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*The Marshall-Martinek Team*



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Martinek**

**Your  
Colorado  
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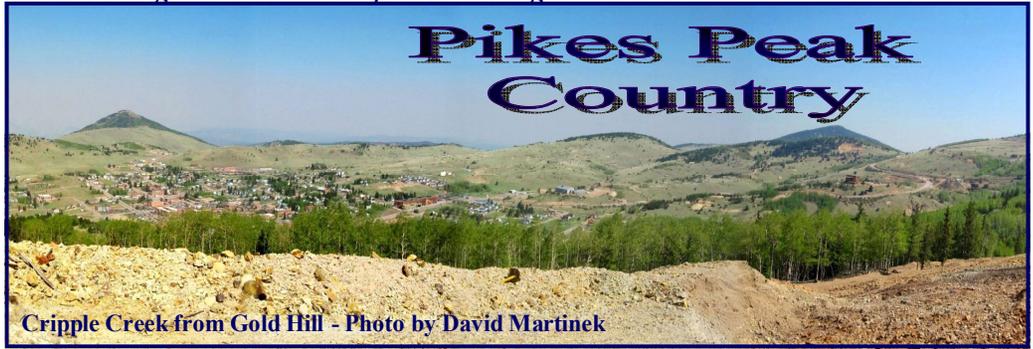
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Cripple Creek from Gold Hill - Photo by David Martinek

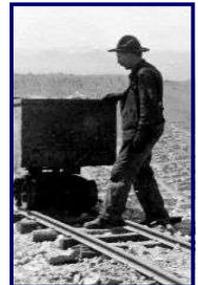
**The Anchoria - Leland Mine - passing into history**

*Forward – After going on a tour of the Anchoria-Leland Mine a few weeks ago, sponsored by the Lowell Thomas Museum in Victor, I thought a revisit of the gold mining subject would be warranted. With the expansion of the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company's activities into a new surface mining location in the coming years, the Anchoria-Leland mine complex will disappear – be obliterated actually by the terraced wall of the new project. As one of the highest producing mines on Gold Hill, operating until 1948, the Anchoria-Leland will fade even farther into history and all the evidence of a once great infrastructure that supported the mining operations, and of all the men who worked there, will become a fainter memory.*

**DM**

I am told that the mining operations of the Cripple and Victor Gold Mining Company's Cresson project just north of Victor often uncovers relics from an earlier time, like old shovels, picks, drills, guns, scraps of metal and sometimes even an ore car, picked out of the crusher conveyor mechanism by huge magnets. As the pit widens and deepens to extract the precious gold ore, many of the older shaft mines are destroyed, disappearing into nothingness. Only the old tools and other artifacts remain, left behind by nameless miners and mining companies of long ago, testifying to their presence. The same fate awaits the Anchoria-Leland Mine.

Opened in 1892 by the Anchoria -Leland Mining and Milling Company, with Irving Howbert as its president (a name well known in local railroad history circles), by 1900 the mine had produced over \$1,000,000 in gold, and that was at turn -of-the-century prices – easily worth over a billion dollars at today's market value. The mine opened and closed several times in the early years, due to either reducing ore values or labor troubles. But generally, it continued to ship ore off and on into the 1920s, either through direct or leased operations. For example, in May 1908 the *Mines and Minerals* magazine reported that over a thousand men were leasing in the district, the majority of whom were operating in mines of established reputation, like the Anchoria -Leland. The mine was purchased by the Golden Cycle Corporation in 1935 and continued to produce into the 1940s. It closed on May 1, 1948 due to a shortage of lessees. Total production during its life reached \$3,000,000.



the mining company owned a series of claims, including the Anchor, Anchor No. 2, Conundrum, Midland, Lillian Leland, Chance, City View and the Cottontail. But it was not alone on the hill. Lofty buildings like great corn elevators told of other mining operations: the Volcano, Yellow Bird, Half Moon and the Moon -Anchor. The Geneva, a Stratton Estate property, along with the Lexington, the Jefferson and the International site were also the scene of much activity. And the Grace Greenwood mine produced ore as late as 1959.

