

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

D-238

*File:
NPS General*

(Area)

NATIONAL SURVEY HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

FILE CODE:

THEME XV WESTWARD EXPANSION AND EXTENSION OF THE NATIONAL
BOUNDARIES, 1830-1898

INVENTORY FORMS FOR SUBTHEME:
"THE MINING FRONTIER"

IMPORTANT

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FROM:

TO:

COLORADO

Fairplay

Georgetown H3417

Silverton H3417

Victor

Kokomo

Aspen

Central City H3417

Cripple Creek H3417

Leadville H3417

Ouray

Telluride H3417

MONTANA

Marysville

Bannack H3417

Elkhorn

Virginia City H3417

Butte H3417

Anaconda

SOUTH DAKOTA

Deadwood (Including Lead) H3417

WYOMING

Atlantic City

South Pass City H3417

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Montana	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion, 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier of the Trans-Mississippi West)	4. APPROX. ACREAGE
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Anaconda		
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)		
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)		
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)		

Anaconda is principally significant because it is the center of the smelters for the Anaconda Copper Company, one of the largest copper producing companies in the world. This place was picked by Marcus Daly, the originator of Montana's copper industry, as the place for the copper smelter because of its nearness to water and limestone. The city, first called Copperopolis, was laid out in 1883. Because there was another town in Montana by the same name, the name was changed to Anaconda. Anaconda expanded rapidly. In 1892, it challenged Helena for the capital of Montana with the backing of Daly. In this fight Helena won. In 1894, Daly again determinedly tried to move the capital to Anaconda. Again he failed. From 1930 to 1950 the population of Anaconda has changed but little. In 1930, it was approximately 12,500; in 1940, 11,000; in 1950, 11,200.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.)	13. DATE OF VISIT
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) RAY H. MATTISON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec. 19, 1958	

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The Anaconda Smelter, Anaconda, Montana. Photograph by George Grant,
July 1951. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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1. STATE Colorado	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier of the Trans-Mississippi West)
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Fairplay	4. APPROX. ACREAGE Undetermined
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)	

6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)

Private

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Fairplay is one of Colorado's better known mining towns. Little information has been found about it and the amount of gold and other metals produced in the immediate vicinity. In 1859 when the Pike's Peakers reached the region of the South Park they established a camp which they called Tarryall. The miners became so jealous of their location that they ran off all newcomers who tried to join them. In indignation the late arrivals called their camp Graball and pushing on, found gold in the gravel bars of the South Platte River. Here they established a mining district and hastily constructed a town of log cabins. The miners drew up mining laws for the region. They did not, however, agree upon a name. One prospector who made himself boss of the camp demanded "fairplay" for everyone. When a committee met to choose a name for the town they agreed upon the name "Fairplay."

The town grew steadily. It had the usual number of hotels and dance halls and 12 bawdy houses. After placer mining played out the prospectors commenced to mine the surrounding hills and mountains of the Park Range, Fairplay remained the trading center of the region. It is the center of a very rich mining region which includes such old mining towns as Mesquito, Park City, Leavick, Horseshoe, Alma, and Buckskin Joe. In the late 1870's Fairplay had population of over 1,000 persons. In recent years Fairplay is the center of extensive dredge mining operations. The town in 1940, had a population of 221; in 1950, 476.

Two significant buildings dominate the scene in Fairplay. One of these is the stone Court House. The other is the Community Church. The white frame Church stands by itself and is surrounded by a cast iron fence. It is a Gothic type of structure. It was built in 1874, 2 years after Dr. Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian minister, reached Fairplay and organized the church. This church as since served not only the town but the surrounding country as well. In 1945, the congregation changed

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Murial S. Wolle, Stampede to Timberline: The Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Colorado (Boulder, 1949), 86-90.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Fair	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.)	13. DATE OF VISIT October 1958
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) (Sgd) RAY H. WATSON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec 19, 1958	

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Colorado	Fairplay

the name of the church from Fairplay Community Presbyterian Church to the Sheldon Jackson Memorial Chapel.

