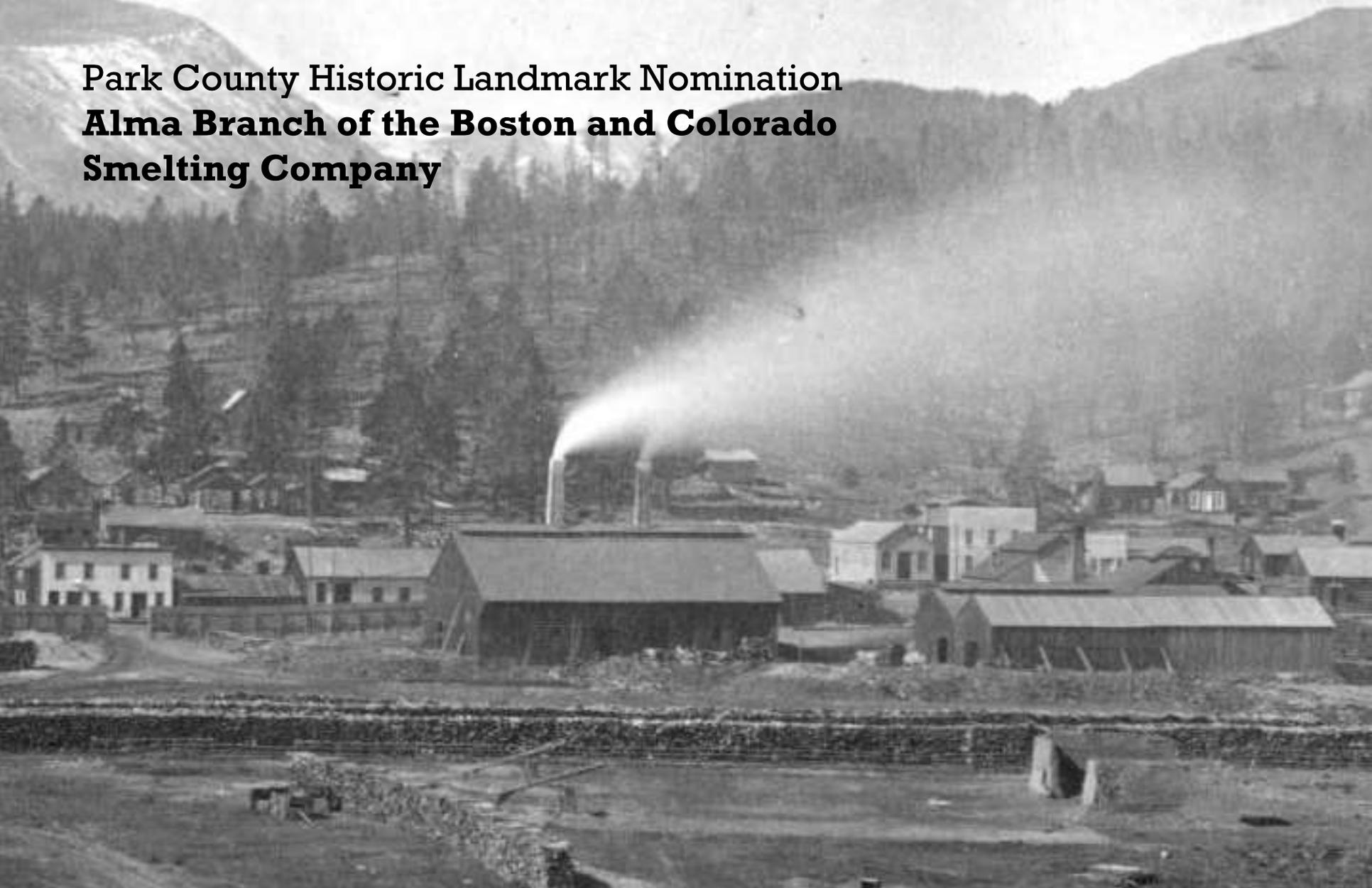


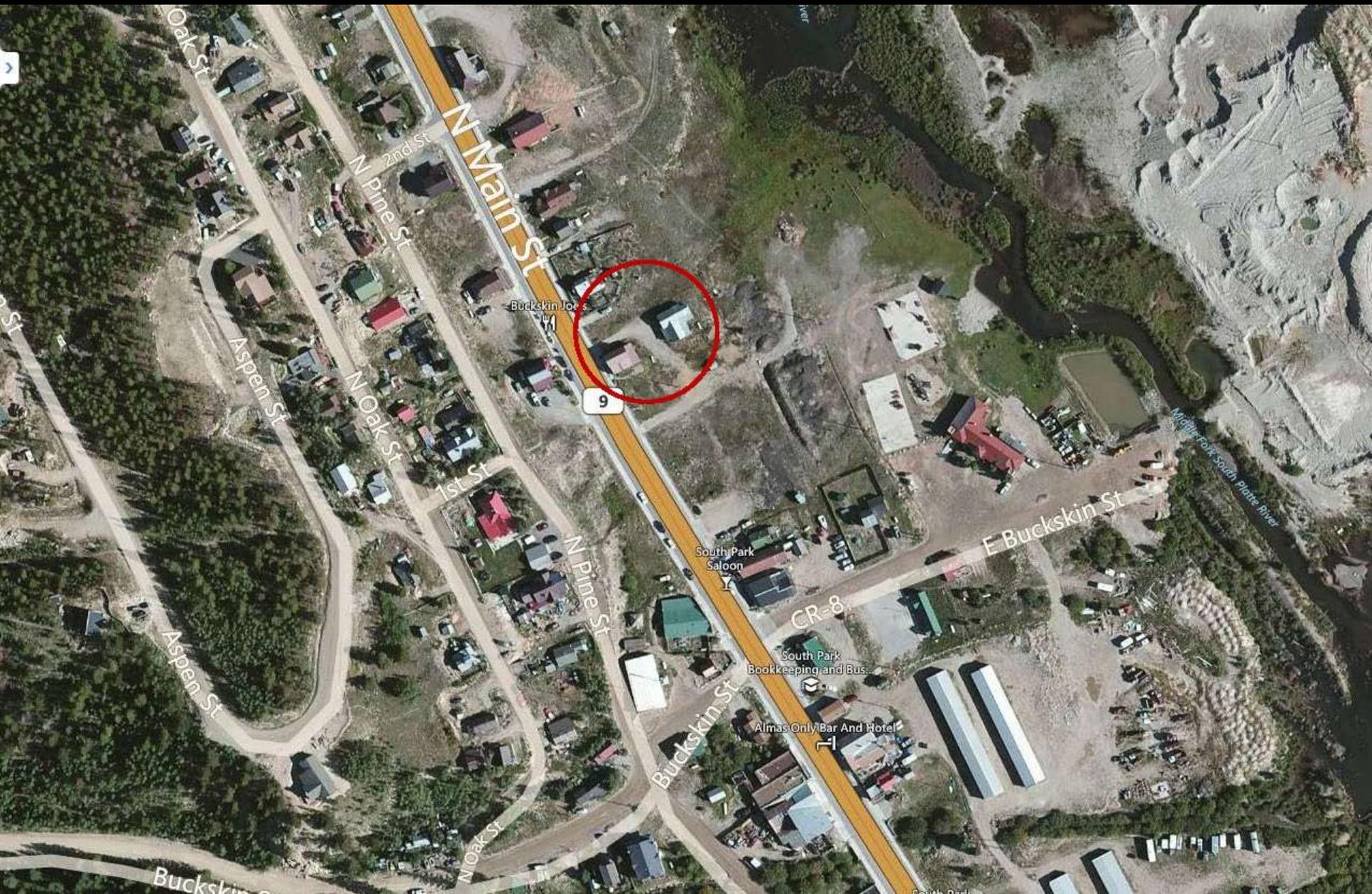


Park County Historic Landmark Nomination
**Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado
Smelting Company**



