

# Mines of El Dorado County



by Doug Noble

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## MINES OF EL DORADO COUNTY

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For the first few years following the discovery of gold at Coloma, mining was nearly everyone's occupation. When a prospector found something promising in or near a creek or river, a claim would be staked out on a small parcel of land according to the "Miner's Rules" for that Mining Region, there being no real government regulation at that time. Later, a formal process evolved where the miner could file a claim with the government on larger parcels of land, which occurred mostly along the Mother Lode system, a large, north-south region of steeply dipping gold-bearing quartz veins within fine grained slate. Thousands of mineral claims were filed for gold and later, for chromite, copper, lead, manganese, mercury and tungsten, along with the badly needed building materials such as limestone, slate, soapstone and various kinds of gravel.

For identification purposes, each mining claim was named by the miner or miners who discovered or worked it. Like the towns they created, some reflected their personal name, the place they had left from on their trip west, loved ones left behind, a nearby physical landmark or often, something now totally obscure.

In time some of these claims grew into large mining operations operated by a cooperative "company" or large crews of hired miners. However, most were simply abandoned, once any value was removed, and soon became just a forgotten entry in the record books. Like the early towns and roads, these mines, and often their names, have become a part of our history.

### Definitions of Mining Terms:

For the convenience of readers I am including the general definitions of several mining terms that may be unfamiliar. These are:

**Adit:** a horizontal or nearly horizontal entrance to a mine

**Crosscut:** a cutting that intersects the main lode or workings

**Drift:** a horizontal or nearly horizontal passage, usually in a specified direction

**The Mother Lode** is a large, north-south region of steeply dipping gold-bearing quartz veins within fine grained slate that was heavily mined, usually by underground means

**Raise:** an upward vertical shaft started from within a mine

**Shaft:** a vertical or inclined excavation

**Stope:** an excavation from which the ore is removed either above or below a level in a series of steps

**Winze:** a small, inclined shaft from one level of a mine to another

**Working Level or Level:** the vertical depth at which mining occurs.

### **Adams Gulch Mine**

Adams Gulch Mine (also Stony Point or Sullivan Mine) was located on a portion of the Mother Lode, two miles northeast of the early town of Nashville and just a few miles from the present Amador County line. Its 4 foot vein of gold bearing quartz was actively mined from 1902 until 1911 and again in 1914 and developed by 180 and 200 foot crosscut adits. Another gold mine, the Adjuster, or Hustler Mine, was in the same area of the Mother Lode, about two miles southwest of the townsite of El Dorado (Mud Springs). It contained a five foot vein that was worked prior to 1914 by a 250 foot crosscut adit and about 100 feet of drifts. At one time there was a ten stamp mill on the property.

### **Agara Mine**

The Agara Mine was a copper mine located three miles northeast of the town of Fair Play, just north of the Cosumnes Copper Mine. Little is known about it other than it was developed by a 25 foot shaft.

### **Alabaster Cave Mine**

The Alabaster Cave Mine was another copper mine that was located one mile east of Rattlesnake Bridge and taken by the government for the development of Folsom Lake. It was active prior to 1902, when miners followed an eight foot vein that contained 3 to 4 percent copper along with some gold and silver. Later it was also mined for limestone. It was a large operation, developed by one 300 and two 50 foot shafts and a 100 and a 30 foot adit.

### **Alderson Mine**

The Alderson Mine was one of only a few manganese mines in El Dorado County and was located about one and one-half miles southeast of Placerville. Assays on the 150 foot long deposit ran as high as 25% manganese. Little is known about its operation.

### **Alhambra Mine**

A famous lode gold mine, the Alhambra Mine is located one mile east of Spanish Flat and two miles northeast of Kelsey. It was originally worked in 1883 when a 29 foot shaft yielded \$27,600 in gold (at around \$16 to the ounce). It became active again in 1886 and by 1890 there was a five-stamp mill on the property noisily hammering the mined quartz to release the gold. In 1934 it was re-opened by Messrs. Jensen and Schneider who discovered two very high-grade pockets at a depth of about 90 feet, each yielding about \$10,000 in gold. Soon thereafter, the Alhambra-Shumway Mining Company was formed and the mine was significantly deepened. In 1939, a huge pocket of high-grade ore was found between the 225 and 275 foot levels that yielded over a half a million dollars in gold. Word of this discovery quickly spread, resulting in numerous newspaper and magazine articles, world-wide. Through the 1940's, the mine produced over \$1,250,000 of gold overall, at least 50 percent of which came from pockets of high-grade ore. It is developed by a 440 foot shaft and over 3000 feet of drifts and crosscuts.

### **Allen Dredge**

The Allen Dredge was a short-lived (1945-47) suction dredge operation on the Bacchi Ranch near Lotus. The Alpine Mine, another large lode gold mine, was located two miles southeast of Georgetown. Originally worked in the 1860's, by 1888 the quartz was being crushed by a ten-stamp mill. It was active around 1902 and 1912 and continuously from 1933 until 1938, when the Beebe Gold Mining Company, which also ran the nearby Beebe Mine, took over operations. In the six years the Beebe Company operated the mine, some 64,349 tons of ore was removed and trucked to the Beebe Mine where it was processed, producing \$434,665 worth of gold. The mine was developed by a 400 foot shaft with working levels at 100, 200, 300, 350 and 400 feet.

### **Alveoro Mine**

The Alveoro Mine was a placer gold mine in an ancient river bed one-half mile north of Smith Flat. The deposit, which is 100 to 300 feet wide and 6 to 30 feet deep, was developed by a 4000 foot adit and 400 and 500 foot inclined shafts.

### **Amelia Mine**

The Amelia Mine was another placer gold mine some two miles east of Volcanoville. This mine, along with others, was operated by the Two Channel Mining Company in 1908. The Anderson Pit is a gravel mine located adjacent to Highway 50 one mile north of Meyers in the Lake Tahoe basin. This pit was a major source for sand from decomposed granite that was used for road surfacing and in concrete. The Apex Mine was a chromite mine one mile southwest of Volcanoville. It was mined by the open pit method in 1918 when eight tons of ore was removed. The Armstrong and Roberts Mine was located at Henry Diggings, three miles south of Grizzly Flat. A placer deposit 60 feet wide and 5 feet deep, it was developed by a 600 foot adit.

### **Argonaut Mine**

The Argonaut (also Aultman and Golden Unit Mine) was a gold mine on the Mother Lode one and one-half miles southeast of Greenwood. Active in the 1880's, 1921 and 1927-28, it was a northwest striking vein up to 15 feet wide developed by a drift adit. The ore yielded up to \$15 a ton. The Argonaut Fraction Mine was a lode gold mine located one-quarter mile northeast of the Argonaut Mine, by Georgetown Creek. Consisting of two parallel veins of ore, it was developed by a 100 foot adit (east vein) and 60 foot adit (west vein). It has been intermittently operated since 1933 with most of the ore stockpiled (as of 1956). The Arizona Claim was a copper mine two miles southeast of Georgetown, containing outcrops as wide as 100 feet. The Avansino Mine was a placer mine near Pleasant Valley, active around 1893 and prospected in the early 1930's. Channel and bench gravels were developed by a 107 foot shaft with a 57 foot north drift on the 90 foot level and a 307 foot south drift on the 107 foot level.

### **Badger Hill Mine**

The Badger Hill Mine, located seven miles east of Placerville, was a placer mine, working an ancient channel of the American River. It was mined by drifting and then sluicing the gold-bearing gravel.

### **Balderson Tungsten Mine**

Three miles south of Balderson Station, near Rock Creek, was the Balderson Tungsten Mine. Only minor amounts of tungsten ore was found and little is known about the production rates.

### **Ball Mine**

The Ball Mine was three and one-half miles southeast of Omo Ranch that was active around 1935. A well cemented gold-bearing gravel deposit 80-feet wide was worked by driving a 1,250-foot adit to the channel and then drifting 600-feet towards the south.

### **Balmaceda Mine**

The Balmaceda Mine was a lode gold mine located one and one-half miles northeast of Nashville. Consisting of two parallel 4-foot quartz veins, it was active in 1914 and developed by a 500-foot drift adit on the west vein which was stoped to the surface.

### **Baltic Mine**

The Baltic Mine was a lode gold mine five miles north of Grizzly Flat on the north side of Baltic Peak. It was active in 1896 and 1907 and developed by a 500-foot drift adit and 130-foot inclined shaft. The ore was treated on-site in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Barklage and Miller Mine**

Two miles southeast of Georgetown was the Barklage and Miller Mine, which was worked for copper in 1908. A 100 foot wide deposit of copper ore in slate, it was developed by a 118 foot adit.

### **Barnes-Eureka Mine**

The Barnes-Eureka (Greenstone) Mine worked a two-foot wide gold-bearing quartz vein lying between serpentine and fine-grained metavolcanic rocks, two miles northeast of Shingle Springs. It was active in 1912, 1936 and during the years 1947-49 mined by a 350-foot inclined shaft with levels at 100 and 200 feet and a second 250-foot shaft to the south.

### **Base Bonanza Mine**

The Base Bonanza Mine was active prior to 1894 and located one mile west of Garden Valley. The vein of gold bearing quartz was between diorite and serpentine rock.

### **Beebe Mine**

The Beebe Mine, on the north side of Georgetown, was one of the larger sources of gold in El Dorado County and actually a consolidation of several claims, including the Brooklyn, East Lode, Iowa and Woodside-Eureka. The Eureka claim was first worked in the early days of the Gold Rush and up to 1908. The Beebe claim itself was prospected in 1917. From 1932 until 1939 the Beebe Gold Mining Company operated the mine and removed 306,241 tons of ore that produced \$1,200,465 in gold. After 1939, a little gold was found while cleaning up. The vein averaged 12 to 15 feet in width and was reached by three

shafts, the Eureka, old Beebe and Beebe No. 2 with levels at 130, 250, 370, 500, 600 and 700 feet. At the 370-foot level there was a 700-foot drift in ore and between the 500 and 700-foot level a winze. The last gold mined came from stopes at the 600 and 700-foot levels. Gold ore from this mine and the Alpine mine was processed at a stamp mill on this property.

### **Bella Vista Mine**

The Bella Vista Mine was a drift mine three miles northeast of Mt. Aukum. Active in 1936, the gold was mined from the gravel in two ancient river channels, one above the other, by a 400-foot drift adit and a 200 foot drift. The deposit contained \$1 to \$1.50 in gold per cubic yard of gravel which was removed by processing it through a washing plant and sluice.

### **Benfeldt (Rogers) Mine**

The Benfeldt (Rogers) Mine, was a drift mine at Smith's Flat. A gravel deposit some five feet thick and 50 to 120 feet wide that yielded \$2 to \$8 per ton, was worked at this placer mine that was active from 1888-96 and 1916-19. Development consisted of a 750-foot shaft and drifts and the gravel, once removed, was put through a 10-stamp mill and then a 150-foot sluice.

### **Bernard, or Amador, Mine**

The Bernard, or Amador, Mine was the only really active quicksilver (mercury) mine in El Dorado County. Located by Fanny Creek, two miles west of Nashville, it was active during the 1860's and then prospected again in 1903 and 1917. The mercury ore (cinnabar) was mined by a 75-foot shaft and 117-foot adit.

### **Bernett Property**

The Bernett Property was a soapstone mine located four miles southwest of Shingle Springs at the Southern Pacific Railroad. Mined since 1953, it is a deposit of talc schist of unknown depth, at least 500 feet in length and 40 to 60 feet wide. It was mined by the stripping method in an open pit with the material being shipped to Berkeley where it was ground for use as an insecticide carrier.

### **Bidstipt Mine**

The Bidstipt Mine was a lode gold mine two miles south of the town of El Dorado. Mined by a 35-foot shaft and 100-foot adit was a one-foot north-striking vein of gold bearing quartz.

### **Big Buzzard (Hercules, Darrington) Mine**

The Big Buzzard (Hercules, Darrington) Mine was a copper and zinc mine three miles southwest of Rattlesnake Bridge and a half mile east of the American River. Originally a gold mine, it was operated on and off for many years. During WWII some copper and zinc ore was shipped from the waste dump and later, the Morning Star Mining Corporation did preliminary tests on the ore. Consisting of a vein as much as ten feet wide, it contained a mix of many ores and as much as \$14 in gold per ton of material. There is a 300 foot

inclined shaft sunk on the vein with levels at 70, 160, 260 and 300 feet. Most of the work was at the 70 and 160-foot levels.

### **Big Canyon Dredge**

The Big Canyon Dredge was a mining operation using a three cubic foot dragline dredge on Big Canyon and Deer Creeks from 1937-42.

### **Big Canyon (formerly Oro Fino) Mine**

The Big Canyon (formerly Oro Fino) Mine was a very rich operation located four and one-half miles south of Shingle Springs, in Big Canyon. It was active prior to 1888, and between 1893 and 1901 produced \$720,000 in gold from an ore body on the West Gold Belt that contained up to 20% free gold. In 1915 some development work was done but serious mining did not occur again until the mine was acquired by the Mountain Copper Company which took out \$2,368,000 in gold between 1934 and 1940. The mine remained idle since then, although some serious exploration was done in the 1980's. Development at the mine consisted of two inclined shafts 400 feet apart, one 740-foot and the other 620-foot. Originally ore was stoped to the surface from the 500-foot level and later, drifts were extended several thousand feet along the ore body. In 1937 some ore was removed by the open-pit method. When in full operation, a crew of 150 men worked at the mine and originally water-powered mill, removing and processing 300 tons of ore a day.

### **Big Chunk Mine**

One half mile east of Kelsey was the Big Chunk Mine. A three foot vein of lode gold was developed by a 100-foot shaft and 150-foot adit.

### **Big Four (Golden Oak) Mine**

The Big Four (Golden Oak) Mine was on the Mother Lode one mile southeast of Garden Valley. It was active during the 1890's and prospected again in 1940. A thirty inch vein yielding \$10 -\$13 per ton, it was developed by a 96-foot inclined shaft and a 100-foot adit.

### **Big Jim (also Phillips) Mine**

A lode gold mine with the name of Big Jim (also Phillips) was located two and one-half miles southwest of Latrobe. Active around 1896, the vein was developed by a shaft and 240-foot crosscut adit. After the quartz was mined, it was crushed on-site with a 2-stamp mill.

### **Big Sandy (James Marshall) Mine**

The Big Sandy (James Marshall) mine was on the Mother Lode, one-half mile south of Kelsey. The deposit was originally located by none other than James Wilson Marshall, the discoverer of gold at Coloma. During the 1890's, the vein, which was as wide as 15 feet, was worked and the ore treated in a 10-stamp mill. In the 1930's pockets of very high grade gold were found and several fine specimens of crystallized gold were removed. However, most of the ore in the mine was low-grade, worth \$2.25 a ton or less. This ore was mined from an open cut 750-feet in length and a 340-foot vertical shaft with levels at 120, 227 and 333 feet. The Black Hawk Mine was located about half way between the Big

Sandy Mine and Kelsey. At this location, a 4-foot wide vein in slate was developed by a 200-foot drift adit.

### **Black Gold Mine**

The Black Gold Mine was a placer gold, drift mine in Pleasant Valley. It was active in 1930-31 and 1936 when several thousand dollars of gold was removed. The deposit was a bench of fine loose gravel that was developed by a 60 foot shaft with drifts 100-feet west, 280-feet north and 127-feet east.

### **Black Lead**

The Black Lead (not lead as in the metal but like "to lead a miner along a vein") was a black appearing quartz vein six miles south of Shingle Springs. It was active prior to 1894.

### **Blacklock Mine**

The Blacklock Mine was a placer gold mine one mile northeast of the center of Placerville. The four foot thick ancient river channel was first hydraulicked and later worked by drifting along the deposit.

### **Black Oak (Clark, Davey, Dayton Consolidated) Mine**

The Black Oak (Clark, Davey, Dayton Consolidated) was one of the richest lode gold mines in El Dorado County. Located south of Black Oak Mine Road near the town of Garden Valley, it was originally worked as a pocket gold mine before 1934. In that year it was reopened, a new shaft was sunk and a mill erected. In a short time the property developed into one of the more important sources of gold in the county. By 1937 more than \$400,000 had been produced, not including a large amount of gold stolen by "high graders".

The story goes that some miners carried away very high grade ore which they later tried to pass off as having been mined elsewhere. When the gold reached the San Francisco mint, it was assayed and, because the mine from which the gold came can often be identified by its "fingerprint" (the type and quantity of impurities), the thieves were soon captured.

In 1938 the Dayton Consolidated Mines Corporation merged the Davey claim, on the north, the Clark claim on the east and the Davenport claim on the southeast with the Black Oak. By 1942, when the mine was shut down, the total output had reached \$1,250,000. The Black Oak Mine was right at the place where the Mother Lode divides into two branches, one extending towards Greenwood and the other towards Georgetown, which may account for its richness. The underground workings consisted of the 100-foot Clark shaft, the 180-foot Davey shaft and the main working entry, a 400-foot vertical shaft. A vertical winze extended from the 180 foot level to the 600-foot level. There were about 6000 feet of drifts and crosscuts. The ore was treated at a 35 ton mill.

### **Black Oak (Cassiorni) Mine**

Another Black Oak (Cassiorni) Mine, was a chromite mine located two miles south of Georgetown on a ridge west of Traverse Creek. Like many chromite mines, it was active during WWI and WWII with 36 tons of high grade (47.5% Chromium) ore taken out in 1918 and 107 tons in 1942-43. The deposit was lenses and pots of coarse chromite in serpentine and was developed by open cuts and three 40-foot shafts.

### **Blair Mine**

The Blair Mine was on a 300 - 400 foot wide gravel channel two miles southeast of Camino. Prospecting and drilling of the deposit occurred around 1890.

### **Blasedel Mine**

The Blasedel Mine was located at Dark Canyon, two miles north of Georgetown. The gold was in a belt of very narrow veinlets of quartz. Because the gold is found in these veinlets, and not in massive quartz veins, this gold is commonly referred to as seam gold. It is found along the Mother Lode, north of Placerville.

### **Blue Bank Mine**

Six miles northwest of Shingle Springs was the Blue Bank, a lode gold mine. A one and one half foot wide vein was developed by a 120-foot drift adit, 100-foot inclined winze and open cuts. It was most active in 1896, when a two-stamp mill was brought to the site to crush the ore.

### **Blue Cat (Madelia, Madeline, Magdalena) Mine**

Five miles south of Diamond Springs was the Blue Cat (Madelia, Madeline, Magdalena) Mine, which was actually a south extension of the Noonday Mine. Mined for copper, although it contained a mix of ores, it was developed by a 90 and 100-foot crosscut adits, a 100-foot drift and a 105 foot shaft.

### **Blue Gouge (Berg) Mine**

The Blue Gouge (Berg) Mine was located by Camp Creek, 6 miles north-northwest of Grizzly Flat. In 1896 it was extensively prospected by Mackay, Flood and associates of San Francisco. This work was soon abandoned, however a small amount of work was done at the mine before and up to 1925 and again in 1936. The ore body consists of a series of parallel gold-bearing quartz veins, 6 to 16 feet wide in an area 400 by 3500 feet. The mine was developed by seven crosscut adits ranging from 120 to more than 300 feet in length.

### **Blue Lead Mine**

The Blue Lead Mine, (not lead as in the metal but like "to lead a miner along a vein"), not to be confused with the Deep Blue Lead in Smith's Flat, was a lode gold mine one and one half miles southeast of Garden Valley. It was active around 1867 when high quality "specimen ore" was produced.

### **Boles Mine**

The Boles Mine was really a barge mounted suction pump that excavated riverbed gravels three miles upstream from Rattlesnake Bridge. A diver directed the underwater nozzle and the pumped gravel was discharged into sluice boxes. The land was acquired by the U.S. Government for Folsom Reservoir.

### **Bonetti Mine**

The Bonetti Mine was another chromite deposit, this one located three and one-half miles east of Latrobe and northwest of Big Canyon Creek. A lens of chromite 1 - 3 feet thick some 60 feet long mined during the two World Wars, it was estimated to contain 200 tons of ore.

### **Bottle Hill Mine**

Bottle Hill Mine, or Bottle Hill Diggings, was really a group of claims in an isolated patch of gold-bearing gravel, two miles northwest of Georgetown. Some miners described the deposit of gold as a large lake that had dried up, leaving the gravel and gold in its basin. Most of the mining was done by simply digging into the hill until 1856, when water was brought in through the Pilot and Rock Creek Canal. By that time Bottle Hill had become a thriving mining community with a book store and express office two grocery stores, a boarding house, a post office and the requisite number of saloons. Mining continued at Bottle Hill at least until the 1950's.

### **Boston Mine**

The Boston Mine was a copper mine four miles southwest of Shingle Springs. Developed by a 400-foot shaft, good ore was produced during the 1860's and 1870's.

### **Boulder Mine**

The Boulder Mine was located at Pilot Hill, where there was an old river channel remnant 20 to 40 feet deep. In 1936 it was worked by power shovel, with the gravel being treated in a stationary washing plant. The yield in gold was low, at only 13 to 60 cents per cubic yard.

### **Bower Mine**

The Bower Mine was a seam gold mine at Greenwood. It was active prior to 1892, when \$2,000,000 in gold was removed. The seams were in a zone of slate and schist, 30 to 100-feet wide.

### **Brandon Mines**

There are three different mines known as the Brandon Mine. The first was a chromite mine three miles east of Latrobe on a ridge between Hungry Hollow and Indian Creeks. It was active in 1918 when four carloads of ore were produce. The ore was found in a series of northwest-trending chromite pods. The second was one of the few silica mines in El Dorado County. Located near Brandon Corner, the silica was mined from a massive quartz vein 10 to 35 feet wide that crops out for a distance of 250 feet. Nearby was the

Brandon (Richardson) soapstone mine that was active in 1920. One carload of soapstone was produced from a 2-foot lens, developed by a short crosscut adit and drift.

### **Browns Bar**

Browns Bar claim was a deposit of bluish-gray limestone near Browns Bar by the Middle Fork of the American River. It was apparently never worked.

### **Bryant Mine**

The Bryant Mine was a chromite mine on the west bank of Big Canyon Creek two and one-half miles south of Brandon Corner. Like many other chromite mines it was active in 1918.

### **Bryant Ranch Mine**

One and one-half miles to the northeast of Latrobe was the Bryant Ranch Mine. A 64-foot shaft was sunk in the 4-foot wide vein of copper oxide during the 1860's. Also on the Bryant Ranch was the Bryant soapstone mine. Small amounts of material were mined by Industrial Minerals and Chemical Company in 1954 for use as an insecticide carrier.

### **Buck Mine**

The Buck Mine was a slate mine adjacent to the present Chili Bar slate mine. It was active in the 1880's.

### **Buckeye Canyon**

The Buckeye Canyon claim, which along with the Browns Bar claim, was owned by the Ideal Cement Company in San Francisco was another bluish-grey deposit of limestone. It was apparently never worked.

