
Mining History Association News

Denver, Colorado, May 1992

P.O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215

Volume 3 Number 2

Oh! Idaho

The schedule for the Third Annual Conference is set. We hope you will not only participate in the conference and workshops, but will also enjoy Boise and the Idaho countryside. Boise was founded in 1863 following the discovery of gold in the Owyhee Mountains to the south and the Idaho City area to the north. Boise served as hub to these expansive gold fields, won the territorial capital from Lewiston, and has served as political center of the State ever since. Recognition of this status brought Federal agencies, including a branch Assay Office of the U. S. Mint Bureau. The 1870 Assay building is now the Historic Preservation office of the Idaho State Historical Society and may be visited during your stay.

The *Boise* River, named by French fur-trappers after the trees lining the stream, meanders through town and drains the mining regions to the north and east. (Boise is an Americanized pronunciation of the French word for tree). Boise State University, site of our conference, sits on the south bank of the river opposite the gardens and zoo in Julia Davis Park. The Idaho State Historical Society Museum adjoins the park and has exhibits covering the history of the region, including Idaho's mining past. A short walk north from the museum are located the Old Boise Historic District and the Eighth Street Marketplace, both areas with shops and restaurants. A more active night-life can be found in the town's numerous Country-Western bars. At the end of Capitol Boulevard stands the classical, domed Idaho State Capitol.

Forty miles northeast of Boise, at the head of Moores Creek, a pine-tree shaded tributary of the Boise River, is Idaho City, a town which contains much from the gold rush era. The

buildings and surrounding landscape reflect Idaho City's 1860s and after mining-based activity. The Forest Service and local preservation groups have worked long hours to preserve the community, its museum, and the area's history. The town has a few gift shops. Strolling Idaho City's streets is a pleasant summer outing.

A contemporary of Idaho City is Silver City, the center of a hardrock gold and silver district that boomed in the 1860s, revived in the 1890s, and, with the rise in gold prices in the 1980s, has again been the scene of nearby mining activity. The community has exceptional nineteenth-century, wooden structures, remnants of historic mines and mills in the surrounding hillsides, and evidence of ephemeral camps -- Dewey, Ruby, and Booneville -- along the roads into town. Silver City sits in a valley of pinon and juniper trees and the intermittent Jordan Creek in the Owyhee Mountains, isolated by winding dirt roads and harsh winters. Summer-time brings residents, the re-opening of the town museum, and visitors like our group.

Conference participants will have a chance to see Idaho City and Silver City as parts of scheduled tours. But we encourage everyone to explore Idaho beyond these southern Idaho attractions. The State, as part of a centennial project, has worked with local groups and the Forest Service to preserve the "Land of The Yankee Fork," the former mining region along a tributary of the Salmon River and in and around Custer. Their new interpretive center will be finished in June. The area is a four hour drive along scenic highway 21 from Boise. The Forest
(continued on back page)

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

- ◆ 8:30 — Opening Remarks — Robert Spude, National Park Service, Denver, and Robert Sims, Dean, Boise State University
- ◆ 8:45 — Overview and Preservation Issues — Tom Green, Idaho Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Idaho State Historical Society
- ◆ 9:15 — "Hard Places" — Historic Landscapes, Definition and Classification — Richard Francaviglia, University of Texas, Arlington
- ◆ 10:00 — Break
- ◆ 10:15 — Cultural Resource Management of Historic Landscapes: Identification, Evaluation and Management — Cathy Gilbert and Gretchen Luxenberg, National Park Service, Seattle
- ◆ 12:00 — Lunch Break
- ◆ 1:00 — Historical Archeology and the Landscape — Donald Hardesty, University of Nevada, Reno
- ◆ 2:00 — Management Issues / Case Studies: — 1) "Land of the Yankee Fork" project — John Crowe, Idaho State Parks and Recreation Department, and 2) Forest Service case studies — Will Reed, Boise National Forest
- ◆ 5:00 — Reception — at the Idaho State Historical Society Museum

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

- ◆ 8:30 — (Continue Discussion of Management Issues) — 3) National Park Service case studies — Ann Huston and Leo Barker, National Park Service, San Francisco, and 4) Bureau of Land Management case studies — Dan Hutchinson, Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management
- ◆ 10:30 — Break
- ◆ 10:45 — Round Table Discussion — Federal Facilitator — Cathy Gilbert and Robert Spude; State Facilitator — John Crowe and Tom Green; University Facilitator — Clark Spence, Richard Francaviglia, and Duane Smith; and Private Sector Facilitator — Noel Kirshenbaum
- ◆ 12:00 — Lunch Break
- ◆ 1:00-5:00 — Field Exercise / Wrap-Up

NOTE: For individuals interested in attending the Mining History Association conference Friday afternoon, an alternative field exercise will occur in Idaho City Saturday afternoon. We will evaluate the landscape of a former Chinese community and mining site as guests of the U.S. Forest Service.

