

2620 0002

(236)
Item 3

Location Number: NY 057

Location: Kawich
Coordinates: 37°33' / 116°17' T4S R51E
Elevation: 5760'
Map Sources: USGS Quartzite Mtn. Quadrangle; Erickson County Map; Clason 1906
References: Carlson; Mordy; Paher; Site Investigation 9/3/77
Photographs: KR64-GWK#1: 27-30
Status: Potential National Register Site

Kawich is a few miles north of Quartzite Mountain on a gentle east-facing slope of the southern Kawich Range. Kawich Valley lies to the east. The site occupies relatively level sagebrush-covered terrain.



During 1904, gold was being discovered in many parts of central Nevada. The

principal mines in the Kawich district were worked by the Gold Reed Mining Company; hence, both the town and the district were sometimes referred to as Gold Reed. The Kawich camp was founded in December 1904, shortly after initial discoveries had been made. Despite its early reputation as a camp remote from all amenities, within a year it had become the main camp in the district, boasting saloons, stores, a feed yard, and a post office. The size of the camp fluctuated as new discoveries were made in the surrounding area. During its most active period, a population of 400 was served irregularly by a stage line that ran 70 miles northwestward to Tonopah.

No significant standing structures remain at the Kawich site. Vertical shafts, tailing piles, and unmortared walls of angular rubble rock mark the mining area. Near the tailing piles, a timber dugout structure and the ruins of several wood and rubble-rock structures can be seen. Some 350

feet to the northwest, there are several indentations in the ground surface that once may have held the foundations of structures.

Approximately 1/2 mile southwest of the Kawich site is a 16' x 14' wood-frame structure with a northeast-southwest long axis. Corrugated metal is used for the structure's siding and for its flat roof. The structure is in good condition. An outbuilding sits to the north (rear) of this building.