

HISTORIC SITE FORM -- HISTORIC SITE INVENTORY

PARK CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION (06-09)

1 IDENTIFICATION

Name of Property: Silver King Consolidated Mine - Ore Bin

Address: UTM 0455882E 4498193N

AKA:

City, County: Park City, Summit County, Utah

Tax Number: PCA-S-98-PCMR

Current Owner Name: United Park City Mines

Parent Parcel(s): S-98

Current Owner Address: POB 1450, Park City, UT 84060

Legal Description (include acreage): 2,538.33 acres; see Summit County Recorder 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

Reconstruction

- Date:
Permit #:
 Full Partial

Use

- Original Use: Industrial
Current Use: None

- *National Register of Historic Places: ineligible eligible
 listed (date:)

3 DOCUMENTATION

Photos: Dates

- tax photo:
- prints: 1995 and 2009
- historic:

Drawings and Plans

- measured floor plans
- site sketch map
- Historic American Bldg. Survey
- original plans:
- other:

Research Sources (check all sources consulted, whether useful or not)

- abstract of title
- tax card
- original building permit
- sewer permit
- Sanborn Maps
- obituary index
- city directories/gazetteers
- census records
- biographical encyclopedias
- newspapers
- 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:

Bibliographical References (books, articles, interviews, etc.)

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

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4 ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION & INTEGRITY

Building Type and/or Style: Ore bin / None

No. Stories: n/a

Additions: none minor major (describe below) Alterations: none minor major (describe below)

Number of associated outbuildings and/or structures: 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.):
- Poor (Major problems are apparent and constitute an imminent threat. Describe the problems.): **General deterioration.**
- Uninhabitable/Ruin

Materials (The physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time in a particular pattern or configuration. Describe the materials.):

Site: The ore bin is located in a remote area of the eastern slope of Thaynes Canyon below Crescent Ridge.

Foundation: None.

Walls: Wood

Roof: None.

Windows/Doors: N/A

Essential Historical Form: Retains Does Not Retain, due to:Location: Original Location Moved (date _____) Original Location:

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): The wood frame structure (approx. 8'x18') is different from any of the other ore bins in the Park City mining area. Instead of a typical post-and-beam construction, the walls of this bin are made up of 2"x6" boards lying vertically and stacked to a height of nearly 16 feet. The corners of the bin are locked together with simple lap joints and secured on the interior of the bin with internal corner boards. In addition, the upper half of the exterior shows buttress boards that appear to have been secured to the exterior with steel tie rods. A column of lap joints bisects the interior of the bin into two equal areas. The bin itself is raised above the ground on a post-and-lintel frame with bracing elements and the sleeper that supports the bin is made up of 2"x6" boards standing on the short end (soldier course) and pressed together to form the bin floor. The northwest elevation includes four openings, three of which have steel chutes and gates. The lower half of the bin is unpainted and shows signs of weathering. The upper half of the bin is painted red and the narrow north end paint pattern indicates a gable-roofed addition that was removed at some point. The exact date of construction is unknown, but records from the early mining era suggest this site was actively mined as early as 1893. None of the engineering manuals from the early 1900s refer to this type of lumber-intensive construction method. The bin was likely constructed between 1907 and 1929; an ore bin of similar size and orientation appears on the 1929 Sanborn Insurance map in the center of a larger tramway terminal building.

Setting (The physical environment--natural or manmade--of a historic site. Describe the setting and how it has changed over time.): The setting is remote. The ore bin is located on a ski run in Thaynes Canyon below Crescent Ridge. There is a small wooden structure near collapse in the vicinity.

Workmanship (The physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during a given period in history. Describe the distinctive elements.): The physical evidence of the mining era is the use of wood frame structure, steel chutes, and steel gates. This bin differs greatly from others in the area because of the construction method. Rather than a standard frame structure, the bin is made up of stacked boards with simple lap joints at the corners of the entire bin and also at the center where the interior space is divided into two sections.

Feeling (Describe the property's historic character.): The structure conveys a limited sense of mining activities in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Because the area is devoid of other mine-related buildings and or structures, the historic character of the site is substantially diminished. The bin, either alone or with the debris in the area does not sufficiently convey the sense of mining operations at the site.

Association (Describe the link between the important historic era or person and the property.): The structure is associated with the Silver King Consolidated Mine and its principal owners, including Solon Spiro and Samuel Newhouse. The Silver King Coalition Mine later acquired the site, which is most commonly associated with David Keith and Thomas Kearns.

5 SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Not Known Known: (source:)

Date of Construction: c. 1915

Builder: Not Known Known: (source:)

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)

Marker that was prepared by the Park City Historical Society & Museum using 1999 Summit County Restaurant funds and is attached to the structure states:

This sturdy old ore bin is all that remains of the Bogan Shaft of the King Con Mine. John and Ann Bogan came to Park City in 1877, acquired claims on this hillside and started the mine. But by 1895 they were in debt to Ascheim General Store and traded 5,000 shares of stock to Solon Spiro, the bright, aggressive nephew of the proprietor. Though the ore was rich, the difficulty with the 1800-foot shaft was underground water, a constant problem in Park City mines. Later, the Spiro Tunnel at the bottom of the mountain was dug to drain the shaft. At this mine there was a deep shaft, hoisting works, three modern boarding houses, an office and an aerial tramway to the King Con Mill below Park City.

