A Guide to Nevada’s Historical Markers

Acknowledgments

This guide was created by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Author: Rayette Martin M.A. Photographs provided by the Special Collections and University Archives Department, University of Nevada, Reno. David J. Harrison, Ph.D. shared his vision for the booklet along with a number of videos that can be found on the Nevada DCNR YouTube channel.

Nevada State Historic Preservation Office
901 South Stewart, Suite 5004; Carson City NV 89701
shpo-info@shpo.nv.gov

History of the Marker Program

In 1967, the Nevada State Legislature initiated the marker program. These roadside markers bring attention to the places, people, and events that make up Nevada’s heritage. They are as diverse as the counties they are located within and range from the typical mining boom and bust town to the largest and most accessible petroglyph sites in Northern Nevada.

Cover Map: 1876 Nevada
Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division
https://lccn.loc.gov/98688811
1. Empire and the Carson River Mills

MINING-RAILROAD Comstock Lode gold and silver ore was hauled to the mills for over 40 years. Traces of Empire and its mills can still be seen today.

39.187312, -119.706358 [stone]

MAPS
- Maps are not to scale
- North at the top of the page
- Locations of markers, including the coordinates, are approximate
- An interactive map is available on the SHPO website

VIDEOS
Some marked locations have been highlighted in the video series, Nevada History Adventures. A playlist of these videos can be found on the nevadacnr YouTube Channel.

NEVADA'S STATE HISTORICAL MARKERS WEBSITE
https://shpo.nv.gov/nevadas-historical-markers/historical-markers

MARKERS MAY BE MISSING OR DAMAGED
It is likely the status of the markers in this book will change with time. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) decommisssions markers when vandalism persists at certain sites or when locations are no longer appropriate. Each marker’s webpage will be updated as SHPO is informed of change. Furthermore, maintenance funds for this program are not guaranteed. Markers may retain their status, such as in production or awaiting install, for prolonged periods of time.

- Before heading out, check the status of markers on the SHPO website. Scan the QR code provided for the website or type in the URL into a browser.
- Report missing or damaged markers. Notify the SHPO office shpo-info@shpo.nv.gov (775) 684-3448

MARKER TYPES

Blue Marker
38. Pahrangat Valley

Stone Marker
256. Historic Transportation

Concrete
247. Site of Nevada’s First Public Library

On Building
266. African Americans and the Boston Saloon

Most of the markers across the state are large blue metal markers. However, there are a variety of other marker styles out there. For this guide they have been simplified into a few categories (blue, blue small, concrete, and stone). Sometimes, the markers are on buildings, fences, or metal stands. Be aware that each category contains its own variety as well. For example, see the two different types of stone markers pictured above.
1. Empire and the Carson River Mills
MINING-RAILROAD Comstock Lode gold and silver ore was hauled to the mills for over 40 years. Traces of Empire and its mills can still be seen today. 39.187312, -119.706358 [stone]

25. Nevada's Capital
ARCHITECTURE Sandstone Victorian-era Capital building completed in 1871. 39.163897, -119.766391 [on building]

44. Carson City
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL Description of the start of Carson City as Eagle Station and Ranch in 1851 through the placement of the state capital in 1871. 39.163924, -119.766659 [concrete]

70. Bliss Mansion
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON Built in 1879, this was the most modern and largest home in Nevada. 39.167294, -119.772154 [blue]

71. Methodist Church of Carson City
ARCHITECTURE Dedicated in 1867, this church serves a congregation that dates to 1859 and is one of Nevada's oldest religious structures.
many other Washoe weavers. Utilitarian, straight-walled, decorated coiled willow basketry is a Washoe tradition extending back thousands of years.

39.117891, -119.754701 [blue]

**78. Orion Clemens Home**

**MARK TWAIN**

Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) stayed in his brother Orion’s home periodically.

39.166720, -119.769604 [on building]

**91. Stewart Indian School**

ARCHITECTURE-PERSON-NATIVE AMERICAN

The controversial school was operated by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and provided vocational training and academic education for American Indian students from throughout the West for nearly a century.

39.117722, -119.756290 [blue]

**134. Trans-Sierran Pioneer Flight**

AVIATION-PERSON

The first authenticated air flight over the Sierra Nevada touched down here.

39.17233, -119.748925 [blue]

**175. Stewart – Nye Residence**

ARCHITECTURE-PERSON

This sandstone house was built about 1860 and was home to many historical figures. In 1917 it was sold as a rectory for the Catholic Church.

39.163987, -119.770685 [blue]

**179. First Air Flight Over Nevada**

AVIATION-PERSON

Marker removed.

39.198266, -119.778498

**180. The Warm Springs Hotel and Nevada State Prison**

ARCHITECTURE-EVENT

Warm Springs Hotel was built near this site in 1860 from a local sandstone quarry inside the old Nevada State Prison complex. The hotel housed Nevada’s first Territorial Legislature meeting in 1861 and became integrated into the Prison complex which operated until 2012.

39.161333, -119.739001 [blue]

**181. Washoe Indians**

NATIVE AMERICAN

Marker removed for update. The previous marker described aspects of the Washoe Tribe (Washeshu Itdeh – “the people from here”) who inhabited the area long before the first emigrant wagon trains arrived.

39.115006, -119.858469

**193. Historic Flume and Lumberyard**

LUMBER-MINING

Approximately one-half mile south of this point and west of the present highway lay the immense yard of the Carson-Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company, a Comstock timber company in the Lake Tahoe Basin in operation from 1870-1898.

39.151942, -119.766450 [blue]

**194. Gardner’s Ranch**

LUMBER-RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING

From 1870 until a fire in 1918, this site contained Matthew Culbertson Gardner’s home and ranch. The lumberyard for the Carson-Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company, which had the only standard gauge
Mark Twain 28, 78, 177, 232

Military 6, 30, 51, 52, 60, 73, 79, 81, 89, 104, 115, 119, 143, 144, 146, 148, 162, 165, 192, 199, 235


Mormon Trail 56, 205, 214


Old Spanish Trail 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 40, 56, 139, 141, 142, 197, 214


Lumber 29, 30, 60, 114, 118, 184, 191, 193, 194, 212, 213, 219, 221, 225, 238, 246

Latter-Day Saints (LDS) 36, 39, 102, 115, 160, 182, 207

Cemetery 2, 73, 77, 79, 121, 203, 233, 265

Chinese 29, 48, 50, 163, 172, 248

Dutch 129

Donner Party 3, 46, 62, 253


Aviation 134, 179

Basque 129

California Emigrant Trail (CE Trail) 17, 19, 23, 26, 44, 45, 46, 62, 76, 105, 109, 112, 118, 120, 121, 167, 200, 207, 253, 256

Architecture 25, 35, 40, 41, 59, 67, 70, 71, 72, 75, 80, 87, 91, 93, 94, 100, 122, 125, 127, 132, 153, 161, 166, 169, 170, 175, 180, 182, 184, 186, 192, 196, 208, 210, 222, 227, 234, 236, 239, 240, 242, 244, 245, 249, 250, 252, 259, 262, 263, 264, 270

Carson City 39.16453, -119.759683 [blue]

260. State Printing Building ARCHITECTURE Completed in 1886, this building is the second oldest structure built by the State within the Capitol Complex. Architects Morrill J. Curtis and Seymour Pixley, designed the Italianate structure to complement the older State Capitol. 39.163794, -119.765026 [on building]

252. Rinckel Mansion ARCHITECTURE-MINING/RANCHING/FARMING In 1863, Rinckel settled in Carson City, he raised livestock and supplied the mining and timber districts surrounding Eagle Valley with meat. Charles H. Jones, a French-schooled designer, constructed Rinckel’s High Victorian Italianate architectural residence in 1876. 39.162420, -119.794175 [blue]

259. The Governor’s Mansion ARCHITECTURE-PERSON Reno architect George A. Ferris designed this neoclassical mansion in 1909. It is the only home ever built for Nevada’s highest elected official. 39.167279, -119.773000 [on fence]

250. State Printing Building ARCHITECTURE-EVENT In 1862, Congress passed a bill establishing a branch mint in the Territory of Nevada. It was housed in the original Carson City building built from sandstone blocks quarried at the Nevada State Prison. 39.167733, -119.767309 [stone]

196. The United States Mint Carson City, Nevada ARCHITECTURE-EVENT In 1862, Congress passed a bill establishing a branch mint in the Territory of Nevada. It was housed in the original Carson City building built from sandstone blocks quarried at the Nevada State Prison. 39.167733, -119.767267 [blue]

213. Lakeview LUMBER-RAILROAD In 1873, the Virginia and Gold Hill Water Company built a world famous 76 mile box flume and pipeline system that furnished water to Virginia and Carson Cities. From 1881-1896, Lakeview was a lumber storage area and timber products were shipped to the Comstock mines and other points via the V. & T.R.R. cars. 39.207966, -119.802901 [concrete]

235. Camp Nye 1864-1865 MILITARY Established one-half mile to the north in October 1864 (During the Civil War), Camp Nye served as the home base for the men of companies “D” and “E,” 1st Nevada Volunteer Cavalry. Time has obliterated all vestiges of the barracks, stables and other facilities. 39.162420, -119.794175 [blue]

243. Corbett-Fitzsimmon Flight EVENT On March 17, 1897, at an arena located on this site, Carson City played host to Nevada’s first World Championship prizefight. 39.164453, -119.759683 [blue]

258. Charles W. Friend House, Observatory & Weather Station EVENT-PERSON This is the site of the house and observatory of Nevada’s first weatherman, astronomer, and seismologist, Charles William Friend. 39.164080, -119.764283 [concrete]

logging railroad in the Tahoe Basin, was also located here during that time.

