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A STRUCTURAL HISTORY OF
THE OLD STONE HOTEL IN DAGGETT
UTILIZING ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

A Thesis
Presented to the
Faculty of
California State University,
San Bernardino


by
Catherine Mary Courser Banker

June 1994


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In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirement for the Degree
Master of Arts
in
Interdisciplinary Studies

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ABSTRACT

The Old Stone Hotel in Daggett, a State of California Point of Historical Interest, is the focus of this study. The original date of construction and owners is unknown. Old photographs, newspapers accounts, diaries, archaeological information, oral interviews and historical maps were utilized to determine the approximate date of construction. I contend that The Old Stone Hotel was built prior to the coming of the railroad in 1883 and was originally a one-story structure. Not only will a structural history give further insight into the history of The Old Stone Hotel but it will allow historians to better understand the early settlement patterns of the desert.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I dedicate this work to my husband David. He tirelessly listened to me and assisted me with computer related technical advice that was invaluable in completing the task at hand.

I would like to thank my advisors beginning with the Chair of my committee, Dr. Russell Barber, who believed I could. His warm, gracious advice was always welcomed and I will always be grateful for the opportunity to study with such a wonderful teacher.

Thank you to Dr. Ward McAfee. He asked questions, probed, and helped me to clarify my thesis and present new ideas. He presents history as a mystery to be solved, prodding his students to examine all aspects of an issue or subject. I have enjoyed his sense of humor and ability to make history not only interesting but fun!

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support, you are all truly mentors of future anthropologists, archaeologists and historians.

Thank you to everyone at California State University, San Bernardino it was a great experience.

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The concept of a structural history for The Stone Hotel in Daggett was developed with the assistance of Lester Ross, then at the Archaeological Information Center in San Bernardino. He spent many hours discussing my masters program with me. Without his help this thesis would not have materialized. Robin Laska, a good friend, is also responsible for encouraging me and lending me some of her vast wealth of knowledge. She and Christy Tienny are always on the lookout for new information. Additional help came from various friends, classmates and colleagues who constantly encouraged me, asked questions and listened.

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INTRODUCTION

Historic buildings, empty and forlorn, nonetheless capture our interest and beckon to be explored. We know that earlier occupants left an imprint upon the walls and floors. We try to imagine who lived here, what they did, why they left? The Old Stone Hotel in Daggett, California is no different. The walls and floors, long since abandoned, still have a story to tell.

Using newspaper accounts, railroad records, diaries, stage line information, old maps, photographs and archaeological remains I will attempt to illustrate the history of The Old Stone Hotel and its passage through time to the present.

After studying these various documents and photographs I concluded that The Old Stone Hotel was built prior to the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad's Needles to Mojave line, which was finished in 1883. I also contend that The Old Stone Hotel was originally a one-story structure very similar to its present state. I will attempt to support this thesis using a structural analysis, records of ownership, archaeological data, and common sense.

A structural history involves the evaluates the physical condition of the structure, both past and present. This involves determining events that would lead to the construction of the building, any changes that occur to the

building in its lifetime and historical events that occurred during the buildings era.

The trails and roads leading into San Bernardino from Arizona and Utah have contributed to the development of San Bernardino and surrounding areas. The protection offered to these travelers and early settlers was provided by waystations, government stations, stage stops and private ranches along the routes. Daggett and The Old Stone Hotel were located along a major transportation route leading into the San Bernardino Valley. Daggett contributed to the county economy as a mining town for borate and silver and was a commercial terminus for Calico. For these reasons the early history of the valley including settlement patterns, transportation routes, government stations and mining development, are essential in understanding the importance of Daggett and The Old Stone Hotel.

Research Methods

Three different methods of acquiring information were utilized in this thesis. Archival research, oral histories, and archaeological information were the basis of knowledge. All three methods led me in various directions yet intertwined, creating a maze of information and dead ends.

The oral interviews allowed a glimpse of the past through the eyes of actual participants. Often verifying

documents or rumors, the oral interviews were enjoyable and enlightening.

Recognizing that primary documents are the best source of information, I began my archival search using the bibliography from the Archaeological Information Center. Arda Haenszel, curator of Historical Research for the San Bernardino County Museum Association and the California Room at the Feldheym Central Library, San Bernardino were excellent resources. Additional libraries scoured include The California Room of the State Library in Sacramento, the Railroad Museum Library in Sacramento, the National Archives in Laguna Niguel, the Pfau Library at California State University, San Bernardino, The Huntington Library in San Marino, The Bancroft Library in Berkeley, Rancho Los Cerritos Library in Long Beach, and the California State University, Long Beach Library.

Additional archival research was done to investigate the history of ownership. Many trips were made to the San Bernardino Hall of Records, the San Bernardino County Archives and the San Bernardino County Tax Assessor, as well as the Barstow office of the Tax Assessor.

The archaeological information was both disappointing and interesting. The variety of artifacts recovered is incredible yet the lack of provenance is a problem. The excavation was basically conducted by amateur archaeologists utilizing labor from California Conservation Corps. The

excavators dug trenches to determine the presence of artifacts and then removed these from the ground without maintaining level provenance. Cleaning and cataloging of artifacts did not take place until quite a bit later, once again using volunteer help. This created a large but fairly unreliable data base. Additional work will hopefully be done to develop a more accurate data base.

WHERE THE HECK IS DAGGETT?

The townsite of Daggett is located in the Mojave River Valley, Sec. 21, T.9N, R.1E., using the San Bernardino Baseline Meridian, in San Bernardino County, California (Appendix A). The town of Daggett is north of Interstate 40, east of Barstow and just south of the Mojave River. Daggett is near the site of Fish Ponds (Appendix B), southwest of Forks of Road, where the Salt Lake Trail and the Mojave Trail meet.

POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

The Old Stone Hotel in Daggett is a State of California Point of Historical Interest. The Old Stone Hotel received this designation on May 10, 1985. The People's General Store, located to the west of The Old Stone Hotel, is also listed as a State of California Point of Historical Interest. The Old Stone Hotel was donated to the San Bernardino County Museum System by Elenor Lacy, widow of

Hugh Lacy. Both parcels are now owned by the County of San Bernardino and are presently undergoing renovation.

Settlers and travelers entered San Bernardino County through the corridors known as the Old National Trails Highway, the Mormon Trail, the Old Spanish Trail, Mojave River route and the Santa Fe Trail. Government stations and waystations were used to protect travelers and settlers from Indian attacks. These early buildings housed many travelers overnight and provided them with food and water for their journey. Stage lines and freighters traveled extensively through this area to reach Los Angeles.

I believe that The Old Stone Hotel was used to house these early travelers. As a California Point of Historical Interest, the history of The Old Stone Hotel is valuable in understanding and interpreting the events of the early period and settlement patterns of San Bernardino County.

EARLY HISTORY OF DAGGETT AND SURROUNDING AREA

There are two forks leading into Daggett and the San Bernardino Valley each of which has multiple names. The north fork is known as the Spanish Trail, leading from Santa Fe, New Mexico and the Salt Lake Trail or Mormon Road. The south fork is also called the Spanish Trail, Fort Mojave Road and Government Road.

First documented and used by Father Francisco Garces in 1775-1776, the south fork basically follows the Mojave

River. Thus, it is commonly referred to as the Mojave River Route. Also called the Mojave Trail, it was used by Indians prior to the mission priests, and then by the explorers, miners, traders and settlers in the San Bernardino and Los Angeles areas. The Mojave Trail later became the Mojave River Road, then part of the Old National Trails Highway, and finally Route 66.

The North fork, Mormon Road or Old Spanish Trail, was used by Mormon settlers in the 1850s on their way to San Bernardino.

When the Mormons settled southern California in 1851, a steady stream of wagon trains made the trip from Salt Lake City to San Bernardino and Los Angeles. Prior to the Mormons, Jedediah Strong Smith led several groups across the Mojave Desert and documented his travels through the Cajon Pass.

Marauding Piute Indians were a threat to these early travelers and settlers. In order to protect the settlers, Fort Mojave was established in the winter of 1858-1859 (Belden, 1956). This fort was provided supplies by the Banning Stage and Freight Lines under the order of Captain Winfield Scott Hancock. Hancock utilized the stage and freight lines traveling along the Mojave River Route to prove that the Cajon Pass route was a safe avenue to the Colorado River.

Camp Cady

Besides Fort Mojave, other government stations and forts were established for the protection of the travelers. Camp Cady was established on April 19, 1860 by Bvt. Maj. James H. Carleton of the 1st Dragoons. Located east of Forks of the Road, Camp Cady was established in response to the murder of a herder by Piute Indians. The Indians were dealt with by the soldiers or dragoons and Camp Cady was abandoned on July 3, 1860. Camp Cady was reestablished on April 23, 1865, due to increased Indian molestations of travelers. Due to a shortage of soldiers and limited contact with marauding Indians it was abandoned for a second time on April 1, 1866. One week before abandoning Camp Cady, three men were murdered at the Dunlap Ranch near Cajon Pass. The public outcry along with damaging newspaper accounts forced the army to reestablish Camp Cady on May 7, 1866.

An adobe fort had been built in 1860. Later a stone and adobe fort was built about 1/2 mile east of the adobe fort and a small portion of the wall still stands. Any wood used to build the corrals and nearby store was recycled when cattle ranchers took over the area. What remains of the original building is stone and adobe, very similar to the construction of The Old Stone Hotel.

Waystation in the Desert

Bancroft's Map of the Colorado Mines, published by H.H. Bancroft and Co. in 1863, illustrates the convergence of the Mojave Trail and the Salt Lake Trail or the Wagon Road to Salt Lake, in the area marked as "Government Station" (Appendix C). Beyond this area and down the Cajon Pass the road becomes Brown's Toll Road.

Examination of Bancroft's map places the "Government Station" close to where Daggett shows up on later maps. The quality of the maps is quite low, hindering the ability to pinpoint exact locations. Fish Ponds is also very close to the area in which Daggett later appears (Appendix C and B).

Early stations in the area are discussed in articles in the San Bernardino Guardian. Of particular interest are travel letters entitled Jottings by Way En Route to Ivanpah, Clark District, Letter #1 written August 30, 1871, and printed September 9, 1871. The editor discussed his travels from San Bernardino up to the Cajon Pass staying overnight at the Upper Toll Gate, a station run by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fears. After pushing through the Cajon Pass, the group passed Captain Lane's crossing on their way to Cottonwoods. Passing another station known as Point of Rocks, they went onto Cottonwoods where they spent the night. They then traveled on to Fish Ponds. Fish Ponds is shown on the Wheeler map of 1878 (Appendix D) map just north of Daggett. The editor relates that the name was used because fish had

been found in these ponds up to 1861 when the ponds flooded and were destroyed. This station was kept by John Rittner, an ex-soldier. He operated the station and was also a general trader.

In a letter to Elizabeth Budy of Intermountain Research, Arda Haenszel, curator of history for the San Bernardino County Museum Association, details the operation at the station at Fish Ponds. Frank Mecham's father owned the station and Arda relates Frank's recollections concerning the road between Daggett and Victorville by way of Stoddard Well.

In 1867 my father got a contract to furnish 100 tons of hay for Camp Cady. He broke a road from the Fish Ponds through by way of what is now Stoddard's Well and into the Little Meadow ..now Victorville..where we cut and stacked the 100 tons of hay....There was no water on this road when first traveled, but several years later Sheldon Stoddard dug a well.

Arda also relates that Sheldon Stoddard was a freighter and often used the road between Daggett and Victorville. This road can clearly be seen on Wheeler's map (Appendix D). In addition, Arda notes that in Walter C. Mendenhall's "Some Desert Watering Places, USGS Water Supply Paper #224" (1909:68) this road is described as the "the main road from Victorville to Daggett."

In an unpublished diary by Ralph H. Benson, he states that they stopped at "Hartman's Well Station," which Arda contends must have been Stoddard's Well. She notes that to

warrant a station on this road there must have been quite a bit of traffic (Haenszel, 1986).

In 1867 Little Meadow Station was established near what today would be Victorville. Owner, William A. Godfrey, then bought the Fish Ponds station, near the present day Marine Corps Supply Station in Nebo, a few years later. He gave the Little Meadow station to his father-in-law, Huntington (Keeling, 1976:20). As mentioned previously Fish Ponds is very close to the present town of Daggett.

Mining in the Mojave and Calico

In addition to these early stations there were miners in the area from the 1850s onward. Leaving the Old Spanish Trail the early miners stumbled across silver in the Panamint range sometime in 1849, just as gold has been discovered in northern California. Historian Harold O. Weight contends that the miners found silver lying on top of the ground. Silver was found in the Panamint mountains and at old Ivanpah during the 1860s. While mining for silver continued during the 1860s and 1870s the real boom for Calico did not occur until 1880s. With the discovery of the large strike, later named the Silver King Mine, in 1881, the area exploded.

