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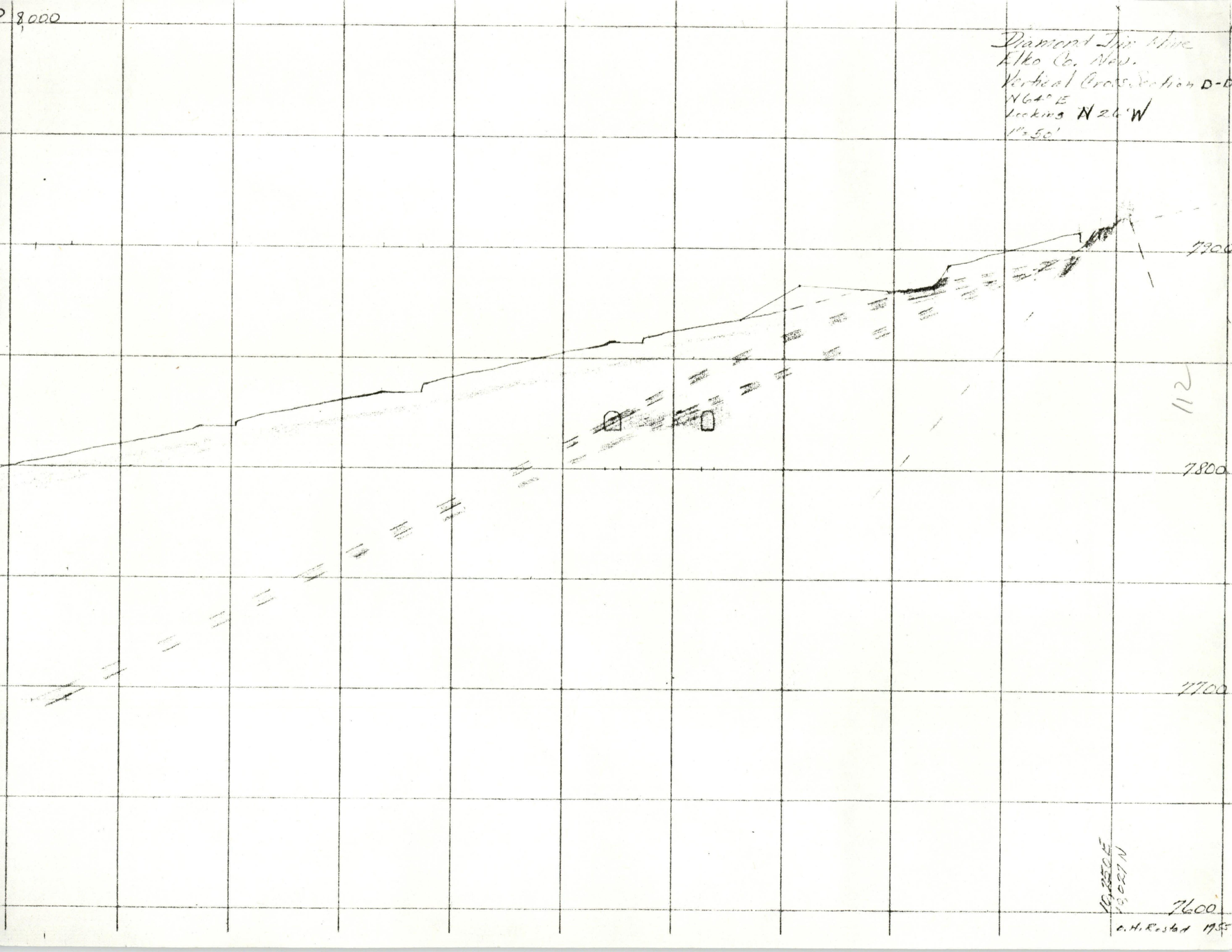
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#### SHARON (SAM) FELTMAN

SALES ASSOCIATE



Farms
Ranches
Residential
Commercial

P.O. Box 587 Jackpot, NV 89825

Bus: (702) 755-2550

Res: (702) 755-2351









### LAND WALGE BALESTATE

FARMS • RANCHES • RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL LICENSED IN IDAHO AND NEVADA

Sharon (Sam) Feltman

Jackpot office

(702) 755-2550

November 28, 1996

Frank W. Lewis 120 Greenridge Way Reno, Nv 89501

Dear Mr. Lewis

Landwatch Real Estate now has an office in Jackpot. John J. Tolk Broker has been successful in the real estate business for over 24 years with offices in Idaho. He is a life long resident of the Magic Valley. Landwatch Real Estate can take care of your Farms, Ranches Residential or Commercial Real Estate needs.

My name is Sharon (Sam) Feltman, Sales Associate for Landwatch Real Estate, Jackpot office. I am a long time resident of Jackpot and have served on the Jackpot Advisory Board for many years.

