

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **AUG 14 1985**

date entered **SEP 23 1985**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Nevada City Downtown Historic District

and/or common Nevada City Downtown Historic District

2. Location

street & number An irregular area bounded roughly by Spring, Bridge, Commercial,
York, Washington, Coyote, and Main Streets. N/A not for publication

city, town Nevada City vicinity of 2nd Congressional District

state California code 06 county Nevada code 057

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name See continuation sheets

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Nevada County Recorder's Office

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Nevada City state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Ordinance No. 338 - an ordinance of Nevada City establishing a historical district
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date August 12, 1968 (revised June 5, 1978) federal state county local

depository for survey records City Hall, Nevada City 317 Broad Street

city, town Nevada City state California 95959

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

See Continuation Sheets

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1917	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) mining
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1856-1917 **Builder/Architect** See Section 7

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 16 acres

Quadrangle name Nevada City, Calif.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>10</u>	<u>671200</u>	<u>4347860</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>10</u>	<u>671200</u>	<u>4347490</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>10</u>	<u>670850</u>	<u>4347480</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D	<u>10</u>	<u>670860</u>	<u>4347680</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheets

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
-------	-----	------	--------	-----	------

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Edwin L. Tyson, Librarian

organization Searls Historical Library

date June 5, 1985

street & number 214 Church Street

telephone (916) 265-5910

city or town Nevada City

state California 95959

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 Kathryn Gualtieri Kathryn Gualtieri

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date August 7, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

William L. Tyson
Special Agent in Charge

Kathryn Gualtieri
State Historic Preservation Officer

Approved: _____
Chief of Registration

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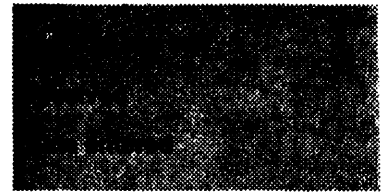
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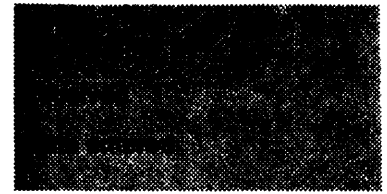
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number	Item 4	Page 1
B-1	National Hotel Thomas A. Coleman 211 Broad St. Nevada City, CA 95959	211	Broad Street	05-399-06
B-2	Alpha Hardware Jack and Betty Treskes 11582 Red Dog Road Nevada City, CA 95959	210	Broad Street	05-396-23
B-3	Dickerman's Drugs Rita Hutchison 219 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	219	Broad Street	05-399-05
B-4	Cam's Place William N. Moore, et al 104 Hill Street Grass Valley, CA 95945	216-216½	Broad Street	05-396-25 05-396-26
B-5	Citizen's Pizza Jerald and Irene Hall 12353 Cascade Way Nevada City, CA 95959	221	Broad Street	05-399-04
B-6	Lowell's Jewelry Store Lowell A. Lolmaugh 218 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	218	Broad Street	05-396-16
B-7	I.O.O.F. Oustomah Lodge # 16 P.O. Box 428 Nevada City, CA 95959	225	Broad Street	05-399-03
B-8	Family Barber Shop Florence Wilcox 120 Silva Ave. Nevada City, CA 95959	220	Broad Street	05-396-16
B-9	M'Lady's William J. Novak 227 Broad Street Nevada City, Ca 95959	227	Broad Street	05-399-11
B-10	Mine Shaft Louis and Rita Silber 4830 Golden Spring Drive Reno, Nevada 89509	222	Broad Street	05-396-17

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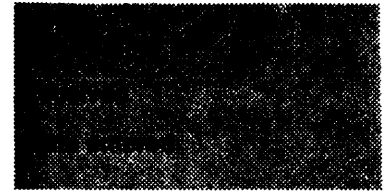
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number	Item 4	Page
B-11	Fur Trader #2 Edwin J. Furano P.O. Box 1420 Nevada City, CA 95959	231	Broad Street	05-399-10
B-12	China Chef Louis and Rita Silber 4830 Golden Spring Drive Reno, Nevada 89509	222½	Broad Street	05-396-17
B-13	Eddy's Edwin J. Furano P.O. Box 1420 Nevada City, California 95959	233	Broad Street	05-399-09
B-14	Kidd, Knox Building Christine Freeman P.O. Box 853 Nevada City, CA 95959	228-236	Broad Street	05-396-19
B-15	The Union Building Wendell and Mary Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94705	301	Broad Street	05-398-07
B-16	The Button Works Mark Rodman c/o The Button Works P.O. Box 400 Nevada City, CA 95959	300	Broad Street	05-397-02
B-17	Prospector's Furniture Richard D. and Joan M. Worth 523 Sacramento Street Nevada City, CA 95959	303	Broad Street	05-398-06
B-18	Honey Treat Yogurt Shop J. I. Reynolds, et al P.O. Box 872 Auburn CA 95603	306	Broad Street	05-397-03
B-19	Novak's Gove Celio, Jr. 1047 Colony Hills Cupertino, CA 95014	305	Broad Street	05-398-12
B-20	Broadway Beauty Shop c/o Ann V. Bonivert 308 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	308	Broad Street	05-397-03

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Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number 4	Page 3
	The Fudgery Harold B. Hartung c/o Ann V. Bonivert 12489 Banner Lava Cap Road Nevada City, CA 95959	308½ Broad Street	05-397-03
B-21	The Apple Faire Gordon Betts P. O. Box 1217 Nevada City, CA 95959	307 Broad Street	05-398-05
B-22	Utopian Stone Ronald and Barbara Shaw 5720 Thames Way Carmichael, CA 95608	310-310½ Broad Street	05-397-04
B-23	Cirino's Celio Family Trust 1047 Colony Hills Cupertino, CA 95014	309 Broad Street	05-398-10
B-24	Merrill's Real Estate Albert and Margaret M. Merrill P.O. Box 825 Nevada City, CA 95959	323-323½ Broad Street	05-397-05
B-25	Cafe Les-Stage Cosa Mikiska 311 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	311 Broad Street	05-398-03
B-26	Sierra Hats and Caps Ronald Q. and Penelope A. Sanchez P.O. Box 218 Nevada City, CA 95959	314 Broad Street	05-397-13
B-27	Antique Emporium Ward B. and Shirley A. Shinn c/o Banner Mountain Realty 10033 Brunswick Road Grass Valley, CA 95945	313 Broad Street	05-398-02
B-28	The Third Whale John Parent, et al 316 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	316 Broad Street	05-397-10

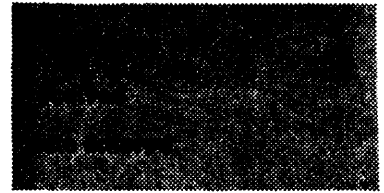
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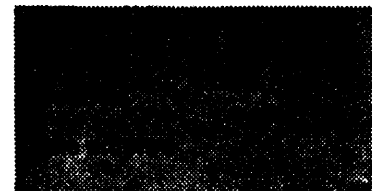
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number ⁴	Page 4
B-29	McGee's James M. Costello 978 Pearl Street Alameda, CA 94501	315 Broad Street	05-398-01
B-30	Posh-Nosh R. D. and J. A. Schmitz 318 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	318 Broad Street	05-397-12
B-31	City Hall City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	317 Broad Street	05-120-32
B-32	Selays's Lynn A., Jr. and Julie O. Brankamp 300 Boulder Street Nevada City, CA 95959	320 Broad Street	05-397-08
B-33	Fur Trader #1 Henry V. and Joan Agar 436 Washington Street Nevada City, CA 95959	319 Broad Street	05-120-31
B-34	Dr. Hummelt Bernard W. Hummelt, Trustee 400 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	400 Broad Street	05-120-60
B-35	Bonanza Jack Bing Yok, Inc. 321 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	321 Broad Street	05-120-34
B-36	New York Hotel Wendell C. and Mary E. Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94705	408 Broad Street	05-120-58 05-120-59
B-37	Nevada Theater Liberal Arts Commission of Nevada County P.O. Box 1066 Nevada City, CA 95959	401 Broad Street	05-120-35
B-38	Darlene Crowley, et al 414 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	414 Broad Street	05-120-57

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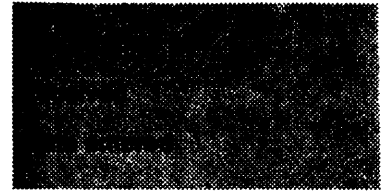
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number 4	Page 5
B-39	Nevada City Engineering Co. Kenneth E. and Kay L. Baker P.O. Box 1437 Nevada City, CA 95959	416 Broad Street	05-120-56
B-40	Antiques/American Art David A. and Catharine H. Wright 418 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	418 Broad Street	05-120-55
B-41	Pennsylvania No. 2 Firehouse City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	420 Broad Street	05-120-54
C-42	Old Post Office Craft Shop Louis and Marie Mirante 4955 Santa Rita Road El Sobrante, CA 94803	200 Commercial Street	05-390-05
C-43	Bank of America c/o Bank Trust Dept. #3245 P.O. Box 37000 San Francisco, CA 94137	210 Commercial Street	05-396-24
C-44	Love Your Feet Edward C. and Beverly J. Prechter 12271 Hillcrest Drive Nevada City, CA 95959	228 Commercial Street	05-396-24
C-45	Chief Crazy Horse Raymond V. Delugge 230 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959	230 Commercial Street	05-390-07
C-46	Framylstanyl's Patio and Bar Anicia Barach P.O. Box 123 Nevada City, CA 95959	235 Commercial Street	05-396-02
	Framylstanyl's Restaurant Keith Davies 235 Commercial Street Nevada City, CA 95959	235 Commercial Street	05-396-28
C-47	Sitting Bull Leather Sylvia Mitchell 10144 Daisy King Grass Valley, CA 95945	232 Commercial Street	05-396-08

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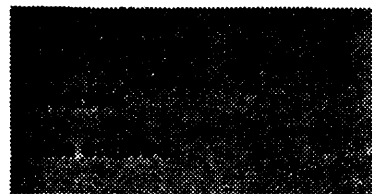
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number 4	Page 6
C-48	Gray Goose William J. Rush c/o Julia Arnold 512 East Broad Street Nevada City, CA. 95959	234-234½ Commercial Street	05-390-09
C-49	Transcript Building Alan P. and Diane T. Crittenden P.O. Box 128 Nevada City, CA 95959	244 Commercial Street	05-390-13
C-50	Osborn and Woods David S. Osborn, et al P.O. Box 238 Nevada City, CA 95959	244 Commercial Street	05-390-13
C-51	Small Time Clothes Wendell C. and Mary E. Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94705	246 Commercial Street	05-390-14
C-52	Royal Gardens Margaret R. Larue Richard R. Ellers, Agt. 205 Pine Street Nevada City, CA 95959	300 Commercial Street	05-390-15
C-53	Vacant John C. Campbell 516 Olive Street Sausalito, CA 94965	309 Commercial Street	05-397-14
C-54	Vacant John C. Campbell 516 Olive Street Sausalito, CA 04965	311 Commercial Street	05-397-14
C-55	Vacant John C. Campbell 516 Olive Street Sausalito, CA 94965	313 Commercial Street	05-397-14
C-56	The Gallery Tyler Micoleau, Trustee 11949 Banner Lava Cap Road Nevada City, CA 95959	312 Commercial Street	05-390-18

