

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88000550 Date Listed: 4/17/89

<u>Lewiston Historic District</u>	<u>Trinity</u>	<u>California</u>
Property Name	County	State

NA  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*W* Bruce J. Noble Jr.  
Signature of the Keeper

4/17/89  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Although criterion B was claimed on the form and justified in the nomination narrative, no significant person was indicated. Maryln Lortie of the California Office of Historic Preservation explained over the telephone that Olney Phillips should be entered as the appropriate significant person.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Lewiston Historic District  
other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number along Deadwood, Turnpike & Schoolhouse Rds. N/A not for publication  
city, town Lewiston N/A vicinity  
state California code 06 county Trinity code 105 zip code 96052

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>16</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Kathryn Kuehlein 3-13-89  
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Bruce J. Noble, Jr. 4/17/89  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

       Signature of the Keeper        Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/department store  
TRANSPORTATION/road related  
EDUCATION/school

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single dwelling  
COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store  
EDUCATION/library

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

No style  
Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Wood  
walls Weatherboard  
roof Metal  
other Shake  
Steel (bridge)

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Lewiston Historic District is located in the town of Lewiston, in northwestern Trinity County, a rural county in northern California. There are four avenues of entrance into the district, but the "Old Bridge" route provides access to the commercial and historical heart of the old mining town. The bridge delivers the traveller into the Deadwood/Turnpike intersection, where a collection of mostly one story commercial buildings is located. Turning onto Deadwood Road, the district extends about a quarter mile north and is lined with one story residential structures, a three story hotel, a commercial building and three agricultural outbuildings. The western boundary of this section is formed by the Trinity River and its attendant alluvial terraces. Turning southeast from the intersection, Turnpike Road winds uphill and onto Schoolhouse Road, passing residences and a schoolhouse and ending at the Congregational Church. Except for the Community Hall and the Dysert House, all structures in the Lewiston Historic District date from the second half of the 19th century.

The geographical boundaries formed by natural features (i.e., Trinity River, floodplains and hills) define and separate the district from the rest of the town. There are only three non-contributors within the district's boundaries, and they are not architecturally intrusive.

Lewiston was founded, in 1853, on interest in mining and ranching, and the town's appearance reflects a frontier settlement. A post office was established in 1854 (#13) as well as a general store, blacksmith, butcher shop, hotel, and either a ferry or toll bridge across the river. Lot sizes tended to be 2-3 acres in size and rectangular, despite the small physical contours of the land. Most land was set aside to be mined, and so the buildings occupied the flat, alluvial stretches along the Trinity River. It should also be noted that many of these sites were occasionally flooded out by high water during winter storms. It was not until the Trinity Dam was built in the late 1950s that flood control at last rescued the town from periodic inundation.

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Lewiston Historic District

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The Lewiston Historic District is comprised of residences and commercial buildings, a church, a one room schoolhouse, a community hall and a truss bridge spanning the Trinity River. The district also contains farmlands adjacent to the river. Other significant features include a small barn and farm sheds. Viewed as a whole, the components of the Lewiston Historic District clearly convey the appearance of a small California gold mining town.

The Deadwood/Turnpike intersection is the commercial center of the district, both in the historical and present sense. The Paulson Store (#13) and Siligo Butcher Shop (#14) are commercial enterprises today as they were in the last century. The common elements in almost all the contributors are the gabled roofs, wood construction (including board and batten siding on many of them), front verandas and rough-hewn appearance. The residences that line Deadwood Road are of frame construction with weather-board siding, and are one and two story in height. Most of these residences date from the late 1800s and are vernacular in design. The Lewiston Hotel (#2) is today, as it was in 1899, a commercial establishment offering restaurant fare. Hip roof dormers with board cornices add architectural detail to the third story of the hotel. In this group of residences the Baker-Paulsen-Dickey House (#9) and the Olney Phillips House (#10) also exhibit the plain boxed cornice, shiplap siding and front veranda. The only features that represent an identifiable architectural style are the Greek Revival returns on the Siligo House (#15) and the Schoolhouse (#16). The prevailing architectural features in the Lewiston Historic District reflect a simple, pioneer attitude in building styles.

The Old Lewiston School (#16) was originally built as a temperance hall in 1862 by the Good Templars Lodge; in 1865 it became a school and served in that capacity until the 1950s, when a larger school was built. This is an excellent example of a one room schoolhouse. The structure is highlighted by an entry porch which matches the pitch of the gable roof above. The roof is topped with a belfry.