While on the board I Have worked toward getting the Recreation center and Pool to Jackpot, sidewalks along Highway "93" and on other streets in Jackpot. I worked on upgrading our water and sewer system and on improvements to our parks and ball fields.

I feel there could be a market for property in Contact and if you would like to market your property or buy other property in Contact I could do a good job for you. I truly care about the growth of the area and am well aware of the severe housing shortage in Jackpot. I am available to show your property and am licensed in both Nevada and Idaho.

I am enclosing my card for your convenience. Give me a call and I promise to do my best for you.

Sincerely,

Sharon (Sam) Feltman





Edwar C. Rollo 22613 Woodrige Dr. Hayward, Calif.

Dear Mr. Rollo:

It was surely nice meeting you and Mr. Travis and I appreciated the opportunity of hearing your plans.

They are good productive plans and that is the best kind.

I do hope the next time you come by that you are able to bring Mrs. Rollo with you. You talk so much about here I feel almost as though I know her. My wife and I are hoping that we can all go out to dinner together, so I hope the next time you are not in so much of a hurry. Not that I don't realize when one is in a hurry and working, as I am like that myself.

Now I want to tell you and your Mrs. a story that I hope you enjoy:

This is the Story of G. W. Mardis.

Mr. Mardis arrived in the Elko area about 1870 to 1872. In that period. No doubt a young man - a boomer like many. The Mountain City area was booming then with much activity near cope. A town was started in the area now known as Martin Creek just above where the mill site is. This town was known as Bruno (no doubt a mis-spelling of the Bruneau, which is the name of the main stream in the area to the east, and named, I understand after the trapper who found the river even earlier than this period). In the early days in order for a man to start out a town he merly layed claim to it much as we do a mining claim, surveys it, and then sells lots. A man by the name of George Klink founded Bruno City in this fashion.

G. W. Mardis bought a large number of lots in the town, and had a cabin there. I have a copy of his deed.

Mardis and several others located a claim on the Mardis Lode. Later it was sold to Hyram Hyde and thence to the Mardis mining company. The mine was located in 1872, and the mill site in a much latter time by the Mardis miming Company.

Mardis was a prominant man in the area. He had a wife and home in Mountain City, and at Charleston the Mining District was even named after him. The Mining District there is called the Mardis mining District. In the early survy of the establishiment of the Charleston District it mentions the Mardis Mine and gives a description of its whereabouts.

Mardis also had a large band of Horses, and formed the Mardis Toll road which came from Bruno Town to the Breaun eau (now I don't know how to spell it eather) River. I have a copy of his old town. I shows many interesting early day features, including crystal creek (now called Martin), and the old town.

Mardis used to do a little freighting and was known for his fine bay team of horses. He carried all manner of things in his wagaon, and carried gold from the placer camp at Gold Creek.

A bucaroo came along the road and noted mardis's horses just Standing in the middle of the road. He naturally recognized the rig and as he did not see the owner he began to look around for him. Still he did not find him so he went to Gold creek Camp and notified the Sherrif. The town turned out a search party and they went to look for him.

Alas they did find him face down by the Creek. Penrod Creek. They had no idea how he came to be there but he was shot dead. The Sheriff found a six toed foot print by the creek so surmised that perhaps one of the Chinamen forom the camp had shot him.

The crowd put the Body in the wagon and went back to town to have a drink.

They had several.

The deputy was not a regular sherrif anyhow, so when the suggestion was made that all the Chinamen in town be lined up and entarigated with their shoes off, it was consodered a good idea.

Lo, and behold, there was a six toed Chinamen.

They took him into the bar where they issued another round or several to the interigators. They continued to question him. As the poor man knew almost no english, they finally threw a rope up over a rafter, and lifted him up 3 times until he confessed.

The last time they snubed the rope up.

And that my good friends is the tune story oggG. W. Mardis. (at least it is supposed to be true.)

Good Luck,

Frank

## Silver Exploration In Contact Area

CONTACT - Preparations 11 miles east, in the Knoll Creek shine has a six-month lease on have been made for a new silver region. exploration effort at the Silver Queen mining property near Contact.

The work will be done under an exploration and development

Sunshine has moved heavy 20.4 ounce per ton, he said. euipment to the area and ex- At the current price of silver, pects to be exploring by April Laub said the operation could mine with Quantex retaining a 15, according to Donald C. Laub, be profitable providing addition- 40 per cent carried working in-Quantex president, who made al veins are revealed. a visit to the property last week. Laub said Sunshine will es- Under the agreement between

nine miles south of Contact and Under the agreement, Sun-until repaid.

dates back to early silver mining days of Elko County, but 000 in on-site exploration. If the most of the original mining was company feels further mining surface work. Last summer, he activity is warranted it will said, Quantex performed initial have three years in which to agreement between Quantex diamond drilling at the site. spend another \$1.5 million or Corp., of Salt Lake City, and Three core holes of 300 foot Sunshine Mining Co. of Kellog, depth revealed veins of 20 to 60 foot widths. Silver ore tested of at least 100 tons per day.

the property during which it Laub said the mining property will perform a minimum of \$50,erect a mill and bring the property into production at the rate

This will give Sunshine 60 per cent interest in the Silver Star terest in the property.

