

D. V. Cain Residence
Bodie, Mono County
California

HABS No. CAL-1921

HABS
CAL

26-10001

4

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Western Office, Division of Design and Construction
1000 Geary Street
San Francisco, California

PHOTOGRAPH-DATA BOOK REPORT
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

CAL-1921

D. V. CAIN RESIDENCE

Bodie, Mono County, California

ADDRESS: Green and Fuller Streets, Bodie, California
OWNER: State of California
OCCUPANT: Vacant
USE: None

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Ghost Town of Bodie is a Registered National Historic Landmark, and California Historical Landmark #341.

Placer gold was first discovered here in July, 1859, and a quartz vein was located in August, 1859; but, though many efforts were made to exploit the area, it was not until 1874 that the great potential wealth of the district became promising. Bodie reached its peak in production in 1879-80 when the population was 10-12 thousand. Total production of gold and silver from the district is estimated at 90-100 million. The town is now devoid of permanent residents.

The D. V. Cain Residence represents a "typical" mine owner's house of the Town of Bodie.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The house was built prior to 1879 when James Stuart Cain first came to Bodie and lived in the house. His eldest son, David Victor,

was born here in 1880 and when he had grown up and married Ella M. Cody in 1904 his father moved to a newly remodeled house at Green and Park Streets (CAL-1920) and turned this house over to the newlyweds. They lived here until they moved in the 1920s to live with his father.

The story of J. S. Cain is told in CAL-1920. Upon the death of James Stuart Cain, David Victor became the head of the J. S. Cain Company.

In 1962 the Town of Bodie was acquired by the State of California as a State Park under the jurisdiction of the Division of Beaches and Parks.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL AND SOURCES

California State Historical Landmark No. 341
Cain, Ella M., The Story of Bodie, Fearon Publishers,
San Francisco 1956
Library of Congress Catalogue Card No. 56-11439
HABS Report, 1962: CAL-1918 Bodie - General

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

EXTERIOR

Overall Dimensions - Irregular plan, approximately 42' x 33', with attached shed addition, not considered significant.
House built in three stages: Original house - two stories high, approx. 18' x 24½'. One story wing, approx. 20½' x 33', added to west side with veranda at front and later enlarged by another addition approx. 5' x 14½'.

Foundations - Wood underpinning with pressed metal, simulating brick, covering foundation walls.

Wall Construction - Wood frame with exterior rustic siding and horizontal boards at inside. Exterior walls, including original exterior walls, 2-3/4 inches thick. Interior partitions, 1½ inches thick.

CAL-1921

Page 3

Porches - Three-bay porch at north elevation of one-story addition with corrugated iron shed roof, supported by 4x4 posts with chamfered corners and moulded cap.

Uncovered steps at recessed entrance door to original two-story house. T&G flooring on porch and pine steps with bulkheads faced with pressed metal, the same as foundation walls.

Chimneys - Two brick chimneys with corbeled brick caps.

Doorways and Doors - Entrance door to two-story section set in a reveal with panel sides and ceiling, and with transom. Door is two-panel with glass upper panel and raised panel and mouldings at lower half. Entrance door at porch is similar with mouldings to different detail.

Windows - Double hung 2/2 light with parting bead and weight boxes built into room, to compensate for laminated 3 inch thick exterior walls.

Roof and Cornice - Gable roofs with boxed in cornice with classic Ogee mouldings, typical of all Bodie construction. Wood shingles with metal ridge cap. Pitch of main roof, approx. 8 in 12.

INTERIOR

Floor Plan - The plan of the house is rather confusing because of alterations and additions to add space rather than improve the layout. The present plan consists of five rooms and bath on first floor that open one from the other without an organized plan; and two rooms on the second floor opening from a central stairhall.

Flooring - T&G pine flooring throughout.

Stairway - Open string stair on right hand side of entrance hall with turned newel post and balusters.

CAL-1921
Page 4

Wall Finish - Boards covered with cheese cloth and wall paper.
Trim, painted.

Doors - Four raised panels with vertical center rail.

Trim - Second Floor: Baseboard - 3/4" x 7 1/2" chanel rustic
Door casing - 3/4" x 3 1/4" plain
Window casing - same as door casing
First Floor: Baseboard - 3/4" x 4 1/2" with 2" cap moulding
Door casing - 1-3/4" x 5-7/8" moulded and
1-3/4" x 4 1/2" moulded
Window casing - same as door casing

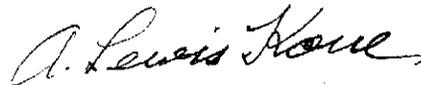
Lighting - Electricity. Originally, kerosene lamps.

Heating - Wood stoves.

OUTBUILDINGS - Lean-to shed and garage attached to rear of house, not considered significant. Out-door privy, which is customary for Bodie, is 5' x 5', of studied classic design with a unique venting arrangement.

SETTING - House is situated at southwest corner of Green and Fulton Streets with set-back from streets and front of house facing north. Walks and landscaping, if any, have long since disappeared and the building is deteriorating from neglect.

Prepared by



A. Lewis Koue, AIA
National Park Service

December 1962

APPROVED:

Charles S. Pope
Charles S. Pope, AIA
Supervising Architect, Historic Structures
Western Office
National Park Service

DATE: Dec 21, 1962