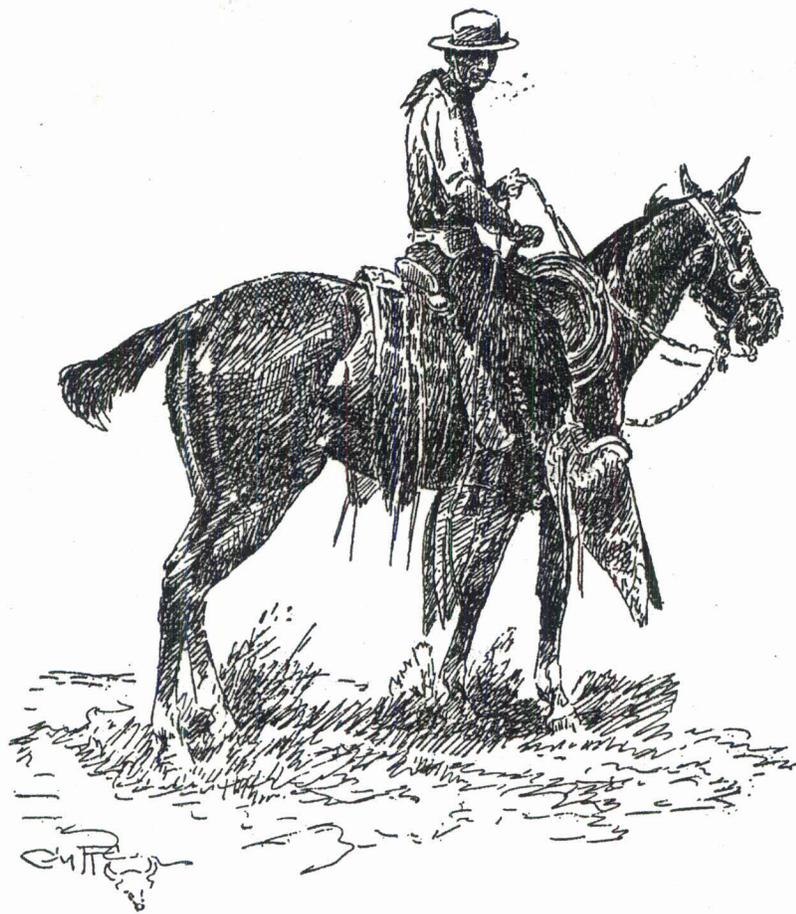


AUG  
23-24-25  
2002

# J.U.N.K.

## TRIP '02, NO. 23



### NEW PASS MINE

Nico to meet you Ellis and I enjoyed  
showing you all the mine -

Donjung

## JULIA'S UNEQUIVICAL NEVADA KLAMPOUTS

NO	YEAR	LEADER	LOCATION
1	1980	GENO OLIVER (CHARTER)	STAR CITY-UNIONVILLE
2	1981	SKIP PENNINGTON	MANHATTEN
3	1982	BILL KENNEDY	KENNEDY
4	1983	JIM CRONN*	PINEGROVE
5	1984	GEORGE COURSON	LEADVILLE
6	1985	DOUG WALLING	BERLIN
7	1986	DAVID WOOD	ROCHESTER
8	1987	JOE LEOPRI*	AURORA
9	1988	BILL SAWYER*	SULPHUR
10	1989	MIKE MILLER	MILLER'S STATION
11	1990	RED BEACH*	SHAMROCK
12	1991	BOB RODGERS	COMO
13	1992	RON WALSH	SEVEN TROUGHS
14	1993	DANNY COSTELLA	THE REAL NATIONAL
15	1994	JIM GROWS	DESERT WELLS
16	1995	DANIEL BOWERS	HIGH ROCK CANYON
17	1996	PETER VAN ALSTYNE	FAIRVIEW
18	1997	EDDY GONZALES	GRANTSVILLE
19	1998	JOHN DORNSTAUDER	HUMBOLDT CITY
20	1999	KEN MOSER	BELMONT
21	2000	VAL COLLIER	PEPPER SPRINGS
22	2001	CHUCK MURRAY	NIGHTENGALE
23	2002	MARK BEBOUT	NEW PASS MINE

