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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

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|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. STATE South Dakota | 2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. XV "Westward Expansion, 1830 to 1898" (Mining Frontier of the Trans-Mississippi West) | 4. APPROX. ACREAGE Undetermined |
| 3. NAME(S) OF SITE Deadwood (including Lead) | | |
| 5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) | | |

6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)
Private

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)

Deadwood is one of the most highly publicized mining towns of the Trans-Mississippi West. While Lead, several miles distant, has been one of the big gold producing areas of the world, Deadwood itself probably produced no more metal than a large number of other mining towns in the West. Much of its fame rests on such famous or infamous characters as Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane, Deadwood Dick, and Poker Alice. The legends concerning these picturesque characters have given a great degree of fame to Deadwood itself.

The first miners to come to the region were Frank Bryant, John B. Pearson, and a party of others who came to prospect in the region in August of 1875. Bryant found a little gold on the mouth of Whitewood Creek. He built a cabin at that location but when General George Crook's troops appeared in the Black Hills, he left barely escaping capture on the way out. In November, Bryant, accompanied by 2 others returned and staked his discovery claim east of his cabin.

The first men to discover gold dug above a mat of dead timber which filled the gulch and within a short time they had staked off all the accessible ground. Late arrivals to the vicinity were forced to clear the littered earth before they could work. To their surprise they uncovered very rich placers. A townsite called Deadwood was laid out on August 26, 1876, by J. J. Williams and others. Tents and log cabins immediately lined the stump-cleared trail that served as a street. The camp's first newspaper, The Black Hills Pioneer, appeared on June 8, 1876. Six weeks later this newspaper announced that the community contained about 2,000 people. During July of 1876, 3,000 pounds of quartz were taken from the Inter-Ocean mine near Deadwood and shipped to Omaha. In the fall of that year a mill was established for reducing the quartz. A second mill was established in the following year.

(continued)

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Muriel S. Wolle, The Bonanza Trail: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of the West (Bloomington 1953) 459-470, 472-475.

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

| | | | |
|---|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 10. PHOTOGRAPHS* ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. CONDITION | 12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) | 13. DATE OF VISIT June 1955 |
| 14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) <i>Ray H. Mattman</i> | | 15. TITLE Historian | 16. DATE DEC 19 1958 |

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317d, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)

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NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS
SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET

This sheet is to be used for giving additional information or comments, for more space for any item on the regular form, and for recording pertinent data from future studies, visitations, etc. Be brief, but use as many Supplement Sheets as necessary. When items are continued they should be listed, if possible, in numerical order of the items. All information given should be headed by the item number, its name, and the word (cont'd), as, 6. Description and Importance (cont'd) . . . (Page 2)

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| STATE South Dakota | NAME(S) OF SITE Deadwood (including Lead) |
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7. Importance and Description (cont'd)

By 1879 the town had outgrown the narrow canyon and was pushing up the sides of Deadwood and Whitewood Gulches. In that year fire broke out and a short time later it had destroyed the entire business section of Deadwood. The town rebuilt substantially after the big fire but was again crippled in May 1883, when floods destroyed 150 buildings and took 3 lives. The city slowly recovered from this disaster and even boomed in 1887 when a silver strike was made in the nearby camps of Carbonate and Galena, which started a rush to the district.

Before 1890, most of the bullion recovered from the mines was obtained from free-milling ore which yielded to stamping and amalgamation processes of reducing refractory rich ore combined with refractory minerals allowed to remain in the mines or discarded on the dumps, since no profitable method of treating such ore was known. When the invention of the chlorination and the cyanidation processes for operating on low grade ore deposits was developed, a new era of mining was begun. Two mines which had erected plants at the edge of town in 1887 and 1888, respectively, ran with a combined capacity of 300 tons of ore a day. Another plant which operated largely on custom ore was burned in 1898, but was immediately rebuilt and continued for some time to produce 2 million dollars a year in gold. The silver depression of 1893 hit the city another staggering blow and its population dropped suddenly from 25,000 to 1,600. The town held its own largely as a result of the reduction works. By 1909, only one big mine was operating. Today the city's mining income comes from the Homestake property at Lead, 3 miles distant.

