

MINING HISTORY NEWS

Volume 6 • April 1995 • Number 2

Mother Lode Meeting

The neighbor cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City will host the sixth annual Mining History conference. The headquarters hotel, the National, located in the core of Nevada City, was built in 1854 and is the State's oldest, continuously-operating hotel. Miners discovered the placers of the area in 1848, but the big strikes occurred in 1850; the towns quickly arose four miles apart. During the gold rush period, Nevada City was known for its "coyote" or drift diggings, while Grass Valley became the early center for lode mining. The communities reflect their gold rush heritage in the numerous historic structures as well as the nearby state historic parks that interpret the mining era.

The conference will begin with a tour to the gold fields, Thursday, June 1 at 8:30 a.m. The all day tour will start from the National Hotel lobby and include stops at the North Star mine and the Malakoff Diggings State Historic Park, site of extensive nineteenth century hydraulic mining. The tour will finish by 4:30, in time for participants to refresh and then join the reception back at the hotel.

Two days of paper presentations have been organized by the program committee, Bill Mulligan, Linda Greene, and Rolla Queen. President Duane Smith will address our Friday luncheon with his thoughts on the heritage of mining, where are we going and what can be done. That evening at our annual

banquet and awards ceremony Donald Hardesty will provide comments about the archeology of mining. Dr. Hardesty and his students have been excavating the 1860s silver camps of Treasure Hill, Nevada and he will share some of his insights.

Saturday noon we board the buses for the Empire Mine, Grass Valley and a hearty pastie lunch. Following lunch we will tour the Empire Mine, the grounds and the elegant managers house. For over a century, 1850-1956, the mine produced 5.8 million ounces of gold extracted through 367 miles of underground workings. We will return by 4:00 p.m. for an evening on your own.

The conference concludes Sunday June 4, with another all day tour to the small mining camp of Allegheny, the site of Forest City, and the 16 to 1 mine. A barbecue lunch will revive the group before continuing on either a walking tour or the optional underground mine tour. The group will return to Nevada City at 4:30 p.m.

National Hotel

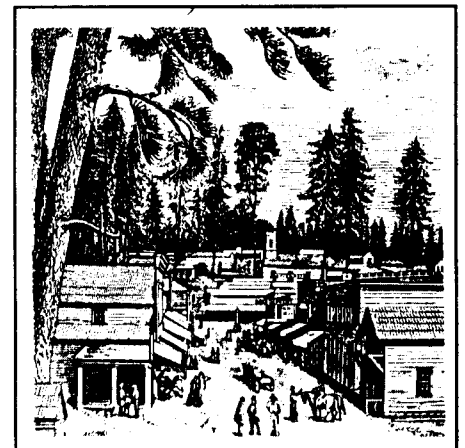
The National Hotel is the headquarters for all events and the starting point for tours. The National is located at 211 Broad Street, Nevada City. For reservations call 916 265 4551. Exhibitors desiring to set up displays during the conference should also contact the hotel for space in the lobby. For additional lodging information call the Chamber of Commerce at 916-265-2692.

Transportation

The National Hotel is located on Broad Street, the main historic street, in Nevada City. To reach Nevada City by car from Sacramento take Interstate 80 to Auburn, exit highway 49 north. From Auburn drive north on route 49, the Mother Lode Highway, to Grass Valley then Nevada City, and exit at Broad Street. The National Hotel is just north of the highway on the left side of the street. There is a shuttle from the Sacramento airport; rates vary, so call the Foothills Flyer at 800-464-0808 for information and reservations.

Thanks

Thanks to Carmel Barry Meisenbach of the Tahoe National Forest office in Nevada City for her help with local arrangements and details.



President's Page

We, as members of the Mining History Association, should be on the front line of preserving our mining heritage and presenting it to the public. Lord knows, mining needs all the help it can get these days and the preservation fight is endless.

This summer and throughout the year we should be the ones who present mining's history. Why not offer to give programs, slide shows can be a real hit. There are bound to be groups in your town or region that are searching for speakers. Mining history is fascinating and exciting, it makes for an excellent program.

For those of us who live in mining country, we should be working to save the historic buildings and sites. By the turn-of-the millennium much more is going to be lost if we don't act. To be honest there is not a lot left in some regions. Obviously, not everything can be saved, who better to make the decision than members of the Mining History Association. Preservation boards and state and local agencies need the help we can provide and the enthusiasm and knowledge to present a clear and forceful case.

