

MINING HISTORY NEWS

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Ho, for the Klondike

With the Centennial of the Klondike Gold Rush upon us -- George Carmack hit the paystreak August 17, 1896 -- we are seeing a host of activities, tours and publications about that Last Grand Adventure. "Festival Fairbanks" is being organized in commemoration of the centennial of the Alaska/Yukon Gold Rush. Part of the festival includes an international meeting on the history of mining. The conference, scheduled for September 9-14, 1997 in Fairbanks, Alaska, will focus on the gold rush and its legacy; impacts of mining on literature, politics, and art; archeology of mining; history of technology; and the modern industry and its future. The call for papers has been received; individuals interested in serving on panels or giving formal presentations should send abstracts (300 words) plus name, brief vita, address, fax and telephone number to Dr. William R. Wood of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks at P.O.Box, 74086, Fairbanks, AK 99707.

For a packet of material about the Festival Fairbanks and other events and celebrations in the Far North write Alaska Gold Rush Centennial, Division of Tourism, P.O.Box 110801, Juneau, AK 99811-0806.

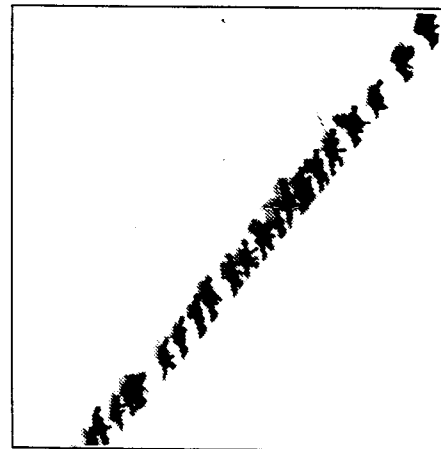
The University of Edinburgh will also host a conference on the Klondike Gold Rush. A date is to be set, but for more information write Centre of Canadian Studies, 21 George Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH8 9LD or Fax 44-011-131-662-1118.

A number of new books have been published about the rush, and more are in press. An excellent, new history and description of the beginning of the rush and the tough tidewater to head of the Yukon River trail is *Chilkoot Trail, Heritage Route to the Klondike* (Lost Moose Press, Whitehorse, Y. T., Canada Y1A 3G7; \$19.95 U.S.) by David Neufeld of Parks Canada and Frank Norris of the U. S. National Park Service. Both historians have long careers working on the trail and bring an exceptional knowledge of its brief moment of international attention, when some 20,000 stampedeers crossed the Chilkoot in 1897-1898. A treasure of photographs make this an appealing book, but the text, especially the new materials, such as that on the First Nations, makes this work of special interest to mining historians.

Women have always been a neglected aspect of the rush, except the dance hall queens. That inattention has been remedied by the publication of *Women of the Klondike* (Vancouver: Whitecap books, 1995), by Frances Backhouse. With diaries, letters, reminiscences, and newspaper accounts, the stories of women in the gold rush and after is retold in a highly readable manner. This is a reflection of the material at hand -- the rush brought a flood of such accounts. An example of one such reminiscence is Anna DeGraf, *Pioneering in the Yukon, 1892-1917* (Hamden, Conn: Shoe String Press, 1992). In this little book, DeGraf provides general back ground about

Alaska before the rush and life in the north afterward, but the primary tale is that of following the stampedeers to Dawson, Y. T. It provides a different and welcome perspective on life on the trails and in the goldfields.

Other aspects of the era have recently been studied as well. At the MHA Rosslund conference, Kenneth Kutz tantalized the participants with his stories about the express firms and mail carriers of the far north. His philatelic collection provides the basis for his book *Klondike Gold, the Philatelic History of the Klondike Gold Rush* (Gold Fever Publishing, Seven Whaling Street, Darien, Conn 06820), a history of the rush of 1897-1898. Besides graphics that include exquisitely illustrated envelopes and post cards, Klondike Gold includes excerpts from period letters, diaries, and mining court proceedings, which makes this a valuable resource book as well.



