

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: Downtown Winnemucca Historic District

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location

Street & number: N/A City or town: Winnemucca State: Nevada County: Humboldt

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐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 ___ 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 ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide ___local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B ___C ___D

<hr/>	
Signature of certifying official / Title	Date
<hr/>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, Nevada
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

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

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

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

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District
Name of Property

Humboldt County, Nevada
County and State

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing <u>39</u>	Noncontributing <u>21</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>39</u>	<u>21</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 2

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

COMMERCE/TRADE/business
COMMERCE/TRADE/professional
COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store
COMMERCE/TRADE/department store
COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse
DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
DOMESTIC/hotel
SOCIAL/meeting hall
GOVERNMENT/fire station
GOVERNMENT/post office
GOVERNMENT/courthouse
EDUCATION/library
RELIGION/religious facility
RELIGION/church-related residence
RECREATION AND CULTURE/theater
HEALTH CARE/clinic

Current Functions

COMMERCE/TRADE/business
COMMERCE/TRADE/professional
COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District
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COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant
COMMERCE/TRADE/warehouse
DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/multiple dwelling
GOVERNMENT/fire station
GOVERNMENT/city hall
GOVERNMENT/courthouse
RELIGION/religious facility
RELIGION/church-related residence
RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

7. Description

Architectural Classification

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman
MODERN MOVEMENT/Art Deco
MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne
MODERN MOVEMENT/Ranch

Materials

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, CONCRETE, STUCCO, METAL,
WOOD, GLASS

Narrative Description

See continuation sheets

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District
Name of Property

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County and State

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

- ☐ 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

Commerce

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1866-1968

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District

Name of Property

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County and State

Significant Dates

1866 – Post Office, Winnemucca Hotel established

1868 – Central Pacific Railroad arrives

1891, 1905, 1916 – Fires on Lower Bridge Street

1968 – Humboldt County Library constructed

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Frederic DeLongchamps; John J. Foley; J.C. Nicholson; David Israel LaPoint; Louis Simon;
James A. Wetmore

Guy Sisson; D. Grassi; John McCruden; Anderson and McShee; August Pasquale; Frank
Gallagher

Narrative Statement of Significance

See continuation sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets

10. Geographical Data

See continuation sheets

11. Form Prepared By

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12/19/2025

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Downtown Winnemucca Historic District

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N/A

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Narrative Description Summary Paragraph

The Downtown Winnemucca Historic District is centered around South Bridge Street between First and Fifth Streets and Melarkey Street between Winnemucca Boulevard and Fifth Street. The district, locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development, encompasses Winnemucca's earliest commercial core. District resources that date to the period of significance of 1866-1968 include one-part and two-part commercial buildings, civic buildings, office buildings, and a church. Most face Bridge and Melarkey Streets, with additional resources on adjacent blocks. Styles found in the district include 20th Century Commercial, Streamline Moderne, and Classical Revival. The district is approximately 25.3 acres in size and includes 60 resources, 39 (65%) of which are contributing. Common alterations to non-historic buildings are slipcovers and altered storefronts, some of which are historic-period alterations. Despite additional non-historic alterations, the district retains sufficient overall integrity to convey its significance to the historic period. The diverse building ages and types found in the district clearly illustrate downtown Winnemucca's development and use patterns over this 102-year period.

Narrative Description

Location and Setting

The Downtown Winnemucca Historic District is in Winnemucca, Nevada, in the central business district and densest section of the city. Winnemucca, the county seat of Humboldt County, is situated at 4,300 feet in the Great Basin landscape of northern Nevada. The city is located along the Humboldt River, long a transportation route for explorers and emigrants. The flat river bottomlands stretch southwest and northeast from Winnemucca, skirting the northern edge of the East and Sonoma mountain ranges. The landscape is high desert, with rocky soil, sagebrush, and little rain. Winnemucca Mountain, a 6,740-foot peak, rises above the city to the northwest.

As described below, the presence of the Humboldt River, and later the Central Pacific Railroad, influenced the layout of the town plat, with streets oriented toward one or the other of those anchors. The street grid in the downtown commercial zone runs at a 45-degree angle, while the street grid outside of the district, closer to the railroad, is closer to 30 degrees. Today, the modern transportation route of Interstate 80 functions as another notable anchor. The freeway, like the river, passes through central Winnemucca immediately northwest of the district. The modern commercial development of Winnemucca has primarily occurred along the Interstate 80 Business Loop, which travels through town along Winnemucca Boulevard (Third Street).

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Town Plat

The street grid was laid out in its diagonal manner thanks largely to the French Bridge, a bridge built over the Humboldt River in 1865. The bridge, which was by necessity perpendicular to the river, ran on a northwest/southeast diagonal. By extension, the street that accessed the bridge, Bridge Street, formed on the same diagonal. When the first survey plat was created by William Epler in 1867, it used that existing diagonal as a starting point and laid out a few additional downtown blocks to either side of Bridge Street. By 1872 that plat had been expanded, this time by Central Pacific Railroad surveyor Lewis Tashiera, whose plat expanded Epler's to include additional downtown blocks plus the railroad and several streets running parallel to it. That map was expanded once again in the townsite plat that was drawn in 1872 but filed with the County in 1876 (see Figure 4).

That 1876 map displays the blocks and street grid that are present to this day in the district. The downtown commercial zone blocks are nearly square, with central alleys that are parallel to Bridge Street. Each downtown block is shown with six parcels on either side of alley, intended for buildings that face onto Bridge Street and the other northwest/southeast trending streets. That pattern is still evident today, although some lots were subdivided further and now contain more than six buildings on a side. The plat also shows Fifth Street (although it is not labeled as such) as the last street in the downtown zone, before the street grid changes direction to follow the railroad.

General District Description

The district is approximately 25.3 acres in size and includes four blocks of Bridge and Melarkey Streets, along with a few resources that face adjacent cross streets. The district's northwestern boundary is about one-half block away from the Humboldt River and Interstate 80. The district's boundaries roughly follow First Street on the northwest, the alley between Bridge and Baud Streets on the northeast, and Fifth Street on the southeast. Along the southwestern side of the district, the boundary follows Melarkey Street and a section of the alley between Melarkey and Lay Streets. Named streets such as Bridge and Melarkey run northwest/southeast, while numbered streets like First and Second Streets run southwest/northeast. Third Street is named Winnemucca Boulevard. The blocks in the district measure about 320 feet along the named streets and 305 feet along the numbered streets.

The northwest/southeast trending Bridge Street is the focal point of the district and the area with the densest concentration of resources. Bridge Street is Winnemucca's main commercial street, and 41 of the district's 60 resources have addresses on Bridge. Several more appear to be on Bridge Street but are addressed on the adjacent cross street. Of the 41 resources with Bridge Street addresses, 36 are commercial in nature. The Bridge Street blocks all have a distinctly urban feel,

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with sidewalks, streetlights, and angled parking spaces. A streetscape improvement project underway in 2025 is adding bulb-out curb extensions at corner crossings. The district includes resources along both sides of four blocks of Bridge Street.

The northwesternmost end of Bridge Street is the 100 block. The district boundary jogs slightly to encompass the entire lot at the Tallman Lumber Company (Resource #1, 105 S. Bridge Street). The 100 block contains six buildings along the southwest side of the street and only the lumber company, a small c. 1930s building, and a mid-century modern former grocery store on the northeast side. The 200 block of Bridge Street is dense along its northeast side, with ten resources, while its southwest side contains only the Convention Center East Hall (Resource #49) and its parking lot. The 300 block of Bridge is the densest, with seven resources on the northeast side of the street and 11 resources along the southwest side (although one is addressed on W. Winnemucca Blvd.). In the 400 block of Bridge Street are four resources on the northeast side (one being across the alley), and three along the southwest side (with one of them with a Fourth Street address). Finally, one building in the 500 block of Bridge Street is included in the district, a resource at the corner of Bridge and E. Fifth (Resource #41).

Melarkey Street in the district is less dense and contains a wide mix of resource types including religious, residential, civic, and commercial. Seven resources have Melarkey Street addresses, but four additional resources addressed on adjacent streets have a presence on Melarkey. Only the northeast sides of the 100 and 200 blocks of Melarkey are included, while both sides of the street are included in the 300 and 400 blocks. The 100 block of Melarkey contains three resources along its northeast side (although one is addressed on First Street), and the 200 block of Melarkey contains no resources. The 300 block of Melarkey contains Street Paul's Catholic Church (Resource #44) and Rectory (Resource #45) on its southwest side, and the Winnemucca Main Post Office (City Hall, Resource #56) on its northeast side (although that building is addressed on Fourth Street). The 400 block contains four residential resources along its southwest side (with one, an apartment building, addressed on Fourth Street). One building that appears to be in the 500 block of Melarkey is addressed on Fifth Street. Melarkey Street between W. Winnemucca Blvd. and the Humboldt River is a major thoroughfare since it is where U.S. 95 splits from Interstate 80 and proceeds north into Idaho. For that reason, the 100 and 200 blocks of Melarkey have a less pedestrian-friendly feeling than the 300 and 400 blocks do.

Twelve resources have addresses on numbered cross streets, although as noted, many of them also relate Bridge or Melarkey Streets. The most notable example is the Classical Revival Humboldt County Courthouse (Resource #58), whose front elevation faces Bridge Street, but whose address is on Fifth Street. Another example is the altered Streamline Moderne building at 33 W. Winnemucca Blvd. (Resource #50), which has a corner entry and primarily faces Bridge Street. Other buildings, such as the former First National Bank on Fourth Street (Resource #34) and the

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office building at 115 W. Fifth Street (Resource #59), do face their numbered cross streets but also have a presence on Bridge or Melarkey.

District Property Types

The district contains a diverse mix of resources. Commercial resources account for more than two-thirds of the total number. The breakdown of resource types is described below, and descriptions of the property types follow.

- 41 commercial buildings
 - 14 Two-part Commercial Blocks (including one, Convention Center East Hall, whose use has changed to civic)
 - 19 One-part Commercial Blocks
 - Eight “other” types, including Enframed Window Wall, Industrial/Warehouse, and Vault
- Six civic buildings (the library, courthouse, post office/city hall, fire station, convention center, and the fire station garage, which is a “Service Bay” property type)
- Six residential buildings (three single-family, one apartment building, and two duplexes)
- Two religious buildings (church and rectory)
- Four office buildings
- One building with a residential form but historic use as a commercial building (Resource #53, Ed Reinhart House/Eddy’s Funeral Home)

One-Part Commercial Block

The One-part Commercial Block property type emerged in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century and is characterized by simple, street-level massing and prominent display windows. One-part commercial blocks are one story in height and generally feature storefront windows and public entrances on their main elevations. They are often small, modest buildings that house stores and restaurants, and are frequently arranged in rows with shared party walls. However, a one-part block can also be a larger commercial building such as a shop or brewery. Non-public spaces such as offices, storerooms, and kitchens are often placed at the rear of the building. Examples of One-part Blocks in the district are 227 S. Bridge Street (Resource #12), 147 S. Bridge Street (Resource #6), and 350 S. Bridge Street (Resource #33).

Two-part Commercial Block

The Two-part Block is generally two-to-four stories in height and divided into two separate spaces: a street-level, commercial-use public zone, and an upper-story residential, hotel, or commercial-use private zone. Two-part blocks, like their single-part counterparts, are characterized by large storefront windows along the first floor of the front elevation. Upper floors often have regularly-spaced windows, and low parapets are commonly found at roof level. Like the One-part Blocks,

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these buildings generally have simple, rectangular massing. Examples of Two-Part Blocks in the district are 140 S. Bridge Street A (Resource #4), 316 S. Bridge Street (Resource #21), and 355 S. Bridge Street (Resource #35).

Other Commercial Types

The district contains eight commercial buildings that do not fit neatly into either the One- or Two-part Commercial Block type. Two are Enframed Window Wall buildings (Resource #20, 311 S. Bridge Street, and Resource #36, 401-407 S. Bridge Street), a property type characterized by a large expanse of windows framed by a wide “frame” of a consistent, generally unadorned material such as brick. Two are Warehouse types (Resource #42, 125-129 Melarkey Street, and Resource #1, 105 S. Bridge Street), which are generally larger, utilitarian buildings with a large, open floor space, simple building materials, little decoration, large loading doors, and sometimes loading docks. One non-historic district resource (Resource #43, 195 Melarkey Street) is a Commercial Strip, in which small storefronts are arranged in a row under a shared roof, often with a parking lot in front. One building is a Vault (Resource #16, the Sage Theatre at 245 S. Bridge Street), a property type that is generally two or three stories in height and features a tall, recessed central opening that is often two stories tall. Another commercial building in the district is a hybrid of a Vault and a Temple Front building (Resource #2, the former Winnemucca State Bank & Trust building at 138 S. Bridge Street). The Temple Front property type has classical columns or pilasters and an entablature at cornice level; the building has those features plus the tall opening of a Vault. Finally, there is one commercial building (Resource #54, 25 W. Fourth Street) that is best characterized as a Bank/Office, although it has characteristics in common with a One-part Block. It was purpose-built as a bank with a public lobby, entrances on two elevations, and a dedicated parking lot.

Office Buildings

Office buildings are often intended for commercial businesses, and their exterior form often has much in common with One- and Two-part Commercial Blocks. A dedicated office building, however, does not require large storefront windows for displaying wares. It instead has one or more public entrances that lead to lobbies or service counters, and a greater emphasis on non-public working spaces. Office buildings in the district include the two-story 115 W. Fifth Street (Resource #59) and the one-story 501 S. Bridge Street (Resource #41).

Residential Buildings

Residential buildings can take many forms, including single family houses, multi-family buildings, duplexes, mobile homes, and more. A single-family residence can be any size but is often one or two stories tall, with a main front entrance, and often a yard. An example of a single-family residence in the district is the Duvivier House at 426 S. Bridge Street (Resource #38). Duplexes are houses with two living units and often have symmetrical front facades with two entrance doors

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sharing a common front porch. A district example is 426-428 Melarkey Street (Resource #46). An apartment building, like 109 W. Fourth Street (Resource #57), is a larger property type containing multiple living units, either with numerous exterior doors or a main entrance that leads to apartment doors along interior hallways.

Religious Buildings

Religious buildings can also take many forms. The district contains two of these resources, Street Paul's Catholic Church and its Rectory building, both at 350 Melarkey Street (Resources #44 and #45). The church has the traditional cross-shaped floor plan with a central nave and transepts. As a residential building, the Rectory has a residential massing with a central front porch.

Civic Buildings

Civic buildings include many types of public buildings meant to provide services to the public. These buildings are owned by the local, state, or federal government and include things like courthouses, government offices, libraries, universities, and community centers. These resources are often large, with notable forms and styles that convey stability and create a sense of community pride. The district contains a mix of civic buildings, each different from one another. There is a two-story fire station (Resource #40, 445 S. Bridge Street), a Temple Front county courthouse (Resource #58, 50 W. Fifth Street), a one-story Classical Revival post office/city hall (Resource #56, 90 W. Fourth Street), a Mid-Century Modern library (Resource #60, 85 E. Fifth Street), and a non-historic convention center (Resource #51, 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd.).

District Styles

Throughout the district, buildings generally have simple form and massing, with primarily one- and two-story buildings with flat roofs. Building materials are predominantly brick, concrete block, and stucco. The size of the resources varies, with large resources such as the Humboldt County Courthouse (Resource #58) and the Art Deco apartment building (Resource #57), and small resources such as 139 S. Bridge Street (Resource #3) and the single-family residences. Many of the buildings do not have a recognizable architectural style, while others are either full representations of a style or incorporate certain stylistic influences in a more subtle manner. Of note are the several resources that began as an older style and were remodeled into the Art Deco or Streamline Moderne styles in the 1930s and 1940s – the district contains five of those resources. The district includes the following styles, the characteristics of which are outlined below.

