentiary with a central rotunda and radiating wings of cells. The design featured a large chapel to encourage the moral reform of inmates, a photography studio and darkroom to document incoming prisoners, a “Bertillon room” to take body measurements as a way of identifying prisoners prior to the acceptance of fingerprint identification, and a separate cell block exclusively for female prisoners, the first such accommodations at the prison.¹⁸ However, funds were not available to build the huge facility, and the plans did not take into account the terrain that included an ever-expanding stone Quarry. The steep Quarry walls worked well as a barrier and the more the prisoners worked the Quarry, the more formidable the walls became. A prison modeled after New York State Penitentiary or Eastern State Penitentiary, with their static stone fence lines, could never have accommodated the growing Quarry. Also, the new prison would have been built with unskilled prison laborers who were not trained to the level of craftsmanship required for such a detailed and complex building. As such, the state placed the prison’s expansion project on hold.

⁶⁰ McKelvey, 104; Snyder, 42, 46-47; Denver Dickerson. *Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1913—1915*. Nevada State Archives.

⁶¹ Rebecca M. McLennan, *The Crisis of Imprisonment: Protest, Politics, and the Making of the American Penal State 1776-1941*, (Cambridge University Press, New York: 2008), 324; Snyder, 54.

⁶² Considine, 1904, NSLA; W.J. Maxwell, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1907—1908*. NSLA; Hulse, 162-179; Snyder, 41.

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However, in 1919, the Nevada legislature revived the expansion project for the NSP, involving then State Architect DeLongchamps to develop new designs. DeLongchamps' updated designs for the NSP reflected the tenets of Progressive Era penology. Under direction by State Engineer James Scrugham, DeLongchamps created plans for a new cell house (now Cell Block A) and the Warden's Residence, both of which would be constructed using convict labor. W.J. Boudwin eventually replaced Scrugham as State Engineer, and he employed an African American convict named "Slim" as his foreman. Prisoner work crews began demolition work in advance of the new cell house in April of 1920. The floorplan for each cell included a flush toilet, washstand, drinking fountain, electric lighting, and provisions for adequate ventilation. In order to keep costs down and avoid patent royalties, DeLongchamps and Boudwin designed custom cell fronts that recycled existing metal, including old cell gratings and doors, and they engineered a new locking device and door suspension scheme. Slim had served in a similar capacity for a construction project at Folsom Prison, and his observations informed their designs. Inmates performed metal work for the project in the prison shop in addition to assisting with excavation and construction.⁶³

The expansion project took place between 1920 and 1927 and in addition to the Warden's Residence and Cell Block A, resulted in a commissary, kitchen, dining rooms, women's quarters, heating plant, cold storage, and administration offices, all housed in the Administration Building. The expanded facilities proved necessary as the NSP received more prisoners into the 1920s. In 1920, NSP housed ninety-nine prisoners, but the population rose again to 200 by 1925. This reflected national trends at the time, as the crime rate in the United States increased steadily between the late 1910s and early 1920s. This was in part due to rising unemployment after World War I and the enforcement of new laws such as the Volstead Act passed by Congress in 1918, signaling the beginning of Prohibition. The National Vehicle Motor Theft Act passed in 1919 also contributed, making interstate transport of stolen vehicles a felony, authorizing offenders to be sentenced to state or federal prison. These statutes, as well as the housing of federal prisoners at the NSP from 1925 to 1933, contributed to the rise in inmate population. Federal convicts housed at the NSP contributed significantly to the need for expansion. The NSP housed a total of 334 federal prisoners between 1925 and 1933, earning \$217,148.51 in fees from the federal government. However, in 1930, the United States established the Federal Bureau of Prisons, precipitating the transfer of a number of federal prisoners housed at the NSP to the federal penitentiary at McNeil Island in Washington. By 1933, all federal prisoners had vacated the state prison, either by fulfilling their sentences or transferring to federal facilities. The elimination of federal prisoners resulted in a largely depopulated prison. In fact, Warden Penrose sent a telegram to the United States Attorney General requesting more federal prisoners in exchange for a reduced per diem, as the prison's recent expansions and reduced population provided a surplus of space, but the Attorney General denied his request.⁶⁴

⁶³ Snyder, 48-50; Scrugham, James G., to Dr. J.W. Kime. Letter, April 9, 1924, Reports, Department of Corrections collection, NSLA.

⁶⁴ R.B. Henrichs, Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1921—1922; Snyder, 57, 63-64; The American Prison: From the Beginning...A Pictorial History, (The American Correctional Association, 1983), 126-127; M.L. Penrose, *Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1933—1935*, NSLA.

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By 1929, the built environment of the NSP fully reflected Progressive Era values of improved living conditions and security. Warden M.R. Penrose reported a spurt of new construction in that year that included a heated library outfitted with electric lighting, as well as three new guard towers: one at the main entrance, one atop the south end of the cell house, and one atop a wall on the south side of the main building. The towers were of rusticated quarry stone, and featured electric heat and telephones. New walls, punctuated by three arches with large iron gates, provided additional security to the main entrance, and existing walls were heightened. Additionally, Penrose launched an exterior beautification program for the grounds, which included grading the grounds east of the warden's residence, clearing all sagebrush within 11,500 feet of the prison, and grading the hill to the west of the prison, sowing it with grass seed. Penrose also rebuilt the stone wall north of the prison, laid a stone walk on the north and east side, excavated the yard by two inches to provide additional drainage, and laid concrete walks in the yard leading from the main building to surrounding buildings. Penrose's 1929 report mentions a library under construction, as well as the "improved appearance of the grounds" as a result of planting various trees, shrubs, and flowers. By 1931, Penrose had graded the pond in front of the prison and spread crushed rock on its banks, as well as planting 100 cottonwood trees along the south side of Fifth Street between the prison and Carson City. He also graded the hillside on the southwest corner of the prison and laid painted river cobbles on it to resemble the American flag. In his 1935 report, Penrose reported building a hothouse (the current Greenhouse) over a stream from the hot spring, installing a sprinkler system, and laying additional driveways, walks, and a lawn in the yard.⁶⁵

