State Register Number: 260167 Property Name: Miners' Union Hall

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
901 S. STEWART STREET, SUITE 3002
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701-5249

NEVADA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Nomination Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic name: Miners' Union Hall
Other names: Miners' Union Hall, Eagles Hall, Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie No. 523 Hall

2. LOCATION

Street Address: 36 North B Street
City or Town: Virginia City **County:** Storey **Zip:** 89440-0080
Original Location? ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No.** **If no, date moved:** _____

3. OWNERSHIP & CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property: Private
Owner Name: Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie 523
Owner Address: Fraternal Order of Eagles P.O. Box 80, Virginia City, NV. 89440-0080

Number of Resources within Property

Buildings	1
Sites	
Structures	
Objects	
Total:	1

FOR OFFICIAL USE:

May 20, 2026 Nomination Received Senate # _____ Assembly # _____

Listing Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D ☐ E

A. BOARD OF MUSEUMS AND HISTORY

As the chair of the Nevada Museums and History Board, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for listing in the Nevada Register of Historic Places.

Signature of the Chair — Date: 9/11/26

B. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

As the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for listing in the Nevada Register of Historic Places.

Signature of the State Historic Preservation Officer — Date: 09/11/2026

5. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic Use/Function: COMMERCE/TRADE-Organizational: SOCIAL-Meeting Hall: EDUCATION-Library
Intermediate Use/Function: SOCIAL- Meeting Hall
Current Use/Function: SOCIAL- Meeting Hall

6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (select one or more from instructions)

_X_ **Criterion A -** Property is associated with events or trends that have made a significant contribution to Nevada history.

____ **Criterion B -** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant to Nevada's past.

_X_ **Criterion C -** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction significant to Nevada, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ **Criterion D -** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to Nevada's prehistory or history.

____ **Criterion E -** Property reflects cultural traditions important to historic or pre-historic peoples of Nevada. (Nevada State Register only).

Criteria Considerations (check only those that apply)

____ **Criteria Consideration 1 –** The property is religious in nature, but is primarily significant for its architecture, or is the only remaining or best remaining resource from an historic community.

____ **Criteria Consideration 2 –** The property has been reconstructed, but is an accurately executed reconstruction and is located in an environment that replicates its historic setting.

____ **Criteria Consideration 3 –** The property achieved significance within the past fifty years but is rare or exceptional.

7. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Area(s) of Significance Social History, Architecture

Period of Significance 1876-1970

Cultural Affiliation(s)

Significant Person(s) N/A

Architect/Builder(s) Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance:

Explain clearly in a well-developed but concise narrative what makes the property historically or culturally significant.

Criterion A: Labor, Education, and Community Life

The Miners' Union Hall/Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie No. 523 Hall is significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with the development of Nevada's labor movement, labor-sponsored education, and the continued civic and fraternal use of the property following the decline of the Comstock mining era. Constructed in 1876 following the Great Fire of 1875, the building served as the headquarters of the Virginia Miners' Union, one of Nevada's earliest and most influential labor organizations. Beyond collective bargaining, the union promoted mutual aid, established a public library and reading room, sponsored educational and social activities, and contributed to the civic life of Virginia City. Following its acquisition by Comstock Aerie No. 523, Fraternal Order of Eagles, in 1925, the building continued its historic role as a center for charitable, civic, and community activities, preserving its institutional function for nearly a century.

Criterion C: Architecture

The property is also significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a late nineteenth-century brick institutional building constructed during Virginia City's post–Great Fire reconstruction period. Rebuilt in 1876 on the site of the original Miners' Union Hall destroyed in the Great Fire of 1875, the building embodies the distinctive characteristics of institutional architecture associated with Virginia City's reconstruction. It retains a high degree of integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, preserving its original masonry construction, decorative front facade, interior spatial organization, and large assembly spaces that continue to convey its historic institutional function. Few purpose-built nineteenth-century halls associated with western hard-rock mining communities survive with comparable integrity, making the Miners' Union Hall an unusually intact example of miner-sponsored institutional architecture in Nevada. Long-term stewardship by Comstock Aerie No. 523 has ensured the preservation of the building's historic character while allowing it to remain an active civic and community landmark.

Previous Documentation

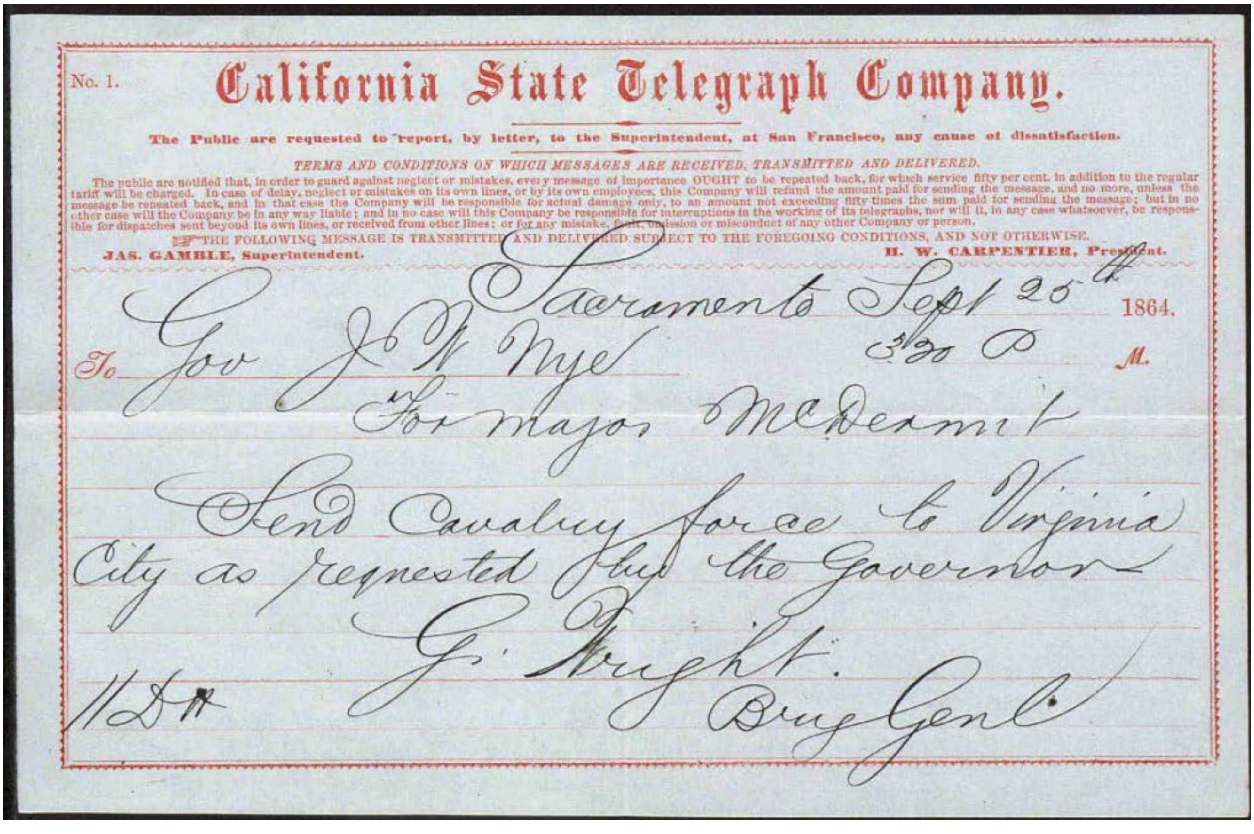
The Miners' Union Hall is recognized as a contributing resource within the Virginia City National Historic Landmark District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1966 (NRIS 66000458). While the district nomination identified the building as a contributing resource, it provided only limited discussion of the property's individual history, architecture, and significance. This nomination expands upon that earlier documentation by presenting a comprehensive history of the property's role in Nevada's labor movement, labor-sponsored education, long-term stewardship by the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and its continued function as a civic and community institution in Virginia City.

Early Organized Labor on the Comstock

Organized labor on the Comstock Lode emerged early in response to the hazardous conditions, specialized skill requirements, and capital-intensive nature of hard-rock mining. Following the discovery of the Comstock Lode in 1859, Virginia City rapidly developed into Nevada's most important mining center, dominated by deep underground operations and absentee-owned corporations. By the early 1860s, efforts by mine owners to reduce wages and control labor costs prompted miners to organize collectively (Angel, 1881).

The earliest sustained labor effort occurred with the formation of the Miners' Protective Association in 1863, followed by the Storey County Miners' League in 1864. These organizations sought to establish a standardized underground wage of four dollars per day and to assert collective bargaining power within an increasingly industrialized mining economy. In 1864, coordinated demonstrations by miners in Virginia City and Gold Hill represented some of the earliest large-scale labor actions in the western mining industry (Angel, 1881).

The Storey County Miners' League collapsed during the mining depression of 1864–1865. Its failure resulted not only from economic contraction and blacklisting of union members by mine owners, but also from direct government intervention. Territorial Governor James W. Nye ordered federal troops from Fort Churchill to Virginia City in September and October 1864 to suppress union activity and prevent enforcement of the League's demands, marking one of the earliest documented uses of military force against organized labor in the trans-Mississippi West (Bancroft, 1887).



No. 1.

California State Telegraph Company.

The Public are requested to report, by letter, to the Superintendent, at San Francisco, any cause of dissatisfaction.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS ON WHICH MESSAGES ARE RECEIVED, TRANSMITTED AND DELIVERED.

The public are notified that, in order to guard against neglect or mistakes, every message of importance OUGHT to be repeated back, for which service fifty per cent. in addition to the regular tariff will be charged. In case of delay, neglect or mistakes on its own lines, or by its own employees, this Company will refund the amount paid for sending the message, and no more, unless the message be repeated back, and in that case the Company will be responsible for actual damage only, to an amount not exceeding fifty times the sum paid for sending the message; but in no other case will the Company be in any way liable; and in no case will this Company be responsible for interruptions in the working of its telegraphs, nor will it, in any case whatsoever, be responsible for dispatches sent beyond its own lines, or received from other lines; or for any mistake, fault, omission or misconduct of any other Company or person.

☞ THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS TRANSMITTED AND DELIVERED SUBJECT TO THE FOREGOING CONDITIONS, AND NOT OTHERWISE.

JAS. GAMBLE, Superintendent. H. W. CARPENTIER, President.

Sacramento Sept 25th 1864.

To Gov J. N. Nye

3:30 P M.

For Mayor McDermit

Send Cavalry force to Virginia City as requested by the Governor

G. Wright.

Brig Genl

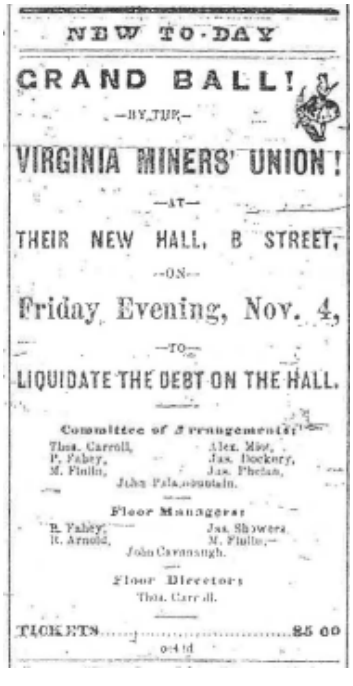
Figure 1. Telegram requesting cavalry assistance from Fort Churchill to Virginia City during labor unrest involving the Storey County Miners' League, September 25, 1864. The message documents Territorial Governor James W. Nye's decision to suppress union activity on the Comstock Lode. Nevada State Archives.

Virginia City Miners' Union

The collapse of the Storey County Miners' League marked a turning point in the development of organized labor on the Comstock. The League's experience demonstrated that long-term success required not only collective action but also stable organization, political engagement, and community support. Following the mining depression of 1864–1865, Comstock miners reorganized on a more durable basis. The Gold Hill Miners' Union was established in December 1866, followed by the Virginia City Miners' Union on July 4, 1867.