- No Style: 23 resources
- 20th Century Commercial: Ten resources
- Italianate Influences: Three resources
- Classical Revival and Beaux-Arts: Five resources
- Art Deco and Streamline Moderne: Nine resources

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- Mid-Century Modern: Five resources
- “Other” styles including Spanish Colonial Revival, Spanish Colonial/Romanesque Revival hybrid, Craftsman, Folk Victorian, and Spanish Ranch: Five resources

No Style

Resources in the “No Style” category are simple and utilitarian, without decorative elements that belong to a particular architectural style. All types of resources, such as commercial, residential, office, or warehouse, can be part of this category. These resources tend to prioritize function over form. However, although the resources do not have characteristics of a defined architectural style, it does not mean they are completely devoid of ornamentation. It is common for resources in this category to have elements such as brick windowsills and headers, or a shallow brick panel intended to surround a business name sign. An altered building whose original style is no longer evident also falls into the “No Style” category. Examples of district buildings without a clear style are 346 S. Bridge Street (Resource #31), 437 S. Bridge Street (Resource #39), and 33 W. Fourth Street (Resource #55).

20th Century Commercial

20th Century Commercial buildings are often brick, with a stepped parapet and simple brick details created by subtle corbeling, contrasting bond patterns, or contrasting brick colors. This style is found on both One- and Two-part Commercial Blocks. Storefronts were either flush with the façade or recessed, and often had a row of transoms over the display windows. Examples of 20th Century Commercial buildings in the district include 140 S. Bridge Street B (Resource #5), 316 S. Bridge Street (Resource #21), and 205 S. Bridge Street (Resource #9), the latter being an example of the style in Ideal block instead of brick.

Italianate Influences

The Italianate was widely applied to commercial architecture in the nineteenth century. Hallmarks of the style include masonry facades, tall and narrow windows with arched tops and sometimes decorative moldings, prominent cornices with brackets or other details, and cast iron decorative elements such as pilasters. Residences in the Italianate style had similar windows and cornices, and often had hipped roofs, projecting rooftop cupolas, and quoins at the building corners. There are three buildings in the district that were built slightly later than is typical for this style but possess subtle Italianate stylistic influences. A good example is the house at 442 Melarkey Street (Resource #48), which has a small cupola, corner quoins, and rusticated Ideal block walls.

Classical Revival and Beaux-Arts

These are examples of period revival styles, which borrowed architectural motifs from past time periods and locations and incorporated them into new buildings either as pure expressions of a past style, or hybrids combining motifs from numerous past styles. Classical Revival buildings are

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based on the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, with symmetrical facades and classical ornament such as columns, pilasters, pediments, and projecting cornices. Beaux-Arts architecture is similar, but buildings in this style tend to be more heavily ornamented with motifs such as garlands, cartouches, and ornate molding patterns. The former Winnemucca State Bank & Trust building at 138 S. Bridge Street (Resource #2) is an example of Beaux-Arts architecture, while the building at 140 S. Bridge Street A (Resource #4) is an example of a stripped-down, restrained Classical Revival style.

Art Deco and Streamline Moderne

Art Deco architecture is a modern decorative style that features geometric motifs such as zigzags and chevrons, sleek forms, and modern manufactured building materials. Streamline Moderne is an offshoot of the Art Deco style that emphasizes horizontal lines, curved edges, and smooth materials such as stucco and glass to create an “aerodynamic” appearance. Examples of the Art Deco style in the district are the two-story Masonic Hall building at 355 S. Bridge Street (Resource #35) and the fire station at 445 S. Bridge Street (Resource #40). Streamline Moderne examples include the former J.C. Penney store at 324 S. Bridge Street (Resource #23), which was built as a Streamline Moderne building in 1935, and the building at 33. W. Winnemucca Blvd. (Resource #50), which was remodeled into the Streamline Moderne style. The district contains five resources that were built in the late 1800s or early 1900s but were converted to the Deco or Moderne styles in the 1930s or 1940s.

Mid-Century Modern

Mid-Century Modern buildings display a clean aesthetic adapted from high-style Modernism, with flat roofs, horizontal lines, large windows, modern building materials, and an emphasis on form rather than ornament. Examples of Mid-Century Modern buildings in the district include 25 W. Fourth Street (Resource #54), 147 S. Bridge Street (Resource #6), and the library at 85 E. Fifth Street (Resource #60).

Other Styles

Five resources in the district exhibit other styles. St. Paul’s Catholic Church (Resource #44) is a hybrid style with classic Spanish Colonial Revival motifs including stucco walls, red tile roof, and towers with octagonal roofs, window balconettes, and sculptural decorations. Its nave, however, exhibits features more associated with Romanesque Revival, such as a rose window and an arcade-like corbeled design at cornice level. The Rectory building (Resource #45) is more traditionally Spanish Colonial Revival. One building, 47 W. First Street (Resource #53), is Craftsman, a style characterized by low-pitched roofs with exposed rafter tails, natural materials, and large front porches with tapered columns. The Duvivier House at 426 S. Bridge Street (Resource #38) is Folk Victorian, a style that typically includes an L-shaped footprint, a long front porch tucked into the ell, hipped or steeply-pitched gable roofs, and simplified Victorian trim elements. One non-historic

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building in the district, 195 Melarkey Street (Resource #43), has a Spanish Ranch style, which is a typical low-slung Ranch type building but with Spanish details such as a tile roof, stucco walls, and round-arched arcades or porch openings.

Construction Dates

The district contains a notable mix of construction dates, with resources built throughout the 1866-1968 period of significance. The distribution of construction dates is outlined below.

- Prior to 1890: Five resources
- 1890-1899: Four resources
- Built between 1987 & 1904 (exact date unknown): Three resources
- 1900-1909: Seven resources
- 1910-1919: 16 resources
- 1920-1929: Five resources
- 1930-1939: Five resources
- 1940-1949: One resource
- 1950-1959: Three resources
- 1960-1968: Six resources
- Post-1968 (non-historic): Six resources

Common Alterations

Alterations are common in the district, but many alterations occurred during the period of significance. The mid-twentieth century alterations are good representations of downtown Winnemucca's growth and prosperity as the city continued to serve the region's mining and agricultural industries and was also an important transportation center along the Victory Highway, U.S. highways 40 and 93, and later, Interstate 80.

The most common historic-period alteration found in the district is the replacement of original late-nineteenth century and early-twentieth century storefronts with mid-twentieth century storefronts. Post-WWII storefronts placed a greater emphasis on the display windows and less emphasis on the decorative elements of the surrounding frame. They had large expanses of glass set into aluminum frames, glass doors topped with fixed transom windows, and small bulkheads with either brick or block, tile, or opaque panels. Entrances were generally recessed, often with canted glass display windows to help draw pedestrians toward the door. Examples of older buildings in the district that have mid-twentieth century storefronts include 221 S. Bridge Street (Resource #11), 227 S. Bridge Street (Resource #12), and 346 S. Bridge Street (Resource #31).

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Five resources began as an older style and were remodeled into the Art Deco or Streamline Moderne styles in the 1930s and 1940s. Examples in the district include 342 S. Bridge Street (Resource #30), 245 S. Bridge Street (Resource #16), and 355 S. Bridge Street (Resource #35). Another historic-period alteration type is the slipcover, usually applied to the upper section of the front façade. The slipcover was usually a panel of manufactured materials meant to “modernize” a façade and sometimes carry a large business sign, and was sometimes louvered to let air pass through to any upper windows that were left in place. A historic-period slipcover in the district is found at 221 S. Bridge Street (Resource #11).

Non-historic alterations in the district most commonly include incompatible modern slipcovers and storefront alterations utilizing incompatible building materials. These types of alterations generally render a building non-contributing. Examples of non-historic slipcovers in the district include 251 S. Bridge Street (Resource #17), 423 S. Bridge Street (Resource #37), and 332 S. Bridge Street (Resource #27). An example of a modern slipcover that did not detract substantially from the building’s integrity is found at 227 S. Bridge Street (Resource #12), which retains enough historic fabric and is still recognizable to the historic period. Several buildings in the district have storefronts that were altered in the modern era with resized window openings, new windows and doors, and infill materials such as brick. Examples of this type of alteration include 237 S. Bridge Street (Resource #14), 320 S. Bridge Street (Resource #22), and 342 S. Bridge Street (Resource #30).

Summary

The Downtown Winnemucca Historic District contains a wide mix of property types, styles, and construction dates that exemplify the continued use of the downtown commercial district and the city’s evolution throughout the 1866-1968 historic period. District resources range from good examples of modest One- and Two-part Commercial Blocks to outstanding civic buildings such as the Humboldt County Courthouse. Although incompatible modern alterations are found, many district buildings display a high level of integrity, and others feature historic-period alterations that now have significance in their own right. With 65% of the district resources contributing, the district is easily recognizable to its historic period.

District Inventory




The inventory on the following pages contains photos, brief physical descriptions, and alteration information for each district building.

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	Resource #1 105 S. Bridge St.	105 S. Bridge Street is a lumber business comprised of several historic-period buildings built between 1912 - 1930 and in 1940. The resources are industrial/warehouse types and include a main lumber storage building with an office/retail volume and several barn-like storage buildings to house lumber and other building materials. Exterior materials across the site are both corrugated metal and wood, and roof forms include both gabled and shed.
	Scott Lumber/Tallman Lumber	
	c. 1912-1930; 1940	
	Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #2 138 S. Bridge Street	138 S. Bridge Street is the 1913 Winnemucca State Bank & Trust building. It has a hybrid Vault/Temple Front form and is Beaux-Arts in style. The building features four large columns with smooth shafts and stylized Ionic capitals, that flank a central two-story arched opening. The double entry door has sidelights and a pediment. The entablature is inscribed with the building's original name, and a balustrade runs along the top of the cornice. (See Figure 10.)
	Winnemucca State Bank & Trust	
	1913	
	Contributing	
	Beaux-Arts	
	Resource #3 139 S. Bridge Street	139 S. Bridge Street is a c. 1930 one-part commercial block building that was expanded in the 1950s to encompass a second building that was located to the rear. It functioned briefly as a telegraph office before becoming a laundry. The exterior walls are multicolored brick. The original buff-colored brick diamond-motif decoration is still discernable under the modern-day "Winnemucca Pizzeria" sign at cornice level and below the altered storefront windows. A non-historic addition is set back behind the volumes of the two original buildings.
	c. 1930; 1950s	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	

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	Resource #4 140 S. Bridge Street A	140 S. Bridge Street (A) is a two-part commercial block that was originally comprised of two older buildings – the 1878 Staunton Saddlery building and a smaller adjacent building. After earthquake damage in 1915, the buildings were rebuilt and combined into one. The building is painted buff-colored brick, with brick pilasters separating storefront windows. The upper floor has three large window openings in an ABA arrangement, and a dentiled cornice runs across the front façade. (See Figures 8, 13, & 14.)
	Staunton Saddlery	
	1878; c. 1916	
	Contributing	
	Classical Revival	
	Resource #5 140 S. Bridge Street B	140 S. Bridge Street (B) is the former Silver State Saloon/Grand Saloon, a one-part commercial block built in 1878. It is a 20th Century Commercial style building with an inset brick panel in the upper portion of the façade. The storefront was replaced by a mid-20th century aluminum storefront with large windows and a central glass door. (See Figure 8.)
	Silver State Saloon/Grand Saloon	
	1878	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	
	Resource #6 147 S. Bridge Street	147 S. Bridge Street is a Mid-Century Modern, one-part commercial block built in 1961. It originally housed a grocery store named Kirk's Market. It is a long one-story concrete block building with a flat roof. The center of the front façade is a wide span of glass that includes a central double entry door and storefront windows, topped by a flat aluminum awning. Four pilaster-like decorative features made from breeze blocks are found on the front elevation.
	Kirk's Market	
	1961	
	Contributing	
	Mid-Century Modern	

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	Resource #7 150 S. Bridge Street	150 S. Bridge Street is the former Staunton Harness Shop/Peraldo Building, a one-part commercial block built in 1911. It was originally a 20th Century Commercial style building, then was altered in the 1930s or 1940s into a Moderne-influenced style. However, non-historic alterations eliminated the features related to either of those historic iterations. Today the building's upper wall section has been stuccoed, and at storefront level are mid-20th century aluminum windows, non-historic stone bulkhead cladding, and a large non-historic awning.
	Staunton Harness Shop/ Peraldo Building	
	1911	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #8 180 S. Bridge Street	180 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial block building constructed in 1951 for Sewell's Grocery Store. It is a large one-story building with a chamfered corner entry. The building originally had a row of glass block windows midway up the façade and contrasting concrete pilasters between brick walls. Today, the walls and pilasters have been stuccoed and the glass block windows infilled.
	Sewell's Grocery Store	
	1951	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #9 205 S. Bridge St (16 E. Second)	205 S. Bridge Street (& 16 E. Second Street) is a two-part commercial block, the 1908 Houston-Grandin Building. It was expanded in 1911 by the addition of a small one-story building at its rear, which was then combined with the larger building by new owner Gartiez in 1925 to form the single building that exists today. The building has rusticated Ideal block walls, concrete sills and lintels, and a corbeled brick cornice. The front, main storefront has been altered and the window openings truncated. The secondary storefronts and entrances along Second Street were altered during the historic period.
	Hustin-Grandin Building	
	1908; 1911; 1925	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	

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	Resource #10 215 S. Bridge Street	<p>215 S. Bridge Street is the former Overland Hotel, a 1913 two-part commercial block. It has a projecting Classical cornice, subtle brick paneling at cornice level, and corbelled second-floor window openings. Its central recessed entrance is flanked by two large storefront windows each with a single glass entry door. Louvered sun screens have been installed over the second-floor windows. The storefronts are mid-20th century. A photograph from 1968 confirms that its storefronts and entrance were altered during the historic period, while its upper floor fenestration was superficially altered by the addition of louvered screens after the end of the period of significance.</p>
	Overland Hotel	
	1913	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	
	Resource #11 221 S. Bridge Street	<p>221 S. Bridge Street is a 1909 two-part commercial block building that originally housed The C.B. Brown Company's furniture and hardware store. Its lower floor is almost entirely glass, with a mid-20th century storefront with a steeply angled recessed entrance. Its upper floor has been covered by a large panel containing a rectangular louvered opening, presumably installed superficially in front of the existing window openings. A photograph from 1968 confirms that both its storefront alterations and the louvered opening that replaced its upper floor windows occurred in the 1960s during the historic period.</p>
	C.B. Brown Furniture Store	
	1909	
	Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #12 227 S. Bridge Street	227 S. Bridge Street is a 1910 one-part commercial building that originally housed a men's clothing store then functioned as a bakery for many years. It was remodeled during the period of significance, in c. 1946 and again in c. 1965 to a version that closely matches its current appearance. A 1968 photograph shows the bakery with its current storefront configuration and aluminum awning, with the same hanger rods. The storefront consists of a mix of glass and smooth panels. The upper portion of the façade has been covered by a non-historic corrugated panel.
	1910; c. 1946; c. 1965	
	Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #13 233 S. Bridge Street	233 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial block built some time between 1913 and 1921 for a grocery business. The upper portion of the façade features pink bricks with a large decorative panel and dentil-like triangular corbeling at cornice level. The storefront was reconfigured during the historic period. A 1950s photo of Mike's Atomic Club, a later business that operated in the building, appears to depict the current storefront configuration. However, the cladding around the window and door openings at storefront level is not historic.
	Organ Grocery	
	Between 1913 and 1921	
	Contributing	
	Resource #14 237 S. Bridge Street	237 S. Bridge Street is the 1910 Western Union Building, a two-part commercial block. The upper story retains its historic, rusticated Ideal block and shallow molded cornice. The upper windows are 6/6 with concrete lintels and non-historic shutters. The storefront, however, has been significantly altered with non-historic brick infill and a large fabric awning.
	Western Union Building	
	1920	
	Non-Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	

