



VOLUME 41

# Montana Ghost Town Quarterly

WINTER 2010/11

*Where is this hotel ?*



To find out, read the complete story starting on page 6

## Montana Ghost Town Quarterly

The *Montana Ghost Town Quarterly* is published four times a year by the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society, P.O. Box 1861, Bozeman, Montana 59771. Phone; 406-522-3856 e-mail: mtghosttown@yahoo.com http://ghosttown.montana.com Copyright © 2010, all rights reserved.

Founded in 1969, the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public to the benefits of preserving the historic buildings, sites, and artifacts that make up the living history of Montana.

Opinions expressed in the bylined articles are the authors' and do not necessarily represent the views of the Montana Ghost Town Preservation Society.

### Winter 2010 / 11

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Jan O'Brien, Maria O'Brien, Nick Shrauger.

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**Website Administrator:** Dick Lee  
**2011 Convention Co-Chairpersons:**  
Gord Tracy & Mike Byrnes

# The Prez Sez

TERRY HALDEN

One of the pleasant tasks I have to perform as your president is to represent the M.G.T.P.S. at the annual Montana Historical Society's Montana History Convention, which this year was in Helena. Among the many historical places that we visited was the Archie Bray foundation premises on the west side of Helena and the Lime Kilns in Grizzly Gulch. My reports on these two historic places are on pages 10 and 11 of this newsletter. If you have the opportunity you might consider visiting these sites. Next year the conference will be in Missoula.

It is with regret that I have to report that Shannon Gilbert has resigned from the board of directors. The good news is she has been promoted at her work to a supervisory position but as such cannot devote enough of her energies that she would like to the board. We would like to thank her for the enthusiasm she has shown, whilst a member of the board and wish her every success in her new endeavors.

I recently had the pleasure to view the docu-drama 'The Hanging of the Sheriff', written, produced and directed by our board member Meg McWhinney. The is the story of Sheriff Plummer and his fatal encounter with Montana vigilantes that was partially funded by your society. To say this production, that runs 33 minutes, is excellent and one of the best researched movies of this nature I have come across is an understatement. I hope that we can show it to you at next years convention.

This is your last reminder. If you haven't renewed your membership for the 2010/2011 year, this will be the last newsletter you receive. I know that's an empty threat, but where else can you get four copies of a 12 page magazine, chock full of interesting historical articles, for ten bucks?

In my life I have often been accused of having biased political opinions but I have never been accused of being politically correct, so in view of that, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all.....

1863 ESTABLISHED 1863

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H. S. GILBERT, Proprietor,

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ALL ORDERS

PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

# A Very Merry Christmas

&

# A Happy New Year

Terry

## New Members

Secretary Margie Kankrlik reports the following **New Members** have joined our Association since the last newsletter. Please make them welcome.

Don and Maureen Reynolds, Billings, MT.

Kevin and Donna Heaney, Gallatin Gateway, MT.

Peter Hoveland, Big Fork, MT.

Al Ring, Tucson, AZ.

Sue Smith, Helena, MT.

# M.G.T.P.S. BOARD MEETING

October 23, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Halden at the Pioneer Museum in Bozeman, MT. Board members in attendance were: Mike Byrnes, Terry Halden, Dick Lee, Rosemary Lee, Meg McWhinney and Gordon Tracy. Board members unable to attend were: Loretta Chapman, John Ellingsen, Shannon Gilbert, Margie Kankrlik, Tom Lowe, Jan O'Brien, Maria O'Brien and Nick Shrauger.

Minutes of the September 10, 2010 board meeting were approved as printed in the Fall newsletter. In Secretary/Treasurer Margie Kankrlik's absence, Rosemary Lee read the current financial statement, which was also approved.

## OLD BUSINESS

Rosemary Lee reported that income at the 2010 Convention in Polson was \$3,780 and expenses totaled \$3,704.85, for net income of \$75.15.

Gordon Tracy spoke about next year's convention in Philipsburg. He and Mike Byrnes will be working together to plan activities. The Granite County Museum has been reserved for our banquet. Gordon and Mike will soon engage a caterer. A list of area lodging possibilities will be printed in the Spring 2011 newsletter. Various sites and tours were discussed and Gordon and Mike will contact local people, follow up and report back.

Mike Byrnes is trying to contact the Forest Service regarding placing descriptive maps at Coolidge. He will continue to pursue the possibility.