### **Buckeye Hill (Flora) Mine**

The Buckeye Hill (Flora) Mine was a placer gold mine on Buckeye Point, two miles west of Volcanoville. The deposit consisted of alternating layers of gravel and cemented material as much as 1000 feet wide. It was mined in the 1890's and early 1930's by hydraulicking and drifting from a 400-foot bedrock adit. The gravel yielded \$1.33 per ton.

### **Buck's Bar Mine**

The Buck's Bar Mine was a dragline operation on the North Fork of the Cosumnes River, northeast of the crossing at Buck's Bar. The gold-bearing gravel deposit, which was 8 to 16-feet deep, was worked in 1936. The Bucks Bar tungsten mine was two miles west of Buck's Bar crossing, by the North Fork of the Cosumnes River. Mined were small amounts of scheelite, an important tungsten ore.

### **Buffalo Hill Manganese Mine**

Just to the west of Georgetown was the Buffalo Hill manganese mine that was not much more than a prospect (initial evaluation). The ore assayed at 11.7 percent manganese.

### **Bunker Hill Mine**

The Bunker Hill Mine was a copper mine two miles southwest of Greenwood. Active in the 1860's it was developed by a 60-foot shaft.

### **Burnett Mine**

The Burnett Mine was a chromite mine one mile southwest of Salmon Falls on the north side of the American River. 139 tons of chromite was removed in 1918 from layered and disseminated bodies of chromite by open cuts and shallow shafts.

### **Burt Valley Mine**

Three miles south of Volcanoville was the Burt Alley Mine. It was a gravel deposit of unknown dimensions worked around 1894.

### **Butler Pit**

The Butler Pit was an aggregate and road surfacing material mine two miles north of Meyers near the Truckee River. River gravel and sand from decomposed granite was mined.

### **Calaveras Mine**

The Calaveras Mine was a lode gold mine four miles east of Latrobe. The quartz vein, containing both free gold and sulfides, was developed by 32 and 53-foot shafts and open cuts in 1896.

### **Caledonia Mine**

Two miles west of Kelsey was the Caledonia Mine. Around 1900 five foot quartz vein was mined for gold by way of a vertical shaft.

### **California-Bangor Slate Company Mine**

The California-Bangor Slate Company Mine was located one mile northwest of Kelsey. It was active prior to 1915.

### **California Consolidated (Ibid, Tapioca) Mine**

The California Consolidated (Ibid, Tapioca) Mine was one mile southwest of Grizzly Flat. This lode gold mine was active in 1896 and reopened in 1938. The mine was developed by two crosscut adits, one 468 feet in length, the other 70 feet. The ore from the Tapioca claim, which was treated at the nearby Morey mill, yielded \$11.30 per ton.

### **California Jack Mine**

Three miles southwest of Georgetown was the California Jack Mine. Prior to 1896 a 12-foot wide quartz vein was mined for gold by way of a 350-foot crosscut adit, a 200-foot north drift and a 90-foot shaft. The ore was treated on-site at a ten-stamp mill.

Three miles west of Coloma was the Cambrian Mine, where three veins of copper bearing ore were mined in the 1850's, 1900 and 1908. The ore contained 10 percent copper,

along with native copper and gold, and was developed by 113, 220 and 1360-foot adits, winzes and drifts.

### **California Slate Quarry**

The California Slate Quarry was located three miles north of Placerville on the north side of the American River. It was active around 1889, but the slate turned out to be poor quality because of the presence of pyrite.

### **Camelback (Voss) Mine**

The Camelback (Voss) Mine was a copper mine located three miles southwest of Pilot Hill on Burner Hill. The ore was located in two massive, parallel quartz veins a half mile apart. One was developed by a 24-foot shaft, a 123-foot drift adit, and a 165-foot crosscut adit. The other, to the east of the first one, was developed by two shafts, one 200-foot deep, and the other 40-foot deep.

### **Carrie Hale Mine**

The Carrie Hale Mine was a placer (gravel) mine at Henry's Diggings, three miles south of Grizzly Flat. Active around 1894, an ancient river channel 60 feet wide and up to 5 feet thick was developed by a 400-foot bedrock adit. The "Pay Streak" was in blue gravel on granite bedrock and was mined in 12-foot "breasts" or increments.

### **Carrol Mine**

On the east slope of Greenwood Hill was the Carrol Mine, where gold in small seams of rock was removed by hydraulic methods.

### **Castile Mine**

Another small seam gold mine was the Castile Mine, one mile east of Garden Valley. Here two quartz veins in a seam zone 18 feet wide were hydraulicked in "the early days."

### **Cedar Ravine Mine**

Little is known about the Cedar Ravine Mine, a placer gold mine that was located in Cedar Ravine, one mile south of Placerville. Well-cemented gravel was mined and treated at a 10-stamp mill.

### **Cedar Spring Mine**

The Cedar Spring Mine was a drift placer mine also in Cedar Ravine, about one mile south of Placerville on the Green Mountain (gravel) channel. A 300 to 600 foot wide channel, with pay gravel 4 to 6-feet thick was mined from the 1870's into the early 1900's. The mine was developed by a 900-foot adit and 75-foot incline. There was also a second, lower adit of unknown dimensions.

### **Cedarberg (Drury) Mine**

The Cedarberg (Drury) Mine was a seam gold mine on the east side of American Canyon, two miles northeast of Greenwood. First mined in 1878 and then active in the 1890's and

early 1920's, it consisted of small veins and veinlets in slate that yielded much specimen gold. Hydraulic at first, it was later mined through a 318-foot shaft with levels at 100, 200 and 300 feet.

### **Cement Hill Mine**

The Cement Hill Mine was a drift placer mine on Cement Hill (named for the cemented gravels in the ancient river channel), three miles north of Georgetown. During the years 1894 - 96, it was prospected by digging 750 and 600-foot adits.

### **Central Pacific Railroad Mine**

The Central Pacific Railroad Mine was a chromite mine located two miles southwest of Greenwood. During WWI, some 250 tons of ore were mined from a lens of 35 - 41% ore. Mining was by the open pit method.

### **Central Railroad**

The Central Railroad was also a chromite mine located near Flagstaff Hill, which is now part of the Folsom Reservoir property. It was a relatively small mine with a 200-foot shaft and some adits into a low grade ore body.

### **Chaix Mine**

The Chaix Mine was a chromite mine two miles southeast of Latrobe, worked first during WWI and then again during WWII. In 1953 several tons of ore were removed and trucked to the El Dorado Chrome Company's custom mill at the Church Mine (south of El Dorado). From there, the concentrates were trucked to the Government stockpile at Grants Pass, Oregon. The ore, which averaged about 20 percent chromite, was mined by bulldozers from an open pit, 300 feet long by 200 feet wide by 30 feet deep.

The nearby Chaix iron mine was located one and one-half miles south of Latrobe. A lens of Magnetite and hematite as much as 25-feet wide which outcrops for some 60 feet was mined.

### **Channel Bend Mine**

Two miles northeast of Volcanoville there is a bend in the ancient channel of the American River. Here, the Barnes, Bend, Gray Eagle Bar and McCall claims were consolidated into the Channel Bend Mine. During the 1890's the placer gold in this river bend was removed through a 136-foot shaft and 200 and 300-foot drifts.

### **Chaparral (Golden Queen) Mine**

The Chaparral (Golden Queen) Mine was on the Mother Lode, two miles southwest of Kelsey. A 6-foot wide quartz vein containing gold, yielding \$7 to \$15 per ton, was mined in both 1872-75 and 1901. The mine was developed by a 200-foot shaft and a 50-foot adit.

### **Chili Bar Slate Quarry**

The Chili Bar Slate Quarry is on the south side of the South Fork of the American River, just east of the Chili Bar Bridge, three and one-half miles north of Placerville. It was first worked from 1887 - 1897 when roofing shingles and other forms of dimension slate were produced by the open-pit method. The quarry was idle until 1928 when it became an underground operation, producing roofing granules and slate-dust filler, among other products. It is still in operation, the material is crushed and sized on the property and trucked to users. Prior to the abandonment of the railroad, it was taken to Sacramento by train.

### **Chili Ravine Mine**

The Chili Ravine Mine was a drift mine in Chili Ravine, two miles south of Placerville. During the years 1870-90 and 1912-15, the well cemented gravel, 3 to 12 feet thick, was mined for gold by the use of a 1200-foot crosscut adit and a 700-foot drift adit.

### **China Hill Mine**

The China Hill Mine was located three miles southwest of El Dorado. The five foot vein, containing small, rich shoots of quartz containing native gold, was mined prior to 1894. It was developed by a 200-foot crosscut adit, 200 feet of drifts and open cuts.

### **Christian Mine**

At Henry Diggings, three miles south of Grizzly Flat, was the Christian Mine. A drift mine in gold bearing gravels, it was worked intermittently in the 1940's and 50's.

### **Chrome Divide Mine**

The aptly named Chrome Divide Mine was a chromite mine located on the Georgetown Divide, three miles east of Georgetown. During WWII, 51 tons of chromite was produced from a string of pods and lenses.

### **Church Mine**

The Church Mine was one of the better-known Mother Lode gold mines in El Dorado County. Located two miles southeast of the town of El Dorado, near Deadman Creek, it was first worked on a small scale about 1850. During the 1860's it was consolidated with the Union Mine, to the south, yet later was worked separately. By 1868 the two mines had produced more than \$600,000. Large amounts of mining went on during the 1880's and 90's and by 1896, the main shaft was 1200 feet deep. By 1900 the mining had reached the 1350 foot level. In 1907, the mine was shut down and then, in 1941, reopened with the shaft being rehabilitated, a new surface plant built and a 20-stamp mill installed. In 1942 the mine closed. The 20-stamp mill was used for a while in 1953 to process chromite ore for the El Dorado Chrome Company and in late 1953 and 54, tungsten ore was processed similarly. The deposit consists of three parallel veins 5 to 10-feet thick. The west vein contained only low grade material and the east vein was worked at the Union Mine site. The middle vein, or Kidney vein, was where the principal mining was done, with working levels at 100, 200, 300, 350, 500, 600, 700, 850, 1000 and 1200 feet, where crosscuts were developed into the vein. Nearest the surface, the ore produced as much as \$30 per

ton, with the value decreasing to \$17 per ton at the 1300 foot level and only \$4 per ton beyond. Much of the Church Mine is part of the County's landfill area.

### **Cincinnati Mine**

On the Mother Lode, one and one-half miles southeast of Garden Valley was the Cincinnati Mine. Active only in 1917-18, it was developed by open cuts and shallow shafts. The ore yielded only \$3.82 of gold per ton, which was recovered by mercury amalgamation.

### **Claghorn (Growers) Mine**

The Claghorn (Growers) Mine was a drift mine on Cedar Creek, two miles south of Fair Play. Here an ancient gravel channel was mined for its gold by a 200-foot adit.

### **Clark Mine**

On the south side of Texas Hill, one mile southeast of Placerville was the Clark Mine, a placer drift mine. Active only in the early days of the Gold Rush, it was developed by a several hundred foot adit, through which gold on several benches of the ancient river channel was removed.

### **Coe Hill (Bathurst, Gold Star) Mine**

The Coe Hill (Bathurst, Gold Star) Mine was on the Mother Lode one mile south of Garden Valley. Active only in the 1920's, it was developed by shallow shafts and an adit. The veins yielded \$6 to \$20 of gold per ton.

### **Cold Springs Sand and Gravel Company**

The Cold Springs Sand and Gravel Company quarry was on Weber Creek, 4 miles west of Placerville. From 1950 to April of 1953, the El Dorado Rock and Sand Company produced sand, gravel and crushed rock from this deposit. In April of 1953, the deposit was leased by L. D. Forni who operated it under the name of the Cold Springs Sand and Gravel Company. Sand and gravel was excavated from the banks of Weber Creek by a dragline mounted on a truck and then processed and stockpiled nearby.

### **Collins and Bacchi**

The Collins and Bacchi Mine was a very small operation near Garden Valley that was prospected prior to 1914.

### **Comeback Consolidated (Bear Creek) Mine**

The Comeback Consolidated (Bear Creek) Mine was a tungsten mine 7 miles northeast of Placerville and 4 miles due east of Spanish Flat, near the north bank of Rock Creek. First located in 1930, it was worked during the years 1931-31, when \$3,000 to \$4,000 in tungsten ore (sheelite) was produced by sluicing. Adits 187-feet, 80-feet and 240-feet in length were used to remove the ore from a 2 to 3 foot vein of calcite. This property has been the source of the total recorded output of tungsten ore in the County.

### **Confederate Mine**

The Confederate Mine was a gravel drift mine two and one half miles southwest of Fair Play. Active in 1896, it was mined for gold by two adits, 250 and 200 feet in length.

### **Contraband (Ford) Mine**

The Contraband (Ford) Mine was two miles southeast of Georgetown. Active in 1860, 1902 and 1910, a 12-foot vein was mined for native copper and copper sulfides. Asbestos was also mined from this property before 1906.

### **Cooley Mine**

The Cooley Mine was a drift mine at Volcanoville. A William Ogles took some gold from it in 1934 and 1936.

### **Coon Hollow Mine**

The Coon Hollow Mine, which included the Excelsior Claim, was one of the largest drift and hydraulic mines in El Dorado County. It was located one mile south of Placerville at what is now appropriately known as Big Cut. From 1852 to 1861 the gravel was removed by drifting and between 1861 and 1871, by hydraulic means. Water for the water "cannons" was brought by ditch and pipe from miles up the American River Canyon. Through the use of water pressure, ten million dollars in gold was removed from gravel that averaged about \$1 per yard (yes, that is 10,000,000 cubic yards of material, or more, that was removed). The tailings from the operation, which were deposited in the canyons to the south, were later mined for silica and even later for aggregate to build bridges and roads.

### **Cool-Cave Valley (Coswell-Cave Valley) Mine**

The Cool-Cave Valley (Coswell-Cave Valley) Mine is a limestone quarry on the largest limestone deposit in El Dorado County. It is located 4 miles east of Auburn on the south side of the Middle Fork of the American River. The two lenses of high purity (97% calcium carbonate) limestone at this location measure 5500 feet by 400 feet and 2000 feet by 600 feet. Their depth is unknown, but they have been worked as deep as 800 feet at the north end. No one knows for sure when limestone was first removed from this location, but during the 1880's and 1890's, limestone was quarried from the southern part of the deposit and burned in stone lime kilns for the production of cement. From 1910 - 1940 the Pacific Portland Cement Company operated a massive quarry at the north end of the deposit, by the Middle Fork of the American River. This deep quarry, known as Mountain Quarries, produced enormous amounts of limestone that was crushed, sized and shipped over a company owned railroad to Auburn and then to their plant in Solano County or beet sugar refineries (limestone of very high purity is necessary for the production of beet sugar). In 1942 the quarry was abandoned and the railroad dismantled. Later, this portion of the quarry would be reactivated and later, be acquired for Auburn Reservoir. The southern portion of this quarry is still mined with the limestone being used for beet-sugar refining and other purposes. Mining at this location has been by many methods, one interesting one called "coyote" holes. Several adits were driven into the quarry face and then branches perpendicular to it. These were loaded with dynamite and a whole year's supply of limestone was dislodged in one huge blast.

### **Copper Chief Mine**

The Copper Chief Mine was a copper mining operation two miles east of Georgetown. Mining was done from two outcrops, 100 to 200 feet wide.

### **Costa Ranch Mine**

The Costa Ranch Mine was a copper mine two miles southwest of Pilot Hill. The veins of ore were mined by a 60-foot vertical shaft and open cuts.

### **Cosumnes Mine**

The Cosumnes Mine was a copper mine four miles north of Fair Play, by the Cosumnes River. Originally worked in 1859, it was re-activated in both 1896 and during WWI. During WWII, some ore was produced from open cuts. In 1955 a lessee reopened some of the old workings. The mine is worked through a 150-foot crosscut adit driven westward with drifts running northeast and southwest along the mineralized zone. In addition, there is a lower crosscut adit about 40-feet below the main adit, connected to it by a winze, along with a number of open cuts on the surface.

### **Cosumnes (Melton, Middle End) Mine**

Another Cosumnes (Melton, Middle End) Mine was a lode gold mine located two and one-half miles north of Grizzly Flat. During the 1880's and early 1890's it was known as the Melton Mine. In 1928 it was reopened as the Middle End Mine and was operated until 1942. Cosumnes Mines Inc. reopened it again in 1945 and continued its operation until the 1950's. The main, or Middle End, vein, had an average width of three feet, which contained as much as \$25 per ton in gold. Gold sulfide concentrates, which were trucked to a smelter, yielded as much as \$200 per ton of gold. The mine was developed by a 380-foot southwest crosscut adit and several thousand feet of drifts.

### **Cothrin Mine**

The Cothrin Mine was a copper mine near Cothrin Station (north of Latrobe). It was developed by a 100-foot shaft.

### **Cousin Jack Mine**

The Cousin Jack (a name often given to Cornish miners) Mine was located five miles southwest of Grizzly Flat and active prior to 1894. A one to 4-foot wide vein of gold bearing quartz was mined by 400 and 300-foot drift adits and a 70-foot winze.

### **Cowell Mine**

The Cowell Mine was a very small chromite mine three miles east of Clarksville. Four carloads of ore were removed during WWI.

### **Cranes Gulch (Whitesides) Mine**

The Cranes Gulch (Whitesides) Mine was a seam gold mine one mile south of Georgetown. Prior to 1874 \$100,000 in gold was produced from an open pit 250 feet long, 150 feet wide and 70 feet deep.

### **Crown Point Consolidated (Bald Eagle, Gold Queen) Mine**

The Crown Point Consolidated (Bald Eagle, Gold Queen) Mine was on the Mother Lode, one and one-half miles southeast of Diamond Springs. Originally developed in 1894 and reactivated in 1923, three veins of quartz, 4 to 20-feet wide were developed by a 500-foot inclined shaft with working levels at 100, 200, 300 and 400 feet. Water was removed from the shaft by a 600-foot drain tunnel that intersected the shaft at the 300-foot level. There was also a second shaft, 150-feet deep, to the south of the main shaft.

### **Crusader Mine**

On the Mother Lode two miles south of Diamond Springs was the Crusader Mine. Active prior to 1914 and later in 1929, its 3-foot wide vein of gold bearing quartz was mined by a 100-foot inclined shaft with a 100-foot working level.

### **Crystal Mines**

There were three lode gold mines in El Dorado County by the name of Crystal. The first was one-half mile north of Cool and active in 1896 and 1931. A gold bearing quartz vein was developed by a 25-foot shaft and two, 60-foot inclined shafts. The second Crystal Mine was on the Cosumnes River, five miles southeast of Grizzly Flat. Active around 1894, its three veins were mined by 70 and 250-foot shafts and a 1200-foot crosscut adit. The third and largest Crystal Mine, also known as the El Dorado Crystal Mine, was 3 miles south of Shingle Springs and a half mile south of the community of Frenchtown. A vein of quartz as much as 12 feet wide was originally worked prior to 1890, through a 250-foot inclined shaft and a 350-foot crosscut adit. The ore was treated on-site with a 10-stamp mill. The mine was reopened in 1937 by Ben Lockwood of Shingle Springs, who operated it until 1940. Ultimately, the mine was developed by the 250-foot inclined shaft and a 1,028-foot adit. 328 feet in from the portal (opening) of the adit, a 480-foot inclined winze was sunk with levels at 200, 326 and 456 feet.

### **Dailey and Bishop Mine**

A lode gold mine known as the Dailey and Bishop was located two miles south of Grizzly Flat. It was active around 1896 when a one and one-half to three-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in slate was developed by an 800-foot drift adit, crosscuts, and winze. The ore was treated on site in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Dalmatia (Kelly) Mine**

Just east of the town of Kelsey was the Dalmatia (Kelly) Mine, a large lode gold mine. Numerous quartz seams and a quartz vein were found in a zone that varied in width from 20 to 50-feet, which were worked in the 1880's, 1890-94 and again around 1935. A two-foot vein assayed at \$16 per ton, a single pocket yielded \$14,000 and the seams yielded around \$2 to #3 per ton. The mine was originally worked in an open cut some 500 feet

long and later was developed by a 200-foot inclined shaft and a 1200-foot adit. The ore was treated on site in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Darling (Chanced Upon) Mine**

The Darling (Chanced Upon) Mine was four miles northeast of Spanish Flat. A two-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in slate yielded \$5 to \$6 per ton in free gold. The deposit was developed by a 190-foot shaft. The ore was treated on site in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Darlington Mine**

The Darlington Mine was a soapstone mine three miles southeast of Placerville, near Weber Creek. It was active in the 1880's when sawed slabs of soapstone were produced. The massive lens up to 25-feet wide and 130-feet long was developed by open cuts.

### **Darrington (Gurney) Mine**

The Darrington (Gurney) Mine was a chromite mine located seven miles southwest of Pilot Hill. Worked originally during WWI, when several hundred tons of ore were produced, it was reopened during WWII and worked in conjunction with the nearby Dobbas Mine. During this later period of operation, some 495 long tons (2240 pounds in a long ton) were removed, mostly from the Darrington workings. The ore is in two zones of disseminated chromite with a high iron content. The east ore zone is about 300 feet long and 70 feet wide, and estimated to contain some 100,000 tons of ore. The west zone has not been significantly worked. Development has been by open cuts, four adits totaling 900 feet and shafts and raises totaling 120 feet.

### **Davenport Mine**

On the Mother Lode, one-half mile east of Garden Valley was the Davenport Mine. A lode gold mine, it was originally active in 1934 and later worked jointly with the Black Oak Mine. It was developed by a 280-foot crosscut adit and open cuts.

### **David Mine**

The David Mine was a manganese mine just to the west of Georgetown. Open cuts were used to remove the ore that averaged from five to ten percent manganese.

### **Davison Mine**

The Davison Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles northwest of the townsite of El Dorado. Originally worked sometime prior to 1894, it was later owned by Jerome M. Strickland and was often referred to as the Strickland Mine, from which Strickland Mine Road gets its name. A two-foot vein of gold bearing quartz was developed by a 280-foot inclined shaft with 100 and 300-foot levels. The ore was treated in a 20-stamp mill, which was later replaced with a smaller, 5-stamp mill.

### **Defiance Mine**

The Defiance Mine was a very small lode gold mine five miles northeast of Shingle Springs. Nothing much more is known about it.

### **Diamond Springs Mine**

Diamond Springs, in addition to being the name of an early townsite and a limestone mine, was also the name given a large ancient (Tertiary) gravel area to the north of the townsite, remnants of which can still be seen in open cuts along Highway 49 near Lime Kiln Road. Much of it was mined hydraulically, many years ago before mining by this method was outlawed by the State of California in response to complaints from the agricultural interests in the valley, among other reasons.

