

BALDY BOSS CLAIM
Site 5ST987
BEVAN MINING DISTRICT, SUMMIT COUNTY, COLORADO

Feature Descriptions

Feature 1 Prospect Adit

Size: 15 ft long, 3 ft wide

Description: The adit portal collapsed, leaving an area of subsidence 15 feet long and 3 feet wide. Prospectors dumped waste rock at the adit portal, forming a single lobe approximately 20 feet in diameter and 4 feet high. The dump's small volume indicates that the adit was short.

Feature 2 Prospect Adit

Size: 18 ft long, 6 ft wide

Description: The adit portal collapsed and the area of subsidence was subsequently modified. Someone erected a plank retaining wall in the area's upper portion, leveled the area of subsidence, and laid three 2x6 planks across the flat area. The platform may have supported a water tank. The limited volume of waste rock (F3) indicates that the adit was short.

Feature 3 Waste Rock Dump

Size: 30x33 ft, 2 ft high

Description: Prospectors hauled waste rock out of F2 and were forced to spread the material over a broad area because the surrounding ground was almost flat. The dump manifests as a single lobe, and the cabin's last occupants built a foot bridge (F12) from the dump across a creek.

Feature 4 Prospect Pit

Size: 6 ft diam

Feature 5 Prospect Trench

Size: 18 ft long, 6 ft wide

Description: Prospectors spread waste rock over a flat area to the east.

Feature 6 Prospect Adit

Size: 55 ft long, 5 ft wide

Description: The adit portal collapsed, leaving an area of subsidence 55 feet long and 5 feet wide.

Feature 7 Waste Rock Dump

Size: 40x70 ft, 3 ft high

Description: Prospectors hauled waste rock out of F6 and were forced to spread the material over a broad area because the surrounding ground was almost flat. The dump manifests as a pad and is mostly re-vegetated with sod and young aspens. A few historic artifacts as well as recent items left by the cabin's last occupants lie on the dump.

Feature 8 Shop Platform

Size: 8x12 ft

Description: Prospectors graded a cut-and-fill platform for a small blacksmith shop adjacent to the northern adit portal. Humus and shrubs blanket the platform, concealing artifacts. Regardless, a few items are visible on the adjacent waste rock dump.

Feature 9 Cabin

Size: 14x22 ft

Description: The log cabin stands on flat ground amid prospect adits. The structure is side-gabled, 14 by 22 feet in area, 7 feet high at the roof eaves, and 11 feet high overall. The cabin's front faces east and the doorway opens onto a plank deck built in later years. Workers assembled the cabin with square-notched logs originally chinked with mud. The log wall footers rest on soil and are decaying. Log rafters support the roof, which consists of planks clad with several layers of tarpaper. Workers used thin logs to seal the gap between the roof and walls underneath the roof gables, and cut planks to fit around the rafters underneath the roof eaves. A modern stovepipe projects through the roof's west side.

The original windows and door were replaced; the windows with large sheets of glass and the door with one of new planks. The east wall features a 57 by 34 inch window and a 34 by 69 inch door. The south wall features a ground-level 57 by 34 inch window and a 22 by 19 inch window under the roof gable. The north wall features a ground-level 34 by 29 inch window and a 34 by 15 inch window under the roof gable.

The cabin stands in fair condition. A sign on the door states: "Breckenridge Foundation This is the Baldy Boss Mining claim. This claim and cabin is a base of operations for the Father Dyer Film Project". Within recent years someone chinked gaps on the cabin's exterior with mortar and boarded over the south windows. Because the wall footers are succumbing to rot, the west wall sags. Industrial machine, wagon, and other parts, probably from the sawmill and Ouray Mine on the adjacent site, as well as circa 1960s and 1970s domestic items, were cached around the cabin. Confirmed and potential historic items were inventoried and recent items were not.

Small artifacts lie scattered to the east of the cabin and sod blankets the area surrounding the cabin. Shallow buried deposits are possible along the cabin's north, east, and south sides.

Feature 10 Deck

Size: 7x31 ft

Description: The cabin's last occupants built a plank deck along the east wall. They constructed the deck by nailing planks to joists consisting of a variety of salvaged lumber. The deck is decayed and industrial items, inventoried with the cabin, have been cached on and around.

Feature 11 Walkway

Size: 25 ft long, 3 ft wide

Description: The cabin's last occupants poured a concrete walkway from the deck toward the footbridge. The deck apparently consists of portland concrete and is heavily fractured.

Feature 12 Foot Bridge

Size: 20 ft long, 3 ft wide

Description: Within the last several decades someone built a footbridge to span a shallow drainage. The bridge consists of planks nailed to three stringers.

Feature 13 Privy

Size: 4x4½ ft

Description: The privy stands over a shallow pit north of the cabin. The privy is front-gabled, faces south, is 4 by 4½ feet in area, and stands 7 feet high at the roof eaves and 8½ feet overall. The structure features no formal frame; rather, the walls were assembled, stood together, then fastened. The roof consists of planks clad with tarpaper and the floor rests on timbers spanning the pit. The south wall features a 24 by 76 inch door assembled with two layers of planks. The privy seat, 24 inches wide and 16 inches high, extends along the west wall. Someone adapted a handle from a machine as a door latch. A plank deck, 3 by 3 feet in area, spans the pit before the door. The pit underlying the privy is shallow and meaningful buried deposits are unlikely.

Feature 14 Propane Tank

Size: 3x10 ft

Description: Someone installed the tank within the last several decades.

Baldy Boss Claim 5ST987
Features

Feature 15 Lumber Pile

Size: 15x15 ft

Description: Within the last several decades someone piled scrap lumber and other refuse south of and adjacent to the propane tank.

Feature 16 Flume Remnant

Size: 78 ft long, 2 ft wide

Description: The flume carried waste effluent from the sawmill across then along the stream. After 78 feet, the flume directed the effluent into a pipe laid on the ground. Workers built the flume, which was 2 feet wide and 1 foot deep, with plank walls and a floor supported by lumber piers. The structure collapsed.

Feature 17 Road

Size: 12 ft wide

Description: The road, also recorded as Feature 30 in the Ouray Mine Site (5GL) serves as access to the Wakefield property, adjacent to and south of the site. The portion of the road in the Wakefield property was originally the main railroad grade, and as it passes through the site the road ramps up onto the fill bank of the Boreas Pass Road.