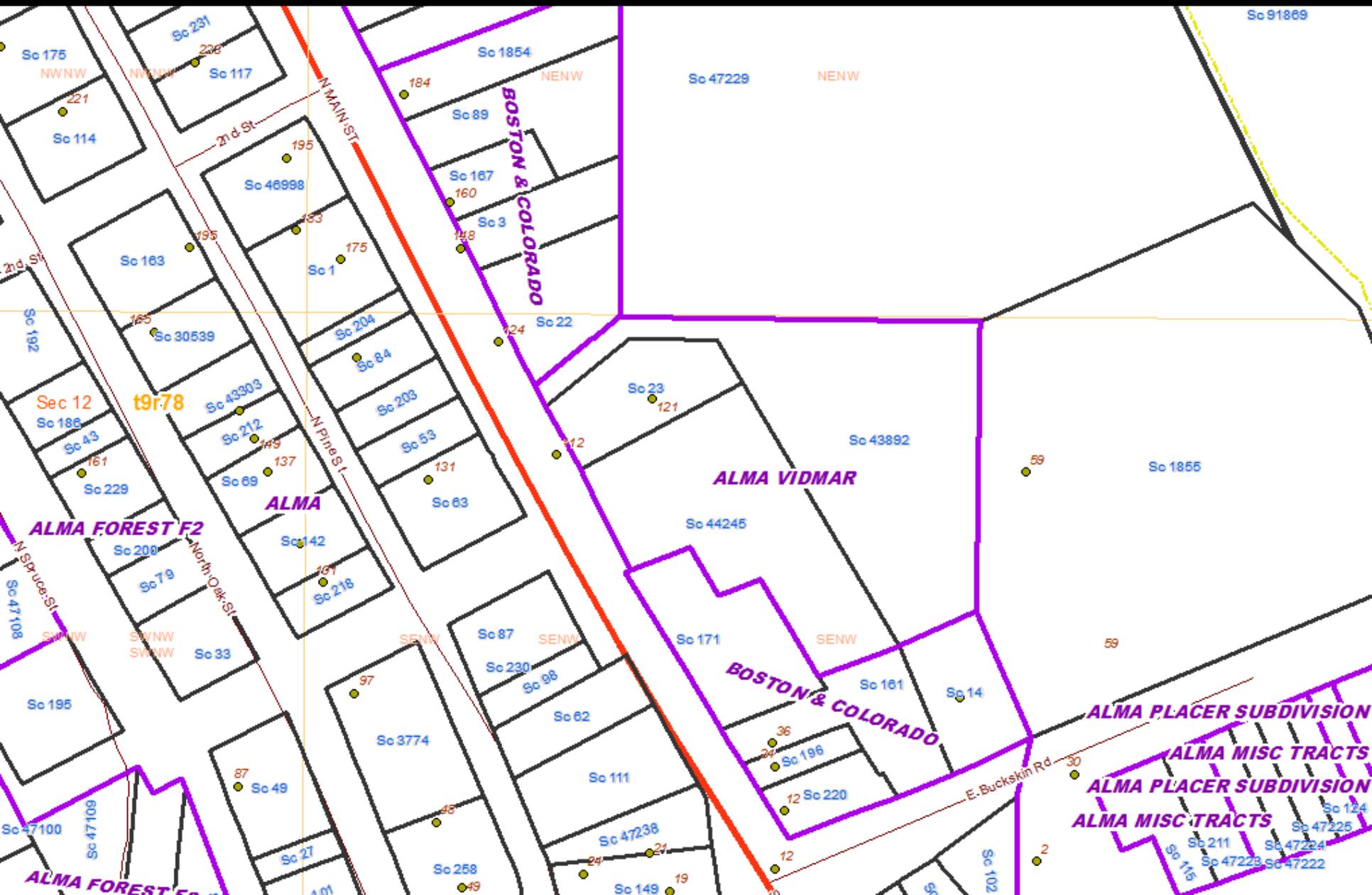


Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





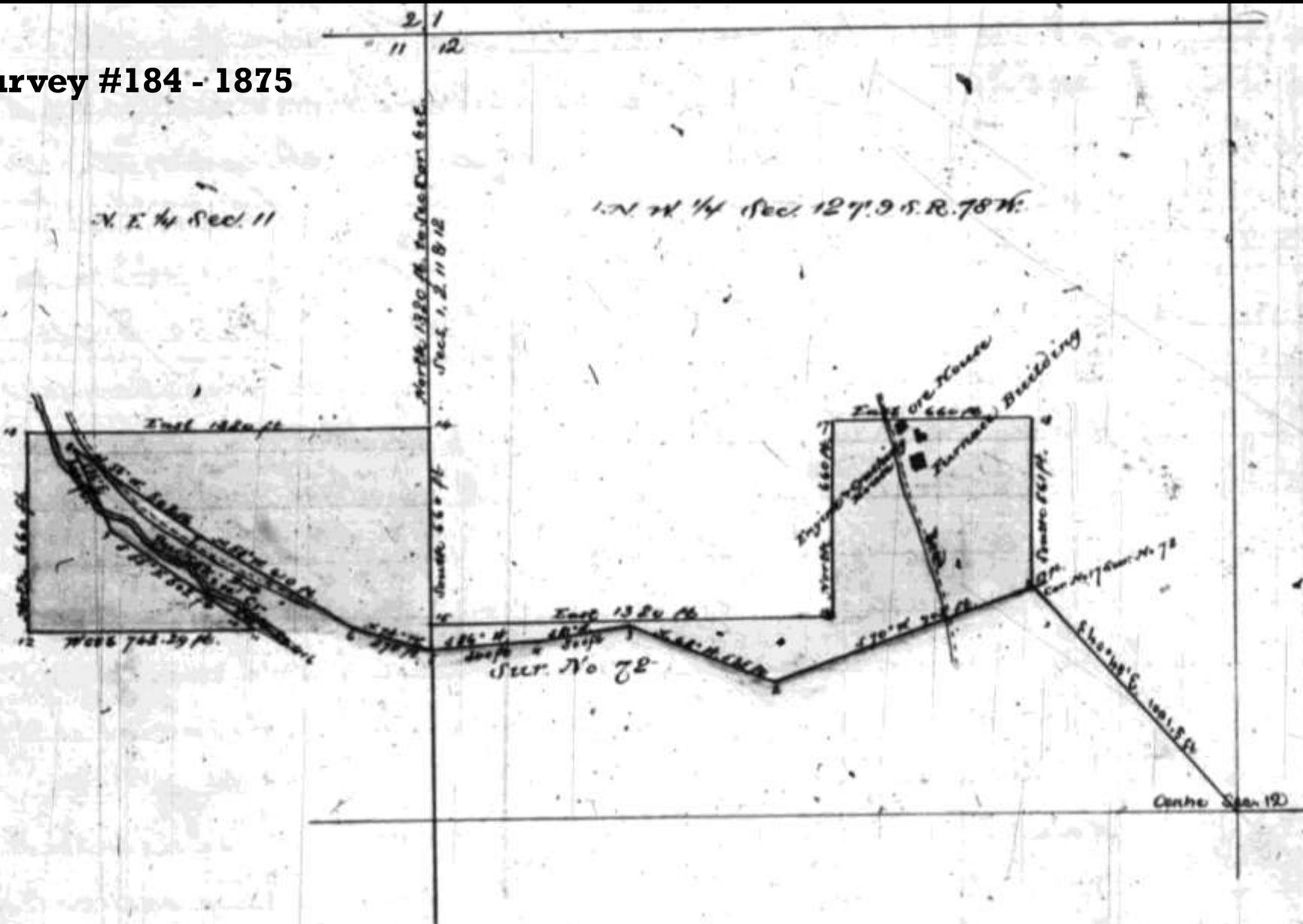
Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





