

DOWNLOAD PDF FRANCES WILLIAMS : FOUNDER OF THE COALDALE MINING COMPANY

Chapter 1 : Mercer County, West Virginia Death Records

Coaldale is a former mining town and true ghost town in Esmeralda County, Nevada, located at the junction of U.S. Route 95 and U.S. Route 6 about 40 miles west of Tonopah, Nevada Contents 1 History.

Coaldale Nevada is a small ghost town or rather mining camp that sparked up as a coal mining community which was very short lived. Despite it being built on its coalfields it met its demise due to gas by Therefore it remains very desolate, remote and more then often forgotten unless you were passing through via railroad, stagecoach or even in later times the automobile. When development begin in Coaldale about 1, to 1, semi-bituminous coal belts were discovered in the Silver Peak Range which overshadows the area. The problem was is that when the coal was mined it was to expensive to ship let alone develop the coalfields on a commercial basis. Those that invested in the coalfield begin to realize it and they simply bailed while a man by the name of Billy Groetzinger decided to hold onto his interest in the mines. The life of a miner was a lonely one therefore Billy worked alone for many years and in he sold tons of coal to the Columbia Borax Works for very little profit after spending years mining the coal. Despite his hard work and his losses he continued to mine for Coal holding on to the land title hoping for future venues and eventually in one would come along which I will get more into further into our article and prologue. This is in case some of you have wondered why I have not done an exploration of that mining town. For a tidbit of information I have crossed the salt marsh in my jeep so not to far from Coaldale borax mining was transpiring. While Coaldale was no major city or thriving town it did have roughly 50 residents that included a railroad depot, post office, hotel, gas station, general store, saloons, market and even a residential area where the locals lived during the communities heyday. Back in the day from about till train tracks ran through Coaldale due to the construction of the Tonopah and Goldfield Railroad. The train ran for about miles connecting Tonopah and Mina Nevada. Coaldale was merely a stop along the railroad and many of the locals who needed supplies could simply jump on the train head into Tonopah for the day. But when gold and silver operations ceased so did the railroad besides with the age of the automobile people had more efficient ways to travel greater distances faster then even the train therefore the depot in Coaldale would be terminated eventually. Dolores Steele Coaldale was not known for gold or silver perhaps more or less lithium and coal were mined here. I believe one of the largest lithium mines in the world is not to far from Coaldale. Many mining towns were springing up around Coaldale such as Tonopah , Belmont , Mina , Sodaville , Palmetto and Columbus Nevada just to name a few that we have done research at. Hence why today most people call this ghost town Coaldale Junction or even Station. Because many miners pioneers and people from other boom towns often stopped in Coaldale to water down there horses perhaps even bunk up for the night. While Coaldale was a Stagestop eventually it would transition from the railroad to the automobile. But folks passing through could get a hot meal and get a room for the night which was the cast for nearly a century. People had dreams of making Coaldale a large city then again that was the case with many mining towns and allot of times the opposite in fact occurred. A woman by the name of Frances had some success in Goldfield in the mining business. While prospected and filed many claims she also organized many companies. For example she organized the St. Frances Gold Mining Company which she sold in then a short time later organized the St. Frances-Mohawk Mining and Leasing Company. Did you know by that mine yielded over two million dollars making Frances one of the richest women in Nevada? So when she learned that the railroad was coming through Coaldale she was ecstatic because she wanted to try a hand in coal mining. Back in the day people called the stage stop Coal Wells and when Frances heard the railroad was building a depot here a short time later she met Groetzinger to become her partner. In Frances and William staked some acreage some to be used for a town the other part of it for mining. Frances Mining and Smelting Company. This woman had power but also money so she was batting for Coaldale to be a major coal mining town. Of nearly the thousand acres the town site would reside on she used forty of those acres for a town park which at the time sat in the middle of town. There hope was they could use the railroad

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to bring in new townfolk and also export the coal being mined here. As a matter in fact Dr. Small shipments of coal did make it to Tonopah Nevada in which could be used in heating peoples homes since firewood was a rare commodity up here and winters were harsh. You could shovel coal into a furnace and it would heat your entire home but unfortunately it was the best quality and the demand for it was not very high therefore profits were to be lost. However, around the railroad did listen to Frances so the depot and town name of Coal Wells was changed to Coaldale which is what it is known today as. Coaldale was slipping from her hands it just was not working out for her and she begin to sell stock. But see the U. Geological Survey determined that the coal might be good for steam engines or even coal gas it was not fuel grade. Then in the Nevada Power Mining and Milling Company extended electrical lines into Central Nevada from Bishop California thus canceling out the demand and need for using coal as a power source. She had to abandoned her business venture later in it was so short lived. The problem was that she sounded like a scammer so the newspapers branded her as a wildcatter which to her was seen as libel filing a lawsuit against the Tonopah Bonanza. In turn she also became very frustrated with William Booth the editor of that paper thus threatened to publicly horsewhip him. Not to long after she was arrested but would be found not guilty by a Grand Jury for threatening the life of a Goldfield lawyer over a land dispute. In fact after trying to eject her Frances drew her gun out running him out of town. As a matter in fact he retired to California retiring just to escape Dr. Well that was how life often went in the wild west! Frances did move on with her life but Coaldale for her was a failure that always was a thorn in her side. Its one of those things that you live with and kind of regret. She had to move on so in she spent her time up in Goldfield sometimes San Francisco tending between her medical practice and her husband who was ill. In the doctors husband had died and she closed up her medical practice in California living permanently in Nevada. Frances moved on from Coaldale organizing a couple mine companies. To make matters worst a lawsuit was filed by another mining compnay in Goldfield who wanted to sue the Frances-Mohawk for improper timbering. Sadly a short time later after eating dinner Dr Frances Williams went to bed which was at the Grimshaw Hotel suffering a heart attack and in March of she passed away. She was a crazy woman but after reading about here more in depth she was a character and I am sure if she was alive her and I would be friends! I have respect for those who stand up for what is right and the press made her out to be a scammer. This woman was not a failure but very successful throughout her whole life and others simply did not play along which really was needed if Coaldale was ever going to grow. Coaldale would live on despite how small it was as in - it had about 20 residents including an R. Edwards who was the post master and sold general goods at his store. Also William Groetzinger also lived in town still who eventually told his land titles to a L. More then likely Groetzinger probably had an affair with Frances I cannot say for sure but in the west people had gotten lonely and Coaldale was and still is a very lonely place. White also lived here who was a Railroading and Express Agent, H. Lower were miners living in Coaldale. Once Koontz had gotten land titles in he tried mining and selling coal to residents of Goldfield to be used for heating. But it was a poor grade that it melted grates and ruined stoves therefore the people ran him out of town. As you can see people that lived in the west were tenacious they never really gave up because some held onto dreams and hopes much like Dr. Rouvenanck organized the Nevada Coal and Fuel Company that very same year. In the Darms Coal Company was reorganized and when Darms passed away in coal mining had ceased. The coal is still up in those hills unfortunately as scientist have learned its not good for the environment and coal mining is extremely dangerous. Besides coal mining in Coaldale other residents lived here made a living by other means. In Car Rieck lived here and operated a store as well as service station to replace the old stage stop. Its quite possible the Parsons had taken over for Car Rieck thus combing his store and service station with there motel business. For many decades those that passed through Coaldale more or less used it as a rest stop in the barren Nevadan wilderness. Most of Coaldale has been erased by time not much remains but a bunch of scattered remnants in the desert such as a few foundations, mangled pieces of metal and of course Coaldale Station which is what you will see on our website. The station consisted of a 12 room motel, casino-bar-restaurant, garage, general store, gas station, garbage, diesel generator building, bath house, trailer

