

PH0500216

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 5 1977
DATE ENTERED	JAN 3 1978

**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

(James D. Roberts) House

AND/OR COMMON

Thurman Roberts House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1217 North Carson Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Carson City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

Nevada

STATE

Nevada

CODE

32

COUNTY

Carson City

CODE

025

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Carson

STREET & NUMBER

198 North Carson Street

CITY, TOWN

Carson City

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Nevada

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

198 North Carson Street

CITY, TOWN

Carson City

STATE

Nevada

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey (Drawings only) Nev. 13-28

DATE

August, 1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

CITY, TOWN

(Local; Ormsby County Library)
Carson City

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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>1873</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A. General Description of Present Appearance

1. The exterior fabric is in good condition. The interior condition can only be described as fair.

In recent years, several early additions to the house have been removed, namely, the rear shed roof kitchen and an attached garage.

The James D. Roberts House is located on a corner lot on Carson City's main street. The grounds surrounding the house are being developed as a small park.

B. Architectural Description

1. Plan and Scale: the house aligns east-west with a wing facing south. Plan configuration is a T-shape. Overall size is approximately 20' x 30'. The house is 1-1/2 stories, with no basement. Style is Carpenter Gothic.
2. Foundation: squared rubble sandstone laid up drywall fashion. Hewn logs brace the underside of the house.
3. Structure: wood frame.
4. Facade: exterior sheathing is clapboard with 5" face exposure. House corners have 4" cornerboard trim. No water table directly above the stone foundation. Predominant color is gray with white trim.
 - a. First Floor Fenestration: windows are double-hung with lights in 2/2 fashion.

Windows: on the south facade feature label trim while other windows have simple flat trim with cornice moulding. A total of six windows exist at the first level: two on the south, two on the north, and two on the west side.

Doors: the west facade entry door has label trim similar to that found on the south facade windows. The door incorporates a single, etched square lite above wood panels. A glazed, rectangular transom surmounts the door. No side lites exist for the west door. The facade door, originally the house's main entry, is an ornate double door with neo-Gothic detailing. Sidelites to the door form a Gothic arch. The doors have no glazing, but utilize moulding to accent the pointed arch of the overall shape. A third door is

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

Built: 1859, Moved: 1873

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James D. Roberts House is of significance as a rare example of the Gothic Revival Style of architecture. It is the only remaining example in Carson City. The early Gothic revival style had only a short period in which to flourish, and few examples were constructed in Nevada. Furthermore, it has the distinction of being the oldest standing house in Carson City.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Riefschneider, Olga - "Gingerbread and Chimneys: Wonderful Old Carson City Homes."
Nevada Highways and Parks, Volume 19, Number two, (Fall, 1964). Thompson, Thomas H., and West, Albert A., History of Nevada. Berkeley: Howell-North, 1958.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.38

UTM REFERENCES See map dated 2.13.78

A	1 1	2 6 1 0 4 0	4 3 3 9 1 0 2 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

House sits on southeast corner of Carson and Corbett Streets. Lot is 150' (north side) by 150' (south) by 100' (east) by 100' (west).

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
NA			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. E. Wieprecht, Historic Preservation Specialist

ORGANIZATION

Nevada State Park System

DATE

May 10, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

201 South Fall Street

TELEPHONE

(702) 885-4370

CITY OR TOWN

Carson City

STATE

Nevada 89710

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

John L. Meder

TITLE

Administrator

DATE

June 8, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *Mark Adams*
 SUPERVISOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 DATE 1.3.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 1.3.78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Architectural Description (cont.)

located on the east side, but the original is missing. At present, a plywood panel closes the rectangular opening. Originally, this doorway led to the kitchen.

Porches: the house has two porches: one on the west, and one on the south facade. The latter is quite small, being a series of sandstone steps leading to the house's original main entry. The entry is covered by a small (2' x 4') roof/balcony featuring scroll work railing. The west porch is six feet deep and runs the length of the west facade. Flooring is t/g painted red. A flat porch roof is supported by columns of paired 2x3's. A total of four free columns and two engaged columns exist on the porch. Corner columns utilize three 2x3's. A railing of lathe-turned balusters or spindles tops the porch.