Calico was founded in March of 1881 by M. Lawrence and Hieronymous Hartman. Frank Mecham, whose Dad owned the Fish Ponds station, found the strike that lead to the Silver King

mine about two weeks later. Calico grew slowly at first, but with the prosperity of the Silver King mine, the town began to flourish leading to the prosperity found in Daggett.

Calico Junction was the first recorded name for Daggett. The mining town of Calico is located north of Daggett off the Old National Trails Highway. Calico was the mining town and Daggett was the commercial terminus for the area. Twenty-mule team wagons were constructed, manned and supplied in Daggett to haul ore from the nearby Calico Mountains. Mills refined the ore. Wells Fargo agents made commercial exchange possible. Eventually the railroad made shipment of goods to all parts of the world a reality.

Surveys and Stagecoaches

In an attempt to establish a railroad connecting Los Angeles to the Colorado River, the railroads sent out surveyors to establish the easiest and most direct route for the railroad.

Following the thirty-fifth parallel, Lt. A.W. Whipple surveyed the road that runs through Daggett in 1854 for the Government under the direction of Secretary of War, Jefferson Davis (later to become President of the Confederacy), hence the name Old Government Road. It is also known as the Fort Mojave Road, since the road

terminated in Fort Mojave, north of Needles. Davis directed Whipple to find the "most practical route for a railroad".

The Whipple route was basically the same as that used by Father Garces in 1776 and Jedediah Smith in 1826. Roughly following the thirty-fifth parallel this road was used by wagon trains carrying settlers and goods into the San Bernardino Valley. The ruts created by these wagons can still be seen in some areas of San Bernardino County.

In the fall and summer of 1871 the War Department had a Preliminary Topographic Map produced as a result of a survey conducted by Lt. George M. Wheeler of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. This map has various stations listed which are located on the Mojave River. They include Fish Ponds and Camp Cady (Appendix D).

A later survey map, again by Lieut. Geo. M. Wheeler, also appears in Clifford Walker's book Back Door to California. Daggett is evident on this map (Appendix B). The same map at the Feldheym Library in San Bernardino has a hand written date of 1878 which I believe is incorrect. The map in Back Door to California is the same, having a citation and date of 1884. This makes sense because the Southern Pacific Railroad is shown on the map. Wheeler's map details the position of the various small towns that are constantly referred to. Some of these towns no longer exist or have been renamed, so these early maps offer valuable information.

These same surveyors' routes were used by the freighters, stage line operators and railroads. Railroads usually follow wagon trains and stage lines since the path of least resistance has already been determined.

In an unpublished diary by William Vale, written in the spring of 1880, Vale describes a trip by stage to Ivanpah. When they arrived at Stoddard Wells they passed many teams arriving from Resting Springs. Arda Haenszel, a local historian, is familiar with this diary and noted that not only were freight lines running through this road but so were stages.

Articles and advertisements in the early newspapers reveal that many stage lines existed between Resting Springs and San Bernardino prior to 1880. Resting Springs is north of the old wagon road to Utah and just west of the Nevada-California border. The route passed through where Daggett would be located.

According to the July 5, 1877 edition of the Daily Morning Argus, H. Hartman stage "arrived from Resting Springs with five passengers." Another stage mentioned in the August 15, 1877 edition of the Daily Morning Argus is Raspbery's stage which "leaves for Ivanpah and Resting Springs." In fact Hartman had a standing ad in the Argus from July 5, 1877 to April 3, 1878. It read:

Resting Springs Express and Stage Line! From San Bernardino
to Resting Springs
The Undersigned has established a regular
passenger and express line between San

Bernardino and the Resting Springs Mining District ... Passengers carried for \$20. Freight 7 cents per pound.

H. Hartman. Prop.

In the San Bernardino Guardian, Feb. 23, 1867, there were advertisements for many stages traveling between Arizona and San Bernardino using the Cajon Pass. Burr Belden, in his many articles relating the past, notes:

The old newspaper accounts list weekly stages from Fort Mojave and nearby Hardyville to San Bernardino and to Prescott, Arizona Territory (Belden, 1967).

Alan Hensher, in "San Bernardino's County's Silver Lining, The Boom at Calico, 1881-1898," cites stages still operating up to 1882.

Aaron Harrison was running express and passenger stages from San Bernardino twice a week in late 1882 (1986:9).

Hensher also notes that the high price of freight (using freighter), at \$25.00 a ton from San Bernardino made life difficult in the mines and created a need for the railroad.

Much of the high cost of freighting resulted from the lack of natural resources...As for fuel, the greasewood (creosote) and cottonwoods along the Mojave River were sparse (1986:5).

The lack of resources is seen in the choice of building materials. Like Camp Cady, which used adobe and then stone and adobe, the earlier settlers of both Calico and Daggett resorted to available resources for construction material.

The Coming of the Railroad

In February of 1882 the Southern Pacific Railroad began building a line from Mojave Station to Needles. When the Southern Pacific line reached Waterman Station in October of 1882, the company invited residents to a ball there. The Calico Print newspaper commented that there was "excellent music and a fine collation. All enjoyed themselves in the mazy dance; we wish we had been there" (Hensher 1968:10).

In November of 1882 the station at Calico Junction opened. This was actually the station at Daggett. The town was renamed Daggett in early 1883 after John Daggett, the Lt. Governor of California, because of his mining interests in the area.

When the California Southern Extension from San Bernardino met the Mojave-Needles line on Nov. 15, 1885 (the San Bernardino Sun-Telegram has an obvious misprint of 1855) at Waterman Junction about 10 miles west of Daggett, the railroad was actually owned by the Atlantic and Pacific, which eventually became the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad in 1897 (Keeling 1976:120).

After laying the line from Needles to the Mojave Station, Southern Pacific basically sold the line to the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. The Southern Pacific Improvement Company was able to retain the land grants given as incentives to the railroad. In this way the Southern Pacific Improvement Company controlled Daggett

because the town was built in Section 21, owned by the railroad.

Patricia Keeling, editor of Once Upon A Desert, notes the presence of The Old Stone Hotel prior to the coming of the railroad:

In 1882, when the Southern Pacific Railroad built at Daggett, there were wagon way-stations and feed lots, adobe houses, and the Stone Hotel (1976:123).

Unfortunately she fails to support this information.

The San Bernardino City and County Directory of 1886 describes the station of Daggett:

This is a station on the Atlantic and Pacific railroad about ten miles east of Barstow. It is the railroad station for Calico, which is six miles north. The elevation of the town is 2000 feet above sea level; the present population about 300. There is a fine passenger depot and commodious freight house. The Railroad Eating House kept by Mr. Seymour Alf is said to be one of the best hotel and an excellent lodging house; there is a post office, Wells, Fargo & Co.'s express, telegraph and telephone, and all modern advantages (Keeling, 1976:123).

The San Bernardino City and County Directory of 1887

describes Daggett slightly differently adding a lodging house and one hotel:

There is a fine passenger depot and commodious freight house. The Railroad Eating House kept by Mr. Seymour Alf is said to be one of the finest in the southern part of the state. There are two good hotels and an excellent lodging house, there is a post office, Wells Fargo & Co's Express; telegraph and telephone, and all modern advantages.

The lodging house referred to is probably the Capital Lodging house (Appendix N) and the two hotels are probably

the Railroad and The Old Stone Hotel. The Railroad Hotel is mentioned in documents during this time and The Old Stone Hotel appears in photographs at approximately the same time.

The depot at Daggett appears on an 1884 hand-drawn map (Appendix T). In 1899 a larger depot was built in Daggett, constructed out of wood (Appendix E). The depot served to transport the large amounts of borax mined near the Calico region. The narrow-gauge railroad that connected Daggett to the Calico region was built in 1898 to decrease the cost of hauling ore by twenty-mule-team. These mining operations continued until 1907, when the price of Borax fell (Keeling 1976:132).

A depot appears on the 1911 map (Appendix L) and on the 1917 Townsite map (Appendix A). The Old Stone Hotel is directly across the street from the depot in the 1917 map, and slightly west of the depot in the 1911 map. During this period of time the depot did not move. The 1917 map is the most accurate. Apparently a fairly sophisticated method of measuring and documentation, including survey markers, was used. The fact that the property was sold by the Southern Pacific Land Co. probably accounts for the attempt at accuracy.

There is some question as to why the Southern Pacific built its roundhouse in Barstow instead of Daggett. Some believe that a land rush began when the townspeople and railroad employees thought that the railroad junction would

be in Daggett. When the railroad officials came to buy the land, they were faced with what they considered unreasonable prices from the employee land holders. Therefore, the railroad abandoned Daggett and turned to Waterman Junction, which they renamed Barstow (Belden, 1956). While this theory sounds good, according to an early survey map produced in 1856, the railroad already owned the land which went through Daggett, making a land rush illogical.

THE STONE HOTEL

The center of Daggett is The Old Stone Hotel. Perhaps because of its age or solid construction, The Old Stone Hotel has kept alive the pioneering flavor of Daggett.

The building is presently a one-story structure although it appears in various photographs as both a one-story and two-story structure. Following the fire in July, 1908, the hotel was rebuilt as a one-story structure.

The Stone Hotel property is on the north side of Santa Fe Street, approximately 1100 feet east of the Daggett-Yermo road. The building is 14 x 14 meters (43 X 43 Feet) with a total of approximately one hundred and ninety six meters square (Site Record Form). The frontage of the original Block 4 Lot 7, is eighty feet wide with a depth of two hundred and twenty feet (Appendix A).

The one-story structure of today consists of stone and adobe walls twelve feet high and approximately two feet thick (Appendix H). The front or south wall is faced with stones that have been dressed (the outside face has been squared and flattened), while the sides and rear of the structure are primarily rubble stone or river cobbles. Considering the proximity of the Mojave River and the hills of Calico, it is not hard to imagine the source of these rocks. Adobe or sand and water were used as mortar. The adobe has been replaced with cement in some areas, perhaps to protect the mortar from the desert wind and rainwater. Due to earthquake movement, it is now possible to see the interior of the wall in the northeast corner.

The present structure has a tin facade with a sloping flat roof. There are also two corrugated tin additions with interior wood frame walls. Both the original structure and the additions are in poor condition, with exposed beams and rotting floors.

The historical photographs, when closely examined reveal that the number of windows did not change during various reconstructions. There are three windows on the east wall and four windows on the west wall. All appear to have original stone work.

There are presently 5 doors that exit to the outside in the existing structure, two to the rear and three to the front of the structure. Two of the three southern doors

are five-foot double doors with twelve-inch transom windows. The third door is three-foot wide with a twelve-inch transom window opening to the southeast bedroom.

The doors at the rear of the structure are two and a half-feet wide with a ten-inch transom window. One opens from the outside to a bedroom while the other opens to a hall which runs north and south the length of the structure from the entry hall, allowing access to the bedrooms (Appendix F).

A visual examination of the front of the building minus the door to the east reveals a somewhat symmetrical building (Appendix G). Perhaps the third door was added later, following the alleged fire of 1900 or as an access to the second floor when the proposed addition was made. It is possible that the doorway was added to secure an outside opening for "Desert Scotty," a local eccentric miner, since it is rumored that his room is located in the southeast corner of the building. This, however, is uncorroborated.

The building presently contains twelve rooms including an entry room eighteen and a half-feet by eleven-feet, which was used as a reception area (Coy to Banker, 1992). The bedrooms range from approximately ten-feet by eleven-feet to a very small seven by ten-feet (Appendix F).

The floor and roof are wood. The floor is two by six-inch wood sleepers on the ground with tongue and groove flooring over these. The roof is wood joists and rafters.

The top of the wood walls support a horizontal wood plate. The tin facade is fastened to wood cripples supporting the rafters. The ceiling has lath and plaster attached to the joists. The interior walls are two by four-inch lumber with lath and plaster over them.

The additions are also primarily two by four-inch lumber construction with tin exteriors. The floor is raised, at the same level as The Old Stone Hotel. The ceiling of the addition on the west is embossed tin (pressed tin), while the ceiling in the east addition is wood. The remnants of a kitchen with plumbing are evident in the ruins. The doorway from the stone structure to the tin structure in the northeast corner seem to have been added.

An examination of the foundation has not been done to this date. This would require destructive excavation and although informative, the risk of undermining the stone walls would be too great. The depth of the foundation could be an indication of the intended finished height of the building, as foundations are usually some fraction of the height. As there were no building codes in the desert at the time, this may not have been the case. The top of the walls lacks any indication of notches or placement for beams which would have been present if the intention was to build a two story structure initially.