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park and laundry mat. I heard today the airfield needs improvement and does need to meet national and international safety standards. But back in the day small private planes did land here. Some of the people who operated the station also lived on site in small cottages or even at the motel itself. All the way up until people stopped in Coaldale to fill up gas perhaps dine in at the cafe or get a room for the night on the way perhaps from Las Vegas up to Reno for example. Unfortunately the EPA determined that the underground fuel tanks were leaking into the ground causing an environmental hazard. So without the sale of gas it was safe to say that Coaldale Station was forever doomed. The only people that live in Coaldale today are squatters who often lived in the motel rooms but today most of the structures are so deplorable nobody wants to stay here. I read some stories about some of those squatters chasing explorers off the property as when you pull up to the station it says armed patrols no trespassing. So often most folks are far to intimidated to even explore this place which has been ravaged by vandals, looters, squatters and in arsonist after a series of fires were set. Coaldale Station Gas Pump, Cafe and General Store after it was abandoned for good The station looks like a scene right out of The Walking Dead overrun by rodents, squatters, glass everywhere, holes in the walls and only today ghosts haunt this unsuccessful town site. Nobody ever had a reason to stop here anymore once the hotel, gas station and general store closed they had no reason too. In the town of Coaldale was up for sale again as a new owner you could become the towns marshal-constable, Town Board Chairman, Airport Manger and even a fire chief. In a sense I would love to see Coaldale make a comeback as Junctions 95 and 6 are very important routes through Nevada. These are very long, remote and desolate routes therefore this is what made Coaldale such an important stop for travelers needing food, supplies and gas for there vehicles before heading on to major cities like Vegas or Reno since it really was the mid point between the two. She played the heroine who kicked a bunch of bikers asses terrorizing a small town with a leather whip and her kickboxing skills on her motorcycle. I am sure some of you had seen that movie but that was Coaldale and today as you can see from our galleries it certainly looks allot different due to humans spending years abusing this station and the ghost town which stood here at one time. Remember the VHS tapes? Well this was the cover to The Stranger does that bring back some memories for us old folks? Coaldale spent many years being a coal mining town and eventually a place for travelers to fuel up at. It makes you wonder what would have happened if the town never died?

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Chapter 2 : Coaldale, Nevada - Ghost Towns on blog.quintoapp.com

She formed the Coaldale Coal Mining Company, the Nevada & Electric Power and Transmission Company and the St. Frances Mining and Smelting Company, which she organized into affiliate corporations.

Coaldale is located in Esmeralda County, Nevada, and is now a ghost town. A fire that occurred sometime between was somewhat secretive, or possibly just poorly investigated. Dennis who died here in about December after being shot in the chest in December after he and some friends caused a ruckus at the Coledale bar. Depending upon which story you believe, Jimmy had been shot by Deputy Sheriff Elton Parsons in self-defense, but Parsons was sentenced to one to five years. Parsons and his wife, Jewell, were the owners of some of the other businesses in Coledale at the time of the shooting, and the Parsons were generally thought to be respectable residents of Coaldale. These men were joined in by Clay Peters and William Wilson, but the mining was too expensive and the coal nearly worthless and not a profitable venture. Soon the financial interest between the men was dissolved, but Groetzinger held on and continued to mine on his own; in he sold tons of coal to the Columbia Borax Works. Still, the work was very difficult for the small profit that was realized. At one time, Dr. Frances Williams, partnered with Groetzinger in an effort to increase her wealth. She had been born in New York in to English immigrant parents and later made her way to Tonopah where she became very wealthy, due to her successful involvement in multiple mining concerns. On July 16, , she and William staked a acre claim in the Coaldale area, intending of the acres to be for mining and the rest of the acreage was designated for an elaborate townsite they envisioned. The venture was a bust, as the coal that was found was of inferior quality. Coaldale continues to struggle. In it claimed 30 residents, including postmaster and owner of the general store, R. Petty, railroad agent W. White and of course Uncle Billy, who eventually sold out to Louis K. Koontz had become convinced that coal mining could still be lucrative, and sunk his fortune into the Coaldale mines. He soon learned as others before him had learned: In Louis K. He sold it to Goldfield residents as heating fuel, but it was such a bad grade that it melted the grates and ruined stoves, and he was nearly run out of town. Rouvenanck to create the Nevada Coal and Fuel Company. By the struggling company reorganized as the Darms Coal Company, which operated until , and then closed, ending the coal mining era in Coaldale. The town struggled to exist thru the s, when it closed for good.

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Chapter 3 : Estey City ghost town

By the struggling company reorganized as the Darms Coal Company, which operated until , and then closed, ending the coal mining era in Coaldale. The town struggled to exist thru the s, when it closed for good.

