
Historic
LEAD
PAST AND PRESENT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The City of Lead Past and Present photo project was developed by the Lead Historic Preservation Commission (LHPC) in 2010, and published with funds from the South Dakota State Historical Society in 2018. The LHPC is dedicated to preserving Lead's colorful past, including structures, photographs, oral and written history. The LHPC meets monthly at Lead City Hall, every third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 PM. No meetings occur during August and December.

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Homestake Mining Company: Lead, South Dakota
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THANK YOU

LEAD, SOUTH DAKOTA

Lead (pronounced "leed") was officially founded on July 10, 1876, after the discovery of placer gold in Gold Run Gulch. The name Lead comes from a mining term: an outcropping of gold bearing ore. One of the first enterprises of the 1876 Gold Rush was the Homestake Gold Mine. Homestake was claimed by brothers Fred and Moses Manuel on April 9, 1876. In June of 1877 George Hearst purchased the claim from the Manuel brothers; the mine would go on to produce over 40 million ounces of gold during its lifetime, valuing over a billion dollars, in addition to many technological and civic achievements. The Homestake was America's longest continuously operated gold mine. It closed in 2002 as the oldest, largest and deepest mine in the western hemisphere, stretching over 8,000 feet below Lead.

The City of Lead and Homestake share an inseparable history. As a company town, Lead depended on Homestake's economic stability for more than a century. The company is almost entirely responsible for the city's built environment, visible in this publication. In turn, Homestake depended on Lead to provide a home community for its employees. Phoebe Hearst, wife of George, was instrumental in making Lead more livable. She established the public library and the Hearst Free Kindergarten, and she arranged for the Opera House and Recreation Building to be constructed as gifts to the community from the company. Homestake's influence on Lead is still visible today.

This publication features photographs of ten geographic sites in Lead, both historically significant and best suitable for re-photography. Historic photographs were obtained from local archives, and re-photography was conducted by Lead resident Richard Carlson. This project is particularly important in a town that has seen as much change to the built environment as Lead. Buildings and landscapes featured in these historic photographs are easily forgotten without the wisdom of preservation. In these pages, you will find many photographs of Homestake operations, as well as a representation of nearly every era of architecture: Victorian, Art Deco, American Foursquare, Tudor Revival, and modern. This publication pairs well with the Historic Lead Walking Tour and serves as an excellent introduction to our historic city.

1

Southside of Main Street between Siever and Stone Streets
View from Miners Avenue



PAST c. 1910s

(L-R) Homestake Opera House (1914), Christ Church, Episcopal (1896), U.S. Post Office (1912)
Background: Central School Campus (1896/1915), St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1902)

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

(L-R) Homestake Opera House (1914), Black Hills Mining Museum (1987), U.S. Post Office (1912)
Background: Central School Campus (2002), St. Patrick's Catholic Church (1982)

