

Wilderness property 82 acres **FOR SALE** one hour south of Las Vegas Montezuma patented lode mines • El Dorado Canyon, Nelson, Nevada

- The Montezuma Mines are located between Black Canyon and El Dorado Canyon near Nelson, where one of the biggest mining booms in Nevada history occurred (40 miles south of Las Vegas, 40 miles north of Searchlight, 4 miles up from the Colorado River). Historic Techatticup Mine and recreational Nelson's Landing at the River are accessible through the town of Nelson off US95/US165 about 25 minutes SE from Vegas. All of the gold mining was done by hand and refined at smelting facilities elsewhere, periodically from 1860 to 1930s. The property is a patented Lode mine and free from contamination of toxic chemicals used in Placer (surface) mining and Lode (hard rock) or underground mining. It has mining and development potential or can be used a retreat.



- Nestled in pristine nature wilderness with breath-taking landscape and views as far as to the Colorado River, it is a unique retreat from Las Vegas. And, it has a history of mining gold, silver, copper, and other minerals.
- The property is 81.72 acres (33.07 hectares) of pristine Eldorado Wilderness, the Montezuma Mines consist of 4 mining claims Montezuma No.1, Montezuma No.2, Pizarro, and Urbain, which are among the oldest of Nevada (early 1860s). The property was patented in 1911 granted by the Mining Act of 1872, for gold. It is exempt from all state and county ordinances. By filing an Affidavit of Labor the investor is exempt from property taxes.
- Ingress and egress predominates over all the Federal, state, and county ordinances.
- The water rights, granted by the 1872 Mining Act, allots 2.01 acre feet of water per year or 1800 gallons a day. The property is located in Colorado Valley Basin 213 which is still open allotting the BLM 270 acre feet and 30 acre feet private ownership. Should the investor require more water, applications may be submitted.
- The land north of Nelson, south of Boulder City, and east of Highway 95 is The Federal Bureau of Land Management Protective Wilderness Area except for 800 acres (323.75 ha) Boulder City purchased for commercial purposes. Across the highway from Boulder City's property a communications corporation purchased acreage and has invested \$25 million USD developing it, so far. In this vein, the interstate highway, is bypassing Boulder City south through or next to land held by the a communications corporation and associates and Boulder City.
- Studies were conducted by the United States Bureau of Mines, documented and published, titled Mineral Land Assessment MLA 44-88 and Open file report 91-323 established the property exempt from eminent domain. There is furthermore a moratorium on patented claims since 1995.
- Surface assays by American Assays Laboratories, Sparks, NV revealed gold, silver, copper, and rare earth minerals.
- The property is owned free and clear. The ownership can be viewed, online, on the Clark County Nevada Recorder's Website. The Clark County assessor's parcel number is # 212-00-002-009.
- The value of former mining property has appreciated in recent years. Recent examples in the El Dorado Cyn area: 5 acres sold for \$100,000; 28 acres sold for \$1.5m. The Montezuma Patented Lode Claim is now listed for sale at a negotiable \$1.2m. The sale includes all existing patents and claims.
- More historical material available, based on research at the National Archives, UNLV, and the Kingman Museum.

History of the Montezuma Claims and a mysterious treasure map

The Montezuma Mines property has many values; with claim records from 1862 and 1863, it ranges among the oldest recorded mining claims of Nevada. Its historical value is documented through research at UNLV, Kingman Museum, and the National Archives.

First discoveries were made by the Spanish around 1775, who named the area El Dorado. One of the biggest mining booms of Nevada began almost 100 years later, when in 1859 new gold and silver discoveries were made. The rush to the Eldorado Canyon began in 1861, several camps were established and a landing site 4 miles down at the Big River. The Montezuma Mine claims were staked during the heyday of the Eldorado Canyon gold rush, the most prominent mine being the notorious Techatticup.

Despite its rough and lawless reputation, the mines around the newly founded town of Nelson produced several million dollars in gold, silver, and copper.

By the end of the 19th century, California born blacksmith Herman Wesselhoft worked the Montezuma claim along with three younger men and the fiancée of one of them. He casually hired himself out as a blacksmith for the dominant Keystone Mining operations; there are no records about his findings, but the 6 foot 7 tall with a big white moustache was a smooth customer and a renown hustler, as reported by a local coeval and found in archived newspaper articles. To his years on the claim, a mysterious treasure map has been dated by the UNLV, found in a rock house next to the Montezuma camp.

