
MINING HISTORY NEWS

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Butte, June 14-17, 2001

BUTTE, MONTANA: "The Richest Hill On Earth," "The War of the Copper Kings," "The Gibraltar of Labor," "A Mile High and a Mile Deep." Butte has been many things to many people. It has been reviled and has shocked the nation with its political antics, has produced fortunes for many and good wages for most, at least for awhile. And its mines, mills and smelters were among the most advanced technologically for their day.

The Mining History Association 12th annual meeting will be held in Butte, Montana June 14-17, 2001.

Local arrangements chair Mary Williams is organizing the tours and conference venue. The meeting hotel is the Ramada "Copper King" on Harrison Avenue, 406-494-6666 or 800-332-8600. There are a number of other hotels and B&Bs in Butte, which will be listed in the next newsletter.

Most events will occur on the Montana Tech campus and special functions, such as tours and receptions, will be held at the Anselmo Mine, World Museum of Mining, and elsewhere. An all day tour is scheduled for Sunday and will include Anaconda and the Oakhill mill and district.

There are many other activities in the area, including seeing the Butte open pit, the remaining headframes and Granite Mountain Mine disaster site, the Copper King mansion, "Hell Roarin' Gulch" -- a recreated boom town, and, of course, the Jack Nicklaus designed golf course capping the Anaconda tails.

Winter Reading

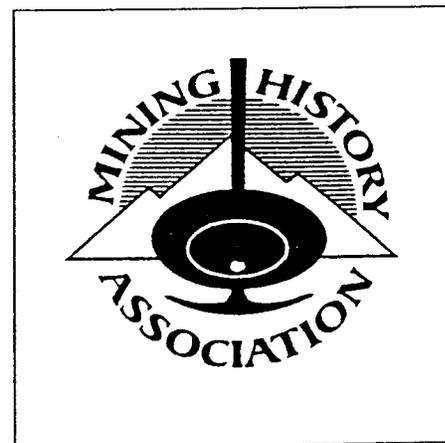
A host of historians have focused their skills on Butte. The best introduction to the camp is the late Michael Malone's *The Battle for Butte, Mining and Politics on the Northern Frontier, 1864-1906* (1981), which details the rise of the mining center, its famed Clark-Daly feud, and the takeover by Anaconda. Malone's work has replaced C. B. Glasscock's *The War of the Copper Kings* (1935), still a good read. Isaac F. Marcossou's *Anaconda* (1957) provides a corporate history of the one-time copper giant.

On other topics: for labor, see Jerry W. Calvert, *The Gibraltar, Socialism and Labor in Butte, Montana, 1895-1920* (1988); on immigration, see David M. Emmons, *The Butte Irish, Class and Ethnicity in an American Mining Town, 1875-1925* (1989); on social history, see Mary Murphy, *Mining Cultures, Men, Women, and Leisure in Butte, 1914-1941* (1997); for fiction, see Dashiell Hammett *Red Harvest*: "The city wasn't pretty. Most of its builders had gone in for gaudiness. Maybe they had been successful at first. Since then the smelters whose brick stacks stuck up tall against gloomy mountains to the south had yellow-smoked everything in uniform dinginess. The result was an ugly city of forty thousand people, set in an ugly notch between two ugly mountains that had been all dirtied up by mining. Spread over this was a grimy sky that looked as if it had come out of the smelters' stacks."

Virginia City, MT

One-time Montana territorial capital and one of the greatest of placer gold camps, Virginia City, is undergoing the slow but exciting process of preservation. During the past two years, the state's Montana Historic Preservation Commission has built a curatorial storage facility, begun curating the massive collections formerly owned by the Boveys, and has completed archeological testing and emergency stabilization of 1860s structures now owned by the state. Major plans are underway to restore one of the primary structures along Wallace Avenue, the Kiskadden Building, an 1863 wood and stone structure reputed to be the home of the vigilantes.

The state still operates the former Bovey Restorations operations, including static displays, a railroad, restaurant, hotel, and gift shops within the historic structures along main street.