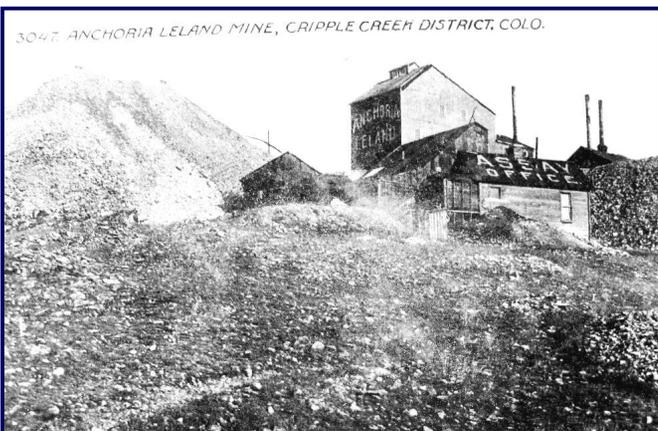
Sitting between Squaw Gulch and Poverty Gulch, Gold Hill was one of the first areas to be developed in the district. Overlooking a rapidly growing Cripple Creek,

It was the Anchoria -Leland that caught the eye of city folks walking Bennett Avenue, though. With its tall ore sorting building, huge head frame and columns of smoke belching from the boilers powering the hoisting engine, the Anchoria-Leland was the prominent view that turned heads in Cripple Creek and lined pocketbooks.

Most of the ore under the mine was comparatively slight of depth, only 100 to 300 feet below the surface (in the Lexington Mine, however, located just south of the Anchoria-Leland, the ore was said to have extended to greater depths). Even so, the main shaft was over 1000 feet deep, above which towered a huge main frame made from timbers brought from Oregon or Washington which measured 16 x 16 inches or greater. The back braces were (and still are) over 65 feet in length.

Several other shafts were sunk under the other mining claims, as well. Down in the shafts, drifts ran laterally for some distance and the miners practiced a method called "staging" to extract the ore – building platforms and reinforcements out of wooden timbers to shore up the drift walls and ceilings and provide a place to stand, then mucking the ore into carts which were hoisted up to the surface. Sometimes, the work was

*Continued on page 2*



3047. ANCHORIA LELAND MINE, CRIPPLE CREEK DISTRICT, COLO.

The Anchoria-Leland Mine atop Gold Hill, 1892 - 1948. By 1900 it had produced over \$1,000,000 in gold.

Denver Public Library

See past issues of *Pikes Peak Country* at <http://www.davidmartinekc.com>

*Anchoria-Leland - continued from page 1*

impaired by water flows and particularly troublesome gases that collected at the lower depths. Several deaths were attributed to the gases. Later, tunnels working under Gold Hill (like the Carlton Tunnel) helped lower the water table enough to mine deeper.

Surface improvements for the Anchoria -Leland complex consisted of a shaft house, a huge head frame, a hoist engine good for a 1000 foot shaft, two 100-horse power boilers (later the steam boilers were replaced by electric power), an office building, the tall ore sorting house, essay house, boiler house and blacksmith shop, well as air compressors and a water tank.

