

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 17 1979  
DATE ENTERED OCT 4 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC LAKE SHORE HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON LAKE SHORE HOUSE

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Glenbrook Road (no number)

CITY, TOWN Glenbrook VICINITY OF Nevada-at-large  
STATE Nevada CODE 32 COUNTY Douglas CODE 005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS PRESENT USE  
-DISTRICT -PUBLIC X OCCUPIED -AGRICULTURE -MUSEUM  
X BUILDING(S) X PRIVATE -UNOCCUPIED X COMMERCIAL -PARK  
-STRUCTURE -BOTH -WORK IN PROGRESS -EDUCATIONAL -PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
-SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE -ENTERTAINMENT -RELIGIOUS  
-OBJECT -IN PROCESS X YES: RESTRICTED -GOVERNMENT -SCIENTIFIC  
-BEING CONSIDERED -YES: UNRESTRICTED -INDUSTRIAL -TRANSPORTATION  
-NO -MILITARY -OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Glenbrook Properties (includes both Bliss + Mahas)  
STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 257  
CITY, TOWN Glenbrook VICINITY OF Nevada

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Douglas County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER 121 8th Street  
CITY, TOWN Minden, Nevada STATE Nevada

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Nevada Historical Sites  
DATE 1968 X FEDERAL X STATE -COUNTY -LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada, Reno  
CITY, TOWN Reno STATE Nevada

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1906</u>

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The eighteen room Lake Shore House was built at Glenbrook, Lake Tahoe in 1863 by a Captain Augustus W. Pray with the help of N.E. Murdock, G.W. Warren and Rufus Walton. They settled on the Glenbrook meadows in the spring of 1860. In 1861 they constructed a sawmill powered by an over-shot waterwheel at the southeast corner of Glenbrook Bay, the first sawmill to be built on the shoreline of the lake. They furnished lumber to Carson City via the Lake Bigler Toll Road also constructed in 1863. This was also the first development of any consequence on Lake Tahoe, but the second hotel. The Glenbrook House was built one-half mile up the canyon earlier in 1863.

Captain Pray bought out his partners and sometime later was bought out by a combine that began massive logging operations in the Basin. Duane LeRoy Bliss, a former member of the Virginia City branch of the Bank of California, Henry Yerington, construction superintendent of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad plus Darius Ogden Mills were the gentlemen who put together the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company in 1873. Bliss was president and general manager. The Basin was logged out at the turn-of-the-century, but Bliss was astute enough to turn the milling complex into a resort area. The great grandson of Duane Bliss retains a one-half interest on the property today; The other one-half being held by the R.T. Nahas Company operating as Glenbrook Properties together.

In 1906, Lake Shore House was moved a short distance and together with a store/meeting hall/dance hall and the Jellerson Hotel, also moved, formed, with alterations and additions the new Glenbrook Inn. The two hotels formed the separate wings of the new inn that faced Glenbrook Bay. At that time the front porch and the second floor balcony of the Lake Shore House were removed. The second floor access door was converted to a window and two of the four front lower level doors were eliminated as well as the outside stairway. The seventeen foot sign across the front was removed.

When built, and as restored, the two story building has standard ranch house style with traditional Georgian motifs in the mouldings. These include crown, ogee and bed types organized in a simple, straight-forward style. The house was originally painted white with a dark beige trim. This color scheme was used in the recent restoration.

### Description of the Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 29'0 x 63'9"  
Shape: rectangular, narrow facade "at front".
2. Foundation: originally beams on rock; now concrete block.
3. Walls: shiplap

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1863-1906-1978

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Captain Augustus W. Pray/Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lake Shore House is of statewide significance because of its age and association with major personages and events intertwined with the development of the Lake Tahoe Basin and the Comstock.

The building was built and owned by Captain Augustus W. Pray who pioneered the settlement at Glenbrook and who was first to engage in any major lumbering operation in the area. He built and operated the first sawmill in the Basin. His hotel was the second hotel built in the Basin and is currently the oldest hotel building still standing at Lake Tahoe.

Lake Shore House could stand on its own significance, but in association with the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company, it acquires added significance. In 1873, this corporation was formed by moneyed interests who had earlier played supporting roles in the development of the Comstock. Other small sawmills were constructed in the Tahoe Basin following Pray's venture. These sawmills began using V-flumes, the local invention of one J. W. Haines, that was to revolutionize the transportation of lumber and cordwood from high elevations to low. Thus constructed, the flumes carrying small streams of water could rapidly transport large amounts of material at low cost.