The sandstone Court House erected in 1874, is a 2-story structure. It is the oldest Court House in Colorado and has played an important part in the history of Park County. During the Indian scare of 1879, the women and children were placed in this Court House after a drunken fool, who had shot holes in his hat, rode a lathered horse into town and announced breathlessly that the Indians were burning the nearby Breckenridge and were scalping everyone there, and that the band was headed for Fairplay. The town at once went into a panic. The men started drilling and gathering what ammunition they could find while scouts rode off toward the doomed camp to reconnoiter. Not an Indian could be found in the entire county.

The Court House was also the scene of a lynching that occurred at Fairplay in 1880. A brutal murderer was tried there and given a life sentence, instead of a death penalty. As a result, the citizens became so aroused they took the law in their own hands. A band of vigilantes marched on the sheriff's house and demanded the keys. The mob took the sheriff with them, and surrounding the jail, broke down the door, locked the sheriff in a cell, and took possession of the prisoner. The next morning the limp body of the murderer dangled from a second story window of the Court House. When the judge arrived at the courtroom he was startled to see a noosed rope thrown across his bench and another lying on the table marked "For the District Attorney." Both the judge and the district attorney lost no time in hiring a conveyance and driving to Red Hill Station of the railroad where they waited for the next train to Denver.

On the main street of Fairplay beside the Hand Hotel, is the grave of Prunes, a burrow, which for 62 years worked in the mines around Fairplay and Alma. When he became too old to work he wandered about the alleys accepting any food given him because he was too old to forage for himself. He died in 1930 and his friends decided to mark his grave with a suitable monument. A year after the monument was erected, Rupert M. Sherwood, an old prospector and "Prunes" last owner, died at the age of 82. He asked that his body be cremated and buried beside "Prunes," his faithful partner.

Certain interested individuals in Fairplay assisted by other persons in Colorado Springs are attempting to reconstruct the typical mining town in the north end of Fairplay. At the present time a pioneer store has been reconstructed

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Colorado	Fairplay

of the period in which Fairplay was at its heyday. Across the street is an old brewery, which is likewise being restored. Some of these buildings are being moved in from Alma and other points around Fairplay. Within a few years Fairplay may have an exhibit similar to that in Virginia City, Montana, although it probably never will be quite so extensive as that of Montana's former capital.



Old stone Courthouse erected in 1874 at Fairplay,
Colorado. Southwest view. Photograph by Ray H.
Mattison, October 1958. Negative in Region Two Office
Library, Omaha, Nebraska.



Community Church erected in Fairplay, Colorado, in 1874. Southeast view. Photograph by Ray E. Mattison, October 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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3. NAME(S) OF SITE Victor	4. APPROX. ACREAGE Undetermined
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)	

6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)

Private Ownership

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Victor was the richest town in the Cripple Creek district. Although this place was more or less of a twin of Cripple Creek, it has always been a rival of the latter town. Victor, which is located about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Cripple Creek, came into existence in 1893. Although Victor and other mines in the vicinity were located in 1891 and 1892, it was in September of 1893 that the Wood Investment Company promoted the town itself.

The camp of tents, interspersed with a few log cabins, grew slowly until March of 1894. At that time the Woods Company, while excavating for the Victor Hotel uncovered a vein of rich ore. The usual stampede to a new goldfield commenced. It was a short time afterwards such important mines as the Portland, Independence, Gold Coin, and Strong were discovered, some of which were within the city limits. As the large mines were developed, Victor became the shipping center of the district and a rival of Cripple Creek.

For a time after the big fire at Cripple Creek, Victor outranked its rival. During the 1890's Victor apparently had a very rapid growth. It was spoken of as "the core of the rich Cripple Creek mining district." It had 2 railroads, the Florence and Cripple Creek line and the Midland Terminal. In addition, Victor had a \$30,000 opera house which seated 1,200 people, a new city hall and a "commodious jail" and reliable waterworks. In August of 1899, a fire broke out in a dive and 2 hours later 14 blocks of the city were in ruins. The damage from the fire was estimated at \$2,000,000.

Within a short time the city began to be rebuilt with "pressed brick and stone." Three more railroads were subsequently built into Victor. The Cripple Creek Shortline from Colorado Springs was completed in 1901. In the early 1900's there was a network of electrical trolley lines which connected practically every town

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Wolle, Stampede to Timberline: The Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Colorado (Boulder, 1949)

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Good	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.)	13. DATE OF VISIT October 1958
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) (Sgd.) RAY H. MATTISON		15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec 19, 1958

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Colorado	Victor

within the region and had depots within easy reach of almost every mine.