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	Resource #15 241 S. Bridge Street	241 S. Bridge Street is the 1916 Nofsinger Building. It is a brick two-part commercial block in the 20th Century Commercial style, with shallow brick corbeling at cornice level and decorative brick stringcourses. The upper windows are 12/12 with non-historic shutters. The storefront has been significantly altered with new fixed windows, non-historic brick veneer, and a large fabric awning.
	Nofsinger Building	
	1916	
	Non-Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	
	Resource #16 245 S. Bridge Street	245 S. Bridge Street is the 1916 American Theatre, which was named the Sage Theatre during its c. 1940 conversion to the Streamline Moderne style. The building features a tall, arched central opening flanked by two wide pilasters. The upper portion of wall is smooth, unadorned stucco. The storefront level is temporarily obscured with plywood that was installed after a recent fire damaged the building. The interior of the building was gutted after the fire.
	American Theatre/ Sage Theatre	
	1916; c. 1940	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #17 251 S. Bridge Street	251 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial building built in 1907 as the Magnolia Saloon. It was a brick one-part commercial building. In c. 1970 it was combined with the adjacent building, 259 S. Bridge Street, via a shared faux mansard roof that obscures the entire upper portion of the building. The mansard was then sheathed in metal in c. 1980. The storefront windows and door are aluminum and date to the period of significance, but the incompatible 1970s-80s upper portion renders this building non-contributing.
	Magnolia Saloon	
	1907; c. 1970; c. 1980	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #18 259 S. Bridge Street	259 S. Bridge Street is an altered former meat market constructed in 1918 to replace an earlier store at its location. It is a one-part commercial reinforced concrete building with a chamfered corner entry. It was significantly altered in c. 1970 with the addition of a large faux mansard roof, then altered again in c. 1980 when the mansard was sheathed in metal and the storefront was clad in brick veneer. Those incompatible alterations render this building non-contributing.
	1918; c. 1970; c. 1980	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #19 310 S. Bridge Street	310 S. Bridge Street is a c. 1936 one-part commercial building in a hybrid 20th Century Commercial/Art Deco style. It was originally a dress shop. The storefront level has design elements common to 20th Century Commercial buildings, including an inset entry door with transom, thin paneled pilasters between windows, and multi-light transom windows that span the entire front façade. The smooth stucco parapet features a geometric Art Deco motif along its top and at each corner.
	Mimi's Dress Shop	
	1936	
	Contributing	
	Hybrid: 20th Century Commercial/ Art Deco	
	Resource #20 311 S. Bridge Street	311 S. Bridge Street is a 1983 enframed window wall building. It is a brick mixed-use commercial building with a wide chamfered entry with large glass windows and doors. Along both elevations are inset storefronts.
	1983	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #21 316 S. Bridge Street	316 S. Bridge Street is the Minor Building, a two-part commercial block built in 1917 in the 20th Century Commercial style. A men's clothing store first occupied the building. The building is brick with a decorative brick cornice, 1/1 second floor windows, and concrete windowsills. The first floor has an off-center storefront with central inset door flanked by two storefront windows, plus a second side door with transom that accesses the interior stairs to the second floor. Despite a large, incompatible metal awning over the storefront, the building's historic form and materials are clearly evident.
	Minor Building	
	1917	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	
	Resource #22 320 S. Bridge Street	320 S. Bridge Street is the Wendall Building, an altered two-part commercial block built in 1924. It was originally a 20th Century Commercial style building, but has had its storefront replaced with non-historic doors, windows, and brick veneer, and its upper story and parapet has been stuccoed.
	Wendall Building	
	1924	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #23 324 S. Bridge Street	324 S. Bridge Street is the 1935 J.C. Penney store, a two-part commercial block in the Streamline Moderne style. The front façade is stucco and the windows are steel. The storefront has a unique inset entrance with stepped glass display windows, and to either side of the storefront opening are flat pilasters with stylized shallow fluting. The upper story has several stringcourses that run across the entire façade and correspond to horizontal mullions, such that the horizontal lines are uninterrupted. (See Figure 19.)
	J.C. Penney Store	
	1935	
	Contributing	
	Streamline Moderne	

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	Resource #24 329 S. Bridge Street	329 S. Bridge Street is a two-part commercial block building from 1976. It has a brick façade, an upper balcony supported by thin wood posts, and a metal mansard roof at cornice level.
	1976	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #25 330 S. Bridge Street	330 S. Bridge Street is a concrete one-part commercial building constructed between 1897 and 1904. It, along with its neighbor 332 S. Bridge Street, was once a single building that was remodeled into the Streamline Moderne style in the 1930s. However, in c. 1970 the building was split into two separate buildings as it appears today. The altered storefront fenestration, new door, brick veneer, and oversize faux mansard slipcover date to the 1990s and render the building non-contributing.
	City Electric	
	Between 1897 & 1904; c. 1970	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #26 331 S. Bridge Street	331 S. Bridge Street was originally a brick two-part commercial block built between 1887 and 1904. A fire destroyed its second story in 1969 and it was rebuilt as a one-part commercial block. Its non-historic stucco coating, replaced door and windows, and applied salvaged columns render the building non-contributing.
	Between 1897 & 1904; c. 1969	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	

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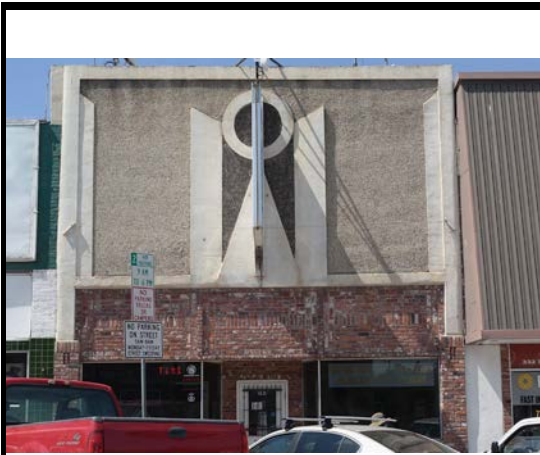

	Resource #27 332 S. Bridge Street	332 S. Bridge Street is a concrete one-part commercial building constructed between 1897 and 1904. It, along with its neighbor 330 S. Bridge Street, was once a single building that was remodeled into the Streamline Moderne style in the 1930s. However, in c. 1970 the building was split into two separate buildings as it appears today. The altered storefront, brick veneer, and oversize faux mansard slipcover date to the 1990s and render the building non-contributing.
	City Electric	
	Between 1897 & 1904; c. 1970	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #28 337 S. Bridge Street	337 S. Bridge Street is the residence of Dr. Giroux, who had a doctor's office next door at 341-345 S. Bridge Street. Giroux built this house in 1908. It is a brick building with Italianate stylistic elements, including hip roof and segmental arch window openings. Its small inset porch has been infilled with wood, but the turned porch column at the corner of the porch remains. The front window features a multi-light upper sash.
	Dr. Giroux Residence	
	1908	
	Contributing	
	Resource #29 341-345 S. Bridge Street	341-345 S. Bridge Street is the former office of Dr. Giroux, who lived next door at 337 S. Bridge. This brick one-part commercial block building dates to 1901, when it was built and combined with the earlier building to the southeast (347 S. Bridge), and one common façade was created to cover both buildings. The front of the common façade has a wide stepped parapet. This building has a main volume plus a smaller volume that is set back further from the street. Both volumes have entry doors with brick segmented arch openings and transom windows. Along the side elevation are four windows, each with arched window openings, 2/2 windows, and curved upper sash.
	Dr. Giroux Office	
	1901	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	

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	Resource #30 342 S. Bridge Street	342 S. Bridge Street is a two-part commercial block building constructed in 1892 and remodeled into the Art Deco style in the 1930s. The Deco upper portion remains, and features a concrete coating with exposed aggregate, and contrasting smooth concrete in a geometric motif. During the Deco modification, the storefront was tiled, but then significantly altered in the 1990s with a new storefront with brick veneer and a new door. Those non-historic storefront alterations rendered this building non-contributing.
	Bosch and Son Jewelers	
	1892; 1930s	
	Non-Contributing	
	Art Deco	
	Resource #31 346 S. Bridge Street	346 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial block building built in 1892 to house the Palace Saloon. The brick is still visible on its upper portion, although obscured by a large sign board. Plywood covers the storefront transoms. A 1960s photograph confirms that the storefront windows, door, and tile were altered to their current appearance during the historic period, and a 1940 photo of the building when it was a five & dime store suggests that those storefront changes may have occurred at that time.
	Palace Saloon	
	1892	
	Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #32 347 S. Bridge Street	<p>347 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial block that is connected to the former doctor's office at 341-345 S. Bridge Street via a shared front façade. This building was originally an adobe residence, but was rebuilt in brick as a general store and residence in 1892 after the 1891 fire. It was connected to its neighbor in 1901 and housed a variety of businesses before becoming the Ayers Undertaking Parlor by 1916. The shared façade has a wide stepped parapet. At storefront level, this building has a central entrance flanked by two fixed storefront windows.</p>
	Ayers Undertaking Parlor	
	1874; 1892; 1901	
	Contributing	
	20th Century Commercial	
	Resource #33 350 S. Bridge Street	<p>350 S. Bridge Street is the Kleinhan Building, a one-part commercial building constructed in 1894. It was originally a 20th Century Commercial brick building, but was remodeled with mid-century aluminum storefront windows and a stucco upper portion in 1958 when the Sprouse Reitz five & dime store operated in the building. The building has smooth stucco walls and an aluminum storefront with recessed central entrance. The entry door is not historic.</p>
	Kleinhan Building	
	1894	
	Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #34 352 S. Bridge Street (40 W. Fourth Street)	352 S. Bridge Street (also addressed 40 W. Fourth St.) is the First National Bank building, originally built in 1886 as a smaller building. It was enlarged and remodeled in 1915 by architect Frederick DeLongchamps. It is a two-part commercial block with a chamfered corner entry. Its main elevation along Bridge St. is narrow, but has a long side elevation along Fourth St. The corner entrance is flanked by columns and an entablature, and a second entrance on the Fourth St. elevation has pilasters and a tall projecting cornice topped with a light fixture. The front elevation has a small storefront, and a second, altered storefront is found near the rear of the southeast elevation. The side elevation has several window openings that feature curved lintels with faux keystones. Second floor windows are wood 1/1 and fixed, and a dentiled cornice runs around both elevations just below parapet level. (See Figure 11.)
	First National Bank Building	
	1886; 1915	
	Contributing	
	Classical Revival	
	Resource #35 355 S. Bridge Street	355 S. Bridge Street is a two-part commercial building whose upper floor was long used as the Masonic Hall. The site originally contained an 1889 opera house, but it burned soon after being constructed. The Masons reconstructed this building in 1892 and it housed businesses on the first floor. It was remodeled into its current Art Deco style in 1935 by architect D.I. LaPoint. The building features a three-bay façade with a taller central section, separated from the outermost bays by ziggurat-like pilasters. The central entrance is deeply inset, and flanked by storefront windows with transoms. A small volume at the northwest corner contains stairs to the upper floor. (See Figure 21.)
	Masonic Hall	
	1892; 1935	
	Contributing	
	Art Deco	

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	Resource #36 401 & 407 S. Bridge Street	401 & 407 S. Bridge Street is a 1967 enframed window wall type building that originally housed Western Title. The building lacks a recognizable style but has a textured concrete block façade and three large expanses of glass on two elevations. The front elevation has a secondary storefront that has a canted, inset window. The large window openings have non-historic, darkly tinted glass and the secondary storefront has been clad in non-historic faux pilasters and dentiled decorative elements. Those changes render this building non-contributing.
	Western Title Company	
	1967	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #37 423 S. Bridge Street	423 S. Bridge Street is a one-part commercial block building constructed in c. 1910 that was originally a general merchandise store and the Winnemucca Mercantile Company's warehouse. The 1912 Sanborn map depicts it with a single interior space, while the 1943 Sanborn shows it divided into two interior spaces as it appears today. The original materials and style have been completely obscured by non-historic metal cladding at both the storefront level and the upper portion of the façade and parapet. The storefront windows have also been truncated. These changes have rendered the building non-contributing.
	c. 1910	
	Non-Contributing	
	Resource #38 426 S. Bridge Street	426 S. Bridge Street is the Duvivier House, a Folk Victorian single family dwelling constructed in c. 1900. It has a hipped roof with a shallow gabled ell, 2/2 windows, finished eaves, and subtle Victorian trim elements. Its shed-roofed porch has been enclosed with non-historic stucco and windows, but the house's historic form is still evident.
	Duvivier House	
	c. 1900	
	Contributing	
	Folk Victorian	

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	Resource #39 437 S. Bridge Street (424 Baud)	<p>437 S. Bridge Street, also addressed 424 Baud Street, is a 1964 service bay building that functions as a garage and shop for the Winnemucca Fire Department. It is located behind the fire station, across an alley that is now also named Bridge Street for addressing purposes. The building has a flat roof and garage door bays facing both the alley and Baud Street. Each elevation has two garage door bays, a single pedestrian entry, and a small window. The building has non-historic stucco cladding but its form and character remain.</p>
	Fire Department Garage	
	1964	
	Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #40 445 S. Bridge Street	<p>445 S. Bridge Street is a 1938 Art Deco fire station. Its front elevation has a three-bay arrangement, with a central single entry door. The door has a stylized stucco surround and a flat, semi-circular awning. Above the door are two narrow window openings on the second floor and a geometric design in relief at parapet level. The two outer bays each contain a slightly recessed garage door bay on the first floor. Both garage doors are non-historic. Above each garage door on the second floor are single window openings and geometric stucco details. On both sides of the building are one-story side additions that were added in 1964 during the historic period. The fire station is associated with 437 S. Bridge Street, a garage located just to the north. (See Figure 23.)</p>
	Fire Station	
	1938	
	Contributing	
	Art Deco	

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	Resource #41 501 S. Bridge Street (20 E. Fifth Street)	501 S. Bridge Street, also addressed 20 E. Fifth Street, is the Hartoch Building, a Mid-Century Modern office building constructed in 1961. It is a one-story building with a flat roof and pink-colored narrow concrete block walls. A cantilevered roof/awning feature wraps around the two main elevations of the building. The elevation facing Bridge Street has a central recessed entrance accessed by concrete stairs with curved metal handrails. The longer Fifth Street elevation has an off-center recessed entrance, a breeze block wall, a breeze block column, and a historic blade sign with original lettering.
	Hartoch Building	
	1961	
	Contributing	
	Mid-Century Modern	
	Resource #42 125-129 Melarkey Street	125-129 Melarkey Street is the former merchandise warehouse for the Reinhart Store, which was built behind the store in c. 1912. It was remodeled in c. 1940 to incorporate Streamline Moderne elements, then in 1961 a second, lower building volume was added on the building's south elevation. The main building has a tall front volume with stucco walls, a wide bank of windows, and a projecting blade sign at the corner. The windows have been reconfigured and replaced, and a non-historic "rooflet" spans the front and northwest elevations. A small entrance is located at the northwest corner. The smaller 1961 volume has a flat roof and altered, truncated window openings.
	Reinhart Merchandise Warehouse	
	c. 1912; c. 1940; 1961	
	Non-Contributing	
	Streamline Moderne Influences	