By early 1868, the Virginia and Gold Hill unions had adopted formal constitutions, bylaws, rules of order, elected officers, and systems of mutual aid and wage regulation, demonstrating that they had evolved into well-established labor institutions. Contemporary accounts described the unions' objectives as providing mutual protection, assisting injured miners and the families of deceased members, establishing fair compensation for labor, and maintaining democratic governance while remaining independent of partisan politics (*Territorial Enterprise*, March 28, 1868). These organizations successfully enforced the four-dollar-per-day wage and later secured the eight-hour workday in 1872, making the Comstock miners among the most influential labor organizations in the nineteenth-century American West (Lord, 1883).

Figure 2. Virginia Miners' Union ceremonial banner, shown front and reverse, preserved in the Comstock Aerie No. 523 Archives and depicting allegorical imagery associated with labor, industry, and mutual aid on the Comstock Lode.



NEW TO-DAY

GRAND BALL!

—BY THE—

VIRGINIA MINERS' UNION!

—AT—

THEIR NEW HALL, B STREET,

—ON—

Friday Evening, Nov. 4,

—TO—

LIQUIDATE THE DEBT ON THE HALL.

Committee of Arrangements:

Thos. Carroll, Alex. Moe,
P. Fahey, Jas. Dockery,
M. Fiulin, Jas. Phelan,
John Falconbridge.

Floor Managers:

P. Fahey, Jas. Showers,
R. Arnold, M. Fiulin,
John Cavanaugh.

Floor Directors:

Thos. Carroll.

TICKETS.....$5 00

Figure 3. Advertisement announcing the Virginia Miners' Union Grand Ball, held at the union's new hall on B Street on November 4, 1870. Proceeds from the event were dedicated to liquidating the debt incurred in acquiring the hall, illustrating the union's efforts to finance its first permanent headquarters. Territorial Enterprise*, October 4, 1870. Courtesy of the Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records.*

During its first three years, the Virginia City Miners' Union operated without a documented permanent headquarters. Contemporary sources document union meetings beginning in 1867, and the organization is known to have convened at Piper's Opera House for Adolph Sutro's September 1869 address advocating construction of the Sutro Tunnel. However, no evidence has been identified that the union owned or occupied a permanent hall during this period. The union established its first documented permanent headquarters in July 1870 when it purchased Niagara Hall on North B Street. Newspaper accounts announced the opening of a "new hall" on August 25, 1870, after which the building was consistently identified in contemporary newspapers as Miners' Union Hall.

Figure 4. The Storey County Miners' Union marching in the Virginia City Labor Day parade, September 7, 1908. The Virginia City Miners' Union banner carried in the procession is the same historic banner shown in Figure 2. Courtesy Nevada Historical Society

As the Virginia City Miners' Union expanded beyond wage negotiation to include mutual aid, education, and civic participation, the acquisition of Niagara Hall represented an important milestone in its institutional development by providing the organization with its first permanent home. The property was formally conveyed for the use and benefit of the Miners' Union in 1870 (Storey County Deed Records, 1870). The original hall on the site was destroyed in the Great Fire of October 26, 1875 which devastated much of Virginia City's commercial and institutional core. In response, the Miners' Union rebuilt on the same parcel in 1876, erecting the present two-story brick masonry hall at a reported cost of approximately $15,000, exclusive of the lot value. The reconstruction reflected both the union's institutional stability and broader post-fire rebuilding efforts emphasizing fire-resistant materials and permanent construction (Thompson & West, 1881).

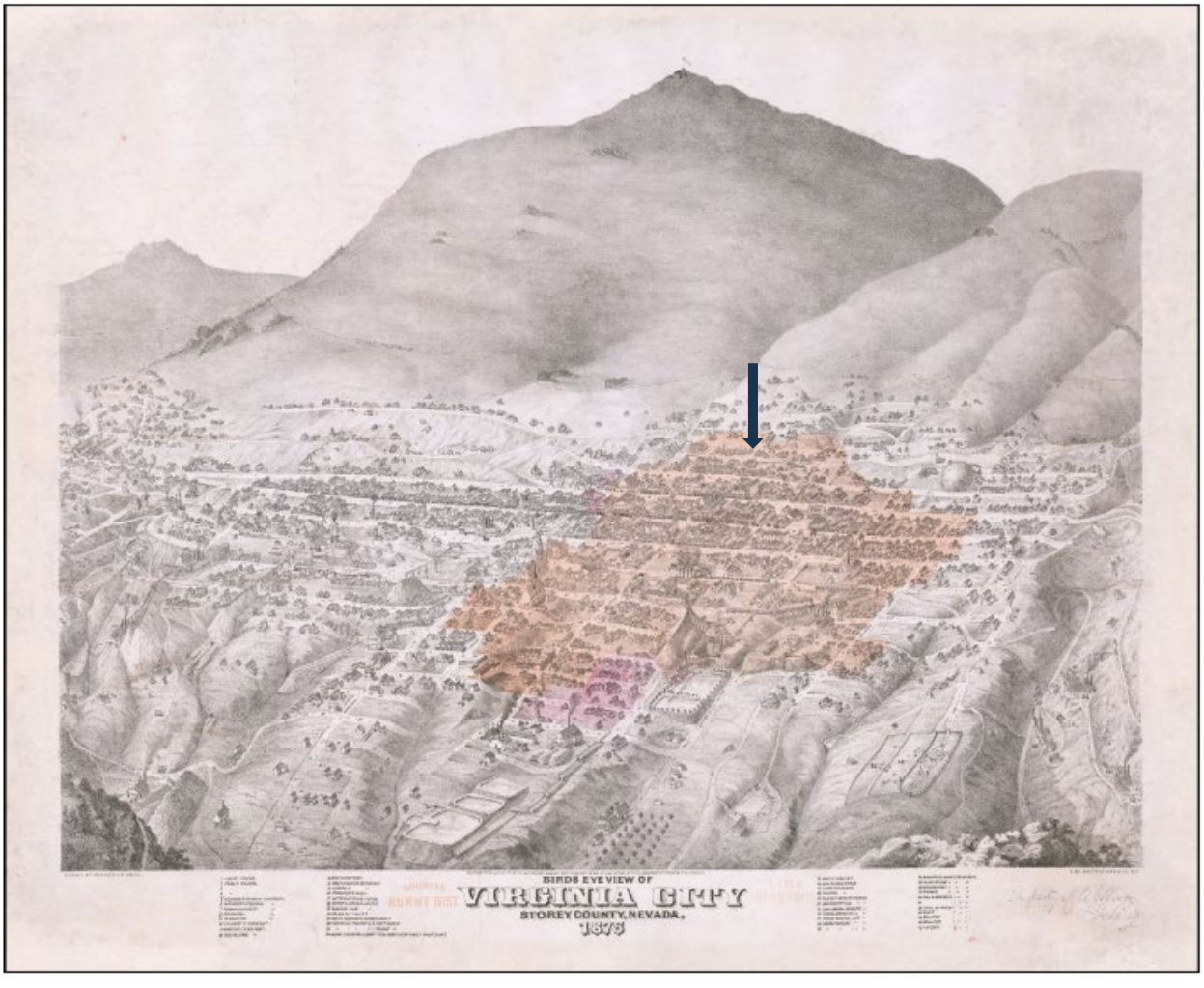


Figure 5. Bird's-eye view of Virginia City, Nevada, by Augustus Koch, 1875. The map was originally issued as a three-color lithograph and later overprinted in orange to delineate the burned district following the Great Fire of October 1875, with additional manuscript red markings indicating areas of extended damage. Arrow notes approximate location of the Miners Union Hall.

Following its completion, the Miners' Union Hall functioned as the central institutional space for organized labor in Virginia City. In December 1877, the union established the Miners' Union Library within the hall through an appropriation of $2,000 from union funds. By the early 1880s, the library reportedly contained approximately 2,200 volumes and was identified as the only public library in Virginia City at that time. Union members were granted free access, while non-union members were permitted use for a fee of fifty cents per month, reflecting the library's semi-public character (Thompson & West, 1881).

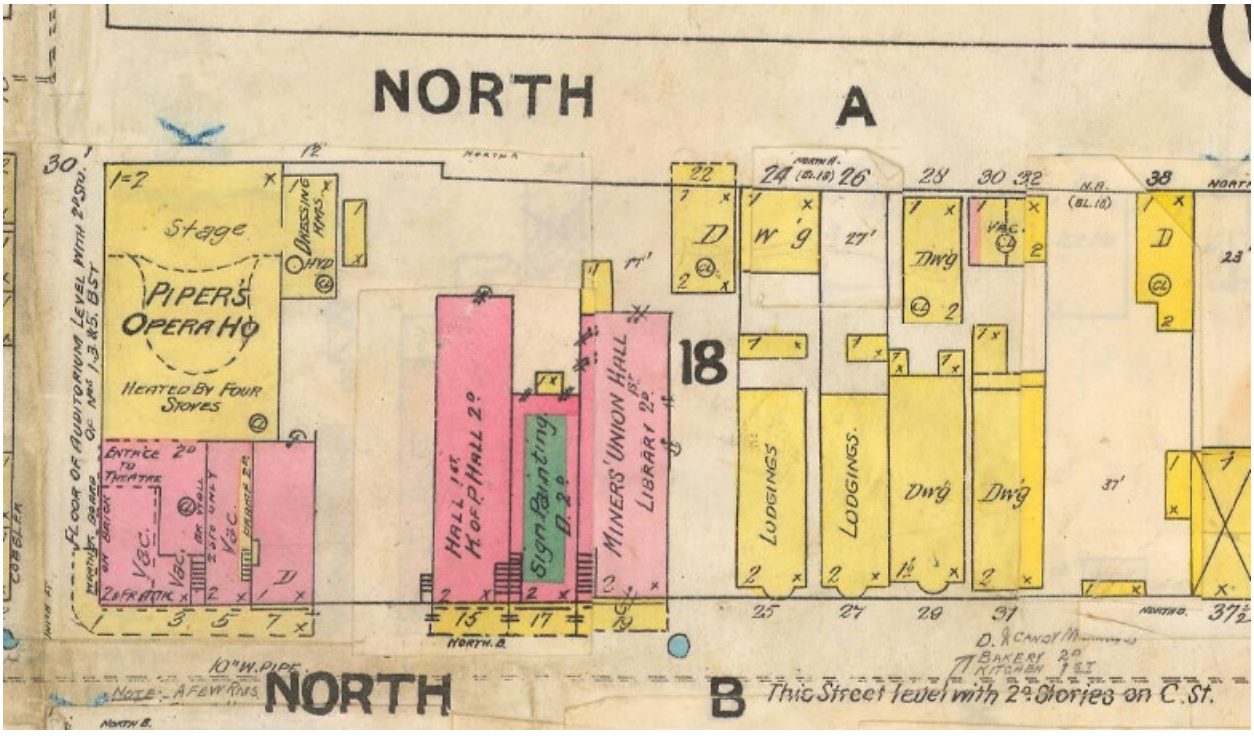


Figure 6. Sanborn fire insurance map of Virginia City, Nevada, Sheet 4, published by the Sanborn–Perris Map Company, 1890. The map identifies the Miners' Union Hall and labels the Miners' Union Library on the building's second floor. University of Nevada, Reno Libraries.

The Miners' Union Hall was designed to accommodate multiple functions within a single building. The first floor was dominated by a large assembly hall used for union meetings, lectures, public gatherings, and social events. Visitors entered from the covered porch on the east facade into a small entrance lobby at the southeast corner of the building. From the lobby, a vestibule provided direct access to the main assembly hall, while an adjacent staircase led to the second floor (HABS, 1937).

The second floor housed the Miners' Union Library, reading room, and chess room. This arrangement physically separated the building's public assembly space from its educational and administrative functions, reflecting the union's commitment to education, recreation, and civic engagement while illustrating how the Miners' Union Hall served as a unified institutional center for organized labor and community life in Virginia City (Thompson & West, 1881).

Although the economic decline of the Comstock after the late 1870s reduced the influence of organized mining labor, the Virginia City Miners' Union remained active into the early twentieth century. State labor records list the Virginia City Miners' Union through 1923, demonstrating continuity well beyond the bonanza years (Nevada Commissioner of Labor, 1925).

