

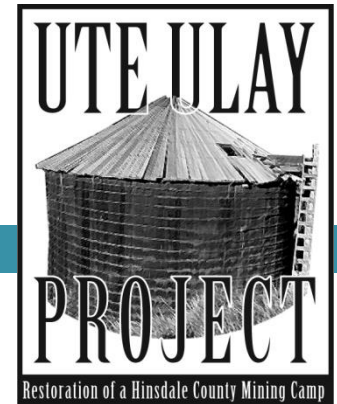
THE UTE ULAY

THE MINE THAT MADE LAKE CITY

Hinsdale County, Colorado

The Ute Ulay

The Mine That Made Lake City



Welcome

Kye Abraham
LKA Gold Incorporated

Stan Whinnery
Hinsdale County
Commissioner

Mark Rudolph
Colorado Department of
Public Health &
Environment (CDPHE)
Superfund, Brownfield's
& Voluntary Cleanup



Image used by permission from Jane E. Jones

The Ute Ulay

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- First patented mining claim in Hinsdale County
- Estimated \$12 million mined between 1874 and 1903
- Ute Ulay mining complex spurred regional development and powered Lake City's economy for decades.
- 3 1/2 miles from Lake City
- 12-acre site donated to Hinsdale County
- Site known as former community of Henson
- Demonstrates many eras of mining technology
- Local historically significant landmark
- Historic structures on-site
- Partnership of local government, a private mining company, nonprofit organizations, and state and federal agencies
- Ute Ulay is being reclaimed as a heritage tourism destination to showcase mining history and offer outdoor recreational opportunities.

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Ute Ulay Milling & Mining Complex

- Proximity to Lake City, Colorado
- Alpine Loop Backcountry Byway, BLM RAMP (Recreation Area Management Plan) estimates 600,000 annual visitors



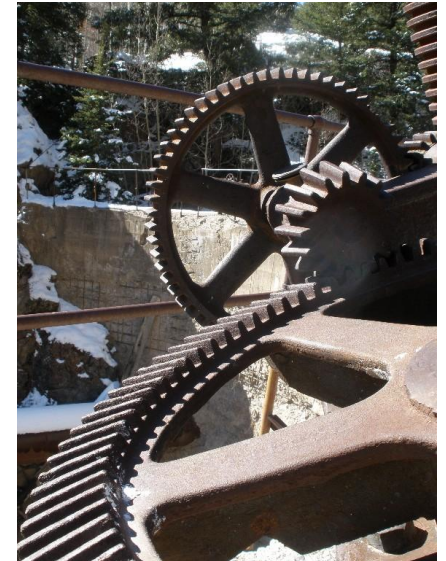
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Historical Overview

- The mining history began August 27, 1871
- Discovery of the Ute & Ulay veins by Henry Henson, Joel Mullen, Albert Meade, and Charles Godwin
- First patented mining claim in Hinsdale County
- Reason for all subsequent development / exploration
- During 1891, Ute Ulay produced over \$400,000
- Total production was \$12 million (1891-1903)
- Ore includes tetrahedrite, rhodochrosite, barite, pyrite
- This base metals mine produced gold, silver, lead, and copper with zinc as a byproduct
- Among the largest, historic producers of silver and lead in Colorado



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Five Facts About the Ute Ulay

- 1) One of the largest historical communities surrounding an intact mill building and mine site
- 2) Warren Delano – Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s mother’s father – was one of the bank owners that took over during one of the Ute’s many bankruptcies
- 3) Lead mined at the Ute Ulay was processed at the Crooke’s Smelter and further refined at a New York City Smelter. These thin-lead sheets were purchased by Thomas Edison and used in his laboratory for experiments with the cylindrical megaphone.
- 4) The mill was powered by hydro-electric power until the dam broke. Power also came from the installation of a Buckeye battleship engine.
- 5) 326 militiamen were brought in to settle a strike with the Italian miners who were promptly fired in March 1899.



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Industrial Assets of the Site

- Limited available, developable land in Hinsdale County
- 96% public land
- Limited property tax base
- Commercial redevelopment supports economic goals
- Historical significance – Hinsdale County landmark
- Heritage tourism opportunities
 - Alpine Backcountry Byway
- Hard Tack Mine - neighboring property offer interpretive tours
- Regional emphasis on mining history – Animas Forks, Mayflower Mill, Underground Mining Museum, Bachelor Loop



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Natural Assets of the Site

- Health and vitality of watershed – Henson Creek & Lake Fork of the Gunnison River
 - Upstream of the Town of Lake City's water source
- Fisheries
 - Possibility for additional access to public fishing
- Opportunities for new natural / industrial park development
- ATV/ 4x4 travel along Alpine Backcountry Loop
- Ice climbing
- Other outdoor recreational opportunities