President's Page

The Mining History Association's 1996 Annual Meeting, held in Rossland, B. C., June 6-9, sustained our growing tradition of successful events. Certainly excellent weather, beautiful scenery, and a friendly town added to the pleasure of all who attended, but the highlights were the papers of excellent quality and the opportunity to see areas of significant mining history in a once remote corner of British Columbia. Much thanks for organizing the event must be given Jeremy Mouat, coordinator and banquet speaker.

Appropriately, the meeting started with two papers on Alaskan and Yukon gold history, marking the centennial of the gold discovery in the Klondike. Within a short distance of the hotel, the old Le Roi mine offered an excellent underground mine tour and museum. Although Rossland was a pioneer gold camp in the area, southeast British Columbia has achieved prominence as a world-class center of mining and smelting of non-ferrous metals, primarily lead, zinc, and silver. Thus, the group was fortunate to enjoy a half-day's visit to the Cominco smelter nearby in Trail, not only one of the largest metallurgical complexes in the world for lead and zinc, but one which also produces a profusion of byproduct metals. Richard Fish of Cominco deserves our thanks for facilitating our tour. The Trail smelter had also just commemorated its centennial, and the MHA visitors were able to see metallurgical history underway: the zinc plant has recently been thoroughly renovated with modern autoclave technology, but the lead plant is still using antique methods while their new Kivcet (Russian) lead smelter and slag fuming plant is being completed. Much of the feed to the Trail smelter is of B.C. origin, but a large part makes its way across oceans and by rail to this still relatively isolated location. When the major B.C. source, the Sullivan mine, is depleted in the next few years, it will be interesting to see how the new plants

fare once they are based almost entirely on imported concentrates.

Another feature of the meeting was an all-day loop trip through the Slocan mining region to the Sandon mining district. The tour benefitted from the expert knowledge of guide Hal Wright, who, with his family resides in Sandon and is active in preserving its history. Members of the Sandon Historical Society met us in period attire and opened their museum to our group. The trip was but a few hours in length on a bus; such a journey would have taken days by a combination of rail and water transport until this area was made accessible by the construction of roads, generally *after* the decline of mining in the areas we visited. Indeed, it was evident that transportation was crucial to mining development in this region. The Presidential address focused on this subject in discussing the variety of economic and technical problems which shippers of ores and concentrates endured, not only in past times in B.C., but even today in many parts of the world. As losses, delays, and inconveniences en route to a smelter are generally for the account of the producer, the shipper can be at the mercy of such problems until shipments reach their destination, when title to the mineral passes to the receiver.

There were, understandably, many speakers and participants from both Canada and the U. S., and adding further to the international character of the meeting were conference participants from Australia and Japan. With next year's meeting to be held in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, we can look forward to a good attendance of our Canadian friends as well as U.S. members who may have hesitated to attend annual meetings which were held in various places in the far-off West.

Noel W. Kirshenbaum
San Francisco

Organization Notes:

News about next year's annual MHA conference:

"Opening New Ground: Michigan Copper." Houghton, Michigan and the Lake Superior copper district will be the site of the eighth annual conference of the Mining History Association. Detailed plans are still in the works, but MHA members should mark their calendars for the conference, June 4-8, 1997. Erik Nordberg, archivist at Michigan Tech, Houghton, will be coordinating local arrangements for the meeting and promises a wide array of tours and activities. Attendees might also consider an extended trip, taking in other sites in the Lake Superior basin -- the Mesabi, Marquette, Menominee, and Gogebic iron ranges, the nickel deposits of Sudbury, Ontario, or a circle tour of Lake Superior through Thunder Bay, the Hemlo gold fields near Marathon, and Sault Ste. Marie. The program committee consists of Duane Smith, Southwest Studies center, Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado, 81301, chair, Clark Spence, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Lynn Langenfeld, Madison, Wisconsin. Erik Nordberg can be reached at the MTU archives, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, Michigan, phone 906-487-2505 or e:mail (copper@mtu.edu).

