

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: The Stone Hotel **DRAFT**

Other names/site number: The Railroad Hotel & Eating House; CA-SBR-5525H, P-005555

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 35630 Santa Fe Street

City or town: Daggett State: California County: San Bernardino

Not For Publication: n/a Vicinity: n/a

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ___ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B ___C ___D

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

District

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u>2</u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/hotel

Commerce/restaurant

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Culture/museum

7. Description

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century American Movements/Commercial Style _____

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation: Stone

Walls: Stone, adobe (mortar), tin

Roof: Sheet metal

Other: n/a

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Stone Hotel, built in 1883, sits on the north side of Santa Fe Street, east of its intersection with Mill Street, in Daggett, San Bernardino County, California. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks run parallel to Santa Fe Street, south of the property. The surrounding area is sparsely developed with a few other commercial buildings and residences nearby. The Stone Hotel is a commercial

building exhibiting in the Western False Front style. It is constructed of uncut stone with adobe mortar and has a tall false-front parapet clad with pressed tin. The building measures 43-feet square and is capped by a gently sloping shed roof (sloping from front to rear) that is clad with metal sheeting. Two 40-foot long, wood frame, gable roofed additions extend from the rear (north) side of the building. The Stone Hotel retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Contributing

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Adjacent to the west side of the Stone Hotel is the Thistle General Merchandise Store that dates to 1908. It is another smaller commercial building in the Western False Front style. It is a one-story, wood frame building with a front-gable roof clad with corrugated metal. The roof sits behind a deteriorated false-front parapet that bears faint signage reading "THE THISTLE STORE / DRY GOODS AND NOTIONS." The building measures 20-feet wide and 58-feet deep and is composed of three sections, front to back: a shop space, a residential unit, and a covered rear porch. The exterior walls are clad with horizontal wood shiplap, of which each board is scored along its length to give the visual impression of two narrower boards. Large windows on the primary facade have four-lite fixed, wood sashes, while the primary entrance features paneled wood double doors. The rear porch consists of a concrete slab on which stands supporting 4x4 corner posts supporting a gable roof. Remains of 2x4 framing on the west side of the porch indicate that it was once an enclosed room. The building is in poor condition, but retains integrity.

The Thistle General Merchandise Store was included with the Stone Hotel in the original California Point of Historical Interest designation and was allegedly connected to the Stone Hotel, along with another building to the east of the Stone Hotel, by underground tunnels during Prohibition. Evidence of those tunnels was found during demolition of a no-longer extant saloon/restaurant building on the east side of the Stone Hotel in 1978.¹

Noncontributing

Adjacent to the east side of the Stone Hotel are two building foundations, one of which is a conglomeration of several building foundations over time, all of which are within the legal property boundaries of the subject property.

The first set of foundations is immediately adjacent to the east side of the hotel. The construction date is unknown, but at least as early as 1885, when they belonged to a saloon called the Phoenix, later known as the Bucket of Blood.² The saloons were later replaced by two subsequent restaurant buildings, and finally a pool hall, which was torn down in 1978. At that time, underground tunnels and

crates of empty wine bottles were discovered under the building.³ The foundations consist of flat laid field stones upon which the wooden buildings were built.

The second set of foundations belonged to the Quinn & Sutcliffe Saloon and Brewery.⁴ The foundations are located 75' to the east of the hotel. The construction date is unknown, but at least as

1

¹ P #5555, CA-SBR-5525H, *Stone Hotel Property Site Record*, South Central Coast Information Center, California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), 1978.

² Deed 40-343. Early recorded deeds, microfilm, San Bernardino County Department of Records. San Bernardino County Archives, Office of the Recorder.

³ P #5555, CA-SBR-5525H, *Stone Hotel Property Site Record*, South Central Coast Information Center, California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).

⁴ "Daggett Destroyed," *The Daily Courier [Newspaper]*, San Bernardino, California, June 5, 1890, page 3.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

early as 1885.⁵ The foundation consists of two-foot-thick dry laid stone walls measuring 20 feet north to south by 25 feet east to west and are at least four feet deep. The floor within the foundation is concrete and was later used to house the carbide gas generator for the hotel. Metal pipes extend from the basement towards the hotel to the west and to the northeast, where a house was previously located.

Both sets of foundations are in poor condition, and neither has been excavated to determine their exact dimensions. The foundations lack integrity, having been modified and repurposed for other buildings.

Narrative Description

Setting

The unincorporated town of Daggett sits on the south side of the Mojave River within the river floodplain east of the City of Barstow in San Bernardino County, California, six miles south of the Calico Mountains. The original National Old Trails Road, now known as Santa Fe Street, runs east-west in front of the Stone Hotel and parallels the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks to the south. Both the street and the railroad route trend east/west, and the building faces roughly south. Beyond the railroad tracks, to the south, is the 1922 realignment of the National Old Trails Road, renamed Route 66.

The Stone Hotel is located on a large parcel of land that is mostly vacant and characterized by spartan desert terrain and vegetation. The hotel, the adjacent Thistle General Merchandise Store, and the two adjacent sets of foundations all sit close together at the southwestern corner of the parcel. There is no formal landscaping or other built features around the Hotel or adjacent contributing and non-contributing elements.

Exterior

The exterior of the Stone Hotel consists of the extant stone and adobe mortar walls that were built by or for Victor Van Briesen in August of 1883.⁶ He described the building's construction as being “a neat

5 Hensher A, and L. Vredenburg. *Ghost Towns of the Upper Mojave Desert Region*, 1986.

http://vredenburg.org/mining_history/pdf/UpperMojaveDesertHensher1986.pdf

6 “Local Brevities,” *Daily Los Angeles herald*. [microfilm reel] (Los Angeles [Calif.]), 28 Aug. 1883. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85042459/1883-08-28/ed-1/seq-3/>

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

imitation of sandstone” when he opened his Calico Saloon “adjoining the Railroad Hotel” in 1885.⁷ Los Angeles newspapers from 1883 reported the erection of the hotel, describing a 40’ x 40’ stone structure built to withstand the constant fires that plague frontier desert towns.⁸ Besides the doors and windows, there would have been little outside ornamentation in the building as railroad hotels and eating houses were seen as primarily functional.

The main section of the hotel has 12-foot tall, two-foot thick stone and adobe exterior walls that extend to an unknown depth below the ground surface. Concrete mortar has been used to repair areas of the wall that have lost adobe mortar, and stucco has been used as a decorative finish in place of the original plaster. A turn-of-the-century Sears & Roebuck pressed tin-clad false-front with a pressed tin cornice rises above the stone wall of the primary facade. Behind the false front, the building's shed roof is made of wood framing and plywood covered with sheet metal and gently slopes down from south to north.

Primary (South) Facade

Two sets of double doors are centered on the primary facade. These doors feature large single lites of glazing at the top with square panels at the bottom. They have two-lite transoms above and are deeply recessed within their openings, which are surrounded by wood casings, trim, and shallow hoods with decorative moldings. The double doors provide access to the hotel lobby, while a single door on the right side of the facade provides dedicated access to a single hotel room. The single door and doorway is similar in design to the double doors. At the top of the facade, the pressed tin-clad false front imitates textured masonry. A long, rectangular, flat sign panel is located at the center of the front, which terminates in a decorative cornice, also of pressed tin.

East & West Facades

The east facade is fenestrated with three evenly spaced windows. The west facade is fenestrated with two windows somewhat close together on the right side, and two more windows evenly spaced to the left. All of the windows have tall rectangular openings. They are set in wood frames with wood structural lintels at the top and thin sills at the bottom. Each window originally consisted of a two-over-two, double-hung, wood sash, but deterioration of the wooden window sashes and breakage over the

years has resulted in most of the windows being replaced with a single lite, fixed, wood sashes. The facades are topped by the triangular sides of the sloping shed roof form, which are clad with corrugate metal.

Rear (North) Facade & Additions

⁷ “Last night the new saloon adjoining the Railroad Hotel, The Capitol, V. Van Briesen and Geo. McKenzie, proprietors, was opened.” *Calico Print* [Newspaper] Daggett, California. 1885. 24 May: VI (20):3.