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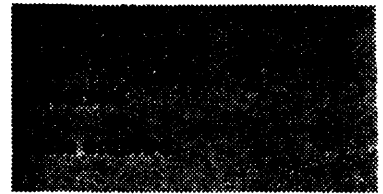
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number 4	Page 7
C-57	Vacant Lynn A., Jr. and Julie O. Brankamp 300 Boulder Street Nevada City, CA 95959	315 Commercial Street	05-397-08
C-58	Sierra Mountain Coffees Robert D. and Helen D. Bezaire 10227 Comerate Street Grass Valley, CA 95945	316 Commercial Street	05-390-17
C-59	The Burrito Factory Wendell C. and Mary E. Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94705	401 Commercial Street	05-120-59
M-60	Victorian Christmas City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	30 Main Street	05-392-07
M-61	South Yuba Canal Co. City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	123 Main Street	05-392-07
M-62	WestAmerica Bank Gordon W. Betts P.O. Box 1217 Nevada City, CA 95959	206 - 208 Main Street	05-391-09
M-63	Shaws Antiques Ronald H. Shaw 5720 Thames Street Carmichael, CA 95608	210 Main Street	05-391-08
M-64	Knitting Loom Howard J. and Maybelle Keene 216 Reward Street Nevada City, CA 95959	212 Main Street	05-391-07
M-65	Firehouse Museum City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	314 Main Street	05-391-06
M-66	Stanton C. and Marilyn P. Miller P.O. Box 14 Nevada City, CA 95959		05-391-27

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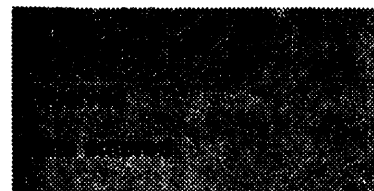
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number	Page
M-67	Michaels Restaurant Otto W. and Monika Fischer 14083 Mandolin Way Nevada City, CA 95959	216 Main Street	05-391-28
M-68	Mackay's Realty Otto W. and Monika Fischer 14083 Mandolin Way Nevada City, CA 95959	220 Main Street	05-391-04
M-69	Berliner Office Building Harold A. and Mary Ann Berliner 224 Main Street Nevada City, CA 95959	224 Main Street	05-391-03
M-70	Hatfield Offices Donald H. and Dolores Hatfield 230 Main Street Nevada City, CA 95959	230 Main Street	05-391-02
M-71	First Baptist Church First Baptist Church 300 Main Street Nevada City, CA 95959	300 Main Street	05-391-1
M-72	Waggoner House Chang B. and Sam y. Lee 755 Hillcrest Way Redwood City, CA 94062	308 Main Street	05-391-01
P-73	Baptist Church Building E. T. R. Powell, Jr. 203 South Pine Street Nevada City, CA 95959	203 South Pine Street	05-410-23
P-74	Misty Mountain Clarence A. and Ruby J. Richard P.O. Box 32 Nevada City, CA 95959	110 South Pine Street	05-398-11
P-75	Express Mart Edwin J. Furano P.O. Box 1420 Nevada City, CA 95959	115 South Pine Street	05-399-09
P-76	Mama Sue's Restaurant Richard D. and Joann M. Worth 523 Sacramento Street Nevada City, CA 95959	108 South Pine Street	05-398-06

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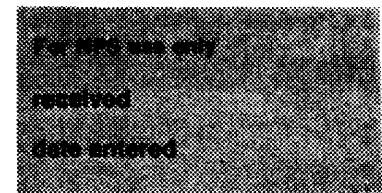
Continuation sheet	Owner of Property	Item number 4	Page 9
P-77	Elks Club Nevada City Elks Hall Association P.O. Box 611 Nevada City, CA 95959	109½ North Pine Street	05-397-01
P-78	Masonic Hall Masonic Hall Association 108½ North Pine Street Nevada City, CA 95959	a08½ North Pine Street	05-396-27
P-79	John L. Larue Building Margaret R. Larue Richard F. and Marcia R. Ellers, Agents 205 North Pine Street Nevada City, CA 95959	205 207 North Pine Street	05-390-15
P-80	Office Building Wendell C. and Mary E. Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94707	202 204 North Pine Street	05-390-14
P-81	Nevada City Public Library City of Nevada City 317 Broad Street Nevada City, CA 95959	231 North Pine Street	05-390-16
S-82	Clay's Laundry Button Wrks, INC. P.O. Box 400 Nevada City, CA 95959	300 Spring Street	05-398-08
S-83	Spring Street Cafe Dolphin Properties, Inc. 254 Boulder Street Nevada City, CA 95959	315 Spring Street	05-141-52
S-84	Heidelberger's Law Office Dolphin Properties, Inc. 254 Boulder Street Nevada City, CA 95959	317 Spring Street	05-141-52
S-85	Vacant James J. and Susan A. Steinbarth 4575 Niagara Avenue San Diego, CA 92107	320 Spring Street	05-120-33
S-86	Nevada City Winery Dolphin Properties, Inc. 254 Boulder Street Nevada City, CA 95959	321 Spring Street	05-141-52

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S-87	American Victorian Museum American Victorian Museum P.O. Box 328 Nevada City, CA 95959	325 Spring Street	05-141-12
Ch-88	Searls Historical Library Elise Searls c/o Nevada County Historical Society P.O. Box 1300 Nevada City, CA 95959	214 Church Street	05-390-20
Ch-89	Court House County of Nevada Court House Square Nevada City, CA 95959	Courthouse Square	05-390-23
Ch-90	Beeson and Associates J. F. Siegfried 220 Church Street Nevada City, CA 95959	220 Church Street	05-390-11
Ch-91	Court House Annex County of Nevada Court House Square Nevada City, CA 95959	Court House Square	05-390-23
Ch-92	William B. Wetherall, Atty. J. F. Siegfried 220 Church Street Nevada City, CA 95959	222 Charuch Street	05-390-11
Ch-93	Inter-County Title Co. Inter-County Title Co. P.O. Box 68 Nevada City, CA 95959	Court House Square	05-390-04
W-94	St. Canice Catholic Church Roman Catholic Bishop of Sacramento P.O. Box 1597 Nevada City, CA 95959	317 Washington Street	05-378-02
X-95	Crystal Rainbow Rock Shop John C. Campbell 516 Olive Street Sausalito, CA 94965	310 Commercial Street	05-390-22
X-96	Jill's Hair Garage Wendell C. and Mary E. Smith 1609 Sonoma Avenue Albany, CA 94705	405 Commercial Street	05-120-58

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Continuation sheet

Item number 6

Page 1

Representation in existing surveys (continued)

A Guide to Architecture in San Francisco and Northern California

by David Gebhard, Roger Montgomery, Robert Winter, John Woodbridge
and Sally Woodbridge 1973

Published by Peregrine Smith, Inc., Salt Lake City

Survey records: Dr. David Gebhard
Department of Art
University of California
Santa Barbara, California

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Continuation sheet Description

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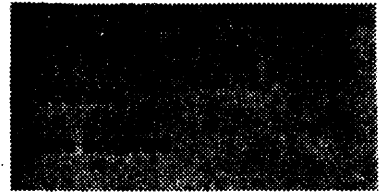
The Nevada City Downtown Historical District includes 96 buildings, most of which date from the last half of the nineteenth century, when the area served as the retail and local government center for one of California's largest and most prosperous mining communities. The predominantly two-story business blocks with ground-level retail uses and upper-story residential or office uses are complemented by such three-story buildings as the National Hotel and the Nevada County Courthouse. Many of the buildings date from 1864, when the district was largely rebuilt after the disastrous fire of November, 1863. They include commercial buildings, churches, fraternal halls, and civic buildings, which remain as a collection of historically and architecturally significant buildings that typify a mining town environment as it would have existed in the period extending from 1864 through 1917, when the district became static for an extended period of time. The district is represented by several stylistic eras, but the dominant image is set by the preponderance of Victorian-influenced brick and frame commercial-style buildings and by the vernacular style characterized by buildings of one or two stories with the gable end exposed or concealed by a flat-topped "false front" which was so popular in western frontier towns. Despite some facade changes, the district has retained the better part of its historical and architectural integrity. The district boundaries are formed by distinct edges which now define the historic core. The district is bounded on the east by the sunken, divided, four-lane freeway which connects Nevada City and Grass Valley, on the south by Deer Creek, and on the west and north by residential sections.

The sections of Broad Street, Commercial Street, and Lower Main Street within the historical district have always been lined with commercial shops, restaurants, hotels, bars, and offices. Those on Commercial Street between York and Pine Streets were the center of the local Chinatown during the 1860's and 1870's. Many of these buildings were destroyed by fire in 1880 and never rebuilt. Another group of shops which lined the south side of Commercial Street between Pine and Main Streets was removed to make way for Alpha Hardware's large metal and brick office and storage addition and the Alpha/Bank of America parking lot in 1970. A county government center is located on the hill above on Church and North Pine Streets, where the county courthouse and the offices of the county library system are located. Offices of surveyors, attorneys, and public defenders are centered in the same area. The Nevada City Public Library and Searls Historical Library are both only steps away from the courthouse. One of the original 1861 firehouses is located at the extreme western end of the district; the other, now a museum, is on the opposite edge. Spring Street, along the south side of the district, developed as an essentially industrial area, with large breweries and Miner's Foundry, which is still the dominant building of this area. Two churches are located in the northeast section of the district: St. Canice's Catholic Church and the First Baptist Church, which was originally a Congregational Church. George E. Calanan Park is the only park in the district. This small park, named for a long-time city clerk of Nevada City, now is the location for one of the giant monitors used in hydraulic mining.

The freeway which divides the town was opened to traffic in December, 1969. The excavation for the freeway wiped out all the buildings on lower Main, Broad, and Spring Streets. Previously, both Main and Broad ran to the plaza where they connected with Boulder, Nevada, and Sacramento Streets on the other side of Deer Creek. Spring Street extended to Deer Creek but did not have a bridge crossing the stream. Nevada City residents interested in preserving historical buildings were able, at the last minute, to save the Ott Assay Office and the South Yuba Canal building which had been scheduled for razing.