**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.

More Organization Notes:

Hosting a MHA Conference: Many individuals have asked how to get their favorite mining region selected for a future MHA conference. What follows are some general guidelines. The MHA board accepts proposals and then selects the conference site. Proposals should include information, especially costs, about hotels and meeting spaces, banquet facilities, tour options -- historic preservation projects, operating mines or plants, museums, etc. -- and the area's history. The MHA conferences are always held in former mining regions/districts. There should be an individual or group in the area willing to serve as local coordinator. A local co-sponsor is essential. Weight is given for financial incentives that cover some of the cost of events or tours. Past conferences have averaged 100 or so participants. Submit proposals to the MHA, P.O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215.

Book Reviewers Needed: Members wishing to serve as book reviewers for the Mining History Association should send a 3x5 card with name, address and three fields of interest to the association, P.O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215.

Mining History Journal for 1996. Managing editor Charles Hughes reports that the journal for 1996 is in press and will be mailed to all members this fall. If you have a paper you wish to have considered for the 1997 journal, write Chris Huggard, 523 N. Willow Avenue, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.

Congrats: At the Rossland meeting, Carlos Schwantes, history professor at the University of Idaho, was awarded the association's annual Rodman Paul Award for his contributions to Mining History. David Wolff was awarded the John Townley Award for his article on the Horshoe-Mogul Mining Operation, Black Hills, which was selected best article in the 1995 *Mining History Journal*.

Tours

The tour of Cornwall being organized by Bob Trennert and Duane Smith is scheduled for June 26 to July 6, 1997. Roger Burt of the University of Exeter has helped with the suggested itinerary, which will include the major historic mines and restoration projects in England's West Country. Though not a formal MHA function, many members will participate in the tour and the one day symposium and research exchange at the School of Mines at Camborne-Redruth. For more information write Bob Trennert at 3581 W. Golden Lane, Chandler, AZ 85226-1347.

Ross Mainwaring sent a flyer about an intriguing industrial tour near Melbourne. One can partake of dinner at Morwell, Victoria, Australia overlooking a mammoth coal mining operation, followed by a tour of the works. The evening is capped with cheese and biscuits. For reservations call country code then 051 353 415 or fax 051 353 313.

Historic Preservation

The Garnet Preservation Association continues its volunteer work to help the Bureau of Land Management in the preservation of this former gold camp. Trails were maintained and restoration completed on one of the ghost town's log cabins. In celebration of the discovery of gold, the association is selling centennial T-shirts. Send your size, primary color choice, and \$10 (\$17 for a sweatshirt), plus \$3 (\$4.25) handling to the association at P.O.Box 8531, Missoula, MT 59807.

Keweenaw National Historical Park sent its newsletter for July. It details a host of activity in the old district in the realms of historic preservation -- historic surveys, historic resource study, and architectural preservation. To be added to their mailing list write Superintendent, P. O. Box 471, Calumet, MI 49913.

Book Notes:

The Cochise Quarterly of the Cochise County Historical and Archaeological Society dedicated the spring 1996 issue to Lillian Cheng's "A History of Pearce, Arizona." Home of the Common-Wealth mine, Pearce was a boom town created in the 1890s by the rich silver discovery and the subsequent investment by Coloradans. The years of prosperity lasted a decade before the long decline settled in. Pearce is now one of the more picturesque of Arizona's ghost towns. Copies are available for \$6 from the society at P. O. Box 818, Douglas, AZ 85608-0818.

There are copies still available of the proceedings of the mining history and preservation conference in Death Valley. Titled *Death Valley to Deadwood, Kennecott to Cripple Creek*, it is available gratis from National Register Programs, National Park Service, 600 Harrison St., Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94107.

Mark and Karen Vendl sent a note about two new books published by the Ouray County Museum by long-time Ouray historian Doris H. Gregory. The *History of Ouray, A Heritage of Mining & Everlasting Beauty* covers the history of Ouray from 1875 until 1990 with emphasis on the mines of Ouray and their impact on the town. As the title suggests, *The Great Revenue and Surrounding Mines* discusses the history of the Revenue Mines near Ouray and the life of Hubbard Reed, the superintendent of the Revenue Mines. This book also discusses other mines: Camp Bird, Atlas, Humboldt, Tomboy, Mountain Top, Smuggler Union, and Mickey Breen. Both books are softcover, 8 1/2 x 11, and are full of historic photos. The *History of Ouray* is \$29; the *Great Revenue*, \$21.35. \$5 postage per book. Order from the Ouray County Museum, P.O.Box 151, Ouray, CO 81427.

