

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fox Mine Office

other names/site number 5BL460

2. Location

street & number 1226 S. Cherryvale Road [N/A] not for publication

city or town Boulder [X] vicinity

state Colorado code CO county Boulder code 013 zip code 80303

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer January 17, 1996
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Office, Colorado Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet [].
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register
- other, explain
See continuation sheet [].

[Signature] Signature of the Keeper Date 2/23/99
Edon H. Beall

Entered in _____
National Register

Fox Mine Office
Name of Property

Boulder County, Colorado
County/State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not count previously listed resources.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing.

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Other: ashlar stone

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone
walls Sandstone
roof Steel
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Fox Mine Office
Name of Property

Boulder County, Colorado
County/State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record
- # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

INDUSTRY

Periods of Significance

1883 - 1936

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other:

Name of repository:

Fox Mine Office
Name of Property

Boulder County, Colorado
County/State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 13 481710 4424060
Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Peter J. Gleichman, Principal Investigator

organization Native Cultural Services date July 25, 1995

street & number 4484 Hamilton Court telephone 303-494-5267

city or town Boulder state CO zip code 80303

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Boulder Open Space

street & number 66 S. Cherryvale Road telephone 303-441-4495

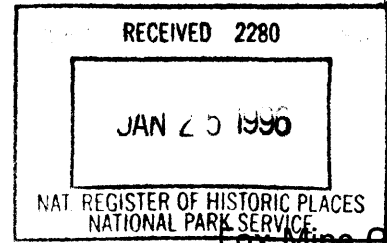
city or town Boulder state CO zip code 80303

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Fox Mine Office
Boulder County, Colorado

DESCRIPTION

The Fox Mine Office is currently part of the Hogan Farm complex (5BL5038). The Hogan Farm complex consists of the Hogan/Smith house, several sheds, a granary, barn and silo, and associated corrals. Most of these buildings have been moved to the site in the last 60 years, rather than having been constructed on site. The land and buildings are leased to the Hogan family by City of Boulder Open Space. The Hogans raise cattle on this land.

The Fox Mine Office building is a one story ashlar stone building with basement. The building is 15 feet north-south by 14.2 feet east-west. The main floor consists of a single room under a hipped roof with a square deck at the top. The roof is now corrugated steel, but was originally boards or wood shingles over rough sawn rafters consisting of 2x4's spaced at 24" on center. The walls are carefully laid ashlar, of buff-colored sandstone from a local quarry (there are numerous sandstone quarries in Boulder County, the precise origin of this stone has not been determined). The stone blocks vary in size, from 32x16" to 5x2.5", with most being fairly large, 12 to 16 inches high by 24 to 32 inches long. The different sized stones are randomly placed. The walls are 10 feet high, from the present ground surface to the roof soffit. The walls continue into the ground to form a basement or lower room.

The east elevation contains the entry door to the main room, comprised of a double layer of tongue & groove boards, vertical inside and diagonal on the exterior. The door opening has an arch over it. The doorway has three stone steps leading up to it. The lower room is entered by stone steps descending just to the right (north) of the entry door. The stairwell begins 8 feet east of the building.

The south elevation contains a window to the main room and a window opening to the basement. The window openings are uncased embrasures in the stone. The main floor window is a double hung, eight-over eight sash. The basement window opening is currently without a window.

The north and west elevations are ashlar walls without openings.

Within the interior of the main room, both the floor and the ceiling are framed of rough sawn pine 2x8's @ 16" on center. The flooring is a single layer of 2 1/2" tongue & groove pine floorboards. The ceiling was originally lath and plaster, but is now sheetrock with a single layer of wallpaper over blue paint. The walls are finished with sand-finish plaster painted blue. A molded baseboard surrounds the room and the door is cased.

The building is in excellent condition, and is unaltered except for the replacement of the roof, and on the interior the replacement of the

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Fox Mine Office
Boulder County, Colorado

original ceiling with sheetrock. The building thus retains integrity of location, design, workmanship and materials. Integrity of feeling, setting, and association have been somewhat diminished in that the elements of a coal mining landscape are not as prevalent as they were at the period of significance. The surrounding area is currently used agriculturally.

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Fox Mine Office
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SIGNIFICANCE

The Fox Mine Office Building is eligible under criterion A for its association with coal mining in the Marshall area. The coal mining activities at Marshall were significant in terms of making immediate and lasting contributions to the economic, industrial and demographic character of the region. Coal mining in the Marshall area was the reason for the formation of the local community, and was a significant source of fuel for commercial railroads, for domestic use in the Front Range cities and 'hard rock' mining towns, as well as for industrial uses such as smelting and processing gold and silver ores. The Fox Mine was a large, long-lived and important mine in Marshall and was an integral part of the economic stability of the community, county, and state. The Fox Mine Office Building is one of the most intact manifestations of the coal mining industry in the Marshall area.