During this same period, fraternal organizations increasingly assumed important social and civic roles within western mining communities as labor institutions and industrial activity declined.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles

The Fraternal Order of Eagles (FOE) was founded on February 6, 1898, in Seattle, Washington, by six theater owners gathered to discuss an ongoing musicians' strike. Following the meeting,

the men agreed to continue working together and organized what was initially known as the "Order of Good Things." As the organization expanded, members adopted the bald eagle as their official emblem and renamed the organization the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Guided by the principles of "Liberty, Truth, Justice and Equality," the organization rapidly spread throughout the United States and Canada during the early twentieth century, particularly within western mining and industrial communities where fraternal organizations often served important social and civic roles.

Touring theatrical companies and performers contributed significantly to the early expansion of the organization throughout North America. Within its first decades, the Eagles established hundreds of local lodges, known as Aeries, and became known for providing mutual aid, sickness and funeral benefits, charitable assistance, and opportunities for social fellowship during a period before widespread public social welfare systems existed. Nationally, the organization later became associated with support for causes including Mother's Day observances, Social Security legislation, and charitable fundraising programs.

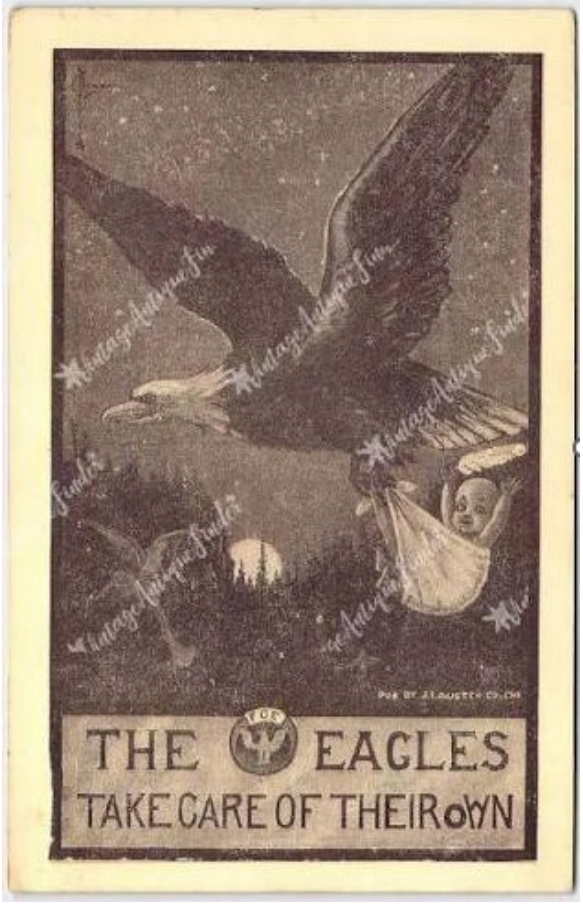


Figure 7. Emblem of the Fraternal Order of Eagles (1903) featuring the organization's motto, "Liberty, Truth, Justice, Equality." The eagle became the official symbol of the organization following its founding in 1898. Courtesy FOE Archives.

Comstock Aerie No. 523 of the Fraternal Order of Eagles was instituted in Virginia City, Nevada, on September 26, 1903, during a period when the Comstock region was transitioning from the

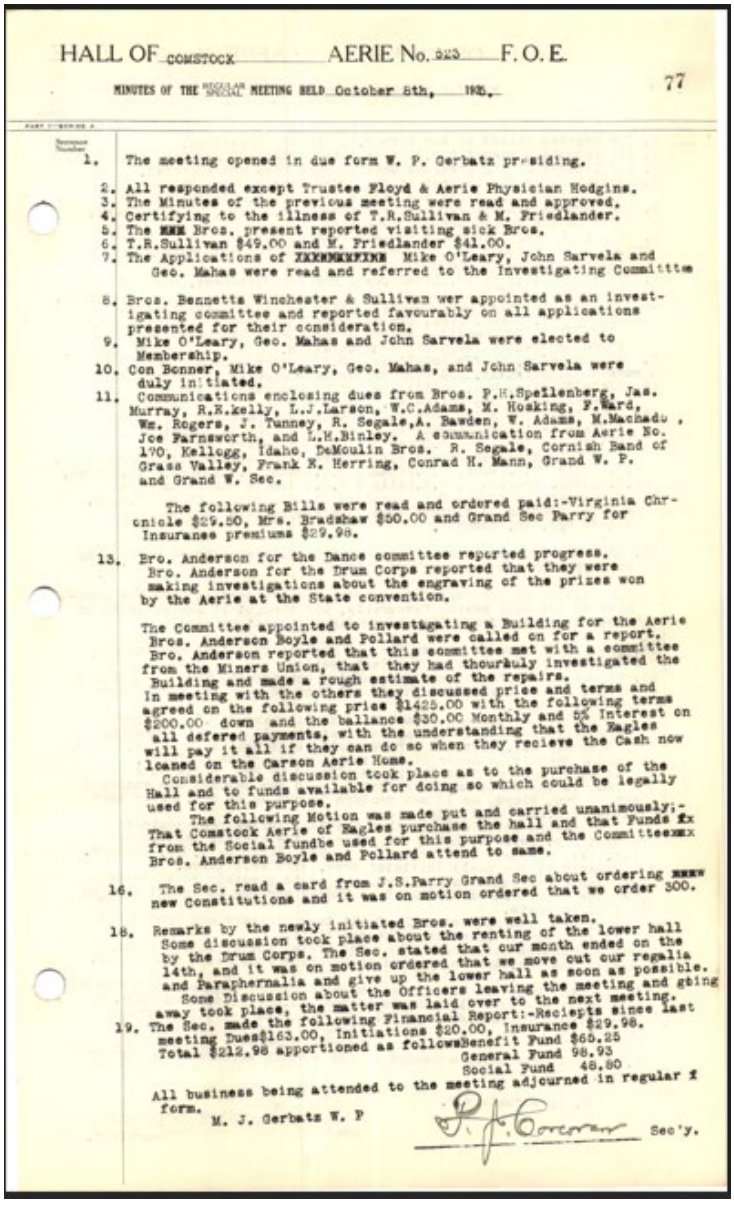
large-scale industrial mining economy that had defined the late nineteenth century into a smaller but still socially interconnected community. Although mining activity had declined from its bonanza-era peak, Virginia City remained an important regional center with active fraternal, civic, and commercial institutions. Like many western fraternal organizations of the period, Comstock Aerie No. 523 quickly evolved beyond a strictly social lodge and became an important institution within the civic and community life of Virginia City.

Prior to acquiring the Miners' Union Hall, Comstock Aerie No. 523 initially met in the nearby Knights of Pythias Hall on B Street, located two doors south of the Miners' Union Hall. Meeting records document that the Aerie rented the meeting space for approximately ten dollars per month, reflecting the modest financial condition of the organization during its early years. Despite these limited beginnings, the organization quickly developed into an active fraternal institution. Early meeting minutes and newspaper references document dances, banquets, card parties, memorial observances, charitable activities, and social gatherings organized by the Aerie during the first decades of the twentieth century.

Figure 8. Frontal elevation view of the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Building on B Street, Virginia City, Nevada, documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), 1937. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

The Miners' Union Hall in the Twentieth Century

As mining activity and union membership declined during the early twentieth century, the future of the Miners' Union Hall became increasingly uncertain. Meeting records of Comstock Aerie No. 523 document the appointment of a committee to confer with representatives of the Miners' Union regarding acquisition and continued use of the building. These negotiations culminated in an agreement for Comstock Aerie No. 523 to purchase the Miners' Union Hall in 1925 for approximately $1,425 under an installment arrangement that included a $200 down payment and monthly payments of $30 with interest (Comstock Aerie No. 523, 1925). The property was formally conveyed to Comstock Aerie No. 523 in 1926, ensuring continued occupation and preservation of one of Virginia City's most significant institutional buildings.



HALL OF COMSTOCK AERIE No. 523 F. O. E.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD October 8th, 1925. 77

1. The meeting opened in due form W. P. Gerbatz presiding.
2. All responded except Trustee Floyd & Aerie Physician Hodgins.
3. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
4. Certifying to the illness of T.R.Sullivan & M. Friedlander.
5. The [illegible] Bros. present reported visiting sick Bros.
6. T.R.Sullivan $49.00 and M. Friedlander $41.00.
7. The Applications of [illegible] Mike O'Leary, John Sarvela and Geo. Mahas were read and referred to the Investigating Committee
8. Bros. Bennetts Winchester & Sullivan wer appointed as an investigating committee and reported favourably on all applications presented for their consideration.
9. Mike O'Leary, Geo. Mahas and John Sarvela were elected to Membership.
10. Con Bonner, Mike O'Leary, Geo. Mahas, and John Sarvela were duly initiated.
11. Communications enclosing dues from Bros. P.H.Spellenberg, Jas. Murray, R.E.Kelly, L.J.Larson, W.C.Adams, M. Hosking, F.Ward, Wm. Rogers, J. Tunney, R. Segale, A. Bawden, W. Adams, M.Machado, Jos Farnsworth, and L.H.Binley. A communication from Aerie No. 170, Kellogg, Idaho, DeMoulin Bros. R. Segale, Cornish Band of Grass Valley, Frank E. Herring, Conrad H. Mann, Grand W. P. and Grand W. Sec.

The following Bills were read and ordered paid:-Virginia Chronicle $29.80, Mrs. Bradshaw $50.00 and Grand Sec Parry for Insurance premiums $29.98.

13. Bro. Anderson for the Dance committee reported progress. Bro. Anderson for the Drum Corps reported that they were making investigations about the engraving of the prizes won by the Aerie at the State convention.

The Committee appointed to investigating a Building for the Aerie Bros. Anderson Boyle and Pollard were called on for a report. Bro. Anderson reported that this committee met with a committee from the Miners Union, that they had thourally investigated the Building and made a rough estimate of the repairs. In meeting with the others they discussed price and terms and agreed on the following price $1425.00 with the following terms $200.00 down and the ballance $30.00 Monthly and 8% Interest on all defered payments, with the understanding that the Eagles will pay it all if they can do so when they recieve the Cash now loaned on the Carson Aerie Home.

Considerable discussion took place as to the purchase of the Hall and to funds available for doing so which could be legally used for this purpose.

The following Motion was made put and carried unanimously;- That Comstock Aerie of Eagles purchase the hall and that Funds fx from the Social fundbe used for this purpose and the Committeemex Bros. Anderson Boyle and Pollard attend to same.

16. The Sec. read a card from J.S.Parry Grand Sec about ordering [illegible] new Constitutions and it was on motion ordered that we order 300.

18. Remarks by the newly initiated Bros. were well taken. Some discussion took place about the renting of the lower hall by the Drum Corps. The Sec. stated that our month ended on the 14th, and it was on motion ordered that we move out our regalia and Paraphernalia and give up the lower hall as soon as possible. Some Discussion about the Officers leaving the meeting and going away took place, the matter was laid over to the next meeting.

19. The Sec. made the following Financial Report:-Reciepts since last meeting Dues$163.00, Initiations $20.00, Insurance $29.98. Total $212.98 apportioned as follows Benefit Fund $60.25 General Fund 98.93 Social Fund 48.80

All business being attended to the meeting adjourned in regular form.

M. J. Gerbatz W. P

J. F. Corcoran Sec'y.

Figure 9. Comstock Aerie No. 523, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Minutes of the Regular Meeting*, October 8, 1925. Comstock Aerie No. 523 Archives, Virginia City, Nevada.*

Following acquisition of the Miners' Union Hall, Comstock Aerie No. 523 entered a new phase in its organizational history while continuing many of the communal traditions associated with the building during the Miners' Union era. Throughout the twentieth century, the hall served as the center of the Aerie's fraternal, charitable, recreational, and civic activities. Meeting records document initiation ceremonies, dances, social gatherings, memorial services, anniversary celebrations, card parties, banquets, charitable fundraisers, and public gatherings held within the building.

By the mid-twentieth century, the Miners' Union Hall had evolved into a shared community facility used by numerous civic and fraternal organizations throughout Virginia City. Meeting records document use of the building by the Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, Masons, Shriners, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, youth groups, and other community organizations for receptions, fundraisers, social gatherings, and public events. The building additionally served civic functions including use as a polling place for Storey County elections (Comstock Aerie No. 523, 1946a). These activities reflected the continued importance of the hall as a center of public and institutional life long after the decline of large-scale mining on the Comstock.