- b. Second Level Fenestration: two doors on the second level open to porches. Both doors are neo-Gothic arched openings and employ thin mullions with glazing. A third opening, a rectangular window, exists at the rear (east) of the house, above the rear door. The south facade balcony opening is a rectangular door with side lites curving up over a fixed glazed transom to form a pointed arch. The west facade door features glazing in its upper half which is shaped to form the Gothic arch. No side lites exist for the west door.
5. Roof Plan and Description: the roof is a steeply-pitched cross gable with the secondary gable facing south. Sheathing is wood shingles painted black. A small finial tops each gable apex. There is no ridge cresting at present. A small dormer window exists on the south slope of the roof, just east of the secondary gable. The dormer appears as a latter addition, featuring a double-hung sash with 1/1 lite arrangement. Sheathing is flush boards which differs from the rest of the house. West and south gable ends are ornamented with scroll work bargeboard. Each gable features a different design. The east gable is not ornamented with bargeboard. The south gable end also features lathe-turned drops or pendants. Cornices are boxed with soffitts ornamented with bargeboard. A plain, white frieze exists below the projecting eaves. No chimneys are present on the roof.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Foreman-Roberts House AMENDMENT
other names/site number: Formerly listed as the James D. Roberts House

2. Location

street & number 1217 N. Carson Street not for publication N/A
city or town Carson City vicinity N/A
state Nevada code NV county Carson City code 510 zip code 89703

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M. Jones, SHPO 4-8-05
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register January 3, 1978
- 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): Additional Documentation Accepted

Edson Beall 5/27/05
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: MUSEUM Sub: House Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-nineteenth Century/Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Wood shingles
walls Beveled wood siding
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See 1978 nomination.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance 1864-1874
Significant Dates 1863-1864, 1874
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A
Cultural Affiliation N/A
Architect/Builder Unknown/Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

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 #

Primary location of additional data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1.0 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>11</u>	<u>261100</u>	<u>4339300</u>	3	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___
	___	See continuation sheet.				

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
See 1978 nomination.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
See 1978 nomination.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Amendment by Mella Harmon / Guy L. Rocha
organization State Historic Preservation Office/NV State Library and Archives date 12/23/04
street & number 100 N. Stewart Street telephone 775-684-3447 / 775-684-3317
city or town Carson City state NV zip code 89701

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black-and-white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Carson City Parks and Recreation Department
street & number 3303 Butti Way, Building 9 telephone 775-887-2262
city or town Carson City state NV zip code 89701

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 1

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

8. Statement of Significance

The subject property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the James D. Roberts House on January 3, 1978, under Criterion C (architecture). In 1973, the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) studied several buildings in Carson City, Nevada, including the James D. Roberts House. The survey attributed the construction of the house to James D. Roberts in Washoe City, Nevada in 1859 and its subsequent move via the Virginia and Truckee Railroad to Carson City in 1873. This information was the basis for the original nomination. Nevada state archivist Guy Rocha, recently uncovered material that identifies the property's original owner/builder as Solomon W. Foreman, and the construction date as being between March 1863 and May 1864. Although it was James D. Roberts who moved the house from Washoe City to Carson City, the move did not occur until on or about November 6, 1874, and there is no indication that the move was made by railcar. This nomination seeks to amend the listing to change the historic name of the property to the Foreman-Roberts House, the period of significance to 1863 to 1874, significant dates to 1863-1864 and 1874, and the significance statement to correct the inaccuracies of the original nomination and to include the property's association with S. W. Foremen, and the community planning and development histories of Washoe City in decline and Carson City in development at the time the house was moved. Additionally, the amendment is being submitted at the local level of significance.

The House at 1217 N. Carson Street

When HABS conducted its survey of Carson City in 1973, it failed to trace the ownership of this building to its origin or to consider the fact that Washoe City, the original location of the Foreman-Roberts House, did not exist in 1859, the year HABS claimed the house was built. Further, another area of significance is being proposed under Criterion A, which also addresses Criteria Consideration B for the fact the building was moved from its original location.