39.152929, -119.767267 [blue]
184. Ward Charcoal Ovens
ARCHITECTURE-LUMBER-MINING
These ovens were constructed during the mid 1870's and are larger and of finer construction than most other ovens found in Nevada. The charcoal was used in the smelters at nearby Ward. As railroads penetrated the west, charcoal was replaced by coke made from coal, and the charcoal industry faded.
39.037381, -114.846373 [blue]

84. Jedediah Strong Smith
PERSON-TRAPPING
From May to June 1827, Jedediah Smith, explorer and trapper, found a route from California's central valley to the Great Salt Lake Valley in Utah. He became the first European American to completely cross what is now Nevada. Since Smith's journal and map have never been found, his exact route is unknown.39.291445, -114.837921 [blue]

98. Osceola 1872-1940
MINING-RANCHING/FARMING
Osceola, most famous of the White Pine County gold producers, was one of the longest-lived placer camps in Nevada. The camp produced nearly $5 million, primarily in gold, with some silver, lead, and tungsten. It was a good business town because of its location near the cattle and grain ranches and gardens in the Spring and Snake Valleys.
39.071317, -114.449518 [blue]

99. Taylor
MINING
Silver and gold were discovered by Taylor and John Platt in 1873 in what was to become Taylor, a typical mining community. In seven years, the town boasted a population of 15,000 people. By 1886, Taylor was the center of county activity. Mining continued intermittently until 1919. World War II renewed mining activity temporarily.
39.08917, -114.752759 [blue]

100. Nevada Northern Railway
ARCHITECTURE-MINING-RAILROAD
The Nevada Consolidated Copper Company laid 150-miles of track from Cobre, on the Southern Pacific line, to Ely in 1905-1906. Ore was loaded into railroad gondolas at Copper Flat mines, west of Ely, and transported by rail to the smelter at McGill. Passenger service and the "school train" carrying McGill youth to Ely High School ended in 1941. With the closing of local copper mines in 1983, the railroad ceased operations. Currently, part of the line serves the Nevada Northern Railway Museum for live steam rides. The East Ely shop complex for the Railway was listed as a National Historic Landmark District in 2006.
39.252605, -114.878593 [blue]

269. Ely, Forging The Link
MINING-RAILROAD
In the mid to late 1800s, Ely was surrounded by silver, gold, and copper mines. In 1887, it became the seat of White Pine County. Ely was the headquarters for the Nevada Northern Railway which connected Ely to the transcontinental railroad. In 1913, a road through Ely was incorporated into the transcontinental Lincoln Highway.
39.248205, -114.891086 [metal stand]
WHITE PINE COUNTY

9. Copper Country
MINING The famed open-pit copper mines of eastern Nevada, including the Liberty Pit, are located two miles south of this point. Through the first half of the twentieth century, this area produced nearly a billion dollars in copper, gold, and silver. The huge mounds visible from here are waste rock, which was removed to uncover the ore.
39.283589, -114.964238 [concrete]

51. Schellbourne
MILITARY-MINING-PONY EXPRESS-RANCHING/FARMING Schellbourne was located approximately four miles east of this marker. The Pony Express established a mail station there in 1860. Fort Schellbourne, a small military post, protected the station. In the early 1870s, silver ore was discovered in the mountains immediately to the east. After mining dried up, the town was the headquarters for various ranches.
39.797254, -114.741044 [blue]

52. Cherry Creek
MILITARY-MINING-PONY EXPRESS-TRAIL/ROAD The town of Cherry Creek was part of a network of mining districts. The town peaked in 1882, with over 1,800 residents. Egan Canyon, to the south, was a thoroughfare for, Howard Egan and the Mormon Battalion in 1855. In 1860, the Pony Express placed a change station at the west opening. From 1861 to 1869, Butterfield’s Overland Mail and Stage established a station here that grew into a small temporary town. Soldiers from Fort Ruby discovered gold in the canyon in 1863, leading to the creation of the town of Egan and a mining district. Like Cherry Creek, to the north, Egan boomed and busted into the 1920s before mining ceased.
39.353654, -115.394466 [blue]

54. Ward Mining District
MINING The ghost town of Ward, in the foothills of the Egan Range, lies some eight miles west of here. Booming from 1876 until 1882, with a peak population of 1,500, Ward was somewhat of a lawless mining camp. The town was abandoned by the late 1880s, but new discoveries and better mining methods prompted a resurgence of activity in 1906 and again in the 1960s.
39.088861, -114.752903 [blue]

CHURCHILL COUNTY

10. Sand Mountain
PONY EXPRESS-NATIVE AMERICAN Sand Mountain is a sinuous transverse dune important to the Stillwater Northern Paiutes. Sand Springs was home to a Pony Express Station in 1860. The Sand Mountain blue butterfly is only found here.
39.275180, -118.413353 [blue]

19. Ragtown
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL This water stop along the Carson River was the first watering opportunity after the Forty Mile Desert, immediately to the north.
39.505685, -118.919229 [blue]

26. Forty Mile Desert
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL The Forty Mile Desert, beginning here, is a barren stretch of waterless alkali wasteland. It was the most dreaded section of the California Emigrant Trail.
39.940687, -118.750153 [blue]

27. Grimes Point
NATIVE AMERICAN Grimes Point is one of the largest and most accessible petroglyph sites in Northern Nevada. It contains about 150 basalt boulders covered with more than 1,000 petroglyphs.
39.401567, -118.647333 [blue]

83. Rock Creek (Cold Springs Station)
147. People of the Humboldt
NATIVE AMERICAN Archaeologists concluded that Native Americans have occupied this region for at least the last 12,000 years. In the 1830s, the area was dominated by vast wetlands that still supported Numa (Northern Paiute) villages.
39.940653, -118.749496

161. Churchill County Courthouse
ARCHITECTURE-EVENT This Neo-Classical Churchill County Courthouse was constructed in 1903 and has been in continuous use since opening. The building is the only monumental wooden courthouse built in Nevada.
39.474987, -118.777356 [concrete]

178. Hazen
RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING The town, established in 1903, housed laborers working on the Newlands irrigation project to the south. In 1906, the Southern Pacific Railroad built a large roundhouse and depot here.
39.563469, -119.047996 [blue]

201. Wonder
MINING Located 13 miles to the north is the camp of Wonder, a major mining center in the early years of the 20th Century. Wonder’s boom from 1906 to 1915 was brief, but spectacular.
39.287123, -118.162069 [blue]

202. Fairview (1905-1917)
MINING Fairview had a few silver booms between 1905 and 1917. The town boasted 27 saloons, hotels, banks, assay offices, a newspaper, a post office, and a miner’s union hall.
39.283282, -118.214901 [blue]

215. Lahontan Dam
RANCHING/FARMING Lahontan Dam, completed in 1915, is the key feature of the Newlands irrigation project that turned Lahontan Valley into one of Nevada’s most productive farming and ranching areas.
39.466105, -119.069503 [blue]

216. Stillwater
NATIVE AMERICAN-RANCHING/FARMING-TRAIL/ROAD The town originated as an overland stage station in 1862 and later became home to incoming ranchers. The Stillwater Indian Reservation adjoins the lush Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge full of natural resources.
39.521659, -118.546626 [blue]

263. Oats Park School
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON The Oats Park School was designed in 1914 by Frederick J. DeLongchamps, Nevada’s pre-eminent architect of the period. This building is one of his earliest, and perhaps his first, public school designs.
39.473455, -118.768678 [unknown]

271. Pony Express Route-1860 Sesquicentennial 2010
PONY EXPRESS This marker provides the history of the Pony Express.
39.287541, -118.571526 [blue]
1868 and 1872 to connect the mining and milling communities of the Comstock to the Central Pacific Railroad that ran through Reno. Chinese laborers graded this section during the summer of 1871. The first through train traversed the route in 1872.

39.516839, -119.806989  [stone]

253. Emigrant-Donner Camp
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-DONNER-EVENT Here at the base of Rattlesnake Mountain, California emigrants established a campground. Once rested, the emigrants turned west to cross the Sierra Nevadas. In 1846, the ill-fated Donner Party spent five days in this area. One member of the party, William Pike, died from being shot accidentally and was buried in the vicinity.

39.475754, -119.754121  [concrete]

256. Historic Transportation
CE TRAIL-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING-TRAIL/ROAD The historic road corridors from the Truckee Meadows northwestward into the Honey Lake area contain a tangle of intertwined routes following the course of valleys. These routes include portions of an emigrant trail cutoff, toll roads, county roads, and casual parallel routes developed to bypass blockages such as mud holes. This marker talks about the history of these and later roads in the area.

