

# NYE COUNTY HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY

## PROPERTY NAME:

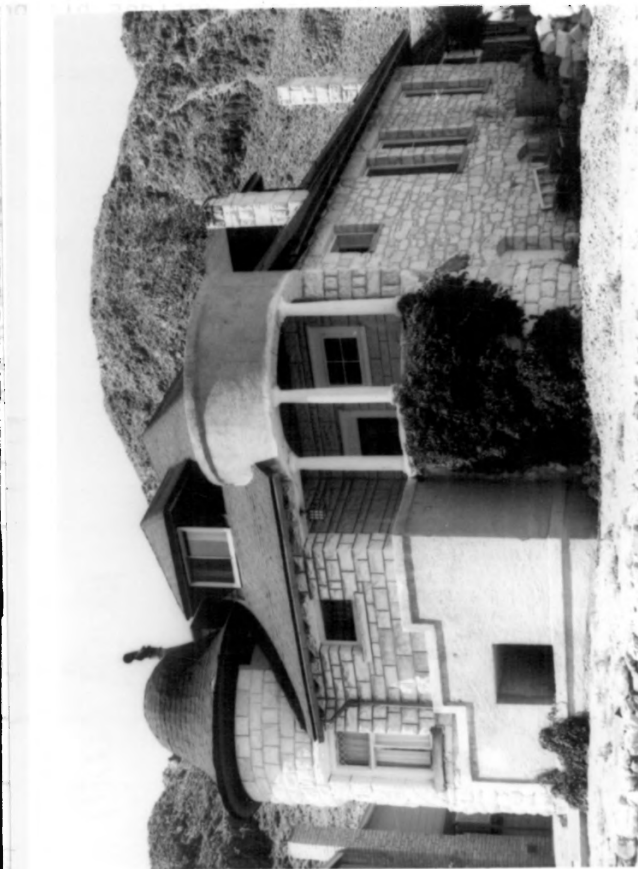
<i>Historic</i> Arthur Raycraft House
<i>Common</i>

<i>Township/Range/Section</i>	<i>Inventory No.</i> TON-106
<i>Quad/County Map</i>	<i>Classification</i> Building

## LOCATION:

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

## CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH



## CURRENT OWNER:

<i>Name</i> Ralph and Beverly J. Pillers		
<i>Street Address</i> P.O. Box 166		
<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> Residence	
<i>Current Use</i> Residence	<i>Acreage</i> less/acre
<i>Architect/Builder</i>	
<i>Construction/Modification Dates</i> Built 1906	

<i>Photo By</i> Jim Woodward	<i>Date</i> July 1980
<i>View</i> Facing South at Main facade	

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Arthur Raycraft House is a single story stone structure; coursed at the front facade only. Its basic rectangular plan measures approximately 30' wide x 45' long. The major hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingles and features hipped dormers with rectangular windows on three roof slopes. The primary distinguishing elements of this structure are a pair of Queen Anne style turrets located at either end of the front facade. The east turret, covered by a domed roof, contains three windows with the upper sashes of diamond shaped glass panes. The opposing turret, flat roofed and characterized by 3 tapered columns at the first story level, demarcates the perimeter of the inset front porch. A straight stair, hidden by a stepped wall (replastered) provides the approach to the entryway. A small frame shed addition is located at the rear of the house. Other modifications are minor and do not alter the original architectural integrity of the structure.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

The Arthur Raycraft House, built in 1906, is significant as the residence of an outstanding citizen of Tonopah, Arthur G. Raycraft; and as an important stone structure built during Tonopah's boom period. Arthur G. Raycraft came to Tonopah from Carson City in 1904 following his appointment to the Nye and Ormsby County Bank at Tonopah. He served as cashier until his resignation during the 1907 economic panic when he sold his house and moved from Tonopah. Besides his position at the bank, Raycraft acted as treasurer of the Jim Butler Mining Extension Co. in 1905, and with Key Pittman (later to become U.S. senator) he obtained a franchise for a street railway system. The panic of 1907 curtailed momentum for the streetcar system and it was never built. After Raycraft left Tonopah he served as president and general manager of the Manhattan Dexter Mining Co. where he achieved prominence by installing the first wireless telegraph system in Nevada. The Raycraft House is also noteworthy as an outstanding example of stone residential construction during the height of the Tonopah boom. The house is an interesting variation of the dominant residential style in Tonopah of that time. The addition of the two Queen Anne Style turrets on opposing ends of the front facade provides a unique adaptation of Victorian elements, applied to a basic Neo-Colonial building format. The Arthur Raycraft House is among the most noteworthy residential structures in Tonopah both for its historical association with prominent businessman, Arthur G. Raycraft, and its unique architectural qualities.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Nye County Assessors Office, Tonopah, Nv.  
Tonopah Bonanza, 1901-1909  
Nevada-The New Gold State, D.G. Doubleday publisher 1905, San Francisco, Calif.

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:**

Lots 6, 7, 8 Block 5 Richarson's Survey 1907

**ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPH**

*Photo By*

Unknown

*View*

Looking South at main facade during building construction.

*Date*

c 1906

