

DOWNLOAD PDF IRWIN, A GHOST TOWN OF THE ELK MOUNTAINS

MURIEL SIBELL WOLLE

Chapter 1 : List of ghost towns in South Dakota | Revolv

Irwin, a Ghost Town of the Elk Mountains MURIEL SIBELL WOLLE An old photograph and a mine inspector's question sent me looking for Irwin. The photograph showed a booming mining.*

Ashcroft, Share article to By the s, Ashcroft had at most a few residents left. But at the same time, interest in the area was spurred by the growth of skiing, with the Highland-Bavarian Corporation acquiring Ashcroft and planning an alpine ski resort nearby. Ashcroft Hotel Ashcroft Today Share article to Ashcroft has nine surviving buildings arranged along a clearly defined main street. A parking lot and trail provide easy access to the town. It quickly grew to more than 2, residents and briefly rivaled Aspen, but it was already declining by the late s because the veins of silver ore were shallow and no railroads extended lines up the valley. At least one resident hung on until the s, but today Ashcroft is a ghost town with nine surviving buildings cared for by the Aspen Historical Society. Boom Years In the late s prospectors from the silver boomtown of Leadville started to spread throughout the central Colorado mountains, seeking to strike it rich. Some explored Castle Creek Valley in In May , Charles B. Coxhead found ore where two forks of Castle Creek met, at an elevation of about 9, feet. Culver staked out their spot, originally called Castle Forks, while Coxhead returned to Leadville for supplies. Early discoveries made in May and June proved promising. In addition, the new town had the advantage of being closer to the railroads at Crested Butte and Buena Vista than its rival, Aspen, because the main routes into the area went over Taylor and Pearl Passes in the Elk Mountains. The town grew quickly; by August it had a post office, and the population hit the next summer. It was briefly known as Chloride but in changed its name to Ashcroft, which may have been a misspelling of the name of early prospector and entrepreneur T. By 1883 Ashcroft was booming. The town bustled with more than 2, people, two newspapers, about twenty saloons, a school, a smelter, and several hotels. Stage service ran over Taylor and Pearl Passes, with three lines plying routes to destinations such as Crested Butte and St. At the time, Ashcroft boasted a larger population than Aspen and seemed to have a promising future. Its mines ended up having shallow deposits and were soon played out. Limited mining continued at Ashcroft until the repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in brought silver production to a halt. A few single old men with mining claims continued to live in the area, but by the s Ashcroft was a ghost town. Ski Plans Just as Ashcroft was fading into history, interest in the area suddenly revived as the sport of skiing started to become more popular in the United States. In the late s they constructed the Highland-Bavarian Lodge a few miles north of Ashcroft, received a US Forest Service permit for their resort, and even secured a state bond issue to build an aerial tram. The start of World War II derailed their plans. Fiske died in combat. Ryan invited the Tenth Mountain Division to the area as a training site. Ryan and the Maces worked to keep the area largely undeveloped, with Ryan eventually transferring much of his land to the Forest Service. In Ryan opened Ashcroft Ski Touring, a small-scale cross-country skiing center that operated on trails around the old ghost town. The next year, the Aspen Historical Society, led by local preservationist Ramona Markalunas, started leasing the town site in order to reconstruct the hotel and preserve the remaining structures. This marked the first time that the Forest Service granted a permit to a historical society to preserve and interpret a ghost town. Today three restored buildings and six buildings in their original condition survive in Ashcroft, including the post office, the assay office, a mercantile store, two saloons, and a hotel. The buildings are mostly arranged along a clearly defined main street, and some contain historical artifacts and interpretive signs. A parking lot and trail provide easy access to the town, which receives as many as seventy-five visitors per day in the summer. The Ashcroft Ski Touring operation started by Ryan continues to allow cross-country skiers and snowshoers to enjoy the area in the winter. Boom Years In the late s, prospectors from the silver boomtown of Leadville spread throughout the Colorado mountains. Some explored Castle Creek valley in The town grew quickly; by August , it had a post office, and the population hit the next summer. It was briefly known as Chloride but in changed its name to Ashcroft, which may have been a misspelling of the name of early prospector T. A few single old men with