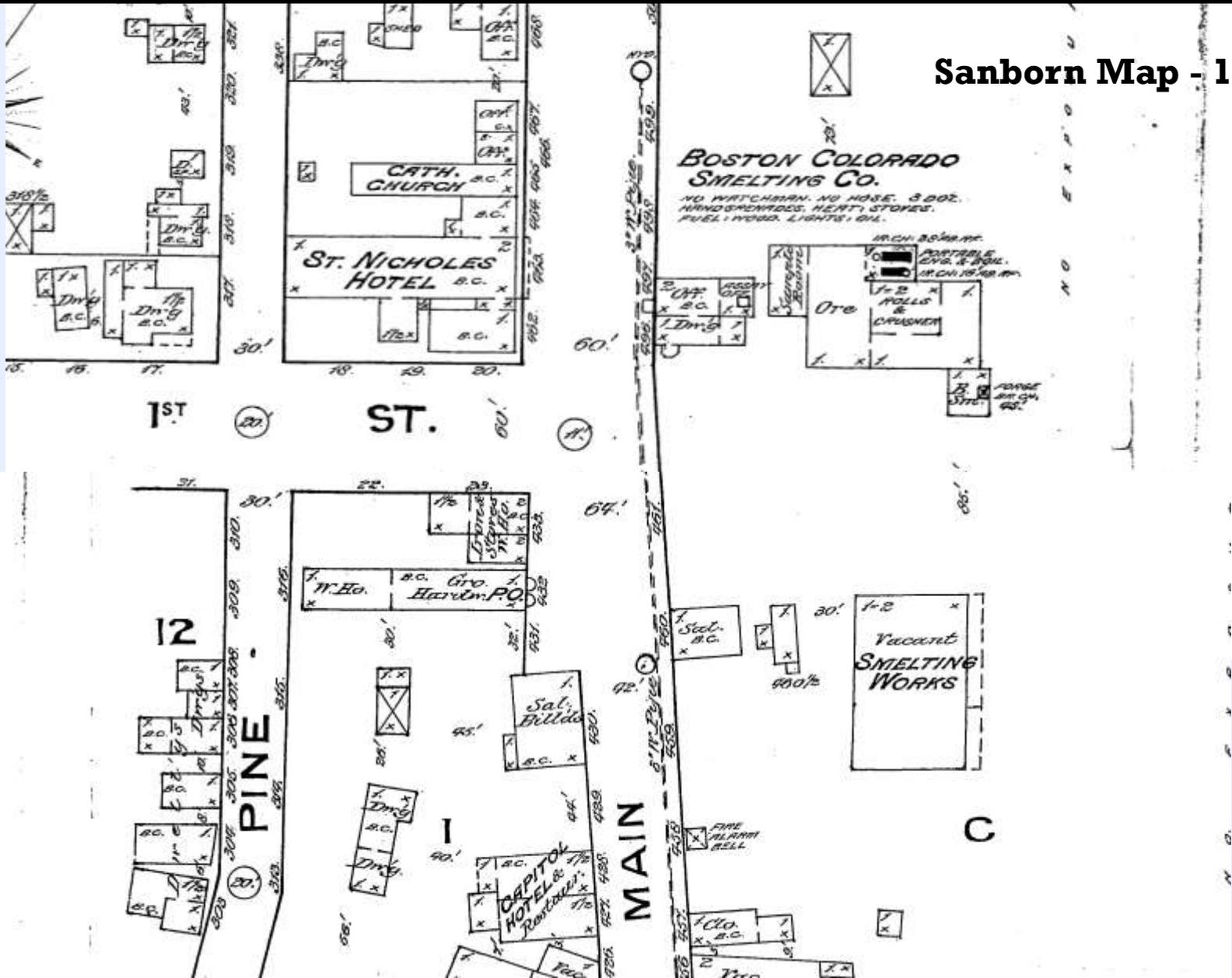
Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Survey #184 - 1875





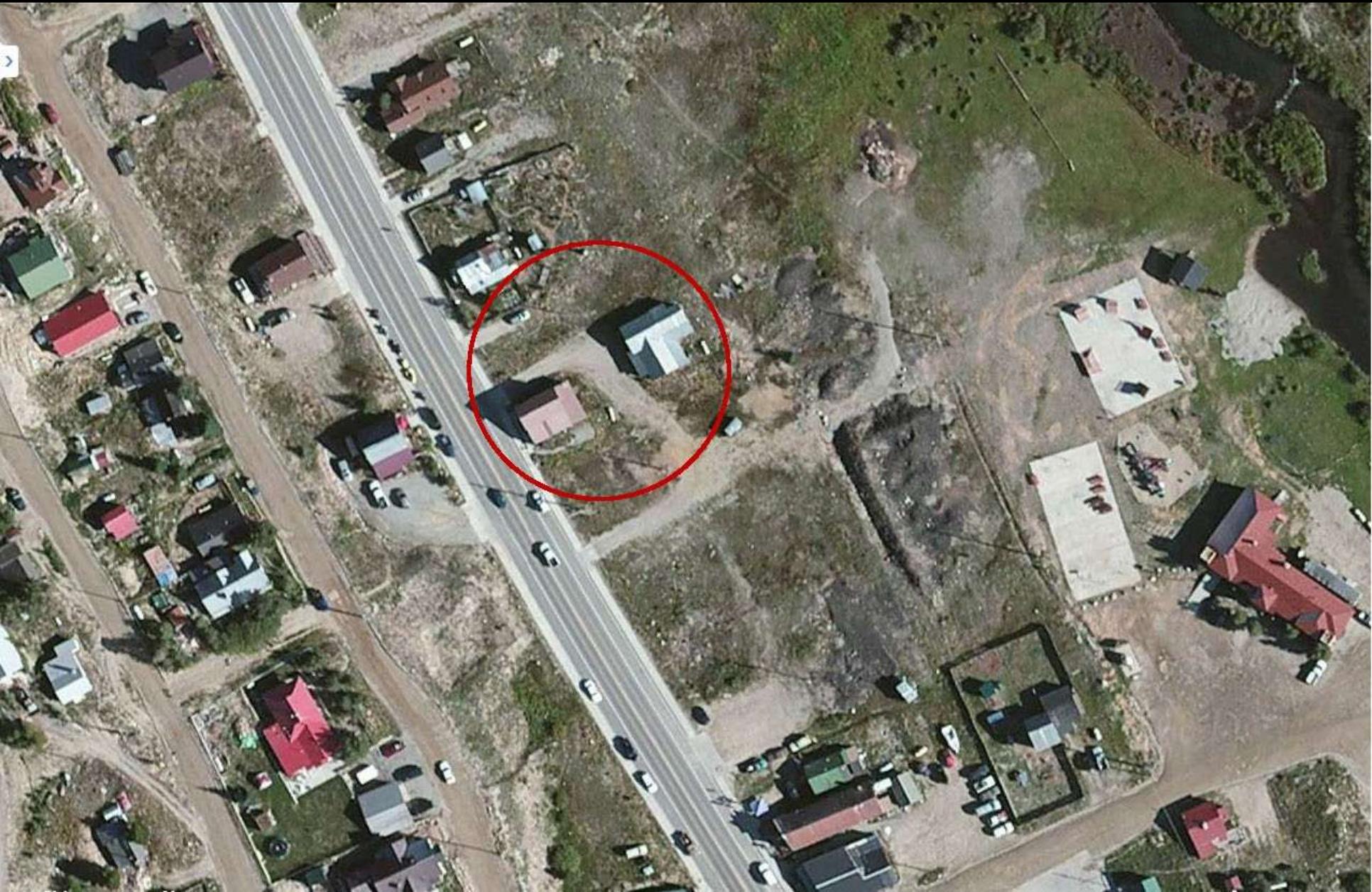
Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Sanborn Map - 1886



