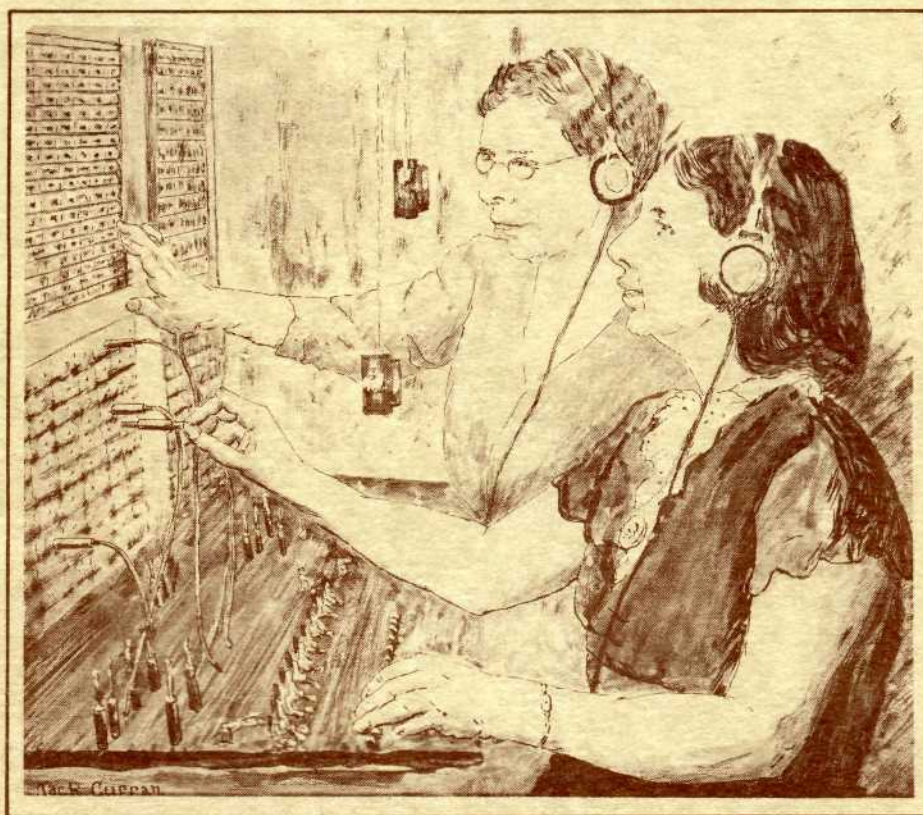


COMSTOCK TEL. DIRECTORY '75

# COMSTOCK

## Commemorative



# DIRECTORY

## 1877-1975

## COVER PICTURE STORY

Susie Davis, long-time telephone operator on the Comstock, is shown standing at the old magneto switchboard in the Davis Stationery Store on "C" Street. Her niece, Frances Davis Avansino is seated. Time in the 1940's.

Susie Davis faithfully performed her duties as telephone operator for almost a half century, regardless of the fact she was blind since early childhood. Her father was the first manager of the local telephone exchange.

Susie's niece Frances will retire along with the local telephone exchange, after nearly forty years' service, ending a dynasty going back to the roaring days of the Great Comstock.

The Art Work for this book was commissioned by the Storey County Bi-Centennial Committee.

It was executed by the artists under a grant from the Nevada. State Council of the Arts.

Storey County Council Committee:

Louise Curran, Chairman

Mae Bromund

Dorothy Colley

Al Cunningham

This Limited Edition Directory, the inspiration of Virgil Bucchianeri, is a project of the Storey County Bi-Centennial Committee:

Virgil Bucchianeri, Chairman

Beverly Linnecke

Louise Curran

Ellen North

Douglas Walling

Steven Frady

Marianne Clarke

Carolyn Beaupre



Limited Edition No. 63

Copy for:  
GEORGE PHELPS

## Goodbye Central - we'll miss you!

### Operators

Marcella Goodman, Mgr.

Frances Avansino

Marjorie Hardenbrook

Gertrude Clouatre

Helen Boegle

Victorine Morrison

Margaret Lowther

Lora Del Carlo

Barbara Hillyer

## NOTICE TO TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS OF THE VIRGINIA CITY EXCHANGE

This directory has been issued to facilitate the use of the more cumbersome equipment that has replaced the Magneto Exchange.

Do NOT attempt to crank your telephone!