The Old Stone Hotel appears as a two-story structure in a few old photographs. These seem to date after 1900 and

before 1908. One particular photo (Appendix I) is dated at approximately 1902, illustrates the stone and adobe construction for the first floor and the use of wood materials for the second floor.

Melvyn Green and Associates, in their "Historic Structures Report for the Stone Hotel," contend that the second story contained five windows equally spaced across the front facade of the second story (Green, 1985:2). There were actually four windows and a door upstairs which are supported by an early photo, Appendix J. There also appear to be windows on the west wall and most probably there were windows on the east wall. These are visible in a photo taken from the west end of town (Appendix K).

The second floor, in addition to the four windows and door on the south wall, had a two-story wood veranda with balustrade. The door opens to the balcony, allowing access to the outside from the second floor. The facade on the front of the second floor appears to be wood siding. Photographs support the contention that the front is a facade. The top of the facade appears to be approximately five or six-feet higher than the ridge of the roof (Appendix J).

The roof appears to be a gable roof with the ridge running north-south behind the facade. Little else is known of the second floor due to the limited number of available

documents and the lack of photographs from the side or rear of the structure.

Analysis of Structure

As previously stated, I believe that The Old Stone Hotel was originally a one-story structure, the second-story added with the coming of the railroad. Prior to the railroad freight costs were very high. With the coming of the railroad, freight costs were reduced, making the importation of building materials certainly more practical.

The addition of a second story to a stone or adobe building is not unheard of. The Historic American Building Survey or HABS studied the Sugg House (CA-1137) also known as the Sugg-McDonald house, in Sonora, California. The Sugg House is an example of an adobe with an added second floor and is described in Susan B. Woodbridge's California Architecture:

First level adobe faced with brick, **second level wood frame with channeled siding**, three-bay front in gable end, two-and-half stories, gable roof, two-story front veranda continuous on sides as one-story porch, one-story gabled rear addition. Adobe brick portion built in 1857 by William Sugg. **Second floor added in 1880s** (emphasis added); served as boarding house prior to 1918 (Woodbridge, 1988:258).

The Hotel Angels (CA-1547) in Angels Camp, California is another example:

Stone, plastered, seven-bay front, two stories, low gable roof, two story veranda across front with turned balustrade and bracketed caps. Original canvas hotel built on site 1851, replaced by one-story wooden structure, **rebuilt out of stone 1855, second story added 1857** (emphasis added); now retail stores with altered street-level display windows and doors, with second-floor balcony; believed to be the spot where Mark Twain heard about the celebrated jumping frog of Calaveras County (Woodbridge 1988:107).

An additional example is the Plaza Hotel (Mexican Barracks) (CA-1954) in San Juan Batista, California. It is described as:

Adobe and wood frame, 92' (seven-bay front) x 94', U-shaped, two stories, hip roof, casement windows, second-floor balcony. Built 1815 as one-story adobe barracks for Spanish soldiers and two-story guard house; **combined into one structure and wood-frame second story added by Angelo Zanetta, 1855** (emphasis added); operated as a hotel on stage line between San Francisco and Los Angeles; restored 1960s (Woodbridge, 1988:243).

There are also examples of two-story structures originally built entirely of stone, illustrating that this is indeed possible. One of these is the Stone Store (CA 1508) in Buena Vista California. It is described as:

Stone, two-bay front, two stories, gable roof with stepped false front...it had been built in Lancha Plana and moved stone by stone in 1876 to Buena Vista by Chinese miners who received land under store for their effort (Woodbridge, 1988:117).

The Farrington Hotel (CA 1189) in Callahan, California is another example of a rubble stone two-story hotel (Woodbridge, 1988:118). A third example is the City Hotel (CA-1566). It is described as:

Stone and adobe, two stories, gable roof, two-story porch across front with elaborate balustrade and spindle frieze at second level (Woodbridge 1988:255-6).

The fact that it is possible to build multiple stories from stone and rubble stone raises some questions. Why not build The Old Stone Hotel entirely out of stone and adobe? If The Old Stone Hotel was built after the railroad, why was the lower floor built out of stone and adobe?

A simple explanation is that the hotel predates the railroad. Stone and adobe were inexpensive and were commonly used when there was a shortage of wood, which was certainly the case in the desert. If indeed the railroad had already begun operation, wood would have been available for the entire structure.

If stone was used because it is cooler in the desert heat (rather than for lack of wood), why not build both floors initially from stone? The additional insulation against the summer heat would have been welcomed by hotel guests sleeping upstairs. In addition to being an insulator, stone would have been fire-proof. An obvious example of this is the reuse of the first floor following the fire(s).

I believe that the hotel was built originally as a one-story way-station, large enough to accommodate the traffic. The rubble stone was inexpensive and provided some protection from the desert heat. The railroad increased the traffic and provided a fairly inexpensive method of importing lumber.

Other questions arise when the structure is examined. Why use twelve-foot ceilings when building a two-story structure since eight or ten-feet would be sufficient for the bottom floor? As mentioned previously, it is possible that twelve-foot ceilings were utilized to draw the heat up, allowing for a comfort in the living area. But this again raises the question: why not construct the entire structure out of stone, if indeed the heat was a problem? All of the evidence indicates that the second floor was an afterthought. The concept of twelve-foot ceilings for relief from desert heat is conjecture.

The lack of notches for placement of the floor beams for the second-story seems to indicate the intention of originally building a single story structure. In fact the use of two different building materials indicate a two different building episodes separated by time.

Due to the increased traffic traveling to Calico, it is not unlikely that the second floor was added to accommodate expanded dining and sleeping facilities.

STRUCTURAL HISTORY

The original owner/builder of The Old Stone Hotel eluded me. Searching through the San Bernardino County Hall of Records and County Archives, I was able to document ownership as early as 1917. There were many problems with the records search. The land on which The Old Stone Hotel is built originally belonged to the Southern Pacific Land Company. Prior to 1917, the parcels of land had been leased to building owners. The records in the Tax Assessors office showed property taxes on Section 21 of T 9N and R 1E were paid by the Railroad and not the individual property owners. It was not until 1918 that the title was transferred to an individual owner, Annie Faulkner.

To complicate matters various plat maps were used to identify the property in agreement records. These agreements were apparently between individuals who sold their lease interest in improvements on the land to each other, seemingly with the railroad's approval. Using different plat maps and property descriptions created a virtual maze that I was unable to wind my way through. The maps from the Pacific Land Company no longer seem to be available, according to The Railroad Museum in Sacramento and The Kansas State Historical Society. When examining the agreement or mortgage records, I found street names that do not exist on the 1917 Southern Pacific Plat map, such as Fifth Street and Main Street. An earlier map of 1911

(Appendix L) utilizes different numbers for the blocks and lots. These could be structure numbers, since this document was used in court. Furthermore, property descriptions (i.e. block and lot numbers) were missing from the mortgage records and descriptions of surrounding buildings identified only by the owner names, such as Walsh's Saloon, were used. An example of this is a property description from June 12, 1894:

Commencing at north-easterly corner of lot owned by W.E. Steadman and running easterly fifty-one feet along the south side of Fifth Street to the Northeast corner of property of A. Falconer then Southerly one hundred and fifty feet then westerly fifty-one feet to place of beginning also known as Van Briesens Adobe dwelling.

This created a maze within a maze!

The "Railroad Hotel," referred to in various documents, seemed to be located, according to the Pacific Improvement Co. map, on Block 72, Lots 7,8,9,10. Block 72 was on Sixth Street and each lot had a frontage of twenty-five feet. Mortgage Book 0, Page 348, lists Victor Von Briesen as the owner of the "Railroad Hotel". He sold the property to Seymour Alf for \$2600.00 in May, 1884. This hotel is often confused with The Old Stone Hotel, but property descriptions, using streets such as Fifth and Sixth Streets, lead me to believe that the hotel is located east of Fourth Street. An examination of the 1917 plat map (Appendix A) reveals that all the streets utilizing numbers, including First, Second, Third and Fourth Streets run north-south

beginning on the west end of town with First Street and moving eastward.

There was also another hotel in town, west of The Old Stone Hotel which might further confuse the already confused. In photographs it is possible to see that there is a hotel very close to The Old Stone Hotel. The hotel west of The Old Stone Hotel was initially called the Capital Lodging House (Appendix N) and then the Daggett Hotel (Appendix M). At some point in time this structure appears in a photo with only an elephant on the face of the parapet, perhaps representative of nearby Elephant Mountain.

Osborn's Grader, a steam powered tractor, designed in San Francisco in 1889, is shown in front of the building, placing the photo after 1889 (Add an appendix with this photo) See photo in Once Upon the Desert. Keeling: 1976:86). As mentioned previously, in an 1887 Daggett Directory, a lodging house and two hotels are mentioned. These would be the Capital Lodging House and probably The Old Stone Hotel and Railroad Hotel, since the Railroad Hotel is mentioned in mortgage documents from this period.

Using the 1917 plat map, I determined that The Old Stone Hotel is located in Block 4, Lot 7 and this was verified by the Tax Assessors office in Barstow (Appendix P).

Two maps that I was unable to locate would have been very helpful in identifying property, including the various

hotels in town. These were the Pacific Improvement Co. 1882 plat map and the Southern Pacific Lease map.

Without the missing plat maps it is impossible to be certain, but it appears that Block 4 Lot 7, on which the hotel is located has eighty-feet of frontage. Block 72, Lots 7,8,9,10 are each twenty-five-feet of frontage with a total of one-hundred-feet of frontage. Based on the size of the blocks and lots, it seems impossible that the lots and blocks could be the same. Furthermore Sixth Street does not appear on the map. The north-south streets are numbered beginning with First Street on the west end of town and Fourth Street east of the property on which The Old Stone Hotel is located (Appendix P). It appears that the "Railroad Hotel" was quite a bit east of The Old Stone Hotel and no longer exists.

The present owner of The Old Stone Hotel is the San Bernardino County Museum Association. The property was donated to SBCMA by Elenor Lacy and was recorded Oct. 10, 1977 (Mortgage book 9287 Page 1216).

Elenor and Hugh Lacy purchased the property, Block 4, Lots 1,2,7, from Maurice McShane on Oct. 24, 1972 (Mortgage book 8046, Pages 63, 64). Maurice McShane, Grace Coy and Frank McShane inherited the property from Annie Faulkner, Maurice and Frank's mother, and Grace's grandmother. Annie had purchased the property, Block 4, Lot 7, from the Southern Pacific Land Company April 18, 1918 (Mortgage book

630, Page 317). Alex Falconer owned The Old Stone Hotel when he married Annie in 1913.

Rumors abound as to the actual owners or past owners. Walter Alf, in an article entitled "The Alfs and Medlins" from Once Upon a Desert (Keeling: 172), alleges that The Old Stone Hotel was built by District Attorney Kavanaugh's widowed mother. This is the first mention of a possible builder. Walter Alf is no longer alive, and therefore it is difficult to trace this rumor. A search through County Archives reveals that N. Kavanaugh (wife Elvira) was listed as a City Constable for San Bernardino, although the Kavanaugh's were not listed as property owners in Daggett. John Falconer's will lists his heirs, which include Alice Cavanaugh and Alex Falconer. It is unknown if they are brother and sister, although I suspect they were. (I don't know if the spellings of Cavanaugh and Kavanaugh indicate mistakes or unrelated individuals.)

Another suggested owner is Seymour Alf, Walter Alf's father. Walter Alf, in Once Upon a Desert, notes that "Seymour Alf bought The Old Stone Hotel" (Keeling 1976:172). He goes on to state that the family, following the August, 1988 birth of Walter, "squatted on the property at First and Santa Fe Streets until it was determined that the land was part of the railroad section. They leased it and finally bought it from the railroad" (Keeling 1976:172). Why would the family squat on a piece of land when they owned The Old

Stone Hotel? In The San Bernardino City and County Directory of 1886 Seymour Alf is said to be the owner of the Railroad Eating House, apparently a hotel and a lodging house. The Alfs moved to Daggett in 1885, according to Walter Alf. Mortgage Book 0, page 348, lists Seymour Alf as the purchaser of Block 72, Lots 7,8,9,10 from Victor Von Briesen in May of 1884. In June of 1886 this same property was referred to as the "Railroad Hotel" (Mortgage Book 48, page 6). Walter Alf refers to the Hotel as The Old Stone Hotel, while the Directory refers to it as the Railroad Eating House.

As mentioned previously the earliest documented owner of The Old Stone Hotel was Alex Falconer and his wife Annie Mulcahy Bahten McShane Falconer (Appendix O). Annie Falconer's granddaughter, Grace Coy is still living in San Bernardino and actually lived in The Old Stone Hotel. I had the opportunity to meet with Grace over the course of a couple of months. Grace explained what she could remember about the hotel and life there during the early 1900s.