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	Resource #43 195 Melarkey Street	195 Melarkey Street is a Spanish Ranch-style commercial strip building built in 1984. It has a flat roof, slump block walls, and a clay tile rooflet that runs across the entire front elevation. The asymmetrical façade has four entrances and arcade-like curved window openings.
	1984	
	Non-Contributing	
	Spanish Ranch	
	Resource #44 350 Melarkey Street A	350 Melarkey Street (A) is the St. Paul's Catholic Church, built in 1924. It has a hybrid design, with a Neo-Romanesque nave and transepts and twin front towers in a Spanish Colonial Revival style. The front elevation has a rose window and a gabled, projecting entrance volume, and the nave and transepts feature arched window openings between shallow stucco pilasters. The towers each have arched window openings with tracery and curved balconettes, inset panels, thin Solomonic columns as corner decoration, and octagonal cupolas with curved roofs and decorative louvered openings. (See Figure 18.)
	St. Paul's Catholic Church	
	1924	
	Contributing	
	Hybrid: Spanish Colonial Revival and Neo-Romanesque	
	Resource #45 350 Melarkey Street B	350 Melarkey Street (B) is the Rectory building for St. Paul's Catholic Church. It was built in 1924 in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. It has a side-gabled central volume and two taller, hipped side volumes with projecting gabled roofs. Each side volume has a round-arched casement window. A shed-roofed porch with decorative wrought iron columns and railing is tucked between the two side wings. The various roof planes are clad in red clay tile. (See Figure 18.)
	St. Paul's Rectory	
	1924	
	Contributing	
	Spanish Colonial Revival	

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	Resource #46 426-428 Melarkey Street	426-428 Melarkey Street is a residential duplex constructed in the 1910s and is shown in its current configuration on the 1943 Sanborn map. The building is front-gabled, and each side of the duplex has a single entry door reached by concrete stairs and topped with a gabled stoop roof. The building has been clad in aluminum siding and some of the windows have been replaced. However, its form is still evident, and it is a good example of an early duplex, a rare remaining property type in Winnemucca.
	Duplex	
	1910s	
	Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #47 434 Melarkey Street	434 Melarkey Street is the former El Tropic Cigar Factory built in 1908. It is a unique building type in that the factory was downstairs in a walkout basement, while the upper floor has a duplex plan. The building has Italianate stylistic influences, most notably its hipped roof with small hipped cupola, and the quoining at the corners of the rusticated Ideal block walls. The window openings each have concrete lintels and sills, and the front porch is supported by round columns.
	Duplex	
	1908	
	Contributing	
	Italianate Influences	
	Resource #48 442 Melarkey	442 Melarkey is the Gartiez House, a single family dwelling built in 1910. The building has Italianate stylistic influences, most notably its hipped roof with small hipped cupola, and the quoining at the corners of the rusticated Ideal block walls. The window openings each have concrete lintels and sills, and there are decorative panels under the gabled porch roof.
	Gartiez House	
	1910	
	Contributing	
	Italianate Influences	

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	Resource #49 30 W. Winnemucca Boulevard	30 W. Winnemucca Boulevard is the former Star Casino, constructed in 1982, that today houses the Convention Center East Hall. The lot also includes a large parking lot to serve the convention center. It is a large, two-story building with chamfered corner entrances at its east and south corners and a bracketed mansard-style roof at cornice level. There are no windows on the first floor and large, evenly spaced windows on the second floor. A loading dock is located on the northwest elevation. The surface parking lot is just north of the building in the same block.
	Convention Center East Hall	
	1982	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #50 33 W. Winnemucca Boulevard	33 W. Winnemucca Blvd. is a one-part commercial building. It was originally a smaller 1873 brick building at the corner of Bridge and Winnemucca that housed a general store. Two small buildings were later built next door and behind it, and in c. 1940 they were combined and remodeled into the Streamline Moderne style with light-colored brick walls, a curved corner and ribbon-style transom windows. It was altered between 2019 and 2022 with new storefronts, stucco, and enclosed transom windows, but its form remains, and its Streamline style is still evident. (See Figure 20.)
	Levy's General Merchandise Store	
	1873; c. 1940	
	Contributing	
	Streamline Moderne	

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	Resource #51 50 W. Winnemucca Boulevard	<p>50 W. Winnemucca Boulevard is the Convention Center West Hall, a tall one-story stucco building with a flat roof. The main elevation faces south, with the doors facing Nixon Park and W. Winnemucca Blvd. A secondary entrance is on the north elevation. Both entrances feature curved projecting volumes with a curved bank of windows and glass entry doors. Along the southwest elevation is a series of inset doors that are set among zigzagging planter box walls. A stringcourse with decorative geometric shapes runs around the upper portion of the three street-facing elevations. This building was constructed in 1982 as the city's original convention center before it was expanded by the acquisition of 30 W. Winnemucca Boulevard next door.</p>
	Convention Center West Hall	
	1982	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #52 35 W. First Street	<p>35 W. First Street is an office building constructed in 1979. Its main elevation faces northwest onto its dedicated parking lot, and is clad in composite shingle material. A projecting gabled volume contains a double glass entry door framed in glass. The building's Bridge Street elevation is clad in brick veneer with brick arch and rectangle patterns.</p>
	1979	
	Non-Contributing	
	No Style	

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	Resource #53 47 W. First Street	47 W. First Street is the former Ed Reinhart House, constructed in 1913. It was moved to its present location in 1929 and became Eddy's Funeral Home in 1939. Some alterations were made in 1945, and others were made later in the 20th century within the period of significance. The building is Craftsman in style, with a complex hip roof with multiple intersecting hipped volumes, notched exposed rafter tails, and several dormer windows, including a wide, hipped dormer on the rear elevation. Historic period alterations include the partial enclosure of the hipped front porch with breeze blocks, the addition of a side entrance with decorative split staircase with wrought iron railings, and the enclosure of the rear porch.
	Ed Reinhart House / Eddy's Funeral Home	
	1913; 1929	
	Contributing	
	Craftsman	
	Resource #54 25 W. Fourth Street	25 W. Fourth Street is the former First National Bank of Nevada that today houses Humboldt County offices. It was built in 1959 in the Mid-Century Modern Style. The building has a windowless masonry volume that frames an inset glass and stucco section. The building has a gently sloping, near flat roof. On the Bridge Street elevation, the roof has a deep overhang supported by thin, blade-like brackets. It shelters a long ribbon window and an entrance located in a projecting glass volume. The stucco wall under the ribbon windows extends beyond the building's north corner to help shelter the Fourth Street entrance, which is located within a large bank of windows. The masonry walls at the outside corners originally featured dark-colored, narrow concrete blocks in a stacked bond; however, they were covered by a stucco coating some time between 2019 and 2025. (See Figure 26.)
	First National Bank of Nevada	
	1959	
	Contributing	
	Mid-Century Modern	

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	Resource #55 33 W. Fourth Street	<p>33 W. Fourth Street is an office building built in 1953 as the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service Office. It lacks a clear style. The building has a deeply recessed single entry door with glass block sidelights, and there are glass block windows at street level to provide light to the daylight basement. The front door is accessed by a narrow set of stairs, and two large windows flank the entrance. The roof is flat, and the façade is a mix of stucco and red brick. (See Figure 26.)</p>
	USDA Building	
	1953	
	Contributing	
	No Style	
	Resource #56 90 W. Fourth Street	<p>90 W. Fourth Street is the 1921 Classical Revival Winnemucca Main Post Office (NRIS # 90000137). The building is one story in height with a flat roof. Its front elevation faces southeast toward Fourth Street. The front façade has a symmetrical design, with a slightly projecting central entrance bay. The entrance has a single door framed by shallow pilasters and a simple entablature. Atop the entablature is a semi-circular fanlight, and to each side of the front door are narrow windows. The outermost two bays each feature a larger window opening, and evenly spaced windows are found along both side elevations. Beneath each window is a wood panel, and above each are decorative panels. At cornice level is a dentiled molding. The building has a historic-period addition that was added in 1940. It is in the same style as the rest of the building but is set back slightly behind the original wall plane. (See Figure 17.)</p>
	Winnemucca Main Post Office (now City Hall)	
	1921; 1940	
	Contributing (NRHP-listed)	
	Classical Revival	

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	Resource #57 109 W. Fourth Street	109 W. Fourth Street is a 1940 Art Deco apartment building with a flat roof, smooth stucco walls, corner windows, and an irregular footprint created from intersecting building volumes. It was designed by architect J.C. Nicholson. The Fourth Street elevation has a projecting volume with two entrance doors reached by a split staircase and topped with a decorative blade feature that extends above the roofline. On the Melarkey Street elevation are two one-story projecting entrance volumes and a ziggurat-style feature that extends above the roofline. Non-historic alterations include new doors and vinyl replacement windows.
	Ast Apartments / Melfourth Apartments	
	1940	
	Contributing	
	Art Deco	
	Resource #58 50 W. Fifth Street	50 W. Fifth Street is the 1921 Humboldt County Courthouse (NRIS # 83001109), a Temple Front type building designed by Frederick DeLongchamps in the Classical Revival style. The building materials are buff brick for the walls and cream-colored terra cotta for the decorative details. The main feature of the building is its temple front, which faces Bridge Street. It has six monumental Corinthian columns that frame the entrance portico, and a large pediment and entablature. The portico is raised onto a daylight basement base and reached by a grand set of stairs. The entablature features scrolled brackets and dentils and extends to encircle the entire building. The side elevations and the inset portico have shallow brick pilasters with Corinthian columns, and the first-floor windows at the building's front corners have pedimented window surrounds. The 1975 courthouse annex, a large addition, is connected to the building via a hyphen.
	Humboldt County Courthouse	
	1921, 1975	
	Contributing (NRHP-listed)	
	Classical Revival	

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	Resource #59 115 W. Fifth Street	<p>115 W. Fifth Street, also addressed 510-512 Melarkey Street, is a two-story office building constructed in 1966. It is a Mid-Century Modern building with a highly textured façade created by protruding U-shaped blocks and concrete blocks with origami-like diamond shapes. The roof is flat, and the top of the parapet is trimmed with a row of narrow concrete blocks. The front entrance faces Fifth Street and has a glass door and two wide sidelights, and a long row of windows occupies much of the first floor.</p>
	(510-512 Melarkey Street)	
	1966	
	Contributing	
	Mid-Century Modern	
	Resource #60 85 E. Fifth Street	<p>85 E. Fifth Street is the Humboldt County Library, a Mid-Century Modern building constructed in 1968. It is a long, low building with a thick flat roof and light-colored concrete blocks in a stacked bond. The lot slopes downhill slightly toward Baud Street, and on that elevation the building corner extends out over the ground and appears to float. The entrance is set back into an entrance porch created by the flat roof and two square concrete columns with exposed aggregate. A concrete band runs around the building at the base of the walls. The northwest rear elevation is almost two stories in height due to the topography, and has a garage door bay at one corner and a loading platform under the main floor between concrete columns.</p>
	Humboldt County Library	
	1968	
	Contributing	
	Mid-Century Modern	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Downtown Winnemucca Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development as a collection of domestic, commercial, religious, and civic resources that shaped Winnemucca's urban development from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. From 1866 to 1968, the district served as one of the town's primary commercial hubs, as well as an anchor of community life, with its bars and restaurants, shops and banks, and social spaces including a theater and a church. Civic and educational institutions, including the courthouse, post office, and library, contributed to the district's significance as a local hub of social, civic, and economic activity.

Narrative Statement of Significance

The River and the Crossing: Winnemucca Before 1868

The City of Winnemucca owes its existence to the Humboldt River, which served as a route and water source for explorers and emigrants as they crossed the Great Basin. The Western Shoshone and Northern Paiute people have occupied the area since time immemorial, arriving in the area more than one thousand years before the first non-Native people. Fur trapping parties encountered the Humboldt River in the late 1820s. Over the next two decades, companies led by Peter Skene Ogden, John Work, Joseph Walker, and Joseph Chiles followed trails along the river, followed by early California-bound emigrant parties of the 1840s. John C. Frémont of the United States Topographical Engineers, who conducted mapping expeditions in the Great Basin between 1843 and 1845, named the waterway after the German geographer Alexander von Humboldt (Fowler and Liljeblad 1986:437; Elliott 1987:37-41; Harmon 2003:6; Kelly 1997; Stewart 1939:136; Thomas et al. 1986:264).

A segment of the California Emigrant Trail passes through the Winnemucca area along the Humboldt River. Later known as the Humboldt-California Trail, this diversion from the Oregon Trail to California was heavily used for approximately three decades by numerous emigrant parties and travelers. It remained a primary conduit until the Transcontinental Railroad was completed in 1869. Travels along the California Trail peaked during the California Gold Rush, but steady use continued through the late 1860s, and it remained an important transportation system through northern Nevada well after completion of the railway. In addition to emigrant wagon parties, the trail was heavily used by pedestrian "packers," who often had lost or abandoned their wagons and livestock (Brock 2000:119-141; Brock and Buck, 2004:7; Elliott 1987:41).

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Figure 1: Early view of Winnemucca (Lower Town) in 1868 (Humboldt Museum)

As overland traffic picked up along the California Trail, the greater Winnemucca area became a popular spot to cross the river. Later called French Ford or Frenchman's Ford, the locale provided a reliable crossing for travelers following the 350-mile-long river. In March 1865, Joe Ginaca, August Lemaire, Frank Baud, and the Lay brothers (Lemaire's cousins) constructed a bridge across the river, which came to be known as the French Bridge, followed by a hotel. The early settlement developed organically over the next several years. The Winnemucca Post Office opened in February 1866, giving the community its official name, with Baud as postmaster. New businesses

on Bridge Street appeared throughout 1867, all clustered near the river crossing (Figure 1) (Wallace 2019a; Wallace 2019b).

The Central Pacific Railroad eyed the nascent town as a potential depot site for their transcontinental railroad. In addition to the development at French Bridge, agricultural and mining interests began to settle in the surrounding areas. Good soil and pastureland drew ranchers and farmers to the valley to the north, named Paradise Valley, in 1864. Prospectors organized the nearby Winnemucca Mining District in the 1860s, exploring the nearby hills for valuable minerals. Because of the Winnemucca's proximity to mining and agricultural interests, dependable water supply, and relatively level terrain, the Central Pacific Railroad (CPRR) decided to locate a passenger and freight depot there when mapping the transcontinental railroad's route across Nevada, with the final survey taking place in 1866 (Angel 1881:459; Bertolini 2018:8; Carlson 1974:248; Wallace 2019b).

The Railroad Arrives and a Town is Planned: 1868-1874

The Central Pacific chose a route a mile away from the river and southeast of French Ford. Crews constructed the railroad in 1868 and 1869 and laid out the townsite in the summer of 1868. C.B.O Bannon named the town after Chief Winnemucca, the respected Paiute leader. The Central Pacific decided that Winnemucca would serve as a division point for engines and personnel, constructing

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an icehouse and roundhouse in addition to the passenger and freight depots. During this early period, prospectors explored the surrounding mountains and hills for minerals, especially gold. By the time the railroad was constructed, a successful hay ranch was established nearby (Bertolini 2018:8; Harmon 2003:6; Hulse 2004:123; Wallace 2019a).

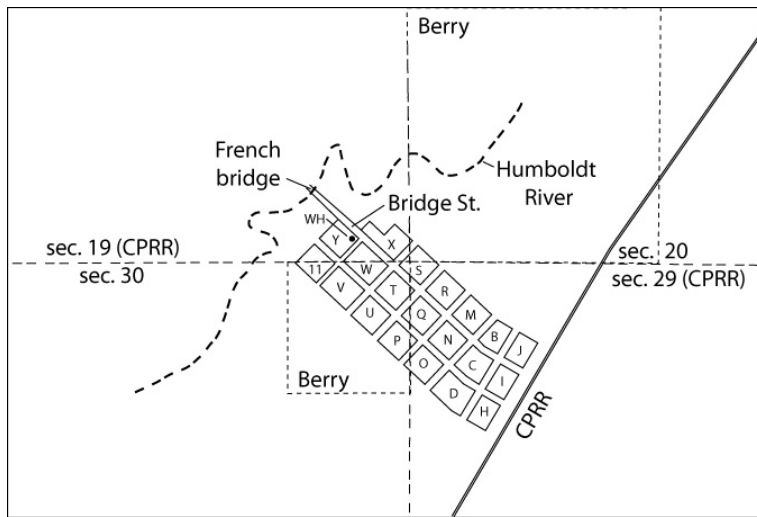


Figure 2: Land ownership in Winnemucca showing CPRR and George G. Berry-owned tracts over platted town blocks (Wallace 2019)

The CPRR owned entire sections of land on either side of the railroad right-of-way, alternating with sections of public land managed by the General Land Office. In Winnemucca, the railroad owned sections 19 and 29, which included the existing French bridge and Winnemucca Hotel. Sections 20 and 30 constituted public land, which district judge George G. Berry petitioned for as trustee of the Winnemucca townsite. After paying the patent fees himself, Berry received grants to a small portion of section 30 and much of section 20 in 1874 (Figure 2). Upon receipt, he began selling townsite lots for one dollar per deed (Wallace 2019a).