From Boutwell, John Mason. Geology and Ore Deposits of the Park City District, Utah. United States. Department of the Interior. United States Geological Survey. Washington: GPO, 1912. Page 215.

The Silver King Consolidated property is situated at the head of an unnamed gulch, which descends to Thaynes Canyon from the east and lies next west of Nigger Hollow. The ground adjoins the Silver King Coalition ground on the northwest. The nucleus of the property is the old Cumberland claim, which with two others, formed the Bogan property. Considerable work was done on the Cumberland, and in 1893, 1894, and 1895 ore strikes were reported. In July 1903, the old company passed into the hands of the new organization under the name Silver King Consolidated. The Bogan shaft, which had then reached a depth of 610 feet, was sunk to 790 feet, in spite of the difficulty of handling a heavy flow of water. New machinery of greater capacity, both for hoisting and pumping, was then installed. It is reported by the company that the shaft was sunk to a depth of 800 feet.

The publication goes on to describe the geological features of the property and notes the existence of an office and bunkhouse.

Prior to the mine being owned formally by the Silver King Consolidated, it was purchased and held by Solon Spiro and several investors, as noted in the March 15, 1901 edition of the Salt Lake Mining Review, *A deal was closed in this city last week whereby Solon Spiro, the veteran business man and mining operator of Park City, secured an option on 70,000 of the 125,000 shares embracing the capitalization of the Bogan Silver Mining company, the consideration being 30 cents a share. As Mr. Spiro already owns quite a large block of the stock of the company, this will give him control... The Bogan group is located west of the Silver King and is regarded as being valuable ground. Upon the consummation of the deal the directory of the company was reorganized as follows: Solon Spiro, president and general manager; G.A. Gibbs, secretary, Max E. Smith, treasurer, W.H. Clark and W.H. Harris.*

The Bogan Silver Mine continued to operate under the name "Bogan Silver Mine" until 1903 when the mine was referred to the Bogan shaft of the Silver King Consolidated.

On May 23, 1924, *The Park Record* reported the Silver King Coalition Mine Company had purchased a controlling interest in the Silver King Consolidated Mining Company. Spiro's claims were adjacent to those being mined by the Silver King Coalition and Thomas Kearns formed the Silver King Western Mining and Milling Company with the purpose of mining these areas. The 1,400 acres of Silver King Con was absorbed into the holdings of Silver King Coalition, then made up of more than 3,800 contiguous acres.

Sanborn maps from 1889 and 1900 do not reflect either Cumberland or Bogan in any of the titles, but the 1907 map shows a Silver King Consolidation Hogan Mine located 2.5 miles west of city hall in Thaynes Canyon.

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): Solon Spiro, Samuel Newhouse and after 1925 with Thomas Kearns and David Keith.

Solon Spiro (1881-1929) was born in Kurnik, Germany and came to Park City in 1881 to join his uncle M.S. Ascheim in his mercantile business. In 1900, he left the mercantile business to pursue the development of mining properties. He organized the Silver King Consolidated Mine Company and retained control of it after a reorganization in 1908. In 1922, he moved to New York with his wife and finally sold the mine company to the Silver King Coalition Mine Company in 1924. (*The Park Record*, August 2, 1929).

Samuel Newhouse (1853-1930), born in New York City, was the son of Jewish immigrants. He grew up in Pennsylvania, studied law there, and then moved to Colorado in 1879. He moved to Utah in 1896 and purchased mining properties in Bingham Canyon. His Utah Consolidated Gold Mines was sold to Standard Oil in 1899 for \$12M. He also acquired mining properties in California and was, by many accounts, Utah's wealthiest mining magnate. He built the Boston and Newhouse buildings in SLC and remained engaged as an investor in many mining operations, including the Silver King Consolidated Mine Company. In the 1910s, Mr. Newhouse's fortunes began to change. His mining operations could no longer finance his other projects and WWI made it difficult to get loans. He and his wife separated and after selling off many of his real estate holdings, he moved to a chateau outside Paris to live with his sister. He died there in 1930 at age 76 (Powell).

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.

Ore Bin

Photo No. 1: Northwest elevation. Camera facing southeast, 2009.

Photo No. 2: North oblique. Camera facing south, 2009.

Photo No. 3: South oblique. Camera facing north, 2009.

Photo No. 4: Southwest elevation. Camera facing northeast, 2009.

Photo No. 5: North oblique. Camera facing south, 1999.



Ore Bin (Northwest elevation), 2009



Ore Bin (North oblique), 2009



Ore Bin (South oblique), 2009



Ore Bin (southwest elevation), 2009



Ore Bin (North oblique), 1999



Unknown Structure (southwest oblique), 2009



Counterweight (East elevation), 2009