Numbers will now have to be ascertained from this booklet and dialed out, number by number, on the round disc visible on the equipment, or punched out on a series of buttons. Those persons needing glasses must have them readily available or rely on the assistance of their neighbors.

It will no longer be possible to locate the whereabouts of other subscribers or misplaced persons by contacting the Operator, should they fail to answer your call. Neither will it be possible to determine the source of an incoming call that you have failed to answer — unless you have a private answering service.

Do not attempt to contact the Operator to ascertain details concerning community events, or to lodge objections to the deliberation of local governing agencies.

It can readily be seen that use of the new system will be considerably more time-consuming on your part, and will require patience.

LET US HOPE THAT THIS IS THE LAST CONCESSION WE MUST MAKE TO "PROGRESS" AND THE 20TH CENTURY!

## VIRGINIA CITY EXCHANGE HISTORY

by Ellen B. North

In November of 1877, telephones were first used in Virginia City to connect the surface with the underground in the mines. Though the telephone had been invented by Alexander Graham Bell in Boston only a year earlier, mining magnates, financiers and people at all levels of business were quick to grasp the immediate and long-range advantages to the Comstock of this latest technical discovery.

Word spread throughout the West when a telephone was hooked up from the 1550-foot level of the Consolidated Virginia Mine to the office on the surface. Two days after the phone's first use, the Sacramento Record Union reported, "*The telephone was put to work in the Bonanza mines today. It was found to be very useful. . .*"

The telephone was tested locally before it was implemented in the mines. The Virginia City Chronicle related such an experiment that included a musical presentation transmitted a quarter of a mile by telephone.

*Last evening there was a trial of the telephone at the Washoe Club Rooms which was probably the most interesting of any yet attempted in this city. The instrument was connected by a wire with Professor Jessup's rooms on C Street, opposite the Savage Mine. Everything in readiness, Mrs. Barretta and Miss Pierce played a piano duet which was plainly heard and thoroughly enjoyed in the club rooms, over a quarter of a mile away, and the applause which followed was heard in Professor Jessup's room. Mr. Ed Pierce then sang a solo, every tone of which was heard in the club rooms distinctly. Some of the Washoeites then attempted to sing, but their effort at vocalization had a dampening effect at the other end of the wire. Conversations were carried on for nearly two hours to the amusement of all hands. The programme will be repeated some evening next week.*

Also in November, 1877, the telephone was used to transmit voice over telegraph lines for distances greater than 30 miles. Such a connection existed between the office of the Virginia and Gold Hill Water Company and the station at Lake Tahoe.

By 1880 phones were being used between residences and businesses for convenience, as well as in the mines where they replaced signal bells.

The Territorial Enterprise reported:

*The use of the telephone is daily spreading in this city. It is reaching out in all directions and is looked upon as a business convenience of every day use that is quite indispensable. Our businessmen would now hardly know how to get along without the telephone.*

*Outside of the city the lines extend to the hoisting works of all the leading mines . . . to the residences of businessmen and to all manner of shops and offices.*

Nevada's first telephone exchange was opened in Virginia City in the back of the J. M. Davis Book and Stationery Store on February 1, 1882.

The Virginia City exchange has been supervised by the Davis family since that time. Mr. Davis was the first agent, followed upon his death in 1906 by his wife. Later Susie Davis ran the exchange from 1936 until her retirement in 1950. Since then, Frances Davis Avansino has kept up the family tradition.

At some point the Davis family probably owned the phone exchange but it is surmised that John Kearns put up some of the money to establish it and that he, representing Sunset Telephone and Telegraph Company, approached Mr. Davis about the latter becoming agent for a full-fledged telephone exchange.

In 1896 Kearns succeeded in completing a line between Reno and Virginia City over the old Geiger Grade.

By 1901, Sunset owned the Virginia City exchange. But in 1906 the company ceased to exist, at which time the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company acquired all of the Sunset stock.

Pacific continued to operate phone service in Western Nevada until 1913. In that year Bell of Nevada was incorporated to serve as a holding company during the construction of the first trans-continental telephone line in 1914. Soon thereafter, Pacific transferred all of its holdings in Nevada to Bell.

