

0520 0006

(214)
Item 12

Location Number: NY 073

Location: Merger Mine
Coordinates: 38°02' / 116°25' T2N R50E
Elevation: 7260'
Map Sources: USGS Warm Springs Quadrangle
References: Site Investigation 7/14/77
Photographs: KR64-CK#15: 19-21; PlusX-JMC#8: 25-31
Status: Potential National Register Site

The site of the Merger Mine and stamp mill is at the head of Neversweat Canyon, approximately one mile east of the Bellehelen Ranch (which see). This location in the Kawich Range overlooks Reveille Valley to the east. The hills and narrow ravines are pocked with prospects and mines.

The site is marked by a large tailing pile, leveled in places by walls of unmortared angular rubble rock. On the hillside next to one end of the tailing



pile are the remains of an old mill, apparently a large structure to judge from the large quantities of highly weathered timber lying about. The complex was built at four levels. The second level from the top has heavy concrete foundations and probably

held the mill's machinery.

At the opposite end of the tailing pile is the abandoned Merger Mine. The mouth of the shaft shows no remaining evidence of exterior support. Inside the entrance, the ceiling is reinforced with 12" x 12" vertical timbers braced horizontally with similar timbers at the top of the shaft. At this part of the site, a number of building sites have been leveled. Some have unmortared walls approximately 6 feet high made of large, angular rubble rock.

Down the draw from the mill site are at least six different building sites. The structures appear to have been torn apart and pushed down the hillside. Building materials and debris are scattered thickly about the site.

On a slope near the tailing pile is an unmortared rubble-rock structure about 12 feet square that is in ruin. Its walls are approximately 18 inches thick and are 5 feet high at the highest point. Nearby is a 18' x 12' wood-frame structure that has collapsed to its 2" x 4" joists.