

NYE COUNTY HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY

PROPERTY NAME:

<i>Historic</i>
Dr. J. R. Masterson/Fred Chapman House
<i>Common</i>

<i>Township/Range/Section</i>	<i>Inventory No.</i>
	TON-101
<i>Quad/County Map</i>	<i>Classification</i>
	Building

LOCATION:

<i>Street Address</i>	
SW Corner Ohio Ave and 2nd Street	
<i>City</i>	<i>County</i>
Tonopah	Nye

CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH



CURRENT OWNER:

<i>Name</i>		
Leila A. Fuson		
<i>Street Address</i>		
P.O. Box 529		
<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
Tonopah	NV	89049

FORM PREPARED BY:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>	
Janus Associates	Sept. 1980	
<i>Street Address</i>	<i>Phone</i>	
2121 S. Priest Suite 127	967-7117	
<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
Tempe	Arizona	85282

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

<i>Historic Use</i>	
Residential	
<i>Current Use</i>	<i>Acreage</i>
Residential	less/one
<i>Architect/Builder</i>	
<i>Construction/Modification Dates</i>	
Built 1908	

<i>Photo By</i>	<i>Date</i>
Jim Woodward	July 1980
<i>View</i>	
Oblique looking northwest	

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Masterson/Fred Chapman house is a large two and a half story structure of stone and frame construction. Symmetrical in massing, its square plan measures 35' to a side. The roof is a steeply pitched truncated pyramid with standing seam metal sheets covering the original wood shingles. Four large hipped roof dormers, one to a slope, dominate the roof. Each contain a single double hung window. The plastered exterior stone wall planes are interrupted at the northeast corner of the house with a two story veranda, inset below the roof. Currently enclosed at both levels with multiple light casement windows and wood siding (c.1914 and 1923), the porch originally gave access to a recessed, splayed main entryway. A second, smaller rear porch exists under the southwest corner of the roof and is also enclosed. Exterior wooden stairs give access to both levels of the building. All windows are original, one-over-one double hung sash and occur independently on the walls. The house is relatively well maintained and serves as a rooming house.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The J.R. Masterson/Fred Chapman house is significant for its architectural value as a building type and for its historic association with several prominent figures in Tonopah. The house is the largest stone residential structure extant in Tonopah and has been used since construction primarily as a boarding house. It was built by James Golden in 1908 in the northwest portion of the town then known as the Lennox Addition. Ownership was transferred to the Tonopah Banking Corporation in 1909 and then in 1914 to Dr. J.R. Masterson. Masterson, who occupied the house until 1923, was a prominent doctor and surgeon who served as Nye County physician until C.1920. In 1923 the house was sold to Fred Chapman whose lengthy association with the house lasted until 1945. Chapman was a mining engineer and during the mining boom years was active in mineral operations in Manhattan and Round Mountain. He was responsible for the construction of the Chapman Mill in Manhattan and for a similar operation in Round Mountain. The house on Ohio and Second Street served as Chapman's residence and a boarding house. Among the boarders during that period was Judge William Hatton. Hatton practiced law in Tonopah from 1920 until 1935 when he was appointed district judge serving Nye, Mineral, and Esmeralda Counties. He remained on the bench until 1954 and his distinguished and lengthy career made him one of Tonopah's most outstanding citizens. The Masterson/Chapman house is worthy of preservation for its significant contribution to the architectural heritage of Tonopah and for its associations with several important citizens in the community.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Reno Evening Gazette, 1955
- Ross, Silas E., A Directory of Nevada Medical Practitioners, Past and Present, 1957
- Tonopah Daily Sun, 1907
- Nye County Assessors Records

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Lot 1, Block B, Richardsons Survey, 1907

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPH	
<i>Photo By</i>	
<i>View</i>	
<i>Date</i>	