Mining Lore The female pioneers of prospecting Female prospectors in the California, Klondike, and Nevada mining booms fought sexism and claim thieving to be taken seriously Female prospectors in the California, Klondike, and Nevada mining booms fought sexism and claim thieving to be taken seriously By Cecilia Keating March 08, Nellie Cashman said that while working as an elevator operator in Washington, she was urged by future U. Grant to go west in search of gold. Wikimedia Women have long struggled to establish themselves in the mining industry. They are absent from most history books and were officially banned from mining in by the United States National Bureau of Mines, but have been an essential part of mining in North America over the past several centuries. In their work, female prospectors were beset by widespread prejudice, male prospectors who thieved their claims and difficulty selling the claims they did keep. Still they persevered to claim their own territory in the industry. According to historians, sources on women prospectors are scarce, in part because they were largely working class and therefore unlikely to write diaries or letters. Moreover, because most were childless their stories were not passed down. The main sources on women prospectors are mining camp newspapers, which were less focused on their achievements and more on their clothes or unconventionality “ whether they wore pants or seemed too showy. Born to a poor Catholic family in Ireland in , her family immigrated to the United States during the potato famine. She overheard tales of the West while working as an elevator operator in a hotel in Washington, D. According to her own account, one passenger was Civil War general and future U. Grant, who urged her to go. Known for her entrepreneurial flair, she worked as a cook and later ran restaurants and boarding houses in many of the mining towns she prospected in. Accounts note she had impeccable timing, often being one of the first to arrive at a camp and leaving just as it began to decline. Fanny Quigley at garden site on flank of Quigley Ridge, Alaska. Pilgrim Fannie Quigley was initially a dance hall girl in Dawson City. She became legendary as a cook, singlehandedly tracking, killing and cooking bears, moose and caribou for hungry miners. She quickly turned her attention to mining, staking her first claim over kilometres east of Dawson in She walked out on her first husband for a strike in Alaska. Also in Dawson at the turn of the century was Lillian Malcolm, a Broadway actress who, at age 30, set off to the Klondike to find gold. After her first foray into prospecting proved unsuccessful “ several claims she staked were stolen from her by men “ she decided to seek stable employment in Dawson. Her efforts failed and, beleaguered by money troubles, she joined the boom in Nevada. She relied on her acting abilities for extra cash, captivating desert miners with harrowing stories of her exploits in the north. Once they struck gold, women prospectors had to work harder than men to sell claims to potential investors, given that they were banned from the male-only saloons where many deals were cinched. In order to publicize their claims, women had to be inventive. At a time when most women were relegated to domestic roles and motherhood was idealized, these contrarian women were extraordinary.

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Chapter 4 : The Paranormal & Ghost Society

Coaldale Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 - \$6, Goal Set by By Coaldale Lions For Ambulance dedicated to Randolph Harvey Nov. 11, C.H.O.S.E - - "Raymer and Sharpe".

The township now contains two thrifty villages and one borough. In mineral resources it is the richest portion of Bedford county. One of the earliest pioneers of the Broad Top was Dr. Jeremiah Duval, who came from the vicinity of Annapolis, Maryland, soon after the revolutionary war. He secured a title to his land in Duval brought with him several men with families, his object being the establishment of a colony. Through his influence many other settlers were induced to come here after the colony was started, and after a few years the settlement became quite populous and prosperous. Duval was a man of culture and talent, and for years was the leading man among the settlers. He was a physician of good attainments, and for many years his medical practice extended over a wide field. He died in Two of his children are still living--Mrs. Sarah Baker, of Fulton County, now eighty-five years of age, and Dr. Asa Duval, of Broad Top township. Asa Duval was born in , studied medicine with his father, and practiced until the infirmities of age compelled him to cease. Some secured titles to their land, others made small improvements, lived here a number of years and then went elsewhere. Some of the descendants of the Chaney's and Andersons still reside here. She came after her husband, and died the night after her arrival. There were no sawmill near the settlers, and Mrs. Barton Shreeves, son of Jeremiah, remained here a number of years and was a prominent citizen. He lived to be very aged, and his family is still represented here. A tract of one thousand acres was among the earliest surveys of land made in this township. In it was purchased for one hundred and eighty pounds, by Amos Evans, of Chester county, and Samuel Horton, of Montgomery county, both of whom settled here and reared families. Amos Evans had two sons, who live in this township--Miles and Joseph. Joseph Evans died in , in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He was the father of Lemuel Evans, Esq. The latter was elected justice of the peace in , and held office twenty years. In he was elected lieutenant-colonel of militia and served two years. In he was elected brigade-inspector of this county, to fill a vacancy. Re-elected in , he served until , when he was elected brigadier, in which capacity he served until He was also in the service in the late war, in Co. Matthias Long was one of the earliest settlers. His son, Christopher Long, was born in Broad Top township as now constituted in Long, son of Christopher, is an old resident, and now resides in Coaldale. Isaac Grove settled on Broad Top mountain before His son Francis was born in this county in that year. The children of Isaac grove were: In a very destructive forest fire ran over Broad Top mountain. Several farm buildings were destroyed and much damage was done to crops and other property. A sudden rain put a stop to the ravages of the flames. During the progress of the fire an eccentric character known as Mose Donaldson became greatly alarmed and excited, and, kneeling, prayed earnestly for rain. Donaldson was an ignorant and somewhat profane man, and when he was discovered by a neighbor in the unaccustomed attitude of prayer, the latter accosted him thus: No doubt Donaldson was ever after a firm believer in the efficacy of his own prayers. The grandparents of John C. In James Figard, his father, moved to Broad Top township. He was a farmer and mechanic. He has been a justice of the peace sixteen years, discharging the duties of that office in manner highly satisfactory to his fellow-citizens. Allison Edwards was born and reared in Huntingdon county. In he moved to Broad Top township. From he resided in Illinois. He has followed carpentry principally, though he ahs worked some at farming. The grandfather of Mr. Edwards lived in Woodcock valley, Blair county, during the Indian troubles. His father, James Edwards, resided in Huntingdon county, near the Bedford county line. Jonathan Barnet, the father of Mrs. Edwards, moved into Broad Top township in Elisha Barton is a native of Fulton county, and a descendant of one of the early settlers of that county. In he settled at Coaldale. In he lived in Hopewell township, and about four years ago he settled upon the farm where he now resides. The land was warranted to him in Prior to the property was sold by the sheriff to Samuel Riddle. The coal is of a superior quality, and is valuable both for coking and fuel purposes. The existence of this coal in Broad Top mountain

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has been known for at least a century, but not until within a recent period have important mining operations been carried on. The mines of this county are confined to two valleys, Six-Mile run and Sandy creek, both in Broad Top township. The vein that is worked contains about four feet of good mining coal. Most of the colleries are worked by means of drift-mining. The mines on Sandy run are exclusively of this kind. On Six-Mile run there are two shafts. The first mines were opened near Riddlesburg prior to the year 1800. The business was carried on by Samuel Riddle, one of the early lawyers of Bedford, his brother David superintending the work. They also shipped by arks. In Alexander Post, of Huntingdon, operated at Riddlesburg. The Kemble Coal and Iron company began operations on an extensive scale for the supply of their furnace in Wigtown began operations on Six-Mile run in 1810. Thomas Johns carried on quite extensive operations during the time of the war. The Duval shaft at Coaldale was sunk in 1815, and the Wigtown shaft in 1816. Six colleries are now worked on Sandy run, all of which are reached by the branch railroad running up the valley from Riddlesburg to North Point, and a seventh mine will be added during the present year. The first coal opening on Sandy run was made some sixty years ago on the John Shevington tract. In the winter of 1810 Richard Langdon and James Morley, having made leases of about eight hundred acres of coal-lands, began developing the Sandy Run valley. The work is now carried on by two mining companies, both employing about one hundred men. Owing to a lack of transportation facilities in 1810, the colleries of the Broad Top coal region were not worked to their full capacity. The yield during the year will doubtless be much greater. Colliery Owners Operators Tons Mt. Jenkins 17, Anderson Rathmell Wilson E. Jenkins Cunard R. Maher 7, Lane H. Johnson Sandy Run Coal Co. Johnson Juniata Valley Coal Co. It still remains active, although hundreds of charcoal furnaces of later date have long since passed out of existence. Hopewell furnace was built in 1810, by William King and Thomas Davis, and put in operation in 1812. A forge was built a few years later. The original furnace was an old-fashioned coldblast. It blew out about 1815. The forge was kept working, and managed by Grove, Couch, Duncan and others, until almost fifty years ago, when a man named Leslie bought the furnace property and rebuilt the stack. This firm failed and the furnace passed into possession of their creditors. From about 1815 to 1820 David Puderbaugh carried on the business, renting the furnace. The forge was not operated after he quit the business. The next change of owners was with the purchase of the property by the Hopewell Coal and Iron Company, of Philadelphia. The building of the railroad necessitated the destruction of all buildings, etc. During they made from forty-five to forty-seven tons of iron per week, a larger amount than was ever before produced.