MUSEUMS AND EDUCATION WORKSHOP

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

- ◆ 8:30 — Opening Remarks — Ronald Brown, Southwest Texas State University
- ◆ 8:45 — "What Makes a Good Museum Mining Exhibit: A Discussion Forum" — Ken Swanson, Interim Director, Idaho State Historical Society
- ◆ 10:00 — "Minerals Education Workshop of the Education Committee of the Nevada Mining Association: Classroom Aids for Teachers and Museum Staff." — Teri W. Conrad, Northern Nevada Community College, Elko; Larry L. Turner, Mining Engineer, Elko. (The workshop will help participants learn how to educate others about geology, mining, economics, and history through "hands-on" projects and interaction with industry representatives. The workshop will include an example project — how to build a "square-set" timbering model.)
- ◆ 12:00 — Lunch Break

HOTELS & MOTELS

The Boisean Motel
1300 South Capitol Boulevard
Boise, Idaho 83706
208 / 343-4823

Boulevard Motel
1121 South Capitol Boulevard
Boise, Idaho 83706
208 / 342-4629

Ramada Inn
1025 South Capitol Boulevard
Boise, Idaho 83706
208 / 344-7971

University Inn
2360 University Drive at
Capitol Boulevard
Boise, Idaho 83706
208 / 345-7170

REGISTRATION

Historic Landscape Workshop / Mining History Association's Third Annual Conference, Boise, Idaho, June 4-7, 1992

Name _____
Address _____

Clip this panel and mail to:
Mining History Association
Post Office Box 150300
Denver, Colorado 80215

C O S T S

<input type="checkbox"/> Registration for the Historic Landscape Workshop	\$ 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration for the Mining History Association's Third Annual Conference	5
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration for the Museums and Education Workshop (no charge)	0
Optional: <input type="checkbox"/> Friday Banquet	1 2
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Presidential Luncheon	1 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Afternoon Tour of Boise Basin	1 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Tour of Silver City and Lunch	3 0

◆ ENCLOSED IS A CHECK FOR \$ _____

MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION'S THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

All sessions will be held at the Student Center, Boise State University

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1992

- ◆ 8:30-4:30 — Historic Landscape Workshop
- ◆ 5:00 — Reception at the Idaho State Historical Society Museum

FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1992

- ◆ 8:30-4:30 — Historic Landscape Workshop (continued)
- ◆ 8:30-12:00 — Museums and Education Workshop
- ◆ 8:30-4:30 — Registration at the Student Center, Boise State University

SESSION 1

- ◆ 1:00 — Alternative Perspectives on the History of the Mining West — Michael Ostrogorsky, Infotec Research, Inc., Chair
- "Culture Change During the Gold Rush Era: A Closer Look at Alaska Native Cultures in a Transitional Period" — Becky Saleeby, National Park Service, Anchorage, Alaska
- "The Coeur d'Alene Mining Riot of 1899: A Deconstructionist View" — Emma Lou Forster-Priesmeyer, University of Colorado, Boulder
- "Chinese Mining in Northern Idaho: Grudging Inclusion Versus Racist Exclusion." — Priscilla Wegars, University of Idaho

SESSION 2

- ◆ 2:30 — The International Mining Experience — Clark C. Spence, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Chair
- "Gold and Diamond Mining in Colonial Brazil" — Robert L. Hoover, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
- "The Shadows Flee Away: James Whitaker Wright and the Business of Mining" — Jeremy Mouat, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada
- "Colonial Government Attitudes Toward the Health of African Mine Workers: The Gold Coast 1900-1930" — Ray E. Dumett, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
- ◆ 4:30 — Business Meeting
- ◆ 5:30 — Banquet at Boise State University
- "Tourism, Designer Landscapes, and the Mining West" — Carlos Schwantes, University of Idaho