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

2

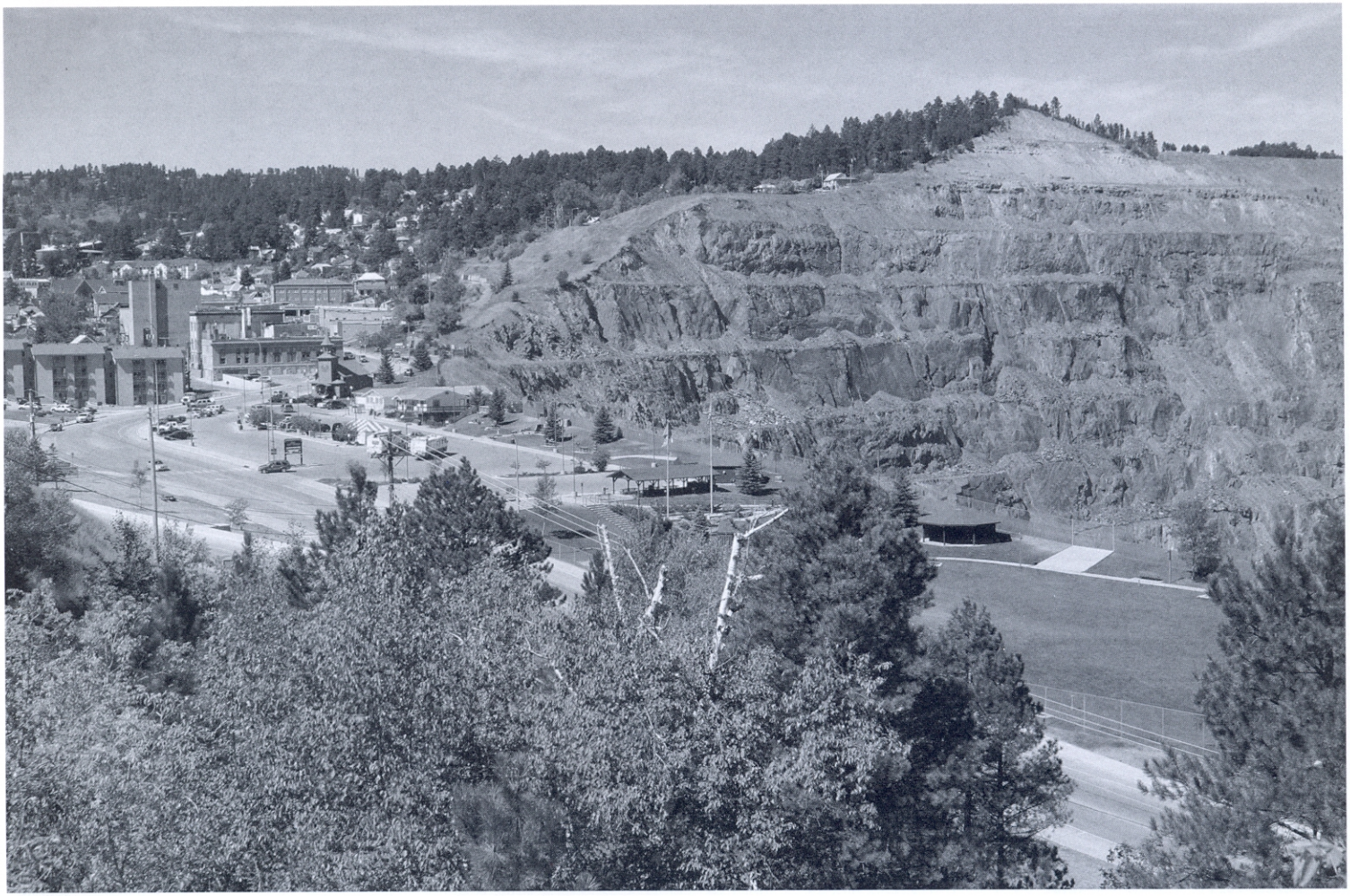
Homestake Open Cut Area • View from Ellison Hill looking northwest



PAST c. 1918

Upper right: Open Cut subsidence, caused by extensive mining operations, both surface and underground
Center: Lead business area prior to removal for subsidence issues
Far left: Homestake Opera House (with square chimney)

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

Right: Open Cut Mine
(L-R) Opera House, Main Street, Visitor Center, Manuel Brothers Park
Left Center: Former Finnish First Lutheran Church

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

3 Homestake General Manager's Residence • View from Forest Avenue



PAST c. 1930s

Center: The Homestake Manager's Residence (1932-33) on Fairview Avenue
Right: Bender's Park—Homestake's carpenter shop, lumber shed and loading dock area

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

Center: Homestake Manager's Residence is hidden in the spruce trees (privately owned)
The Twin City Mall occupies the area that was Bender's Park
US Highway 85/14A is visible to left (on old Black Hills & Ft. Pierre Railroad grade)

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

4

Lead Main Street • View looking up Lead Main Street



PAST c. 1950s

Left side of street: (Seeling Lang Block) First National Bank, Homestake Public Relations/Employment Office, Rowe's Market, Newell's Drug Store, J&E Shop, Homestake Opera House and Red Owl Grocery Store
Right side of street: (Maleta Block) Barber Shop, Edlund's Shoe Repair, Nelson/Scott Insurance Agency, Homestake Hospital and Miner's & Merchant's Bank

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

Left side of street: (Seeling Lang Block) Wells Fargo Bank, Johns & Kosel Law Office, Movie Madness, Real Estate Office, Stamp Mill, Homestake Opera House and Black Hills Mining Museum
Right side of street: (Maleta Block) Prospect Park, Center of Hope

