

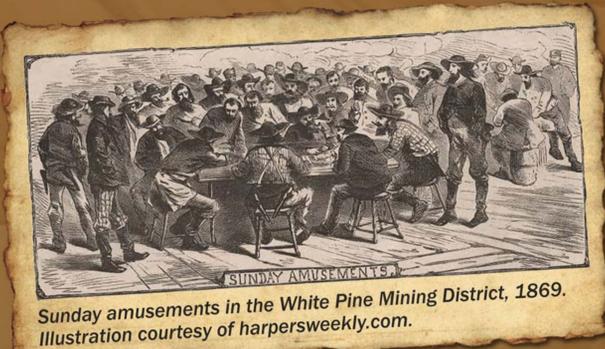
Welcome to the Historic

White Pine Mining District

where silver fortunes were made and lost



"...one of the shortest and most intense mining booms in the American West."



Sunday amusements in the White Pine Mining District, 1869. Illustration courtesy of harpersweekly.com.

Rush to White Pine

In 1867, miners hit pay dirt with an incredibly rich deposit of silver ore at the top of Treasure Hill, just a few miles from here.

With the technology of the telegraph enabling mass communication, word of the find spread fast, and thousands of Comstock and other miners down on their luck made their way here in hopes of the next big strike.

The completion of the Central Pacific Railroad in 1869 allowed travelers to reach White Pine from California in a day or two, and from New York City in about 6 days. With mass communication and transportation networks in place, the "Rush to White Pine" became a global phenomenon.

Boomtowns

As the miners flocked to the area, three major towns sprung up almost overnight. Treasure City, at the top of Treasure Hill, was the heart of the mining operations.

Located at the base of the hill, Hamilton became the supply hub and the county seat. Shermantown was situated next to a creek, and with adequate timber, became

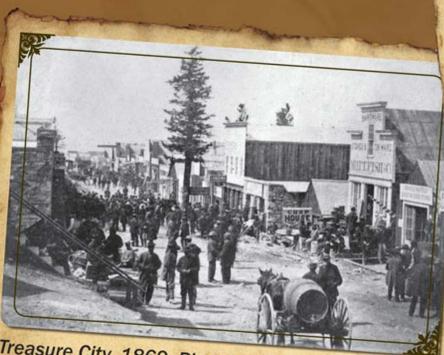
the processing center for all of the ore. Seven smaller communities also took root across the mining district.

Busted!

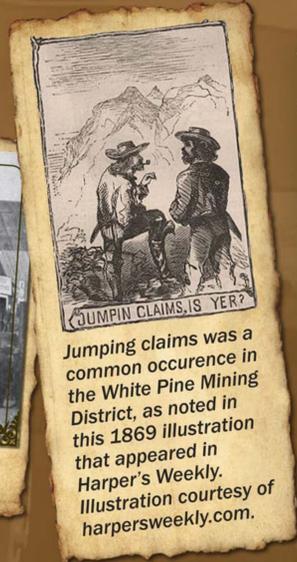
The feverish excitement about the profits to be had at White Pine was short-lived.

The pockets of rich ore were few and far between, making the venture unprofitable.

The boom at the mining district was largely declining by mid-1869 after only two years.



Treasure City, 1869. Photo courtesy Nevada Historical Society.



Jumping claims was a common occurrence in the White Pine Mining District, as noted in this 1869 illustration that appeared in Harper's Weekly. Illustration courtesy of harpersweekly.com.

"People from all walks of life, capitalists, merchants, farmers, miners, adventurers, bummers, men of all trades and men of no trade, women of all kinds, even boys and girls, flocked to White Pine."

— Reese River Reveille, Austin newspaper

Explore

Although the mines of White Pine were not profitable, the district is still rich in history.

The remains of houses, mills, and commercial buildings dot the landscape. As you make your way through the mining district, imagine what it may have looked and sounded like during the great "Rush to White Pine." Be sure to avoid private property, and respect signed boundaries.

Learn More

For more information on the White Pine Mining District, visit the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on the Web.



Be Savvy!

Follow these guidelines to make your visit a pleasurable one:

- **Plan Ahead**
Carry food, water, clothing and tools. Be prepared for changing road conditions and accidents.
- **Watch the Weather**
These roads can become muddy and impassable any day of the year, even with 4WD. Severe rainstorms can leave you stranded for days.
- **Stay on Trails and Roads**
Avoid trampling vegetation and damaging historical artifacts.
- **Pack It In/Pack It Out**
Take your garbage with you.
- **Stay Safe**
Beware of abandoned mine shafts and adits.

Protect the Past for the Future

When you visit an archaeological or historical site, remember that you are visiting a unique and fragile place.

Be careful where you walk or sit, and leave objects where you find them. These irreplaceable resources provide clues and understanding into our collective history. It is illegal to damage sites or remove artifacts.



A popular frontier remedy, mustard was used in hair to promote growth and to clear up colds and congestion.