Prisoner entertainment and the public's attitude toward acceptable forms of entertainment in prisons also influenced the development of the NSP. One of the activities sanctioned by prison officials was gambling. From 1932, following the legalization of gambling in Nevada, to 1967 the NSP was home to an inmate-run casino housed in a building known as "the Bullpen," demolished in 1967. Inmates could wager on craps, poker, blackjack, and gin rummy in addition to placing bets on sports. Each game was run by an inmate and as in any other casino environment, the person running the game had to bankroll it. In addition to facilitating the casino games, the NSP created its own gambling currency by issuing tokens known as "brass" in denominations ranging from five cents to five dollars. According to Warden Penrose, who organized the casino program, gambling taught inmates basic banking skills that they would need on the outside. "Odd though it may sound," Penrose said, "the gaming table has given many a dead broke inmate a start in this little world within. Gambling helps a little in the refining. It is legal in Nevada, well-regulated, tax-burdened, and a great deal cleaner than say, the big casino in Wall Street."⁶⁶

Amid its rebuilding, the NSP became the setting for an important development in the national debate on capital punishment: the adoption of lethal gas as a method of execution. Debate about capital punishment in Nevada began during early statehood when officials grew alarmed by the mob-like, spectacle atmosphere of public executions. The state legislature stipulated that all

⁶⁵ Snyder, 60; M.L. Penrose, Biennial Report of the Warden of the State Prison, 1925-1927; 1927-1929; 1929-1931; 1933-1935. NSLA.

⁶⁶ Matt Penrose, *Pots O' Gold*, (Carlisle & Co. of Nevada, 1935).

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capital sentences should be carried out in a controlled setting at the NSP. In 1912, Nevada still condoned hanging and shooting as the preferred methods of execution, however, state officials were uneasy with the methods. Reviving Enlightenment-age concerns regarding the nature of civilized society and the continuing use of gruesome execution methods, Progressive advocates began an international conversation about “humane” execution. Establishing a humane approach to capital punishment became a primary concern of Progressive reformers.⁶⁷

Nevada led this effort, with the NSP becoming the first institution in the United States to execute a prisoner using lethal gas. After the first execution by electric chair was carried out in New York in 1890, the result precipitated considerable public criticism. Nevada officials sought a more humane execution method. In 1921 two state legislators, assemblymen Harry L. Bartlett of Elko County and J.H. Hart of Pershing County officially proposed a solution in Assembly Bill 230. The bill stated in part that:

The judgment of death shall be inflicted by the administration of lethal gas. The execution shall take place within the limits of the state prison, wherein a suitable and efficient enclosure and proper means for the administration of such gas for that purpose shall be provided by the board of prison commissioners. The warden of the state prison must be present, and must invite a competent physician, and not less than six reputable citizens, over the age of twenty-one years, to be present at the execution; but no other persons shall be present at the execution.⁶⁸

The Nevada Legislature passed the law in 1921, and Nevada became the first state in the nation to approve lethal gas for execution. Reaction to the new method was swift with international commentary ranging from enthusiastic approval to abject horror. Despite the mixed reception, Nevada moved ahead and conducted the first legal execution by lethal gas in 1924. To prepare for the execution, warden Denver Dickerson oversaw the creation of the nation’s first gas chamber, which began its life on the NSP campus in 1888 as a barbershop. To convert the barbershop into a death chamber, inmate laborers sealed its doors and windows with wax and installed a steel cage inside the building. A series of pipes delivered hydrocyanic acid to a spraying apparatus within the room, which featured an observation window from the outside. Nevada’s first use of the chamber came on February 8, 1924, when NSP staff executed inmate Gee Jon despite strenuous efforts by his defense team to convince the Nevada State Supreme Court that the untested method was cruel and unusual. In October 1928, a new stone and cement execution chamber, featuring a guardroom and two condemned cells, replaced the converted barbershop, and the original gas chamber was demolished.⁶⁹

⁶⁷ “Kemmler Executed: A Sickening Sight to Behold,” *Reno Evening Gazette*, August 6, 1890, 1.

⁶⁸ Assembly Bill No. 230. Statutes of the State of Nevada Passed at the Thirtieth Session of the Legislature 1921, Carson City: Nevada State Printing Office, 1921; Spellier, Louis A. “They Don’t Know Whether it is Good or Bad Politics.” *Reno Evening Gazette*, January 4, 1919, NHSL.

⁶⁹ Snyder, 53, 60; “Boston’s Lethal ‘Humor.’” *Reno Evening Gazette*, April 8, 1921, 4; Brisbane, Arthur. “Death by Gas in Nevada.” *The Ogden Standard Examiner*, July 28, 1921, 4; “Death Gas In Nevada Brings Murder To End.” *The Evening Republican*, Mitchell, S.D. January 22, 1925, 12; “Execution by Gas Sought in Arizona.” *Reno Evening Gazette*, January 13, 1933, 12; “Fight to Save Gee Jon May Go Into U.S. Court.” *Reno Evening Gazette*, February 6,

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The tenets of Progressive penology received criticism by the 1930s in response, in part, to concerns from business leaders who criticized the practice of using prisoner labor. By the 1920s, unions and other supporters of free industry criticized American prisons for interfering with the free market, as inexpensive convict labor undercut fair market prices. As a result, prisons established the state use system, in which convicts produced goods—including license plates—for sale to the United States government rather than competing with private businesses for other services. In response, many states like Nevada adopted the state use system, which focused prisoner labor on specific state needs, such as the production of license plates. The prison-run license plate factory has become ubiquitous in popular culture, as it was an early adoption of the state-use system of penal labor in America. In 1931, Warden Penrose introduced the manufacture of license plates to the NSP after he constructed a factory expressly for this purpose, housed in an addition to the Administration Building. The addition featured a cell house on the second floor; however, the extra space was not needed, and Warden William Lewis converted the space into a school in 1936. Lewis wrote a letter to the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the New Deal's most ambitious agency, requesting their assistance in establishing the school. As a result, the WPA largely provided support to the NSP education program, including furnishing a classroom instructor.⁷⁰

Modern Rehabilitation at the Nevada State Prison, 1940 – 1967

After 1940, the Nevada State Prison refined Progressive Era models of rehabilitation, including detailed classification of prisoners, community involvement, and improved medical care. In the early 1940s, World War II and wartime industries influenced the prison's population trends, as well as inmate labor opportunities. Following the war, the prison refined new modes of prison administration adapted from the earlier Progressive model. NSP administrators humanized inmates, seeking to further individualize rehabilitation and create a campus-like environment.

