

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 01 1975
DATE ENTERED APR 23 1975

**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
Ruby
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
T 23 S, R 11 E, Sec. 5 (NE4)
CITY, TOWN

*no. of US/Mexico border.
between Ruby and
Montezuma*

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Arizona VICINITY OF _____
CODE 04 COUNTY Santa Cruz CODE 023

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <u>none</u>

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Ruby Mines, Inc.
STREET & NUMBER
2777 North Campbell Ave.
CITY, TOWN
Tucson VICINITY OF _____ STATE
Arizona

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
STREET & NUMBER
Santa Cruz County Courthouse
Morley Avenue and Court Street
CITY, TOWN
Nogales STATE
Arizona

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE _____
DATE _____

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS _____
CITY, TOWN _____ STATE _____

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 ghost town of Ruby (elevation 4219) lies between two low mountains, Ruby Peak to the north and Montana Peak to the south. At the foot of the town two small lakes are separated by mine tailings. There has been some remilling of the tailings and this, if continued, could result in combining the lakes into one. The lakes are stocked with bass and blue gill.

At its peak (1928-1940), Ruby had a population of a little over 1,000 people who lived in an assortment of adobe, frame, or tent-top cabins. There was a store, school, clinic, bar, poolhall, coffee shop, and a jail.

Approximately a dozen deserted and dilapidated buildings, including the store, the school, and the clinic, remain. The property is now fenced and locked because of extensive vandalism.

Ruby derives its irregular boundaries from the fact that it is really a collection of old mining claims. There is, therefore, no particular geographical or topographical logic to its shape. The surrounding countryside is mountainous and uninhabited.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ghost town of Ruby was the center of mineral resources recognized during the Spanish Colonial Period, but they were not exploited until the late 19th century.

Although the area was recognized by the Spanish as rich in minerals and prospected by Anglos after the Gadsden Purchase, development was not feasible until the 1890s when the Apache had been confined to the reservations. There was some mining and prospecting in the 1870s and 1880s, during which time the site was known as the Montana Camp, but there were no major operations then.

Insufficient technology retarded development of the mines for some time after the Apache threat was removed. The ore contained zinc and copper as well as lead, silver, and gold, but the scarcity of water and the inefficiency of the reduction process prevented profits until new milling methods were developed.

The town managed to survive these difficult years and even grew enough to acquire a post office in 1910. That same year the name was changed to Ruby, after the wife of the store owner.

In 1916 the mining property was acquired by Goldfield Consolidated. A new flotation mill was constructed, and some adobe homes replaced some of the tents and shacks. Cattle ranching supplemented the mining industry. Most of the population during these years was Mexican or Mexican-American.

The proximity of the Mexican border made Ruby a frequent victim of the internal troubles of Mexico. Murders, rustling, and banditry by renegades from across the border were not uncommon. In 1918 a band of Yaqui, harassed at home by Mexican troops and official policy, engaged the U.S. Cavalry about three miles from Ruby, an event which may have been the last Cavalry-Indian encounter in the U. S.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Meyer, Carol Clarke "Rise and Fall of Ruby" Journal of Az. History
 Spring 1974
Arizona Daily Star 12-8-68
Arizona Republic 10-1-72
 Interview with owners 1-10-73

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 300

UTM REFERENCES

WORK

	478450	1-100		8-450	9-25
A	[1,2] [47,60,85]	[3,4] [8,9,1,15]	B	[1,2] [47,60,85]	[3,4] [7,9,10,95]
	ZONE EASTING 900	NORTHING 925		ZONE EASTING 900	NORTHING 100
C	[1,2] [47,80,40]	[3,4] [7,9,10,95]	D	[1,2] [47,80,40]	[3,4] [8,9,1,15]

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Ruby derives its irregular boundaries from the fact that it is really a collection of old mining claims. There is, therefore, no particular geographical or topographical logic to its shape. The surrounding countryside is mountainous and uninhabited.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marjorie Wilson, Historian

March 25, 1975

ORGANIZATION

Arizona State Parks Board

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

1688 West Adams

TELEPHONE

(602) 271-4174

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Arizona

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.