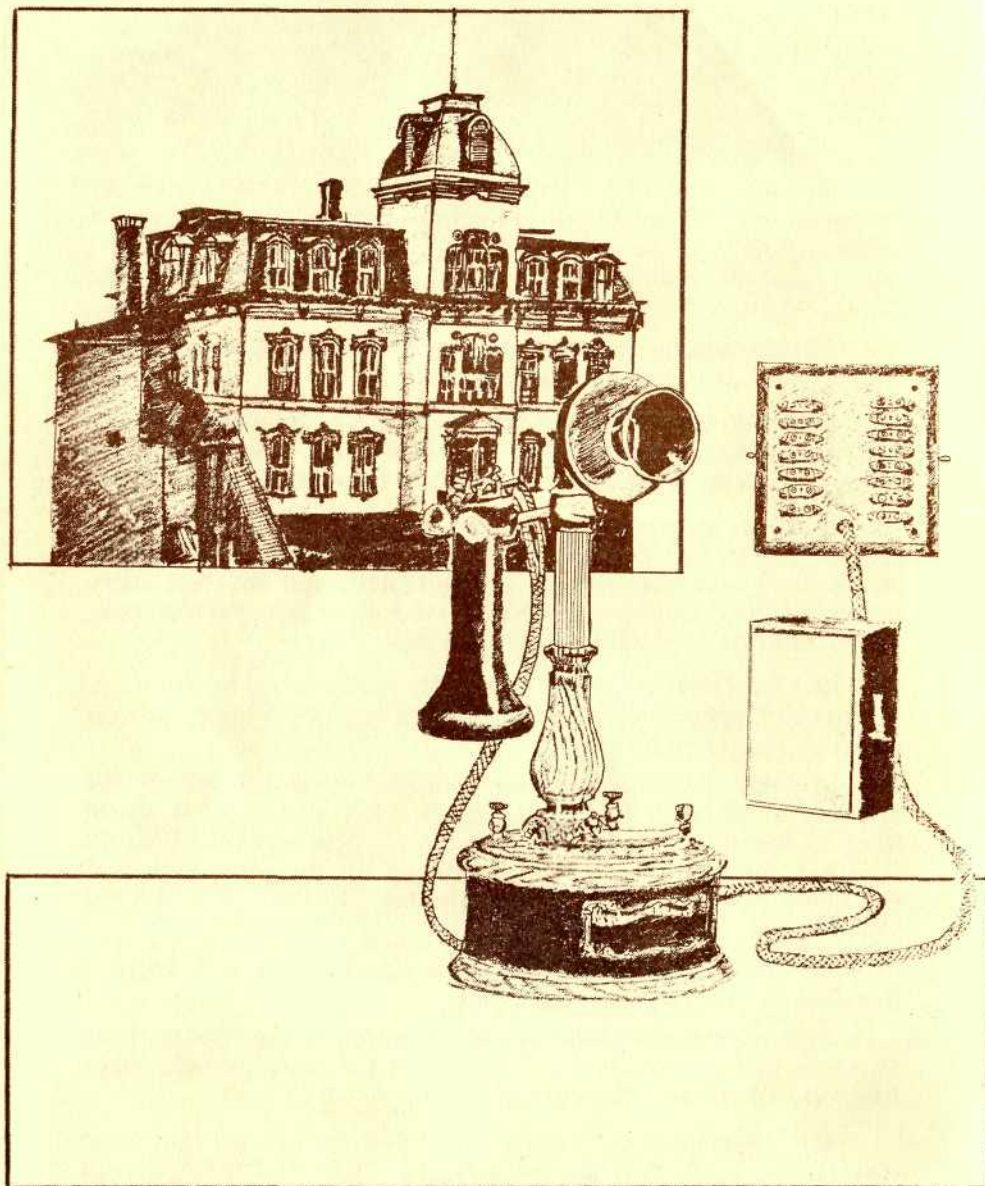
On October 1, 1920, Bell of Nevada took control of the Utah, Nevada and Idaho Telephone Company properties in many Nevada counties, including Storey.

In 1959 the exchange was notified by the owner of the building in which it had operated for many years that it would have to vacate. Nevada Bell then built a new manual office on C Street, equipped with a small kitchen for the convenience of the operators. It was first used on May 21, 1959 with the old switchboard.

In 1963 a new and larger drop signal magneto board was installed in the Virginia City office.

The original switchboard was presented to the Nevada State Museum in Carson City by the Nevada Council, John I. Sabin Chapter, Telephone Pioneers of America.