⁸ “Local Brevities,” *Daily Los Angeles herald*. [microfilm reel] (Los Angeles [Calif.]), 28 Aug. 1883. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn85042459/1883-08-28/ed-1/seq-3/>

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

The rear facade is dominated by two 40-foot long additions that were added in the 1920s. They are constructed of wood frame, clad with corrugated metal, and topped by gable roofs. The additions sit on wooden piers with no stone or concrete foundation. The eastern addition is approximately 40-feet long, 10-feet tall, and 15-feet wide. It has shallow projecting bays at the southern end on the east side, and near the center on the west side. The west wing is also 40 feet long and 10 feet tall, but it is only 10 feet wide.

Between the two additions, the stone wall of the main section of the hotel features two doorways set close together. The doorways have wood casings, but the doors are missing. A patio is located between the additions and there is evidence of a roof or awning that once existed between the additions.

Second Story – No Longer Extant

Single doors at the right sides of both the front and back facades are typical of those accessing interior stairwells in hotel buildings of the time period, which had saloons or other commercial businesses on the first floor and living quarters on the second floor.⁹ The doors may indicate that the building was two stories when originally built in 1883. However, no definitive proof of this was found and it is possible that the doors may have been added during post-fire remodeling in either 1885 or 1890. No photographs exist of the building before 1890, at which time the doors were present.

Although an 1885 *Calico Print* article does not mention that the Stone Hotel had any upstairs rooms or stairwells, the building would have fit the specifications of a typical box-shaped 1870s to 1880s era railroad hotel and eating house building type, which typically had rooms for railroad employees and passengers staying overnight typically on the second floor.¹⁰

The existence of a second story as early as 1885 is supported by oral history from the Alf family, which claims that Seymour Alf, who purchased the lease for the building in 1885, would open his window on the second floor of the hotel and yell down to train passengers arriving at night to ask if anybody needed a room.¹¹

Interior

Although eating houses, as a type, tended to have large open interior spaces, an 1885 *Calico Print* article on the opening of the Capitol Saloon on the first floor of the Railroad Hotel (now Stone Hotel) indicates that the eating house was remodeled into a saloon and interior space was likely subdivided as

9 Jandl, H. Ward. *Preservation Briefs #11, Rehabilitating Historic Storefronts*. Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. 1882, Electronic document, <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief11.htm>, accessed January 28, 2011.

10 Sandoval-Strausz, A. K. *Hotel, An American History*. Yale University Press. 2007. pg. 93-94.

11 Personal communication, Caitlin (Harvey) Hibma, 2010.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

a result. The article describes the building as having a club room (unique because it had two windows), a barber shop, a card room, a liquor room, transoms above the doors, and plaster coated walls.¹²

All of those rooms are still extant except the club room, which was subdivided into two rooms by the addition of a wall between the two windows. These rooms all became eight hotel rooms after the loss of the second story. The open floor plan of the central bar (former eating house area) was also divided into a lobby and a central storage room. The two sets of double doors on front (south) façade align front to back, via two parallel hallways, with two single doors on the rear (north) facade. The north storage room between the hallways has its own exterior door to the outside patio at the rear of the building and may have always been a separate room. Another single door on the right side of the rear wall has been sealed and turned into a closet for its adjoining hotel room. There are currently neither bathrooms nor a kitchen, although the north additions contained a kitchen and bathroom at one time.

Entrance to the east rear addition is from the east hallway. The east wing contained a laundry room, kitchen, sitting/piano room, and bathroom for the hotel, but the last room on the north end of the addition has collapsed. The entire east addition served as a large apartment for the owners/operators of the hotel.

Entrance to the west rear addition is through individual room doors opening up onto the exterior patio between the east and west additions. The west addition is unusual in that the rooms have pressed tin ceilings.

The interior walls of the hotel are finished with lath and plaster and are non-load bearing. Lath and plaster finishing is also evident covering the interior of the stone and adobe exterior walls. Interior doors have the same transoms as the exterior doors, which served to allow light and air into the rooms. Wide flat boards served as baseboards and trim around openings. The wood board floor structure was originally held several inches above grade by girder beams extending from the exterior walls and spanning the building north to south.

Although no second story remains, stairwells accessing it may have been fully enclosed and only accessible from exterior doors. After the 1890 fire, the single exterior doors served as dedicated entrances to individual hotel rooms and a stairwell was built in the center of the building leading to a new second floor.

Condition & Integrity

12 "Last night the new saloon adjoining the Railroad Hotel, The Capitol, V. Van Briesen and Geo. McKenzie, proprietors, was opened." *Calico Print* [Newspaper] Daggett, California. 1885. 24 May: VI (20):3.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

The building was damaged by fire in 1885, 1890, and 1908, resulting in the addition and repeated loss of a second story, which ultimately, was not replaced after the 1908 fire, thereby returning the hotel to its original 1883 form. Despite the addition and subsequent loss of the wooden second story, the exterior of the building has retained integrity.

There has been only superficial interior remodeling since 1883. The last interior remodeling took place after the 1908 fire. Otherwise, the building has retained the same basic interior configuration and finishes as noted in the 1885 description of the Capital Saloon.

The Stone Hotel was determined to be structurally unsound after the 1999 Hector Mine Earthquake. Although all the walls are still standing, cracks and loss of mortar have appeared on the right side of the primary facade, between the double doors and the single door. The doors on the south facade are in good condition, but the cracks in the masonry around them have caused stress to the frame of the rightmost single door. Concrete patches show that this area has fractured and been repaired before. Bracing has been added to preserve the door frame until the wall can be stabilized. The rest of the south wall is still upright and intact.

The east and west walls are intact but leaning inward slightly toward the top middle. It is unknown if the walls have always leaned inward slightly, or if the lean is due to more recent deterioration. Two of the windows retain original double-hung wood sashes, but the rest of the windows have been replaced with single lites in wood frames.

The north facade is also upright and intact. Both corrugated metal clad additions on that facade are heavily deteriorated. Whole sections of the walls and roofs have collapsed. The flooring is also heavily deteriorated, and some of the subsurface posts holding the additions off the ground have fallen over.

Some of the wooden parts of the roof were replaced during the 1990s due to rot and water damage, though the original pressed tin false-font and sheet metal roofing were retained.

On the interior, most of the lath and plaster in the front half of the building has been well preserved, but water damage has affected the back half of the interior leading to a loss of plaster from the walls. Various areas of exposed wood, especially around the ceiling and windows, shows evidence of past fires. Most of the flooring is in good shape, but some boards have warped and show the underlying joists. The wooden floor beams in the hallways were covered with plywood in the 1970s. The condition of the wood under the plywood is unknown, but there are no spots that feel sagging or soft.

The Stone Hotel retains its integrity of location and setting, have never been moved or reoriented from its original site along Santa Fe Street, north of the railroad tracks, in the desert town of Daggett. It retains integrity of design as, even having lost its interim second story, it retains its original one-story

form and general simple configuration of windows, doors, and other features. It retains integrity of materials and workmanship, as basic materials like stone, adobe, wood, and metal and their original

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

application remain intact. Although some materials have been replaced, they were replaced either in-kind or with materials of similar appearance. The Stone Hotel continues to feel like a late 19th century commercial building fitting of a railroad-oriented “frontier” town. It successfully retains its significant associations with the adjacent railroad, the lore of its famous inhabitants, and its unique construction type.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes

B. Removed from its original location

C. A birthplace or grave

D. A cemetery

E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

F. A commemorative property

G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Transportation

Social History

Literature

Architecture

Period of Significance

1883-1940

Significant Dates

1883-1940

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Scott, Walter

Winters, Aaron

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Stone Hotel is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance for under **Criterion A** for its **transportation-related uses** in light of the building's role as an 1880s railroad hotel owned by the Southern Pacific Railroad on Southern Pacific Land Corporation

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

property. It is also eligible under **Criterion B for associations with historical figures in literature and social history**, specifically Aaron Winters and Walter Scott (better known as “Death Valley Scotty,” since so many of the events that took place at the Stone Hotel involved people whose lives were documented in newspapers and magazines of the time, thereby influencing our modern concept of Western popular mythology. Lastly, it is eligible under **Criterion C for unique construction methods and architectural merit**, because of its unique construction of stone and adobe, and its demonstration of an 1880s railroad hotel building type.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Transportation-Related Use

The Stone Hotel, as a pre-Harvey House railroad hotel and eating house, reflects a time underrepresented and unique in California history. The Stone Hotel is significant to the development of transportation in the west – particularly the railroads – because it served as a railroad hotel and eating house built by the Southern Pacific Railroad and sitting on Southern Pacific-owned land. It is a unique building type of which few intact examples exist today.