mining claims continued to live in the area, but Ashcroft was a ghost town by the s. Ski Plans Just as Ashcroft was fading into history, interest in the area suddenly revived as skiing started to become more popular in the United States. In the late s, they constructed the Highland-Bavarian Lodge a few miles north of Ashcroft, received a US Forest Service permit for their resort, and even secured a state bond issue to build an aerial tram. In , Ryan opened Ashcroft Ski Touring, a small-scale cross-country skiing center that operated on trails around the old ghost town. The next year, the Aspen Historical Society, led by local preservationist Ramona Markalunas, started leasing the town site to reconstruct the hotel and preserve the remaining structures. The Ashcroft Ski Touring operation, started by Ryan, continues to allow cross-country skiers and snowshoers to enjoy the area in the winter. It quickly grew to more than 2, residents and briefly rivaled Aspen. It was already declining by the late s because the veins of silver ore were shallow and no railroads extended lines up the valley. Boom Years In the late s, prospectors from the silver boomtown of Leadville started to spread throughout the central Colorado mountains. In addition, the new town had the advantage of being closer to the railroads at Crested Butte and Buena Vista than its rival Aspen, because the main routes into the area went over Taylor and Pearl Passes in the Elk Mountains. The camp grew quickly. By August , it had a post office, and the population hit the next summer. It was briefly known as Chloride, but in it changed its name to Ashcroft, which may have been a misspelling of the name of early prospector and entrepreneur T. The mines initially produced 14, ounces of silver per ton. They bought the Ashcroft town site and surrounding land at the base of Hayden Peak. In the late s, they built the Highland-Bavarian Lodge a few miles north of Ashcroft, received a US Forest Service permit for their resort, and even secured a state bond issue to build an aerial tram. In Ryan opened Ashcroft Ski Touring, a small-scale, cross-country skiing center that operated on trails around the old ghost town. Today, three restored buildings and six buildings in their original condition survive in Ashcroft. These include the post office, the assay office, a mercantile store, two saloons, and a hotel. The buildings are mostly arranged along a clearly defined main street. Some contain historical artifacts and interpretive signs. It was already declining by the late s. The veins of silver ore were shallow and no railroads extended lines up the valley. At least one resident hung on until the s. Today Ashcroft is a ghost town. It has nine surviving buildings cared for by the Aspen Historical Society. They were seeking to strike it rich. Coxhead found ore where two forks of Castle Creek met. This was at an elevation of about 9, feet. Culver staked out their spot, originally called Castle Forks. Meanwhile, Coxhead returned to Leadville for supplies. Early silver discoveries made in May and June proved promising. In addition, the new town had the advantage of being closer to the railroads at Crested Butte and Buena Vista than its rival, Aspen. The town grew quickly. It was briefly known as Chloride. In it changed its name to Ashcroft. This may have been a misspelling of the name of early prospector and entrepreneur T. By 1883 Ashcroft was growing. At first the mines produced 14, ounces of silver per ton. Ashcroft now had more than 2, people. It had two newspapers, about twenty saloons, a school, a smelter, and several hotels. Three stagecoach lines covered routes to destinations such as Crested Butte and St. At the time, Ashcroft had a larger population than Aspen, and it seemed to have a promising future. Its mines ended up having little silver and were soon depleted. By the mids, people relocated their cabins to Aspen, the growing Pitkin County seat. There was an improved road over Independence Pass. Also, more silver was found near Aspen. This signaled the end for Ashcroft. The repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in brought silver production to a stop. A few single old men with mining claims stayed, but Ashcroft was a ghost town by the s. Ski Plans Just as Ashcroft was fading into history, interest in the area increased. The sport of skiing started to become more popular in the United States. In an investor named Ted Ryan with two partners, T. They also bought the land at the base of Hayden Peak. In the late s, they constructed the Highland-Bavarian Lodge a few miles north of Ashcroft. A US Forest Service permit was given to them for their resort. There was even a plan to build an aerial tram. The start of World War II upset their plans. Ryan invited the Tenth Mountain Division to the area to train. The Maces built a lodge called Toklat.

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Chapter 2 : Frontier in Transition: A History of Southwestern Colorado (Bibliography)

Western voices: years of Colorado writing. Irwin, a ghost town of the Elk Mountains / Muriel Sibell Wolle; The last back fence in town: the.

The first gold strike occurred on Anderson Creek in the spring of 1861. These creeks continued to be worked profitably until the turn of the century. Afterward litigation and poor management created fluctuations in production. Work in the gulches was hampered not by lack of gold, but by lack of surface water. The district derived its name from warm springs situated about four miles from the mines Courtis ; Sahinen ; Lyden The Judith Mountains are formed of sedimentary rocks such as limestones with some shales and sandstones that date from Cambrian to Cretaceous. The domal structures of the mountains are intruded by laccoliths with associated intrusive sheets, dikes and stock-like bodies. Auriferous deposits occur in connection with some of the igneous granite and syenite rocks. Deposits occur in veins, contact deposits and replacement deposits. Larger veins are nearly vertical and fill fractures in fissured zones. Contact deposits commonly occur in limestone near the borders of igneous masses. Replacement of tellurides associated with fluorite occur in the porphyry and in limestone. Ore is associated with pyrite, galena, argentite, sphalerite, and chalcopyrite or their oxide products Weed and Pirsson ; Sahinen The first quartz lode was the War Eagle and was discovered by Jones and Anderson; ore samples ran 80 ounces of silver per ton and a few dollars of gold. The same men along with Perry W. These three men and a fourth partner named Dexter then claimed the Alpine lode which was a galena mine. Interest in the district increased and in half-interest in the Collar mine, 1. The Maginnis mine on Maginnis Hill, later known as Gold Hill, initially sent ore to a small 2-stamp mill at the base of the hill. The greatest mine in the district, the Spotted Horse, was located half a mile above the Maginnis on Gold Hill. The mine was discovered by Joe Anderson in 1861 and was reported to be an undeveloped discovery pit in 1862. Values of select samples from the claim were of great variety and richness. Later, Anderson extracted high grade ore from the discovery shaft. Anderson sold the mine to Perry McAdow who successfully developed the mine and erected a mill to work the ore. The celebrated mine made fortunes for some owners and bankrupted others. It remained active until Courtis ; Wolle The first mill appears to have been erected at the Collar mine in 1861. When the enterprise failed, the stamp one source says stamp mill was obtained by P. McAdow for use in his Spotted Horse mine. A cyanide mill was erected in 1862 on the Gilt Edge properties. This mill was the first cyanide mill of ton capacity to be erected in the United States. The district was somewhat unique to Montana in that nearly all of the major mines erected their own mills and little consolidation and centralization occurred. As the cyanide process was perfected, most of these mills were enlarged and modernized Wolle ; Munson The Warm Springs district contains several small mining communities: Anderson and David Jones were in the Black Hills in 1861 and from there wandered to the Yogo district and then to the Judith Mountains in the spring of 1862. In June they were joined by C. The first paying strike in the district occurred in Alpine Gulch on June 10, 1862. Andersonville had only one quarter-mile long street, but it was lined with homes, two stores, two saloons, a hotel, a restaurant, a blacksmith shop, a feed stable, a steam saw mill, a post office and an express office. At its peak it had a population of 100. However, as the nearby town of Maiden grew, Andersonville declined. Maiden dates from April when Snow and Kemper established a townsite. They named the proposed town after the daughter of a friend, Mrs. Conings, who they call the "Little Maiden". The town of Maiden was not platted and surveyed. Rather lots were delineated and claimed by the simple expedient of building fences around them. By the town boasted a number of log and lumber houses, eight saloons, two clothing stores, five general merchandise stores, a dry-goods store, a butcher shop, a blacksmith, two barbers, a feed stable, a lawyer office, a doctor, a hotel and a restaurant. The attorney was S. Because the town was situated in the Fort Maginnis Military Reservation, the army posted an order that all persons and personal property must be vacated from the Reservation within 60 days. After a hasty meeting a protest petition was drafted. After careful consideration, the Army relented and reduced the size of the military reservation so that Maiden and its