Deadwood still retains very much the atmosphere of an old mining town. Many of the old buildings have survived; however few of these are of any great historical significance. One structure worth noting is the Number 10 Saloon, the place where Wild Bill Hickok was killed in 1876 by Crooked Nose Jack McCall. At the Mount Moriah Cemetery nearby may be found the grave of Preacher Smith, who was killed by the Indians in 1876, and the graves of Wild Bill and Calamity Jane who were buried side by side.

The Chamber of Commerce has been very active at Deadwood in publicizing that old mining town. Each year during "Deadwood Days" the re-enactment is given of the killing of Wild Bill by Jack McCall, and the subsequent trial of the killer.

Lead

Lead, which is located about 3 miles from Deadwood, South Dakota, is one of the leading gold producing regions in the world. In February 1876, Thomas E. Carey,
(continued)

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7. Importance and Description (cont'd)

who had been placer mining in the Deadwood Gulch, crossed over the divide into the vicinity of present Lead where he found richer placer deposits than those he had been working. He staked out a claim and reported its location in Deadwood. Not long after his discovery, a small party of miners pushed through the dense pines and laid out a townsite along the gulch below the present Homestake substation and called it Washington. Here they laid out lots. By the spring of 1877 the town began to expand and outgrew its original site. A new and larger townsite was laid out and named Lead, because of the many leads or outcroppings of ore found in the surrounding hills. For several years after its establishment, Lead and Washington remained separate but adjoining communities.

Some 50 mines were discovered in the vicinity in 1876. Moses and Fred Manuel, who were interested in quartz mining, and their partners, Alex Engh, and Henry Harvey, uncovered a ledge which became the greatest mine of them all. The Manuels called their claim the Homestake. The brothers searched for more than one lead and located at the Old Abe, the Tera, and the DeSmet. Later in the year the Giant, Pierce, Lincoln, Big Mission, Independence, and General Custer were discovered, as well as the Highland and the Golden Star. Two custom mills were built in the summer of 1877. In that year Lead had many business houses, 4 hotels, a newspaper, and a 2-story opera house with a saloon on the main floor and hall above. By the following year the miners organized a union. In the year 1877, the California capitalists, Lloyd Tevis, J. B. Hagan, and George Hearst became interested in the mine and sent L. D. Kellogg, a mining expert, to investigate the property and buy it if he found it was as good as it was represented. Hearst purchased the mine for a sum quoted variously as \$70,000 to \$105,000. With the installation of the stamp mill, the Homestake began operations. It eventually acquired more and more mines.

A visitor will find Lead a city of contrasts, since the old and new are side by side. Many buildings which comprise Homestake property dominate the scene. Close by are old 2 and 3-story frame houses propped up on the gulch to keep them from slipping down to the water's edge.

This famous mine from which vast quantities of low grade ore is taken each year, is the biggest and most profitable gold mine in the United States. Most of the \$550,000,000 which has been produced in the Black Hills since 1875 has come from its leads.

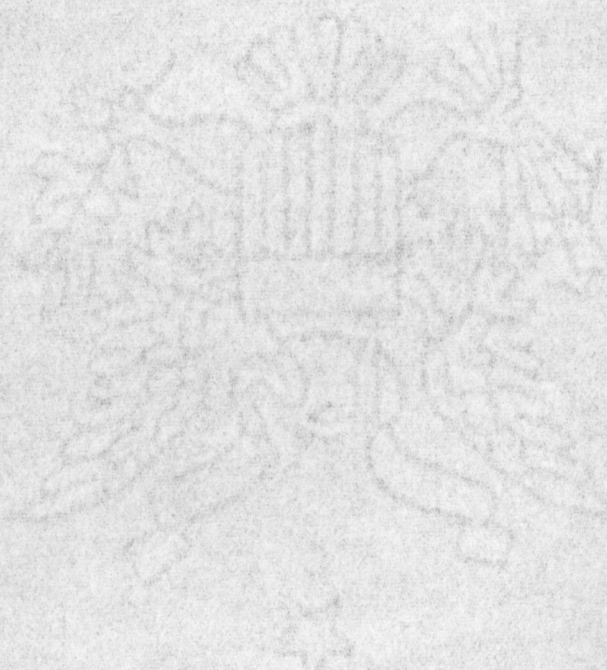
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| STATE | NAME(S) OF SITE |
|--------------|------------------------|
| South Dakota | Deadwood-Lead District |