But resistance to today's technology could no longer be maintained. At mid-day on June 14, 1975 dial phones went into effect on the Comstock. On June 21, Nevada Bell presented the phone company building to the Virginia City Historic District Commission in whose possession it will remain as a relic of a bygone era.



Martinez - 1975

## DIRECTORY

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT .....	847-0101
AMBULANCE .....	847-0101
SHERIFF .....	847-0202

### A

Allison Lou Mill St .....	847-0229
Amsler Clyde A&Carson .....	847-0239
Andreasen Clinton Mrs Washington .....	847-0258
Andreasen Earl N NorthB .....	847-0174
Andreasen Fred Washington&J .....	847-0649
Andreasen Fred Mrs. NorthA .....	847-0297
Andrews Cecilia Mrs NorthB .....	847-0159
Antunovich George SouthE .....	847-0325
Armstrong Lena Mrs. SilvrCty .....	847-0538
Avansino Frances N NorthB .....	847-0349
Avansino Wm S Mill&D .....	847-0185

### B

Balfour M L Mrs TheDivide .....	847-0469
Barton Jim Union&F .....	847-0149
Beaupre L J Washington .....	847-0793
Benner Delbert E SouthG .....	847-0247
Bennetts Harry SilvrCty .....	847-0531
Berry Robert C&Carson .....	847-0164
Bishop Dora A SilvrCty .....	847-0754
Blair Agnes GoldHI .....	847-0293
Boegle Frank SouthG .....	847-0393
Bolander Neil A SouthC .....	847-0252
Bonanza Saloon NorthC .....	847-0655
Borland Ed 29NorthB .....	847-0659
Borland Doris 29NorthB .....	847-0659
Bowers Earl NorthA .....	847-0572
Brass Rail 26½NorthC .....	847-0553
Bromund Art Gallery 101NorthB .....	847-0488
Brooks Ron SouthC .....	847-0292
Brothers Denise Stewart&Sutton .....	847-0295
Brown Annabell NorthD .....	847-0141
Brown Elaine BendGoldHI .....	847-0548
Bucchianeri Virgil GoldHI .....	847-0364
Bucket of Blood 3SouthC .....	847-0322
Budden LaVonne NorthC .....	847-0248
Burkhardt Greg NorthG .....	847-0483
Byrne John NorthC .....	847-0192

## C

Cabin in the Sky GoldHI	847-0733
Campbell M 330NorthD	847-0459
Carl Leonard SouthC	847-0794
Cartwright Emporium SouthC	847-0199
Chapman David GoldHI	847-0786
Chapman Kay SouthC	847-0237
Chollar Mine SouthF	847-0155
Clarke William NorthF	847-0735
Clegg Charles NorthA	847-0398
Clouatre Arsene Washington	847-0646
Cole John W NorthC	847-0670
Colletti Edward SouthD	847-0253
Colley Pottery GoldHI	847-0737
Comstock Antiques NorthA	847-0626
Comstock Assay Office C&Sutton	847-0565
Comstock Bandido	847-0798
Comstock Chevron 120SouthC	847-0377
Comstock Motel SouthC	847-0233
Continental Carpet	847-0478
Conn Jack SilvrCty	847-0726
Cook Frank NorthC	847-0740
Cooper Amy SilvrCtyHigh	847-0650
Copp's Dick Western Museum 29NorthC	847-0161
Correll R S GoldHI	847-0750
Country Inn Edith Palmer SouthB	847-0707
Crago Archie SilvrCty	847-0358
Crider Variety Store 27NorthC	847-0535
Crouch Merton SilvrCty	847-0182
Crystal Bar NorthC	847-0464
Cullison Dortha SilvrCty	847-0752
Cunningham Albert L Hospital	847-0652
Curran John Washington	847-0749
Curtis Joseph L SilvrCtyMain	847-0769

## D

Daguerrean Emporium	847-0338
Daumen Richard Jos SilvrCty	847-0473
Davis Harry F GoldHI	847-0246
Davis Jack	847-0340
Del Carlo Aglee 47SouthH	847-0426
Del Carlo Gino Mrs SouthD	847-0628
Del Carlo Robert NorthA	847-0569
Del Carlo Wm SouthD	847-0523
Delta Cafe SouthC	847-0353
Delta Gift Shop SouthC	847-0211
Delta Saloon SouthC	847-0789
District Attorney CourtHse	847-0333
Dobbins Peter SouthC	847-0674
Dolve Carroll NorthA	847-0785
Donovan Wm SilvrCty	847-0474