1996 Election of Officers

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sally Zanjani received her Ph.D. degree from New York University and has been associated since 1975 with the political science department at the University of Nevada, Reno. Much of her work has been devoted to the central Nevada mining camps, where her father was a gold rusher in 1906. She is the author of more than forty articles and six nonfiction books. *The Ignoble Conspiracy: Radicalism on Trial in Nevada* (1986), written with Guy L. Rocha, was largely responsible for posthumous pardons granted Goldfield union radicals Morrie Preston and Joseph Smith in 1987, eighty years after their conviction. *Goldfield: The Last Gold Rush on the Western Frontier* (1992) won the Westerners International award. *A Mine of Her Own*, a book on women prospectors, will appear in 1997. She has been a member of the MHA since its inception and served as a Council Member, 1993-1996.

BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES

Ed Hunter, E. M., worked as a miner, engineer and manager for mining companies from Vanadium, New Mexico to Nome, Alaska following his graduation from the Colorado School of Mines. Past chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Western Museum of Mining and Industry, he continues to serve on that Board. Ed advises on local mining history for the Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company's exhibits in the Victor, Colorado area. He is particularly interested in the history of the technology of the mining industry and gave a paper on the Cripple Creek District at the Golden meeting of MHA. He has served on the Nominating Committee and is a charter member of the Mining History Association.

Raised in Canada and educated at the University of Oregon and the University of Colorado, Boulder, Lysa Wegman-French is a preservationist who has worked on Historic American Engineering Record field projects recording mining sites and is now the primary contact for the day to day management of the HABS/HAER program in the National Park Service's Rocky Mountain Support Office, Denver. She wrote the history of the Holden Works, Aspen preliminary to the site's preservation as a mining museum operated by the Aspen Historical Society. She has been active in the MHA since its inception, served on the Nominating Committee, the Program Committee for the Rosslund conference, compiles the annual bibliography of mining publications, and has helped organize and manage the details of the annual conferences.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

Erik Nordberg is the archivist at Michigan Technological University (originally the Michigan Mining School) in Houghton, Michigan. The MTU Archives collects manuscript and photographic material pertaining to the history of copper mining in the Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The Archives is nearing completion of a two-year grant project to improve access to its collections of records from the Quincy and Calumet & Hecla mining companies. Erik's interests center on mining throughout the Lake Superior region and the archival records of mining companies. He has presented papers at the Nevada City and Rosslund meetings and will be coordinating local arrangements for the 1997 meeting in Houghton.

David A. Wolff has written about mining in the Black Hills of South Dakota and, in 1996, was recognized for his scholarship by receiving MHA's John Townley Award for best article in the 1995 *Mining History Journal*. He was a pharmacist, but has started a second career as historian, teaching at Laramie Community College, University of Wyoming, and Arizona State University, where he is presently a Ph.D. candidate. He is active in a number of historical associations, including the MHA. He has presented papers at MHA annual meetings.

Homer Milford is embarked on a second career researching mining history for the New Mexico Abandoned Mine Land Bureau as well as doing biological studies for the state. He is a professor emeritus from the University of Arizona where he taught for twenty years. New Mexico history has been his life long avocation, and he has worked on a number of historical conservation projects. His area of interest is early mining in New Mexico, with a long term goal of improving the documentation of the 17th and 18th century Spanish mining in the southwest. In addition to Milford's articles on New Mexico mining, he gave a paper on Edison's mill at the Association's meeting in Golden. Milford has attending the last five annual meetings.

TREASURER

James E. Fell, Jr. has been recommended to serve as Treasurer for the Mining History Association. He will serve at the discretion of the MHA Council. Ronald Brown has resigned. Jay Fell received his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado and has written or co-authored a number of books on mining history, including *Ores to Metals, the Rocky Mountain Smelting Industry* (1979). He has taught at Harvard and has worked at the United Bank prior to his present position with the University of Colorado, Denver. As Treasurer he will sit on the Board. The Council members will consider designation of Dr. Fell as Treasurer at the October board meeting held following the Mining History breakfast at the Western History Association conference in Lincoln, Nebraska October 3d.

