

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

HISTORICAL MARKERS

CARSON CITY, NEVADA**

Nevada has installed over 260 roadside markers that bring attention to Nevada's heritage. In 1967, the Nevada State Legislature initiated the marker program to commemorate events as well as places as diverse as the Old Spanish Trail through Southern Nevada, the story of Diamondfield Jack Davis in Jackpot, and the great train robbery in Verdi.

The State Historic Preservation Office thanks the Nevada Department of Transportation which has contributed considerable funding to maintain the markers. This support is critical – particularly in the face of budget cuts – to protect these markers. No other state agency has given greater financial support than the Department of Transportation as we cooperatively seek to promote Nevada tourism.

Over the years, the State Historic Preservation Office has decommissioned some markers because vandalism persists at certain sites or because marking some locations no longer seems appropriate for various reasons. Most markers were installed over thirty years ago and need to be updated. For example, today, we celebrate that everyone living in this great state is a Nevadan, and markers should not convey how “we” viewed “them” in the past.

Because many markers need considerable changes, the State Historic Preservation Office staff decided to post language that can be used in the future to update the markers in the field. The language presented on this site, for the most part, presents the goal that is to be attained. The text plates in the field will be updated as funding allows. Given the current situation, that effort may take longer than all concerned would like, unless private parties donate the support needed to fix antiquated markers.

In the past, the State Historic Preservation Office welcomed applications for new markers, but due to budget cuts in 2009 that part of the program is now dormant: new markers will not be installed until state support for the program can resume.

**Info found at <http://shpo.nv.gov/home/historical-markers>

NEVADA HISTORICAL MARKERS

EMPIRE AND THE CARSON RIVER MILLS

Nevada Historical Marker 1

Location:

Carson River Basin, Dayton Valley, Carson River below Carson City

Located along U.S. Highway 40 4 miles east of Carson City

EMPIRE AND THE CARSON RIVER MILLS

When the Comstock Lode was discovered in 1859, the problem of reducing the ore from the fabulously rich Virginia City mines had to be solved. Mills were built in Gold Canyon and Six Mile Canyon, in Washoe Valley, at Dayton, and on the Carson River which offered the most abundant source of water to operate the mills.

On the east shore of the river near the town of Empire the first small mill, built in 1860, was later enlarged to become the Mexican. The site of this mill lies to the southwest. Other large mills were then constructed farther downstream, spurring the growth of the town of Empire. Ore was hauled to the mills at first by wagon and later by the famous Virginia and Truckee Railroad built in 1869. Fortunes in gold and silver were produced in over 40 years of operation by the Carson River mills including the Mexican, Yellow Jacket, Brunswick, Merrimac, Vivian, and Santiago. Traces of Empire and its mills can still be seen today.

CENTENNIAL MARKER No. 1

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA'S CAPITOL

Nevada Historical Marker **25**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at 101 North Carson Street, Carson City

NEVADA'S CAPITOL

Completed in 1871, Nevada's splendid Victorian-era Capitol was built of sandstone from the quarry of the town's founder, Abe Curry. The octagon annex was added in 1907, the north and south wings in 1915. Notable features are its Alaskan marble walls, French crystal windows, and elegant interior.

NEVADA CENTENNIAL MARKER No. 25

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SPONSOR: DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN COLONISTS

CARSON CITY

Nevada Historical Marker **44**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located on the Capitol Grounds in downtown Carson City

CARSON CITY

In 1851, Frank and Warren L. Hall, George Follensbee, Joe and Frank Barnard and A.J. Rollins established one of the state's oldest communities, Eagle Station, a trading post and ranch on the Carson Branch of the California Emigrant Trail. The station and surrounding valley took their name from an eagle skin stretched on the wall of the trading post.

In 1858, Abraham Curry purchased much of the Eagle Ranch after finding that lots in Genoa were too expensive. Together with his friends, Jon Musser, Frank Proctor and Ben Green, Curry platted a town he called Carson City. Curry left a plaza in the center of the planned community for a capitol building should a territorial state seat of government eventually be located in his town.