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Continuation sheet Description Item number 7 Page 2

BUILDINGS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT

B-1 211 Broad Street Built: 1856
National Hotel Architect-Builder: Mr. Todd

The National Hotel is a three-story brick masonry commercial block originally built by three men using common interior walls. Thomas's store was on the left bordering the alley, Dr. Bicknell owned the double block in the center, and Zeno Philosopher Davis's gun shop was on the right. When first built, the complex was commonly referred to as the Bicknell Block. The owners maintained commercial businesses on the first floor, and they all rented rooms in the two floors above. After the big fire of July, 1856, the entire block was leased by Pearson and Healy, proprietors of the burned-out United States Hotel, and was named the National Exchange Hotel. The hotel suffered severe damage again in the fire of 1863, but the interior walls remained, and the building was rehabilitated.

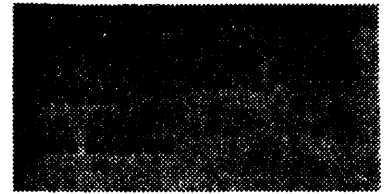
The 18"-thick English-bond exterior brick walls are painted dark green; all trim is white. The roofs and floors are wood framed. The brick walls end at a corbeled parapet which conceals the separate gabled roofs of the four buildings that make up the block. The windows of the upper two stories of building one, two, and three are separated by double pilasters, each pair topped by a capital embellished by a cornice with dentils. Cast-iron framed balconies extend out from the third story of buildings one and three. The railings of the balconies and the brackets supporting them are of ornamental iron. Street-level entrances to the hotel and the two bays further up Broad Street are framed by fluted pilasters decorated to resemble classical columns. A second-story balustraded veranda, which runs the entire width of the block, was completed in 1900 and extends over the sidewalk below. The veranda is supported by wood columns along the curb edge of Broad Street. Except for building four, most of the openings on the upper levels have the original iron shutters.

An annex to the hotel, located across National Alley, was removed in 1968. The belvedere from the annex is now attached to the two-story apartment section in the rear of the hotel which was enlarged to its present size in 1902.

The National Hotel is registered as California Historical Landmark No. 899 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

B-2 210 Broad Street Built: 1917
Alpha Hardware

This building is a one-story commercial structure of reinforced concrete with concrete floors. There is an interior mezzanine running along all four sides of the building. Paneled pilasters are placed at the extreme ends of the building and on both sides of the recessed entry on Broad Street. A strip of imitation marble 18" high runs across the entire front on either side of the centered entry and is topped by plate glass to the mezzanine level. A continuous band of twenty smaller windows having nine lights over three are at the upper level along

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the mezzanine facing Broad Street. The building has a flat roof fronted by a parapet. A full basement beneath the level of Broad Street opens upon a large parking lot and storage area immediately in the rear and facing upon Commercial Street. The rear office building and the pre-fabricated metal storage area were added in 1964.

B-3 219 Broad Street Built: 1856
 Dickerman's Drugs

This vernacular 1856 brick building was erected by Dr. R. M. Hunt, the first county physician of Nevada County. It is a steeply gabled, one-story structure, and the gabled end facing the street is concealed by a false front of enameled white brick topped by an ornamental turn-of-the-century pressed metal cornice. The entry and front windows are framed by a flat concrete arch. The black tile and large plate glass windows at the entry were installed in the mid-1930's.

B-5 221 Broad Street Built: Pre-1859
 Citizen's Pizza (Citizen's Bank Building)

This single-story brick building in simplified classical style first served as a clothing store. The granite facade was added in 1860 by George W. Kidd, who opened his bank there in 1867. Originally, the entry was in the center of the building with wide pilasters on each side. Identical pilasters are at each end of the building. The flat-topped false front is crowned with a plain corbeled cornice. The front was changed and the tile added below the windows in the 1930's.

B-6 218 Broad Street Built: 1864
 Lowell's Jewelry

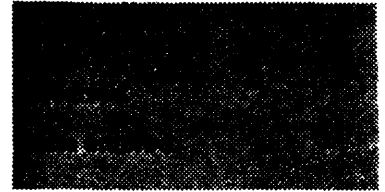
This small one-story frame building has a gable roof, which is concealed by a flat-topped false front. The wood shingles which cover it were applied in 1966. Two small windows provide light for the overhead storage area above the main floor. The large plate glass windows and remodeled entry were completed in 1965 by Alan Davies and Peter Shugren, local contractors. A shingled shed-type canopy supported by three eye-bars from above protect the store windows from sun and provide cover for the sidewalk below.

B-7 225 Broad Street Built: 1873
 I.O.O.F. Hall Architect: William Bettis

This two-and-one-half-story brick fraternal hall houses a retail shop on the street level facing Broad Street and another in the two story extension that goes back to Spring Street. Lodge halls and offices are on the second floor. Originally, six pillars at the Broad Street curb supported a canopy over the sidewalk. The five windows facing the street on the second story were arched and of identical size and were framed by six pilasters which extended to the cornice above. An ornamental

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medallion was placed above each arched window. The new entry, the large plate glass windows at street level, and the larger windows on the second story front were completed in April, 1904.

B-8 220 Broad Street Built: 1864
Family Barber Shop

This one-story brick building has a common interior wall with the Mine Shaft (222 Broad Street) next door. The two buildings are under one gabled roof. A corbeled brick cornice runs across the front of the two buildings, and a stepped parapet conceals the gabled roof. The shop front was remodeled in the mid-1930's.

B-9 227 Broad Street Built: 1868
M'Lady's

This one-and-one-half-story brick building was originally two buildings separated by a common brick interior wall and having a common gabled roof. The dividing wall was removed and the storefront remodeled in 1959. Weatherboard siding extends to the flat-topped false front, which is covered with pressed-metal simulating brick. The false front has a curved ornamental pressed-metal cornice with simulated corbels. A small casement window in the center of the false front is topped with an ornamental wood lintel.

B-10 222 Broad Street Built: 1864
Mine Shaft

This one-story brick building has a common interior brick wall with the barber shop next door, and the two buildings are under a single gabled roof. For complete description, see B-8 above. The present rough plank siding which covers the lower half of the building was installed in 1979. A shake canopy extends over the adjacent sidewalk.

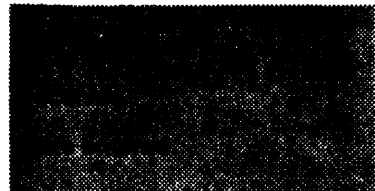
B-11 231 Broad Street Built: 1865
Fur Trader #2

This one-story brick building reflects the Italian Renaissance style of early Victorian architecture. The front is weatherboard siding with large plate-glass windows, at street level, which were installed circa 1900. The most recent remodeling, in the late 1970's, opened up the continuous band of fifteen transomed windows covered since the turn of the century, across the front of the building. The strong cornice line is supported by heavy brackets and is topped by an emphatically pedimented gable with slightly overhanging eaves.

B-13 233 Broad Street Built: 1856
Eddy's (Schrieber's Corner)

One of the oldest buildings in Nevada City, this two-story brick has changed little

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over the years. It was originally a three-story building, but when the fire of 1863 destroyed the roof and gutted the interior, the brick shell was rebuilt very much as it is today. The first floor is a large bar, dining room, and kitchen. The current exterior restoration of this part of the building is being done to conform as closely as possible to a 1915 photograph. The second story, being converted from a residential hotel to bed and breakfast facilities, features the tall, narrow window openings with contrasting arched window cap on both the Broad Street front and along the Pine Street side, characteristic of Italian Renaissance style. These windows have their original iron shutters. The strong cornice line is supported by heavy brackets and topped by a pedimented gable.

B-14 228 - 236 Broad Street Built: 1856
Kidd, Knox Building

The site for the Kidd, Knox building covers the historic site of the first brick building in Nevada City. The building itself is a fine example of a brick masonry commercial building. Built after the fire of 1856 on a lot sixty by seventy-eight feet, the building is two stories high with 18"-thick Flemish-bond brick exterior walls and wood-framed floors and roof. The brick walls end at a corbeled parapet which conceals the slightly sloping asphalt and gravel roof. The Broad Street facade, seventy-eight feet wide, is broken into nine bays. Pine Street's facade has six bays. Each opening has iron shutters on the upper level but now missing below. The adjacent sidewalk was originally covered with a cast-iron framed balcony with a unique curved corner. The railing for the balcony was ornamental iron. This balcony was removed in the 1930's and later replaced by a shed shingle-roofed canopy extending over the sidewalk and supported by wood columns along the curb of Broad Street.

Several openings at street level along Broad Street have been enlarged, and at the east end brick pillars have been replaced with cast iron supports. Openings on Pine Street have been altered or closed with brick. Some of the upper-level windows at the east and west facades are original, but all along Broad Street have been replaced with louvered glass.

B-15 301 Broad Street Built: 1854; remodeled 1904
Union Building Builder: Mr. Burlington

This two story brick building was completely remodeled in 1904 under the direction of C. E. Wilson. The building has an elevation of thirty-five feet above the sidewalk, and a frontage on Broad Street of twenty-two feet and on Pine Street of sixty-seven feet. The Broad Street side on the street level presents a plate glass front with hallway curve of fourteen feet—one plate of glass being ten feet high and eleven feet long. The circle pane in the hallway curve has a radius of thirty-six inches. On the Pine Street side, the glass has a dimension of ten feet high by seven feet long. Granite base surrounds the glass. The second-story Broad Street side of the building is faced with white enameled brick, as is the Pine Street side above the plate glass. The remainder of the Pine Street wall is cemented over and painted a light gray. Second-story openings have cornice window heads. The Broad Street

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front is topped with a heavy cornice painted to contrast with the white brick below.

B-17 303 Broad Street Built: 1856
Prospector's Furniture

This one-story brick building's facade was remodeled in the early 1900's when the large plate-glass windows were installed. An eighteen-inch strip of marble separated the windows and the adjacent sidewalk. A prominent drip board over the double doorway extends the width of the building. The brick front above rises to a corbeled cornice. A corrugated metal hip roof extends out from the adjacent wall of the Union Building (301 Broad Street).

B-18 306 Broad Street (Hertung Building) Built: 1864
B-20 308 Broad Street
308½ Broad Street
Honey Treat Yogurt, Broadway Beauty Shop, The Fudgerly

These three one-story frame buildings sit beneath two steeply gabled, corrugated metal roofs. Each building has its separate entrance and large plate glass windows framed in wood. Above the large openings is a row of transom windows. The two false-front wood gables facing Broad Street conceal the metal roofs behind. A canvas awning covers the sidewalk fronting 306 Broad Street; the shed roof metal canopy over the sidewalk of the other two buildings is supported by wood posts at the Broad Street curb.

B-19 305 Broad Street Built: Pre-1869
Novaks

This one-story brick building rises to a prominent corbeled cornice. It is topped by weatherboard siding pediment with open eaves. Based upon photographs of the building, the storefront was altered well before 1960.

B-21 307 Broad Street Built: 1895
Apple Faire

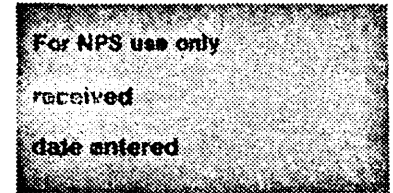
This one-story brick building has two large windows framed by molded pilasters facing Broad Street. A wood false-front gable with open eaves conceals the roof.

