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The Ragged Top district is on the west slope of the Trinity Range 10 miles by automobile road west of Toulon siding on the Southern Pacific Railroad. It derives its name from Ragged Top Mountain which has a columnar structure resembling ruins.

In 1916 outcrops of garnetized limestone containing scheelite were found in this area by E. J. Mackedon and others. Shortly thereafter claims were purchased by H. M. Byllesby & Co. of Chicago, Ill., and the Chicago-Nevada Tungsten Co. was organized. Owing to the high price of tungsten during the World War the claims were rapidly explored and worked. A 50-ton concentrator was erected at Toulon siding, where water is available from wells sunk in the sediments of Humboldt sink. In 1918 the mill was taken over by the Humboldt County Tungsten Mine & Mill Co., which operated it as a custom mill for a short time. Part of the tailings were worked in 1922 by G. W. Warmoth of Lovelock and associates.

In 1922 the Toulon mill was converted into a white-arsenic plant which operated steadily until 1924. The plant equipment consisted of two seven-hearth, oil-fired Wedge furnaces, each 17 feet in diameter; two brick-dust collectors; and four sheet-iron subliming chambers. The plant had a capacity of 30 tons of arsenic ore per day. The calcines containing silver, gold, and lead were shipped to a smelter for treatment. Most of the ore for this plant was obtained from the Irish Rose mine near Battle Mountain. Some custom ores were also handled.

The Ragged Top tungsten deposits occur in hard, metamorphosed masses of limestone near a granite contact. The ore mineral is scheelite, which occurs in particles no larger than the head of a pin. The gangue mineral is mainly garnet with some quartz, epidote, calcite, pyrite, and chalcopyrite.

Development work in the district consists of a shaft about 170 feet deep and several tunnels totaling about 1,500 feet. Most of the ore was extracted from open-cuts, of which the largest is roughly 80 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 25 feet deep. Production of scheelite ore from the district has probably totaled about 20,000 tons which averaged more than 1 percent WO_3 . The principal holdings comprise the Ragged Top group of five unpatented claims now owned by the Nevada-Massachusetts Co., Inc. Since 1918 there has been no activity.

In March 1936 the Nevada Massachusetts Co., Inc., was installing equipment to rework the tungsten tailings at Toulon.