mines were excluded. By , Maiden had grown to the point that it sought the county seat of the newly created Fergus County. The town had grown to the point that it had 13 saloons, a newspaper, a Cornet band and a population of several hundred. The town was laid out on three streets and had every indication of prosperity. However, the county seat was awarded to Lewistown Mineral Argus ; Wolle In , the town joined in the rising hysteria aimed at the Chinese populations in mining camps. Several meetings were held in the first weeks of the year on how to deal with the situation. Warnings sufficed to dislodge the majority of the sojourners. However, when the published deadline was reached a group of armed, masked men escorted the last Celestials out of town. The affair was conducted peacefully and the displaced men were able to send for their belongings the next day. The town newspaper pointed with pride that the deed had been done with no violence or vicious passions Mineral Argus ; Wolle The population of the town peaked in with a population of about 1, However, after the s, the town slowly withered. Some mines shut down and others were worked by lessees. Buildings began to stand vacant. In the town contained fewer than people. In , a fire swept through the town and there was no interest in rebuilding Wolle Five miles from Maiden, gold was discovered at the New Year lode in . The mine was developed in the mids when a pilot cyanide plant was built. When the plant proved itself, it was enlarged. The operation included a coal mine at the mill site which was used to power the mill Wolle Across the mountains from Maiden was the camp of Gilt Edge. Placer prospectors worked the area in and some lode mining began in . However, the ore was difficult to reduce and so had to wait for efficient treatment methods. In a group of Great Falls capitalists obtained control of the Gilt Edge mines and erected a cyanide mill at the foot of the mountains. Fifty men were put to work and a town sprang up around the mill. By November of the year the community had three hotels, two restaurants, a general store, five saloons, a butcher shop and a livery stable. Despite these good beginnings, the company soon could not meet payroll. Men either worked without pay or demanded their pay and were fired. When the company began issuing worthless checks, the sheriff shut down the mill. In the unusually severe winter of , the unemployed men faced starvation and had to scrounge for food to feed their families. Despite this shaky start, the town eventually prospered and was awarded its own post office. By the local mines were in full production under the control of the Great Northern Mining and Development Company. In there were people in the town and it was considered by many to be the best camp in the county. A hospital in the town employed four or five doctors and provided rooms for traveling dentists. Three shifts of miners worked in the mines until the peak years of when it was reported that 1, people called Gilt Edge home. The mines continued to produce for several more years, but eventually the mill was dismantled and the mines and the town were abandoned Freeman ; Wolle ; Foster Most of this production was from the Spotted Horse mine. Zinc in the ore was not reimbursed from the smelter. During the latter period all production came from lessees. Lyden talks about mining activity at the headwaters of Warm Springs and Ford Creeks along with placers on Maiden and Alpine Creeks. It was the first mine to be developed in the Maiden area. The mine was discovered in August of . The mine was developed by the Collar Mining and Improvement Company. A foot adit was driven and a foot shaft sunk to meet the adit. Drifts were driven on the 70 and foot levels. The mill worked for only a short time. Improvements were made in the mill. Beginning in , the mine was sold to St. The mill equipment was bought by P. McAdow and moved to the Spotted Horse.

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Chapter 3 : Ghost town | Revolvly

