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Item 7

Location Number: NY 034

Location: Morey
Coordinates: 38°39' / 116°16' TN9 R51E S5
Elevation: 7480'
Map Sources: USGS Morey Peak Quadrangle; Erickson County Map; Nevada Map Atlas; Rand McNally 1881
References: Paher; Carlson; Mordy; URS/Blume Files; Personal Communication with T. Barndt; Site Investigation 7/12/77
Photographs: KR64-CK#14: 10-20; PlusX-JMC#3: 0-23
Status: Potential National Register Site

The Morey mine site is at the head of Morey Canyon in the eastern foothills of the Hot Creek Range. Silver was discovered at Morey in 1865, and within ten years a small community was established. The area contains remnants of a mill that was sited in 1873, mine dumps, headframes, ruins of small wooden structures, and debris, including many square nails. There are also several privately owned, relatively contemporary buildings at the site, some of which appear to have been moved there from other locations.

The dominant structures at Morey were made of rock, and a number of partially collapsed rock walls and foundations are in the canyon. For example, there are two rock structures approximately 12' x 12' with 2-foot-thick unmortared walls. Parts of the walls have fallen, and the standing portions are about 5 feet high. These walls would not be stable under strong ground motion.

Among the structures at the site is a stone dugout cellar 15' x 15' x 8 feet deep. The roof is peeled logs topped with bark and then sod and dirt. The dugout is about half underground. An 8-foot-high adobe wall stands as the front elevation of the cellar, and this

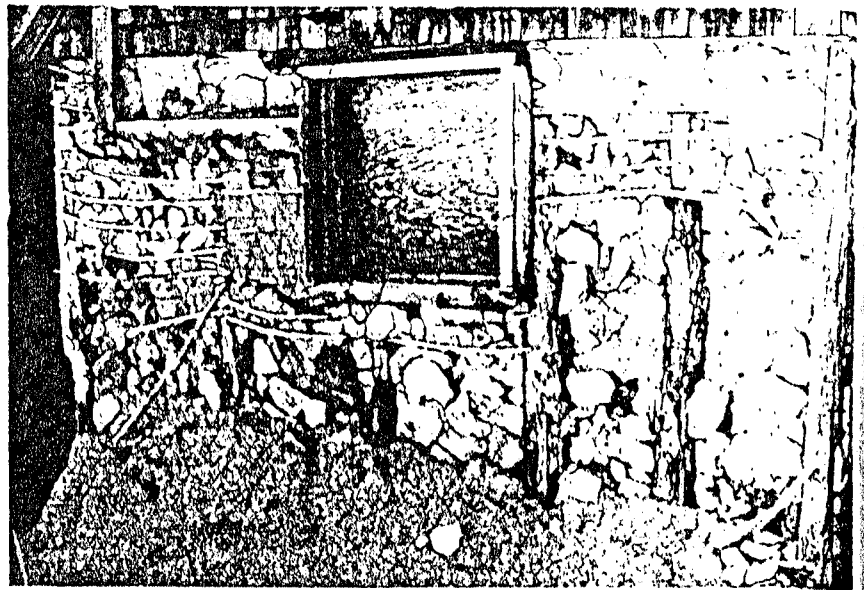


wall has been used as the back wall of a contemporary structure, thus a connecting house and cellar.

The dominant structure of historic importance at the site is a U-shaped, single-story building of wood, rock, and wattle-and-daub construction. The structure is on a slight slope and has a north-south-trending long axis. Although the structure is one building, it appears to have been constructed in three stages: the south side of the U first, the north side next, and the area connecting the two wings last. The oldest part of the structure dates from circa 1874.

The south wing of this structure is 28' x 12' x 14 feet high. It is partitioned into two rooms with a small addition on the south elevation. This wing is constructed of 3" to 4" hand-hewn studs and horizontal sticks with rock filler and daubing.

The roof is a high-peaked eave with an east-west long axis. The roofing is shingles covered with tar paper. There is no flooring as the lumber has been removed.



The north wing is partitioned into three rooms and is constructed partly of

mud-mortared rock (the north elevation) and wattle-and-daub and lath-and-daub. One room has 1" x 10" flooring, the others none. The dimensions are 24' x 22' x 14 feet high. The medium-rise roof is covered with 1" x 10" sheathing.

The bottom of the connecting U is 17' x 16' with the long axis north and south. The west elevation of this section has collapsed. This room contains a brick fireplace.

The structure is in generally poor condition. The wattle-and-daub crumbles to the touch and the north elevation is partially collapsed. The foundation is unmortared rock that has fallen in places. The chimney has eroded at the roofline and there are many loose bricks.

Location Sketch

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Plan View (No Scale)

