

NYE COUNTY HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY

PROPERTY NAME:

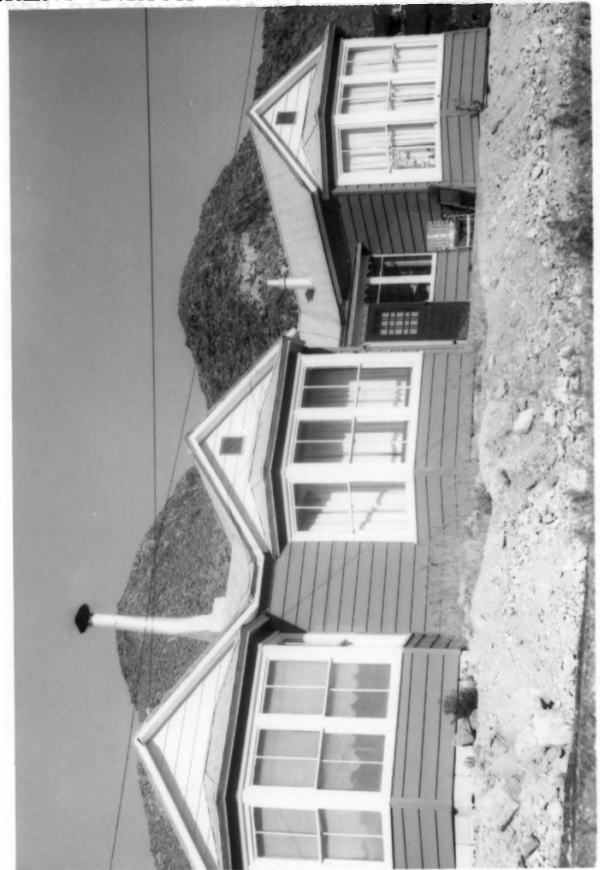
<i>Historic</i> Uri B. Curtis/Tasker L. Oddie House
<i>Common</i>

<i>Township/Range/Section</i>	<i>Inventory No.</i> TON-147
<i>Quad/County Map</i>	<i>Classification</i> Building

LOCATION:

<i>Street Address</i> Ellis Street	
<i>City</i> Tonopah	<i>County</i> Nye

CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH



CURRENT OWNER:

<i>Name</i> Richard C. Blakemore		
<i>Street Address</i> P. O. Box 672		
<i>City</i> Tonopah	<i>State</i> NV	<i>Zip</i> 89049

FORM PREPARED BY:

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

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

<i>Historic Use</i> Residential	
<i>Current Use</i> Residential	<i>Acreage</i> Less/one
<i>Architect/Builder</i>	
<i>Construction/Modification Dates</i> Built 1902, modified c1905	

<i>Photo By</i> Jim Woodward	<i>Date</i> July 1980
<i>View</i> Looking west at front facade	

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Uri B. Curtis/T.L. Oddie House is a single story wood frame structure composed of a series of "stacked" gable roofed units. Its asymmetrical massing is integrated with an intersecting double pitched roof. The three gabled walls at the main facade each contain a bayed window element covered by a hipped roof. A fourth bay window occurs at an intersecting gable wall at the north side of the house. All windows are original two-over-two double hung sash. A recessed shed roof entryway along the main facade separates the two south bays from the third bay. This division also demarcates the construction chronology of the house; the southern two bays having been built in 1902 and the remaining extension completed ca.1905. The house is well maintained with the historic integrity of its overall massing and details unaltered. Changes to the original appearance of the building consist primarily of refinishing with contemporary exterior siding and reroofing with asphalt shingles. These modifications are considered to be reversible.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Uri B. Curtis/T.L. Oddie house is significant for its historic association with prominent Tonopah lawyer, businessman, investor, and politician, Tasker Lowndes Oddie. The house is also noteworthy for its unique method of construction. Original portions of the house were constructed by early pioneer and businessman, Uri B. Curtis (see TON-111) who sold the house to Oddie about 1904. Oddie along with Wilson Broucher comprised the original partnership with Tonopah discoverer Jim Butler. When Butler sold his original claims to the Tonopah Mining Company in 1901, Oddie became the company's general manager. Under his management the Tonopah Mining Company extracted millions of dollars in silver from the Tonopah mines and by 1905 had extended their controlling interests to include the town's major utilities and the Tonopah and Goldfield Railroad. Tasker Oddie's political career included terms as State and U.S. Senator and as Governor of Nevada. As a state senator he initiated the legislation which transferred the county seat from Belmont to Tonopah. The modest dwelling that Oddie purchased from Curtis was located in "University Heights", the soon-to-be prestigious residential neighborhood in Tonopah. The house consisted of a pair of simple cabins to which Oddie enlarged by adding additional cabins at right angles. He continued to reside in the house during the peak years of Tonopah's boom.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Brown, Mrs. Hugh, Lady in Boomtown, American West Publishing Co, Palo Alto, Ca. 1968
Nye County Assessors Records
Russell, Elliott R., Nevada's Twentieth Century Mining Boom, U. of N press Reno, 1966.
Travers, James W., Tonopah, Past, Present and Future n.p. 1902

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

The southerly 125' of Lot 23, Block 51 Richardson's Survey 1907

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPH

Photo By
Unknown

View
Looking west at front facade

Date
c. 1906