## NEW BUSINESS

There was a motion made and seconded to contribute \$1,000 to the Fort Connah Restoration Society, but following discussion, the motion was denied. The board was in favor of the motion, but turned it down as further info was required as to what the actual cost of badly needed building repairs are. When this is received the motion can be resubmitted by e-mail to the board members for approval. Terry will follow up.

Meg McWhinney discussed establishing an informal partnership with the MSU Photography Department (Prof. Ian Van Coller). If students were to photograph Montana's endangered sites and ghost towns, it would not only provide projects for them, but hopefully would stimulate their interest in preservation and appreciation of these places. A list of places they might visit and photograph would be needed. A suggestion was made to contact either John Ellingsen or John DeHaas for input.

Meg also posed the possibility of linking with the MSU History Department (Prof. Mary Murphy). There may be a variety of way we could work together.

Terry reported that Crystal Alegria of Montana Site Stewardship, an organization that hosts archaeological digs, was unable to be here today, but will make a presentation at a future meeting. Mike suggested we plan a dig next summer and involve young people—possibly Boy Scouts—, host a BBQ, get some publicity, etc.—all in an attempt to raise awareness of and interest in our Society.

Board meeting absenteeism was addressed. It is sometimes difficult to maintain a quorum, but no solutions to the problem were forthcoming. All agree Saturday is the day when most members are available to attend.

Other items of interest that came under discussion were:

- Meg asked if we knew which ghost towns might be on the Montana Film Commission's list?
- Meg has submitted a script idea to the Sundance Film Festival, based on letters from a prostitute in 1890s Butte that were in Mike's possession.
- The question of a Facebook page to publicize MGTPS was brought up.
- Meg advised the Henry Plummer film is now available for the board to see.
- Terry has necessary information for listing a building or town on the National Register of Historic Places.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Rosemary Lee, Acting Secretary/Treasurer

## Academy of the Holy Family, FOR YOUNG LADIES, St. Ignatius Mission, . . . M. T.

**T**HIS Academy is under the direction of the Sisters of Charity. They will teach to read and write, Grammar and English Composition, Arithmetic, Geography, History, and the French language, if required. Sewing, and whatever is understood under the extensive word of Housewifery. Children must be provided with bed-clothing, two dresses for week days and one for Sundays, half a dozen pocket handkerchiefs, three towels, combs and basin, spoon, fork and knife. They will buy their school books in the Academy. For the sake of uniformity and good order, all the pupils will assist at the religious exercises of the Institution. All letters either sent or received, by the pupils, will be subject to the inspection of the Superiors.—No visitor admitted without a written order of the respective parents or guardians of the pupil.

**TERMS.**—Cash, and invariable five months in advance. Entrance Fee, \$5.00; Board and Tuition, \$25.00 per month; Washing and Ironing, \$5.00 per year. The annual session will commence on the first of September, and end on the first of June. For further information, address,

Rev. MOTHER MARY, (of the Infant Jesus.) Superior-ess, or Rev. U. GRASSI, S. J., Sup't St. Ignatius Mission, 36 miles North of Hellgate, Montana Territory. 42-3m\*

# The BANNACK MINE and MILL

by TOM LOWE



Many gold mills operated in years past in the Bannack area, the largest was the Gold Leaf mill below Bannack, near the site of Marysville. However, only the mill at Bannack survived.

The old mill that is visible across the creek from Bannack, processed gold and silver ore for many years providing jobs for Bannack residents. It was known as the Hendricks and the Apex but is now known as the Bannack Mill. The Bannack Mill evolved over time from a simple arrasta to a steam powered stamp mill using sluice boxes and mercury traps, to a cyanide mill and in its last operating years a flotation recovery system. Most of the ore for mill operations came from the Hendricks and Suffield lode deposits, located above the mill. These mines were discovered shortly after placer operations began on the Stapleton Bar where the present day mill is located.

George Washington Stapleton, better known as 'Wash', was one of the first miners at the Grasshopper Diggings. 'Wash' discovered a promising placer gold deposit in the fall of 1862. The placer gold deposit he found was very rich and the gold was very coarse and rough indicating it had not traveled far from the source. When Hendricks discovered the hard rock gold deposit above the bar he built an arrasta to process the ore. The arrasta, a primitive, circular, stone lined pit was used for centuries by Spanish miners to crush ore. A large stone was attached to a pole on a pivot and drug around by a mule or horse and the crushed rock was panned to recover the gold. The gold dredging that occurred along the creek between 1895 and 1902 completely obliterated all signs of this crude mill. The Hendricks mine was patented by Bannack pioneer miner Augustus Graeter on May 18, 1899.

