

## Summit County

### Chihuahua District

The Chihuahua District includes the area around the town of Chihuahua and Chihuahua Creek - a tributary to the Middle Fork of the Snake River, northeast of Montezuma. The District is listed by Henderson (1926) and Dunn (2003), but is not specifically described in any of the other major references on Summit County.

Among the mines listed in Dunn (2003) as representing the district, the Maid of Orleans Mine (and vein) are described, in Lovering (1935) on the southeast spur of Lenawee Mountain about a mile northeast of the town of Montezuma. The Eliza Jane is listed with the American Eagle Mine (in the Peru Creek Area) in mindat.org and described in Lovering and Goddard (1950).

Silver was discovered in the area called Chihuahua Creek in 1878 (Gilliland, 2006) and the Chihuahua Mining and Milling Company incorporated the following year to process ore from the find. The town of Chihuahua became one of the largest in the area (Eberhart, 1969).

Mines reported in this district (Dunn, 2003; Henderson, 1926) include:

- Chihuahua
- Eliza Jane
- Edith
- [Maid of Orleans; Jumbo \(Little Jumbo\)](#)
- Pickwick
- Queen
- Rothschild
- Winning Card

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

[Arsenopyrite](#)  
[Baryte](#)  
[Chalcopyrite](#)  
[Galena](#)

[Geocronite](#)  
[Marcasite](#)  
[Pyrite](#)  
[Quartz](#)

[Semseyite](#)  
[Sphalerite](#)  
[Tetrahedrite](#)

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.

Gilliland, Mary Ellen. 2006. *Summit: A Gold Rush History of Summit County, Colorado*. Alpenrose Press, Silverthorne, Colorado.

Henderson, C.W. 1926. Mining in Colorado, a history of discovery, development and production. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 138, p. 241.

Lovering, T.S. 1935. Geology and Ore Deposits of the Montezuma Quadrangle, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 176, p. 86-87.

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Patton, H.B. 1909. The Montezuma Mining District of Summit County, CO. Colorado Geological Survey 1st Report 1908.

[www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org), accessed July 2015.