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The central group of claims is at an elevation of 7, to 8, feet above sea level about four miles northeast of Elkhorn Hot Springs on the west side of the East Fork of Wise River. A decade after the first gold strikes in southwestern Montana, a number of mining districts in the Pioneer range became major silver producers, but Elkhorn with all its activity and notoriety was not among them. The geology of the Elkhorn district is taken primarily from Winchell. The Elkhorn district monzonite covers a large portion of the south end of the Pioneer range, extending south about eight miles to the Polaris mine, southwest about four miles to Grasshopper Creek and north and east to Hecla. In general the ores of this district are of low grade, but the veins are large. Within the Elkhorn district the monzonite is penetrated by dikes of aplite and pegmatite and also by fissure veins containing copper ores in a quartzose gangue. In the southwestern part of the district the monzonite is intersected by narrow seams of quartz with pyrite carrying a little silver and copper. The veins contain chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, and chalcocite films on pyrite. In the oxide zones, the copper minerals include malachite, azurite, and native copper. Fissure veins in the central portion contain pyrite and chalcopyrite. Sooty copper glance is formed at water level at a depth of to feet. Also present are veins along aplitic intrusions containing argentiferous galena and tetrahedrite with bornite. In , Mike T. Steele located the Storm claim -- adjacent to the west side of the Old Elkhorn claim -- and shipped two carloads of ore, assaying ounces of silver to the ton. Next to be discovered was the Mono lode which was located by Clark Smith in September of . Mason and Steele acquired the claim and sank a foot shaft. In , the Storm Mining Company sank a foot shaft on the Mono vein, and eventually the shaft would reach a depth of feet. Winchell ; Sassman ; Geach. Other mines in the district were operated by the Magnet Company in on Bailey Mountain. A stamp mill had been built at the Critic and Fraction mines. Mining operations were severely restricted throughout southwestern Montana by the lack of economical transportation prior to . In order to be smelted, the ore had to be hauled by wagon to Corinne, Utah and then sent by railroad to San Francisco and from there by ship to Swansea, Wales where the smelters were located. Obviously only high-grade ore could be sent on this long, circuitous route to the smelters. In spite of this serious handicap, a number of mines in the district did manage to operate profitably on a small scale during the s. In the s more mines went into operation following the completion of the Utah and Northern railroad to Silver Bow in December of . In , however, silver prices crashed and all the mining operations throughout the district closed down for the next decade, except for a small amount of prospecting work. Winchell ; Sassman ; Geach. The development, operation and ultimate failure of the Elkhorn project is illustrative of the lures and pitfalls of many similar large-scale mining operations which have come and gone in Montana during the past century. The Elkhorn lode was located by Mike T. Pahnish on October 24, . A partnership was formed with Con Bray and Judge Meade and enough money was raised to build a small mill on the site. For the next two decades, small amounts of high-grade ore were mined and shipped to Swansea for smelting. By , silver prices had recovered to a point where it seemed feasible to revive the Elkhorn mine. Tom Judge found a rich vein of silver ore while doing prospecting work on the Elkhorn Ledge. This generated some interest to reopen the mine, but there was not sufficient financing to get the project underway. In , Frank Felt bought a number of claims in the district and, along with M. McDonald and Donald B. Gillies, started a tunnel on the Idanha vein which eventually would become the major producing mine for the Elkhorn group. Two years later, in , the tunnel would be further developed by the Park Mining Company which extended it to feet. Sassman ; Wirtz and Lovell. Large-scale development of the Elkhorn lode got underway in . Allen, former lieutenant governor of Montana turned mining entrepreneur, became interested in the property and devoted his efforts to developing the Elkhorn mines on a scale which dwarfed anything attempted in the area before or since. Allen would be inextricably linked with the fortunes of

the Elkhorn mine for the next 40 years. Although many others were involved in the development of the Elkhorn mine, Allen was the chief promoter and prime mover of the project from beginning to end. His personal career and fortune would be mirrored in the development and ultimate failure of the Elkhorn mine project. Allen was born in July in the small mining area south of Anaconda, Montana, known as French Gulch. In addition, Allen maintained an interest in a number of mining claims his father had developed in the Anaconda area. Married twice, in and, following the death of his first wife, again in , he raised seven children Allen Papers ; Patterson Allen, a Republican, entered politics and was elected to the Montana House of Representatives in and served in the legislature until when he was elected lieutenant governor under Governor Edwin L. Although it seemed that Allen had a promising future in politics, he resigned as lieutenant governor in in order to devote all his efforts to the Elkhorn project. He demonstrated a talent for financial promotion and was able to interest financiers in London and Boston in the venture. He helped form the Boston-Montana Development Corporation in and became its president. Eventually the corporation would acquire some 80 mining claims, covering acres. The claim acquisition was part of a deliberate policy to avoid the type of situation like that which had once existed in Butte where conflicting adjoining claims led to endless litigation Sassman ; Evans , Boston-Montana Development Company ; BLM Plat map At that time, extensive exploration work had already been underway on the 68 claims only nine were actually patented held by the Boston-Montana Development Corporation. Most of the major ore veins of the Elkhorn district crossed this group of claims. A wagon road had been built to the mines but it was obvious that a rail line would be needed. Preliminary work on the route was done in and heavy machinery for the mines was purchased but the outbreak of World War I delayed financing from the English backers. However, construction work on the railroad finally got underway in May of It was completed by December and was reported to have been the last narrow-gauge railway built in the United States. With completion of the railroad, heavy equipment and materials for the mill could be transported to the mine site. Work on the mill was begun immediately and the construction of a 65,volt power line from Divide to the mine and Coolidge was begun. Completed in , it was the largest mill in Montana. The system had the capacity to process tons of ore per day with a recovery rate of 90 to 93 percent Sassman ; Evans ; Wirtz and Lovell ; Mining Record Most of the ore processed by the mill came from the Idanha tunnel at the foot level, which was located at the upper camp, vertical feet above the mill. Ore from the Idanha could be lowered through the No. Ore from other shafts and adits at the upper camp was brought to the mill via a rail cable car system that ran down the mountain side from an ore bin at the upper camp to an ore bin a few yards north of the lower mine tunnel portal. The tramway employed a gravity system where loaded cars going down pulled the empty cars back to the top. The tramway had an unusual three rail track, except in the middle where the rails divided so the cars could pass each other. From the ore bin at the bottom, ore was transferred to the lower electric tramway, which hauled it to the mill. No forced-air ventilation system was needed for the mine workings which were adequately ventilated by natural convection currents Sassman ; Evans ; Wirtz and Lovell Also located at the upper camp was a sawmill, three bunk houses, boarding house, six log cabins, cook house, stables, blacksmith shop, carpenter shop, hoist, and an ore sorting house Evans Coolidge never visited his namesake but there were reports that he had invested in the mine. When work started on the mill in , large number of workers and miners moved into the camp. Initially, many of the miners lived in tents over board platforms. Later, more substantial log or board and tar paper residences were built Sassman ; Wirtz and Lovell ; Patterson Below the store, there was a boarding house where many of the miners ate. For amusement, miners and townspeople could visit the pool hall, run by Elmer Ripley. There were no saloons in town but liquid spirits were said to have been available from a still located near the town. Skiing and sledding were popular pastimes during the winter Wirtz and Lovell Company offices, other boarding houses and bunk houses were also part of the community. The town was equipped with electric power and telephone service although plumbing was rudimentary and few houses or boarding houses had facilities for bathing. Tyro and Evan L. Woolman ran the post office for 10 years, from to , when it was closed for good. Although the town had most of the amenities of other small communities, it did not have any