In March 1861, Congress created the Nevada Territory. Seven months later in November, Carson City became the capital of the territory due to the efforts of Curry and William M. Stewart, a prominent lawyer. When Nevada became a state three years later, Carson City was selected as the state capital, and by 1871, the present capitol building was completed in the plaza Curry had reserved for it.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 44

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORIC COMMISSION

BLISS MANSION

Nevada Historical Marker **70**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the intersection of Mountain and Robinson Streets, Carson City

BLISS MANSION

Daniel L. Bliss built this extravagant home in 1879. Bliss had made his fortune providing Tahoe lumber to the Comstock Mining District. Tradition maintains this was the first house in Nevada entirely piped for gas lighting.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 70

STATE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA LANDMARK SOCIETY

METHODIST CHURCH OF CARSON CITY

Nevada Historical Marker 71

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the intersection of Division and Musser Streets, Carson City

METHODIST CHURCH OF CARSON CITY

Dedicated in 1867, this church serves a congregation that dates to 1859. Like many other buildings in Carson City, the stone used in its construction was quarried at the nearby State Prison. Reverend Warren Nims (Pastor 1863-1866) was responsible for much of the original construction. Altered extensively over the years, the structure, with its octagonal porch posts and pointed-arch windows, is one of Nevada's oldest religious structures.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 71

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA LANDMARK SOCIETY

NEVADA STATE CHILDREN'S HOME

Nevada Historical Marker **72**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the intersection of Stewart and Fifth Streets, Carson City

NEVADA CHILDREN'S HOME

The Nevada Orphans' Asylum, a privately funded institution, was opened in Virginia City in 1864 by the Daughters of Charity. By 1870 most of its functions were taken over by the Nevada State Orphans' Home at Carson City, authorized in 1869 by the legislature and constructed on this site. The first child was admitted October 28, 1870.

In 1903, the first building gave way to a larger one, constructed of sandstone from the state prison quarry east of Carson City. This edifice served until 1963 as Nevada's home for dependent and neglected children. In 1951, its name was changed to the Nevada State Children's Home.

The stone building was in turn replaced in 1963, in accordance with the modern concept of family-sized groups housed in cottages. The facility closed in 1992.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 72

COMMEMORATING A CENTURY OF STATE SERVICE TO THE CHILDREN OF NEVADA

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

GOVERNMENT BUILDING (1888-1970)

Nevada Historical Marker 75

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at North Carson and Telegraph Streets, Carson City

GOVERNMENT BUILDING (1888-1970)

This imposing public structure, the former United States Post Office and Courthouse, represents the first federal office building constructed in the State of Nevada. Construction began in late 1888 and was completed in 1891 at a cost of \$134,605.53.

Designed by Mifflin E. Bell, Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, the building incorporates many elements of the Romanesque Revival style. Subsequent interior designs were made by Bell's successors, Will Frost and James Windrum.

Thomas P. Hawley was the first United States District Judge to preside in Carson City. The last federal judge to officiate here was Bruce R. Thompson whose court was moved to Reno, August 1965.

This building ceased to serve as a post office in 1970 with William E. Dunfield as Postmaster. Deeded to the State in 1971 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, the Government Building continues to serve the public.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 75

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

EAGLE VALLEY

Nevada Historical Marker 76

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at Oak and California Streets, Carson City

EAGLE VALLEY

Centrally located between one of the first Nevada settlements at Genoa and the gold and silver of the Comstock Lode, Eagle Valley, site of present Carson City, was a vital link in land communications.

One of the key California emigrant routes, the Carson branch of the California Emigrant Trail crossed the Sierra Nevada at Kit Carson Pass and came through Eagle Valley roughly along Sage Drive, a block east of this point.

The first overland telegraph, colloquially known as Fred Bee's "Grapevine," was completed from Placerville to Carson City in 1859. In this area, it followed what is now highway U.S. 395. The Pony Express (1860-1861) and the Butterfield-Wells-Fargo Overland Stages (1862-1868) followed the same route.