President's Page

About five years ago, I took part in a historic preservation meeting in Montana that included a delightful field trip to a mine near Philipsburg. A miner who had worked the location for years gave us a wonderful underground tour, describing the workings of the mine in considerable detail. Upon leaving the mine, our group walked past a mine dump. To most of the people in our group, this dump was nothing more than a pile of broken rock. However, I must confess that I can never just walk by a mine dump without stopping to examine it in detail. This fascination stems from my background in mineralogy as well as my youth in the deserts of Arizona and California. That ore dump in Montana reminded me of the luck I've had in finding wonderful mineral specimens in many places, including native copper in Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula; galena (lead sulfide) near Mineral Point, Wisconsin; stibnite (antimony sulfide) in Austin, Nevada; and cinnabar (mercury sulfide) in the west Texas ghost town of Terlingua. I first realized the value of ore dumps when, as a teenager, I discovered an incredible specimen of silver ore (argentite crystals on quartz) at a mine dump near Bodie, California, in 1960. So rich was that specimen that I was not surprised to learn, about 25 years later, that mining companies were pushing to resume mining activity there.

Mine dumps are keys to many secrets. Even though these piles consist of discarded material that was not worth processing at the time, they often provide very rich clues to the type of geology the miners encountered. By carefully observing the types of material in the mine dump, one can also better understand how the mine itself operated. One of the best clues to look for is the mineralogy - not only of the material that the miners are looking for, but also the other minerals that characterize the location. The gangue minerals on a mine dump are usually as interesting to me as the ore. Some dumps are simply overburden that was removed early in the

development of a mine. Most of the material here may be 'country rock,' but even that non-mineralized material can tell us much about the mine's geology.

But I also confess that poring over a mine dump always carries with it the idea that one may find a rich specimen of the ore that miners sought. Although miners try to extract every bit of valuable ore, sometimes they miss - and you hit the jackpot. In the case of the mine dump in Montana, it did not take me long to uncover a piece of very rich silver ore, which I immediately brought over to the miner. "Wow," he said, "we sure missed THAT one!" I especially enjoyed talking to him about the mine's highest quality ore and how the miners identified it based on a series of visual clues.

Mine dumps are treasures of both historical archaeology and descriptive mineralogy. By studying a mine dump, one can tell almost as much about a mine as one can by going underground. Why? Because miners often pile everything here that is not of value, a mine dump consists of a cross section of what they removed. Thus, a mine dump serves as evidence that enables us to re-examine what miners did. The systematic study of a mine dump from top to bottom is a journey back in time. With patience, one can literally "get to the bottom" of what the miners were doing - which is to say reconstruct the type of material they first excavated when they began mining. Naturally, what we find on a dump is only part of what was excavated, most of the highest grade material going to the crusher and smelter. Efficient mining is such destructive work that often few high-quality ore specimens remain from these early times. Yet, with patience and a rock hammer in hand, one can carefully break the discarded material into smaller pieces - and find minerals that the miners themselves overlooked. This is a perfect example of the saying that "one person's trash may be another person's treasure."

I always remember three things about mining dumps. The first is both legal and ethical: Mine dumps may be someone's

private property and should not be explored without the proper permission. Second is safety, or rather safety hazards. Even though exploring them is not as dangerous as exploring underground, mine dumps can be dangerous places. They should be explored with safety foremost in mind. Third, and last, is a philosophical perhaps even spiritual, issue: Although I rarely hear mining historians lament the loss of nature's beauty that is necessarily sacrificed in mining, that loss is considerable. I sense this loss every time I visit a museum and see the magnificent mineral specimens that survived as miners paused, even if for a moment, to praise the works of creation that they encountered. Some of these specimens had great monetary value, but this is often outweighed by the aesthetic. An old miner in Bisbee, Arizona, once related to me the "feeling of awe" that surged through him when he would uncover beautiful specimens underground. That awe also awaits the person who finds a fine specimen on a mine dump; a specimen that somehow escaped the trip to concentrator and smelter; a specimen that can remind us of both the power of mining to transform and the magnificence of creation to inspire.