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churches. At its peak, Coolidge probably had a population of around 100. Most of the residents of Coolidge came from the local area or were from Butte and Dillon. Elizabeth Patterson and Gilbert Dodgson, who worked at the site, both reported that there were no blacks, Chinese or other distinctive ethnic groups in town. Sassman ; Wirtz and Lovell ; Patterson ; Dodgson At the start of it appeared the undertaking was about to fulfill the expectations of Allen and the other investors: However, before the mill even went into production, serious problems began to appear. These debts and obligations probably could have been met if the mines and mill had been able to go into full production but it was discovered almost as soon as the mill went into production that the veins of ore were not developed enough to supply sufficient ore to keep the mill operating at even half its capacity. A decision was then made to mine low-grade ore as well as high-grade ore but even this move failed to produce adequate ore for the mill. Although 24, feet of underground workings were developed by , it was not enough and the depressed economy prevented raising the necessary capital for mine development. Within a year after the mill started production, the company was placed under a stockholders receivership. In Charles S. Brand of New York City were appointed receivers. The company was eventually able to liquidate its debts but was forced to seriously curtail its underground development program. In spite of this limited development, by some 100, tons of ore were blocked out to be mined, the ore bins were filled with 3, tons of ore and six cars of concentrates were ready for shipment from the mill. The line was repaired by but by then the Great Depression had begun and metal prices had declined to a point where it was not possible for the company to resume production. Sassman ; Evans ; Geach ; Wirtz and Lovell Although he lost his personal fortune in the enterprise, he continued to believe that the mines were a potential bonanza until his death in 1912 at his home in Wise River. Sassman ; Evans ; Geach ; Wirtz and Lovell ; Patterson At their peak, the mine and mill employed 100 men, yet a total of only 26, tons of ore was mined from through 1912. Another 20, tons was produced in but from then on, only a few tons were mined sporadically during the years , , , and

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Chapter 4 : Ashcroft | Articles | Colorado Encyclopedia

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Berlin, Nevada, is a ghost town. Plymouth, Montserrat, is the only ghost town that is the capital of a modern political territory. A ghost town is an abandoned village, town, or city, usually one that contains substantial visible remains. A town often becomes a ghost town because the economic activity that supported it has failed, or due to natural or human-caused disasters such as floods, prolonged droughts, government actions, uncontrolled lawlessness, war, pollution, or nuclear disasters. The term can sometimes refer to cities, towns, and neighbourhoods that are still populated, but significantly less so than in years past; for example, those affected by high levels of unemployment and dereliction. The town of Plymouth on the Caribbean island of Montserrat is a ghost town that is the de jure capital of Montserrat. It was rendered uninhabitable by volcanic ash from an eruption. Definition The definition of a ghost town varies between individuals, and between cultures. Some writers discount settlements that were abandoned as a result of a natural or human-made disaster or other causes using the term only to describe settlements that were deserted because they were no longer economically viable; T. Lindsey Baker, author of *Ghost Towns of Texas*, defines a ghost town as "a town for which the reason for being no longer exists". Economic activity shifting elsewhere As farms industrialize, smaller farms are no longer economically viable, leading to rural decay. Ghost towns may result when the single activity or resource that created a boomtown e. 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. Mining companies nowadays will create a temporary community to service a mine site, building all the accommodation, shops and services required, and then remove them once the resource has been extracted. 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, only to leave a ghost town once the resource was depleted. In some cases, multiple factors may remove the economic basis for a community; some former mining towns on U. Route 66 suffered both mine closures when the resources were depleted and loss of highway traffic as US 66 was diverted away from places like Oatman, Arizona onto a more direct path. This happened to Collingwood, Queensland in Outback Australia when nearby Winton outperformed Collingwood as a regional centre for the livestock-raising industry. The railway reached Winton in , linking it with the rest of Queensland, and Collingwood was a ghost town by the following year. 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 and affordable housing becomes less available. Such examples include China and Canada, where housing is often used as an investment rather than for habitation. Human intervention Prior to the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in , Varosha, now falling into ruin, once was a modern tourist area. Railroads and roads bypassing or no longer reaching a town can create a ghost town. Route 66 after motorists bypassed the latter on the faster moving highways I and I 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 such 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. A similar situation occurred in the U. Five thinly populated rural Mississippi communities Gainesville, Logtown, Napoleon, Santa Rosa, and Westonia, plus the northern portion of a sixth Pearlinton, along with families in residence, had to be completely relocated off the facility. Sometimes the town might cease to officially exist, but the physical infrastructure remains. For example, the five Mississippi communities that had to be abandoned to build SSC still have remnants of those communities within the facility itself. These include city streets, now overgrown with forest flora and fauna, and a