He said bulldozers are now put-tablish a mobile home village Quantex and Sunshine, Sunshine ting a road to the mining prop- at the site with three geologists, may recover its investment out two drilling rigs crews and sev- of first production at the rate The Silver Queen property is eral other euipment operators. of 90 per cent of the net profits

## MAIJIJE Y

### ncil to honor lool winners

LS - Five Twin Falls students who recently wide Economics Chaltion will be recognized ng the advisory board ie College of Southern on Economic Education. Havilah Bishop, Aaron ick Olsen and Emily ited all other student ate last year in answerquestions and solving eir instructor, Carrie be recognized.

tion is one of the ways ouncil for Economic orking to improve the nomics in kindergarten

will be held at 11:30 in the Sage Room on floor of the Taylor

### city planners ubdivision bid

- The Ketchum Plang Committee will meet ay at City Hall.

igenda is a public hear-3ritton's application to lots at 1211 and 1215 Road into three lots as ary plat of Britton

on design review covtion from Bridgepoint dding six new residenent to Trail Creek at it Condominiums, 410 Ave.

ew includes applica-44 square feet of retail l office, do an internal deling of the existing dd a window at Lane Main St.; construct a e building of 43,044 h underground parkdential units for a pri-10 Sun Valley Road E.; a new 29,683-square-1 building for Severn orner of First Avenue reet. The meeting is

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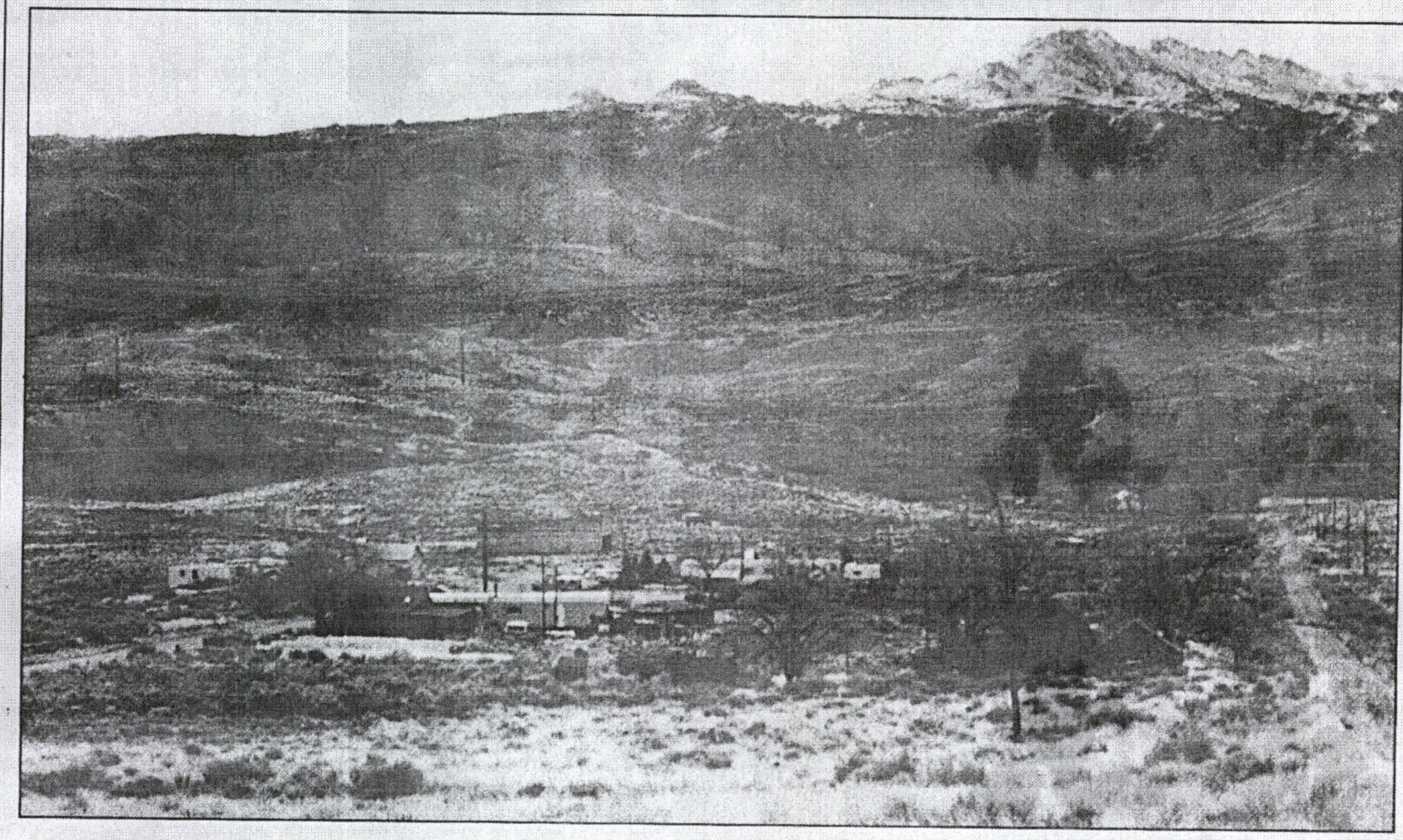
aine County commist at 8:45 a.m. today at