39.625214, -119.915506  [stone]

Postcard of horses pulling carriages with caption: Moana Springs, circa 1920

Courtesy of UNR Special Collections
Dr. James Edward Church, of the University of Nevada, established one of America’s first high-altitude meteorological observatories on this summit. 39.313053, -119.897332 [blue]

234. Moana Springs
ARCHITECTURE
Opened as a resort in 1905, Moana Springs had a large bath house with a pool fed by hot springs, a hotel and other recreation amenities. The City of Reno purchased Moana in 1956 and the remaining buildings were demolished the next year to make way for a new recreational complex. 39.491117, -119.800011 [blue small]

238. Huffaker’s
LUMBER-PERSON-RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING-TELEGRAPH
In 1858, Granville W. Huffaker drove cattle into Truckee Meadows and established his ranch. In 1862, a stage line and post office were added. For ten years, Huffaker’s was the center of the community. In 1875, a Pacific Lumber and Flume operation from the Lake Tahoe Basin was completed. At the terminus of the Flume, the Virginia and Truckee Railroad opened a depot and a telegraph office. They also constructed a spur where workers transferred timber. 39.441341, -119.771873 [blue]

240. Coney Island
ARCHITECTURE
From 1909-1912, Coney Island was among the most elaborate amusement parks of its day. An aircraft assembly plant occupied the site in the early “twenties” and an auto court was established here later. All of the buildings were either burned or torn down when Interstate 80 was constructed. 39.534931, -119.780546 [blue]

245. Frederik Joseph DeLongchamps
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON
Frederic Joseph DeLongchamps was Nevada’s foremost architect of his time. He designed many of Nevada’s civil and legal buildings. 39.524939, -119.812356 [concrete]

246. The Great Incline of the Sierra Nevada
LUMBER
Located on the mountain above are the remnants of the “Great Incline of the Sierra Nevada”. Completed in 1880, this lift carried cordwood and lumber up 1,800 feet to a v flume which carried the lumber down to Washoe Valley where it was loaded on wagons for use in the mines of the Comstock. 39.236793, -119.928791 [blue]

247. Site of Nevada’s First Public Library
EVENT-PERSON
In 1895, Frank H. Norcross began persuading the Nevada Legislature to enact a law to establish public libraries. The state’s first public library building was erected on this site in 1904, with donations from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie and pioneer Myron C. Lake. It remained in service until 1930 and was demolished in 1931. 39.441341, -119.771873 [blue]
terminal at Steamboat. Materials for the silver mines were transferred to freight wagons for the steep haul to Virginia City. Fires destroyed the luxurious buildings, but the therapeutic waters remained and their mineral muds are sought by cosmeticians and race horse owners. President Ulysses S. Grant even visited the springs in 1879. 39.379958, -119.742317 [blue]

220. The Fight of the Century
EVENT-PERSON At this site on July 4, 1910, Reno hosted ‘The Fight of the Century,’ a heavyweight championship boxing match between John Arthur Jack Johnson, the African American title holder, and James J. ‘Jim’ Jeffries, a former champion seeking to regain the title he had vacated in 1904. 39.533188, -119.796434 [blue]

221. Sand Harbor
LUMBER From 1881-1896, Sand Harbor played an important role in the operations of the Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company that supplied lumber to the Comstock mines during the late 19th century. A steamery towed log rafts from the south end of Lake Tahoe to Sand Harbor. Here the logs were loaded on narrow-gauge railway cars and taken two miles north to a sawmill on Mill Creek. 39.200494, -119.929941 [blue]

227. Lake Mansion Home of Myron C. Lake Founder of Reno 1877
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON Built by Washington J. Marsh, this property is also on the National Register of Historic Places. 39.522695, -119.816047 [blue small]

230. Mount Rose Weather Observatory
EVENT-PERSON Two miles to the northwest of this point lies Mt. Rose. In 1905,
6. Eldorado Canyon
MILITARY-MINING Eldorado Canyon, was home to the Colorado Mining District. In 1867, the U.S. Army established an outpost here to secure riverboat freight and to protect miners in the canyon from Native Americans.
35.827603, -114.936414 [blue]

31. Old Spanish Trail
Stretching for 130 miles across Clark County, this historic horse trail became Nevada’s first route of commerce in 1829. This trail was later used by the wagons of the “49ers” and by Mormon pioneers.
36.804102, -114.068703 [blue]

32. Old Spanish Trail
Marker missing. New location pending.
36.181224, -115.133064

33. The Old Spanish Trail
1829-1850
36.046865, -115.406494 [concrete]

34. The Old Spanish Trail
1829-1850
36.018350, -115.506856 [stone]

35. Las Vegas Mormon Fort (Nevada’s Oldest Building)
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON-RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING In 1855, Mormon missionaries established fields and built an adobe fort. The adobe later became headquarters for the Las Vegas Rancho. Helen J. Stewart purchased and expanded the ranch before selling it in 1902 to the Railroad for the Las Vegas townsite.
36.180732, -115.132676 [blue]

36. Moapa Valley
LDS-OLD SPANISH TRAIL-RANCHING/FARMING The Old Spanish Trail crosses Moapa Valley. In 1865, Brigham Young sent 75 families to settle the area and grow cotton. They developed the townsite of St. Thomas. The Moapa area remains one of the most agriculturally productive in the state.
36.633278, -114.492248 [blue]

37. Powell of the Colorado
EVENT-PERSON In 1869, Major John Wesley Powell landed at the mouth of the Virgin River, about twelve miles south of here, thus ending the first expedition through the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River.
36.307583, -114.420423 [blue]

40. Las Vegas (The Meadows)
ARCHITECTURE-EVENT-NATIVE

Frémont first journeyed through this canyon. In 1846, the Applegate brothers blazed their trail from Oregon through here to the Humboldt River. By 1849 gold seekers crowded the trail.

WASHERO COUNTY

189. Southern Pacific Railroad Yards
EVENT-RAILROAD Soon after 1900, laborers reworked some 373 miles of the original Central Pacific (now the Southern Pacific) line between Reno and Ogden, Utah. In 1904, the terminal in Wadsworth was moved to this location, which became the town of Sparks. The railroad dismantled a huge forty-stall locomotive roundhouse in 1959. The machine and erecting shops are still standing.
39.534695, -119.752618 [blue]

191. Verdi
LUMBER-RAILROAD-TRAIL/ROAD A log bridge was built across the Truckee River near where Verdi is now located. Known as O’Nell’s Crossing, the site served as a stage stop during the 1860s. Modern Verdi came into being with the construction of the Central Pacific Railroad through Nevada between 1867 and 1869. Verdi was a major mill town and terminal for the shipment of ties and construction timbers. A fire in 1926, plus depletion of timber reserves, resulted in Verdi’s decline.
39.515945, -119.993731 [blue]

198. Steamboat Springs
PERSON-RAILROAD-TRAIL/ROAD After the springs were located in 1860, a hospital and bathhouses were built. In 1871, the Virginia & Truckee Railroad built a
This marker is located inside the Las Vegas Springs Preserve. Water from the Las Vegas Spring fed meadows and mesquite forests that were the homelands of Paiute and Moapa people. The springs were a stopping point on the Old Spanish Trail, John Fremont camped here in 1844, the waters made a great location for the Las Vegas Mission and Fort in 1855.

**41. Pueblo Grande De Nevada**
ARCHITECTURE-NATIVE AMERICAN
Several hundred ancient pithouses, campsites, rockshelters, salt mines and caves of ancestral Puebloan people make up what is the intensively developed portion of Lost City.

**46. Virgin Valley**
MORMON TRAIL-OLD SPANISH TRAIL
The valley served as the right-of-way for many trails. The Virgin River provided water for settlers in Boulder City (1877) and Mesquite (1880).

**86. Tule Springs**
NATIVE AMERICAN
This site contains evidence of both early and late-age animals including ground sloth, mammoth, prehistoric horse, and American camel.

**102. Goodsprings Mining District 1856-1957**
LDS-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING
Named for cattleman Joseph Good, Goodsprings mining district got its start in 1856, when Mormons began work at Potosí mine. Mining reached its peak in 1916 when Goodsprings had 800 residents.

**115. Potosí**
LDS-MILITARY-MINING
Mormon settlers mined for lead at Potosí to be abandoned in 1857. In 1861, the mine was reopened and a smelter and cabins for miners were built. During World War I, Potosí was an important source of zinc.

**88. Sparks**
PERSON-RAILROAD
The Southern Pacific Company converted an elaborate scheme to rob the Central Pacific Railroad as the train passed through Verdi.

**114. Franktown**
LUMBER-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING
In 1855, Orson Hyde, probate judge of Carson County, Utah Territory, founded Franktown. The town was surrounded by farms.

**128. The Great Train Robbery**
EVENT-RAILROAD
The train robbery occurred near this site on the night of November 4, 1870. A gang of men concocted an elaborate scheme to rob the train as it passed through Verdi.