one-room school house. Another example of infrastructure remaining is the former town of Weston, Illinois , that voted itself out of existence and turned the land over for construction of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. Many houses and even a few barns remain, used for housing visiting scientists and storing maintenance equipment, while roads that used to cross through the site have been blocked off at the edges of the property, with gatehouses or simply barricades to prevent unsupervised access. Flooding by dams Construction of dams has produced ghost towns that have been left underwater. Examples include the settlement of Loyston, Tennessee , U. The town was reorganised and reconstructed on nearby higher ground. Mologa in Russia was flooded by the creation of Rybinsk reservoir , and in France the Tignes Dam flooded the village of Tignes, displacing 78 families. Many ancient villages had to be abandoned during construction of the Three Gorges Dam in China, leading to displacement of many rural people. The old town now lies submerged below the lake. Old Adaminaby was flooded by a dam of the Snowy River Scheme. Massacres Some towns become deserted when their populations are massacred. The original French village at Oradour-sur-Glane was destroyed on 10 June when of its inhabitants, including women and children, were killed by a German Waffen-SS company. A new village was built after the war on a nearby site, and the ruins of the original have been maintained as a memorial. Disasters, actual and anticipated Craco , Italy, was abandoned due to a landslide in Now it is a popular film set. Natural and man-made disasters can create ghost towns. For example, after being flooded more than 30 times since their town was founded in , residents of Pattonsburg, Missouri , decided to relocate after two floods in With government help, the whole town was rebuilt 3 miles 4. Craco , a medieval village in the Italian region of Basilicata , was evacuated after a landslide in Pripjat , Ukraine, was abandoned after the Chernobyl disaster. Two years after the last building in Lemieux was demolished, a landslide swept part of the former town-site into the South Nation River. Following the Chernobyl disaster of , dangerously high levels of nuclear radiation escaped into the surrounding area, and nearly towns and villages in Ukraine and neighbouring Belarus were evacuated, including the cities of Pripjat and Chernobyl. The area was, and still is, so contaminated with nuclear radiation that many of the evacuees were never permitted to return to their homes. Pripjat is the most famous of these abandoned towns; it was built for the workers of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant and had a population of almost 50, at the time of the disaster. Turned into a restricted area after due to ammunition contamination from a nearby abandoned Soviet Army barracks. Significant fatality rates from epidemics have produced ghost towns. Some places in eastern Arkansas were abandoned after more than 7, Arkansans died during the Spanish Flu epidemic of and Catastrophic environmental damage caused by long-term contamination can also create a ghost town. Contamination due to ammunition caused by military use may also lead to the development of ghost towns. Rerik West, an area of Rerik , Germany , had been home to a Group of Soviet Forces in Germany barracks during the German Democratic Republic, but following German reunification it was abandoned due to ammunition contamination from the barracks. Located on a peninsula separated from Rerik by a small isthmus , in it was turned into a restricted area while the rest of the town remained populated. Revived ghost towns Part of Walhalla in , showing a mix of original and reconstructed buildings. Walhalla, Victoria was almost abandoned after being mined for gold, but is now becoming repopulated. A few ghost towns get a second life, often due to heritage tourism generating a new economy able to support residents. For example, Walhalla, Victoria , Australia, became almost deserted[10] after its gold mine ceased operation in , but owing to its accessibility and proximity to other attractive locations, it has had a recent economic and holiday population surge. Alexandria , the second largest city of Egypt, was a flourishing city in the Ancient era, but declined during the Middle Ages. It underwent a dramatic revival during the 19th century; from a population of 5, in , it grew into a city of more than , inhabitants by ,[11] and is now home to more than four million people. They were revived with shifts in population during and after French colonization of Algeria. Around the world Kolmanskop , Namibia Wars and rebellions in some African countries have left many towns and villages deserted. Villages accused of supporting the rebels, such as Beogombo Deux near Paoua , are ransacked by government soldiers; those who are not killed have no choice but to escape to refugee camps. Before its

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destruction, the town had a population of 20, Many of the ghost towns in mineral-rich Africa are former mining towns. Shortly after the start of the diamond rush in German South-West Africa , now known as Namibia , the German Imperial government claimed sole mining rights by creating the Sperrgebiet forbidden zone ,[16] effectively criminalizing new settlement. The small mining towns of this area, among them Pomona , Elizabeth Bay and Kolmanskop , were exempt from this ban, but the denial of new land claims soon rendered all of them ghost towns. Asia Remnants of the Dhanushkodi Railway Station in India China has many large urban property developments, sometimes referred to as "ghost cities", that have remained mostly unoccupied since they were built. Many abandoned towns and settlements in the former Soviet Union were established near Gulag concentration camps to supply necessary services. Since most of these camps were abandoned in the s, the towns were abandoned as well. One such town is located near the former Gulag camp called Butugychag also called Lower Butugychag. Other towns were deserted due to deindustrialisation and the economic crises of the early s attributed to post-Soviet conflicts. Antarctica The derelict British base in Whalers Bay, Deception Island , destroyed by a volcanic eruption The oldest ghost town in Antarctica is on Deception Island , where in , a Norwegian-Chilean company set up a whaling station at Whalers Bay, which they used as a base for their factory ship, the Gobernador Bories. Other whaling operations followed suit, and by there were thirteen factory ships based there. The station ceased to be profitable during the Great Depression , and was abandoned in In , the station was partially destroyed by a volcanic eruption. There are also many abandoned scientific and military bases in Antarctica, especially in the Antarctic Peninsula. The Antarctic island of South Georgia used to have several thriving whaling settlements during the first half of the 20th century, with a combined population exceeding 2, in some years. The jetty, the church, and dwelling and industrial buildings at Grytviken have recently been renovated by the South Georgian Government, becoming a popular tourist destination. Some historical buildings in the other settlements are being restored as well. An increasing number of settlements in Bulgaria are becoming ghost towns for this reason; at the time of the census, the country had uninhabited settlements. In Spain, large zones of the mountainous Iberian System and the Pyrenees have undergone heavy depopulation since the early 20th century, leaving a string of ghost towns in areas such as the Solana Valley. Traditional agricultural practices such as sheep and goat rearing, on which the mountain village economy was based, were not taken over by the local youth, especially after the lifestyle changes that swept over rural Spain during the second half of the 20th century. Since there are rarely any visible remains of these settlements, they are not generally considered ghost towns; instead, they are referred to in archaeological circles as deserted medieval villages. A new settlement was built nearby after the war, but the old town was left depopulated on the orders of President Charles de Gaulle , as a permanent memorial. In Germany, numerous smaller towns and villages in the former eastern territories were completely destroyed in the last two years of the war.