The Virginia & Truckee Railway in its extension to Carson Valley and Minden in 1906 used the route of Bigelow Drive six blocks east.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 76

STATE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICE

OVERLAND ACRES ASSOCIATION

DAT-SO-LA-LEE

Nevada Historical Marker 77

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at Snyder Avenue at the Stewart Cemetery, Carson City

DAT-SO-LA-LEE

Famed Washoe basketmaker, Datsolalee, is buried in this cemetery. Also known as Louisa Keyser, Dat So La Lee, and Dabuda, her 120+ major documented baskets were made expressly for sale to Arts and Crafts collectors from 1895 until her death in 1925 under patronage of the Cohn family. Datsolalee's baskets are prized by collectors and displayed in museums across the country.

Utilitarian, straight-walled, decorated coiled willow basketry is a Washoe tradition extending back thousands of years. Datsolalee introduced the spherical Washoe *degikup* willow basket with innovative decorative motifs in bracken fern and redbud fibers. She and her patrons promoted this craft to the public, elevated it to an art form, and, most importantly, motivated basketry production by other tribal members during a period when the Washoe were recovering from mid-nineteenth-century loss of their homelands and aboriginal lifeways.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 77

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

RENO CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN COLONISTS

AND

IN RECOGNITION OF THE INVALUABLE ASSISTENCE OF THE WASHOE INDIANS

ORION CLEMENS HOME

Nevada Historical Marker **78**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at North Division and Spear Streets, Carson City

ORION CLEMENS HOME

Orion Clemens, secretary to territorial governor James W. Nye, lived in this house with his wife, "Mollie," from 1864 to 1866. Samuel, his brother who was a reporter for the Territorial Enterprise, stayed here periodically until leaving the territory in May 1864. He became famous as "Mark Twain."

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 78

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

JULIAN C. SMITH, JR.

STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL

Nevada Historical Marker **91**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the Junction of U.S. Highway 395 and Snyder Avenue, Carson City

STEWART INDIAN SCHOOL

1890-1980

Originally known as the Carson Indian Training School, Stewart Indian School was operated by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs to provide vocational training and academic education for American Indian students from throughout the West for nearly a century.

W.D.C. Gibson, the first superintendent, renamed the boarding school in honor of U.S. Senator William Morris Stewart of Nevada. Stewart was the principal figure in obtaining congressional authorization and funding for the institution.

In the early 1920s Superintendent Frederick Snyder initiated a building program at the school. Students worked with stone masons, some of American Indian ancestry, to construct the handsome stone structures that still grace this campus, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 91

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

VICTOR O. GOODWIN

TRANS-SIERRAN PIONEER FLIGHT

(March 22, 1919)

Nevada Historical Marker **134**

Location:

Carson River Basin, near Carson City

Located along U.S. Highway 50 three miles east of Carson City

PIONEER TRANSIERRAN FLIGHT

MARCH 22, 1919

The first authenticated air flight over the Sierra Nevada was successfully completed when four U.S. Army planes touched down here on an improvised field.

Originating at Mather Field, Sacramento, and led by Lt. Col. Henry L. Watson, the squadron was made up of three Liberty-powered Dehavillands and one 90 hp Curtiss Trainer.

The fliers, personally welcomed by Governor Emmet D. Boyle, were Watson, Lts. Ruggles, Curtis, Krull, Schwartz, and Haggett, and Sgt. Conway. Haggett introduced an added surprise by landing his small trainer, unannounced, some minutes after the main flight.

The flight concluded in Reno that afternoon.

Governor Boyle flew as a passenger in one of the planes on its return flight to Sacramento, thus making him the first civilian ever to cross the Sierra in flight.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 134

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

HAZEL HOHN

STEWART-NYE RESIDENCE

Nevada Historical Marker **175**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the intersection of King and Minnesota Steets in Carson City

STEWART-NYE RESIDENCE

This house was built about 1860 of local sandstone for William Morris Stewart who lived here until 1862. He sold it to the territorial governor of Nevada, James W. Nye. The two men were elected as Nevada's first United States senators after the territory achieved statehood in 1864. Stewart served from 1864 to 1875 and again from 1887 to 1905. Nye served from 1864 to 1873. Both men were originally from New York.