Richard Francaviglia
University of Texas at Arlington

**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.

CALL FOR PAPERS

TWELFTH MEETING OF THE MINING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

BUTTE, MONTANA
JUNE 14-17, 2001

The program committee for the Butte meeting of the Mining History Association invites proposals for individual papers or complete sessions (including chair) on any topic or aspect of mining history. Sessions normally include three papers of twenty minutes each. There are no temporal or geographic limits.

Proposals should include an abstract (one paragraph) for each paper, plus biographical information about each presenter and session participant. Please send the written proposals to the program committee chair by February 28, 2001.

2001 Program Committee:

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Organization Notes

Awards

At the October meeting of the Western History Association in San Antonio, at the annual MHA breakfast, the MHA's Rodman Paul Award was given to Chris Huggard. Chris is the outgoing editor of the *Mining History Journal*. He received his Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico and wrote his dissertation on smelting and air quality issues in twentieth century Grant County, New Mexico. He has published on the mining history of New Mexico and the environmental history of the Southwest.

2000 Mining History Journal

Chris Huggard's final journal, the 2000 issue is in the hands of managing editor Charles Hughes, who is preparing the issue for the press. Incoming editor Eric L. Clements reports the 2001 issue well underway and adds that he welcomes submissions for upcoming issues. If you have an essay you wish considered please contact Eric at Southeast Missouri State University, History Department M/S 2960, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701. O r e : m a i l h i m a t : eclements@semovm.semo.edu

International Conferences

Koko Kato of Japan is organizing the next international mining history conference. The event is planned for 2003, so there is plenty of time to think of a topic to present. More information will be shared as the event gets further organized.

Mel Davis reports that the Australian Mining History Association will meet in Adelaide, July 5-7, plenty of time to make Butte and then go down under. For more information contact Mel at their web page:
www.econs.ecel.uwa.edu.au/AMHA/amhamain.htm

Officers for 2001

The fall election brought the following new officers to serve the Mining History Association: Jeremy Mouat, vice-president/president elect; and council member Lee Swent. Regrettably, Mason Coggin passed away after the election; see the obituary notice by James McBride. His vacancy will be selected by the council.

The officers for 2001 are:

Richard Francaviglia, President
 Jeremy Mouat, Vice-President
 James E. Fell, Jr., Treasurer
 Robert Spude, Secretary

Council members:

Richard Graeme, past president
 Liston Leyendecker, 1999-2001
 Charles Hughes, 1999-2001
 Erik Nordberg, 1999-2001
 Homer Milford, 2000-2002
 Glenn Cook, 2000-2002
 Lee Swent, 2001-2003

Thanks to Roger Burt and Eric Clements for serving on the board, 1998-2000, both added much to our body politic. Roger, from the University of Exeter, added an international view. Eric continues active as incoming editor of the journal.

The new membership committee for 2000 includes Lysa Wegman-French, Robert Weldin, and David Wolff. If you have recommendations for nomination to office please write Lysa at MHA, P. O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215.

Mining History Association web page:

Erik Nordberg at Michigan Tech is our webmaster and has added some special graphics for the 2001 Butte conference. Check them out at:

<http://www.lib.mtu.edu/mha/mha.htm>

For submissions to the web page contact Erik Nordberg by e:mail at copper@mtu.edu

Obituary Note

H. Mason Coggin - an active, long-time member of the MHA died in Phoenix on November 7, 2000. He was 62. A native of Bisbee, Arizona and the son and grandson of Bisbee miners, Mason had an illustrious career in mining. A graduate of the School of Mines at the University of Arizona he was a recognized authority on gold placer mining, a vigorous advocate for mining in Arizona and, for six years, Director of the Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources. A position in which he was responsible for the running of the state Mining and Mineral Museum. Mason was equally active in the MHA; serving on the nominating committee, organizing the very successful conference in Bisbee, and was recently elected to the council. He wrote two articles for the *Mining History Journal*, co-authored two books on mining, and was president of the Arizona Book Publishing Association. With his wife Janice, he founded Cowboy Miner Productions. He is survived by his wife Janice, two daughters and three grandchildren. He will be greatly missed. A friend of his expressed it best in his eulogy when, using a term all familiar with mining will recognize, he said "Not deep enough Mason, not by a damn sight."

