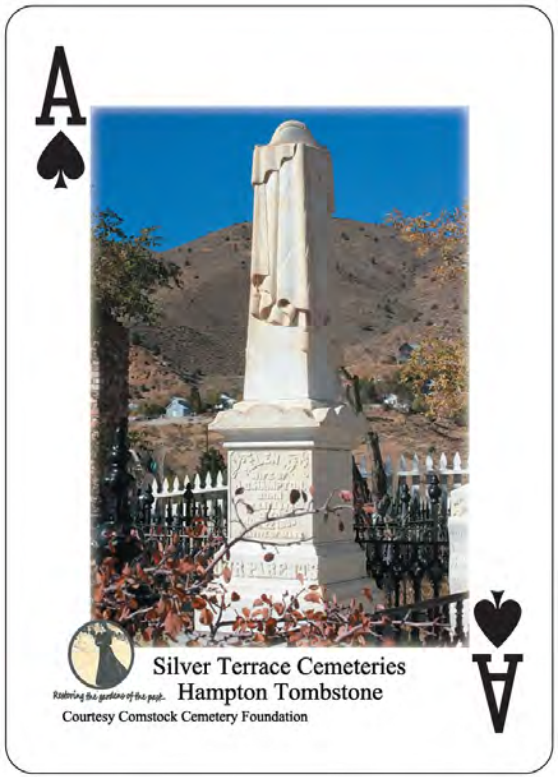
Silver Terrace Cemeteries
Hampton Tombstone



The Comstock Cemetery Foundation (CCF) supports the protection of the unique Comstock cemeteries for future generations. Countless visitors are charmed by the cemeteries' "sense of pastness" and patina created by 146 years of aging. The CCF preservation plan will maintain that patina while allowing for protective activities.

The cemeteries of the Comstock have a layered and storied past. In 1859, people who died on the Comstock were buried in any convenient hole. The first formal cemeteries were established in 1859 at Gold Hill, and in 1867, the Silver Terrace cemeteries were established in Virginia City. These early cemeteries served as the Comstock's first park-like areas used for relaxation and recreation.

The formal cemeteries were designed complexes that contained sections for fraternal and religious groups. The grave marker of John Clay and Helen Hampton is in the Masonic section-Silver Terrace cemeteries. The couple died on August 23, 1888. They were killed in a collision between the steam ships *Oceanic* and *City of Chester* in San Francisco Bay. It took many days to locate the body of John Clay, but eventually both bodies were sent back to Virginia City to be buried by the local undertaker J.A. Conboie. It was reported their funeral was the largest ever seen in Virginia City and consisted of 82 carriages. Their marble monument was placed on a Washoe granite base and reached to nearly 11 feet in height. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places, their family home on B Street in Virginia City stands proudly as a contributing element to the National Historic Landmark.

For more information on the Comstock Cemetery Foundation visit:
http://comstockcemetery.com/

Rock Art in Nevada
The Nevada Rock Art Foundation

Rock art is markings, either painted (pictographs) or engraved (petroglyphs) on the surface of rock, or geoglyphs (large figures produced by either removing the surface of the ground or alignments of stone on the surface of the ground). Rock art was made and used on every continent inhabited by human populations until writing was invented, and sometimes beyond that time.

In Nevada, native people made rock art and incorporated it into their social practices for over 10,000 years. The meaning is unknown except to the makers although people throughout time often returned to the same sites again and again to make additional rock art and continue cultural practices. The art reflects the rituals, beliefs, practices of its makers and it provides a glimpse into the world views and culture of those who created it.

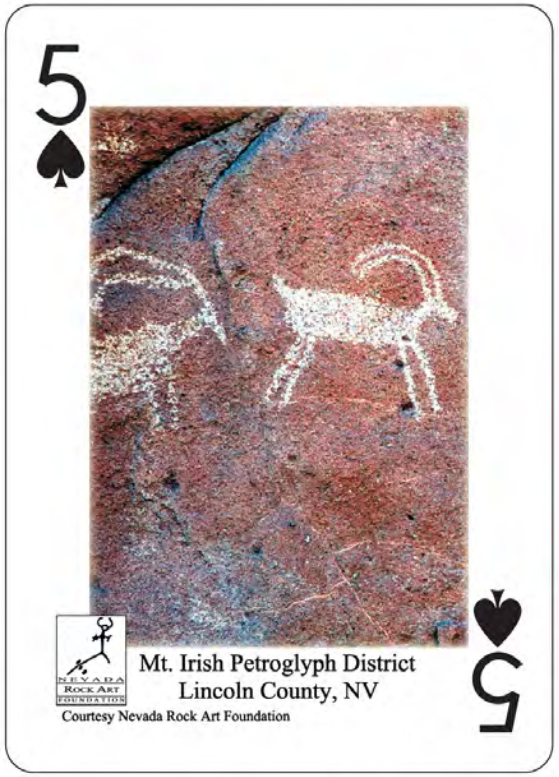
Although we may not know the meaning of the markings, scientists can infer time periods of use from the artifacts found in and around the rock art, and in the images themselves demonstrating the use of nets, bows and arrows and spear throwers. Native people continued to make rock art into the historic period as can be seen on the Three of Spades.

The images portrayed in these playing cards represent a variety of styles, time periods, and geographic locations where rock art is found in Nevada. Although rock art appears durable it is actually fragile and vulnerable to the elements and to the pressures placed by the state of Nevada's burgeoning population. Vandalism, theft, and ignorant misuse are destroying the physical record of past cultural practices and the knowledge they contain. Supporting the Nevada Rock Art Foundation (NRAF) is an opportunity to help record Nevada's history through research and site protection.

For more information on Nevada's significant rock art and to join the effort to protect these resources visit:
http://www.nvrockart.org/

BATTLE BORN ★ NEVADA PROUD 150th Anniversary of Statehood

Mt. Irish Petroglyph District
Lincoln County



The Mt. Irish Petroglyph District, located on the eastern flanks of the Mt. Irish Range, comprises 640 acres of rock art sites dating back approximately 4,000 years. The Bureau of Land Management has created interpretive trails and a trail guide for the three largest rock art sites in the district.

Two major styles of rock art have been recorded at Mt. Irish. The Pahranagat Style is a localized tradition found mostly at sites in Pahranagat Valley and is unique to Lincoln County. In this style, people are portrayed as ovals or rectangles with large eyes and long fingers, sometimes holding atlatls (spear throwers) suggesting creation before the introduction of the bow and arrow, over 1,500 years ago. The Basin and Range Tradition is the second style found in the district. It is more characteristic of rock art found in other parts of Nevada and the Great Basin. People are portrayed as stick figures. A large number of animal species, most commonly bighorn sheep, are represented within the district.

The Mt. Irish petroglyphs provide archaeologists with the opportunity to examine changes in rock art styles through the migration of people or diffusion of beliefs and ideas from other places, and to trace the use of a particular landscape to continue cultural practices over time.

For more information on Nevada's significant rock art and to join the effort to protect these resources visit:
http://www.nvrockart.org/

Lagomarsino Canyon Petroglyphs
Storey County

Lagomarsino Canyon is one of the largest petroglyph sites in Nevada, containing 2,229 rock art panels and based on the dates of associated artifacts, considered to have been visited and in use for approximately 10,000 years. It is one of only eight rock art sites in Nevada to be honored on the National Register of Historic Places.

The site is a quarter of a mile in length, located on a fine-grained basalt cliff and associated talus slope. Lagomarsino Canyon is one of the most significant archaeological sites of its type in the Great Basin. Its scale and quality are impressive, and the site conveys a strong sense of place and prehistoric social routines. The site derives a broader significance from its role in the development of the archaeological study of Great Basin rock art sites, having shaped explanatory approaches to rock art's prehistoric sociocultural contexts of use and in stylistic analyses of prehistoric art.

The site retains considerable research potential and will continue to shape the way archaeologists conceptualize the role of visual symbolism in prehistoric societies.

For more information on Nevada's significant rock art and to join the effort to protect these resources visit:
http://www.nvrockart.org/

Old Spanish National Historic Trail
Clark County

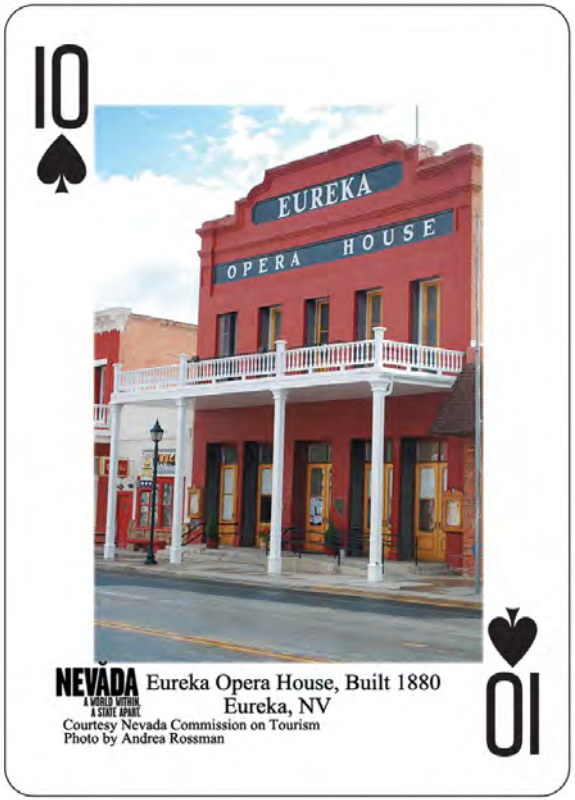
There was money to be made nearly 200 years ago in transporting New Mexico serapes and other woolen goods to Los Angeles, and in wrangling California-bred horses and mules back to Santa Fe. But a viable overland route across the remote deserts and mountains of Mexico's far northern frontier had to be found.

It took the vision and courage of Mexican trader Antonio Armijo to lead the first commercial caravan from Abiquiú, New Mexico, to Los Angeles late in 1829. Over the next 20 years, Mexican and American traders continued to ply variants of the route that Armijo pioneered, frequently trading with Indian tribes along the way. And it was from a combination of the indigenous footpaths, early trade and exploration routes, and horse and mule routes that a trail network known collectively as the Old Spanish Trail evolved.

After the United States took control of the Southwest in 1848 other routes to California emerged, and use of the Old Spanish Trail sharply declined.

For more information on this National Historic Trail please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/olsp/index.htm
or
http://www.oldspanishtrail.org/

Eureka Opera House
Eureka National Register District



"Eureka!" a miner is said to have exclaimed in September 1864 when he discovered rich ore here – and thus the town was named. Eureka soon developed the first important lead-silver deposits in the nation, and during the furious boom of the 1880s, it had 16 smelters, over 100 saloons, a population of 10,000 and a railroad – the colorful Eureka and Palisade – that connected with the transcontinental line 90 miles to the north. Production began to fall off in 1883, and by 1891, the smelters closed, their sites marked by the huge slag piles at both ends of Main Street.

The Opera House has always served as a gathering place for the people of Eureka. The first silent movie was shown here in 1915 and then in the 1920s, the opera house was changed into the Eureka Theatre and talkie shows were presented. In 1923, the original oleo curtain on the stage was destroyed by fire. It was replaced with a curtain with advertisements from local businesses in 1924. The last movie was shown there in 1958 and the building had fallen into disrepair.