The Southern Pacific railroad was founded in 1865, but then purchased in 1868 by California’s “Big Four”: Charles Crocker, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, Jr., and Collis P. Huntington. They built the Southern Pacific line from Yuma, Arizona to Colton, California as part of the second transcontinental line between 1882 and 1883.¹³ The Big Four had already created the Central Pacific Railroad, and the two were merged into the Southern Pacific Company in 1885.¹⁴ Meanwhile, the Southern Pacific leased part of its line through the California desert to the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad, which was almost immediately transferred to the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad.¹⁵

Since transportation through rural areas took days, feeding passengers was a necessary part of transportation. The rail line from Eastern Kansas to the Rio Grande and into the Mojave Desert relied on eating houses rather than dining cars.¹⁶ The railroad sustained those eating houses by leasing out the operations to persons who could provide meals at specified times and under strict rules of operation.

The Stone Hotel property was owned by the Southern Pacific Land Corporation, a subsidiary of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Early “owners” of the hotel had likely purchased only the building and not the land on which it sat, or purchased the lease to run the hotel or the eating house.

13 Daggett, Stuart. *Chapters on the History of The Southern Pacific*. 1922, page 122; Love et al, 2001.

14 Yenne, Bill. *The History of the Southern Pacific (Great Rails Series)*. 1984. Bennett Books LTD, Los Angeles.

15 Daggett, Stuart. *Chapters on the History of the Southern Pacific*. 1922, page 122; Love et al, 2001.

16 *Santa Fe Route. Official Guide, main lines, branches and connections*. Traffic Department, Topeka, Kansas. August 1888. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago. Mojave River Valley Museum, Drenk Collection.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Victor Van Briesen was the earliest known proprietor of the Railroad Hotel & Eating House in Daggett, although no documentation has yet been found naming him as the lease holder. The only lease in the Santa Fe Collection at the Kansas State Archives concerning the Railroad Hotel & Eating House is between the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company and Thomas W. Stackpole and Fred J. Lincoln, dated November 16, 1885. The Railroad Hotel & Eating House operation in Daggett was leased to Stackpole and Lincoln with the stipulation that they transfer all the Eating House equipment to the new Railroad Hotel & Eating House in Barstow as soon as the Barstow facility was completed. This corresponds to the property records in the San Bernardino County Archives which show that Van Briesen sold the Railroad Hotel & Eating House in 1885 to Seymour Alf and Robert Sparks. By 1886, which is when the Barstow Depot was completed, Seymour Alf had renamed it Alf's Eating House, removing association with railroad management, although the building continued to serve the same functions and was patronized primarily by railroad passengers. None of the purchase agreements recorded in the San Bernardino County Archives mention the Southern Pacific Land Corporation until 1917, when Annie Falconer, widow of Alex Falconer, finally purchased the land the hotel sat on from Southern Pacific.

Criterion B: Historical Figures in Literature & Social History

Aaron Winters

The history of the California desert is well-known thanks to newspapers, radio, and television from the 1880s to today memorializing certain people and events. Those events have become part of a modern mythology of California's western lore that makes up our collective concept of what the Old West was like. While not necessarily historically accurate, and often pure fiction resulting from the creative license inherent in what is often called "yellow journalism," these stories have been retold over and over until they have become accepted as historical facts. The Stone Hotel has played a major, although mostly unknown, part in much of that history. Here are some of the stories appearing in early newspapers, radio programs, and finally television series, and how research into the history of the Stone Hotel has changed our understanding of those stories:

Although a small mining town, Daggett was surprisingly well-known in the 1880s, thanks in part to a series of stories printed in syndicated newspapers across the country. The first story was a news item about William Pitts, aka William White, a mule-team driver and army deserter from Company F, Second Cavalry, Ft. Ellis, Montana. Pitts was hanged from a telegraph pole in Daggett in 1884 for killing his swamper (the person in charge of the mules) in a grisly murder.

Despite their ubiquity in western dime novels, real lynchings were quite rare, therefore the story became very popular and interest in the story continued long after it stopped being talked about in the newspapers. The story was eventually reprinted by the 1940 Works Progress Administration (WPA) under the title "Murder is Suicide."¹⁷ Although accounts of the story vary, the WPA version claimed

17 *Pioneer tales of San Bernardino County*. WPA Writers Program, Published by the Sun Co. 1940, page 25 and 27.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

that the killing took place in a small hotel in Daggett owned by Victor Van Brissen. That would be the Railroad Hotel, later known as the Stone Hotel, and the story helped label Daggett as a lawless city on the outskirts of civilization. What was not printed in the papers was that the real William White of Company F did not die in Daggett in 1884. In his diary, he recounts how his company was late to the Battle of Little Big Horn in 1876 because two unnamed soldiers, and the supply wagon they were driving, had gone AWOL during the trip. The rest of Company F, including William White, spent a few days trying to find them.¹⁸ This caused the company to arrive late to Little Big Horn thereby missing the battle. Meanwhile, Pitts was using White's name and rank as an alias when he killed his swamper in Daggett. The real White then left on another remote assignment and was apparently unaware that he was reported as having been lynched. He eventually retired and spent his last years working as a guide at the Little Big Horn National Monument.¹⁹ William Pitts must have known White and knew that White's company was heading for Little Big Horn, and so assumed that White had perished in the battle since newspaper reports at the time reported no survivors. While the Stone Hotel only had a small role to play in this early story, it was the beginning of many stories emanating from people involved with the property that became repeated in syndicated newspapers across the country.

In 1886, "The Death of George Anderson" (aka "A Dreadful Death"²⁰) was a story that appeared in the *Calico Print* and was republished in several newspapers across the country. The story was written by J. G. Overshiner,²¹ a talented former journalist for the *Los Angeles Times* who became not only the editor of the *Calico Print* but was just beginning a long career as the local high desert correspondent for all of the major newspapers.²²

The George Anderson story differed from the William Pitts news items in that it was written in story form. It introduced us to a bunch of interesting characters from Daggett: Alex Falconer, William Curry, and Aaron Winters.²³ Although not mentioned in the article, Curry had succeeded Van Brissen as an owner of the Railroad Hotel & Eating House, Winters was soon to buy that same hotel, and Falconer owned the Bucket of Blood Saloon nextdoor to the hotel. Falconer would also later own the hotel after

Winters had renamed it the Stone Hotel. Other articles continued to briefly mention Falconer and Winters, mostly concerning events related to Falconer's saloon or events on the road between Daggett and Nye, Nevada where Winters had purchased a ranch. Most importantly, Winters was soon to become a minor celebrity thanks to his purchase of the Stone Hotel in 1887.²⁴

18 William H. White Diary, 1876 January-July, Montana State University Library, Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections.

19 Marquis, Thomas Baily. *Custer, Cavalry & Crows*. Old Army Press. 1975.

20 "A Dreadful Death." *The Los Angeles Daily Herald*, Los Angeles, CA [Newspaper]. 28 May 1886.

21 *Calico Print* (Calico, San Bernardino Co., Calif) 188? – 1???, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/sn95061066/> Accessed 21 Aug 2022.

22 "Calico's Print Pioneer, The Print Newspaper." *The Sun* [newspaper online edition], July 24, 2017. <https://www.sbsun.com/2017/07/24/calicos-print-pioneer-the-print-newspaper/> Accessed 21 Aug 2022.