Grace Toennis Coy was born in Daggett in 1905. She left Daggett for Hanford when she was five years old. Her parents were divorced, and she returned to live in Daggett with her mother, grandmother Annie, and Annie's new husband, Alex Falconer. Grace attended the sixth grade in Daggett. Her teacher in sixth grade was Mrs. Gertrude Alf. Shortly afterwards her mother remarried Dr. Kensey and Grace moved

from Daggett once again. She returned in 1920 following the death of her mother on September 9 of the same year. She stayed with her grandmother, at the hotel until 1924 (Coy, 1992, 1990).

Grace remembers the interior of the hotel when she was a child. She recalls that the hotel desk was a solid oak table and the hotel had a two-hole outhouse. The kitchen was in the back of the addition on the northeast corner of the building. Annie Mulcahy Faulkner had a pool hall and bar built next door to the hotel for her son, Frank McShane, who Grace remembers as crippled or paralyzed from polio. The pool hall was built some time after Annie married Alex in 1913.

Grace was able to recall the carbide gas generator which produced gas for lights in the hotel and some of Alex Falconer's nearby buildings. The generator was located east of the hotel, somewhere near the saloon and restaurant. Her step-grandfather plumbed for gas and wired the hotel in anticipation of electric lights. Electricity did not arrive in Daggett until 1926 according to Grace Coy. There is a hole to the east of the hotel with a cement floor, not quite large enough for a basement. David Linn's map of the excavation at The Old Stone Hotel (Appendix Q), illustrates hole #2 which Grace believes to be the hole designed for the carbide gas generator. It makes sense to place a gas plant

far enough from the building and in a depression surrounded by stone in case of an explosion.

Grace contends that Alex Falconer purchased The Old Stone Hotel in 1885 along with the saloon next door. She also states that the second story burned in 1908. The resulting one-story structure has not changed much, except for the deterioration according to Grace.

Renovation of Daggett

In 1885 Daggett underwent a renovation. According to Alan Hensher, writing in Heritage Tales 1986, on "San Bernardino County's Silver Lining, The Boom at Calico, 1881-1898",

In the Spring of 1885...Daggett's residents and business owners took great pains to enlarge, remodel and paint their buildings. Trees had been or were being planted in front of the railroad hotel, a saloon, a restaurant, a store, and several houses. Near the Quinn & Sutcliffe brewery, awnings and trees were added so that the place "will be a pleasant place to sit on a summer eve's and quaff the foaming beverage..." Freighter Joseph LeCyr, who was also a deputy sheriff, refurbished his home, built a picket fence around the yard, and planted trees and shrubs. As soon as Daggett's trees "grow to considerable size and the gardens are in a more flourishing condition the town will look like a verdant garden" the Print predicted [Quotes from Calico Print newspaper in quotation marks] (Hersher 1968:19).

If the town, and certainly The Old Stone Hotel, had been built in 1882/83, it seems unlikely that there would be a need to remodel in 1885. An original building date of

perhaps 1875, ten years later, would be much more reasonable for a remodeling blitz. Furthermore the article notes that trees were planted in front of the Railroad Hotel. The available photo (Appendix M) does not show trees in front of The Old Stone Hotel while trees do appear in front of other structures in town.

Because there is so little accurate information available on the hotel itself, it is important to understand the circumstantial evidence that supports or argues against a construction date prior to the railroad. It has been suggested that the hotel is contemporary with the railroad putting a construction date at approximately 1882/1883. The County Assessor's office approximates the date of construction as 1875 (Moon to Coy, June 1977).

Supporting evidence includes the railroad, which usually followed stage and freight lines, suggesting that the corridor through Daggett was indeed busy, creating a necessity for overnight accommodations. As noted previously, Camp Cady, a military garrison of dragoons available to protect against Indian attack, was located east of Daggett and The Old Stone Hotel, ensuring an endless trek of soldiers from Los Angeles to their post.

Another bit of evidence was found in a court case involving Southern Pacific Railroad. The court documents included a hand-drawn map of Daggett (Appendix T). The map was found in the file at the Archaeological Information

Center in San Bernardino and illustrates the position of the depot in relation to early buildings in town. Hand-written notes on the map indicate that Jame's place is across the street from the depot. This information is apparently from an 1882 article in the Calico Print. Van's place is east of Jame's place and down the street from the depot. The Old Stone Hotel is across the street from the depot in the 1917 map. It is possible that Jame's place is actually The Old Stone Hotel and could have been operated as a general store during the early years, although this is merely speculation. This would explain why no references to The Old Stone Hotel appear in early mortgage records. This map also places Van's place down the street. If Van's place is the Railroad Hotel, this map places it east of the depot and also east of Fourth Street, which is where the Railroad Hotel was located according to mortgage records.

Another avenue yet unexplored is the name for the hotel. "The Old Stone Hotel" suggests that the hotel predates the other buildings in town (Appendix J). If indeed everything was built at the time of the railroad it would be unlikely that the stone building would be referred to as "Old." Indeed why not call it the "Stone Hotel" as the hotel appears in later photos after the 1908 fire (Appendix O). It is possible following the fire of 1900 the hotel was renamed The Old Stone Hotel, indicating its maturity.

Fire at The Old Stone Hotel

There was allegedly a fire in 1899 or 1900 which destroyed the hotel. Examination of the photographs indicate that there must have been at least two fires. The sequence of photos places Appendix N as the earliest photo because the Capital Lodging house is mentioned in 1886 Daggett Directory, along with two other hotels in town. At this time according to mortgage records, The Old Stone Hotel and the Railroad hotel are operating at this time. The remains of the hotel in Appendix N are to the right of the photo. Appendices M, I, J and K are from a later period, with The Old Stone Hotel rebuilt. This is corroborated by the size of the trees planted in front of the Daggett Hotel to the west of The Old Stone Hotel. Appendix O is after 1913 as Annie Falconer sits in front of the hotel with her friends and brothers. She did not marry Alex falconer until 1913. Appendix N reveals that very little is left of The Old Stone Hotel except the stone portion of the structure.

There are a variety of scenarios that would explain the unfinished stone structure. The owners of the hotel could have been in the process of rebuilding following a fire. The buildings to the left in Appendix N lack names. Possibly these buildings were damaged by the same fire and the owners were in the process of finishing detail work such as painting the names on the facade.

Another possibility is that the addition of the second-story could have been in the progress. In reviewing the documents, there was no mention of the hotel as a two-story structure. It is possible that both events occurred at this time. A fire destroyed the hotel, and the owners took this opportunity to build on, utilizing the stone on the bottom floor and adding the wooden second floor.

The present building is the result of a fire which, on July 13, 1908, destroyed most of the hotel and apparently a large majority of the town, including The People's General Store and Scotty's Market, to the west of The People's General Store. The stone walls of the hotel remained standing and were reused during the reconstruction the following year. The fire certainly altered the interior, the building went from two-story to a one-story, making placement of the original interior walls impossible. Further the additions to the rear of the building were probably built at the time of the last fire.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION AT DAGGETT

According to an article in the San Bernardino County Museum Newsletter (June, 1980), excavations at The Old Stone Hotel were conducted in the summer of 1979. David Linn and Gordon Strickler from the Daggett Historical Society directed the project. The California Conservation Corps provided the 1700 plus man-hours of labor for the dig.

Unfortunately provenance for the artifacts was not maintained. Apparently excavation by 10-centimeter levels did not occur. Artifacts were merely removed and dumped in barrels to await cleaning. Massive amounts of artifacts were excavated from holes placed primarily over what appeared to be the privy pits and refuse disposal sites.

Chuck Mueller, a San Bernardino Sun reporter, describes the collection as including "chinese opium pipes, a woman's pin of amethyst, some handmade tools, coins dating to 1898 and several cases of unopened whiskey." Actually it was much more extensive than these items. There are perhaps 40 boxes of articles excavated from these various pits.

According to Carol Rector at the San Bernardino County Museum, the excavated materials were placed in barrels where they sat for some time until the items were cleaned. The artifacts were tentatively cataloged by Lester Ross, but the collection lacks an intensive study. Most of the boxes sit in the People's General Store, next door to The Old Stone Hotel. These contain primarily glass bottles. The rest of the collection, primarily ceramics and a few excavated coins, are in the possession of The San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands.

The ceramics appear to be primarily white ironstone hotelware, although some stoneware was also found. The stoneware was primarily utility ware and beer bottles. Identified marks from the ironstone include Edward Clarke (&

Co.), Knowles, Taylor & Knowles (Co.), Henry Kennedy & Sons (Ltd.) Thomas Hughes, Arthur J. Wilkinson (Ltd.), H.J. Colclough, Colclough China Ltd., Ridgway Potteries Ltd., Pioneer Pottery Company, J. & G. Meakin (Ltd.), Joseph Bourne & Son LTD., John Maddock & Sons (Ltd), The Limoges China Company, Homer Laughlin China Co., John Edwards, Clyde Pottery Co. (Ltd.), or C.P. Co., F. Grosvenor (& Son), Burford Brothers, Henry Burgess, Burgess & Goddard.

The archaeological excavation did not provide enough information to assist in developing a precise building date. No excavations were done near the foundations. It is possible that the excavators missed the earliest privy pits. The map of the excavation site (Appendix Q) reveals that the pits seem to be in line with each other moving north or away from the property when additional privies were needed. If there were earlier pits that were missed during excavation, they could be under the tin addition on the east. This would place the privy pits outside the door and behind the building.

The privy pits that were excavated revealed material such as ceramics that generally have a fairly long use life. The coins provide only a limited clue as to the time period due to delays in deposition after production, similar to ceramics.

Records from Grace Coy shed some light on the archaeological excavations conducted at The Old Stone Hotel.

In a letter from her uncle Maurice McShane and his wife Elsie, Maurice recounts the destruction of the restaurant and saloon built near The Old Stone Hotel. He writes;

Now do you remember one day when I was tearing down the restaurant and cottage - that I took a long pointed crow bar and struck down into an old tunnel or cellar, I should have investigated further, but some-how didn't. That's probably where the old bottles, wine and whiskey was found. The old saloon was adjoining the restaurant on the immediate east side front facing south and rear north (Appendix R).

Apparently Maurice had found what was referred to as Hole #1 during the archaeological excavations (see map of excavation). Margaret Fouts, a member of the Daggett Historical Society writes to Grace Coy (1977):

Yes, that old basement where bottles and other items were found was a surprise. Hope Maurice McShane knows all about it. Wonder if it was under a building called, "Daggett Saloon." According to an old snapshot there was such a building some place east of the Chinese Restaurant.

The dates of these letters all appear to be written two years prior to the excavation at The Old Stone Hotel. The holes had apparently been vandalized by pot and bottle hunters. According to a Jan. 12 1979 article in the San Bernardino Sun, three youths removed items such as hotel registers and the whiskey bottles with liquor still in them, prior to the actual excavation.

PROSTITUTION IN DAGGETT

Daggett was a mining town with quite a few single men. While in most places it would not be unusual to find a hotel used as a house of prostitution, especially where liquor was also served, I doubt this happened at The Old Stone Hotel. There were many families living in Daggett during the early days, just as there were in Calico. Houses of prostitution generally were not located at the largest hotel in town. Prostitutes preferred the outskirts of towns. An example of this can be found in Rosa May, the biography of a prostitute from the historic ghost towns of Bodie and Virginia City (Williams, 1980). This allowed for quiet, secret rendezvous, without the town gossip's knowledge.

Depending on the focus of the author, Daggett has been presented as a rough and rowdy western town or a commercial terminus for Calico, with business and family of vital importance. The hotel apparently did not have a saloon inside, although there was one to the east. Judge Dix Van Dyke, a local resident, viewed Daggett as a rough town. In an article entitled "Old Times In Daggett" he describes a night apparently at Alex Falconer's Saloon. He writes:

None of our peace officers happened to be at Alec's [sic] one night when hostilities began. Before the tumult subsided there was gun-play, and a Mexican sprawled on the floor. Doc Pitman, the coroner, was a jolly soul who enjoyed visiting a desert saloon and making merry with the boys. In due time, he arrived for the inquest. But to his disgust he could not find one witness to the shooting, although the saloon had been crowded.

While Van Dyke created a rough image of the town of Daggett, he makes no reference to prostitution.

While champagne glasses do not indicate prostitution they could indicate the presence of females, although miners often celebrated strikes with champagne. Champagne glasses were found in the archaeological record but since there was no vertical control of artifacts it is difficult to place them in a chronological order. Therefore the glasses could date from any time throughout the occupation period and give no indication of prostitution.