\* GONE TO THE SILVER HILLS

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Nevada Place Names	H.S. Carlson
Mining Districts of Nevada	F.C. Lincoln
The Town That Died Laughing	Oscar Lewis
Postal History of Nevada	H.P. Harris
Picture-Stokes Castle	Courtesy mountainsage.org
Picture-Stamp Mill	Courtesy The Jungs
Picture-Mill Site	Courtesy The Jungs
Editor and Historian	XNGH Peter J. Van Alstyne
Editor at Large	XNGH Geno Veno Oliver
Chairman of the most important committee and HUMBUG for 2002	Mark Bebout

THIS TRIP IS DEDICATED TO OUR BROTHERS WHO HAVE GONE TO THE SILVER HILLS SINCE OUR LAST MEETING

XNGH Red (Don't call me Delbert) Beach

**E CLAMPUS VITUS  
AND SO RECORDED**

## NEW PASS DISTRICT

The following is taken from "Mineral Resources, States and Territories West of the Rocky Mountains, 1868" New Pass District is situated near New Pass, in the Shoshone mountains, about thirty miles west of Austin. It was Organized in the spring of 1864. An Indian exhibits specimens of ore very rich in gold, to some miners, and then conducted them to the place where they were obtained. The ledges are traceable on the surface, and all show free gold. There is a fair supply of wood and water. The hills are generally smooth and quite well covered with grass. The limestone on the west contains a great many fossils very Perfect. Chlorite schist is the country rock, in the neighborhood of the mines. Further to the east, rhyolite appears.

## SUPERIOR

Located in the spring of 1864. Fourteen hundred feet are claimed. About twelve hundred feet of this mine are opened in places. The course of the ledge is north and south. Dip, 80 degrees west. The walls are well delined and have a yellow clay selvage. A shaft is sunk one hundred and fifty feet on the ledge near the southern boundary of the claim, where the ledge is vertical and has a width of three feet. At the mouth of this shaft an incline one hundred feet in length follows the vein into the face of a hill, across which the ledge runs. It is remarkably regular, and increases in width to three and a half feet; sixty-five feet perpendicularly above the incline, and further north, up the hill, a tunnel follows the ledge northward forty feet; fifty feet above this tunnel a second tunnel is driven on the ledge one hundred and seventy-five feet. A section of fifty feet in length and thirty in height is stoped out. At the end of the tunnel, within twenty-five feet of the north boundary of the claim, the ledge is broken off smoothly, vertically, and slipped to the westward a few feet. Along the tunnel, one hundred and twenty-five feet from the mouth, there is an incline fifty feet in depth on the ledge, which is unchanged. An air-shaft connects with the tunnel one hundred and fifty feet from its mouth, fifty-six feet below the surface. About half way down this air-shaft, five tons of ore were extracted, but it has not been reduced. it contains free gold, and assays show copper, silver, galena and iron.

## Golden Belt Series

Located in the spring of 1864. One thousand feet claimed on each ledge. This belt is about twelve hundred feet west of the Superior mine. The ledges are parallel with it, have the same dip, course and country rock. A tunnel one hundred and eighty feet in length intersects the ledges, being run west from the face of a hill immediately east. Twelve feet west from the mouth of the tunnel a blind ledge was cut, eighteen inches

es in width. One hundred feet further west, another ledge was cut, two feet in width. Nine feet further a third ledge was cut, twelve inches in width, on which a drift is extended north two hundred feet, and more or less stopping is done for prospecting purposes. In this drift one hundred feet from the tunnel there was foul air, and an air shaft was run to the surface. The ledge varies from eight to twenty-two inches in width. South of the tunnel there is a drift, seventy-five feet on the ledge, which shows no change. From the mouth of the tunnel one hundred and twenty-one feet, there is an incline fifty feet in length eastward, with a grade of 70 degrees. At the bottom of the incline a drift runs north fifty-seven feet, on the principal ledge; forty feet along this drift the ledge is joined by another, and its width is increased from fifteen inches to three feet nine inches. The walls are smooth and the ore is richer than at any other point. Above the line of the main tunnel, running at right angles with it, eleven different ledges crop out on the surface, varying in width from six inches to two feet. They are parallel and are separated from each other from twelve to fifty feet. They stand nearly vertical. The ore has the same character as that from the Superior mine. None of it has been thoroughly tested. It will not yield largely, perhaps not more than from \$8 to \$15 per ton. A favorable change may occur about the water level, which is not yet reached. There are many other mines located in this district, but they are not opened more than to the depth of about ten or fifteen feet.