23 "The Death of George Anderson." *Mojave County Miner* [Newspaper, Mineral Park, Arizona]. 30 May 1886.

24 San Bernardino County early records on microfilm, County Records Office.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

In 1887, a fire destroyed most of Calico, and the *Calico Print* published its last paper.²⁵ Without a local correspondent, the more amazing stories involving Daggett declined. Then in 1891, a reporter from the *New York Sun*, John Randolph Spears, was sent to Daggett under the direction of the Pacific Coast Borax Company to record the frontier stories of early borax discoveries in Death Valley. He got off the train at the depot across from the former Railroad Hotel (by then renamed the Stone Hotel by Aaron Winters), and met Myron Harmon, a former owner of the Eagle Borax mine in Death Valley who ran the restaurant next to the Stone Hotel. Spears credits Harmon with providing much of the history of borax mining in Death Valley, but at least some of the information must have come directly from Winters himself.²⁶ Like the George Anderson story, Spears' stories about borax mining were written in story form and printed in newspapers across the county. Aaron Winters figured heavily in two of those stories. Spears wrote about Winters' discovery of borax in Death Valley and the sale of his claim to William Tell Coleman who started Harmony Borax Works (later purchased by Pacific Coast Borax), and how Winters had splurged on luxuries and a ranch in Nevada, and then lost everything in 1887 due to tax-related financial difficulties. The story concludes with Winters living out the rest of his life in poverty, always searching for the next big strike.

Spears wrote up Winters' story as serialized newspaper sketches that appeared in the Joseph Pulitzer family of newspapers and were repeated across the country from 1892 to 1915.²⁷ Pulitzer and his rival, William Randolph Hearst, were collectively known as the fathers of Yellow Journalism; reporting with more human interest than fact. Spears also published the stories in *Illustrated Sketches of Death Valley and Other Borax Deserts of the Pacific Coast* (1892), a book sponsored by Pacific Coast Borax.²⁸

Strangely, despite being mentioned in various news stories written earlier by Overshiner, the fact that Winters had played such an important role in the history of Death Valley had never been mentioned in newspapers until after Spears had been sent to Daggett.

Those stories about Aaron Winters were so popular that Pacific Coast Borax, later the sponsor of the Death Valley Days radio show, and even later Death Valley Days television show, reused the stories both for radio and television scripts from 1930 to 1968.²⁹ The shows were titled "She Burns Green" and "Green is the color of Gold" – a reference to Winter's exclamation to his wife Rosie when the substance that they were testing burned the correct color to indicate borax. Later, "The Holdup of Aaron Winters," later renamed "The Trouble with Taxes," the story about how Winters lost his Nevada

25 Steeples, Douglas. *Treasure from the Painted Hills, A History of Calico, California, 1882-1907*. Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut, 1999. Page 75.

26 Spears, J.R. "Tales of the White Arabs," in *Illustrated Sketches of Death Valley*. McNally & Company, Chicago 1892.

27 Chronicling American [website]. <https://www.chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>. Accessed August 17, 2022.

28 Spears, John Randolph. *Illustrated Sketches of Death Valley*. McNally & Company, Chicago. 1892.

29 *Ruth Cornwall Woodman papers*, 1913-1916, 1930-1969, University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

ranch, was added. The show remained in syndication until 1975.³⁰ Winters' story became accepted canon in the history of Death Valley and is still told both in Death Valley National Park publications³¹ and the Rio Tinto (successor to Pacific Coast Borax) Borax Museum.³²

Winter's rags-to-riches-to-rags story became the epitome of romanticized western mining culture for several generations. The story has also been repeated in various magazines and books dedicated to Western culture and history from the early 1900s to today. Many of the publications built on the original story written by Spears but were sometimes combined with stories about other Daggett characters who had also owned or lived at the Stone Hotel, such as Alex Falconer and William Curry, whose various escapades were written about in other Pulitzer and Hearst newspapers and magazines, and also written about by author Dix Van Dyke and published in *Westways* magazine.³³

Unfortunately, much of what was written falls more in the realm of pop-fiction than historical fact, including Spears' original story. In typical Yellow Journalism fashion, the narratives were based on small facts and then heavily embellished to make them more appealing as human-interest stories. Winters did discover borax in Death Valley in 1882. He also did have financial problems in 1887, but legal records indicate that the property he lost was not a Nevada ranch, but the former Railroad Hotel & Eating House that he had purchased and renamed the Stone Hotel.³⁴ No records can be found of him losing other properties, and he actually sold his Nevada ranch when his wife Rosie had to be hospitalized for tuberculosis.³⁵

In reality, Winters was born around 1828 and the 1875 California voter registration books list an Aaron Winters in Swansea, Inyo County, California, where he was employed as a hotel keeper.³⁶ By 1880, he lived in Ash Meadows, Nye County, Nevada, on the eastern edge of Death Valley, with his wife, Rosie.³⁷ Mining record books kept at the Borax Museum at Furnace Creek in Death Valley indicate that Winters served as district recorder for the Death Valley Borax & Salt Mining District in 1881. The district's own books verify that W. T. Coleman paid Winters \$20,000 for the claim that became the Harmony Borax Works. Then Winters, along with Gordon Ellis and S.J. Parks, located another borax deposit in 1882, and this time Aaron Winters was elected secretary of the Eagle Mountain Borax & Salt District. While popular histories claim Winters spent all his money on luxuries and gifts, he actually

30 Days Valley Days, IMDB [website] <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0044259/> Accessed August 17, 2022.

31 *Environmental Assessment, Navel Spring Water System Repair and Maintenance*, Death Valley National Park, National Park Service, 2013.

32 Borax Visitors Center, U.S. Borax Operations, Rio Tinto, 14486 Borax Road, Boron, California, 93516.

33 Van Dyke, Dix and Philip Johnson. "Old Times in Daggett." *Westways* [Magazine] 1943, 35(2):16-17.

34 San Bernardino County Museum Archives, History Department, Early San Bernardino County Land Records in Daggett, notes by Germaine Moon.

35 County Art Museum Associations to Present at Orange Show Display. *The San Bernardino Sun* [Newspaper] March 6, 1953.

36 "California Great Registers, 1850-1920," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VNF5-3S>) Accessed 18 August 2022.

37 "United States Census, 1880," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MDC*-9RN), retrieved 14 January 2022.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

invested in several mining claims over the years. He then purchased the former Railroad Hotel & Eating House in Daggett in 1897 and renamed it “Winter’s Stone Hotel.” He tried to use it to pay off various promissory notes, but ultimately the hotel was sold in a sheriff’s auction.³⁸ During this time, Winters’ official residence was in Los Angeles where he was listed as a miner.³⁹ At his death in 1900, his beneficiaries included Alexander Falconer, who purchased the Stone Hotel after Winters; and Phoebe Hearst, widow of George Hearst, and mother of newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst.⁴⁰ The will revealed that the Hearst family had been “grubstaking” (financing the purchase of equipment and supplies for a mining operation in exchange for a portion of the profits) Winters’ mining adventures, thereby hinting that the Yellow Journalism and connection to the Hearst family possibly went deeper than just Spears original story.⁴¹

Aaron Winters was not the only resident of the Stone Hotel to be featured heavily in Yellow Journalism of the day. Not long after Winters’ death, Walter Scott, aka Death Valley Scotty, began appearing in newspapers across the country.

Walter Scott, AKA Death Valley Scotty

Between 1902 and 1906, Death Valley Scotty was using the Stone Hotel as his business address while promoting phony mining scams and publicity stunts.⁴² At the time, the hotel was owned by Alex Falconer. Soon after Scotty moved into the Stone Hotel, his various publicity stunts were reported in the newspapers and led to his becoming a pop-culture hero, and, like Aaron Winters, his story continued to be told well into the days of radio and television, including his name and persona being used as a character on Death Valley Days.⁴³ It was while Scott was living at the Stone Hotel, during the height of his public notoriety, that he became associated with Albert Johnson, builder of “Scotty’s Castle” in Death Valley. The earliest photo showing Scott and Johnson together was taken in front of the Stone Hotel.⁴⁴ Scott’s room (room #7) with the private entrance in the southeast corner of the hotel was not damaged in the fire of 1908 and has been preserved to this day.

