

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 28 1986
DATE ENTERED

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC
WHITE PINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
AND/OR COMMON
N/A

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Campton Street

N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Ely

N/A VICINITY OF

2

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Nevada

32

White Pine

033

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
White Pine County

STREET & NUMBER

Campton Street

CITY, TOWN

Ely

N/A VICINITY OF

STATE

Nevada

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. White Pine County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Campton Street

CITY, TOWN

Ely

STATE

Nevada

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
N/A

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The White Pine County Courthouse is an Italianate Survival style building constructed in 1908-09 by contractors, R. E. Dodson and G. W. Weller according to plans by architect, George T. Beardslee. The building, which has served as the county courthouse since its construction, occupies a landscaped hilltop site adjoining the main commercial district of the City of Ely. The building retains a high degree of architectural integrity despite minor alterations to the original fabric.

The two-story, eight-bay building is constructed of coursed, dressed ashlar supported by a raised basement of poured concrete. The symmetrical building rises to a shallow hipped roof banded by a low parapet with a simple cornice. The eave line of the building is accented by a projecting dentil cornice with full entablature. Building corners are accented by coursed ashlar pilasters which rise the height of the building. Windows are contemporary (c.1970), one-light-over-one-light sash set in simple metal frames. Windows are supported by slightly projecting, cut ashlar sills. Basement windows are found beneath segmental arches. The basement and first story level are banded by a slightly projecting water table.

The principal elevation includes a slightly projecting pavillion occupying the central two entry bays and rising the height of the structure. This pavillion terminates in a pedimented gable.

A single story rectangular cupola dominates the structure's roof line above the building's entrance pavillion. This cupola includes a shallow dome with central flag pole.

The building's central, recessed, double-door entry is beneath an open porch supported by simple piers. The roof line of the porch includes a full cornice while its flat roof is accented by an open balustrade with turned balusters.

The interior of the rectangular plan courthouse includes a central stairhall flanked by offices on the first story and a second story courtroom. The interior of the building retains many of its original finishes including woodwork and panelled wainscotting.

A two-story jail addition (1925) is located to the rear of the courthouse. This addition is of contemporary design and is clearly distinguishable from the original building.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- present	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1909

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George T. Beardslee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Criteria A, C

Summary

The White Pine County Courthouse is an architecturally significant building important for its association with the historical development of White Pine County and the City of Ely. The simple, Italianate Survival style, public structure is one of the most substantial buildings in White Pine County and serves as a visual focus for the City of Ely. The courthouse has continuously housed the county's government since 1909.

Elaboration

White Pine County was created by the Nevada State Legislature on April 1, 1869. The original county seat was located in Hamilton, a mining boom town and center for the White Pine District silver strikes of the 1860's. The county's first courthouse was a substantial brick structure which burned in 1885. Hamilton fell into decline and two years later, in 1887, the county seat was relocated to the copper mining center of Ely 36 miles to the east.

In 1887 the White Pine County Commissioners authorized the erection of a new courthouse in Ely. The 1887 building served as the county courthouse for the next twenty years. After substantial alteration and addition to the 1887 building, the county undertook the construction of the present courthouse. The 1887 building is now part of a large hospital complex.

The 1908 courthouse was built to the west of its predecessor and has served the county as a courthouse since that time. County commissioners awarded the construction contract to R. E. Dodson and G. W. Weller for \$49,688. Under the supervision of George T. Beardslee, the architect, the structure was completed by 1909.

Although reflecting nineteenth-century architectural fashion, the White Pine County Courthouse is a rare example of an architect-designed public building in eastern Nevada. The building, which dominates the commercial district of the City of Ely, is a well designed governmental structure reflecting the county's conservative design approach. The building is one of the most substantial structures in the county and one of the few to follow a well developed architectural program.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Russell Elliott, Nevada's Twentieth Century Mining Boom (Reno, Nevada: University Press, 1966)

County Commissioners Minutes 1905-1909

Effie O. Read, White Pine Lang Syne (Denver: Big Mountain Press, 1965)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	1
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6	8	2	2	4	0
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4	3	4	6	1	8	0
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 C

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B

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The White Pine County Courthouse occupies a landscaped site bounded by Campton and Clark Streets in Ely, Nevada. An undimensioned plat of the site is on record with the White Pine County Assessor's office at the courthouse. This plat constitutes the county's legal description for the building.

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

N/A STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Ronald M. James, Historian
Kathryn M. Kuranda, Architectural Historian May, 1986

ORGANIZATION Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology DATE (702) 885-5138

STREET & NUMBER 201 South Fall Street TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN Carson City, STATE Nevada 89710

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Ronald M. James DATE 7/17/86

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<u>Patrick Anderson</u>	DATE <u>9/10/86</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE
ATTEST	DATE
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	