### **Diamond Springs Limestone Mine**

The Diamond Springs Limestone Mine is a large limestone quarry three miles to the east of Diamond Springs, on Quarry Road. Limestone has been mined at this location since at least the days of the Gold Rush, if not earlier. Within the structure of the Washington Monument, in Washington D.C. the Great State of California is represented by a block of limestone donated from this quarry over a hundred years ago. When this limestone lens, some 2,500 feet long and as much as 500 feet wide was owned by the Diamond Springs Lime Company, the material was mined and shipped to their processing plant just north of the townsite (now the location of the refuse transfer station) by a unique (and sometimes noisy) overhead tramway. The three mile long aerial tramway had 149 buckets of 800 pound capacity each, that could supply the plant with as much as 30 tons per hour. Where the tramway passed over roads, they were protected from falling rock by a steel mesh cover. The tramway was disassembled around 1954.

### **Diamond Springs Lime Plant**

With the tramway gone, the Diamond Springs Lime Plant started getting most of its material from mines in Shingle Springs and Cool. When the federal government purchased the part of the mine in Cool from which their material came, the lime plant was unable to find another suitable source and closed. The Diamond Mine, which is developed by a large open pit, continues to operate, providing high grade limestone for the roadbuilding, agriculture, and pharmaceutical industries, among others.

### **Dickson Mine**

Three miles east of Clarksville was a chromite mine known as the Dickson Mine. Here, ore was mined from a northwest-trending series of chromite pods by using an open cut.

### **Dividend Mine**

The Dividend Mine was on Pinchem Creek, some four miles northwest of Rescue. During the 1880's, 1890's and from 1912-15, an extensive deposit of gold bearing gravel one to three-feet thick on granite bedrock was worked by ground sluicing.

### **Dobbas Mine**

The Dobbas Mine is located two miles north of Flagstaff Hill. During WWI, when the property was owned by the Placer Chrome Company and a portion leased to the Union Chrome Company, there was a substantial amount of work at this mine when a number of open pits, and several shafts and adits were developed. During WWII, the appropriately named Rustless Mining Company removed some ore from this property which, along with

ore from other mines in the area (including the Darrington) was taken to the Volo Mill near Placerville where it was concentrated. The deposit consists of several ore bodies of talc-chlorite or talc-serpentine rock. Like the ore at the Darrington Mine, it is also high in iron. Five principal ore bodies have been worked by open pits and shallow shafts.

### **Donozo Mine**

One-half mile east of Greenwood was the Donozo Mine. At this location a small vein of gold bearing quartz was developed by 60-foot drift adits.

### **Dorsey Mine**

The Dorsey Mine was a placer gold mine one mile northeast of Indian Diggins. Other than its name and location, nothing more is known.

### **Double E Mine**

The Double E Mine was a manganese mine two miles southeast of the townsite of El Dorado. It was only a small, low-grade deposit and never significantly worked.

### **Dr. Wren Mine**

The Dr. Wren Mine was a copper mine located three miles southeast of El Dorado, to the east of the Mother Lode. A six-foot vein of ore, containing 5 - 18 percent copper was developed by a 18-foot shaft.

### **Duncan and Adams Mine**

The Duncan and Adams Mine was one mile southeast of the townsite of El Dorado. A lode gold mine, it was only active in 1931 when 700 tons of ore was mined that yielded \$10,266.

### **Eagle Mine**

The Eagle Mine was a lode gold mine located one and one-half miles north of Grizzly Flat. A three foot wide vein was worked for gold, while another deposit 150 feet long and up to 6 feet wide contained appreciable amounts of auriferous (gold containing) pyrite, galena (lead ore) and sphalerite (zinc ore). The mine was developed by a 780-foot drift adit and a 240-foot shaft.

A second Eagle Mine was a placer gold mine one mile northwest of Omo Ranch. Nothing more is known about it.

### **Eagle King Mine**

The Eagle King mine was a lode gold mine near the first Eagle Mine mentioned, one-half mile further north of Grizzly Flat. A gold bearing quartz vein three to four feet wide, like at the Eagle Mine, contained not only free gold but also appreciable amounts of auriferous pyrite, galena and sphalerite. The mine was active from 1894-1896 and developed by a 1200-foot drift adit and a 60-foot winze 200 feet from the portal. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Edner Mine**

The Edner Mine was located one and one-half miles southeast of Omo Ranch, in the very southern part of El Dorado County. A one and one-half foot wide vein of gold bearing quartz was mined in 1896 and developed by an 150-foot adit and a fifty foot shaft.

### **E. E. Copper Mine**

The E. E. Copper Mine was four miles southeast of El Dorado. In addition to copper, gold and silver were mined at this location by means of an 85-foot vertical shaft, 200 feet of drifts and 100 and 300-foot adits.

### **El Dorado Big Tunnel Company**

The El Dorado Big Tunnel Company was a mining company that, in the 1890's, operated a mine at Big Canyon, two miles north of Placerville. Later the mine was purchased by the Gentle Annie Mining Company. Ultimately, this mine, under the name of the Gentle Annie, would be consolidated with the Bell, Hall Consolidated, Lucky Star, Lyon and New Era claims under the name of the River Hill Group. The El Dorado Big Tunnel Company also operated a slate mine near Chili Bar around 1894.

### **El Dorado (Roosevelt) Copper Mine**

One mile south of Garden Valley was the El Dorado (Roosevelt) Copper Mine. Located on the Mother Lode gold belt, the mine was originally worked for gold in the 1860's. During WWII some copper was discovered and mined. Because of the need for copper for the war effort, during the period 1944 - 45 the U.S. Bureau of Mines used a diamond drill to create eleven exploratory holes, aggregating a total of 1613 feet. Eight of these holes indicated the deposit to be a series of narrow, intermittent lenses of copper ore in an area about 600 feet in length and several hundred feet deep. The ore contained from five to more than ten percent copper, as much as one and one-half percent zinc, one ounce per ton of silver and traces of nickel and gold. The mine was developed by a 100-foot inclined shaft, a 173-foot adit, driven as a crosscut for forty-six feet and a drift for 127 feet, which connects with the shaft at the fifty foot level, 128 feet in from the adit portal. On the 100 foot level, there are drifts extending thirty-five feet to the north and ten feet to the south.

### **El Dorado County Road Department**

The El Dorado County Road Department (later Public Works and now Department of Transportation) has operated several stone quarries over the years. From these deposits of decomposed granite they have taken material for "road metal" (surfacing material), fill material and sand for increasing vehicle traction on icy roads. Presently they operate only one sand quarry on Sandridge Road, near the townsite of Somerset. But, at one time there were county operated sand and gravel pits in the Deer Valley-Rescue-Shingle Springs area, just south of Lotus and a few miles east of Mt. Aukum. Serpentine material was also excavated by the county for "road metal" from the Hummingbird Ranch quarry one mile west of Garden Valley.

### **El Dorado Dredging Corporation**

The El Dorado Dredging Corporation was a mining group that operated a one and one-half cubic yard dragline dredge on Greenwood, Coloma, Rock Canyon, and Irish Creeks during the years 1940-42 and again in 1948.

### **El Dorado Slate Products Company (Chadborne)**

The El Dorado Slate Products Company (Chadborne) operated a slate mine on the south side of Big Canyon, one and one-half miles north of Placerville. Roofing slate was produced from several quarries during the 1920's, which was then sent across the canyon via an overhead cable. Waste was sold for roofing granules.

### **El Dorado Water and Deep Gravel Mining Company**

The El Dorado Water and Deep Gravel Mining Company was another mining group that operated hydraulic and drift, placer gold mines on the ancient (tertiary) river beds in the Placerville area. Among their workings were the Coon Hollow (Big Cut) claim and the Excelsior Mine.

### **Elliott (Sir Walter Raleigh) Mine**

The Elliott (Sir Walter Raleigh) Mine was located on the Mother Lode, two miles south of Placerville. Around 1894 a four-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in slate was developed by a fifty-foot inclined shaft and crosscut adit.

### **Emma Mine**

The Emma Mine was located two miles northwest of Garden Valley on the Mother Lode. Active before 1890, a four-foot vein of gold bearing quartz was worked by means of a 100-foot shaft.

### **Esperanza Mine**

The Esperanza Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile northwest of Garden Valley on the Mother Lode. Active in the last decade of the nineteenth century, it was developed by a 600-foot vertical shaft and 700 feet of drifts. The ore was treated in a 20-stamp mill. There was also another Esperanza Mine one-half mile east of Greenwood that later became known as the Skipper Mine.

### **Equator Mine**

The Equator Mine was three miles south of Diamond Springs, on the Mother Lode. Three veins of gold bearing quartz were developed by a 1300-foot crosscut adit and a 110-foot inclined shaft.

### **Eureka Mines**

It is not surprising that there were several mines with the name of Eureka, it being the motto of the State of California. One of these became a part of the Woodside-Eureka Mine, another a part of the immense workings of the Placerville Gold Mining Company and the other worked under that name in downtown Georgetown. The Georgetown Eureka Mine,

the one we will discuss here, was only active prior to 1888. Three parallel veins of gold bearing quartz, six to ten feet wide, were developed by a 240-foot inclined shaft and 500 feet of drifts.

### **Eureka Slate Quarry**

The Eureka Slate Quarry, operated by the Sierra Slate Company, was located one mile south of Kelsey. This was a big mining operation that was active for some forty years, from around 1886 until 1926. Dimension slate for a multitude of uses was mined from the quarry that had a 200-foot face and a depth of 200 feet. The mined slate was delivered to Placerville for transport on the railroad by means of a spectacular 13,000 foot long aerial tramway.

### **Ever Mine**

The Ever Mine was a chromite mine near Cothrin Station, between Shingle Springs and Latrobe. A 100 foot wide zone of small streaks and lenses of chromite was prospected in 1918. There are no production records available.

### **Excelsior Mine**

The Excelsior Mine was adjacent to the Coon Hollow, one mile south of Placerville. Between the years 1852 and 1871, about five million dollars in gold was recovered by drifting and hydraulicking this ancient river channel. Later, in the years 1907 - 11, the deposit was further worked by drifting. The gravel from the drifting operation was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Expansion Mine**

Three miles north of Shingle Springs was the Expansion Mine, a lode gold mine. Here auriferous pyrite was the gold source. The deposit was worked from 1900-04 and later prospected in 1936. Mining was by way of a 150-foot crosscut adit.

### **El Dorado Limestone Mine**

The El Dorado Limestone Mine was an underground operation, three miles southwest of Shingle Springs. From it was produced high-calcium (97 percent plus) limestone for various uses including the manufacture of lime, steel and glass manufacturing, beet-sugar refining and construction materials. Prior to the opening of the mine by the El Dorado Lime and Minerals company in 1918, limestone was quarried just north of the mine and burned in nearby stone lime kilns for building purposes. In 1931, the El Dorado Limestone Company was formed and operated the mine until it closed. The deposit consists of two lenses of limestone, one averaging sixty feet in width, the other forty feet. The main working entry is a 1000 foot, three compartment vertical shaft near the east wall of the east lens. Crosscuts extend from the shaft to the west lens. The deepest workings were at the 800 foot level. Because the material is solid, no timbering is required. In the 1970's mining ceased and the shaft was allowed to flood with water. The crushing equipment on the surface continued to be used for several years, the limestone coming from the Gallo Glass mining operations at Marble Valley, to the west.

### **Fairplay (California Mohawk) Mine**

The Fairplay (California Mohawk) Mine was a placer gold, drift mine just to the east of the town of Fair Play, which is located in the southern part of El Dorado County. When it was active is unknown, however, it is known that at one time it was owned by the California Mohawk Mining Company.

### **Falls Mine**

Falls Mine was located on the Mother Lode two miles south of Diamond Springs. In 1914 and again around 1934, a gold bearing quartz vein was developed by a 235-foot crosscut adit.

### **Ferriera Mine**

Ferriera Mine was the name of a placer gold mine one mile south of Newtown, near Pleasant Valley. It was prospected, and perhaps mined, in 1930 when a 135-foot shaft was sunk in search of gold bearing gravel.

### **Flagstaff Mine**

The Flagstaff Mine was a lode gold mine located a "few miles" north of Grizzly Flat that was active around 1888. Ore from the mine was treated on site in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Forni Mine**

The Forni Mine was a chromite mine located four miles east of Latrobe, most likely on the Forni Ranch. Like many other chromite mines in El Dorado County, it was only mined early in the 20th century, when chrome was needed for the war effort. The only records known indicate that during the year 1918, 1 ton of ore was produced.

### **Fort Jim Mine**

The Fort Jim Mine was a placer drift mine four miles southeast of Placerville, near Weber Creek. It was only active for a short period, from 1913 - 15.

### **Fort Yuma Mine**

Fort Yuma was the name of a lode gold mine on Big Canyon Creek, two miles northeast of Brandon Corner (east of Latrobe). Active from 1890-1902 and again in 1938, this 2 to 4-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in Calaveras slate was developed by a 175 and 40-foot shafts and drifts.

### **Fossati (Tunnel) Mine**

The Fossati (Tunnel) Mine was a drift mine one and one-half miles south of Camino. It was active intermittently in 1930-36 when two channels of the ancient (Tertiary) South Fork of the American River, the lower being 25 to 200 feet wide, were developed by numerous adits and raises.

### **Franklin (Tockey) Mine**

Two and one-half miles east of Placerville was the Franklin (Tockey) Mine, a placer gold drift mine that was active around 1896 and again in 1907. On a Tertiary channel of the South Fork of the American River, it was developed by a 1400-foot drift in the channel. The gold bearing gravel, once removed, was treated in a 10-stamp mill and then run through a 100-foot sluice.

### **Freeman Mine**

The Freeman Mine was a chromite mine four miles southeast of Latrobe. In 1918, 40 tons of ore was removed from a chromite lens in serpentine by means of an open cut.

### **French (Nagler) Mine**

The French (Nagler) Mine was a seam gold mine just west of the town of Greenwood. Active prior to 1874 and again during the 1890's, it produced more than a half-million dollars in gold. The zone of quartz seams was up to 200 feet wide and worked by two methods: hydraulicking in a pit 80 feet deep and 600 feet long, and a shallow shaft.

### **French Corral Dredge**

A gold dredge known as the French Corral Dredge operated a dragline at Brown's Bar on the Middle Fork of the American River in 1946. This area, the boundary between El Dorado and Placer County, was very rich and heavily mined during the early days of the Gold Rush.

### **French Creek Mine**

The French Creek Mine was located three and one-half miles northeast of Latrobe. Opened in 1953, it was one of the newer lode gold mines in El Dorado County. By 1956, the latest information we have on this mine, a 30-foot inclined shaft had been developed. The ore body, which averaged 20 feet in width and extended for some 300 feet, contained both free gold and auriferous (gold containing) pyrite. The ore assay varied widely, from \$2.80 to \$60 of gold per ton, averaging \$20 to \$30.

### **French Hill Mine**

One mile southwest of Spanish Dry Diggings was a seam gold mine known as the French Hill Mine. Active around 1894, it was mined in open cuts and the material treated first in a 10-stamp mill and then in an 800-foot sluice. It was also developed by a 100-foot shaft and a 100-foot adit. At one time the property was also prospected for asbestos, but no records exist of any significant mining of that material that might have occurred.

### **Frog Pond and Marigold Consolidated Mine**

The curiously named Frog Pond and Marigold Consolidated Mine was a lode gold mine one-half mile northwest of Garden Valley. Active intermittently from 1914 - 27, it was developed by a 60-foot shaft and several drifts. The ore was treated on-site in a 2-stamp mill.

### **Funny Bug (Pendelco) Mine**

The Funny Bug (Pendelco) Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile southwest of Gold Hill, on the north bank of Weber Creek. It was active intermittently from 1928 to 1942 when small amounts of both gold and copper were removed, and ores of lead and other metals were detected. In 1953 the property was leased to Carl Howe, of Placerville, who did some rehabilitation and surface work. The mine was developed by crosscuts on two levels from a 200-foot shaft.

### **Gambling Mine**

The Gambling (also known as Gamblin) Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles southwest of Fair Play. Active 1915-18 and 1933-34, it consisted of a 18 to 30-inch vein of gold bearing quartz in granodiorite. It was developed by a 500-foot inclined shaft, considerable drifting, and an adit on the 90-foot level. The ore was treated in a 45 ton, 10-stamp mill with Frue vanners and amalgam (mercury) plates.

### **Gardner Consolidated Mine**

The Gardner Consolidated (a consolidated mine is a group of mining claims operated as one mine) Mine was one mile north of Placerville on the Mother Lode. Active prior to 1914, the deposit was a 5-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in slate. It was developed by a 400-foot crosscut adit and 500 feet of drifts.

### **Garfield Mine**

One mile south of Volcanoville was the Garfield Mine. Active around 1894, it was a lode gold mine developed by a 120-foot inclined shaft and 700-foot crosscut adit.

### **Garfield and Excelsior Consolidated Mine**

The Garfield and Excelsior Consolidated Mine was a lode gold deposit one mile northeast of Greenwood. Also active around 1894, it consisted of 20-foot wide vein in slate developed by four crosscut adits, 200 to 400 feet long.

### **Garibaldi Consolidated Mine**

The Garibaldi Consolidated Mine was located near Greenwood. Prospected around 1894, it was a 6-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in slate.

### **General Dredging Corporation**

The General Dredging Corporation, based in Natoma, operated two dragline dredges (1 1/2 cubic yard and 2 cubic yard capacity) near Coloma and near Shingle Springs during the years 1939-42.

### **Georgia Slide Mine**

One of the largest seam gold mines in El Dorado County was a consolidation of the Bettie and Parsons Consolidated, Blue Rock, Mulvey Point and Pacific mining claims, known commonly as the Georgia Slide Mine. It was located one and one-half miles north-

northwest of Georgetown on the south side of Canyon Creek. Its name is derived from miners who came from the gold mines in the state of Georgia, near a town named Dahlonega, where gold had been discovered in 1828.

It was these experienced Georgia miners who were some of the earliest in the gold fields of California and who brought with them, and shared with others, much of the needed mining knowledge and experience. Originally the several claims making up the Georgia Slide Mine were worked individually by hydraulicking from 1853 to 1895, using water from Canyon Creek, North Canyon and Dark Canyon. After the cessation of hydraulic mining, small amounts of ore were treated in several stamp mills on the property. In 1915 a 10-stamp mill was erected to rework the accumulated tailings. The total estimated output from the seam deposits is \$3,000,000 and from the placer deposits in Oregon Canyon and Canyon Creek, which derive their gold from the seam deposits, another \$3,500,000. It is estimated that 3,500,000 cubic yards of material was removed from the immense pit that still remains. The seams ranged from less than an inch to a foot or more in width, some swelling into lenses several feet thick. After hydraulic mining stopped, the banks were excavated by blasting and the debris was directed by water pressure into a sluice. Whenever quartz seams were encountered they were treated by hand mortaring. The pit is about 1000 feet long and about 600 feet wide at the top.

### **German (Haeger) Mine**

Three miles south of El Dorado on the Mother Lode was the German (Haeger) Mine. It was active around 1896 - 1900 and developed by a 500-foot inclined shaft. Ore was treated at the mine in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Gignac Mine**

The Gignac Mine was a placer gold drift mine at Texas Hill, two and one-half miles southeast of Placerville. It was active during the 1890's.

### **Giltedge Mine**

The Giltedge Mine was a placer gold mine located two and one-half miles south of the town of Fair Play. Active in 1896 when an ancient river channel, capped with sand and clay, was developed by driving a 300-foot adit under the cap to get at the coarse gold on the bedrock.

### **Gilt Edge (Revenge Consolidated) Mine**

One mile southeast of Greenwood was a seam gold mine known as the Gilt Edge (Revenge Consolidated) Mine. In the early days of the Gold Rush it was worked by hydraulicking.

### **Glenn Mine**

The Glenn Mine was a chromite mine located 2 miles southeast of Latrobe. Although it was in an area rich in chromite, it was not mined but only prospected in 1918.

### **Gloriana Mine**

The Gloriana Mine was a lode gold mine at Henry's Diggings two miles north of Omo Ranch, in the southern part of El Dorado County. When it was last reported on in 1956, it had been "long idle."

### **Gold Bug Mines**

The Gold Bug Mine was a chromite mine four miles southeast of Latrobe on a ridge east of Big Canyon Creek. 16 tons of chromite ore was produced from this mine in 1918. This deposit of low-grade ore, 1 to 3-feet wide and 125 feet long, was developed by open cuts.

Another Gold Bug Mine (also known as the Canyon Creek Mine) was a placer gold mine two miles north of Georgetown, just north of Georgia Slide Mine. This was mostly a secondary mining operation since accumulated hydraulic mine tailings, seam deposit detritus and some virgin gravel were intermittently worked by several different operators from around 1896 to 1934. The material was extracted by draglines and sent through a trommel (screen) and sluices.

### **Golden State Mine**

The Golden State Mine was a seam gold mine just west of Jones Hill, four miles northwest of Georgetown. The deposit consisted of numerous quartz bearing seams in a belt 200 to 300 feet wide. It was mined by open cut and the material then run through a sluice.

### **Golden Trace (Bullard) Mine**

The Golden Trace (Bullard) Mine was a lode gold mine located two and one-half miles north of Grizzly Flat by the North Fork of the Cosumnes River. Active prior to 1896, it consisted of a 2 to 3-foot vein of gold bearing quartz in granite that was developed by a 250-foot drift adit.

### **Gold Note Mine**

The Gold Note Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles southeast of Omo Ranch. This mine is another one that has been idle so long that not much is known about it.

### **Good Luck Mine**

Two miles east of Diamond Springs was the Good Luck Mine. Active only 1909-10, the deposit consisted of an 18-inch vein of gold bearing quartz that was developed by a 250-foot shaft along with 200 and 300-foot adits. The ore was treated on-site in a 5-stamp mill.

### **Gopher-Boulder Mine**

The Gopher-Boulder Mine was on the Mother Lode, one mile northwest of Kelsey. From the several claims consolidated in this mine, the Gopher, Boulder, Dalmatia and several others, \$15,600 in gold was produced from this mine in 1858 and \$40,000 in the 1880's. The mine was later prospected in 1931 and again in 1934-36. The gold was in two veins in slate and greenstone, named the Gopher and Boulder, that were as wide as 50 feet. The ore ranged in value from \$2.50 to \$6 per ton and occasionally up to \$16 per ton. The

mine was developed by a 260-foot inclined shaft with levels at 50-foot intervals, a 200-foot drift adit, 850-foot crosscut adit and open cuts. The ore was treated in a huge 20-stamp mill, powered by a mine owned electric power plant on Rock Creek and water brought in from the South Fork of the American River through 1000 feet of 11 inch steel pipe.

### **Gordon Mine**

The Gordon Mine was a chromite mine four miles north of Shingle Springs. In 1918, 31 tons of chromite was produced from this mine.