The townsite parcels were platted in two phases. Lewis Tashiera, surveyor with the CPRR, designated lots and blocks in the railroad-owned sections of 19 and 29 (Figure 3). His map neatly arranged the area surrounding the railroad tracks into a neat gridiron oriented to the right-of-way. It included locations of the proposed depot, roundhouse, and various railroad shops and offices. Northwest of the railyard, Tashiera created a wedge-shaped line of blocks between Fifth and Sixth streets that angled to conform with the orientation of Bridge Street at the existing settlement near the river. In 1876, townsite agent D.H. Haskell filed a more complete plat map that included the Berry lands, applying Tashiera's lot-and-block numbering system and form to the entire townsite (Figure 4). This map retained the "Fifth Street Divide," with blocks northwest of Fifth Street following a different configuration than those southeast of the road. On the river side of Fifth, the lots were wider and fronted named streets (e.g., Bridge, Baud, Melarkey), following the initial pattern of development near the bridge. On the railroad side of Fifth, the lots were narrower and generally fronted onto the numbered and/or parallel streets that faced the railroad tracks (e.g., Sixth, Railroad, Haskell) (Wallace 2019a).

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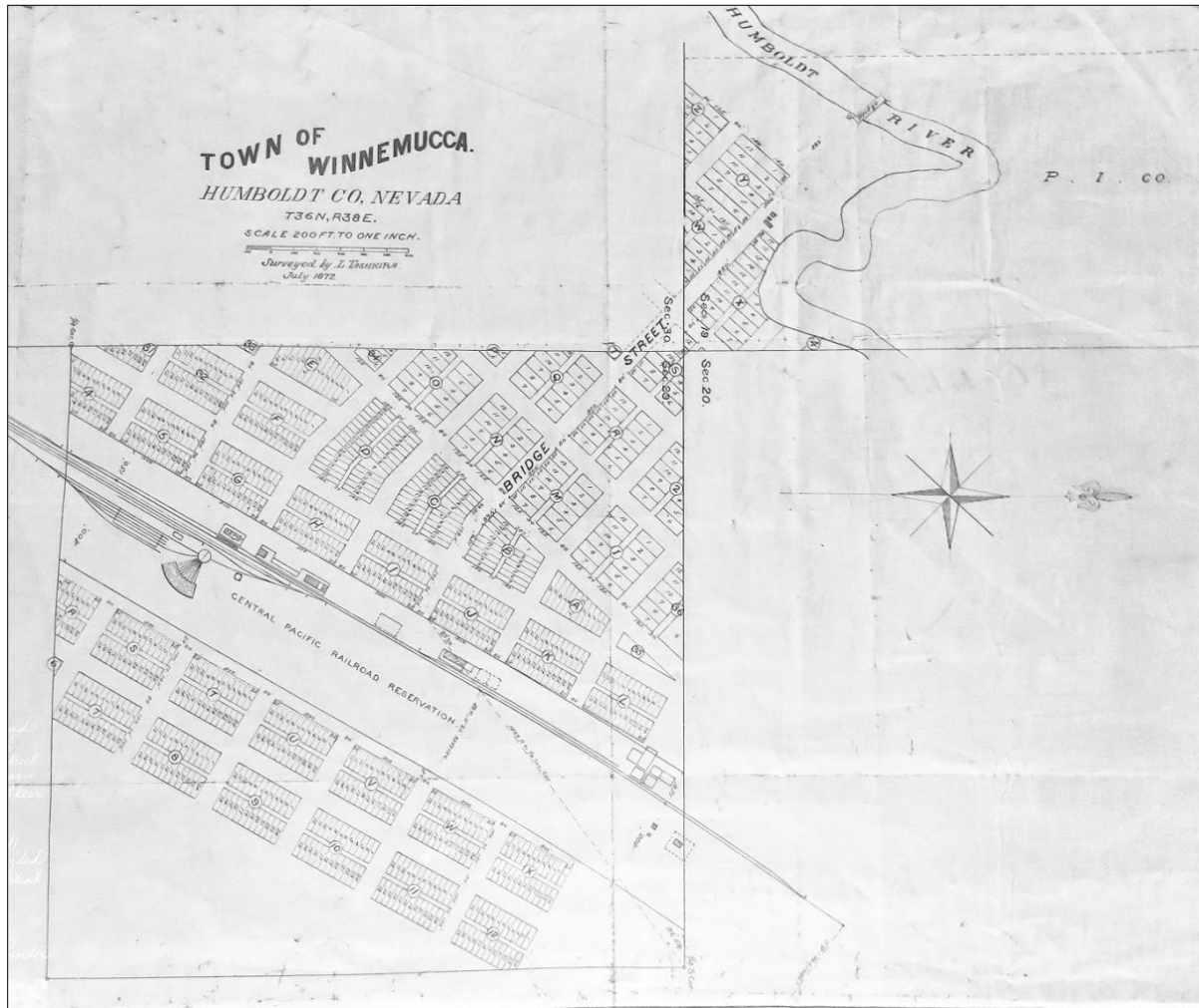


Figure 3: Tashiera's 1872 plat of the CPRR land in the Winnemucca townsite. This map was the first to show the new block and lot designations that soon were extended into non-railroad parts of the townsite. North is oriented to the right (Humboldt County Recorder)

The arrival of the railroad transformed the river crossing into a bustling town with two business districts. Shortly after the arrival of the railroad, the town developed around two nodes that eventually grew into a single unified settlement. Lower Town centered on the original riverside settlement with the Lay bridge and hotel, northwest of Fifth Street. Upper Town developed along the Central Pacific siding southeast of Fifth Street. Upper Town, also known as Lanerntown for the oil lamps that illuminated its streets at night, was reputed to be more civilized and modern than its counterpart. Commercial districts emerged in both areas, which were connected by the primary thoroughfare of Bridge Street (Bertolini 2018:8; Harmon 2003:6; Wallace 2019a).

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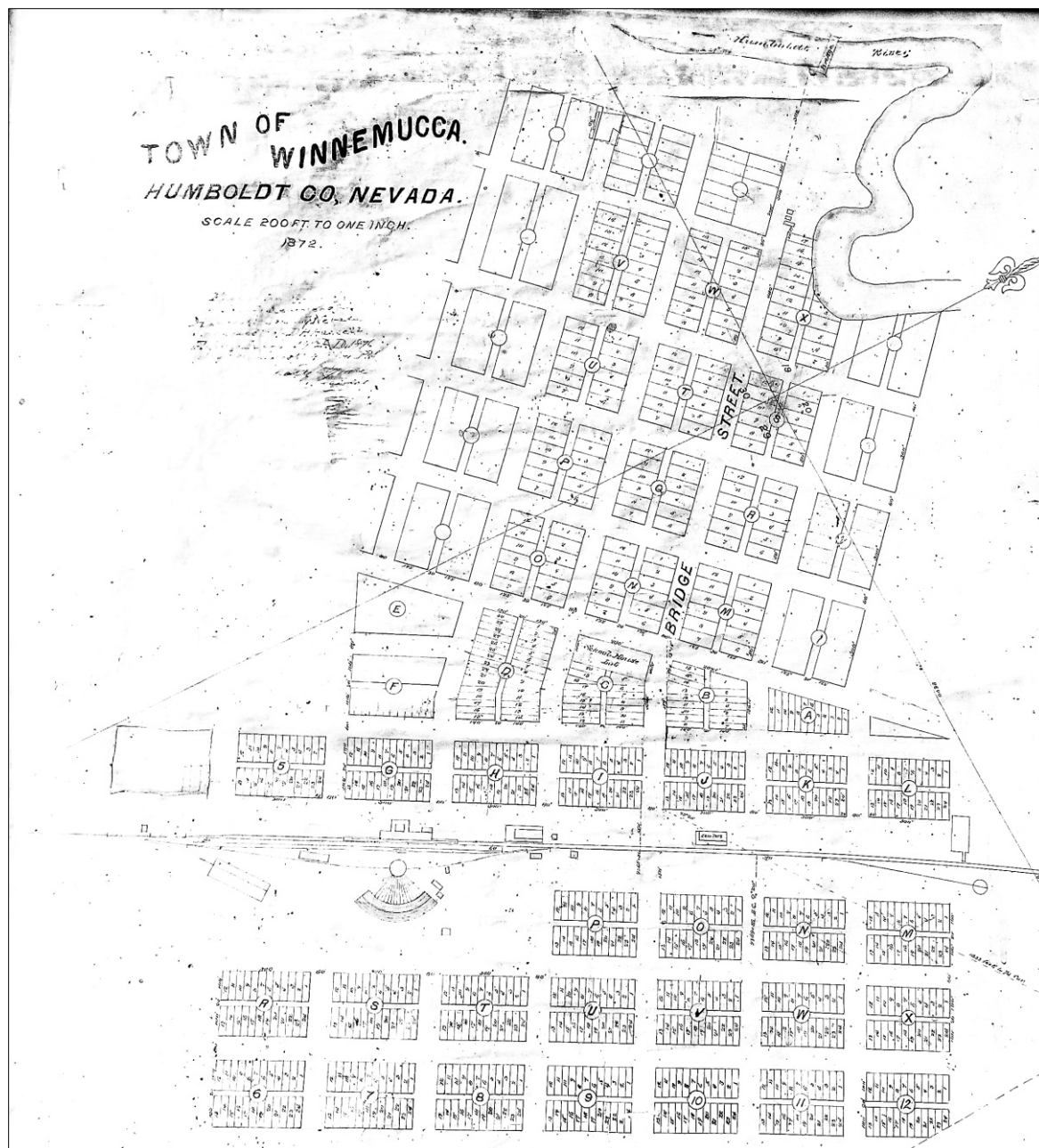


Figure 4: Haskell's 1876 plat of the Winnemucca townsite, including both the railroad land (Figure 3) and the lands that were part of Judge G.G. Berry's patents from the state. Note the "Fifth Street Divide" above the wedge-shaped blocks (Humboldt County Recorder)

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As its population grew and commerce intensified, Winnemucca became the Humboldt County seat in 1873, a position previously held by the settlement of Unionville. An important center of mining in the region, Unionville had been the territorial county seat and then the state county seat since 1861. By the late 1860s, however, Winnemucca's increasing importance as a railroad division point had transformed the town into the economic and transportation hub of Humboldt County. This prompted discussion about relocating the county seat there as early as 1869. After two failed county-wide ballot initiatives, the 1873 Nevada State Legislature passed a bill making Winnemucca the county seat, necessitating construction of a county courthouse there (Angel 1881:459; Bertolini 2018:8; Carlson 1974:248; Hamrick 1983; Harmon 2003:6-7; Hulse 2004:124; Wallace 2024:15).

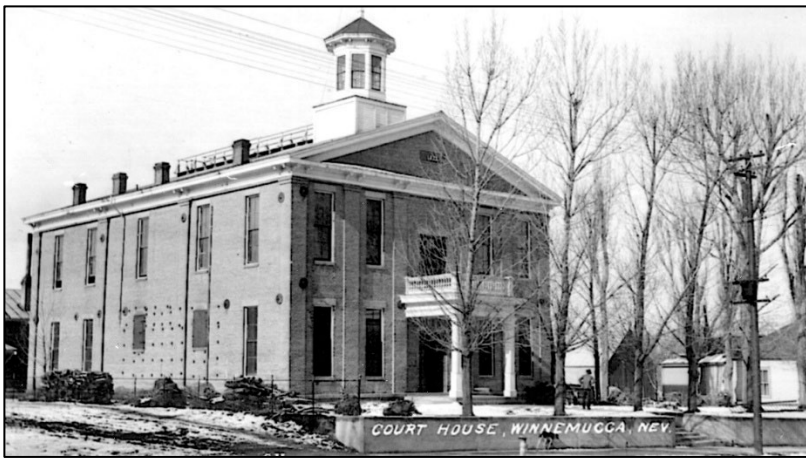


Figure 5: 1874 Humboldt County Courthouse (Humboldt Museum)

Humboldt County issued bonds to fund construction of the courthouse on a half-block of land donated by the Central Pacific Railroad. The resulting two-story brick edifice on the corner of Bridge and Fifth streets was completed in February 1874. Located on the river side of the Fifth Street Divide, it featured a pedimented gable roof topped with an eight-sided tower, as well as a jail and fireproof vault (Figure 5) (Angel 1881:459; Carlson 1974:248; Hamrick 1983; Wallace 2024:15).

As with other communities located along the transcontinental railroad, Winnemucca had a sizeable Chinese population, many of whom initially worked for the Central Pacific. By the 1870s, there were three Chinatowns in Winnemucca: near the river at East Second Street, along the Humboldt Canal west of the courthouse, and on Bridge Street east of the courthouse. The settlement along Bridge Street was a direct obstacle to commercial expansion between Lower Town and Upper Town. Many locals saw the enclave as a nuisance and a fire trap, with the *Humbolt Register* citing disturbances from the area's brothels and carousers in November 1870. In an effort to force the Chinese out and encourage development on that stretch of Bridge Street, local businessman Alex Wise purchased all the lots there in 1873. In response, townsite agent Dudley Haskell donated land

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on the banks of Cross Creek, centered on Baud Street, to relocate the displaced Chinese and create a unified Chinatown (Marden 2005; Wallace 2024:17).

Growth, Fire, and Rebuilding: 1875-1900

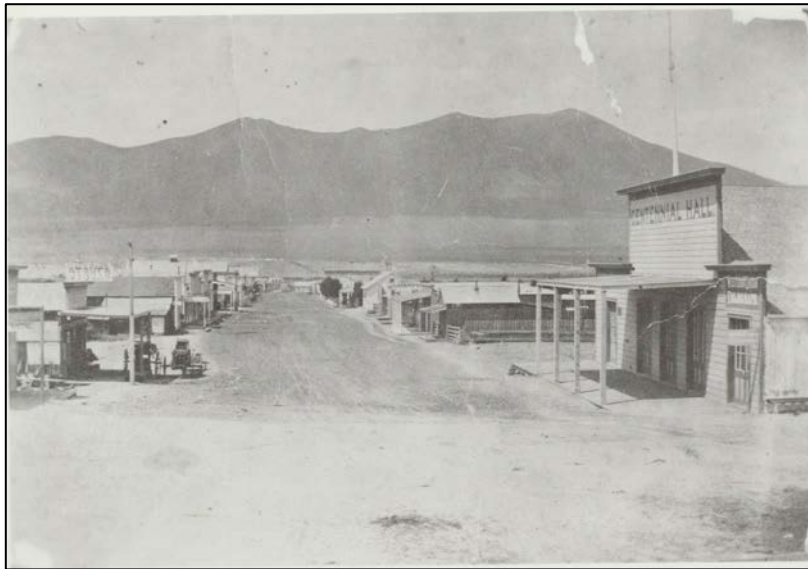


Figure 6: Bridge Street at Fourth Street looking toward the river, circa 1877. Note Centennial Hall on the right side (Humboldt Museum)

By the late 1870s, businesses filled the blocks on Bridge Street from the river to the courthouse (Figure 6). Construction of the courthouse spurred development in the surrounding area, much of which included land previously occupied by the Chinese. Two newspapers, the *Silver State* and the *Humboldt Register*, relocated near the courthouse, enabling them to easily report on legal items. Across from the courthouse, Jacob Ulrich built Centennial Hall, which served as a venue for different events, in 1876. Other enterprises included hotels and boarding houses, doctors and druggists,

saloons, butchers and grocers, brothels, livery stables, and various shops and stores selling anything from hardware to books (Wallace 2024:17).

