

# CARRERA MARBLE RAILROAD

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## INTRODUCTION

This report is part of a research project that describes the relationships between mines and railroads in the Mojave Desert and southwestern Great Basin. The collection can be accessed at <http://www.greggwilkerson.com/railroads.html>

*Italics* indicate quotations.

## HISTORY

The Carrera Railroad was a spur line of the Las Vegas and Tonopah (LV&T) railroad. It was located on the southwest flank of the Bare Mountains in the Bare Mountain Mining District. Gold and silver had been discovered in this district in 1905. A beautiful limestone formation exists in Carrara Canyon. The site was named after the famous Carrera limestone of the Carrara Mountains in Italy.



Caption: Carrera Marble Quarry, Italy. From <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/774124923483522/> accessed Feb. 3, 2024.



Caption: Carrara Marble Quarry, Italy. From <https://www.theflashpacker.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/a-carrara-marble-mine-8.jpg> accessed Feb. 3, 2024

In 1912 the American Carrara Marble Company was formed. The town of Carrara at a site near the LV&T was officially dedicated on May 8, 1913 and the mine railroad completed in 1914. The mine operated with what was then huge equipment capable of moving 15 ton blocks of marble. The mine operated from 1915 to 1916. There was a short rejuvenation of Carrara in 1927 by the T&T but it did not last either (Myrick, 1963:605-607).

Descriptions of the marble mines are found in Kral (1951:6), Minobras (1973:34) and CDMG (1981:48).