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Chapter 5 : Frances Williams Mein De Bretteville () - Find A Grave Memorial

Founder of the Coaldale Mining Company Frances Williams 61 Prospector in the Silver Peak Mountains Lillian Malcolm 73 Owner/Operator of the Juanita Mine Josie Pearl

The territory described included all of Schuylkill County, except the northern part of Union Township which was included in the purchase of The earliest settlers in southeastern Schuylkill County, which was then part of Northampton County, were primarily Moravian missionaries from Saxony. Other early settlers in southern Schuylkill County were German Palatines. An early mill in the county was built in by John Finscher, but it later burned down. The first log church in the county was built in Native American massacres were commonplace in Schuylkill County between and Warrant for tracts of land in the vicinity of McKeansburg were in existence as early as More land was added to the county in , from Columbia and Luzerne counties [9]. At the time of its creation, the County had a population of about 6, Initial construction of the community was done in , and the community was expanded in During the early years of Schuylkill County, there was an attempt to make McKeansburg the county seat of the new county. The community of Orwigsburg was also a contender for the county seat. Orwigsburg was agreed upon to be the county seat, as it was deemed to be well-suited for industries. In , the Legislature passed the Act and approved by the Governor, on March 13, submitting the question to the voters. The change was desired principally because the railroad and canal connections with Orwigsburg were problematic to transport the public to that town without losing valuable time, while Pottsville had such facilities, and was within easy access from all parts of the county. Frustration with Bruno family control of the school board and other local offices had been growing for years. Several people were killed and more than 20 marchers were injured. In the year a blacksmith in Schuylkill County named Whetstone also learned how to use it successfully for smithing purposes. In the year coal was found in cutting the tail-race of the Valley Iron Forge, on the Schuylkill, and was used successfully by Daniel Berlin, a blacksmith, which led to its general use by the smiths in the neighborhood [15]. Most of the coal was given away to persons who would attempt to find a use for it. Then other rolling mills in the area also successfully used the fuel and thus a large industrial market was born [16] Then the Schuylkill Navigation Company was chartered in to build a series of navigation improvements in the Schuylkill River, nearly as early as the much more ambitious Erie Canal and well ahead of other key canals fueling the Industrial Revolution, such as the Delaware and Hudson , the Lehigh , the Chesapeake and Ohio , Delaware and Raritan and Morris canals. The originators of the project did not count upon the coal trade to promote the success of the undertaking. They looked forward mainly to the agricultural products below the mountains, the lumber of Schuylkill county, and the grain and other products of the counties between the Susquehanna and Schuylkill Rivers. The first shipments of coal by canal were made in the year , when 1, tons were sent down the line [17]. This outlet for a regular supply of anthracite coal existing, public attention was strongly attracted to the southern anthracite coal field. There was a rush to Schuylkill County of capitalists, adventurers and fortune hunters, who were inspired with the idea of suddenly becoming millionaires. This was the first speculative era of the Schuylkill coal trade. Pottsville became the center of the movement. The more successful explorers revealed the existence of a great number of veins of coal, extending over a vast stretch of county and with a seemingly inexhaustible quantity of coal. These discoveries brought excitement and speculation; lands were bought and sold ; roads were laid out in the forest, mines were opened and railroads projected, and innumerable town plots planned. The demand for houses was so great that the lumber for quite a large number was actually framed in Philadelphia and sent by canal to the burgeoning coal region [18]. Coal mining firms were small, family owned concerns. There was an earnest and increasing opposition to incorporated coal companies in the Schuylkill region. In these years, coal mining operations in the Schuylkill region were conducted with simplicity and economy, very little capital being required for their successful prosecution. The workings were all above the water level, no machinery being required for water drainage or for hoisting the coal to the

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surface. Coal breakers and other expensive fixtures and appliances for the preparation of coal had not then been introduced. There were many operators sending from five to six thousand tons to market annually which was then considered a respectable business that had not at any time a capital employed of as many thousands of dollars, including the first land purchase of the coal mine. It was asserted that it did not require as much capital to buy a piece of coal land and open the coal mines upon it as it did to buy a decent farm and stock it or did not require as much capital to work a coal mine as it did to establish a line of stages or transportation wagons [19]. Eventually, railroads replaced the canals as the primary means of transporting coal to the markets. Mining did become big corporate business, especially after the Civil War. As a result, the Middle Coal Field was developed in the s and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad created a subsidiary Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company to buy or lease and develop the expanding industrial coal trade. For example, consumption of coal along the Schuylkill above Philadelphia in the year , at which time the first anthracite furnace in the United States - the Pioneer, at Pottsville - was operational, was 30, tons. Ten years afterward it had increased to , tons, in the year to , tons, and in to 1,, tons [20]. The mining industry was the catalyst for mass immigration to Schuylkill County in the 19th and 20th centuries. As mines became more numerous “ by there were operators in the region and collieries in Schuylkill County - and more complex - pumping in there were 35 collieries below water level , mechanical breakers, steam locomotives it became more labor intensive; not just for accomplishing mining tasks but also to support the peripheral industries related to mining. Such industries included manufacturing of explosives, metal screens, pump components, piping, timber for support, etc. This led to an influx of population into Schuylkill and other anthracite counties to fill these jobs. Poles, Hungarians, Lithuanians, Slovaks, Rusyns and Ukrainians Ruthenians settled in the villages of Schuylkill County and took their place among the laborers in the coal mines. By the s and s thousands of Italians immigrated for jobs related to mining. The anthracite mining industry peaked its production In Subsequently, the industry declined with exceptions during the First and Second World Wars. In the s and s underground mining operations closed in Schuylkill County and throughout the Coal Region and surface mining became predominate. The following shows the decline in production and the number of employees from until , and the production and number of employees in , the last year for which data is available. This includes all anthracite production in Pennsylvania and not just Schuylkill County [21]:
Nicholas Breaker, Mahanoy City, Year.