Winnemucca in the 1870s was marked by an architectural simplicity typical of early frontier towns that prioritized utility over style – often by necessity. While taking the train through Humboldt County, a Reno journalist noted that the town’s “buildings are more useful than ornamental, there being but a few private residences and but one building—the county courthouse—carries with it an air of respectability” (*Daily Silver State* 9/16/1875:2; Stupich 1982).

Although fires ripped through Lower Town in 1870 and 1877, destroying two entire blocks, Winnemucca continued to grow. The ever-present threat of fire prompted the creation of a water company that laid pipes and installed fire hydrants down Bridge Street from the railroad tracks to the Winnemucca Hotel, as well as at strategic points along the various thoroughfares, in late 1877. That fall, the Winnemucca Hose Company was organized. They tested the newly installed water

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system in December, connecting a hose to the hydrant in front of the courthouse and blasting the building with water (Wallace 2024:24).

The municipal water system only did so much to mitigate the town's fire risk. Most of the buildings were constructed of wood, and candles and lanterns were the sole source of illumination. David van Lennep and Richard Wood created the Winnemucca Gas Light Company in 1879 to move the town away from dangerous open flame lighting, replacing it with modern gas lighting. They established a gas plant at the corner of Baud and Fourth streets, installing gas mains and lamps along Bridge and Railroad streets in 1880. A fire at the gas works in 1891 put the town back in the dark for a time, although the company continued to extend its gas main system during that decade, reaching 4,200 feet of piping by 1895 (Wallace 2024:25).

Winnemucca remained a small town in the 1880s, but its importance as a transportation hub for passenger traffic, as well as the agricultural and mining industries, bolstered the commercial success of its business districts, including Bridge Street from the courthouse to the river. In addition to the railroad, two daily stages ran north from Winnemucca to Boise and Spring City to transport mail and other goods. In 1881, Myron Angel described Winnemucca as a busy place with about 1,000 residents, 15 stores, three livery stables, five blacksmith shops, a telegraph office, an express office, an assay office, reduction works, a flour mill, two churches, a newspaper, lawyers, and physicians. Most commercial buildings were wood-framed one- and two-part commercial block buildings, although a handful of stone and brick masonry constructions appear on the 1885 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (Angel 1881:460; Bertolini 2018:9; Sanborn 1885; Wallace 2019:24; Wren 1904:115).



Figure 7: E. Reinhart and Co store on the corner of Bridge and First streets (Humboldt Museum)

The Reinhart family was instrumental in the early commercial development of lower Bridge Street. Eli Reinhart opened his E. Reinhart and Company wholesale and retail general merchandise store in 1869. His nephews inherited the business in 1892 and built a formidable brick store at the corner of First and Bridge streets (not extant, Figure 7). The Reinhart family's holdings would eventually encompass all of Block W and extend across the street. Their Bridge Street holdings included the store, stables, a lumber yard, a warehouse, and a grain house. They carried "a complete stock of

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groceries and produce, also wines and liquors in bulk and case, and the following lines of merchandise [...]: Harness and saddles, boots and shoes, dry goods and notions, and every kind of furnishing and clothing for men, women, and children, crockery, hardware and builders' tools and supplies of all kinds, etc. etc." (Toth 2019; Wren 1904:660).

Other early businesses on Block W included a Chinese laundry, a blacksmith shop, a saloon, a wagon shop, and a saddle and harness store. Two buildings from the 1870s remain standing on this block: Staunton's Saddlery, Harness and Boot and Shoe Store (Resource #4, 140 S. Bridge A) and the Silver State Saloon (Resource #5, 140 S. Bridge B) were both constructed in 1878. M.B. Staunton built the two-story brick building for his leather goods store, selling boots, shoes, saddles, harnesses, and hardware out of the first story while using the second floor as a meeting space for the local Oddfellows and Masons organizations. The same year, Yeves Pickard built the Silver State Saloon next door, a one-story adobe brick edifice with a false front parapet (Figure 8) (Sanborn 1885; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).



Figure 8: Block W facing Bridge Street in 1885. Note the two-story Staunton's Saddlery (Resource #4) and one-story Silver State Saloon (Resource #5) to its immediate left (Humboldt Museum)

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Other existing nineteenth century buildings that survived later fires are located on blocks Q and R between Third Street (Winnemucca Boulevard) and Fourth Street. Nathan Levy opened his general merchandise store on Block Q at the corner of Third and Bridge streets in 1873 (Resource #50, 33 W. Winnemucca Boulevard). The brick building would remain a general store until 1908. George S. Nixon built his First National Bank (Resource #34, 352 S. Bridge) on the other end of the block, at the corner of Fourth and Bridge Streets, in 1886 (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

The blocks west of Bridge Street became the primary residential area of town. Local residents – including merchants, railroad employees, and administrators – built homes within proximity to the bustling business district, many of which were concentrated along Melarkey Street. The community built educational and religious facilities nearby to serve the neighborhood. A Methodist church was built in 1877 on the corner of Lay and Third Street, one block west of Melarkey. The public school building was moved directly across the street from the church in 1875 from an earlier location at Fifth and Melarkey, and in 1885 an existing dwelling across the street was leased for the primary school students. The Catholic church acquired lots at the southwest corner of W. Fourth and Melarkey streets in the early 1880s, building a wood-framed church there in 1883 and expanding it in the early 1890s (Bertolini 2018:9; Sanborn 1885; Wallace 2024:20-23).

Fire visited the Lower Town business district again on August 30, 1891. The conflagration destroyed buildings on both sides of Bridge Street between Third and Fourth streets (Blocks Q and R). The only buildings that survived on Block Q were the brick edifices on either end of the block, occupied by Levy's General Merchandise (Resource #50) and the First National Bank Resource #34). All but one of the buildings between those two anchors were wood-framed, and every one – including a small stone cabinet shop – were lost to the fire. In the following months, tent stands and other temporary vending were erected on the lots. The fire demolished all of the buildings on Block R, with the exception of an 1874 adobe dwelling (Resource #32, 347 S. Bridge St), and the 1889 brick Temple Opera House (Resource #35, 355 S. Bridge Street). These buildings were partially salvaged following the fire (Sanborn 1885, 1890, 1897; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

As a testament to the town's continuing prosperity, Blocks Q and R were rebuilt, primarily with fire-resistant brick, concrete, and stone masonry buildings. Nineteenth century survivors built after the fire include the two-story brick Schmidt Building (Resource #26, 331 Bridge Street, 1897-1904); a concrete building with a restaurant, saloon, and gambling room (Resources #25 and #27) 330-332 S. Bridge Street, 1897-1904); the F.M. Fellows' brick double storefront that included the Palace Saloon (Resources #30 and #31, 342-346 S. Bridge Street, 1892); and the brick one-part block Kleinhan Building (Resource #33, 350 S. Bridge Street, 1894), which was built on a lot that was vacant before the fire. The Winnemucca Mercantile (Resource #35) opened at 355 S. Bridge

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Street following the fire and would remain in business for decades (Sanborn 1885, 1890, 1897; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

1901-1928: Permanence and Continued Prosperity

As the new century dawned, Winnemucca proved its continued economic viability and permanence, thereby justifying increased investment in buildings that would last. Lower Town along Bridge and Melarkey Streets had remained a predominantly wood-framed residential and commercial area until the first decade of the 1900s. Masonry – primarily brick but occasionally stone and cast concrete block – became the preferred building material for commercial and municipal buildings. Residences, on the other hand, largely continued to be built with wood, with a few brick exceptions. A notable increase in brick masonry buildings is apparent in the 1904 Sanborn Insurance Map for Winnemucca, in particular on Bridge Street between Third and Fourth Streets. By 1907, additional blocks along Bridge Street had transitioned to mostly masonry buildings. In 1912, the majority of buildings on lower Bridge Street, between the Humboldt River and Fifth Street, were stone or brick masonry, many of which survive to the present (Bertolini 2018:9; Sanborn 1904, 1907, 1912).

The introduction of electricity added to Winnemucca's sense of permanence in the new century. An owner of the water company established the Winnemucca Water and Light Company in 1900, and E. Reinhart and Company purchased it the following year. Water generated the town's electricity, with a primary power plant at the reservoir near the railroad tracks and a backup plant at the river. Building owners soon wired their dwellings and businesses for electricity, and gas lamps lining the streets were replaced by electrified streetlights (Wallace 2024:26).

In August 1905, a fire consumed the two Bridge Street-facing blocks between Second and Third streets. While Block S was largely destroyed, one building on Block T remained: the 1870s Railroad Meat Market (259 S. Bridge Street, not extant) on the corner of Bridge and Third (Winnemucca Boulevard) streets. On Block S, various local businesses including a drugstore, cobbler, barber, tailor, and lodging house were wiped out, in addition to three saloons – two of which included restaurants. At the time, wooden dwellings occupied much of Block T, all of which were destroyed. Armory Hall, a hotel, and a saloon also burned in the fire. Over time, the buildings were rebuilt, with the blocks mostly filled by 1912 (New York Insurance Press 1906:12; Sanborn 1904, 1907; Toth 2019)

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Figure 9: The rebuilt Block R in 1918 (Humboldt Museum)

The rebuilding represented the tenacity of Winnemucca's local entrepreneurs, as well as the continued commercial success of the Lower Town business district. Businesses again occupied the lots ravaged by the 1905 fire, except this time they were built with brick, stone, and concrete (Figure 9). They included the Hustin-Grandin Building (Resource #9, 205 S. Bridge Street, 1908), C.B. Brown's Furniture Store (Resource #11, 221 S. Bridge Street, 1909), the Toggery

clothing store (Resource #12, 227 S. Bridge Street, 1910), the Western Union Building (Resource #14, 237 S. Bridge Street, 1910), and the Magnolia Saloon (Resource #17, 251 S. Bridge Street, 1907). Several latecomers on the block, built more than five years after the inferno, were the Overland Hotel (Resource #10, 215 S. Bridge Street, 1913), the Organ Grocery (Resource #13, 233 S. Bridge Street, c.1913-1921); the Nofsinger Building (Resource #15, 241 S. Bridge Street, 1916), and the American (Sage) Theater (Resource #16, 245 S. Bridge Street, 1916) (Sanborn 1904, 1907, 1912; Toth 2019).

Professional offices, including those for medical and legal professionals, were common in the business district. One instance is Dr. Giroux's office (Resource #29, 341-345 S. Bridge Street, 1901), which the doctor constructed next door to Mrs. Ayers' Undertaking Parlor (Resource #32, 347 Bridge Street, 1874). Seven years later, Dr. Giroux built a small residence next to his office (Resource #28, 337 Bridge Street, 1908). Dentists and druggists also kept offices on lower Bridge Street (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

On the western edge of the district, Melarkey Street continued to develop in the early twentieth century for both commercial and residential uses. Milton B. Johnson hired contractor Guy Sisson to build a two-story molded concrete block building at 434 Melarkey that would serve dual purposes: Johnson's El Tropico Cigar Factory operated on the ground floor with dwelling units located upstairs (Resource #47, 1908). Charles Gartiez bought the lot next door and hired D. Grassi to build a similar house, also of cast concrete block, in 1910 (Resource #48, 442 Melarkey). Soon thereafter, a duplex was built on the other side of the cigar factory at 426-428 Melarkey (Resource #46) in the 1910s (Humboldt Museum n.d.; Stupich 1982).

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Figure 10: The Winnemucca State Bank and Trust Building, Resource #2 (Humboldt Museum)

The Reinhart Brothers remained active in the business world and continued to focus their development on the oldest part of Lower Town. In 1912, they consolidated their holdings on Block W, purchasing Staunton's Saddlery/Winneva Hall (Resource #4, 140 S. Bridge Street A) and the one-story building next door in 1912. The same year, they began construction on the Winnemucca State Bank and Trust building (Resource #2). Designed in a grand Beaux-Arts style, the building was considered fireproof with its reinforced concrete

construction. The bank opened in 1913 and subsequently prospered (Figure 10). The same year, Ed Reinhart built a stately home on the block at the corner of First and Melarkey streets (Resource #53, 47 W. First Street) (Davis 1913:639; Toth 2019).

From the late 1800s into the early decades of the 1900s, Winnemucca established a reputation as an important financial center in the state. Both George Wingfield and George Nixon established themselves as bankers and financiers, each helming the First National Bank of Winnemucca as president in the early 1900s, and their Winnemucca location helped launch them into state-wide prominence. During the height of their financial success in the 1910s and 1920s, both developed strong reputations as philanthropists, with Nixon also constructing an opera house in downtown Winnemucca (not extant) (Bertolini 2018:9; Davis 1913:635).

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Figure 11: First National Bank of Winnemucca after DeLongchamps' 1915 remodel, Resource #34 (Humboldt Museum)

George S. Nixon, along with F.M. Lee and others, organized the First National Bank of Winnemucca in 1886. The brick building at 352 S. Bridge Street (Resource #34) survived the 1891 fire. It was the only national bank in the state of Nevada until November 1903, and it may have been the bank robbed by Butch Cassidy's gang in 1900, although this remains unsubstantiated. The bank engaged pre-eminent Nevada architect Frederic DeLongchamps to expand and remodel the building in 1915. He added a second story, moved the entrance

to face the corner, covered the building with stucco, and applied Classical Revival ornamentation to the exterior (Figure 11). His renovations transformed the unassuming bank into a local monument to banking, perhaps in response to the modern and substantial Winnemucca State Bank built down the road just three years prior (Bertolini 2018:9; Davis 1913:635; Toth 2019; Wren 1904:320).

In addition to the financial sector, the railroad continued to contribute to Winnemucca's growth and prosperity. In 1899, the Southern Pacific Railroad (SPRR) took over the Central Pacific. In 1903, the Western Pacific (WP) Railway was incorporated to compete with the Southern Pacific (SP). The WP had a stop in Winnemucca and ran along the north bank of the Humboldt River, as opposed to the CPRR/SPRR, which ran on the south side. WP constructed a depot and roundhouse at the foot of Bridge Street in 1908. The depot reasserted Lower Town as an important hub of commercial activity. Regular freight service on the WP began on December 1, 1909, but damage from severe flooding along the Humboldt River in February-March 1910 delayed passenger service until August 21-22, 1910 (Davis 1913:914; Myrick 1962:32; Stupich 1982).

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Figure 12: Bridge Street in the 1910s, showing the courthouse, homes and businesses, trees, improved roads, and utility lines (Humboldt Museum)

Winnemucca had become a thoroughly modern, comfortable town (Figure 12). In 1913, historian Sam Davis complimented Winnemucca for its “homelike homes, for with hardly any exception they are very tasty and comfortable, with abundant shade trees, verdant lawns and the general appearance of being a most desirable place in which to reside. The town has excellent water and electric-light service, and a sewer-system lately installed at a cost of \$50,000” (Davis 1913:913)

After a decade without any devastating fires or other disasters, a pair of alarming events occurred in 1915 and 1916. An earthquake struck the mining town of Kennedy, 60 miles south of Winnemucca, on October 1, 1915. Measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale, the quake toppled brick chimneys in Winnemucca. It also damaged Winneva Hall (formerly Staunton Saddlery), the Winnemucca Hotel, and the Humboldt County Courthouse (Figure 13). While the courthouse and Winnemucca Hotel were repaired without substantial alteration, Winneva Hall sustained damage requiring more extensive measures. The Reinharts had acquired Winneva Hall as well as the one-story building next door a few years prior, and in order to repair the buildings, they combined them into a single edifice bound by a shared brick façade (Resource #4). Once the work was complete, the building hosted business and professional offices, as well as a lodge hall and banquet room (Figure 14) (Humboldt Museum, n.d.; Toth 2019).

