LINCOLN CO. General

0100 0014

Item 38

Location Number: LN 016

Location: Kelly Mine

Coordinates: 37°08' / 115°46' T10S R55E

Elevation: 4860'

Map Sources: USGS Papoose Lake Quadrangle; Erickson County Map

References: URS/Blume Files; Site Investigation 9/3/77

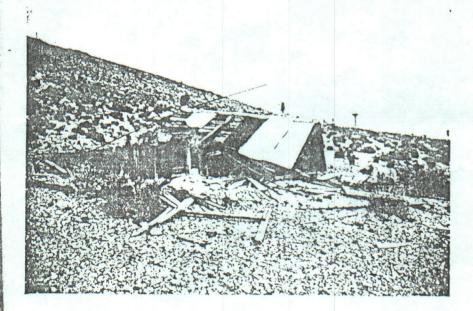
Photographs: KR64-GWK#1: 4-12

Status: Potential National Register Site

The Kelly Mine is on the east-facing slope of a hill on the western edge of Emigrant Valley. The southern mountains of the Papoose Range rise to the west. The site contains structures related to a small mining operation and a residential area, on the valley floor some 100 yards to the southeast, amid scattered clumps of sagebrush.

A railroad track extends from the horizontal shaft of the mine and runs along a tailing pile to a concrete basin, where the ore apparently was dumped. Another track appears once to have run southwest from the basin along the contour of the hill. Only the ties now remain. There are scattered piles of wood along a road running southwest from the mine, where wood-frame structures may have stood.

The concrete basin rests on a terrace below the tailing pile. It is approximately 6 feet square and 2-1/2 feet deep. Its walls are about 6 inches thick. Above the basin, the railroad track is supported by 4" x 6" vertical and cross members.



In the residential area there are several wood-frame structures. One is about 14' x 12' and is built into the east-facing slope. The gable of its roof has collapsed onto the wood foundation and flooring.

The roof was sheathed with corrugated metal. South of this structure is an outbuilding about 24 feet square, apparently a blacksmith shop. Two vertical railroad ties extend from the ground in the center of the structure, perhaps acting as the support for an anvil. Various pieces of metal equipment related to the operation of the mine were observed lying on a shelf in the interior of the structure. To the south of the blacksmith's shop, a cylindrical metal water tank about 2'-4" x 5'-6" is supported on a wooden foundation built of 2" x 8" timbers.

To the southeast, an 11' x 8' wooden structure appears to have been torn down. Railroad ties were used for its framing and cross members. Corrugated metal debris lies nearby. In this area there are also piles of rock that may have been parts of retaining walls or the foundations of structures.

Other debris lying near the site are typical of mining areas and their associated residences. On the slopes of hills to the west, mine prospects and excavations for building foundations are visible.