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Office/Residence





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Engine/Boiler Building





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Founded by Nathaniel P. Hill, former chemistry professor from Brown University.

Visited Colorado in the mid-1860s and saw a need for improved smelting technology.

Smelting is the process of using heat to separate precious metal from waste rock or “slag.”

During early years of mining in Colorado, ore typically shipped out of state for smelting.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Slag Remnants





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Black Hawk, circa 1862-1878

Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Hill and partners completed Boston and Colorado Black Hawk smelter in 1868.

First successful smelting operation in Colorado.

Used reverberatory furnace technology.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Henry R. Wolcott joined the company in 1870.

With Hill and others, invested in Alma area mines as part of the Park Pool Association after major silver discoveries early 1870s.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Smelting in Alma

First smelter in Alma areas constructed by Mt. Lincoln Smelting Works Company at Dudley.

Construction began in 1872.

Built primarily to process ore from the Moose and Dolly Varden mines.

Employed blast furnace technology.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Smelting in Alma

On Wolcott's recommendation, Boston and Colorado made plans to open branch smelter in Alma.

Construction completed in 1873.

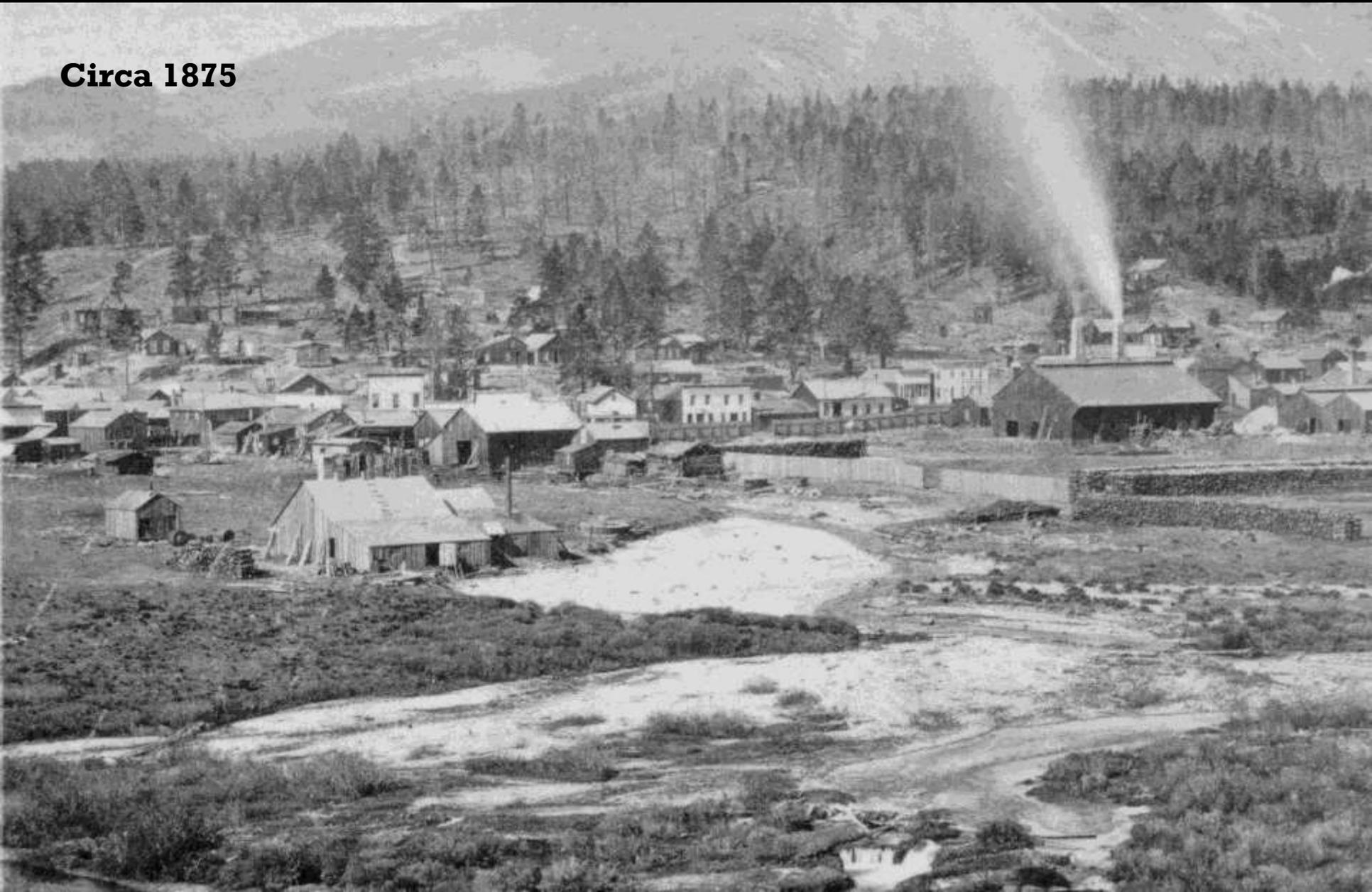
Employed reverberatory technology.