38 San Bernardino County early records on microfilm. Recorder’s Office.

39 “United States City and Business Directories, ca. 1749-ca. 1990, database, FamilySearch <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:6HTK-HS3Z> Accessed 18 August 2022.

40 “Notice to Creditors,” *San Bernardino County Sun* [newspaper], page 8. <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/?a=d&d=SBS19000417.1.6&e=-----en--20----txt-txIN-----1> Accessed 17 August 2022.

41 Loop vs Winter’s Estate, 115 F. 362. (1902). United States Circuit Court for the District of Nevada · No. 723 Summons for appearance of Alexander Falconer, executor of the will of the late Aaron Winters, deceased, and beneficiaries Phoebe Hearst, F.W. Clark, John Dunn, Richard Finn, John Doe, Richard Doe, Fourth Judicial District Court, County of Lincoln, State of Nevada,

42 The Daggett Historical Society (DHS), current owner of the Stone Hotel, has maintained Scotty’s old room at the hotel since the hotel was donated to the San Bernardino County Museum (SBCM) in 1978. The SBCM deeded the hotel to the DHS in 2016.

43 “Death Valley Scotty,” *Death Valley Days* [Television episode], 29 April 1955.

44 Death Valley Scotty in Daggett [Photograph], Mojave River Valley Museum.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Walter Scott was born in 1872 in Kentucky and at young age he ran away to join two brothers in Nevada.⁴⁵ There he worked various odd jobs until he was noticed by a talent scout for “Buffalo” Bill Cody who hired him as a trick rider for Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show.⁴⁶ For twelve years, Scott toured both Europe and the U.S. during the summer season, and then continued to do odd jobs from Colorado to Death Valley in the winters. Meanwhile, he met widow Josephine “Jack” McCarthy Millius in New York, and they married in Ohio.⁴⁷ They had a son together, but Scotty and Jack often lived apart.⁴⁸

Scotty worked two winters as a miner in Colorado. During that time, Jack was given two chunks of gold ore by a mine owner while on a tour of the mine.⁴⁹ Scotty left the Wild West Show in 1902 reportedly because of a disagreement with Buffalo Bill. He took the ore Jack had been given, claimed it came from a secret mine in Death Valley, and used it to convince Julian Gerard to “grubstake” him for the mining operations that he claimed to have.⁵⁰ Scotty took the Gerard's money, deposited it in the Merchants Bank of Los Angeles, and departed for Death Valley leaving Jack in an apartment in Los Angeles. According to Frank Belcher, assistant cashier for the Merchants Bank, the bank would express money to Scotty’s address in Daggett whenever he requested it.⁵¹

Daggett was considered the gateway to Death Valley and had formerly been the primary rail station for ore transfer until 1886 when operations moved to Barstow. However, the old Daggett Depot remained along with the Railroad Hotel & Eating House that had been renamed the Stone Hotel. Scotty took up residence in the hotel's room #7, which appealed to him since that room faced the street and had its own private entrance separate from the lobby doors. Even when Scotty was not in residence, that room remained his official business address.⁵²

By 1903, Scotty started appearing in unusual newspaper articles about having thrice been determined dead and each time returning from his “rich mine” in the desert in perfect health.⁵³ Circumstances were suspicious, however. Belcher sent him funds on a regular basis, but began to question why there were no profits yet.

At first Scotty seems to have worked alone. According to witnesses who recalled Scotty's activities in Riverside in 1903, he worked for a short while in the Echo Mine in Mojave. He claimed to be broke

45 “Death Valley Scotty,” Death Valley National Park, CA, NV. National Park Service. <https://www.nps.gov>
Accessed 18 August 2022.

46 *ibid*

47 Johnston, Frank. *Death Valley Scotty, the Man the Myth*. 1971, Flying Spur Press, Palm Springs.

48 *ibid*

49 *ibid*

50 *ibid*

51 Houston, Eleanor Jordan. *Death Valley Scotty Told Me*. 1954. Death Valley Natural History Association. Pages 37, 39, 128.

52 Daggett Historical Society

53 “Supposed Victim of Strangler is Alice,” *The San Francisco Examiner* [newspaper], 8 April 1903, page 6.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

because a mining deal had not gone through, and that he had to wait until his partner arrived. But even then he was bragging about his mine in Death Valley. It was when a well-dressed gentleman arrived asking for Scotty, followed by Scotty quitting his job at the Echo Mine, that Scotty appeared to have conspirators and his spending sprees began. One such instance was when he asked if he could leave a large conspicuous bag in a store in Riverside for several days. The bag was padlocked and wrapped in chains. When he returned for it, he explained that it contained a large amount of gold. His wife accompanied him on this early Riverside trip and Scotty was seen tossing a large roll of bills onto her lap and telling her to “go out and have a **** of a good time.”⁵⁴ Jack seems to have been involved in the scam and even claimed to have seen the mine and the gold sticking out of the walls.⁵⁵

In June 1904, Scotty appeared in newspapers again when it was reported that he was robbed of \$12,000 in gold dust.⁵⁶ The article was later determined to be falsified, intended to mislead his investors as to why his phony mines were not producing. Another article soon followed in 1905, reporting how Scotty had found the body of a dead man in the desert outside of Daggett.⁵⁷

Twice in 1905 Scotty hired special private trains. The first train trip only took him from Daggett to Barstow, but money was no object, and Scotty promised the engineers that the faster the train went, the more money Scotty was willing to pay them.⁵⁸ This trip turned out to be a test run for a stunt much, much bigger.

It was later revealed that Scotty’s publicity stunts were the brainchild of newspaper sportswriter Charles Van Loan who doctored stories for publication.⁵⁹ It was Van Loan who created the persona of Scotty as the rich miner and flamboyant spender. The money was provided by E. Burden Gaylord,⁶⁰ mining engineer and president of both the Lead Mountain Mining & Smelting Company and the Copper Butte Mining & Smelting Company of Los Angeles, both of which had mines near Bagdad, east of Daggett in San Bernardino County, in 1903.⁶¹ Thus, Gaylord used Scotty as a public relations tool to encourage investments in Death Valley mining.⁶²

Gaylord funded “The Scotty Special,”⁶³ also known as the Coyote Special, a Los Angeles to Chicago train trip that broke established speed records for the distance.⁶⁴ The train made the trip in 44 hours, 45

54 “Scott Goes East Without Special,” *Los Angeles Herald* [newspaper], 14 July 1905, Vol. XXXII, No. 286, page 1.

55 “Gold, She Asserts, Hangs from Rocky Ledges.” *Los Angeles Times* [newspaper], 29 June 1912, Part I, Page 15.

56 “Robbed of Gold,” *Los Angeles Evening Post-Record* [newspaper], 28 June 1904, page 1.

57 “Gathered Here and There.” *Los Angeles Herald* [newspaper], 19 February 1905, page 8.

58 “The Scott Special,” *The Green Bay Gazette* [newspaper], 3 February 1906, page 4.

59 Caruthers, William. *Loafing Along Death Valley Trails*. Death Valley Publishing Company, Ontario, 1951.

Chapter 15, “Death Valley Scotty.”

60 *ibid*

61 “Notices of Location,” *Daily Times-Index* [newspaper], 10 Dec 1903, page 8. *United States Investor* [journal], Volume 16, page 1904 (32), Investor Publishing Company, 1906.

62 “Result Spectacular Wild-Cat Mining,” *The Arizona Republican* [newspaper], July 19, 1914, page 3.

63 Lingenfelter, Richard. *Death Valley and the Amargosa: A Land of Illusion*. University of California Press, 1988, Page 276

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

minutes, and the only passengers were Scotty; his wife Jack; magazine writer Frank Holman, who had been hired by the railroad; and Charles E. Van Loan, who wrote exclusive articles about the trip for the newspaper. It was purely a publicity stunt, but it was covered by newspapers across the country.⁶⁵

Scotty's stunt was yet another instance of those in the mining business creatively trying to lure investors into purchasing mining claims that were seldom worth the amount that was invested. It also raised the questions as to who was really orchestrating and paying for the mining scam Scotty was operating out of the Stone Hotel, and how much was Alex Falconer, owner of the Stone Hotel, involved with Van Loan and Gaylord in those early days?