**148. The Two Battles of Pyramid Lake**
MILITARY-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON
On May 12, 1860, Northern Paiute warriors, fighting to retain their way of life, decisively defeated a volunteer army. On June 2, 1860, a larger force of volunteers, helped by regular U.S. Army troops engaged Nomu warriors in battle. Several hundred warriors held back forces until their women, children, and elders could escape. Numu war leader, Numi (young Winnemucca) decided on peace, but the fight was only a prelude for the war that was to follow.

**149. High Rock Canyon**
NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-TRAIL/ROAD
Marker removed. This site is important to Native Americans and contains thousands of years old rock shelters, campsites, and petroglyphs.
**CLARK COUNTY**

116. Searchlight
MINING-PERSON-RAILROAD Marker is unreadable. In 1897, gold and other ore discoveries were made here. In 1907, a Railroad spur connected the town with the then main Santa Fe line from Needles to Mojave. This town is also the birthplace of former U.S. Senator and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid.
35.468306, -114.922614 [blue]

139. Old Spanish Trail (The Journey of the Dead Man)
PERSON Awaiting install. This is the longest stretch along the Old Spanish Trail without water. It was littered with the skeletons of animals and parts of wagons abandoned along the sandy desert. John C. Frémont crossed this section in 1844.
36.499500, -114.760972

140. The Garcés Expedition
SPANISH EXPLORATION-NATIVE AMERICAN Garcés, a Franciscan missionary priest and explorer, was the first European to enter the present boundaries of Nevada. In 1776, he had reached the Mohave villages located just south of this location on the banks of the Colorado river.
35.106519, -114.650708 [blue]

141. Old Spanish Trail (Armijo’s Route)
In 1830, the first pack train to pass from Santa Fe to Los Angeles crossed the Las Vegas Valley along Antonio Armijo’s route. Until the end of the Mexican War in 1848, this route was the principal means of transportation between the Mexican territories of New Mexico and California.
36.097652, -114.904643 [blue]

142. Old Spanish Trail (Mountain Springs Pass)
Marker down. This portion of the Old Spanish Trail was discovered in January 1830, by Antonio Armijo. The springs just north of this marker provided excellent water and fed meadows of grass for draft animals.
35.998436, -115.447709

150. Nevada’s First State Park
EVENT In 1934, donated land was officially dedicated as Valley of Fire, Nevada’s first state park. By 2015, the park had grown fourfold, and is recognized internationally for its outstanding scenic, geologic, and archaeological features.
36.429923, -114.513954 [blue]

168. Arrowhead Trail (1914-1924)
TRAIL/Road This trail was promoted as an all-weather route between Los Angeles and Salt Lake City. Local communities along the route promoted its construction and the tourism possibilities of Southern Nevada, including Valley of Fire.
36.426315, -114.463134 [blue]

188. Von Schmidt State Boundary Monument
PERSON-SURVEY This marker commemorates the iron column erected in 1873 at the southernmost tip of the boundary survey line run by Alexey W. Von Schmidt, U.S. astronomer and surveyor.
35.014268, -114.661826 [blue]

**WASHOE COUNTY**

63. Truckee River East
PERSON-Railroad The river’s first recorded discovery was by Captain John C. Frémont in 1844. That same year the Truckee River became a route for California emigrants until the advent of the Central Pacific Railroad in 1868-1869. After the Southern Pacific took over the railway in 1899 and relocated much of its Nevada alignment, the old roadbed between Sparks and Wadsworth was deeded to Washoe County. In 1958, after reconstruction, this route became the initial section of interstate 80 across Nevada.
39.550095, -119.573599 [blue]

68. Wadsworth
RAILROAD From 1868 until 1884, the Central Pacific’s Truckee Wadsworth Division was located on this site. In 1882, work was started on a new site across the river, and by 1883, a new roundhouse, shop, and other buildings were completed there. After two fires, the railroad planned to move to a new site. In 1904, division facilities moved west to an entirely new location, which became Sparks, Nevada.
39.630926, -119.279170 [blue]

79. Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery
EVENT-MILITARY In 1890, General OM. Mitchel bought 17 lots in the original Hillside Cemetery for the last resting place for comrades-in arms during the Civil War. Restoration began in 1963 by the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War and other interested citizens in the Reno area.
39.536146, -119.819837 [blue]
190. Original Home of “Pop” Squires (1865-1958)
EVENT-PERSON Charles “Pop” Squires, often referred to as “the Father of Las Vegas,” lived at this location, with his wife Delphine, from 1931 until his death in 1958. 36.164606, -115.140944 [on building]

195. The Last Spike
RAILROAD Marker missing. On January 30, 1905, near this site, workers drove the last spike that completed the railroad between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. 35.839769, -115.271795

197. Arrowhead Trail – Henderson
OLD SPANISH TRAIL-TRAIL/ROAD Prior to 1850, New Mexican trading caravans en route to Los Angeles used this segment of the Old Spanish Trail. Later it became part of the Arrowhead Trail, an early automobile road (1916-1924) connecting Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. 35.997119, -114.961784

224. Kyle (Kiel) Ranch
PERSON-RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING Established by Conrad Kiel in 1875, this was one of only two major ranches in the Las Vegas valley throughout the 19th century. The railroad purchased the ranch in 1903. It changed hands a few times before Edwin Losee (1939-58) developed it into a divorce ranch. Currently Kiel Ranch is a 7-acre historic site owned by the City of North Las Vegas. 36.203273, -115.140478 [on fence]

270. The Morelli House
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON The Morelli House is a classic example of Las Vegas mid-century residential architecture. It was built in 1959 by the Sands Hotel orchestra leader Antonio Morelli and his wife Helen. 36.165279, -115.137737 [on building]
12. Nevada’s Birthplace
EVENT-PONY EXPRESS-TRAIL/ROAD
Carson Valley is the birthplace of Nevada. This sign covers the early settlement of area communities.

38.995981, -119.780024 [concrete]

117. Kingsbury Grade
TRAIL/ROAD In the late 1850s a toll road was constructed to meet the demand for a more direct route from California to the Washoe mines and to shorten the distance between Sacramento and Virginia City by ten miles.

38.965550, -119.839676 [blue]

118. Luther Canyon (Fay Canyon)
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-LUMBER-PERSON Luther Canyon, west of this site, takes its name from Ira M. Luther, a Nevada Territorial Legislature delegate, who from 1858-1865 had a sawmill there. The house behind the marker was his home. John and Lute Olds, owners of the next ranch south, operated a station along the Emigrant Trail for a number of years.

38.870489, -119.809402 [blue]

120. Walley’s Hot Springs
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL In 1862, along this Carson branch of the Emigrant Trail, David and Harriet Walley developed a $100,000 spa resort. The thermal waters became well known as a cure for “rheumatism and scrofulous afflictions.”

38.981193, -119.833243 [blue]

121. Mottsville
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-CEMETERY-EVENT-PERSON Mottsville, was settled along the Emigrant Trail by Hiram Mott and his son Israel in 1851. Their homestead was the scene of an impressive number of firsts in Carson County, Utah Territory including the first school and the first cemetery that marks the site of Mottsville today.

38.931096, -119.840046 [blue]

122. Sheridan
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING In 1861, a blacksmith shop, a store, two saloons and a boarding house comprised the village of Sheridan. The former boarding house is all that remains and it has been converted into the dwelling seen across the road.

38.901252, -119.825849 [blue]
awaiting installation. The remains of Cradlebaugh Bridge, built in 1861, by William Cradlebaugh, stand ¼ mile west of here. This bridge shortened the distance from Carson City to Aurora in the then-booming Esmeralda Mining District. 39.046729, -119.780249

129. Gardnerville
BASQUE-DUTCH-RANCHING/FARMING Early Gardnerville served the farming community and teamsters who hauled local produce to booming Bodie. After 1879, Gardnerville became the center for 1,870 Danish immigrants, who met in Valhalla Hall, one block south. Starting in 1898, Spanish and French Basque shepherds tended thousands of sheep in Carson Valley. 38.940808, -119.748830 [blue]

130. Minden
RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING The seat of Douglas County since 1916, Minden, was named for a town in Germany, where the founder of H.F. Dangberg Land and Livestock Company, was born. The company established Minden in 1905 to provide terminal facilities for the Virginia and Truckee Railway. The passenger and freight depot was situated at this point. 38.952691, -119.761831 [blue]

131. Dresslerville
NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-TRAIL/ROAD In 1917, State Senator William F. Dressler gave this 40-acre tract to the Washoe Indians, then living on ranches in Carson Valley. After a school was opened in 1924, it became a nucleus of settlement. 38.905171, -119.760420 [blue]

124. Boyd Toll Road
MINING-TELEGRAPH-TRAIL/ROAD Boyd's toll road is still visible to the northwest and southeast of this marker. It was constructed in 1861 to provide a road to join Genoa to the Cradlebaugh toll road, the trunkline to the mining district of Esmeralda. In 1863, a telegraph line from Placerville through Genoa was strung along it. 38.987612, -119.779225 [blue]

125. Twelve Mile House
ARCHITECTURE-MINING-PERSON-TRAIL/ROAD Marker in production. Built in 1859, this was an important stop on the road to the Esmeralda mining camp of Aurora. Mile houses were critical places for rest and supplies along early western road systems before railroads. 38.905804, -119.706766 [blue]

126. Double Springs
MINING-RANCHING/FARMING-TRAIL/ROAD Double Springs was a station on the wagon road through the south end of the Pine Nut Mountains. The road provided access between Carson and Walker valleys, both ranching and dairy regions. The site of the Eagle Mining District post office is about four miles north along the highway. 38.793525, -119.599536 [blue]

207. Carson Valley
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-LDS-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING This valley was well suited for ranchers and agriculturalists to prosper. The river provided an influx of California bound travelers in need.
228. The Great Fire of 1875

The origins of the fire lie within fifty feet of this marker. October 26, 1875, a coal oil lamp was knocked over in a nearby boarding house and burst into flames. Strong winds spread the blaze and thirty-three blocks of structures were leveled.

