Fremont County

Cotopaxi District

The Cotopaxi District surrounds the iconic Cotopaxi Mine, near the Arkansas River outside the small town of Cotopaxi. Lindgren (1908) visited the mine site and noted that the Cotopaxi, while inactive at his visit, had been "a considerable shipper of copper ore." Activity resumed off and on in the years since, the most recent documented being drilling and experimental copper leaching in the late 1960s (Blake, 1969).

Heinrich (1981) and Salotti (1965) detailed the geology and rock types present. They are listed as biotite gneiss, nodular sillimanite gneiss, amphibolite and lime-silicate rocks. The mineral assemblage is typical of Precambrian deposits that have been interpreted as metamorphosed seafloor assemblages of sediments and volcanics, including volcanic exhalative ores (Sheridan and Raymond, 1984) characterized by the zinc spinel *gahnite*. In the Fremont-Chaffee County area, other similar deposits are found in the Turret, Cleora, Grape Creek, Currant Creek and Guffey Districts and, most notably, at the Sedalia Mine.

The ores consist predominantly of sphalerite with subordinate chalcopyrite, although numerous ore minerals occur (see minerals list below) (Salotti, 1964).

### Cotopaxi District
- Carson Mining Company Prospect
- Coaldale Gypsum Quarry and Plant
- Colorado Barry Quarry
- Colorado Feldspar Pegmatite
- Cotopaxi feldspar mine (Henry pegmatite)
- Cotopaxi Mine (Cotopaxi Lode; Gumaer Mine; Fannie Lode; Fannie Mill)
- Cotopaxi Prospect (Sand Gulch Prospect)
- Howard Prospect
- Indian Mountain
- Iron Dollar Gulch Deposit
- Knob Hill Occurrence
- McCoy Prospects
- Mine Gulch
- Ogden Prospect
- Pine Ridge pegmatite
- Quarry (MRDS - 10239328)
- Quarry (MRDS - 10263665)
- Red Gulch
- Sand Gulch Prospect No. 2
- Schaal Prospect
- Sturbaum - Fister Mine
- Texas Creek Stone Quarry
- Unknown Feldspar Occurrence (MRDS - 10017722)
- Unknown Marble - Dimension Occurrence (MRDS - 10018678)
- Unnamed No. 2 Pegmatite Occurrence (MRDS - 10010898)
- West McCoy Gulch Property
- Zabresky pegmatite

### Mineral list contains entries from the region specified including sub-localities (Mindat.org and MRDS)

- Actinolite
- Albite
- var: Oligoclase
- 'Albite-Anorthite Series'
- 'Allanite'
- Allanite-(Ce)
- Almandine
- Amesite
- Angleite
- Anorthite
- Columbite
- Copper
- Cordierite
- Covellite
- Cuprite
- Diopside
- Epidote
- Euxenite-(Y)
- Fluorite
- Frenzite
- Kainosite-(Y)
- Kaolinite
- 'K Feldspar'
- Leucoxene
- Limonite
- Linarite
- Magnetite
- Malachite
- Marcasite
- Microcline
- Samarskite-(Y)
- 'Scapolite'
- Scheelite
- Schorl
- 'Serpentine Group'
- Siderite
- Sillimanite
- Silver
- Sphalerite
- Stevnskanium

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<table>
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<th>Calcite</th>
<th>Gypsum</th>
<th>Pyrite</th>
<th>Zircon</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chalcopyrite</td>
<td>Hematite</td>
<td>Pyrrhotite</td>
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<tr>
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<td>'Hornblende'</td>
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<td>Rutile</td>
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<td>Clinozoisite</td>
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References:


Mineral Resources Data System (MRDS) - Online Spatial Data – Cotopaxi District