Figure 10. Miners' Union Hall, Virginia City, Nevada, east elevations, photographed in 1940 by Robert W. Kerrigan. Courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Figure 11. Miners' Union Hall, Virginia City, Nevada, north and east elevations, photographed by Josef Muench in the 1930s. Courtesy of the Utah State Historical Society.

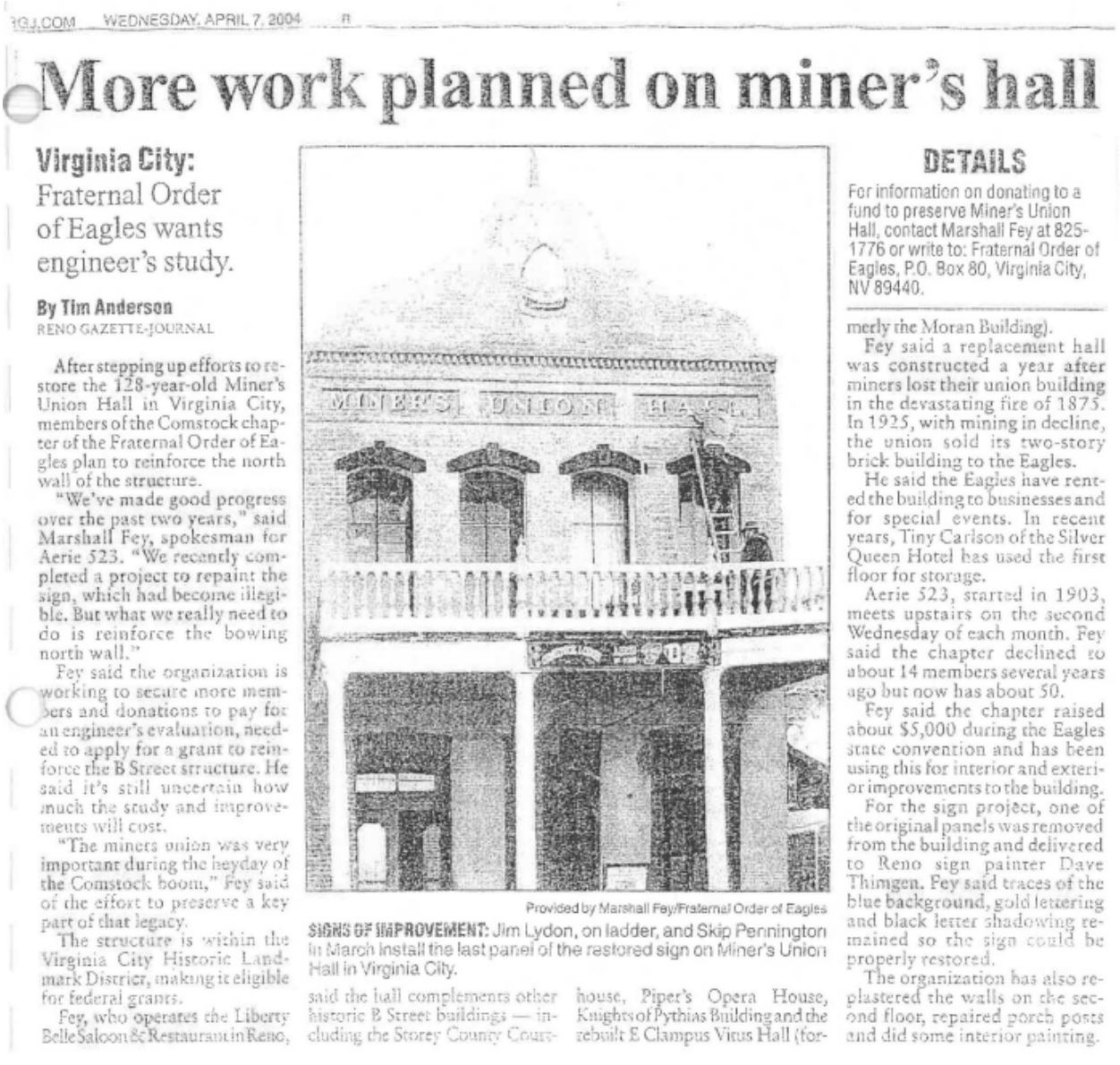
The building also served youth and recreational functions during the postwar era. In 1958, the downstairs hall was rented to a local youth program for the nominal fee of one dollar per year, illustrating the organization's continued commitment to providing community-oriented public space within Virginia City. In 1962, following the dedication ceremony for Virginia City's new fire house conducted by the Masons and Shriners, the Shriners held a luncheon in the downstairs portion of the "Eagles Hall". Later that same year, the hall was used for a fundraising event organized by local citizens to support construction of the first public swimming pool in Virginia City, demonstrating the building's continuing role in civic improvement and public life.

Comstock Aerie No. 523 also demonstrated a longstanding commitment to preserving and maintaining the historic structure. Meeting records throughout the twentieth century document repairs, maintenance projects, insurance expenses, janitorial work, furnishings purchases, and organized rehabilitation efforts associated with the building. In 1948, the organization scheduled a special meeting specifically to begin minor repairs to the banquet hall. By 1969, the Aerie had initiated a statewide fundraising campaign among Nevada Eagles lodges to raise money for restoration and preservation of the building. In 1970, the organization appointed a committee specifically responsible for building activities, rents, maintenance, and

upkeep of the property, reinforcing the long-term institutional commitment to preserving the hall.

Figure 12. Miners' Union Hall, Virginia City, Nevada, south and east elevations, view looking northwest, photographed in 1952 by Charles Cushman. Courtesy Indiana University. The Miners' Union Hall in the Twenty-First Century

Preservation efforts continued into the twenty-first century. In 2007, a Historic Preservation Fund grant administered through the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office supported replacement of the deteriorated roof and stabilization of the front porch and balcony areas to address structural concerns while retaining the building's historic character and continued use as a community gathering place. These improvements represented part of a longstanding pattern of stewardship and rehabilitation associated with the building throughout its ownership by Comstock Aerie No. 523.



RGJ.COM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2004

More work planned on miner's hall

Virginia City: Fraternal Order of Eagles wants engineer's study.

By Tim Anderson
RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL

After stepping up efforts to restore the 128-year-old Miner's Union Hall in Virginia City, members of the Comstock chapter of the Fraternal Order of Eagles plan to reinforce the north wall of the structure.

"We've made good progress over the past two years," said Marshall Fey, spokesman for Aerie 523. "We recently completed a project to repaint the sign, which had become illegible. But what we really need to do is reinforce the bowing north wall."

Fey said the organization is working to secure more members and donations to pay for an engineer's evaluation, needed to apply for a grant to reinforce the B Street structure. He said it's still uncertain how much the study and improvements will cost.

"The miners union was very important during the heyday of the Comstock boom," Fey said of the effort to preserve a key part of that legacy.

The structure is within the Virginia City Historic Landmark District, making it eligible for federal grants.

Fey, who operates the Liberty Belle Saloon & Restaurant in Reno, said the hall complements other historic B Street buildings — including the Storey County Courthouse, Piper's Opera House, Knights of Pythias Building and the rebuilt E Clampus Vitus Hall (formerly the Moran Building).

Fey said a replacement hall was constructed a year after miners lost their union building in the devastating fire of 1875. In 1925, with mining in decline, the union sold its two-story brick building to the Eagles.

He said the Eagles have rented the building to businesses and for special events. In recent years, Tiny Carlson of the Silver Queen Hotel has used the first floor for storage.

Aerie 523, started in 1903, meets upstairs on the second Wednesday of each month. Fey said the chapter declined to about 14 members several years ago but now has about 50.

Fey said the chapter raised about $5,000 during the Eagles state convention and has been using this for interior and exterior improvements to the building.

For the sign project, one of the original panels was removed from the building and delivered to Reno sign painter Dave Thimgen. Fey said traces of the blue background, gold lettering and black letter shadowing remained so the sign could be properly restored.

The organization has also replastered the walls on the second floor, repaired porch posts and did some interior painting.

Provided by Marshall Fey/Fraternal Order of Eagles

SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT: Jim Lydon, on ladder, and Skip Pennington in March install the last panel of the restored sign on Miner's Union Hall in Virginia City.

DETAILS

For information on donating to a fund to preserve Miner's Union Hall, contact Marshall Fey at 825-1776 or write to: Fraternal Order of Eagles, P.O. Box 80, Virginia City, NV 89440.

Figure 13. Photograph documenting the Miners' Union Hall during the preservation planning process. Prepared for the Miners Union Hall Historic Structure Study *(2006), the image records the building's condition prior to the implementation of recommended stabilization and restoration work. Courtesy of Westlake Reed Leskosky.*

Architecture of the Miners' Union Hall

The Miners' Union Hall is a two-story, two-part commercial block brick building constructed of load-bearing brick. Architecturally, it is significant as a representative example of a late nineteenth-century masonry labor hall constructed to support organized labor and civic life on the Comstock Lode. Erected in 1876, the building reflects a functional yet expressive architectural vocabulary typical of purpose-built union halls, combining durable masonry construction with a prominent parapeted facade intended to assert institutional presence along Virginia City's principal commercial corridor.

The building exhibits the defining characteristics of the two-part commercial block through its distinct horizontal division between the first and second stories, visually separating the lower

level from the principal assembly spaces above. While adapted for institutional rather than commercial use, this organization clearly distinguished the building's public and support functions on the first floor from the upper-story meeting hall, library, reading room, and chess rooms that supported worker education, mutual aid, and social engagement. This vertical organization reflects broader nineteenth-century labor ideals emphasizing self-improvement, solidarity, and civic participation.

The property is significant at the state level under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of a late nineteenth-century brick institutional building constructed during Virginia City's post–Great Fire reconstruction period. The building retains its original form, materials, and spatial organization, including unreinforced brick masonry walls, original interior finishes, and large assembly spaces associated with its historic institutional use. The 2006 Historic Structure Study documented the survival of significant historic materials and interior features, reinforcing the building's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship (Westlake Reed Leskosky, 2006). Through continuous occupation, stewardship, and adaptation extending across nearly a century of ownership, Comstock Aerie No. 523 preserved both the physical structure of the Miners' Union Hall and its longstanding role as a center of social, civic, and institutional life within Virginia City.

8. DESCRIPTION (select information that best describes exterior fabric, structural system, and roofing material)

Architectural Style or Type: Vernacular masonry labor hall with Italianate influences

Materials

Foundation: Rubble stone and masonry foundation
Walls: Load-bearing brick masonry
Roof: Gabled roof concealed behind a curvilinear parapeted facade
Windows: Tall rectangular window openings with segmental-arched brick heads and masonry sills
Other: Curvilinear brick parapet with inscribed name panels; one-story street-level porch extending approximately 10 feet over the sidewalk; full-width second-story balcony with balustrade; iron shutters at the ground-floor level

Narrative Description:

Provide a narrative description of the property's present and historical physical appearance (include significant exterior and interior features and note alteration dates if known).

The Miners' Union Hall is a two-story, two-part commercial block brick masonry institutional building constructed in 1876 as a purpose-built labor hall following the destruction of an earlier structure during the Great Fire of October 26, 1875. Located on the west side of North B Street between Union and Sutton Streets in Virginia City's historic commercial core, the building exemplifies the widespread adoption of masonry construction and fire-resistant design during the city's post-fire reconstruction.

The building was documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in 1937, producing measured drawings and photographs that record its exterior elevations, floor plan, and interior arrangement. Comparison of the HABS documentation with present conditions

demonstrates that the building retains its principal architectural features and historic spatial organization despite later preservation work and continued institutional use.

The Facade of the Miners' Union Hall

East (Primary) Elevation of the Miners' Union Hall

The Miners' Union Hall is a two-story, two-part commercial block rectangular brick masonry institutional building measuring approximately 26 feet 9 inches in width at the primary (east) elevation and approximately 93 feet 6 inches in depth. Exterior walls are constructed of load-bearing brick masonry laid in regular courses. The lower walls are approximately four bricks in thickness, while the upper walls are approximately three bricks thick, reflecting nineteenth-century masonry construction practices and the structural requirements associated with large open assembly spaces.