B-22 310 - 310½ Broad Street Built: 1863
Utopian Stone

This two-story frame building contains a retail shop at street level with offices above. A metal canopy, supported by ornamental wood posts, extends over the adjacent sidewalk. The Victorian remodeling that occurred circa 1900 included the balustrade over the canopy, which gives the impression of a second-story veranda, and the prominent shingled cornice, above the second-story center doorway and windows, which extends the entire width of the building, where it is supported by ornamental wood brackets beyond the angled corner windows. The building is topped by a recessed pediment with open eaves.

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B-23 309 Broad Street Built: Circa 1890
 Cirino's

This one-story frame building has a large window on each side of the double doors. Recessed wood panels framed with molding are on each side of the windows and in each end of the recessed store front. Similar smaller panels are beneath each window. The steep gable has overhanging eaves and an elaborate example of tooled-wood gable trim just below the ridge beam.

B-24 312 - 312½ Broad Street Built: 1913
 Merrill's Real Estate Architect: Oscar Brown

This two-story reinforced concrete building was designed along the lines of the Union Building, 301 Broad Street. The facade has plate-glass front with six small row windows above, topped by a wide wood lintel. The extreme ends at street level and the entire second story are faced with white glazed brick, rising to a pressed-iron ornamental corbeled cornice. The two pair of sash windows in the second story are topped by a drip board. The entrance to the ground floor, basement, and upper story is through a tiled lobby with curved glass similar to that leading into the entrance of the Union Building. Behind the building is a storage area with modern double garage and wide driveway onto Commercial Street.

B-27 313 Broad Street Built: Circa 1879
 Antique Emporium

This one-story frame building has a recessed entry. The door is a long glass panel above a small wood panel. Glass on both sides of the door extend to the ends of the building. The wood gable has a shuttered window in the center. Behind the building is parking space and driveway to Spring Street

B-29 315 Broad Street Built: Circa 1880
 McGee's

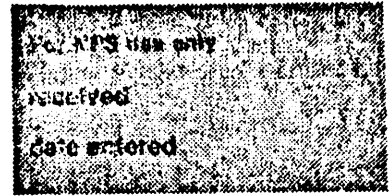
This two-story brick building houses a saloon at street level with an apartment above. The facade is stucco, and the large 48-light window was installed in 1983. The second-story balustraded veranda is supported by three ornamental turned posts and brackets and covers the sidewalk below. This veranda added after 1965, replaces a plainer one that shows in old photographs, which may be viewed inside the saloon. At the present time a restaurant and upstairs apartment are being constructed on the rear of the building, where there is also a small parking area and an entrance onto Spring Street.

B-30 318 Broad Street Built: Circa 1881
 Posh-Nosh

This one-story brick building was restored in 1965 according to an 1884 photograph. The tall, narrow, recessed windows were originally doors. The brick columns on each

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B-37 401 Broad Street Built: 1865
 Nevada Theater Architect: George Pierce, Builder

The Nevada Theater Association was formed in 1863. In 1865 they purchased the ruins of the Bailey House Hotel at the corner of Bridge and Broad Streets; work on the present theater began immediately. Many bricks from the 1860 hotel were retrieved and used in the Nevada Theater. The brick facade and plastered side walls are original. The iron front doors were added in 1869. The box office was just inside the front doors, which opened directly into the auditorium. A balcony with ornamental iron railing extended over the sidewalk. The theater served as a community center, housing dances as well as dramatic works in the 1860's and roller skating in the 1870's.

The first single-reel movies were shown in 1908. By 1915 films had practically replaced other forms of entertainment, and interior remodeling was done. In 1923 a group of local men purchased the theater and operated it until 1937, when it was sold to T & D. Jr. Enterprises. In 1941 a marquee replaced the balcony over the entrance, and a thirty-foot neon sign flashed the new name of the theater, "The Cedar." At this time a modern lobby was constructed, and the box office was moved outside under the marquee. The theater continued to operate as a movie house until 1958.

In 1967 the Nevada County Liberal Arts Commission purchased the theater and the adjoining property behind it, consisting of three corrugated-metal warehouse buildings, once a part of Miner's Foundry, that extend to Spring Street. The Liberal Arts Commission's restoration programs continue today. The front of the theater has been restored to its original design, with the two arched doors at street level and two arched windows above. At either end are blind arches. The facade is now the original brick.

The Nevada Theater is California Registered Historical Landmark No. 863.

B-38 414 Broad Street Built: 1880
 Darlene Crowley Residence

This one-story frame building is a private dwelling. The entry is deeply recessed, and the waterboard siding extends all the way from street level to the sharp gable facing Broad Street.

B-39 416 Broad Street Built: 1881
 Nevada City Engineering Co. Builder: L.N. Nihell

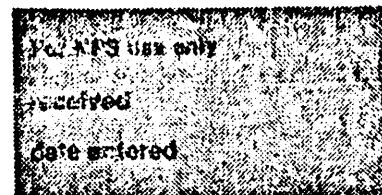
This two-story frame building has a steep gabled roof. A small gabled canopy over the entry is supported by wood posts.

B-40 418 Broad Street Built: 1881
 Antiques/American Art Builder: L. N. Nihell

This two-story frame building with steep gabled roof has retail shops on the lower level with an apartment above. The shingled roof of the porch across the front is supported by turned posts and brackets. The porch rail is of interwoven iron rods.

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B-41 420 Broad Street Built: 1861
 Pecqnsylvania Engine Co. No. 2 Builders: Kent and Mackay

This two-story brick building, which is still used by the local fire department, has a wide arched doorway framed by brick pilasters on the ground level, with heavy wood doors that have a section of twelve small lights at the top. The second story is topped by a slightly recessed wood pediment. A wood belvedere containing a fire bell sits above the ridge pole. The second-story facade has a tall, narrow, arched doorway of glass panes with narrow sidelights. A wood second-story porch with shingled roof and balustrade railing is supported by posts that meet similar posts and brackets below that are placed on the curb of Broad Street, providing cover for the sidewalk below. Although the roof and interior were damaged by the fire of 1880, the appearance of the building is virtually unchanged from earliest available photographs.

C-44 228 Commercial Built: Pre- 1885
 Love Your Feet

This one-story brick building has a remodeled lower half with a large angled plate glass window to the left of the doorway. A double drip board extends across the front of the building. Above the drip board is a marble lintel. A flat-topped parapet conceals the slightly slanted roof which is corrugated metal over wood.

C-45 230 Commercial Street Built: Circa 1863
 Chief Crazy Horse

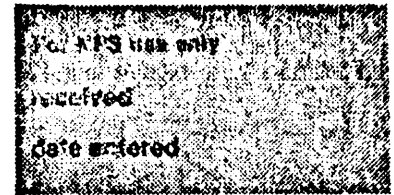
The two separate brick buildings which comprise the first story of the existing structure shared a common interior brick wall dating from 1863. The second story is frame and was added after the interior dividing wall was removed. The Commercial Street facade was renovated in 1965 in an effort to restore the appearance of the building to its "old" Nevada City look. The four tall, narrow, doorways have heavy iron shutters similar to the original that were brought from North San Juan at the time of the renovation. A modern shed type-canopy with shake roof runs the entire width of the building. Above the canopy on the second story is a narrow balustraded veranda with an eight-light door opening from the apartment above the saloon. Weatherboard siding extends from the base of the second story to a prominent wood cornice supported by ornamental brackets and topped by a stepped parapet. The frame second story dates from circa 1900.

C-47 232 Commercial Street Built: Circa 1863
 Sitting Bull Leather

This two-story frame building has a gabled roof with wide, plain eaves. The first story has a modern, wide, angled glass display window extending from the edge of the building to the doorway. The door to the stairway leading to the office space above has a tall arched glass panel above carved wood panels. A balustraded metal-roofed

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porch supported by posts and brackets on the second story provides cover for the sidewalk below. The ground floor is the result of remodeling, which occurred in 1963.

C-48 234 - 234½ Commercial Street Built: Circa 1863
Gray Goose

This two-story frame building with weatherboard siding has two doors, side by side, on the right. Each door has ten lights. On the left side of the facade are two windows, each with twelve lights. There is a balustraded veranda at the second-story level. The roof is gabled with plain eaves. The ground floor front is the result of remodeling in 1964.

C-49 244 Commercial Street Built: Circa 1862
Transcript Building

This two-story brick building is still referred to as the Transcript Building after Nevada City's leading newspaper, which was published from 1860 until 1904. The building survived the fire of 1863, and the newspaper took over the second story of the entire block in 1873. The facade is remarkably similar to the artist's drawing that appears in Thompson and West's History of Nevada County, which was published in 1880. The three windows on the left under the metal roof of the balustraded porch are on a slightly higher level than the other seven windows. All but one have the original iron shutters. The four bays for retail shops at street level have modernized fronts, most dating from the 1860's. A plain cornice extends the width of the block. A third-story frame structure has been added to the building on the extreme left. Some of the original brick is exposed on the facade of the building; the remainder has been stuccoed and painted. Originally a canopy the width of the building covered the sidewalk. The present second-story porch at the left end of the building dates from the mid-1960's. The stucco was applied at the turn of the century.

C-50 244 Commercial Street Built: Circa 1863
Osborn and Woods

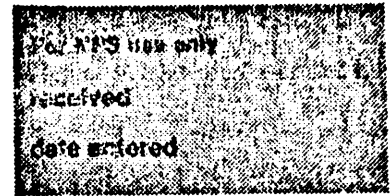
This is a two-story brick building. The two plate-glass windows on the right with their transom windows above extend from floor to ceiling of the first story. Ornamental double doors have carved wood panels framed with decorated molding. There is another tall window to the left of the doors. All these windows are replacements for the originals and were installed in 1961. stucco over brick. The original brick is exposed at the second-story level, where there are three windows that have their original iron shutters. A cornice extends across the front with dentils below. A parapet fronts the flat roof.

C-52 300 Commercial Street Built: 1861
Royal Gardens

Earliest available photographs dating from the late 1860's show this building has

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changed very little over the years. The first story of this two-story building is brick; the second story is frame with a steeply pitched gable roof. The Commercial Street facade has two double doors on the right. Each door's lower section has a panel framed by molding, with eight lights above. At the left end of the building is a small iron window with its original iron shutter. Uncoursed rubble stone at the lower left half of the building has been used to repair the brick. The board siding of the second story has been covered with composition shingles on the Commercial and Pine Street sides. However, the view of the rear of the building from Pine Street shows the original wood siding. A covered outside stairway on Pine Street leads to the apartments over the street-level restaurant.

C-53 309 Commercial Street Built: 1890's
 Vacant Building

This small one-story brick building has a gabled roof, metal over wood. There is one small window on the left and a door on the right. Both have their original iron shutters.