### **Grand Victory Mine**

The Grand Victory Mine was on Squaw Creek, four miles southeast of Diamond Springs. First worked in 1857 it was one of El Dorado County's larger lode gold mines. In 1879 the ore was being treated in a 5-stamp mill and, nine years later, because extensive open cuts and underground workings had been developed, the mill had been expanded to 40 and then 50-stamps. In 1894 a cyanidization (a process of extracting gold by the use of a cyanide compound) plant was added and operated until 1901, when the mine was shut down. In the 1930's considerable prospecting and sampling was done at the mine and a number of drifts and crosscuts were driven. The gold was contained in quartz ore bodies as wide as 100 feet that were developed by a 500-foot drift adit and open cuts as wide as 135 feet and 500 feet in length. About 450 feet in from the adit portal (opening) was a winze with levels at 100, 200 and 300 feet. In addition, there were several thousand feet of drifts and crosscuts.

### **Gray (Old Gray) Mine**

Three miles northwest of Shingle Springs was the Gray (Old Gray) Mine. A lode gold mine active about 1894, it consisted of a vein of gold bearing quartz 1 to 3-feet wide that was developed by a 100-foot shaft and drift.

### **Gray Eagle Cliff Mine**

Near Volcanoville was the Gray Eagle Cliff Mine that was active about 1894. At this location an ancient river channel was worked through an adit. The gold containing gravel was well cemented together.

### **Great Bend Corporation**

In 1931, the Great Bend Corporation, based in Lotus, mined gold-bearing gravels at Lotus with a gasoline powered shovel.

### **Green Claim**

The Green Claim was a chromite mine two miles southeast of Georgetown. It was active in 1918 when 17 tons of 51% chromite ore was produced. The chromite pods were developed by a 15-foot shaft and drifts.

### **Green Mine**

One and one-half miles south of Volcanoville, near Otter Creek (east of Georgetown) was the Green Mine. A chromite mine originally worked for gold, it was active in 1917-18 when

more than 110 tons of chromite was produced and again in 1942 when 64 tons was produced. The deposit consisted of a chromite lens up to 7 feet wide and was developed by a 350-foot adit, 40-foot shaft, along with many raises and crosscuts.

### **Green Mountain Mine**

The Green Mountain Mine was a placer gold drift mine on the south side of Texas Hill, two and one-half miles southeast of Placerville. The Green Mountain channel, a tributary of the Tertiary South Fork of the American River was mined through a 1700-foot adit.

### **Greenhorn Dredging Company**

The Greenhorn Dredging Company, from Auburn, operated a 2 cubic yard dragline dredge on the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River near Youngs (on Mt. Aukum Road, between Pleasant Valley and Somerset) from 1940-42. In 1947 they would move the dredge to the Barkley property.

### **Greenwood Mine**

At the town of Greenwood was a lode gold mine appropriately known as the Greenwood Mine. Intermittently active from 1937 - 40, it was a deposit of gold in quartz veins over an area some 200-feet in width. The ore was mined by the open pit method and then run through a ball mill (a rotating cylindrical mill containing large steel balls) and then processed by cyanidization.

### **Griffith Consolidated**

One of the larger lode gold mines on the Mother Lode was the Griffith Consolidated, composed of eight claims and located one-half mile south of Diamond Springs. Originally worked in the 1850's, it was actively worked from 1888-90 and in 1896 and 1903. The deposit was a 5 to 12-foot vein of gold bearing quartz nearly a mile in length that yielded from \$4.25 to \$8 per ton, although in a few areas it yielded as much as \$65 per ton. It was developed by three shafts, 700, 253 and 150-feet in depth and numerous drifts. The ore, once removed, was treated in a 5-stamp mill.

### **Grit (Liddicoat, Spanish Dry Diggings) Mine**

The Grit (Liddicoat, Spanish Dry Diggings) Mine was located at Spanish Dry Diggings, four miles north of Greenwood. On the north end of the west branch of the Mother Lode, this mine was highly productive around 1852 and between 1860 and 1867, yielding \$100,000 in gold. In 1865 a mass of crystallized gold weighing 101.4 Troy ounces was found on the property. From 1919 - 1922 the mine was active again, increasing the total value of gold recovered to \$300,000. From 1945 - 52, an additional \$34,000 was produced. In the early days of mining, the upper 125 - 150 feet of the deposit, which consists of three seams of gold bearing quartz, up to 20 feet wide, was decomposed enough to be mined by hydraulicking. The yield from this operation was from \$2 to \$3 per cubic yard of worked material. All of the mining since 1945 took place on the west vein which was developed by an 800-foot southeast drift adit. About 400 feet in from the adit portal, crosscuts were driven 70-feet west and 40-feet east. About 275 feet in from the adit portal the mine was stoped (mined upward, using gravity to drop the ore downward) for

a distance of about 125 feet until the hydraulicked pit was reached. At the mill, the ore was crushed and milled and then concentrated. Concentrates were sold to the Empire-Star Mine at Grass Valley.

### **Grizzly Flat Deposit**

The Grizzly Flat Deposit was a tungsten mine on Sturdevant Ridge three miles northwest of Grizzly Flat. The deposit, which was in three separate ownerships, was discovered about 1950 and consisted of discontinuous bodies of scheelite (a tungsten ore) in a zone about one mile long and up to 600 feet wide. There is no record of production from this deposit although in the mid-1950's one of the owners, the Sciaroni brothers, Americo and Columbus, were concentrating small amounts of ore a small pilot mill and stockpiling the concentrates.

### **Grizzly Flat Mine**

The Grizzly Flat Mine was a drift and hydraulic mine at Grizzly Flat, It was active in the 1880's, 1896 and 1914-20, when a ancient river channel on bedrock was first worked by hydraulicking and later by a 550-foot drift.

### **Grouse Gulch Mine**

The Grouse Gulch Mine was a lode gold mine one and one-half miles west of Grizzly Flat. The deposit was a vein of gold bearing quartz in granite that ranged from 1/2 to 5-feet in width. It was developed by 100, 80 and 50-foot shafts, many drifts and a 200-foot drain tunnel to remove groundwater.

### **Guildford (Poverty Point) Mine**

The Guildford (Poverty Point) Mine was on the Mother Lode two miles north of Placerville. Another large mine, it was active from 1912-17, when more than \$200,000 in gold was produced; intermittently active from 1920-25 and again from 1931-32. Mined were two parallel veins in slate, 200 and 400 feet long, averaging 5 feet in width. The ore averaged \$4 to \$5 per ton while the auriferous pyrite concentrate ranged from \$40 to \$88 per ton. The mine was developed by four drift adits, 500, 600, 700 and 1500 feet long. The mined ore was treated in a 15-stamp mill with Wilfley tables and Frue vanners (concentrators).

### **Gutenberger Mine**

The Gutenberger Mine was an iron mine five miles east of Diamond Springs. Not much more than prospecting occurred at this mine, where the iron ore hematite was found.

### **Hardscratch Mine**

The Hardscratch Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles west of Grizzly Flat. The mine was active around 1896 when a vein of gold bearing quartz was developed by a 120-foot crosscut adit, 100-foot drift and a 26-foot shaft.

### **Harms Pit**

The Harms Pit, in Coon Hollow one mile south of Placerville, was an aggregate mine. Here, the Harms Brothers Construction Company of Sacramento operated a large,

portable rock crushing and sizing plant that reduced the hydraulic mine tailings and andesitic (volcanic) detritus found at this location to a size smaller than three-quarters of an inch. This material was then fed into a portable hot-mix (asphalt) plant, the product of which was used to surface the Highway 50 bypass in Placerville.

### **Harnish Mine**

On what is called the Fairplay channel of ancient gravel, one and one-half miles south of the town of Fair Play, was the Harnish Mine. In 1896 the channel, 4 to 5 feet thick, was developed by an adit.

### **Harold Mine**

The Harold Mine was an undeveloped prospect for soapstone (used in wood stoves and sculpting), four miles from Shingle Springs.

### **Hart Mine**

The Hart Mine was a seam gold mine located between Manhattan and Empire Creeks, one mile north of Garden Valley, originally worked by hydraulicking. Later, it was prospected to determine the feasibility of erecting a mill, and, in 1930, one was erected. The mine operated intermittently until 1939. The average gold recovery of ore mined from this property in the 1930's was around \$4 per ton. The mine was developed by an open pit 175 feet long, 50 feet wide and 40 feet deep; two drift adits and two shafts, 100 and 300 feet in depth. The ore was treated in an 8-stamp mill.

### **Hayden Mine**

The Hayden Mine was a soapstone quarry one and three-quarter miles south of Shingle Springs. The Industrial Minerals and Chemical Company mined soapstone at this location on and off for many years, trucking it to the company's plant in Florin where it was ground for use in insecticides. The soapstone was quarried from an open cut about 100 feet long and 40 feet wide, with a 20-foot face at the north end (1956 figures).

### **Hayward (Indian Diggings) Mine**

The Hayward (Indian Diggings) Mine was a drift and hydraulic placer gold mine at Indian Diggings. Around 1896 a 275-foot bank with 159 feet of gravel overlying limestone bedrock was mined.

### **Hazel Creek Mine**

One of the large lode gold mines which just recently closed was the Hazel Creek Mine, located fifteen miles east of Placerville and two miles southeast of Pacific House on Hazel Creek. Mining started in 1948 when the vein of gold bearing quartz was discovered in a logging road cut. Soon afterwards an adit was driven and a mill erected. The deposit consists of principally two parallel veins that are as far apart as 40 feet, but converge near the adit portal (opening). The west vein is 5 to 6 feet wide, the east vein 5 to 12 feet wide and the two are connected by a cross-vein, several feet wide. The ore consists of native gold with considerable amounts of galena (lead ore) and auriferous (gold bearing) pyrite. Large amounts of high-grade ore have been removed from the area where the two

principal veins converge and also where the cross-vein and the east vein intersect. By 1956, the mine had been developed by a 500-foot drift adit on the west vein and a 130-foot inclined two-compartment shaft sunk near the adit portal. The 100-foot level, at that time, was connected to the adit level by raises and stopes. The free gold was amalgamated (combined with mercury) and retorted, the resulting "sponge" gold being then sent to a smelter. The sulfides (mostly pyrites) were concentrated by a series of steps and the resultant material, assaying as high as \$500 per ton in gold and silver (remember, gold was only \$35 per ounce, and silver less than \$1 in 1956) was also sent elsewhere for processing. Because of the amount of galena found, lead was also mined at this location.

### **Helemar Mine**

The Helemar Mine was a chromite mine located five miles southwest of Latrobe. It was active during 1944-45 when 57 tons of ore, containing 38% chromite, was produced.

### **Hennes Dredge**

The Hennes Dredge was a dragline, placer gold mining operation near Georgetown during 1946-47.

### **Henser Mine**

Two miles southeast of Georgetown was a chromite mine known as the Henser Mine. In 1918, 13 tons of chromite was produced from this deposit.

### **Hidden Treasure Mine**

One mile northeast of Indian Diggings (about one mile south of Omo Ranch, nine miles east of Mt. Aukum, in the southern part of El Dorado County) was a lode gold mine known as the Hidden Treasure Mine. Little is known about it since it has been idle for many decades.

### **High Tunnel Mine**

The High Tunnel Mine was a drift mine three miles northeast of Placerville, just north of White Rock Canyon. In the early days of mining and again in 1926, this ancient channel of the South Fork of the American River was mined. It was developed by a 500-ft adit.

### **Hill-Top Chrome Mine**

The Hill-Top Chrome Mine was located one mile southwest of Volcanoville. In 1918, the mine produced 7 tons of chromite ore. It was developed by a 22-foot shaft.

### **Hinds (Los Angeles) Mine**

One mile to the northwest of Pleasant Valley was a drift mine called the Hinds (Los Angeles) Mine. It was a bench gravel deposit containing placer gold that was discovered in 1927 and active in the early 1930's. It was developed by a 48-foot shaft and a 200-foot northwest drift.

### **Hines-Gilbert Mine**

The Hines-Gilbert Mine was on the north end of the Mother Lode, one mile northwest of Spanish Dry Diggings, on the American River. Active 1921-28 and 1934, it was again prospected in 1954. The deposit consists of two gold bearing quartz veinlets that were developed by an open cut 150 feet in width and a 450-foot adit. The ore was treated in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Hodge and Lemon Mine**

The Hodge and Lemon Mine was a seam gold mine at the north end of Quartz Hill, one mile north of Placerville. Mining was done in a 40-foot deep open pit.

### **Hoff Mine**

Five miles southeast of Latrobe was the Hoff Mine. Another chromite mine worked only during World War I, it produced 107 tons of 28% to 33% chromite. The deposit was a chromite lens 60 feet long that was developed by an open cut.

### **Holly Mine**

The Holly Mine was a small lode gold mine in Placerville that was only active in 1918.

### **Homestead Mines**

The Homestead Mine as a lode gold mine two and one-half miles north of Georgetown that was active for only a very short time, 1912-13.

A second Homestead Mine was a copper mine three miles west of Greenwood. Both copper and gold were removed from a 14-foot vein.

### **Hoosier Gulch Dredge**

The Hoosier Gulch Dredge was a placer gold mining operation by the Hoosier Gulch Placers Company, using a dragline dredge in Logtown Ravine (south of the townsite of El Dorado) in 1939 and near Shingle Springs in 1945 and 1947.

### **Hoosier Gulch Placers Company**

The Hoosier Gulch Placers Company also operated a dragline dredge near the Pillikin Mine, six miles to the southwest of the town of Pilot Hill. Here, during the year 1942, they removed chromite-bearing river gravel from a location known as Granite Bar.

### **Hope Mines**

The Hope Mine was the southern extension of the Mount Pleasant Mine, one mile west of Grizzly Flat. The Mount Pleasant Mine was the richest lode gold mine in the Grizzly Flat area.

Another Hope Mine was a placer gold mine on an ancient river channel northeast of Volcanoville. It was in operation some time prior to 1892.

### **Horseshoe Dredging Company**

The Horseshoe Dredging Company operated a dragline dredge on the North Fork of the Cosumnes River from 1938-40, near Youngs (on Mt. Aukum Road between Pleasant Valley and Somerset).

### **Horseshoe Flat Mine**

The Horseshoe Flat Mine was a placer gold drift mine two and one-half miles east of Newtown. It has been long idle.

### **Hummingbird Ranch**

Hummingbird Ranch was the name of a serpentine quarry one mile west of Garden Valley. Serpentine, used as road metal (surfacing material) was mined by the El Dorado County Road Department (now Department of Transportation). The material was excavated by bulldozers and loaded into dump trucks. The quarry was an open cut 200 feet long, 30 feet wide and 10 feet deep.

### **Humphrey Mine**

The Humphrey Mine was a lode gold mine two and one-half miles southwest of Fair Play. The deposit consisted of a 16 to 24-inch vein containing pyrite and galena. It was developed by a 15-foot shaft and 70-foot drift.

### **Hutchinson and Woodburn Mine**

The Hutchinson and Woodburn Mine was a placer gold drift mine at Slug Gulch, three miles northeast of the town of Fair Play. It was only active in 1926.

### **Idaho Mine**

Three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado was a long idle lode gold mine known as the Idaho Mine. Nothing more has been reported on it.

### **Ida Livingston Mine**

The Ida Livingston Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one mile north of Kelsey. The deposit consisted of a rich, 25-foot gold-bearing quartz vein that yielded up to \$26 per ton of ore. It was mined prior to 1914 through a 150-foot shaft.

### **Idlewild or Taylor Mine**

The Idlewild or Taylor Mine was a large, lode gold mine on the Mother Lode two miles northwest of Garden Valley. Originally worked in 1865, it was active again from the late 1880's to about 1902. Some additional work was done at the mine during the years 1939-41. The vein of gold bearing quartz averaged 14 feet in width and produced \$4 to \$8 in gold per ton of ore. The mine was developed by a 1,225-foot inclined shaft with levels every 100 feet. Ore was crushed by a huge 40-stamp mill and the concentrates treated with cyanide. The estimated total output of the mine was one-million dollars.

### **Independence Mine**

The Independence Mine was a lode gold mine two miles southwest of the townsite of El Dorado. The ore was found in pockets and was mined prior to 1914.

A second Independence Mine was a lode gold mine four miles northwest of Slate Mountain and about five miles southeast of Georgetown. It was active in 1933, when the ore was treated in a 2-stamp mill.

### **Indian Diggings**

There were several locations in and around Indian Diggings where crystallized limestone deposits were found. These mines were collectively known as the Indian Diggings Mines.

### **Indian Diggings Creek**

The Indian Diggings Creek placer gold mine was a hydraulic mine on Indian Creek near the town of Indian Diggings. Consisting of an ancient, gold-bearing river gravel channel on limestone bedrock, it was active around 1896.

### **Inez (Central) Mine**

The Inez (Central) Mine was a lode gold mine one mile east of Nashville, near today's Highway 49 and the Amador County line. A gold-bearing quartz vein in slate, the deposit was actively mined around 1890 by means of a 250-foot shaft.

### **Ingram Dredge**

The Ingram Dredge was a dragline dredge used to work the gold-bearing gravel deposit at Horseshoe Bar on the Middle Fork of the American River (Placer County line) in 1940-42.

### **Irish Creek Mining Company**

The Irish Creek Mining Company operated a non-floating gravel washing plant on Irish Creek near Georgetown, active in 1940.

### **Irish Mine**

The Irish Mine was a chromite mine two and one-half miles east of Rescue. In 1918, 18 tons of ore was produced from small chromite pods and stringers that were developed by open cuts.

### **Irish Slide**

Three miles south of Grizzly Flat, at a place called Henry's Diggings, was the Irish Slide placer gold mine. Here a drift mine was intermittently worked after 1949 in conjunction with two other drift mines, the Payne and Christian.

### **Irland Mine**

The Irland Mine was a copper mine three miles west of Placerville. Active in 1866 and 1906 when ore containing 2% copper, along with some gold and silver, was removed. The mine was developed by a 75-foot vertical shaft and an 18-foot drift.

### **Iron Crown (Bob) Mine**

Another copper mine, the Iron Crown (Bob) Mine, was located one mile southeast of Georgetown. It was active prior to 1902 and again around 1908. The deposit consisted of a series of copper-bearing veins with slate and serpentine walls. Even the water in the mine was copper-bearing. The mine was developed by a 75-foot shaft and open cuts.

### **Isabel (Isabell) Mine**

The Isabel (Isabell) Mine was on the Mother Lode, one mile southeast of Garden Valley. The deposit, a 2 to 8-foot gold-bearing quartz vein in slate was developed by open cuts and a 30-foot shaft. The ore was not treated on-site by shipped to the Blue Lead Mine's 20-stamp mill, a short distance away.

### **Ivanhoe Mine**

One-half mile northwest of Garden Valley was a lode gold mine named the Ivanhoe Mine. The mine was active prior to 1890 and developed by open cuts and a 200-foot shaft.

### **Jerusalem Mine**

One and one-quarter miles east of Placerville was a placer gold mine called the Jerusalem Mine. It was not much more than a gravel deposit prospected by hydraulicking in 1894.

### **Jinkerson and Arditto Mine**

The Jinkerson and Arditto Mine was a drift, placer gold, mine at Indian Diggings. Active in 1913-17 and in 1926, it was developed by and adit several hundred feet along an ancient river channel.

### **Joerger Mine**

The Joerger Mine was a chromite mine eight miles west of Shingle Springs. This mine was first worked during World War I, but most of the ore was removed in 1942. The exact tonnage of the removed ore is not known because it was combined with the output of other mines. Estimated ore reserves are 10,000 to 15,000 tons of 5% to 8% chromite in alternating rich and lean layers. In 1942 an open pit 150 feet long, 15 to 40 feet wide and 25 feet deep, produced ore averaging 8% chromite.

### **Jones (Good Luck) Mine**

The Jones (Good Luck) Mine was a lode gold mine two miles south of Diamond Springs. It was active in 1915 and during 1922-23 when several thousand dollars of gold was produced. The deposit was developed by a shaft with levels at 75, 165 and 225 feet and several drifts.

### **Jones Hill Mine**

Five miles northwest of Georgetown, at Jones Hill, was the Jones Hill Mine. A gravel channel 8-feet thick and 200-feet wide, over slate bedrock, was hydraulicked around 1892 and again in 1907.

### **Joseph Skinner (Fisk, Porphyry) Mine**

The Joseph Skinner (Fisk, Porphyry) Mine was a seam gold mine on the Mother Lode, one mile north of Placerville. It was active 1896-98, 1901-03 and around 1932, with a total output of nearly \$100,000. Consisting of thin quartz seams and small quartz bunches it was originally worked by hydraulicking and later by a 232-foot adit and drifts.

### **Josephine Mine**

The Josephine Mine was located at the town of Volcanoville. It was a six-foot vein in slate and serpentine developed by five drift adits, actively mined in 1889-90, 1896, 1920, and 1934-35. The ore was treated in a 20-stamp mill.

### **Kates (Norris) Mine**

The Kates (Norris) Mine was a placer gold mine located one and one-half miles east of Volcanoville. It was active prior to 1894 and again in 1896, when it was prospected by the Two Channel Mining Company, a company involved in a number of placer gold mines. This ancient river gravel deposit was originally hydraulicked and later developed by a 250-foot bedrock adit and several drifts. The cemented gravel was treated in a stamp mill.

### **Kelly Mines**

The Kelly Mine was a chromite mine active around 1918. It was located just east of Rattlesnake Bridge and, during World War I, 25 tons of ore was produced, containing 28% chromite. Like many other early mines in the area, it is now a part of the Folsom Reservoir.

Another Kelly Mine was an early lode gold mine, located just east of the town of Kelsey and later renamed the Dalmatia. Numerous quartz seams and a quartz vein were found in a zone that varied in width from 20 to 50-feet, which were worked in the 1880's, 1890-94 and again around 1935. A two-foot vein assayed at \$16 per ton, a single pocket yielded \$14,000 and the seams yielded around \$2 to \$3 per ton. The mine was originally worked in an open cut some 500 feet long and later was developed by a 200-foot inclined shaft and a 1200-foot adit. The ore was treated on site in a 10-stamp mill.

A third Kelly Mine was a lode gold mine located on the Mother Lode one-half mile north of Kelsey. The deposit consisted of a 6-foot wide vein of gold bearing quartz in Mariposa slate. It was active around 1902 and 1932 and developed by two 50-foot shafts. It is not known if these last two "Kelly" lode gold mines were related to each other.

### **Kelsey (Lady) Mine**

The Kelsey (Lady) Mine was a lode gold mine located one-half mile southeast of Kelsey. Originally worked prior to 1915, it was reopened in 1926 and a mill erected that year when the Kelsey Mining Company was formed. The Kelsey Mining Company operated it until 1931, when it again closed. In 1934 the mine was reopened and operated until 1941. The ore, which was found in narrow bands of quartz, contained free gold, pyrite and some galena (lead ore). During the early years the ore yielded only \$1.80 to \$6.40 per ton and later even less. It was developed by a main 1700-foot north drift adit and a 700-foot north drift adit about 300 feet above the main adit. These two adits were connected by a raise.

