**Form 10-300**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE Interior**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

*(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)*

### 1. NAME

**COMMON:**
Bristol Wells

**AND/OR HISTORIC:**
Bristol City

### 2. LOCATION

**STREET AND NUMBER:**
Off U.S. Highway 93, 23 miles north of Pioche

**CITY OR TOWN:**
Lincoln

**STATE:**
Nevada

**CODE:**
32

**COUNTY:**
Lincoln

**CODE:**
017

### 3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
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</table>

**PRESENT USE:** (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- XX Agricultural
- X Commercial
- X Educational
- X Entertainment
- X Government
- X Industrial
- X Military
- X Museum
- X Private Residence
- X Religious
- X Scientific
- X Transportation

**Comments:** Intermittent mining

### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

**OWNER’S NAME:**
Public and private (see attachment)

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<th>STREET AND NUMBER:</th>
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<tr>
<td>CITY OR TOWN:</td>
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### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:**
Lincoln County Courthouse

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**TITLE OF SURVEY:**
Nevada Historical Sites

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

**DATE OF SURVEY:**
X Federal

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:**
Western Studies
University of Nevada, Desert Research Institute, Center for

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**DATE:**
MAR 24 1972
Bristol City was a mining town situated on the western flank of the Bristol Mountain range 10 miles west of U.S. 93 via county maintained, graded, dirt roads (45 mph), at a point 14 miles northwest of Pioche, Lincoln County, Nevada.

The town site is in a sagebrush basin with the silver mines located on the cedar-pinion-juniper covered hillsides nearby.

By 1882 the town had 5 stores, 8 saloons, 2 hotels with restaurants attached, 3 stables, a lodging house, express office, printing office, 2 barbershops, butcher, laundry, shoemaker, blacksmith shop, and post office.

The charcoal ovens, remains of furnace residue, and 1 original stone building remain. In recent years the cattlemen have developed water, holding corrals, a stable and a weather shelter.

The facility is presently being maintained and operated by the cattlemen, and includes 3 charcoal ovens, stable, stone house, windmill and pump, water trough, small reservoir, and a holding corral.
### 6. SIGNIFICANCE

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<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>□ Pre-Columbian</th>
<th>□ 16th Century</th>
<th>□ 18th Century</th>
<th>☑ 20th Century</th>
<th>□ 15th Century</th>
<th>□ 17th Century</th>
<th>XX 19th Century</th>
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Mining claims were first located in the Bristol Wells area in 1870; the district was organized a year later; and the town of National City was built around the National mine. In 1872 a furnace was erected to treat silver-lead ores hauled from the Bristol Mine, 4 miles east of National City. New and richer deposits found in 1878 caused an increase in activity. A 12-stamp mill was installed. More people were attracted to the area, and the name of the town was changed to Bristol City.

A 5-stamp mill with smelter was built in 1880. The business district with post office and newspaper, the Bristol Times, served about 700 people in the Outlying area. Ovens of shale and sandstone converted the pine logs into charcoal for the smelter. Water was obtained from wells at Bristol and was hauled a distance of from 3 to 5 miles to the mines. Bristol became the trading point for hundreds of nearby mines.

About 1890, when a new smelter began treating copper ores, Bristol Wells had a population of about 400. When the second burst of mining activity ended about 1893, Bristol Wells became inactive. About 1900 a small leaching plant was installed to recover copper from the Bristol Mine's ores. The mill operated only two years. After construction of the Salt Lake Railroad through Lincoln County, local milling was not resumed.

In 1911 operations at Bristol and at Jackrabbit, 2 miles northeast, were combined and after 1913 an aerial tramway linked the 2 points. Bristol's ores were then sent on the tram, loaded on railroad cars, and sent to Salt Lake City smelters via Pioche.

The mines were intermittently active until about 1918, when some were consolidated and then sold a number of times. In 1922, the camp was renamed Tempest after the Tempest mine, and in 1929 it was renamed again, this time after the Bristol Silver mines. The post office was discontinued in 1950.

Interpretation of the historical significance and preservation of the facilities are the immediate needs. The location of the charcoal kilns lends itself to interpretation of Nevada's significant mining industry during the late 1880's. It would be possible from the oven site to depict the sequence of events which led to the development of the Bristol town, furnace, mill site, and charcoal ovens. It is possible to see the mines, furnace sites, mill sites, and town site from the kilns site.
1. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Major Bibliographical References:
Nevada Historical Sites; Mordy & McCaughey, Univ. of Nev., 1968
Nevada Ghost Towns & Mining Camps; Paher, Howell-North, Berkeley 1970
Reproduction of History of Nevada 1881, by Thompson & West,
Angel, Myron, Howell-North, Berkeley, California 1958
Nevada State Park System Project Proposals.

2. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| NW     | 38° 06' 49" | 114° 42' 16"
| NE     | 38° 06' 49" | 114° 41' 08"
| SE     | 38° 05' 55" | 114° 41' 08"
| SW     | 38° 05' 55" | 114° 42' 16"

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES
DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY
OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

LATITUDE | LONGITUDE
---------|-----------
0° 00' 00" | 0° 00' 00"

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 240

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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3. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
W. E. Wiegreckt, Recreation Park Planner

ORGANIZATION:
Nevada State Park System

DATE:
June 15, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
201 South Fall Street Nye Building, Room 221

CITY OR TOWN:
Carson City

STATE:
Nevada 89701

CODE:
32

4. STATE LIASON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National [ ] State [ ] Local [ x ]

Name: [Signature]
Title: Administrator, N.S.P.S.
Date: 7-13-71

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

MAR 24 1972

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

MAR 1 1972
BRISTOL WELLS

Owners of Property

County Treasurer holds in trust (foreclosed lands)

1. (Block 26 all
   (Block 5 lot 12
   (Block 4 lot 5
   (Leigh lot
   (5 acres of old furnace site

2. (5 acres - Mill Site, El Josephson 1216 Francis Avenue
   Huntridge Apartments, Las Vegas, Nevada
   (Possessory rights - wells, water, pipeline and cabins
   (Blocks 3 and 24
   (Delmue Brothers
   (S. A. Hollinger

3. (Kermit Hollinger
   (Roy and Edith Lytle
   (McCrosky Brothers
   (Mary Lytle
   (Dave Bliss
   (Jimmie Rosa

4. (The lands adjacent to the townsite are public domain.