Some of the mines in Victor have produced fabulous amounts of wealth. The Strong mine, which was discovered in 1894, is credited with having produced over \$20,000,000 and is still a shipper. The 2 greatest mines in Victor were the Independence and the Portland. Between 1891 and 1915 the total gross production of the Independence was \$23,600,000. After the Independence was consolidated with the Portland Gold Mining Company, the grand total of all properties owned by the company is estimated at nearly \$100,000,000. According to one source, more than \$65,000,000 in gold has been taken from the 300-foot shaft in the 180 acres on Battle Mountain in Victor. The Apex, which is still operating, is purportedly one of the richest mines in the United States.

Much of the old town of Victor has survived. There appear to be no buildings, however, of any great significance. Victor's population in 1940 was 1,290; in 1950, 684.



Victor, Colorado. North view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, October 1928. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Osha, Nebraska.

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3. NAME(S) OF SITE Kokomo		
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)		
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Private		
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)		

Kokomo is one of the most important towns in the Leadville region. This mining town was founded in 1878 by a group from Indiana who named it for this city in their home state. It was platted in 1879. It owes its existence to the large silver deposits which were found in the vicinity. Two smelters, the White Quail and the Grear, were built to handle the local ores which were brought there from the productive silver mines nearby. The population of Kokomo in 1881 reached 10,000. At that time when it reached its peak it was destroyed by fire. Following the fire, a large portion of the floating element left looking for new fields. Although Kokomo was rebuilt at once and the railroad facilitated the shipment of ore, its heyday was past and slowly the town declined in population until only a few of its mines were working and its population was numbered in the hundreds.

At the present time Kokomo is almost a ghost town. The only significant surviving structures which the recorder found are the Masonic Hall and the tiny Community Church.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Wolle, Stampede to Timberline: The Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Colorado (Boulder, 1949)

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

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14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) 5007 RAY W. MATTISON		15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec 19, 1958

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Bird's-eye view of Adams, Colorado. Southeast view.
Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, October 1958. Negative in
Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.



Community Church at Holms, Colorado. Southwest view. Date of erection unknown. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, October, 1958. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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3. NAME(S) OF SITE Aspen		
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)		

6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)

Private

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Aspen was probably the second most important mining town in Colorado. Like Georgetown, it was a city of homes surrounded by mines. The earliest prospectors to enter the region came in about 1879 from Leadville. Most of these miners had been unable to find suitable claims in Leadville so they were grubstaked by Leadville capital and found their way into the region in search of the white colored treasure. One of the first of these to enter the region was Henry Tourtelotte, who came to Denver in 1878 and then into Leadville in 1879. In the spring of 1880 Aspen was platted.

Prospectors were attracted by the immense quantities afloat found in the debris on the sides of Aspen and Smuggler Mountains and they began to explore the area for lode mine. Many mines were located in the vicinity of Aspen between 1880 and 1884, some of which became world-famous. By the fall of 1883, these mines began to show their greatness and it was in this year that Aspen boomed. Among the more important of these mines uncovered were the Washington, Palahc, Erma, the Duraut, Smuggler, Aspen, and Mollie Gibson. Some of these produced fabulous amounts of high grade ore which netted millions for their stockholders.

Nuggets of incredible size were found from time to time. In 1883, the largest body of ore in the world was struck in the Compromise Mine. In 1894, a nugget was taken from the Smuggler which weighed 2,060 pounds and was 93% pure silver. More high grade ores were mined in this vicinity than in any other camp in the world but the ores had to be shipped out for treatment until a smelter was built in 1884. A spur of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad was built from Colorado Springs to Aspen in November 1887. The following year, the Colorado Midland Built into Aspen.