C-54 311 Commercial Street Built: 1881
 Vacant Building

This small one-story brick building has a recently remodeled entrance. Four modern, tall, narrow panes of glass, and a wood and glass door, are all set in wood with a wood lintel above. The gabled roof is metal over wood.

C-55 313 Commercial Street Built: 1881
 Vacant Building

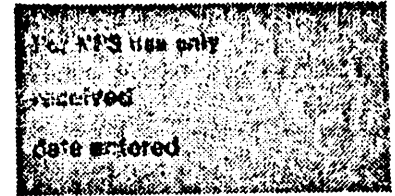
This one-story building of whitewashed brick has double doors each with four lights on the Commercial Street facade. The flat-topped parapet is crowned by a simple cornice; it conceals the gently sloping roof of metal over wood.

C-56 312 Commercial Street Built: 1884
 The Gallery

This two-story brick building with its steep gabled roof underwent remodeling in the mid-1950's. At that time the twelve-light window facing Commercial Street and the double oak doors were installed. At the same time, the second story was made into an apartment and the gabled dormer was added on the side paralleling Pine Street. The iron shutters for the windows and doors are from the days when the building was the Sin Lee Laundry. There are two modern double-casement windows in the second-story gable. A shingled shed-type canopy supported by posts covers the sidewalk. The building shares a common interior brick wall with 316 Commercial Street.

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C-57 315 Commercial Street Built: 1880
Vacant Building

This one-story brick building has a steep gabled roof. The wooden infill on the right appears to be an early alteration. This section contains a tall door, its panels framed with molding; the sash window has one large pane in the lower section, with four smaller panes above. The doorway has its original heavy iron shutters.

C-58 316 Commercial Street Built: 1896
Sierra Mountain Coffees

This is a one-story brick building with steep gabled roof. There are two doorways, each with a tall double door. Each door has six glass panes arranged above a small recessed wood panel. A shingled shed-type canopy covers the adjacent sidewalk. A flat-topped wood false front, rising from the canopy line to a cornice supported by corbels, conceals the gabled roof.

M-60 30 Main Street Built: 1855
Victorian Christmas (Ott Assay Office)

The Street address, 30 Main Street, is the address of the original building in which J. J. Ott had his assay office in 1859 when he did the assay on the fabulously rich silver ore that started the rush to the Comstock Lode in Nevada Territory. That building was one door to the right of the present building, and a part of that lot is now a courtyard with a historical plaque and mining artifacts. The building as it appears today is a one-story brick structure with gabled roof. On the street level is a shop with a double door, each door having two large glass panes above a single wood panel. There is also a window with one large glass pane topped by two smaller ones in the space that once had matching double doors. Above the doors and window is a metal-roofed canopy supported by eye-bars from above. The false front that conceals the gabled end has blind arches above the doorway and the window, and rises to a heavy ornamental iron cornice shipped from St. Louis in 1903. The building was completely restored in 1978 by Structural Engineer William Ladue and General Contractor T. E. Honkonen, with financial assists from the State Department of Parks and Recreation and Nevada City's general fund. The building now meets the state's safety standards. The original iron shutters are on the ground-floor doorway and window.

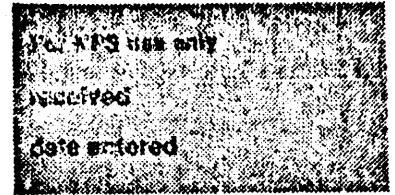
In 1970 the building was designated County Historical Registered Landmark No. 1.

M-61 132 Main Street Built: 1855
Chamber of Commerce (South Yuba Canal Building)

This two-story brick building, with an unusually high brick parapet that has been added since 1940, shares a foot-thick common interior wall with the old Ott Assay Office next door. Viewed from the front, the building has a window on the right, a door to the left, another window, and another door. Each window has one large pane

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below and two smaller ones above. The doors have their original iron shutters. The second-story balcony with its ornamental iron-laced railing replaced a wooden one which burned in 1856. The four tall, narrow second-story windows have granite lintels and their original iron shutters.

M-62 206 - 208 Main Street Built: Circa 1864
Westamerica Bank

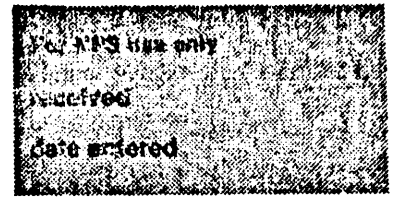
This building was first a one-story brick structure that was purchased in 1875 by William Holmes for a harness and saddlery shop. In 1885 he married a widow with three small daughters, and added the second story for family living quarters. The four double doorways with simple recessed panel below and glass above are crowned with an almost flat relieving arch. The second-story windows have wood shutters to replace the original iron ones. The brick facade is crowned by a plain wood cornice supported by wood brackets. A metal-roofed canopy supported by four posts covers the boardwalk below. A balustraded porch with shingle roof supported by five brackets runs along the second-story Coyote Street side. The half-hipped roof extending from the adjoining building on the left is topped with a balustraded deck.

M-63 210 Main Street Built: Pre-1870
Shaw's Antiques

This two-story building is brick on the lower level and frame construction above. The two large plate-glass windows facing Main Street and the door are framed by paneled pilasters. A second-story balustraded veranda supported by posts and brackets covers the sidewalk. The second-story door and the windows on each side have corniced heads supported by brackets. The shingled facade of the second story rises to a prominent corbeled cornice. A stepped parapet conceals the steep gabled roof. The building extends back to Coyote Street, where there is an outside stairway to the second story.

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M-65 214 Main Street Built: 1861
 Firehouse Museum

This is a two-story brick building with a gabled roof. Entry is through two large wood doors, each with twelve small lights near the top. The elaborate wood front, a good example of eastlake style, replaced the original plain front circa 1890. An arched glass door at the second-story level opens on to a balustraded porch supported by posts below. The porch posts, railings, and balusters have a robust quality and were turned on a mechanical lathe. Large curved brackets, scrolls, and other stylized elements are placed at every corner, turn, or projection along the facade. A profusion of spindles along the porch frieze adds to the complexity of the facade. There is a balustraded deck above the porch from which rises a belvedere covered by fish-scale shingles. A firebell hangs from the peaked roof of the belvedere. This is the most photographed building in Nevada City.

M-66 216 Main Street Built: Circa 1861
 Antiques

This small one-story building has a common interior wall with the firehouse next door. It has a semi-hipped roof projecting from the firehouse wall. All old maps show the building as a shop.

M-67 216 Main Street : Built: 1870/1890
 Michael's Garden Restaurant

The original one-story frame building on this site was built circa 1870. It was remodeled and enlarged into the present two-story building circa 1890. Old maps show the ornamented Victorian bay windows facing Main Street were in place by 1898 and those on the side of the building were added before 1912. The exterior walls are of board siding.

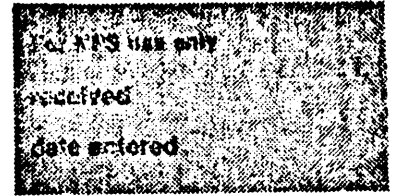
There are two entrances to the building from the Main Street front. The entrance on the right has double doors, each of which has a panel framed with decorative molding below and a tall, narrow, arched glass panel above, also framed by decorative molding. There is a large arched panel of etched glass above the main entrance, and an ornamental Victorian wood canopy supported by brackets covers the doorway and the steps leading to it. The bay windows to the right of the entrance have four windows at each level, with prominent overhanging cornices supported by ornamental wood brackets.

The left entrance is recessed beneath the second story to provide a covered porch with turned posts supporting the upper level. The door has three horizontal panels below, a glass panel above, and a transom over the doorway.

The two gabled roofs of the building are at right angles to each other and covered with composition shingles. There are two pairs of short windows on the second-story level above the porch; directly below them are two pairs of tall windows on the first floor. Each pair of windows is enclosed by a decorative wood frame as if it were a single window.

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M-68 220 Main Street Built: Pre-1880
Mackay's Realty, et al

The original one-story frame dwelling on this site was enlarged into the present building circa 1895. The building has been a residence, a rooming house, an apartment house in the 1930's and 1940's, and now an office building.

The first floor of this frame building has board siding; the second story and gables are covered with wood shingles. The right side of the building facing Main Street has a gabled roof; to the left of it and joining it at a right angle is a second section with a hip roof, all covered with composition shingles.

The right doorway, which is the main entrance, is covered by a canopy supported by decorative brackets. The door has four narrow horizontal panels below with beveled plate glass above, topped by a divided transom. At the extreme right there are three bay windows, which were added before 1898, on each floor level. Between the main entrance and the bay windows is a window of twenty-five small lights topped by a stained glass panel. Windows are original as of the 1890's remodeling.

The left entrance is recessed beneath the second story to provide a covered porch with wood posts supporting the upper level. Two pairs of tall, narrow, sash windows face on to the recessed porch; each pair is framed as if it were a single window.

The attic of the building receives light through a recessed window just below the ridgepole of the main gable and through a dormer window on the left section. A one-story section extends out from the rear of the building toward Coyote Street.

M-69 224 Main Street Built: 1890's
Berliner Office Building

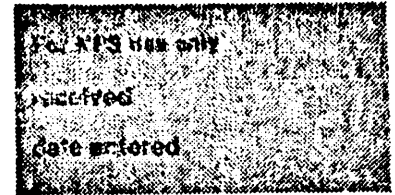
This three-story frame building has a long history. A two-story dwelling was erected at this place in the mid-1880's. However, it is not until 1898 that there is any notice of the third story, which was described as having "a French roof." After many owners, the house steadily declined over the years. The top story was removed in the 1950's for a remodeling that never took place. The property was purchased to be used as a retail store in 1964. In 1974 Berliner bought it and converted it into an office building. It was during the 1974 renovation and restoration that the mansard-roofed third story was replaced, a replication of its 1898 appearance. The pedimented window heads on the third story, the arched bay windows of the facade, and the balconies are all a result of this restoration. Wood quoins at each corner of the building rise from street level to the third story overhang, which is supported by brackets. The third-floor siding is of plain shingles, scalloped shingles, and diamond-shaped shingles. A plain cornice crowns the low parapet. One-story sheds extend from the rear.

M-70 230 Main Street Built: Circa 1870
Hatfield Offices

This two-story frame building with gabled roof sits well back from the street behind a large lawn with flower plots in front. The wide eaves of the gable are supported by brackets. The windows have wood cornice headings supported by brackets and have wood shutters on each side. A large gabled dormer extends out from the second story

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on the right. The lot on which this building sits extends back to Coyote Street, and the ell to the right is the residence of the owners. This section was enlarged in 1985, but every effort has been made to see that the architectural style conformed to the original as much as possible.