There was also a 42-foot shaft near the main adit portal (opening). Originally the ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill, which was later replaced by a Telsmith gyratory crusher and an Aurora jaw crusher. About 40 tons of ore per day were processed at the mine.

### **Kenna Mine**

The Kenna Mine was a placer gold mine one mile northeast of Kentucky Flat, several miles east of Georgetown. It was active up until 1896 when it was operated by the Two Channel Mining Company. Some additional work was done as late as 1922. The two gold bearing gravel channels were worked by different means, the Main or white channel was hydraulicked and the blue channel developed by a 1500-foot adit. The coarse gold was held in well cemented gravel that was treated in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Kentucky Flat Mine**

Another two channel, placer gold mine was the Kentucky Flat Mine, located at Kentucky Flat. The mine was active in 1894-1902 and again in 1933. It was another mine operated by the aptly named Two Channel Mining Company. As with the Kenna Mine, the Main or white channel was hydraulicked - this time in a pit with a 25-foot bank - and the blue channel developed by a 625-foot adit and an 80-foot shaft.

### **Knight Placer Mining Company**

Near Georgetown, during the years 1947 and 1948, the Knight Placer Mining Company operated a dragline dredge to remove placer gold from various gravel deposits.

### **Knoff (Austin) Mine**

Three miles northeast to Georgetown on Little Bald Mountain was a chromite mine known as the Knoff (Austin) Mine. The mine was active twice: in 1918 when 400 tons of ore were mined and again in 1942-44 when 79 tons were mined. The deposit consisted of pods and lenses of chromite in sheared serpentine that was developed by open cuts and shallow shafts.

### **Kumfa or Kum Fa Mine**

The Kumfa or Kum Fa Mine was a placer gold drift mine at Smith's Flat (Smithflat). It was Active from 1911-13 and also in 1928 and 1936. The ancient river gravel deposit was developed by a 631-foot inclined shaft. It was worked in conjunction with the nearby Carpenter Mine.

### **Lady Blanche Mine**

The Lady Blanche Mine was a lode gold mine three and one-half miles east of Fair Play. The deposit consisted of a 1 to 4-foot wide gold-bearing quartz vein that was developed by two adits, 180 feet and 80 feet in length. The mine was active in 1896.

### **Lady Emma Mine**

The Lady Emma Mine was a lode gold mine one mile east of Kelsey. It was active around 1896 and later prospected in 1942 and 1947. The 4-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was

developed by a 300-foot inclined shaft and a 150-foot vertical shaft with drifts and crosscuts. Once removed, the ore was treated on-site in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Laicey Mine**

The Laicey Mine was a chromite mine one and three-quarters miles west of Garden Valley. The deposit consisted of small chromite pods in serpentine and talc. It was developed by open cuts.

### **La Moille Mine**

La Moille Mine was a lode gold mine located three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active prior to 1896 when several gold-bearing quartz seams were prospected.

### **Landecker (Hope) Mine**

The Landecker (Hope) Mine was a placer gold drift mine one and one-half miles southeast of Placerville. It was active in the early 1900's and later in 1925 and 1935.

### **Landeker Mine**

One of El Dorado County's several slate mines was the Landeker Mine, located near Kelsey. It was active in the 1880's when roofing slate was produced.

### **Larkin Mine**

One mile east of Diamond Springs on the Mother Lode was the Larkin Mine, a lode gold mine that was also mined for copper and other minerals. The deposit consisted of two distinct veins of gold-bearing quartz, the west one being explored by a vertical shaft and the east one reached by crosscut from the 250-foot level. In 1896 the a 250-foot vertical shaft was sunk and the ore treated in a five-stamp mill. By 1900 the shaft had been extended to 600 feet and the mill expanded to ten stamps. In 1903 the shaft was extended to 800 feet and then the mine was shut down. In 1918 it was reopened and some copper ore was produced. The total production for the mine is estimated to be \$125,000. The deposit consisted of several gold-bearing quartz veins, the largest ranging in width from 4 to 12 feet. In addition to the gold, some of the veins contained pyrite, chalcopyrite and malachite (both ores of copper) and as much as 10% copper. Dolomite (similar to limestone, but containing more magnesium) was also mined here.

### **Last Chance Mines**

The Last Chance mine was a lode gold mine one mile south of Volcanoville. It was active in 1896 and developed by a 50-foot vertical shaft and a 400-foot crosscut adit. The ore removed from its 5-foot wide gold-bearing quartz vein was treated in a 4-stamp mill.

At Henry's Diggings, two miles northeast of Omo Ranch, in the southern part of El Dorado County, was another Last Chance Mine, this one a placer gold mine. Little more is known about this mine since it had been idle for so long nobody could determine when it was actually active.

### **Lemroh Mining Company**

During the years 1939-40 the Lemroh Mining Company, based in San Francisco, operated a dragline dredge at various gravel deposits in the county.

### **Levenson Mine**

The Levenson Mine was a hydraulic mine one mile southeast of the town of Fair Play. It was active around 1896 when a 50-foot bank of ancient river gravel was mined. The gravel was then run through 120 feet of sluices to separate out the gold.

### **Lincoln Mine**

The Lincoln Mine was a seam gold mine located one mile northwest of Georgetown that was active in 1896 and again in 1926. The thin seams of gold bearing quartz were located in a belt 300 feet wide what was developed by a 100-foot open cut and three adits, 150, 110 and 60 feet in length. Once the ore was removed and treated, it was run through some 900 feet of sluices.

### **Lincoln Gold Dredging Company**

In 1937 the Lincoln Gold Dredging Company operated a dragline dredge at one or more unidentified gravel deposits in the county.

### **Linden Mine**

In Cedar Ravine, one and one-half miles southeast of Placerville, was the Linden Mine, a placer gold mine. During the years 1882-94, 40,000 cubic yards of gravel was processed, yielding \$130,000 in gold. A portion of the gold-bearing ancient river channel, known as the Deep Blue Lead channel, was developed by a 4000-foot adit with numerous drifts and two shafts. The cemented gravel was treated in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Little Big Hole Mine**

The Little Big Hole Mine was a placer gold mine on the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River, five miles northeast of Fair Play. It was active in 1926 when the river was diverted and a 250-foot adit was driven into the gravel.

### **Little Chief Mine**

On Canyon Creek, two miles north of Georgetown was the Little Chief Mine. A seam gold mine active in 1894, it was developed by 130-foot and 240-foot adits. The ore was treated in a one-stamp mill.

### **Live Oak Mine**

The Live Oak Mine was a small lode gold mine one mile east of Diamond Springs. It was active prior to 1896 when it was developed by a 30-foot shaft.

### **Log Cabin (Darrow) Mine**

Five miles south of Shingle Springs was a lode gold mine known as the Log Cabin (Darrow) Mine. It was active in 1894-96, when a 2 to 16-foot wide vein of gold-bearing

quartz was developed by a 600-foot crosscut adit, numerous drifts and a 30-foot shaft. The ore was treated in a 5-stamp mill.

### **Lone Jack Mine**

On the Mother Lode, one mile northwest of Garden Valley was the Lone Jack Mine. A vein of gold-bearing quartz, up to 24 feet in width, was developed by a 400-foot shaft. The ore, which contained \$6 of gold per ton, was treated in a 10-stamp mill.

### **Lone Star Mines**

One mile southeast of Nashville, between the forks of the Cosumnes River, was the Lone Star Mine. A 7-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 100-foot shaft and a 100-foot drift at this lode gold mine that was active around 1894.

Another Lone Star Mine was located two miles southeast of Diamond Springs. Also a lode gold mine, it was active in 1894-96 and again in 1907-08 when a 2 to 5-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 500-foot crosscut adit.

### **Longshot Mine**

The appropriately named Longshot Mine was a small copper mine located one mile west of the Cosumnes copper mine, which was four miles north of Fair Play, near the Cosumnes River. It was developed by a 200-foot adit, but only worked intermittently more as a prospect than a real mine.

### **Lookout Mine**

The Lookout Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, some three miles southwest of El Dorado. It was intermittently active from 1860 through the 1930's. The gold was found in small, but rich ore shoots that were developed by a 400-foot adit. Known production figures for the mine were \$2,200 in 1912 and \$15,000 in 1933.

### **Lookout and K.K. Mine**

The Lookout and K.K. Mine was a lode gold mine in Quartz Canyon, near Volcanoville, east of Georgetown. It was active in 1894-96 when a 2-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 200-foot crosscut adit, several drifts and a 34-foot inclined shaft.

### **Lord and Bishop**

In 1949 and 1950, a company known as Lord and Bishop operated a three cubic yard dragline dredge on Greenwood and Carson Creeks.

### **Losh Mine**

The Losh Mine was a slate mine located one-half mile north of Chili Bar. During the years 1890, 1921-24 and 1937, dimension slate (blackboards, table tops, paving stones, etc.) was produced from an open pit 50 feet deep and 40 feet wide.

### **Lotus Bar Mine**

On the South Fork of the American River, at the town of Lotus, was a gravel mining operation known as the Lotus Bar Mine. During the 1930's the gravel was mined using power shovels and bulldozers. The placer gold was separated from the rest of the material by sending the gravel through several washing plants.

### **Loveless Mine**

Three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado was a lode gold mine known as the Loveless Mine. The deposit consisted of a one-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz with pockets of rich ore. It was active in 1914 and developed by a 160-foot crosscut adit, 300-foot drift and a 90-foot shaft.

### **Lucinda Mine**

The Lucinda Mine was a lode gold mine three miles west of Grizzly Flat. It was active prior to 1896 when its 6-inch to 3-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 50-foot vertical shaft and a 150-foot crosscut adit.

### **Lukens Mine**

The Lukens Mine was a lode gold mine three miles southwest of The town of Cool. The deposit consisted of a narrow vein of high grade ore that was developed and worked around 1923 through two shafts - 130 feet and 90 feet in depth - connected by a 150-foot drift.

### **Lucky Jack Mine**

Two miles south of the townsite of El Dorado was the Lucky Jack Mine, another lode gold mine. The deposit consisted of a series of gold-bearing quartz veins that were developed by several shallow shafts. The ore was treated on-site in a 2-stamp mill.

### **Lucky Marion (Shepard) Mine**

The Lucky Marion (Shepard) Mine was located on the Mother Lode, one-half mile west of Greenwood. It was first active in 1896-97 and again in 1901, when it produced \$3,860 in gold. The gold-bearing quartz vein, 18 to 24 inches in width, was developed by a 112-foot inclined shaft with several drifts at the 100-foot level. The ore was treated in a 20-stamp mill.

### **Lyon Mine**

The Lyon Mine was a placer gold, drift mine, one mile southeast of Smith's Flat and two miles east of Placerville. As at the Linden Mine, a portion of the Deep Blue Lead channel was worked, however, here it was by two shafts and drifts. It was active prior to 1900 with a total output of \$1,400,000.

### **Madelina, Madeline and Magdalena Mines**

The Madelina, Madeline and Magdalena mines were three copper mines five miles south of Diamond Springs. They were operated together, prior to 1900, under the name Blue Cat Mine.

### **Madrona Mine**

Two miles northwest of Garden Valley was a lode gold mine known as the Madrona Mine. Like many early mines it didn't make it into the 20th Century, being only active prior to 1894 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 40-foot shaft.

### **Maltby Mine**

The Maltby Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one and one-half miles southeast of Greenwood and just north of the Argonaut Mine. During the 1930's the deposit was prospected through an adit of unknown length.

### **Mameluke (Mameluke Hill) Mine**

The Mameluke (Mameluke Hill) Mine was a seam gold mine located one mile north of Georgetown. It was active prior to 1880 with a total output of not less than two million dollars in gold. It contained coarse gold that was recovered from alluvium and thin seams of quartz in slate.

### **Mammoth Mine**

The Mammoth Mine was a lode gold mine one mile northwest of Deer Valley School, which was located on Deer Valley Road just to the north of the Jayhawk Cemetery. This mine was opened in 1860 when a pocket of rich quartz produced some \$10,000 in gold. The mine was effectively idle until 1934 when the tailings dump was reworked. The deposit consisted of a five foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz and a second vein three to four feet wide. It was developed by a 75-foot crosscut adit and a 120-foot drift. The ore, once removed, was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Manhattan Consolidated (Manhattan-California) Mine**

The Manhattan Consolidated (Manhattan-California) Mine was a lode gold mine two miles northeast of Nashville (south of the townsite of El Dorado). This deposit was active prior to 1915 and further prospected in 1935, 1947 and 1952. It was developed by a 400-foot shaft.

### **Manzanita Mine**

The Manzanita Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one mile south of Kelsey. It was active in 1918.

### **Manzanita Queen Mine**

The Manzanita Queen Mine was a lode gold mine one-half mile southeast of Diamond Springs. It was an extension of the Griffith Consolidated Mine.

### **Maple Leaf (Blakely) Mine**

The Maple Leaf (Blakely) Mine was a placer gold mine located two miles west of Camino near Five Mile House. Originally active in the 1880's, it was reopened from 1932 to 1935 when it was operated as a relief project, employing 100 men. During this period, about \$20,000 in gold was produced by hydraulicking and sluicing.

### **Marble Valley (Schwalin) Deposit**

The Marble Valley (Schwalin) Deposit was a large limestone mine two miles southeast of Clarksville. This deposit, which contained 98.80 percent pure calcium carbonate, was originally quarried and then burned in a nearby vertical kiln for the cement industry. Much later, the limestone was mined by the El Dorado Limestone Company and later Gallo Glass Company. The total extent of the deposit is unknown but the limestone outcrops for a distance of nearly 4000 feet, with a width from less than 100 feet to 200 feet. It was developed by two open quarries, one of which has filled with water. The mine is closed and the land is being converted to subdivision with custom home lots.

### **Marguerite Mine**

One mile east of Diamond Springs was the Marguerite Mine, a lode gold mine. Here, three parallel veins of gold-bearing quartz were developed by a 300-foot vertical shaft, 200-foot adit and 1200 feet of drifts.

### **Martinez (Hillside group) Mine**

The Martinez (Hillside group) Mine was a lode gold mine on Martinez Creek (a tributary of the Cosumnes River), south of the Union Mine some four and one-half miles southeast of the townsite of El Dorado. The mine was operated by the Hillside Gold Mining Company in 1915. It was again worked around 1926 and later in the early 1930's. In 1937 some development work was done in the lower workings of the mine, with some ore production. The deposit consisted of a series of parallel gold-bearing quartz veins and was developed by a 600-foot adit driven west with numerous raises and drifts. South of this adit is another 600-foot crosscut adit and some older workings. The ore was treated in a five-stamp mill.

### **Martinez Mine**

The Martinez Mine was a manganese mine three miles southeast of the townsite of El Dorado, near the Martinez gold mine. Here, the operator of the mine, the Martinez Gold Mines Company, developed two lenses containing rhodonite and black manganese oxide.

### **Mathenas Creek (Schneider) Mine**

One mile south of Diamond Springs was the Mathenas Creek (Schneider) Mine. A lode gold mine, it was active between 1888 and 1894 when a two to eight foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by 100 and 300-foot adits. The ore was treated in a Huntington mill.

### **Matherly Dredge**

On the American River near Coloma a Lotus resident, E. B. Matherly, operated a suction dredge called the Matherly Dredge, from 1947 to 1952.

### **McCoy and Butler Dredge**

At an unknown area or areas in El Dorado County J.W.S. Butler, from Sacramento, operated the McCoy and Butler Dredge, a dry land dredge, in 1941.

### **McCurdy Mine**

Two miles north of the town of Coloma was a chromite mine known as the McCurdy Mine. In 1918 200 tons of ore containing 36% chromite was produced. The deposit consisted of two groups of chromite lenses in serpentine and talc that were developed by both open cuts and a 45-foot shaft.

### **McDonald and Buys Mine**

The McDonald and Buys Mine was a chromite mine one mile south of Four Corners (the intersection of Gold Hill Road and Lotus Road). This mine was also active in 1918 when 350 tons of ore was produced. The pods of chromite at this location were developed by three shafts and an open pit.

### **McKim Mine**

Near Henry Diggings, in the south part of our county, was a placer gold, drift mine known as the McKim Mine. It was prospected in 1926 when a 100-foot adit and 20-raise were driven.

### **McNulty (Golden Gate, Oakland) Mine**

The McNulty (Golden Gate, Oakland) Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. Here a six foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 400-foot shaft, 450-foot crosscut adit and a 450-foot winze sunk from the adit. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **McQueen and Downing**

Two gentlemen from Weaverville, Messrs McQueen and Downing, operated a dragline dredge on Carson creek in 1940.

### **Mead Company**

In 1949, near Cherokee Bar on the American River, the Mead Company, from San Francisco, operated a dragline dredge.

### **Miller Mines**

The Miller Mine was a chromite mine located one and one-half miles northwest of the town of Clarksville, near the Walker and Joerger mines. The deposit consisted of small amounts of layered chromite, however, there are no separate production records for this mine, since ore from these three mines was probably combined.

Also on the Mother Lode, two miles south of Placerville, was another Miller mine, the Miller (Ribbon Rock) Mine. It was active from 1888 to 1894 and again in 1900. A ribbon-like vein of gold-bearing quartz, varying in width from two to five feet was developed by a 400-foot inclined shaft.

### **Mississippi Mine**

The Mississippi Mine was a placer gold, drift mine one and one-half miles east of Volcanoville. It was active around 1894 when an ancient river channel deposit was developed by a 240-foot adit.

### **Mitchell Mine**

The Mitchell Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles northwest of Pine Hill (Pine Hill is the hill at the north end of Cameron Park - elevation around 2000 feet). A 150-foot adit was used to develop a four to ten-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz.

### **Mocettini Mine**

The Mocettini Mine was a manganese mine located two and one-half miles east of Latrobe. The deposit, which was developed by open cut, contained greenstone stained with black manganese and iron oxides.

### **Molkey Mine**

The Molkey Mine was a hydraulic mine one mile southeast of Fair Play. An ancient river channel containing much clay was mined for its gold.

### **Monarch-Sugar Loaf Mine**

The Monarch-Sugar Loaf Mine was a lode gold mine located three miles northwest of the town of Nashville. Originally worked in the 1850's, it was again active between 1870 and 1907 when the ore was treated in a ten stamp mill. Some prospecting was done in the 1930's and during 1953 and '54, when the mine was leased to J. H. Wren and Associates of Sacramento, some rehabilitation work was done. Early in 1955 George Ross and Associates leased the mine and took some high-grade ore from small pockets in the deposit of gold-bearing quartz. Near the surface the gold is in small but rich ore shoots. Deeper, the gold, accompanied by sulfides, pyrite and galena (lead ore), was found in areas where the vein swelled, changed in direction or junctioned with small stringers. The deposit was originally developed by open cuts and shallow shafts over a surface distance of some 2000 feet. In 1955 three men worked the center of the deposit through a 70-foot crosscut adit, treating the mined ore by hand-sorting, hand-mortaring and amalgamation (combining with mercury).

### **Montezuma-Apex and Montezuma Extension Mines**

Just north of the town of Nashville and just east of the Cosumnes River, were the Montezuma-Apex and Montezuma Extension mines. These lode gold mines on the Mother Lode were originally worked at shallow depths during the early days of the gold rush and even up until 1871. They were again worked from 1890 to 1907 and later in 1914. There was some recorded output of ore during the years from 1920 until 1928. In 1931 the mines were reopened by Nashville Mines, Ltd., who was succeeded by the Montezuma-Apex Mining Company in 1933. Up until 1939 they operated it and the Nashville (Havilah) mine some 1000 feet to the south. The Montezuma-Apex Mine and the extension were developed by a 1540-foot inclined shaft and an older 360-foot inclined shaft some 300 feet to the north. In the old workings of the mine, an ore body eight to 20 feet wide was stoped

for a length of 250 feet down to the 120-foot level. In the newer workings a 150-foot long ore shoot was mined between the 800 and 1000-foot levels around the year 1914. In 1932 the shaft was deepened and another ore shoot was 570 feet long by four to eight feet wide was worked at the 1200-foot level. Little mining was done below the depth of 1225 feet since from there the ore decreased in grade. At one point, the 1500-foot level was extended 1050 feet to the south under the Nashville Mine in an attempt to encounter the Nashville (Havilah) vein. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill that was replaced in 1933 with a 240-ton mill equipped with two Marcy ball mills, hydraulic traps, Wilfely tables and a ten-cell floatation unit which concentrated the gold.

### **Mooney Mine**

Two miles northeast of Newtown was the Mooney Mine, a placer gold, drift mine. It was only active from 1894-96.

### **Morey (Humbug) Mine**

The Morey (Humbug) Mine was a lode gold mine one mile west of Grizzly Flat. It was active intermittently from 1919-44. Small veins of gold-bearing quartz contained small deposits of high-grade ore, which was removed by sinking numerous shallow shafts. The ore was treated in a small mill on the property.

### **Morman Hill Mine**

Four miles northwest of the town of Rescue was the Morman Hill Mine. It was active in 1934 and from 1938-41. A two to three foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 110-foot inclined shaft with 80 feet of drifts on the 100-foot level. The ore was treated in a five-stamp mill.

### **Morning Star**

The Morning Star was a group of seam gold mines in a seam belt, one mile northeast of Georgetown. The mines were active around 1926 when about \$75,000 in gold was recovered.

### **Morse Mine**

Three miles east of Latrobe, on the west side of a large serpentine body, was a lode gold mine known as the Morse Mine. All that is known is that it was active prior to 1894.

### **Mount Gregory Mine**

The Mount Gregory Mine was a hydraulic mine three miles east of Volcanoville. It was active in 1896 and 1912 when a 20 to 25-foot bank with eight feet of cemented gravel was mined.

### **Mount Hope Mine**

The Mount Hope Mine was a lode gold mine three miles north of Grizzly Flat. It was active prior to 1888 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 1000-foot adit and 100 and 200-foot shafts. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Mount Pleasant Mine**

Near the Morey Mine, one mile west of Grizzly Flat, was the Mount Pleasant Mine, a lode gold mine. The principal source of gold in the Grizzly Flat district, it was first worked in 1851, during the early days of the Gold Rush. From 1874 to 1914 some \$1,046,748 worth of gold was removed. After 1914 only some small prospecting was done on the property and nothing was apparently done after 1941. The deposit consists of a belt of nearly parallel quartz veins around 300 feet wide. Within the quartz was found free gold, pyrite, galena and other ores. The gold alone, between the years 1881 and 1887, averaged \$14 per ton. One of the larger veins, the Earle vein, was developed by a 1065-foot shaft with levels at 100-foot intervals. Drifts, of which there are 9000 feet, range from 300 to 1300 feet in length, with most of the work above the 850-foot level. There are also two other shafts 300 to 600 feet deep. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill that burned down in 1926.