Historical Remains: Deadwood is the center of a mining district containing the very active mining town of Lead, and the less active camps of Pluma, Terraville, Central City and Gayville. Of these, Deadwood retains the greatest historical integrity. It is suggested that Main Street of that city is the most suitable for landmark status.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings

Deadwood, South Dakota

The Black Hills region of South Dakota was the last rich strike of precious metals of the mining frontier. The Black Hills had been set aside as part of a preserve for the Sioux Indians, but tales of gold deposits, substantiated by Custer's 1874 expedition, ended the government's last hope of maintaining the Black Hills for Indian use.

In 1875, the area was thrown open to all who cared to risk attack by the Sioux. By the following spring, Deadwood had come into existence, and catered to the uninhibited appetite of 7,000 miners.

Among those whose names are associated with the town of Deadwood in its heyday as a lawless frontier mining camp are Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane, Poker Alice, California Jack, and the legendary Deadwood Dick.

Some 50 mines were discovered in the vicinity of the town of Lead, only a few miles from Deadwood, in 1876. In that year miners uncovered a ledge which became the greatest mine of all, the Homestake. Most of the \$550,000,000 worth of gold produced in the Black Hills since 1875 has come from the Homestake mine.

One of the few early mining towns that has survived in the Black Hills, Deadwood owes its importance primarily to Lead, several miles distant, which today is a city of contrasts and still a gold producer. Deadwood, on the other hand, retains much of the atmosphere of the old mining town and many original buildings have survived.

A large number of buildings which comprise the Homestake property dominate the scene. Nearby are old two and three-story frame houses propped up on the gulch to keep them from slipping down to the stream at the bottom.

Located in Lawrence County, South Dakota, on U. S. Highway 385, Deadwood is in private ownership.

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NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

Statement on

"The Mining Frontier," Subtheme of Theme XV, "Westward Expansion and Extension of the National Boundaries to the Pacific, 1830-1898"

The National Park Service has completed in draft form a study of "The Mining Frontier," and submits the following findings:

