

Gilpin County

Pine District

Vanderwilt (1947) consolidated the Pine District into the **Pine-Kingston-Apex District**. The Pine District is located within the **Northern Gilpin District**, which is a large area composed of a number of smaller mining districts that grew out of the 19th century gold boom. Made up of the significant gold-producing districts of Pine-Kingston-Apex and **Perigo**, the district also includes areas that have been called the **Illinois**, the **Gamble Gulch**, and the **Union** (or **Gold Dirt**), the **Independent**, the **South Boulder Districts** and the **Rollinsville Placers**. The **Phoenix** and the **Kansas Districts** are contiguous with the other North Gilpin districts and display the same geologic characteristics.

The first discoveries in the area occurred in Gamble Gulch in 1859 (Koschmann and Bergendahl, 1968). Stamp mills processed the oxidized ore and the level mining activity followed the same pattern as in Clear Creek County. Much placer activity occurred in the various gulches, especially near Rollinsville.

The geology is much the same as in Clear Creek County, with Precambrian bedrock of the Idaho Springs Formation cut by Boulder Creek Granite with Tertiary intrusions of quartz monzonite and bostonite porphyries. Fissure fillings include pyritic gold that where unweathered is rather low grade but has been enhanced by oxidation.

The Pine District is also referred to as the Pine Creek District. It may refer to an indistinctly defined area around Pine Creek, a tributary of North Clear Creek (Dunn, 2003). The small mining camps of Twelve Mile, Pine Creek and Elk Park near Apex are considered to be within this district according to Eberhart (1969).

Mines listed in the district (Dunn, 2003) include:

- Grand Union
- Ingram
- Nancy Lee
- Side Issue

Lovering and Goddard (1950) discuss the Ingram Mine and indicate the shaft was 270 feet deep. The ore was chiefly chalcopyrite and pyrite, some galena and gold.

Minerals listed in the district are the same as the Apex District.

References:

Dunn, Lisa. 2003. Colorado Mining Districts: A Reference. Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado.

Eberhart, Perry. 1969. *Guide to Colorado Ghost Towns and Mining Camps*. Fourth, revised edition. Swallow Press, Athens, Ohio.

Koschmann, A.H. and Bergendahl, M.H. 1968. Principal Gold-Producing Districts of the United States. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 610.

Lovering, T.S. and Goddard, E.N. 1950. Geology and ore deposits of the Front Range, Colorado. U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 223.

Vanderwilt, John W. 1947. Mineral Resources of Colorado. Colorado Mineral Resources Board, Denver, Colorado.