## New Pass Valley

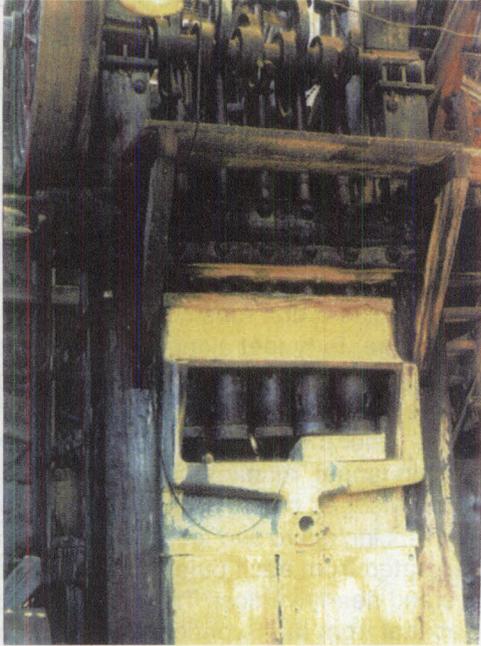
This valley is not productive. It is a sage plain, with an alkali flat commencing eight or ten miles south of the mines and extending twelve or fifteen miles farther south, nearly the entire width of the valley, about seven or eight miles. Towards the north it is terminated within a few miles by low hills uniting the Shoshone with the Reese River mountains.

## Short History of New Pass and Tour

New Pass Mine got its start in 1864 when a local Indian led two prospectors from Austin to the South end of the New Pass Range and showed them pieces of quartz with visible gold in the rock. Several weeks of pick & shovel work exposed sections of the two main vein system. The vein on the West side was named the Gold Belt Vein and the one to the East was called Superior Vein. The mine has been worked in a sporadic manner since its discovery. Many local people have been involved at the New Pass through the years.

I first came to New Pass in 1958 and along with my family, we started purchasing the property in 1960. As it is quite difficult to make a small underground mine prof-

itable, we plan on making a mine-mill tour business out of the property.



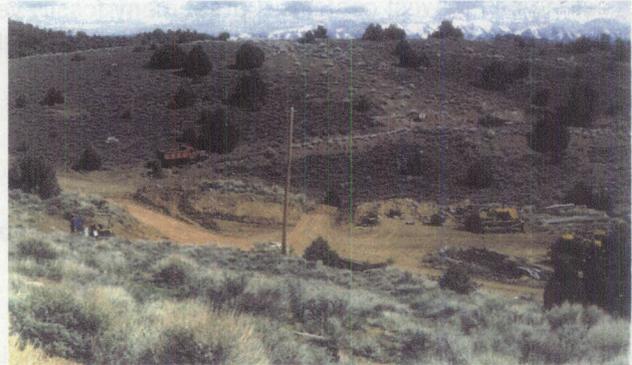
*Stamp Mill, each stamp weighs 1,000 pounds  
Each stamp drops 100 times per minute, 20 ft. tall*

The mill tour will feature a stamp mill from the 1800's. We will set up the stamp mill so it will be operable with a concentrating table below it to separate the precious metals from the pulp of crushed ore and water from the stamp mill. We may only run the stamp mill on weekends or certain days.

Future plans call for re-building some of the old rock miners cabins, have hiking and biking trails and possible an area to camp. We also plan on a continuing addition of features such as an underground "Miner's Bae, (non-alcoholic) lit with carbide lites and candles, an underground museum with timbered stopes including an area of square-set timbering which was developed on the Comstock Antique machinery displays and hard rock mining competitions featuring jack-leg drilling, rail-mounted mucking machines, shaft mucking and hand mucking. With a hefty purse we can draw miners from several Western States.

