

PHO 687227

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	OCT 24 1978
DATE ENTERED	DEC 27 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Littlejohn Mine Complex

AND/OR COMMON

Littlejohn Mine Complex

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Pine Creek Mining District

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

T 12 S, R 80 W Granite Co

VICINITY OF

3

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Colorado

08

Chaffee

015

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Littlejohn Associates (50%)

/ Terry R. & Beverly A. Campbell (50%)

STREET & NUMBER

3 South Tejon Street

/ Rt. 2, Box 89A

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

VICINITY OF

/ Zillah, Washington 98953

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Chaffee County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Salida

Colorado

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Colorado Inventory of Historic Sites (08/01/0017)

DATE

Ongoing

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Colorado Historical Society; 1300 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

STATE
Colorado 80203

Denver

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Littlejohn Mine Complex is located in Chaffee County about seven miles up the Pine Creek Valley from the confluence of Pine Creek and the Arkansas River. The Complex consists of three principal structures--the main cabin, the burro shed/bunk house, and a forge--plus related outbuildings all constructed of logs which were hand-hewn, hand-cut, and put together through A and V joint construction.

1. The Main Cabin

The main cabin is a single detached structure rectangular in shape and made of logs about nine inches in diameter. The foundation is of mud and rock. The logs were hand-cut, hand-hewn, squared, and put together with A and V joint construction. They are chinked with mud and small, hand-adzed boards. Although round on the exterior, the logs have been squared and flattened on the interior by a hand-adz to produce a nearly flat inner wall. The gabled roof is made of logs, mud, dirt, and grass over which there is now tar paper held in place by rocks. The exterior is "decorated" with a number of animal skulls and the horns of elk and bighorn sheep.

The interior consists of three rooms--a living area and two storage rooms. Entrance to the living area is gained by a five-foot, three-inch door. The living area has a wooden floor overlaying logs set on the ground about twenty-four inches apart. Interior chinking on the walls is provided by flattened cans of Hills Brothers Coffee, Blue Hill Coffee, Sleepy Hollow Syrup, and other products. The ceiling has been insulated with cardboard and can tops which also prevent debris and small animals that burrow in the roof from dropping into the living area. A variety of wooden boxes have been nailed to the walls for shelving along with some handmade shelves near the Regal woodburning stove. About ten feet high, the cabin has one two and one-half foot window that permits light to enter one end of the living area.

Both storerooms are small. Access to the rear storeroom is gained through a four-foot high door in the living area. This storeroom has wall shelves and a dirt floor, and is approximately six feet high. Access to the equipment storeroom, however, is gained through an outside door located near the door to the living area. This storeroom is dirt-floored, chinked on the inside with flattened tin cans, and has a variety of original mining and trapping items which include picks, drills, skin stretchers, bottles of trapping scent, old clothes, and several old two-man saws for felling trees. Ore bags dating from the early 1900s and holding samples of silver-lead-bismuth ore from the mine are also situated in the storeroom.

2. The Burro Shed/Bunk House

Located west of the main cabin, this one-room structure is another single, detached rectangular structure made of logs. Its foundation, roof, interior, and exterior are very similar to that of the main cabin.

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Mine Complex ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

3. The Forge

Located to the south across Pine Creek, the forge is also a single, detached, rectangular structure made of logs. Its foundation, roof, interior, and exterior, are similar to the main cabin. The forge has a bellows-forge area for a blacksmith at the end opposite the doorway.

Located on the Complex in addition to the three main structures are a number of gates, corrals, privies, trails, groves, streams, and meadows, as well as the mine itself located east of the forge. In their own way each of these structures and natural features contributes to the character of the Complex.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	ca. 1880s	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Littlejohn Mine Complex is significant because its architecture and setting embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, and method of construction used by late nineteenth century miners in their efforts to develop ore bodies. Thus the Complex is associated with the development of the mining industry which played so large a role in Colorado's early development.

