

## Retention and Classification Report

**Agency:** Monumental Mining District (Utah). Recorder (3122)

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**Records Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

24042	*Mining district minutes
24041	*Mining location notices

**AGENCY:** Monumental Mining District (Utah). Recorder

**SERIES:** 24042

4

**TITLE:** Mining district minutes

**DATES:** 1908-1909.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Chronological by date.

**DESCRIPTION:**

In March 1908 prospectors drilling for oil on the San Juan River opened a gusher which threw oil to a height of 70 feet. This discovery brought a stampede of speculators to San Juan County (Osmond L. Harline, "Utah's Black Gold," Utah Historical Quarterly, vol. 31, no. 3, p. 295-6). This volume, entitled "Rules and Regulations of the Monumental Mining District," contains minutes of meetings held among claim holders as they met to reorganize the Monumental District, coordinate mining activities, and establish new rules and regulations adapted to the needs of petroleum exploration. The minutes summarize the discussion of these meetings held in Bluff, Utah from November 1908 to November 1909. The miners revised previously established by-laws, established regulations, and instituted a mining district government to coordinate activities and enforce regulations. This book also includes a complete list of the miners in the district.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSITION AUTHORIZATION:**

These records are in Archives' permanent custody.

**FORMAT MANAGEMENT:**

Microfilm master: Retain in State Archives permanently with authority to weed.

Microfilm duplicate: Retain in State Archives permanently with authority to weed.

Paper: Retain in Office permanently.

Microfilm duplicate: Retain in Office permanently.

**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

Monumental mining district minutes contain valuable information about petroleum exploration on the San Juan River in 1908-1909.

**AGENCY:** Monumental Mining District (Utah). Recorder

**SERIES:** 24042

**TITLE:** Mining district minutes

(continued)

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public

**AGENCY:** Monumental Mining District (Utah). Recorder

**SERIES:** 24041

4

**TITLE:** Mining location notices

**DATES:** 1896.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Chronological by date.

**DESCRIPTION:**

In the 1890s miners flocked to San Juan County in search of gold which had been discovered in traces in the sandbars of the rivers and in the sandstone. Location notices were recorded in accordance with federal law, which decreed that mineral deposits in the public domain were free and open to exploration, and locators of the same had exclusive right of possession (see Statutes at Large, Treaties, and Proclamations, of the United States of America, vol. XVII, chap. 152). Federal law authorized the organization of mining districts to oversee local mining operations and to record claims. Each Monumental District location notice provides a description of the claim and the boundaries thereof, tells the name of the claim and the names of locators, and gives the date of location. Each notice is signed by A.L. Rippee, district recorder. All location notices included in the Monumental Mining District's location notices book are placer claims along the San Juan and Colorado Rivers, and all were recorded between January and April 1896. The Monumental book also includes a few notices of mill site water rights along the San Juan River.

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**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

Mining location notices contain valuable information about speculating for placer gold along the banks of the Colorado and San Juan Rivers.

**AGENCY:** Monumental Mining District (Utah). Recorder

**SERIES:** 24041

**TITLE:** Mining location notices

(continued)

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public