

## Clear Creek County

### Trail District (possibly Trail Creek District)

The delineated districts around Idaho Springs were the first mining districts in the state of Colorado. Their exact meanings and locations have been lost to history. The descriptions that remain are often confusing and contradict one another.

According to Dunn (2003), the Trail District was approximately 2.5 miles from Idaho Springs along Trail Creek. By the descriptions in Parker (1974), the Trail District may include the **Spanish Bar District**. According to mindat.org, the Trail District contains the Lamartine Mine, source of the name of the nearby **Lamartine District**. The district produced gold, silver lead, zinc.

Mines listed in the district include:

- [Empress Mine](#)
- [Lamertine Mine](#) (?)
- [New Era Mine](#)

Minerals listed in the district include:

[Chalcopyrite](#)  
[Galena](#)

[Pyrite](#)  
[Quartz var: Amethyst](#)

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

References:

Dunn, Lisa. 2003. Colorado Mining Districts: A Reference. Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado.

Harrison, J.E. and Wells, J.D. 1956. Geology and ore deposits of the Freeland-Lamartine district, Clear Creek County, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1032-B.

Parker, Ben H. Jr. 1974. Gold Placers of Colorado. Colorado School of Mines Quarterly, 69 (3).

Spurr, J.E., Garrey, G.H. and Ball, S.H. 1908. Economic Geology of the Georgetown Quadrangle (Together with the Empire District), Colorado. With General Geology. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 63.

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