of a public hearing on r's application for the at of a planned-unit starts at 9 a.m. It cres south of U.S. ut three-fourths of a o Highway 75, known inch. The proposal is ts, including one for to be platted on 185 emainder of the lots 6 acres to 5.16 acres. is to phase the develots and the farm parte first phase and 21 id phase. The Blaine and Zoning Commisled county commisproposed Antelope JD application.

on of real property :30 p.m. A tax-deline for the .315-acre t Magic names taxand Sharon Sevy,

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SAM FELTMAN/The Times-News

Once busy with mining, railroad, ranching and bootlegging, the little town of Contact, Nev., now has just the Granite mountain range for company.

## At home on forgotten hillside

By Sam Feltman Times-News correspondent

CONTACT, Nev. - It looks like a forgotten hillside of old junk now, and it's 15 miles from the nearest groceries or gas.

And Nancy Watson and Margaret Forsyth both have moved away many times over the years from the once-thriving town of Contact.

But the home of their childhood always draws the sisters back.

"What keeps drawing me back is the peace and quiet and the serenity," Watson said.

Standing by their house looking out over the horizon, it is easy to see the beauty they enjoy. L&D Mountain - once called Ellen Dee after a prostitute - guards the town to the west, Middle Stack Mountain looms to the northeast and China Mountain with its peak hidden in the clouds is to the southeast.

"Have you seen the ladies?" Watson asks.

The sisters say you can see a lady in both the Middle Stack and China mountains on nights with a full moon. They say the best place to see the lady on Middle Stack is by the rest stop about three miles from Jackpot; the place to see her twin on China is from the road by their house.

"I never get tired of it," Forsyth said about Contact. "It is so peaceful just to take a walk or get into my vehicle and take a drive."

Watson and Forsyth see many wild animals and have learned to sense when deer are near. They were raised in Contact and both went through the eighth grade at Contact School. Now in their 50s, the women have a deep love for the area.

Their parents, Elmer and Isabella Weighall, moved to Contact when Forsyth was a small child and before Watson was born. Elmer Weighall worked as a miner, a cowboy and a railroad man while living