Volunteer at your local museum. They often have more stuff than hands and also lack that special expertise in identifying artifacts or photographs of places or machines. Many museums welcome volunteers willing to organize displays from their collections. Exhibits of mining country can help residents understand their town or region better. Help those newcomers to your neighborhood understand that mining history and its remains have value.

Being mining historians is not a rocking chair activity, we all need to be activists and protagonists as well as helpers. So for the sake of mining history go forth.

Tap 'er light.

Duane Smith
Durango, CO

Readings

For a quick overview of our two host cities see Jim Forley and Doris Foley Larsen, *Gold Cities, Grass Valley and Nevada City*. The large format, illustrated book relates the historic events, the mining heritage and architecture, and the tales of bards, bar rooms, and lusty ladies. A lengthier treatment is the Nevada County Historical Society's publication by Juanita Kennedy Browne, *Nuggets of Nevada County History*. A more serious look at the gold cities is Ralph Mann's *After the Gold Rush, Society in Grass Valley and Nevada City, California 1849-1870*. Mann gives a solid review of the development of the towns and the social-economic changes through the period.

Organization Notes

Chris Huggard and Charles Hughes report that the second Mining History Association journal is ready for press. Six articles and the special features will be included this year. Editor Huggard is always seeking new submissions. If you have a manuscript you wish considered for publication in the 1996 edition write Chris Huggard, editor Mining History Journal, @ History Department, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

The nominating committee is seeking nomination for the fall election of the Mining History Association. If you wish to serve on the board or on a working committee please contact one of the committee members (Ed Hunter, Lysa Wegman-French, or Liston Leyendecker) at the conference or write MHA Nomination Committee, P. O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215.

The proceedings of the Third International Mining History Conference held in Golden last June are being edited by Robert Spude and James E. Fell, Jr. The University Press of Colorado will publish the proceedings by 1996. The organizers of the Fourth International

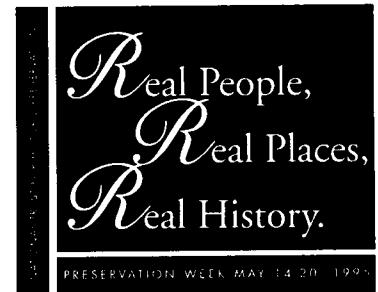
conference are busy raising support and building an information network for the event to be held in Santiago, Chile in 1998 or 1999.

The officers of the Mining History Association for 1995 are Duane Smith, president, Noel Kirshenbaum, vice-president, Robert Spude, secretary, and Ronald Brown, treasurer. The Board members are James Fell, Jr. 1993-5, Jeremy Mouat 1994-6, Sally Zanjani 1994-6, Gene Gressley 1995-7, Ron Limbaugh 1995-7, and Karen Vendl, 1995-7.

Dues are Due

This is a reminder that if you have not sent in your \$25 membership dues please mail your check to the Mining History Association, P. O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215.

Remember Historic Preservation Week:



**The Mining History Association
Newsletter**

Denver, Colorado

Distributed to association members; membership is open to all interested in the history of mining. Dues are \$25 per year. Please send dues to MHA, Post Office Box 150300, Denver, Colorado 80215.

Submissions for publication in the newsletter are welcome. Write to Robert L. Spude, Editor.

Historic Preservation

Play time in New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Over a century of mining has occurred on the east side of the Sangres. The Bureau of Land Management and the Philmont ranch owners are seeking volunteers to help them inventory relic mining sites, old cabins and mills, and ghost towns, in the range near Cimarron. They are seeking historians, archeologists, and others with a cultural resource bent to help also with recommendations for preservation. Philmont Scout Ranch will provide lodging and meals (even for spouses and kids) while you spend a week or more (this could be a low cost vacation). For more info contact Stu Carlson with BLM at 801-539-4244 or Doug Palmer at Philmont Scout Ranch 505-376-2281.

"Mining Our Heritage" is the title of the **Wisconsin 1995 Heritage Preservation Conference** to be held in Hurley, in the iron country. The focus is on how to raise funds and develop heritage tourism while preserving the resources of historic mining communities. The Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office will also offer short courses on listing properties on the National Register and on the Historic Marker program. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn May 11-13. For more information write the Wisconsin Trust for Historic Preservation, 646 W. Washington Ave., Suite D, Madison, Wisconsin 53703. or call 608-255-0348.