The establishment of wartime industries in Nevada at Hawthorne Naval Ammunition Depot, the Basic Magnesium Plant in Henderson, and new air bases in Fallon, Tonopah, and Las Vegas, all led to a spike in Nevada's population. This rise correlated with additional increases in inmates housed at the NSP. By 1940, the NSP's inmate population had reached a record high of 340. The cell house could only accommodate 266 prisoners, and Warden Lewis sent the overflow of inmates to the prison farm to avoid doubling cell occupancy. The 1941 State Legislature appropriated funds for prison expansion; however, the nation-wide defense effort indefinitely postponed construction. In 1945, Warden Sheehy wrote, "Due to war, it was impossible to

1921, 1, "First Gas Execution Is A Success." *Sheboygan Press-Telegram*, February 8, 1924, 1-2; "First Lethal Gas Execution Takes Place in Carson City, Nev. Prison" *Manitoba Free Press*, February 9, 1924, 1, 12; "Gas for Murderers," *The Gleaner*, April 8, 1921, 5; "Humane Nevada," *Manitowoc Herald-News*, April 7, 1921; "In the Death Chair: Further Particulars of the Kemmler Electrocution," *The Frederic News*, August 7, 1890, 1; "Lethal Chamber Plea," *The Daily Mail*, December 22, 1921, 3; "Painless, Both," *Reno Evening Gazette*, May 13, 1921, 4; "True Mercy or Cruellest Torture?," *Syracuse Herald*, May 15, 1921, 7, all at all at NHSL; Scott Christianson, *The Last Gasp: The Rise and Fall of the American Gas Chamber*, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2010), 73-74.

⁷⁰ Roberts, 86; "50% is Saved Buy State on Motor License Plates," *Nevada State Journal*, January 20, 1934, 4; Snyder, 66.

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obtain materials and labor.” The NSP contributed to the war effort by donating scrap iron and scrap rubber, as well as constructing cots, stretchers, and related items for Nevada’s Council for Defense. This level of involvement in the war effort was common for American prisons, many of which manufactured shoes, boats, and even aircraft engines. In Nevada, prison inmates also bought war bonds and stamps.⁷¹

After the war ended, the prison attempted to address overcrowding through the expansion of prisoner housing, but this remained limited until 1951. The earliest attempt, begun in May of 1947, constructed Cell Block B, along with some additions to existing buildings. Arthur E. Bernard assumed wardenship in 1951, and his tenure is largely characterized by an ambitious building program that furthered the individualized treatment of each prisoner. Bernard personally interviewed all incoming prisoners to determine their security risk and capacity for rehabilitation. He employed those deemed fit for reformation in the prison hobby shop, in his construction projects, and on the occasional off-site job. Between 1951 and 1954, he expanded the inmate dining room and library and remodeled the Butcher Shop and Warden’s Residence. Using prisoner labor and materials for all of his projects, Bernard built a new guards’ dining room, a shower and lavatory in the Prison Yard, plumbing shop, horse barn, garage, gas chamber, recreation hall, potato cellar, and paint shop. Inmates used quarry stone to construct six two-bedroom cottages (Cottages 1-6) to be used as guards’ residences, and they excavated a 25’x50’ swimming pool in the West Lawn for use by prison personnel. Bernard continued his building campaign between 1956 and 1958, again using convict labor and reclaimed materials to construct two more garages, a guesthouse, two dormitories, and a new greenhouse. Under staff supervision, inmates modified much of the thoughtful, Progressive-Era landscaping, creating athletic space in the Prison Yard and paving much of the exterior landscape with asphalt.⁷²

In 1959, the Prison Board appointed Jack Fogliani as warden, who became the last of the rehabilitation-era wardens at the NSP. Fogliani focused on rehabilitation through arts and crafts, education, music, and vocational opportunities. Inmates organized “The Boys in Blue” prison band, which performed at various events around Carson City, and the prison converted the solitary confinement cave excavated into the Quarry wall to an office for the *Sagebrush*, an inmate-run newspaper. They also formed basketball and boxing teams that competed in outside events throughout the state. During this time, prisoners demonstrated a deep connection to the larger community, as they donated to various charities and participated in blood drives. These changes represented the larger trend in American prisons, which sought to ease convicts back into society by providing rehabilitation in a campus-like setting.

⁷¹ Hulse, *The Silver State*, 213, 334; Snyder, 67-68; *The American Prison*, 181-183; Richard H. Sheehy, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Penitentiary and Supt. Nevada State Police for the Period July 1, 1940, to June 30, 1942*, NSLA.

⁷² Richard H. Sheehy, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison for the Period July 1, 1948, to June 30, 1950*, NSLA; Arthur E. Bernard, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison for the Period July 1, 1950, to June 30, 1952*; *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison For the Period July 1, 1952, to June 30, 1954*, NSLA; Arthur E. Bernard, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison for the Period July 1, 1956, to June 30, 1958*, NSLA; “Dietitian Named at State Prison,” *Reno Evening Gazette*, July 22, 1951, 12.

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Within the modern rehabilitative techniques, known collectively as the Medical model, Fogliani emphasized the importance of medical, mental, and dental care for NSP prisoners. Under his wardenship, the prison established individual and group psychology programs, a dental clinic, and an Alcoholics Anonymous program. Fogliani also worked to enrich inmate-staff relationships, hoping that better relations would improve the overall operation of the prison. These developments fit with the Medical Model's emergence as the new standard for penology in the 1950s. Adherents viewed delinquency as equivalent to physical disease. As such, prisons had a duty to diagnose and treat each prisoner according to their unique circumstances. The Medical Model reinvigorated and expanded upon inmate classification using new developments in psychology and sociology.

