

Boulder County

Eldora District

The Eldora District is a small district of roughly 3 square miles 3 miles West of Nederland. Gold was discovered in 1896 and the district was a minor producer of gold tellurides and some silver. A two-year boom began in the summer of 1897 with the discovery of the gold tellurides on Spencer Mountain. Talk was that the Eldora discovery would be "another Cripple Creek" (Kemp, 1960). The deposits turned out to be small telluride stringers and masses of gold-bearing sulfides and the boom was short-lived. Eldorado Camp became the town of Eldora.

The country rock is schist of the Idaho Springs formation with a hornblende monzonite porphyry, very similar to the nearby Caribou and Grand Island Districts.

Mineralogy is mainly sylvite and petzite with a gangue of quartz, roscoelite and barite. Molybdenite is ubiquitous but minor. The Mogul and Swathmore Tunnels are the main mines. The mines were developed in the Norway, Ma W, Revenge and Enterprise veins.

Refs:

Kemp, Donald C., 1960, *Silver, Gold and Black Iron: A Story of the Grand Island Mining District of Boulder County, Colorado*; Sage Books, Missoula MT.

Lindgren, Waldemar, 1907 Some gold and tungsten deposits of Boulder County Co; *Econ. Geology* v. 2 pp. 457-460.

Lovering, T.S. and Goddard, E.N., 1950, *Geology and Ore Deposits of the Front Range, Colorado*; U.S.G.S. Professional Paper 223.

Richard, 1903, The veins of Boulder County and Kalgoorlie: *Am. Insti. of Mining Engr Trans.* v. 33, pp. 567-568.