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Unique partnership

- LKA Gold Incorporated (publicly-held company)
- Hinsdale County
- Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDHPE)
- Division of Reclamation, Minerals, and Safety (DRMS) – Active Mines Division & Inactive Mines Division
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Colorado Art Ranch
- Colorado Brownfields Foundation
- Lake City DIRT
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Hinsdale County Historical Society
- Lake City Arts
- Lake Fork Valley Conservancy
- Town of Lake City



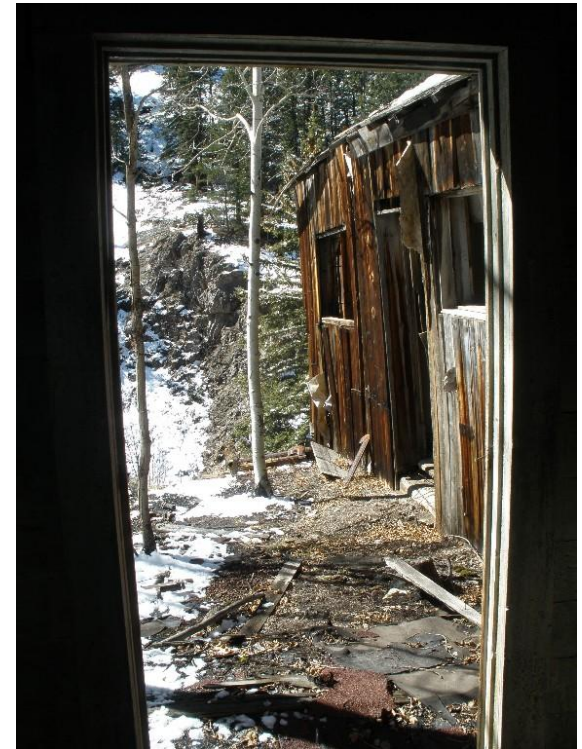
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What's the Overall Plan?

- Environmental stabilization and remediation
- Historic preservation stabilization of buildings
- Redevelopment of the site into heritage tourism destination
- Commercial redevelopment economic development through concessions such as heritage tourism opportunities, lodging, and other amenities



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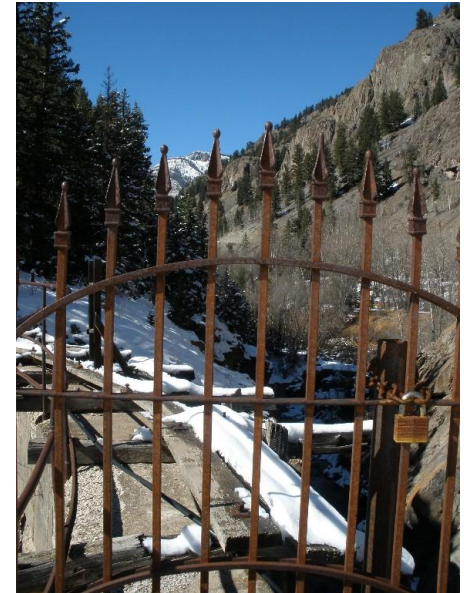


Hinsdale County & LKA discussions, fall of 2009
Hinsdale County, DIRT & Colorado Brownfields discussions
•Fall of 2009

Targeted Brownfields Assessment – Phase I for Town Site
•Purpose and Outcomes

Community Champions training, Colorado Brownfields
Foundation, Gunnison, Colorado, August 2010
•Development of an Action Plan

Hinsdale County identifies Ute Ulay as a local landmark
•Site of historical significance (November 2011)
•First and only designated site to date by Hinsdale County



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Two natural occurrences

Potential for adverse affects on health of watershed

- Dam breaking in 1973
- Snow avalanche occurred at T-Mountain, January 2011
 - Recurring avalanche slide zone
 - Avalanche dams the river and in 2011, backed up water against waste rock pile



Photos by Angela Hollingsworth

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Hardrock Revision: Using Art, Science and Community to Envision Uses for the Ute

Colorado Art Ranch – Summer 2011 – residency & artposium

•Grant Pound, Executive Director – 7 artists / 7 scientists

•Hannah Fries, Massachusetts poet / ascc editor of *Orion Magazine*

•Bland Hoke, Wyoming transdisciplinary artist and sculptor

•Julia Lewandoski, Public historian, writer, and musician

•Anna Macleod, Irish sculptor, curator, and environmental artist

•Lydia Moyer, Videographer, Documentarian, and Educator

•Becky Sobell, Landscape Architect From Manchester, England

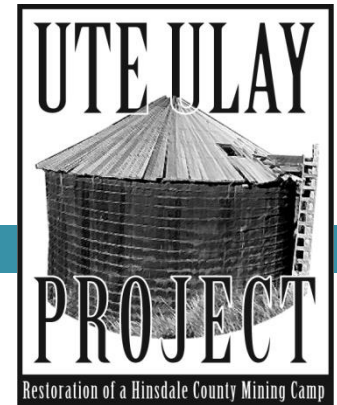
•Linda Wysong, Oregon Public Artist and Community Collaborator