The house later became the home of Nevada Supreme Court Chief Justice George F. Talbot. In 1917 he sold the house and block to the Catholic diocese and it served as the rectory for the Catholic Church. It was subsequently sold for commercial use.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 175

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

NEVADA LANDMARK SOCIETY

FIRST AIR FLIGHT IN NEVADA

(June 23, 1910)

Nevada Historical Marker **179**

Location:

Carson River Basin, near Carson City

Located along U.S. 395, three miles north of Carson City

FIRST AIR FLIGHT IN NEVADA JUNE 23, 1910

The first air flight in Nevada took place on the old Raycraft Ranch immediately to the west. The flight was of national interest, not only because an air journey had never before been made at such an altitude (4,675 feet), but also because Ivy Baldwin, a nationally-known parachutist and balloonist, would make the flight.

This was a trial flight, as stipulated by the Sagebrush Carnival Committee of Carson City. It was followed by exhibition flights on July 3, 4 and 5 at the Carson City racetrack.

Baldwin made the flight in a 48-horsepower Curtiss Paulham biplane, reaching a height of 50 feet and covering one-half mile before returning to the starting point.

HISTORICAL MARKER No. 179

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

HAZEL HOHN

THE WARM SPRINGS HOTEL

Nevada Historical Marker **180**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located near the State Prison, East 5th Street, Carson City

THE WARM SPRINGS HOTEL

Built about 1860, the Warm Springs Hotel was used by Nevada's first territorial legislature as a meeting place in 1861. The structure was built from handhewn sandstone taken from a nearby quarry. An imposing edifice in its day, the building typified the enterprise of the owner, Abe Curry. He and his business partners surveyed the site of Carson City, were farsighted enough to leave space for a state capitol building while the area was part of Utah, and attracted incoming merchants to their tiny community.

In 1862, the hotel was leased by Nevada Territory and used for holding prisoners. Two years later, the state purchased the property for use as a prison. During 1867, a fire destroyed the hotel. Present prison facilities occupy the ground where the hotel was situated.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 180

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA LANDMARKS SOCIETY

THE WASHO INDIANS

Nevada Historical Marker **181**

Location:

Carson River Basin, near Carson City

Located along U.S. Highway 50, east of Spooner Summit and west of Carson City

THE WASHO INDIANS

Long before the coming of emigrant wagon trains, this site overlooked the lands of the Washo Indians. A valley, a town, and a county still bear their name. A nearby trail marks their ancient route from the lowlands to Lake Tahoe and California. The Washo language is distinct from both Shoshone and Paiute. For many years the Washo people remained isolated, roaming their native high Sierra and descending into the valleys for winter. Their pine nut ceremony is still held before harvest time, with men and women working together at this enterprise. The departure for the pine nut groves is celebrated by singing and dancing. Their basketry, now world famous, is one aspect of Washo culture that has been preserved for generations. The beautiful work of their most celebrated artist, Dat-So-La-Lee is exhibited at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City, and the Nevada Historical Society, Reno.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER NO. 181

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN COLONISTS

NEVADA CHAPTERS

HISTORIC FLUME AND LUMBERYARD

Nevada Historical Marker **193**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the rest area on U.S. Highway 395, southern end of Carson City

HISTORIC FLUME AND LUMBERYARD

Approximately one-half mile south of this point and west of the present highway lay the immense yard of the Carson-Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company, the greatest of the Comstock timber companies operating in the Lake Tahoe Basin during 1870-1898.

Situated at the terminus of the 12 mile V flume from Spooners Summit in the Sierra Nevada, the lumberyard was approximately one mile long and one-half mile wide. A spur line of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad served the yard. The spur ran adjacent to this site and carried rough lumber to the company's planing mill and box factory, one-half mile north on Stewart Street. It also transported timbers and cordwood to the Carson yards to be hauled to the Comstock mines and mills.

STATE HISTORIC MARKER No. 193

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

GARDNER'S RANCH

Nevada Historical Marker **194**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located along U.S. Highway 395, at the south edge of Carson City

GARDNER'S RANCH

From 1870 until 1918, this was the location of the ornate two-story home of Matthew Culbertson Gardner, rancher and lumberman. The residence was headquarters for Gardner's 300-acre ranch in the meadows to the south.