The 1880's and early 1890's were Aspen's best years. In 1884, Aspen produced \$3,500,000; by 1888 the output reached over 7 million and by 1889, it was nearly

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Wolle, Stampede to Timberline: The Ghost Towns and Mining Camps in Colorado (Boulder, 1949) 232-242.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Colorado	Aspen

10 million dollars. The year 1888 found Aspen as a well-established city, secure, modern and proud of its achievements. After 8 years it had population of 8,000 people. Three daily newspapers, electric streetlights (the first town in Colorado to have them), a telephone exchange, waterworks, 2 railroads, and "all modern conveniences." By 1889, the County Court House was built and free mail delivery was established. At that time 33 lawyers had hung out their shingles in the town. In the same year 2 impressive buildings were erected, costing 1 million dollars each. These were the Hotel Jerome and the Wheeler Grand Opera House, both of which are still standing. Jerome B. Wheeler backed both buildings.

According to Muriel S. Wolle, the Aspen Opera House opened with a performance of the "King's Fool" which included a cast of 80 artists and promising "Bewilderingly Beautiful Marches, Dazzeling Electrical Effects and Enchanting music." There were complete sets of scenery and a handsome drop curtain representing "Brooklyn Bridge viewed from the New York side of the East River," painted by Charles Graham, an artists from Harper's Weekly, "while from the ceiling will depend a veritable firmament of electric bulbs." The theater was on the top floor of a 3-story building, while a banking house and stores occupied the lower floors.

Fire gutted the auditorium in 1912. The entire stage with its flanking boxes was gone as well as most of the seats on the main floor but the gracefully curved balcony remained. In 1947 the Opera House was restored sufficiently to permit the theater to be used. A new state, masking screens and wooden benches transform its bare interior into a summer theater. Modern players and dancers perform where once such performances as "The Three Musketeers," "The Sign of the Cross," "Faust," and "The Taming of the Shrew" were given, and where Elk's Benefit Ministre's produced "It is to Laugh" advertised as "a regular blizzard of fun."

In 1892, and the beginning of 1893, Aspen was the greatest silver camp in the world. The population, which in 1880 had been 35, was now 11,000. There were 3 streetcars, both hose and electric, as well as 6 newspapers, 10 churches and 3 banking houses. Aspen became "the leading commercial center between Salt Lake and Denver," and for 2 decades its mines produced silver, lead, and other metals reaching an annual average output of 6 million dollars. In 1893, the bottom dropped out of silver and like all other silver camps, Aspen experienced a depression. The city gradually came back because the mine owners of the district kept the industry from striking bottom by agreeing to pay the miners \$2.50 per day. In this way the miners were not thrown out of work. Old properties were tunneled and profitable ore bodies at new depths uncovered in many of the mines. By 1897, 2,000 miners were

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STATE Colorado	NAME(S) OF SITE Aspen
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steadily employed and all the big mines except 3 were being worked, in whole or in part by lessees. About 1910 several of the mine shafts were flooded with water. Deep workings and underground water covered by inadequate pumping facilities caused water to rise until certain levels were submerged and production was curtailed. Pumps were finally installed and in some of the mines the danger was passed.

During World War I and up to the 1920's, mining fell off and the city became more and more quiet as more people moved away and fewer mines operated. As years passed, Aspen became a tourist center in the summer. Its fishing streams and scenery, many trails, and climate attracted nature lovers, but it was only a shadow of what it had formerly been.

Finally the mountainsides began to attract skiers and weekend enthusiasts came over the slopes into the lobby of the Jerome Hotel. The war followed and the 10th Ski Division, stationed at Camp Hale, came over on weekends to glide down Aspen Mountain. In 1945, through the instrumentality of Walter Peepcke, a Chicago businessman, the revival of Aspen began. His plan was to make the city a year-round playground and to this end began to restore the empty business blocks and private houses. He redecorated Jerome Hotel and in January 1947, he opened Aspen as a new pleasure resort.

Like Leadville, Aspen retains more of the characteristics of a permanent mining town than, for example, Cripple Creek, Kokomo, or Fairplay. Most of the buildings in the town are of a permanent character since a large number of them are of brick construction.

Four noteworthy structures have survived. Two of these, the Hotel Jerome and the old Opera House, have been mentioned previously. Others are the brick Catholic Church which was constructed in 1892, and the Court House which was built in the 1890's. Both of these buildings appear to have undergone few architectural changes.