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Chapter 6 : Coaldale, Nevada - WikiVisually

Around that time she formed the Coaldale Coal Mining Company, Nevada & Electric Power and Transmission Company and the St. Frances Mining and Smelting Company. This woman had power but also money so she was battling for Coaldale to be a major coal mining town.

Masses of red and white poinsettias frame the iconostasis; the fragrance of beeswax tapers and votive candles fills the air. Father Theodore Krepp celebrates the blessing of water, a purification rite of profound meaning and quiet drama marking the feast of the baptism of Christ. Afterward a hushed congregation lines up to fill bottles with the holy water. Eastern churches dominate the cityscape of Kingston. Few of the or so in attendance are children or, for that matter, young. When Father Krepp arrived at St. It now has , but only 50 children. He points, in contrast, to St. Simply put, demographics indicate that all churches in the region are losing people. With few opportunities locally, almost all the young have left. The 18th-century discovery of the hard coal “formed over million years ago” later sparked a mining frenzy that would fuel the industrialization of the United States, spur revolutions in technology and create boom towns across the region. Desperate for workers, mining companies scoured Central and Eastern Europe for cheap labor, recruiting many agricultural workers eager to escape the turmoil and poverty of their homeland. Shenandoah, which sits on the Mammoth coal vein, is home to the gold-domed St. The immigrants saw opportunity in the dirty, dangerous jobs in the mines. Devoted to their families and churches, these hard-working people shaped the resilient character of the coal region. Consequently, many were forced to leave the region to find jobs. Coal made many towns and for almost a century they thrived, but the closing of the mines sent these towns into a spiraling decline, from which they have never recovered. Peasants from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, they came from the Carpathian Mountains, a hardscrabble region now divided among the modern states of Slovakia, Poland and Ukraine. Like many Austro-Hungarians, these people did not have a clear sense of ethnic identity. Their faith, Catholic or Orthodox, set them apart from their neighbors. Tradition and family, says Father Krepp, have always been central. Once that identity was a given. John and Mary Ann Evans share a converted duplex with Mrs. A retired social worker, Mr. Evans takes care of his mother-in-law while Mrs. Their three children and their grandchildren remain in the area. Married 50 years, the couple met in the church choir as did many of their friends. From choir and catechism class to caroling and socials, says Mrs. Of Ukrainian background, Mrs. Yasenach married into the church, while her daughter married out of it only to return after losing her husband in And they all welcomed me back. Of her three children, the youngest is still at home, another remains in the area and the third lives in Brooklyn. When conversation turns to feast day picnics and piroghi, halupki stuffed cabbage and other traditional foods, the two women drift into the kitchen. There spread across the table are homemade bread, kielbasa with horseradish and sweets “cookies and coffee cake, a congenial ending to a house blessing. Located in the Wyoming Valley, both Kingston with 13, residents and neighboring Edwardsville with 4, now have declining populations and share a history of catastrophes. In , the Knox mine disaster put an end to mining in the region; in Hurricane Agnes caused the Susquehanna River to flood, creating one of the most devastating natural disasters the country had ever seen. Founded in to serve the then-growing Russian Orthodox community, St. John the Baptist Church is just two blocks from St. Those immigrant Russians were, in fact, from the Carpathian Mountains and Galicia, in what is now Ukraine. More than half of St. The elevator, he says, will enable wheelchair-bound parishioners to attend church again; it will also make it easier to bring caskets in for funerals. On a frigid January morning, several parishioners are gathered at the church. The Gingos are unusual in that all their children have opted to stay in the area. All present remember how it was before people began to leave in large waves, when Edwardsville was a collection of ethnic neighborhoods, but where everyone knew everyone else. They bought their meats and vegetables, their candy and liquor at local stores. They danced and sang, ate and drank at local social clubs. They walked down Main Street, now a dispiriting stretch of marginalized businesses, and saw

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everyone. Now, those who are left shop at malls. At the center of it all was the church. The festival draws people from other churches – even politicians come. So do young people and children. Shenandoah was founded in 1880, four years after the first colliery opened, bringing in settlers, eating houses, saloons and more. Other plants soon followed, and then banks, hotels, boarding houses and tenant houses. In time, three railroads ran into the town. Early settlers were Welsh, Irish and German. Each group settled in their own neighborhoods and, once enough money was collected, each group built impressive churches that resembled the ones they left behind in the Old World. In 1900, at its peak, Shenandoah had about 30,000 people. The population is now about 6,000; almost 70 percent are over 60 and 14 percent live below the poverty line. All the hills surrounding the town have been mined. Massive banks of culm, the waste left after coal screening, are everywhere. Thanks, however, to three cogeneration plants, designed to clean the waste of whatever energy it contains, trees now grow here and there on the culm. In winter, at least, downtown is a disconcerting mix of shabby, sometimes boarded-up buildings and unexpected promise – a ghost perhaps of what used to be. Seen from high above town, the golden domes of St. Michael Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church still draw the eye. Established in 1880, St. Michael's. The current church, dedicated in 1900, replaces the original, which was destroyed by fire in 1890. On a morning when the streets are slick with ice and the temperature dips below zero, there are only two women at church. That afternoon Father Petro Zvarych from St. Nancy Sawka, a recent widow and former bakery owner in nearby Frackville; Andrea Pytak, a retired nurse who volunteers at the rectory; and Samuel Litwak, fresh from a meeting of Downtown Shenandoah Inc. Shops had the same quality of merchandise as in New York and people were shoulder to shoulder. The parish now has about 100 families, including about 30 children. Father Zvarych, who hails from a small town in Ukraine not unlike Shenandoah, has been at St. Michael's. They go to church together, they share things together. Something happens and they come to each other, not like in a big town or city. Thanks goes to Teresa Kisko for providing this helpful tip for those researching ancestors from Bitumen.

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Chapter 7 : A beautiful mine : women prospectors of the old West (Book,) [blog.quintoapp.com]

Often portrayed only as "camp followers" or "sporting women" in association with the gold rushes of the Old West, women actually made fortunes panning and mining, as well.