Keweenaw Video. The many friends of preservation in the copper country of Michigan have prepared a video about the region's history and attractions. 55 minutes long, the tape includes rare photographs and mine footage as well as an introduction to the new Keweenaw National Historical Park. For more information about the tape and the park write the Office of the Superintendent, Keweenaw National Historical Park, P. O. Box 471, Calumet, Michigan 49913.

Cerro Gordo, California, a silver camp in the golden state, has received renewed attention through the publication of the *Cerro Gordo Bugle of Freedom*, a quarterly newspaper dedicated to preserving the history and present of the 1870s boom camp. For more information or a subscription (\$20 per year), write Jody Stewart, P. O. Box 221, Keeler CA 93530.

Tours

Join in for an exciting **history and geology field trip to Leadville.** Learn about the mines, history and geology of the most famous silver district of Colorado. Sites will include California Gulch where the early placer mining boom gave way to the great Leadville silver boom; Carbonate Hill, home of many of the great silver and zinc mines; and Ibex, where an empire was carved out of gold. A few short walks will be in order so wear comfortable shoes. Transportation will be by school bus. Ed Raines, geologist, Leadville aficionado, and instructor of the popular "Geology of the Front Range" class, will lead the tour. The event will begin with a history lecture and slide show July 14 in Boulder, followed by a bus tour on Sunday the 16th, 8:30 am to 8:30 pm. Cost \$49. Registration is through Boulder Valley School Program, 4545 Sioux Dr., Boulder, CO 80303, phone 303-447-5252. For more info call Ed Raines at 303-477-2559, or 303-682-2828 evenings.

Museums

Ore Car Wanted. The Soldiers Delight Natural Environment Area near Washington, D. C. interprets the early mining sites within the preserve. A group of volunteers are searching for period artifacts and objects to add to the site; they are particularly anxious to find a World War I vintage mine car for the historic exhibit. If you have one for sale or donation please send a letter and photo to Johnny Johnsson, Mining

History Volunteer, 1821 Fawn Way, Finksburg, Maryland 21048 or call 410-876-0270.

Keep the Bonanza! The Tintic Historical Society is raising funds in order to keep the Gary Prazen statue "Bonanza," a bronze sculpture of a hard rock miner now on display in the society's museum. They are seeking donations of any amount. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a Bonanza t-shirt; those over \$50 will receive a limited edition Bonanza belt buckle created by the artist. All contributors will receive a "common stock" certificate as proof of part ownership in the statue. Send your donations (and shirt size) to the society at P. O. Box 218, Eureka, Utah 84628.

The Central Nevada Historical Society has issued a 1907 panoramic view of **Tonopah**, available for \$65. The print is of exceptional quality and is 11 in. by 54 in. The society has had an active year. They have moved the 1860s mine headframe from the Candelaria district to the town's mining park; also moved was 60 feet of Goldfield Railroad rail to the park. They are also organizing the annual Jim Butler days, complete with exhibits and a showing of the 1913 movie made in Tonopah. Write them at P. O. Box 326, Tonopah, NV 89049.

The **City of Central, Colorado** has been the recipient of criticism about the lack of promised museum or preservation projects as promised by the proponents of gambling, which is now in full swing in the once sleepy camp. Since the last issue, which included a few injudicious comments, the Gilpin County Historical Society has initiated work on the Couer d'Alene headframe, a valued historic landmark above the casinos. Not to be outdone by the preservationists, Harvey's Wagon Wheel casino opened recently complete with an exploding mine shaft attraction. The shaft explodes every hour. The historic mines of Central City failed to have such a feature.

**Mining History Association Sixth Annual Meeting
Conference Program**

Thursday, June 1

- 8:30am-4:30pm Optional Tour of North Star Mine Museum, Grass Valley and Malakoff Diggins State Historic Park. Lunch provided. Meet at National Hotel Lobby.
- 3:00-5:00pm Registration, National Hotel Lobby
- 5:30-7:00pm Reception, Nevada City brewery
- 7:00-8:00pm Special Program: Gambling on Historic Preservation, the Colorado Example. Robert A. Trennert, chair; Duane A. Smith, Fort Lewis College, Durango, and Eric L. Clements, Western Museum of Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs.