M-71 300 Main Street Built: 1857
First Baptist Church

This one-story brick building has a gently sloping gabled roof. The brick has been painted white, and a modern white wood portico protects the entry. The facade has two sash windows, one on each side of the doorway, each with a heavy granite sill below. Above each window is a smaller ten-light recessed window in a Gothic arch headed by a Gothic relieving arch. The paneled brick pilasters of the facade rise to a simple cornice ornamented with dentils. The windows along the sides of the church are similar except that the pilasters separating them are plain. The roof-top pediment is also above a cornice with dentils. The entry to the church is a tall Gothic arch with glass doors. Originally a Congregational Church, the building was converted into an apartment house in the 1930's, and another story was added. When the Baptist congregation bought it in 1947, they entered into a program of restoration. In 1955 the roof was lowered to its present addition, and the walls were strengthened to make the building earthquake proof. It was at this same time that the three-story stucco addition was built across the back of the church, to be used for offices and Sunday School rooms.

M-72 308 Main Street Built: 1874
Waggoner House

The 1984 renovation of this building was done according to old photographs. The two-story frame building has wood quoins at each corner and on each side of the entry, which is protected by an ornate gabled portico supported by heavy brackets. A bracketed projecting cornice is at the roof line with a pediment above the entry and second-story window over it. There is a bay window on the right and a balustraded porch along the side away from Washington Street. The porch's shingled roof is supported by ornamental posts and brackets. Lattice work conceals the space beneath the porch. A private parking lot runs along the Washington Street side of the building.

P-73 203 South Pine Street Built: 1860
Nevada City Baptist Church

This early church building escaped damage in the 1863 fire and provided facilities for the other congregations of the community that had sustained losses. Originally it was a one story frame structure with a tall steeple over the gable facing Spring Street. E. T. R. Powell, who operated the Nevada City Soda Works, purchased the building in 1886 and enlarged it to the structure it is today. The elevated Pine Street entry leads from an archway to two doors, both with carved lower panels, an upper glass panel, and topped by a transom. The second-story balustraded balcony sits on heavy double brackets. A gabled shingled roof over two arches is supported by ornamental posts. Each of the windows of the facade is a single glass pane with

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a stained glass panel above. The stained glass is from the original building of 1860.

P-76 108 South Pine Street Built: Circa 1900
Mama Sue's Restaurant

This small one-story frame building has one window on the left and a single door on the right. Board siding on the false front rises to a boxed cornice and conceals the flat metal roof.

P-77 109½ North Pine Street Built: 1912
Elks Club Architect: J. H. Rogers

The exterior of this building as it appears today is the result of the construction of the second-story lodge hall in 1912. The base of the building is composed of three one-story brick buildings and a storage shed dating from the early 1860's. The second story is of reinforced concrete with a flat roof. The entire Pine Street facade is faced with buff brick. The three bays on street level were remodeled and the large plate glass windows added in 1912. There are eight windows along the Pine Street side of the second story, with a plain cornice across the front and a short parapet fronting the flat roof.

P-78 108½ North Pine Street Built: 1864/1900
Masonic Hall Architect-Contractor: Brown
and Palmer

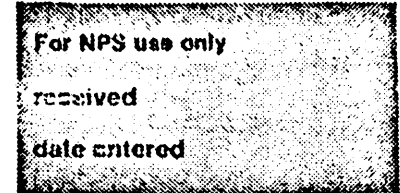
This present building is really two two-story buildings, the one on the corner of Commercial and Pine Streets dating from 1864 and the one behind it on Pine Street dating from 1900. The four bays for retail shops on the street level had their large plate glass windows installed in 1900. The second story of the building to the right of the Pine Street elevator entrance has six arched windows above a cornice ornamented with dentils. Each window is crowned by a brick eyebrow relieving arch. Above there is ornate brick work to the top of a stepped parapet, which conceals the slightly sloping roof. The second building which extends to Commercial Street has nine window spaces in the second story. Three of these spaces have windows with their original iron shutters. The other spaces have been filled in with brick. The cornice at the top of the brick front is supported by brick corbels.

P-79 205 - 207 North Pine Street Built: 1881
John L. Larue Building

Originally two separate houses belonging to Bridget McClosky and rebuilt immediately after the 1880 fire. Both buildings are one story with board siding. Windows are original. The building at 205 North Pine has a gabled roof; the one just above has a double hip roof. These two buildings are as they were in 1881. The new section providing a connecting corridor between the two was added in 1981.

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P-81 231 Pine Street Built: 1904
Nevada City Public Library Architect-Builder: Mr. Wilson
of Watsonville

This two-story building is of brick and both rough and smooth concrete blocks. It is a typical Carnegie Library building of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The entrance has double oak doors with large beveled glass panels. Double pilasters on each side of the doorway simulate simplified Ionic columns. Each of the double pilasters is separated by a narrow wood panel below and a tall, narrow, beveled glass panel above. The cement block arch above the entrance tops a stained glass window which depicts a laurel wreath and a lamp of learning. The gabled roof over the reading room joins a hip-roof section, over the book stack area, which then joins another gabled roof above the children's section. The original slate roof was replaced with composition shingles in the early 1940's.

S-83 315 Spring Street Built: 1884
Spring Street Cafe

This one-story frame building with hip roof of metal over wood has a balustraded porch supported by ornamental posts. A small added ell to the right houses a separate office. The building was renovated in the late 1970's and the balustraded entry for the handicapped was added.

S-84 317 Spring Street Built: 1884
Heidelberger's Law Office

This is a one-story brick building with hip roof. The door in the center of the facade has a large glass panel and a transom above. There is a casement window on each side of the door with brick lintel above. Both windows have their original iron shutters.

S-85 320 Spring Street Built: 1885
Vacant Residence

This frame building with shingle siding is two-story with gabled roof in front. Behind this part of the building is a one-story building with shed-type roof which extends to the remains of a concrete cellar. A shingled-roof porch supported by posts runs across the front of the building. The shingled gable is ornamented with a design including fish-scale shingles.

S-86 321 Spring Street Built: Circa 1900
Nevada City Winery

This gabled frame building covered with corrugated metal dates from the turn of the century. It was once a garage for the foundry next door.

S-87 325 Spring Street Built: 1859-1900
American Victorian Museum

This collection of industrial buildings was once the Miner's Foundry, famous for the

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development and manufacture of the Pelton wheel. Miner's Foundry was established at this location in 1859. In 1890 it absorbed the other foundry in town, the Nevada Foundry. The resulting organization was incorporated, and the plant was enlarged and re-equipped. By 1915 all of the present buildings were constructed. Buildings included machine and repair shops, moulding shop, pattern construction shop, and blacksmith shop. The large stone building which parallels Bridge Street was the first one constructed. The brick addition which extends nearly to Spring Street was completed before 1900. An early drawing of the foundry circa 1879 shows a view from Spring Street. Both the large building in the front left with the double pitched roof and the large structure behind it still stand. Wooden siding has been replaced by corrugated iron. The old stone building is of uncoursed native stone; its thick walls are unadorned except for the single horizontal row of windows along the three exterior walls. There is a tall, narrow door on the right wall and a large wrought-iron door leading into the adjoining brick building. The large windows facing toward Spring Street were added after the current owners took over in 1974.

Ch-88 214 Church Street Built: 1872
Searls Historical Library

This one-story brick building served as a law office for Niles Searls, lawyer, legislator, and chief justice of the California State Supreme Court. His son, Fred Searls, used it as a law office for more than fifty years, and much mining law was formulated within the confines of the building. When Carroll Searls, a son of Fred's, died, he requested that his widow give the building to the Nevada County Historical Society for a historical library. This was done in 1972. The building has a gabled roof with shingles. A tall window on the side and one in the front are double-sash with four glass panes in each section. A door with lower-panel sections is topped by six glass panes and a transom. All the openings have their original iron shutters. A wood porch runs across the front of the building. It has a shingled roof which is supported by posts. Above the roof line of the porch is a wood pediment.

Ch-89 Courthouse Square Built: 1937
Nevada County Courthouse Architect: George C. Sellon

The original courthouse on this site was burned in the 1856 fire. It was rebuilt as a two-story granite and brick building in Greek Revival style. The courthouse burned again in 1863, and some of the brick from the structure was used in the Masonic Hall. It was again rebuilt in 1864 as a two-story structure. In 1900 a third story was added. In 1937 the present Art Moderne facade was added, emphasizing the tall center section with emphatic vertical lines and the sweeping curved first story wings on each side. Characteristically, ornamentation is sparse. This building is considered to be such an outstanding example of the Art Moderne style that graduate students in architecture have come from the Atlantic coast to photograph and study it.

W-94 317 Washington Street Built: 1864
St. Canice's Catholic Church

This building has a steep gabled roof covered with wood shingles. There are four

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stained-glass recessed windows on the Washington Street side, and three on the other. All window openings are tall, narrow Gothic arches. There are six wall buttresses on each side of the church and five more at the entry at the Coyote end. The brick building was cemented over and painted white ca. 1900. The shingled bell tower above the entry is topped by a tall spire and large white cross. In 1896 the building was elevated approximately four feet to provide a more spacious interior. A parking area runs along side the church parallel to Washington Street.

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B-4 216 -216½ Broad Street Built: 1906/1960
Cam's Place

This non-contributing single-story block is composed of two very different buildings. The restaurant is a gabled frame building which dates from circa 1906, and it is faced with wood lath designed to look like brick. The separate bar, which was added to the original building in 1960, is a flat-roofed structure of concrete blocks faced with artificial lava stone. Both buildings have been painted white with red trim, and a common false front of alternate bronze and brown-colored vertical aluminum strips attempts to tie them together visually.

B-12 222½ Broad Street Built: circa 1963
China Chef

This building has block walls with ends of wood. The front has a recessed entry, and a short shake canopy extends halfway over the sidewalk. The front of the building below the canopy is faced with rough plank siding; above the canopy, including the parapet extending above the flat roof, the facade is stucco.

B-16 300 Broad Street Built: Circa 1934
Button Works

This one-story building, built by the Bank of America in 1934-35, is a concrete slab building that extends from Broad Street to the south wall of the Elks Club on Commercial Street. In 1970, when Bank of America moved to a new building on Commercial and Main Streets, the building was sold to the present owners. It was then that the present wood false front was installed with the prominent wood quoins at the Broad Street corners of the building. These quoins rise from the sidewalk to the wood corbeled cornice. A balustraded veranda supported by wood posts on brick footings covers the sidewalk below.

B-25 311 Broad Street Built: Pre-1900
Cafe Les-Stage

This single-story frame building has a modern lower-level facade of board and batten with a recessed doorway. The stuccoed false front above the windows and the entry which conceals the gabled roof has a stepped, arched parapet which, along with the wood-framed window in the center crowned by an ornamental wood arch, is faintly reminiscent of early California mission architecture.

B-26 314 Broad Street Built: 1864
Sierra Hats and Caps

This small one-story frame building has been remodeled, with the current front installed in the 1970's, rendering the building architecturally non-conforming.

B-28 316 Broad Street Built: Circa 1900
Third Whale

This one story frame building has a flat roof. The remodeled facade dating from 1980 is a modern product and is architecturally non-conforming. A canopy of corrugated

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metal covers the sidewalk. Above, wood siding rises to a wood cornice supported by ornamental brackets. Spaces between the five brackets are filled with painted strips of ornamental pressed iron.