A review of articles and dissertations in the field of mining history compiled by Lysa Wegman-French.

- Aldrich, Mark. "Preventing the 'Needless Peril of the Coal Mine': The Bureau of Mines and the Campaign Against Coal Mine Explosions, 1910-1940." *Technology and Culture* 36, no. 3 (July 1995): 483-518.
- Allum, James Robert. "Smoke Across the Border [between Canada and U.S.]: The Environmental Politics of the Trail Smelter Investigation." Ph.D. diss., Queen's University at Kingston, 1995. [Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company's air pollution.]
- Beazley, Tammy M. "It Started in Wilkes-Barre: AIME [American Institute of Mining Engineers] Celebrates 125th Anniversary." *JOM* 48 (February 1996): 16-17.
- Bell, David Walter. "Ardent Propaganda: Miners' Novels and Class Conflict, 1929-1939." Fil.Dr. diss., UMEA Universitet, Sweden, 1995.
- Berg, Erik. "High Hopes and Hard Rock: The Early Days at Sasco." *Journal of Arizona History* 37, no. 1 (Spring 1996): 25-46. [copper smelting town]
- Bowlus, Bruce. "Bold Experiments: The Evolution of the Great Lakes Carrier." *Michigan Historical Review* 22, no. 1 (Spring 1996): 1-17.
- Bristow, Allen P. "The Great Underground Manhunt." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 8 (April 1996): 10-14. [Apex Mine at Bingham City, Utah.]
- Brooks, Allyson. "Anticipating Mobility: How Cognitive Processes Influenced the Historic Mining Landscape in White Pine, Nevada, and the Black Hills of South Dakota." Ph.D. diss., University of Nevada, Reno, 1995.
- Concepcion, Carmen. "The origins of Modern Environmental Activism in Puerto Rico in the 1960s." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 19 (March 1995): 112-28. [copper mining]
- Cook, James E. "When Santa Claus Came to Big Bug." *Arizona Highways* 71 (December 1995): 10-13. [G.H. Smalley's account of mining camp Christmas festivities in 1899.]
- De la Riva, Paul. "Les Ouvriers Mineurs Canadiens-Francais de l'International Nickel Company (l'Inco), 1886-1930." M.A. thesis, Laurentian University of Sudbury, 1995.
- Dedera, Don. "Men are not What the Boys Used to Be." *Arizona Highways* 72, no. 7 (July 1996): 49. [rock drilling contests]
- Doble, John. "A Glimpse of Life in the Gold Country: Excerpts from John Doble's Journal and Correspondence." *California Geology* 47, no. 4 (July/August 1994): 104-115. Excerpted from *John Doble's Journal and Letters from the Mines: Mokelumne Hill, Jackson, Volcano and San Francisco*, The Old West Publishing Company, (no date).
- Draper, Alan. "The New Southern Labor History Revisited: The Success of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union in Birmingham, 1934-1938." *The Journal of Southern History* 62, no. 1 (1996): 87.
- Earl, Phillip I. "The Ice Industry: A Short History." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 7 (March 1996): 12-3. [Mining companies used \$1,000 of ice a day on a thermal belt on the Comstock.]
- "Files Found in Oregon Detail Massacre of Chinese." *New York Times* (late New York Edition), 20 August 1995, section 1, 30.
- Finkel, Mike. "Whale Sperm and Speed." *Skiing* 48 (September 1995): 52. [Recreation of a nineteenth century miners' longboard race.]
- Garceau, Dorothy Claire. "'The Important Things of Life': Women, Work and Family in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, 1880-1929." Ph.D. diss., Brown University, 1995. [Coal mining and ranching settlements]
- Heylman, Edgar B. "The Gold Hill Mining District, New Mexico." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 5 (January 1996): 57-9.
- Howe, Steve. "'Hell Can't be Worse Than This Trail'." *Backpacker* 23 (February 1995): 30-37. [Backpacking the Chilkoot Trail in the Yukon.]
- Jones, Bob. "The History of American Gold." *Rock & Gem* 26, no. 1 (1996): 62-65.
- Kyle, Janet Jocelyn. "Gold-Diggers of the Klondike: Prostitution in Dawes City, Yukon, 1898-1908." M.A. thesis, Queen's University at Kingston, 1995.
- L'ecuyer, Rosalie E. "The Rampart, Manley Hot Springs, and Fort Gibbon Mining Districts of Alaska." M.A. thesis, University of Alaska at Fairbanks, 1995.
- Landa, Edward R. "The Rise and Fall of the Radium Industry." *Colorado School of Mines Quarterly Review of Engineering, Science Education and Research* 96, no. 1 (1996): 1-41.
- Landa, Edward R. "Radium in Colorado." *Colorado School of Mines Quarterly Review of Engineering, Science Education and Research* 95, no. 1 (1995): 9-24.