The buildings in the Complex were constructed sometime in the 1880s, but the early record is fragmentary, and little is known of the builders and developers. Yet Chaffee County abounded in mining districts such as the Winfield Mining District and the Riverside Mining District, both of which lay a few miles from this one. The group of buildings in the Littlejohn Complex is somewhat typical of the way in which these miners sought to open claims, although in this case--as in most cases--the mine never amounted to much despite years of desultory work in the search for high-grade ores. What is so unusual about the Complex is that it has survived almost intact, this being attributable to one Harry Littlejohn. He obtained the property in 1920 and remained there making a living from trapping, hunting, and mining some silver-lead-bismuth ores until his death in 1952.

What makes the Complex so interesting is its architectural features and craftsmanship. The vernacular design (if it can be so dignified), the rough construction, the use of A and V joints, the earthen roofs, and the use of crude tools in fashioning the buildings all reflect the primitive conditions, isolation, lack of money, and hurried development of early mining areas. Great mining centers such as Central City, Leadville, and Cripple Creek, now listed in the Register for their stone, brick, and wooden buildings, all had their inception in rude buildings like those in the Littlejohn Complex, but these buildings disappeared as the early mining camp prospered and grew into a center of the minerals industry. The Littlejohn Complex, however, did not lie in the midst of the extensive, high-grade, ore bodies that would have permitted such development. The silver-lead-bismuth ore bodies proved low-grade and short-lived, and so the area remained in its original state, fortuitously saved through the passage of time as a vestige of typical experience in the minerals industry.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Barney Campbell, 248 J Street, Salida, Colorado; interview of 3/21/76.

Mining Records, Chaffee County Court House, Salida, Colorado.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Mt. Harvard

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:62500

UTM REFERENCES

A

1, 3	3 8, 6 0, 2, 5	4, 3 1, 2 5, 7, 5
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B

1, 3	3 8, 6 5, 0, 0	4, 3 1, 2 1, 7, 5
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

1, 3	3 8, 6 3, 5, 0	4, 3 1, 2 0, 0, 0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

1, 3	3 8, 5 8, 2, 5	4, 3 1, 2 4 0, 0
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E

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F

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G

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H

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Lawrence A. Hecox

ORGANIZATION

Littlejohn Associates

DATE

November 28, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

3 South Tejon Street

TELEPHONE

(303) 473-4444

CITY OR TOWN

Colorado Springs

STATE

Colorado 80903

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

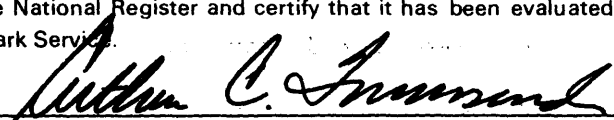
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

October 13, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER



DATE

12-27-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



12-29-78

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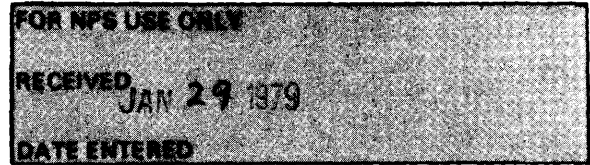
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Littlejohn
CONTINUATION SHEET Mine Complex ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Beginning at the main cabin on the north side of Pine Creek, go 300' up-valley into a dense aspen tree grove; then go 1,500' across the valley to the south and up the shoulder of Mt. Harvard to the prominent knoll; then go 600' east along the side of the shoulder to a large talus slope; then go back north across the valley 1,500' into a stand of lodge pole pines (used by early miners to construct the Littlejohn buildings), which are 300' down-valley from the main cabin.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Littlejohn Mine Complex ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE

Acreage of Nominated Property - 20.6 acres

Quadrangle Name - Mt. Harvard

Quadrangle Scale - 1:62,500

UTM - A-13/386050/4312475
B-13/386225/4312125
C-13/386050/4312050
D-13/385875/4312400

Verbal Boundary Description -

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LITTLE JOHN'S COMPLEX