There certainly is nothing in the literature to suggest that there were houses of ill repute in the vicinity. Rumors abound of a prostitute, "Diamond Lil," and her girls, said to have worked the mining camps. Myrum Mudgett, a child during Calico's early days insists that "Diamond Lil would have had to have been quintuplets to have been in all the mining camps where she was supposed to be ALL AT THE SAME TIME" (Mudgett, 1977) apparently implying that little prostitution existed.

Annie Mulcahy Falconer wrote down her memories of Calico and Daggett area, entitled "The Story of Calico" (unpublished story by Annie Falconer from Grace Coy collection). She recalls Calico as a place where everybody acted like brother and sister. She mentions the saloons and gambling in a positive light.

RUMORS ABOUND

Misinformation, unverified or sources lacking citations were common when investigating The Old Stone Hotel.

"Guideposts to History," a small booklet published in 1977 by Santa Fe Federal Savings and Loan, dates construction of the hotel at 1875 but sources were not cited. This same article contends there were three fires in the hotel prior to 1900 but once again there are no citations.

The fires in the hotel are mentioned often but rarely documented. The Mojave River and Its Valley, contends the whole town of Daggett is said to have burned. The author, Erma Peirson, (1970:189) also states that the first home in the town of Daggett was built by Jonas Brown Osborne. Jonas Osborne built Osborne's Grader, the steam powered tractor designed to replace the 20-mule team borax trains. He had a presence in Daggett but it is unknown when he built the house. The source of this information is unknown.

As was previously mentioned, Desert Scotty (or Death Valley Scotty of Scotty's Castle) is said to have frequented The Old Stone Hotel. Room number 7 was supposedly reserved for his personal use only. Desert Scotty did spend time in Daggett, but the extent of his stay seems to be undocumented. There is a photograph of Desert Scotty in front of The Old Stone Hotel (Appendix M). Apparently he issued stock in 1913 to raise money for prospecting trips. It is possible that Desert Scotty, about to depart to the

mines, had his photo taken in order to raise additional capital from the sale of his stock. According to a San Bernardino Sun article, a stock certificate was issued to merchant George Toennis of Daggett in exchange for supplies. The photo of Desert Scotty in Daggett (Appendix M) and the stock issue must have occurred at separate times, because Appendix M seems to have been taken immediately following restoration in 1900. It is possible that Toennis granted Scotty credit, which he paid back 12 or 13 years later with \$2,000 of stock. Either way, the stock (Appendix S) and Desert Scotty eventually proved worthless. Scotty turned out to be primarily a con man whom everyone loved.

Another rumor that has been difficult to verify is a story of a lantern or signal light on the top of the hotel, in what sounds like an attic or roof-top glass dome. When the liquor arrived in town the lantern would be lit and the miners, in the hills overlooking Daggett, would all converge on the town. When the liquor dried up they would return to their diggings until the next freight wagon of liquor arrived.

Once again this is a difficult story to verify. I heard it from Lester Ross who could not remember where he heard it. There is a story of a nearby ranch with a beacon, and the story could have evolved from this ranch house light. It will probably always remain an interesting rumor.

CONCLUSION

Evidence to support the presence of The Old Stone Hotel prior to the railroad includes:

1. The location of the hotel on a major road between Salt Lake, Utah, Needles, and San Bernardino-Los Angeles.
2. The large amount of stage, freight and military traffic necessitating a hotel prior to the railroad.
3. Calico was established in 1881, creating a need for a commercial terminus prior to the railroad.
4. The lack of resources in the desert and the fact that the hotel is built of stone.
5. The name of The Old Stone Hotel implies that the structure is one of the older structures in town.

On the basis of this circumstantial evidence I believe that The Old Stone Hotel predated the railroad. Without definitive documents such as maps and mortgage records the true date of construction will never be known.

I also contend that The Old Stone Hotel was originally a one-story structure built of rubble stone. Support for this is found in the analysis of the structure and includes:

1. Rubble stone was easily accessible and free while wood was virtually unavailable in the desert and expensive prior to the railroad.
2. The structure lacks evidence of support for a second floor which should have been included when the first

floor was constructed if a second floor was intended initially.

3. The addition of a wooden second-story was not uncommon and occurred in other historical structures.
4. As evidenced by the HABS two-story structures, it is possible to build entirely out of stone. Because this was not done at The Old Stone Hotel I believe that a time period existed between the construction of the first floor and the addition of the wooden second floor.
5. With the coming of the railroad, or the boom in Calico, the need for increased eating and sleeping space would be an impetus for further construction.
6. A fire in 1889 or 1890 would have allowed an opportunity to add additional space.

I feel confident in the evidence presented and although all is not known of the structure, I hope to have enlightened some and provoked further interest in the history of The Old Stone Hotel.

In my search for documentation it became apparent that there are many individuals with information concerning the hotel. Some of these individuals have chosen not to share with the community. I hope in the future that the community of Daggett is allowed access to these documents and any photos that might exist to expand the knowledge base.

Since the beginning of my investigations into The Old Stone Hotel at Daggett, The Old Stone Hotel has suffered earthquake damage to the northwest corner of the stone structure. Flooding during the rains of 1993 added to the damage. The San Bernardino County Museum hopes to repair and stabilize the structure to endure future earthquakes. A building that has survived for over 100 years deserves the time and effort it will take to restore it to its original state.

My hope is that the townspeople of Daggett, who love The Old Stone Hotel, are granted their wish of creating a museum that will transport the visitor back to the mining days of Daggett.

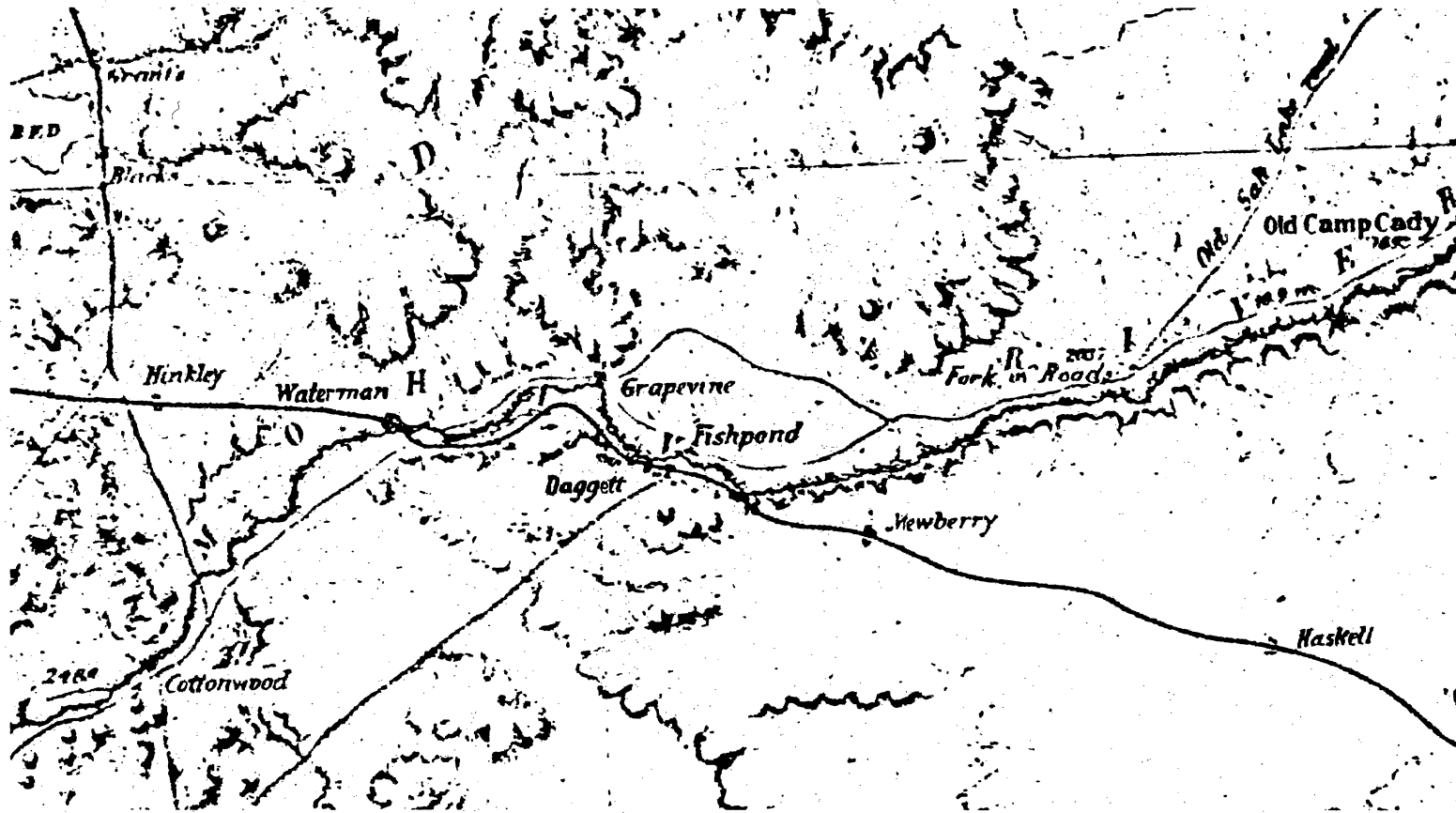
APPENDICES



Company has surveyed and
 the State of California com-
 the alley in Block 2, 1st Street, 2nd
 Street, San Bernardino Street,
 litama Street, South Street,
 described as follows:
 25th 9 North, Range 1 East,
 156 and Sixty-five Hundred

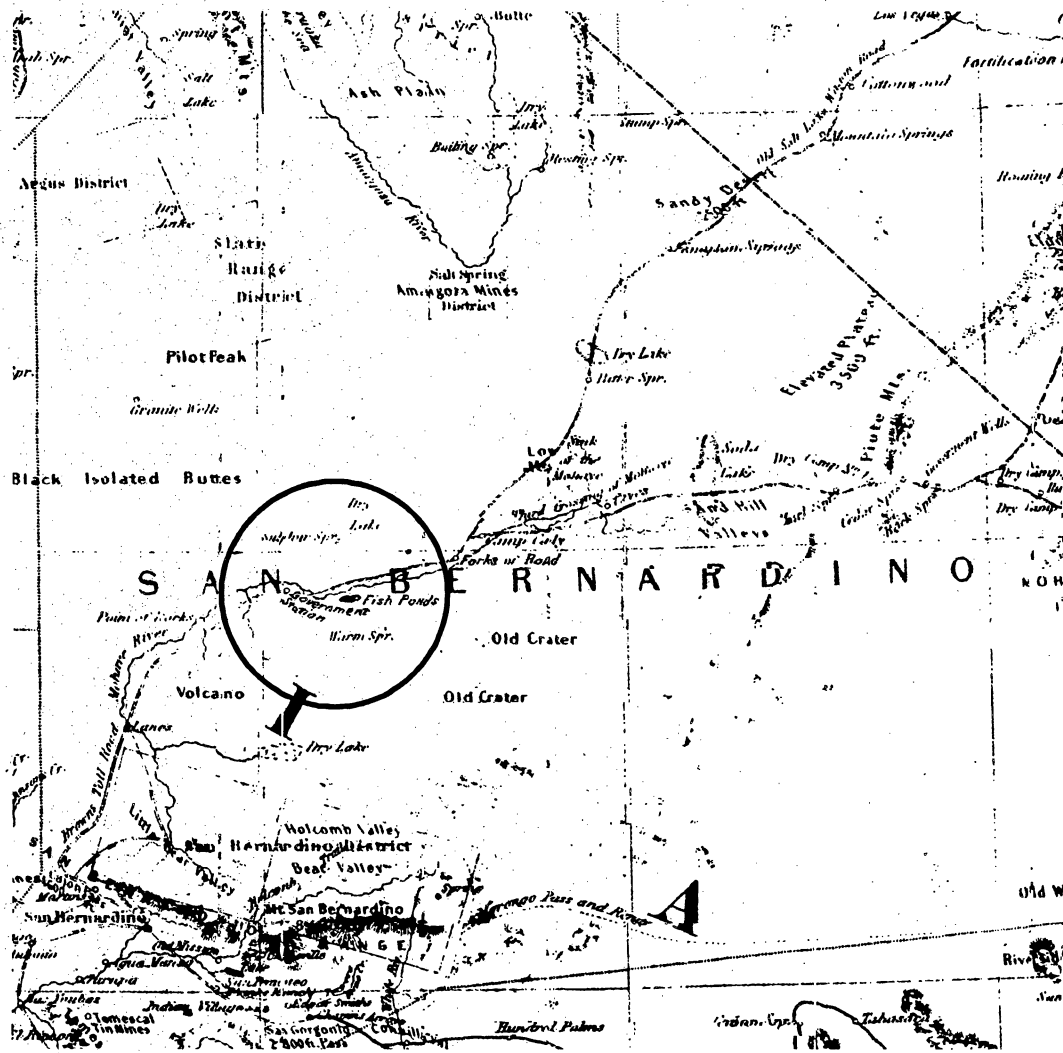
State of California }
 City and County of San Francisco }
 On this 28th day of November 1917, before me E.B. Ryan
 a Notary Public in and for the City and County of San Francisco, State of California,

Appendix A - Map of 1917
 1917 Map of the Townsite of Daggett in Sec. 21 T.9N., R.1E., S.B.M. San Bernardino
 County, CA. L.G.B. MacDowell, Engineer. Oct. 1917. Note: The Old Stone Hotel is
 located on Block 4, Lot 7.