The mill was upgraded and run by different operators over the years, all hoping to get rich but after investing much money into the operation and failing to make a profit they closed after a short period of time. The best known of these dreamers was Chandler Stallings, better known as 'Chan'. In 1918 Stallings leased the Hendricks mine and constructed a five stamp crushing facility and amalgamation mill. Stamp mills are very noisy affairs and the sound of the heavy stamps hammering on the ore to crush the rock reverberated across the canyon. Although the noise was heard day and night the residents of Bannack didn't complain as the mill and mines provided needed jobs. The process wasn't very efficient and as much as 50 percent of the gold was lost. To improve efficiency Stallings formed the Bannack Gold Mining and Milling Company and upgraded the mill with a small ball mill and two cyanide tanks in 1919. 'Chan' must have been successful in raising money because a ten stamp mill was added in 1920 but the mill only operated until 1921. At this point 'Chan' decided there was more money in leasing the operation than in running it himself.

Whenever 'Chan' leased the property the new operators improved the mill thinking they would be able to

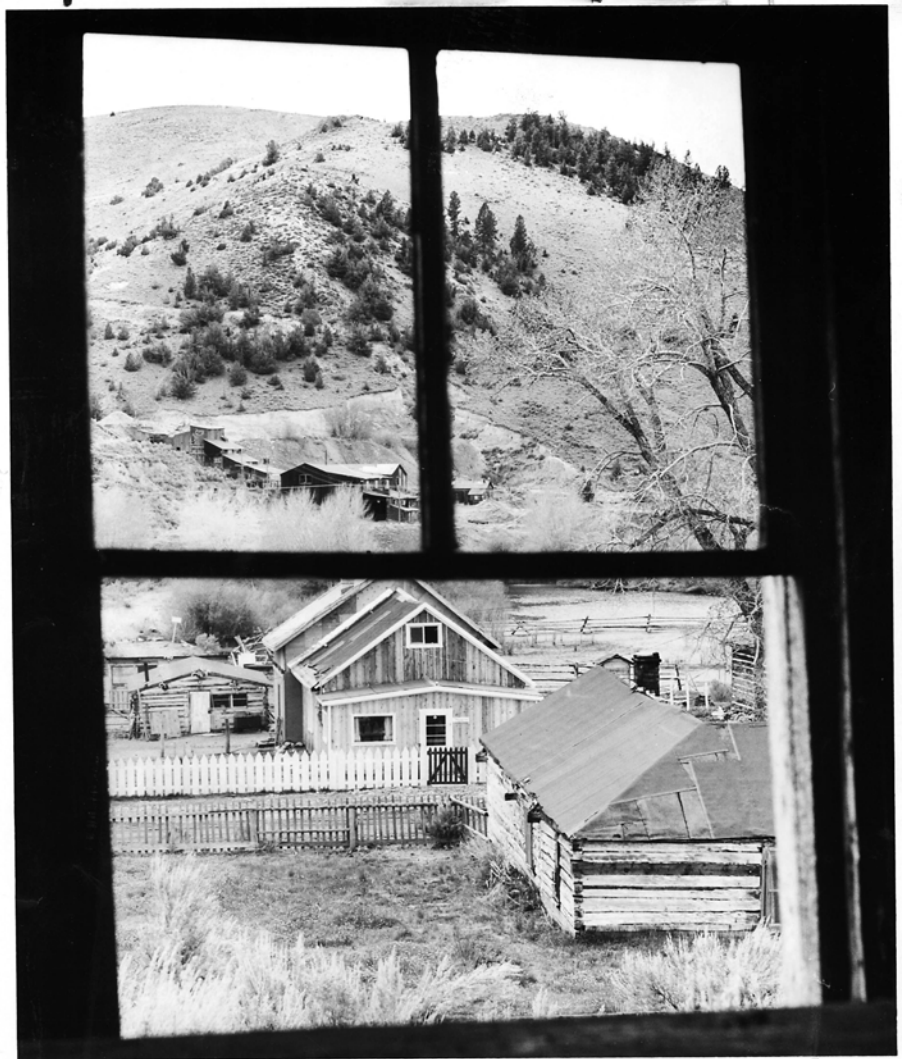
make a profit from all the gold left in the mine. However, mining is a risky business and it wasn't easy to make a profit from gold in the ground. E. L. Honska leased the property in 1933 and electrified the mill. Prior to electrification all of the machinery was powered by a steam boiler that is still in place. After spending considerable money in updating the mill Honska was unable to profit from his investment. 'Chan' then leased the site to the Chipaul Mining Company in 1935 but they only operated for seven months. 'Chan' regained control of the property in 1936 and operated as the Apex Mining Company during the Great Depression until 1941. With the start of World War II all non essential mining was prohibited by presidential decree and the mill and mine were shut down. Although the work in the mine and mill was hard and dangerous it was a job and during the depression the workers considered themselves lucky to have any job.