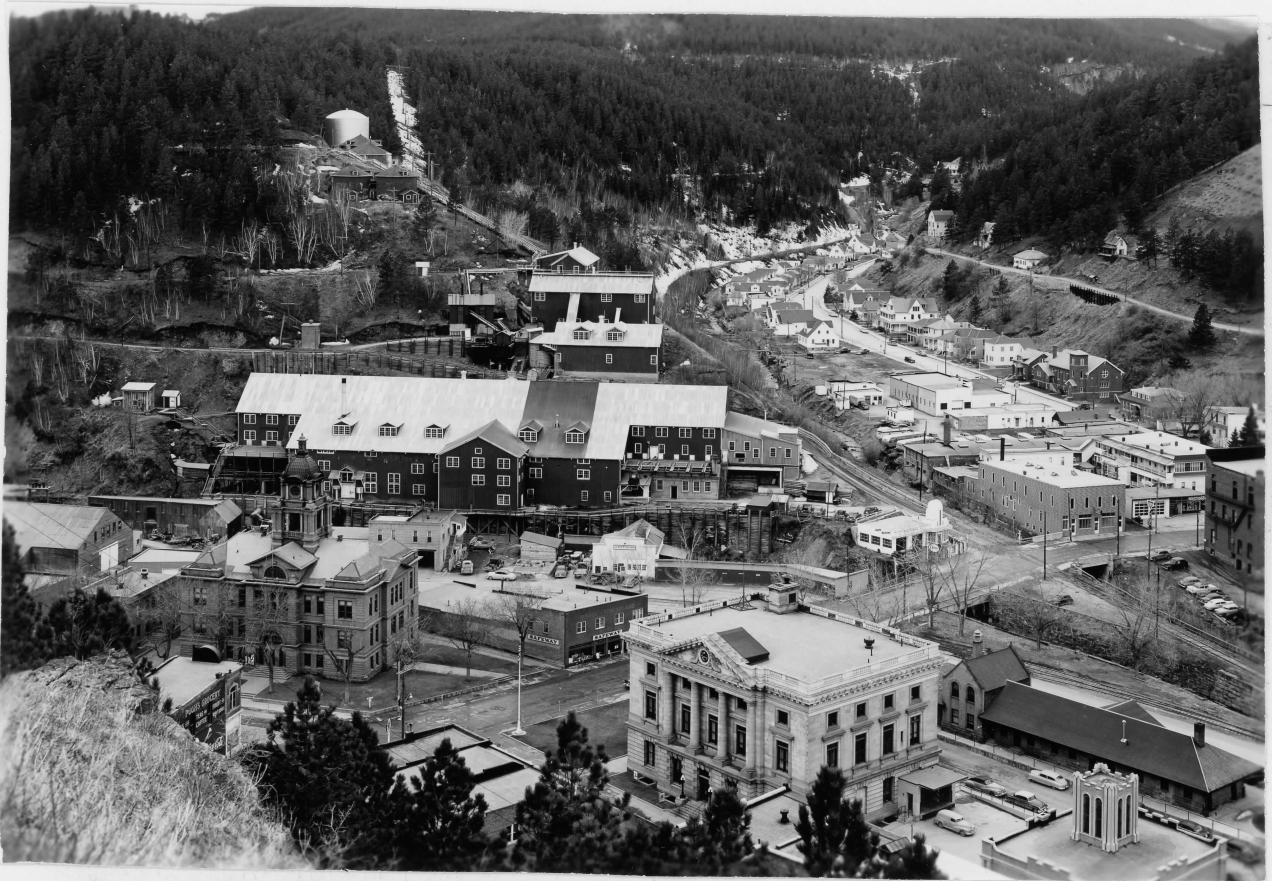
- A. The National Park System includes no areas whose major interpretation is the Mining Frontier story. However, Yosemite National Park has some features which relate to early mining activities in the trans-Mississippi West.
- B. Of the number of sites included in the study, only those listed below are recommended for classification of exceptional value in commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States, and for eligibility as Registered National Historic Landmarks. These are:
 1. Bodie, California, p. 74
 2. Coloma, California, p. 77
 3. Columbia, California, p. 82
 4. New Almaden, California, p. 85
 5. San Francisco Old Mint, California, p. 89
 6. Virginia City, Nevada, p. 93
 7. Tombstone, Arizona, p. 96
 8. Central City, Colorado, p. 99
 9. Cripple Creek, Colorado, p. 102
 10. Leadville, Colorado, p. 104
 11. Virginia City, Montana, p. 107
 12. Butte, Montana, p. 110
 13. Bannack, Montana, p. 119
 14. Deadwood, South Dakota, p. 113
 15. Silverton-Telluride Area, Colorado
 16. Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Line, Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Colorado

C. The following sites are recommended for further study as to their suitability and feasibility for inclusion in the National Park System:

1. Durango-Silverton Narrow-Gauge Line, Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, Colorado
2. Virginia City, Nevada

D. Other Recommendations:

1. That the other sites listed in the study not be classified as of exceptional value in this subtheme.



Part of the city of Deadwood, South Dakota, as seen from the Mount Moriah Cemetery overlook. Photograph by George Grant, April 1954; negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.

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The Old Style Bar, Saloon No. 10, on the main street of Deadwood, South Dakota, is sometimes mistaken for the bar in which Wild Bill Hickok was shot. It does, however, display the chair he occupied at the time of the shooting. Photograph by George Grant, April 1954. Negative in Region Two Office Library, Omaha, Nebraska.