Yes, many of these were also listed in the "Online Resources" section above. Family histories are listed at the end of the book section. Click on a hyperlinked title to view the index for that title. Copy request guidelines can be found at the top of each index page and in our Services section, below, if a title is not available online. Note that some indexes may be very large; use the "Find" feature on your internet browser to jump to the name you seek. Our book collection includes the following: Wiley and Henry W. Biographical Notes of Pine Grove, Pa. This book discusses some of the people living in the Pine Grove area, sometimes giving a fair amount of genealogical information and sometimes not! We will send only the pages we think are genealogically significant unless you instruct us otherwise. Available full text online. History of early settlers of eastern Pennsylvania, particularly prominent regional families and Schuylkill County-area soldiers in various wars; and the Zerbey family line; indexed. County Atlas of Schuylkill, Pennsylvania F. Includes maps of county, townships, boroughs, and villages; as well as illustrations of prominent people and buildings. Additional version of the atlas can be found on the Ancestor Tracks site. Various papers presented to the Society; Volumes indexed. Sometimes it will only give those who were present at a meeting, or who was on a particular board. Some volumes of this title are available fulltext online Volume 1 , Volume 2 , Volume 3 , Volume 4. Zerbey Newspapers, ; indexed. History of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania W. Click here to access this title for free from Google Books. Books One - Eight. This series compiles newspaper articles and obituaries, discharge notices, and other official resources that give information about people from that geographical area who served in the military. Records go back to include some Revolutionary War soldiers but most are from the s. Index includes every name from the region officials not from Schuylkill County were not included in this index. This book has birth records for Schuylkill County from Records list the date of birth or baptism, names of father and mother when recorded , and the name of the church. For Schuylkill County, records are included from the following churches: This book is not indexed, but within each county entries are alphabetical by last name and look-ups may be requested. Reports for contain names of those killed or injured in mining accidents. Most of these reports cannot be photocopied due to their age. We have purchased reports on microfilm, covering the years and , and these reports can be copied. Many of these reports are also now available online; see Pennsylvania Annual Reports on Mining Activities. Copies from the original document cannot be made due to age, but a transcription is available and portions can be emailed. Volume 1 and Volume 2 of this title are available fulltext online. Church or cemetery names by themselves indicate a single book. Church or cemetery names followed by square brackets indicate the church or cemetery records are in one of the larger compilation volumes. Friedens "Pineswamp" Church, Norwegian Twp. Klase Family Plot, Barry Twp. Laurel Cemetery, Norwegian Twp. Cemetery, Pottsville Odd Fellows I. Clair Odd Fellows I. Clair , Norwegian Twp. Mauritius Cemetery, Ashland St. Vincent de Paul No. Zions Union Congregation, Eldred Twp. Charles Baber Cemetery, Pottsville: Matta, this is an alphabetical list of names compiled from cemetery records and tombstones, published in Odd Fellows Cemetery I. Clair Cemetery -- compiled by Gayle Clews St. Vincent de Paul Minersville Cemetery No. Antes , Kaufman and Kopp Lineage and Genealogy. A listing of nearly all people with the last name of Armstrong residing in Pennsylvania during the time of the census. The Descendants of James Brown, Family Tales and Trails; Ten Generations Memorials of Peter A. Jay, Compiled for His Descendants. Starts with Christian Lang, "emigrant ancestor" from Germany. Miller and Pursel Families. The Ancestry and Family of David D. These materials are listed in our library catalog and may be used in the Reference Department. These records have been indexed by place name boroughs, townships, etc. We also have surname indexes for census records from While we do not have the original census records on microfilm, we do own two other resources which may be of interest: Census microfilms

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cannot be borrowed from the Pottsville Free Public Library. If you are unable to visit Pottsville, you do not have access to any genealogy sites like Ancestry. Confused about where a village is? Check out this list that has almost every borough and village in Schuylkill County with their township. Did we miss something? Email us and tell us what needs to be added or changed. Back to top City Directories The Pottsville Free Public Library has Pottsville-area city directories from to the present year, with a few small gaps in holdings. From to the directories cover most of the businesses in Schuylkill County. From to the directories cover only Pottsville and the immediate surrounding communities, both businesses and residents. From to the present, the directories cover Pottsville, the immediate surrounding communities, and a few other nearby boroughs. The directories that list people by address criss-cross directories were published from to the present. Telephone number criss-cross listings were published from to the present. Directories from to are on microfilm; directories from to the present are in bound volumes. These are names that appeared in obituaries, funeral notices, or inquest reports. Entries marked "hard to read" mean the article may not copy clearly. Requests for copies of obituaries from this index may be sent to the Reference Dept. Any other obituary or article requests MUST include an exact date; months or years will not be searched. See " Fees " below for costs. The file is in. Use the "find" command to jump to the name you seek. Printing out the entire list is NOT recommended: One of our local researchers has pointed out some lists of death dates that are elsewhere on the web. Bernie Bernatonis compiled several lists of deaths from the Pottsville Republican newspaper covering various years. Two segments did not get microfilmed: July - December and October - December These volumes were missing when the filming project took place. So far we have identified over names and their dates and pages in the newspaper. The Shenandoah Evening Herald Deaths file contains names found as we answered genealogy requests and some names provided by genealogy researchers. Thank you Janet, Joanne and Diane! Thanks to Mary who spent several days indexing the early issues! The page is in text format, so use the "Find" feature of your internet browser to jump to the name you want. Select a year from their " Browse Issues " page May - Dec. It looks like you can either download a file or print it. Thanks, Susan, for pointing out this site! We have issues from Jan.

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Chapter 8 : Genealogy and Local History Materials at the Pottsville Free Public Library

PEBBLE BEACH - Frances Mein de Bretteville, a descendant of a pioneer mining family and a prominent figure in San Francisco society, died on November 14, She was Mrs. de Bretteville was born in New York. She was the daughter of William Wallace Mein, the founder of Calaveras Cement.