History of Marshall Coal Mining

An historic context for coal mining in the Marshall area was recently completed in conjunction with a cultural resource inventory of over 3000 acres of City of Boulder Open Space (Simmons, Gleichman and Sampson 1995). The historic context summarizes the history of coal mining around Marshall, including the role of railroads, ethnic groups, labor unions, and technological innovation. Except where otherwise referenced, the following information is from the Marshall Coal Mining Historic Context.

The first coal mines in operation in the state of Colorado were at Marshall (Smith 1989:15). The time period in which the Marshall mines were active spans the years between 1859 and shortly after the end of World War II. The initial impetus for mining coal in the Marshall area was to provide a source of steam power for early industries and for domestic use, both in gold mining towns and in Denver and surrounding plains towns. Since coal was available in natural outcrops around Marshall the town grew up as a center of coal mining activities in the Northern Coal Fields.

The Northern Coal Fields included an area of roughly 6,800 square miles of the state of Colorado, in an area located east of Boulder. Most of the coal was concentrated within a 400-hundred square mile area in eastern Boulder County and western Weld County, giving rise to the other name by which the Northern Coal Fields are commonly known: the Boulder-Weld Coal Fields (Herring et al. 1986, Hynes 1986).

The history of coal mining in Marshall begins in 1859 when William A. Kitchen made a claim somewhere near the future site of the town. Kitchen called this claim the "Washington Lode", but it was also known by his neighbors as "Kitchen's Bank" (Smith 1989:12). Wagons were used

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Fox Mine Office
Boulder County, Colorado

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to transport his coal to local residents and to Denver. In 1866 William Kitchen sold his claim to Joseph Marshall (Sampson 1989).

Once Joseph Marshall had established the Marshall Coal Mining Company he then devoted himself to the development of the Marshall and Black Diamond Mines (Smith 1989:17). Coal mining operations in Marshall began on a large-scale basis following the influx of Welsh and English miners in the 1860s. These experienced workers brought with them a knowledge of how to open mines, how to lay rails for the coal cars used in underground transportation, how to handle explosives, and the working knowledge of how to operate a coal mine successfully (Sampson 1965).

As the Marshall mining operations grew, so did the settlement of workers and their families at Marshall. By 1870 the mining camp had grown into a community that supported a school and three saloons (Smith 1989:17). There were many buildings in the town, including the school and saloons, a butcher shop, a company store, powder houses, mining offices, and workers dwellings. In 1877 the mining settlement at Marshall was surveyed and platted as a town. After this point in time, the town grew larger, both in population and in the numbers of buildings erected.

The mining community referred to as Marshall had several U.S. Post Offices throughout its history, and correspondingly, at various times the mining town itself was known as Marshall, Langford, or Gorham. Following the establishment of the Fox Mine in 1883, portions of the community close to the mine were informally known as Foxtown.

The growth of rail transportation during the last quarter of the 19th Century was important in terms of both its scale and the manner in which it helped to encourage demographic and economic growth along the Colorado Front Range. Although coal was being shipped by wagons through the 1860s and 1870s, the amount of coal that could be shipped was limited and, as a result, coal production at the mines was fairly low during those years.

During the later part of the 1870s the construction of rail lines and the development of coal mining operations proceeded simultaneously, mainly because the success of one was in many ways dependent on the success of the other. A number of key factors that were tied directly to the growth of rail transportation contributed to the intensification of coal mining operations at Marshall during this time. First, the completion of several major rail lines into Denver in 1870 meant that there was an increased demand on fuel for the locomotives that were now regularly travelling through Denver. Secondly, both Denver and Boulder (to a lesser extent) were experiencing rapid demographic and industrial growth, which also resulted in the need for coal to heat houses and fuel machines. Finally, the demand for coal as fuel for producing coke and

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Fox Mine Office
Boulder County, Colorado

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pig iron was increasing, largely due to the needs of Joseph Marshall and his iron foundry (Greiner 1967:310-312).