4 residents tell what draws them to nearly deserted town



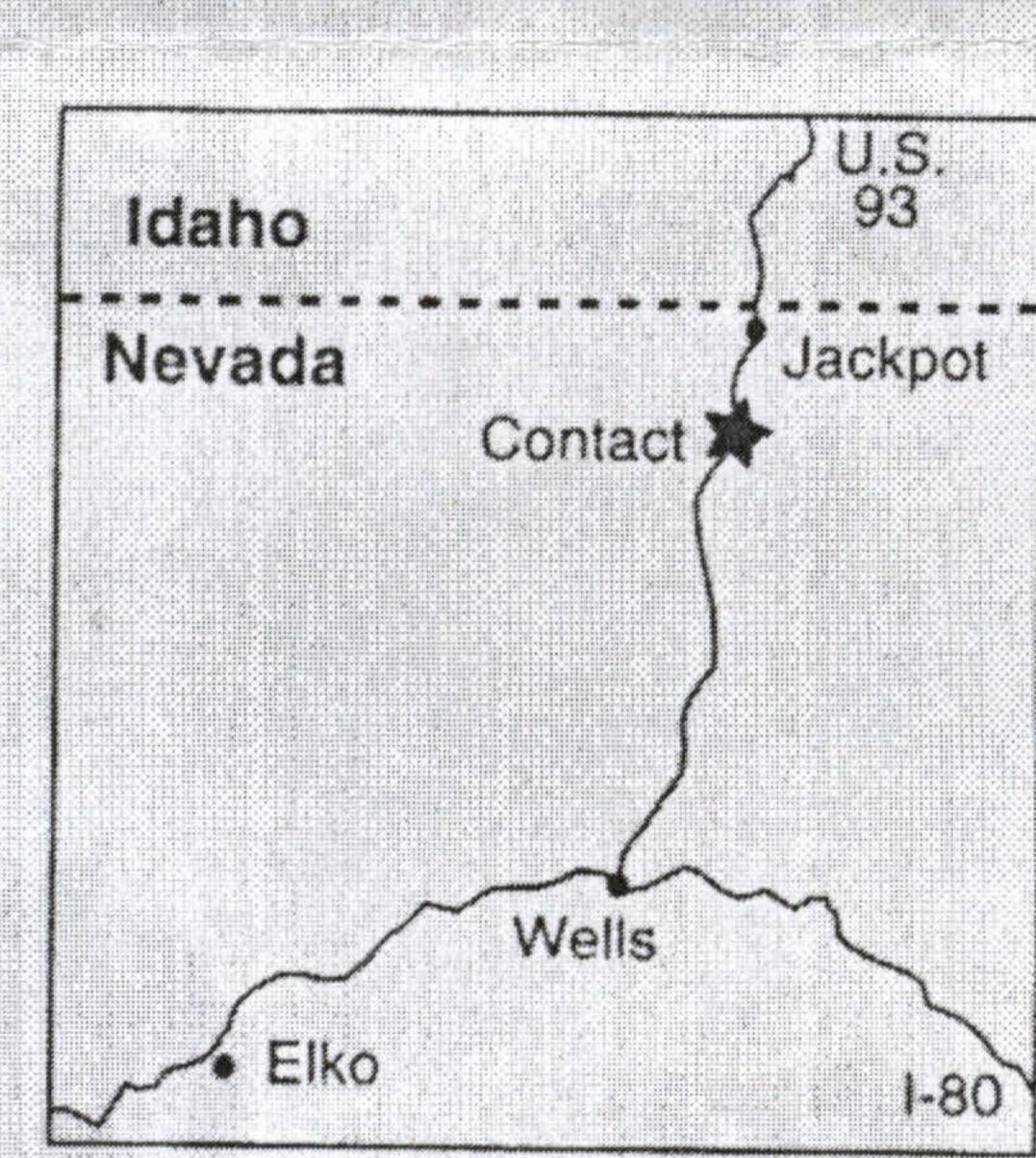
Nancy Watson, left, and Margaret Forsyth live in a mobile home next to this Contact house - their childhood home - which is now just storage and a refuge for many dogs and cats.



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"I like Contact just the way it is, we don't need no improvements," he said. "In fact we could do with a few less tourists."

Johnson, a history buff of the area, said there used to be a boarding house in town - the foundation still remains - a drug store, nine bars and a lot of nice yards. One of the nice things about the town now, he said, is "nobody tries to outdo anybody on lawns."

Watson and Forsyth do have flowers planted in a couple of old toilets. They plan on adding a bathtub planter this year.

Bill Ellison, another retired Navy man and a cousin to the sisters, spent much of his childhood in Contact. He, too, has been drawn back and made his home here in 1977.

"I like the outdoors, it's free here, it's home," Ellison said.

"The worst problem is in the summertime with souvenir hunters," Ellison said. "They will even pick stuff up out of your

Forsyth agreed; she said all the property in Contact is privately owned. The residents are watchdogs over the town. If they see somebody snooping around, one of them usually appears and asks what the people are doing and tells the trespassers it's priwate preparty

The Times

TWIN settling a with Ida electric kicks in, Council N matter w represent

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By John T. I Times-News

BURLEY tor center Chamber since last N parked nea been idle.