The Lewiston Bridge (#20), which spans the Trinity River, joins Rush Creek Road to the center of the Lewiston Historic District. This bridge has remained in place since 1900, weathering numerous storm events and at least one major flood (1955). It is a metal truss bridge resting on two concrete abutments, with three major structural bays that join at the top. The bridge has a history of being periodically washed out and rebuilt.

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Lewiston Historic District

The site was a common crossing point for gold miners and travelers, bridge or no bridge. The bridge represents not only a physical connection to Lewiston but an historical one as well.

Sixteen buildings and one structure are considered contributing resources in the district. Contributing buildings include six residences, one school, one church, three historic commercial buildings, one historic community hall and four outbuildings. The bridge is a contributing structure. Non-contributing resources include one residence, one commercial building and one outbuilding. The intrusions are not glaring - the overall impression of the Lewiston Historic District is of a small 19th frontier settlement spread out along the banks of a gold-bearing river. The narrow roads, weathered buildings and cultivated floodplains retain the basic integrity of the town and reflect a pioneer community's tenacious hold on the land.

Contributing resources (C) are significant to the historic and architectural development of the district, contain compatible design elements, and maintain the scale, use and texture of the district. Non-contributing resources (NC) do not fall within the period of significance of the district. The architectural survey of the district was completed by Colleen O'Sullivan of the Trinity County Planning department and Walter Robb of the Trinity County Historical Society.

### DEADWOOD ROAD

1. Acuff-Dysert House, 1910. Vernacular.

The Dysert House is a two-story structure with a pitch gable roof and shingle siding. The gable's north side has 6/6 windows, shelf lintels and narrow, vertical clapboards. The south gable has 4/4 windows and a shelf lintel. First floor windows have been modified; some have shelf lintels and lugsills. All roofs are metallic. The floor plan most likely began as a rectangle, but has since been modified into a central block with two wings. The foundation consists of house piers masked by false uncoursed fieldstone (about three feet deep). French doors provide entrance to the building: the glass-paneled doors are 6/6. Old fruit trees line the rear yard. Alterations, additions include an added room (northeastern side, see Photo No. 1), a veranda, and the enclosure of a porch that comprised the west side of the house. No dates are available for any alterations. (C)

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2. Lewiston Hotel, 1899. John Koll, builder. Vernacular.

The Lewiston Hotel is a large two-and-a-half story hip roof building with a wide, one-story shed roof veranda spanning the length of the street (east) side. Also facing the street is a gable dormer centered in the hip roof. On the other two sides of the roof are small hip-roofed dormers with a larger boxed cornice. The hotel has shiplap siding. The window and door trim has a single-pane transom and is solid wood in five panels -- four vertical and one horizontal. A new, one-story gable has been added to the south side and serves as extra dining space. This extends the veranda along the old portion of the building.  
(C)

3. c. 1900. Vernacular. A detached, vertical board, high gable shed associated with the hotel. Resembles the hotel in texture and color. Rectangular plan. (C)

4. c. 1900. Vernacular. A detached, vertical board, high gable shed associated with the hotel. It was probably originally used as a stable. Rectangular plan; no alterations to the building.  
(C)

5. Lewiston Community Hall. 1920. Vernacular.

The Community Hall is a one-story, gabled-roofed, board and batten structure, measuring approximately 20' x 40' in size, and whose roof and front have been covered with corrugated metal. The building is located south of the Lewiston Hotel. (C)

6. Barn. c. 1890. Vernacular.

The barn is approximately 20' x 40', has board and batten siding and a metal roof. The floor plan is rectangular; a shed has been added to the east side. (C)

7. c. 1890. Vernacular. This one-story building has board and batten siding, gable roof and two large (6'x 5') picture windows on the street side. There are no windows on the sides or rear of the structure. The floor plan is rectangular and rests on a wood foundation. The front door has the original wood framing and now contains a 3' x 6' glass insert. The front veranda has a metal roof and a white picket balustrade (appears to be original). (C)

8. c. 1955. The first floor is a two car garage, with a duplex on the second floor. Although the windows (1/1) have wood sashes, the asbestos siding and shallow, pitched roof are reminiscent of post war housing. (NC)

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9. Baker Paulsen-Dickey House, c. 1880. Vernacular.