Finally, one of the things I want to stress and educate people about is the importance of natural resources. America is so wealthy because of its abundance of natural resources which have and are being developed and used. And of course it takes that best resource of all, our capacity to think, plan and take a chance to bring it all together.

The mine tour will consist of going into the Superior # 4 Tunnel on a small train for a distance of 1000 feet. At that point several rock drills will be set up for demonstration. One drill will be operable by the customers if they so desire. We will put a hard hat on them with carbide lites and let them crank in a few inches of hole. Stopes, chutes, cross-cuts and various mine workings and means of ground support will be shown. Outside there will be a functional blacksmith shop and possibly a smithy making iron products for sale. There will also be an old time assay lab, a gold panning area and a mine office-store building with mine related items for sale.



*View of mine, dump area and portal of #4 tunnel*

## **Austin**

The following is taken from "Ghost Towns of Nevada" Austin's history ties in with the Overland Stage and the Pony Express. The stage route crossed the Reese River Valley, and William Talcott was the keeper of the Jacobs Spring station. Pony Express riders used a pass through the mountains east of the station as a cutoff. It was called Pony Canyon. During May 1862 William Talcott found ore in Pony Canyon and sent it to Virginia City for assaying. It proved to be rich in silver, and Talcott subsequently named the strike site Pony Ledge.

Claims were staked and a mining district was organized on July 10, 1862, although the stampede didn't begin until January 1863.

Men crowded into whatever accommodations were available, and some lived in nearby Jacobsville (earlier called Jacobs Spring or Jacobs Well). That town was declared the county seat, and a courthouse was built in March. But as it turned out, Jacobsville was too far from the mines. A rival town, Clifton, had sprung up closer to the mines. Still others established a camp called Austin high in a canyon. The site was surveyed and buildings were erected in January 1863. As Austin grew, Clifton shrank, and Clifton's population moved en masse to Austin.

In April 1863 a miners' meeting was held to select a permanent Lander county seat. Austin won the vote, and on the afternoon of September 21, 1863, the wooden courthouse was moved from Jacobsville to Austin and expanded.

About 5,000 people soon gathered in and around Austin. By May 16, 1863 the Reese River Reveille was actively engaged in publishing. In its July 29 edition it told of the death of Annie McDonald, "The first [death] from natural causes." It also complained that facts on which to base local news were as scarce as preachers at a horse race.

By 1863 the International Hotel was completed, some city lots were selling for \$8,000 in gold, and by the end of summer, 366 houses had been built. A school was opened in a brush tent in October.

By 1865 the professions were represented by five clergymen, twelve physicians, and thirty-three lawyers.

By 1867 eleven mills were operating. Private schools were offering French, vocal and instrumental music, dancing, and calisthenics.

Austin was also the home of "The Sazerac Lying Club", founded by the fertile brain of a *Reveille* editor whose duties were to gather local news. He found much of his material in the Sazerac saloon, named for a popular type of brandy. It was a favorite haunt for Austin's old-timers, who sat around the stove, smoked pipes, spat tobacco at a mark on the stovepipe, and swapped lies that were promptly reported in the *Reveille*.

One of the more unusual events in Austin was the arrival of camels on August 25, 1864. They were used a short time to bring salt, needed in quartz mills, from the salt marshes of Walker Lake about 100 miles south of Austin.

Fires did not plague Austin, but floods and rainstorms did, resulting in extensive property damage. However, it wasn't always taken terribly seriously. A flood of August 13, 1878 swept away parts of Austin, including most of the newspaper plant. But the *Reveille* managed to publish six days following the flood. It seems that the floodwaters had roiled up the paper stock and that the newspaper subsequently had been printed on mud-soiled paper. The Carson Appeal retorted that it had seen the dried mud on the edges of the *Reveille* and muttered that the paper appeared "sedimental."

In 1880 Austin got a railroad, but by that time much of the rich ores had petered out. Nobody seems to know how much ore was produced. The Reese River mining district probably netted about \$50 million '311 but county records and records from the Director of the U.S. Mint and Nevada State Controller figure all of Lander

County's production at \$27 million," with about \$18 million coming from Austin mines.

Today Austin is a sleepy little town that reminds us of an era that has gone by.