Finding and exploiting interesting characters to increase readership was nothing new for Pulitzer's and Hearst's newspapers, but they achieved much more with Scotty than they had ever with Aaron Winters or any of the others who might be considered the "reality stars" of their day. Scotty became a major headliner, but in 1906 it all came crashing down while he was still making major headlines for the newspapers.

Many of Scotty's mining investors had become suspicious, so Scotty orchestrated another faked robbery like the one in 1904, except this time on horseback and with real guns. Daniel Owen, a mining engineer, had been hired by the investors to determine if Scotty's mine was real. The engineer insisted on seeing the mine, so all parties involved met at the Stone Hotel in Daggett in February 1906. They were joined by one of the investors in person; Albert Johnson, the president of the National Life Insurance Company of Chicago.⁶⁶

From the Stone Hotel, the party traveled to Wingate Pass where Scotty, his brothers, and hired hands posing as outlaws got into a pretend shootout.⁶⁷ The stunt was meant to scare off the engineer, but one of Scotty's brothers was accidentally shot. That put an immediate end to the show as Scotty was forced to call off the charade so that he could get his brother to a hospital.⁶⁸ Newspapers had a field day, and Scotty ended up in and out of jail. Of everyone in the party, only Johnson managed to remain out of the courts, which is where Scotty finally admitted that he was the front man in an elaborate scheme involving phony mining claims and publicity stunts meant to lure investors and newspaper readers.⁶⁹

Despite being revealed as a fraud, Scotty remained popular in the public eye, managing to re-invent himself as a lovable scoundrel. He moved out of the Stone Hotel and temporarily settled in Rhyolite,

64 Ibid, page 274

65 Holman, Frank Newton. "Record Breaking Run of the Scott Special (reprint)," *Trains Magazine*, Kalmbach Publishing Inc., 2012. www.transmag.com Accessed 17 September 2017.

66 "Section III: Inventory of Historical Resources The West Side," *Death Valley Historic Resource Study: A History of Mining*. https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/deva/section3a5.htm Accessed 21 August 2022.

67 Johnson, Hank. *Death Valley Scotty, The Man and the Myth*. Flying Spur Press, Palm Springs, 1972.

68 Lingenfelter, Richard. *Death Valley and the Amargosa: A Land of Illusion*. University of California Press, 1988, Page 276-277.

69 "Death Valley Scotty Says He Was A Fraud." *Stockton Evening Mail* [newspaper], 20 June 1912, page 8.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Nevada where a publisher planned to write a series of articles about Scotty's life.⁷⁰ Meanwhile, he remained close to Albert Johnson whose health led him to give up his New York business and move to the desert. There he would spend years and a fortune building Death Valley Ranch, more commonly known as "Scotty's Castle." And while Scotty did not live at the Castle much of the time, it was built on his mythology; including scenes from Scotty's life depicted on metal weathervanes, a fake gold mine dug into the side of the cliff, and a miner's cabin next to it that housed assaying equipment. Scotty made regular appearances at the Castle to entertain guests.⁷¹ The Johnsons gave tours for a small fee, sold postcards depicting Scotty and the Castle, and published books about Scotty's life. Subsequently, the famed Castle that is now part of a National Park is indelibly linked to the legends of Death Valley Scotty.

These stories emanating from people like Winters and Scott, and made popular in newspapers, magazines, books, radio, and television, and which are still being promoted by Rio Tinto metals and mining corporation (the successors of Pacific Coast Borax) and Death Valley National Park, have become ingrained into our national cultural conception of the "Old West" thereby making the Stone Hotel a lesson in the development and proliferation of modern Western mythology.

A little-known hotel at the entrance to Death Valley, thus, became a tool for creating western heroes like Aaron Winters and Walter Scott, whose stories would be used to sell newspapers, magazines, and even radio and television stories for decades. The Stone Hotel seems to have been a magnet for those whom the newspapers promoted as the stuff of Western legend and is representational of the lives and mythologies of both Winters and Scott. As such, the hotel qualifies under Criterion B.

Criterion C: Unique Construction Methods & Architectural Merit

While the commercial false-front architectural style of the Stone Hotel was common for its time, the construction methods of using stone masonry held together with adobe mortar is unique. In this, the building strongly represents a period and method of construction that is entirely vernacular and has been identified as being more common to the 1860s than to the 1880s. It represents the a material palette native to the Mojave Desert – stone, sand, and clay – and is indicative of early desert methods of construction when milled lumber and other more refined building supplies were not readily available, were expensive to obtain, and were extremely fire prone in the hot, dry Mojave Desert.

Although the Stone Hotel was built with readily available desert materials, they are applied in an unusual way that is not known to have been used elsewhere in the area and have remained intact over the decades. Several buildings in Daggett and nearby Calico utilized earth building techniques and five of those buildings are still extant and in use. However, the other examples were all constructed of rammed earth; a technique that involves pressing or ramming adobe mud into wooden frames and then allowing it to dry. Several historical records mention adobe houses in Daggett and surrounding

⁷⁰ "Death Valley Scotty," *Saturday News* [newspaper], April 3, 1908, page 12

⁷¹ Teresa Terry, *Monitoring Report, Scotty's Castle Repairs*. Cogstone Resource Management for Death Valley National Park, 2019.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

communities, but none of these are known to have used adobe to bind stone masonry. Dry stack stone walls and decorative stone veneer facades are found in nearby Calico, but none were built using a thick adobe mortar and irregular, uncut stone as at the Stone Hotel. Thus, the Stone Hotel appears to be unusual in its combination of the two materials, stone and adobe, to achieve sturdy resistant construction. The method is not common elsewhere in the region or state where traditional adobe brick construction, or lime or cement-mortared stone construction, was used. In this way, the Stone Hotel represents an unusual method of construction embodied in purely vernacular materials, design, and workmanship that has withstood time, weather, and even fire.

No known architect was responsible for the design of the Stone Hotel, as it is a largely vernacular building in aesthetics and construction. Although the original Railroad Hotel was built by Richard Stetson and John Cole, of Cole & Stetson, who also built the Railroad Hotel in Needles and the Continental Hotel in Colton, the rebuilt Stone Hotel was constructed either by or under the direction of Victor Van Briesen in 1883.⁷² Van Briesen was the Southern Pacific Land Corporation lessee during reconstruction of the hotel after the original wooden Railroad Hotel building burned down in 1883.⁷³ It was typical for railroads to lease the building and operation of Railroad Hotels on railroad property with the stipulation that a lessee maintains the hotel in a manner dictated by the railroad.⁷⁴ Railroad hotels and eating houses were intended to provide meals and overnight accommodations and services for both railroad personnel and passengers.⁷⁵ Therefore, the building's overall shape, as dictated by its function, may have been decreed by the railroad, but Van Briesen modified it to withstand the unique desert environment. He cannot be classified as an important creative individual, however. Later rebuilding after subsequent fires mostly maintained the building's original configuration.

Based on its architectural merit, particularly its unusual vernacular construction, the Stone Hotel appears to be eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C (Architecture).

72 *An Illustrated History of Southern California*, 1890. Lewis Publishing Company: Chicago. Pg 538.

73 Daily Los Angeles herald, 28 August 1883.

74 Desty, Robert, editor, *The Supreme Court Reporter*, Matthews vs Memphis, West Publishing Company, St. Paul. 1883, Vol. II.

75 Sandoval-Strausz, A. K. *Hotel, An American History*. Yale University Press. 2007, pg. 93.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Alf Blacksmith Shop and Museum.

1940 *Uncataloged photograph, Walter Alf Photography Collection, Daggett Historical Society Museum.*

Arizona Republican

1890 "Daggett Destroyed by Fire." 1(18) June 5. Phoenix, Arizona. Library of Congress website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed April 28, 2010.