226. African Americans and the Boston Saloon

Between 1866 and 1875, Free-born William A.G. Brown operated the Boston Saloon, serving Virginia City's African Americans. Shortly after Brown sold his business, the great fire of 1875 swept through town and destroyed the building. The site of the Boston Saloon is located uphill and to the left of this location at the corner of Union and D Streets, now occupied by the Bucket of Blood Saloon parking lot.

236. Piper's Opera House

This building was erected by John Piper in 1885. Piper's Opera House, with its original scenery, raked stage, and elegant proscenium boxes, is a remarkable survivor of a colorful era in American theatrical history.

266. African Americans and the Boston Saloon

African American History-Event-
Mining-Person Between 1866 and 1875, Free-born William A.G. Brown operated the Boston Saloon, serving Virginia City's African Americans. Shortly after Brown sold his business, the great fire of 1875 swept through town and destroyed the building. The site of the Boston Saloon is located uphill and to the left of this location at the corner of Union and D Streets, now occupied by the Bucket of Blood Saloon parking lot.

222. Spooner Area (Logging and Lumbering Period: 1868-1895)

Lumber-Mining-Person This area bears the name of Michele E. Spooner, a French Canadian entrepreneur, who, along with others, was instrumental in establishing the wood and lumber industry which supplied the needs of the Comstock mines and mills.
13. The Comstock Lode
EVENT-MINING Near this spot was the heart of the Comstock Lode, the fabulous 2 1/2 mile deposit of high-grade ore that produced nearly $400,000,000 in silver and gold. After the discovery in 1859, Virginia City boomed for 20 years, helping bring Nevada into the union in 1864 and building wealth for investors in San Francisco.

28. Mark Twain
PERSON Samuel Clemens was a reporter here in 1863 when he first used the name, Mark Twain. He later described his colorful adventures in Nevada in "Roughing It."

87. Savage Mansion (1861)
ARCHITECTURE-MINING-PERSON This elegant mansion, designed in the French Second Empire style, served as a residence for the superintendent, as well as a mine office for the Savage Mining Company. Ulysses S. Grant, 18th President of the United States, spoke to the townspeople from here in 1879, after a town parade in his honor.

209. Chollar Mine
MINING First located in 1859, the Chollar was consolidated with the Potosi in 1865. As the Chollar-Potosi, it was one of the leading producers on the Comstock. The Nevada mill was erected here in 1887. It was the last to use the Washoe pan process, but the first on the Comstock to generate and utilize electric power.

211. Old Geiger Grade
MINING-ROAD/TRAIL Constructed in 1862, this old toll road, seen in the canyon below, was the most direct connection between the Comstock Lode and the Truckee
3. West End of Hastings Cutoff
DONNER-TRAIL/ROAD Across the Humboldt Valley southward from this point a deeply incised canyon opens into a valley. Through that canyon ran the route called the Hastings Cutoff. It was first traversed in 1841 by the earliest organized California emigrant group. In 1846, the ill-fated Reed Donner Party traveled through here.
40.766087, -115.919748 [stone]

45. Humboldt Wells
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-RAILROAD These springs, seen as marshy spots and small ponds of water in the meadows, are Humboldt Wells, a historic oasis on the California Emigrant Trail. In 1869, the Central Pacific Railroad established a station named Humboldt Wells later named just Wells.
41.117892, -114.978171 [blue]

46. Pilot Peak
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-DONNER-PERSON The high, symmetrically shaped mountain seen rising to the north is Pilot Peak, named by John C. Frémont. The mountain was a symbol of hope and relief to the Reed Donner Party and all other wagon train pioneers who traveled across the Great Salt Lake Desert on the California Emigrant Trail.
40.843933, -114.207478 [blue]

47. Fort Halleck Site 1867-1886
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-NATIVE AMERICAN-RAILROAD-TRAIL/ROAD Marker missing. In 1867, Fort Halleck was established twelve miles to the south near Soldier Creek. The Army intended the Fort to protect the California Emigrant Trail, the Overland Mail Route, and construction work on the Central Pacific Railroad during conflicts with Goshute and Western Shoshone in that decade.
40.956274, -115.465769

48. Tuscarora
CHINESE-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING Mines that made up the Tuscarora Mining District experienced their boom between 1872 and 1884. The population reached over 3,000, including several hundred Chinese. Tuscarora residents shifted their work between mining gold and silver and ranching in Independence Valley.
41.281007, -116.113917 [blue]

50. Carlin Canyon
CHINESE-PERSON-TRAPPING In 1828, Peter Skene Ogden and his trapping brigade (Hudson’s Bay Company) were the first European Americans to enter here. In 1845, John C. Frémont dispatched a group down
PERSHING COUNTY

17. Pershing County
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-MINING-RAILROAD Travelers on their way to California in the 1840s and 1850s named this rich valley Big Meadows. Mining began here in the 1850s. The coming of the railroad in 1869 brought new growth to the area. Pershing County, established in 1919, was previously part of Humboldt County. 40.180457, -118.476651 [stone]

23. Humboldt House
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-MINING-RAILROAD Humboldt House, also known as Humboldt Station, was a departure point for Humboldt City, Prince Royal, and the mines in that vicinity. As the California, it reached Humboldt House in September 1868. Between 1841 and 1857, 165,000 Americans traveled the California Emigrant Trail past here. 40.598778, -118.251639 [blue]

49. Applegate-Lassen Emigrant Trail Cutoff
TRAIL/ROAD From 1846-1848, Oregon emigrants successfully traveled the Applegate Trail. In 1848, Peter Lassen, guided a party of ten to twelve wagons bound for California from here to Goose Lake where he turned southward over terrain that was barely passable. It became known as the “Death Route.” 40.652280, -118.165702 [blue]

145. Unionville
EVENT-MINING Southern (Confederate) sympathizers settled in Buena Vista Canyon in 1861 after the discovery of silver ore. Appropriately called Dixie, their camp’s name changed to Unionville in 1862, when the will of the neutral and northern factions of the population prevailed. 40.449753, -118.071769 [blue]

231. Star City
MINING Marker is damaged. Located in the Star Mining District some seven miles west of here, Star City was established in 1861 when rich silver ore was discovered in this isolated area in 1909. 40.553250, -118.051641 [blue]

106. Elko
RAILROAD-RANCHING/FARMING The Central Pacific Railroad planned out Elko in 1868. The railroad was busy with stage lines carrying freight and passengers to area mines. By the early 1870s, Elko became the center for northeastern Nevada’s range livestock empire. 40.841389, -115.753441 [blue]

112. Carlin
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-MINING-RAILROAD A favorite stopping place for wagon trains along the California Emigrant Trail, Carlin, the oldest town in Elko County, was established as a railroad division point in 1868 by the Central Pacific Railroad. Carlin competed with Elko, Palisade, and Winnemucca for the staging and freighting business of the many mining camps north and south of the railroad. 40.710312, -116.118394 [blue]

108. Ruby Valley Pony Express Station
This small building was originally located 60 miles to the south, where it served the Pony Express from April 1860 to 1861. It was moved to this location in 1960. 40.841851, -115.752835 [blue small]

109. Lamoille Valley
CALIFORNIA EMIGRANT TRAIL-RANCHING/FARMING In order to rest their livestock in Lamoille Valley, many emigrants skirted the east Humboldt Range and the Ruby Mountains along a Shoshone Indian path before returning to the Humboldt River. Lamoille Valley was first settled in 1865. The original buildings, and the most recent 20-bedroom Lamoille Hotel, creamery, flour mill, and dance hall are gone. 40.727632, -115.479733 [blue]