### **Murphy Mine**

Two miles to the southeast of Latrobe was a chromite mine known as the Murphy Mine. During World War I, some 3000 tons of ore from this deposit was milled. In 1942, during World War II, the Volo Mining Company removed another 3000 tons of ore. During the first half of 1953 Edward Hadsel and Jerry Grant sub-leased the mine from the El Dorado Chrome Company and for a few months, produced about 100 tons of 14% chromite ore per day, using a crew of eight people. The property was developed by two open pits, the larger one being 200 feet long, 10 to 30 feet wide and 25 feet deep at the northern end. The ore was drilled with jackhammers and then trucked 16 miles to the El Dorado Chrome Company mill near the Church gold mine (Union Mine), south of the townsite of El Dorado.

### **Murzo (Brass) Mine**

One mile west of Volcanoville, on Buckey Point, was a placer gold, drift mine known as the Murzo (Brass) Mine. It was active around 1894 when a 150-foot adit was driven into the ancient gravel deposit which lay on slate bedrock.

### **Nashville (Havilah, Tennessee-Nashville) Mine**

The Nashville (Havilah, Tennessee-Nashville) Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode at Nashville, near Highway 49, about two miles north of the Amador County line. This mine was first worked in 1851 and produced some \$150,000 in gold from shallow workings. From 1868-71 and again around 1880 significant development work was done at the mine and around 1894 a 20-stamp mill was erected to treat the ore. From 1903-06 the mine was reactivated and from 1934 to 1936 the mine was worked by the Montezuma-Apex Mining Company, who also worked the Montezuma-Apex mine about 1000 feet to the north. The vein of gold-bearing quartz varied in width from five to twenty feet and was assayed in the 1930's at \$5 of gold per ton of ore. The mine was developed by a 1200-foot inclined shaft with levels at each 100 feet. At the 1200 foot level it was connected with the Montezuma Mine 1000 feet to the north. The last work done in the mine was at the 200-foot level, south of the shaft and the 1000-foot level, north of the shaft. At the 1000-foot level an ore shoot eighty feet long and six to fifteen feet wide was mined.

### **Negro Hill Mine**

The Negro Hill Mine was a placer gold mine that was in operation many years ago. It was located three miles to the northeast of Placerville at Negro Hill. The deposit of gold-bearing, ancient river gravel at this location was mined by drifting and hydraulicking.

### **Nelson Dredge**

The Nelson Dredge was a dragline dredge operated near Shingle Springs in 1946. The operator was one R.N. Nelson from Sacramento.

### **New Eldorado Mine**

Two and one-half miles north of Greenwood was the New Eldorado Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active around 1894 and produced specimen gold. It was developed by an adit of unreported length.

### **New Garibaldi Mine**

One mile west of Greenwood was a seam gold mine known as the New Garibaldi. The deeply weathered vein of gold-bearing quartz was up to eight-feet wide and about 400-feet in length. It was developed by a 170-foot crosscut adit and shallow shafts. The ore was treated on-site in a 25-ton Kinkaid mill.

### **No. 2 (Edmunds) Mine**

The No. 2 (Edmunds) Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile northwest of the town of Rescue. It was only active for a short time in 1938 when 100 tons of ore was mined. The deposit consisted of a two-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz that contained high-grade gold in pockets.

### **Noble Electric Steel Company**

The Noble Electric Steel Company operated a chrome mill one mile southwest of Salmon Falls during World War I. The ore from several local chromium mines was crushed, fine-ground and concentrated on Wilfley tables and a Senn concentrator, before being sent to a smelter.

### **Noonday Mine**

Four miles south of the township of El Dorado and one-half mile east of the Mother Lode was a copper mine known as the Noonday Mine. Highly active from 1900-05, it was first developed by shallow workings and then a shaft 200 feet deep with several hundred feet of drifts. In 1953 the mine was leased from Placerville businessman George Fausel by the Noonday Copper Mining Company. This company rehabilitated the shaft and added about 100 feet of new drifts. Ultimately, the shaft would reach 230 feet with working levels at 100 and 200 feet, and 350 feet of drifts. The mine was shut down in 1954 and then reopened for a short time in 1956 when five men were employed to do the mining. The vein of ore, some seven feet wide, contained from five to nine percent copper with some silver and gold, when mined in the early part of the 20th century. During its last years of operation, the copper content in the ore dropped to four percent or less. Much of the ore was treated at

the Volo mill, which was located at the Shaw mine, four miles west of Placerville and just north of today's Highway 50.

### **Oak Mine**

The Oak Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile northeast of Omo Ranch. It was active in 1894 when a one to four-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz in granite was developed by a two adits, one 400 feet in length and the other 150 feet in length. The ore was treated on-site in a five-stamp mill.

### **O'Brien (S-Bend) Mine**

The O'Brien (S-Bend) Mine was a chromite mine located two miles north of Coloma, west of Perry Creek (not to be confused with the Perry Creek near Fair Play, in the southern part of the county). It was active in 1918, during World War I, and again in 1942, during World War II, when there was a critical need for chromium. In 1918 several hundred tons of ore were produced and in 1942, over 3000 tons was produced and then treated at the Volo Mill, west of Placerville. The mine was developed by two adits and a "glory hole" (large open pit created by mining from the bottom).

### **Ogle Mine**

The Ogle Mine was a chromite mine one mile south of Volcanoville. Like many of El Dorado County's chromite mines it was active for one year, 1917, when 47 tons of 45 percent ore was produced from an open cut.

### **Ohio (Eagle) Mine**

One mile east of Greenwood was the Ohio (Eagle) Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in 1894-96 when a four-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 250-foot inclined shaft.

### **Ohio Mine**

Another lode gold mine known as the Ohio Mine was located one mile southwest of Grizzly Flat. It was active prior to 1894 when a four-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 135-foot vertical shaft and an inclined shaft of unknown depth. The ore averaged \$12 of gold per ton.

### **Old Empire Mine**

The Old Empire Mine was a placer gold mine at Henry's Diggings, one and one-half miles north of Omo Ranch. Nothing more is known about it.

### **Old Jasper Mine**

The Old Jasper Mine was a lode gold mine nine miles northwest of Shingle Springs. It was active prior to 1896 when two parallel veins of gold-bearing quartz were developed by a 200-foot drift adit and an inclined shaft.

### **Omo Mine**

The Omo Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile northeast of Omo Ranch. A one and one-half to three-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 150-foot adit and a 64-foot shaft. The ore was treated in a 125-foot flume with riffles made of poles.

### **One Spot (Sailor Jack) Mine**

The One Spot (Sailor Jack) Mine was a placer gold, drift mine one mile south of Camino. It was active in the "early days", when \$40,000 of gold was produced, and reactivated in 1934-38. Two channels of ancient routes of the South Fork of the American River, one above the other, were developed by a 500-foot adit with drifts and raises. The mined gravel yielded up to \$8 per cubic yard.

### **One to Sixteen and Vulture Mine**

One mile north of Placerville was the One to Sixteen and Vulture Mine. Nothing more is known about it.

### **Ophir Mine**

The Ophir Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, two miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. The fourteen inch wide vein, with numerous stringers, was developed by an adit and a shaft. The ore, some of which was high-grade, was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Orloma Company**

A Placerville company known as the Orloma Company, operated a one and one-quarter cubic yard dragline dredge and a dry-land washing plant on Indian Creek during 1941-42.

### **Oro Fino Mine**

The Oro Fino Mine (not to be confused with the Big Canyon-Oro Fino Mine) was located on the Mother Lode, one mile south of Garden Valley. From 1925-26 and in 1930, a four-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was mined by way of an 80-foot inclined shaft. The ore, some of which was high-grade, was treated at Frog Pond mill.

### **Oro Flam (Oriflamme) Mine**

The Oro Flam (Oriflamme) Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one mile southeast of Diamond Springs. Here a vein of gold-bearing quartz, varying in width from one to ten feet, was developed by a 350-foot adit and a 40-foot shaft.

### **Oronogo Mine**

One mile south of Garden Valley, on the Mother Lode, was a lode gold mine known as the Oronogo Mine. It was active from 1953-55 with only a small gold output. Here, two parallel veins of gold-bearing quartz were developed by a 90-foot inclined shaft with a 20-foot drift at the 90-foot level.

### **Orum (Woodland) Mine**

The Orum (Woodland) Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode three miles east of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active in 1914 when a one-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 200-foot vertical shaft with levels at 100 and 150 feet. The ore was treated in a five-stamp mill and concentrated on a Wilfley table.

### **Pacific Channel (Zimmerman) Mine**

The Pacific Channel (Zimmerman) Mine was a placer gold mine one-half mile west of Pacific House. From around 1915 through the early 1920's, an ancient channel of the South Fork of the American River, lying on granite bedrock and capped by andesite (a volcanic rock) was mined through several adits, one of which was 1000 feet in length.

### **Pacific Dredging Company**

From 1914-1918 the Pacific Dredging Company operated a floating bucket-line dredge with seven and one-half cubic foot buckets on the Middle Fork of the American River at Mammoth Bar.

### **Pacific House Mine**

The Pacific House Mine was a tungsten mine located one mile west of Pacific House (between Pacific House and Pollock Pines) on the north bank of the American River. A deposit of scheelite (tungsten ore) was developed by an open cut.

### **Pacific Minerals (Swift) Mine**

Three miles northeast of Latrobe was the Pacific Minerals (Swift) Mine, a soapstone mine. The property was originally worked prior to 1920 and again active during the early 1920's. Soapstone was originally mined underground by hand labor, using augurs and drills. The mined material was shipped to San Francisco where it was used for a coating in prepared roofing. In 1924, the mine caved and was shut down. In 1928 it was reopened with the mined soapstone being shipped by rail to grinding mills in the San Francisco area. Once processed, it was used in insecticides. From 1928 until the late 1930's, mining continued to take place underground. Access was by a 220-foot crosscut adit and several hundred feet of drifts. In the late 1930's, another cave-in occurred, this one in the central portion of the mine. From then on, the soapstone was mined from an open pit. By 1955, the main pit was 175 feet long, 35 to 70 feet wide and 75 feet deep at the face. There were also two other smaller pits at the north end of the deposit.

### **Padre Mine**

The Padre Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode two miles north of Nashville. It was active around 1894 when a five foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 160-foot shaft. The ore was treated in a five-stamp mill.

### **Paterson Mine**

The Paterson Mine was a placer gold, drift mine two miles southeast of Indian Diggings, in the southern part of the county. It was active around 1935.

### **Paymaster Mine**

One mile south of Volcanoville (north east of Georgetown) was the Paymaster Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in 1920 and 1926. The ore was treated on-site in a ten-ton Gibson mill.

### **Payne Mine**

The Payne Mine was a placer gold, drift mine at Henry's Diggings, three miles south of Grizzly Flat. The deposit consisted of an ancient river channel, with a layer of gold-bearing gravel from one to three feet thick. It was active in 1894 and was worked intermittently after 1949 by I. H. Champion, of Somerset, who also mined the Irish Slide and Christian drift mines. It was developed by an adit.

### **Pfeiffer Mine**

The Pfeiffer Mine was a chromite mine three miles east of Latrobe, west of Big Canyon Creek. Eighty tons of ore were removed when it was active in 1917, during World War I. It was later prospected in 1942, during World War II, when chromium again became a critical defense material. The deposit of northeast trending chromite pods were developed by open cuts.

### **Philadelphia and Gold Note Mine**

The Philadelphia and Gold Note Mine was a lode gold mine three miles southeast of Indian Diggings, in the south part of the county. Some 600 linear feet of a four to five foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was worked by way of 125 and 145-foot shafts and a 600-foot adit. In addition to gold, the deposit also contained some galena (lead ore). The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Pillikin Mine**

One of the largest mines of any kind in El Dorado County was a chromite mine named the Pillikin Mine, which was located six miles south of Pilot Hill, just north of Flagstaff Hill peak in the extreme western portion of the county. This mine, was a consolidation of the Pilliken, Bonanza King, Chrome Gulch, Donnelly, Nielson and Steel mines, contained the largest known chromite deposit in the Sierra Nevada. In fact, this one operation has been the source of more than three-quarters of the total amount of chromite produced in El Dorado County.

Because the deposit is large, with eleven chrome bearing areas in an area of around two square miles, chromite was discovered here early, around 1853, and by 1894 a few of the deposits had actually been worked. During World War I, the property was leased by the Noble Electric Steel Company, which produced considerable chromite which was shipped, in lump form, by rail from Folsom. By 1918 a small mill had been erected on-site to concentrate the ore for shipping, and two other companies, the Placer Chrome Company and the Steele Chrome Company, were also mining the deposits. The property was idle from 1918 until 1936 when U.S. Chrome Mines, Inc., acquired it. A 200 ton mill was installed and this company operated it until 1939 when the Rustless Mining Corporation leased and operated it for three years.

In 1944 the Pillikin Syndicate acquired the property and operated the mine. By 1945 the property had produced a total of 27,144 long tons (2200 pounds in a long ton) of chromite. From 1951 to 1953 the Allied Mining Company leased the property and erected a new mill. Unfortunately, they produced little ore and, in 1953, dismantled the mill and left.

In 1954 the Pillikin Mining Company mined the deposits and shipped the ore to the Pioneer-Lilyama copper mine, three miles east of Pilot Hill, where the mill had been modified to handle chromite. From there the concentrated ore was shipped to the government stockpile at Grants Pass, Oregon. The mine has been idle since April of 1955.

The deposit consists of lenses and bands of ore ranging in purity from less than one-half to more than 30% chromite over an area about one mile wide and four miles long. The mine was developed by open pits and it is estimated that there are at least 450,000 tons of material containing five percent or more chromite which can still be mined by the open pit method. An in-depth discussion of each of the deposits at this location can be found in "Mines and Mineral Resources of El Dorado County, California", copies of which can be viewed in the "Rare Book" collection at the El Dorado County Main Library.

### **Pilot Hill Mine**

The Pilot Hill mine was a chromite mine just west of Pilot Hill summit. It was active in 1916 when 200 tons of ore was produced. This deposit was developed by open cuts.

### **Pilot Hill Mining Company**

From 1935-1936 the Pilot Hill Mining Company operated a dry-land dredge in the Shingle Springs and Rescue areas.

### **Pine Hill (Unity) Mine**

Five miles northwest of Shingle Springs was the Pine Hill (Unity) Mine. A lode gold mine on a six-foot wide gold-bearing quartz vein, it was developed by a 200-foot shaft, drifts and crosscuts.

### **Pioneer-Lilyama (Little Emma, Volo) Mine**

Three miles east of Pilot hill was the Pioneer-Lilyama (Little Emma, Volo) Mine. This mine was a consolidation of the Pioneer and Lilyama mines which were originally worked in the 1860's. However, it wasn't until 1889-90 that the main copper deposit was found when adits were finally driven into the hill. The mine was idle until 1943 when it was reopened by the Volo Mining Company of Placerville. A considerable amount of copper, along with some silver and gold was produced until the mine was shut down in 1948. As mentioned before, in the fall of 1954 and spring of 1955, the mill on the property was leased to the Pillikin Mining Company to treat chrome ore. In 1955 work was done to rehabilitate the mine and some ore was mined and stockpiled. The deposit contains many different kinds of ore, including the lead ore scheelite, in addition to various copper ores, which are found in pods up to 100 feet in width. The deposit was developed by four crosscut adits on two

levels, several shafts along with hundreds of feet of drifts, raises and winzes. On the hill above the mine are open cuts, trenches and two glory holes (the results of raises that reach the surface). In 1948 an assays of the concentrates from the mill averaged twenty-eight percent copper, twenty-eight to thirty-four dollars per ton in gold and fourteen dollars per ton in silver.

### **Placerville Gold Mining Company**

#### **--Pacific Quartz Mine**

#### **--Epley Consolidated Mine**

#### **--True Consolidated Mine**

The Placerville Gold Mining Company, which was incorporated in 1911 as a successor to the Placerville Gold Quartz Company, Ltd., and English concern incorporated in 1878, operated numerous lode gold and placer gold mines in the county. These mines were along a portion of the Mother Lode extending from one mile south of the South Fork of the American River, through the Placerville City Limits to Weber Creek, a distance of some four miles. The mines included: the True Consolidated Mine with the Young Harmon, Old Harmon, Halleck and Berry claims; the Van Hooker, Grass, Brown Bear, Cinnamon Bear, White Bear and Eureka claims; the Epley Consolidated Mine composed of the Epley, Faraday, Henrietta and Mammoth claims; the Rose, Chester, Ida, Oregon and Oregon Extension claims and the Pacific Quartz Mine. Among these the most notable mines in this group were the Pacific Quartz Mine, the Epley Consolidated Mine and the True Consolidated Mine.

#### **--Pacific Quartz Mine**

The first of these mines, the Pacific Quartz Mine, was a lode gold mine located in Placerville, south of Town Hall and the Chamber of Commerce building, between Main and Pacific Streets (Pacific Street is named for this mine). It was active from 1852-59 and again from 1914-15 with a total recorded production of nearly one and one-half million dollars in gold (with gold varying in price from about sixteen to 30 dollars an ounce at the time). The deposit consisted of a number of ore shoots several hundred feet long and as wide as twelve feet. It was developed by a 700-foot shaft with a 1,365 winze from the 700-foot level. The gold-bearing quartz, once removed, was treated on-site in a twenty-stamp mill.

#### **--Epley Consolidated Mine**

Only a short distance from the Pacific Quartz Mine, south of Placerville, between Chili Ravine and Weber Creek, was the Epley Consolidated Mine. It was active up until 1888. The vein of gold-bearing quartz averaged six feet in width and two ore shoots, 125 and 150 feet long were worked. The mine was developed by an adit and two shafts. The ore was treated with mercury (amalgamation) and the sulfides were concentrated for further processing.

### **--True Consolidated Mine**

The third of these mines, the True Consolidated Mine, was located just north of Placerville in Big Canyon. Just prior to being acquired by the Placerville Gold Quartz Mining Company in 1893, this property was operated by the True Consolidated Mining and Milling Company. The deposit consisted of two veins of gold-bearing quartz, the east one averaging four feet in width; the west one averaging fifteen feet. The mine was developed by a 1,400-foot south drift adit and, on the Old Harmon part of the mine, a 560-foot shaft. There was some prospecting on this property in 1931. Additional information on the Placerville Gold Mining Company and its operations can be found in "Mines and Mineral Resources of El Dorado County, California", which is available for viewing in the "Rare Book" collection at the El Dorado County Main Library.

### **Plattsburg Mine**

The Plattsburg Mine was uniquely both a lode gold and placer gold mine three-fourths of a mile north of Georgetown. It was active in 1896 when a one to four-foot wide gold-bearing quartz vein, containing coarse gold, was developed. Little is known about the placer gold operation.

### **Pleasant Valley Mines**

Four miles northeast of Pleasant Valley was a lode gold mine known as the Pleasant Valley Mine. It was active first in the 1880' and later in 1935. A two and one-half to six-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 480-foot adit and a 110-foot shaft.

Another mine named the Pleasant Valley Mine was a placer gold mine near Pleasant Valley, prospected in 1894.

### **Pocahontas Mine**

The Pocahontas Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, two and one half miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. It was opened in 1854 and active until 1896. It was later prospected around 1939. Two gold-bearing quartz veins about 300 feet apart were developed by 300 and 400-foot inclined shafts and about 1700 feet of drifts. The ore, which ranged in value from four to twenty-five dollars per ton, was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Polar Bear (Empire Group, White Bear) Mine**

Three miles south of Grizzly Flat was a lode gold mine known as the Polar Bear (Empire Group, White Bear) Mine. It has long been idle.

### **Poor Mine**

The strangely named Poor Mine was a lode gold mine one mile northwest of Kelsey. It was active around 1938 when 200 to 300 tons of ore were mined. Development consisted of open cuts and a 37-foot shaft.

### **Potts and Maginess Mine**

The Potts and Maginess Mine was a placer gold, drift mine three-fourths of a mile east of Newtown. It also has long been idle.

### **Pyramid (Gold Reserve) Mine**

Four miles due north of Shingle Springs and two miles southeast of Deer Valley, on what is called the "West Gold Belt", was the Pyramid (Gold Reserve) Mine, a lode gold mine. When the mine was first active in the 1890's, a ore shoot over 500 feet in length was worked through two 500-foot drift adits and a 50-foot shaft. In 1933 the mine was reopened and, for six years, was operated by several concerns. Ultimately, the mine was developed by an 818-foot inclined shaft with production chiefly from the 500, 700 and 800-foot levels. The total output of the mine was around one-million dollars in gold.

### **Quartz Canyon Mine**

There is only one significant mine of record that has a name beginning with the letter "Q". It was the Quartz Canyon Mine, a placer gold mine one mile south of Volcanoville, and appropriately located in Quartz Canyon. During the 1890's debris that had accumulated from other mining activities and natural forces was worked for gold in a self-shooting reservoir.

### **Rainbow (Wild West) Mine**

The Rainbow (Wild West) Mine was a lode gold one and one-half miles northwest of Garden Valley. The deposit consisted of a system of gold-bearing quartz veins as much as twenty-three feet wide that was mined in 1896. The deposit was developed by open cuts and a twenty-five foot shaft. Ore was treated in a four-stamp mill.

### **Rattler Mine**

Two miles south of Placerville, near Weber Creek, was the Rattler Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active prior to 1894 and developed by two adits.

### **Rattlesnake Bridge (Alabaster Cave, Rattlesnake Bar)**

The Rattlesnake Bridge (Alabaster Cave, Rattlesnake Bar) deposit was a very large limestone mine located one mile east of Rattlesnake Bridge (now under Folsom Lake) and five miles south of Auburn. The deposit was worked intermittently from the 1860's on by a number of different concerns, including the Auburn Chemical Lime Company (1930-1942); Auburn Lime Products Company (1946-1948); Hughes-Vertin Lime Company (1949-1954); and Vertin Lime Company (1954-1955) until the mine and plant were purchased by the Semon Lime Company in July of 1955.

The deposit, 4,000 feet long and 80 to 100 feet in width, is developed by four quarries, both north and south of the processing plant, up to 500 feet long, 25 to 50 feet wide and up to 75 feet deep. All limestone mined at this location and limestone purchased for a time from the California Rock and Gravel Company in Cool, was processed at a plant at the mine. Once processed the limestone was shipped to steel plants, the building-trades

industry or sold as roofing granules, chicken grits, limestone flour and road metal (road surfacing rock).

### **Red Hill Mine**

Two miles northwest of Garden Valley was the Red Hill Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active around 1914 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 100-foot inclined shaft and a 350-foot drift. The ore was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Red Rover Mine**

The Red Rover Mine was a lode gold mine three miles southeast of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active in 1894 and again in 1920, when a vein of gold-bearing quartz, which varied in width from half a foot to three feet, was developed by two shafts, 30 and 130 feet in depth, and 115 feet of drifts.