Washoe City

The find that launched the fabulously wealthy Comstock Lode occurred in 1859, resulting in a reverse rush of miners from the California gold fields to the Virginia Range in what is now western Nevada. Several communities at altitudes in the range sprang up quickly. The establishment of Washoe City in a valley between the Carson and Virginia ranges near the Sierra Nevada was related to the mining fervor. The valley provided agricultural produce for the region's growing population, and with its constant water supply, it became a good location for

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 2

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

8. Statement of Significance, continued

early ore-processing mills. A survey of the area was conducted by Utah Territory, Carson County surveyor, Seneca Hunt Marlette in 1860, and a certificate of survey for 633 acres that would become Washoe City was filed on November 5, 1860 in Carson City on behalf of Peter Rice and J. W. Grier. Another survey that platted the town was conducted by John F. Kidder in 1861 (personal communication, Guy L. Rocha, Nevada State Archivist).

Despite its youth, Washoe City was named the county seat of newly-created Washoe County by the first Nevada Territorial legislature in 1861. The 1863 Washoe County assessment rolls show Peter Rice owning a substantial number of the town lots, including an unimproved parcel at Lot 1, Block 4, Range J. That lot appears in the 1864 assessment rolls as a "two-story frame dwelling house" owned by Margaret and S.W. Foreman.¹ The timing suggests the Foremans purchased the unimproved lot in 1863 after the rolls closed and had the house built soon thereafter. An 1864 photo of Washoe City clearly shows the house in question and by all appearances it is the same Gothic-style house James D. Roberts later moved to Carson City.

Mr. Foreman, his wife, and four children came by wagon from Ohio to California in 1859. Mr. Foreman was a surveyor by profession and he acquired a contract from the surveyor-general of the United States to survey portions of Nevada. Mr. Foreman had barely set up his family in their fine and fashionable home in Washoe City when in 1864 he moved to San Francisco to take a contract to survey Santa Cruz (Guinn 1902). The family seems to have followed a bit later, as the Washoe City house was not sold until October 4, 1865. The new owners were businessmen H. Erlanger and Louis Wertheimer, who held the property until July 1, 1867 when they sold it to James D. Roberts.

Mr. Roberts had been in the area since at least 1860.² In 1867, he had a wife and two small children which he supported by operating saloons in Washoe City. By 1871, however, Washoe City began to suffer a series of economic and political setbacks, not the least of which was the transfer of the county seat from Washoe City to Reno, which had been established three years earlier when the Central Pacific Railroad agreed to build a depot on lands owned by Myron Lake. The importance of the railroad to the economy of the region gave Reno the leverage to undercut Washoe City. The ultimate nail in Washoe City's coffin, however, was the loss of its milling

1. Some sources show the name spelled Forman.

2. Roberts' name appears in deed records for timber plots in 1860.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

8. Statement of Significance, continued

industries when the Virginia and Truckee Railroad reached the area and the mills moved to Brunswick Canyon on the Carson River, a more advantageous spot along the rail route. Washoe City saw an exodus of its population to Reno and to Carson City, the state capital. Like Reno, Carson City was growing. With his customers seemingly leaving *en masse*, J. D. Roberts moved to Carson City where he continued in the saloon business and made plans to relocate his family—and their home.

Carson City

The growth of Carson City, especially the north part of town, was spurred by the arrival of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad (V&TRR) and the opening of a branch U.S. Mint in 1870. New housing developments, like Rice and Peters Addition, were attracting considerable attention. The local newspaper reported:

New-comers and others desirous of building residences in the most pleasant portion of town will do well to notice the advertisement of Messrs. Rice and Peters. The north extension of Carson City is certainly the most eligible portion of the town for the erection of family dwellings. The lots are large, the ground is full of springs, and a splendid view of the whole valley is obtained from the location (*The Nevada Tribune*, May 13, 1874).

In November, the newspaper filed an update on progress in the Rice and Peters Addition: “The improvements going off to the north of the railroad are perfectly astonishing. We took a walk in that direction and found from fifteen to twenty new buildings since our last visit . . .” (*The Nevada Tribune*, November 9, 1874).