49. Applegate-Lassen Emigrant Trail Cutoff
TRAIL/ROAD From 1846-1848, Oregon emigrants successfully traveled the Applegate Trail. In 1848, Peter Lassen, guided a party of ten to twelve wagons bound for California from here to Goose Lake where he turned southward over terrain that was barely passable. It became known as the “Death Route.” 40.652280, -118.165702 [blue]
151. Duck Valley Indian Reservation
NATIVE AMERICAN The Shoshone and Paiute people have occupied northern Nevada, southeastern Oregon, and southern Idaho since time immemorial. In the mid-1800s European emigrants changed the Shoshone and Paiute homelands forever. The Duck Valley Indian Reservation was first established in 1877 and expanded twice: once in 1886 and a second time in 1910. Between 1880 and the early 1900s, other small bands of Paiutes and Shoshone made their way to the reservation, some by choice and others by force. In 1934, the different bands that came to the reservation from other areas became federally recognized as the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.
41.997450, -116.132001 [blue]

244. Dinner Station
ARCHITECTURE-TRAIL/ROAD Marker removed. Dinner Station was established in the early 1870s as a meal stop for the Tuscarora and Mountain City Stage Lines. After a fire in the 1880s, a two-story stone house, outbuildings, and a corral were built. Early in the twentieth century, it became one of the most popular county inns of the time.
41.099749, -115.866354

251. Diamondfield Jack Davis
MINING-PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING This historical marker commemorates the lasting notoriety of flamboyant western gunman Jackson Lee Davis (1870-1949), who was better known by the colorful name, “Diamondfield Jack.” In the late 1890s, Davis was a gunman for cattle interests. Later he became a successful mine operator and founder of several mining camps.
41.984799, -114.671903 [stone]

153. Jarbidge Community Hall
ARCHITECTURE In 1910, citizens built this pioneer-type community hall with a “floating” maple floor. Support from the Nevada Commission for Cultural Affairs and the community funded the restoration of the building.
41.875519, -115.430682 [on building]

229. Oil From Shale
EVENT Directly south of this point and across the valley floor are the remains of a short-lived oil extraction plant from the early twenties. Out of several tries at extracting oil from shale, this was the only successful operation in Nevada.
40.825540, -115.779914 [blue]

Carlin Late 19th Century
Courtesy of UNR Special Collections
138. Belmont
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN A spring that flows year-round made this area an attractive gathering site for Shoshone Indians and miners. In 1865, silver ore was discovered and Belmont boomed. It was the Nye County seat from 1867-1905. A courthouse survives from this period. By 1890, Belmont’s population dwindled as most residents left for new discoveries in nearby mining towns.
38.596333, -116.875722 [concrete]

159. Ione
MINING In 1863, European Americans discovered silver here. A year later, Ione City was the first county seat of the newly created Nye County. Over 600 people worked in town until a promising ore body in Belmont attracted most of the miners and later captured the county seat in 1867.
38.949536, -117.585166 [blue]

165. Nevada Test Site
EVENT-MILITARY-NATIVE AMERICAN The nation's principal nuclear explosives testing laboratory was located within this 1,350 square mile, geologically complex area. The first nuclear test took place in 1951. Archeological studies of the testing area have revealed continuous occupation of the area over the past 9,500 years with Southern Paiutes being the most recent Native American inhabitants.
36.592657, -116.028351 [blue]

171. Chief Tecopa: Peacemaker of the Paiutes
NATIVE AMERICAN Chief Tecopa was a young man when the first European Americans came to Southern Nevada. He is honored for the peaceful relations he maintained between the Southern Paiutes and the settlers who came to live among them.
36.209098, -115.989518 [blue]

172. Tybo
CHINESE-MINING Eight miles northwest of this point lies what was formerly one of the leading lead-producing districts in the nation. Ore was first discovered in 1866. It's mainly European residents had internal conflicts. Later, the different groups banded together to drive away a company of Chinese woodcutters.
38.310030, -116.275635 [blue]

173. Beatty
MINING-RAILROAD Beatty was the center of three short-lived, so-called “gold” railroads that were spawned by early 1900s strikes in Tonopah, Goldfield and Rhyolite. The town was referred to as the “Chicago of the West”.
36.905963, -117.555789 [blue]

217. Tate’s Stage Station
TRAIL/ROAD Thomas Tate sub-contracted mail routes in central Nevada for over thirty years. In 1886, he and his wife established a station due east as an overnight stop between the county seats of Austin and Belmont.
38.978274, -117.196327 [blue]
ESMERALDA COUNTY

14. Goldfield
MINING-RAILROAD Gold ore was discovered here in 1902 by two Nevada-born prospectors, Harry Stimler and Billy Marsh. Goldfield boomed from 1904 to 1918. The city had a railroad that connected to Las Vegas and a peak population of 20,000, making it Nevada's largest community at the time.
37.707608, -117.233431 [blue]

15. Tonopah
MINING-RAILROAD Tonopah became the richest silver producer in the nation and replaced Belmont as the Nye County seat in 1905. The mines spawned a railroad, several huge mills, and a bustling population of approximately 10,000. The mines faltered in the 1920s.
38.066994, -117.229351 [stone]

42. Big Smokey Valley
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-PONY EXPRESS-TELEGRAPH-TRAIL/ROAD This valley and its bordering Toiyabe and Toquima ranges are Shoshone territory. European American explorers came into the area starting with Jedediah Smith in 1827. Other figures include John C. Frémont, and Kit Carson. Between 1859-1869, the valley was crossed by Chorpenning's Jackass Mail, the Pony Express, the Overland Telegraph, and the Concord Coaches of the Overland Mail and Stage Company. Silver strikes at Austin (1862-1863) initiated the valley's first mining boom. Numerous bustling mining camps sprang up. In 1900, the Tonopah silver strike reinvigorated mining in the valley.
38.783165, -117.175405 [blue]

58. Old Boundary
EVENT Starting in 1850, the 37th degree north latitude, marked at this point, was the dividing line between the territories of Utah and New Mexico. In 1861 it became the southern boundary for the Nevada Territory.
37.002016, -116.725944 [blue]

NYE COUNTY

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37.002016, -116.725944 [blue]

19. Columbus
MINING Marker missing. The remnants of Columbus are located to the southwest. The town was initially settled in 1865, when a quartz mill was erected at the site. In 1871, William Troop discovered borax in the locality. Four borax companies worked the deposits until around 1881.
38.149407, -117.947939

20. Columbus
MINING Marker missing. The remnants of Columbus are located on the edge of the salt marsh, five miles to the southwest. The town was initially settled in 1865, when a quartz mill was erected at the site. In 1871, William Troop discovered borax in the locality. Four borax companies worked the deposits until around 1881.
38.149407, -117.947939

101. Millers
MINING-TELEGRAPH This town was originally established in 1904 as a stage station and watering stop on the Tonopah and Goldfield Railroad. The Tonopah Mining Company had its 100-stamp cyanide mill built here in 1906. The town was abandoned in 1947 when the railroad went out of business.
38.140509, -117.454420 [blue]

133. Fish Lake Valley
MINING-PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING The valley was settled when the Palmetto Silver Mining District was discovered in 1866. In the 1870’s companies mined for borax. Several local ranches supplied food to the freight industry and mining communities. This marker commemorates W.O. Harrell, known as “Harrell, the irrepressible,” who lived here in the 1870’s.
37.693977, -118.090260 [blue]
on through the years and a small community existed here until World War I.
37.455434, -117.499636  [blue]

158. Palmetto
MINING  A local 12-stamp mill processed silver ore here in the late 1800s, but the town died for lack of profitable material. New prospecting in 1903 caused Palmetto to grow to a town of 200 tents. By 1906, most miners were gone and lease mining has been minimal ever since.
37.44168, -117.694873  [blue]

174. Blair
MINING-RAILROAD  The remnants of stone buildings and mill foundations are the only survivors of the once thriving, but short-lived, mining town. The Pittsburgh-Silver Peak Gold Mining Company built a 100-stamp mill here in 1907 as well as a railroad to the Tonopah & Goldfield main line.
37.787702, -117.636535  [blue]

242. Southern Nevada
Telephone – Telegraph Company Building
ARCHITECTURE-TELEGRAPH  This building was the communications center of Goldfield from 1908 to 1963. This building was one of the few spared by a fire that destroyed 53 blocks of the downtown area in 1923.
37.709118, -117.234879  [on building]
EUREKA COUNTY

11. Eureka
MINING-RAILROAD “Eureka!” a miner is said to have exclaimed in 1864 when he discovered rich lead-silver ore here. During the 1880s Eureka had 16 smelters, over 100 saloons, a population of 10,000, and a railroad — the colorful Eureka and Palisade — that connected with the transcontinental line to the north.
39.499881, -115.958485 [stone]

65. Palisade
RAILROAD Palisade was surveyed and laid out by the Central Pacific Railroad in 1870. At this time, it was a departure point on the line for wagon, freight, and stage lines to Mineral Hill, Eureka, and Hamilton. The Eureka and Palisade Railroad was completed in 1875 and until 1930, the town was the principal transfer and shipping point on the Central Pacific.
40.601131, -116.178075 [blue]

82. Diamond Valley
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-PONY EXPRESS-RANCHING/FARMING-TELEGRAPH For generations Shoshone and Paiute Indians had gathered nature’s bounty here. John C. Frémont mapped the area in 1845. A route, through the north end of the valley, became the Pony Express route from 1860-1861. The Overland Telegraph replaced the Pony Express and crossed the valley. In the 1860s, area led and silver mines were supported by limited ranching and serviced by toll roads all across the valley. In 1957, a large underground lake was tapped to supply water for irrigation.
39.755569, -116.083893 [blue]

170. Eureka Sentinel Building
ARCHITECTURE Constructed in 1879, this building was designed by architect C.M. Bennett. The Eureka Sentinel was published here from 1879 to 1960.
39.512468, -115.961652 [on building]

80. Eureka Courthouse
ARCHITECTURE Designed by George Costerisa and built in 1879-80 from locally-fired brick and sandstone quarried nearby, the Italianate style courthouse remains a fine example of boomtown Victorian opulence. This relic reflects the glory days from 1864 to 1890 when Eureka was the first important lead-silver district in the United States.
39.512349, -115.961003 [on building]

MINERAL COUNTY

16. Mineral County
MINING-PERSON Jedediah Smith passed near here in 1828 during his remarkable trip across the Great Basin. Peter Skene Ogden traveled through the region in 1829. John C. Frémont arrived in 1845 with his guide, Joseph Walker, for whom the lake is named. Formerly part of Esmeralda County, Mineral County was formed in 1911. The county includes several well-known mining towns as well as other smaller mining camps.