Automobile Club of Southern California

1915 *Automobile Road from New York to Los Angeles via National Old Trails Road, Part 5 Ludlow to Barstow* [map]. Baker, Cindy.

2015 "Of Mines and Mules: A History of Daggett;" Electronic document,

<http://www.mojaverivervalleymuseum.org/daggett-article-FINAL.pdf>, accessed 5 March 2017.

Banker, Catherine Mary Courser.

1994 *A Structural History of The Old Stone Hotel in Daggett Utilizing Archaeological and Documentary Evidence.* Unpublished Master's Thesis, Interdisciplinary Studies, California State University, San Bernardino, California.

Brooks, Tim, and Earl Marsh

2003 *The Complete Directory to Prime Time Network and Cable TV Shows, 1946- Present.* Random House, New York.

Calico Print [Newspaper]

1885 "Last night the new saloon adjoining the Railroad Hotel, The Capitol, V. Van Briesen and Geo. McKenzie, proprietors, was opened." 24 May: VI (20):3. Daggett, California.

California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP)

1978 *P #5555, CA-SBR-5525H, Stone Hotel Property Site Record*, South Central Coast Information Center (SCCIC), California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS).

2001 Technical Assistant Series No. 7, *How to Nominate a Resource to the California Register of Historic Resources*, Sacramento, CA: California Office of State Publishing, page 11.

California State Mining Bureau

1883 *Annual report of the State Mineralogist for the Year Ending 1883.* Sacramento.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Chappell, Gordon

2005 Railroads Around Mojave National Preserve. In *Old Ores, Mining History in the Eastern Mojave Desert*, edited by Robert E. Reynolds, pp. 41-48, California State University, Desert Studies Consortium and LSA Associates, Zzyzx, California.

Crawford Avalanche [Newspaper]

1884 "Mob Justice." Dec 18:2. Grayling Michigan. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. <<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn96076998/1884-12-18/ed-1/seq-2/>>

Daggett Historical Society

2006 The Stone Hotel. Sign outside of the Stone Hotel erected by the Daggett Historical Society, the Mojave River Museum, and the San Bernardino County Museum, Daggett, California.

Daggett, Stuart

1922 *Chapters on the History of the Southern Pacific*. The Ronald Press, New York.

Daily Courier [Newspaper]

1890 "Daggett Destroyed." San Bernardino, California. Page 3.

Deseret Evening News [Newspaper]

1905 "Reign of Terror at Daggett, Cal." February 7:3. Great Salt Lake City, Utah. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> Accessed April 26, 2009.

Desty, Robert, Burdett Alberto Rich, Henry Philip Farnham, and Edmund Hamilton Smith.

1915 "Fletcher v Kelly, 1888, 1893, Iowa Supreme Court." *The Lawyers Reports, Annotated, Vol. 21-22*. The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Company, Rochester, New York.

Duke, Donald and Stan Kistler

1963 *Santa Fe: Steel Rails Through California*. Golden West Books, Santa Maria, California. Pg 15.

Dunning, John

1998 *On the air: the encyclopedia of old-time radio*. Oxford University Press, New York.

Hensher, A. and L. Vredenburgh.

1986 *Ghost Towns of the Upper Mojave Desert Region*. Accessed 6/4/2019.
http://vredenburgh.org/mining_history/pdf/UpperMojaveDesertHensher1986.pdf

Jandl, H. Ward

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

1982 *Preservation Briefs #11, Rehabilitating Historic Storefronts*. Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Electronic document, <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief11.htm>, accessed January 28, 2011.

James, Walter

1883 Letter from postmaster Walter James requesting the name of Calico Junction be changed to Daggett. San Bernardino County Museum Archives.

Las Vegas Daily Optic [Newspaper]

1905 Scott the Cowboy Croesus Breaks Best Time Between Albuquerque and Las Vegas By Ten Minutes. 10 July 1905, Image 1. Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed January 31, 2017.

Lingenfelter, Richard E.

1986 *Death Valley and the Amargosa: A Land of Illusion*. University of California Press, Berkeley, California.

Los Angeles Herald [Newspaper]

1883b “Destructive Fire at Daggett,” 7 June 1883, Image 3, Los Angeles, California, Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, assessed June 28, 2017.

1883c “Local Brevities,” 17 July 1883, Image 3, Los Angeles, California, Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, assessed June 28, 2017.

1883d “Local Brevities,” 28 Aug, Image 3, Los Angeles, California, Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, assessed June 28, 2017.

1890 “Swept by Fire” *Los Angeles herald*. (Los Angeles [Calif.]), 05 June 1890. Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn84025968/1890-06-05/ed-1/seq-1/>

1905a “Liquor League Fights Liquor Dealers.” 11 January. Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed June 04, 2019.

1905b “A Found Fortune in Death Valley.” 23 June, Image 1. Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed January 31, 2017.

1905b “Scott May Make Run in 48 Hours.” 11 July: 1 (283, pt. 2). Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed January 28, 2011.

1906 “Smith Freed Fear Bullets,” 22 March 1906, Image 1. Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed April 28, 2010.

1908a “Daggett Sustains Serious Fire Loss.” 14 July: 1 (286, pt. 1). Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed April 28, 2010.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

1908b "Building Nears Completion." 6 September: 9 (340, pt. 2). Los Angeles, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed May 24, 2010.

2001 *Identification and Evaluation of Historic Properties, Lenwood Sewer Line Installation in the Community of Lenwood, San Bernardino County, California*. CRM Tech, Riverside, California.

Marquis, Thomas

1975 *Custer Cavalry and Crows, Being the Thrilling Account of the Western Adventures of William White, Who As a Private in the 2nd Cavalry Served in the Sioux War of 1876, the Nez Perce Campaign, the Snake River Exploration and Many Other Military Campaigns, Ma*. Old Army Press: Johnstown, Colorado.

McClure, W. F., J.A. Sourwine, and C. E. Tait

1917 Appendix C: Report on the Utilization of Mojave River for Irrigation in Victor Valley, California. In *Biennial Report of the Department of Engineering of the State of California*. California State Printing Office, Sacramento, California.

McGroaty, John Steven, editor

1923 *History of Los Angeles County, Volume 2*. The American Historical Society, New York.

Morning Call [Newspaper]

1890 "Extensive Fire, the Business Portion of the Town of Daggett in Ashes." San Francisco, California. 5 June:8. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed May 2, 2010.

Morrill, F. L.

1887 "Daggett." *San Bernardino City and County Directory*. Express Job Printing, Los Angeles, California.

Mulqueen, Stephen P.

2001 "'Borax' Smith and the Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad." In *The Changing Face of the East Mojave and Abstracts from the 2001 Desert Symposium*. Edited by Robert E. Reynolds, pp 50-53. California State University, Desert Studies Consortium, Department of Biological Science, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, California and The Western Center for Archaeology and Paleontology, Western Center Community Foundation, Riverside, California.

Myrick, David F.

1963 *Railroads of Nevada and Eastern California: Vol II, The southern roads*. Howell-North Books, Berkeley, California.

Niendorff, John Starr

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

1965 "The Trouble with Taxes (Television Script)." *Death Valley Days*. Season 13, Episode 15, Production 719.

Orsi, Richard J.

2005 *Sunset Limited: the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Development of the American West, 1850-1930*. University of California Press, Berkeley, California.

Polk, R. L.

1888 *California State Gazetteer and Business Directory, San Bernardino County*. Vol. I. R. L. Polk & Co., San Francisco, California.

Porterfield, James D.

1993 *Dining by Rail, The History and Recipes of America's Golden Age of Railroad Cuisine*. St. Martin's Griffin, New York.

Robertson, Donald

1998 *Encyclopedia of Western Railroad History: Volume IV, California*. Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho. Pg 312.

Salt Lake Herald [Newspaper]

1905 "Daggett, Hobo Common Point." 30 April:6(pt 3). Salt Lake City, Utah. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed April 3, 2011.