Downing Richard L Divide	847-0693
Dressler Chad SilvrCty	847-0519
Dufresne Robt L GoldHI	847-0725
Dunn W L NorthA	847-0575

## E

Eilley Orrum C	847-0644
Elkin Clarence SouthC	847-0496
Evan's Arco NorthC	847-0424

## F

Fisher Frank Mrs SouthC	847-0238
Flanagan Jack Taylor&SouthA	847-0555
Ford Donald A 6SouthA	847-0397

## G

Gallagher Hugh J NorthC	847-0376
Gallagher Neil SouthC	847-0359
Garner Jack C NorthB	847-0739
Garrett Clyde SilvrCty	847-0675
Garrett Fred NorthB	847-0549
Gash Chip SouthD	847-0783
Gavazzi P SouthC	847-0691
Gibbons Marie NorthD	847-0647
Gipe Richard J NorthHoward	847-0255
Giuffra E Ridge&E	847-0436
Giuffra John NorthD	847-0183
Gladding Edward NorthA	847-0129
Glass Blower Shop 50C	847-0667
Gold Button Saloon	847-0762
Gold Hill Art Gallery GoldHI	847-0737
Gold Hill Hotel GoldHI	847-0111
Gold Hill News GoldHI	847-0222
Good Jack GoldHI	847-0529
Goodman Lowell L Stewart	847-0379
Graham Vicki SouthB	847-0419
Grandma's Fudge NorthC	847-0688
Gray Leslie 145NorthB	847-0642
Greco Dennis B	847-0478
Greenhalgh Jack Mrs NorthC	847-0317

## H

Hansen Marshall Taylor	847-0629
Hardenbrook Marjorie C NorthC	847-0265
Harrison Lloyd Jr Carson	847-0284
Henderson Louis E GoldHI	847-0385
Henson O L Sutton	847-0230
Hess Gregory NorthC	847-0685
Hibbard Mel NorthB	847-0634
Hickerson Dahrlene SouthG	847-0396
Hickory Plaque SouthC	847-0764
Hillman Barbara SilvrCty	847-0653

Hillyer Vern R NorthB .....	847-0399
Houser Dwain Dr 58SouthB .....	847-0537
Howard Leonard NorthC .....	847-0777

J

J & D Enterprises SouthC .....	847-0250
Jacobsen Aileen NorthA .....	847-0626
James T L Mrs NorthA .....	847-0217
Joe Dandy Mining Co Hiway17 .....	847-0299
Johnson Glen Realty SouthCSugarLoafMo .....	847-0300
Johnson Leo GoldHI .....	847-0782
Jordan Clark SouthC .....	847-0296
Jordt David K 21SouthA .....	847-0316
Julia Bulette's SouthC .....	847-9991

K

Kadar SilvrCty .....	847-0587
Kallman Ted K .....	847-0558
Karrash A A SouthA .....	847-0186
Kealy I A NorthE .....	847-0594
Kenawell Billie SouthB .....	847-0140
Kendall A L Mrs Divide .....	847-0274
Kendall Lula M SilvrCty .....	847-0127
Kick B D O NorthD .....	847-0756
Kiehlbach Howard SouthD .....	847-0173
Kitchener Ben SilvrCty .....	847-0487
Kitty's Long Branch NorthC .....	847-0440
Kitty's Long Branch North C .....	847-9998
Knollhoff D SouthF .....	847-0329
Koch Merle E 25NorthC .....	847-0313
Kraemer Eric SouthD .....	847-0475

L

Lamkey Helen Mrs 15Stewart .....	847-0429
Larson Richard E Stewart .....	847-0168
Lastiri Mildred 35NorthB .....	847-0787
Leonard Hobart NorthA .....	847-0193
Leone Paul SouthC .....	847-0795
Leong Lynn Howard&Sutton .....	847-0462
Lewis Barbara SilvrCty .....	847-0249
Linnecke O A 9Howard .....	847-0286
Lipscomb Wm F GoldHI .....	847-0169
Lowther Willard 60SouthC .....	847-0585
Lund Ellen SouthC .....	847-0285
Luppi R T 53SouthH .....	847-0751

M

Mark Twain Saloon SouthC .....	847-0599
Mark Twain Museum SouthC .....	847-0454
Markley Mark GoldHI .....	847-0596
Marks Wm L NorthC .....	847-0257
Marshall Harriette SilvrCty .....	847-0752