In 1990, Eureka County acquired the structure and began a three-year restoration. The building received the 1994 National Preservation Honor Award after being reopened on October 5, 1993. Today the Eureka Opera House is a full service convention center and Cultural Arts Center. The building is used for conventions, meetings, and community functions as well as cultural presentations.

For more information on the Eureka Opera House please visit:
http://www.co.eureka.nv.us/opera/opera01.htm

Kachina Shelter Pictograph
Nevada Site Stewardship Program

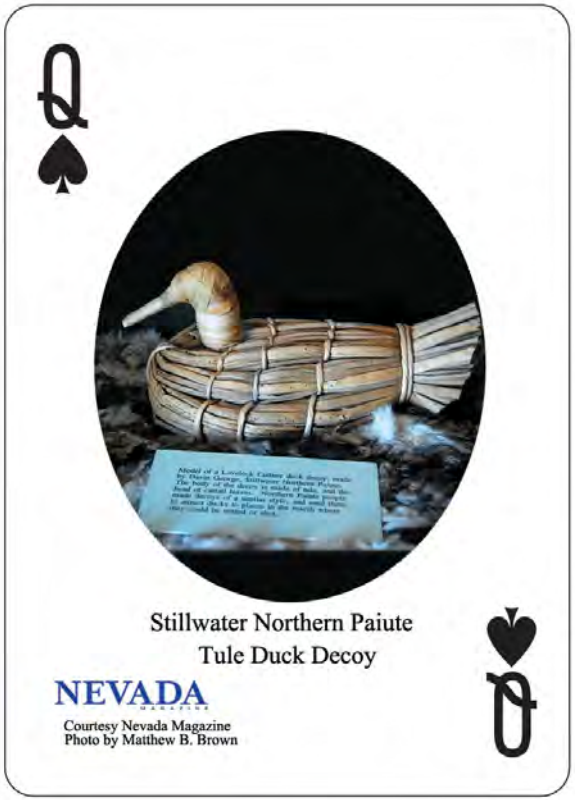
Kachina Shelter was discovered by European-Americans when Forest Ranger Graham Quate made an exploratory trip to the area in 1924. Governor J.G. Scrugham, an archaeological and historical enthusiast, urged M.R. Harrington of the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles to visit the site, which he did with his family in 1932. Harrington, whose wife named the site, worked at Kachina Shelter through the 1930s. The shelter was again excavated in the 1950s and 1970s. Most of the artifacts recovered, as well as the multitude of red anthropomorphic pictographs, show a relationship to the agricultural Fremont Culture of central Utah. The Fremont made incursions into eastern Nevada for a few centuries prior to AD 1200. Recent studies have suggested the Fremont were most closely related to the Puebloan Cultures in the Southwest. If that is the case, then naming the shelter "Kachina" Shelter may have been an apt name since the Puebloan Tribes in Arizona and New Mexico have maintained Kachina societies for more than a millennium.

The Nevada Site Stewardship Program is a state-sponsored program consisting of volunteer citizens committed to protecting Nevada's cultural heritage. Preservation is accomplished through educating volunteer site stewards to assist state and federal land managers in monitoring archaeological, historic, and paleontological resources across the state.

For more information on Nevada's Site Stewardship program visit:
http://nvshpo.org/stewards/site-steward-program.html

For more information on Nevada's significant rock art and to join the effort to protect these resources visit:
http://www.nvrockart.org/

Tule Duck Decoy
Nevada's State Artifact



Lovelock Cave, first identified in 1911 by a pair of miners collecting bat guano to sell as fertilizer, contained a cache of 11 intact decoys stored inside two woven baskets.

The duck decoy was made Nevada's state artifact in 1995 although all of the decoys found in Lovelock Cave are now housed in the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

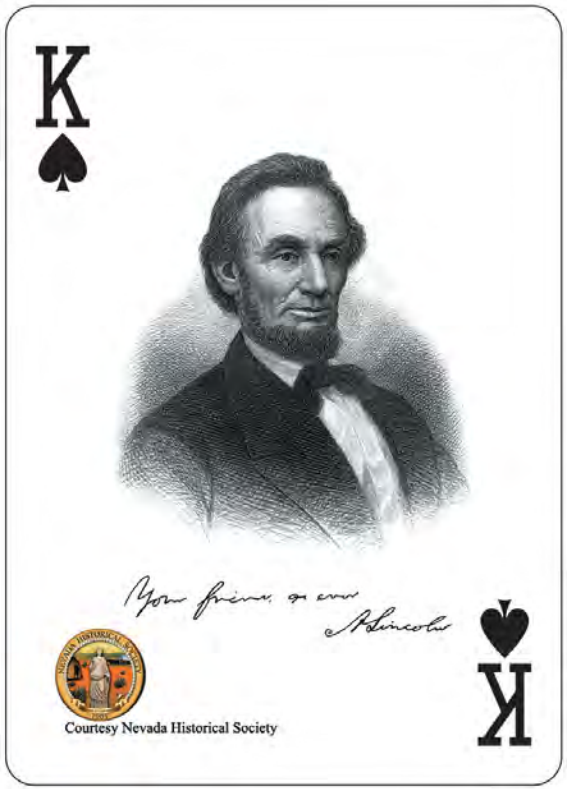
The charming community of Lovelock is home to the historic Pershing County Marzen House Museum. The museum is dedicated to preserving artifacts pertaining to the rich history of Pershing County, including some modern tule duck decoys.

The two-story Marzen House was built in 1874 as the showplace home of a wealthy local rancher, and today is a fully restored structure with a wonderful array of artifacts from Lovelock's early days.

For more information on the Marzen House Museum:
www.loverslock.com/Lovelock-Historical_Sites.html

For more information about the Lovelock culture visit:
www.onlinenevada.org/articles/lovelock-culture

Abraham Lincoln
President at Nevada's Admission to the Union



Nevada is the **"Battle Born"** state because of its entrance into the Union during the Civil War. By the time Congress approved an Enabling Act for Nevada on March 21, 1864, the Civil War was already winding down. The Union had won decisive victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, and the South was in retreat.

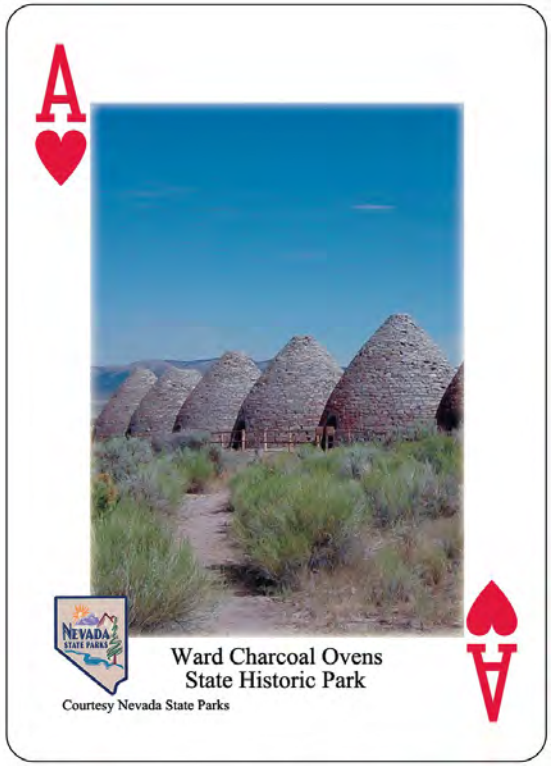
President Lincoln sought reelection and faced a three-way race against General John C. Fremont and General George B. McClellan, a Democrat. New states, and their popular and electoral votes, were needed to reelect Lincoln in support of his moderate, reconstruction policies for the South. Among the proposed policies was the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. If Nevada were a state, it could ratify the amendment and help in the passage of this significant legislation.

Lincoln won reelection in 1864, as Union military triumphs heralded an end to the war. In his planning for peace, the President was flexible and generous, encouraging Southerners to lay down their arms and join speedily in reunion. The spirit that guided him was clearly evident in his Second Inaugural Address, now inscribed on one wall of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.: "With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds...."

For more information on Abraham Lincoln and Nevada's Statehood visit:
http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/nevada-statehood

BATTLE BORN★ NEVADA PROUD 150th

Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park
White Pine County



Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Park features historic charcoal ovens that served the demand for charcoal in the late 1870s. Visitors can explore these impressive ovens, learn about their many functions since their creation, and understand the importance of their preservation.

Silver ore was discovered here in 1872 when freighters were looking for oxen that were grazing in the Willow Creek Basin area. The Ward Mining District, located two miles north of the park, was then developed. Small claim mining continued in this area for several years. The beehive shaped ovens seen today replace an older and less efficient system of reducing pinyon pine and juniper into charcoal. The Ward Charcoal Ovens operated from 1876 through 1879, the silver boom years of the Ward mines. The ovens were eventually phased out completely due to depleted ore deposits and a shortage of available timber.

A newly renovated campground provides a quiet, forested retreat.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/ward-charcoal-ovens-state-historic-park/

The Laxalt Building
Carson City Post Office

This was the first Federal building to be constructed in the state and the only one of its particular style. With its extensive use of red brick, interesting textural qualities and employment of a clock tower, this massive-appearing building differs from all other governmental and civic buildings in the state. This structure possesses architectural significance as an excellent example of the Romanesque Revival style mixed with the Chateau style massing and silhouette. The structure's mass and scale continues to provide the community with a focal point and visual landmark since its opening in 1891.

This building was actually Carson City's third post office from the time of the building's opening in 1891 until the post office was closed in 1970. During these same years, the building served as the offices of the United States District Court and was the seat of legal decisions affecting the entire State of Nevada.

Located at 401 North Carson Street, the building now houses the Nevada Commission on Tourism, the state's marketing arm for the tourism industry. The publishing staff for Nevada Magazine, the state's official bimonthly tourism magazine, occupy the first floor. In 1999, the building was dedicated in honor of the former Nevada Governor and U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt.

For additional information on the Laxalt Building please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/nevada/cpo.htm

BATTLE BORN★ NEVADA PROUD 150th Anniversary of Statehood

Sand Harbor State Park
Washoe County

Sand Harbor in the Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park offers 55 acres of sandy beach shoreline on the clear blue waters of the world famous Lake Tahoe.

The Washoe Tribe prized the resources of Tahoe's east shore long before Europeans made their discovery of the lake. Washoe families spent summers at Sand Harbor fishing, hunting, and gathering. To learn more about the Washoe Tribe, please visit their website at www.washoetribe.us.

Today, visitors can enjoy picnicking, hiking, swimming, CharPit Food, and a Shakespeare Festival in the summer.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/sand-harbor/

Echo Canyon State Park
Lincoln County

Groups referred to as "Fremont" by archaeologists from 1,500 to 800 years ago occupied the territory around Echo Canyon. The term "Fremont" originates from the Fremont River in Utah where these groups' camps were first located. Evidence suggests that the Fremont used the Parklands for hunting and gathering, but the lack of permanent residential structures indicates that they occupied the land only seasonally—probably moving to a more temperate climate in the winter months.