B-33 319 Broad Street Built: 1904
Fur Trader # 1

This heavily altered one-story frame building has three large plate-glass windows above a strip of tile that has been painted over to match the stucco false front above the windows. There is a wide drip board extending over the windows and the door facing Broad Street. The false front has a slightly curved top that conceals the gabled roof.

B-35 321 Broad Street Built: 1940
Bonanza Market Builder: Younger Brothers

When the old Armory Hall was sold to Purity Stores in April, 1940, by the Nevada City Fire Department, it was torn down by members of the Bethany Church in Grass Valley who used the lumber for a new church. Younger Brothers of Oakland, California, erected a one-story quonset-hut-type building that identified a Purity market. The building extends along Bridge Street from Broad to Spring Streets where, because of the difference in elevation, it becomes a two-story building with a shop on street level and an apartment above.

C-42 200 Commercial Street Built: 1942
Old Post Office Craft Shop

This one-story building served as the Nevada City post office from 1942 until the present one opened in 1973. The building has brick facing on the Commercial and Main Street sides; the other two sides are stucco. A parapet fronts a flat roof.

C-43 210 Commercial Street Built: 1970
Bank of America

This hip-roofed, one-story, brick-faced building has wide overhanging eaves supported by heavy ornamental iron brackets. An arched entry leads to double plate-glass doors with windows of the same height on either side. Three plate-glass windows above reach to the ceiling.

C-46 235 Commercial Street Built: 1863/1978
Framylstanyl's

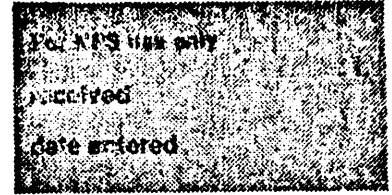
This complex of patio, bar with brick facing, dance hall, and restaurant was completely remodeled in 1978, with little, or none, of its architectural integrity being retained.

C-51 246 Commercial Street Built: 1858,
Small Time Clothes

This two-story brick building was built after the fire of 1856. For many years it was Nevada City's most famous saloon, known as Blaze's. Because of recent remodeling

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none of the architectural integrity of the original building is retained. However, it has the potential of being restored to a contributing building. The building extends back along North Pine Street to include the public defender's office at 202 North Pine Street.

C-59 401 Commercial Street Built: 1920's
Burrito Factory

This one-story frame building was originally constructed as a residence. It has been remodeled so many times that it retains none of the architectural integrity.

X-95 310 Commercial Street Built: Unknown
Crystal Rainbow Rock Shop (Does not show on any deed)

This tiny shed of corrugated metal siding and roof is actually a part of the parking lot property owned by John C. Campbell. It has no architectural significance.

X-96 405 Commercial Street Built: Circa 1882
Jill's Hair Garage

This corrugated metal single-story building was once a garage on the corner of the New York Hotel's parking lot. It has no historical or architectural significance.

P-74 110 S. Pine Street Built: 1885/1912
Misty Mountain

This two-story frame building with a new facade of large glass windows and flat-roof first story is a remodeled residence that retains very little of its architectural integrity.

P-75 115 S. Pine Street Built: 1920/1980
Express Mart

This building was originally a one-story brick that came out to the Pine Street sidewalk. About twenty feet of the building's front has been removed and a wood false front installed that is non-conforming with Nevada City architecture.

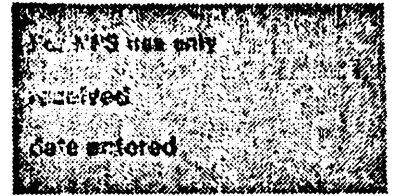
S-82 300 Spring Street Built: 1930's
Clay's Laundry

This filling station converted to a laundromat and hot dog stand has no architectural integrity.

Ch-90 & 92 220-222 Church Street Built: 1853/1898
Siegfried Building

This building, which includes a part of one of Nevada City's early brick buildings that can be seen from Church Street, has been converted into a residence and two

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offices which are non-conforming architecturally.

Ch-91 Courthouse Square Built: 1964
Courthouse Annex Architect: Mau & Barnum

This three-story reinforced concrete, glass, and steel building neither conforms with early Nevada City architecture nor the Art Moderne style of the County Courthouse.

Ch-93 Courthouse Square Built: 1964
Inter-County Title Co.

This one-story, flat-roof building with uncovered rubble stone on the Main Street end and an all-glass front is not compatible with Nevada City architecture.

B - 34 400 Broad Street Built: Circa 1885
Dr. Hummelt Office

This one-story frame building now covered with composition siding was built after the 1880 fire. It has been changed so many times that it retains no architectural style or integrity.

M-64 212 Main Street Built: Circa 1880
Knitting Loom

This small two-story shop facing main street is the result of remodeling that occurred in the mid-1960's, when the present store front with its large glass windows above brick and glass door were installed. The flat-topped false front and the narrow canopy over the entrance are of board siding. This front shop opens directly into the main building, which is a flat-roofed, two-story corrugated metal structure extending back to Coyote Street. Whenever the building is mentioned in old newspapers or described on old fire maps, it is always referred to as a warehouse or a storage shed. For example, in 1885 it is called simply a warehouse; in 1891 hay and feed were stored there; in 1895 and in 1912 salt and bottled goods were warehoused on the first floor while hay was stored above. In the 1930's and 1940's the first floor was used as a garage. It is currently occupied by a plumbing shop in the rear and a knitted goods shop in the front.

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B-1.1 211 Broad Street
Parking lot behind National Hotel

B-2.1 210 Broad Street
Calanan Park

This small park named after a long-time city official was granted to the city of Nevada City through the Department of the Interior, December 1, 1971. One of the giant monitors used in hydraulic mining occupies a prominent spot in the park, which sits adjacent to Alpha Hardware.

B-2.2 210 Broad Street and 210 Commercial Street
Parking lot in rear of Alpha Hardware and adjoining Bank of America.

B-36.1 408 Broad Street
Parking lot along side and in rear of New York Hotel.

C-53.1 309 Commercial Street
Parking lot between Royal Garden restaurant and the Gallery.

P-80.1 204 North Pine Street
This small triangular park-like area is adjacent to the office building at 204 North Pine Street.

P-81.1 231 North Pine Street
A vacant park-like area which runs along two sides of the Nevada City Public Library.

M-72.1 308 Main Street
Parking area adjacent to the Waggoner House.

M-71.1 300 Main Street
Parking areas on two sides of the Baptist Church and a vacant lot between the Baptist and Catholic churches.

W-91.1 317 Washington Street
Parking area adjacent to St. Canice's Catholic Church.

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Significance

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The Nevada City Downtown Historic District is significant as the largest and most representative collection of downtown commercial buildings in the area of the Northern Mines. As the county seat of Nevada County and the county's largest historical downtown, Nevada City was the commercial, governmental, and professional center of Nevada County from the 1850's. Since the turn of the century it has gradually relinquished its domination as the county's retail trade center and of late has actively promoted tourism.

The district reflects clearly the changes in mining techniques as they occurred in the area of the Northern Mines. In the early days of the gold rush most of the metal obtained came from placer deposits. Early growth came about because gold was initially easy to get from such deposits, and only a pick and shovel, a pan, and water were necessary for the new miners. This meant that the estimated population of 10,000 in 1850 in Nevada City and the surrounding hills was largely composed of transients who could move on very short notice to a rich strike anywhere in the area. Consequently, the first town was largely of the canvas-wood construction which was so vulnerable to fire. By the time of the 1856 fire, placer mining had practically ceased, and more sophisticated technology had to be evolved for hydraulic and quartz mining. Such changes made necessary tremendous capital investment, thus eliminating the individual prospector, and more and more miners became employees of mining companies. This resulted in wide use of brick with heavy iron doors and shutters for permanent business buildings, and in well-constructed frame dwellings for more or less permanent residents.

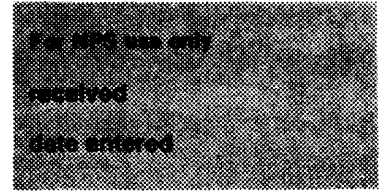
One architectural feature that must be noted in connection with these nineteenth century structures is the wide use of balconies for both residential and commercial purposes. Nearly every building in the historical district had either a roofed balcony such as those that appear on the two firehouses, or a balustraded veranda-balcony such as that on the National Hotel, or shed canopies such as those on the north side of Broad Street between Union and Pine Streets. These provided shade beneath, and shielded windows from the glare of the sun in summer. In winter they kept rain and snow from the space below. They also added a touch of grace to the buildings.

Nevada City continued to hold its own as the retail center of the county until the 1880's, when the Sawyer Decision of 1884 practically stopped hydraulic mining. After that, quartz mining, which had been accelerating since the beginning of the 1860's, really came to the fore, and the 1900 census shows the neighboring town of Grass Valley, with its huge and numerous quartz mines, exceeding the population of Nevada City by 4,719 to 3,250, the beginning of a trend that continues to this day. As a result, Alpha Hardware, built in 1917, was the last important building erected in the business district until a post office building was erected on Commercial and Main Streets in 1942. Since 1917, the business district has remained practically static, architecturally speaking, with only a few intrusionary buildings being erected which are noted in the listed non-contributing buildings.

By the close of World War I many mines in the area had shut down because of the high costs brought about by technological advances in deep rock mining, increased labor costs, the inflated postwar economy, and the fixed price of gold then pegged at \$20.67 an ounce. At that time most of the mining was taking place at a depth of a mile or more on the veins. The access shafts or tunnels, whichever was the case, required constant

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maintenance and retrimbering to keep them open and safe. Pumps operated constantly to keep the mines from filling with water. Only the largest and richest mines such as the Empire, North Star, and Idaho-Maryland near Grass Valley could operate profitably under such circumstances. Nevada City relinquished its position as the major trade center of the area but maintained its position as center of county governemnt and of professional services.

Nestled in a natural basin, Nevada City is not only one of the earliest towns in the Sierra mining districts but also one of the best preserved, and much of the nineteenth century look of the city remains, giving it a special charm. The town sprang up when gold miners started working the placers along Deer Creek in 1849. It was known first as Deer Creek Dry Diggings, then as Caldwell's Upper Store-- so called for a log cabin store on the site where Trinity Episocopal Church stands today. The

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town was one of the few mining camps to grow and prosper. First a camp, then a tent village, it became a tinderbox town of wood buildings in 1853. Razed by fire, it was rebuilt; burned; rebuilt again. The worst fire destroyed 400 buildings on July 19, 1856, along with the new courthouse and all county records. Ten persons lost their lives. Fire destroyed nearly all of the business district again in 1858, although a number of fire-proof brick buildings stood the test and preserved their contents. In less than a month, however, sixty-five new frame buildings were erected and construction of a half-dozen brick ones begun.