~~REQUIREMENTS~~ SIGNATURE

Dennis McCarthy

March 25, 1975

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DATE

4/28/75

APR 24 1975

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Ruby, Arizona (Continued)

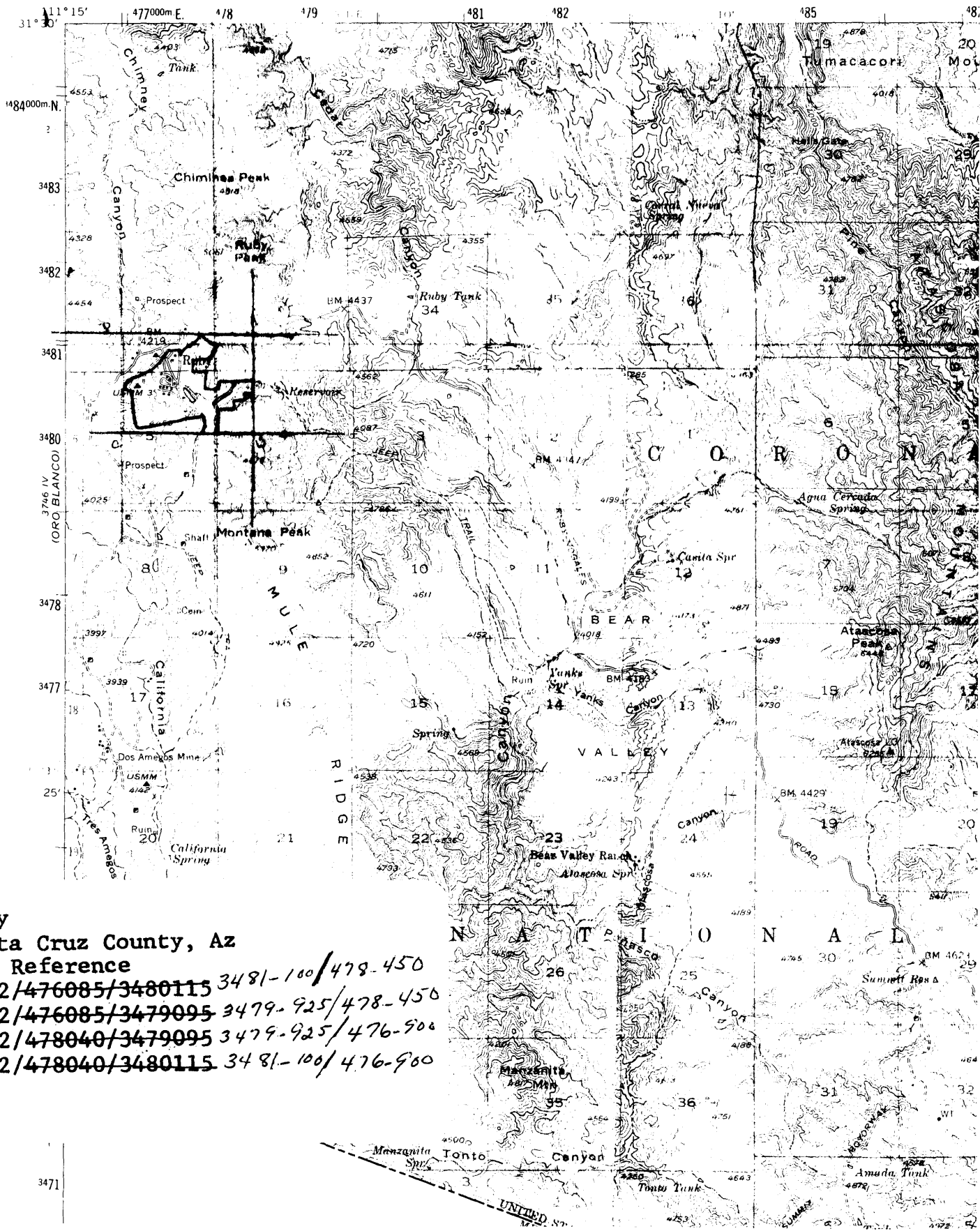
The fortunes of Ruby improved in 1926 when the Eagle-Picher Lead Company took over the mining and milling operations.

The company built more dams and constructed a 400-ton concentrator. The water shortage continued, so the company laid a 4-inch pipe to the Santa Cruz Valley fifteen miles away, pumped the water 1500 feet up, and built two storage tanks on the mountain.

This time the mines were successful. In spite of the depression, mines and mills operated around the clock during the 1930s and employed about 350 men. The peak population of the town was about 1,000 and required the services of a doctor, a nurse, and three teachers. By 1936 the Montana Mine had a 700-foot vertical shaft and was Arizona's top producer of zinc and lead. However, by 1940 the ore was exhausted and the mine was closed. The town, almost totally dependent on the mines, was abandoned.

3747 III
ARIVACAL

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Ruby
Santa Cruz County, Az
UTM Reference

- A 12/476085/3480115 3481-100/479-450
- B 12/476085/3479095 3479-925/478-450
- C 12/478040/3479095 3479-925/476-900
- D 12/478040/3480115 3481-100/476-900

3471

UNITED STATES