From 1870 to 1898, the Carson-Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company had a large lumberyard here. During the 1870s and 1880s, Gardner logged south of Lake Tahoe for the company and built the only standard-gauge logging railroad in the Tahoe Basin. He maintained his home here.

Gardner died in 1908. The residence was destroyed by fire on August 20, 1918. Many of the old trees on the ground once shaded the Gardner family home.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER NO. 194

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CARSON CITY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE UNITED STATES MINT AT CARSON CITY, NEVADA

Nevada Historical Marker **196**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at the State Museum in downtown Carson City.

THE UNITED STATES MINT CARSON CITY, NEVADA

The original Carson City building is a formal, balanced, stone edifice, two stories high with a centrally-located cupola. The sandstone blocks were quarried at the Nevada State Prison.

On March 3, 1862, Congress passed a bill establishing a branch mint in the Territory of Nevada.

The gold and silver output of the Comstock Lode coupled with the high bullion transportation costs to San Francisco proved the necessity of a branch in Nevada.

From its opening in 1870 to the closing of the coin operations in 1893, coinage amounted to \$49,274,434.30.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER NO. 196
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
NEVADA LANDMARK SOCIETY

LAKEVIEW

Nevada Historical Marker **213**

Location:

Carson River Basin, near Carson City

Located along U.S. Highway 395 at Lakeview Grade north of Carson City

LAKEVIEW

As early as 1863, two hotels with appurtenant stables were located here. In 1872, one hotel became a station on the newly-completed Virginia & Truckee Railroad between Carson City and Reno.

Three inverted siphon pipelines cross under the highway, furnishing water from the Sierra Nevada watershed to Virginia and Carson Cities. Work was first undertaken in 1873 on the 67 mile box flume and pipeline system with the construction of a maintenance station here. The Virginia and Gold Hill Water Company's historic water-gathering and transportation complex immediately became world famous.

As early as 1881, Lakeview became a lumber storage area for timber cut in the Lake Tahoe Basin. In 1887, shipping activity was accelerated as lumber was fed to the yard by a V-flume originating above present Incline Village. From here timber products were shipped to the Comstock mines and other points via the V. & T.R.R. Activity ceased in 1896.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 213

STATE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICE

VICTOR O. GOODWIN

CAMP NYE

Nevada Historical Marker **235**

Location:

Carson River Basin, near Carson City

Kings Canyon Road, 2.5 miles west of the Capitol Building, Carson City

CAMP NYE

1864-1865

Established one-half mile to the north in October 1864, Camp Nye served as the home base for the men of companies "D" and "E," 1st Nevada Volunteer Cavalry. During the Civil War, troopers from Camp Nye took an active role in struggles with American Indians, and Company "D" suffered the only two combat deaths incurred by Nevada units during the war in a battle at Table Mountain in the Tuscarora Range in Elko County on May 20, 1865. Camp Nye was deactivated in August 1865. Time has obliterated all vestiges of the barracks, stables and other facilities.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 235

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

LT. COL. WILLIAM F. McCONNEL (USAF RET.)

CORBETT-FITZSIMMONS FIGHT

Nevada Historical Marker **243**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at Musser and Harbin Streets in Carson City

CORBETT-FITZSIMMONS FIGHT

On March 17, 1897, at an arena located on this site, Carson City played host to Nevada's first World Championship prizefight, a fourteen-round thriller in which the reigning heavyweight titlist, James J. "Gentleman Jim" Corbett, was dethroned by Robert Fitzsimmons. The Nevada Legislature had only recently legalized prizefighting and the match became the object of scathing criticism from the press and pulpit of other states, but fight fans arrived by the thousands. Promoter Dan Stuart put on a clean show and demonstrated that boxing need not be brutal or crooked. Other states were soon to liberalize their own prizefight laws and the sport began to assume a degree of respectability it had not enjoyed in the past. In later years, Nevada was to be the scene of several other World Championship fights.

