

P H 085944

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	California
COUNTY:	Nevada
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAY 3 1974



1. NAME

COMMON:
Nevada City Firehouse #2

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
420 Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Nevada City,

STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
District #2

COUNTY: **Nevada** CODE: **057**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure			
Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered			

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Garage for Rescue Car	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	2nd floor used for Camp Fire and Girl Scout meetings	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Nevada City Volunteer Fire Department

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall

CITY OR TOWN:
Nevada City

STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Assessor's Office, Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Church Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Nevada City

STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Commission files - 529 E. Broad Street, Nevada City, California

STREET AND NUMBER:
Duplicate file - Nevada City Library (Historical Section)

CITY OR TOWN:
Nevada City

STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: California

COUNTY: Nevada

MAY 3 1974

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

PRESENT APPEARANCE:

This red brick building measures about 16 feet across the front; about 30 feet deep and is a startling 30 some feet from sidewalk to the eaves of the roof which is gabled at the front. The second floor is reached by an open stair hung on the west wall.

At the front is a two storied white wood portico built with shaped posts and with a decorative ballustrade railing at the second floor level. The fire bell is housed in a square cupola placed on the roof near the front. There is a corrugated iron addition at the rear.

The outside stair to second floor is built of iron.

The cupola housing the fire bell was added several years after original construction.



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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Started 19 Oct., 1860; completed Jan. 17, 1861

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Firehouse</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<u>to house fire engine</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	<u>hose carts; 2nd</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	<u>fl. used for fire</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<u>dept. meetings.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. First permanent firehouse in Nevada City.
2. First firehouse in Nevada City built with funds raised by public subscription.
3. Only original firehouse in Nevada City still in use.
4. Good example of period and style of architecture.

This simple Classic Revival brick structure exemplifies the early public utilitarian architecture found in the Mother Lode region. California's pioneers recreated the architectural styles and methods of construction with which they were familiar on the East Coast. It therefore represents a tangible link in the study of the diffusion of architectural styles. Vestiges of Greek Revival architecture can be seen in the cornice returns which are characteristic of California's public architecture prior to the completion of the Central Pacific Railroad in 1869, which allowed more rapid dissemination of the changing architectural styles of the East.

A fire department was only organized in Nevada City following a series of fires that devastated the city between 1851 and 1858. The women of Nevada City who took the first step toward the organization of a permanent fire department. On December 26, 1859, they gave a ball at the Court House which netted \$923.50; and a week later, they gave a theatrical show that netted \$149; all in all they raised \$1,072.50 to be held in trust toward the formation of a fire department. Even after this magnificent gift, the men waited another six months before stirring themselves, and when they finally did they were to be hampered by jealousy and factionalism. Both the "Mainstreeters" and the "Broadstreeters" wanted the headquarters of a fire department to be located in their part of town. As a result, and since State law allowed one fire company to each 1,000 population, three rival companies were formed within ten days, each reluctant to aid the others in case of a fire.

The "Main Streeters" were the first who filed with the NEVADA HOSE COMPANY, No. 1, organized June 12, 1860, with 47 volunteers. The "Broadstreeters" were not far behind. The following day, they formed the EUREKA HOSE COMPANY, No. 2 with 34 volunteers ready for duty.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Nevada Journal (Nevada City, Ca.) issues from 1858-1863
Doris Foley, Gold Cities (Howell-North, 1966)
 Sven Skaar, "Nevada City Volunteer Fire Department 1860-"
Nevada County Historical Society Bulletin, Vol. 14, No. 1

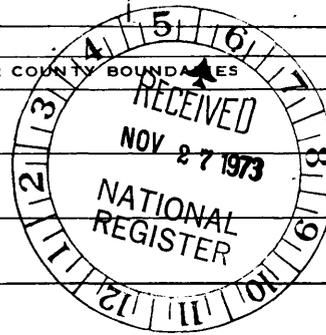
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39 ° 15 ' 48 "	121 ° 01 ' 09 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **.06 acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. Leland S. Lewis, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: **Nevada County Historical Landmarks Commission** DATE: **September 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER:
529 East Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Nevada City** STATE: **California** CODE: **06**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: [Signature]
 State Historic Preservation Officer
 Title: _____

Date: **NOV 16 1973**

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **5/2/74**

ATTEST:
[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **5.2.74**

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE California	
COUNTY Nevada	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 3 1974