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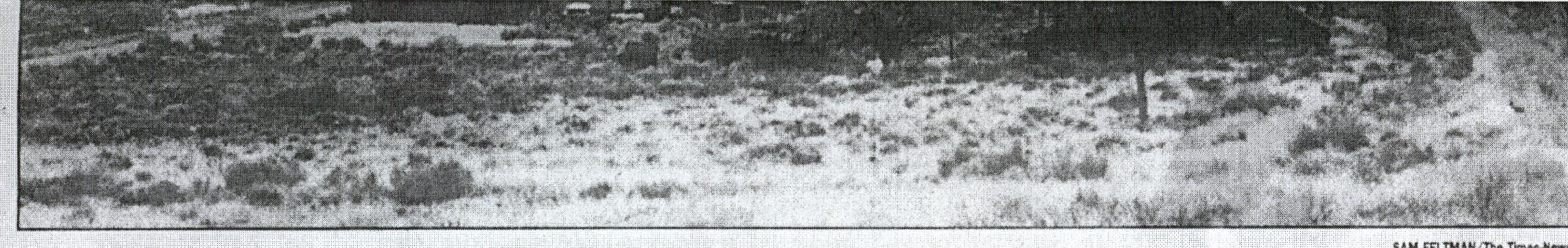
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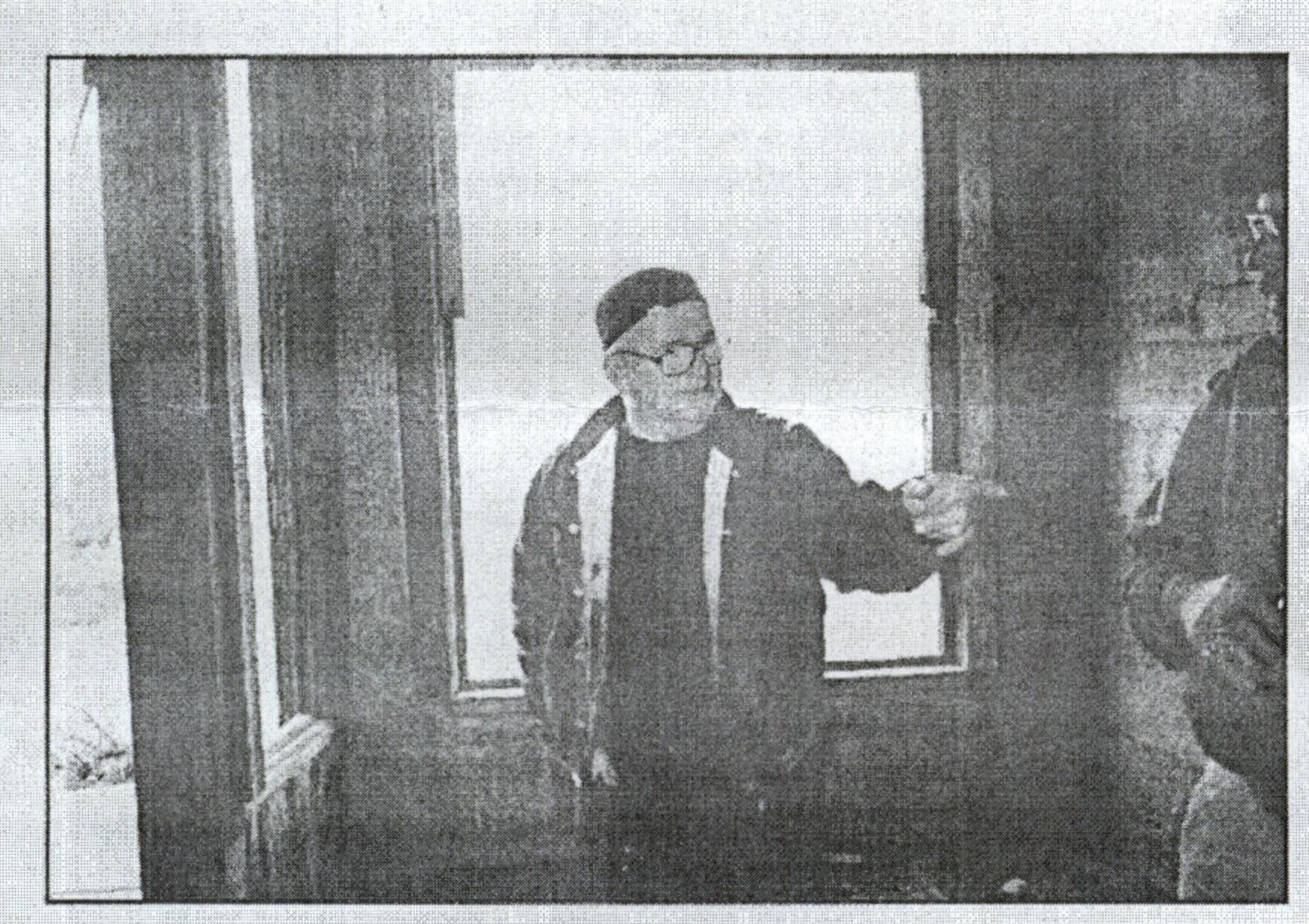
Their parents, Elmer and Isabella Weighall, moved to Contact when Forsyth was a small child and before Watson was born. Elmer Weighall worked as a miner, a cowboy and a railroad man while living there. Their mother raised four children and ran the post office for many years.

The sisters have many humorous stories of their childhood. One time the sheriff put a bum in the Contact jail. The next

4 residents tell what draws them to nearly deserted town



Nancy Watson, left, and Margaret Forsyth live in a mobile home next to this Contact house - their childhood home - which is now just storage and a refuge for many dogs and cats.