Aspen is developing into a well-known tourist attraction and sports center. In 1940 Aspen had a population of 705; in 1950, 916.



Former old Opera House erected in 1889 at Aspen,
Colorado. Northwest view. Photograph by Ray H.
Mottison, October 1958. Negative in Region Two Office
Library, Ocala, Florida.



Old courthouse erected in 1890 at Aspen Colorado.
Southeast view. Photograph by Ray E. Mattison,
October 1978. Negative in Region Two Office Library,
Omaha, Nebraska.



Hotel Jerome, Aspen, Colorado, completed in 1893.
Southeast view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, October
1938. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha,
Nebraska.

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3. NAME(S) OF SITE Ouray	4. APPROX. ACREAGE
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)	
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)	

Significance: Ouray was one of the more important mining towns in the San Juan district. However, it was overshadowed in importance by both Silverton, some 21 miles distance by highway, and Telluride, about 10 airline miles distant.

Ouray was established in 1875 when rich silver lodes were discovered nearby. This discovery resulted in a rush of miners to the region. Two years later the town was incorporated.

During the 1880's Ouray boomed. The town had three newspapers. A number of paying mines were developed. The collapse of silver prices in 1893 did not mean the end of Ouray as it did many mining towns because the miners turned largely to mining gold. In 1896 Thomas Walsh discovered gold near Ouray. The mine he developed, the Camp Bird Mine, proved to be a rich one and made Walsh a fortune. Between 1896 and 1902 the mine annually yielded \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 in ore. In 1902 Walsh sold the mine to a British syndicate for \$5,200,000. The mine is still profitably operated.

There is still some mining in the vicinity of Ouray for gold, silver, lead, and zinc. It is quite a popular tourist resort as it is one of the more picturesque mining towns of Colorado.

Remains: Ouray in 1960 had a population of 1,089. Among the significant surviving buildings are: (1) the Beaumont Hotel, an ornate, three-story, white brick structure, which was built in 1886; and, (2) the Elks Hall.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Walle, Stampede to Timberline (Boulder 1949), 370-377; WPA, Colorado: A Guide to the Highest State (New York 1941), 414-415.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, ILABS, etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Good	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) Town	13. DATE OF VISIT 6/61
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) RAY H. MATTISON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE 10/17/61	

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10½ SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

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Panoramic view of Ouray taken from a point south of the town.

Photo by Mattison
June 1961



Beaumont Hotel, a rambling, ornate, three-story structure,
built in 1886. Camera pointing to the north, northeast.

Photo by Mattison
June 1961

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Colorado		2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV Westward Expansion, 1830-1898, "The Mining Frontier"	
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Ouray			4. APPROX. ACREAGE
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)			
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)			
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)			

Significance: Ouray was one of the more important mining towns in the San Juan district. However, it was overshadowed in importance by both Silverton, some 21 miles distance by highway, and Telluride, about 10 airline miles distant.

Ouray was established in 1875 when rich silver lodes were discovered nearby. This discovery resulted in a rush of miners to the region. Two years later the town was incorporated.

During the 1880's Ouray boomed. The town had three newspapers. A number of paying mines were developed. The collapse of silver prices in 1893 did not mean the end of Ouray as it did many mining towns because the miners turned largely to mining gold. In 1896 Thomas Walsh discovered gold near Ouray. The mine he developed, the Camp Bird Mine, proved to be a rich one and made Walsh a fortune. Between 1896 and 1902 the mine annually yielded \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000 in ore. In 1902 Walsh sold the mine to a British syndicate for \$5,200,000. The mine is still profitably operated.

There is still some mining in the vicinity of Ouray for gold, silver, lead, and zinc. It is quite a popular tourist resort as it is one of the more picturesque mining towns of Colorado.

Remains: Ouray in 1960 had a population of 1,009. Among the significant surviving buildings are: (1) the Beaumont Hotel, an ornate, three-story, white brick structure, which was built in 1886; and, (2) the Wicks Hall.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Walle, Stampede to Timberline (Boulder 1949), 370-377; WPA, Colorado: A Guide to the Highest State (New York 1941), 414-415.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, I.I.A.B.S., etc.)