The astute business partners-to-be quickly perceived supplying the pent-up demand of timber and cordwood on the Comstock. In 1868, five years after the construction of the Bigler Toll Road, the Summit Fluming Company was created. By 1872, it had consolidated the various V-flume systems in Clear Creek Canyon between Spooner's Summit and Carson City into one entity. It was then possible to dump material into the flume at Spooner's Summit and float it to Carson City, thus eliminating the wagon haul between these two points.

By 1873 the new corporation was formed, well endowed financially and talent-wise. They bought out the Glenbrook mills, including Augustus Pray and his hotel, and the Summit Fluming Company's Spooner's Clear Creek-Carson City lumber, cordwood and fluming enterprises. The Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company went on to become the biggest of the three huge Comstock wood and lumber combines, taking more than seven hundred and fifty million (750,000,000) board feet of lumber and 500,000 cords of wood from the Lake Tahoe Basin forest during its 25 year lifetime. It reached the zenith of its operations in the mid-1870's and finally closed its books in 1898.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Angel, Myron (ed.) *Reproduction of Thompson and West's "History of Nevada"*. 1881. Berkeley, CA: Howell-North, 1958.
- Scott, Edward B. *"The Saga of Lake Tahoe"*, Crystal Bay, Lake Tahoe, Nevada: Sierra Tahoe Publishing Co., 1957. Revised First Edition.
- Goodwin, Victor O. *U.S.F.S. Ret. - Conversations with-*  
Galloway, John Debo, *"Early Engineering Works Contributory to the Comstock"*  
University of Nevada Bulletin XLI, June 1947.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY + 1.0 ac.

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	1	2	4	5	8	6	0	43	3	0	48	0
ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING				

B 

ZONE				EASTING				NORTHING				

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the frontage road and Glenbrook Creek thence easterly up the creek 200' then north 50', thence due west to the frontage road, thence south along centerline of said road to the point of beginning.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Wilbur E. Wieprecht, Historian, in cooperation with Shelly Nahas (Historical Researcher)

ORGANIZATION Glenbrook Properties DATE June 27, 1979

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 257 TELEPHONE (702)749-5292 or 885-5138

CITY OR TOWN Glenbrook STATE Nevada 89413

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *Djimi Redden*

TITLE *Administrator*

DATE *July 10, 1979*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Carol Skell*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE *10-4-79*