Warden Fogliani invited Synanon to establish an outpost at the prison in 1963. Charles E. Dederich, a graduate of Alcoholics Anonymous, founded Synanon in 1958 to support and assist individuals in overcoming their addictions. At the prison, Fogliani reserved a tier of cells for members of the program, many of whom were addicts. The program also included non-addicts, operating on the principle that non-addict prisoners often share personality traits with drug addicts. Synanon provided cutting-edge treatment including art therapy and group therapy. Members worked in the prison hobby shop, and prison officials often employed them to work inside the compound. Fogliani credited Synanon with improving the attitudes and morale of the prisoners.⁷³

Fogliani developed quality vocational and educational programs as warden. He established the first successful honor camp at Spooner Summit in the mountains east of Lake Tahoe, where inmates engaged in fighting fires and removing invasive plants. Fogliani also expanded the prison farm. The prison launched a work crew program, whereby local governments, farms, and ranches employed inmates. The construction of a new auto shop and carpenter shop within the prison compound extended additional vocational opportunities to inmates. Fogliani also founded a GED program at the prison and hired the State Department of Employment Security to administer tests that assisted inmates in procuring employment upon their release.⁷⁴

Concurrent with the adoption of the Medical Model, Warden Fogliani oversaw an expansion of the prison that included a new License Plate Factory, security fences, the two-story Tower One at the northwest entrance, a new library, a coffee shop, and the maximum-security Cell Block C with a private exercise yard. The NSP's population rose to 460 in 1960, prompting the Prison Board to construct a new women's and maximum security prison south of the main complex, housing 17 female, and 298 maximum security male prisoners. Fogliani remodeled visitors' booths to include telephones during an era in which prisons across the country sought to create more comfortable and informal visitation areas. Despite the popularity of the Medical Model, the mid-1960s suggested a shift in prison ideology and administration during Fogliani's tenure. In light of the new maximum-security facility south of the NSP, State and prison officials began to place an emphasis on public safety and security. The State completed a north-bowing highway

⁷³ "Mutual Aid in Prison," *Time Magazine*, 81:9 (March 1963), 67; Jack Fogliani, *Biennial Report of the Warden Nevada State Prison For the Period July 1, 1960, to June 30, 1962, Inclusive*, NSLA.

⁷⁴ Jack Fogliani, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison for the Period July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1961*, NSLA.

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bypass for Fifth Street to eliminate traffic through the prison grounds. In Fogliani's 1965 report, he recommended that the warden should be able to choose his residence, as opposed to living in the Warden's Residence, which at that time was located within the NSP security compound. The resulting solution led to the use of the Warden's Residence as an investigation facility, and the conversion of the Guard's Cottages to storage space.⁷⁵

The End of the Rehabilitation Era

By 1967, security issues caused a major shift in the prison's administration away from the Medical Model to a contemporary strategy of security and control. A nation-wide surge in incarceration began in the 1960s and accelerated into the 1970s. Prison administrators across the country began to de-emphasize rehabilitation in favor of enhanced security, in part, in response to increasing violence and resistance among prisoner populations.

At the NSP, the withdrawal from the rehabilitative model began as a response not only to national trends represented in the NSP's prisoner population, but also local events. In January of 1967, two prisoners escaped and held a Carson City family hostage before prison officials captured them and returned them to the penitentiary. One week later, seven maximum security inmates escaped. Once officials recovered them, Governor Laxalt fired Warden Fogliani, replacing him with Carl Hocker, San Quentin's correctional captain. Carl Hocker's wardenship signaled the end of rehabilitative practices at the NSP. Under his tenure, biennial reports of the warden were no longer composed for the Nevada Legislature, and prison officials shifted their emphasis from rehabilitation to control. Hocker endured a number of prison riots, hunger strikes, and increased violence during his administration that received national media attention. Alongside national trends, NSP inmates began engaging in civil disobedience in addition to violent rebellion, eventually giving way to the Inmates' Rights Movement and institutional responses in the form of super-maximum custody. Subsequent developments at the NSP included the construction of the "Hill Units" cell complex on the east side of the historic district in the 1980s during an expansion of the prison to house an estimated 850 inmates. Following the recession of 2008, the State legislature chose to close the prison, which took effect in 2012.⁷⁶

Potential for Future Information Regarding Nevada's Correctional System

The NSP is eligible under Criterion D in the area of Archaeology for its potential to yield future information about the social life of prisoners and prison staff during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The known resources within the district are concentrated within the Prison Trash Dump, but there is potential for the future discovery of archaeological resources related to the operation of the Prison for its full period of significance between 1862 and 1967. Disturbance and post-1920 construction within the historic district have disrupted the archaeological integrity within the prison core, and will require future excavation to determine if intact, sub-surface sites exist and can yield additional information. However, institutional archaeological sites similar to the NSP have yielded information despite intensive ground disturbance. Therefore, although the

⁷⁵ Roberts, 179; Jack Fogliani, *Biennial Report of the Warden State Prison for the Period July 1, 1963, to June 30, 1965*, NSLA; Riddle et al, *Nevada State Prison*, 34-35; the women's and maximum security prison to the south of the NSP campus is what is now known as the Warm Springs Correctional Center.

⁷⁶ Tom Kennedy, "Nevada Prison Warden Fired After Escape," *State Times Advocate* (Baton Rouge, LA), Jan. 31, 1967.