James McBride, Tempe, Arizona

Membership Dues

Enclosed with this issue is our annual dues slip. Please fill it out and return to the MHA, P. O. Box 150300, Denver, CO 80215. If you have paid your dues for 2001 there should be "2001" after your name. If it appears there, you have paid. Robert Sorgenfrei of the Colorado School of Mines, Golden, membership chair, is also cleaning up the mailing list. If you find typos or other errors please note these on your dues payment slip and Bob will correct them in the mailing list data base.

The Year of Landscapes

For the year 2001, president Richard Francaviglia has chosen the theme of understanding our mining landscapes. As author of *Hard Places, Reading the Landscape of America's Historic Mining Districts* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1991) and other shorter works on mining landscapes, he hopes to bring the discussion to the MHA. Anyone interested presenting a case study at Butte or just sending a note to the Mining History News is invited to do so. Or contact Richard directly at francaviglia@library.uta.edu

Landscapes and Preservation

Understanding the landscapes and limits or boundaries of historic properties eligible to the National Register of Historic Places is part of the discussion of eligibility of the **Elizabeth Mine**, South Strafford, Orange County, Vermont. The Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. (www.hartgen.com) prepared a report for the use of the EPA in its plans to "clean-up" the site. The 39 page report gives an overview history of the copper mine from colonial times, but primarily the nineteenth century, a discussion of technology (including the extant flotation mill), and then determined the property eligible for listing on the register. Hopefully, this will provide some protection. Thanks to Collamer Abbott for providing a copy of the report.

BLM Land Patent Records

The Bureau of Land Management has provided a helpful tool for researchers by placing all of its land patent data -- old general land office records -- on the web. These records include homestead and mineral patents, land that was preempted under the various nineteenth century laws. The information can be accessed through their website: www.glorerecords.blm.gov

Portland Mine Painting

The friends of **Cripple Creek** are preserve remnants of the historic district through various efforts. One way they will fund their work is by selling prints of Charles Fizzell's painting "Portland II." The Portland was one of the most productive in the district and its century old wood headframe still stands above Victor, Colorado. The color print shows the headframe, hoist house and outbuildings in its high mountain setting. Copies of the print are available by sending a check for \$75 plus \$15 shipping and handling to the Southern Teller County Focus Group, P. O. Box 328, Victor, Colorado 80860.

Lead, South Dakota

David Wolff reports that the **Homestake** closing is not a myth. The over-a-century-old mine, like many other operations, is being impacted by low gold market values and increased costs. He mentions hopes for some form of preservation of the rich history and physical structure at Lead, but reports nothing solid as of yet. Lead was the site of the MHA's 4th annual meeting in 1993.

Beaumont, Texas

Spindletop, the big oil gusher that put Texas oil on the map, celebrates its centennial this month. In January 1901, lucky wildcatter Anthony Lucas struck oil causing a rush to this region of south Texas imitative of the placer gold rushes a few years before. Recently, celebrations and symposiums have been held at and near the site of the strike, a National Historic Landmark, and at the recreated Gladys City. Although the MHA members are primarily interested in something more solid than black gold, the number of centennials of oil regions will increase quickly in the next few years and will be noted, celebrated, commented on and shared, as space allows.

Australian Guides

Ross Mainwaring of St. Ives sent copies of the new flyers distributed free by the Mines Department, New South Wales. The department guides provides historical information about the various mining fields; examples are: "Searching for Australia's Eldorado" about the 1850s gold rush to Ophir, NSW; "Gulgong gold deposits" about the reefs and deep deposits of this region in NSW; "Mining by Aborigines" about sites that have prehistoric mining components; "Life in the goldfields: Bushrangers" about the desperados of the era. Further information about the office is on the web: www.minerals.nsw.gov.au

Waynesburg, West Virginia

In a landmark lawsuit, the Consolidated Energy corporation is suing U. S. Department of Interior for placing the historic **Ernest Thralls House** on the National Register of Historic Places. Consol's plans to open the Blacksville Coal mine included the demolition of the home and the removal of the home owners. In the case the company accuses the agency of listing the property without taking into consideration the company's right to mine the land underneath, which is expected to damage the structure because of subsidence. The Spanish colonial style residence was built by a retired military officer, who had served along the Mexican border and in World War I. The homeowners accuse the company of wanting to remove the building from the National Register in order to avoid paying for repairs or restoration rather than for removal, which is required under state regulations.