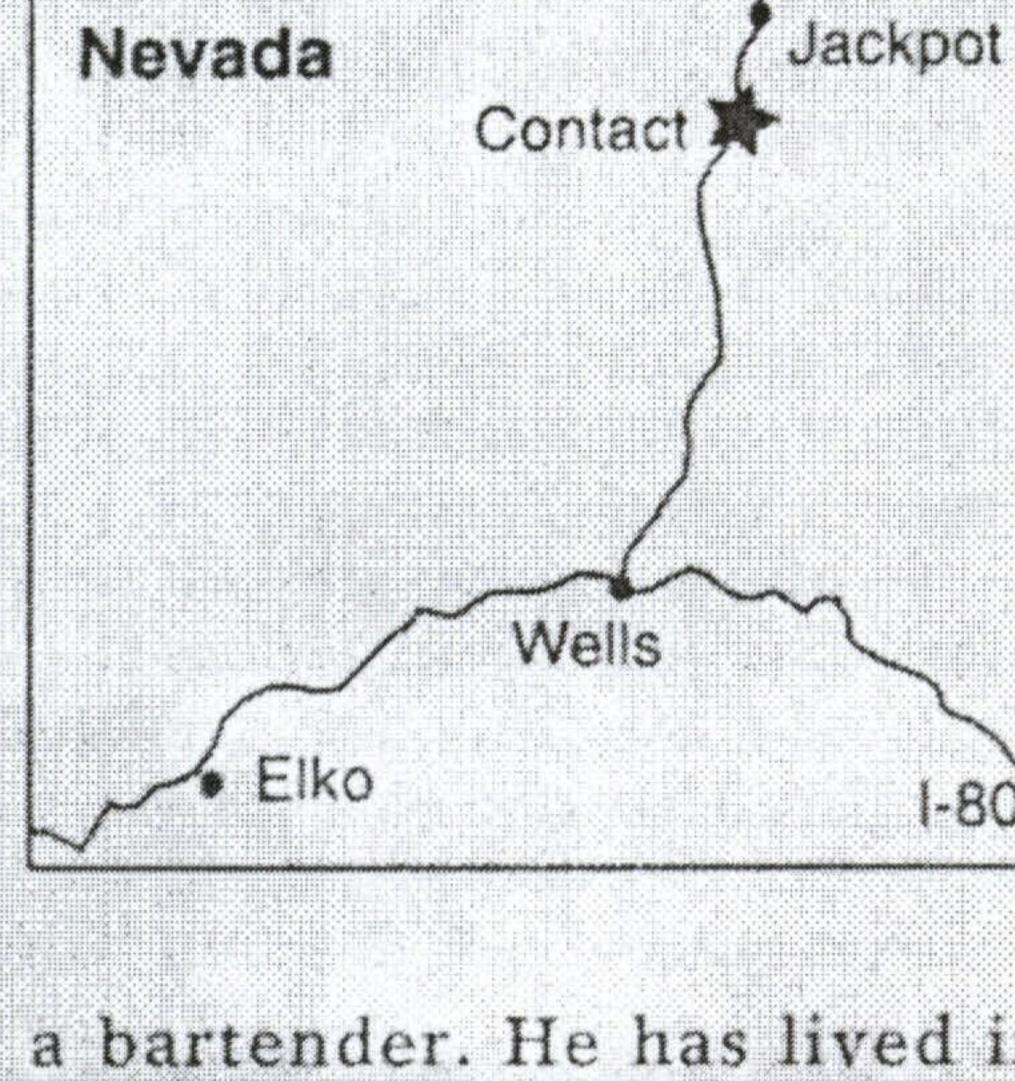


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morning their mother was hanging up the wash when an old bum walked by and asked for food and the way to the highway. Their mom was glad to feed the stranger and give directions. Later, she learned he was an escapee from the jail.

The escape was made easy by the community's children digging a hole through the jail's back wall and putting the falling rocks back in place to cover the hole. Of course, the gang of children included the two sisters, along with another brother and sister.

The women's neighbor Tom Johnson is a retired Navy man and worked in Jackpot, Nev., as



Idaho

a bartender. He has lived in Contact for many years and loves the old ghost town.

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Forsyth agreed; she said all the property in Contact is privately owned. The residents are watchdogs over the town. If they see somebody snooping around, one of them usually appears and asks what the people are doing and tells the trespassers it's private property.

Contact is private and lonely, all right, but that's just how its residents want it.

Times-News correspondent Sam Feltman can be reached in Jackpot, Nev., at (702) 755-2351.

## Contact, Nev., boasts rocky, colorful heritage

By Sam Feltman Times-News correspondent

CONTACT, Nev. - Some oldtimers argue that what kept Contact alive for years was the miners. Others say it was the railroaders and cowboys. Even a few take a stance that it was bootleggers.

Whatever kept Contact alive, it was brought to its knees many times before it finally died.

Marcia M. Browning, with the Northeastern Nevada Museum, said Contact had several peak years.

"Contact was originally known as the Salmon or Kit Carson District. The copper, silver and gold mining area of Contact was discovered in the 1870s," Browning said.

"By 1876, Chinese were working at China Mountain near Contact on a commission basis. In 1896-97 a five-ton copper furnace was erected to handle the ore; however, this proved to be an unsuccessful venture."

Maximum production of the Contact mines was reached in 1916-18 with additional peaks of

production in 1928-30 and in 1942-46, Browning said.

Contact lies about 15 miles south of the Idaho line and fronts the west side of U.S. Highway 93 across from the Nevada Highway Department Substation.