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Prison Trash Dump is the only known archaeological site in the district at the time of this nomination, future excavation, survey, and testing may reveal additional resources with information potential that contribute to the historic district.⁷⁷

The archaeological resources in the Prison Trash Dump have not been formally evaluated and lack integrity of deposition in their primary context, but a pedestrian survey of the site by professional archaeologists revealed strong information potential within the assemblage. The presence of diagnostic artifacts within the Prison Trash Dump may be able to address a number of research questions related to the history of the NSP.⁷⁸ Other, as yet undiscovered, resources within the district may also provide information if discovered in the future. Those research topics include the following:

- Daily social lives of prisoners and guards, including work programs, maintenance practices, and recreational activities.
- Material culture of the prisoners and guards, including clothing, personal belongings, personal hygiene, etc.
- Diet of both prisoners and guards, through waste containers from both the prison kitchen and from food items possibly provided by prisoner family members.
- Building refuse may also contribute to analysis of any changes in construction over time, differences in workmanship or materials used in buildings that are no longer extant, and perhaps even what tools were used to work the stone in what periods.

The information potential of trash dumps and trash scatters has been established in archaeological discourse. While temporal determinations may be limited to what can be supported through primary and secondary historical documentation, the presence or absence of particular artifacts, and statistical analysis of these artifacts, can reveal a great deal regarding particular research questions like those outlined above. The volume of twentieth century diagnostic artifacts extant in the Prison Trash Dump in the northeast corner of the historic district provides a large enough sample size to evaluate these questions, especially during the early and mid-twentieth century.⁷⁹

At the time of this nomination, there are no recorded surface features other than the Prison Trash Dump with information potential to the period of significance. Again, the district as a whole contains many potential areas with the possibility of future archaeological discoveries, but future testing will be needed to determine their ability to yield information about the prison. The Prison Trash Dump retains “presence-or-absence” potential with what appears to be predominantly twentieth century diagnostic artifacts. Monitoring of any excavation, as well as future research

⁷⁷ Dr. Sarah E. Cowie, personal communication to Jim Bertolini, July 23, 2015.

⁷⁸ A pedestrian survey of the Prison Trash Dump on January 23, 2015 was completed by four archaeologists, two from the Carson City Historic Resources Commission, and two from the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.

⁷⁹ See the following: Dennis E. Lewarch and Michael J. O’Brien, “The Expanding Role of Surface Assemblages in Archaeological Research,” *Advances in Archaeological Method and Theory* 4 (1981): 297-342; Thad M. Van Buren, “(Not) Just Another Isolated Historic Refuse Scatter,” *California Archaeology* 1, No. 2 (Dec. 2009): 163-182; and Douglas C. Wilson, “Identification and assessment of secondary refuse aggregates,” *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 1, No. 1 (March 1994): 41-68.

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through survey and testing, will be necessary to determine the presence and integrity of other archaeological features within the district. Additional discoveries as a result of future testing may provide additional insight into Nevada's correctional past, and precipitate additional documentation to amend this nomination.

Summary

The Nevada State Prison historic district stands as an historically significant representation of Nevada's adoption and refinement of Progressive Era, rehabilitative correctional practices. The prison's significance to Nevada, and its historic integrity to the period of significance, make it eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and D.

The period of significance encompasses the time during which the Nevada State Prison was administered by the State of Nevada and implemented rehabilitative prison practices. It has been further restricted by the presence of confirmed extant resources associated with that significance. Unfortunately, nearly all the resources dating prior to 1920 have been demolished. The three extant resources dating from the nineteenth century do not have confirmed construction dates, and have been altered since construction, although most major modifications appear to have taken place during the period of significance. As a collection of buildings, structures, and landscapes within the prison campus, the NSP reflects its construction and development between 1862 and 1967 with the end of the Fogliani administration.

Efforts are underway to preserve the prison. Although the Nevada Department of Corrections retains administration of the facility for limited purposes, the Nevada State Prison Preservation Society (NSPPS) is currently developing plans for the rehabilitation of the historic district for future use. Rehabilitation of the Prison will be effected under Nevada Assembly Bill 377 signed into law on July 1, 2015, which established "provisions for the preservation, development and use of the Nevada State Prison as a historical, cultural, educational and scientific resource." Included in the provisions was the creation of an endowment fund for the Prison to be overseen by the Nevada Board of Museums and History in cooperation with the NSPPS.⁸⁰

⁸⁰ Roberts, 212-224; Nevada State Prison Preservation Society website; Whorton, "Nevada State Prison."; Geoff Dornan, "Locked but still loaded with history," *Nevada Appeal*, January 15, 2012, A1, A4; *An Act relating to the Nevada State Prison...AB377*, 78th sess., *Nevada Legislature*, (July 1, 2015), <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/78th2015/Reports/history.cfm?ID=834>.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ____ previously listed in the National Register
- ____ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ____ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ____ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☒ Other State agency
- ____ Federal agency
- ____ Local government
- ____ University

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X Other

Name of repository: Nevada State Library and Archives; Nevada Historical Society Library

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 52.75 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐

NAD 1927

or

☒

NAD 1983

Coordinate #	Easting	Northing
1	263343	4338238
2	263428	4338228
3	263451	4338251
4	263520	4338295
5	263493	4338334
6	263505	4338363
7	263575	4338391
8	263645	4338390
9	263705	4338366
10	263896	4338195
11	263884	4338020
12	264066	4338004
13	263860	4337773
14	263677	4337834
15	263832	4338066
16	263650	4338158
17	263636	4338120
18	263601	4338090
19	263594	4338068
20	263570	4338077
21	263556	4338047

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22	263554	4338027
23	263549	4338012
24	263529	4337995
25	263524	4337980
26	263515	4337963
27	263450	4337874
28	263419	4337881
29	263357	4337954
30	263305	4337970

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The nomination boundaries are portrayed on the boundary map that accompanies this nomination and is based upon the historic extent of the prison during the period of significance. The boundary begins at the northwest corner of the property, where the old Fifth Street route and the current access road join, running along the stone wall at the south end of the parking lot, then pushing north to the current Fifth Street right of way. It curves back to the southeast along the right of way, and then runs south along a dirt access road, then east again along the same access road until meeting the right of way for Fairview Drive. The boundary then runs west back to the prison fence, but runs north, then west, around the 1980s Hilltop addition. The boundary then runs south along the west side of the Hill Units along the top of the Quarry wall, then running south to include the Prison Cemetery. The boundary then runs north and west to the west property line of the prison, then back to the beginning at the district's northwest corner.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries of the Nevada State Prison Historic District were selected to include known prison-related historic resources built or in existence prior to 1967 (the close of the period of significance) and associated grounds. The boundaries were selected based on property lines, modern roads, and natural boundaries to exclude concentrations of non-contributing modern buildings such as the 1980s Hill Units on the east side of the historic prison core. Also excluded is a nineteenth century and later prison cemetery now located on the grounds of the modern Warm Springs Correctional Center to the south of the historic district. Although it is related, it is non-contiguous to the district and has not been evaluated.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jim Bertolini and ZoAnn Campana / Elizabeth Dickey and Mike Drews / Jennifer Riddle

organization: Nevada State Historic Preservation Office / Carson City Historic Resources Commission / / Nevada Department of Transportation