STATE HISTORIC MARKER NO. 243

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA LANDMARKS SOCIETY

NEVADA STATE DIVISION OF ARCHIVES

STATE PRINTING BUILDING

Nevada Historical Marker **250**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located at 101 South Fall Street in Carson City

STATE PRINTING BUILDING

Completed in 1886, the State Printing Building is the second oldest structure built by the State within the Capitol Complex. Architects Morrill J. Curtis and Seymore Pixley, designed the Italianate structure to compliment the older State Capitol (1870). Curtis was responsible for many significant buildings throughout Nevada and the West, including the octagonal library annex to the rear of the State Capitol (1906). Like many important structures in Carson City, this building was constructed of sandstone ashlar quarried at the nearby State Prison. It is a significant example of state governmental architecture for the period. From 1886 to 1964, this building housed the offices and presses of the State Printer.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 250

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NEVADA STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

RINCKEL MANSION

Nevada Historical Marker **252**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Eagle Valley, Carson City

102 North Curry Street, Carson City

RINCKEL MANSION

Completed in 1876, this palatial residence is an excellent example of High Victorian Italianate architecture in Carson City. Charles H. Jones, a French-schooled designer, constructed the residence for Mathias Rinckel using European craftsmen. The mansion is constructed of pressed brick resting upon a sandstone ashlar foundation. The sandstone originated from the Nevada State Prison quarry. The brick came from Carson Valley and knot-free lumber was obtained from the pine forests of Lake Tahoe.

Rinckel, a German immigrant and pioneer Carson City merchant, accumulated a degree of wealth in the gold fields in the Feather River District of California from 1849 to 1859. He increased his fortune in mining at Virginia City during that city's infancy. In 1863, Rinckel settled in Carson City, where he engaged in raising livestock and butchering. As a successful merchant, he supplied the mining and timber districts surrounding Eagle Valley with meat.

STATE HISTORICAL MARKER No. 252

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

CHARLES W. FRIEND HOUSE, OBSERVATORY, AND WEATHER STATION

Nevada Historical Marker **258**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

Located across Stewart Street from State Library and Archives, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City

CHARLES W. FRIEND HOUSE, OBSERVATORY, AND WEATHER STATION

This is the site of the house and observatory of Nevada's first weatherman, astronomer, and seismologist, Charles William Friend. Born in Prussia in 1835, Friend immigrated by way of South America to California during the 1849 Gold Rush. In 1867, he moved from Folsom to Carson City where he set up his own jewelry and optical store.

Friend built Nevada's first observatory located northwest of his house and east of the Nevada State Capitol. Nevada's U.S. Senator William Stewart helped him obtain the use of a six-inch equatorial mount telescope and other instruments from the federal government.

Charles Friend also established Nevada's first weather service. In 1887, the Nevada Legislature passed authorization for a weather service station in Carson City. Friend became its director and created volunteer weather stations throughout the state. He compiled the data into reports that are still referenced today.

Charles W. Friend died in 1907. Since his death, the Association of Weather Services has recognized him as a pioneer in weather service west of the Rockies.

STATE HISTORIC MARKER No. 258

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, THE BRETZLAFF FOUNDATION,

NEVADA STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES, THE CARSON CITY HERITAGE COALITION

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Nevada Historical Marker **259**

Location:

Carson River Basin, Carson City

606 Mountain Street, Carson City

THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Reno architect George A. Ferris designed this neoclassical mansion, which cost \$22,700. It is the only home ever built for Nevada's highest elected official. In July 1909, acting Governor Denver Dickerson and his wife Una became the first residents of the mansion. Two months later, June Dickerson was born here.

From 1909 to 1999, sixteen families have occupied the mansion. In 2000, first lady Dema Guinn began a revitalization of the grounds. Private funds supported many of the improvements, including this fence extension donated by Steel Engineers, Inc., Las Vegas and Blue Mountain Steel, Inc., Carson City.

NEVADA HISTORICAL MARKER No. 259

GOVERNOR AND MRS. KENNY C. GUINN

DENVER S. DICKERSON

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