Silverton, Colorado

Friends report that the San Juan County Historical Society is moving the **Caledonia Boarding House** from Minnie gulch to Silverton, Colorado. Look for its reappearance this summer in front of their museum.

Museums

Our friends in Tonopah, who helped organize last year's annual meeting, also produce a dandy publication. The Central Nevada Historical Society sent their November 2000 newsletter/journal *Central Nevada's Glorious Past*. MHA members may have picked up earlier editions during the Tonopah conference and found it a good mix of happenings with the museum and archives and brief essays. This issue includes items from a 1923 diary, the perambulations of a back bar that began in Virginia City in 1884 - went to Tonopah in Tonopah - and recently moved, 1991 to Tombstone, Arizona; and a biography of an early woman surveyor, who arrived in Tonopah in 1904. Copies available to members (\$10 per year); P. O. Box 326, Tonopah, NV 89049.

Staff at the **Sterling Hill Mining Museum** in Ogdensburg, New Jersey spent the fall cleaning up after a summer storm flooded parts of the site -- they had 14 inches in eight hours. No major damage occurred and their annual gem and mineral show went off as planned, though reduced in numbers because of the weather. A nice addition to the museum this year is a seam of native copper in sandstone, a chunk the size of a pickup truck bed. The museum continues its popular kids Rock Discovery Center, which other museums may wish to emulate. The museum is at 30 Plant Street, Ogdensburg, NJ 07439-1126.

The **National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum**, Leadville, Colorado has added striking pieces from Michigan's copper to its displays. The 10 pound copper-silver "halfbreed" piece from the Wolverine mine and the crystallized copper from the Calumet & Hecla are on long-term loan from the A. E. Seaman Mineral Museum at **Michigan Technological University**, Houghton, Michigan.

Book Notes

Lynn R. Bailey has compiled a handy reference to late nineteenth century mining machinery in his *Supplying the Mining World: The Mining Equipment Manufacturer of San Francisco, 1850-1900*. The chronicle provides an overview of the major firms of San Francisco -- Risdon, Union Iron Works, Pacific, and others -- from the gold rush to the end of California's dominance in the Western mining trade. The 133 pages is copiously illustrated with contemporary drawings of equipment taken from journals like the *Mining and Scientific Press*. Available from Westernlore Press, P. O. Box 35305, Tucson, Arizona 85740.

The editors at Westernlore Press have turned the production of history books about Cochise County, Arizona, especially Tombstone, into a cottage industry. Besides releasing a series of biographies of key players during the glory days, diaries of George Parson, histories of cattle companies and places, they have now released a compilation of brief biographies of Cochise County notables. Since the region had many players that moved onto other fields throughout the West, the two volume *Cochise County Stalwarts*, ed. by Lynn R. Bailey and Don Chaput is a handy reference for anyone interested in this mining region and beyond. The two volume set is available in paperback for \$50 from them at P. O. Box 35305, Tucson, AZ 85740. Note only volume one, A-K, was available at press time.

Images of an American Land, Vernacular Architecture in the Western United States, edited by Thomas Carter includes several essays of interest to mining historians. Kingston Heath in "False-Front Architecture on Montana's Urban Frontier" through text and sketches discusses the importance of a Main Street image within the mining communities of southwest Montana, such as Bannack and Granite. Cultural values about urban

appearance are readily seen in the false fronts attached to log cabins. Of more interest to MHA members is the essay by Fred Quivick on the industrial landscape of Anaconda and Butte. Quivick defines and describes the industrial complexes and industrial archeology of this significant district. The integrated systems and economies of scale created an industrial landscape of a scale unique in the mining West at the turn of the last century. Other essays range from the vernacular architecture of Hispanic homes of Las Vegas, New Mexico, Russian farmers, and Chinese sojourners to the massive Hoover dam and modern strip malls. Published by the University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque. \$29.95 paper.