Martinez Kay Taylor&A .....	847-0790
Mathis Chester NorthC .....	847-0759
Maxwell Lois Hickey .....	847-0184
Maxwell Victor E NorthB .....	847-0126
Mayer Marie SilvrCty .....	847-0430
McBee Judith 40SouthE .....	847-0283
McBride D G Howard&Taylor .....	847-0438
McCormick James SilvrCty .....	847-0742
McDonald Ernst SouthD .....	847-0574
McDonald Wm SouthC .....	847-0327
McFarland A L Carson .....	847-0348
McGuirk Matt Mrs SouthB .....	847-0275
McNeille D Carson&B .....	847-0263
McNeille Leeana L .....	847-0290
Militana Ben 19NorthB .....	847-0799
Miller G O Washington .....	847-0562
Miller Jas D SouthC .....	847-0695
Mindling Thos Eric 48SouthB .....	847-0573
Morrison Victorine NorthA .....	847-0684
Mosbek Ben NorthC .....	847-0158
Murkovich Edw P NorthB .....	847-0384
Murray Nadine SilvrCty .....	847-0698
Murray Tom SilvrCty .....	847-0698

N

Neese J D SouthB .....	847-0518
Nelson Jim Divide .....	847-0648
Nevada Highway Maintenance Dept Divide .....	847-0456
Nevada Jewelry Manufactory SouthC .....	847-0288

# NEVADA STATE OF

FOR STATE AGENCY NOT LISTED BELOW CALL CARSON CITY & ASK FOR AGENCY DESIRED

No Charge For Calling ..... 800-992-0900

## MOTOR VEHICLES DEPT OF

Law Enforcement Div	
For Emergency Calls Only	
Ask Operator For	Zenith 1-2000
Other Calls Call Carson City .....	885-5300
Motor Carrier Enforcement Call Carson City .....	885-5300

Nevin Dan Washington&GSt .....	847-0190
Nevin Micke NorthC .....	847-0417
Nevin Mike SouthD .....	847-0157
North Ellen Washington .....	847-0533

O

Obester James A Washington .....	847-0268
O'Connell Jewel T SouthD .....	847-0493

P

Page Joe Hickey	847-0318
Palmateer Robt H 35SouthG	847-0791
Palmer's Edith Country Inn SouthB	847-0707
Paskey A J Divide	847-0277
Payne Ben SouthC	847-0236
Pecoraro Dennis G&Washington	847-0485
Pedlar Walter SilvrCty	847-0472
Perry J Clinton Mrs 10Stewrt	847-0736
Petrini Angelo SouthD	847-0497
Petrini Opal SouthB	847-0211
Piper's Opera House NorthB	847-0433
Pollard Matilda SouthB	847-0427
Ponderosa Saloon C&Taylor	847-0757
Pow-R-King Corp Divide	847-0770
Public Works Divide	847-0375
Pyatt Joel SouthH	847-0635

R

Red Garter Saloon SouthC	847-9996
Red's Old Fashioned Candies SouthC	847-0404
Red's #1 30SouthC	847-0616
Reid Walter G Washington	847-0550
Reinheller Jas E SouthF	847-0721
Richards Elizabeth Taylor	847-0468
Robsen Margaret SouthG	847-0369
Rodgers Wm SilvrCty	847-0365
Rodhouse Thos E A	847-0439
Rodriguez Guadalupe 99NorthC	847-0241
Rosso Martin NorthA	847-0196
Roth Flora Mrs C&Carson	847-0136
Rudnick Rudy SouthD	847-0486
Rule Kenneth SouthB	847-0357
Russel LaVerne SouthC	847-0418

S

St Mary's In The Mountain E	847-0797
Salmon J C SouthH	847-0582
Santos Carile SilvrCty	847-0694
Sappenfield Scott B&Sutton	847-0392
Savage Jean SouthC	847-0563
Saw Dust Corner C&Union	847-0744
Schumacher Sandra SilvrCty	847-0372
Seskin Walton D 161NorthB	847-0592
Sewell R F Jr Divide	847-0792
Seymour Floyd NorthB	847-0197
Sharon House SouthC&Taylor	847-0133
Sierra Pacific Power Stewart	847-0505
Sierra Park SouthC	847-0188
Silver Queen #1	847-9980
Silver Queen #2	847-9995
Silver Store Antique Shop 25NorthC	847-0255