Echo Canyon State Park offers a 35-acre reservoir with a campground, picnic area, group use facilities, and boat launch. Abundant wildlife, a wide variety of native plants and unique rock formations make exploration a favorite activity.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/echo-canyon-state-park/

Cathedral Gorge State Park
Lincoln County

Created as one of Nevada's first State Parks in 1935, the area had previously been set aside for preservation in 1924 by Governor James Scrugham.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) built the original picnicking facilities, stone water tower, and stone rest room in the 1930s. The picnicking area is still in use today while remaining CCC features are preserved for future visitors to enjoy but are no longer in use.

Trails abound for exploring the cave-like formations and cathedral-like spires. Hiking, picnicking, camping, nature study, photography, and ranger programs are the most common activities at the park.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/cathedral-gorge/

Valley of Fire State Park
Clark County

Valley of Fire, Nevada's oldest (dedicated in 1934) and largest state park (40,000 acres), derives its name from the unique red sandstone formations, created from great shifting sand dunes during the age of dinosaurs, 150 million years ago. Complex uplifting and faulting of the region, followed by extensive erosion, have created the present landscape. Ancient cultural and natural resources are found throughout the park and include deposits of petrified wood and 3,000 year-old petroglyphs such as the images behind the posing bighorn.

Visitors can enjoy unique photographic opportunities, hiking, camping, and picnicking.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
www.parks.nv.gov/parks/valley-of-fire-state-park

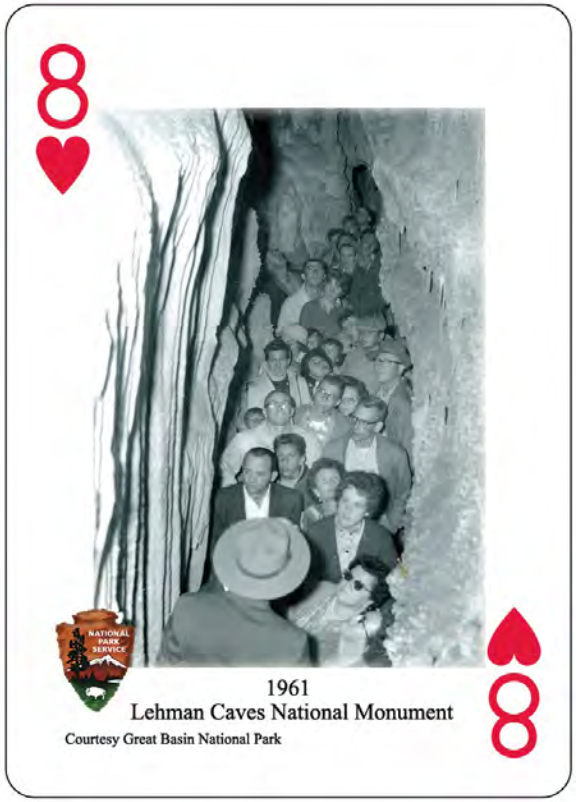
Berlin– Ichthyosaur State Park
Lander County

During its heyday, Berlin and its Union suburbs supported 200-250 people including miners, woodcutters, charcoal makers, a doctor and nurse, a forest ranger, and a prostitute. Many of the original buildings still remain, and some of the original residents are interred in the town's cemetery. Berlin stands today as a true Nevada ghost town, preserved for present and future generations.

The park offers camping and picnicking facilities with trails that weave among historic sites. Visitors can also take a tour of the fossil house that preserves the remains of several Ichthyosaurs, giant marine reptiles that have been designated as Nevada's state fossil.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/bi/

Lehman Caves National Monument
Great Basin National Park



President Warren G. Harding declared Lehman Caves a National Monument on January 24, 1922. It was dedicated in a grand celebration on August 6 that involved the American Legion, the mayor of Baker, and local schoolchildren.

An Executive Order, signed by President Franklin Roosevelt on June 10, 1933, transferred control of all national monuments, including Lehman Caves, to the National Park Service. During the next decade, several cleanup, rehabilitation, and repair projects were conducted in the cave and on the surface by New Deal agencies such as the Works Progress Administration, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and the Civil Work Administration.

The first electrically lit cave tours began in April 1941. The complicated system was difficult to maintain, though, and had frequent failures. It was not until 1949, when new reliable generators were installed, that continuous cave lighting was assured.

In 1955, a long-term action plan designed to improve and develop facilities at this Monument and across the Nation's system of National Parks, while fully protecting resources, was inaugurated and dubbed "Mission 66." The plan was to implement these goals nationwide by the 50th anniversary of the National Park Service, which would be celebrated in 1966. At Lehman Caves National Monument over $500,000 was spent on improvements. Additional employee housing, a visitor center (the current Lehman Caves Visitor Center), power plant, utility building, several thousand feet of new road, a 25-unit picnic area, and new utilities systems were constructed. Trails inside the cave were refurbished, and additional cave elements were added to the regular tour. By 1966, annual visitation to Lehman Caves National Monument increased to 31,000 visitors.

For more information on the Lehman Caves National Monument please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/grba/historyculture/lehman-caves-history.htm

Great Basin National Park
Mt. Washington bristlecone pine

Pinus longaeva, the world's longest living tree, has been known to live for over 4,900 years. It usually grows at elevations between 9,000 and 11,500 feet on exposed rocky sites above the continuous forest. It is usually found on limestone or dolomite but, as is the case on Wheeler Peak, will grow on quartzite or volcanic rock. Wind and snow at higher elevations cause the crown to become bushy and distorted. Windblown sand and ice crystals polish the trunk, often wearing away sections of the tree. Bristlecones survive longest where conditions are most strenuous. They are slow growing and easily out-competed by faster growing trees so they have adapted to the harshest conditions where other trees will not grow. A 4,900+ year old tree was removed from the Wheeler Peak grove in 1964.

Bristlecone pine wood that has fallen to the ground can remain intact for thousands of years in a cold and dry climate. Using a cross-dating technique that overlaps tree-ring patterns of living trees with the still intact growth patterns of dead wood, scientists have assembled a continuous tree-ring chronology extending nearly 10,000 years. For many years now, scientists, archeologists, and historians have relied on a dating system known as radiocarbon dating. It was discovered back in the 1960s that this process was flawed and needed to be calibrated. The wood from bristlecone pines helped correct this process by providing samples that could be precisely dated. Scientists dated these samples by counting their growth rings; they then measured the amount of carbon-14 (C^{14}) in those same samples. They discovered that the radiocarbon dating process was providing dates that were "too young" and established a calibration factor to correct the dating process. Faulty C^{14} data obtained before the bristlecone pine calibration was then re-examined and corrected. Because bristlecone pines provided the wood to recalibrate the radiocarbon dating method, they have become known as the trees that rewrote history.

For more information on the Great Basin National Park please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/grba/index.htm

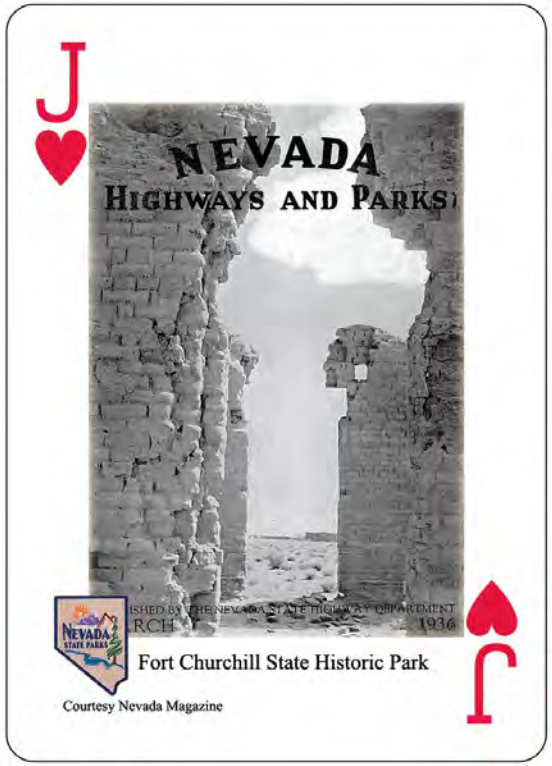
Spring Valley State Park
Lincoln County

Mormon pioneers settled this part of eastern Nevada in 1864. The first weeks in the Valley were difficult for the Pioneers. They lived in their wagons until their homes were built. Some of these homes still stand today: the Stone Cabin is a prime example of the workmanship. Though changes have been made over the last century – the metal roof would have been logs tied together, chinked and layered with sod rather than the metal you see today – the cabin gives visitors a glimpse into the life of a pioneer.

Spring Valley State Park is a popular area for fishing, camping, and sightseeing. Visitors also enjoy hiking, exploring and touring the historic Ranch House museum.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/spring-valley-state-park

Fort Churchill State Historic Park
Churchill County



Fort Churchill was once an active U.S. Army fort. Built in 1861 to provide protection for early settlers, it was abandoned nine years later. Today the ruins are preserved in a state of arrested decay. A visitor center displays information and artifacts of the fort's history. The Pony Express National Historic Trail and the Overland Telegraph once passed through this National Historic Landmark.

Nearby is Buckland Station, a Pony Express stop, supply center, and former hotel built in 1870. This Station is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Visitors can camp, walk designated trails to study the ruins of the old fort, picnic, and enjoy fishing or swimming in the Carson River.

This image was the cover photo for the *Nevada Highways and Parks* magazine from March 1936.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/fort-churchill-state-historic-park

Helen J. Stewart
1854-1926

Helen Jane Wiser was born on April 16, 1854 in Springfield, Illinois, to Hiram and Delia Gray Wiser. On April 6, 1873, Helen married Archibald Stewart in Stockton, California. By this time, Mr. Stewart had already abandoned a freighting business and a wood ranch near Pioche, Lincoln County, Nevada to focus on cattle ranching. This photo was taken one year after her marriage to Archibald.

In 1879, Stewart loaned $5,000 in gold to Octavius D. Gass, taking the isolated Las Vegas Ranch as collateral. By 1881, Gass had defaulted on the loan, and Stewart foreclosed. In 1882, Archibald decided to move his family to the ranch in the Las Vegas Valley until he could sell it. Stewart profitably operated the ranch, selling beef, vegetables, fruit, and wine to the miners in the Southern Nevada camps until his murder at the nearby Kiel Ranch 1884.

Following her husband's death, Helen became extremely proficient as a rancher and a businesswoman. Realizing that someday the land in the Las Vegas Valley would become of value, she began buying land adjacent to her ranch. By 1890, she was the largest landowner in Lincoln County, which at that time included present-day Clark County.