The town was barely kept alive until the '70s by highway travel. When the last bar and restaurant closed and the building was torn down, nothing remained except a few old buildings, some old foundations and partial walls.

The town at one time boasted

a hotel, stores, a school, a bank, taverns, brothels and several thousand people, although no one agrees on an actual num-

Contact's exact boundaries are a matter of debate, too. But Nancy Watson and her sister Margaret Forsyth, two of the few remaining residents, boast that only four people live in Contact, although several other families live in the vicinity.

Times-News correspondent Sam Feltman can be reached in Jackpot, Nev., at (702) 755-2351.

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By John T. Hu Times-News wr

BURLEY tor center fo Chamber of since last Ma parked near been idle. City leade

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A) interest ATTA ed in moving the caboose can call Dennis Peterson at the Burley Parks and Recreation Department, 678-2256.

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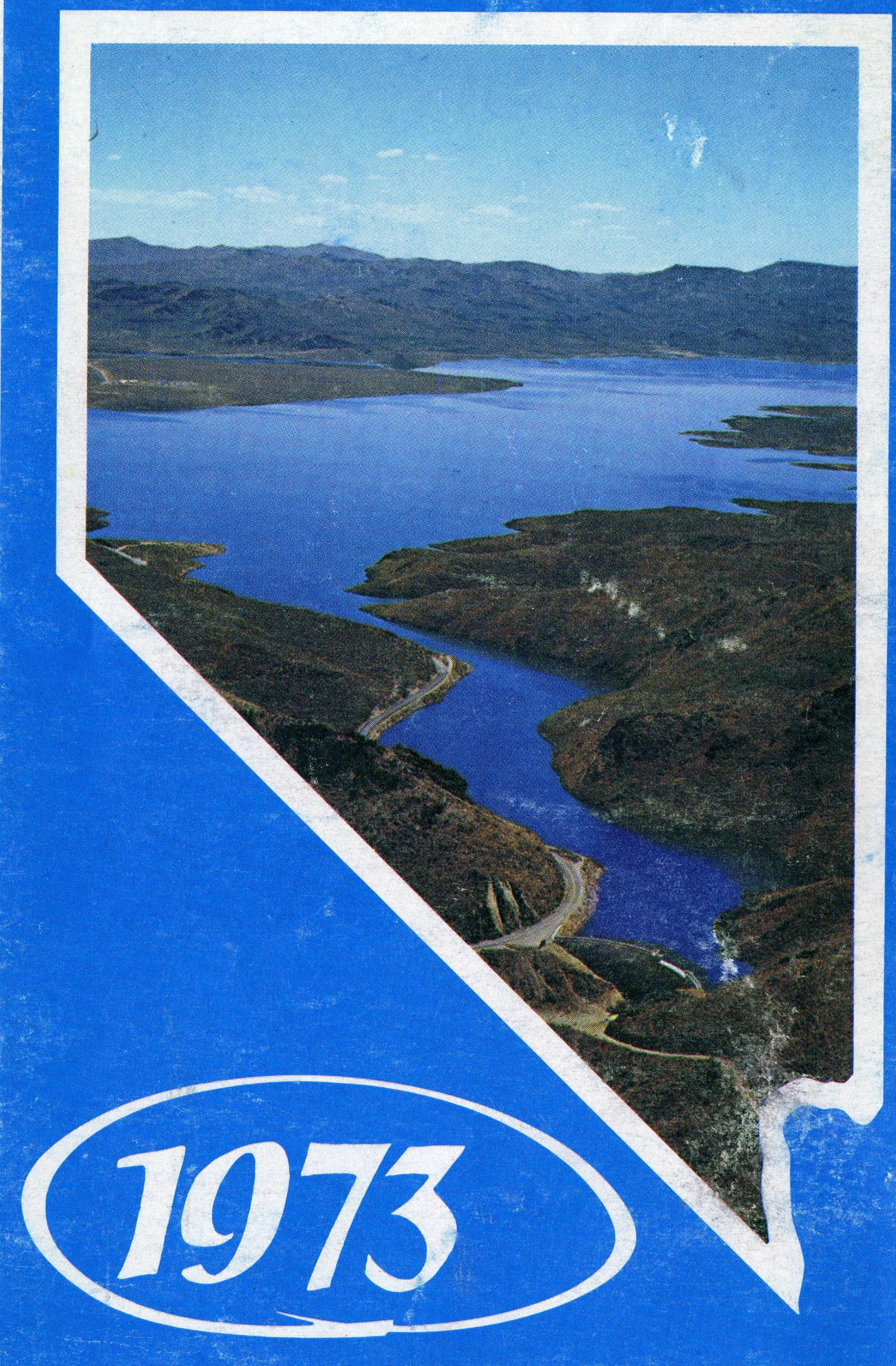
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The city h find a taker months. The Historical Mu ed, but muser sure they cou of hauling.

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OFFICIAL HIGHWAY MAP