

## **Brief History of the Storey County Recorder/Auditor**

The practice of recording real estate documents stems from laws in England, which traveled to the New World with the colonists. A system of registration was necessary to prove the rights of persons who first made claims to property. On January 17, 1854, Carson County of the Utah Territory was created by the third annual session of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah. Stephen A. Kinsey was appointed Clerk of the Probate Court and ex-officio Recorder. His appointment as Recorder was confirmed by an election of October 1858 and he retained this office until 1861. For many years, the Carson County Records were known as “Kinsey’s Records.” Storey County’s Kinsey’s Records date back to October 29, 1859. On March 2, 1861, President Buchanan approved the Act to Organize the Territory of Nevada. The first statute passed by the people of Nevada was “An Act adopting the Common Law of England” signed by Governor Nye October 30, 1861. On November 25, 1861, an act was approved to establish the original nine counties of the Nevada Territory: Esmeralda, Douglas, Ormsby, Washoe, Lyon, Storey, Lake, Humboldt, and Churchill. On November 29, 1861, an act was then approved by the first territorial legislative session, which established the territorial officers and local county and township officers and to be appointed by the governor. The first Storey County Recorder was Henry Goode Blasdel, who later became the first elected Governor for the State of Nevada in 1864. The first elected County Recorder/Auditor was W M Brannan when Virginia City was unincorporated May 2, 1881.

Today, the Recorder of Storey County is Sarah S. Jensen. Sarah was elected and began her term January 1, 2007. It is the goal of this office to provide excellent service for the community and public at large.