### **Red Wing (Red Top) Mine**

Three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado was another lode gold mine, the Red Wing (Red Top) Mine. It was first active from 1914 to 1922 and again in 1926. At this location a five-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by an upper 125-foot adit and a lower 525-foot crosscut adit and drifts. The ore was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Reliance Mine**

An iron mine known as the Reliance Mine was located three miles north of Bass Lake (Bass Lake is between Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills). Two magnetite veins, four and one-half feet in width, were developed by three shafts, 50, 218 and 312 feet in depth. The shafts have since been caved in.

### **Revoir Mine**

Two miles south of Pilot Hill was the Revoir Mine, a copper mine. It was located just south of the Costa Ranch Mine and not much more than a prospect.

### **Richelieu Mine**

The Richelieu Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, three miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active in 1932 when a small amount of gold was mined through a shaft of unknown depth and 275-foot adit. Some of the ore was treated at the Church Mine's mill.

### **Richmond Mine**

One mile south of the town of Fair Play was the Richmond Mine, a lode gold mine. Little is known about it other than the ore was treated in an eight-stamp mill.

### **Rip and Tear (Dodson) Mine**

The Rip and Tear (Dodson) Mine was a copper mine located two miles north of Latrobe. Originally worked during California's little known "copper boom" of the 1860's, it was reopened in 1918 when two carloads of copper ore was mined and shipped to a smelter.

In 1943, W. J. Varozza, a Latrobe resident, cleaned out the workings of the mine and shipped a small amount of ore. The deposit consists of bands and stringers of copper ore as wide as five feet and containing as much as ten percent copper. Development at the mine consisted of a 100-foot main shaft and drifts. About a mile to the north of the main shaft was another shaft, forty feet in depth.

### **Rising Hope Mine**

Three miles southeast of Placerville, at Texas Hill, was a placer gold, drift mine known as the Rising Hope Mine. It was active from 1910 to 1920 and again in 1929. Here an ancient river channel of the South Fork of the American River two to seven feet thick and up to 700 feet wide, near the junction of the Newton (Newtown?) and Smith's Flat channels, was developed by two drifts 3000 feet and 3500 feet in length. The gold was released from the cemented gravel in a 50-ton barrel mill.

### **Rising Sun (Potter) Mine**

The Rising Sun (Potter) Mine was a lode gold mine one mile northwest of Kelsey. It has been idle for a long time.

### **River Hill Group**

The River Hill group of mines, which included the Bell, Gentle Annie, Ball Consolidated, Lucky Star, Lyon and New Era, was located on the Mother Lode, one and one-half miles northwest of Placerville (in the area of the historic Gold Bug Mine, which is open for tours). Originally worked around 1865 and then from 1890 to 1906, these mines were very rich, and produced quite a large amount of gold. Five parallel veins, with ore shoots up to thirty feet in width and 150 feet in length, were developed by 1550-foot and 600-foot inclined shafts, a 2400-foot adit and much drifting. The ore was originally treated in a ten-stamp mill, which was replaced with a twenty-stamp mill in 1901.

### **River Pine Mining Company, Ltd.**

The River Pine Mining Company, Ltd., of San Francisco, operated a dragline dredge near Nashville in 1941-42, near Plymouth in 1946 and near Diamond Springs in 1949-50.

### **Rivera Mine**

Another placer gold, drift mine at Texas Hill, two miles southeast of Placerville, was the Rivera Mine. Prior to 1900 and then around 1905 a portion of a channel of the ancient South Fork of the American River was developed by a 900-foot adit, raises and drifts.

### **Rocky Bar Mines**

One-half mile east of Greenwood was a lode gold mine known as the Rocky Bar Mine. It was active prior to 1894 when a one-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by open cuts and shallow shafts.

A second Rocky Bar Mine was a placer gold mine on the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River, near the Cosumnes Copper Mine and limestone deposit. It was active in the early

1920's when potholes in the limestone lying under the river were worked for placer gold with pumps and derricks.

### **Roscoe Mine**

The Roscoe Mine was a lode gold mine located three miles northeast of Latrobe. Some prospecting of a twelve-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was done in 1896. There is no record of any real production of ore.

### **Rosecranz (Rosecrans) Mine**

The Rosecranz (Rosecrans) Mine was a lode gold mine one and one-half miles northwest of Garden Valley. Prior to 1888 the deposit was worked to a depth of 200 feet through an inclined shaft and the ore then treated in a ten-stamp mill. In 1888 alone, more than \$21,000 worth of gold was produced from a vein of gold-bearing quartz that yielded a rich \$11 in gold per ton. Additional work was done on the mine between 1916 and 1918 and, from 1936 until the mine closed in 1939, the Lode Development Company of Auburn operated it. An irregular vein of gold-bearing quartz, containing 80% native gold and averaging three and one-half feet in width, was developed by deepening the original shaft to 350 feet and creating working levels at 100, 130, 200, 250 and 350 feet. Ore shoots up to 150 feet in length were worked both north and south and, on the 100-foot level, a 165-foot crosscut was extended east to the adjoining, equally rich, Taylor vein. The Lode Development Company treated the ore in a 100-ton mill with a Bendelari jig and a bank of five flotation cells. The mine and mill employed thirty men.

### **Rose Kimberly Mine**

The Rose Kimberly Mine was a lode gold mine two miles northwest of the town of Rescue. Two lensoid quartz veins, containing not only gold but other ores, were developed by a 220-foot inclined shaft with levels at 60, 120 and 220 feet.

### **Roundout (Danaher) Mine**

The Roundout (Danaher) Mine was a placer gold mine one and one-half miles northwest of Smith's Flat. Around 1919 a 400-foot inclined shaft and 600-foot drift east were driven in an attempt to find an ancient river channel. There is no record of their success.

### **Rubicon Mines**

Two and one-half miles west of Volcanoville was a placer gold, drift and hydraulic mine known as the Rubicon Mine. The deposit of ancient river gravel four feet thick and twenty-seven feet wide was worked in the 1880's and 1890's, first by hydraulicking and later by a 110-foot drift.

A second Rubicon Mine was one of El Dorado County's few tungsten mines, and was located just east of the junction of the Middle Fork of the American River and the Rubicon River. This deposit of scheelite (tungsten ore) was large and mined in both El Dorado and Placer counties.

### **Ruby Consolidated Mine**

The Ruby Consolidated Mine was a chromite and lode gold mine located one mile south of Volcanoville. During World War I, three carloads of 46% chromite ore was mined. Intermittently, during the years 1928-1940, gold was also mined through a 900-foot adit and 180-foot vertical shaft. The gold ore was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Ryan Mine**

One mile south of Kelsey was a lode gold mine known as the Ryan Mine. It has been idle for a long time.

### **Sailor Slide Mine**

One mile north of Georgetown, in the Georgia Slide area, was a placer gold mine known as the Sailor Slide Mine. It was active from 1919 to 1922.

### **Salisbury Mine**

Three miles southeast of Diamond Springs was the Salisbury Mine, a lode gold mine. It is adjacent to and an extension of the very rich, Grand Victory Mine. A vein of gold-bearing quartz, 100 feet in width, was actively mined from 1896 on and developed by a 110-foot inclined shaft. The ore, which varied in value from \$8 to \$30 per ton depending on the depth from which it was taken, was treated in two twenty-ton Huntington mills.

### **Sam Martin Mine**

One mile north of Greenwood was a seam gold mine known as the Sam Martin Mine. It was active in 1894-96 and consisted of a 20-foot wide zone of quartz seams in slate. The upper portion of the deposit was mined by sluicing and the lower portion mined through an 80-foot adit. The mine was equipped with a 200-foot flume.

### **San Francisco Slate Company**

The San Francisco Slate Company operated slate mines on the north side of the South Fork of the American River, opposite Chili Bar. During the 1890's roofing slate was produced from several quarries at this location.

### **Sand Mountain Mine**

The Sand Mountain Mine was a placer gold mine at an unknown location. It did have a ten-stamp mill.

### **Santa Rosa Mine**

The Santa Rosa Mine was a placer gold, drift mine on Hopkins Creek, one mile east of Volcanoville. During the years 1894 through 1896, a southwest trending channel of gold-bearing gravel was developed by a 718-foot adit.

### **Schleifer Mine**

The Schleifer Mine was a lode gold mine on the east side of Big Canyon, seven miles south of Shingle Springs. The deposit was low grade auriferous pyrite and was actively mined prior to 1894.

### **A. L. Schreiber**

A. L. Schreiber, from Los Angeles, operated a dragline dredge near Coloma in 1942.

### **Selby Mine**

One mile east of Diamond Springs was a lode gold mine called the Selby Mine. It was active prior to 1900 and developed by a single 240-foot shaft.

### **Sells Brothers**

In 1939 the Sells Brothers, from Auburn, operated a dry-line dredge in the very northern part of El Dorado County, near the town of Auburn.

### **Seven Bells (Sporting Boy) Mine**

The Seven Bells (Sporting Boy) Mine was a copper mine four miles west of Placerville. A vein of copper and gold up to eighteen inches wide, it was prospected in 1917 and 1918 and developed by a 65-foot shaft.

### **Sharp Mine**

The Sharp Mine was a lode gold mine located six miles east of Placerville. It was first opened about 1870 and was again active twenty years later. The 12-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 54-foot shaft along with 110 and 108-foot adits.

### **Shaw (Shan Taz, Volo) Mine**

The Shaw (Shan Taz, Volo) Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles north of the townsite of El Dorado and four miles southwest of Placerville. It was one of the better-known lode gold mines on what is often referred to as the West (gold) Belt in El Dorado County. The mine was originally active during the 1880's and again around 1915. In 1940 the Volo mining company leased the property and during 1941 and 1942 some ore was mined and milled experimentally. In 1942 the mine was shut down and then reopened in 1946 and operated until 1953. During the years 1943 and 1944, when the mine was inactive, and after it was shut down, the mill was used to process copper ore from as far away as the Copper Hill Mine in Amador County. The ore body, which is quartzitic schist, averages about 100 feet in width and has been worked for about 1000 feet. Prior to 1915, the mining was done underground through a 135-foot shaft, a 400-foot crosscut adit, a 300-foot south drift and a 200-foot north drift. When the mine was reopened in 1940, the mining method was shifted to an open cut that by 1955 was about 1000 feet long, 100 to 150 feet wide and 20 to 40 feet deep. The ore, which was relatively low grade containing only \$2 to \$4 of gold per ton, was blasted from the pit faces and trucked to the mill where it was treated by amalgamation (mercury) flotation and cyanidization.

### **Shelly (Wolf) Mine**

The Shelly (Wolf) Mine was a chromite mine located two miles southwest of Garden Valley. It was active in 1918, when chromium was a critical metal for the war effort, when 1,284 tons of ore containing 30% chromite was mined. The deposit, which consisted of irregular lenses of chromite in serpentine, was developed by an open pit and a shaft.

### **Sheppard Mine**

Two miles west of Garden Valley was the Sheppard Mine, a chromite mine. It was also active during World War I, when more than 50 tons of 35% chromite ore was produced. This deposit also consisted of lenses of chromite in serpentine and was developed by open pits and shafts.

### **Sherman Mine**

On the Mother Lode one mile north of Placerville was the Sherman Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in 1905 and 1908-11 with a total production of \$136,000. The deposit, a five foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz, was developed by a 750-foot inclined shaft with levels at 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, and 750 feet; a winze sunk from 750 feet and 5500 feet of drifts. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Shingle Springs (Rossi) Mines**

One mile east of Shingle Springs was a soapstone mine known as the Shingle Springs (Rossi) Mine. Lenses of green soapstone in serpentine were developed by an open pit. The mined material was shipped for use as a roofing coating.

Another Shingle Springs Mine was a quicksilver (mercury) mine five miles south of Shingle Springs. Only traces of cinnabar, an ore of mercury, was found at this location.

### **Shumway Mine**

The Shumway Mine was a lode gold mine one mile southeast of Spanish Flat. It was prospected in 1938 and developed by a 100-foot shaft and 300-foot crosscut adit.

### **Sierra Placerite Quarry**

The Sierra Placerite Quarry is one of the few dimension stone mines in El Dorado County. It is located just north of the junction of Newtown and Pleasant Valley roads in Pleasant Valley. The deposit, large beds of vitric crystal rhyolite tuff of Miocene age, some several hundred feet thick, occurs in the region. The fine grained material is mined from open pits and then sawed and broken into the desired size for walls, building fronts, fireplaces, decorative items and the like. Naturally a light buff to white in color, it is often "cooked" to drive off moisture, which changes the color to shades of orange, red or pink.

### **Simon Mine**

Two miles southwest of Garden Valley was a chromite mine known as the Simon Mine. Like many of the others it was active during and right after World War I, when 94 tons of 35% chromite ore was produced. A deposit of lenses of chromite in serpentine, it was developed by open cuts.

### **Simons Mine**

The Simons Mine was an iron prospect one and one-half miles south of Latrobe, near the Chaix Mine. The deposit contained two ores of iron, magnetite and hematite.

### **Simpson Mine**

The Simpson Mine was a chromite mine located five miles north of Clarksville (Clarksville is near the southern end of El Dorado Hills). It was active in 1917, when 54 tons of ore of unreported purity was produced. The deposit of lenses of chromite near a serpentine-schist contact was developed by open cuts and shallow shafts.

### **Skipper (Esperanza) Mine**

The Skipper (Esperanza) Mine was a lode gold mine located one-half mile east of Greenwood. An unpatented claim known once as the Esperanza, the deposit consisted of a zone of gold mineralization 60 feet long and 40 feet wide. It was developed by an open cut with a 50-foot inclined shaft sunk in the bottom of the cut. There are also several other cuts and prospects on the property.

### **Slate Mountain Mines**

Three miles northwest of Slate Mountain (southeast of Georgetown) was the Slate Mountain Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active intermittently from 1921 to 1941 and again in 1951. A one and one-half to six foot-wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 600-foot crosscut adit and 2400 feet of drifts. The ore was treated in a 10-stamp mill.

A second Slate Mountain Mine, near Slate Mountain, was a lode gold mine. The deposit consisted to two veins of gold-bearing quartz that was developed prior to 1898 through a 100-foot shaft.

### **Slug Gulch (Cosumnes) Deposit**

The Slug Gulch (Cosumnes) Deposit was a limestone mine by the Middle Fork of the Cosumnes River, three miles north of the town of Fair Play. The deposit outcrops for a distance of one and one-half miles from Slug Gulch to Rocky Bar and has an average width of several hundred feet. A little limestone was mined for road metal (road rock) from the north end of the deposit.

### **Slug Gulch Mine**

Three miles east of Fair Play, at Slug Gulch, was a placer gold, hydraulic mine known appropriately as the Slug Gulch Mine. The mine was first active in the early days of the Gold Rush, during the 1900's and again around 1930. The gravel deposit was partially underlain by limestone.

### **Smith Mine**

Three-quarters of a mile northwest of Latrobe was the Smith Mine, a chrome mine. A deposit of lenses of chromite in serpentine and talc was mined from a 100-foot open cut.

### **Snow Flake, Fairweather and Fairweather North Extension Mines**

The Spanish Group of seam gold mines, which included the Snow Flake, Fairweather and Fairweather North Extension mines, was located one mile northwest of Greenwood. A belt of gold-bearing quartz seams, 100 feet wide was first mined in the early days of the Gold Rush and later prospected in the 1930's. Two methods of mining were used: hydraulicking, which yielded \$13,000 in gold and drift mining through an adit of unknown length.

### **Snow Mines**

At White Rock Canyon, four miles northeast of Placerville was a silica mine known as the Snow Mine. The deposit consisted of a massive quartz vein twenty-five feet wide, exposed for 600 feet.

Another Snow Mine was a placer gold, hydraulic mine one and one-half miles northeast of Newton (Newtown). It was active around 1896 when cemented gravel was mined in two pits. Years later, in the middle to late 20th century, the open pits would be further mined for the gravel and explored for gold.

### **Solari Tunnel Mine**

On a north side ridge, between Weber Creek and Pleasant Valley and south of Newtown, was a placer gold mine known as the Solari Tunnel Mine. It was a portion of the Ventura Drift Mine and was prospected in 1935 through a 351-foot adit in the search for gold-bearing gravel.

### **South Ohio Mine**

The South Ohio Mine, a lode gold mine, was located one and one-half miles east of Greenwood. It was active in 1896 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz in slate was developed by a 100-foot adit.

### **Southeastern Railroad Mine**

One mile north of the Pillikin Mine, and now a part of the Folsom Reservoir, was the Southeastern Railroad Mine, a chromite mine. A zone of small chromite pods was developed by open pits and adits.

### **Spanish Bar Dredge**

Inter-American Enterprises, Ltd., from Sacramento, operated a dragline dredge on the Middle Fork of the American River, at Spanish Bar, during the years 1950-51. It was known as the Spanish Bar Dredge.

### **Spanish Dry Diggings**

One mile west of Spanish Dry Diggings was large lode gold mine known as the Sliger Mine. It was originally worked in 1864 and the 1870's when the ore was treated in a five-stamp mill. The early work at the mine, a 300-foot shaft, produced around a quarter million dollars worth of gold. The mine was inactive until 1922, when the Sliger Gold Mining Company took over, deepened the shaft and added a 15-stamp mill. In 1932, they would

build a whole new mill. In 1934 the Middle Fork Gold Mining Company took over operation of the mine and, in 1937, the Mountain Copper Company leased the mine and did some exploration. From 1938 until 1942, when the mine became idle, the Middle Fork Gold Mining Company again operated it. By 1953 most of the surface equipment had been sold. In the decade from 1932 to 1942 309,000 tons of ore were mined from which \$2,625,000 of gold was recovered. The ore zone, which consists of numerous quartz veinlets with 40% free gold as pure as 92.5% fineness, averages 30 feet in width. The quality of the gold did not change from the 300-foot level down to the bottom of the 2000-foot shaft by which the mine was developed. The ore was mined in open stopes that were refilled with mine tailings.

### **St. Clair Mine**

One mile northwest of Kelsey was a lode gold mine known as the St. Clair Mine. It was active prior to 1915 and again around 1940.

### **St. Lawrence Mines**

The St. Lawrence Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one and one-half miles southeast of Garden Valley. From 1867 to 1878 nearly a half-million dollars in gold (at 1870's prices) was produced from a six foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz that ranged from \$8.54 to \$27 per ton in gold, but averaged from \$10 to \$17 per ton. By the time the 500-foot level had been reached, \$2,000,000 in gold had been removed. The deposit was developed by a 900-foot inclined shaft with a working level at 100 feet and a 200 foot winze at the 900-foot level. The ore was treated in a twenty-stamp mill.

Another St. Lawrence Mine was a seam gold mine that yielded \$23,000 in gold by hydraulicking. No location is given for this mine which may be a part of the previously mentioned St. Lawrence Mine, near Garden Valley, or the Stillwagon Mine, near Omo Ranch.

### **Stafford Mine**

The Stafford Mine was a chromite mine two miles northeast of Georgetown. It was active in 1918 when 198 tons of ore was produced and again in 1942-43, during World War II, when additional tons were produced. The deposit was a series of irregular lenses and pods of chromite that was mined in open pits.

### **Standard Mine**

One quarter of a mile north of Coloma was the Standard Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active around 1894 when veins of gold-bearing quartz, two to twelve inches wide, were developed by a 230-foot adit.

### **Starbuck Mine**

The Starbuck Mine was a placer gold (not coffee) mine two miles northwest of Rescue. A deposit of gravel lying on decomposed granite was intermittently mined by the use of a dragline dredge in the late 1930's and early 1940's. The operator was F. M. Starbuck, from Rescue.

### **Starlight Mine**

The Starlight Mine was a lode gold mine on Logtown Ridge, two and one-half miles south of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active from 1890 to 1894 when a three-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 500-foot vertical and two shallow inclined shafts, along with several drifts and crosscuts. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Stewart Mine**

Two miles southeast of Placerville, between Chili Ravine and Weber Creek, was a placer gold, drift mine known as the Stewart Mine. It was active in the 1880's and early 1890's.

### **Stifle Mine**

The Stifle Mine (often called the Stifle Claim) was a chromite mine three miles northwest of Garden Valley. The deposit of small chromite pods in serpentine and talc was active in 1918 when four tons of 35% ore was produced from open pits.

### **Stillwagon (St. Lawrence) Mine**

One mile northeast of Omo Ranch was the Stillwagon (St. Lawrence) Mine, a lode gold mine. A two to three foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz, rich in sulfides, was developed by two adits, one 200 feet in length and the other 400 feet in length. The ore was treated in a five-stamp mill.

### **Strahle Quarry**

The Strahle Quarry was a slate quarry near Kelsey. It produced some of the highest quality roofing slate in the County, which was carried to Placerville by wagon and loaded on train cars. Prior to 1898 quarrying of the slate was only done when needed, although it was estimated that up to 200,000 squares (100 square feet in a square) of slate could be produced a year. This quarry may be the same quarry called the Eureka Slate Quarry that ended up shipping dimension slate to Placerville by way of a 13,000 foot aerial tramway.

### **Stuckslager Mine**

The Stuckslager Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile southwest of the town of Lotus. Originally worked for the Stuckslager family in the 1860's, it was acquired by the McKenney family in the 1880's, who worked it intermittently at least through the mid-1950's, when they were sinking a new shaft on the hill above the adit portal. This deposit consists of veins and pockets of gold-bearing quartz, up to two feet in width, which also contain roscoelite, a rare vanadium mica. The mine is developed by a 500-foot drift adit and several shallow shafts. During the 1930's, the ore was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Studhorse Mine**

Two miles west of Greenwood was a lode gold mine known as the Studhorse Mine. It was active around 1896 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by two shafts, one 30-foot and one 40-foot in length.

### **Sugar Loaf Mine**

The Sugar Loaf Mine was a lode gold mine, two and one-half miles northeast of the town of Latrobe. A pocket gold mine on the West Belt, it was first worked by open cuts in the early days of the Gold Rush. It was reactivated in the 1880's, prospected in the early 1920's and, in the middle 1930's a shaft was sunk and some high grade ore removed. Since 1954, the Butler Mining and Development Company of Sacramento intermittently worked the mine. The deposit consists of a native gold associated with pyrite and galena (lead ore) in a quartz vein averaging five feet in width. Development was by a 175-foot inclined shaft with levels at 100, 130 and 175 feet.

### **Sunday Mine**

The Sunday Mine was a lode gold mine one that was one-half miles west of Grizzly Flat. It was active around 1894 when a one to three-foot vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by an 110-foot shaft, 80-foot drift, 300-foot adit and open cuts.

### **Superior (Tin Cup) Mine**

The Superior (Tin Cup) Mine was a lode gold mine on the Mother Lode, one mile east of Diamond Springs. Originally located in 1867, it was active around 1888-90 and again in 1900. The deposit, three parallel veins of gold-bearing quartz, was developed by a 400-foot inclined shaft.