Butte has a rich folk tradition, about immigrants, work, and the distractions of daily life. Journalist and Butte native Pat Kearney has captured some of these stories in *Butte Voices: Mining, Neighborhoods, People* (Butte: Artcraft Printers, 1998). Based primarily on interviews, the book provides snippets on mining, downtown businesses, recreation, the Depression, ethnic groups and neighborhoods, all mingled with a host of good stories, some a bit stretched. He ends with an upbeat chronicle of "The City of Can Do," the town after the mine closures. The \$24.95 can be found at Books & Books, 206 W. Park, Butte, MT 59701. 1-800-273-9520.

Linda Gordon's *The Great Arizona Orphan Abduction* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1999; \$29.95) is a well written analysis of the adoption of mostly Irish orphans from New York by Mexican-American families in the copper district of Clifton-Morenci, Arizona Territory and the ensuing conflicts between Anglos and Hispanics, classes, and religions. There is little on mining and mining companies, but that is not its focus; it is a good, ground breaking study of family, however defined, in a mining community.

More Book Notes

Jim Ludwig, one-time molybdenum miner, presents an interesting tale of life and work during the 1950-1960s glory years at Climax Molybdenum, near Leadville, Colorado. *Climax Mine, an Old Man Remembers the Way it Was* (Pleasant Avenue Nursery, P. O. Box 1669, Buena Vista, CO, \$17.95) is a chatty reminiscence of a young man from Wisconsin Tech who lands a job as miner's helper at Climax and then works his way up the ranks to general manager. There is much here on mining work, day to day sweat and trials, including accidents. Most of the book recounts his days underground -- the way it was -- and special tales about old friends. He retired in 1982, and began work as nurseryman, which explains the unusual publisher of the work. The 132 page book is a good addition to that short shelf of books by people who knew how to use Gelex 2 to shoot a hangup.

Originally published in 1922, Anselm Verener Lee Guise's *Six Years in Bolivia, the Adventures of a Mining Engineer* (West Lafayette, Indiana: Purdue University Press, 1998) is a tale right out of Richard Harding Davis's *Soldiers of Fortune*, tales of young engineers changing the globe. Guise, a young British mining engineer is sent to help manage a tin mining in Bolivia, recently taken over by an international mining firm. The accounts of the local people are a bit demeaning, typical of the braggadocio style of engineer accounts of the period. This aside the book is a good adventure tale of life in the jungles and high plateaus of the early twentieth century, and the engineering successes in an isolated mining district 150 miles from La Paz. Purdue University Press deserves credit for bringing this worthy, rare book back into print and for providing an introduction by Mariselle Melendez that puts the book into its context of travel accounts and industrial Europe's rediscovery of Latin America. Available in paperback for \$14.95.

Scott Fetchenhier's *Ghosts and Gold, the History of the Old Hundred Mine* provides a chronicle of the geology, discovery and operation of this century-old mine located outside Silverton, Colorado (which many MHAers toured during the Ouray conference). A geologist turned tourist operator, Fetchenhier sells the book himself; at Box 355, Silverton, CO 81433.

Traditionally, mining and the environment is a topic often ignored by historians, let alone contemporary mining observers. The works of Robert Kelly on California hydraulic mining and Duane Smith's 1987 work *Mining America, the Industry and the Environment, 1800-1980* come to mind. More recently, younger scholars have taken on the history of smelter smoke feuds, usually between farmers and the large corporations, Anaconda, Kennecott, COMINCO. In the two books at hand, journalist Richard Manning's *One Round River, the Curse of Gold and the Fight for the Big Blackfoot* (New York: Henry Holt, 1997; \$25) and environmental consultant David Stiller's *Wounding the West, Montana, Mining and the Environment* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2000; \$25), mining history is used as a back drop by the authors to promote environmental consciousness and change in order to preserve an area special to them, in this case the Blackfoot River drainage of western Montana. Though Manning admits at the end he is writing a polemic in order to stop a heap leach gold mine, Stiller, a hydrologist, also fights for a change of Federal mining laws and state environmental regulations. Stiller is also a better historian, having had access to ASARCO files; thus, he is able to more fully tell the story of the Mike Horse mine and the environmental catastrophe it caused. Both books will raise the blood pressure of anyone in the industry, but are important discussions -- in essence period pieces -- about the state of environmental conditions and feuds in the mining West.