This house has suffered some alterations. One such alteration is a low wing to the rear of the house. The other is an addition on the right front of the house, which is covered with a makeshift hip roof. It is lit by a triple-glazed, metal frame window. The original part of the house is still intact, however, and does retain its original integrity as it sits off the road amid bramble quince, forsythia, lilacs, and old fruit trees. It is a medium gable dwelling with a veranda around two sides. Its exterior is composed of shiplap with end boards, and it has a metal roof, plain boxed cornice, 2/2 windows with shelf lintel and a plain trim. The main door is new, but it is still framed with the original plain trim and shelf lintel. (C)

10. c. 1875. Vernacular. The wooden shed also has log supports on the open, southern end and stands 20 feet high. The metal roof slopes down to a six foot high, shiplap-sided back wall. The sides are also of shiplap material. (C)
11. Olney Phillips House. 1875. Vernacular.

The Olney Phillips House is located on the corner of Turnpike and Deadwood Roads, the first building on the left as one enters Lewiston from the bridge. It is a one-and-a-half-story cross gable structure with narrow clapboard siding, a shed roofed veranda running the length of the front and two shed-roofed dormers with casement windows (6/6). These windows are oriented toward the street. Porch posts are square and have molded capitals. Windows and door trim are plain. First floor windows are also 6/6. The roof trim is a plain boxed cornice. New extensions of the gable are located in the rear of the building, but are probably not later than the 1940s. A narrow front yard is fenced by a decorative wooden fence. The yard contains locust and fruit trees, grape, and rose vines, and lilac bushes -- all dating back to the last century. The floor plan is rectangular and the foundation is wood. (C)

12. 1949. Vernacular. The building has a log cabin style facade. The original floor plan was square, but a recent (1984) addition has resulted in an L-shaped building. (NC)

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13. Paulsen (Old Lewiston) Store. 1860. Vernacular.

The Paulsen Store building is the crux of the Lewiston Historical District. It is at the intersection of Turnpike and Deadwood Roads and provides a central focal point for the old downtown area. The front of the building is shaded by four locust trees growing from large stumps. The building is flanked to the south by the Siligo Butcher Shop and to the north by open land. The structure is two stories with a gable running parallel to Deadwood Road. The veranda spans the long side of the building, which faces the bridge approach. In the rear (east) is an enclosed lean-to for storage. It is a shiplap building and has large 2/2 windows in the front and double solid wood panel doors. The trim is plain with lugsills. The veranda is supported by squared posts and carved capitals, and the topsill of the porch frame is carved to meet the capitals. Two old (1930s) gas pumps are located on the porch. The floor plan is rectangular and the foundation is wood. (C)

14. Siligo Butcher Shop. 1894. Vernacular.

The Siligo Butcher Shop is situated on "the hub" of downtown Lewiston -- the building is viewed head-on as one enters the town from the bridge. It is flanked on the north by the Paulsen store and on the south by the Siligo House. The butcher shop is a simple high gable building with a rusty metal roof and a lean-to veranda along the west (street) side. The siding is shiplap and board and batten. The windows are 2/2 with plain trim. The doorway is recessed with a paneled door. Second growth locust trees are growing from surviving stumps along the street. The floor plan is rectangular and it rests on a wood foundation. (C)

TURNPIKE ROAD15. Siligo House. 1884. Vernacular.

The Siligo House is situated on Turnpike Road and adjacent to the Siligo Butcher Shop. Originally, it was a rectangular plan house with a front yard behind a picket fence. However, the widening of the road has removed the fence, and a wing was added to the north side (c. 1900), making it an "L" plan. The foundation is of wood construction. The house is a Greek Revival shiplap frame structure with a medium cross gable metal roof. The veranda porch was moved to the long side of the new gable when the north wing was added, and the original gable end was left exposed. The main door, originally located in the center of the old gable end, is now situated in the new side. Roof detail is a plain boxed cornice with returns.



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The windows are 2/2 with plain trim, shelf lintels and lugsills. The main door is new with a plain trim. At present there is no yard. (C)

SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD

16. Old Lewiston Schoolhouse. 1862. Vernacular.

The Old Lewiston Schoolhouse resides on a little hill along Schoolhouse Road. The gable entry porch, which was added in the 1930s, matches the pitch of the gable roof above. The school roof is topped with a belfry. Windows are 6/6. The door trim is a molded shelf above and molded pilasters along the sides. The exterior is sided with original clapboard and painted red. In the 1940s the building was extended to the rear, and it continued the one-story gable roof. The extension provided bunks and toilets for the school teachers. The floor plan is rectangular and rests on a wood foundation. (C)