Working in the mine and mill were hazardous occupations and over the years many men were injured or killed. On February 16, 1934 twenty-five year old Ray Turner and his brother Bill were working the night shift in the mine. As the rocks groaned and cracked Bill scrambled to safety but Ray was crushed to death in the cave in. He is buried in the Bannack Cemetery. Potassium cyanide was used in the mill to dissolve the gold and silver from the ore. Although cyanide is a deadly poison when the gas or powdered form is inhaled no deaths are known due to cyanide use in the mill, but the machinery can be very dangerous as well. We do not have any specifics about accidents in the Hendricks mill but in 1968 eighteen year old Gene Davenport was involved in a terrifying accident in the crushing plant at the New Departure mill just over the hill from Bannack. Gene was checking a bearing that was overheating on the ball mill when the railing he was leaning over gave way and he fell into the gears turning the mill. His arm was pulled into the gears and unfortunately, he lost his arm.

After World War II ended gold mining resumed at the Hendricks mine and in 1957 a group from Nebraska leased the property. Considerable money was spent updating the mill but they the company only operated until 1958 using the cyanide extraction process. Although they were able to pour gold bars on a regular basis at the smelter it wasn't enough to cover expenses so they went back to Nebraska to resume raising corn, a more financially profitable venture. Spokane National Mines was the next company to acquire the property and they finished updating the mill to a modern facility. They ran six cyanide vats and used a Merrill Crowe precipitation unit but profits did not meet their expectations. The mill was once again expanded and a flotation extraction system was installed to process silver ore brought in from the nearby Argenta area. Carl Brown a long time area miner and mill foreman said they recovered over 200,000 ounces of silver in 1964 but, none the less, still lost money. Consequently, the mill was once again shut down and Spokane National Mines filed for bankruptcy in 1971. C. Gosta Miller owned the property briefly in 1976 but Spokane National Mines reorganized and repurchased the property the same year.

Around this time, when the mill was idle, some people were stealing copper wire from the mill to sell as scrap metal. While burning off the insulation the fire got out of control and the crushing plant was consumed by the raging fire. The crushing machinery is still in place but the wooden structure is gone. Fortunately, the building housing the cyanide equipment, the assay building and the smelter are still intact.

Spokane National Mines did not retain the property very long as it was sold to Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) in January 1977. The mill site was not patented however and the deed was only for back taxes. MFWP leased the land from BLM in 1981 and was finally able to obtain a patent in 1984. In 1991 the site was declared a mini Super Fund site and the mill property was cleaned up and the mill stabilized. The mill is now an important part of Bannack State Park. The Hendricks mine has thousands of feet of tunnels and numerous shafts and stopes but much of it has caved in. Due to safety concerns the mine is closed but during the summer visitors can take a guided tour of the mill at noon on weekends. The tour starts at the Visitor Center and participants ride over to the mill in the back of the 1931 Ford Model AA truck. The tour is very interesting and explains the mining and the mill processes and is the only time visitors are allowed inside this important piece of Bannack's mining history.



The Bannack, or Apex, Mine and Mill seen in the background in the photo above, and close up in the crop, below. Photo taken in 1970.