Dudley Smelter could not compete, closed in 1874.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

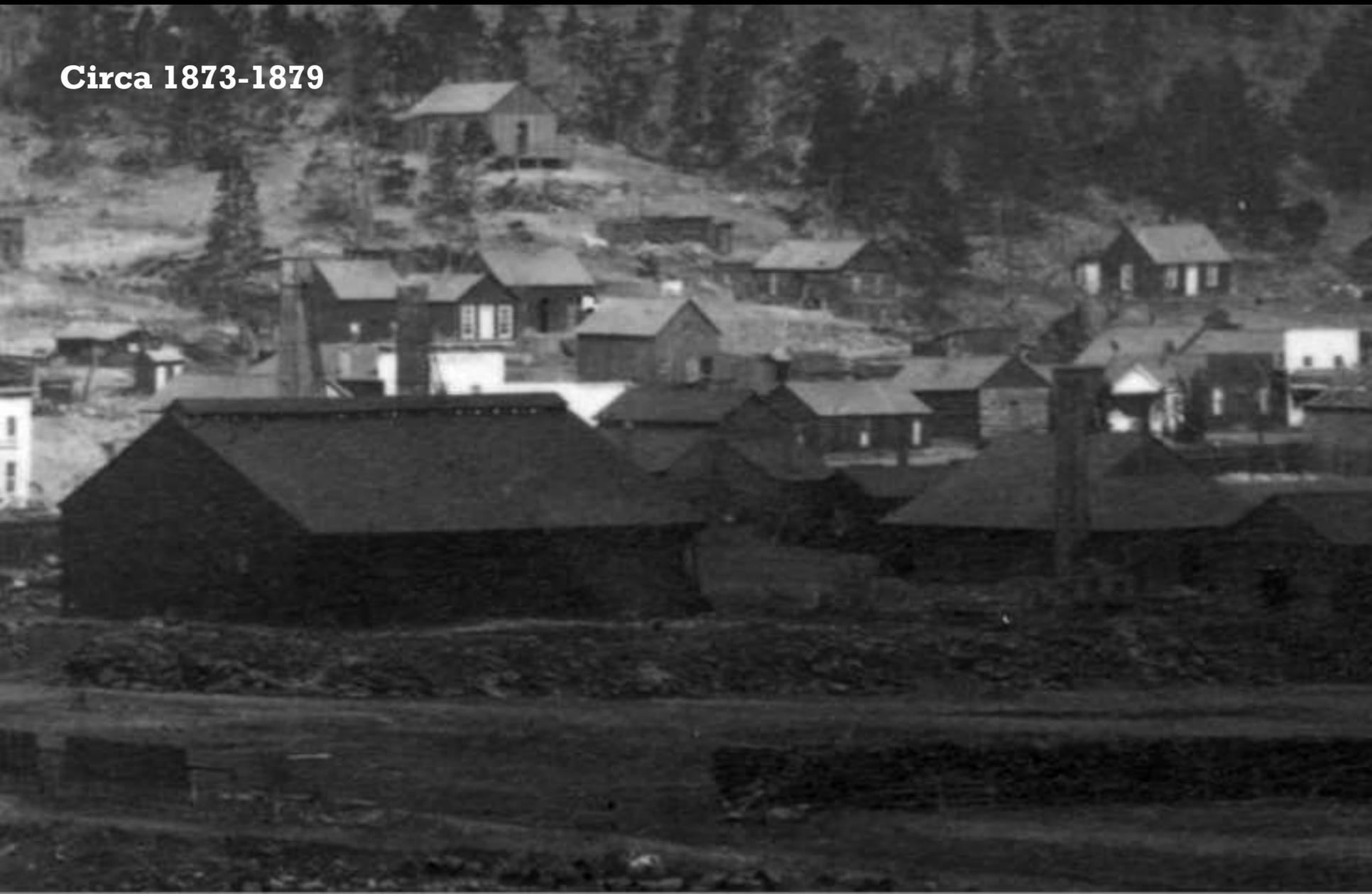
Circa 1875





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Circa 1873-1879





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Circa 1879-1885

Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

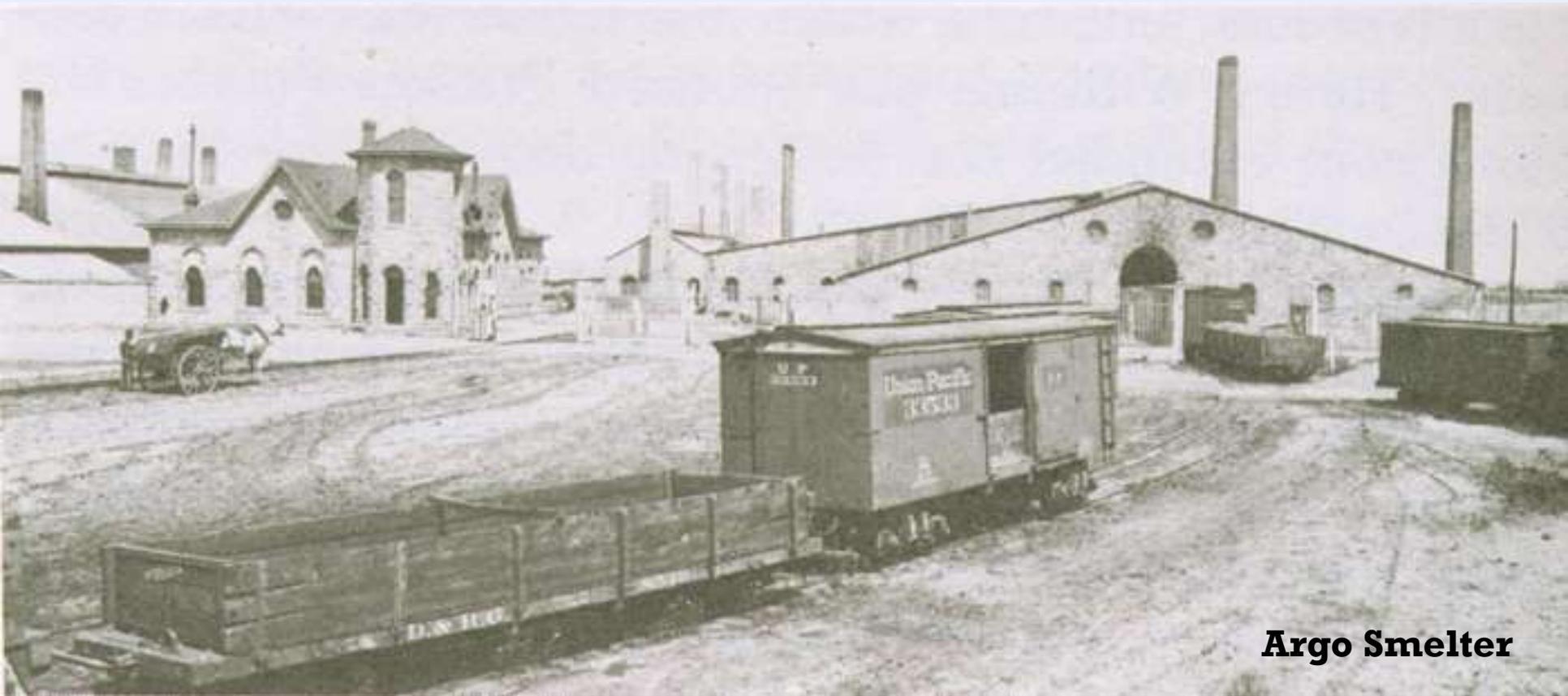
In 1877, silver discoveries in Leadville, begin to draw mining business away from Park County.