17. Mart Van Matre House c. 1870. Vernacular.

The Van Matre House is located on Schoolhouse Road, just south of the Old Schoolhouse. It is set back from the road about 400 feet and is enclosed by cyclone fencing. The house is a high gable shiplap structure that at one time had a veranda across the front but has since been enclosed for more rooms. Another veranda was built in the front and side (date unknown). This makes for two shed roof lines sloping up to the gable pitch. The detail is simple: 6/6 windows with plain trim, a solid wood cross panel door and a plain boxed cornice. (C)

18. Shed. Aluminum siding on three sides. Metal roof. (NC)

19. Congregational Church. 1896. Vernacular.

The Lewiston Church is situated on a knoll overlooking the town and the Trinity River. The entrance is set just off the street at the intersection of Goose Ranch and Schoolhouse Roads. The building is a one-story high gable structure and is oriented NE-SW, with an extremely high peaked, hip roofed steeple on the north corner. This steeple is visible from virtually all parts of the historical district. Entrance is gained by a stairway and landing, which leads through two solid wood paneled doors. The windows are 6/6 with continuous trim, shelf lintels and a double, sculpted lugsill. Above the doorway is a pediment with a molded entablature. Roof detail is a plain boxed cornice with stickwork in the gable peak.

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Another special feature are carved tops to the stair newel post on the exterior. It forms a cross when viewed from the top. Wall detail is shiplap endboards. (C)

### TURNPIKE ROAD

20. Lewiston Bridge. 1900. The Lewiston Bridge is a metal (steel) truss bridge, about 20 feet in width. It is a one lane bridge which connects Rush Creek Road to Lewiston's historic center. (C)

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**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION  
COMMERCE  
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c. 1860-1922

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Lewiston Historic District in eastern Trinity County, California, is being nominated under National Register criteria A, B, and C. Under criterion A, the district is significant for its association with commerce and trade growing out of the gold mining and ranching economies of northeastern California in the 19th century. It is eligible under criterion B because of the strong relationship between early Trinity County families and their influence on the nature of Lewiston's settlement and development. It is eligible under criterion C because it contains a fine collection of vernacular architecture dating between the 1860s and the 1920s. When Lewiston's small scale vernacular architecture is combined with surrounding river bottomlands, forested hillsides, farm outbuildings, and tree-lined streets, the feeling of a late 19th and early 20th century mining town is clearly evoked.

Upon the discovery of gold in 1849, California experienced a major influx of new settlers. Thousands of would-be miners flooded northern California. The Trinity River was a rich source of placer gold and numerous settlements sprang up along its banks. Lewiston, one of the earliest towns in Trinity County, was such a settlement.

Lewiston is named after B. F. Lewis, who arrived at the site in the early 1850s. The first permanent settlers of the town, Morehead and Palmer, built a small house and public place on the property where the Olney Phillips house now stands (#11). As the word spread of the rich "diggings" discovered in and around Lewiston, the settlement grew into a town and became a trade center for the burgeoning ranching and mining interests. The Shasta-Weaverville Trail, a major east-west mining route that linked the remote mountainous lands of Trinity County with major commerce centers to the east, passed just to the north of Lewiston (through the Deadwood Mining District).

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Please see attached.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Approximately 15 acres

UTM References

A 

10	516530	4506480
Zone	Easting	Northing

C 

10	516490	4505880
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B 

10	516640	4506420
Zone	Easting	Northing

D 

10	516320	4505990
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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Colleen O' Sullivan, Planner; Walter Robb

organization Trinity County Department; N/A date October 1988

street & number P.O. Box 936 telephone 916-623-1351; N/A

city or town Weaverville state CA zip code 96093

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The Lewiston Hotel (#2) was built to accommodate both travelers on the trail and visitors to Lewiston.

The gold-laden alluvial bars of the Trinity River yielded fortunes to those lucky enough to 'strike it rich'. The adjacent flood plains and river valleys provided good grazing lands for those who pursued ranching. Lewiston provided the goods and services for these interests. A wooden bridge was built across the river in 1851 and ferry systems were established up and down its banks. The Paulsen Store (#13) was, at various times, a post office, blacksmith and general store. Residences were built in and around Lewiston and a temperance hall (#16) was constructed in 1862.