## Clifton

Clifton, absorbed by Austin, was at one time situated at the mouth of Pony Canyon. An observer in April 1863 stated that only one unfinished house existed in Austin at that time, along with a few brush tents, but that Clifton probably had twenty or twenty-five houses and was rapidly filling up with pilgrims from California." Early-day Clifton had about 500 citizens, a post office (which lasted from March 26, 1863 to February 20, 1864), a Wells Fargo & Company express office, and a number of business establishments.

## Kingston

Kingston is on the southern Lander County line twenty-four miles south of Austin.

Mining probably began in the area in 1863, although one source writes of the Victorine mine being discovered in 1852. By February 1864 the new camp was impressive, at least to a correspondent for the Reese River Reveille who wrote: "And the future, too, of Kingston, is bright, in truth, for none can see its pleasant location, survey its unlimited water-power, backed by its inexhaustible [sic] ledges of metalliferous quartz of extent and richness unsurpassed, its arable and wood land without stint, its every facility and resource, none can witness without believing it destined to eminent prosperity."

The camp apparently yoayed from boom to bust several times. Its post office was opened and closed four times. From 1865 to 1907 the post office operated for a total of only thirty months. However, two water-powered, twenty-stamp mills were functioning in Kingston by 1867, and by 1875 four amalgamating mills were in operation. California mining magnate George Hearst had an option on some property at Kingston at one time, but he had a disagreement with the owners and wisely took his money to the fabulously rich Homestake mine at Lead, South Dakota.

## Nevada Central Railroad

Anson Stokes also built the 92-mile Nevada Central Railroad from Battle Mountain to Austin. A controversial project, it was approved only after a bitter debate in the 1874 legislature, overriding the Governor's veto. Lander County pledged a \$200,000 bonus to the contractor who could finish the project in five years, but the job wasn't even started until 4 1/2 years later. Crews worked des-

perately, only to bring the line within 2 miles of the Austin town limits with less than a day left before the deadline. An emergency meeting of the Austin Town Board extended the town limits by two miles and the last rails were laid just minutes before the deadline. It was closed in 1938 when mining and the population were no longer strong enough to support it.



**Stokes Castle**

**Stokes Castle**

The following is taken from: [www.Mountain Sage.org](http://www.Mountain Sage.org)

**CASTLE OF STONE"** Stokes Castle was modeled after a family painting of an old Roman watchtower. It was built for Anson Phelps Stokes, an eastern financier who had considerable mining interests in the Austin area. He also built the 92-mile Nevada Central railroad from Battle Mountain to Austin. The Castle's prominent location offers a view up to 60 miles to the south and 32 miles to the north. It is three stories, 50 square feet around. It was built of hand-hewn native granite. A hand-operated windlass was used to raise the huge slabs of granite into place.