In 1907, Wesselhoft sold to Richard Hotaling, son of Anson P. Hotaling, Liquor Distributor of San Francisco, who patented the Montezuma Consolidated Mine Loding Claim in 1911.

After Hotaling's passing in 1925, Wesselhoft would go back out there and again offer his services as a local blacksmith. Rumor has it, he sheltered the fugitive Queho, a Native American outlaw and renegade. Queho was blamed for several murders, not unlikely that he was made a scapegoat for at least some. But his ability to continuously evade persecution made him part of Nevada legend. His name would only be whispered and people spoke about Queho's curse, whenever something bad took place. The reward for capturing him increased from year to year, however, only in 1940, prospectors found his mummified remains in a cave near the Colorado River.

To be continued..

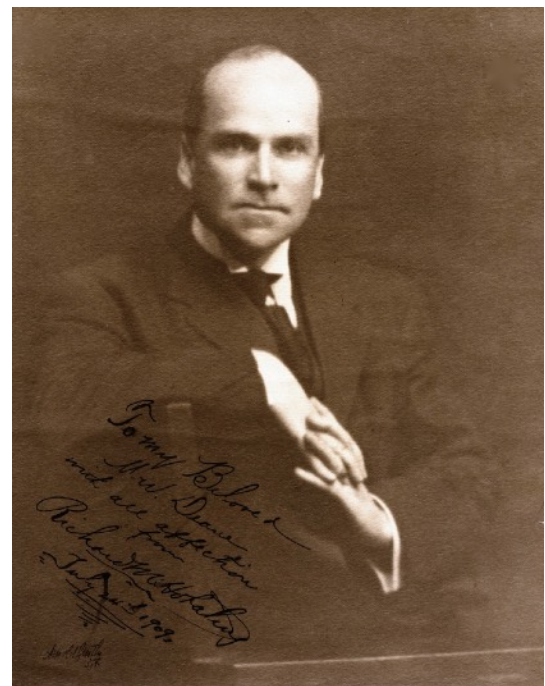
MINING ACTIVITY PRIOR TO 1897

The Searchlight and El Dorado mining districts are related geographically and geologically, but a time span of more than 50 years separates their discovery by Europeans. If mining was conducted during the period of Spanish or Mexican sovereignty, this hiatus should be extended to include a minimum of one century and possibly two.

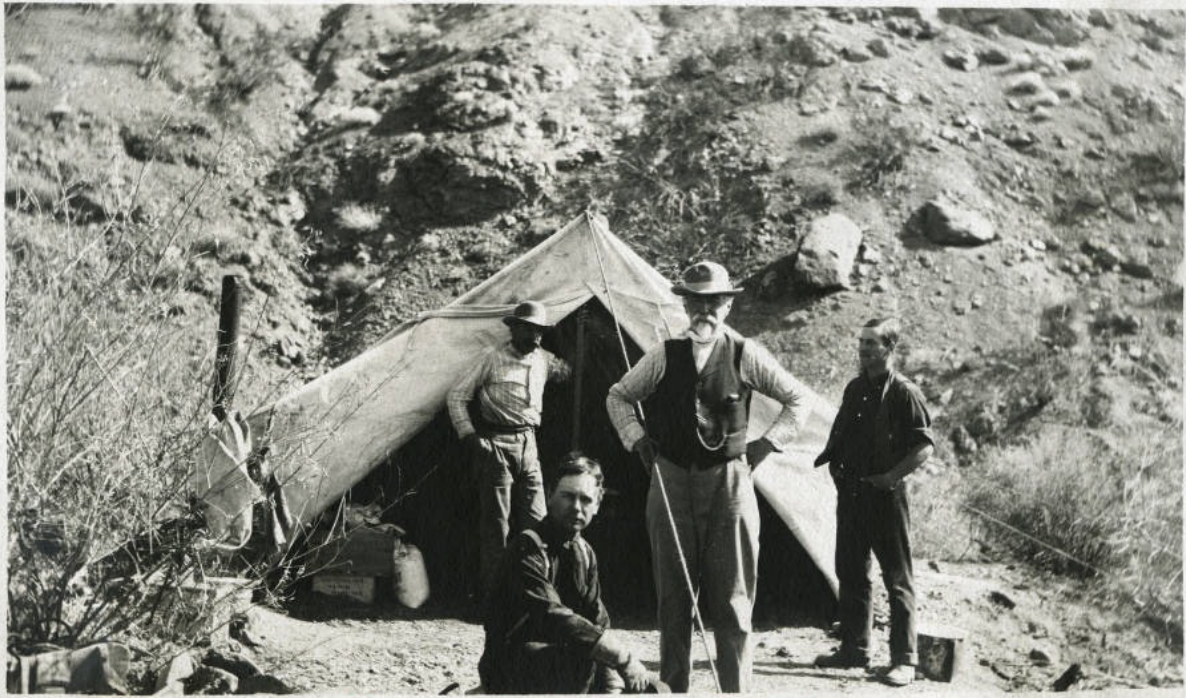
If Spanish mining did occur, the only site which would fit the scant historiographic evidence is the region surrounding El Dorado Canyon. However, earlier mining by the aboriginal inhabitants of the study area is well authenticated. Obvious quarries have been found with associated deposits of lithic and organic remains attributable to aboriginal cultures as far back as Basketmaker I time (1000 B.C.–A.D. 0).¹