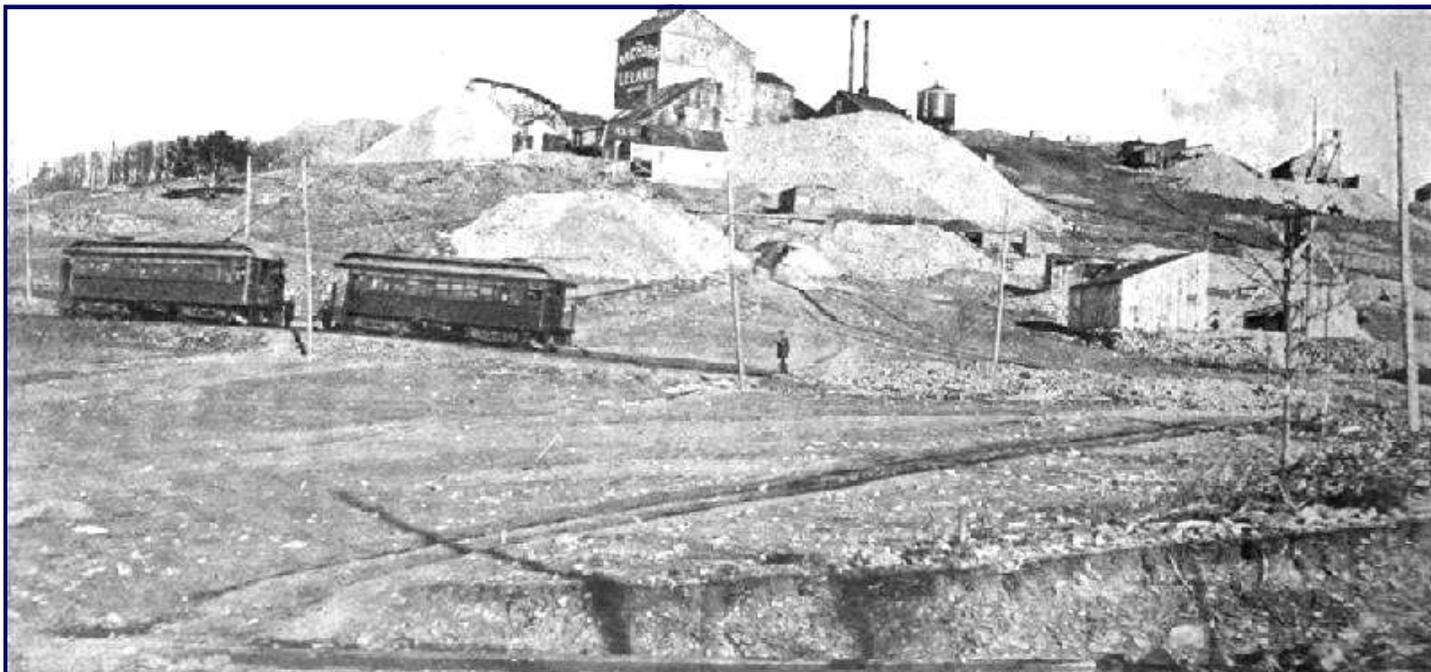
Railroad lines ran from mine to mine, sometime boring tunnels through dump material which rose to 60 or 70 feet in height. And a street/trolley car line also served the mines for people transportation.

Today, the head frame remains, though it is leaning dramatically,

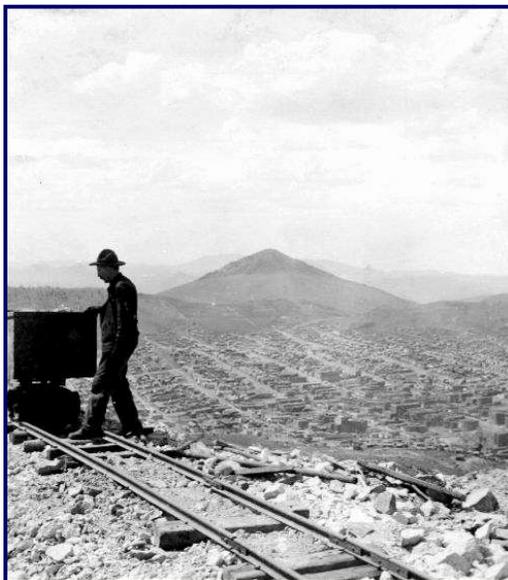
as well as the hoist house, a rusting blacksmith shop and ore house.

The head frame is to be moved to a safe location at the Cripple and Victor Gold Mining Company's expense and resurrected as a landmark. The rest of the buildings will be torn down. Soon, folks in Cripple Creek will look up at Gold Hill and see a ring of overburdened rock piled high in layers. Beyond the ring, hidden from view, the wall of an open crater will begin. While the new surface mining operations will bring continued economic benefit and prosperity to the region for years to come, the Anchoria -Leland will disappear; its physical presence replaced by an expanded effort to extract the "halo" of gold still left in the district - out of our sight, but not out of our memory.