Friday, June 2

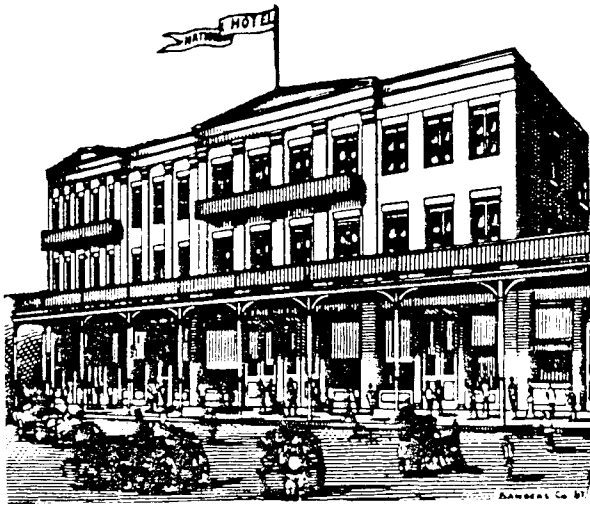
- 8:00am-5:00pm Registration, National Hotel Lobby
- 8:30-9:30am Session 1. Mining and the Environment. Chris Huggard, University of New Mexico, chair; Ron Limbaugh, University of the Pacific, "John Muir and the Mining Industry"; Dana Supernowicz, Eldorado National Forest, "The Environmental Consequences of Mining on the Western Frontier: The Mother Lode Region, a Case Study."
- 9:45-11:15am Session 2. California Gold. Linda Greene, Death Valley National Park, chair; Charles R. Schultz, Texas A & M University, "Selling the California Gold Rush in the Big Apple"; Hank Meals, Tahoe National Forest, "Beds, Bars, and Banks: Placer Gold Mining in a Segment of the South Yuba River, 1860-1900"; Nolan Smith and Carmel Barry-Meisenbach, Tahoe National Forest, "Stuck Between the Northern Miners and the Mother Lode"; Ronald M. James, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, Cousin Jacks, the Irish, and a Good Job: Redefining the Cornish Miner in the West."
- 11:30-1:00pm Presidential Luncheon, National Hotel
Duane Smith, "Those were the Days"
- 1:15-2:30pm Sessions 3: Tools and Views. Noel Kirshenbaum, Placer Dome, chair; H. Mason Coggin, Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum, "A. L. Flagg's Southwest"; Eleanor Swent, Regional Oral History Office, University of California Berkeley, "Western Mining in the Twentieth-Century Oral Histories: Putting Flesh on the Bones"; Robert D. Weldin, Miner's Quest, "A Brief History of Mine Lighting - Underground Lighting Artifacts."
- 2:45-4:00pm Sessions 4. Mid-Century Mining. James E. Fell, Jr., Colorado School of Mines, chair; Marguerite Reiss, Alaska Miners Association, "Alaska Miners at War"; Charles W. Miller, Bureau of Reclamation, "The Automobile Gold Rushes of the 1930s"; Lesley Cooper, University of Victoria, "More Than Mere Survival: Unemployment and Gold in 1930s British Columbia."
- 4:00-5:00pm Sessions 5. The Base Metals. Jeremy Mouat, Athabaska University, chair; Matt Bray, Laurentian University, "Eliminating the Competition: Price-Fixing and Market-Sharing in the Nickel Industry, 1895-1929"; Richard Franciviglia, University of Texas, Arlington, "Disappointment on the Copper Breaks: An Interpretation of 19th Century West Texas Copper Mining"; Ronald Reno, "Archeological Research Services, Inc., "Smelter Management in Eureka, Nevada: Late Nineteenth-Century Experiments in Limited Control."
- 5:15pm Business meeting immediately following last session. Roger Burt, University of Exeter, Report on Mining History and the Internet
- 6:00pm Reception, National Hotel
- 7:00pm Banquet, National Hotel. Duane Smith, presiding
Rodman Paul Award Ceremony. John Tounley Award Ceremony.
Don Hardesty, University of Nevada, "Another View of Treasure Hill: An Archeological Glimpse."