For more information on Helen J. Stewart and other important Nevada Women visit:
http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/giographies.htm

BATTLE BORN★ NEVADA PROUD 150th Anniversary of Statehood

Washoe Lake State Park
Washoe County

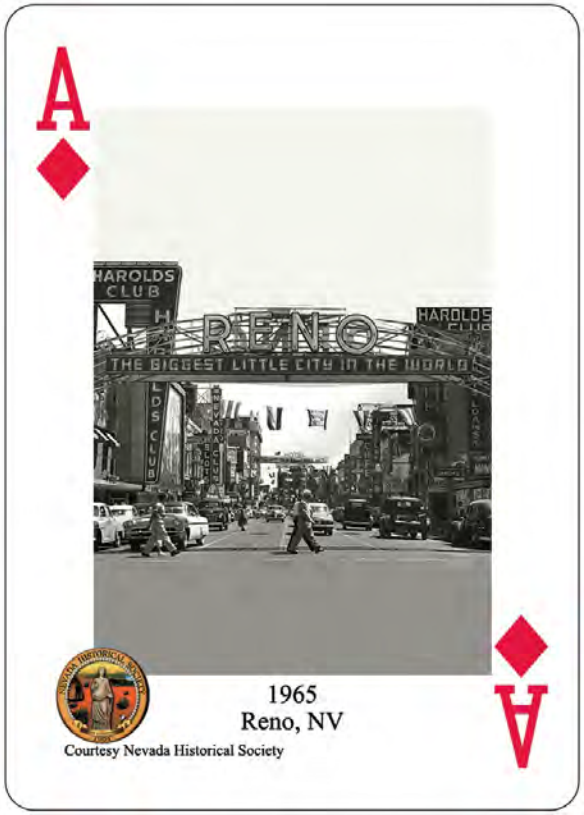
Washoe Lake State Park was established in 1977 to preserve a portion of scenic Washoe Valley for future generations to enjoy. This Park takes its name from its original inhabitants, the Washoe Tribe, whose families have occupied the region for thousands of years.

In 1859, Mormon settlers established a permanent settlement near Franktown, west of Washoe Lake. The Ophir Mill was built on Washoe Lake's west shore and was reached by an elevated causeway across the then Washoe Marsh. Washoe Valley saw other supply towns such as Washoe City, Ophir, and Lakeview spring up in response to the mining activity nearby. By the late 1870s, the mining boom was over and the towns around Washoe Lake were all but abandoned. Those who remained behind turned to ranching and farming, gradually displacing the Washoe Indians from the Valley.

This Park offers the opportunity for nature study and bird watching in the wetland areas. Two large campgrounds provide a convenient stop for modern travelers.

For more information on this State Park, please visit:
http://parks.nv.gov/parks/washoe-lake-state-park/

City of Reno
Certified Local Government



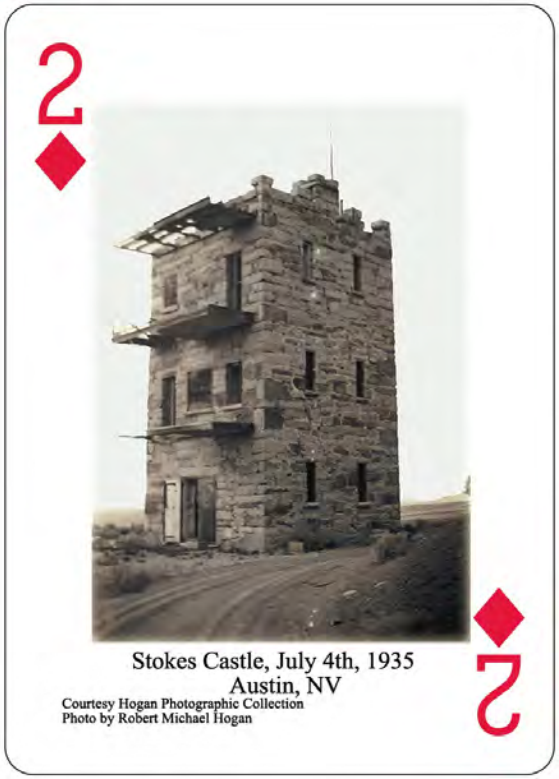
In 1929, a contest was held to adapt a slogan for the original arch. The winning phrase, "The Biggest Little City In The World", was branded on the arch and has been a Reno mainstay ever since. This arch, along with twelve resources on the Reno Register of Historic Places and almost eighty National and State Register buildings, structures, and objects exemplify Reno's commitment to preserve its historic neighborhoods and buildings.

The City of Reno is a Certified Local Government which means that the City is a preservation partner with state and national governments to focus on promoting historic preservation at the grass roots level.

This grass roots effort is led by the Historical Resources Commission is to act as the official advisor to the City of Reno on matters relating to the historic preservation of cultural resources and buildings. The Commission recommends to the Council possible uses and funding options for historic buildings, places, and sites. The HRC also suggests policy and ordinance changes to the City Council relating to historic building and sites.

For more information on the Reno Register of Historic Places please visit:
http://www.reno.gov/government/departments/community-development-department/historic-resources/reno-historic-places

Stokes Castle
Austin, Lander County



Anson Phelps Stokes, mine developer, railroad magnate, and member of a prominent eastern family, built Stokes Castle as a summer home for his sons. After the castle (or the tower, as the Stokes family always referred to it) was completed in June 1897, the Stokes family used it for two months. Since then, with one possible exception, the structure has remained unoccupied.

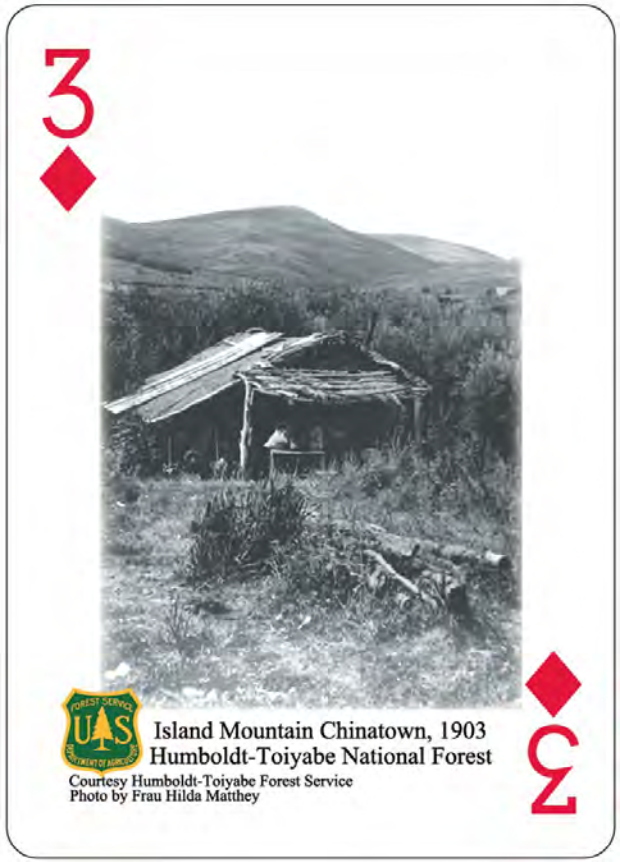
Stokes Castle is made of granite. The huge stones, raised with a hand winch, were held in position by rock wedging and clay mortar. The architectural model for the castle was a medieval tower Anson Stokes had seen and admired near Rome. This building originally had three floors, each with a fireplace, plate glass windows, balconies on the second and third floors, and a battlemented terrace on the roof. It had sumptuous furnishings and plumbing quite adequate for the time.

The structure stands as an abiding monument to the men who built it and to those who helped develop Austin.

For more information on Austin visit:
http://www.austinnevada.com/index.html

For more information on the Austin, Nevada Museum:
http://austinnevadamuseum.com/

Overseas Chinese in Nevada
Island Mountain Chinatown



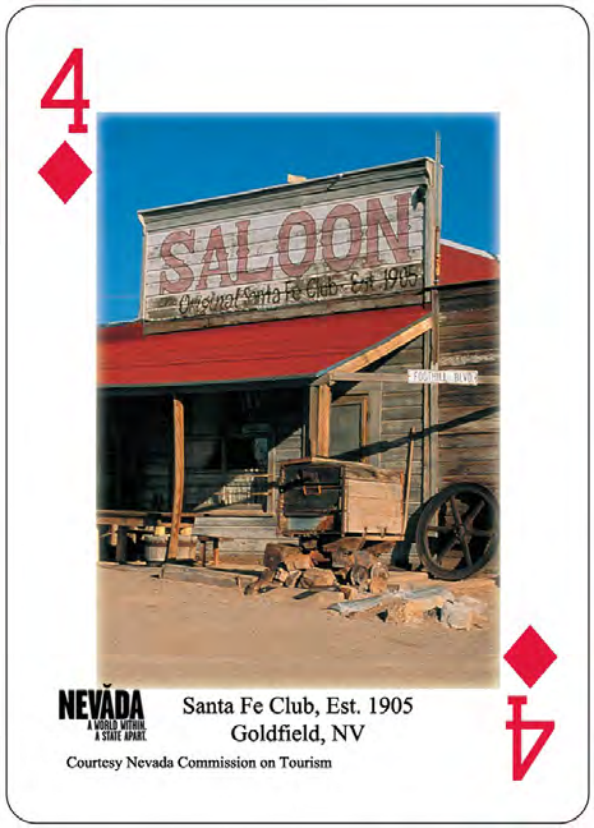
During the 1850s, south China and especially the province of Guangdong experienced social and economic upheavals due to the opening of treaty ports, natural catastrophes, and increased banditry. With the 1859 discovery of gold and silver in the western Great Basin, a new chance to capture the wealth of the West presented itself. Many Chinese came to this new land, which they called Yinshan or "Silver Mountain". Here, they joined thousands of others from throughout the world, each seeking an opportunity to capitalize on the immense wealth produced by Nevada mines.

"Manny" Penrod discovered the Island Mountain Mining District in northern Elko County in 1873. Penrod, an early partner with Henry Comstock of Comstock Lode fame, found placer gold at Island Mountain and employed Chinese workers to aid in building hydraulic ditches from nearby creeks to wash gold from the soils in his placer mines.

The Chinese, who elsewhere were excluded from mining in Nevada, lived here from 1873 until around 1915. Not only miners, these Chinese residents also served the nearby Gold Creek ranching and mining community as laborers and as cooks. A Chinese mercantile store and community laundries were also located on Island Mountain's Pekin Avenue serving Chinese, Native Americans, and Europeans-Americans. Frau Hilda Matthey, a visitor from Germany, took this photograph on a visit to her family's mining interests at Island Mountain in August of 1903.

For more information on the Chinese in Nevada please visit:
http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/chinese-nineteenth-century-nevada

Goldfield National Register Historic District
Esmeralda County

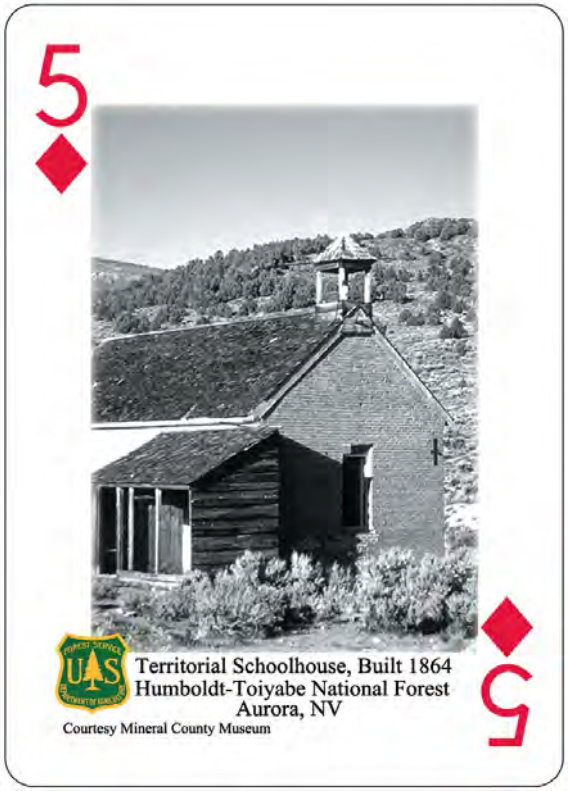


By 1906, Goldfield had become the center of Nevada's twentieth century mining boom. At the peak of its development in 1907, Goldfield boasted a population in excess of 20,000 persons, and a fully developed townsite containing thousands of structures. Contemporary Goldfield presents a completely different urban appearance, primarily as the result of a disastrous fire in 1923 that destroyed 53 blocks of the town including most of its commercial area.

