

## CARRIE NATION MINE

The Carrie Nation Mine is located in the southwest corner of the Old Baldy Mining District on the west side of the west fork of Madera Canyon near its' head. The elevation at the mine is about 6,450 feet. The mine was developed on an ore ledge that extends to the top of Jack Mountain where the Square Deal Mine was developed on the same ledge. The mine was also known as the No Name Mine and the Lodestar Mine although neither of those names were recognized by Minedat.org (website of the Hudson Institute of Mineralogy). The GVR Hiking Club used the name "Lodestar" when referring to the mine until about 2006 when it began referring to it as the Carrie Nation Mine. This change occurred after the Florida Fire of 2005 when the U.S. Forest Service recognized the "trail of use" leading to the mine as an official Forest Service Trail and named it the Carrie Nation Trail.

Mine history is rather sparse. Indications are that the mine was first developed by Al Johns about 1903. As the story goes, in 1909 Al was accused by his neighbors of killing their cattle to provide his meat supply and he was incarcerated in the Santa Cruz County jail for two months awaiting trial. He was acquitted and it was thought that his neighbors were trying to defraud him of his mine and other claims. He returned to his property to find his cabin dynamited and one of the neighbors at the mine threatening to shoot him. The neighbor was jailed in Tucson (Pima County) but was released when it was determined that the incident occurred in Santa Cruz County. The location of the Al Johns cabin was in the flat area to the left (east) of the Carrie Nation Trail just past the intersection where the Old Baldy Trail makes a sharp turn to the left. Nothing more is known of Al Johns but in 1915 the owner of the Carrie Nation Mine was listed as the Tres Estados Mining Company. In 1964, the mine was supposedly being operated by "unknown lessees".

In 1915, the mine workings consisted of a 240 foot crosscut tunnel, 110 foot drifts and a 30 foot shaft. The primary ore produced by the mine was Copper (about 3%) with smaller amounts of lead, zinc and molybdenum. There were about 124 tons of ore on dump in 1915 but total production is unknown. The mine is currently flooded with a continuous stream of water exuding from the entrance. There are a number of pieces of mining equipment remaining on site and hopefully will remain on site so future visitors to the area may experience them.

Around 2000 there was a mine ore cart located in the wash just below the boiler. Someone evidently thought that it would look better in their back yard so over the years it was noticed that it was gradually being moved down the trail ever closer to the trailhead. Figure 1 shows its' location after one of the down trail



Figure 1. Mine Ore Cart in "Transit"

moves. During a 2018 trip to the mine the ore cart was no longer in evidence so the perpetrator had evidently accomplished his goal.

The current entrance to the mine is depicted in Figure 2 and some of the remaining mining equipment is shown in Figure 3.

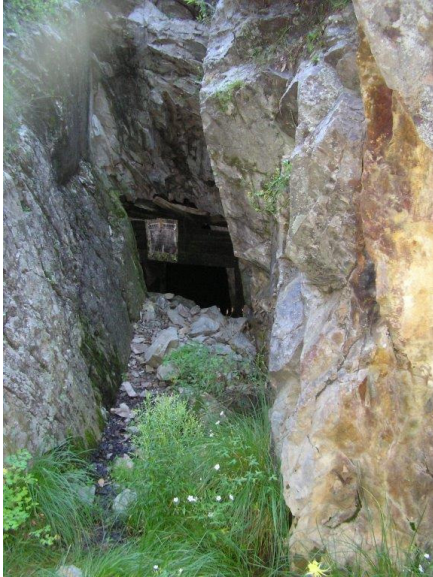


Figure 2. Mine Entrance



Figure 3. Boiler & Misc. Equipment

Summarized in 2018 by T. Johnson from information researched by Freddie Carter, the Mindat.org website and the Western Mining History website. Photos by T, Johnson