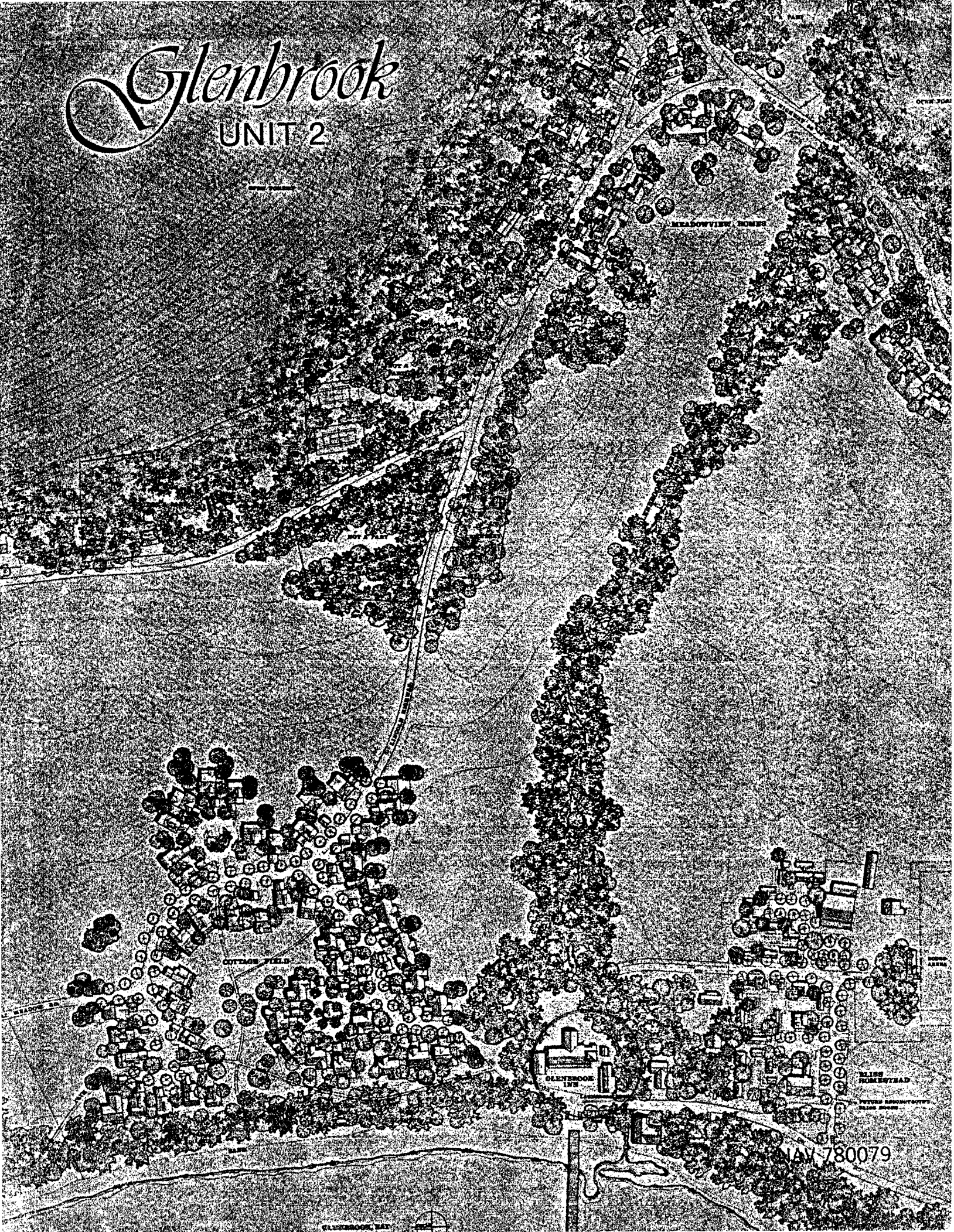
ATTEST

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER *[Signature]*

DATE *10-4-79*

# Glenbrook

UNIT 2



NAV-780079

GLENBROOK, ILL.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	J-1
DATE ENTERED	01 4 9/9

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

4. Structural system: wood frame
5. Porches: Full front; partial north side. The front is 8'5 1/2" wide x 28'0" across; no balustrade. Five beveled wood columns support the balcony. The side porch is 12'0 x 45'0" covered by a hip roof.
6. Chimneys: One brick, located front off center, north side adjacent to the ridge board.
7. Openings:
  - a. Windows: Double-hung; six over six light.
  - b. Doors: Three at the front; two downstairs and one upstairs opening to the balcony. Two doors are located on the north wall, lower level.
  - c. Roof: Gable on the main unit; hip for the north porch; shed for the rear-most addition and flat on the front porch. The covering on the gable roof is cedar shingles.
  - d. Cornice: Board on the main unit with returns at the corners. The frieze is plain. The gable roofed addition has exposed rafters with a fascia board. The woodshed has exposed, extended rafters.

Through careful research and attention to detail, the building has recently been restored to its original late 19th century appearance. Offices occupy the lower floor with guest accommodations on the second.

A highly visible change from the original appearance is in the run of the stairs at the front. In the restoration it was highly impractical to restore the straight run of the stairs as the adjacent buildings over a creek had long since been removed. The stair run now returns on itself.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JJ 19 83
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

At the height of its activity, the company owned or controlled over 50,000 acres of prime virgin timber land in the Lake Tahoe Basin. It operated four saw mills on Glenbrook Bay at one time or another, two steam tugs to tow log booms to the mills, two logging railroads, several large logging camps and a large planing mill and box factory in Carson City.

Timber stands were exhausted by the mid 1890's and mining on the Comstock had greatly slackened by 1896. All lumbering operations closed down in 1898 and the Bliss family (now sole owners) hastened to form a new corporation, the Lake Tahoe Railway and Transportation Company. In 1899 conversion of the milling center to a recreation complex was begun at Glenbrook Bay. The complex was to include two summer resorts, a scenic narrow-gauge railroad and total of four excursion steamers on Lake Tahoe. Scrap material from the milling complex was used to maximum advantage. It was during this transition period that Lake Shore House was incorporated with other existing buildings and moved to form the Glenbrook Inn.

From 1906 until its closure in 1975, the Glenbrook Inn and resort hosted many prominent families, particularly from the Bay Area as well as Hollywood entertainers. Today Glenbrook is undergoing another transformation to that of a posh residential/resort complex. Lake Shore House has been restored to its pre-1906 appearance. The rest of Glenbrook Inn remains intact, but its future is uncertain.