- Lichtenstein, Alex. "'A Constant Struggle between Interest and Humanity': Convict Labor in the Coal Mines of the New South." *Labor's Heritage* 7, no. 2 (Fall 1995): 62-77.
- Lorey, Frank. "Gold in the Holcomb Valley Area [California]." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 5 (January 1996): 27-9.
- Lorey, Frank. "The Rich Gold of Kofa, Arizona." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 8 (April 1996): 63-4.
- Lorey, Frank. "Gold in the Hornitos District, California." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 10 (June 1996): 8-9.
- Luff, W. M. "A History of Mining in the Bathurst Area, Northern New Brunswick, Canada." *CIM Bulletin* 89, no. 996 (1996): 32.
- Mattison, Elise. "A Chronicle of Pre-1848 California Gold Discoveries." *California Geology* 49, no. 1 (January/February 1996): 11-19.
- Mercier, Laurie Kay. "Smelter City: Labor, Gender, and Cultural Practices in Anaconda, Montana, 1934-1980." Ph.D. diss., University of Oregon, 1995.
- Merrill, Michael. "The Los Burros Mining District [California]." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 9 (May 1996): 23-7.
- Milford, Homer. "Brief History of Turquoise Mining and Turquoise Hill." In *Field Conference: New Mexico Geological Society Guide Book*, 46th annual conference, September 1995, 175-178.
- Mogren, Eric William. "Warm Sand: Public Policy and the Uranium Milling Industry, 1948-1978." Ph.D. diss., University of Michigan, 1995.
- Mouat, Jeremy. "The Development of the Flotation Process: Technological Change and the Genesis of Modern Mining, 1898-1911," *Australian Economic History Review*, XXXVI, no. 1 (March 1996): 3-31.
- "Museum Offers History of Colorado Coal." *Mining Engineering* 48 (May 1996): 20. [Western Museum of Mining and Industry, Colorado Springs, Colorado.]
- Neff, John L. "The Miners' Law." *California Geology* Part I in 47, no. 6 (November/December 1994): 152-57; Part II in 48, no. 1 (January/February 1995): 10-21. Adaptation from article in *Idaho Law Review* 19, no. 3 (Summer 1983).
- Paine, Gary. "A Mine, the Military, and a Dry Lake: National Security and the Groom District, Lincoln County, Nevada." *Nevada Historical Quarterly* 39, no. 1 (Spring 1996): 20-42.
- Peterson, Rich. "Mining the Malakoff: An Overview." *International California Mining Journal* 65, no. 9 (May 1996): 43-8.
- Purple, Edwin Ruthven. Kenneth N. Owens, ed. "Perilous Passage: A Narrative of the Montana Gold Rush, 1862-1863." *Montana* 46, no. 1 (Spring 1996): 66-71.
- Schiavitti, Vincent William. "Organization of the Prehistoric Suchil Mining District of Chalchihuites, Mexico, A.D. 400-950." Ph.D. diss., State University of New York at Buffalo, 1996.
- Silver, Ken. "The Yellowed Archives of Yellowcake." *Public Health Reports* 111 (March/April 1996): 116-27. [Documentation of radioactive exposures and releases at government-owned facilities.]
- Spalding, West and Carol Spalding. "Last of the One-Jack Prospectors." *Rock & Gem* 25, no. 3 (1995): 62-3. [Death Valley]
- Spalding, West. "Ghost Town Gold." *Rock & Gem* 25, no. 7 (1995): 26-8.
- Spira, Jonathon. "Regulating the 'Treasures of the Earth': The Liberal State and the Regulation of Nova Scotia's Coal Industry, 1858-1893." M.A. thesis, Queen's University at Kingston, 1995.
- Stepenoff, Bonnie. "'Papa on Parade': Pennsylvania Coal Miners' Daughters and the Silk Worker Strike of 1913." *Labor's Heritage* 7, no. 3 (Winter 1996): 4-21.
- Waite, Robert G., ed. "A Woman in the Gold Fields of Idaho: Viola Lamb and the Thunder Mountain Gold Rush of 1902." *Idaho Yesterdays* 39, 4 (Winter 1996): 11-17.
- Webber, Bert. "Gold Dredges in the Sumpter Valley." *Oregon Geology* 57, no. 2 (1995): 44-5.
- Zeman, A. and P. Benes. "St. Joachimsthal Mines and Their Importance in the Early History of Radioactivity." *Radiochimica Acta* 70-71 (1995): 23.
- Zontek, Ken "Mules Across the Mountains: Packing in Early Idaho." *Idaho Yesterdays* 39, 4 (Winter 1996): 2-10. [This industry served mining communities.]