Nevada State Prison

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telephone: (775) 684-3436
date: 12/22/2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: unknown Date Photographed: c.1931

Description of Photograph(s) and number: NSLA Aerial photograph (NSP 0002) of prison at the Nevada State Archives showing virtually all of the contributing resources in the nominated area. View looking southeast. 1 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: unknown Date Photographed: 1962

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Description of Photograph(s) and number: NSLA Aerial photograph (NSP 0002) of prison at the Nevada State Archives showing virtually all of the contributing resources in the nominated area. View looking south. 2 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: North section of the West Lawn and Garden, showing the pond, the Greenhouse Foundation, and the wall along the parking lot. View looking west. 3 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: The Administration Building and Sally Port. View looking south. 4 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: The Pump House with the Armory and One Tower beyond. View looking north. 5 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: The flag on the slope between the Sally Port and the cottages. View looking east. 6 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rear elevations of the cottages. View looking southwest. 7 of 43

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front elevations of the cottages. View looking north. 8 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Cottage 6. View looking northeast. 9 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Three Tower. View looking northwest. 10 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

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Description of Photograph(s) and number: The Nevada State Prison Cemetery. View looking northwest. 11 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Fifth Street Tower with the Administration Building beyond. View looking east. 12 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: The Warden's House and front yard with the Storage and Maintenance Building beyond. View looking east. 13 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Side and rear elevations of the Warden's House. View looking northwest. 14 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Kennel. View looking southwest. 15 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Butcher Shop. View looking southeast. 16 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Electrical Shop with the Maintenance Shop beyond. View looking northeast. 17 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: The License Plate Factory, Quarry Walls with Shed, Boiler House, and Gymnasium and Book Bindery. View looking south. 18 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: East elevation of cell blocks A, B and C. View looking southwest. 19 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

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Description of Photograph(s) and number: Prison Yard with cell blocks B and C, the Culinary, Three Tower, and Quarry Walls. View looking southwest. 20 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Prison Yard with Quarry Walls, Sally Port, and Administration Building. View looking west. 21 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Prison Yard with Administration Building and Cell Block A. View looking northwest. 22 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: J. Daniel Pezzoni Date Photographed: September 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Quarry Walls with two cave entrances. View looking west. 23 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Armory building within the West Lawn and Garden. Looking southwest at the north elevation of the building. 24 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Two Tower, looking east at west elevation. 25 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Boiler Plant, looking southeast. North and west elevations of the building. 26 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Storage and Maintenance Building, looking southwest. East and north elevations. 27 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Fifth Street (historic route) and Front Lawn, looking west. 28 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Nevada State Prison

Carson City, NV

Description of Photograph(s) and number: West Lawn and Garden, showing designed landscape features. Looking northwest. 42 of 30.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: November 13, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number: West Lawn and Garden, looking south across the upper terrace of the site. 30 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Fifth Street Guard Tower, stone wall, and cottonwood/elm alley, looking southeast. 31 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Historic fence foundation, looking north. 32 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Cell Block C, Boiler Plant, and License Plate Factory, looking northeast. 33 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: North end of the West Lawn and Garden, showing the Greenhouse Foundation, One Tower, and the Administration Building beyond, looking northeast. 34 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Rubble piles at northwest end of the Prison Trash Dump, looking northeast. 35 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Typical surface scatter in Prison Trash Dump, looking northeast. 36 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number: Prison Trash Dump rubble piles, with Nevada State Prison in background, looking west. 37 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District

City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada

Nevada State Prison

Carson City, NV

Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front Lawn and Parking Area, showing lawn with Fifth Street Guard Tower and stone wall, and One Tower in the background. View looking northwest. 38 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District
City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada
Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Front Lawn and Parking Area, showing the parking area, looking southwest. 39 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District
City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada
Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: West Lawn and Garden showing terraces and other landscape features, looking south. 40 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District
City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada
Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Cottages 1 and 2, and West Lawn and Garden, looking west. 41 of 43.

Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District
City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada
Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: West Lawn and Garden, showing landscape features from Modern period, looking north. 42 of 43.