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Chapter 5 : VOICES WEST: COWBOY POETRY AND SONG HOMEPAGE

*The Colorado Historical Society is home to a mother lode of Colorado's literary legends. This compilation of the best of the best in Colorado writing commemorates years of dedication to Colorado's history. *25 essays cover a panorama of people and events from Colorado's distant and recent past.*

Northern Illinois University, Tim McCoy remembers the West: University of Nebraska Press, , c Ed by Simon M. Evans, Sarah Carter and Bill Yeo. University of Calgary Press; Boulder: University Press of Colorado, Single poem "I am," p. See "The phantom round-up. Graham Hughes; Carthay Circle Theatre], Printed by Guy W. Illustrated by Langon Smith. Illustrated by Muriel Sibell Wolle. University of Colorado, Golden Bell Press, Foreword by John Madden. Chapman and Grimes, Lougheed McNutt, James C. In Cowboy poets and cowboy poetry. Edited by David Stanley and Elaine Thatcher. University of Illinois Press, Salt Lake City, UT: Peregrine Smith Books, Russell Museum 1 2: Cover by Malvin Singer Mellard, Rudolph. Illustrated with drawings by Frank Stanush. Roll on, little dogies: Edited by Mody C. Texas Folklore Society, Cover by Gerard C. College Station, TX; London: Harper and Brothers, See "Pueblo pot" p. Miller, Craig, "Nature and cowboy poetry. Hilarious happenings and other cowboy poetry: Miller and illustrated by Miller. See biography of Miller, "Poet of the Sierras," by M. The poetical works of Joaquin Miller. Canadian News and Publishing, The sun drops red: Lantern poet series, no. Cowboy and country-and-western music is mentioned, as well as western swing, the blues and "conjunto" or "Tex-Mex. In A sender of words: Edited by Vine Deloria, Jr. Cravens DPC , []. D Folio of 18 postcards. Moore, Ethel; Moore, Chauncey O. Ballads and folk songs of the southwest: University of Oklahoma Press, But I will say that the regular lyrics and the improvisations that floated through those night airs certainly belonged to our Western Americana. Most of the offerings were ballads, sentimental or sad, with a goodly sprinkle of smutty stuff, which, like all such things, contained plain, unadulterated rot along with others that were really amusing. Moreland, John Richard What of the night? Dj Argosy All-Story Weekly. Poetry Society of Texas, nd. Cover page, photographs and illustrations by the author. Edited by Thomas E. University of Texas Press, American Folklore Society Memoir Series no. Author of "Good bye old paint. Best books on the West: Moulton; illustrated by Jack A. Moulton Art Studio Creation, Etchings by Jack A. Nolie Mumey Centennial , Catalogue no. History of Red Rocks Park and Theatre: All poems dated Inscribed to Mayor William H. Illustrated by Lester W. Signed Music in Denver and Colorado. Denver Public Library, Collected by Frank Shay. Illustrated by John Held, Jr. Hastings House Publishers, , c

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Chapter 6 : Historical question for research. Please help. - Page 2

The idea of visiting ghost towns as a hobby/pastime goes back to at least with the publication of Muriel Sibell Wolle's book "Stampede to Timberline" which was at least as far as I know the first book exclusively on ghost towns as a subject.

Add The epic life story of the Native American holy man who has inspired millions around the world. Black Elk, the Native American holy man, is known to millions of readers around the world from his testimonial, *Black Elk Speaks*. Adapted by the poet John Neihardt from a series of interviews, it is one of the most widely read and admired works of American Indian literature. Cryptic and deeply personal, it has been read as a spiritual guide, a philosophical manifesto, and a text to be deconstructed—while the historical Black Elk has faded from view. In this sweeping book, Joe Jackson provides the definitive biographical account of a figure whose dramatic life converged with some of the most momentous events in the history of the American West. Upon his return, he was swept up in the traditionalist Ghost Dance movement and shaken by the massacre at Wounded Knee. But Black Elk was not a warrior and instead choose the path of a healer and holy man, motivated by a powerful prophetic vision that haunted and inspired him, even after he converted to Catholicism in his later years. In *The Sacred Tree Is Dead*, Jackson has crafted a true American epic, restoring to Black Elk the richness of his times and gorgeously portraying a life of heroism and tragedy, adaptation and endurance, in an era of permanent crisis on the Great Plains. Joe Jackson Add *Ladies of the Canyons* is the true story of remarkable women who left the security and comforts of genteel Victorian society and journeyed to the American Southwest in search of a wider view of themselves and their world. Educated, restless, and inquisitive, Natalie Curtis, Carol Stanley, Alice Klauber, and Mary Cabot Wheelwright were plucky, intrepid women whose lives were transformed in the first decades of the twentieth century by the people and the landscape of the American Southwest. Part of an influential circle of women that included Louisa Wade Wetherill, Alice Corbin Henderson, Mabel Dodge Luhan, Mary Austin, and Willa Cather, these ladies imagined and created a new home territory, a new society, and a new identity for themselves and for the women who would follow them. Their journeys took them to Monument Valley and Rainbow Bridge, into Canyon de Chelly, and across the high mesas of the Hopi, down through the Grand Canyon, and over the red desert of the Four Corners, to the pueblos along the Rio Grande and the villages in the mountains between Santa Fe and Taos. *Ladies of the Canyons* is the story of New Women stepping boldly into the New World of inconspicuous success, ambitious failure, and the personal challenges experienced by women and men during the emergence of the Modern Age. *Ladies of the Canyons: The story of that night, during which scores of men, women, and children were brutally slain, has been shrouded in mystery and fraught with controversy ever since. Drawing on oral history and extensive archival and archaeological research, James F. Brooks unravels the story and its significance. As he recounts this haunting tale, Brooks questions how communities can confront a violent history better left untold, and he lends insight into why communal violence still plagues us today. Brooks Add Constructed from to and opened to tourists and drivers the following year, Trail Ridge Road earned immediate inclusion among the scenic wonders of the world. The new path through the park followed the ancient trail across Tombstone Ridge and offered visitors breathtaking views and a privileged glimpse at unique ecosystems. Today, Trail Ridge Road endures as a truly otherworldly place. And find out why noontime is a risky hour to go hiking in the summer. Perry Add In this moving finale to the trilogy that began with *Neither Wolf Nor Dog*, Kent Nerburn blends history, humor, and heartbreak with a gripping mystery. Delving beneath the myths, misconceptions, and stereotypes that make up so much of our understanding of Native life, Nerburn finds a world that beats with a different and indomitable heartbeat. Kent Nerburn Add This guidebook is the perfect hiking companion for wildflower enthusiasts who want a color-coded, easy-to-use reference. Each wildflower is described by both its common and scientific names, and then by the singular characteristic to look for to confirm its identity. Photographer Marlene Borneman combines her collection of stunning images with the life list of retired horticulturist Jim Ells for a selection of*