Boston and Colorado having difficulty supplying Black Hawk smelter with enough wood to fuel furnaces.

Company decides to close Black Hawk and Alma smelters in 1879 and move all smelting operations to new plant in Argo.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Argo Smelter



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Circa 1886





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Circa 1886



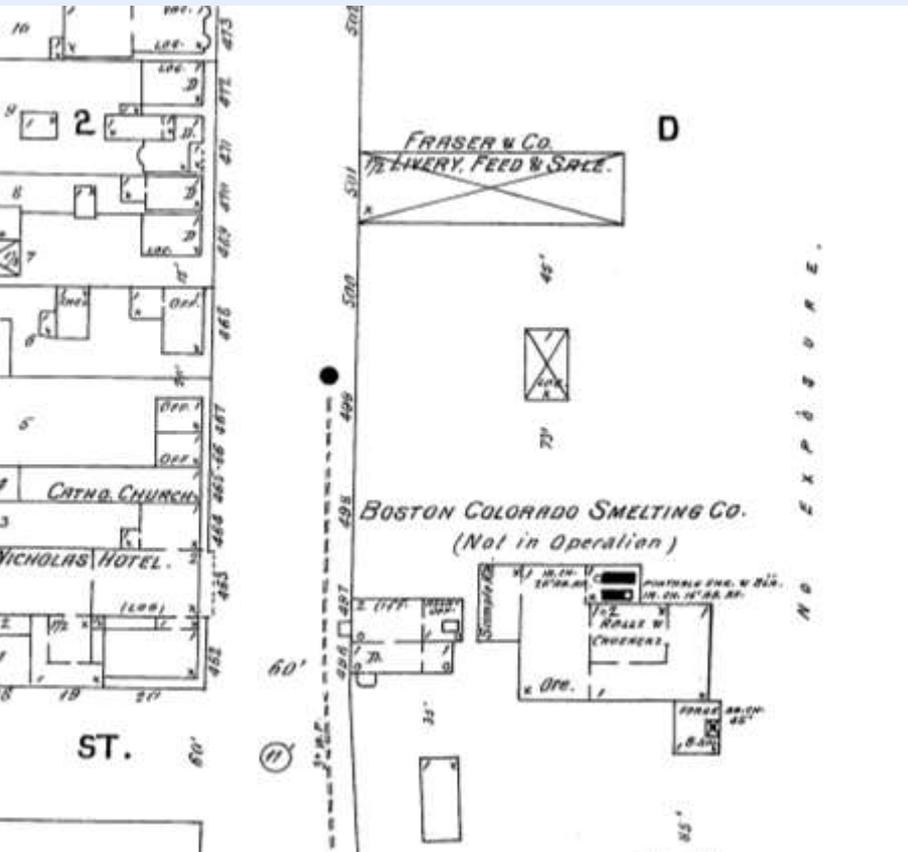
Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Alma mining declines rapidly after silver panic of 1893.

