

## Retention and Classification Report

**Agency:** Ophir Mining District (Utah). Recorder (3135)

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

24572	*Deeds
24971	*File books
24165	*Mining records
24508	*Miscellaneous records

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

**SERIES:** 24572

4

**TITLE:** Deeds

**DATES:** 1870-1873.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Roughly chronological by date recorded within each book.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The earliest Ophir Mining District (Tooele County, Utah) recorders registered deeds transferring mining claims or mining property from one party to another. Prospectors in the early Ophir District were highly involved in trading mining property because the original Ophir by-laws limited the amount each individual could claim to 200 feet per person. Mining deeds, sometimes called indentures, include the name and residence of involved parties, the amount of consideration money, the date, and the name and description of the claim being sold. In addition to deeds, Book B contains file entries recorded in 1871. These are legal instruments recorded by the county recorder concerning mining. They include the following: Notices of locations, Mining deed records, Mining claims records, Proof of labor records, Mining mortgages, Mining abstract records, Mining transfers and relocations. In some counties mining records are compiled separately, while in others they are part of the "Official records."

**RETENTION AND DISPOSITION AUTHORIZATION:**

Retention and disposition for this series is authorized by Archives general schedule County official records, GRS-305.

**AUTHORIZED:** 07-06-2018

**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.

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

**SERIES:** 24572

**TITLE:** Deeds

(continued)

**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

The deeds and other documents in these books provide historical information about mining activity in Ophir in the early 1870s.

Ophir was one of Utah's largest mining camps.

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public

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

**SERIES:** 24971

4

**TITLE:** File books

**DATES:** 1870-1873.

**ARRANGEMENT:** By document type, with file entries chronological by date recorded.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The earliest Ophir Mining District (Tooele County, Utah) recorders kept file books in which they recorded essential details about each notice of location they recorded. Each entry is headed with the name of a claim and then includes location and recording dates, the names of locators with the number of feet allotted to each, and the book and page number where a notice of location was recorded. In addition to file entries, a section of Book D was used to record claims for land to be used for milling and smelting purposes, for building lots in the town of Ophir, and for water to be used for mining purposes. These are legal instruments recorded by the county recorder concerning mining. They include the following: Notices of locations, Mining deed records, Mining claims records, Proof of labor records, Mining mortgages, Mining abstract records, Mining transfers and relocations. In some counties mining records are compiled separately, while in others they are part of the "Official records."

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

**SERIES:** 24971

**TITLE:** File books

(continued)

**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

File books provide summary information about mining claims in the early Ophir Mining District, Tooele County, Utah.

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public

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

**SERIES:** 24165

4

**TITLE:** Mining records

**DATES:** 1870-1929.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Roughly chronological by date filed.

**DESCRIPTION:**

General Patrick Connor, mining entrepreneur and commander of a military unit sent to Utah in the 1860s, and his prospector soldiers organized the Ophir Mining District in Tooele County, Utah on 6 August 1870. Connor and his soldiers separated this southern section from the already organized Rush Valley District when they discovered a particularly promising lode in Ophir Canyon. In order to regulate mining activity and keep track of individual claims, miners in the Ophir District elected a recorder to record notices of location and other mining documents. Each location notice confirms the validity of a claim, states its dimensions, and describes its location. Location notices identify each claim by a unique name, give dates of location and recording, and identify individuals filing the claim. In addition to location notices, Ophir mining records include documents relating to the labor required to maintain claims.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSITION AUTHORIZATION:**

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**FORMAT MANAGEMENT:**

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Paper: Retain in Office permanently.

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

**SERIES:** 24165

**TITLE:** Mining records

(continued)

**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

Ophir District mining records contain historical information about mining activity in the Ophir District, which was one of the most productive in late 19th century Utah.

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public

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

**SERIES:** 24508

4

**TITLE:** Miscellaneous records

**DATES:** 1872-1874.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Roughly chronological.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Ophir mining district recorder (Tooele County, Utah), Lawrence Brown, recorded documents other than notices of location in a separate book. These documents include work certificates signed by witnesses verifying that assessment work on claims had been completed. Other documents affect the validity of claims. These include protests against certain claims, warnings not to interfere with certain claims, a notice of les pendens, and a power of attorney. This book also includes miners meeting minutes for September 1872 and April 1873.

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**FORMAT MANAGEMENT:**

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

Paper: Retain in Office permanently after being microfilmed.

Microfilm duplicate: Retain in Office permanently.

**APPRAISAL:**

These records have historical value(s).

This small book contains information affecting the early mining claims in the Ophir Mining District.

**PRIMARY DESIGNATION:**

Public