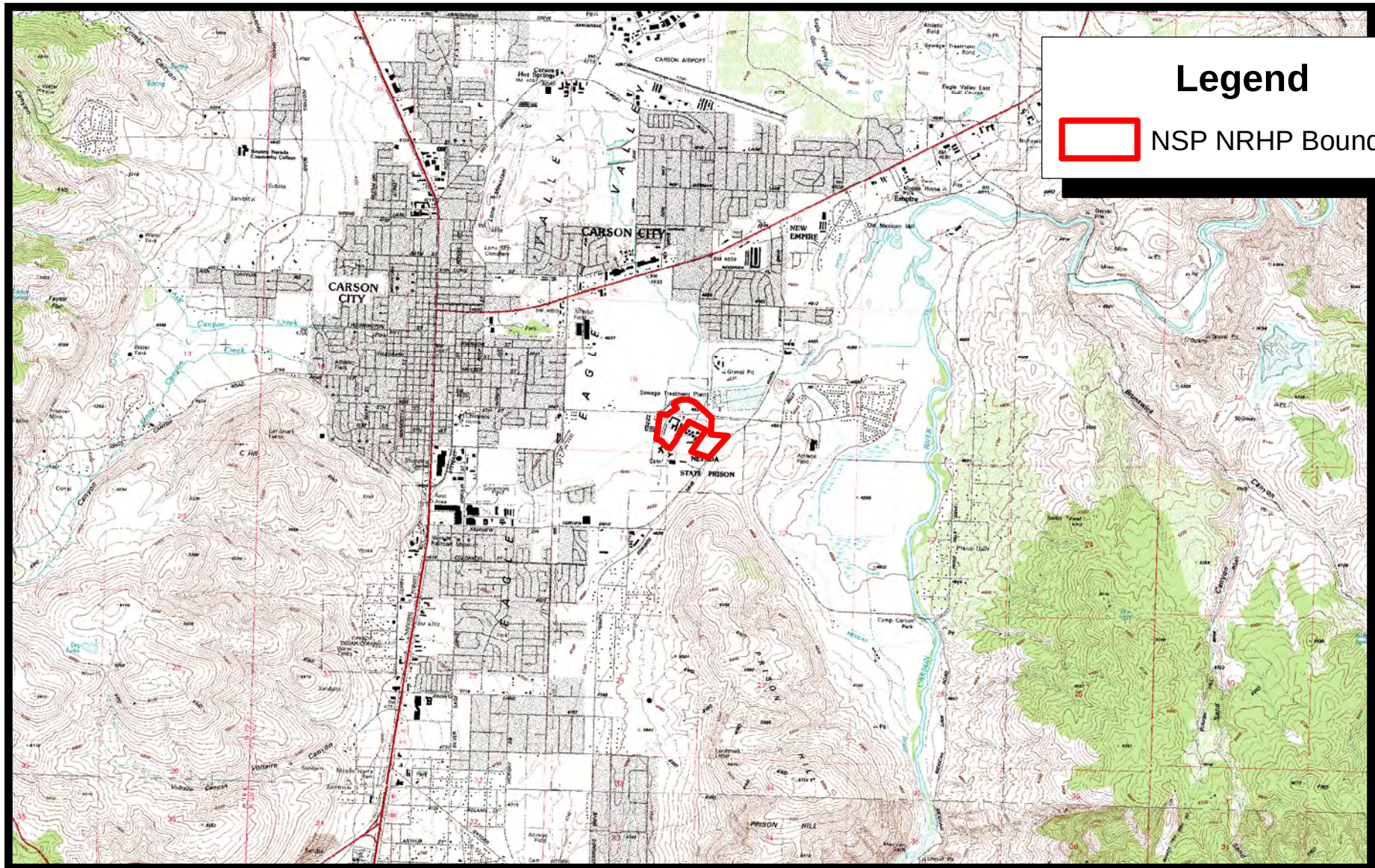
Name of Property: Nevada State Prison Historic District
City or Vicinity: Carson City County: Carson City State: Nevada
Photographer: Jim Bertolini Date Photographed: January 23, 2015
Description of Photograph(s) and number: Fifth Street Stone Wall (north section) looking southeast. 43 of 43.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Nevada State Prison NRHP Topographic Map