Book Reviews

D. W. Meinig, *The Great Columbia Plain: A Historical Geography, 1805-1910* Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1995. 576 pp., notes, bib., maps, illus. \$19.95 Paper.

William Cronin, in his insightful forward to the latest Weyerhaeuser Environmental Classic, reminds us that "scholarly significance" derives as much from the perspicuity and passion of the author, as the import of the subject. Almost thirty years ago, a young regional geographer focused his passion on the cultural interaction of man and land on the Great Columbia Plain [a triangular piece of the Northwest, east of the Cascades and west of the Northern Rockies]. the result was a microcosmic study of how change, context and structure became the basis for what Meinig later developed into a full theoretical imperial design.

Concerned with patterns rather than process, Meinig with a Turnerian perspective, emphasizes the ecological metamorphosis of the regions dynamics, not frozen in time, but always mindful of the relations of place to time. In 1995, meinig muses on the opportunities he missed in 1968. He now wishes that he had allotted more pages to the spatial economy, to landscape and to social geography, though noting that his ethnic perspective was not that of today's multiculturalists. However, Meinig concludes, "I set out to write a certain kind of a book and I am still content with the result." (p.xviii). As well he should be.

Gene M. Gressley
Laramie, Wyoming

Arthur Cecil Todd, *The Cornish Miner in America* (Spokane: Arthur H. Clark & Co., 1996 reprint. 279 pp. \$28.50 hardback.

For those people planning on going to Cornwall in 1997 or simply interested in the fascinating people called cousin

Jacks," this new edition of Arthur Todd's *The Cornish Miner in America* is the book to read. Originally published in 1967, it was the pioneering study of the Cornish contribution.

Todd follows the Cornish everywhere from their homeland to Wisconsin, Michigan, California, Colorado, Nevada, and points between. The Cornish miners were found wherever miners dug into the earth and their skills, equipment, and knowledge were essential to opening many midwestern and western mining districts. Well illustrated and with enough maps to keep the reader informed, the volume has become a classic.

As Todd mentions in his new Preface, *The Cornish Miner in America* has promoted interest in the Cousin Jacks and their contributions. He recounts examples of this in the Cornish American Heritage Society, various associations, and a host of individuals. Todd concludes: "What is certain is that the structures are now in place, though historic institutions in Cornwall and new ones that have emerged in the U. S. A., to give it direction and purpose through its network of researchers. The future of these studies looks secure as never before."

Mining history is richer because of Todd's work. read this book carefully, and in places it is slow going, and reflect on the story of the Cornish miners and their way of life.