154. Belleville
MINING-RAILROAD Founded in 1874, Belleville flourished by milling ore from Northern Belle Mine at Candelaria. The mill, located just east of here, made its first bullion-boat shipment (worth $9,200) in 1875. Starting in 1881, Belleville was also the terminus and work camp of the Carson and Colorado Railroad.
38.222908, -118.180332 [blue]

183. Walker River Reservation
NATIVE AMERICAN Although the area around Walker Lake in the Utah Territory was set aside for “Indians purposes” in 1859, it was not until 15 years later that President Grant signed the executive order formally establishing the Walker River Indian Reservation, on March 19, 1874.
38.952343, -118.810608 [blue]

237. Carson and Colorado R.R. Freight Depot
RAILROAD This is the first railroad building to be constructed in Hawthorne. It is the remnant of the narrow-gauge Carson and Colorado Railroad built south from Mound House near Virginia City in 1881. In later years, this building served as a general store, a bar and restaurant with a bingo parlor, and a banquet hall, until acquired by the Hawthorne Elks Lodge in 1946.
38.524330, -118.623862 [on building]
222. Tannehill Cabin
ARCHITECTURE-MINING In 1864, the Tannehill brothers, who owned mining interests, built one of Eureka’s first houses. Over time, the cabin has had a number of owners, including the firm of Nathan & Harrison, one of the area’s first mercantile establishments in the late 1860s. 39.503149, -115.959516  [blue]

254. The Eureka Mining District Producing Ore Since 1864
MINING In 1864, a group of prospectors from Austin, Nevada discovered rock containing a silver-lead mixture on Prospect Peak. From 1870-1890, the Eureka Mining District was one of the top mineral producing districts in the state. Many hills around Eureka still contain rock piles, open shafts, and abandoned mining equipment. Modern day gold mining continues in the area today. 39.555260, -115.995721  [stone]
223. Devil's Gate
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN Devil's Gate marks the boundary line between Storey and Lyon Counties. From 1850-1860 Gold Canyon was busy with placer mining. During the brief Paiute War of 1860, residents of Silver City built a stone battlement on the eastern summit and a wooden cannon for protection. Later on, miners traveled through here on their way to the gold and silver mines of the Comstock Lode.
39.266623, -119.643199  [concrete]

233. Dayton Cemetery
MINING-PERSON Founded in 1851, this is one of the oldest constantly maintained cemeteries in Nevada. The trail to the California Mother Lode passed directly in front and the wagon tracks can still be seen with careful observation. James Finney (“Old Virginny”) after whom Virginia City is named, is buried here. Many people buried here are Italian Americans, as this ethnic group dominated much of Dayton’s early history.
39.233421, -119.597071  [blue]

243. Dayton School House – 1865
ARCHITECTURE In 1865, Lyon County built a stone school building for the residents of Dayton, then the county seat. It is the second oldest schoolhouse in Nevada and is the oldest such structure to remain in its original location.
39.237918, -119.592480  [on building]

255. Wilson Canyon
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN (GHOST DANCE)-PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING Wilson Canyon and the Wilson Mining District were named for brothers David and “Uncle Billy” Wilson. The family settled in the area in 1863 mining gold discovered in Pine Grove and ranching in Mason Valley. A Northern Paiute named Wovoka was raised with the Wilson boys and took the name Jack Wilson. Wovoka started the Ghost Dance movement in 1890, which swept into the Great Plains with potent political force.
38.809668, -119.220149  [stone]

262. Silver City School House
ARCHITECTURE The growing town of Silver City built a schoolhouse at this site in 1867-1868. The school closed in 1958. The building then served as a community center and volunteer fire department. Fire destroyed the original building in 2004. The new building closely resembles the old schoolhouse in size and architectural style. Materials from the original building are incorporated into the new structure.
39.264552, -119.639577  [stone]
LYON

finished in 1864. In 1909, the building burned. Utilizing the ruins, a high school was built and opened in 1918. The school closed in 1959 and the building became an elementary school, then a junior high school, and is now the Dayton Valley Community Center. 39.238094, -119.591121 [blue small]

192. Buckland’s Station
ARCHITECTURE-MILITARY-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-PONY EXPRESS-TRAIL/ROAD
Samuel S. Buckland settled here in 1859 and began a ranching operation, established a station for the Overland Stage Company, and operated a tent hotel. The station served as the assembly point for volunteers for the Pyramid Lake War, a station on the Pony Express, and later on, a store. He also constructed the large two-story house, presently located here. 39.294228, -119.251578 [blue]

199. Camels in Dayton
MILITARY-MINING
Camels were imported into the United States and tested for military purposes in the mid-1850’s. The experiment failed and the camels were auctioned. Some were brought here to haul wood and salt to the mines and mills of the Comstock. They were corralled behind this stone hay barn, known as the Leslie Hay Barn. 39.238749, -119.591254 [blue]

200. Hall’s Station
CALIFORNIA EMMIGRANT TRAIL-EVENT
This site is the place where the first recorded dance was held on New Year’s Eve, 1853. Stafford Hall built this station and trading post in the early 1850s to accommodate emigrants bound for California. Major Omsby was the last owner. The title was still in his name in 1860 when he died in the first battle of the Pyramid Lake War. The exact site was

original wall of the Overland Stage Station and Pony Expre$$ stop. 39.236143, -119.590638 [on building]

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

2. Pioneer Memorial Park
CEMETERY-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON
This part of the cemetery is the last resting place of Frank Baud and other pioneers who founded Winnemucca. Baud arrived in 1863 and is one of the men credited with naming the town Winnemucca after the famous Northern Paiute chieftain. 40.978808, -117.741942 [stone]

21. The Humboldt Canal
MINING
The Humboldt Canal coursed southwestward from Preble, near Golconda, toward Mill City. Its primary purpose was to supply water for over forty stamp mills planned at and above Mill City, but it was also designed for barge traffic and some irrigation water supply. The present highway crossed it at this point. 40.982104, -117.726696 [blue]

22. Humboldt River
EVENT-PERSON-TRAPPING
Peter Skene Ogden, of the Hudson Bay Company, encountered the Humboldt River in 1828, explored hundreds of square miles, left records in his journal, and drafted the first map of the area. The Humboldt was the only natural arterial across the Great Basin. From 1841-1870, it funneled thousands of emigrants along its valley enroute to the Pacific Coast. 41.016642, -117.573543 [blue]

89. Paradise Valley
MILITARY-MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING-TRAPPING
In 1828, Hudson Bay Company’s Peter Skene Ogden traversed this valley. Thirty-five years later, settlers started to arrive and conflicts with local Native Americans led to the establishment of Camp Winnfield Scott (1866-1870) four miles from here. Settlers established farms that supplied the nearby mines in both Nevada and Idaho territories. Later, ranching became the major industry in the area. 41.491674, -117.534556 [blue]

105. Golconda
CALIFORNIA EMMIGRANT TRAIL-MINING-RAILROAD
Golconda, a one-time Utah territory mining town and a landmark on the California Emigrant Trail, was famous for its hot springs. In 1868, Golconda became an ore shipping station on the new Central Pacific Railroad. 40.496184, -117.534556 [blue]

143. Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins
MILITARY-NATIVE AMERICAN-PERSON
Marker in production. Sarah Winnemucca, whose Paiute name was Thocmentony (Shellflower), was the daughter of Chief Winnemucca. Because of her importance to the nation’s history, Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins was
164. Button Point
PERSON-RANCHING/FARMING In 1873, Frank Button and his uncle Isaac Button drove cattle to the area to begin ranching operations in the fertile valleys of northern and eastern Humboldt County. They had 4,000 square miles of ranchland.
41.942919, -117.707581 [blue]

