HISTORIC SITE FORM -- HISTORIC SITE INVENTORY

PARK CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (06-09)

1 IDENTIFICATION

Name of Property: Silver King A	erial Tramway Towers	•		
Address: Multiple addresses		AKA:		
City, County: Park City, Summit	County, Utah	Tax Numl	ber: PCA-S-98-PCMR	
Current Owner Name: United Pa	ark City Mines	Parent Pa	arcel(s): S-98	
Current Owner Address: Post C	office Box 1450, Park C	City, Utah 84060		
Legal Description (include acrea	age): 2,538.33 acres; S	See Summit County Reco	order for description.	
2 STATUS/USE				
Property Category □ building(s), main □ building(s), attached □ building(s), detached □ building(s), public □ building(s), accessory ☑ structure(s)	Evaluation* □ Landmark Site ☑ Significant Site □ Not Historic *National Register of	Reconstruction Date: Permit #: □ Full □ Partial Historic Places: ☑ inelig	<u>Use</u> Original Use: Industrial Current Use: None ible □ eligible	
	☐ listed (date:)	_	-	
3 DOCUMENTATION				
Photos: Dates □ tax photo: ☑ prints: 1999 and 2009 ☑ historic: date unknown □ measured floor plans □ site sketch map □ Historic American Bldg. Surv □ original plans: ☑ other: HAER	□ abstract of □ tax card □ original but □ sewer perr ☑ Sanborn M □ obituary ind □ city directo ey □ census rec	title ilding permit mit laps dex ories/gazetteers cords al encyclopedias	consulted, whether useful or not) ☐ city/county histories ☐ personal interviews ☐ Utah Hist. Research Center ☐ USHS Preservation Files ☐ USHS Architects File ☐ LDS Family History Library ☐ Park City Hist. Soc/Museum ☐ university library(ies): ☐ other:	
14-15. Internet Archive. 31 http://www.archive.org/de "Death of David Keith." Park Record Marriott Library. 6 Oct. 200 Hampshire, David and Hal Compton Logan: Utah State Univers "King Sampler." Park Record [Park Marriott Library. 22 Oct. 20 Larsen, Ken Shelton. "The Life of T "Mining Matters." Park Record [Park Marriott Library. 22 Oct. 20 Morrison, Sandra. 1999-2000 Record Snyderville Basin & Park (Murphy, Miriam B. Thomas Kearns 1994. Utah History Encyco <historytogo.utah.edu.gov and="" bruce="" departmen<="" j.="" noble,="" robert="" spude.="" states.="" td="" united=""><td>r. Half a Century of Rope July 2009. The Sloan Foretails/halfcenturyofrop006 [Park City] 19 Apr. 1918 D9 https://digitalnewspapen The City Press, 2006. 318-41. City] 25 May 1901: 3. Uto 2009 https://digitalnewspapen. The City] 28 Jan. 1905: 3. Uto 2009 https://digitalnewspapennaissance Level Surve City. Summit County: Surve Ed. Kent Allan Powell. Lopedia. Media Solutions /people/thomas_kearns.r</td><td>Making: 1857-1907. St. Locundation and the Library of esc- 8: 1. Utah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> Ground Up: The History of Nah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> Sis. University of Utah, 1964 Utah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> y: Unincorporated Areas of mmit County Historical Socutah History Encyclopedia. March 2004. University of timl> g. Evaluating, and Registeri</td><td>ers: Creating Citizen Historians. J. Willa Mining in Utah. Ed. Colleen Whitley. Peating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Freating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Summit County (North Summit County) Piety, 2000. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press</td><td>· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</td></historytogo.utah.edu.gov>	r. Half a Century of Rope July 2009. The Sloan Foretails/halfcenturyofrop006 [Park City] 19 Apr. 1918 D9 https://digitalnewspapen The City Press, 2006. 318-41. City] 25 May 1901: 3. Uto 2009 https://digitalnewspapen. The City] 28 Jan. 1905: 3. Uto 2009 https://digitalnewspapennaissance Level Surve City . Summit County: Surve Ed. Kent Allan Powell. Lopedia. Media Solutions /people/thomas_kearns.r	Making: 1857-1907. St. Locundation and the Library of esc- 8: 1. Utah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> Ground Up: The History of Nah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> Sis. University of Utah, 1964 Utah Digital Newspapers: Crepers.org> y: Unincorporated Areas of mmit County Historical Socutah History Encyclopedia. March 2004. University of timl> g. Evaluating, and Registeri	ers: Creating Citizen Historians. J. Willa Mining in Utah. Ed. Colleen Whitley. Peating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Freating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Summit County (North Summit County) Piety, 2000. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Washington: GPO, 1997.				

Researcher/Organization: Preservation Solutions/Park City Municipal Corporation Date: February 2010

Park City, Utah. Aerial photograph from Google Earth. March 5, 2006. Google, 2009.