San Bernardino County Archives

1885 *Early Recorded Deed Books [Microfilm]*. San Bernardino County Department of Records, Office of the Recorder. Deeds 41-305; 48-6; 51-53; 59-388; 75-352; 9-107, 388.

1888 "Seymour Alf appointed Road Master." San Bernardino County Archives, Accession 597, Board of Supervisor Records, Clerk of the Board, Minutes, Minutes E, pages 1-250, Fonds , Series , Sub-series , File , Item E:193, 1888, May 7.

1917 "Land Title transfer from the Southern Pacific Land Corporation to Annie Falconer," Deed Book 661:347.

San Bernardino Sun [Newspaper]

1915 "General M'Minn in Storm on all Cases in Desert Drive." June 8. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed 4 June, 2019.

San Francisco Call (SFC) [Newspaper]

1904 "Loses Fortune in Nuggets." June 29:3. San Francisco, California. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed December 31, 2010.

Sandoval-Strauze, Andrew K.

2007 *Hotel, an American History*. Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut. Pg. 93-94.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Santa Fe New Mexican

1904 "Robbed of \$12,000." Volume, June 28, 1904, Image 1. Santa Fe, New Mexico. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed January 31, 2017.

Spears, John Randolph

1892a "Tales of the White Arabs." *Illustrated Sketches of Death Valley and Other Borax Deserts of the Pacific Coast*. Rand McNally, New York.

1892b "Once a Citizen of Death Valley." *The Sun*. March 20. New York. Library of Congress Website. Electronic document, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>, accessed July 27, 2011.

Steeple, Douglas W.

2000 "Mules, Mines, and Millions: Frank Smith and Calico Borax." Montana: *The Magazine of Western History* 50(1):28-43.

2001 "Editor's Introductions." In *Illustrated Sketches of Death Valley*. Edited by Douglas W. Steeple, pp 6-10. John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

Steeple, Douglas W., and David O. Whitten.

1999 *Treasure from the painted hills: a history of Calico, California, 1882-1907*. Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut.

Terry, Teresa J.

2011 *Historical Archaeology and Public History in the Western Mojave Desert: The Stone Hotel (CA-SBR- 5525H) in Daggett, San Bernardino County, California*. California State University, Fullerton, master's thesis. <https://fullerton.academia.edu/TeresaTerry>

2017 *The Stone Hotel Restoration Project: Historic Structure Report*. The Daggett Historical Society. <https://fullerton.academia.edu/TeresaTerry>

Traywick, Ben

1968 "Death Valley Borax." *Desert Magazine* 31(11):26-27

United States, Department of Agriculture

1986 "General Nature of the Area: History and Development." *Soil Survey of San Bernardino County, California*. Washington, D.C.

United States, Department of the Interior, National Park Service

1995 *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, & Reconstructing Historic Buildings*. Washington, DC.

United States Geological Survey

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

1971 Daggett Quadrangle, California 7.5 Minute Series, 1:62,500 (Topographic). United States Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

Van Dyke, Dix and Philip Johnson

1943 "Old Times in Daggett." *Westways* 35(2):16-17.

Van Dyke, Dix

1997 *Daggett: Life in a Mojave Frontier Town*. Edited by Peter Wild. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland.

Woodman, Ruth C.

1930 *She Burns Green* (Radio script, 12 pages). Ruth Cornwall Woodman Papers, Ax 690, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.

1941 *She Burns Green* (Radio script, 25 pages). Ruth Cornwall Woodman Papers, Ax 690, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.

1951 *She Burns Green* (Television script, production number 302, 44 pages). Ruth Cornwall Woodman Papers, Ax 690, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon. Aired 14 November 1952, *Death Valley Days*, Season 1, Episode 2, directed by Stuart McGowan.

Works Progress Administration

1940 "Murder is Suicide." *Pioneer tales of San Bernardino County*, pg 25 and 27, WPA Writers Program. The Sun Company, San Bernardino.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

N/A preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested

N/A previously listed in the National Register

N/A previously determined eligible by the National Register

N/A designated a National Historic Landmark

N/A recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

N/A recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

N/A recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: San Bernardino County Museum, University of California San Bernardino, Mojave River Valley Museum, Daggett Historical Society.

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.15

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 34° 51' 48.83" N Longitude: 116° 53' 04.01" W

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary runs along the legal property line, which delineated by a chain-link fence along most of the boundary and an iron fence along the south side bordering Santa Fe Street. The actual boundary of the Stone Hotel, itself, is the front walkway in between the front facade and the iron fence on the south side, the outside of the exterior walls on the east and west sides, and the north ends of the rear additions on the north side.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Property boundary was determined by legal property boundaries in the record books of the San Bernardino County Assessor's Office.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Teresa Terry, M.A., RPA, Secretary

organization: Daggett-Calico Historical Society

street & number: P.O Box 105

city or town: Daggett state: CA zip code: 92327

e-mail daggetthistoricalsociety@gmail.com

telephone: (760) 887-8843 – Cell phone, Teresa Terry

date: October 16, 2018, revised: March 1, 2022, revised: September 1, 2022

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
USGS 1971 Daggett 7.5' quadrangle
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.
Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: The Stone Hotel

City or Vicinity: Daggett

County: San Bernardino

State: California

Photographer: Teresa Terry

Date Photographed: January 1, 2017 to August 14, 2018

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Google Earth Aerial Map, Daggett, California, 2018.

Google Earth Aerial Map, Stone Hotel Property, 2018.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

Figure 2. Sketch Map of the amateur excavation of the Stone Hotel Property in 1979. Map on file with the South Central Coastal Archaeological Information Center, Cal State Fullerton.

Figure 3. 1883 - 1890 lower level floor plan of the rebuilt 1883 Southern Pacific Railroad Hotel and Eating House based on extant architecture and the description of the Capitol Saloon in the 24 May 1885 *Calico Print*. CGI drawing by Teresa Terry. Presence of 2nd story assumed based on separate entry ways in southeast and northwest corners which typically lead to stairs to a 2nd story.

Figure 4. Santa Fe Street Daggett ca. 1900. Photo courtesy of the Daggett Museum, Elinor Funk Collection. Restaurant adjacent to the right of the hotel.

Figure 5. Santa Fe Street, Daggett, The Old Stone Hotel (formerly the Railroad Hotel) on right, ca 1900. Photo courtesy of the Mojave River Valley Museum.

Death Valley Scotty (center) with the Windgate Pass group including Albert Johnson, 1906. Photo courtesy of the Mojave River Valley Museum. The Old Stone Hotel on the right.

Figure 6. Floor plan of the Railroad Hotel after it became the Stone Hotel between 1890 to 1908 based on a hand drawn floor plan by Joseph Mulcahy during the 1970s. CGI drawing by Teresa Terry.

Figure 7. The Stone Hotel reduced to just the original ground floor after the 1908 fire. Photo courtesy of the Mojave River Valley Museum.

Figure 8. Undated postcard of the Thistle Store, The Stone Hotel, and the Daggett Restaurant and Pool Hall. Ca. 1950.

Figure 9. Floor Plan of the hotel from 1908 to today. CGI drawing by Teresa Terry.

- 1 of 12 Front of Stone Hotel, view to the north from Santa Fe Street.
- 2 of 12 Front and east side of building, view to the northwest.
- 3 of 12 Back side of building, view to the south from between the north additions.
- 4 of 12 Inside Room #7, Death Valley Scotty's Room, view to the southeast. Room is at the southeast corner of the hotel. Door to the right is the old stairwell door leading outside.
- 5 of 12 Hotel lobby showing east front transomed double door and door leading into Death Valley Scotty's room, view to the east.

Name of Property The Stone Hotel

County and State San Bernardino County, California

- 6 of 12 Hotel lobby west hallway door, view to the north.
- 7 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, south façade, view to the north.
- 8 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, west side of the store, view to the northeast.
- 9 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, north façade, living quarters in back of the store, view to the south
- 10 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, interior store front, view to the north.
- 11 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, interior store front, view to the south.
- 12 of 12 The Thistle Store Dry Goods and Notions to the west of the Stone Hotel, interior kitchen area in living area behind the store, view to the northwest.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.