Photo courtesy TOM LOWE



# GALLATIN CITY, 1, 2, & 3

by TERRY HALDEN

*Editor's note: Thanks to Ann Butterfield at the Pioneer Museum for help in this article.*

In late 1862 a bunch of Missourians had the ambitious idea to build a city, to be known as Gallatin City on the east bank of the Gallatin River as it became the Missouri. The enterprising scheme envisioned steamers coming up the Missouri with their cargos to be landed at Gallatin City for distribution to the mining camps in Last Chance (Helena), Confederation Gulch (Diamond City), Alder Gulch (Virginia City, Nevada City, etc.) and Grasshopper Creek (Bannack). A few 'claim jumpers' had started building cabins when the city fathers were dismayed to learn that steamers couldn't reach the Three Forks area because the Great Falls of the Missouri were in the way. Undaunted they modified their ideas and for some unknown reason relocated the proposed city west of the Gallatin to the east bank of where the Madison met the Jefferson. They still clung to the idea of a distribution center, theorizing that cargos could be transported directly by wagons from the steamers at Fort Benton to Gallatin.

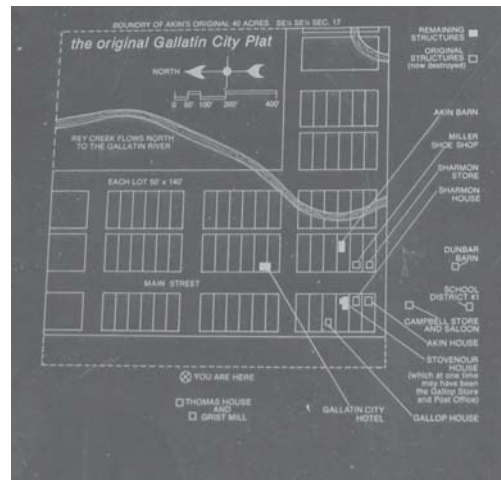
On December 30, 1862, the Gallatin Town Company with Alfred Ray as secretary – recorder was officially formed in what was then 'Dacotha' Territory. The town was platted by A.K. Stanton and C.M. Davis, who were paid for their efforts four sacks of flour (worth \$30 per 100 pound sack) and a free town lot each. Stanton built the first cabin, consisting of log construction with a dirt floor and roof. Sixty more cabins followed as the town grew to 'city' status. It wasn't until March 11, 1865 before Gallatin City was organized and the Legislative Assembly in Montana Territory named Gallatin City the county town of Gallatin County, one of the newly formed nine original counties.

A flour mill was built by Joseph Wilson, with Wade White as the mill foreman and W. D. Fredericks the millwright. On the fourth of July 1866 a celebration was held to commemorate the completion of the mill. By November, the mill had a reputation of producing the whitest flour in the state and this continued throughout the existence of the mill as improvements were made by subsequent millwrights such as the latest middling purifier to remove the bran which whitens the flour being milled. The mill finally closed in 1883 and was abandoned.

January 1867 saw the first school open with Miss Florence Royce the teacher, who had fourteen students, aged 6 to 16 in her one room class. After her term of duty, usually three months, Miss Royce fled to California. A free school was opened in January 1872 under the direction of Miss Fannie Campbell.

1867 was the year that a travelling Republican speech maker, A.K. McClure, had the misfortune to stop off at Gallatin to drum up support for his party. He stayed at the home of a Major Campbell, and was elegantly entertained, but when the meeting was called to order he found the forty citizens in attendance, were all staunch Democrats, the Major included. McClure's comment afterwards was recorded as "I doubt I converted more than half the audience and I don't feel sure that I converted any'.

As 1867 drew to a close, Gallatin City suffered its first set-back. On Christmas Day a county wide vote was held and Bozeman won the county seat by a large margin.



Early settlers in Gallatin City

PIONEER MUSEUM collection



1869 saw the building of the first hotel in town by Jarvis Akin. Despite being turned into a barn after its usefulness as a hotel came to an end, and having half its structure torn away to parts unknown, the hotel is one of only two structures still standing, although, as you can see in the photos, its days appear to be numbered. Finally, in 1873 the Eastern Montana Agricultural, Mineral & Mechanical Association was formed and they bought an 80 acre tract near the city and laid out a racetrack. Life in the city was now at its peak, and then the decline set in.