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1992

SESSION 3

- ◆ 8:30 — Conserving and Analyzing Our Mining Heritage — Duane A. Smith, Fort Lewis College, Chair
- "World War II Mining Policy and Its Influence on California's Strategic Minerals" — Kevin Palmer, Modoc National Forest, California
- "Mineral King: Making History in the Southern Sierra Nevada" — John F. Elliott, Elliott Research Associates, Silverado, California
- "Bureau of Land Management's Inspection and Enforcement/Production Verification Responsibility on Federal and Indian Lands" — Raj Giri, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D. C.

SESSION 4

- ◆ 10:00 — Amidst the Ore in the Records and in the Field — William S. Greever, University of Idaho, Chair
- "Research Potential of Silver-Lead Mining Records at the University of Idaho" — Richard C. Davis, University of Idaho
- "Landscape Considerations in the Location, Classification, and Interpretation of Placer Mining Sites" — Logan Hovis, National Park Service, Anchorage, Alaska
- "The 1892 Mining War in the Coeur d'Alene District" — John Amondson, Wallace District Museum, Wallace, Idaho
- ◆ 12:00 — Presidential Luncheon at Boise State University
- "John P. Jones, Miner - Politician Extraordinaire" — Russell R. Elliott, University of Nevada

◆ 1:30-6:00 — Idaho City and Boise Basin Tour — Merle Wells and Robert Romig, Idaho State Historical Society. (Buses leave from the Student Center, Boise State University. We will travel to Idaho City with stops at placer mining sites. The trip includes a walking tour of the town, visit to the Idaho City museum, and the U.S. Forest Service interpretive kiosk.)

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1992

◆ 9:00-6:00 — Silver City and NERCO's Delamar Mine Tour — Merle Wells and Robert Romig, Idaho State Historical Society. (Vans will leave from the Student Center, Boise State University. Merle Wells and Bob Romig have planned a full day of activities, with stops at the Owyhee County Museum, Murphy, a walking tour of Silver City, visits to mine and mill sites, and a tour of the operating Delamar Silver Mine. The tour will return at approximately 6:00 p.m., depending on weather and the condition of the dirt roads to and around Silver City.)

Service has an interpretive audio tape about the area available for use along the road.

The Couer d'Alene area, with its mountains, tall trees, and lakes on the far northern pan handle of Idaho, has sought tourism and has succeeded. Although a day's drive north from Boise, the Couer d'Alene "Silver Country" -- Wallace, Kellogg, and the rest of the silver-lead Couer d'Alene Mining District that boomed in the 1880s and is still productive -- is well worth the trip. The mining town theme park of Silverwood attracts large numbers of visitors, but we recommend visiting the historic community of Wallace, especially the Wallace District Museum, the former railroad depot now transportation museum, and the Sierra Silver Mine Tour. At Kellogg visit the Shoshone County Mining and Smelting Museum. Also stop and wish the folks well at the Sunshine Silver Mine, the nation's largest.

There is much to see and enjoy in Idaho. I hope many of you will be able to spend time visiting the State. And if you are driving down from the Lolo Pass along the Clearwater River bound for Orofino and then Pierce, absorb some of that beautiful country for me. As the slogan goes, Oh! Idaho.

Robert Spude

Mining History Association
P. O. Box 150300
Denver, Colorado 80215

Thanks

Thanks to the program committee -- Evelyne Pickett, Merle Wells, and Ron Brown -- for their work on the agenda. Merle Wells also organized the tours. Other individuals who helped with local logistics were: Tom Green and Ken Swanson of the Idaho State Historical Society and Robert Sims, Dean, Boise State University. Dan Hutchinson and Carl Barna of the Bureau of Land Management and Will Reed of the Forest Service aided with speakers and with local arrangements.

Special Rate

The Ramada Inn is offering a \$42 rate for the conference. Please let them know you are with the Mining History Association. They are located across the street from Boise State University, near Julia Davis Park, and the Idaho State Historical Society Museum. Their full address and phone number is above the registration form on page 2.

Those hearty souls seeking a rustic experience in the historic Idaho Hotel, Silver City should call Ed Jagels, proprietor, 208 325 5051. The amenities are limited but the setting is grand.