Saturday, June 3

- 8:00-noon Registration, National Hotel Lobby
- 8:30-9:45am Session 6. Lake Superior Copper. William Mulligan, Murray State University, chair; Ed Yarborough, Keweenaw National Historical Park, "Lake Superior Copper in a National Context"; Erik C. Nordberg, Michigan Technological University, "Archival Record of Lake Superior Copper"; Rodney R. Michael, Michigan Technological University, "Corporate Finance and Social History: New Perspectives on Lake Superior Copper"; Jonathan A. Leitner, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Think Globally...and Locally, too: The Internal and External Dynamics of Copper and Iron Mining in Michigan's Upper Peninsula."
- 10:00-11:15am Session 7. Archeology and Material Culture. Robert L. Spude, National Park Service, chair; John Treble, University College of North Wales, "The Victorian Household Panel Study"; Bertrand T. Young, Archeological Research Services, Inc., "The Infantry Comes to Goldfield: An Archeological Inventory Uncovers Evidence of the U. S. Army's Field Camp during the Goldfield Strike of 1907-1908"; Donald Hardesty, University of Nevada-Reno and Ronald M. James, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, "Can I Buy You a Drink?": The Archaeology of the Saloon on the Comstock's Big Bonanza."
- Noon-4:00pm Empire Mine State Historic Park Tour and Pastie Lunch.

Sunday, June 4

- 8:00am-4:30pm Allegheny and Forest City tours and barbecue lunch. Optional underground tour of 16 to 1 mine.

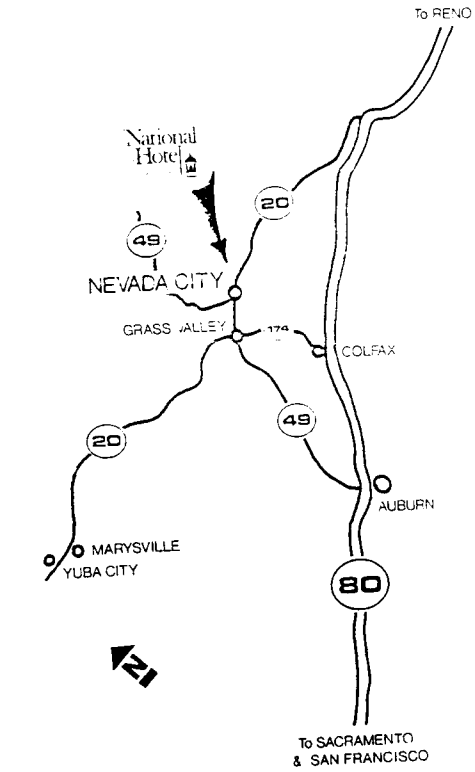
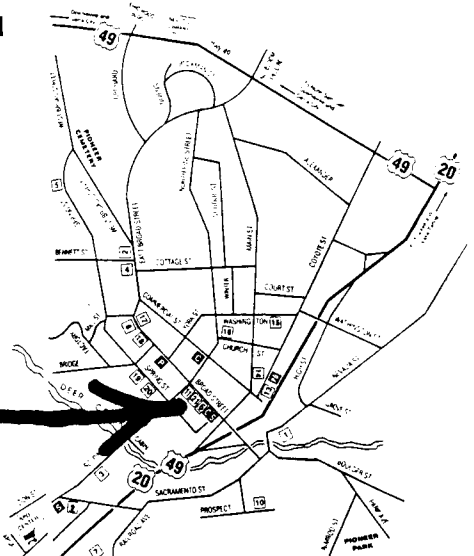


THE NATIONAL HOTEL,
211 Broad Street, Nevada City, California 95959 (916) 265-4551

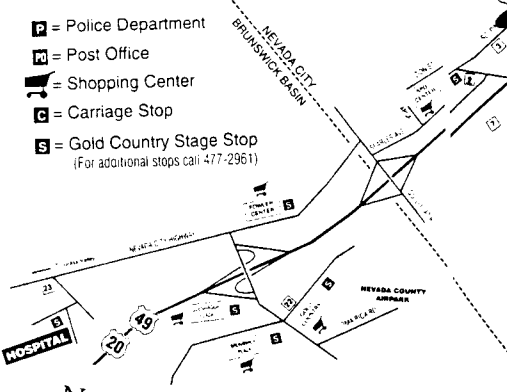
NEVADA CITY

LODGING

1. Deer Creek Inn
2. Downey House
3. Flume's End
4. Grandmere's Inn
5. The Kendall House
6. The National Hotel
7. Northern Queen Inn
8. The Parsonage
9. Piety Hill
10. The Red Castle Inn
11. U.S. Hotel