The primary facade is composed of two stories surmounted by a curvilinear brick parapet that conceals the roofline from street view. Behind the parapeted facade, the building is covered by a concealed gable roof. This arrangement reflects the regional practice of concealing pitched roofs behind decorative parapets to maintain a consistent streetscape while improving fire resistance.

First Story

The first story is organized into three bays defined by segmental-arched brick openings with pronounced masonry keystones. Each bay contains a pedestrian entrance. The north and center bays retain double-leaf glazed wood entry doors surmounted by rectangular transoms, while the south bay retains a pair of steel fire doors characteristic of the fire-resistant features incorporated into commercial and institutional buildings constructed as a fire-prevention measure following the Great Fire of October 26, 1875. A one-story porch extends approximately ten feet over the sidewalk at the primary elevation, creating a sheltered transition between the street and interior. The porch is supported by four slender Doric columns and is surmounted by a full-width second-story balcony enclosed by a turned wood balustrade.

Second Story

Fenestration on the second story consists of four tall, vertically proportioned window openings arranged symmetrically across the primary facade. Each opening rests on a low masonry sill, is recessed within the load-bearing brick masonry walls, and is defined by a segmental-arched brick head with a pronounced masonry keystone. The openings retain their original wood window frames and two-over-two double-hung wood sash with segmental-arched upper sash conforming to the profile of the masonry openings (Photos 9 and 10). The windows provide natural light and ventilation to the principal second-story assembly hall while reinforcing the symmetrical composition of the facade.

A full-width balcony extends across the primary facade immediately below the windows. The balcony retains a wood floor sheathed with corrugated metal and is enclosed by a turned wood balustrade with ornamental newel posts. Supported by the one-story porch below, the balcony contributes significantly to the building's architectural character and reinforces the prominence of the second-story meeting hall along B Street.

Above the window openings, three recessed sign panels display a painted replica of the historic "MINERS' UNION HALL" sign. The replica reproduces the original lettering documented in historic photographs and is based upon the original wood sign panels preserved within the second-story meeting hall (Photos 6, 12, and 13). Together, the symmetrical fenestration, full-width balcony, and recessed sign panels emphasize the importance of the upper-story institutional spaces and contribute significantly to the building's architectural character and visual prominence within Virginia City's historic commercial district.

Curvilinear Parapet and Roof

The curvilinear brick parapet forms the dominant architectural feature of the primary facade and conceals the gable roof from street view, a characteristic feature of late nineteenth-century commercial and institutional architecture in Virginia City. The false-front design reflects a regional practice of concealing pitched roofs behind decorative parapets to create a more imposing street facade while maintaining a continuous commercial streetscape and improving fire resistance.

Historic photographs and the 1937 Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) documentation record that the parapet originally incorporated a projecting profile molding along its lower edge (Photo 2). During preservation work completed in 2007, the deteriorated molding was removed to prevent further deterioration. Although the projecting molding was removed during the 2007 preservation project, it remains preserved within the second-story interior.

Centered within a pointed-arch recessed panel is an ornamental metal beehive surmounted by a flagpole. The beehive, a long-recognized symbol of industry, diligence, and cooperative labor, was an appropriate decorative feature for a building constructed as the headquarters of the Virginia City Miners' Union and reinforces the property's historic association with organized labor on the Comstock Lode (Photos 2 and 3).

Together, the curvilinear parapet, concealed gable roof, recessed sign panels, ornamental metal beehive, and flagpole establish the building's distinctive silhouette and remain the defining architectural features of the primary facade.

North Elevation of the Miners' Union Hall

The north elevation extends the full depth of the building and consists of load-bearing brick masonry laid in regular courses (Photo 16). Architectural treatment is restrained in comparison to the principal east facade and reflects the utilitarian character typical of secondary elevations in late nineteenth-century commercial and institutional buildings in Virginia City.

Fenestration on the north elevation is asymmetrically arranged and corresponds to the functional organization of the interior spaces rather than a formal exterior composition. The second story contains two window openings that provide natural light and ventilation to the upper-level meeting and assembly spaces. The first story contains three window openings and a doorway providing exterior access to the stage area located at the west end of the principal assembly hall (Photo 16).

The arrangement of these openings reflects the operational requirements of the building's institutional functions while maintaining the simplicity characteristic of secondary elevations within Virginia City's historic commercial district. Despite its restrained architectural treatment,

the north elevation retains its historic masonry construction and continues to convey the building's original institutional character.

South Elevation of the Miners' Union Hall

The south elevation extends the full depth of the building and consists of load-bearing brick masonry laid in regular courses. Although the adjacent commercial building to the south is situated in close proximity, the Miners' Union Hall retains an independent exterior wall and does not share a party wall with the neighboring structure.

Architectural treatment is restrained in comparison to the principal east facade and reflects the utilitarian character typical of secondary elevations in nineteenth-century commercial and institutional buildings in Virginia City. Fenestration on the south elevation is limited and consists of two window openings located toward the western end of the wall. These openings provide natural light and ventilation to the principal assembly hall and reflect the functional arrangement of the interior spaces rather than a formal exterior composition.

Despite its relatively simple treatment and limited visibility from public viewpoints, the south elevation retains its historic masonry construction and contributes to the building's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship.

West (Rear) Elevation of the Miners' Union Hall

The west elevation historically functioned as the service and operational end of the building and exhibits a simpler architectural treatment than the principal east facade. At the west end of the building, the adjacent grade rises to the second-story level, burying the rear of the first story into the abutting hillside, a condition characteristic of many nineteenth-century commercial and institutional buildings constructed on the steep terrain of Virginia City. This relationship between the building and the natural topography reflects the adaptation of nineteenth-century builders to the steep hillsides of the Comstock and distinguishes the rear elevation from the more formal street-facing facade (Photo 17).

The 2006 Historic Structure Study documented that the second floor originally terminated in an open deck or balcony extending from the west elevation and accessible from the upper-story assembly spaces. This deck historically provided secondary circulation and functional access to the upper floor while accommodating the changing grade at the rear of the building. The rear elevation historically served circulation and service functions associated with the operation of both the principal assembly hall and the upper-story institutional spaces.

Exterior access to the second story is presently provided through a rear doorway located on the west elevation. This opening originally functioned as a window and was converted into a doorway during alterations completed in the late 1990s. Because the opening is not present in the 1937 Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) documentation, it is interpreted as a modern alteration to the historic building fabric (Photo 17). Despite this modification, the alteration is confined to the secondary rear elevation and does not substantially diminish the building's overall integrity.

Two window openings are also located on the west elevation. One opening has been boarded over to accommodate later utility installations, including electrical equipment, while the second opening was historically infilled with brick. Above these openings, the historic gable-end vent has been enclosed on the exterior but remains intact and continues to provide access to the

attic. Together, these alterations illustrate the continued functional adaptation of the building while preserving the overall form and historic masonry construction of the rear elevation (Photo 17).

Although portions of the west elevation have been modified to accommodate the continued use of the building by Comstock Aerie No. 523, it retains its historic brick masonry construction, overall form, and functional relationship to the surrounding hillside. The west elevation continues to convey the service and circulation functions characteristic of late nineteenth-century institutional buildings.

Interior

The building retains a high degree of interior integrity, preserving its historic spatial organization, circulation pattern, and architectural finishes established during the 1876 reconstruction. Original room arrangements, circulation routes, and principal architectural features remain readily identifiable despite continued use and adaptive changes by the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

Lower Level

The primary entrance opens into a vestibule that retains its historic wood entry doors, transom windows, wood flooring, millwork, and trim. The vestibule serves as the principal circulation space, providing access to the first-floor assembly hall and the staircase leading to the second floor.

The first-floor assembly hall occupies the majority of the lower level and retains its historic open plan with ceilings approximately thirteen feet in height. Although presently leased for storage, the room continues to convey its historic function as a large public assembly space through its expansive open volume, surviving stage at the west end of the building, original spatial organization, tongue-and-groove wood ceiling, and early electrical conduit and light fixtures.

Located near the southeast corner of the building, the original wood staircase provides access to the upper floor. The stair retains its original wood treads and risers, molded wood handrail, turned newel posts, and turned balusters. The stair enclosure preserves exposed brick masonry along one wall, vertical tongue-and-groove wood wainscoting, plaster walls, and a tongue-and-groove beadboard ceiling above the landing, reflecting the quality of craftsmanship found throughout the building.

Upper Level

The staircase terminates at a central landing that continues to function as the principal circulation space for the upper floor. The landing retains its original wood balustrade with turned newel posts, exposed brick masonry wall, vertical tongue-and-groove wood wainscoting, plaster walls, and original transomed doorway openings providing access to the adjoining rooms. The historic circulation pattern between the landing and the adjacent rooms remains intact.

The upper floor retains the historic room arrangement documented by the 1937 Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). Contemporary accounts published in *History of Nevada* by

Thompson & West (1881) identify these spaces as the Library, Reading Room, and Chess Room, reflecting the educational and social functions of the Miners' Union during the late nineteenth century. The former Reading Room, now used as an exhibit room, occupies the east end of the building and retains its historic proportions, wood flooring, tall segmental-arched windows overlooking North B Street, vertical tongue-and-groove wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, original transomed doorway openings, and historic light fixtures. Adjacent to the exhibit room is the former Chess Room, now used for storage, which retains its historic relationship to the central landing and adjoining rooms.

The former Miners' Union Library, now serving as the Main Hall of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, occupies the majority of the upper floor and remains the building's principal assembly space. The hall retains its historic open plan, wood flooring, tongue-and-groove beadboard ceiling, plaster walls, vertical tongue-and-groove wood wainscoting, tall wood double-hung windows, original paneled doors surmounted by rectangular transoms, and raised perimeter platforms extending along the north and south walls. At the west end of the hall, the historic ceremonial platform remains intact, reinforcing the room's continued function as the building's principal meeting space. Although furnishings, exhibits, and fraternal artifacts associated with the continued use of the building have been introduced over time, they do not diminish the building's historic spatial organization, circulation pattern, or architectural character established during the 1876 reconstruction.

Integrity and Preservation

The Miners' Union Hall retains a high degree of integrity, preserving its location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Following its acquisition by the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Comstock Aerie No. 523, in 1926, the building continued to function as a meeting hall, preserving its long-standing institutional use and reinforcing continuity of association and feeling.

In 2007, preservation work funded through a Historic Preservation Fund grant included replacement of the roof and stabilization of the front porch, addressing structural concerns while retaining the building's historic character-defining features.

Its brick masonry construction, concealed gable roof, curvilinear parapeted façade, fenestration pattern, porch, balcony, and surviving interior features continue to clearly convey its identity as a late nineteenth-century institutional building constructed during Virginia City's post–Great Fire reconstruction period.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (include all sources of information)

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: 0.0800

Verbal Boundary Description: The boundary consists of Storey County Assessor's Parcel Number 001-082-05, located at 36 North B Street in Virginia City, Storey County, Nevada. The property occupies Lot 11, Block 83, range A, Virginia City Townsite, and contains approximately 0.08 acres.

Boundary Justification: The nominated boundary includes the entirety of the historic parcel historically associated with the Miners' Union Hall and later ownership by Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie No. 523. The boundary encompasses the building and immediately associated land sufficient to convey the property's historic significance and integrity.

Geo-Referenced Location (Use NAD 83 UTMs): **add more points if necessary**
271516.026 mE 4354690.90 mN

Source and method of UTMs: Coordinates obtained using a GIS coordinate conversion tool and referenced to NAD83 UTM Zone 11N.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title: Audie Robinson, Historian
Organization: Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie 523
Address: 36 North B Street
City or Town: Virginia City **State:** NV **Zip:** 89440
Telephone Number: 559-904-7011 **E-mail:** audierobinson@gmail.com
Date: May 20, 2026

12. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Include the following items with your submission:

_X__ Photographs (Provide one or more photographs of the building. At minimum, include one photograph of the front (facade) of the building. Please see guidance for this form for photograph specifications.

_X__ Floor Plan and/or Site Map (For individual buildings, provide a line drawing of the floor plan of the building. If there is more than one building, structure, or for sites, provide a

scaled site map to show the relationship between nominated resources. See guidance for clarification).

