

BEOWAWE DISTRICT

Beowawe^{12/} is a small ranching settlement and station on the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific Railroads in northern Eureka County. Cinnabar was discovered in the low hills about 1 mile south of Beowawe in 1924 by R. S. Harris and C. M. Wilkinson. In 1928, the Red Devil group of claims located by the discoverers was acquired by the Nevada-Mexico Mining Corporation, a subsidiary of the Compania de Mineral de Jalisco of Mexico. This company erected a Diesel power plant, a 30-ton rotary furnace, and a condensing system, and did some development work. In September 1929, the property closed down, and later the equipment was dismantled and sold. The production has been about 132 flasks of mercury. In recent years the property has been idle.

Red Devil Group

The Red Devil group comprises three unpatented claims owned by R. S. Harris and Mrs. Clara Sullivan of Beowawe, Nev. Development consists of two adits, a shaft 42 feet deep, and subsidiary workings totaling about 1,400 feet.

The cinnabar occurs in fractures in rhyolite and rhyolite breccia. Near the surface, the rhyolite is flinty in character; at depth it is altered to a soft kaolinized material. The ore bodies are small and irregular and the ore mined has been taken from five small stopes, none of which are more than 60 feet from the surface.

BUCKHORN DISTRICT

The Buckhorn district is in the south end of the Cortez Range, 22 miles west from Mineral, a station on the Eureka-Nevada Railroad and the nearest shipping point. It is accessible by automobile over fair desert roads, either from Palisade, about 55 miles northeast, or Eureka, 75 miles southeast. The history of the district is largely the history of the Buckhorn mine, discovered in the winter of 1908-1909 by Joe Lynn, W. S. McCrea, William Ebbert, and John Swan. In 1910, the discoverers sold a group of 14 claims and several fractions for \$90,000 to George Wingfield and associates, who organized the Buckhorn Mines Co. The company did considerable development work and blocked out a body of low-grade gold-silver ore and, in 1913, erected at the mine an all-slime cyanidation plant designed for a daily capacity of 300 tons. In the same year, a 700-horsepower steam power plant with electric generators was built at Beowawe with a 35-mile, 33,000-volt transmission line to the mine. The mill operated from January 1914 to the early part of 1916, following which the equipment was dismantled and sold. Operations were confined to the exploitation of the oxidized ores mined by the glory-hole method. Except for a small amount of leasing in 1931 and 1932, the district remained virtually inactive until 1936, when the Buckhorn Mining Co. installed an 80-ton-daily-capacity

^{12/} An Indian word meaning "gate", probably given because the opening in the nearby hills resembles a gateway to the canyon beyond.