- = Police Department
- = Post Office
- = Shopping Center
- = Carriage Stop
- = Gold Country Stage Stop
(For additional stops call 477-2961)



POINTS OF INTEREST

13. South Yuba Canal Building, Ott's Assay Office, Chamber of Commerce.
14. Fire House No. 1
15. St. Canice Catholic Church
16. Nevada County Courthouse
17. Firehouse No. 2
18. The Nevada Theatre
19. Miners Foundry Cultural Center
20. Nevada City Winery
21. The National Hotel

BRUNSWICK BASIN

LODGING

22. Gold Country Inn
23. Holiday Lodge

Shaded Area is protected under the Nevada City Historical Preservation Ordinance.

NOTE: Maps for walking and driving tours are available at both chambers of commerce

Registration for Sixth Annual Mining History Conference to be held June 1-4, 1995, Nevada City, CA.

Name.....
 Address.....

Enclosed is a check for:
 Registration (\$20), spouses (\$10)

Optional:

- Malakoff Diggins and North Star Mine, Thursday tour and lunch (\$20)
- Reception at Nevada City Brewery, Thursday (\$5)
- Presidential Lunch, Friday (\$15)
- Reception and Banquet at National Hotel, Fri. (\$25)
- Empire mine tour and lunch, Saturday (\$15)
- Allegheny tour and lunch, Sunday. Select one:
 - option 1: town and walking tour (\$20)
 - option 2: underground mine tour (\$65)
- Total enclosed

Book Notes

Another classic has been reprinted. The University of Idaho Press has sent a copy of Clark C. Spence's *British Investments and the American Mining Frontier, 1860-1901*, the major study of the speculation in mines, distant management, and frauds brought on by the British (or brought to the British). A chapter on the outrageous Emma Mine swindle shows the worst of the frauds, while an assessment of the total investment in the West versus returns adds a perspective on the tremendous potential for profit as well as loss. Originally published in 1958, the book has been impossible to find on the rare book market. The book is now available from the University of Idaho Press, 16 Brink Hall, Moscow, Idaho 83844-1107. Cost, \$21.95.

The Death Valley '49ers, the Death Valley Natural History Association, and the Death Valley National Park have cosponsored an occasional conference on that corner of the mining world. The natural history association has published the proceedings of the Third Death Valley conference held in 1992. The papers range from tales of burros by Ed Rothfus and desert prospectors to a history of the boom at Darwin and a 42 page history of the Death Valley Railroad by Gordon Chappell. Kari Coughlin's brief paper on Rhyolite adds material on the recent years at that ghost town. For copies of the proceedings, or the earlier two proceedings, write the Death Valley Natural History Association, P. O. Box 188, Death Valley, CA 92328. Cost \$10.95.

At timberline, on the west slope of Mount Belknap in southwest Utah, the camp of Kimberley arose in the 1890s, had a decade of prosperity based on gold and speculation then went bust, with brief revivals until the 1930s. But unlike so many gold camps now ghost towns, Kimberley had a resident willing to collect the stories about the mines and

people and put them into a book. Dean F. Herring's *Kimberley, Utah, from Lode to Dust* is as much about the one-time gold mining camp as about the people that came to settle, prospered, and then, although forced to leave, kept their ties to the abandoned camp in the beautiful, pine-covered area above the small, railtown of Marysville, Utah. Herring describes the site today and includes photographs of ruins and derelict machinery. The book is available from Dean F. Herring, 625 Sterling Drive, Eugene, OR 97404 for \$18.95.

As part of its effort to make readily available to researchers inexpensive copies of publications about the Old Northwest, Michigan State University Press has reprinted a series of works by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft (1793-1864), government explorer, naturalist, mine observer, and Indian agent. *Schoolcraft's Narrative Journal of Travels*, *Schoolcraft's Indian Legends*, and *Schoolcraft's Expedition to Lake Itasca* have all been reprinted in paper back. Schoolcraft was an early visitor to the copper region of Michigan and the lead regions of the upper Mississippi and Missouri. Mining Historians will be interested in *Schoolcraft's Expedition to Lake Itasca* (1832) for its geological observations as well as this edition's appended journal, notes, and letters by Douglass Houghton, the promoter of Michigan's copper country. *Schoolcraft's Narrative Journal of Travels* includes the 1820 visit to the copper deposits of Michigan and the lead mines of Dubuque.