A combination of all of the above conditions motivated David Moffat and his colleagues to begin construction of the Boulder, Golden and Caribou line with a short, standard-gauge branch between Boulder and the Marshall coal fields (Greiner 1967:311). Immediately following the incorporation of the Golden, Boulder and Caribou Railroad in the winter of 1877, the Marshall Coal Mining Company was formally chartered. In anticipation of the new rail line coming to Marshall, work at the coal mines increased dramatically, and construction of new buildings in what would later become the town of Marshall began. Seventy-five miners, many of whom were English and Welsh immigrants who had come to America to help open coal mines, began to dig new mine chambers and construct some of the first buildings in the mining town (Greiner 1967:314).

On March 5, 1878 the first car-loads of coal from the Marshall mines were hauled along the tracks of the Golden, Boulder and Caribou Railroad into Boulder (Greiner 1967:318). The railroad had an immediate and consequential impact on mining operations at Marshall. Coal production increased dramatically, doubling between 1878 and 1879. In 1878 Marshall shipped twenty-five thousand tons to market, and in the next year fifty-thousand tons were shipped on the railroad line (Smith 1989:40). An average of fifteen to twenty car-loads of coal were shipped each day along the Golden, Boulder and Caribou line in its first year of operation (Greiner 1967:319). The railroad clearly had a strong influence on mining operations at Marshall. The coal transported by rail from the Marshall coal mines helped contribute to the growth and development of a number of small towns along the Front Range.

In 1885 the Denver, Marshall & Boulder Railroad was organized by the Union Pacific. In 1886 track was extended to Marshall and Boulder. The Colorado and Southern took over the line in 1901, and coal was transported on this line to the smelter at Argo Junction until 1932. Spurs from the main line serviced the coal mines.

Railroad transportation also ushered in an era that witnessed a substantial increase in the movement of peoples along the Front Range. A great number of these peoples represented a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds, including individuals from Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, and Latin America, as well as individuals from other regions of the United States. By the early 1880s the town was divided into a number of separate ethnic communities. These included Frenchtown, Italian town (also known as Dagotown or Wopville), Foxtown, where the English and Irish lived, and Telephone Row, inhabited by English and Welsh miners and their families (Sampson 1973).

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Foreign workers were often brought into the mines to replace striking mine workers. Miners were perpetually suspicious of other "foreigners" in the camps. Coal company managers often encouraged the abrasive relationships between races, for they knew that men divided by language barriers and the facets of many different cultural backgrounds would be a long time in getting together to form labor unions. While there is no evidence of Marshall mine operators deliberately encouraging conflicts amongst their workers, the owners did hire a diverse group of employees.

The perceived need for more workers in the mines led the owners to actively seek out laborers from various ethnic groups who would work for less money. "By 1910, certainly because of the special recruiting efforts of local mine management, there were more foreign-born workers in the western states than in the east" (Smith 1989:105-106). The influx of miners from different countries effectively altered the character of the population at Marshall and that of a certain portion of the Colorado Front Range.

The history of the Marshall Mesa coal mining district is also illustrative of the history of labor disputes and the key issues that were at the heart of those disputes. Labor protests and strikes were a way of life for the miners of the Northern Coal Fields, and sometimes they were fairly violent in nature (Sampson n.d., 1991; Smith 1989). The Marshall miners took part in larger mining strikes that were called statewide, as well as strikes that were called in response to local grievances.

Strikes in the Marshall coal mines took place for a number of reasons. Dangerous working conditions, pay guidelines (including rates, method and times of payment, and jobs that constituted paid work), and the need for fair and honest assessments of coal that was produced were among the major issues that concerned the miners. Mining labor problems were precipitated by, as well as helped to initiate, the tremendous growth of ethnic populations in the area.

In 1878 a local union of the Knights of Labor was formed at Marshall in order to address issues of production and pay (Grogan 1967:329-330). After a failed strike at the Marshall mines in 1885, the local mine unions realized that their cause would be better represented under a regional unit of labor organization. Thus, the Coal Miners' Federation of Northern Colorado was organized in Louisville in July 1886 (Grogan 1967:337).

During the period between 1886 and the end of the decade, Marshall coal miners were either affiliated with this new labor organization or with the Knights of Labor. Although both union organizations largely cooperated in issues regarding the miners' welfare, the Knights of Labor only represented approximately 10 percent of the miners in the Northern

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Coal Fields (Grogan 1967:338-339). A national mine labor movement was growing in late 1888 and on December 5 of that year the Progressive Union of Miners and Mine Laborers was created (Grogan 1967:339). One year later, a national labor organization that encompassed all of the goals of both the Knights of Labor and the National Federation was created. The United Mine Workers of America was founded at a labor convention on December 18, 1889 (Grogan 1967:339).

