

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED **JUL 16 1986**
DATE ENTERED **JUN 22 1987**

**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 Dr. William Henry Cavell House
AND/OR COMMON
N/A

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
402 West Robinson Street N/A NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN
Carson City CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
N/A VICINITY OF 2
STATE CODE COUNTY CODE
Nevada 32 Independent Municipality

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input 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
Milton and Lorraine Manoukian
STREET & NUMBER
402 West Robinson Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Carson City N/A VICINITY OF Nevada

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Carson County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Carson Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Carson City Nevada 89701

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Cultural Resources Inventory Project Report
DATE
March 1980 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Carson City Planning Department
CITY, TOWN STATE
Carson City, Nevada 89701

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Summary

The Dr. William Henry Cavell House is a two story, masonry and frame dwelling built in 1907 from designs by Oakland, California architect, John Conant. The building is an unusual integration of Colonial Revival and Shingle styles. The building retains a high degree of architectural integrity and its original use as a single family residence.

Site

The Cavell House occupies a landscaped lot at the corner of Division and West Robinson Streets in Carson City, Nevada. The building is located in a residential neighborhood and is a contributing element to the Carson City Historic District, a local historic district certified by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting National Register standards. The building is one of two dwellings of similar design in the historic district. Both the Cavell House and E.P. Esser House (510 W. Fourth) were erected from identical designs by John Conant. The Esser House has been substantially modified and converted to commercial offices.

The symmetrical building includes double hung, sash windows enframed by simple wood surrounds. First story windows include leaded glass upper sash and one-light lower sash. Second story windows are twelve-light-over-one-light.

The first story of the dwelling includes an open, h-shaped veranda supported by fluted cast concrete piers supported by rusticated bases and terminating in ionic capitols. The centrally located entrance is enframed by a simple wood surround and flanked by leaded glass windows enframed by wood surrounds. The interior of the building retains its original floor plan. Interior features of note include original interior woodwork and lighting fixtures.

A contemporary, detached garage constructed in cast concrete is located to the rear of the structure.

Elaboration

The Cavell House is a "L" configuration building supported by a concrete foundation and terminating in a gambrel roof incorporating gambrel dormers. The eave of the main structural block extends to a shallow gable-roofed porch on the principal elevations. The building is supported by a rusticated concrete foundation which extends one third the height of the first story to a projecting, beveled drip course.

The body of the first story is faced in coursed concrete block. First and second stories are divided by an exaggerated dentil cornice incorporating egg and dart molding. The second story projects slightly over the first and is sheathed in square butt shingles. A parged brick interior end chimney with a flared cap is found on the south end of the structure.

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-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John Conant

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance

Criteria C

Summary

The Cavell House is an architecturally significant building associated with Dr. William Henry Cavell, a prominent Carson City dentist who practiced in the community during the early twentieth century. The building is an example of the substantial domestic structures constructed in the first quarter of the twentieth century during Carson's second period of major development. Designed by Oakland, California, architect, John Conant, the dwelling is one of two constructed in Carson according to identical plans and incorporates elements of the Colonial Revival and Shingle styles.

The Cavell House was constructed in 1907 as a wedding present from Dr. Cavell to Ida Platt Cavell. The dwelling remained in the Cavell family until 1951 when it passed to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tomaggi. In 1966, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Manoukian became the third owners of the building. The dwelling retains a high degree of architectural integrity and its original use as a private residence.

Elaboration

Historical Background

Settlement of the Carson City area dates to 1851 with the establishment of a small trading post known as Eagle Valley. In 1857 the trading post was purchased by John Mankin, who, in turn, sold the property to Abraham Curry, F. M. Proctor, B.F. Green and J.J. Musser in the same year. Curry and his partners laid out the townsite and renamed the area Carson City after the nearby Carson River.

The Comstock mining boom fostered the first period of Carson's development. Support industries for the mining district center in the town. Territorial status for Nevada was approved in 1861 largely due to the discovery of gold and silver in the region. Carson City was selected as the territorial capitol and became the state capitol three years later.

With the decline of the Comstock lode in the 1880s Carson City fell into recession. Although sustained by its role as state capitol, Carson did not experience another period of major expansion until the early twentieth century. Profits from the Tonopah mining strike in southern Nevada fostered a building boom in Carson as newly wealthy Nevadans settled in the state capitol. Dr. William Cavell was one of Carson's citizens who made his fortune in the Tonopah silver boom.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Carson City Historic Tour, a cousin of Mrs. Cavell's, and various people who knew the Cavells and who still live in Carson City.

Historic Environment Consultants "Cultural Resources Inventory Project Report, Carson City, Nevada" (1980).

Interview, Don Ford, Carson City (1980).

Zauner, Phillis and Low, Carson City, Nevada (1977).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,1	2,5,9,8,6,9	4,3,3,8,8,0,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate in the City of Carson City, County of Ormsby, State of Nevada, more particularly described as follows:

Lots 4, 5, 8 and 9, in Block 62 of Proctor and Green's Division of Carson City, Ormsby County, Nevada.

Also, the East half of the alley adjacent on the West as vacated and abandoned by Resolution recorded April 9, 1957, in Book 72 of etc.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Revised by:

Lorraine Manoukian

Kathryn M. Kuranda, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Preservation and Archeology

June 16, 1986

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

201 South Fall Street, Room 106

(702) 885-5138

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Carson City

Nevada 89701

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

TITLE

DATE

Ronald M. Jones
DSHRO

6/15/87

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

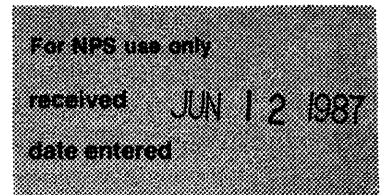
DATE

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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



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

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 2

Architectural Context

The architectural development of Carson City parallels the economic growth of the community. A comprehensive architectural survey of the city conducted in 1980 identified two major building cycles between 1860 and 1930. The "Carson City Cultural Resource Inventory," a project completed by Historic Environment Consultants under a National Park Service grant administered by the Nevada Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology found that residential development coincided with these two major building cycles and were characterized by distinctive architectural patterns. Residential development during the period 1860 to 1880 is characterized by low scale, predominantly frame construction incorporating Greek Revival and Italianate forms with mass produced, Victorian period building components and ornamentation.

In contrast, early twentieth century dwellings generally reflect then current stylistic trends and achieve a degree of integration between plan, form and detail absent in earlier forms.

The Cavell House, constructed in 1907 is one of two Colonial Revival style dwellings incorporating elements of the shingle-style constructed in Carson City during this latter period. Both the E. P. Esser House (b. 1906) located at 510 West Fourth Street, and the Cavell House were designed by Oakland architect, John Conant who was reputed to have been related to the Esser family. Both dwellings follow a similar plan executed in coursed concrete block and wood accented by Colonial Revival-style and Shingle-style ornamentation. The E. P. Esser House has been altered for use as commercial offices and does not retain its architectural integrity.

The Cavell and Esser Houses are the only identified designs in the state attributed to architect, John Conant. A literature search of sources associated with the period has not uncovered additional information on the architect or his work. These sources include period newspapers, architectural archives and published secondary accounts. Research into the California work of the architect was not undertaken.

The Cavell House retains a high degree of its architectural integrity and serves as a visual anchor for the local, Carson City Historic District. A contributing element to that district, the Cavell House is distinguished from dwellings of the period in its exaggerated massing, and sophisticated use of highly sculptural materials in combination with refined ornamentation.

In its construction the building introduced a number of technical innovations to Carson City. These include cast-on-site concrete blocks as well as the integration of gas and electrical services.