The aboriginal inhabitants of the American Southwest engaged in mining activity primarily to produce decorative materials. These workings were established to produce two items: colored pigments for cosmetic and ceramic purposes, and turquoise gemstone to be incorporated into jewelry and images. Both open pit and underground methods were employed to work deposits of turquoise and vari-colored ores.²

The earliest Europeans into the Southwest noted in their records the large amounts of metallic ores stored in the Indian settlements.³ These ores had been finely crushed to facilitate use. Both silver-lead and copper ores were valued by the Indian populace. They used them to color the various earthen utensils made for domestic purposes. The variations in color between blues and greens were suited to decoration of pottery as well as cosmetic-religious painting of the body. At several places in the Southwest, sizeable shaft and stope networks had been excavated in the deposits worked by the Indians.⁴ Unique examples of Indian mining



R.M. Hotaling 1909 by P.Montgomery Coll.

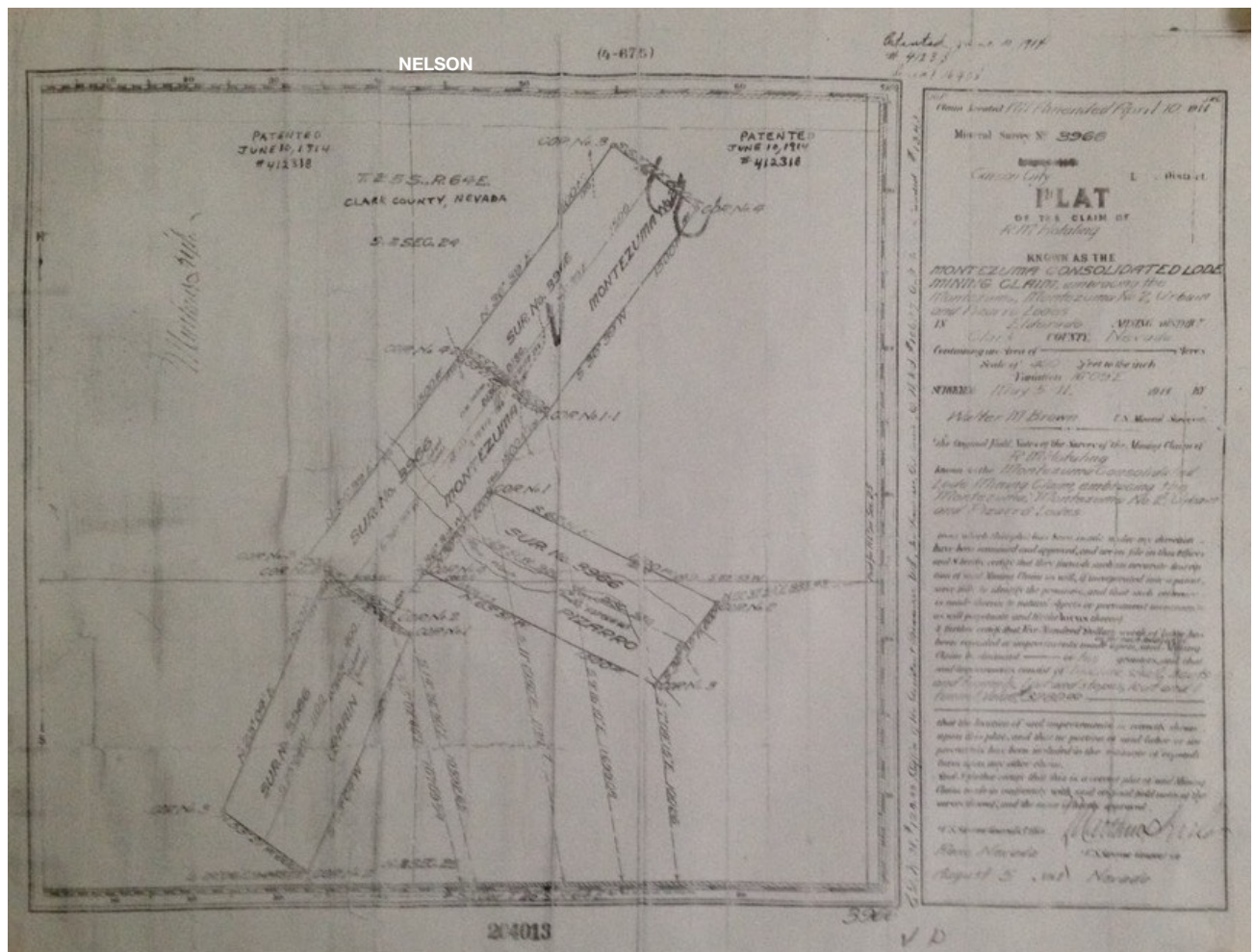


Camp. Eldorado Cañon, March, 1907



Camp. Eldorado Cañon, March, 1907

Herman Wesselhoft Camp 1907



relocated

Record No. 180 Montezuma Lode 3rd Ext. East.