The relatively unadorned style of the buildings in Lewiston reflect a pioneer settlement. Very few details representative of an architectural style can be found among the structures. Lewiston, like many mining communities that sprung up in the latter half of the nineteenth century, contains the essential elements of a small town serving the needs of the miners and providing a sense of place. Unlike many mining towns that exist today, Lewiston has not been adversely supplanted by newer architecture. The simplicity and rural vernacular of the district has been preserved and has remained virtually unaltered through the twentieth century.

Although a post office was established in 1854, the first commercial business and permanent structure was built in 1860. This was a general store (#13), which is relatively unchanged from the time of construction. The Good Templers Lodge surrendered their charter to the temperance hall in 1865, and it was subsequently converted to a school. B.F. Lewis was the first postmaster of the town; he later resettled near the Oregon-California border. A succession of bridges followed the original structure which was built in 1851. Olney Phillips operated the toll bridge, except when it was periodically dismantled by high flows, in which case he ran ferries across the river. Several residences were built in town and farms became established in the outlying valleys. The original Lewiston Hotel was built in 1862-63.

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The town became an important commerce center for both miners and rancher/farmers throughout the last half of the nineteenth century. Proximity to the Shasta-Weaverville Trail, the bridge and ferry crossings that linked Lewiston to points west and the neighboring valleys that supported agriculture all contributed to the town's economic viability. Essential services - such as a post office, blacksmith and general store - were provided by the town during this time. By 1900, the town included a hotel, bridge, general store, butcher shop, school, post office, church, cemetery and several residences.

Gold exploration continued to yield rich deposits, and with the advent of hydraulic mining in the 1880s, previously remote gold veins were discovered. Under this method, large "hoses" that conducted streams of water under pressure were aimed at river terraces and hillsides in hopes of uncovering new deposits. Much of the landscape in and around Lewiston has been altered by this now outlawed mining method. The slopes that provide a natural backdrop to the town are examples of this hydraulic reconfiguration.

Timber used in the construction of the town's buildings were cut from adjacent hillsides; old photographs reveal deforested slopes across the river from the town. Today those hills support healthy stands of fir and pine, which is a notable physical difference from the appearance of Lewiston during its period of historical significance.

Though B.F. Lewis founded the town, it was the enduring presence of the Paulsen, Phillips, Goetze and Van Matre families that sustained it. The Lewiston General Store knew a succession of owners before Jacob Paulsen bought it and established the Paulsen Brothers store. Stanford Scott, who was an employee of the store from 1908 to 1912, recalls delivering large volumes of goods to mines of the area. The Paulsen family has figured prominently in mining operations in Trinity County since 1851. Olney Phillips, as mentioned previously, was responsible for providing transportation across the Trinity River (as early as 1854) and was tireless in his efforts to span a river that was prone to flooding. It is mentioned in Cox's Annals of Trinity County that he also kept a hotel, store, butcher shop and blacksmith shop (the latter of which stood until the 1950s).

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In 1875 Phillips built his house (#11), which is located at the east end of the bridge (site of the first buildings erected in Lewiston). The bridge (#20) was eventually conveyed to the county as a free bridge by the Phillips family. Olney Phillips' son, Cap, was the third County Surveyor and the architect of the current bridge. The Siligo Butcher Shop (#14) was first operated by the Goetze family, who arrived in Lewiston in 1872. They ran cattle and operated a sawmill on Grass Valley Creek (South of Lewiston), which cut timber for the Goetze House in Weaverville. The Goetze family also owned the Trinity Alps Ranch on Stuart's Fork as part of their cattle business.

Mart Van Matre was a member of one of the families that originally settled Lewiston in 1852. Mart operated the Lewiston Hotel for a time (1890-1897) and also had an interest in a nearby ranch. The residence (#17) was, until recently, owned by Van Matre's daughter. The family continues to have an interest in the "general goods" store still operating in Weaverville.

At its peak of activity (1900), Lewiston was providing many of the essential goods and services to the surrounding areas. The Lewiston Hotel (#2), though changing ownership often and burning to the ground once (1898), continued to provide lodging and food to travelers and locals. The school (#16) provided education for the community's children and several residences were built along Deadwood, Turnpike and Schoolhouse Roads (#7,9,11,15 & 17), often with attendant agricultural outbuildings. The Congregational Church (#19) was built during this time and the present bridge was constructed in 1900 (#20). The butcher shop and general store continued to provide their services.