Schoolcraft's Indian Legends is a collection of his Great Lakes Indians writings, including the myth of Hiawatha, made famous by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem.

History professor John J. Kulczycki of the University of Illinois at Chicago sent the flyer for his new book, *The Foreign Worker and the German Labor Movement, Xenophobia and Solidarity in*

the Coal Fields of the Ruhr, 1871-1914. Focusing on the Polish immigrants to the German coal fields, the author reveals that much of the labor movement in the Ruhr was aided by militant Poles, a view opposite of standard texts. The effect of new immigrants into mining regions is an important aspect of mining history and Kulczycki provides a European case study of what was occurring internationally. The book is available from Berg Publishers, 13950 Park Center Road, Herndon, VA 22070. Cost \$59.95.

Alaskans will soon celebrate their gold rush centennial and, hopefully, much good will be produced during that event. As an example of a step in the right direction the State of Alaska, Gold Rush Centennial Task Force awarded a grant to the Cook Inlet Historical Society to publish the autobiography of Albert Weldon Morgan. Titled *Memories of Old Sunrise, Gold Mining on Alaska's Turnagain Arm*, Morgan relates his years as a miner in the Sunrise district on the Kenai Peninsula between 1897 and 1901. Sunrise was one of the lesser known camps far overshadowed by Dawson, Nome, and Fairbanks, but was more typical of the hundreds of camps that arose in the North during the gold rush years. Morgan mucked in the gulches and toughed-out the winters in an isolated cabin on Lynx Creek. Morgan's is a personal tale of hardships overcome, friends met and made, of curiosities to the North Carolinian, of Indians of Tyonek, of hunting moose, and surviving in the subarctic cold. Historian Rolfe Buzzell provides an excellent introduction, putting the memories of the old timer into the broader context, as well as serves the reader well as a judicious editor. Copies are available from the Cook Inlet Historical Society, 121 West 7th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501-3696.

More Book Notes

Anyone interested in comparing gold rushes should pick up David Cleary's *Anatomy of the Amazon Gold Rush*. Cleary, an anthropologist, had the luxury of participating in the 1980s rush to the incredible gold finds in the upper Amazon. Unlike historians who must sift through massive documents to study past gold rushes, Cleary was able to interview his gold rushers, compare official reports with local views, and evaluate the social costs compared to economic benefit. He is critical of government's response as well as the difficulty in controlling thousands of people. Originally the author's Ph.D. dissertation, the book has been published by the University of Iowa Press, Iowa City.

The 1860s gold gulches of Idaho and Montana had more than their share of violence. Among the many victims was Lloyd Magruder, a Lewiston merchant who had reaped quick returns from a pack train load of goods taken to Virginia City, Montana, only to lose his dust and life on the trail home. Many writers have written about the vigilantes response to such mayhem and murder, but Ladd Hamilton has focused his writing skill on the events surrounding the killing of Magruder and the herculean efforts of his friend Hill Beachey to track the murderers to San Francisco and return them to justice in Lewiston, at the time capital of Idaho Territory. The book is a captivating read, with much original source material woven into the narrative. The descriptions of Lewiston and the community at large during the gold rush years are clear and helps the reader understand the isolation and possibilities, or lack thereof, in tracking road agents. But the captivating parts of the narrative deal with people, Beachey, the three villains, and others. Hamilton, journalism teacher at Lewis-Clark State College, has added fictional sections to help the narrative. These sections are

pointed out and explained in the author's preface. He also appends an essay on when folklore and history intertwine by Carole Simon-Smolinski, since the Magruder story has become part of the folklore of Idaho. Ladd Hamilton's *The Bloody Deed, the Magruder Incident* is available from Washington State University Press for \$18.95.

Book Reviews

Jerry Dolph. *Fire in the Hole: The Untold Story of Hardrock Miners*. Pullman, Washington: Washington State University Press, 1994, 174 pp., illus.

Life as a "tramp miner" can only be described by one who has endured the hardships involved in moving from mine to mine, often without the luxuries that most of society has become accustomed to. Dolph does a remarkable job of creating an accurate picture, through words and photographs, of the realities of working in an underground environment. He does this through discussions of the dangers involved with mining, and a running dialog regarding the urge that drives a "tramp miner" on to what is presumed to be greener pastures. There is also discussion of the differences in the philosophy between tramp miners and the miners that spent many years working at the same mine at which they originally started mining.