Silver Stop Restaurant 25NorthC	847-0313
Smith Elwood SilvrCty	847-0494
Smith Norman MD Stewart	847-0428
Smith Robt SilvrCty	847-0720
Solaga Inez Divide	847-0436
Spargo Wm SouthB	847-0269
Spears C R SouthI	847-0368
Spurbick Dorthy SouthC	847-0147
Squires Nona NorthG	847-0687
Stephenson G Union	847-0543
Stevens Ian SilvrCty	847-0232
Storey County Clinic NorthC	847-0123
Storey County High School SouthD	847-0600

STOREY COUNTY OF

Building Dept - Hist Comm Bldg SouthC	847-0622
Clerk	847-0577
County Assessor's Office	847-0414
Director of Public Work Toll	847-0166
District Attorney CourtHse	847-0333
If No Answer Call Carson City	882-8098
Justice of Peace CourtHse	847-0303
Recorder	847-0244
SHERIFF'S OFFICE CourtHse	847-0202
Water Systems	847-0623

Storey County Swimming Pool Carson&F	847-0664
Sun Mountain Pre-School GoldHI	847-9986
Sundance Saloon 62SouthC	847-0636
Swanson Lee K SouthC	847-0270
Swicker Beatrice SilvrCty	847-0673

T

Tahoe Beer Hotel	847-9979
Tahoe House 46SouthC	847-0670
Tannehill Kate Mrs SouthD	847-0651
Tanner Norman NorthA	847-0386
Taylor Victor Maj Stewart	847-0539
Territorial Enterprise Museum & Gift Shop SouthC	847-0525
The Way It Was NorthC	847-0766
Tigner James SouthB	847-0259
Toll David GoldHI	847-0449
Tornello Ralph NorthD	847-0672
Trash & Treasure SouthE	847-0527
Turlan Yannick GoldHI	847-0639
Turney Dail 105NorthB	847-0547
Turney James D 235NorthC	847-0137

U

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FEDERAL ENERGY OFC	
No Charge to Calling Party .....	800-992-5792
FEDERAL JOB INFORMATION CENTER	
No Charge to Calling Party .....	800-002-3030
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	
No Charge to Calling Party .....	800-992-5770
POSTAL SERVICE	
VETERANS BENEFITS INFORMATION	
No Charge to Calling Party .....	800-992-5740

V

Van Duzer Jere 62NorthA .....	847-0460
Virginia City Crier NorthC .....	847-0760
Virginia City Fire Dept NorthC .....	847-0101
Virginia City Stables I&Union .....	847-0545
Virginia City Trading Post NorthC .....	847-0676
Virginia City Vintners 33SouthC .....	847-0345
Virginia City Visitors Bureau SouthC .....	847-0177
Virginia City Water Co 43SouthB .....	847-0717
Virginia Comstock Saloon NorthC .....	847-0450
Virginia Market 50SouthC .....	847-0780

W

Wahrenbrock L A SilvrCty .....	847-0319
Wailua University of Contemplative Arts 108Mill. ....	847-0678
Walling Douglas NorthD .....	847-0218
Walton Richard Union&M .....	847-0690
Washoe Club SouthC .....	847-0567
Watson R J SouthC .....	847-0271
Weeks Ronald NorthA .....	847-0638
Wesner Ben GoldHl .....	847-0591
White Alma Divide .....	847-0273
White Jack SouthC .....	847-0250
Williamson Beatrice SilvrCty .....	847-0482
Wion Deborah SouthC .....	847-0288
Wood David A&Sutton .....	847-0142

Y

Yeates John SouthA .....	847-0328
York Baird 163NorthB. ....	847-0500
Young Byron SilvrCty .....	847-0729
Young Fred SouthF .....	847-0387

Z

Zalac John SouthD .....	847-0146
Zalac Mary Divide .....	847-0264

In Memoriam

Virginia City Magneto Telephone

1877 - 1975

Memorial Services will commence  
at the former home of the exchange,  
Virginia City, Nevada at 2:30 p.m.

June 21, 1975

under the auspices of

the Bell Telephone Co. of Nevada  
Virginia City Historic District Commission  
Storey County Bi-Centennial Commission

Donations to the Historic Commission  
are preferred in lieu of flowers

"Gone, but not forgotten"