James D. Roberts acquired Lots 7 and 8 in Block 6 of the Rice and Peters Addition to Carson City in 1874. Initially, he leased the land, finally completing the purchase on September 6, 1875. The location was ideal. It was close to Roberts’ saloon business and to the railroad. Rather than build a new home, the Roberts decided to move their Washoe City house to the new location. This was not an unusual decision, as Nevadans moved houses all over the state, escaping busts and following booms.

United States Department of the Interior
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

8. Statement of Significance, continued

There has been a long-held belief that the Roberts' house was transported to Carson City via the Virginia and Truckee Railroad. This was not feasible, however, largely due to the tunnel at Lakeview and several narrow cuts between Washoe City and Carson City. Transporting a house by rail would have required a special car, and none of the V&TRR records for the period indicate such a load. Moving houses by horse-drawn wagon was commonplace and there were several wagon roads connecting Washoe City and Carson City. This mode of transportation seems the most likely, although the following newspaper article suggests the house was at least partially dismantled for the move:

Nearly the last, and certainly the most respectable relic of poor Washoe City, has arrived in town in the shape of Jim Roberts' dwelling-house. It was a very pretty residence and well-situated, but will be better here than there. Mr. Roberts is re-erecting his building on one of Rice & Peters lots, north of the railroad, which we presume he has purchased of those gentlemen. The situation commands a fine view, and the house, when completed, will be a great improvement to that part of town (*The Nevada Tribune*, November 6, 1874).

This article demonstrates that the house was moved on or about November 6, 1874, and not in 1873 as previously stated. No doubt, progress on the house was slowed by winter weather, but by April 1875, the Roberts' home was ready for habitation, as the newspaper reported:

J.D. Roberts, who has just completed a very handsome dwelling house in the northern portion of the town, has taken up and brought from Washoe City a lot of large locust trees. They are as big as those so ruthlessly killed in the Capitol square, but the whole roots having been left on them there is not the slightest doubt but that they will live long and prosper (*The Nevada Tribune*, April 19, 1875).

Summary

The earlier nomination of the James D. Roberts House to the National Register of Historic Places failed to identify the original owner of the property, and builder of the dwelling, Solomon W. Foreman. The correct name of the builder and the construction date for the house is 1863-1864, not 1859, as originally reported. Not only does this amendment serve to correct the construction

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8, 9 Page 5

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

8. Significance, continued

date, but the property's significance is expanded to include the contributions the Foreman-Roberts House made to the community planning and development of the growing community of Carson City in the 1870s.

9. Bibliography

Angel, Myron

1881 *History of Nevada*. Thompson and West. Reprinted 1958, Howell-North, Berkeley.

Carlson, Helen

1974 *Nevada Place Names: A Geographical Dictionary*. University of Nevada Press, Reno.

Guinn, James Miller

1902 *History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties; an Historical Story of the State's Marvelous Growth from its Earliest Settlement to Present Time*. Chapman Publishing Company, Chicago.

Nevada Tribune

1874 North Carson. *The Nevada Tribune*, May 7, 1874, 3:3.

Annual Instinct. *The Nevada Tribune*, May 12, 1874, 3:1, 2.

A Trip to Washoe City. *The Nevada Tribune*, May 25, 1874, 3:1.

Article on the sale or lease of building lots. *The Nevada Tribune*, May 27, 1874, 3:3.

The Corbett Park. *The Nevada Tribune*, July 14, 1874, 3:3.

Washoe Coming Hither. *The Nevada Tribune*, November 6, 1874.

Article on the development of Corbett Park. *The Nevada Tribune*, November 9, 1874, 3:1, 2.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 6

The Foreman-Roberts House, 1217 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV

Amendment

9. Bibliography, continued

Removing Trees. *The Nevada Tribune*, April 10, 1875, 3:2.

Ormsby County Assessment Records

var. Assessment records for fiscal years 1874-1880. Microfilm on file at Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City.

Ormsby County Deed Books

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