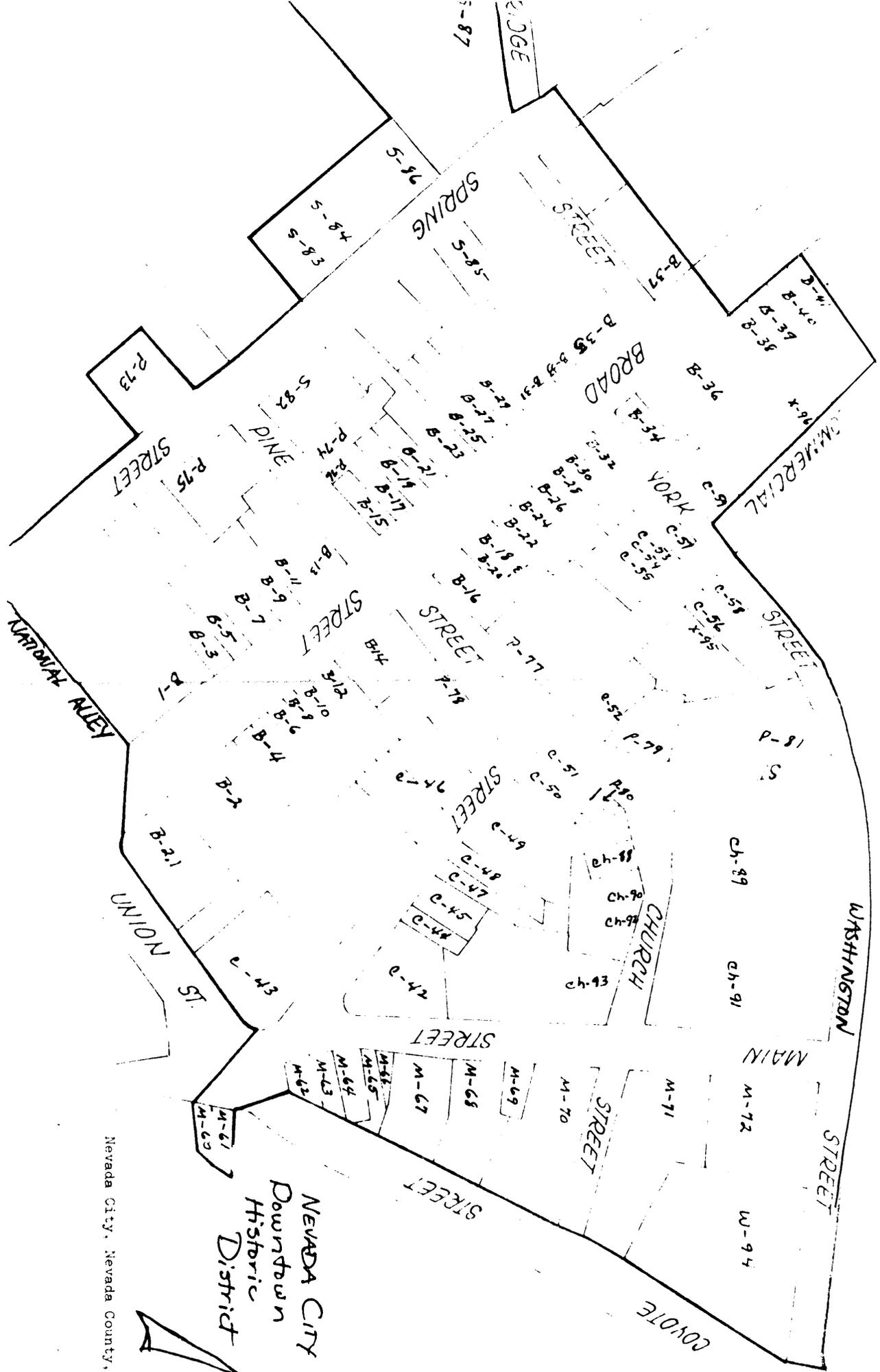
(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Continued)

The third company, the PROTECTION HOOK & LADDER COMPANY, No. 1, was organized June 23, 1860, with 37 members. It did not last long. Its equipment was sold and the members joined the other companies.

In organizing, the Main Street faction had beaten Broad by one day; but the Broad Streeters, thanks to the town women, had already over a thousand dollars in the treasury. This was immediately augmented by a subscription of another thousand, and with this advantage the Broad Street faction was able to even the score by building Nevada City's FIRST PERMANENT FIRE HOUSE. They bought a lot near the head of Broad Street, and with impressive ceremonies, laid the Cornerstone October 17, 1860. The building was completed, and they moved in their equipment on January 14, 1861. This attractive building is still in service today housing Fire Department apparatus.





Nevada City, Nevada County, CA

NEVADA CITY
Downtown
Historic
District