

Gunnison County

Cross Mountain District

The Cross Mountain District was recognized by Henderson (1926) in his lexicon of mining districts in Colorado. It is described by Dunn (2003) as encompassing the area of and to the east of Cross Mountain, west of the **Tincup District** in eastern Gunnison County. Streufert (1999) indicates that the district includes the east side of Cross Mountain and upper Lottis Creek. The district was also discussed by Hill (1909).

Hill states that the mines of the Cross Mountain District are mainly on the east side of the ridge running north from Fairview Peak, and some prospects lie east of Lottis Creek. The geology of the mineralized area is composed of sedimentary rocks dipping steeply east. The north-south ridge between Broncho Mountain and Cross Mountain is capped by Lower Paleozoic sediments as erosional remnants in Precambrian granite. These are interpreted by Zech (1988) to represent the remnants of a thrust plate.

Vein and replacement deposits in the Paleozoic rocks appear to be associated with small sills and stocks of Laramide-age andesite porphyry. Hill (Ibid) describes the ore as primarily argentiferous galena.

Goddard (1936), in his paper on the Tincup District, describes the Wahl Mine, on the summit of Cross Mountain, as a replacement in the Ordovician Fremont Limestone. Small, flat lenticular zones of Fe and Cu-Fe sulfides in a quartz-calcite gangue occur as zones 3-6 feet wide and 10-15 feet long. Gold, copper, and manganese were produced from the Wahl Lode (DeWitt et al., 1985). (The Wahl Mine is listed on mindat.org as occurring in the Tincup District.)

Goddard (Ibid) also describes the Gold Bug Mine as a fissure vein cutting lower Paleozoic sediments with irregular masses of chalcopyrite in quartz. Gold, silver and lead have been produced from this mine (DeWitt et al., 1985) and copper (Streufert, 1999). (The Gold Bug Mine is also listed in mindat.org as being in the Tincup District.)

Mines listed in the district (mindat.org; Goddard, 1936; DeWitt et al., 1985; Streufert, 1999) include:

- [Gold Bug](#)
- [Wahl](#)

References:

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

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