10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION Good	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) Town	13. DATE OF VISIT 8/61
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) RAY H. MATTERSON	Ray H. Mattison	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE 10/17/61

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UNITED STATES
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NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Montana	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion, 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier of the Trans-Mississippi West)	4. APPROX. ACREAGE
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Marysville		
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) About 22 miles northwest of Helena, Montana		
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Private		
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)		

Marysville was one of the great gold producing centers of Montana prior to 1899. It was named for Mary Ralston, pioneer woman of the district. Marysville, however, never became a big camp. Its greatest population is estimated at 2,000. Prior to the time that railroads were built to this camp, everything was freighted into Marysville up the steep canyon grade. In 1887, as the big mines began to pay and the town grew, the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railroads began a race to reach the town and corner the freight trade.

The Drumlummon Mine made Marysville famous. There are several stories about the discovery of this mine. One is that it was discovered by a Thomas Cruse, who discovered it soon after 1860. Another story claims that George Detweiler discovered it in 1876. However, it is very certain that Cruse very early owned the mine which he called the Drumlummon after his birthplace in Ireland. For six years he took out high grade ore from his workings and crushed it in a little five stamp mill in Marysville. He took out over 144,000 dollars in bullion from this place. In 1883, he sold the mine for \$1,500,000 to an English syndicate, The Montana Mining Company, Ltd. This English company spent fortunes on its development. Many of the stockholders were English aristocrats whose sons were sent to the mines to become engineers or mining experts. They were paid large salaries and were well housed. They spared no expenses in developing this mine. This company eventually went into bankruptcy. In 1896, C. W. Merrill reworked the tailings of the Drumlummon by the cyanide process and he and the company profited by the venture. In 1911 the mine was sold to the St. Louis Mining and Milling Company. Under its several owners, the Drumlummon produced approximately 20 million dollars.

When the Drumlummon lode was discovered in 1876, other veins were uncovered. Mining soon began to boom. Other smaller mines such as the Snowdrift, and the Penobscott, were developed. However, gradually the mines played out or their ore

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)
Muriel S. Woole, The Bonanza Trail: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the West (Bloomington, 1953), 194-199.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)
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10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	11. CONDITION	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.)	13. DATE OF VISIT August 1955
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) ISSD. RAY H. MATTISON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec. 19, 1958	

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SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Montana	Marysville

because too low grade for profitable handling so the properties were forced to close down.

A number of the buildings of the old mining town of Marysville have survived. As one drives through the canyon into the town one sees the big, silent Drumlummon Mill on the hill with its mass of buildings and tailings. The main street is lined with substantial brick and stone buildings and several homes beyond. Two frame churches, the Methodist and Catholic, stand almost opposite a large, drab school-house. There are a number of stone foundations visible where former buildings stood.

Marysville, at the present time is a tourist or ski center during the winter months. In 1950 it had a population of 79.



Ghost gold mining town of Marysville, Montana. During the 1890's and 1900's Marysville was the State's leading gold producer and had a population from 2,000 to 3,000. Southwest view. Marysville is about 80 miles northwest of Helena. Photograph by Ray H. Harrison, August 1954. Negative in Region Two Office, Ocala, Montana.



Old Krumpholtz saw mill located near Marysville,
Montana. Northwest view. Photograph by Ray H. Mathison,
August 1954. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Great,
Siberia.

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NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Montana	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion, 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier of the Trans-Mississippi West)
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Elkhorn	4. APPROX. ACREAGE
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) 25 miles by road from Boulder, Montana	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) Private	
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)	

Elkhorn is one of the most typical ghost mining towns in Montana. It purportedly shipped out some 14 million dollars worth in silver in addition to gold and lead.

Although the district around Elkhorn had been prospected and quartz locations made prior to 1870, the town of Elkhorn actually came into being in the early 1880's. The original owner built a 5 stamp wet crushing free milling plant on the premises. However, this mill was adequate for the surface ores but lost about 50% of the silver values when the deeper ores proved refractory. The Elkhorn Mining Company bought the townsite in 1883 and erected a new mill. By the means of a chloridizing process 90% of the value of the ores was saved and bullion aggregating over 188 thousand dollars in silver and over \$23,000 in gold was obtained in the first 10 months run. While other mines operated in the vicinity they were completely eclipsed by the Elkhorn.

