

Hinsdale County

Burrows Park District (aka Whitecross District; aka Park District)

This district is possibly an amalgamation of several districts, but at least has several names. Henderson provides very a very specific location for the Park District, listing 16 sections in three different townships that appear to be the same as other descriptions of the Whitecross/Burrows Park District. Dunn (2003) indicates that the Burrows Park District may have originally been known as the Park District, which seems to fit with Henderson's description. She notes that Hinsdale County was divided into six districts by the state legislature in 1893, of which the Park District was one, along with the **Carson, Cimarron, Galena, Lake, and Sherman Districts**. Mindat.org (Sep 2015) considers the Burrows Park, the Park and the Whitecross to be the same district, a convention we follow here.

Vanderwilt (1947) considered the Burrows Park District, which he described as sitting at the head of the Lake Fork of the Gunnison River, to be a continuation of the mineralization of the Silverton area. Wilson and Spanski (2004) aggregated the Burrows Park District in with eight other districts as the "San Juan Mineralized Area." The connection is that they appear to lie within the San Juan caldera of Steven and Lipman (1976). (The other districts in this grouping are the **Galena/Henson Creek, the Sneffels, South Ouray, Eureka, Telluride, Ophir, Red Mountain and Lower San Miguel**, of which the Galena is in Hinsdale County.)

The geology consists of tuffs and flows associated with the Oligocene San Juan caldera complex, with an outlier of Precambrian granites in the middle (Vanderwilt, 1947). Mineralization consists of "filled fissures grading into replacement types" of chalcopyrite ore, sphalerite-galena ore or gold-silver ore with small amounts of lead and zinc (Vanderwilt, Ibid).

Eberhart (1969) discusses the three settlements that arose around Cinnamon Pass - Whitecross, Tellurium and Sterling. He indicates that the harsh winters and associated transportation problems inhibited both the mines and the towns.

Mines listed in the district (mindat.org; Eberhart, 1969; Dunn, 2003) include:

- Allen Dale²
- Bon Homme Tunnel^{1,2}
- Burrows Park Group¹
- Champion²
- Cleveland Group (Hilluron Millsite; Ida; Lock Lommond)¹
- Cracker Jack²
- Dewey¹
- Gavin Pipe Occurrence¹
- Gnome Mine (Bull Run; Bull Run No. 1; Unpatented Claims: Sydney Nos. 1-3; Gnome Nos. 1-26; Patented Claim: Gnome)¹
- Goodwin¹
- Goodwin's Creek¹
- Illinois Boy Mine (Patented Claim: Illinois Boy)¹
- Isolde Mine (Belcher; Baltimore; Isolde)¹
- Little Sarah²
- Monticello Mine¹
- Mountain King²

- Napoleon Mine (Patented Claim: Napoleon)³
- Ohio Mine¹
- Onida³
- Park View Mine (View of the Park Mine; D & N Lead Mining Company Nos. 1-4)¹
- Providence²
- Seward County Mine (Patented Claim: Seward County)¹
- Silver Star Mine (Patented Claim: Silver Star)¹
- Tobasco²
- Troy²
- Undine³
- Whitecross Mountain¹

Notes: ¹Mines listed in mindat.org, September 2015.

²Mines listed by Eberhart (1969), as located near the settlements around Cinnamon Pass.

³Mines listed by Dunn (2003).

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

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Brochantite | Lillianite | Pyrite |
| Calaverite | Molybdenite | Quartz |
| Calcite | Opal | Sphalerite |
| Chalcopyrite | var: Opal-AN | Tetrahedrite |
| Galena | Platinum | |

References:

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

Eberhart, Perry. 1969. *Guide to Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps*. Fourth, revised edition. Swallow Press, Athens, Ohio.

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

Steven, T.A. and Lipman, P.W. 1976. Calderas of the San Juan Volcanic Field, Southwestern Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 958.

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

Wilson, A.B. and Spanski, G.T. 2004. Distribution of Mines and Mineralized Areas *in* Bankey, V., ed. Resource Potential and Geology of the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison National Forest and Vicinity, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 2213.

www.mindat.org, accessed September 2015.