Duane A. Smith
Fort Lewis College

John Fahey, *Shaping Spokane: Jay P. Graves and His Times*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1994, Illus., index, 144 pp., \$25.00.

A city is many things -- a cultural focus, a social resort, a political center, but above all a place where people earn a living. Its development is shaped by various factors, of which one of the most important has been aggressive, tough-minded men, who pushed and

pulled, developed the amenities of inner city and suburbs, forced rail lines to bend into an area and ranged out vigorously to establish business ties and markets in the hinterlands, in the process, often building fortunes of their own.

So it was with Spokane and Jay P. Graves, the subject of this little book. Graves was one of a handful of "pushers and pullers" who helped shape the city's growth in the thirty years or so after his arrival in 1887. From a modest hardware merchant, he became a major figure urban development in the Inland Empire. He was, as Fahey notes. "a mining man, a railroad man, a real estate man, and a catalyst for other builders." [p. 3] Graves and his cohorts acquired copper claims in the Boundary district of British Columbia, organized the Granby Consolidated mining and Smelting Company, Ltd., financed it with both American and Canadian capital, and by the turn of the century had in operation the largest copper plant in the British Empire.

As a realtor, Graves helped define Spokane's expansion. Believing street railways and parks vital to city progress, he bought a bankrupt street rail line, reorganized it as the Spokane Traction Company (1903) and created the Spokane-Washington Improvement Company to lay out additions, streets, recreational space and water systems. He hired well known landscape architects, the Olmstead Brothers, to design parks and elite residential districts and in general to applying the City Beautiful movement to Spokane. It was he who gave the land and was part of the impetus to move Whitworth College to Spokane in 1914, a typical gesture of combined altruism and acquisitiveness common to his type.

Eventually merging his Traction Company with his electric railroad, the Spokane & Inland Empire (1904) which tied Spokane and the Coeur d'Alene district, he built his own power plant and ran lines also to Colfax and Moscow. In time, he got out of the railroad before it

floundered, but realized some \$1,480,000 on an initial investment of \$40,000. But the urban real estate market had gone flat by 1920, leaving Graves badly over-extended. His fortune began to dwindle away, and his subsequent attempts to recoup his losses through investments in mine property elsewhere in the west --never worked out. He had to sell his elaborate mansion, but spent most of his later years at the elegant Huntington Hotel in Pasadena until his death in 1948.

This is a well-conceived and researched book, firmly based on records of others and on newspapers and periodicals. With twenty-four pages of excellent photographs, it is a judicious treatment of a second-line entrepreneur who correctly linked urban growth with his own prosperity.

Clark C. Spence
Champaign, Illinois

More Book Notes

The Summit Historical Society has published Sandra F. Pritchard's *Men, Mining & Machines, Hardrock Mining in Summit County, Colorado*, a short book (71 pp.) that describes the miners world of work and their ways (including salting). She gives the history of the Washington mine, a major producer in the district, and describes the technology of extraction and benefaction in lay terms. Copies available from SHS, P.O.Box 747, Dillon, CO 80435.

South Pass 1868, James Chisholm's Journal of the Wyoming Gold Rush, ed. by Lola M. Homsher has been reprinted by the University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln. Chisholm was a keen observer and his excellent descriptions of the rush to the Sweetwater and the times in South Pass City and Atlantic City and environs could have described any of the small

boom and bust gold camps of the 1860s Rocky Mountain West. Obviously, a recommended addition to any mining historian's library. \$12 paperback.

Far to the north of South Pass City, the contemporary gold camp of Barkerville, British Columbia flourished in the Caribou Country. Richard Thomas Wright's *Barkerville, Williams Creek, Caribou, A Gold Rush Experience* is a combination history and guide book to this marvelously restored mining camp. Now a B.C. Provincial Park, Barkerville was the biggest placer gold strike in B.C. and helped salvage the ill-fated Fraser River Rush. Wright describes the discovery, boom, and bust, and then follows this with a lengthy description of the preserved structures and sites along Williams Creek. Barkerville is probably the best mining Heritage site around. Available from Friends of Barkerville, Barkerville, B. C. V0K 1B0 for \$10.95.

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