The Northern Pacific, which the city fathers had hoped would be the salvation of Gallatin City, came through in 1882 from Bozeman but veered north towards Helena, a mile east of the burg. A section house was put in known as Gallatin Station which the *Avant Courier*, May 17, 1882 edition described as “*three canvas tents used for saloons and another tent in which soiled doves presided. The track has given Gallatin the go-by on the gallop*”. The railroad did have plans to develop a new town site (Gallatin City 3) and had deeds to a parcel of land which was set up to contain 325 lots, but the deed was never recorded and nothing came of the plan. By 1909, long after Gallatin City had faded, the main depot was established to the north at Trident.

With the setback of the railway, people started drifting away to towns with brighter prospects such as Bozeman. Businesses closed and within a decade, the town was a ghost town with many of the structures being torn down for the lumber.

Today what is left of the hotel and a nearby barn, the former on the Missouri Headwaters State Park, the latter on private property are the only two buildings still standing.

Two photos of the hotel at Gallatin City and the barn.  
TERRY HALDEN photos.



# MULES in the BUTTE MINES

by MIKE BYRNES

*Editor's Note: Thanks to Mike Byrnes for bringing this archival news item to our attention, and for supplying the photos.*

With the announcement by B.H. Dunshee, assistant general superintendent of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company mines, in Butte, that in 1915 electricity soon will become general in all the mines as the motive power for hauling ore from the drifts, stopes and crosscuts and that mules are soon to pass forever from the underground picture in this district, numerous interesting yarns about the characteristics of the mule underground are being revived by skimmers, miners and shift bosses whenever and wherever they happen to congregate.

The mule, according to the skimmers and other underground men who know him well, is a sociable fellow, but there are limits to his sociability. He chooses his friends and remembers those who play jokes on him. An old-timer whose service was principally on the 2,200 foot level of the Diamond mine was a noticeable example. He seemed to love company and to hunger for the rough caresses the men often gave him. Others showed fondness for their drivers and would allow no one else to come near them without the driver's word of sharp command.



Hog tying a mule for her trip down the mine.



Loading a mule, vertically, onto the hoist.

Some developed a more treacherous disposition and were never to be trusted, but there were notable exceptions. There was one big black known as Dynamite, who was so mean that no foreman would have him in his mine if he could help it. Dynamite was transferred around from one mine to another for a while, and finally he was fired from the company service, and sent to the mule park south of Anaconda.

The Diamond mine was the home of the mine mule, and here large numbers put in their first shifts and were later transferred to other mines. At one time, shortly before the coming of the electric trollies, there were 46 mules employed in this mine alone.

A bunch of graduates were sent to foreman, John Peters of the Poulin mine and were put to work on the 400 ft. and the 1,000 ft. levels. Among them number were three more or less noted individuals known as "Bull," "Kate," and "Babe." "Bull" was an inveterate user of the weed (tobacco), while "Kate" his mate, never was known to take a nibble of tobacco in her life. She had a reputation as a kicker, however, that extended to the lowest level of every mine where mules are employed in the district. She was a kicker for cause and without cause - a chronic kicker in the literal sense. They weren't able to build a stall around "Kate" that sooner or later she didn't demolish with her frisky heels. They couldn't hang an electric light in her stable for she could stand on the toes of her front feet and kick any electric light off the wire that was ever hung within 10 feet of the ground. When it was necessary to fix her hoofs with a pair of new shoes the blacksmith wouldn't tackle the job until gentle "Kate" was hog-tied, thrown and strapped down, but as soon as she was released she would try to kick off the shoes. Sometimes she succeeded, and the operation had to be done all over again. The boys named her hind feet "sudden death" and "six months in the hospital," respectively.





A typical mule in the Butte mines.