Property sold in 1895 to Boston-area investor with ties to Wolcott.

Smelting works ceases operations around 1895.



Sanborn Map - 1896



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Colorado Gold Mining and Smelting Company acquires property in 1908. Reopened the sampling works in August 1909.

Company invested in area mines including the Excelsior and Kentucky Belle.

Large Boston and Colorado smelter building demolished and the wood used to construct new smelter at Alma Junction, which began operations in 1910.

Uses Boston and Colorado property as a temporary headquarters during construction.

Colorado Gold Mining and Smelting Company venture quickly fails.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



circa 1911



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination

ALMa HOTEL AND RESTAURANT

The proprietors of the **Alma Hotel and Restaurant**
beg to inform their friends and the public that they are now

Open for Business

on upper main street in the

Montrose House

which has been remodded and refurnished throughout. We will
put forth every endeavor to please the public in every detail.

Our Motto: Cleanliness and wholesome food.

Paul Kruger

Mrs. J. F. Adler

1911



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company

Property sold at sheriff's sale in 1916.

Home of Robert Painter family between 1931 and 1938.

Between 1954 and 1978, owned by Charles and Miriam Bilty. Biltos operated grocery store in South Park Saloon building.

Sampling works demolished with the exception of the stone engine/boiler building and modifications made to rear additions of residence some time before late 1950s – early 1960s.



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination



circa 1955



Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Boston and Colorado Smelting Company Historic Landmark Nomination





Landmark Criteria

A. Its character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of Park County, State of Colorado, or the United States.

- Highly visible reminder of the critical role mining played in the founding and development of Alma.
- Demonstrated to the state and the nation the promise of the area's mines, attracting prospectors, investors, and entrepreneurs to the small mountain community.
- The town quickly grew in population after the opening of the smelter reportedly prompting the town's incorporation in December 1873.
- Provides rare insight into the development of Park County's mining industry and the town of Alma as it adapted to changing economic conditions between 1873 and today.



Landmark Criteria

B. Its identification with a person(s) or group(s) who significantly contributed to the culture, history or development of a local community, Park County, State of Colorado, or the United States.

- Associated with Nathaniel P. Hill, principal organizer of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company and his general manager Henry R. Wolcott, individuals who played significant roles in the development of Colorado's mining industry and the town of Alma.



Landmark Criteria

B. Its identification with a person(s) or group(s) who significantly contributed to the culture, history or development of a local community, Park County, State of Colorado, or the United States.

- Hill, a former chemistry professor at Brown University, established a highly successful smelting operation at Black Hawk in 1868 and quickly became the industry's leader.
 - served as Black Hawk's mayor in 1871
 - member of Colorado's Territorial Council in 1872 and 1873
 - actively invested in Alma area mines during the late 1860s and 1870s
 - made the decision to locate the company's first branch operations in Alma, which spurred development of the town
 - served in the U.S. Senate from 1879 to 1885



Landmark Criteria

B. Its identification with a person(s) or group(s) who significantly contributed to the culture, history or development of a local community, Park County, State of Colorado, or the United States.

- Joined the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company in 1870 as general manager.
- Henry R. Wolcott invested heavily in Alma area real estate during the early 1870s.
- Heavily influenced decision to located smelter in Alma.
- Vice-president of the First National Bank of Denver. President of the Colorado Telephone Company. State senator from Gilpin County. Ran for governor.
- Formed the Mount Lincoln Improvement Company in 1875. The company held title to many of Alma's town lots and was integral to the early development of the town.
- Described as "...one of the empire builders of Colorado and the west—a pioneer mining man, capitalist, politician, builder, and smelterman..."



Landmark Criteria

D. Its exemplification of the cultural, economic, social, or historic heritage of a local community, Park County, State of Colorado, or the United States.

- Associated with the formative years of Colorado's smelting industry.
- The Boston and Colorado smelter was the first successful smelting operation in Colorado—had a major impact on Colorado's mining industry, significantly increasing efficiency and profitability.
- Alma Branch represents a significant milestone in the company's history.
- The stone engine/boiler room in Alma is the only intact remnant of a Boston and Colorado smelter facility in Colorado.
- The two-story office and residential building has changed relatively little in 140 years and is arguably the best-preserved building associated with the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company in Colorado.



Landmark Criteria

E. Its embodiment of distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, type, or form valuable for the study of a group of people, period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials and craftsmanship.

- Fine example of the type of mining-related buildings constructed in remote mountain communities during the early 1870s.
- Best-preserved 1870s-era mining building in Park County and more specifically, Alma, one of the county's most active mining communities during the late 1800s.
- The engine/boiler room, the only surviving remnant of the company's industrial buildings, is a rare example of limestone masonry construction in Park County.
- It is the earliest and best-preserved stone industrial building surviving building in Park County and exemplifies the masonry construction techniques employed by the mining industry in remote areas of Colorado during the 1870s.



On February 18, 2014, the Alma Town Board unanimously recommended to PCHPAC and the BOCC that the Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company be designated as a Park County Historic Landmark.

On February 22, 2014, PCHPAC unanimously recommended to the BOCC that the Alma Branch of the Boston and Colorado Smelting Company be designated as a Park County Historic Landmark.