The storyline of this book traces the 16 year career that the author spent as an underground tramp miner. *Fire in the Hole* serves not only as an informative account of Dolph's experiences, but also as an informal social history of the changes in attitude and technology that took place in the mining industry between 1970-mid 1980's. He discusses the dangers that are inherent to underground mining, and dedicates both dialog and two appendices to the 91 miners that lost their lives during the 2 May 1972 fire at the Sunshine Mine near Kellogg, Idaho. Topics discussed in detail include respect for "Mr. Air

Blast", danger of falling rock, the alcohol indulging lifestyle of many miners, and the humor that miners develop in order to mentally survive working underground 5 days a week.

Dolph's career ran almost parallel to the years that I spent as an underground tramp miner. Although the geographic locations varied, the experiences he had were very similar to my own. This book brought back many experiences that have disappeared from my memory over the years, and are described in a way that made me feel as though I were present as they unfolded. In fact, there were times that I actually felt the old tramp miner wanting to come out again in my own life.

This book is beneficial for the mining historian that has never experienced the life of an underground miner. It will give some insight as to what underground mining is like, and into the typical mind of a tramp miner.

Glenn Cook

Newmont Exploration Ltd. Library

D. Chaput and K. H. Kennedy. *The Man from ASARCO, a Life and Times of Julius Kruttschnitt*. Parkville, Australia: The Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1992. 258 pp., notes, illus. \$19.95. Paul T. Walton. *From Prospect to Prosperity, Wildcatting in Arabia and the Rockies*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1994. 324 pp., illus. \$19.95.

Twentieth century mining has been an adventure for the educated engineer or geologist willing to travel the world. The two accounts at hand, one a biography, the other an autobiography, epitomize the possibilities and accomplishments of members in the profession.

Julius Kruttschnitt a new graduate of Yale in 1906, began his career in the copper country of southern Arizona and northern Mexico during the 1910s-1920s and worked his way up the ranks of ASARCO. By WWI he headed the Tucson office, managing a number of

properties and testing others. In 1930, Kruttschnitt left Tucson for Mount Isa, Australia, a new operation being co-developed by ASARCO. He would remain with Mount Isa through the rest of his career. It is a heroic tale.

While Kruttschnitt was succeeding at Mount Isa, Australia, Paul Walton was getting degrees in geology from the University of Utah and, in 1942, the Ph.D in geology, from MIT. Walton joined in the oil exploration race during the war and became an early expert on the Middle East. Joining Getty Oil, Walton discovered the Wafra oil field and in 1949 negotiated an agreement with King ibn-Saud that increased production for Saudi Arabia, and for Getty Oil. With wealth and reputation, Walton was in demand and he recounts a number of the world-wide places and operations in which he engaged. In the 1950s he was back in his native Utah to discover and open oil and gas fields as

well as dabble in the uranium boom. Both books relate the stories of these men's lives well. Kruttschnitt's biographers have pieced together a good chronicle of one of the leaders of the industry, while Walton has provided a readable recounting of his adventures. William Turpin
Prescott, Arizona

C. Elizabeth Raymond. *George Wingfield, Owner and Operator of Nevada*. Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1992. 350 pp., illus., notes. \$31.95

Born in 1876 in Virginia, George Wingfield gradually made his way West to seek his fortune. After wandering here and there he arrived in Nevada during its borasca period of the 1890s. Then he rose from saloon owner to mine owner, a reflection of the American dream of rags to riches; he was in

essence a self-made man in the classic tradition of rugged bonanza kings.

George Wingfield made his fortune in Goldfield, Nevada through a series of lucky events and risk taking in the mining game. He consolidated the richest claims in Goldfield and with backing from Philadelphia capital built the largest mill and most productive gold mining operation in the U. S. at that time. Though his relations with labor were controversial, this reflected the labor management relations of that era. Wingfield's fortunes went bust with the collapse of Goldfield, but then he resurrected his fortune in a bonanza at the Getchell mine. With the new money he diversified into Nevada's early gaming industry.

George Wingfield is ably researched and well written as it brings this largely forgotten bonanza king back to life.

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