The fire menace, common to all early-day gold towns, aroused the citizens of Nevada City to action. In 1860, fire companies were formed, and by 1861 two fire-houses had been built. Eureka Hose Company No. 2 completed a fire house near the head of Broad Street on January 14, 1861, a building still in service today. Nevada Hose Company No. 1 completed their building on Main Street on May 30 of the same year.

The Main Street fire house is considered to be one of the finest surviving examples of this kind of architecture in the Northern Mines area. It is the most popular subject in the city for photographers and artists and has become one of the best-known buildings in the gold country because of the many pictures of it in books and magazines. The building now serves as a museum for the Nevada County Historical Society.

Ironically, the last of the huge fires to wipe out practically all of the business district occurred on November 8, 1863, even though the town had been supplied with water by Charles Marsh since 1860, and the fire companies organized, and their fire houses built in 1861. Although the fire companies responded promptly, they were practically helpless for lack of water. N. P. Brown, editor of the Nevada Daily Transcript, reported that reservoirs were full, and there was an abundance of water. An extended investigation failed to fix the blame definitely, despite allegations that a vital gate to the pipes was closed. With only 150 feet of perpendicular pressure, the hoses would not throw water to the top of the buildings during the first three hours of the conflagration.

Fire was not the only enemy. In February, 1867, a disastrous flood carried away the Main and Broad Street Bridges, several stores, a blacksmith shop, a quartz mill, and half of the Monumental Hotel. As always, Nevada City built again.

In March, 1850, the need for organized government was apparent. A group of civic-minded men met, and with the procedures imposed by the United States military authorities, elected Mr. Stamps as alcalde. The alcalde, or mayor, had judicial as well as administrative powers under Mexican law. At the same meeting the name Nevada, meaning "snow" in Spanish, was chosen. Mr. Stamps served as alcalde until May of 1850 when Mr. Olney, former secretary of state of Rhode Island, was elected justice of the peace.

In 1851 Nevada County was formed, and the newly incorporated city of Nevada was named the county seat. Moses F. Hoyt was elected mayor along with ten aldermen and other officers. This city government lasted less than a year when an act of the legislature changed it.

Another city government was formed in 1853, and Nevada was incorporated again. This government lasted about two years when the California Supreme Court, in 1856, declared the law under which the city was incorporated unconstitutional. The laws were changed, and the town was again incorporated that same year by an act of the

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legislature. A state census in 1852 had shown the population of the new county to be 21,365. At the general election of 1856, Nevada City polled 2,082 votes, exceeded in California only by Sacramento and San Francisco.

Gold was not the only raw material that came from Nevada City. Famous people and firms found their origins here.

In June, 1859, James J. Ott, in his assay office on Main Street, tested the ore samples that determined the fabulous Comstock silver lode and started the rush to Virginia City, Nevada. George Hearst sold his interest in the LeCompton mine and joined the stampede to Washoe Territory, where he made his fortune. Upon his return to California, he was elected to the U. S. Senate. In fact, two other U. S. senators were also once residents of Nevada City—A. A. Sargent and William Morris Stewart.

Famous Nevada City inventors include Lester Pelton, whose revolutionary water wheel was first manufactured for commercial use in Miner's Foundry; Lyman Gilmore, who may have preceded the Wright brothers in achieving a heavier-than-air machine that flew; Antoine Chabot, who introduced using a canvas hose for ground sluicing in Buckeye Ravine; and Edward E. Matteson, who is credited with first making use of a canvas hose, a sheet-iron nozzle, and water under pressure to undermine and wash gravel into sluice boxes, the beginning of hydraulic mining, in 1853.

Herbert Hoover lived here and worked as a hard-rock miner while an engineering student at Stanford University. Emma Nevada, one of the truly great operatic coloraturas at the turn of the century, made her first public appearance at the age of five in the Baptist Church on Spring Street. And it was in the Congregational Church in May, 1853, that Professor Henry Durant, formerly of Yale University, met with a committee to formulate the plans for an academy that was incorporated two years later as the College of California, which was to become the University of California at Berkeley.

Consolidation of many ditch companies supplying water to the miners led to the start of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, and the company's first general office, established by Eugene de Sable and John Martin, was located in the National Hotel.

Today, after more than a century of pioneer heritage, Nevada City remains the most complete gold town in California, and it is still the center of a thriving community. It is a genuine small town, with a population under 2,500, and it is also a living museum of a very picturesque history whose artifacts survive remarkably undisturbed. Probably the old town owes much of its present charm to the happy accident of having been conveniently located away from the mainstream of traffic.

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2. Independent, July 1969 - August 1982.
3. Nevada County Nugget, February 1959 - December 1976.
4. Nevada Daily Gazette, March 1864 - November 1869.
5. Nevada Daily Transcript, September 1860 - July 16, 1904.
6. Nevada Democrat, August 20, 1856 - September 27, 1862.

Official Records

1. City of Nevada City: City Assessor's Books.
2. Nevada County :
Office of the County Assessor - Assessor's Books and Maps.
Office of the County Recorder - Deeds, Leases, Liens, Marriage and
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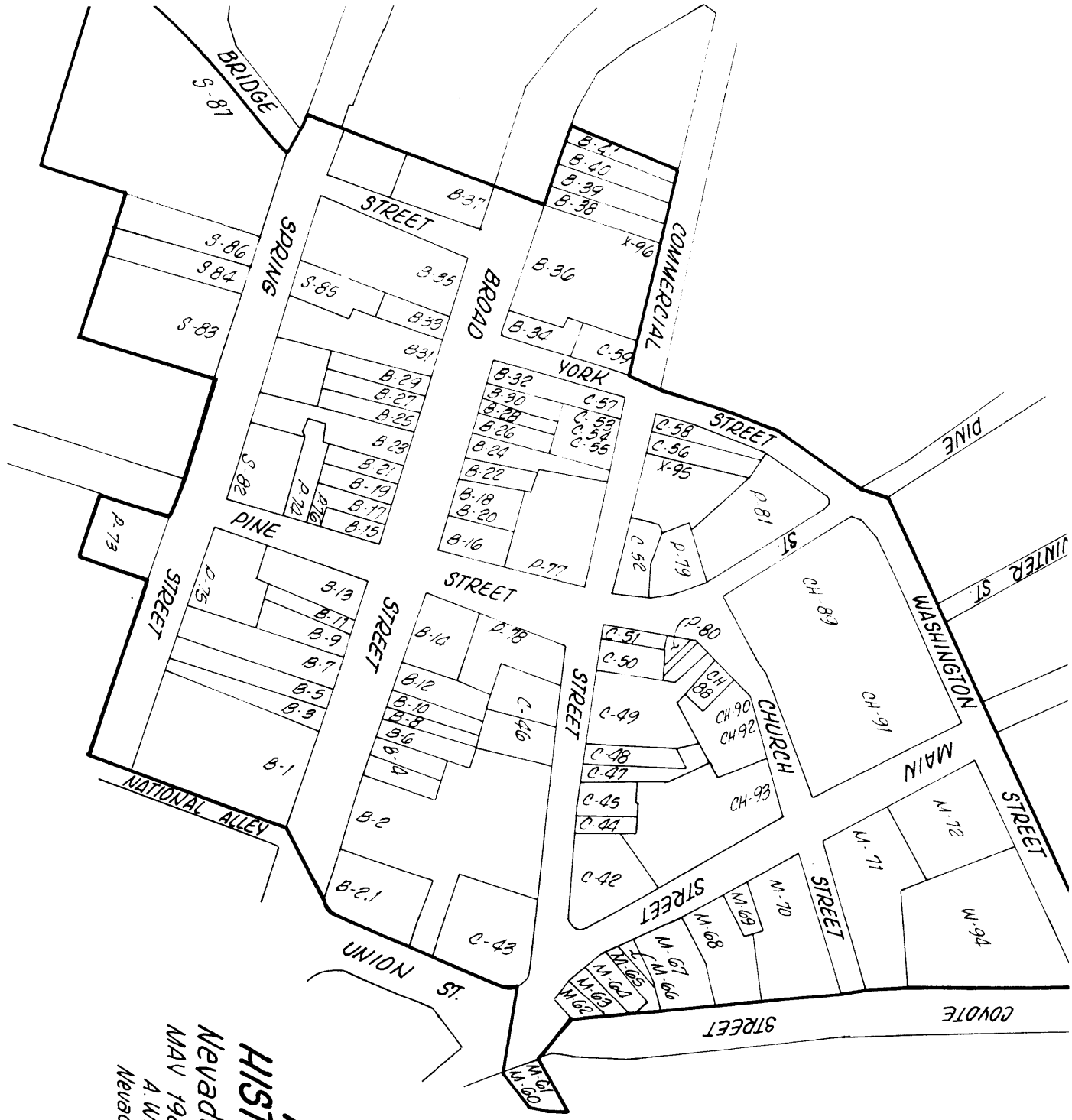
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Geographical Data. Verbal Boundary Description and Justification.

Beginning at the northeasterly corner of the National Hotel on Broad Street thence southerly 223 feet to the south side of Spring Street; thence westerly 194 feet to the east line of Lot 1, Block 15 (First Baptist Church); thence southerly 80 feet to the south boundary of said lot; thence westerly 70 feet to the east side of Pine Street; thence northerly 80 feet to the south side of Spring Street; thence west 173 feet to the eastern boundary of Lot 7, Block 32, (Spring Street Cafe); thence south 56 feet to the southern edge of building; thence westerly 132 feet to the east side of Lot 4, Block 32, (Miners Foundry); thence southerly 122 feet; thence westerly 220 feet to the east side of Bridge Street; thence northerly on Bridge Street to Spring Street; thence westerly 76 feet to the alley running along the west side of the Nevada Theater; thence northerly along the Nevada Theater 216 feet to the north side of Broad Street; thence westerly 67 feet to the west boundary of Lot 7, Block 30, (Pennsylvania Firehouse No. 2); thence north along the west side of the firehouse to the south side of Commercial Street; thence easterly 250 feet to the intersection of Commercial and York Streets; thence north by northeast 266 feet to the intersection of York and Pine Streets; continue northeasterly 600 feet along Washington Street, crossing Main Street to the west side of Coyote Street; then south 572 feet on Coyote Street to its intersection with Main Street; thence southeasterly 44 feet to the North boundary of Lot 8, Block 5 (South Yuba Canal Building); thence northeasterly 61 feet to the eastern boundary of said lot; thence southeasterly 47 feet to the eastern boundary of Lot 7, Block 5 (Ott's Assay Office); thence southwesterly along Ott's Assay Office 63 feet to Main Street; cross Main to Union Street; thence southwesterly along the west side of Union Street 274 feet to Broad Street; thence across Broad Street to the point of beginning.

Boundary justification included in section 7.



NEVADA CITY
HISTORICAL DISTRICT
 Nevada City, California
 MAY 1985
 A. W. Beeson & Assoc., Inc.
 Nevada City, California 95959