The Goldfield High School, dedicated in 1908, is one of the most significant buildings remaining in the Goldfield National Register Historic District. Last used in 1953, it has been shuttered and unmaintained for most of the last 60 years. The Goldfield Historical Society has recently undertaken the stabilization and rehabilitation of the building, with the intention of utilizing it to interpret the natural and cultural history of Esmeralda County and as a community center to support the cultural and educational needs of the community.

For more information on the Goldfield Historical Society please visit:
http://www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com/

Aurora National Register District
Mineral County

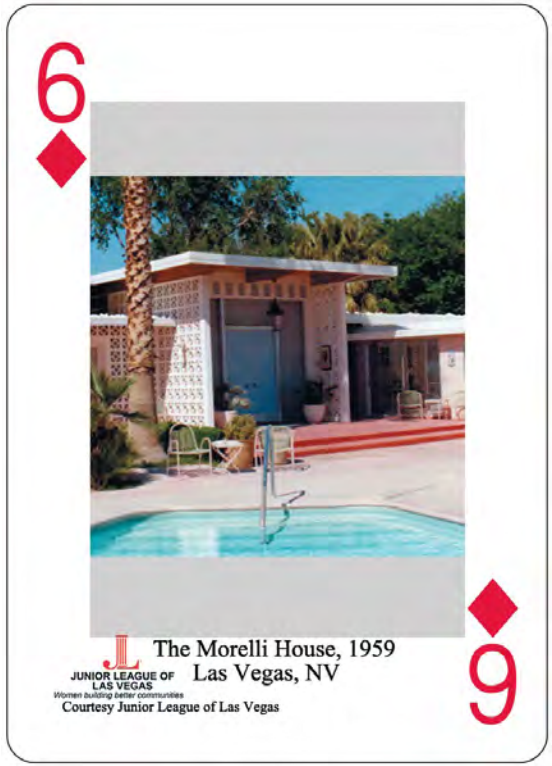


Gold and silver deposits were first discovered in the Aurora area in August 1860. Within 2 months, prospectors had filed 350 claims. Aurora Township was established in 1861, and votes cast that year totaled 593. In March 1861, the California State Legislature made Aurora the county seat of Mono County, while Territorial Governor Nye made it Council District 1 under his authority. Later that year, the Nevada Legislature created Esmeralda County with Aurora as the county seat. Because the boundary dispute was not resolved by the next general election in 1863, voters cast ballots at one polling place for California officials and at another for Nevada candidates. Settled by the boundary survey of 1864, Aurora was found to be three miles inside the Nevada border.

Samuel Clemens, who later became known as Mark Twain, arrived in Aurora in 1862, but spent only four months there before leaving for Virginia City. The town continued to grow after Clemens departed, and reached its peak in the summer of 1863 with 2 daily newspapers, 2 stage lines, 17 quartz mills, a telegraph, and almost 800 houses—more than 60 of them made of brick. Early in 1864 Aurora was the second largest city on the east slope of the Sierra Mountains, surpassed only by Virginia City. But the ore bodies in the area turned out to be shallow at only 100 feet, and, in 1864, the town began a decline that never stopped. By 1870, the population had fallen to 160. Today the U.S. Forest Service protects the remains of this once-thriving town.

For more information on Aurora please visit:
http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/aurora

The Antonio Morelli House
Clark County



The Morelli House, a classic example of mid-century residential architecture, is listed on three historic Registries: the City of Las Vegas, the State Register, and the National Register of Historic Places. In 1959 Antonio Morelli, conductor of the Sands Hotel Copa Showroom Orchestra, built his modernistic home overlooking the world-class Desert Inn Golf Course at 52 Country Club Drive.

The Junior League of Las Vegas rescued the Morelli House in 2001 when it was slated for demolition to make way for the Wynn Resort. The League relocated it to 861 E. Bridger Avenue in the Downtown historic district. This preservation project saved a piece of Las Vegas history for the community where brick and mortar representations of the past are often the unfortunate causalities of progress.

The Morelli House stands as a permanent gift to Las Vegas from the Junior League. As part of the historic preservation project's ongoing mission to provide a sense of community identity and to share the mid-century legacy that the Morelli House represents, the Junior League offers the public opportunities to tour the House, presents interpretive programs, and creates educational materials related to the House and its history.

For more information on the Morelli House visit:
www.morellihouse.org

Goodsprings Schoolhouse
Goodsprings, Clark County

Goodsprings Schoolhouse, Built 1913
Goodsprings, NV
Courtesy Goodsprings Historical Society

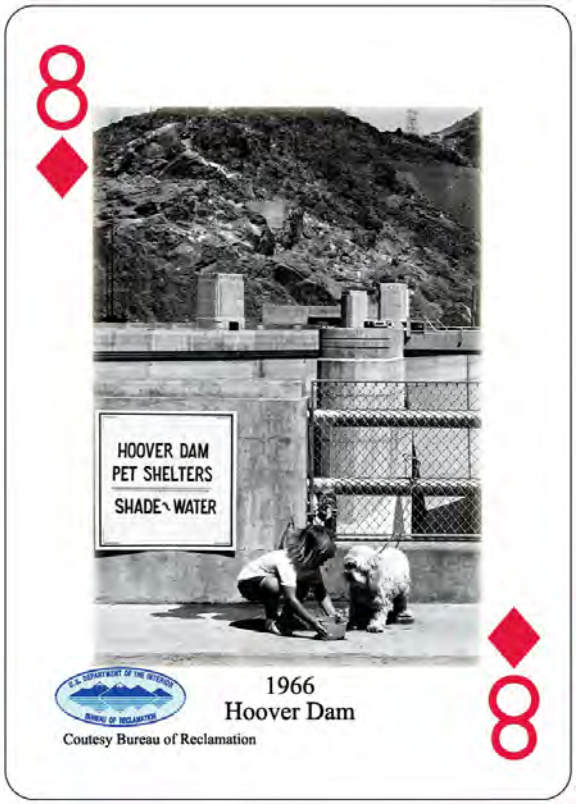
Ore deposits readily recognized in the faulted and folded limestone deposits of the district remained undiscovered until 1856, when Mormons began work at Potosí, establishing perhaps the oldest underground mine in Nevada. Named for cattleman Joseph Good, the open springs area was developed into the mining-ranching community of Goodsprings. With completion of the Los Angeles-Salt Lake Railroad in 1905 and the narrow-gauge Yellow Pine Railroad from Jean to Goodsprings in 1911, transportation costs of the local oxidized zinc minerals were reduced. The peak year of mining operations was reached in 1916 when Goodsprings had 800 residents. The Yellow Pine Mining District, with the greatest variety of minerals in Nevada, produced a total of $25 million, primarily in lead and zinc, with lesser amounts of gold, silver, copper, molybdenum, vanadium, nickel, cobalt, platinum, and uranium.

The first Goodsprings School was established in 1907 in a tent under the tutelage of Miss Winifred Hardy. After a number of moves, the present building was erected in 1913. This photo was taken in the 1915-1916 school year. In 1992, the school was added to the National Register of Historic Places and in 2013, the Historical Society celebrated the building's centennial anniversary. It is the oldest school in Clark County that was built as a school and is still used as a school.

The Goodsprings Historical Society was formed in 2001 as an advocate for the preservation of the historical and natural resources of Goodsprings Township. Its annual meeting is held on the first Saturday of May each year in conjunction with the Goodsprings Old Timers Reunion.

For more information on the Goodsprings Historical Society please visit:
http://www.goodsprings.org/

Hoover Dam National Historic Landmark
Tourism at Hoover Dam and Lake Mead



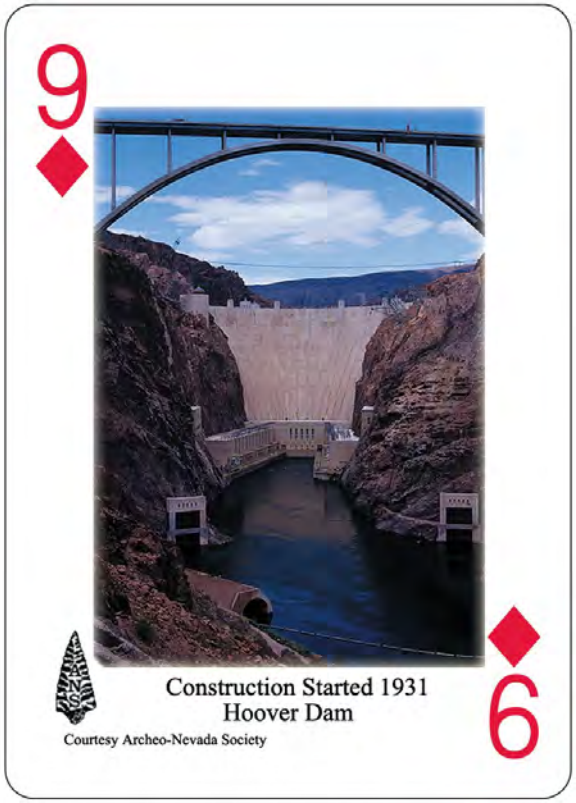
When construction of Hoover Dam was authorized in 1928, the Secretary of the Interior recognized the public would want to view construction of the dam and that the reservoir that would be created held significant recreation potential. At the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service entered into an agreement in the 1930s to provide for the development of tourism and recreation facilities at Hoover Dam and Lake Mead, a partnership that continues to this day.

Between 1931 and 1935, there were two observation points from which visitors could watch the construction activities. Reclamation designed a number of viewing areas into the roads to the dam, and to accommodate visitors' needs, the dam's design included viewing platforms, elevators, utility towers with public restrooms, ticket booths, and a Nurses' Station and Rangers' Station. In the 1940s an Exhibit Building was erected near the dam's Nevada abutment.

Tourism increased substantially in the 1950s and 1960s. To accommodate families with pets the Las Vegas Humane Society provided shade shelters and potable water at the Arizona Spillway Parking Lot. Pets are not permitted on the dam today because of the traffic and large number of visitors.