Sanborn, D.A. "Sheet 15, Park City, Utah, 1907." Map. <u>Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps</u>. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1907. <u>J. Willard Marriott Library</u>. 10 Oct. 2009. https://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/sanborn/

Silver King Aerial Tramway. N.d. Bea Kummer Collection. Hal Compton Research Library. Park City Historical Society & Museum. 10 Oct. 2009 Photo #1990.31.21. Electronic.

"Silver King Aerial Tramway Moves, Brings Back Memories." <u>Park Record</u> [Park City] 21 Mar. 1963: 1. *Utah Digital Newspapers:* Creating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Marriott Library. 22 Oct. 2009 http://digitalnewspapers.org

Steele, James H. "A Model Tramway and Sampler." <u>Transactions of The Institution of Mining Engineers</u>. Vol. XXVI, 1903-04: 661-62. Ed. M Walton Brown. Newcastle-Upon-Tyne: Institution of Mining Engineers, 1905. <u>Google Books</u>. Nd. 23 Oct. 2009 http://books.google.com

Thompson, George A. and Fraser Buck. <u>Treasure Mountain Home: Park City Revisited</u>. 1968. Salt Lake City: Dream Garden Press, 1993.

"Tram and Sampler." Park Record [Park City] 4 Aug. 1900: 3. Utah Digital Newspapers: Creating Citizen Historians. J. Willard Marriott Library. 22 Oct. 2009 http://digitalnewspapers.org

Utah. State Historic Preservation Office. Architectural Survey Data for Park City. Salt Lake City: SHPO, 2006. Electronic.

4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION & INTEGRITY

Building Type and/or Style: Tram Tower /None	No. Stories: N/A		
Additions: $\ \ \square \ $ none $\ \ \square \ $ minor $\ \ \square \ $ major (describe below) Alterations: $\ \ \square \ $ none $\ \ \square \ $	minor □ major (describe below)		
Number of associated outbuildings and/or structures: $\hfill\Box$ accessory building(s)	, #; □ structure(s), #		
General Condition of Exterior Materials:			
☐ Good (Well maintained with no serious problems apparent.)			
☑ Fair (Some problems are apparent. Describe the problems.): General rusting and	d some deterioration of the		
foundations.			
☐ Poor (Major problems are apparent and constitute an imminent threat. Describe the problems.):			
☐ Uninhabitable/Ruin			
Materials (The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of Describe the materials.): Site: Multiple sites - towers run parallel to the Town Lift line.	f time in a particular pattern or configuration.		
Foundation: Concrete for a few of the towers, stone for most.			
Walls: N/A			
Roof: N/A			
Windows/Doors: N/A			
Essential Historical Form: ☑ Retains ☐ Does Not Retain, due to:			
Location: ☑ Original Location ☐ Moved (date) Original Location	on:		

Design (The combination of physical elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style. Describe additions and/or alterations from the original design, including dates--known or estimated--when alterations were made): Thirty-five towers remian, although one of the towers has collapsed. The towers are steel structures that range in size from 16 to approximately 65 feet in height and have either concrete or stone foundations. The towers follow the current Town Lift line from the city up and over Treasure Hill to the location of the Silver King Mine Site. The A. Leschen & Sons Rope Company of St. Louis Missouri supplied the towers in 1900. The tramway was completed and operating by May 1901. None of the cables or buckets remain.

Setting (The physical environment--natural or manmade--of a historic site. Describe the setting and how it has changed over time.): The physical environment is remote and steep in areas. The setting has not significantly changed over time, though the mountain is now crossed with ski runs and a modern ski lift runs parallel with the former tramway line.

Workmanship (The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during a given period in history. Describe the distinctive elements.): The towers were constructed as Finlayson-type towers using steel materials from the A. Leschen & Sons Rope Company.

Feeling (Describe the property's historic character.): The towers, along with other extant Silver King Mine buildings, convey a limited sense of mining activities in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The tramway, alone or in conjunction with other extant structures from the Silver King Mine Site do not sufficiently convey a sense of the mining operations at this site.

Association (Describe the link between the important historic era or person and the property.): The towers are associated with the Silver King Mine and its owners and operators at the time of its construction, primarily David Keith and Thomas Kearns.