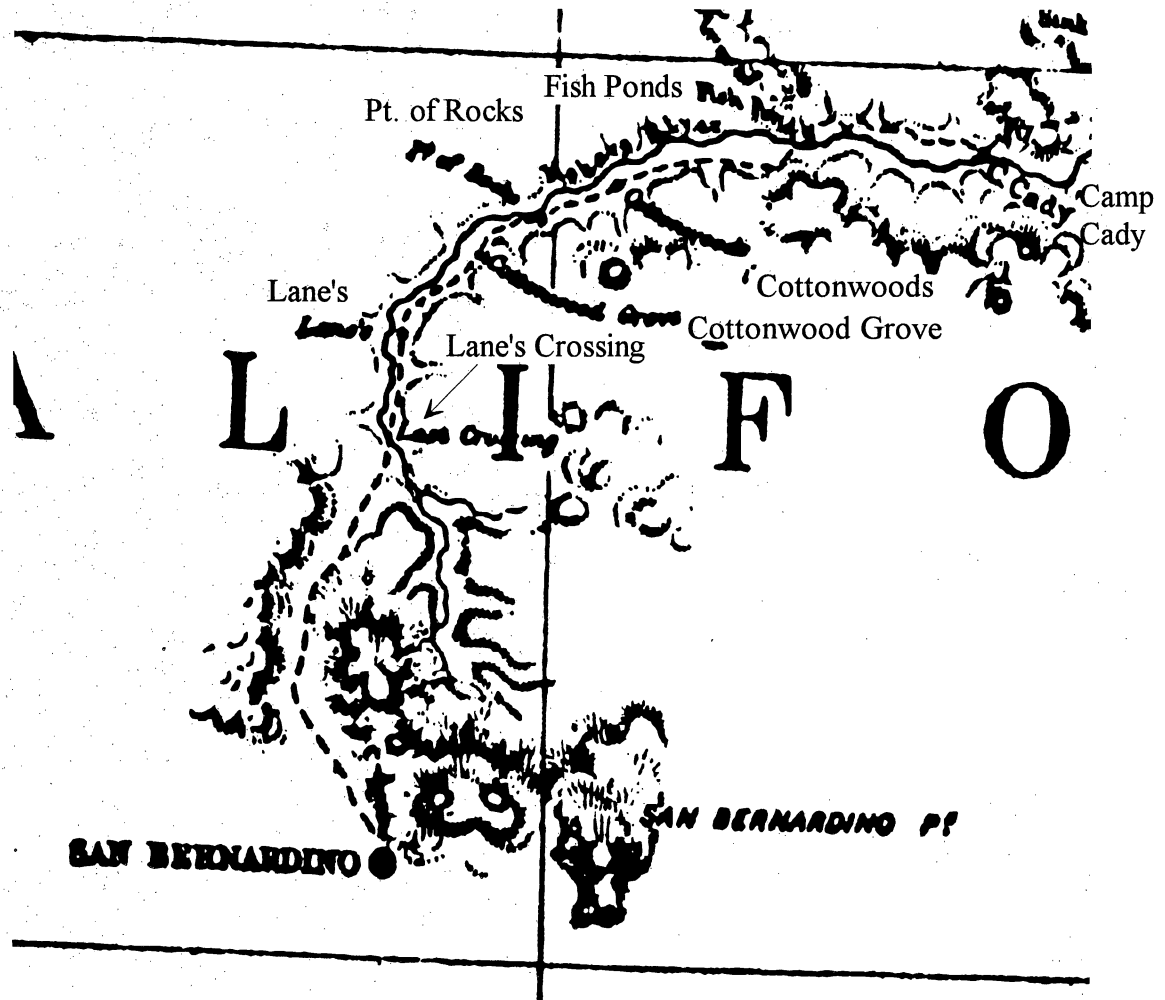


Appendix B - Wheeler Map of 1883

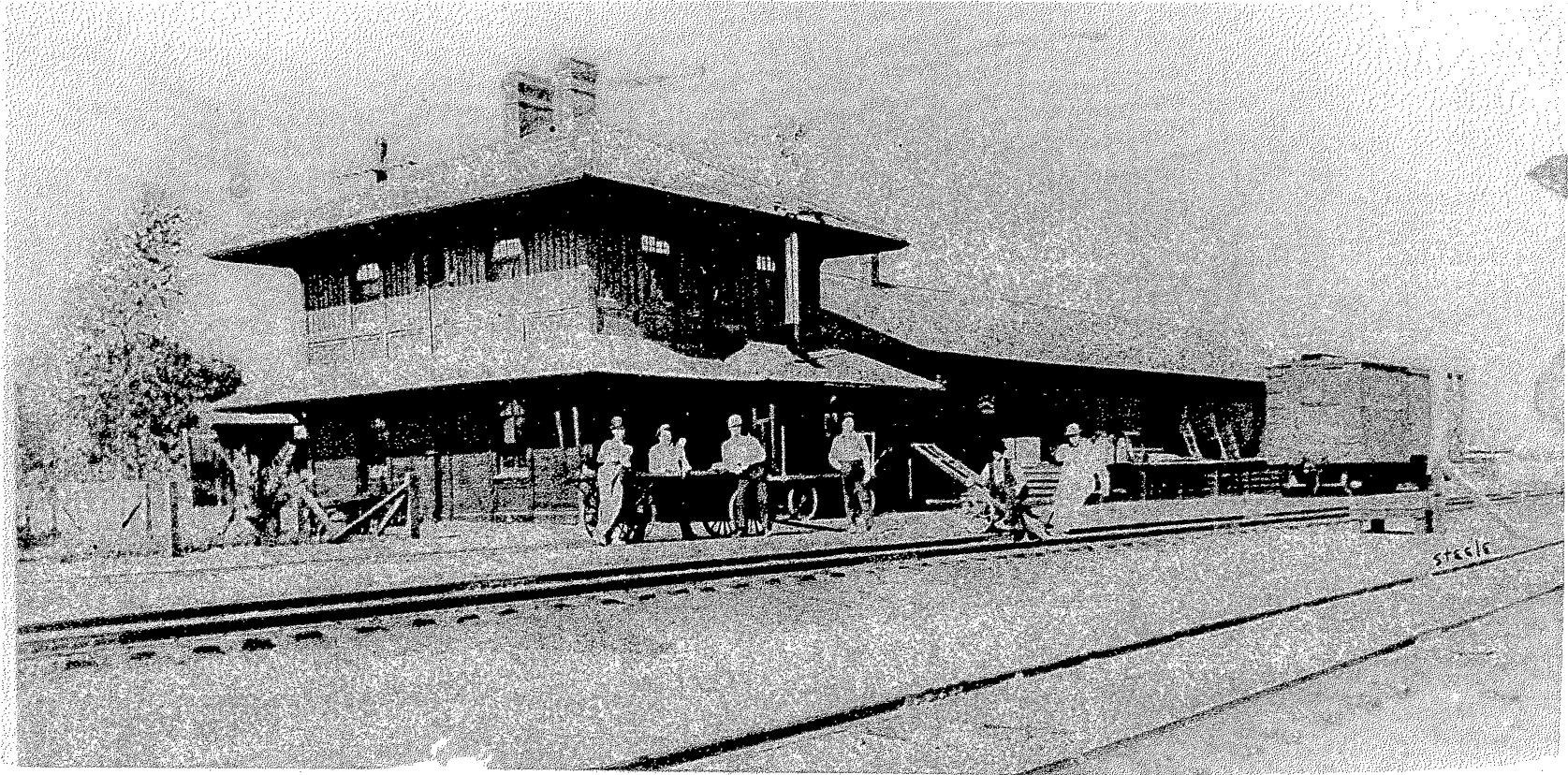
Portion of 1883 U.S. Chief of Engineers Map. Atlas sheet number 73, published 11/30/1883 (Part of Southern California Map).



Appendix C - Bancroft Map of 1868
 Portion of 1868 H. H. Bancroft Map of California and Nevada, Published by H. H. Bancroft & Company. Booksellers & Stationers, San Francisco, Cal. (Government Station is inside circle).

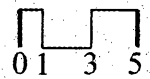
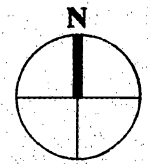
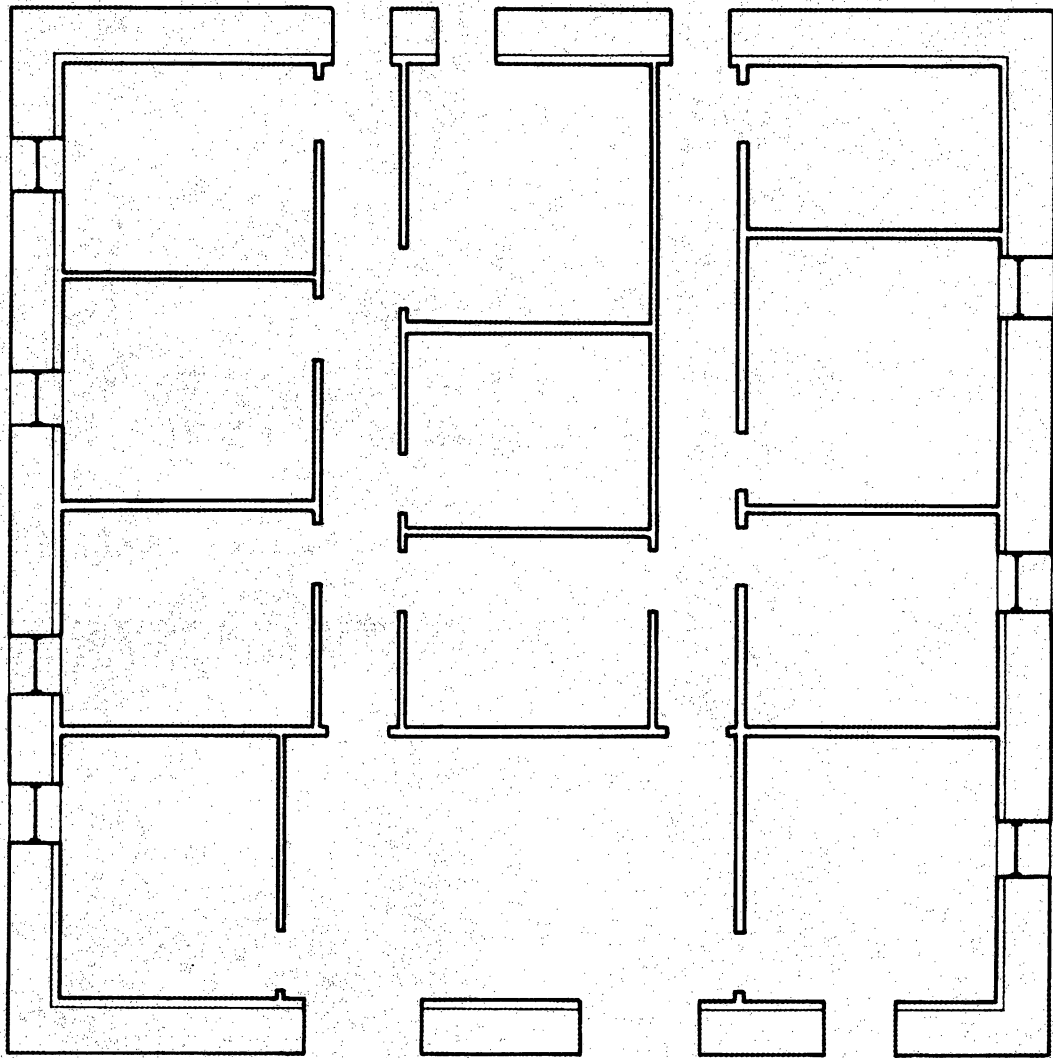


Appendix D - Wheeler Map of 1871
Portion of Explorations and Surveys Preliminary Topographical Map of South of
Central Pacific R.R. by 1st Lieutenant George M. Wheeler in 1871.