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the regions showiest wildflowers. Rocky Mountain Wildflowers By: Having explored the park extensively for over 30 years, Jack and Elizabeth Hailman describe and map 33 circuits and component loops, with detailed driving instructions to the access points. Circuits range from a minute stroll around a lake to strenuous all-day outings in the high country and even a few multi-day backpacking trips. Their students walked or skied to school in tattered clothes and shoes tied together with string.

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Chapter 7 : Galena, South Dakota - Wikipedia

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History[edit] Early history and settling[edit] In , gold was discovered in the Black Hills and drew settlers to the area. The mines in the area were originally intended to be gold mines , but other metals were more plentiful in the hills. Most of the gold was found in trace amounts, while silver and lead ore were the most common metals in the area. At the summits of the surrounding hills, shaft mines were drilled, while further down the cliff, miners built tunnels. In September , the Florence claim was bought by Robert Florman. In October , a settler named James Conzette built a cabin in Galena, which he planned to use as a fort against Native American raids, though it never served that purpose. It had a dirt floor and roof and a door constructed from a sluice box. The last Native American seen in the town was in , when a small group climbed down the ravine to the southwest where the Catholic church was built. By June , the town had a population between and and was growing rapidly. It included four stores, three butchers , a livery yard , and a boarding house. By July 4, the town had men and 25 women. Around this time, Galena beat the nearby camps of Caribou and Hardscrabble in the election for the first post office. By the end of , people were living in Galena, and it had 75 homes and two smelters. A mail line was built from Deadwood to Galena and Virginia City. Two railroad lines were built to Galena from Deadwood and sparked more growth. Three newspapers ran in the area: One July, a fire swept through the town and destroyed the opera house. In , due to a very successful local mining operation, Galena experienced another period of growth. That year, the older cabins in the gulch were torn down due to their deteriorating states. The town then added a barber shop , a restaurant , and a hardware store. Two more hotels planned to enter town. Two more express lines were added from Deadwood, and a stage line was built between Sturgis and Galena. A telephone line was also installed. One of the residents became well known in the area for his pet coyote. The same year, a man named Patrick Gorman was killed and the case was brought to a trial, but the killer was let go when the jury ruled self-defense. In , Galena experienced another period of activity as eight mining companies worked the land. From then until , the town was very inactive. By , Galena had been severely neglected. The economy started to increase again and the houses were repaired. However, the line was abandoned in , [5] and the railroad took up its tracks in In , another mining company, the Gilt Edge Mines, came through and revived the town. The Galena Historical Society holds an annual Galena open house and walk, which opens up historical buildings on private property to visitors.

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Chapter 8 : Estes Park & Rocky Mountain Books - Macdonald Book Shop

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The history of ghosttowing is much more intricate than what I am presenting, with several contributing factors, but here goes with a synopsis: Many were abandoned, several were still struggling to hang on as communities. Many now are still struggling to hang on. Her book was amply illustrated by her sketches which gave an eerie and ghostly look to the towns that she wrote on. She personally visited all of the towns she wrote on and illustrated. These books came about at the same time as several factors were coming together to make ghost towning possible. After the War, the large auto manufacturers retooled their factories, that had been making trucks and tanks for the war effort to the mass production of cheaper automobiles that every american family could afford. The result of this was that 1. This lead to the depopulation of many mining communities directly after the war. It was now possible to visit a local ghost town and return on a weekend trip. This wa the first factor. The Second factor was the idea of a ghost town at all. Before the boom of the hollywood western in the movies, with the popularization of the "old West Town" of false fronts and cowboys wandering down the streets, shooting at each other, there was not a popular idea of a "ghost town. A Third factor was the decline of small time mining that ocured during and after the great depression and World War. Because of the declining precious metals prices following both many mines were shut down, no longer work working. This displaced many of the people that were working and living in the old towns. People moved out to obtain work in larger communities. In those mines that stayed open it was much more likely that miners commuted from nearby towns in their new cars. As a result of these factors the time was right for many americans to aquire a new hobby. The publication of these three books created a local interest in these old towns and inspired probably the one person the played the most important role in ghost towning. That was Lambert Florin.

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Chapter 9 : Articles List | Colorado Encyclopedia

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