*Sources: Mines and Minerals - Aug 1898; The Official Manual of the Cripple Creek District by Fred Hills - 1900; Guide to the Mines of the Cripple Creek District by Bill Munn; USGS - 1906, Geology and Gold Deposits of the Cripple Creek District, CO; Denver Public Library.*



A larger view of the Anchoria-Leland complex with some trolley cars running. A couple of head frames are seen to the right. The head frame that still exists is at the middle right with the hoist house just to the left and the blacksmith shop beneath. *Denver Public Library*



(Left) A miner pushes an ore cart along the tracks atop Gold Hill, cir. 1908 - 1911. Mt. Pisgah is in the background and a very populated Cripple Creek is down below.

*Denver Public Library*

(Right) Cripple Creek today viewed from the Anchoria-Leland Mine site on top of Gold Hill.

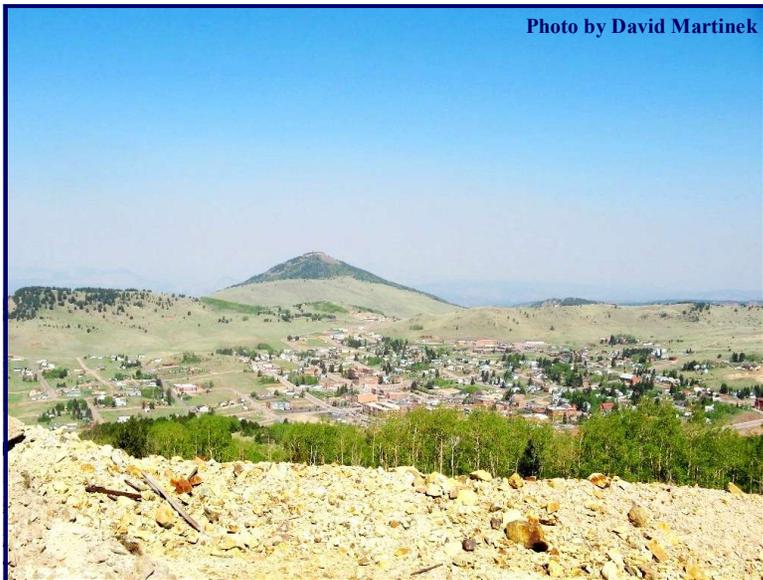


Photo by David Martinek

*Anchoria-Leland - continued from page 2*

The Anchoria-Leland Mine site today



(Two above) The giant timbers of the huge head frame must have come from the west coast, Oregon or Washington - fir trees probably. The back braces measure over 65 feet in length. The head frame is leaning drastically and will be moved to a safer location by the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company. (Below) Another look at Cripple Creek from the top of Gold Hill at the Anchoria-Leland Mine. The cloudy haze in the sky in the middle of the picture above Mt. Pisgah is smoke from a raging New Mexico forest fire.

*Photos by David Martinek and Dick Crow*



(Above) The head frame with the blacksmith shop below left and the edge of the hoist house to the right. (Center) The remains of an ore house. (Bottom) The huge hoist engine, initially powered by steam but later converted to electricity.

*Photos by David Martinek and Dick Crow*

**Dave's Buyers' Guide**

**Cabins, second-homes and land specials from Coldwell Banker 1st Choice Realty** →

**Prices and status effective as of June 30, 2012**



\$649,850

**711 Skyline Dr, Woodland Park**  
**Live the dream!** A luxury home in a great neighborhood. 4BR/4BA/2GAR w/ 5010 S.F. on 0.46 acres. Gourmet kitchen, formal dining room, master retreat w/ private balcony & 5-piece bath. An endless list of extras & amenities to live the dream. #778446

**Preparing your house to sell**

**No dirt.** Nothing turns off a buyer quicker than a dirty house. Clean your house.

**Odors.** Does your house smell? Track down the odors and eliminate them.

**Old Fixtures.** Old ceiling fans, lights, appliances, even old hardware on cabinets may need to be replaced.

**Wallpaper.** Get rid of it and paint. Today's buyers want no part of wallpaper.

**Popcorn acoustic ceilings.** A fashion from the 70s and 80s that out dates your home. Endure the mess to scrap it off and repaint or be willing to give a credit.