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Figure 13: Block W before the earthquake, c.1913-1915. Note Winneva Hall and the separate one-story building to the right, which were combined into the present building at 140 S. Bridge St. A, Resource #4 (Humboldt Museum)

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Figure 14: Block W after the earthquake. Winneva Hall and the building next door are now bound by a shared brick façade as 140 S. Bridge St. A, Resource #4 (Humboldt Museum)

The following year, a fire struck the commercial district on Lower Bridge, devastating about half of Block Q. Once again, the owners rebuilt soon thereafter. After the St. Elmo Bar was destroyed, the brick Minor Building (Resource #21, 316 S. Bridge Street, 1917) was built in its place and occupied by a men's clothing store. The Wendall Building (Resource #22, 320 S. Bridge Street) replaced a furniture and cabinet shop that burned in the fire. It was also built of brick around 1917, housing a dentist's office upstairs and the Chamber of Commerce downstairs. The site of the Elite Building where the fire started (Resource #23, 324 S. Bridge Street), remained vacant until the 1930s (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

Two more fires occurred in 1918. One destroyed the four-story El Dorado Hotel at 311 S. Bridge Street, prominently located on the northeast corner of Block R. This may have inspired the proprietors of the Railroad Meat Market across the street to rebuild with reinforced concrete that same year (Resource #18, 259 S. Bridge Street, 1918). The courthouse also burned in 1918. Frederic DeLongchamps designed its replacement, as he was serving as Nevada State Architect at the time. He devised a two-story buff brick Classical Revival building with a full-height

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pedimented portico and molded terra cotta detailing (Resource #58, 50 W. Fifth Street). The new courthouse was completed in 1921 (Angel 1881:459; NRIS #83001109; Toth 2019).

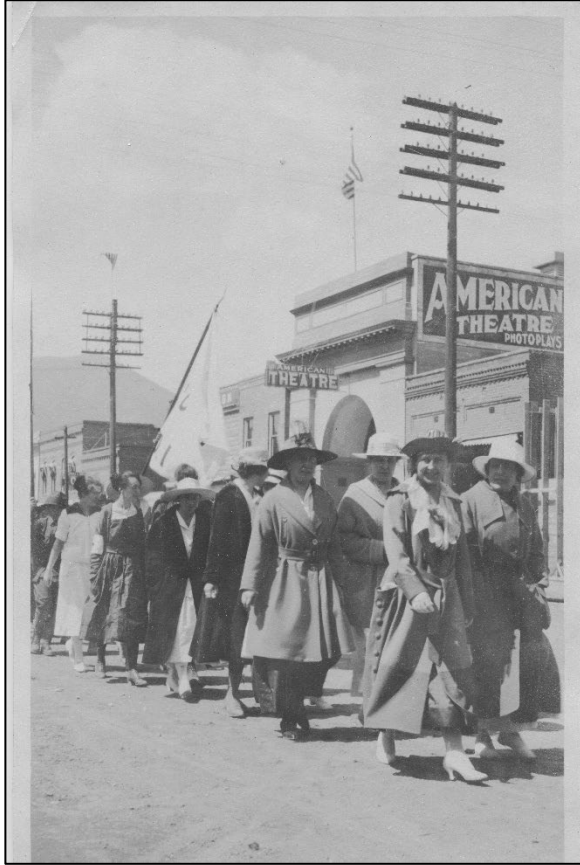


Figure 15: Women marching on Bridge Street with Block S in the background, circa 1914-1918 (Humboldt Museum)

Statewide campaigns for women's suffrage made stops in Winnemucca (Figure 15). Noted national suffragist Jane Addams spoke in Winnemucca during the 1914 suffrage campaign. Significantly, the last rally for suffrage in 1914 took place at Nixon Opera House (not extant) on October 31, headlined by Sara Bard Field. These events paid off, as the all-male electorate voted in favor of a state constitutional amendment allowing Nevada women to vote. Other events related to women's rights in Nevada continued to be held in Winnemucca, including a Woman's Party meeting in 1916 and a rally for Anne Martin's unprecedented – though ultimately unsuccessful – senatorial campaign at the American Theater (Resource #16, 245 S. Bridge Street) in 1918. Other lower Bridge Street resources associated with suffrage and women's rights events during this era include the the Toggery (Resource #12, 227 S. Bridge Street) and Winneva Hall (Resource #4, 140 S. Bridge Street A) (Barber and Campana 2020: 59-64).

As the automobile became a major mode of transportation in the 1910s and 1920s, highway construction progressed, and Winnemucca once again found itself in a fortuitous location. While

work was being done on the Lincoln Highway in Nevada, a second major east-west highway also was proposed. This was the Victory Highway, honoring those who fought in World War I. Construction of this highway coincided with the Federal Highways Act of 1921, which funded highway construction throughout the country. The route of the Victory Highway, generally following the course of the Transcontinental Railroad through Nevada, was selected as the official federal highway. Renamed U.S. 40 in 1926, it passed through Winnemucca and mostly followed Third Street (Winnemucca Boulevard) through town. This formed another commercial corridor in addition to Bridge Street. Roadside businesses popped up along the route to accommodate the

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influx of automobile travelers, including hotels and motels, a city campground, and garages (Bertolini 2018:11; Borger et al 2020:25-29, 38).



Figure 16: View of Bridge Street from Courthouse toward Winnemucca Mountain, circa 1923-1930. Note the Hotel Humboldt at right (Humboldt Museum)

Along lower Bridge Street, several lodgings accommodated highway travelers, including the Hotel Humboldt (not extant, 311 S. Bridge Street, 1923), which replaced the 1912 Eldorado Hotel after it burned in 1918. The Winnemucca Hotel (not extant) continued to welcome travelers as well (Figure 16). The Star Hotel (not extant, 216 Bridge Street, c.1906), the Overland Hotel (Resource #10, 215 S. Bridge Street, 1913), and the Farris Hotel (not extant) also stood on Bridge Street near the corner of Third Street/Victory

Highway. The Hotel Humboldt even had a Greyhound Station on the ground floor, emphasizing its highway connection. The many restaurants, saloons, and gambling halls lining Bridge Street between First and Fourth streets catered to tourists arriving by auto and rail, as well as locals. Buckingham Service Station (not extant), one of the first service stations, opened on the corner of Bridge and Second in 1922 in response to increased automobile traffic. Across the street, the Overland Trail Garage (not extant) opened in the 1920s (Sanborn 1912, 1947; Toth 2019).

Winnemucca's commercial areas continued to flourish in the 1920s. The commercial district in Lower Town offered everything a resident or visitor might need or desire. The American Theater (Resource #16, 245 S. Bridge Street) and Nixon Opera House (not extant) offered entertainment opportunities, from motion pictures and live plays to guest speakers and musical acts. Both banks continued to operate, and the First National Bank relocated to the Humboldt Hotel when it opened in 1923. Clothing stores included menswear shops like the Toggery (Resource #12, 227 S. Bridge Street) and Frank Oliverius' haberdashery (Resource #21, 316 S. Bridge Street). Other retail stores included Krenkel and Bosch Jewelers (342 S. Bridge Street), C.B. Brown's Furniture Store (Resource #11, 221 S. Bridge Street), and J.C. Penney (Resource #33, 350 S. Bridge Street). Residents could purchase groceries at Morrall's Grocery (Resource #15, 241 S. Bridge Street)

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when it opened in 1921; Organ Grocery opened two doors down in 1923 (Resource #13, 233 S. Bridge Street), and the meat market continued to operate at 259 S. Bridge Street (Resource #18). By 1929, Winnemuccans could even purchase cars on lower Bridge: Joe Peraldo sold Oldsmobiles and Buicks out of his building at 150 S. Bridge Street (Resource #7), and a portion of 201-205 S. Bridge (Resource #9) became Victory Auto (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

Medical practices and drug stores thrived along the corridor. The Stephenson Drug Company operated in the old Levy's General Merchandise space (Resource #50, 33 W. Winnemucca Boulevard). Dr. Giroux continued to practice at his Bridge Street office (Resource #29, 341-345 Bridge Street), and the undertaker next door (Resource #32, 347 S. Bridge Street) remained in business throughout the decade as well (Toth 2019).

Winnemucca adapted to the new law of the land after the eighteenth amendment ushered in Prohibition in 1920. Existing bars transitioned into soda shops, while some continued to serve liquor, albeit on the sly. John A. Petrinovich opened The Index, a soft drink parlor and billiard room, in the old Western Union building in 1921 (Resource #14, 237 S. Bridge Street). The Index violated prohibition laws in 1931 and was ordered padlocked for one year. On the same block, the basement of the Mint Saloon (Resource #9, 205 S. Bridge Street) may have operated as a speakeasy with a clandestine boxing room. The Magnolia Saloon (Resource #17, 251 S. Bridge Street) became a soda fountain in the 1920s, operating as such without incident, before reopening as a bar after repeal (Toth 2019).



Figure 17: The 1921 Post Office, now City Hall, Resource #56 (Humboldt Museum)

Civic and social developments also occurred in the 1920s. In 1921, a new post office was constructed at the corner of Fourth and Melarkey streets (Resource #56, NRIS #090000137, 90 W. Fourth Street) (Figure 17). James A. Wetmore, from the Office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, designed the building in a modest Classical Revival style. Because postal delivery to residences and businesses did not begin until 1927, the one-story brick building installed more than

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700 post office boxes to serve the community. In some cases, existing buildings were repurposed for new uses. 1923, the *Humboldt Star* newspaper relocated their offices to the First National Bank Building (Resource #34, 352 S. Bridge Street) after the bank moved to the Hotel Humboldt. The building was known as “the Star Building” for many subsequent years (Kolva 1990; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

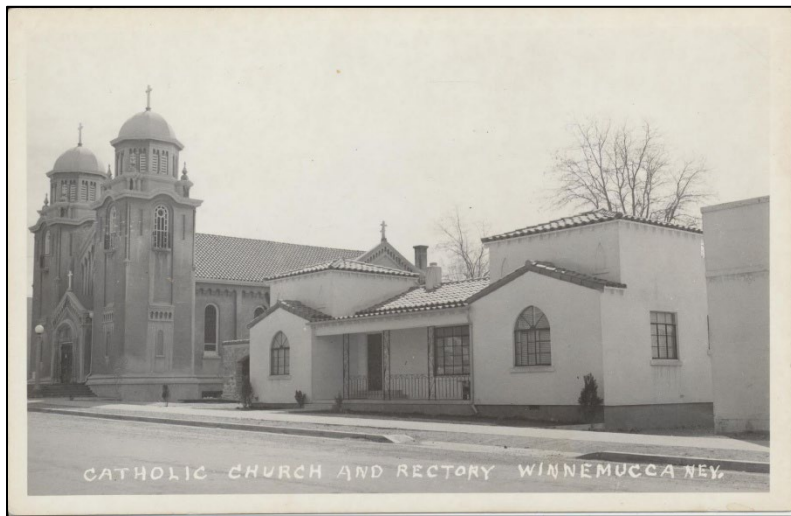


Figure 18: St. Paul's Catholic Church (Resource #44, left) and rectory (Resource #45, right) soon after its construction in 1924 (Humboldt Museum)

In 1924, Winnemucca's Catholic community replaced their little wooden church with the high-style Spanish Colonial-Romanesque Revival style St. Paul's Catholic Church (Resource #44, Figure 18). Located on the same Melarkey Street lot on the periphery of the lower Bridge Street commercial district, the new church was built by San Francisco architect J.J. Foley. He designed a matching rectory (Resource #45) next door to the church (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019; Wallace 2024:23).

1929-1940: Moderne Makeover in the Depression Years

Leading up to and after the stock market crash of 1929, Winnemucca largely continued to be a busy and prosperous town. Nevada's liberal divorce laws and legalization of wide-open gambling in the early 1930s helped much of the state weather the economic downturn. Local businesspeople were purchasing new property, expanding existing holdings, and investing in new pursuits. Frank and Pete Gartiez bought the Hustin Grandin Building (Resource #9, 205 S. Bridge Street) and Overland Hotel (Resource #10, 215 S. Bridge Street) in 1929. They combined the buildings and began renting their “Gartiez Rooms” upstairs soon thereafter. In addition to the second-story rooms, the ground level offered a bar, gambling hall, and restaurant. The same year, Ed Reinhart's residence at 47 W. First Street (Resource #53) transitioned from residential to commercial use when it was converted into a funeral home (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

One notable local victim of the 1929 crash was the Winnemucca State Bank and Trust (Resource #2), which collapsed as a result and effectively ended the Reinhart family's commercial dominance

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in Winnemucca. The bank building was repurposed as an armory by the National Guard Engineering Corporation before being used as a movie theater, and later an Elks Lodge (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

When Prohibition ended in 1933, local entrepreneurs took action. Bars reopened along lower Bridge Street, including Candy's Club in the old Index space (Resource #14, 237 S. Bridge Street) and Monte's Ideal Club (Resource #17, 251 S. Bridge Street). Joe Peraldo opened J.L. Peraldo Company in his former car dealership (Resource #7, 150 S. Bridge Street), pivoting his business to distribution of alcoholic beverages (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

Despite the deepening Depression, the Lower Town commercial district continued to grow with new buildings. The lot on Block Q that had been vacant since the 1916 fire was finally developed as Streamline Moderne style building when M.W. and Grace Beardsley opened their dress shop in 1936 (Resource #19, 310 S. Bridge Street). A few doors down, J.C. Penney constructed a new building in 1935 (Resource #23), also in a variation of the Moderne style on a lot that had been vacant since the fire two decades prior (Figure 19) (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).



Figure 19: The new 1935 J.C. Penney Building on Block Q, Resource #23 (Humboldt Museum)

Existing businesses continued to prosper, and many received an Art Deco or Streamline Moderne “makeover” (Figures 20-22). Krenkel and Bosch Jewelers added a Deco façade over their 1890s brick building in the early 1930s (Resource #30, 342 S. Bridge Street). Just down the block, the City Electric and Plumbing Company similarly remodeled and moved into 330-332 Bridge Street (Resources #25 and #27) in 1937. The Winnemucca State Bank and Trust building (Resource #2), no longer a bank, was remodeled with a Moderne façade in 1936 (now removed). Architect D.I. LaPoint oversaw the Winnemucca Mercantile’s remodel into the Art Deco Style (Resource #35, 355 S. Bridge Street), soon after which the business became the first self-service grocery store in town. Other businesses remodeled into the Streamline Moderne or Deco modes included the Corner Drug Store (Resource #50, 33 W. Winnemucca

Boulevard) and the Sage Theater – renamed from the American Theater (Resource #16, 245 S. Bridge Street) – in the early 1940s (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

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Figure 20: The Corner Drug Store after its early 1940s remodel into the Streamline Moderne style, Resource #50 (Humboldt Museum)



Figure 21: Winnemucca Mercantile after its 1935 remodel into the Art Deco Style, Resource #35 (Humboldt Museum)

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Figure 22: Block Q in the 1930s displayed a combination of early twentieth century styles with new Deco and Moderne modes (Humboldt Museum)



Figure 23: The 1938 firehouse depicted in 1962, Resource #40 (Humboldt Museum)

Civic improvements continued through the Depression years as well. The Winnemucca Volunteer Fire Department built a new firehouse in 1938 (Resource #40, 437 S. Bridge Street). A grant from the Public Works Administration assisted with funding the new station. Designed by Andrew P. Weidman, it replaced an 1892 sandstone building and modeled the simplified Art Deco style that was wildly popular in the community throughout the era. In 1940, a rear addition was appended to the Post Office (Resource #56, 90 W. Fourth Street). Designed by Louis Simon, the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, the addition almost doubled the building's square footage (Kalish 2014; Nicoletta 2000:137-140; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

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The appetite for Art Deco architecture spread to the residential district with the construction of a small apartment building at the corner of Fourth and Melarkey Streets. H.P. Ast commissioned an Art Deco style eightplex from architect J.C. Nicholson. Contractors Anderson and McShee completed the building in 1940, which became known as the Ast Apartments and, later, the Melfourth Apartments (Resource #57, 109 W. Fourth Street) (Humboldt Museum n.d.; Stupich 1982).

