

# NYE COUNTY HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY

## PROPERTY NAME:

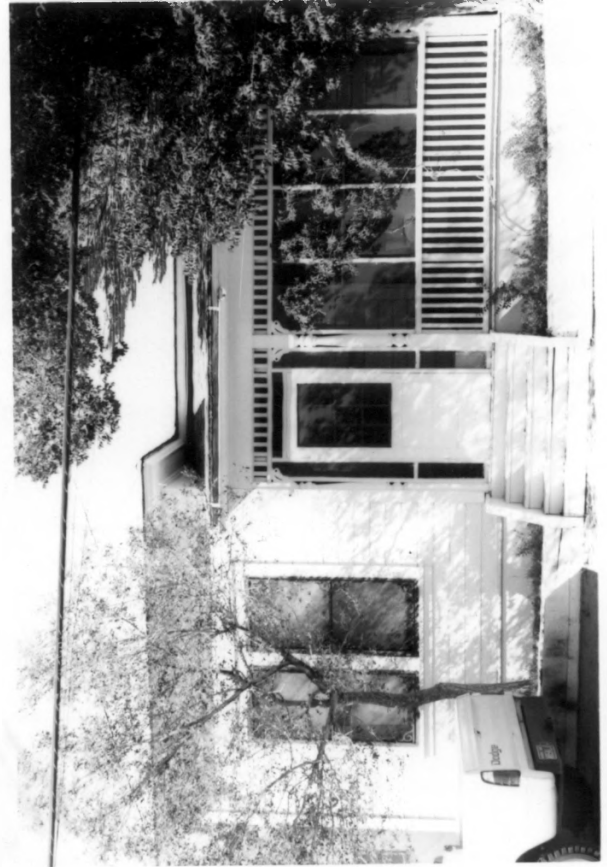
<i>Historic</i> E.R. Shields House
<i>Common</i>

Township/Range/Section	Inventory No. TON-122
Quad/County Map	Classification Building

## LOCATION:

<i>Street Address</i> 351 St. Patrick	
<i>City</i> Tonopah	<i>County</i> Nye

## CURRENT BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH



## CURRENT OWNER:

<i>Name</i> Bozo Boscovich		
<i>Street Address</i> P.O. Box 589		
<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 1904	

<i>Photo By</i> Jim Woodward	<i>Date</i> July 1980
<i>View</i> Front facade looking south	

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The E.R. Shields house is a wood frame structure, one story in height and measures approximately 30 feet wide by 40 feet deep. Shiplap siding covers the exterior wall surfaces and features cantoned corners and a plain board frieze below the eave. The roof covering this roughly square building is in the shape of a truncated pyramid and is topped with a flat deck with wooden balustrade, (fairly common trait of Neo-Colonial residential structures). The symmetry of the front facade is offset by a hipped roof projection containing a pair of one-over-one light double hung sash windows. The recessed entry porch to the west of this projection is covered with a pitched roof and is supported by two turned wooden columns. The porch is detailed with a range of woodwork below the beam (simulating spindlework), jig-cut brackets, and a simple porch rail and balustrade. Major window openings are constructed with paired double hung windows and include cornice moulding at the heads and original screen sash with jig-cut scrollwork at the corners. An early frame addition extends the length of the rear wall. The house is in sound condition and is well preserved.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The E.R. Shields house is significant for its architecture as one of the best preserved, well crafted wood frame houses in Tonopah. It is also noteworthy as the residence of early Tonopah merchant E.R. Shields.

The house was constructed for Shields in 1904 and is a fine example of a wood frame Neo-Colonial dwelling with late Victorian detailing. The house shows the transitional influence in American architectural development of late 19th century Victorianism and the twentieth century return to the Eastern Colonial styles. Distinctive features include a hipped roof with a deck and balustrade, turned wooden columns, jig-cut brackets and spindlework.

E.R. Shields was one of the earliest merchants to establish a business in Tonopah. He arrived in May, 1902 from Pine Grove in Esmeralda County and erected a frame general merchandise store adjacent to the Valley View Hotel on upper Main. He continued to operate his store and occupy his house on St. Patrick Street until 1919 when he moved from Tonopah.

The Shields house is an outstanding example of craftsmanship and stylistic treatment and should be preserved.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Nye County Assessors Records  
Travers, James W., Tonopah Past, Present and Future, n.p. 1902.  
Tonopah Bonanza, 1902

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Lots 22 and 23, Block T, Richardson Survey 1907

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPH

*Photo By*

*View*

*Date*