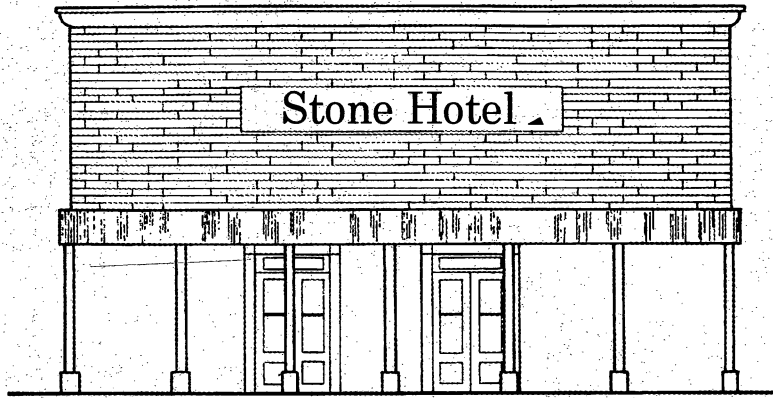


Appendix E - Depot at Daggett

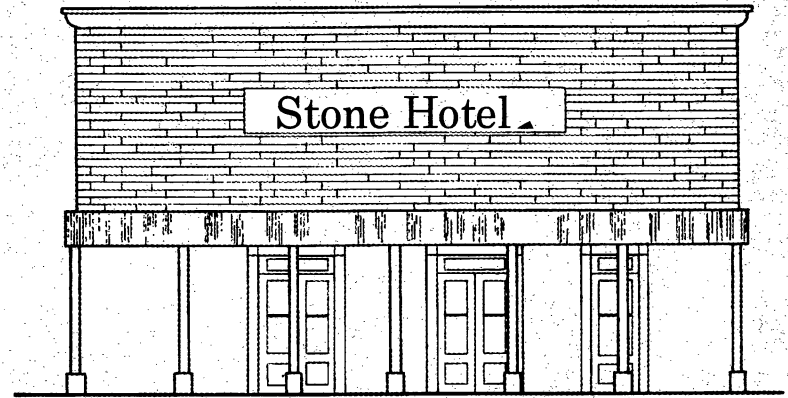
Photo of the Depot at Daggett, 1889 to 1906. Used with permission of San Bernardino County Museum.



Appendix F - Floor Plan of Hotel
Floor plan of The Old Stone Hotel in Daggett as a single story structure. Illustrated by Eulogio Guzman, 1993.



Stone Hotel as a single story with third door removed.



Stone Hotel as a single story with third door.

56

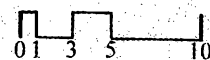
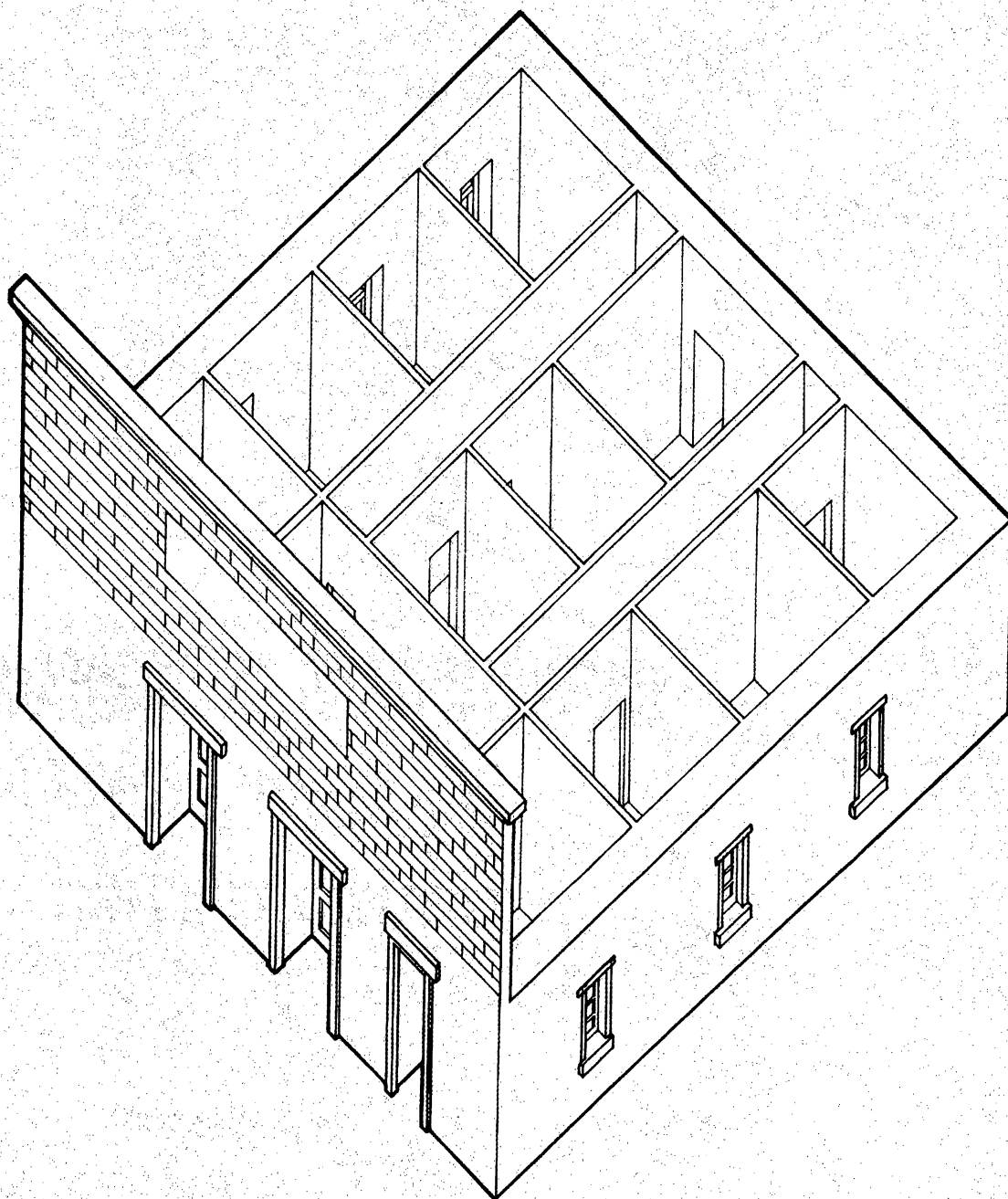


The Old Stone Hotel as a two-story structure with third door removed.



The Old Stone Hotel as a two-story structure with third door.

Appendix G - Hotel With/Without Third Door (Illustrated by Eulogio Guzman, 1993.)



Appendix H - Isometric of Hotel
Aerial isometric from southeast of The Old Stone Hotel. Illustrated by Eulogio Guzman,
1993.



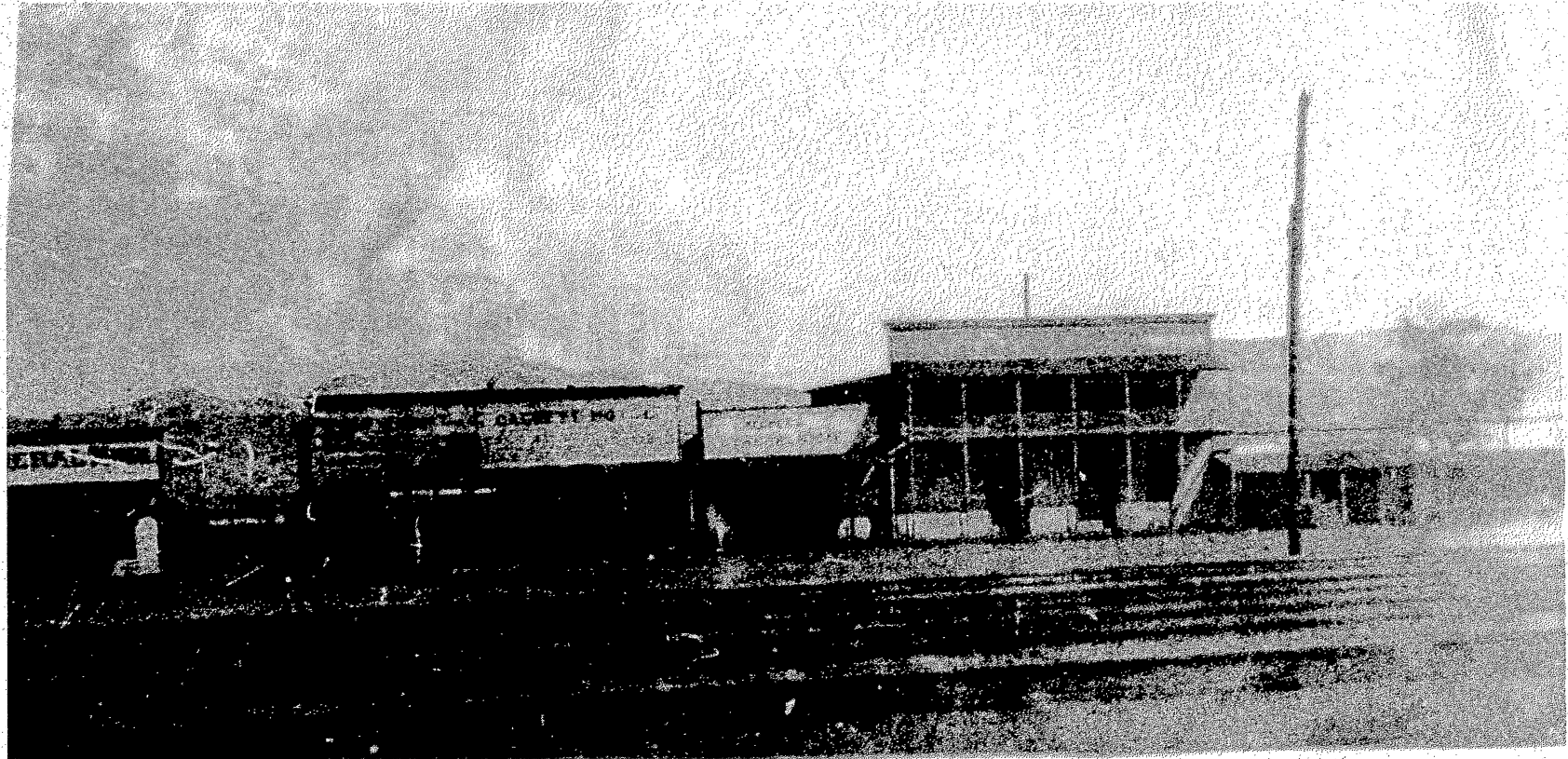
Appendix I - Main Street of Daggett

Photo of the Main Street of Daggett, taken in 1902 or 1904 according to two newspaper captions. Sent by Mabel Ryerson to her mother Roxa Scott in Canada in 1906 or 1907. Used with permission of San Bernardino County Museum.



Appendix J - "The Old Stone Hotel"

Photo of The Old Stone Hotel as a two-story structure with the words "THE OLD STONE HOTEL" faintly written on the facade. Used with permission of San Bernardino County Museum.



Appendix K - The Hotel as a Two-Story

The Old Stone Hotel facing Santa Fe Street. Taken after 1900 but before 1908 from the San Bernardino County Museum Collection, slide 511.