•T. Allan Comp, Ph.D., OSM/VISTA Team and Brownfields Initiatives at the Office of Surface Mining

•Joseph Ryan, Ph.D. Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of Colorado and co-author of *Cleaning Up Abandoned Hardrock Mines in the West*

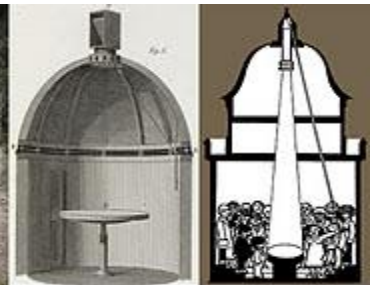
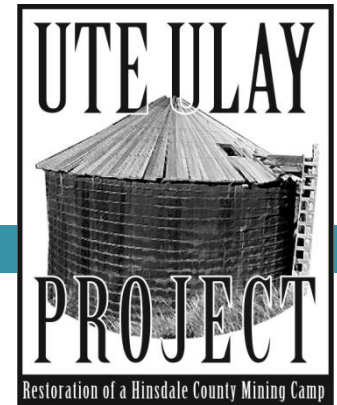
•David Stiller, Ph.D., author of *Wounding the West: Montana, Mining, and the Environment*, hydrologist, geologist, water resources consultant, educator, nurseryman, former executive director of North Fork River Improvement District

•Rob Blair, Ph.D., editor of *Western San Juan Mountains: their geology, ecology and human history*, and co-founder/president of the Mountain Studies Institute



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High Country News article

Can an old mine become a work of art?

November 2011

Bank Stabilization Assessment

DRMS, Fall 2011

Becky Sobell, Landscape Architect, additional site
development ideas – blog

Manchester Metropolitan University

Winter 2012

Colorado Matters

Silver Mine Promised a New Life

January 2012



Targeted Brownfields Assessment, Phase II – Town Site
Voluntary Clean-up Plan – Town Site

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Town Site conveyed to Hinsdale County

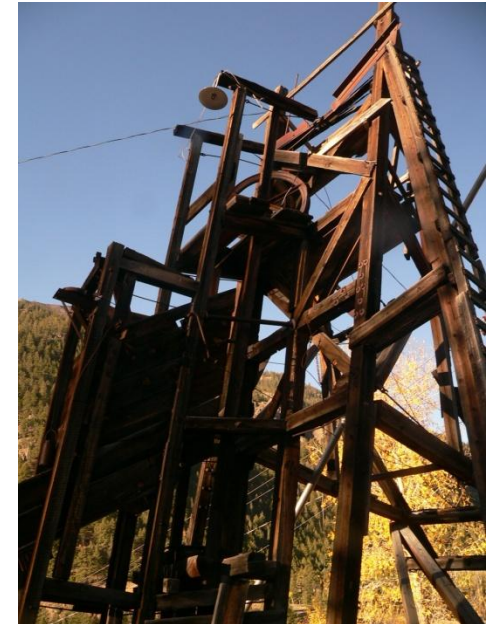
- September 2012

Permanent closure of two abandoned portals / adits

- Fall 2012 – DRMS

Stabilization of the Historic Head-frame

- Fall 2012 - DRMS



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Environmental Remediation Work – Town Site - Fall 2012

- Approval of Voluntary Clean-up Plan
- Site Safety and Health Plan (SSHP)
- Stormwater management plan
- XRF surveys
- Drainage run-on control channels / grading
- Waste rock into on-site repositories / capped
- Contour waste rock pile / cap with gray waste rock
- Construct rock wall
- Amended soil / hiking trail / vegetated
- EPDM liner
- Re-installed crib sets
- Removed five 35-cubic yard roll-offs of general debris
- Segregated and removed 32 tires



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Mine / Mill Site

Voluntary Clean-up Report

- RMC Consultants, Inc.
- Colorado Brownfields Foundation

January 2013

Phase 1 – Targeted Brownfields Assessment

- Timeframe
- Outcomes

Phase II

Sampling



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Associated Press article

Colorado County sees tourism in historic silver mine

- March 2013

Reasonable Steps Letter

March 2013

- Purpose

Mill/Mine Site donated to County, April 2013



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Next Steps

Environmental Remediation of Mill/Mine Site

- Hinsdale County will apply for Succession of Operations
- Purpose of site to be reclassified as a Heritage Tourism Destination
- Update the Technical Revision with new outcomes/goals
- Permanent closure of portal
- Clean-out of Mill Building
- Fund-seeking

Bank Stabilization and Capping of Waste Rock Pile

- Working with partners



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Next Steps

- Nominate site for Colorado's Most Endangered Places (Fall 2013)
- Seek funds for historic preservation of buildings
- Develop heritage tourism products – signage, brochures
- Collect stories and histories from mill/mine workers
- GOCO planning grant for new park development (Fall 2013)
- Redevelopment of a commercial zone

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Thank you

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