

October 12,
2009



A Collection of Historic Documents On Wide Awake Mines

These mines had less documentation than the
Procunier, Free American, or the Stewart Mines

www.Fairburn-Mining.com
PO Box 16246, Golden, CO 80402-6005

THE CALEDONIA MINE

The Caledonia is opened by several abandoned shafts on the hill west of Missouri Gulch. About 7 miles northwest of Black Hawk and one half mile southwest of Wide Awake.

The veins streak north 450 degrees; west and dips 650 degrees 70 north. The shaft house is in ruins and workings could not be entered but the sizes of the dumps indicate that they are extensive. The ore in the bins shows that the vein is a sharp walled fissure filling in granite gneiss.

The minerals seen were pyrite and chalcopyrite in a quartz gangue. Small grains of pyrite ore disseminated in the wall rock of the vein. Some specularite was observed in veinlets or as disseminated in the wall rock near the vein.

Some specularite was also observed in veinlets or as disseminated in the wall.

It is reported that some rich free milling ore from stopes near the surface in this vein was milled at a 20 stamp mill in Wide Awake. This mill was called the Douglas. It is now leased to Pine Cone Gold Mining Company which is working some properties just south of the camp.

Department of Interior

Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of United States Geological Survey
George Ottis Smith, Director
Professional Papers 94

Economic Geology of Gilpin County and Ads.]
By Edison S. Boston and James L. Hill
Department of the Interior, Washington Government Printing Office,
1971

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Richard L. Clow discovered the Caledonia lode and was instrumental in putting in one of the first hoisting engines. He was associated with Sam Morgan and Mr. Cushman in his mining pursuits and lived in Gilpntn county for four years. He afterward removed to Boulder county, Colorado, where he purchased land and followed farming and stock raising upon the site of the present city of Boulder.

In the Caledonia mine, more recently developed, secondary tetra- hedrite appears to have formed on a somewhat extensive scale.¹ The deposit is a vein in quartzite and carries lead, silver, and copper. Although the mine is developed by a deep tunnel, the ore is said to have come mainly from above the 500-foot level. The upper parts of the ore shoots contain cerusite, marcasite, and pyromorphite, with limonite and manganese compounds, cuprite, and copper carbonates. Native silver was locally abundant. In places the ore showed small cores of tetrahedrite surrounded by concentric zones of cuprite, malachite, and azurite.² With increase of depth galena and chalco- pyrite become more abundant. Siderite is less abundant than in other mines of the region and tetrahedrite, which is highly argentiferous, is more abundant. It lines and fills cracks in chalcopyrite. Argentiferous covellite with silver in a form not determined, fills cracks and forms crusts on galena. Such coatings, fairly compact and of sooty appearance, range in thickness from one-sixteenth of an inch to 6 inches.

The Caledonia Gold Mining Company own 361 feet on the Caledonia, the great lode of Wide Awake District, which the reader will remember is seven miles North of Black Hawk at the head of Missouri Gulch. Have one shaft 267 feet deep, one 140 feet, and four others, 25, 45, 90, and 130 feet, some showing a good vein, and some not. Shaft- house 30 by 30 feet, lo-horse engine, complete hoisting rig for two shafts, smith-shop, &c. Have an old 6-stamp, steam mill, also a new mill, 30 by 50 feet, 40-horse Little Giant engine, and Crosby & Thompson machinery throughout ; mill built, machinery not set up, not at work. Sam Cushman of Central, agent.

The Washington and Wallace Companies, own property considerably developed, on the Wallace, Washington, and Wide Awake lodes. Neither have mill nor machinery, nor are they at work at present. Sam Cushman of Central, agent.

The Mountain Eagle Company—property on the Caledonia. Have a 9-stamp, steam mill, are mining and running mill, quartz yields about \$15 a ton. S. B. Morgan of Black Hawk, agent.
David Clow has a new 12-stamp, steam mill and property on Caledonia. Is at work with average success.

All these districts have the advantages of cheap fuel, lumber, and mine timber, of pasturage, and most of them of water power.

Caledonia, Page 174

Owned by Samuel Cushman, of Deadwood, Wyoming; claim 150 X 1500 feet; discovered 1860; located in Hawkeye mining district, near Wide Awake (now a ghost town), 6 miles from Central City; course of vein, northeast and southwest; nature of ore, Iron pyrites; average value, 10 ounces per cord; main shaft 267 feet, 5 other shafts 40 to 140 feet deep.

Suffolk Gold Mining Company

Smith 5 claims; 500 feet

General Fremont Lode 2 claims; 200 feet

Caldwell 2 claims; 200 feet

Loving 3 claims; 300 feet

The Smith claim is located in the Wide Awake, Hawkeye Mining District.

"By actual results in similar mines according to all estimate, this property will make such a yield, est. by two hundred working days each year, yearly product will obtain \$120,000 net. at \$16.00 per ounce."

"Quartz taken assays at approximately \$960 per cord, and is 15% to 20% better than the average of the gold from the other mines in this region."

This is a brief synopsis of hand written notes, as the Denver Public Library would not permit copies of this report.

COLORADO DIRECTORY OF MINES

1879

Fennelly Mine: *[from page 210]*

Owned by: Thomas H. Potter, Sylvester Nichols, William Fennelly and Robert Kerwan

Office: Central City

Claim: 150 by 1500 feet, patented

Located: In 1863 and situated on Caledonia hill, Hawkeye mining district, three miles from Central City

Course of vein: Nearly east and west, pitch north, width, 4 ½ feet
[46 NW]

Nature of ore: Iron and copper pyrites

Average value of mill ore:

3 ½ ounces gold per cord

Main shaft: 125 feet deep and six other shafts aggregating 125 feet in depth, one tunnel, 100 feet and one level, 60 feet in length

Shaft house: Whim and hoisting apparatus

Total yield: \$10,000.

Circa: 1863 - 1879

Claim/Vein Orientation: 46 Deg NW

Number & Depth of Shafts: 7 125'

Number & Depth of Drifts: 2 60-100'

Ounces per/ton & Average: 1.09 (assay)

Tons of Ore Mined &/or Yield: 476 oz. estimated total yield

PINE CONE TUNNEL

The Pine Cone tunnel is located on the west side of Missouri Gulch about one-half mile south of Wide Awake. It trends northwest and southeast for about 270 feet, cutting veins 130 to 220 feet from the portal. Short drifts have been run on both veins.

The vein cut 130 feet from the portal is at slight depth and is much oxidized. It strikes N. 20 degrees and in general dips about 80 degrees SE. It shows sparse mineralization with pyrite and chalcopyrite, the largest observed streaks being 2 inches wide and having a rather abundant gangue of white quartz and calcite. Drifts are being run on the tunnel level to connect with a shaft 100 feet deep, with a level and short drifts 94 feet, that has been sunk on this vein.

The vein cut 220 feet from the portal strikes N. 55 degrees and dips from vertical to 80 degrees SE. It is a fracture zone 1 ½ to 2 feet wide, near which there is some dissemination of pyrite. Small amounts of ore from this property have been milled at a small stamp mill at Wide Awake.