Appendix M - Desert Scotty

Photo taken prior to 1908 of Desert Scotty on Santa Fe Street. Shows The Old Stone Hotel as a two-story structure in the right hand corner of the photo. Note that there are no trees in front of the hotel. Used with permission of the State Library in Sacramento



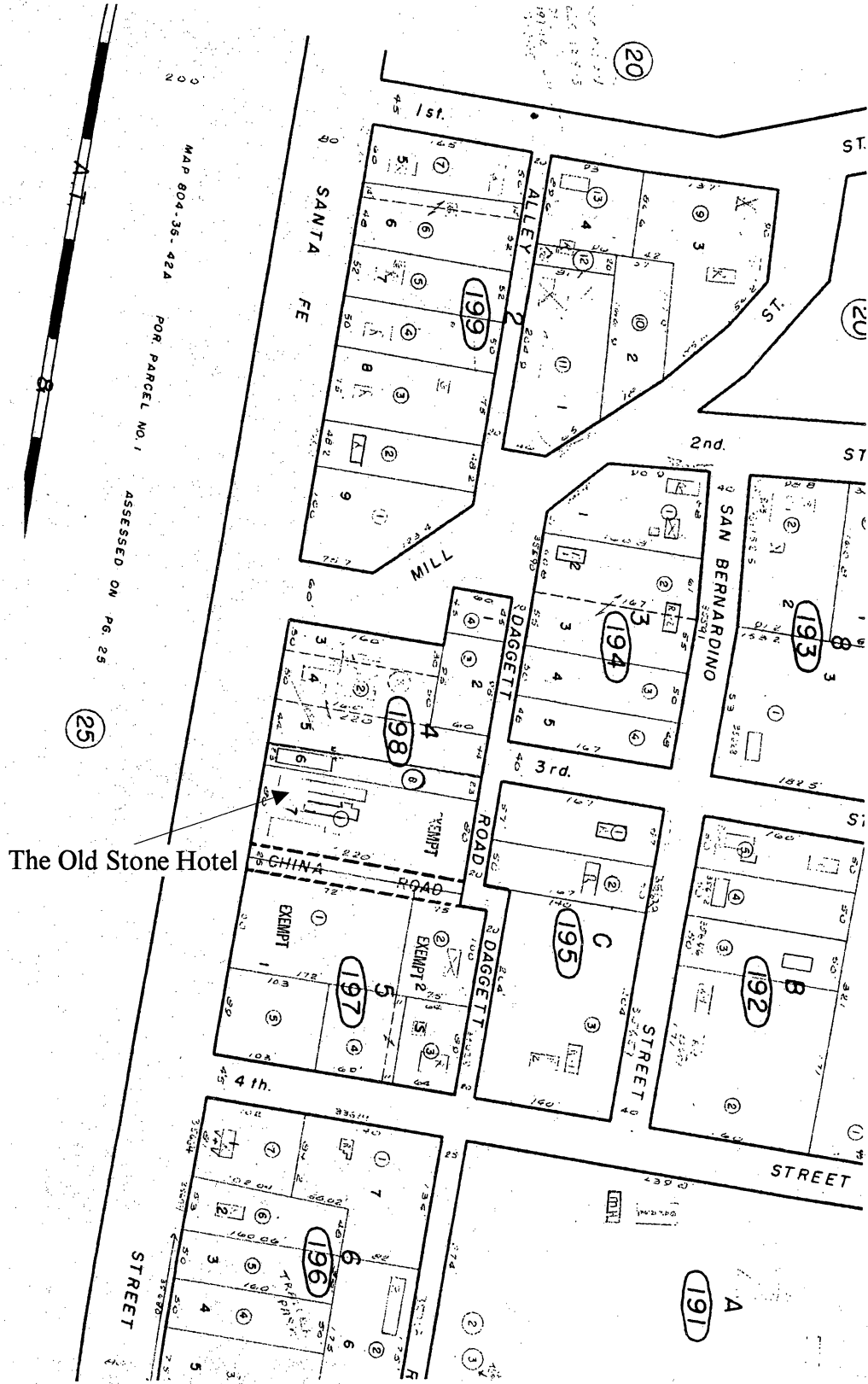
Appendix N - Twenty Mule Team

Photo possibly after fire in 1900 showing The Old Stone Hotel to the far right. Hotel walls are remains of Hotel. Capital Lodging House is in the center of the picture.



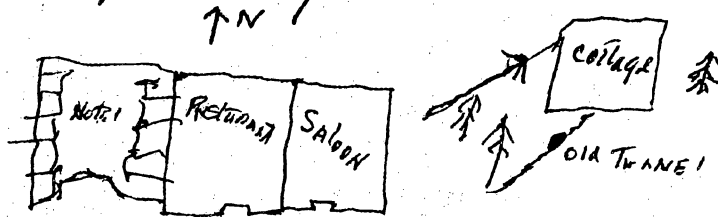
Appendix O - Annie Falconer, Stone Hotel

Photo taken after 1913 but before 1926 with Annie Mulcahy Falconer in the chair surrounded by her brothers and friends in front of The Old Stone Hotel. People in photo are from left to right are Robert Greer, unknown, Jim Mulcahy, Annie Mulcahy Falconer, Frank McShane, unknown and Maurice Mulcahy. Used with permission of San Bernardino County Museum.



Appendix P - Assessors Map
 San Bernardino County Tax Assessors Map No. 04-36-42A. The Old Stone Hotel is parcel No. 516-198-01.

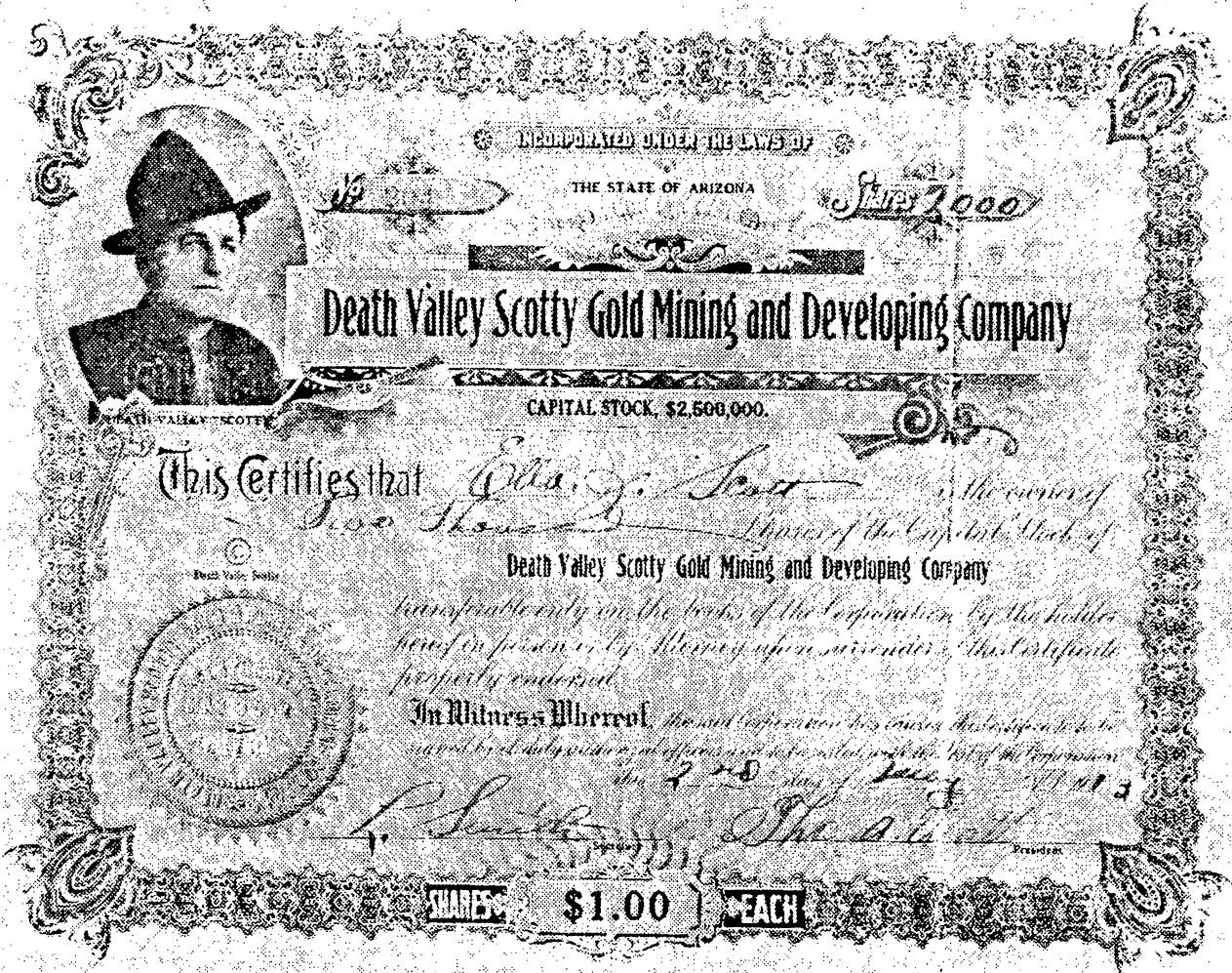
Now do you remember one day
 when I was tearing down the restaurant
 and cottage - that I took a long
 pointed crow bar and stuck down
 into an old tunnel or cellar I should
 have investigated further, but somehow
 didn't - that's probably where the old
 bottles, wine and whiskey was found.
 The old Saloon was adjoining the
 restaurant on the immediate east side
 front facing South and rear North



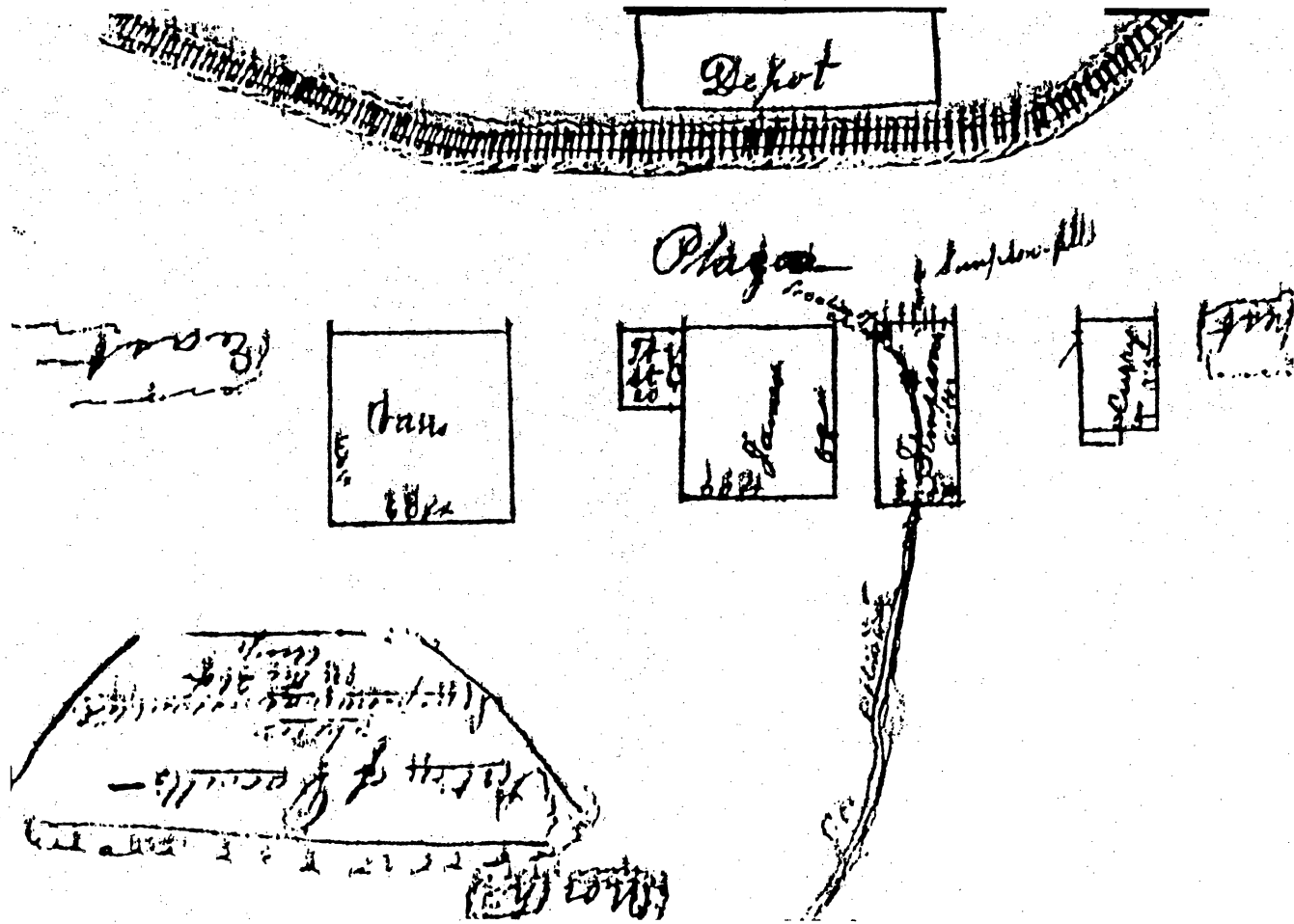
Love
 Eric Maurice

Appendix R - Rough Map of Hotel

Rough map of The Old Stone Hotel, restaurant, saloon and cottage illustrating the tunnel discovered by Maurice McShane during destruction of the cottage. The tunnel is probably hole number 2 as identified by David Linn in his 1979 drawing of archaeological excavation (see Appendix Q) This letter was sent to Grace Coy, March 12, 1977 (used with permission of Grace Coy).



Appendix S - Scotty Stock Certificate
Stock Certificate issued by Desert Scotty in return for groceries and supplies. Stock is dated May 2, 1913. (San Bernardino Sun, April 9, 1968)



Appendix T - 1884 Map of Daggett
 Hand drawn map of Daggett in 1884. Used in CC787 on 8/26/1884. Used with permission of San Bernardino Archaeological Information Center.

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