167. Valmy
CALIFORNIA EMI GRANT TRAIL-NATIVE AMERICAN-RAILROAD Overlooking the old California Emigrant Trail, Valmy was established as a water and fuel stop in 1910 by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. Treaty Hill, to the northwest, marks a division point between the Northern Paiute lands to the west and Shoshone lands to the east.
40.788890, -117.129009 [blue]

239. Stonehouse
ARCHITECTURE-NATIVE AMERICAN-RAILROAD-TRAIL/ROAD Native Americans and passing emigrants once camped here. The Overland Stage Company built this stone house in the 1860s. In 1868, the Central Pacific Railroad line passed through here and the nearby springs provided water for engines.
40.839754, -117.191418 [blue]

7. Dayton
CE TRAIL-MINING Dayton was first known as a stopping place on the river for California-bound pioneers. In 1849, gold was found at the mouth of Gold Canyon and prospecting began. Ten years later, miners discovered ore deposits at Gold Hill and Virginia City.
39.236240, -119.589305 [blue/stone]

61. Mound House
MINING-RAILROAD Located one-half mile north of this point, Mound House started off as a station and siding on the Virginia and Truckee Railroad. In 1873, the U.S. Army operated Camp McGarry twelve miles northeast of here at Summit Springs near Summit Lake. The troops protected the Idaho-California mail, stage roads, and the nearby trails in Nevada and Oregon.
41.394447, -119.166116 [blue]

85. Sutro
MINING-PERSON Sutro was a town, a drainage tunnel, and a man. Miners completed the main tunnel in 1878 and then extended lateral excavations, providing drainage, ventilation and access to many Comstock mines.
39.272266, -119.579585 [blue]

113. Wabuska
MINING-RAILROAD-TRAIL/ROAD Wabuska was established in the early 1870s as a station on the road from Wadsworth, on the Central Pacific, to the mining camps of Aurora, Bodie, Candaleria, Columbus, and Bellville. In 1881, the town served as a distribution center on the narrow gauge Carson and Colorado Railroad. When copper was discovered in Mason Valley, the town became the northern terminus of the new Nevada Copper Belt Railroad, built 1909-1911.
39.143603, -119.181766 [blue]
8. Austin
MINING Austin sprang into being after William Talcott discovered silver at this spot in 1862. Just a year later, Austin became the Lander County seat and was home to thousands of residents. 39.49340, -117.079546 [stone]

59. Stokes Castle
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON In 1879, Anson Phelps Stokes, mine developer, railroad magnate, and member of a prominent eastern family, built Stokes Castle as a summer home for his sons. The family only used it for two months. 39.493476, -117.079916 [blue]

66. Jacobsville
PONY EXPRESS-TELEGRAPH-TRAIL/ROAD The stone foundations of Jacobsville are one-half mile north of here. The town was established in 1859 as an Overland Stage and Mail Station and became a Pony Express stop in 1860. In the early 1860s, it boasted of having the first telegraph relay station and was the first county seat of Lander County. 39.492893, -117.183836 [blue]

67. Austin Churches
ARCHITECTURE-PERSON St. Georges Episcopal Church, to the east, was consecrated in 1878. St. Augustine’s Catholic Church, to the west, was built in 1866. The Methodist Church, to the north, was built in 1866. Emma Wixom, also known as the famous opera singer Emma Nevada, attended Sunday school there. 39.491955, -117.070085 [blue]
comprised of more than one hundred stock holders, was established to meet barter, merchandising, and marketing needs.

37.791415, -114.387868 [on building]

160. Panaca Spring
EVENT-LDS-MINING-RANCHING/FARMING This spring produces a large constant flow of warm water. Mormons built the first permanent settlement in southern Nevada at Panaca in 1864. The same year the Meadow Valley Mining District, including the Pioche area, was organized with its center at Panaca Spring.

37.795446, -114.385129 [blue]

182. Panaca Ward Chapel
ARCHITECTURE-LDS One of the oldest buildings in Lincoln County, the Panaca Ward Chapel was constructed of adobe from the swamps west of town in 1867-1868. The building was also used as a school and recreation hall.

37.790921, -114.387486 [on building]

203. Bullionville
CEMETERY-MINING Bullionville was established in 1870 when the Pioche mills were located here. By 1875, the town had a population of 500. During the same year a water works was constructed at Pioche, which led to the relocation of the mills. All that remains is the cemetery at the top of the hill.

37.806563, -114.406246 [blue]

204. Jackrabbit
MINING-RAILROAD The Jackrabbit District was started in 1876. A fifteen-mile narrow gauge railroad opened in 1891 between the Jackrabbit Mine and Pioche. After 1893, the mines fell silent except for several short periods of activity.

38.095466, -114.582300 [blue]

205. Crystal Springs
MORMON TRAIL Crystal Spring was used as a watering place and campsite on an alternate route of the Mormon Trail in the mid-nineteenth century. In 1866, the town site was designated as the provisional County Seat for Lincoln County. The Governor found that the region lacked the number of voters necessary and the county government was organized at Hiko.

37.532594, -115.235563 [blue]

206. Hiko
MINING In 1865, a mining camp was established here. The next year a 5-stamp mill began processing Pahranagat ores and soon after, Hiko became the first county seat. About two years later, area mining enterprises failed and the mill was moved to Bullionville in 1870. Hiko consequently declined in population and importance, which accelerated following the removal of the county government to Pioche in 1871.

37.596713, -115.223904 [blue]

249. Union Pacific Depot 1923
ARCHITECTURE-RAILROAD Constructed as a Union Pacific railroad depot in 1923, this mission revival structure was designed by well-known Los Angeles architects, John and Donald Parkinson. The depot replaced a former structure which burned on September 9, 1921.

37.612767, -114.513880 [blue]

95. Battle Mountain
MINING-RAILROAD In 1868, the railroad established a siding here. In 1870, a station was moved to this location. Between 1880 and 1938 this was the operating headquarters for the Central Nevada Railway and the shorter-lived Battle Mountain and Lewis Railroad. The town’s first copper boom developed in 1897 and Battle Mountain steadily outgrew Austin to the south and the county seat was moved here in 1979.

40.641894, -116.934046 [blue]

119. Reuel Colt Gridley
“Citizen Extraordinaire”
EVENT-MILITARY-PERSON This simple stone structure, opened to the public in late 1863, originally operated as a general store. Gridley, one of the store owners, is best remembered for his 1864 wager that prompted the founding of the American Red Cross.

39.489508, -117.062922 [on building]

136. Toquima Cave
NATIVE AMERICAN Located about 18 miles away by car and a half mile on foot, Toquima Cave is an important Great Basin Native American site. The cave is gated but visitors can still see the colorful pictographs (images applied to rocks with paint) that cover the walls and ceiling.

39.399926, -116.941823 [blue]

137. Hickison Summit
NATIVE AMERICAN Marker in production. About one mile northwest lies Hickison Summit (named after rancher John Hickison). Archaeological evidence indicates passes like this one were used by Native American hunters for funnelling and ambushing bighorn sheep and deer herds. Native American petroglyphs (images carved into the rock surface) are interpreted along a short hiking trail.

39.444361, -116.743148 [blue]

176. The Surveyors
PERSON Two notable surveys crossed the Nevada Territory: Honeylake to Fort Kearny Wagon Road, completed in 1860 by Captain Frederick West Lander, and the route surveyed by Lieutenant James H. Simpson, from Camp Floyd in Utah to Genoa, Nevada in 1859. Captain Lander has been memorialized in the name of this county. Nearby Simpson Park Mountains are named in honor of Lieutenant Simpson’s efforts.

39.457089, -116.996581 [blue]

208. International Hotel
ARCHITECTURE-RAILROAD This was the first commercial building constructed in Austin. It was built in 1863 of lumber from the first International Hotel, constructed in Virginia City.

39.493719, -117.072493 [on building]
5. Pioche
MINING Silver ore was discovered here in 1864. In 1869, the mines opened and Pioche was founded. In about three years, over five million dollars in ore was retrieved. In 1871, the town was designated the seat of Lincoln County. In the 1930s, Pioche enjoyed two decades of lead-zinc mining. 37.926683, -114.449234 [stone]

38. Pahranagat Valley
MINING-NATIVE AMERICAN-RANCHING/FARMING
There are three local springs that feed the valley’s lakes and meadows. This area continues to be important to both Western Shoshone and Southern Paiute Tribes. In 1865, ore was discovered in the area and the ore processing town of Hiko became the center of activity. 37.362174, -115.159125 [blue]

57. Old Boundary
EVENT Starting in 1850, the 37th degree north latitude, marked at this point, was the dividing line between the territories of Utah and New Mexico. In 1861 it became the southern boundary for the Nevada Territory. 37.044596, -114.984411 [blue]

MINING Around 1891, gold was discovered twelve miles south of here. By 1893, the mining town of Delamar was home to over 1,500 residents. The dry milling process, used at the time, created a fine silica dust, or “death” dust. Many residents died of lung disease giving the town its nickname, “The Widow Maker”. 37.619598, -114.794884 [blue]

93. Panaca Mercantile
ARCHITECTURE This adobe building was constructed in 1868. The “Panaca Cooperative Mercantile Institution,”