Mining camp histories come in all sizes, shapes and formats. The stack before me stretches geographically from the California gold camps through Colorado cities of the fifties through eighties and back to the desert country.

Fiddletown, from Gold Rush to Rediscovery by Elaine Zorbas is local history about the community born of the gold rush, but within a decade or two converted to a foothills farm and ranch town. The 1850s town gets the most attention, with little on mining, which again shows the need for one solid history of a California gold placer camp. The stubby book is published by Mythos Press, Altidina, California, 122 pages.

The history of Central City, the former mining camp now a gambling mecca outside Denver, is chronicled in preservationist Alan Granruth's *Mining Gold to Mining Wallets, Central City, Colorado 1859-1899*. The large format illustrated book is half history and half building by building description of the town, which Granruth has published separately before. 170 pages, np.

Mining historian Silvia Pettem in *Inn and Around Nederland* (Longmont, Colorado: The Book Lode, 1998) starts to write a history of the various lodgings of this camp near Boulder, but, fortunately for us, quickly moves into the context of the gold rush, the silver strike at caribou, and the early twentieth century tungsten boom. The volume is well-produced with numerous photos. Glossy tourist booklet, 130 pages.

Senator Harry Reid writes of his boyhood hometown in Searchlight, the *Camp That Didn't Fail* (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1998), a surprisingly solid history of the gold camp in the Mojave desert. One of the lesser known early twentieth century mining booms started the camp, which hung on as a small regional center. Reid has chapters on mining, of course, as well as such diverse topics as schools, politics and prostitution. 233 page hardback \$25.

Colorado Ghost Towns

And still they come. A spate of new ghost town guides have joined the old standards by Muriel Wolle, Bob Brown, Perry Eberhart, Sandra Dallas, and John Aldrich. Dave Southworth compiled *Colorado Mining Camps* (Wild Horse Publishing, \$29.95) as a guide and "comprehensive history" of 200 camps, if one considers a paragraph or two comprehensive. The descriptions and directions are found better elsewhere, though the historic photographs are reproduced clearly. Annoyingly, Southworth spun off part of the book as *Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the San Juans* (Wild Horse Pub., 1998; \$13.95).

Kenneth Jessen followed with his two volume, 1,124 pages of *Ghost Towns, Colorado Style* (Loveland, Colorado: J. V. Publications, 1998, 1999; \$29.95 each) -- a third volume is promised but

is as yet to reach the printer. Jessen, author of eight other Colorado history books, has compiled this guide with the hope that the reader finds it "entertaining yet informative." With more space than Southworth, his descriptions are longer and better, though lacking the detail or charm of earlier works such as Wolle's *Stampede to Timberline*, still in print (who's collection of photographs were used by Jessen). And most camp histories are given sources, albeit mostly secondary. His maps are more detailed as well, and based on USGS topos. Jessen's is the fattest collection to date, though is duplicative of Aldrich.

The small hardback *Scenic Colorado Ghost Towns* by Bill and Lorraine Bonebrake is a compilation of color photographs of the most photogenic of ruins. With very limited text, the book leaves much to be desired by the ghost town tracker. (Westcliffe Publishing, 1998; \$14.95).

Philip Varney is slowly building a list of state ghost town guides (he has done Arizona, New Mexico, and southern California). The large format, color photograph illustrated *Ghost Towns of Colorado* (Stillwater, Minnesota: Voyageur Press, 1999) is probably the most popular of the new works (he reports selling nearly sixty thousand so far). Only 160 pages, it is limited to around seventy camps, but provides more personal observations in a flashy format. \$19.95 paperback. For the aficionado seeking the best places with much remaining this is the guide.

Besides the state-wide books there continues to be produced local guides. For example, F. Dean Sneed's *Las Animas Ghost Towns and Mining Camps* is a 101 page, photocopy published pamphlet on places in this southern Colorado county. It has respectable descriptions, then and now photos, and good hand drawn maps. NP, 2000; \$10.

Mining History Association

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