### **Swift and Bennett Mine**

Just south of Georgetown was the Swift and Bennett Mine, a seam gold mine. It was reportedly a rich mine, but for some reason only active in the 1870's.

### **Swortfiguer (Expansion) Mine**

The Swortfiguer (Expansion) Mine was a chromite mine located four miles northeast of Shingle Springs. It was active from 1914 until 1918 when 80 tons of ore was produced. It was prospected again in 1943, during World War II. Development of the mine was by open pits.

### **Syracuse Mine**

The Syracuse Mine was a lode gold mine one mile east of the town of Omo Ranch. It was active in 1908, but not much more is known about it.

### **Taylor Mine**

The Taylor Mine, also known as the Idlewild Mine, was a large, lode gold mine on the Mother Lode two miles northwest of Garden Valley (one publication says four miles). Originally worked in 1865, it was active again from the late 1880's to about 1902. Some additional work was done at the mine during the years 1939-41. The vein of gold bearing quartz averaged 14 feet in width and produced \$4 to \$8 in gold per ton of ore. The mine was developed by a 1230-foot inclined shaft with levels every 100 feet. At the 600-foot level there was a winze to the 1230-foot level. Mining was done by stoping with the voids being later filled with mine waste. Ore was crushed by a huge 40-stamp mill and the

concentrates treated with cyanide. The estimated total output of the mine was one-million dollars.

### **Texas Hill Mine**

Two miles east of Placerville at Texas Hill was a placer gold mine known as the Texas Hill Mine. It was active around 1894 when an ancient channel of the South Fork of the American River with a deposit of gold-bearing gravel, one to three feet thick and up to 100 feet wide, lying under 120 feet of andesite (lava), was developed by a 1500-foot drift, a 75-foot incline and a 157-foot shaft. The cemented gravel was treated in a ten-stamp mill and then washed in a 100-foot sluice.

### **Thomas and Meldrum Mine**

The Thomas and Meldrum Mine was a chromite mine located two miles east of the town of Rescue. It was active only during World War I when one carload of ore was produced from stringers and pods of chromite in a serpentine deposit. Development was by two shafts of unknown depth.

### **Threlkel (Winton) Mine**

One mile south of Rattlesnake Bridge, immediately east of the Zantgraf Mine, was the Threlkel (Winton) Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in 1924-26 and again in 1937, when a deposit consisting of several thin veins of high grade, gold-bearing quartz were mined through an adit. The ore was treated in a two-stamp mill. The mine is now a part of the Folsom Lake Recreational Area.

### **Tiedemann (Tiederman) Mine**

One and one-half miles south of Kentucky Flat (south of Volcanoville and east of Georgetown) was a drift and hydraulic, placer gold mine known as the Tiedemann (Tiederman) Mine. It was active prior to 1896 and from 1896 until 1902 when the Two Channel Mining Company operated it. It was again active from 1932-34. There were two channels of ancient river bed worked at this location. The main, or white, channel was hydraulicked while the blue channel was developed by two adits, one of which was 100 feet in length.

### **Tipton Hill Mine**

The Tipton Hill Mine was a placer gold mine at Tipton Hill, seven miles northeast of Georgetown. Here, many years ago, a channel of the ancient Middle Fork of the American River was mined by drifting and hydraulicking.

### **Toll House and Hook and Ladder Mine**

At Smith's Flat, east of Placerville, was a placer gold, drift mine known both as the Toll House and Hook and Ladder Mine. It was originally active prior to 1890, in the 1890's and from 1918 until 1932. The Deep Blue Lead (lead as in "to lead you", not the metal lead) and Gray Lead channels of the ancient South Fork of the American River were developed by a 152-foot shaft, raises, and several thousand feet of drifts.

### **Treat Mine**

The Treat Mine was a lode gold mine located two and one-half miles north of Grizzly Flat. It was active prior to 1888 and again in 1896 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 100-foot vertical shaft and adits of unreported length.

### **Trench (Yellowjacket) Mine**

The Trench (Yellowjacket) Mine was a lode gold mine in Quartz Canyon, one mile south of Volcanoville. It was active prior to 1894, but has been idle for a long time.

### **Trio Chrome Company**

During World War I the Trio Chrome Company placer mined chromite-bearing gravel from the Hoff and Helmar properties, five miles southeast of Latrobe, near the Cosumnes River.

### **Tropper Mine**

The Tropper Mine was a chromite mine one and one-half miles west of Garden Valley. It was active in 1918 when 110 tons of ore was mined. The deposit, a lens of chromite ten feet wide was developed by a 40-foot inclined shaft.

### **Try Again (Last Chance) Mine**

The Try Again (Last Chance) Mine was a placer gold, drift mine three miles east of Placerville. It was active around 1896 when an ancient channel of the South Fork of the American River was developed by a 1500-foot bedrock adit and 213-foot shaft.

### **Tullis Mine**

The Tullis Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile southeast of the townsite of El Dorado. It was active in 1896 when a two and one-half foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 200-foot inclined shaft and 175 feet of drifts.

### **Twin Forks Dredging Company**

In 1949 the Twin Forks Dredging Company operated a dragline dredge on the North Fork of the Cosumnes River near Youngs' (a short distance up river from where Mt. Aukum Road crosses this fork of the Cosumnes).

### **Two Channel Mining Company**

The Two Channel Mining Company operated numerous drift and hydraulic mines in the Volcanoville-Kentucky Flat area until about 1908. These mines and claims included the Amelia, Bitters, Kates or Norris, Kenna, Kentucky Flat, Morgan, Novis, Tiedemann and Wilton.

### **Umatilla Mine**

The somewhat mysterious Umatilla Mine, owned by C.J. Gardner in 1898, was a placer gold mine near the town of Uno, three miles south of the town of Fair Play. The town of Uno was located about two miles to the southeast of Mt. Aukum, on Cedar Creek, but rarely

shows up on early maps, and never on those produced after the 1880's. The town of Uno may have earlier been known as Coyoteville.

### **Uncle Sam Mine**

The patriotically named Uncle Sam Mine was a placer gold, drift mine two miles south of Fair Play. It was active in 1896 when two adits were run through bedrock into the gold-bearing gravel in an ancient channel of the Cosumnes River.

### **Union (Springfield) Mines**

The Union (Springfield) Mine was one of the largest and most active lode gold mines in El Dorado County. Located on the Mother Lode, two miles southeast of the townsite of El Dorado, it is the mine that ended up being the County's largest landfill site. In the early years of the Gold Rush the area boasted a town of some three thousand miners who worked the outcrops and nearby streams. Soon a shaft was sunk to further explore this large deposit of gold-bearing quartz. Prior to 1868 this mine and the Church Mine to the east, were consolidated and worked as a single mine. After that they were operated separately. The Union Mine was again active from 1871-1886, with the ore being treated in a 15-stamp mill. In 1896 the Union Gold Mining Company took over operation of the mine and worked it for thirteen years. They also enlarged the mill to 20 stamps (some time later it would double to 40-stamps). Some prospecting was done during the years 1914 and 1915 and, in 1934 the Gold Fields American Development Company reopened it, deepening the shaft to 2000 feet and rehabilitating the lower workings. From 1936 until 1937, the Montezuma-Apex Mining Company operated the mine, trucking the ore to their mill near Nashville. After 1937 the operations at the mine became sporadic and in 1940 the mine became idle. The deposit consists of a number of veins of gold-bearing quartz five to ten feet in width, the three major ones being the heavily worked Poundstone (East Gouge), the McCosmic, 200 feet to the west, and the Klondyke, north of the main shaft. Ore from the Poundstone vein yielded \$8 per ton and from the McCosmic up to \$25 per ton (there are some reports of mill runs as high as \$40 per ton). It is believed that the early surface workings were even richer than that. Development of the mine consisted of a 2000-foot vertical main (Springfield) shaft that cuts into the Poundstone vein at 1200 feet and the McCosmic vein at about 1540 feet. About 750 feet north of the main shaft was the 900-foot Clement shaft and 200 feet further north was the 500-foot Klondyke shaft. There were also several crosscut adits that were driven west, one 700 feet in length near the main shaft and another about 600 feet in length near the Klondyke shaft.

Another Union Mine was a placer gold, drift mine two miles east of Placerville. A channel of the ancient South Fork of the American River, six inches to four feet thick, 400 feet wide and covered with a 100-foot thick andesite (lava) cap was developed by two shafts, 412 and 285 feet in depth.

### **Unity Mine**

The Unity Mine was a placer gold, drift mine at Wisconsin Flat, two miles northeast of Placerville. It was active in the early 1890's when a portion of the Deep Blue Lead (lead as in "to lead you", not the metal lead) up to 12 feet thick, 400 feet wide and capped with

benches 200 feet wide, was developed by a 1700-foot drift with an inclined shaft. The gravel was treated in a 10-stamp mill and washed through a 160-foot sluice.

### **Uno Mine**

The Uno Mine was a placer gold, drift mine three miles south of the town of Fair Play, near the site of the former town of Uno. It was active prior to 1896 and worked an ancient channel of the Cosumnes River through a 350-foot adit, partially in granite, and a 50-foot drift and raise. 1898 mining records indicate that in that year David Faulkner and Fred Hepburn owned the Uno mine, although there is no record of any production.

### **Uno Gravel and Quartz Mining Company**

The Uno Gravel and Quartz Mining Company, owned by William Gardner and John Leventon in 1876, may have been the operator of the Uno Mine.

### **U. S. Grant (New Deal) Mine**

North of Mt. Danaher (Mt. Danaher is northeast of the town of Camino) was the U.S. Grant (New Deal) mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in the 1870's and prospected in 1936. The deposit consisted of a vein of gold-bearing quartz, one to four feet in width, that contained two ore shoots. The mine was developed by a shaft and a 100-foot crosscut adit with a 400-foot north drift and a 200-foot south drift. In the 1870's the ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Valdora Mine**

The Valdora Mine was a lode gold mine north of and adjacent to the Mt. Pleasant Mine, one-half mile west of Grizzly Flat. It was active around 1888 and developed by a 110-foot vertical shaft.

### **Van (Vann) Mine**

Three-quarters of a mile north of Georgetown was the Van (Vann) Mine, a lode gold mine. Little is known about it and it has been idle for a long time.

### **Vandalia Mine**

Four miles south of Shingle Springs, on the west side of Big Canyon was lode gold mine known as the Vandalia Mine. This mine was originally worked in 1885 and again in 1888, with the ore being treated in a five-stamp mill. It was idle during the 1890's, but around 1900 a cyanidation plant was built to process the ore from the mine and reprocess the mine tailings (cyanidation is a process that extracts gold from the auriferous [gold containing] pyrite often found in lode gold mines). Some work was done at the mine in 1926 and 1928 and then, during the years 1936-37, the Page Consolidated Mining Company prospected the site and erected a 150-ton mill and a new cyanidation plant. Unlike most of the lode gold mines that had veins of gold-bearing quartz containing native gold, this deposit consisted nearly entirely of several bodies - over 80 feet wide and up to 300 feet long - of fine-grained silicified schist containing disseminated auriferous pyrite. The mine was developed by several drift adits and open cuts. Although a lot is known about the working of this mine, little is known its production.

### **Vandergreft Mine**

The Vandergreft Mine was a lode gold mine three miles north of Nashville. It was active prior to 1914 and developed by a 250-foot inclined shaft and a 100-foot adit. The ore was treated in a ten-stamp mill.

### **Van Dyke Dredge**

Three people from Lone, named Van Dyke, Modrell and Warner, operated a 3/4 cubic yard, dragline dredge on property in El Dorado County, during the year 1941. The dredge was commonly called the Van Dyke dredge.

### **Varozza Dredge**

The C.H.M. Mining Company, from Sacramento, operated a dragline dredge, known as the Varozza Dredge, during the years 1946-47.

### **Veerkamp Mines**

The Veerkamp Mine was a chromite mine one and one-half miles southwest of Garden Valley. It was active in 1916 (World War I) when 38 tons of ore containing 41% chromic oxide was mined. The deposit, a number of small pods was developed by open pits.

Another Veerkamp (Gold Coin) Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile west of Garden Valley. Some prospecting on this property was done in the early days of the Gold Rush and, in 1933, some ore was mines from an open cut and treated at the Beebe mill. Soon, an adit was driven. From 1935 to around 1940, a Canadian concern, Gold Company, Ltd., worked the property. There was further work at the mine in 1950. The deposit, which assayed at about \$12 per ton, consisted of several quartz veins and veinlets containing varying percentages of gold. Some pockets of high-grade ore were located and mined in the 1930's. Development at the mine consisted of an 180-foot shaft with levels at 60 and 97 feet. On the 60-foot level are 1200 feet of drifts and on the 97-foot level, about 1000 feet. There are also several adits and open cuts. The ore was treated by various methods, including flotation (a method of separating milled ore by putting it in a liquid that floats away impurities) and cyanidation.

### **Ventura (includes the Solari Tunnel) Mine**

The Ventura (includes the Solari Tunnel) Mine was a placer gold, drift mine on the north side ridge between Weber Creek and Pleasant Valley, south of Newton (Newtown). It was active in the 1930's and early 1940's when a 1300-foot adit was driven south, through volcanic ash, in an attempt to reach an ancient river channel believed to contain gold-bearing gravel.

### **Victoria Mine**

The Victoria Mine was a lode gold mine four miles northwest of the town of Rescue, near the Boulder Mine. It was active in 1924-26 when a vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by a 30-foot shaft and a 50-foot rift. The ore, which yielded \$8 per ton, was treated in a two-stamp mill.

### **Volo Mine**

The Volo Mill, at the Shaw Mine west of Placerville, was converted from gold to copper processing in the mid-1940's. The ore came from many of the local and not-so-local copper mines.

### **Wabash Deep Channel Mine**

The Wabash Deep Channel Mine was a placer gold, drift mine three miles north of Georgetown. It was active from 1856 until 1867 and again in 1907 and 1920. An ancient river channel at this location was developed by four shafts and a 350-foot bedrock adit.

### **Walker Mine**

The Walker Mine was a chromite mine located eight miles west of Shingle Springs (El Dorado Hills area). Some chrome ore was produced at this mine in 1917 and 1918 (World War I) and, in 1942 (World War II), when the Volo Mining Company of Placerville took over its operation. The deposits consisted of disseminated chromite in alternating rich and lean layers in a base of serpentine. It was estimated that the reserves in the ore zone, which is three to four feet wide and some 60 or more feet deep, at 1500 tons of ore containing ten to twelve percent chromic oxide. The property was developed by a 60-foot shaft with 30 feet of drifts at the 60-foot level and many open cuts.

### **Waun Mine**

One mile northwest of Spanish Dry Diggings was the Waun Mine, a seam gold mine. At this location a belt of gold-bearing, quartz seams, fifty feet wide was mined first by hydraulic and then underground means.

### **Webster Mine**

The Webster Mine was a lode gold mine in Quartz Canyon, two miles south of Volcanoville. It was active around 1894 when a one-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz was developed by 200 and 300-foot adits.

### **Welch Mine**

The Welch Mine was a lode gold mine one-half mile northeast of the town of Greenwood. It was active from 1894 through 1896. The deposit consisted of a three to eight-foot wide vein of gold-bearing quartz in slate which was developed by a 100-foot inclined shaft and a 150-foot crosscut adit. Prior to this development, the surface material was sluiced.

### **West Cool-Cave Valley Mine**

The West Cool-Cave Valley Mine was a limestone mine one mile west of Cool-Cave Valley, near the Middle Fork of the American River. The deposit consisted of a lens 450 feet long and 50 feet wide, of bluish-gray, high-calcium limestone. Mining was by open pit.

### **White Owl Mine**

Near Red Bird Creek, two miles southeast of Mosquito Camp (Swansboro Country area) was the White Owl Mine, a lode gold mine. It was active in 1938 when a one and one-half

to three foot wide vein of gold bearing quartz was developed by a 65-foot inclined shaft. The ore, which yielded up to \$65 per ton, was treated in a two-ton Gibson Mill.

### **White Rock Mine**

One mile west of Clarksville, at Carson Creek, was the White Rock Mine, a placer gold mine. Here, the gravel in Carson Creek was dredged by dragline during the years 1925 and 1926.

### **White Rock Diggings**

White Rock Diggings, was a placer gold, hydraulic mine at White Rock Canyon, three miles northeast of Placerville. It is reported that many years ago mining on this portion of the Blue Lead channel yielded \$5,000,000 in gold.

### **Wiedenbush Mine**

The Wiedebush Mine was a lode gold mine located two miles south of Volcanoville. It was active during the years 1920 through 1926 when a 70-foot long, three to four-foot wide ore shoot, consisting of gold-bearing quartz, was developed by an adit of unreported length. The ore was treated in a small roller mill.

### **Wild Cat Mine**

Two miles northwest of Garden Valley was a lode gold mine known as the Wild Cat Mine. All that is known about this mine is that it was active in 1926.

### **Wiley Mine**

The Wiley Mine was a chromite mine one mile southwest of Four Corners (the intersection of Lotus, Luneman and Gold Hill roads). It was only active in 1916, during World War I, when 45 tons of chromite was produced from open cuts.

### **Wilhelm and Last Chance Mine**

Four miles to the southeast of Auburn, near the town of Cool, was the Wilhelm and Last Chance Mine, a lode gold mine. It has been idle for a long time.

### **Williams Mine**

The Williams Mine, or more properly Williams prospect, was a tungsten deposit seven miles southeast of Placerville and one mile northeast of Buck's Bar. Thin, parallel streaks of scheelite (tungsten ore) within a body of material up to twelve feet wide were discovered here in 1954. By 1956, a cut twenty by twenty feet and fifteen feet high had been made to remove ore for milling tests. Analysis of the material showed from one to two percent tungsten oxide.

### **Williamson Mine**

The Williamson Mine, often called the Hector Williamson Mine, was a chromite mine located six miles north of Shingle Springs, at the intersection of Weber Creek and Lotus Road. It was first active around 1918 when 55 tons of ore containing 40% chromic oxide was produced. The deposit consisted of irregular chromite pods in a mineral reported as

slickentite, but probably serpentine. Hector Williamson and his family kept a mining museum at his mine for many years.

### **Wilson Mine**

Two miles northwest of Garden Valley was a chromite mine known as the Wilson Mine. In 1943, during World War II, an unreported amount of shipping and milling grade ore was produced from this deposit.

### **Wilton Mine**

Near Otter Creek, eight miles northeast of Georgetown, was a placer gold, drift mine known as the Wilton Mine. It was active around 1894 when an ancient river channel, 600 feet wide, was developed by a 700-foot adit.

### **Wiltshire Mine**

The Wiltshire Mine was a lode gold mine near the town of Nashville. It was a "pocket" mine, where the gold was found in pockets rather than continuously in a vein, and active around 1926.

### **Woods Mine**

The Woods Mine was a copper mine located one mile northwest of Latrobe. The deposit consisted of a five foot wide vein that contained copper. It was developed by a twelve-foot shaft.

### **Worthington Mine**

The Worthington Mine was a placer gold, drift mine northeast of Volcanoville. It was active around 1896 when gravel, which yielded sixteen cents per cubic yard, was mined from an ancient river channel.

### **Wulff Mine**

The Wulff Mine was a small operation, placer gold mine five miles northwest of Rescue. Surface gravel was worked here from 1938 until 1946.

### **W. W. Mine**

The W.W. Mine was a placer gold, drift mine at Cement Hill, four miles north of Georgetown. It was active in 1894 when an ancient river channel was prospected by means of a 400-foot adit along the bedrock.

### **Yellowjacket Mine**

The Yellowjacket Mine was a placer gold, drift mine near the town of Indian Diggings. It was only active during the years 1926, 1927 and 1930.

### **Zanini Mine**

The Zanini Mine was a chromite mine located two miles northeast of Latrobe. It was a low grade deposit only prospected during World War I.

### **Zantgraf (Montauk Consolidated, Zentgraf) Mine**

The Zantgraf (Montauk Consolidated, Zentgraf) Mine was a lode gold mine located one mile south of Rattlesnake Bridge on the east side of the American River, six miles southwest of Pilot Hill. The mine is now a part of Folsom Lake.

This mine was first worked in 1880 and by the year 1888, it was in full operation with a ten-stamp mill. In the 1890's the size of the mill was increased to 20-stamps. The Montauk Consolidated Mining Company took over the operation of the mine from 1898 - 1901 and, by 1901 more than \$1,000,000 in gold had been recovered from the mine. No mining was done from 1901 until 1924, when some prospecting just to the north of the mine occurred, with no reported results. During the years 1933 - 1938, and again in 1941, a Mr. W. B. Longan prospected the property, sinking several shafts and adding drifts of considerable length. Mr. Longan did recover some gold for his work. Since 1938, the mine has effectively been idle.

The deposit at the Zantgraf Mine consisted of several nearly parallel veins of gold-bearing quartz. However, most of the gold was removed from the main, or Zantgraf vein, which varied from two to six feet in width. The ore, which contained free gold, auriferous (gold containing) pyrite and galena (lead ore), ranged in value from two dollars to as much as one-hundred dollars per ton, with an average value of between seven and eight dollars per ton.

The mine was developed by a 1,130 foot inclined shaft with levels at every one-hundred feet and a 500-foot crosscut adit that intersected the shaft at the 300-foot level. An ore shoot was stoped from the 300-foot level to the surface, a distance of 900 feet, and another ore shoot, 600 feet in length was developed at the lower levels. There is also a 200-foot shaft 900 feet to the northwest of the main shaft, with levels at 80 and 180 feet, and a second 190-foot shaft on the Montauk vein. Both of these shafts were sunk in the 1930's. The stamp mill was used to treat the ore until the 1930's when it was replaced with a 50-ton Chilean mill and even later a ball mill.

### **Zimmerman Mine**

The Zimmerman Mine, which was also known as the Pacific Channel Mine, was a placer gold mine one-half mile west of Pacific House. From around 1915 through the early 1920's, an ancient channel of the South Fork of the American River, lying on granite bedrock and capped by andesite (a volcanic rock) was mined through several adits, one of which was 1000 feet in length. The gold bearing gravel, once removed, was treated in a barrel mill.

## EPILOGUE

I am often asked about some of the mines I have written about and whether or not there is anything left worth looking at. Well, most of them are on private property and you will need the owner's permission to see them. How you find out the name of the owner is a matter of research at the County Recorder's Office and government mining documents like "Mines and Mineral Resources of El Dorado County", which can be found in the rare book collection at our main library. You must remember that a mine, working or abandoned, open pit or underground, is a potentially dangerous place. When following an adit into a deposit, you may come across a winze, raise or an air shaft, several hundred feet deep. If you fall in, they will never find you! Mine timbers were put there for a purpose when they were new and now they are rotten and will not support anything. The best rule is: If you really want to see an old gold mine, go to Gold Bug Park in Placerville and take the tour. Besides, they also have a stamp mill to look at.

**DOUG NOBLE 2002**

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