The mining camp of Elkhorn flourished throughout the 1880's and 1890's. In addition to the miners whose monthly payroll was over \$15,000, an army of woodchoppers was kept busy cutting timber for the mines and providing fuel for the furnaces. In 1884, Elkhorn produced an average of \$5,000 daily. The town was built and maintained almost entirely by the Elkhorn Mining Company. In 1889, the Northern Pacific built a railway up the steep grade of the narrow gulch east of town and provided it with tri-weekly service.

The Elkhorn property has changed hands several times and has been thought to have been worked out more than once, but careful explorations always revealed new ore bodies. By 1901, pumping costs were so high and the ore was such low grade, that mining became unprofitable and the property was abandoned. Since that time it has been opened up occasionally by leasers, one outfit spending 2 years and \$80,000 to pump out the lower levels and put the mine in shape for operations. During the summer of

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Wolle, The Bonanza Trail: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the West (Bloomington, 1953) 200-202.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

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14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) ESD. RAY W. MATTISON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec. 19, 1958	

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STATE	NAME(S) OF SITE
Montana	Elkhorn

1910, about 100 persons were employed. In 1951, only 4 families were living in the town. At one time Elkhorn had a population of about 1,500.

Many of the old buildings in Elkhorn have survived. Most of them, however, are frame structures, and are in a run-down condition. As one travels down the main street of the old town he notes that the biggest and most important false-fronted building is the Fraternity Brothers Hall. On the hill nearby is the old Elkhorn mine with a vast accumulation of tailings.



Millerton, Montana, is a ghost gold mining town, located about 11 miles northwest of Boulder, Montana. This well preserved ghost town was established in 1872. Some \$14,000,000 of gold and silver were taken from it. West-southwest view. Photograph by Ray E. Mattison, July 1974. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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1. STATE Wyoming	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion, 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Atlantic City	4. APPROX. ACREAGE of the Trans-Mississippi West
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)	
7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)	

Atlantic City is located about 4 miles from South Pass City. This ghost town, in common with South Pass City, was one of the most significant mining camps in Wyoming. However, the State itself did not play a very significant role in the mining frontier. On the other hand, it cannot be completely ignored.

The mining camp of Atlantic City sprung up in 1867 when the Atlantic Ledge was discovered. By the following April the camp with a population of 300 had grown up on Rock Creek in the midst of gold-bearing quartz lodes and placers. The boom in Atlantic City lasted longer than her more spectacular neighbor, South Pass City. At the heyday of Atlantic City the town housed about 2,000 inhabitants and its business district ran along both sides of the Atlantic Gulch. In 1878 when South Pass was almost abandoned there were still 7 stamp mills in operation at Atlantic City with enough ore to keep them all busy.

Wyoming's first brewery was erected in this place. During the town's heyday it also boasted of an opera house where by candlelight the pick axers tossed nuggets at the dancing feet of the pretty troopers. The end of Atlantic Gulch was designated Frenchtown which had a popular beer garden. Saturday night found the spaders gathered to squander their bullion on high-heeled and low-bloused beldams and gurgling uncorked spirits. The French section of Atlantic City was a continual Mardi Gras while the free gold lasted.

Indian depredations became so severe at Atlantic City and the adjacent towns that the people in that mining town demanded a garrison. A post was established in 1870 about a mile and a half from Atlantic City, known as Fort Stambaugh.

About all that remains of Atlantic City are the gaping holes and the machine-made ruptures outlining the stream banks. A small hotel is operated there.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)	
Mary Lou Pence and Lolo M. Homsher, <u>Ghost Towns of Wyoming</u> (New York, 1956), 42-47; Muriel S. Wolle, <u>The Bonanza Trail: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the West</u> (Bloomington, 1953) 166-169.	
9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, I-IABS, etc.)	

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14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) (Sgd.) RAY H. MATTISON	15. TITLE Historian	16. DATE Dec. 19, 1958	

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Atlantic City, Wyoming, old ghost mining town. This old mining town had its heyday in the late 1860's and early 1870's. Southwest view. Photograph by Ray H. Mattison, August 1955. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.