**Too personal.** Too many personal items don't help buyers see the house as theirs.

**Don't snoop.** If you have a showing scheduled, leave.

**Tell the truth.** Misrepresenting your home can turn off buyers. While agents will present your home in the best light possible, if there's junk in the back yard, your home has less value in their minds.

**Curb appeal.** The first impression. How does your home look from the road or street?

**Clutter.** Stage your house to make it appear roomy. Put your extra stuff in the garage. Give the buyer room to walk around.

**To inquire, email or call 719.687.1516**

(Martinek Team listings are BOXED)



\$399,900

**520 Regent Ln, Woodland Park**  
**Custom home!** 4BR/4BA/3GAR, 3641 S.F. on 0.74 acres. Gourmet kitchen. FB in MBR sitting area. Secluded backyard w/ deck. Entertain your guests in style in a true mountain setting. #740010



\$319,000

**261 Utah Way, Florissant**  
**Spectacular views!** See Pikes Peak & rock formations. Immaculate house. 4BR/3BA/2GAR, w/ 3202 S.F. on 2 acres. 2-story river rock FP. Wrap-around, huge deck. Well built home. #795383



\$299,900

**115 Sunrise Ct, Woodland Park**  
**Morning Sun Solar Community!** 3BR/3BA/3GAR, 2200 S.F. on 0.8 acres. Ranch style, grassy lot. MBR has vaulted ceilings, 5-piece bath & walk-out patio. Kitchen island. Plenty of solar heat. #744688



\$258,000

**23 High Chateau Cr, Florissant**  
**One Level Living!** 2 acres with views of Mt. Pisgah & Pikes Peak. 2BR/2BA/2GAR and 1962 S.F. The kitchen is a chef's delight. Master retreat w/ jetted tub. Huge covered deck. Rock wall FP. Stainless appliances. Great condition. #761951



\$185,000

**730 N. Walnut St, Woodland Pk.**  
**Family Friendly!** Close to parks, schools, shopping. Clean and well maintained. 3BR/2BA/2GAR w/ 1296 S.F. on 0.28 acre lot. Back deck, sunroom, fenced yard. Cozy wood stove and vaulted beam ceilings. Needs a new family. #732453



\$135,000

**111 West St, Cripple Creek**  
**Two home in one!** A 1910 remodeled cottage that can be a residence or a rental. Two units include a front section and back apartment. 3BR/2BA/0GAR, 1438 S.F. A side alley provides easy access. A little TLC needed. #729184



\$33,900

**127 Carlton Cir, Florissant**  
**Building Plans!** This 2.04 acre lot is ready to go. Perc test done, fire mitigation trees cut, building plans available. A well permit is waiting. This is a beautiful parcel overlooking the CME valley. A dream lot for a dream home.



\$19,900

**2847 N. Mountain Est. Florissant**  
**Two Lots!** Two adjacent lots on a corner that total 1.18 acres. Several building sites are among the many Ponderosa and Fir trees. A selective build produces a great view of Pikes Peak.



\$15,000

**317 Blue Spruce Dr, Florissant**  
**Scenic!** 1.61 acres lot with the building sites is on the ridge line. Then the lot slopes severely down to Four Mile Road. View of the Dome Rock area. Secluded and very private. #756145



\$16,000

**1001 S. Mtn Est. Rd, Florissant**  
**Meadow!** Two acres of meadow and trees and some nice building sites in beautiful Colorado Mountain Estates, south of Florissant. Easy access to nearby Fossil Beds and Cripple Creek. #530773



\$16,000

**2856 Blue Mesa Dr., Divide**  
**Fronts Water!** This heavily treed lot in Highland Lakes (1.67 acres) slopes down to Beaver Lake No. 2. Strategic tree cuts will make room for a driveway and a building site. See this beautiful lot. #457747

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