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7.	DESCRIPTION						
			**	(Check One)			
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PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	X 20th Century
15th Century	17th Century	🕅 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1870's	to 1930's	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropria	te)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	🕅 Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
Historic	A Industry	losophy	
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Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
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Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Inyo" and the "Dayton" are of considerable historical importance because they operated as part of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad, one of America's most famous shortlines. Of some twenty-seven engines that operated on the line over the years, only nine are still in existence, seven of them in public museums. These two engines are the only ones currently available to the State of Nevada.

Following its completion in 1870 under the direction of William Sharon, manager of the Bank of California in Virginia City, the V & T operated for some eighty years in Nevada, intermittently hauling ore from the Comstock to the mills on the Carson River, freighting timber from the Sierras and carrying supplies and passangers between Virginia City, Carson City, Reno and Minden.

The 1870's were the V & T's most prosperous years, but with the onset of a decline in mining activity in the 1880's, the line neared bankruptcy and only the interchange traffic over the Carson & Colorado kept it solvent. Some spur lines were abandoned in the '80's, surplus locomotives sold and in the '90's dividend payments were suspended.

Mining developments in Tonopah and Goldfield after the turn of the century created much freight business over the line from Reno to Mound House, but the completion of the Hazen Cut-Off in 1906 ended the boom. Auto and truck competition cut into the V & T's freight revenues in the 20's and it was again near bankruptcy in the mid '30's. Much equipment was sold to collectors and motion picture companies and the line went into receivership in 1946 and was abandoned in 1949, the last excursion run from Reno to Minden being made on May 31, 1950.

Reno to Minden being made on May 31, 1950. Both the "Inyo" and the "Dayton" saw intermittent service between the 1870's and the 1930's, the latter perhaps more so than the former. The "Dayton," after its sale to Paramount Pictures Corp. in 1937, was rebuilt in 1939 for a run to New York to return with a publicity train for a Cecil B. DeMille motion picture. Both engines were acquired by Paramount Immobiliare Inc. in the late 1960's when Paramount Pictures Corp. disolved its interests. Both were loaned to the National Park Service in 1969 for the celebration of the centennial of the transcontinental railroad and are currently on display at the Golden Spike National Historic Site, Promontory Point, Utah.

In recent years there has been much interest in reviving and restoring the V & T. Many Nevadans feel an obligation to preserve important features of their state's historic heritage through a display of these representative historic items once owned and operated by the V & T Railroad Co. In times of change and troubles this nation seems to look back toward simpler times, the "good old days" if you will, and for many Nevadans and many Americans the railroad heritage of their land is a tangible and important part of their history.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
Lucius M. Bebbe and Charles Clegg, <u>Steamcars to the Comstock</u> (Berkeley: Howell-North Books, 1957), and <u>Virginia and Truckee: A Story of Virginia City</u> and <u>Comstock Times</u> (Oakland: G.H. Hardy, 1949); <u>Gilbert H. Kneiss, Bonanza</u> <u>Railroads</u> (Stanford: Stanford Univ. Press, 1941); <u>The Virginia and Truckee</u> Railroad(Boston: Railway Locomotive Historical Society, 1938); <u>David F.</u> Myrick, <u>Railroads of Nevada and California</u> (Berkeley: Howell-North Books, 1962), pp.136-62; Mary Ellen Glass, "Rails in the Mud: Last Years of the V & T," <u>Nevada Historical Society Quarterly</u> , Vol.XV, No.2(Summer, 1972), pp.37-44; Letter dated February 8, 1973 from Gerald M. Best, Consulting Engineer to Mr Wm. J. Lopert, Immobiliare Calif., Inc., 5451 Marathon, Los Angeles.	
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES	
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOWNDARIES	
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STATE: CODE COUNTY: C REGISTER C CODE	
II. FORM PREPARED BY II. II. <td></td>	
NAME AND TITLE: Phillip I. Earl, Curator of Exibits	
ORGANIZATIONDateNevada State Historical SocietyNov.1, 1973	
STREET AND NUMBER: 1650 No. Virginia St.	
CITY OR TOWN: Reno STATE CODE STATE STATE STATE	
12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION	
As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na- tional 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	