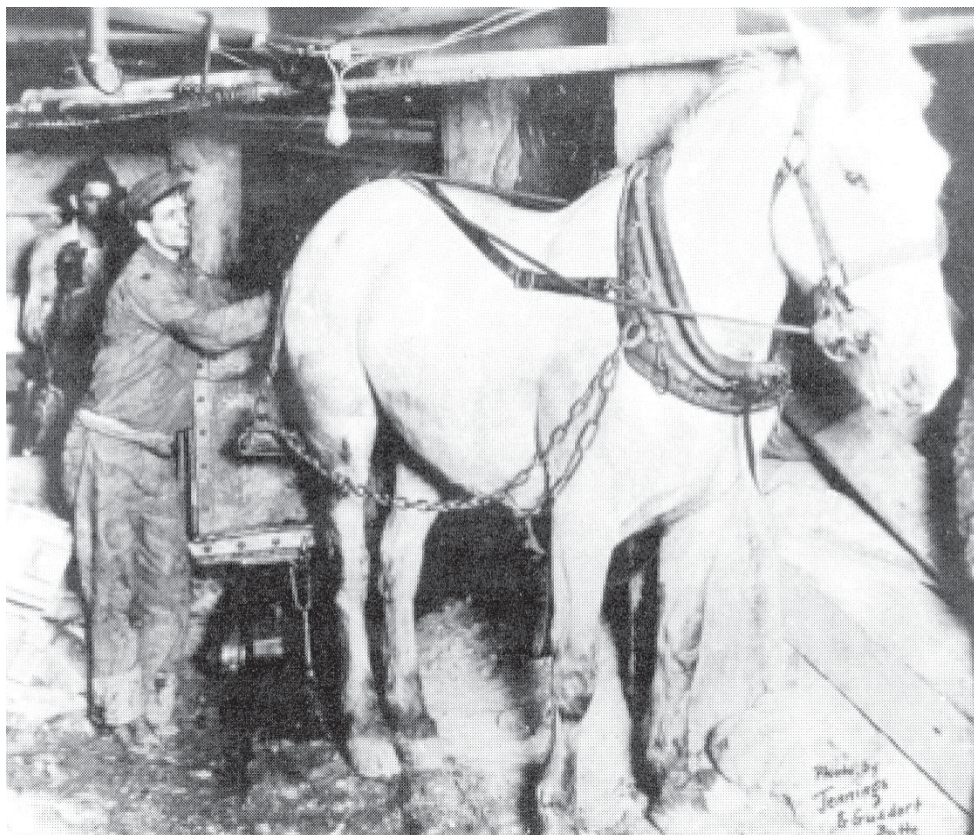
“Babe” was a pet with all the miners on the 1,000 foot level of the Poulin. She enjoyed the distinction of being the only lady mule who chewed tobacco. As a rule the females were not addicted to the habit, but “Babe” seemed naturally to revel in the taste and smell of the weed. If she had an idle moment and could see one of the miners enjoying his noon-time pipe, she would make a bee line for him and stand where the smoke was the thickest, inhaling the cloud with apparent satisfaction.

“Babe” was given many privileges on account of her intelligence and willingness to work. She was not hampered by bridle or rein, but went from one end of the drift to the other when called, would take her place in front of a string of car’s or empties and hauled them to any spot she was told to stop at. “Babe’s” limit was four cars and she protested with looks and groans if more than four are hitched in a string.

“Sharkey” was a thief and hadn’t the grace to be ashamed of it. He knew where the men’s dinner buckets were kept and many a time he sneaked off from work and was found nosing around the row of granite colored pails. Often he succeeded in working the top off one or more and an empty bucket and an empty human stomach combined for an excuse for the beating and cussing that “Sharkey” got. The next dinner pail that came his way when he had a leisure moment to investigate it made him forget the beating, however, and evidently the cussing didn’t count.

“Sharkey’s” most noteworthy mark of intelligence was his knowledge of the switches along the track on his level, as vouched for by the skimmers on that level. They have seen him stop many times at a switch that was not perfectly set and refuse to budge until it had been placed in the proper position. Whether he was motivated by a sense of duty toward his employees or by a desire to avoid unnecessary work for himself no one knows. The assistant general superintendent, Dunshee, believes it was because “Sharkey” didn’t want to see any of the company’s time lost. But there’s an old miner working in the Tramway mine who used to muck along with “Sharkey,” who says “Yes, the hell it was.”

No one really knows. “Sharkey” has gone to the mule heaven, where many of his fellows have gone by the dozens and hundreds, till only a few are left, just a few of the old guard that mark the passing of the mine mule from the Butte district forever. (April, 1915)



“Sharkey”, behaving himself.

