

About eight years ago some prospectors were attracted to the numerous ledges of oxidized iron in the Trail Creek district, and many locations were made at that time, but as there were no means of transportation little or no development work was done on these properties.

The surface rock showed little or no value, and the ore was supposed to be rebellious. As a natural consequence nothing was done to open up these mines until about the year 1893, and had it not been for the tireless efforts of a few citizens of Spokane, this immense district, with all its grand natural wealth, would today be unknown and unproductive.

The principal mines of Trail Creek are situated in the vicinity of the town of Rossland, being from three to ten miles north of the international boundary line, and west of and from two to three thousand feet above the Columbia river.

It is a region sufficiently timbered for all mining purposes, and mountainous enough to facilitate mining without offering any severe obstacles to wagon or railroad construction, and is as far as natural advantages are concerned, an ideal mining region.

The Columbia & Western R. R. Co., have now completed their line to the mines surrounding Rossland and vicinity, and are shipping ore regularly to the smelter at Trail, about seven miles distant, while the Columbia and Red Mountain R. R. is ready for the rails, and will be completed this season.

The ores as a general thing are pyrites of iron and copper, in the North belt, while in the South belt galena ores are often encountered.

The country rock consists of diorite and syenite, while here and there throughout the district large dykes of granite may be found.

There are a great many veins exposed throughout the district, a large number of which are remarkable for their strong uniformity of course. Perhaps the most remarkable of these is the ones upon which are situated the Le Roi, War Eagle,