New River Valley History: Welcome and we hope you join the discussions. On January 21, we switched in the last of the updated files and final page revisions. In January we introduced the new site layout but because there were many pages left to do there was a big red Under Construction on the front page. We have a great looking site full of material to help you in your research and possibly entertain you. It must be maintained, New River Notes was originally launched in by Jeffrey C. Weaver providing New River Valley researchers with a new wealth of information and that tradition is continued today by the Grayson County, Virginia Heritage Foundation, Inc. Welcome and we hope you enjoy our new look. Burial in Meadow View Cem. Born 19 Sep in Washington Co. Burial in Maple Wood Cem. Burial in Lincoln Mem. Widow of John Wade. Born 10 May in Washington Co. Burial in Rock Cem. Burial in Woodlawn Cem. Burial in Rest Haven Cem. Burial in Pocahontas Cem. Born 21 Feb in Washington Co. Burial in Monte Vista Cem. Widow of Charlie Webb. Born 24 Aug in Smyth Co. Born 7 Apr in Smyth Co. Burial at Woodlawn Cem. Born 13 Sep in Smyth Co. Born 23 Apr in Washington Co. Burial in Trigg, VA. Born 3 May in Smyth Co. Burial in Riverside Cem. Burial at Round Hill. Born 20 Feb in Emory, VA [parents not listed]. Burial in Rest Haven. Born 6 Aug in Washington Spgs. Hill [mother not listed]. Burial in Oakwood, Princeton. Burial in Glades Spgs, VA. Born 7 Aug in Smyth Co. Burial in Sunset Cem. Born 23 Oct in Washington Co. Burial in Monta Vista Cem. Burial in Oak Grove. Burial in Clinch Valley. Burial at Radford, VA. Burial at Monta Vista. Born 15 Jan in Chelhower [Chilhowie? Burial at Maple Hill Cem. Born 25 May in Smith Co. Born 27 May in Smyth Co. Burial at Beavers Cem. Burial in Thomas Cem. Burial in Oak Grove Cem. Burial in Monte Vista. Burial in Monte Vista, Bluefield. Born 18 Oct in Smyth Co. Burial at Monte Vista. Burial in Elizabeth Cemetery. Burial at Iaeger Mem. Born 2 Sep in Smyth Co. Born 27 Apr in Smyth Co. Burial at Monte Vista Cem. Burial in Saltville, VA. Born 2 Feb in Marion, VA. Burial at Lester, WV. Born 4 Apr in Smyth Co. Burial at Maple Hill. Born in Smyth Co. Burial in Cole Cem. Born 4 Aug in Smyth Co. Born 5 Feb in Washington Co. Born 24 Jul in Smyth Co. Born 26 Oct in Smyth Co. Burial in Tazewell, VA. Burial at Athens Cem. Born 28 Oct in Marion, VA. Burial in Marion, VA. Born 25 Nov in Smyth Co. Born 3 October in Smyth Co. Burial in Walnut Grove. Born 15 Dec in Smith Co. Burial in Glade Springs, VA. Burial in Maplewood Cem. Born 17 Feb in Smyth Co. Burial in Maple Hill. Born 10 April in Washington Co. Burial in Phelps, KY. Born 19 November in Smyth Co. Born 5 Jan in Washington Co. Born 4 March in Smyth Co. Born 16 March in Washington Co. Burial in Maplewood, Tazewell, VA. Burial at Conner Cem. Born 20 Apr in Smith Co. Born 30 September in Smyth Co. Burial in Percy Cem. Born 20 April in Smyth Co. Burial in Abingdon, VA. Burial in Bluefield, VA. Born 21 March in Marion, VA to [parents unknown].

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Chapter 9 : The female pioneers of prospecting

Coal was found 4 miles SSE of Coaldale in the north end of the Silver Peak Range. [1] [2] In the early s, there was renewed interest in the coal, when Dr. Frances Williams of Goldfield, Nevada personally restaked claims.

Ghost town “ A ghost town is an abandoned village, town, or city, usually one that contains substantial visible remains. Some ghost towns, especially those that preserve period-specific architecture, have become tourist attractions, visiting, writing about, and photographing ghost towns is a minor industry. The town of Plymouth on the Caribbean island of Montserrat is a ghost town that is the de jure capital of Montserrat and it was rendered uninhabitable by volcanic ash from an eruption. The definition of a ghost town varies between individuals, and between cultures, Lindsey Baker, author of *Ghost Towns of Texas*, defines a ghost town as a town for which the reason for being no longer exists. Some believe that any settlement with visible tangible remains should not be called a ghost town, others say, conversely, whether or not the settlement must be completely deserted, or may contain a small population, is also a matter for debate. Generally, though, the term is used in a sense, encompassing any. The American author Lambert Florins preferred definition of a ghost town was simply a shadowy semblance of a former self, a town can also be abandoned when it is part of an exclusion zone due to natural or man-made causes. Ghost towns may result when the activity or resource that created a boomtown is depleted or the resource economy undergoes a bust. Boomtowns can often decrease in size as fast as they initially grew, sometimes, all or nearly the entire population can desert the town, resulting in a ghost town. The dismantling of a boomtown can often occur on a planned basis, modular buildings can be used to facilitate the process. A gold rush would often bring intensive but short-lived economic activity to a remote village, in other cases, the reason for abandonment can arise from a town's intended economic function shifting to another, nearby place. This happened to Collingwood, Queensland in Outback Australia when nearby Winton outperformed Collingwood as a centre for the livestock-raising industry. The railway reached Winton in , linking it with the rest of Queensland, the Middle East has many ghost towns that were created when the shifting of politics or the fall of empires caused capital cities to be socially or economically unviable, such as Ctesiphon. The rise of condominium investment caused for real estate bubbles also leads to a ghost town, as real estate prices rise, such examples include China and Canada, where housing is often used as an investment rather than for habitation. Railroads and roads bypassing or no longer reaching a town can create a ghost town. This was the case in many of the ghost towns along Ontario's historic Opeongo Line, some ghost towns were founded along railways where steam trains would stop at periodic intervals to take on water. Amboy, California was part of one series of villages along the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad across the Mojave Desert. River re-routing is another factor, one example being the towns along the Aral Sea, Ghost towns may be created when land is expropriated by a government and residents are required to relocate 2. Nevada is the 7th most extensive, the 34th most populous, nearly three-quarters of Nevada's people live in Clark County, which contains the Las Vegas “Paradise metropolitan area where three of the state's four largest incorporated cities are located. Nevada is officially known as the Silver State because of the importance of silver to its history and economy. It is also known as the Battle Born State, because it achieved statehood during the Civil War, as the Sage-brush State, for the plant of the same name. Nevada borders Oregon to the northwest, Idaho to the northeast, California to the west, Arizona to the southeast, Nevada is largely desert and semi-arid, much of it located within the Great Basin. They called the region Nevada because of the snow covered the mountains in winter. The area formed part of the Viceroyalty of New Spain, the United States annexed the area in after its victory in the Mexican “American War, and it was incorporated as part of Utah Territory in The discovery of silver at the Comstock Lode in led to a boom that became an impetus to the creation of Nevada Territory out of western Utah Territory in Nevada became the 36th state on October 31,, as the second of two added to the Union during the Civil War. Nevada has a reputation for its libertarian laws, in , with a population of just over , people, Nevada was by far the