__X_ USGS Quadrangle Map (provide a scale section of a USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle or current city street map with the property marked).

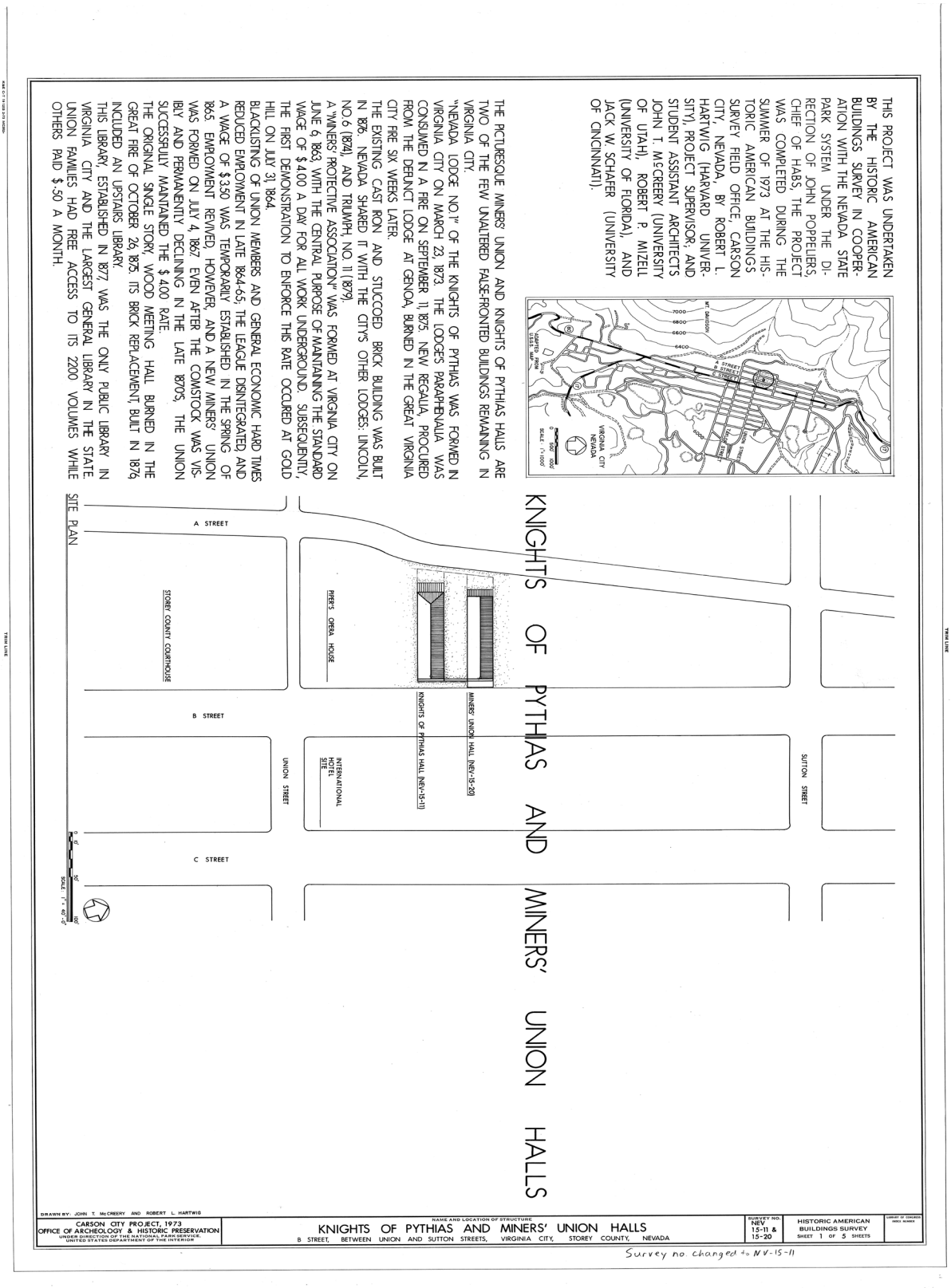

Figure 14. *Historic American Buildings Survey site plan showing the location of the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Hall within Virginia City's historic commercial district, 1937. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (HABS No. NV-15-11, Sheet 1 of 5).*

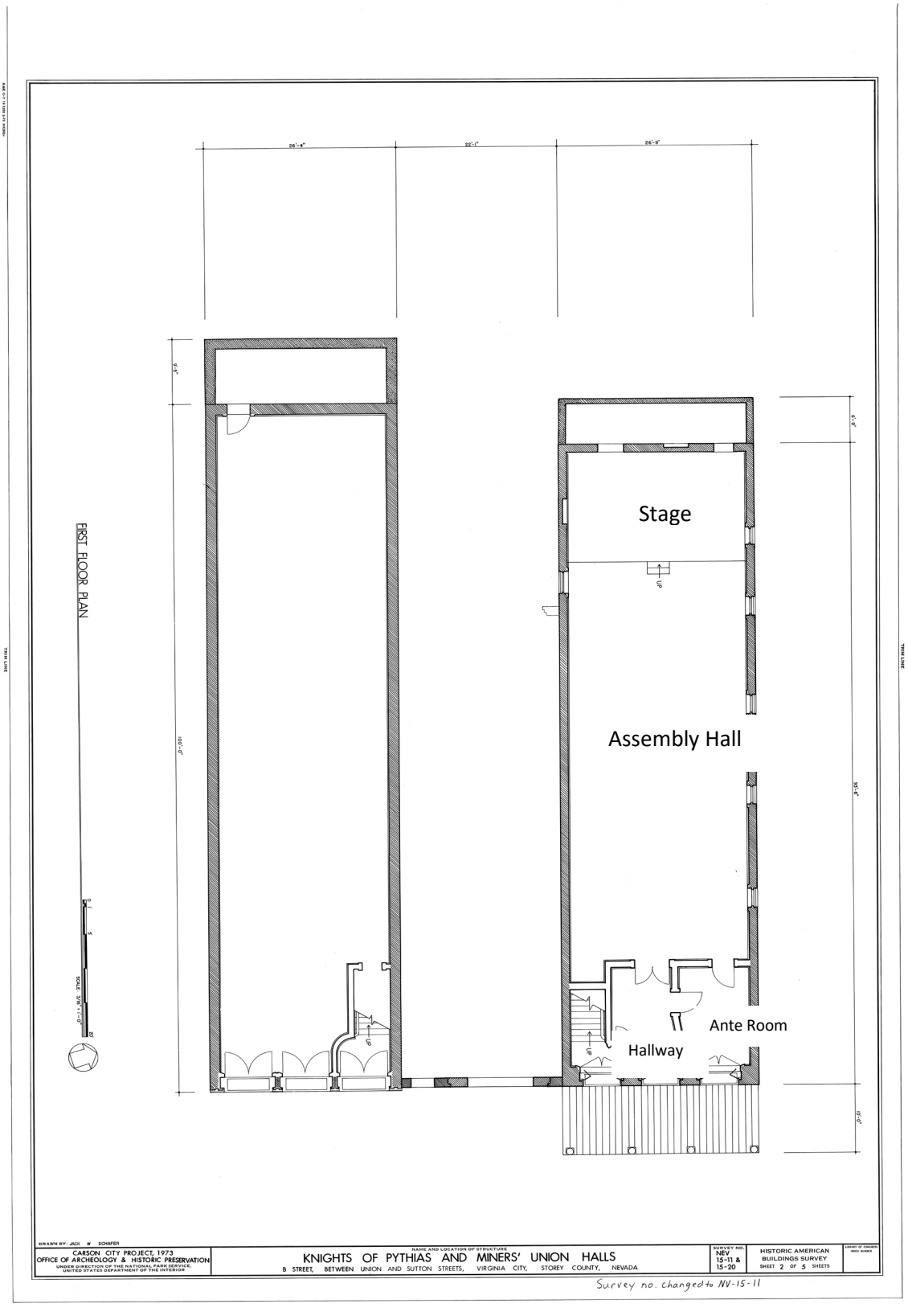

Figure 15. *First-floor plan of the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Hall prepared for the Historic American Buildings Survey, illustrating the arrangement of the principal assembly spaces, stage area, entrance vestibules, and circulation patterns. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (HABS No. NV-15-11, Sheet 2 of 5).*

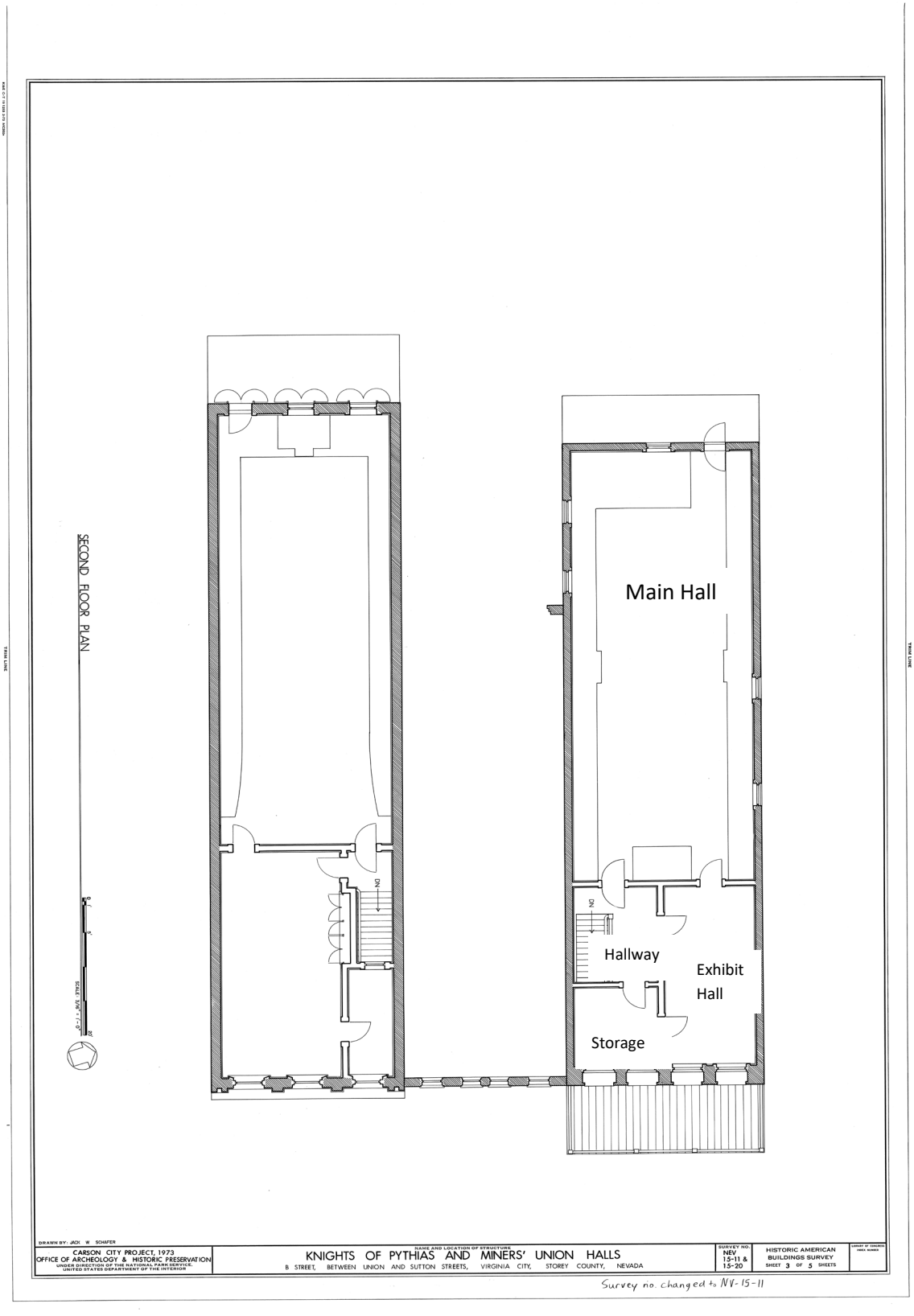

Figure 16. *Second-floor plan of the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Hall prepared for the Historic American Buildings Survey, illustrating the arrangement of the upper assembly spaces, library and reading room areas, stairways, and circulation patterns. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (HABS No. NV-15-11, Sheet 3 of 5).*