For more information on Hoover Dam please visit:
https://www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam/

Hoover Dam National Historic Landmark



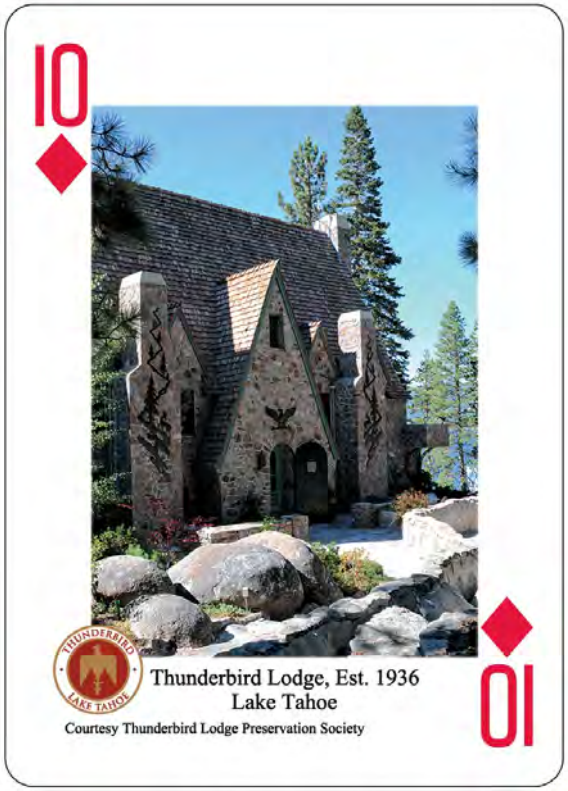
Hoover Dam is among the largest and earliest of the nation's massive multiple-purpose dams. By providing electric power, water storage and flood control, the dam made increased levels of population and agricultural production in large areas of the American Southwest feasible, affecting not only lands near the Colorado River, but also urban centers such as Los Angeles, Phoenix and Las Vegas. Hoover Dam is distinguished by its size, the generating capacity of its hydroelectric plant, and the far-reaching impacts of its operations on the agricultural, industrial, and urban development of the southwestern United States. In the field of hydraulic engineering, the dam is an accomplishment comparable to the Panama Canal.

Hoover Dam was the highest dam in the world when it was constructed by the Bureau of Reclamation. Today it is still the western hemisphere's highest concrete dam. Because of this height, it created a reservoir that could store the normal flow of the river, including all average floods, for 2 years.

One of the major engineering techniques developed in construction of Hoover Dam was the cooling of the concrete. If the dam had been allowed to cool naturally, it would have taken more than a century to do so, and it would have shrunk and cracked as it cooled.

For more information on Hoover Dam please visit:
http://www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam/

Thunderbird Lodge
Whittell Estate National Register District



Thunderbird Lodge, George Whittell, Jr.'s summer estate, dates from the period in which prominent San Franciscan society built homes at Lake Tahoe. In 1936, Whittell commissioned former Nevada State Architect Frederick DeLongchamps, Nevada's most prominent architect of the era, to design his Tudor Revival-style home and its five surrounding cottages that served as the Card House, Caretaker's Cottage, Cook/Butler Cottage, Admiral's House, and Ranger's Office-Gatehouse. Additionally, the property has an elephant barn and a steel boathouse with an adjoining 600-foot tunnel.

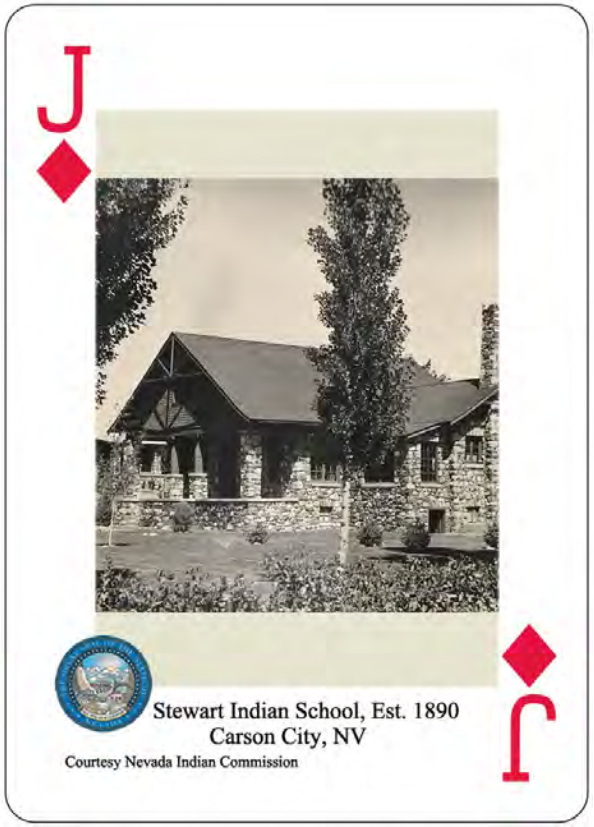
DeLongchamps intended for the architecture to be in harmony with the magnificent setting: a particularly scenic point within the sprawling 27 miles of lakeshore that Whittell owned. The design and materials of the buildings, landscape features, walls, paths, and driveway are a result of this design philosophy. Expert artisans crafted the ironwork and woodwork, while students of the Stewart Indian School in Carson City, under the guidance of their highly-skilled instructors, completed the exquisite stone masonry.

In the early 1980s, the estate's second owner, Jack Dreyfus, constructed an addition onto the main Lodge. Following the regulatory guidelines of the time, Dreyfus chose a modern style rather than matching the original stone construction.

Today, the Whittell Estate is managed and protected by the non-profit Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society and is open for public tours June – October.

For more information on the Thunderbird Lodge visit:
http://thunderbirdtahoe.org/

Stewart Indian School National Register Historic District
Carson City



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

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

The majority of the surviving Stewart School structures were built between 1922 and 1940. Buildings dating from the 1920s and the early 1930s were erected by student and Native American contract labor under the direction of James and John Christopher, principals in a local contracting company and operators of a quarry along the Carson River. Although stone for the Stewart buildings was secured from sources throughout the State, much of the facility's distinctive metamorphic rock originated at the Christopher Quarry.

Stewart structures from this period are characteristically single-story, masonry buildings with exterior walls averaging 22 to 24 inches in thickness. Walls are laid in random courses with a mortar mix combined with lampblack. This photo was taken in 1932 not too long after initial construction.

For more information on Stewart Indian School please visit:
http://www.stewartindianschool.com/

Tsome-Tonega (Thocmetony), aka Sarah Winnemucca
1844-1891

Sarah Winnemucca's birth name is commonly spelled Thocmetony, but Pyramid Lake Paiute elder Ralph Burns has stated that this spelling reflects an anglicized version of her birth name. In her native Northern Paiute language, the accurate spelling of her name is Tsome-Tonega, meaning "shell flower". Her statue at the U.S. Capital was recently dedicated with this spelling, rather that the Thocmetony of popular use.

Sarah Winnemucca was born at a critical time for the indigenous peoples of what is now northern Nevada. This daughter of Chief Winnemucca and granddaughter of Chief Truckee was born prior to the first contact of Northern Paiute peoples with non-natives. By the time she died in 1891, their lives, and the lives of all of Nevada's native populations, had changed forever.

Having a great facility with languages, Sarah served as an interpreter and negotiator between her people and the U.S. Army. In 1878 when the Bannock Indians revolted, she volunteered for a dangerous mission. Locating her father's band being forcibly held by the Bannocks, she secretly led them away to Army protection in a three-day ride over 230 miles of rugged terrain with little food or rest.

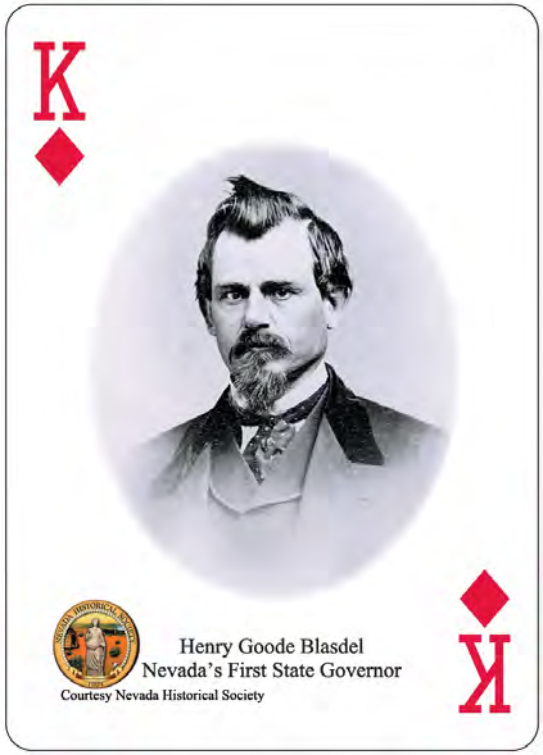
As a spokesperson for her people, Sarah Winnemucca gave over 300 speeches to win support for them, and she met with President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1880. This photo was taken in that same year. Her 1883 autobiography, *Life among the Piutes: Their Wrongs and Claims*, was the first book written by a Native American woman in English.

For more information on Sarah Winnemucca and other important Nevada women visit:
http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/biographies.htm

Henry Goode Blasdel

Nevada's First State Governor

1864 -1870



Henry Blasdel was the first elected governor of the State of Nevada. Born on January 29, 1825 near Lawrenceburg, Indiana, Henry Blasdel worked as a farmer, storekeeper, and riverboat captain before bringing his family to Nevada in 1861. He was active in mining and milling both before and after his six years as governor.

This photo was taken during his first year in office.

Blasdel moved his family to Oakland, California in 1891 where he died in his home on July 22, 1900.

For more information on all of our State Governors, please visit:
http://nsla.nevadaculture.org/index.php? Option=com_content&task=view&id=850&Itemid=95

City of Las Vegas
Certified Local Government

When the "Welcome" sign was built in 1959, the closest hotel-casino was the Hacienda, which was a one-story rambling building on the site of the current high-rise Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino. Traffic from Los Angeles traveled along the Las Vegas Strip, which was then U.S. Highway 91.

This sign, along with 24 resources on the Las Vegas Register of Historic Places and almost 30 National and State Register buildings, structures, and objects exemplify Las Vegas' commitment to preserving its historic neighborhoods and buildings.

The City of Las Vegas is a Certified Local Government (CLG), which means that the City is a preservation partner with state and national governments to focus on promoting historic preservation at the local level. Although the Welcome sign is not located in the CLG boundaries, the city of Las Vegas supports the preservation of Clark County historic resources through grant funding and technical assistance.

The City's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) acts as the official advisor to the City of Las Vegas on matters relating to the historic preservation of cultural resources and buildings within the city. The Commission recommends to the City Council possible uses and funding options for historic buildings, places, and sites. The HPC also suggests policy and ordinance changes to the City Council relating to historic building and sites. The Commission recommends to the City Council possible uses and funding options for historic buildings, places, and sites. The HPC also suggests policy and ordinance changes to the City Council relating to historic building and sites.

For more information on the city's Historic Preservation Commission please visit:
www.lasvegasnevada.gov/hp

California National Historic Trail

If you wanted to get to California in pre-railroad times, you were guaranteed an arduous trek. California emigrants faced the greatest challenges of all the pioneer emigrants of the mid-19th century. In addition to the Rockies, these emigrants faced the barren deserts of Nevada and the imposing Sierra Nevada Range. Over 200,000 gold-seekers and farmers used the California Trail to reach the gold fields and rich farmlands of California during the 1840s and 1850s, the greatest mass migration in American history.