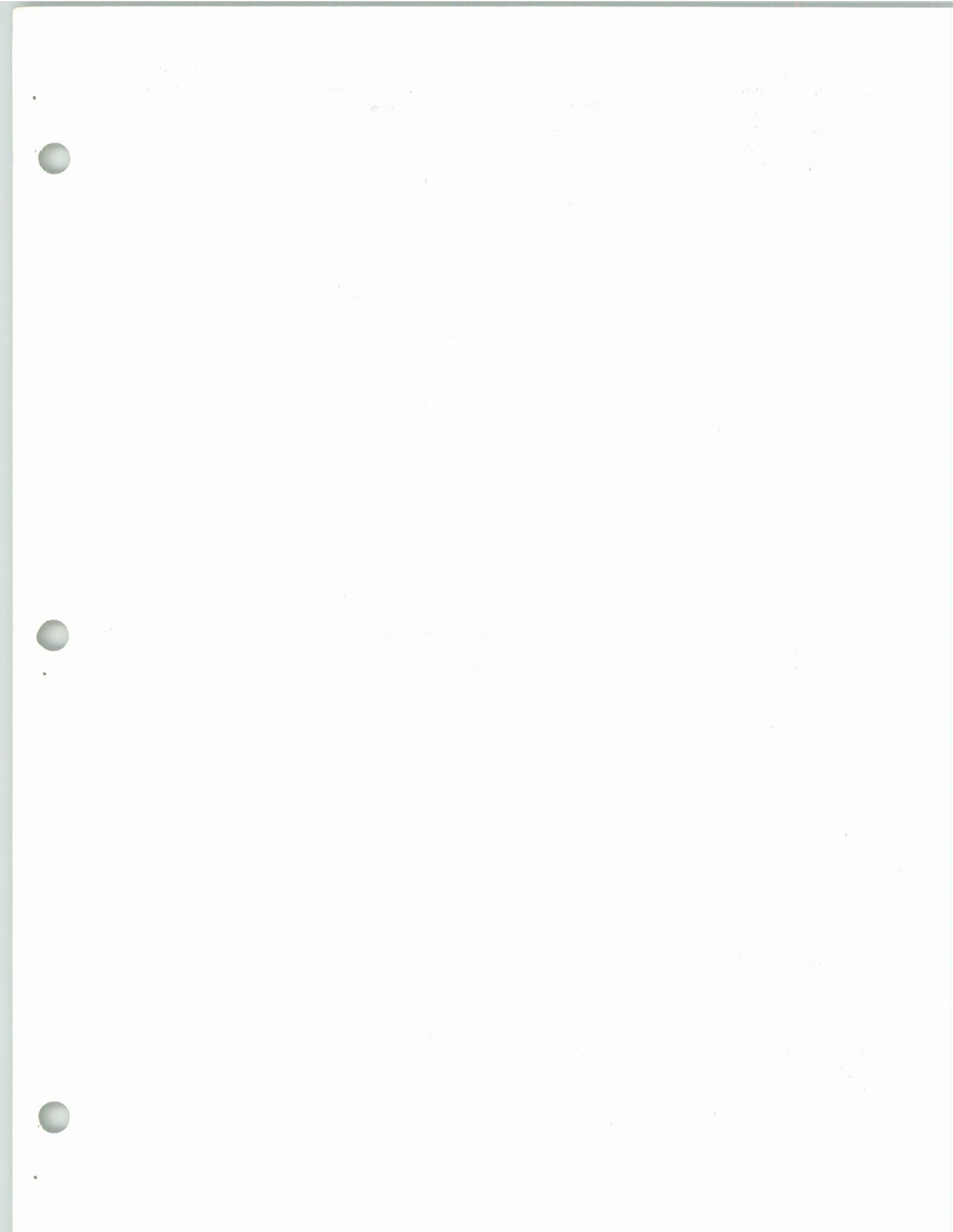
The structure was originally intended to be two stories high, but a third one was added before completion in July of 1897. The first floor contained the kitchen and dining room, the second floor was the living room, and the third floor contained two bedrooms. Each floor had a fireplace on the north side and the second and third floors

each had a wooden balcony on the south. A master carpenter put in flooring, stairways and interior woodwork, and a water line was extended from the Austin City water system. The roof was an outdoor living area surrounded by curtains that could be closed to keep out the wind, and an awning to shade the sun.

It was used as a summer home for the Stokes family when they traveled to the west to check on their mines. In June of 1897 Stokes and a party of friends spent a month in the castle. They left to back east on July 5. In Oct 1897 they again spent a few days, and were back in the summer of 1898. This time, they sold out the mine and milling equipment, never returning to the area again.

The castle went through series of owners in the next half century, falling into disrepair due to neglect and vandalism. In the early 1950's a promoter tried to buy the structure and move it to the Las Vegas strip. To keep the building in its original site, Molly Magee Knudsen, a member of the Stokes family purchased it in 1956. Molly, a New York socialite turned local ranch owner and a prominent citizen of Austin, was a cousin to Anson Stokes. She grew up hearing wild stories about Cousin Anson's castle in Nevada. She had to buy the mine that went with it to make the purchase.

A chain link fence was placed around the structure to help preserve it from further theft and vandalism. Today the Stokes Castle stands as a sentinel on the north end of Reese River Valley, a reminder of the heydays of Austin's past history.



Gino  
Bobot  
George Cousin  
Jett "  
Darrin W  
Ellis  
Karl S  
Clack M  
AL Nick-Isan - Nick  
Steve SCOTT