Very few structures in the District have been replaced; notable exceptions are the hotel and bridge. Fire, a ubiquitous threat in gold country, has done little damage in the district. Floodwaters of the Trinity River have had the greatest affect on the town; three bridges have been washed out at the location of the present one (#20) and two barns built near the bridge's east end were destroyed by the 1955 flood (associated with #11).

In 1910 the Acuff-Dysart House (#1) was constructed and in 1922 a town hall was built (#5). Local residents raised the money and donated time to build the hall; John Koll donated the property (he owned the Lewiston Hotel at the time). It was used primarily for dances and by the Grange. It is currently used as a business and its significance has diminished somewhat with the addition of a corrugated metal front. These contributors complete the district as it exists today.

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Lewiston Historic District

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With the advent of World War I and the concurrent decline in gold production, the town began to wane in the early 1920s. Many people who left to go to war never returned. There was a slow decline in population and by the 1930s very few people lived in Lewiston. In the 1950s, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation received funds to build a dam on the Trinity River upstream from Lewiston; this brought workers and new housing to the area. The "new" town was constructed on an elevated floodplain about one-half mile east of the old town and has remained there ever since. Old Lewiston today is physically as well as historically separated from the rest of the community.

A 1979 Historical Sites Survey conducted by the Trinity County Historical Society identified and described many of the contributors that compose the Lewiston Historic District (Trinity County Sites book, 1979). When the Lewiston Community Plan was under development in 1985, the Advisory Committee identified and drew up the boundaries of the old town. It subsequently received the County's equivalent for Historic District overlay zoning: Special Treatment Area. The community expressed a desire to see this area preserved. Subsequently, the old town has experienced a revitalization in both residential and commercial uses.

Lewiston Historic District is an excellent, virtually unaltered example of a late nineteenth century mining town in the gold country of California. Towns like these were once scattered all over the state's foothills, but many have been altered or supplanted by more recent construction. Lewiston remains much as it did in the 1890s: a rural, pioneer community serving the mining and farming interests of northeastern Trinity County. From one of the county's earliest settlements to a trade center to the present day rural community, it has maintained much of its nineteenth and early twentieth century charm. The district includes almost all of the historic structures associated with the community, including Trinity River bottomlands, hillsides and open space. Although a small number of the buildings are of relatively modern construction or have been altered, the district contains one of the most intact collections of late nineteenth and twentieth century vernacular architecture in Trinity County.



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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Lewiston Historic District

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Lewiston Historic District is situated within the Community Plan limits of Lewiston (there are no incorporated cities within Trinity County). All resources are located on Deadwood, Turnpike and Schoolhouse Roads. District boundaries generally follow property lines and roads. The northern boundary includes open space and a historic residence, while the eastern boundary is comprised of open space and property lines. The southern boundary includes historic residences, two non-contributing buildings, a schoolhouse and a church. The western boundary includes a historic bridge, residences, a non-contributing building and a hotel. See tax map with boundaries drawn.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The district is a cohesive collection of primarily late nineteenth century resources that form the small, 'Old Town' of Lewiston. Boundaries are drawn to include not only residences and commercial buildings, but related open space and outbuildings which are representative of the emergence of the town into a center of commerce for outlying enterprises. Also included is a historic bridge, representative of the initial development of Lewiston. Overall, the district retains a high degree of architectural and historical integrity.

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Photo Log Lewiston Historic District  
Lewiston, Trinity County, California

The following information is the same for all photos except where noted:

Photographer: Colleen O'Sullivan  
Date of photo: Jan., 1987  
Location of negative: Trinity County Planning Department  
Weaverville, California

Views are as follows:

Photo

1. Building 1, looking north
2. Building 1, looking southeast
3. Land south of Building 1, looking east
4. Buildings 7,5,2 (from left), looking north
5. Buildings 19,13,11 (bright white roof),2, & bridge, looking south
6. Buildings 2,3,4, looking southeast
7. Building 6, looking west
8. Streetscape, looking southwest
9. Buildings 9,8,7, looking southwest
10. Building 9, looking west
11. Buildings 11, 10, looking west (photo date: 6/10/87)
12. Buildings 13, 12, 10, looking south

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13. Bridge (#20), looking southwest
14. Building 11, looking east
15. Building 13 (photo date: 6/10/87)
16. Building 10, looking southeast
17. Building 12 (center), looking south
18. Buildings 14,15, looking northwest
19. Building 16, looking northeast
20. Building 16, looking north
21. Building 17, looking east
22. Buildings 17, 18, looking east
23. Building 19, looking south
24. Building 19, looking south

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