5 SIGNIFICANCE				
Architect: ☑ Not Known ☐ Known: (source:)	Date of Construction: 1901			
Builder: ☐ Not Known ☐ Known: Warren C. Bogue and the Finlayson Wire Rope Tramway Co.	(source: Various, see below)			
The site must represent an important part of the history or architecture of the community. A site need only be significant under one of the three areas listed below:				

1. Historic Era:

☐ Settlement & Mining Boom Era (1868-1893)

☑ Mature Mining Era (1894-1930)

☐ Mining Decline & Emergence of Recreation Industry (1931-1962)

From a marker prepared by the PCHS&M in 1999,

The towers to the left, which parallel the Town Lift towers, are the remnants of an ore delivery system between Silver King Mine on the mountain behind you and a loading area in town. In 1901, this was a state-of-the-art aerial tramway whose system of buckets replaced the slow and dangerous horses and wagons carrying heavy ore. At the Silver King Coalition Building, which stood at the bottom of this row of towers, ore was dumped into bins, which could load two railroad cars at a time. Elevators lifted coal and supplies 85 feet to the top of the building where buckets hauled the materials (and sometimes miners) back to the mine. A single individual could operate the entire system. The building burned in 1981.

According to reports in the *Park Record*, the contract to build the aerial tramway was awarded in August 1900 and the tramway was completed by May 1901. The *Park Record* reported that the contract for the tramway was awarded to Warren C. Bogue of Salt Lake City who was representing the Finlayson Wire Rope Tramway Company of Chicago and would cost approximately \$25,000 for materials and labor. The length was expected to be 7,200 feet with 40 iron towers strung with cables that have a capacity of thirty tons an hour if worked to the limit.

James H. Steele of the Institution of Mining Engineers reported in an article originally published in 1901 that the tramway was the Finlayson-type with steel towers ranging in height from 16 to 65 feet. He goes on to report the capacity of the buckets, the length of the tramway, and among other details, the types and sizes of traction and standing ropes.

The Park Record reported in 1905,

A new cable is to be placed on the Silver King aerial tramway next week, the one now in use being almost worn out. The cables do not need changing very often, however, and the tramway as a whole needs but little repairing. It has proved a very profitable thing for the company since it was installed, and has also saved them much trouble and concern in the transportation of their enormous output of ore.

An article in the *Park Record* from 1963 claims the tramway was constructed in 1898, but it does not appear on the Sanborn Insurance maps until 1907. In addition, this article states that A. Leschen & Sons, a St. Louis company, which carried the Finlayson type tram towers, supplied the materials for the tramway. On page 17 of a catalog from the Leschen Company, dated 1907, is a photograph of two of the tram towers in Park City.

This article also states the tramway ceased working in 1952.

2. Persons (Describe how the site is associated with the lives of persons who were of historic importance to the community or those who were significant in the history of the state, region, or nation): The tramway is most commonly associated Thomas Kearns and David Keith.

David Keith (1847-1918) was born in Nova Scotia and came to Park City in 1883. Having considerable experience in mines in Nevada, he joined the Ontario Mine as the foreman. He left the Ontario in 1885 to join the Anchor Mining Company--later the Judge Mine Company--as the mine manager. He and John Judge were responsible for the Alliance Tunnel and eventually joined with Thomas Kearns, E.P. Ferry, and Albion Emery in the Mayflower claims; these claims became the Silver King Coalition Mines Company. At the time of his death, Mr. Keith was president of the company (*The Park Record*, April 19, 1918).

Thomas Kearns (1862-1918) was born in Ontario, Canada in 1862. His family moved to Nebraska when he was a young boy and at age twenty-one, he was drawn to Park City by the mining activity. He married Jennie Judge, the niece of his business partner John Judge, and became an alderman in Park City. He and several other investors including David Keith, Thomas Kearns, Albion B. Emery, and John Judge purchased the Silver King property the summer of 1892 for \$65,000. In 1901, he was elected as a U.S. Senator and along with his partner, David Keith, purchased the Salt Lake Tribune the same year. Kearns died from a stroke in 1918 after having been struck by a car near his home in Salt Lake City (Murphy & Larsen).

3. Architecture (Describe how the site exemplifies noteworthy methods of construction, materials or craftsmanship used during the historic period or is the work of a master craftsman or notable architect):

6 PHOTOS

Digital photographs are on file with the Planning Department, Park City Municipal Corp.

Photo No. 1: Tram Tower 1.

Photo No. 2: Tram Tower 2.

Photo No. 3: Tram Tower 3.

Photo No. 4: Tram Tower 4.

Photo No. 5: Tram Tower 5.

Photo No. 6: Tram Tower 6.

Photo No. 7: Tram Tower 7.

Photo No. 8: Tram Tower 9.

Photo No. 9: Tram Tower 11.

Photo No. 10: Tram Tower 28.

Photo No. 11: Tram Tower 35.

Photo No. 12: Tram Tower 36.



Tram Tower 1



Tram Tower 3



Tram Tower 5



Tram Tower 2



Tram Tower 4



Tram Tower 6



Tram Tower 7



Tram Tower 11



Tram Tower 35



Tram Tower 9



Tram Tower 28



Tram Tower 36



Silver King Aerial Tramway. N.d. Bea Kummer Collection. Hal Compton Research Library. Park City Historical Society & Museum. 10 Oct. 2009 Photo #1990.31.21. Electronic.



Tramway Towers 1999 RLS