

Gunnison County

Box Canyon District

As described by Dunn (2003), the Box Canyon District lies bounded by the **Quartz Creek District** on the North, by Tomichi Creek on the South and on the East by the divide between Tomichi and Hot Spring Creeks. The district is discussed by Hill (1909). Henderson (1926) indicates it may be referred to as the **Tomichi District** (although these two are represented individually on the CGS map.) Streufert (1999) indicated it was sometimes also known as the **Waunita District**.

The country rock consist of granite and interlayered felsic and hornblende gneisses and mica schists. Ore deposits are confined to Proterozoic-aged rocks and the major ores were gold and silver (Streufert, 1999). (Refer to the Tomichi District for more detail.)

Vanderwilt (1947) described the Independence and the Camp Bird mines as the main mines in the district, north of Waunita Hot Springs northwest of Sargents. Vanderwilt (Ibid) said that production had been from free-milling small quartz lenses in schist, with significant production for a number of years.

The Independence Mine was mined out by 1909 (Hill, 1909). Production resumed in the 1930s, with 573 tons of ore producing 69 oz of gold and 10 oz of silver in the years 1932, 1938 and 1939 (Vanderwilt, Ibid).

Mines listed in the district (mindat.org; Dunn, 2003; Streufert,1999; Vanderwilt, 1947) include:

- [Abe Lincoln Tunnel Occurrence](#)
- [Arnold](#)
- [Camp Bird Mine¹](#)
- [Hot Springs Valley Placers \(MRDS - 10016396\)](#)
- [Independence¹](#)
- [Lookout Mountain Area](#)
- [Old Independence Occurrence](#)
- [Roosevelt Tunnel¹](#)

Note: ¹ Streufert (1999) lists these mines as the major producers.

Minerals listed in the district (mindat.org) include:

Andalusite	Gold
Copper	Silver

References:

Dunn, Lisa. 2003. Colorado Mining Districts: A Reference. Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado.

Henderson, C.W. 1926. Mining in Colorado, a history of discovery, development and production. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 138.

Hill, J.M. 1909. Notes on the Economic Geology of Southeastern Gunnison County, Colorado *in* Hayes, C.W. and Lindgren, W. 1909. Contributions to Economic Geology, 1908: Part I - Metals and Nonmetals, except fuels. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 380, pp. 21-40.

Streufert, Randall K. 1999. Geology and Mineral Resources of Gunnison County, Colorado. Colorado Geological Survey Resource Series 37.

Vanderwilt, John W. 1947. Mineral Resources of Colorado. Colorado Mineral Resources Board, Denver, Colorado.

www.mindat.org, accessed August 2015.