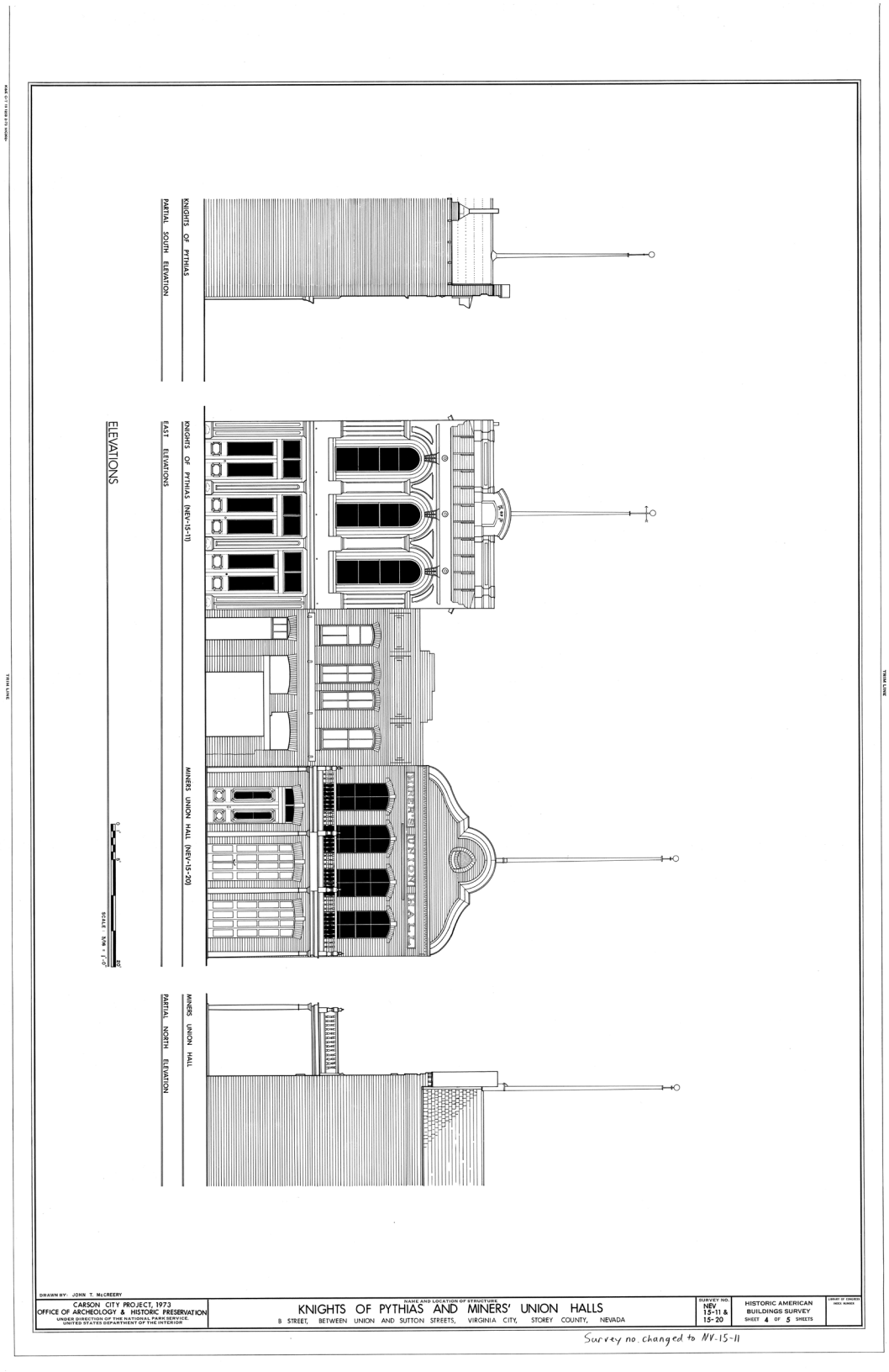

Figure 17. *Historic American Buildings Survey elevation drawings of the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Hall, depicting the east (primary) and north elevations of the two buildings in Virginia City, Nevada, 1937. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (HABS No. NV-15-11, Sheet 4 of 5).*

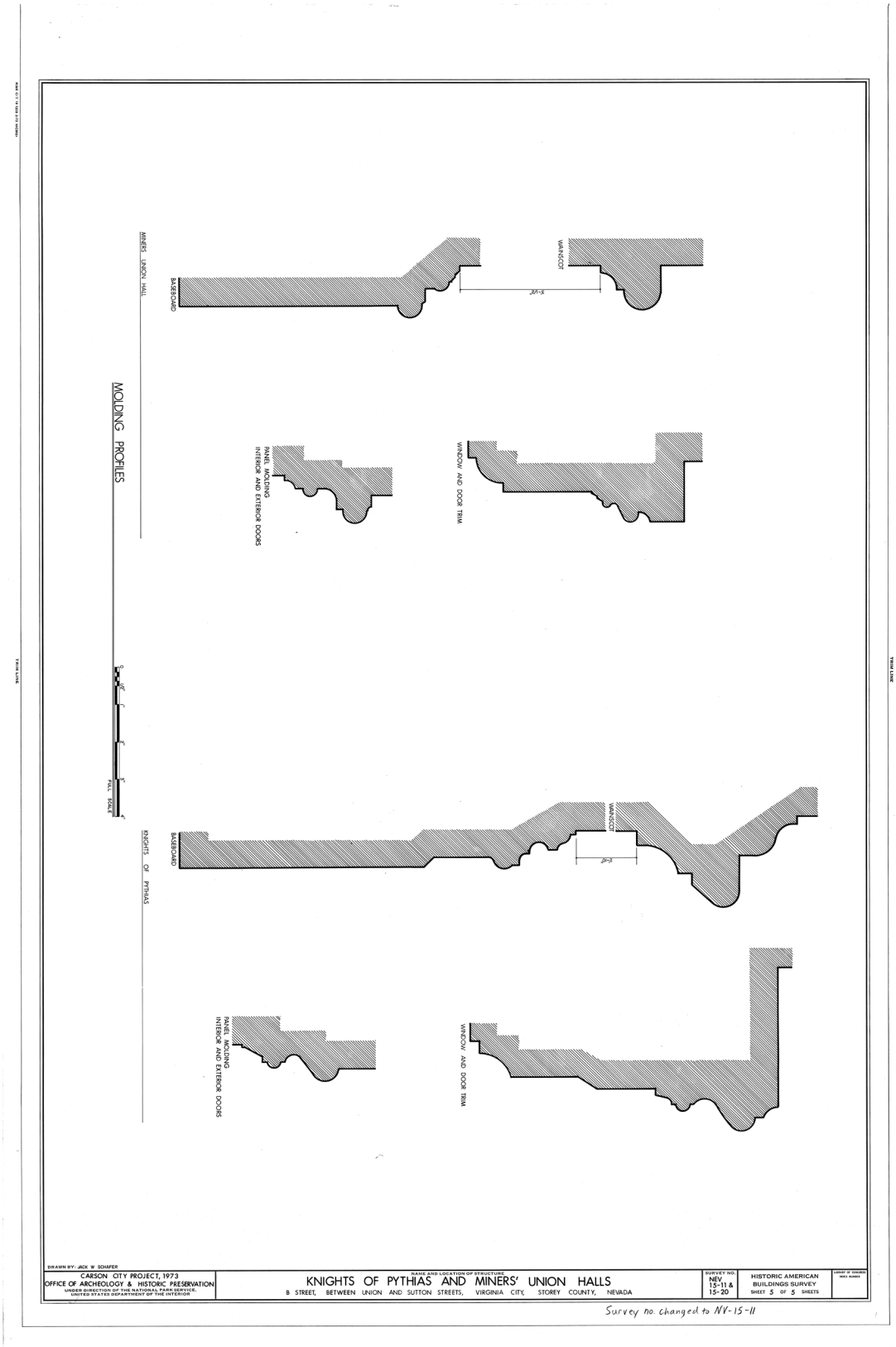

Figure 18. *Historic American Buildings Survey drawings illustrating representative molding profiles from the Miners' Union Hall and adjacent Knights of Pythias Hall, including baseboards, wainscoting, window and door trim, and interior and exterior door panel moldings. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (HABS No. NV-15-11, Sheet 5 of 5).*

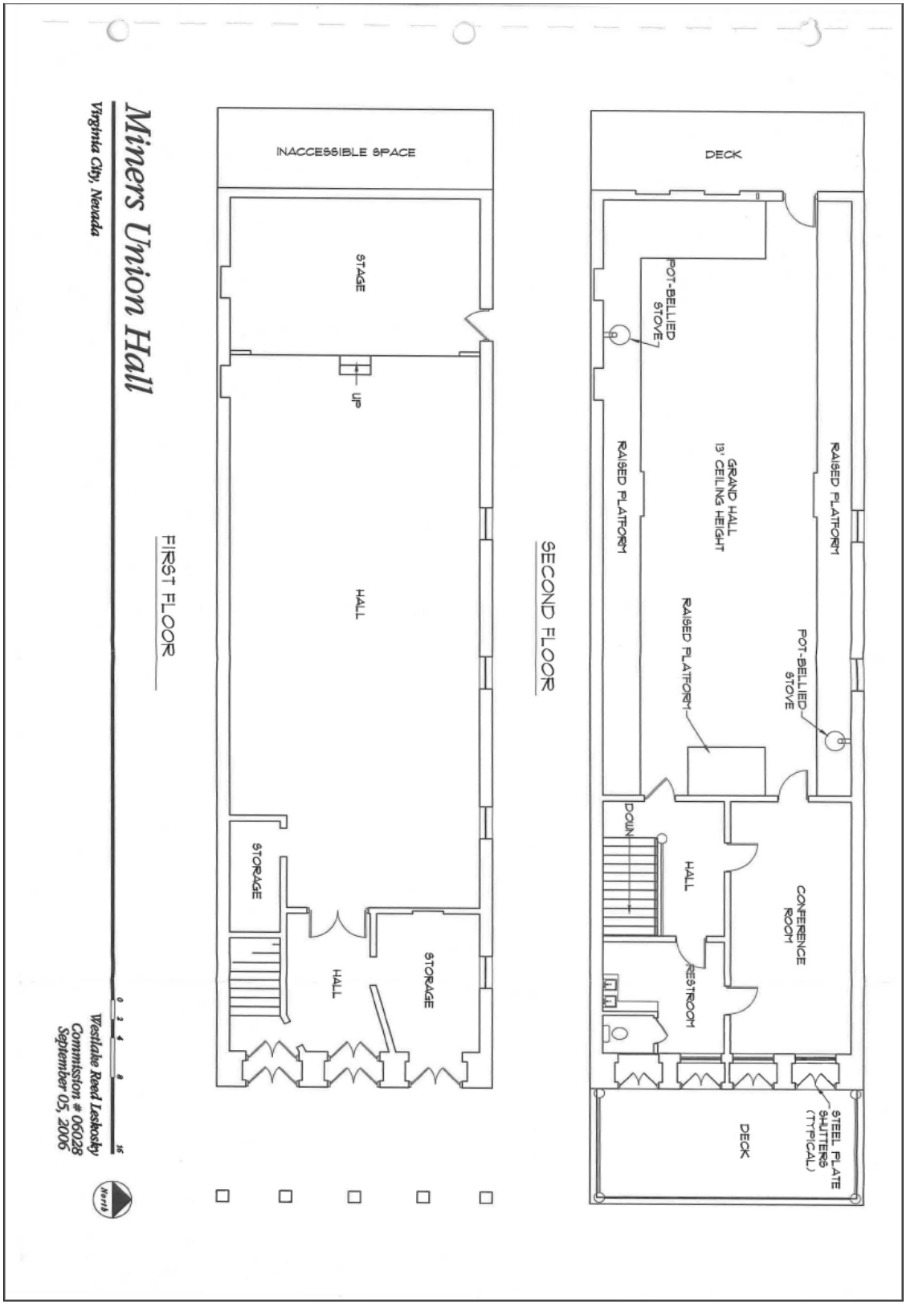

Figure 19. *Floor plans of the Miners' Union Hall prepared during the 2006 Historic Structure Study, illustrating the first-floor assembly hall and stage area and the second-floor grand hall, conference room, raised platforms, and support spaces. Adapted from Westlake Reed Leskosky, 2006.*

