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Item 13

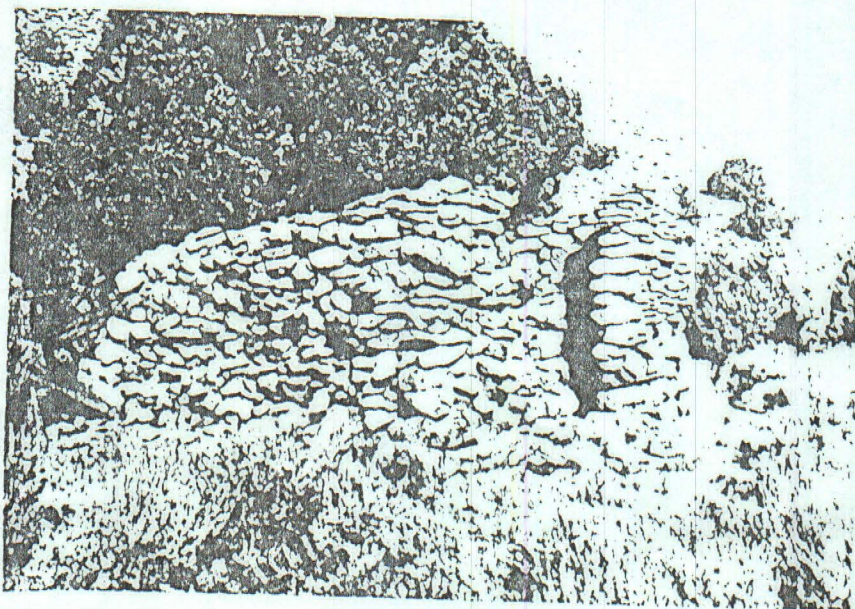
Location Number: NY 047

Location: Bellehelen
Coordinates: 38°04' / 116°28' T2N R49E
Elevation: 6300'
Map Sources: USGS Warm Springs Quadrangle; Clason 1906; Erickson County Map
References: URS/Blume Files; Paher; Carlson; Mordy; Site Investigation 7/14/77
Photographs: PlusX-JMC#8: 1-9
Status: Potential National Register Site

Bellehelen lies in the northern reaches of the Kawich Range. The ruins are situated in and around a canyon approximately one-half mile wide, with its slope trending northwest-southeast. The hills are low and rounded; willows indicate the presence of some groundwater; sagebrush is interspersed with juniper and pinyon pine.

Originally settled in 1904-1905 after silver and gold discoveries were made, the site was occupied on and off until around 1927. A post office was opened in 1909 but closed two years later. The Tonopah-Kawich Company built a cyanide mill in 1922.

Five rock structures and a number of possible sites of wood structures were identified. A 16' x 12' rubble-rock and mortar structure, with the highest wall about 6 feet, sits on the slope of the canyon, its long axis running



east-west. The foundation appears originally to have supported a lean-to roof on 1" x 6" lumber covered with corrugated metal. Nearby is a highly eroded rock structure built against rock outcroppings. It covers an area about 17' x 12' and

has walls about 5 feet high, and has an east-west long axis.

A rock house, 39' x 19' with its long axis northwest-southeast, probably the largest building of this settlement, could have been one of the original houses. Its wooden superstructure has collapsed totally. Pieces of lumber and a quantity of round nails, as well as domestic debris, lie scattered about the site. Further up the canyon are remnants of a 9' x 7' dugout; it has 2-1/2-foot-high walls and an east-west long axis. The walls are constructed of unmortared, rounded cobble similar to that found in the bottom of the valley. A 24' x 21' structure, of unmortared rounded rock walls about 2 feet thick and 3 feet high, appears never to have been completed. Associated with this is a rock-lined well structure, 15 feet deep and 4 feet in diameter.

On a hilltop there is a 5-foot-high, 2-foot-long, and 18-inch-thick rock wall that appears to be part of a dugout. It once supported a wooden roof that has since collapsed and lies scattered on the hillside.