

LUCKY LEDGE MINE

The Lucky Ledge Mine is located on the east side of the east fork of Madera Canyon. The mine can be readily accessed by a trail of use that branches off of a trail that connects the Madera Mine with the Kent Springs Road (referred to as the Fern Trail by the GVR Hiking Club). The GVRHC has also developed a hike that accesses the mine via a more difficult route that passes through the site of the old Madera Mine Camp.

The ore deposit that became the Lucky Ledge Mine was discovered by W. P. Scott in 1903 and was subsequently owned by the Madera Copper Company of Los Angeles. During 1909, a survey of the mine's operations was conducted by Frank C. Schrader for the United States Geological Survey. At the time of the survey the mine had been worked more or less steadily since 1905 and consisted primarily of a 175 foot tunnel with a lateral tunnel about 100 feet in from the mouth. By the time the results of the survey were published in the 1915 USGS Bulletin 582 (*Mineral Deposits of the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains*) the Lucky Ledge Mine workings had been significantly expanded by about 3000 feet of new work. The mine now consisted of two tunnels (upper and lower) that were several hundred feet apart in elevation.

The minerals of interest were primarily copper sulfide with moderate amounts of gold and silver. There were also very small quantities of epidote, barite, pyrite and chalcopyrite. The ore vein being worked was supposedly the same vein as that being worked by the Copper Queen/Old Madera Mines.



Lucky Ledge Lower Tunnel Entrance

Summary prepared in January 2021 by T. Johnson from information contained in the United States Geological Survey Bulletin 582 published in 1915.