1946-1968: Prosperity in the Postwar Era

After World War Two, highway traffic exponentially increased as more Americans acquired automobiles and took to the road seeking travel and leisure opportunities. Winnemucca experienced the uptick in road travel, especially along U.S. 40/Third Street (Winnemucca Boulevard). The increased activity contrasted with the relatively quiet wartime years, during which no extensive renovations or new construction took place in the district. Casinos, bars, hotels, billiards halls, and two movie theaters offered entertainment to postwar travelers and residents along lower Bridge Street. Local merchants continued to occupy the blocks as well, from grocers and butchers to banks, barbers, and jewelers (Figure 24) (Bertolini 2018:11; Borger et al 2020:63; Sanborn 1943).

Business owners in the district continued to invest in their buildings on lower Bridge Street. Bill and Toni Hooft purchased the City Bakery in 1946, remodeling and expanding the interior to continue operation for the next five decades (Resource #12, 227 S. Bridge Street). The same year, Willis and Grace Wayman purchased Beardsley's Dress Shop (Resource #19, 310 S. Bridge Street), which became Mimi's Dress Shop in 1955. As early as 1952, the Stockmen's Store sold Western clothing and boots (Resource #7, 150 S. Bridge Street), and Holman's Men's Wear operated out of the Minor Building (Resource #21, 316 S. Bridge Street). The Sprouse-Reitz five and dime, which took over the Kleinhan Building (Resource #33, 350 S. Bridge Street) after J.C. Penney moved a few doors down in the mid-1930s, redesigned the storefront in 1958 to reflect modern aesthetic sensibilities (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

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Figure 24: Lower Bridge Street looking toward Second Street from First Street, circa 1940s. Block X at left, Block W at right (Humboldt Museum)



Figure 25: Lower Bridge Street in 1950, looking toward Second Street from Third Street (Winnemucca Blvd.). Block T at left, Block S at right (Humboldt Museum)

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A new property type, the supermarket, rose to prominence throughout American during the mid-twentieth century. Winnemucca embraced this trend when Sewell's Grocery Store was constructed at the corner of Bridge and Second streets in 1950 (Resource #8, 180 S. Bridge Street). It remained in business there until the 1960s, when a larger Sewell's opened to the southwest off U.S. 40., on the rapidly developing fringes of town. The Nevada Bank of Commerce, chaired by Harvey Sewell, moved their Winnemucca branch into the building. In 1961, Kirk's Market opened across the street, filling the void after Sewell's moved to the outskirts of town (Resource #6, 147 S. Bridge, 1961) (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

As Sewell's replaced the mom-and-pop grocers in the district, those spaces evolved into bars and clubs that, in part, defined the typical midcentury commercial landscape (Figure 25). The butcher and two grocers on Block S closed in the late 40s and early 50s to make way for the nightlife. In 1947, the Mint Club opened in the old corner butcher shop, formerly the Railroad Meat Market and Pedroli's Meat Market, at 259 S. Bridge Street (Resource #18). It would continue as a casino and bar, renamed the Red Bull in 1966, for decades. On the same block, the Organ Grocery building was adapted into a bar, the Atomic Club (Resource #13, 233 S. Bridge Street), and the Nofsinger Building became Pete's Club and then Pepper's Club (Resource #15, 241 S. Bridge Street). Around the same time, Fermin Montero opened Pat's Bar in the Wendall Building (Resource #22, 320 Bridge Street) on Block Q (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

Even in the face of the progress that marked downtown Winnemucca in the 1950s, fire continued to be a threat. In 1952, a fire struck three former Reinhart holdings on Block W, including E. Reinhart and Co.'s 1897 brick headquarters (Toth 2019).

Professional and government buildings appeared in the district throughout the 1950s and into the early 1960s. The U.S. Department of Agriculture erected a Soil Conservation Service office near



Figure 26: First National Bank of Nevada building at 25 W. Fourth, Resource #54. The USDA office (Resource #55) is pictured at right (Humboldt Museum)

the county courthouse in 1953 (Resource #55, 33 W. Fourth Street). Next door, the First National Bank of Nevada opened a new, Mid-Century Modern style branch (Resource #54, 25 W. Fourth Street) in 1959 (Figure 26). Dr. Hartoch built a modernist medical building at 501 S. Bridge Street (Resource #41) in 1961, located kitty-corner

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from the courthouse. Another Modernist professional building was constructed on the corner of Fifth and Melarkey streets in 1966 (Resource #59, 115 W. Fifth Street). The Winnemucca Fire Department added a new garage building next door to their firehouse in 1964 (Resource #39, 437 S. Bridge Street). Finally, the Humboldt County Library (Resource #60, 85 E. Fifth Street) was constructed in 1968 with a Fleischman Foundation grant, replacing the last remnants of Winnemucca's Baud Street Chinatown (Chew 206-207; Marden 2005; Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).



Figure 27: Block S in 1968 (Humboldt Museum)

Businesses on other blocks continued to spruce up their façades throughout the 1950s and 1960s. This is especially apparent on Block S, where midcentury slipcovers and storefront canopies were applied to the early twentieth century buildings on the block (Figure 27) (Humboldt Museum, n.d.).

Renovation, Demolition, and Preservation: 1969-Present

From the 1970s to the present, various preservation and renovation activities have taken place in the district. In 1975, DeLongchamps' courthouse was expanded with a sensitively designed annex linked to the original building with a glass hyphen. The Hartoch Building (Resource #41, 501 S. Bridge Street) and the First National Bank of Nevada (Resource #54, 25 W. Fourth Street), both located conveniently near the courthouse, were adaptively reused as the county District Attorney's Office and the Planning Department, respectively. After a new, larger post office opened elsewhere, the 1921 post office became Winnemucca's City Hall (Resource #56, 90 W. Fourth Street) in 1991. Also in the 1990s, the Phillips family, owners of the Winnemucca State Bank and Trust (Resource #2, 138 S. Bridge Street), reconstructed the building's original 1913 façade (Stupich 1982; Toth 2019).

Winnemucca has lost its share of residential and commercial resources to disaster as well as the wrecking ball. High profile historic properties lost to fire include the Hotel Humboldt in 1975, the Star in 1978, the Nixon Opera House in 1992, and the Sage Theater in 2016. Demolition intensified

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in the 1980s when the Humboldt County mining economy reignited, bringing increased wealth to the area. Many of these demolitions did not result in new development, instead creating a host of surface parking lots (Bertolini 2018:11-12; Toth 2019).

In 1981, an entire block of historic commercial buildings was demolished on Block T, where the Star had stood, in preparation to rebuild an expanded Star casino and hotel. The Farris Hotel was demolished, along with the Gem Bar, Eagle Drug, the Paint Store, and Scotty's Club. Owner Bob Cashell completed the first phase of the project, which entailed a casino, which opened in 1982. The casino was ultimately unprofitable and closed in 1985, and the second phase of the project – a hotel tower – was never completed. The east hall of the Winnemucca Convention Center took over the casino building, and the proposed hotel site is not a surface parking lot. Most recently, the Winnemucca Hotel was slowly demolished between 2015 and 2019. Despite these losses, the Downtown Winnemucca Historic District continues to serve as the town's primary commercial corridor, community hub, and civic space (Bertolini 2018:11-12; Toth 2019).

Summary

Downtown Winnemucca Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development, with period of significance that runs from 1866 to 1968. During this time period, the district served as one of the town's primary commercial hubs, as well as an anchor of community life, with civic buildings such as the post office and library, shops, banks, bars, restaurants, and social spaces including a theater and a church. The district contains 60 resources, with a wide mix of property types, styles, and construction dates that clearly illustrate downtown Winnemucca's development and use patterns over the historic period. With 65% of the district resources contributing, the district retains sufficient overall integrity to convey its significance.

Commerce

The district is significant under the theme of Commerce as a physical representation of the town's status as the commercial center of Humboldt County from the late 1860s to the late 1960s. Winnemucca's downtown has long been the county hub for commerce and shipping, from its early years as a river crossing along the Humboldt Trail, to its establishment as a division point along the transcontinental railroad, and later as a stop along the transcontinental highway and Interstate 80.

The focal point of the district is Bridge Street, the city's main commercial street. Forty-one of the district's 60 resources have addresses on Bridge, and of those, 36 are commercial in nature. The commercial resources along Bridge Street exemplify the continued use of the downtown

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commercial district and the city's evolution during the 1866-1968 historic period. Commercial resources include many One- and Two-part Commercial Blocks built throughout the period of significance, and several display historic-period alterations that speak to the ongoing success of the city's downtown and the desire of businesses to remain relevant and embrace changing styles.

Community Planning and Development

The district is additionally significant under the theme of Community Planning and Development as a representation of the early growth of the city as shown in its original town plat. The development of Winnemucca is tied to both its location along the Humboldt River, where the 1865 French Bridge was established to aid emigrants along the Humboldt-California Trail, and the Central Pacific Railroad, whose location here was decided in 1866. The town plat was carefully drawn to orient to both the river and the railroad. The district is located within the original plat's downtown commercial and civic zone, which was laid out with streets at a 45-degree angle to orient with the bridge and river.

As Winnemucca grew and evolved into a key hub for shipping, commerce, and travel, its downtown became the focal point for not only commercial activity but also community life. As the seat of Humboldt County, Winnemucca has the county courthouse, which was built in a commanding location where Bridge Street rises several feet above the rest of downtown. Other community buildings were intentionally located downtown within walking distance to the commercial core, including civic buildings such as a post office and library, and social spaces such as a theater and church. These diverse building types, together with the dense commercial zone along Bridge Street, illustrate Winnemucca's urban development during the historic period and its continuing role as a county hub.

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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 # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 25.3

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☒ NAD 1983

See next page

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Location	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	11	437922	4536168
2	11	438041	4536339
3	11	438410	4535992
4	11	438231	4535796

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Downtown Winnemucca Historic District is shown as the red line on the accompanying maps entitled “Project Location Map” and “Overview: District Resources by Contributing Status.”

The boundary begins at the corner of W. First Street and Melarkey Street, and travels northeast to Bridge Street. Here it jogs slightly to the northwest to the west corner of the parcel at 105 S. Bridge Street (Resource #1). The boundary then travels northeast along that parcel to its north corner, southeast to its eastern corner, and finally southwest along the parcel’s bottom edge until it reaches the alley between Bridge and Baud Streets. The boundary then travels southeast along that alley to a point approximately 115 feet beyond E. Fourth Street near the middle of a city block. At that location, the boundary turns northeast briefly to follow the northwestern edge of the parcel containing 437 S. Bridge (Resource #39), then travels southeast along Baud Street to the corner of E. Fifth Street. The boundary travels southwest along E. Fifth for approximately 225 feet, then jogs southeast, southwest, and northwest to encompass the lot at 501 S. Bridge Street (Resource #41) before continuing southwest along Fifth Street to the corner of Melarkey Street. At this corner, the boundary does another southeast, southwest, and northwest jog to encompass the lot containing 115 W. Fifth Street (Resource #59) before continuing southeast along W. Fifth to the alley between Melarkey and Lay Streets. The boundary then turns and proceeds northwest along that alley for two blocks. At Winnemucca Boulevard, the boundary turns northeast and travels for a half block to the corner of Melarkey Street. Finally, the boundary travels northwest along the northeast side of Melarkey Street to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The selected boundaries encompass downtown Winnemucca’s densest collection of resources that exemplify the city’s urban development and evolution during the 1866 to 1968 historic period. The boundaries reflect the full diversity of resources associated with the city’s urban development, from classic One- and Two-part Commercial Blocks and Mid-Century office buildings to grand religious and civic buildings, conveying the aesthetic sense of a late nineteenth century to mid-twentieth century urban hub. The commercial core of Bridge Street is the focal point of the district, with 41 of the district’s 60 resources having addresses on Bridge.

The district’s northwestern boundary is situated where historic buildings are first located. A half-block beyond the northwestern boundary is Interstate 80, which frames the district and creates a visual break.

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The northeastern boundary follows the alleyway between Bridge and Baud Streets to include all of the commercial buildings along Bridge. Beyond the alley are vacant lots, non-historic resources, and altered resources that do not visually connect with downtown or fit into the district's historic context.

The southwestern boundary travels along the northeast side of Melarkey Street between First Street and Winnemucca Boulevard. This is because the opposite side of Melarkey in those blocks has a large parking lot and vacant lot that create a visual break. Along the 300 and 400 blocks of Melarkey Street, the boundary includes both sides of the street since historic downtown resources are still extant in that location.

The southeastern boundary at Fifth Street is a natural cut-off point due to the arrangement of the town plat, which has Fifth Street as the last street in the commercial downtown core before the angle of the street grid changes southeast of Fifth to orient to the railroad. The district's visual continuity is lost at Fifth Street due to this change in the street grid, along with a large parking lot that occupies most of a city block along the southeast side of Fifth between Bridge and Melarkey. Moreover, the types of resources south of Fifth Street are more thematically related to the railroad than the downtown commercial and civic district.

11. Form Prepared By

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Photographs

See continuation sheets

Photo Log

Name of Property: Downtown Winnemucca Historic District

City: Winnemucca

County: Humboldt

Photographer: ZoAnn Campana

Date Photographed: 7/9/25, 7/10/25, and 7/11/25

Description of Photograph(s) and number

1 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_001)

Streetscape of 200 Block S. Bridge Street, facing east

2 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_002)

Streetscape of 300 Block S. Bridge Street, facing south

3 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_003)

Streetscape of 300 Block S. Bridge Street and view of 355 S. Bridge Street, facing north

4 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_004)

View of St. Paul's Catholic Church and Rectory at 350 Melarkey Street, facing west

5 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_005)

View of Humboldt County Courthouse (NRIS # 83001109) at 50 W. Fifth Street, facing west

6 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_006)

View of Winnemucca Main Post Office / City Hall (NRIS # 90000137) at 90 W. Fourth Street, facing northwest

7 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_007)

View of First National Bank of Nevada Building at 25 W. Fourth Street, facing south

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8 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_008)

View of Winnemucca State Bank & Trust Building at 138 S. Bridge Street, facing southwest

9 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_009)

View of fire station at 445 S. Bridge Street, facing northeast

10 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_010)

View of J.C. Penney Store at 324 S. Bridge Street, facing southwest

11 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_011)

View of apartment building at 109 W. Fourth Street, facing south-southeast

12 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_012)

View of office building at 115 W. Fifth Street, facing south

13 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_013)

View of Hartoch Building at 501 S. Bridge Street, facing east

14 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_014)

View of First National Bank Building at 352 S. Bridge Street, 350 S. Bridge Street, and 346 S. Bridge Street (left to right), facing west

15 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_015)

View of 140 S. Bridge Street (B) and 140 S. Bridge Street (A) (left to right), facing south-southwest

16 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_016)

View of lumber company at 105 S. Bridge Street, facing southwest

17 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_017)

View of El Tropico Cigar Factory/Duplex at 434 Melarkey Street, facing west

18 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_018)

View of 341-345 S. Bridge Street and 347 S. Bridge Street (left to right), facing east

19 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_019)

View of 237 S. Bridge Street (non-contributing) and 241 S. Bridge Street (non-contributing) (left to right), facing northeast

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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20 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_020)

View of Sage Theatre at 245 S. Bridge Street (non-contributing), 251 S. Bridge Street (non-contributing), and 259 S. Bridge Street (non-contributing), facing north-northeast

21 of 21 (NV_Humboldt_Downtown Winnemucca Historic District_021)

View of Reinhart Merchandise Warehouse Building (non-contributing) at 125-129 Melarkey Street, facing east-northeast