With a variety of destinations in California, and jumping-off points in Missouri, the California Trail resembles not a single cord, but a rope frayed at both ends. Numerous cutoffs and alternate routes were tried to see which was the "best" in terms of terrain, length and sufficient water and grass for livestock.

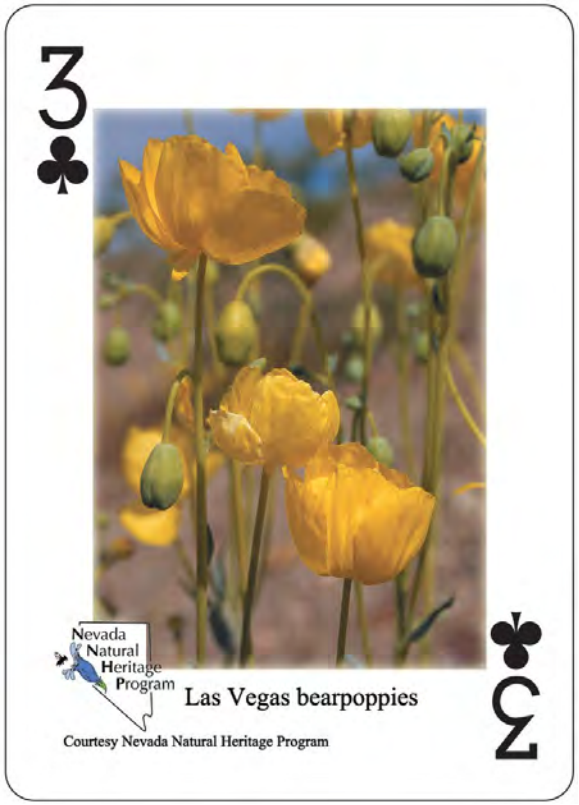
The total California National Historic Trail system includes approximately 5,665 miles. Of this, approximately 1,100 miles of trail still exist on the ground as trail ruts, traces, and other obvious remnants. About 2,171 miles of this system cross public lands, where most of the physical evidence that still exists today is located. An estimated 320 historic sites along the trail system will eventually be available for public use and interpretation.

The mission of the Oregon-California Trails Association is to protect the historic emigrant trails legacy by promoting research, education, preservation activities, and public awareness of the trails, and to work with others to promote these causes.

For more information on the California National Historic Trail please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/cali/index.htm

For more information on the Oregon-California Trails Association please visit:
http://www.canvocta.org/

Las Vegas bearpoppy
Arctomecon californica



Although "californica" is part of its scientific name, the only place in the world where Las Vegas bearpoppy has been found is from Las Vegas Valley eastward in Clark County, Nevada and adjacent northwestern Arizona.

Las Vegas bearpoppy was one of the first plant species discovered and named from present-day Nevada. But this was in 1844, twenty years before Nevada statehood, when the Las Vegas area was still part of the Mexican territory of Alta California.

Now protected by the State of Nevada, Las Vegas bearpoppy thrives in some of the harshest and driest soils in the Mojave Desert, where few other plants survive. The plants especially favor soils with high gypsum content.

The plants consist of one or more clusters of basal rosette leaves with a generally light blue or gray appearance. The leaves are generally wedge-shaped, with the end of each divided into several teeth and entirely covered with long hairs 5-15 mm in length, looking like a little bear paw. Flower stalks rise 1-2 feet above the leaves, with nodding buds that open into bright yellow flowers with petals 1-2 inches long. Once established, plants survive for a few years, and then remain dormant as seeds in the soil until the next wet winter.

For more information on Nevada's Natural Heritage please visit:
http://heritage.nv.gov/

Nevada Northern Railway East Ely Yards and Shops National Historic Landmark

The Nevada Northern Railway, established in 1905, is a National Historic Landmark located in Ely. This national treasure is a "living" interactive museum featuring operating steam and diesel train rides and unique opportunities such as the "Be the Engineer" program. Included with the train rides are tours of the grounds and Engine House. These guided tours explain the important history of the railroad, including its significance to White Pine County copper mining and the nation as a whole.

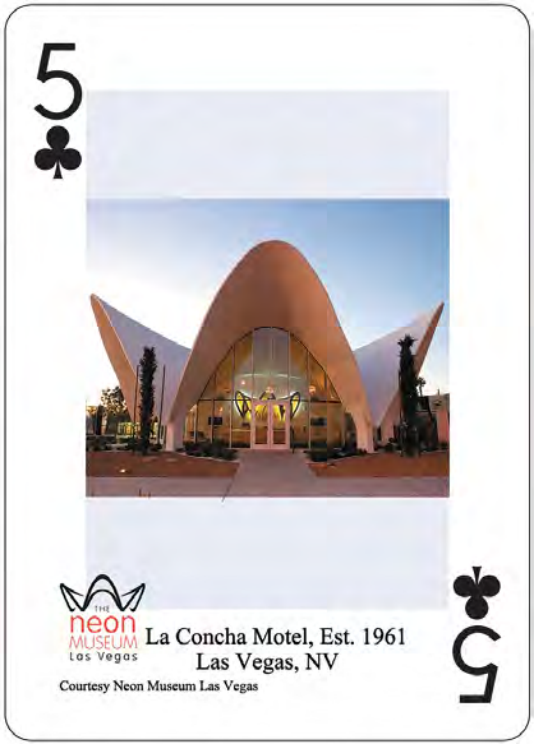
At the East Ely Railroad Depot Museum, researchers find the museum's vast document collection a great help. This archive contains thousands of documents ranging from payroll ledgers to original right-of-way maps that represent the history of the Nevada Northern Railroad.

This quintessential symbol of the pioneering American spirit has been embraced by a variety of diverse cultures over the course of history. The Steptoe Valley Flyer was pulled by Locomotive 40, now an official symbol of the State of Nevada. The Flyer carried about 4.5 million people, mainly immigrants, into White Pine County from 1910-1941.

The Nevada Northern Railway National Historic Landmark is an inspiring example of Nevadan history and culture.

For more information on the Nevada Northern Railway please visit:
http://www.nnry.com/

The La Concha Motel Lobby
Neon Museum, Clark County



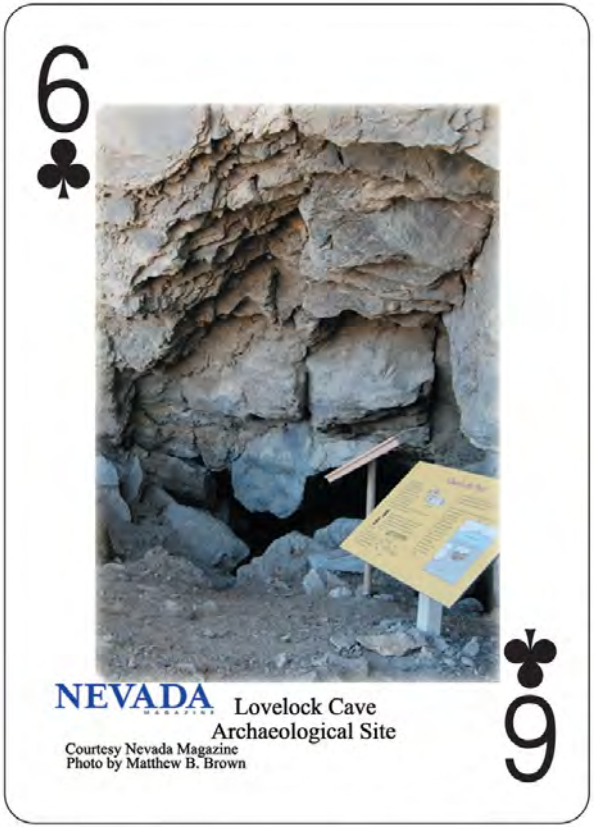
The distinctive and curvilinear La Concha Motel lobby is a striking example of Mid-Century modern design characterized by Atomic- and Space Age shapes and motifs. A popular name for this type of architecture is "Googie," which describes a style that references a time when the United States was enthusiastically anticipating the future. The shell-shaped building was designed by acclaimed architect Paul Revere Williams and was originally constructed in 1961 on Las Vegas Boulevard South (next to the Riviera Hotel). The La Concha lobby was saved from demolition in 2005 and moved in 2006 to its current location to serve as the museum's Visitors' Center.

Today, restored signs can be viewed as public art and visited on a self-guided tour twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The gallery includes signs from among others, the Lucky Cuss Motel, the Bow & Arrow Motel, The Silver Slipper, Binion's Horseshoe, the Normandie Motel, Dot's Flowers, the Landmark, and 5th Street liquors.

For more information on the La Concha Lobby or the Neon Museum visit:
www.neonmuseum.org

BATTLE BORN ★ NEVADA PROUD 150th Anniversary of Statehood

Lovelock Cave Archaeological Site
Pershing County

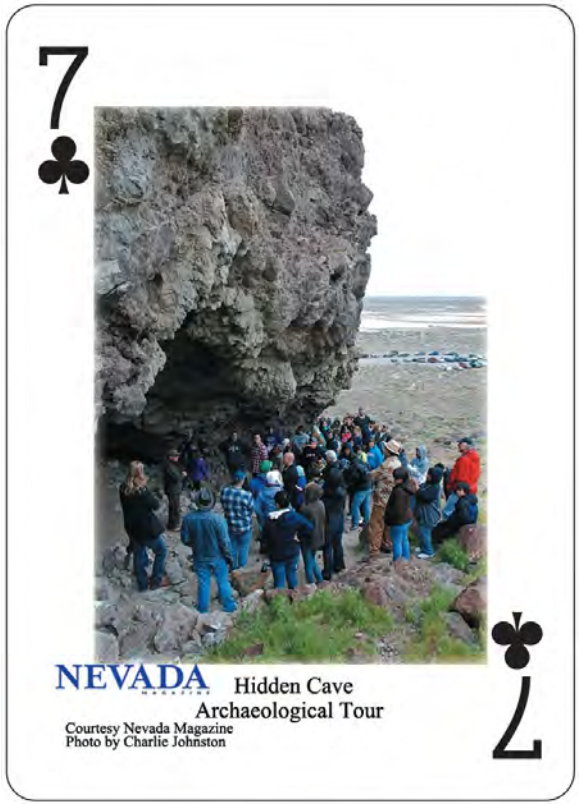


Archaeologists began excavating Lovelock Cave in 1912 and continued intermittently through the 1970s. Scientific and theoretical approaches to archaeology evolved significantly in the latter half of the twentieth century allowing scientists to use the data from Lovelock Cave to more accurately date and understand the region's prehistory.

Many thousands of artifacts have been recovered from Lovelock Cave over the years, ranging from elaborate mats and bags made of tule and cattail leaves to a remarkable cache of duck decoys, at 2,000 years old the oldest in the world! Each artifact and the position in which it was found adds to our understanding of human prehistory and the changing ecology of this region. For example, we know Lovelock Cave experienced its heaviest use between about 2,000 B.C. and A.D. 1,000 during the period known as the Lovelock Period. It was a time when water was more plentiful and the area was rich in plant and animal resources. Over time, the area became warmer and dryer. Fewer people inhabited the area and the style of many of their tools and possessions, what archaeologists call "material culture," changed.