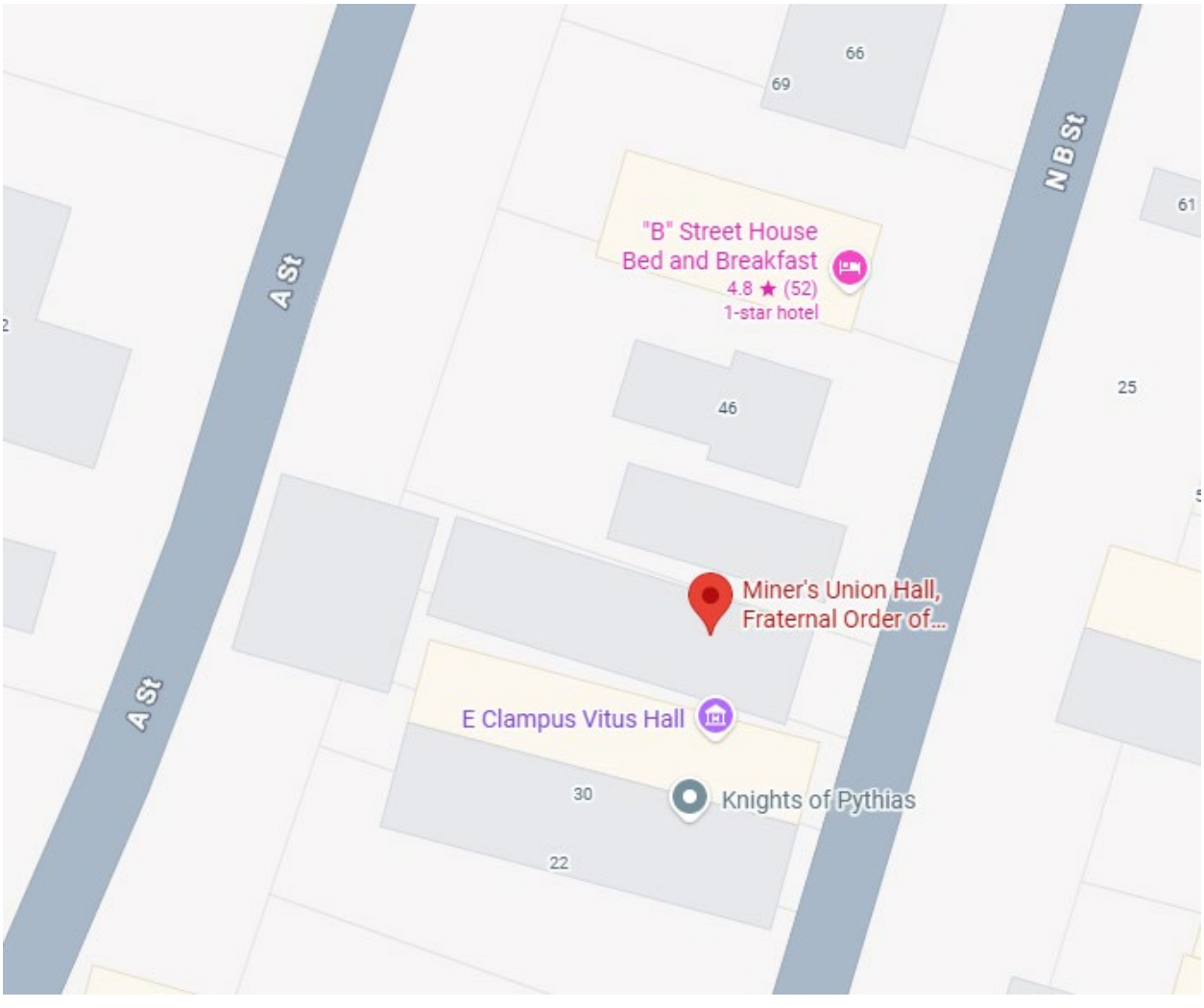

Figure 20. *Location of the Miners' Union Hall within Virginia City's historic commercial district, showing its position between A Street and B Street and adjacent to the Knights of Pythias Hall and E Clampus Vitus Hall. Source: Google Maps aerial imagery, accessed May 2026.*

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Miners' Union Hall/Fraternal Order of Eagles Comstock Aerie No. 523 Hall

City or Vicinity: Virginia City

County: Storey State: Nevada

Photographer: Audie Robinson

Date Photographed: October 18, 2025, July 14, 2026

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photograph 1: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0001)* Primary east facade showing two-story brick commercial building with curvilinear parapet, painted "MINERS UNION HALL" sign panel, four segmental-arched second-story window openings, full-width second-story balcony with turned balustrade, one-story porch supported by wood columns, and storefront openings at street level. | West

Photograph 2: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0002)* First-floor Assembly Hall showing open assembly space, tongue-and-groove ceiling, early electrical conduit and lighting, and surviving historic spatial organization. Room is currently leased for storage. | West

Photograph 3: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0003)* First-floor entrance vestibule showing historic entry doors, transom windows, wood flooring, and surviving millwork and trim associated with the primary entrance from North B Street. | East

Photograph 4: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0004) First-floor main stair showing original stair configuration, wood handrail, vertical board wainscoting, exposed brick masonry wall, and circulation to the second floor. | West

Photograph 5: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0005) Second-floor landing showing original stair landing and balustrade, exposed brick masonry wall, vertical board wainscoting, plaster walls, and circulation to adjoining rooms. | Northeast

Photograph 6: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0006) Second-floor entry hall showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, transomed doorway opening, and circulation between the stair landing and Main Hall assembly space. | West

Photograph 7: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0007) Second-floor stair landing exhibit area showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, transomed doorway openings, Fraternal Order of Eagles display case, and circulation between the stair landing, exhibit room, and Main Hall assembly space. | Northeast

Photograph 8: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0008) Second-floor exhibit room showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood flooring, historic window openings, and circulation space along the east side of the building. | East

Photograph 9: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0009) North second-floor front elevation window opening showing segmental arched masonry opening, wood window frame and sash, and relationship between the exterior balcony and second-floor exhibit room. | West

Photograph 10: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0010) Oblique view of the north second-floor front elevation window opening showing the relationship between the exterior balcony, masonry wall, wood window frame and sash, and second-floor exhibit room. | Northwest

Photograph 11: (NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0011) Second-floor exhibit room showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, transomed doorway openings, historic light fixtures, and circulation between the exhibit room and Main Hall assembly space. | West

Photograph 12: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0012)* Interior south wall of the Main Hall showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, two tall windows near the west end of the assembly space, historic furnishings, and audience seating arrangement. | Southwest

Photograph 13: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0013)* Main Hall showing audience seating arrangement, raised perimeter platforms, wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, historic furnishings, and west end ceremonial area with American flag and dais. | West

Photograph 14: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0014)* Interior north wall of the Main Hall showing wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, two tall windows near the east end of the assembly space, historic furnishings, wall displays, and audience seating arrangement along the raised perimeter platform. | Northwest

Photograph 15: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0015)* Main Hall showing assembly floor, raised perimeter platforms, wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, historic furnishings, audience seating arrangement, and east end circulation opening to the front exhibit room and stair hall. | East

Photograph 16: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0016)* North and west elevations showing brick masonry construction, gable roof form, wood-shuttered second-story doorway providing access to the upper level from the rear of the building, window openings with segmental brick arches, and the relationship of the building to the sloping site. | Southeast

Photograph 17**:** *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0017)* Rear (west) gable elevation showing brick masonry construction, gable roof form, wood-shuttered second-story doorway providing access to the upper level from the rear of the building, infilled segmental-arched window opening, and utility service installations associated with the historic rear elevation. | East

Photograph 18: *(NV_Storey_Virginia_City_Miners_Union_Hall_0018)* Setting and streetscape view looking northwest from near the intersection of Union and B Streets, showing the Miners' Union Hall in relation to adjoining historic buildings, B Street, and the surrounding block. | Northwest

Photograph 1: Primary east facade looking west from North B Street. View shows the two-story brick institutional building with curvilinear parapet, painted "MINERS UNION HALL" sign panel, four segmental-arched, two-part commercial second-story window openings, full-width second-story balcony with turned balustrade, one-story porch supported by wood columns, and storefront openings at street level. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed October 18, 2025.

Photograph 2: First floor Assembly Hall looking west toward the stage. Room is currently leased for storage. View shows the open assembly space, tongue-and-groove ceiling, early electrical conduit and lighting, and surviving historic spatial organization. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed October 18, 2025.

Photograph 3: First floor. Entrance vestibule looking east toward North B Street and the primary entrance. Note the historic entry doors, transom windows, wood flooring, and surviving millwork and trim. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed October 18, 2025.

Photograph 4. First-floor main stair looking north toward the second-floor landing. View shows original wood stair assembly with wood treads and risers, wood handrail, vertical board wainscoting, plaster walls, exposed brick masonry wall, and tongue-and-groove ceiling above the landing. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 5. Second-floor landing looking northeast. View shows original stair landing and balustrade, exposed brick masonry wall, vertical board wainscoting, plaster walls, and doorway opening into the adjacent meeting room. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 6: Second-floor entry hall looking west into the Main Hall. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, transomed doorway opening, and circulation between the stair landing and Main Hall assembly space. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 7: Second-floor stair landing looking northeast toward the exhibit room. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, transomed doorway openings, and circulation between the stair landing, exhibit room, and Main Hall assembly space. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 8: Second-floor exhibit room looking east toward the balcony windows overlooking B Street. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood flooring, historic window openings, and exhibit space adjacent to the Main Hall assembly room. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 9: Second-floor front elevation window looking west into the second-floor exhibit room from the exterior balcony. View shows the segmental arched masonry opening, wood window frame and sash, and relationship between the exterior balcony and second-floor exhibit room. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 10: Oblique view of the north second-floor front elevation window looking northwest from the exterior balcony. View shows the relationship between the exterior balcony, masonry wall, wood window frame and sash, and second-floor exhibit room. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 11: Second-floor exhibit room looking west toward the Main Hall. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, transomed doorway openings, historic light fixtures, and circulation between the exhibit room and Main Hall assembly space. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 12: Main Hall looking southwest from the northeast corner of the assembly space toward the interior south wall. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, two tall windows near the west end of the room, historic furnishings, and audience seating arrangement within the Main Hall. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 13: Main Hall looking west from the east end of the assembly space. View shows audience seating arrangement, raised perimeter platforms along the north and south walls, wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, historic furnishings, and the ceremonial area at the west end of the room with the American flag and dais. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 14: Main Hall looking northwest toward the interior north wall from the southeast portion of the assembly space. View shows wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, two tall windows near the east end of the room, historic furnishings, wall displays, and audience seating arrangement along the raised perimeter platform. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 15**:** Main Hall looking east from the west end of the assembly space. View shows the assembly floor, raised perimeter platforms along the north and south walls, wood wainscoting, plaster walls, wood ceiling, historic furnishings, audience seating arrangement, and the east end circulation opening to the front exhibit room and stair hall. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 16: North elevation of the Miners' Union Hall, looking southeast from the sloping ground north of the building. View shows the brick masonry construction, the relationship of the building to the surrounding topography, and the neighboring buildings along the north side of the property. Photograph by Audie Robinson, October 1, 2026.

Photograph 17: Rear (west) elevation gable end looking east from the rear of the property. View shows brick masonry construction, gable end roof form, shuttered second-story doorway providing access to the upper level from the rear of the building, infilled opening with segmental brick arch, and utility service installations associated with the historic rear elevation. Photograph by Audie Robinson. Photographed July 14, 2026.

Photograph 18. Setting and streetscape view of the Miners' Union Hall and surrounding B Street block, looking northwest from near the intersection of Union and B Streets. View shows the Miners' Union Hall in relation to the adjoining historic buildings, B Street, and the surrounding Virginia City landscape. Photograph by Audie Robinson, October 2026.