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least-populated state, with less than half the population of the next least-populated state. However, legalized gambling and lenient marriage and divorce laws transformed Nevada into a major tourist destination in the 20th century, Nevada is the only U. The tourism industry remains Nevadas largest employer, with mining continuing as a sector of the economy. The name Nevada comes from the Spanish nevada, meaning snow-covered, most Nevadans pronounce the second syllable of their state name using the vowel of trap. Many from outside the Western United States pronounce it with the vowel of father, although the latter pronunciation is closer to the Spanish pronunciation, it is not the pronunciation preferred by most Nevadans. State Assemblyman Harry Mortenson proposed a bill to recognize the alternate pronunciation of Nevada, though the bill was not supported by most legislators, the Nevadan pronunciation is the de facto official one, since it is the one used by the state legislature. Nevada is almost entirely within the Basin and Range Province, and is broken up by many mountain ranges 3. Route 95 in Nevada â€” U. Route 95 is a major U. US95 is cosigned with Interstate 80 for 95 miles between a junction in Churchill County and Winnemucca before heading north into Oregon at McDermitt, along much of its course through Nevada, US95 has signs designating it as the Veterans Memorial Highway. US95 heads west, then north at the Rainbow Curve, the freeway portion then ends and then it becomes a brief four-lane divided highway. The two routes run concurrently for 95 miles until reaching Winnemucca, where US95 splits from I This plan was adopted, officially establishing US95 throughout Nevada effective January 1,, the route was marked along several preexisting state highways as follows, From the Oregon state line at McDermitt, US95 followed State Route 8 for 74 miles to Winnemucca. At Winnemucca, the route joined U. The highway turned south at Fallon, running 39 miles concurrently with the segment of State Route 1A to Schurz 4. It is located at the junction of U. S, Routes 6 and 95, approximately midway between Las Vegas and Reno. In the census, the population was 2,, the census-designated place of Tonopah has a total area of The European-American community began circa with the discovery of ore by prospector Jim Butler. The legendary tale of discovery says that he went looking for a burro that had wandered off during the night and sought shelter near a rock outcropping. When Butler discovered the animal the next morning, he picked up a rock to throw at it in frustration and he had stumbled upon the second-richest silver strike in Nevada history. Men of wealth and power entered the region to consolidate the mines, George Wingfield, a year-old poker player when he arrived in Tonopah, played poker and dealt faro in the town saloons. Once he had a small bankroll, he talked Jack Carey, owner of the Tonopah Club, into taking him in as a partner, in , miners rioted against Chinese workers in Tonopah. This resulted in China enforcing a boycott in China of U. When old friend George S. Nixon, a banker, arrived in town and they grub-staked miners with friend Nick Abelman, and bought existing mines. Wingfield believed that the end of the gold and silver mining production was coming and took his bankroll to Reno, real estate and gaming became big business throughout Central Nevada. By , gold production was falling and by , the town of Tonopah had less than half the population it had fifteen years earlier, small mining ventures continued to provide income for local miners and the small town struggled on. Located about halfway between Reno and Las Vegas, it has supported travelers as a stopover and rest spot on a lonely highway, today the Tonopah Station has slots and the Banc Club also offers some gaming. Since the late 20th century, Tonopah has relied on the nearby military Tonopah Test Range as its source of employment. The military has used the range and surrounding areas as a bomb test site, a bombing range. The project incorporates SolarReserves advanced solar energy technology and will put Tonopah at the worldwide center of technology for this class of solar energy storage 5. It is a place, with a resident population of at the census. It is located miles southeast of Carson City, along U. Much of the town was destroyed by a fire in , although several buildings survived and remain today, notably the Goldfield Hotel, the Consolidated Mines Building, gold exploration continues in and around the town today. This remarkable production caused Goldfield to grow rapidly, and it became the largest town in the state with about 20, people. One prominent, or notorious, early Goldfield resident was George Graham Rice, a former check forger, newspaperman, the collapse of his Sullivan Trust Company and its associated mining stocks caused the failure of the Goldfield State Bank in Rice quickly left Goldfield, but continued to

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promote mining shares for another quarter-century, another prominent resident from was George Wingfield, one of Nevada's entrepreneurs, who built the Goldfield Hotel. In collaboration with his partner George S. Virgil was hired as a Goldfield deputy sheriff in January , in April, he contracted pneumonia and, after six months of illness, he died on October 18, Wyatt Earp left Goldfield shortly afterward, Goldfield reached a peak population around 20, people in and hosted a lightweight boxing championship match between Joe Gans and Oscar Battling Nelson. By the census, its population had declined to 4,, part of the problem was the increasing cost of pumping brine out of the diggings, making them uneconomic. Some brick and stone buildings from before the fire remain, including the hotel, between this branch and the mine owners, serious differences arose, and several strikes occurred in December and January for higher wages. In November and December , some of the adopted a system of paying in cashiers checks 6. The area that would become Gold Point was first settled by ranchers, the small camp of Lime Point was formed a few hundred yards west of the present town, at an outcropping of limestone. When new discoveries of gold and silver established the mining towns of Tonopah and Goldfield, Nevada in the early s. In silver was discovered in the area, and the old camp was revived and renamed Hornsilver, scarcity of water in the area required that the ore be shipped to nearby Lida for milling. The nearest major town was about miles north at Unionville. The miners did not find silver in abundance, the costs of shipping the ore to Lida became too high, and, within a year, the settlement was abandoned. In addition to the silver ore, gold was also mined in small quantities. By , the tent homes turned into more permanent wooden structures, in May, the Hornsilver Herald began publication and the following week a post office was established. Before long the residents organized a chamber of commerce and numerous businesses sprouted up, the chamber sought a railroad extension to Hornsilver, but this never happened. The nearest railroad depot was at Ralston, about 15 miles east of Hornsilver, as deep ore bodies were extensively developed, the town peaked at a population of around 1, with over wood-framed buildings, tents and shacks throughout the camp. These many lawsuits, along with inefficient and costly milling practices, before long, most of its businesses closed and its residents again moved on. In , a miner by the name of J. It was after this discovery that Gold Point enjoyed its longest period of success, however, when World War II began, the government ordered all gold mines to shut down as nonessential to the war effort. Mining at Gold Point stopped, and once again most of its residents drifted away or went off to war, after the war, mining resumed on a smaller scale and continued until the s when a cave-in occurred from a dynamite blast at the Dunfee Shaft. More expensive to fix than the quantity and value of ore extracted would pay, other than a few small leases and diggings, this was the last serious mining operation at Gold Point 7. It is located on State Route , north of Magruder Mountain, like other mining towns in Esmeralda County, its population sharply declined once the mines were exhausted. Lida is a Ghost Town and is Private Property 8. As of the census, the population was , making it the least populous county in Nevada, Esmeralda County has no incorporated communities. Its county seat is the Census Designated Place of Goldfield and its census population density of 0. Its school district has no school, so students in grades go to school in Tonopah and are in the database of the Nye County School District. Nielsen, Esmeralda County is one of the original counties in Nevada, established in When it was organized, it comprised the part of the Nevada Territory south of the 39th parallel, Esmeralda is the Spanish and Portuguese word for emerald. Also, Aurora and its northern corridor had been discovered, in and , the area along the Reese River was discovered during the Reese River excitement. Explorers kept going south and explored the Shoshone Mountains, the mining district Union was organized after silver was found in and the settlement of Ione was founded over there. The total area of Esmeralda County more than halved as Nye County was organized on February 16, and that county was entirely created out of land that used to be part of Esmeralda County. Esmeralda has had three county seats, Aurora until , Hawthorne from to and finally Goldfield, at one point, due to the disputed border with California, Aurora was simultaneously the county seat of both Mono County, California and Esmeralda County, Nevada. Samuel Clemens wrote about his time as a miner in the Esmeralda District in his book *Roughing It*, Esmeralda grew from a gold mining boom in the first years of the 20th century. The mines were tapped out by the end of the s. According to the U. Census Bureau,

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the county has an area of 3, square miles.