For more information on the Lovelock Cave Back Country Byway please visit:
http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/nv/field_offices/winnemucca_field_office/programs/

Hidden Cave Archaeological Tour



In the mid-1920s, the cave was visited by four students, the first 20th century humans to do so. The cave has since been excavated three times: once in 1940, again in 1951, and finally in 1979-1980.

A high proportion of the artifacts found in Hidden Cave were unbroken and arranged in concentrations. That led to the conclusion that 3,500 to 3,800 years ago people used Hidden Cave more for a cache site than for their own shelter.

Hidden Cave tours are offered to the public on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. Meet the BLM guide at the museum at 9:30am, and watch a short video on the history of Hidden Cave. At 10am, caravan out to the cave site for your tour. No reservations are needed, and the tour is FREE! Dress appropriately for the weather, and wear sturdy walking shoes. The trip up the hill is about .25 mile, and the trail is not handicapped accessible. This tour is not suitable for young children because of its length and the climb up the hill. There are restrooms and picnic sites available at Grimes Point, 1.5 miles from the cave area parking lot.

For more information on this tour please visit:
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_programs/recreation/hidden_cave.html

Sand Mountain Recreation Area
Churchill County

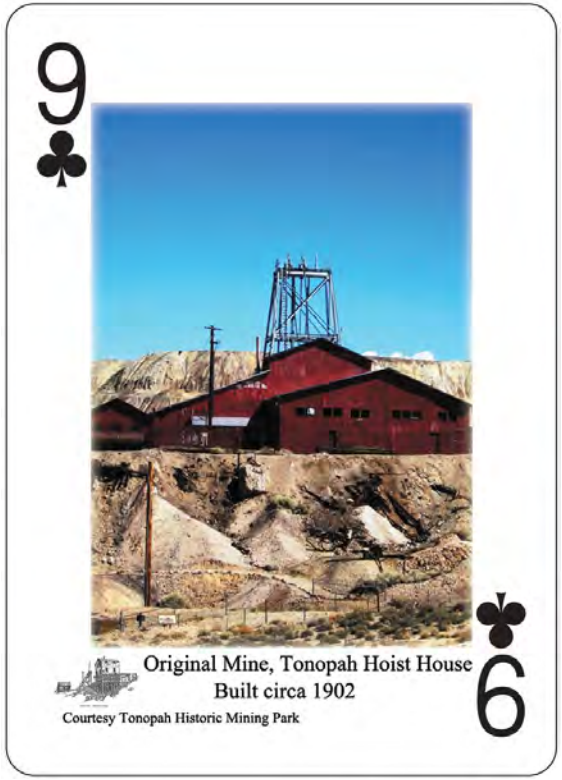
Only 10,000 years ago, glaciers filled many of the valleys in the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the west. The cool, wet climate and runoff from these glaciers helped to create ancient Lake Lahontan, an immense inland lake that covered much of what is now northern Nevada. Scientists say that the ancient lake was once over 800 feet deep in places. If you visit Sand Mountain today, you can spot the ancient lakeshores on the bluffs to the east of the dunes.

As the climate thousands of years ago grew warmer the glaciers retreated and the lake slowly started to dry up. By 4,000 years ago, the lake level dropped below where Sand Mountain now stands. Quartz particles, which the glaciers had ground away from the hard Sierra granite to the west, eventually washed down the Walker River and deposited in the river's delta. As the wind blew across the delta this sand was picked up and carried high into the air. More than 30 miles to the northeast, the wind was slowed by a large basin on the southwest flank of the Stillwater Range. With its force broken by the mountain, the wind's burden of sand would fall into this natural trap.

Over the centuries, Sand Mountain grew until it reached its present height of almost 600 feet.

For more information on this significant natural feature please visit:
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_programs/recreation/sand_mountain.html

Tonopah Historic Mining Park
Nye County



The Tonopah Historic Mining Park is on the site of Belle and Jim Butler's original mining claim which started the rush to Tonopah making it the "Queen of the Silver Camps." This strike in 1900 brought the United States into the 20th century. Many mining and processing techniques developed here are still used in mining today.

The mining park, encompassing portions of four of the major mining companies and covering over 1000 acres, preserves this rich history and brings it to life with exhibits of equipment and imaginative self-guided tours. The Park collects, restores, and displays mining artifacts on site and in the original buildings. Tonopah Historic Mining Park hosts special events including Blacksmithing as an Art classes and The Nevada State Mining Championships held annually in May on Butler Days. Please check them out on Facebook.

For more information on the Tonopah Historic Mining Park visit:
www.TonopahHistoricMiningPark.com

United States Mint National Register Site

With an abundance of silver from the booming Comstock Lode it was determined that Carson City would make an ideal location for a U.S. Mint, one of seven buildings serving as mints in the U.S. over the last 200 years. The mint at Carson City was a physical manifestation of the success of the Comstock Lode since it showed Federal recognition of the value of the mines located in the "hinterlands" of Nevada. Although Congress established the Carson City Mint in 1863, the Civil War delayed its construction.

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place on July 18, 1866. The Mint opened in December 1869, with Abraham Curry, founder of Carson City, as the first superintendent. This picture was taken in 1870.

Alfred Mullett, newly appointed supervising architect for the U.S. Treasury Department, designed the Carson City Mint. The Mint shows Mullett's early fascination with the Classical tradition, a style that predominated in the great post-Civil War building programs. Most of the original building remains intact, and all materials for the Mint are native to Nevada. The sandstone was quarried at the State Prison, the brick was manufactured at the Adams Brick Works in Genoa (operated by John Quincy Adams' grandsons), and the interior wainscoting was milled from Tahoe sugar pine.

The Carson City U.S. Mint's formal mint status was withdrawn in 1899, due to the drastic decline in mining on the Comstock. Afterward it served as an assay office. The Mint was remodeled to serve as the Nevada State Museum in 1941. Today the Mint's Press No. 1 resides at the museum.

For more information on touring Carson City please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/nevada/index.htm

Basque Sheepherder Aspen Art in Nevada

Traces of Nevada's Basque sheepherders may still be found in the form of arborglyphs among the aspens in the State's forests. Names, dates, and images carved into their white bark testify to the presence and lifestyle of sheepherders over the last century on Peavine Mountain in Reno, and in groves all across Northern and Central Nevada. Many Harri mutilak, or stone cairns and some bread ovens built by sheepherders still remain in areas now devoid of sheep.

A small percentage of Basque carvings are quite artistic in nature. More often, they consist of initials or names of the carver and dates he visited the aspen grove while tending sheep. Those arborglyphs most interesting to archaeologists, historians, and Basque researchers are those with texts that tell stories of loneliness, health, and hardships related to the herders' lengthy isolation during the long grazing season.

By the 1960s and 1970s, most Basque sheepherders had been replaced by herders from other countries, particularly from South America, especially Peru. Today few sheep are grazed in the state and carvings are most frequently found around highly developed campgrounds and trails and are considered graffiti rather than art. The hundred year, or shorter, lifespan of aspen trees means Basque arborglyphs will soon be a thing of the past as they decay and are disappearing at an alarming rate.

For more information on Basque Folklore please visit:
http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/basque-folklife

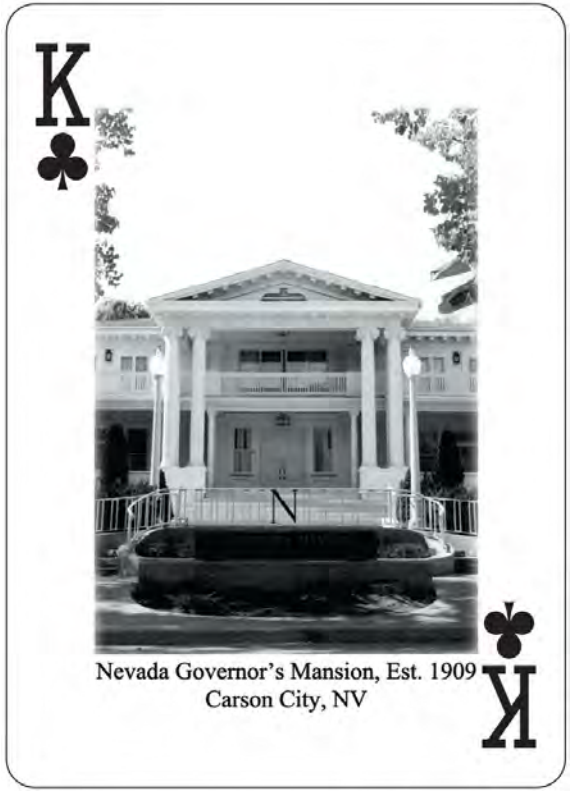
Dabuda, Dat-So-La-Lee, Louisa Keyser
1829-1925

Louisa Keyser, also known as Dat-So-La-Lee or Dabuda, is the most famous Washoe Indian basket weaver. She was born in the Woodfords area (25 miles south of Carson City) before European Americans settled Nevada. At that time, Washoe women would weave baskets to cook and store food, winnow seeds and carry infants. In 1895, Dat-So-La-Lee moved to Carson City offering small baskets for sale to the owner of an emporium there. This owner, Abe Cohn, became Dat-So-La-Lee's main benefactor and promoter, building a small vernacular board-and-batten cottage for her around 1914. This photo was taken in 1910 as part of Cohn's promotional material.

From 1914 until her death in 1925, Abe and Amy Cohn supported her so that she could concentrate on making her superb baskets to sell to tourists and collectors, becoming internationally known. Even during her lifetime, Dat-So-La-Lee's baskets sold for thousands of dollars, a large sum for the early 20th century. Dat-So-La-Lee was the undisputed master of a craft that was at the same time dying in her culture. She was an inspiration to young women and girls who wanted to learn the ancient art of basket-weaving. Her baskets can be found at the Smithsonian, the Nevada State Museum in Carson City, and the Nevada Historical Society in Reno.

For more information on Dat-So-La-Lee and other important Nevada women visit:
http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/index.htm

Nevada Governor's Mansion
National Register Site



Nevada was proclaimed a territory in 1861, and a state in 1864, but the Governor's Mansion was not built until more than 40 years later between 1908 and 1909. Until that time, Nevada's governors and their families found lodging where they could. State Assembly Bill 10, the "Mansion Bill," was passed in 1907 to secure a permanent site and residence for Nevada's First Families.

The land where the mansion stands was generously offered by Mrs. T.B. Rickey for the sum of $10. Reno architect George A. Ferris designed the mansion and the construction bid was awarded at $22,700. The mansion was first occupied in July 1909 by Acting Governor Denver Dickerson and his family, and first opened to the public during an open house on New Years' Day, 1910. The governor's daughter, June Dickerson, was born in the mansion in September 1909, and was the only child ever born in the home.

The commanding Classical Revival building features Georgian and Jeffersonian motifs, first seen in the central placement of the main entry. On the interior, the first floor contains the grand entry hall, the reception room, a formal dining room, the governor's study, luncheon room and the kitchen. The upstairs contains the private living quarters for the governor's family. The mansion was structurally rehabilitated and redecorated from 1967 to 1968. The circular pergola and curved front stairs with metal balustrades were added in 1969. Additional buildings were added to the grounds in 1998. This photo was taken on Oct 23rd 1975 after the completion of the additions.

For more information on touring Carson City please visit:
http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/nevada/index.htm