 Notice: We the undersigned, relocate five claims of
 two hundred feet each, on the Lode known as the
 Montezuma third extension.
 Located Dec. 26th 1862. Recorded Jan. 1st 1863 at
 8 o'clock P. M.

Names James A. Evans J. A. Burke Charles Sherman	Names Thos. B. Harris Gustave Hanson
---	--

A. J. Lewis Recorder
per M. Bignall Deputy

relocated

Record No. 181 Montezuma Lode 3rd Ext. East.
 We hereby abandon the fourth Extension of the Montezuma
 Lode, and relocate the 3rd Extension of the same Lode
 100 hundred feet, commencing at Point
 East. Located Jan. 1st 1863

Record 336. Pizarro Lode

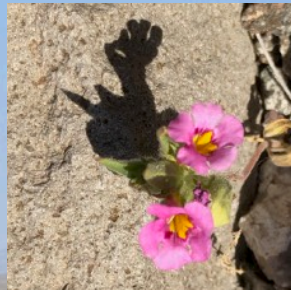
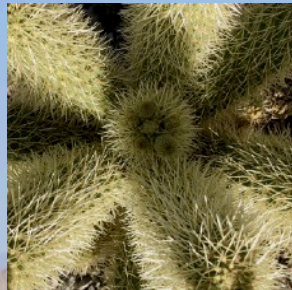
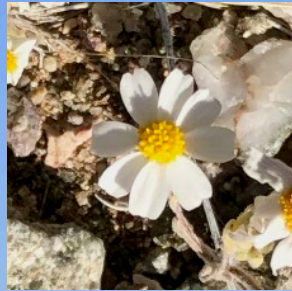
We the undersigned claim four claims of
 two hundred feet (200) each on this Lode
 or lead - known as the Pizarro Lode
 commencing from a pyramid on the eastern
 slope of the hill known as Point Hamilton
 and running westerly in a line with the Colorado
 Lode seven hundred feet, and one hundred
 feet westerly from said pyramid - making
 in all claims by the undersigned 4800 feet
 March 25th 1863

Recorded March 25th 1863. } Charles Hamilton
 Francis Beustman
 William F. Amarr
 J. Littlefield

Witnesses
 W. Bush Secy Recorder







Historic town of Nelson, NV, and Techatticup Mine



Notes