Labor strife continued, with strikes in the 1890s, the "long strike" of 1910 to 1914 which was joined by coal miners from Colorado's Southern Coal Fields and culminated in the Ludlow Massacre, and a strike in 1927 which resulted in martial law being declared in Colorado's Northern Coal Fields. In 1933 the National Industrial Recovery Act was passed, recognizing unions, and from that time on miners were allowed to join the United Mine Workers of America.

Mine operations intensified at Marshall during the World War I years, where the demand for the energy that coal produced was fueled by the needs of the U. S. Government. Coal production records indicate that the years around World War I witnessed the greatest overall production of coal from the Marshall mines collectively.

Following World War I, coal production decreased but remained, for the most part, fairly steady through the 1920s up until the Great Depression. Problems between mine workers and mine operators continued, and contributed to the decline of the coal mining industry at Marshall. One source of strife between management and miners was wage decreases, as well as the dropping value of coal itself. But there were certainly a host of other factors at work as well. The underground coal fires had been a problem for years. Some mines had problems with flooding. Much of the readily obtainable coal had already been mined out of the Marshall coal fields by the late 1930s. A number of mines were still in operation, of course, and the World War II years saw an increase in mining production compared to previous years. However, the number of active mines at Marshall was much smaller than it had been earlier in the century, and production rates dropped precipitously, as they had immediately following World War I.

The advent of new fuels, such as natural gas, also contributed to the decline of the coal mining industry at Marshall in the late 1940s. By the middle of the 1950s, coal mining was no longer a part of the Marshall landscape.

Fox Mine

The Fox Mine was established by Michael P. Fox in 1883 and operated under his management until 1912. The mine had a 130 foot deep shaft entry, but also had slope entries as did most of the Marshall mines. It mined a nine foot seam of coal. A number of entities formed what is

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known as the Fox Mine, including the Fox (old), Fox No. 2 (Fox Patterson), Fox No. 6 (Eagle), Fox Slope (old), and Rocky Ridge. These mines were probably all interconnected subsurface. By 1912 the mine was operated by the American Fuel Company. In 1913 the mine was operated by the Fox Coal Company again. The mine was apparently idle from 1923 to 1935, and abandoned in 1936, but the State Inspector of Coal Mines Annual Reports lists a Fox Coal Company Mine, the Rocky Ridge, in 1929 and 1930. Total tonnage for the Fox Mine is given as 1,247, 847 tons. The mine was serviced by the "Fox Spur" of the Colorado & Southern RR. The Fox Mine was one of the largest and most important mines in the Marshall area.

The Fox Mine Office building (5BL460) was one of several buildings constructed of similar ashlar masonry, apparently by or for the Fox family. The Fox residence was immediately adjacent to this building but burned down during the 1920s. It was constructed of the same ashlar stone. Another mine building was reputedly located about 600 meters to the south, near the main entry to the mine. This building either does not exist any longer or has been incorporated into a private residence. Based on an historic photograph, another Fox Mine building very similar to the office once existed near the railroad spur. Another ashlar building, the "Fox Stone Barn" (5BL4125), is located 200 meters north of 5BL460. This building is slightly different in raw material and construction. The function of the Fox Mine Office is based on oral history from the late Joseph Gabriella, a local miner. There is no documentary evidence. If there was another mine office near the main entry to the mine, then that office may have served the work force, and the Fox Mine Office, adjacent to the Fox residence, may have been for internal management and records storage.

Subsequent to the cessation of coal mining in the Marshall area, the office was used briefly as a temporary dwelling or bunkhouse by a member of the Hogan family engaged in ranching. The building is currently not in use.

Three property types were defined for the Marshall Mesa coal mining area: Property Type I consists of industrial resources - mining buildings, structures, sites and complexes. Property Type II consists of community residential and support resources - residential buildings, sites and features. Property Type III is the mining landscape encompassing all of the mining community and mining operations.

As a building involved and associated with the industrial and commercial processes of coal mining, i.e., the administration of these processes, the office is a Type I Property. It is the only Type I Property still standing in the Marshall coal mining area. It meets the registration requirements by retaining the physical characteristics of the period, is in its original location, and has not been modified to the extent of

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Fox Mine Office
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impairing the ability of the building to convey its historic character or function. The period of significance for the building extends from the building's construction around 1883 (when the Fox Mine was established) to the final abandonment of the mine in 1936.

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Fox Mine Office
Boulder County, Colorado

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
Louisville, Colo.
7.5 Minute Quad

