

Routt County

Hahns Peak District (aka Columbine District)

The Hahns Peak District lies mostly within a horst on the western edge of the Park Range uplift (Segerstrom and Young, 1972). Intrusive rocks discussed in Wood (2003) include latite porphyry within breccia zones in sedimentary rocks. Mineralization occurs within the breccia zones with minerals of lead, zinc, silver, gold and copper. Mineralization consists of galena with silver and gold and some copper (Vanderwilt, 1947).

The earliest activity in the district was probably 1864 when placers were found in the gravels of Willow Creek. Placers were worked until 1910 and again in the 1930s. Small placers were mined in several locations, but the main ones were Ways Gulch east of Hahns Peak Village and Poverty Bar on Deep Creek northwest of the village (Parker, 1992). Lode deposits were found resulting in the opening of the Royal Flush and Tom Thumb mines, the latter being the largest in the district. According to Casaceli (1984) (as reported in Wood, 2003) exploration was carried out in the district as late as 1971 by Anaconda Mining, including geophysical surveys and drilling.

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

- Acme Placer
- Barnum; Hornet; Lamm Placers
- Bell Placer
- Blackburn; El Capitan; Ben Harrison Placers
- Blue Jay Mine
- Colorado Mining Company Occurrence (Marion E; Old Ben; Copper Field; Copper Mask; Foch)
- Columbine Placer
- Concord; Belmont; Nettie Marrin Placers
- Dead Horse Claims
- Elkhorn Mine
- Emancipation Group (Vindicator; Camp Bird Mining Property)
- Farwell Mine
- Farwell Mtn. Occurrence
- Gate; JGB; Grover Cleveland; Ben Harrison; El Capitan Placers
- Gold Bond; Keystone Placers
- Hahns Peak Central Occurrence
- Hahns Peak NE Occurrence
- Hahns Peak NW Occurrence
- Hahns Peak Saddle
- Homestake Mine
- Hornet Occurrence (Columbine; Condelin; Simpson; Concord Placers; Herald; Nettie Marrin)
- Iron Mountain Occurrence
- Iron Springs Mine
- Keystone; Marrin Placers
- King Lode Claims
- Master Key Mine (Prize shaft)
- Minnie D.
- Poverty Bar Occurrence
- Royal Flush Mine
- Snowbird Mine
- Southern Cross Mine
- Success Occurrence
- Tom Thumb Mine
 - 7D Tunnel Occurrence
 - Beryl Mountain Occurrence
 - Campbell Tunnel and Shaft Occurrence
 - Cap Smith Hill Occurrence
 - Farwell Mountain Northwest Occurrence
 - King Solomon Creek Occurrence
 - Little Mountain Occurrence
 - Oro Cache Occurrence
 - Price Tunnel
- Twin Mountain Occurrence
- Ways Gulch Occurrence
- Willow Creek Claim

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

Anatase	Fluorapatite	Pyrite
'Apatite'	var: Carbonate-rich	Quartz
Arsenopyrite	Fluorapatite	'Ruby Silver Ore'
Autunite	Galena	Saléite
Azurite	'Garnet'	Sillimanite
Baryte	Gold	Silver
Bornite	Hastingsite	Sphalerite
Cerussite	Jarosite	Staurolite
Chalcocite	Marcasite	Stibnite
Chalcopyrite	Meta-autunite	Tetrahedrite
'Chlorite Group'	Molybdenite	'Tourmaline'
Copper	Montmorillonite	Uraninite
Corundum	Muscovite var: Fuchsite	Variscite
Covellite	Orthoclase	Wavellite
Dickite	Plumbogummite	Zircon
Enargite	Proustite	

References:

Casaceli, R.J. 1984. The geology and mineral potential of the Hahns Peak intrusive porphyry, Routt County, Colorado. Unpublished M.S. thesis, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon. 223 pp.

Parker, Ben H. Jr. 1992. Gold Panning and Placering in Colorado. Colorado Geological Survey Information Series 33.

Seegerstrom, K. and Young, E.J. 1972. General Geology of the Hahns Peak and Farwell Mountain quadrangles, Routt County, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1349, 63 pp.

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

Wood, Robert H. 2003. History, Geology, and Environmental Setting of the Southern Cross and 7D Mines, Hahns Peak Mining District, Routt National Forest, Routt county, Colorado. Colorado Geological Survey Open File Report 03-13.

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