New Empire and Carson City Quadrangles



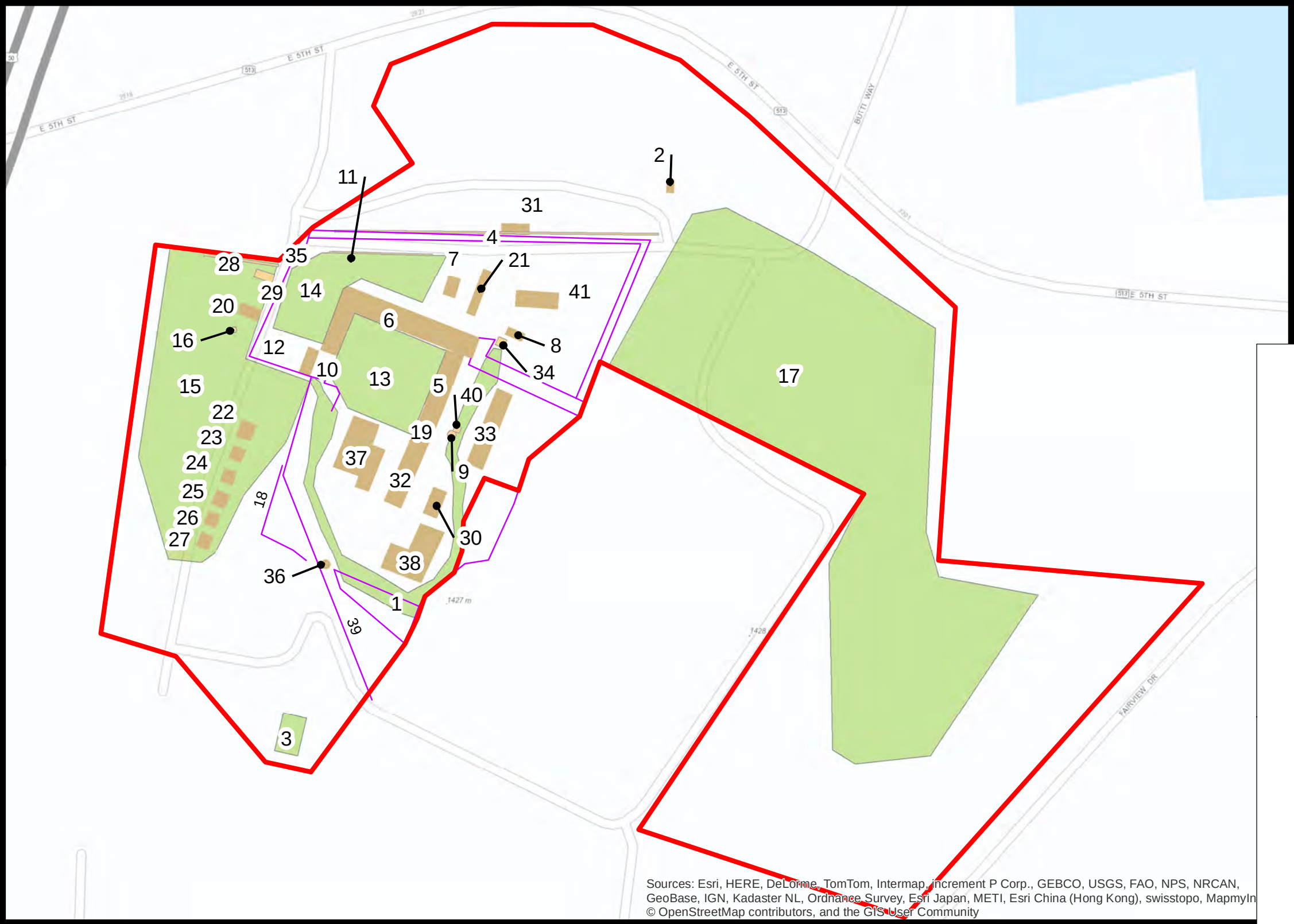
Legend

 NSP NRHP Boundary

0 0.75 1.5 3
Miles

Author: Nevada SHPO
Date: April 14, 2015
Source: Nevada SHPO
Datum: NAD 83
Projection: Zone 11 N

Nevada State Prison NRHP Boundary Map
Topographic Site Map



NSP NRHP Boundary

Historic Fence Lines (Structures)

NSP Resources

Res_Type

Building

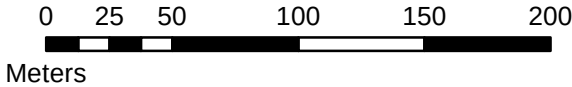
Site

Structure

Object

#	Resource Name	Date	Resource Type	Contributing/
1	Quarry	c.1861-1960	Site	Contributing
2	Butcher Shop	19th Century	Building	Contributing
3	Nevada State Prison Cemetery	1875-1881	Site	Contributing
4	Fifth Street Stone Walls	c.1880s	Structure	Contributing
5	Cell Block A	1920-25	Building	Contributing
6	Administration Building	1920-27	Building	Contributing
7	Warden's House	1920-25	Building	Contributing
8	Electrical Shop	c.1926	Building	Contributing
9	Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel	c.1927-28	Structure	Non-contributing
10	Sally Port (Courthouse)	c.1928	Building	Contributing
11	Fifth Street Guard Tower	1929	Structure	Contributing
12	Pump House	1933	Structure	Contributing
13	Prison Yard	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
14	Front Yard and Parking Area	c.1920-1958	Site	Contributing
15	West Lawn and Garden	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
16	Stone Fountain	c.1962	Object	Contributing
17	Prison Trash Dump	c.1907-1967	Site	Contributing
18	Security Fence Foundations	1942	Structure	Contributing
19	Cell Block B	1948	Building	Contributing
20	Armory (Property Warehouse)	1950	Building	Contributing
21	Storage and Maintenance Building	1952	Building	Contributing
22	Cottage 1	1953	Building	Contributing
23	Cottage 2	1953	Building	Contributing
24	Cottage 3	1953	Building	Contributing
25	Cottage 4	1953	Building	Contributing
26	Cottage 5	1953	Building	Contributing
27	Cottage 6	1955	Building	Contributing
28	Northwest Stone Wall	1957	Structure	Contributing
29	Greenhouse Foundation	1954	Site (not counted)	Contributing
30	Boiler Plant	1958	Building	Contributing
31	Kennel	c.1962	Building	Contributing
32	Cell Block C	1960	Building	Contributing
33	License Plate Factory	c.1962	Building	Contributing
34	Two Tower	1962	Building	Contributing
35	One Tower (Main Gate)	1963	Building	Contributing
36	Three Tower	1966	Building	Contributing
37	Culinary and Dining Hall	1966	Building	Contributing
38	Gymnasium and Book Bindery	1976	Building	Non-Contributing
39	Chain Link Security Fence	c.1980s	Structure	Non-contributing
40	Shed	c.2000	Building	Non-contributing
41	Maintenance Shop	2004	Building	Non-contributing

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, Mapmyln © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Author: Nevada SHPO
Date: July 27, 2015
Source: Nevada SHPO
Datum: NAD 83
Projection: Zone 11 N



Nevada State Prison NRHP Boundary Map
Aerial Photo



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, I-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Legend

- NSP NRHP Boundary
- Historic Fence Lines (Structures)

NSP Resources

Res_Type

- Building
- Site
- Structure
- Object

#	Resource Name	Date	Resource Type	Contributing/
1	Quarry	c.1861-1960	Site	Contributing
2	Butcher Shop	19th Century	Building	Contributing
3	Nevada State Prison Cemetery	1875-1881	Site	Contributing
4	Fifth Street Stone Walls	c.1880s	Structure	Contributing
5	Cell Block A	1920-25	Building	Contributing
6	Administration Building	1920-27	Building	Contributing
7	Warden's House	1920-25	Building	Contributing
8	Electrical Shop	c.1926	Building	Contributing
9	Fossilized Sloth Footprint Tunnel	c.1927-28	Structure	Non-contributing
10	Sally Port (Courthouse)	c.1928	Building	Contributing
11	Fifth Street Guard Tower	1929	Structure	Contributing
12	Pump House	1933	Structure	Contributing
13	Prison Yard	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
14	Front Yard and Parking Area	c.1920-1958	Site	Contributing
15	West Lawn and Garden	c.1920-1967	Site	Contributing
16	Stone Fountain	c.1962	Object	Contributing
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34	Two Tower	1962	Building	Contributing
35	One Tower (Main Gate)	1963	Building	Contributing
36	Three Tower	1966	Building	Contributing
37	Culinary and Dining Hall	1966	Building	Contributing
38	Gymnasium and Book Bindery	1976	Building	Non-Contributing
39	Chain Link Security Fence	c.1980s	Structure	Non-contributing
40	Shed	c.2000	Building	Non-contributing
41	Maintenance Shop	2004	Building	Non-contributing

0 25 50 100 150 200
Meters

Author: Nevada SHPO
Date: July 27, 2015
Source: Nevada SHPO
Datum: NAD 83
Projection: Zone 11 N



Nevada State Prison NRHP Site Map

Photograph Key