For further reading we would recommend ‘The Mules, The Mines and The Miners’ by Mike Byrnes

# The LIME KILNS of GRIZZLY GULCH

by TERRY HALDEN



Due to a need for lime to make mortar for building purposes in Helena, the limestone cliffs in Grizzly Gulch were first mined in the late 1860s. Joseph O'Neill is credited with building the kilns, using hewn timbers, hand forged metal braces and fire bricks imported from the 'States', which accounted for their sturdy construction and the fact most of the structures are still standing today, only a mile or so from downtown Helena. Miners blasted or quarried the cliffs behind the kilns and moved the limestone to the kilns in hand carts. Pine fires in the furnaces of the kilns roared day and night with the result that after several days the limestone was reduced to lime dust. When this occurred the workers could shovel the lime dust into the cooling shed adjacent to the kilns to be hauled to the building sites in the city by teamsters. Each kiln produced about twenty tons of lime every eight hours.

Irish born James McKelvey leased the kilns and later owned them. The kilns closed down in 1910, although they were operated again for a short time in the 1930s. Today they are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



All photos by TERRY HALDEN

# The ARCHIE BRAY FOUNDATION

by TERRY HALDEN

Located on the western outskirts of Helena is the Archie Bray Foundation for the ceramic arts. It is on the site of the old Western Clay Manufacturing Company premises. As early as 1905, if not earlier, Western Clay was manufacturing bricks and tiles for use in Helena buildings and many of the historical architectural designs you see today were attributed to Western Clay. The beehive kilns, originally coal fired, were converted to natural gas in 1931. Industrial and decorative brick, sewer pipe, and tiles were all fired in these kilns. The refining and mixing of the clay, the extruding, drying and firing was all done on the property. It closed as a brick yard in 1961 and today is on the National Register of Historic Places.



The Archie Bray Foundation was founded in 1951 by brick maker, Archie Bray with the intention of becoming a non-profit educational institution for 'all who are seriously and sincerely interested in any of the branches of the ceramic arts'. With the help of Branson Stevenson and Peter Meloy the foundation has grown to become a world-wide influence in the ceramic arts. Since 1959 the foundation has manufactured its own clay for use in ceramics. Today in the new 12,000 square-foot resident artist studio complex, ten year-round resident artists are at work, each in their own studio. Those residents that are accepted spend between three months and two years at the facility. Since applicants come from all over the world, the competition for acceptance is enormous.



Surrounding the old brick factory and beehive kilns are numerous buildings; the pottery, the artist studio complex, the summer studios, galleries, site sculptures and private residences for the staff. The premises are open to visitors.



TOP: One of the remaining kilns.  
CENTER: Inside.  
BOTTOM: The remains of the Western Clay plant.

All photos by TERRY HALDEN



## Montana Ghost Town Quarterly

MONTANA GHOST TOWN PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 1861, BOZEMAN, MT, 59771-1861

### *NEWS IN BRIEF:*

**GARNET, GRANITE COUNTY.....** Following up on the news brief in our spring edition, Alan Matthews historian, and Maria Craig, archaeologist with the BLM in Missoula, have been successful in getting the ghost town of Garnet listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The massive job comprised the documentation of 183 contributing features including buildings, mine pits, shafts, adits, outhouses and trash dumps.

**NEVADA CITY, MADISON COUNTY.....** Debbi Clark, a second grade teacher at Gallatin Gateway School, and ten other teachers took part in an archaeologist field workshop in Nevada City this past August. The skills learned at the workshop enabled the teachers how to help their students sharpen their skills in problem solving and to tease out the mystery of what a bygone tool might have been used for.

**HIGHLAND CITY, SILVER BOW COUNTY.....** The Highland Mining District, south of Butte, in the Highland Mountains came about when placer gold was discovered by the Coleman brothers and William Crawford on July 25<sup>th</sup> 1866 in Fish Creek. This eventually led to lode mining near the boom towns of Highland City and Red Mountain City. Mining in the area lasted until the wartime ban on mining and was never resumed afterwards. Fast forward to August 2010 – DEQ is in charge of cleaning up the site known as the Highland Mine Reclamation Project. This entails re-routing a section of a stream and rebuilding 780 feet of a hiking trail on the Continental Divide Trail, which will now wind above the reclaimed land.

**BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION, GLACIER COUNTY.....** According to Maria Nieves Zedeno, an archaeologist with the University of Arizona, working with John Murray, Historic Preservation Officer with the Blackfeet Tribe, a nine mile long area that contains a well preserved “drive line” where ancient tribal members used to funnel bison to a cliff, has been discovered on a remote plateau overlooking Two Medicine River on the reserve. Besides the actual kill site, researchers have uncovered artifacts with social and religious significance, including a camp site with 651 tepee rings.