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

5

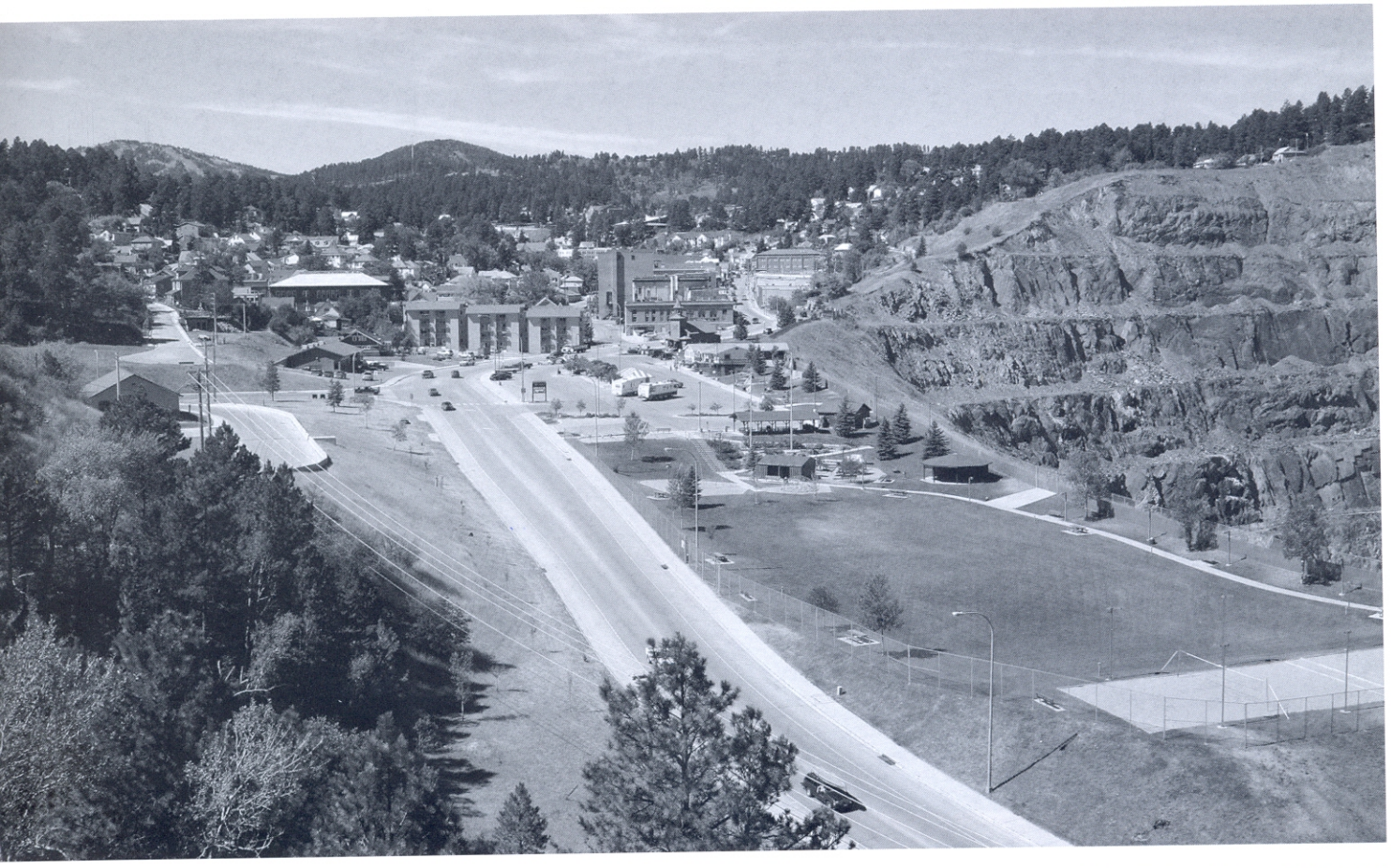
Lead Main Street • View from Lead City Shops on Ellison Hill



PAST c. 1930

(L-R) Palethrope House built in 1910 for Homestake Mining Company (HMC) Manager Grier's in-laws, Northwestern Train Depot (tower), Opera House, First National Bank (across the street)

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

(L-R) Central School Campus , Timberland Apartments, Opera House, Wells Fargo Bank, Homestake Apartment House, Visitor Center/Manuel Brothers Park

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

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Mill Street Area • View from Sunnyhill Road



PAST c. 1920s

(L-R) Ellison Shaft Complex 1896-1930; Sawyer, Mill and Bleeker Streets
Foreground: Center of Lead, before subsidence

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



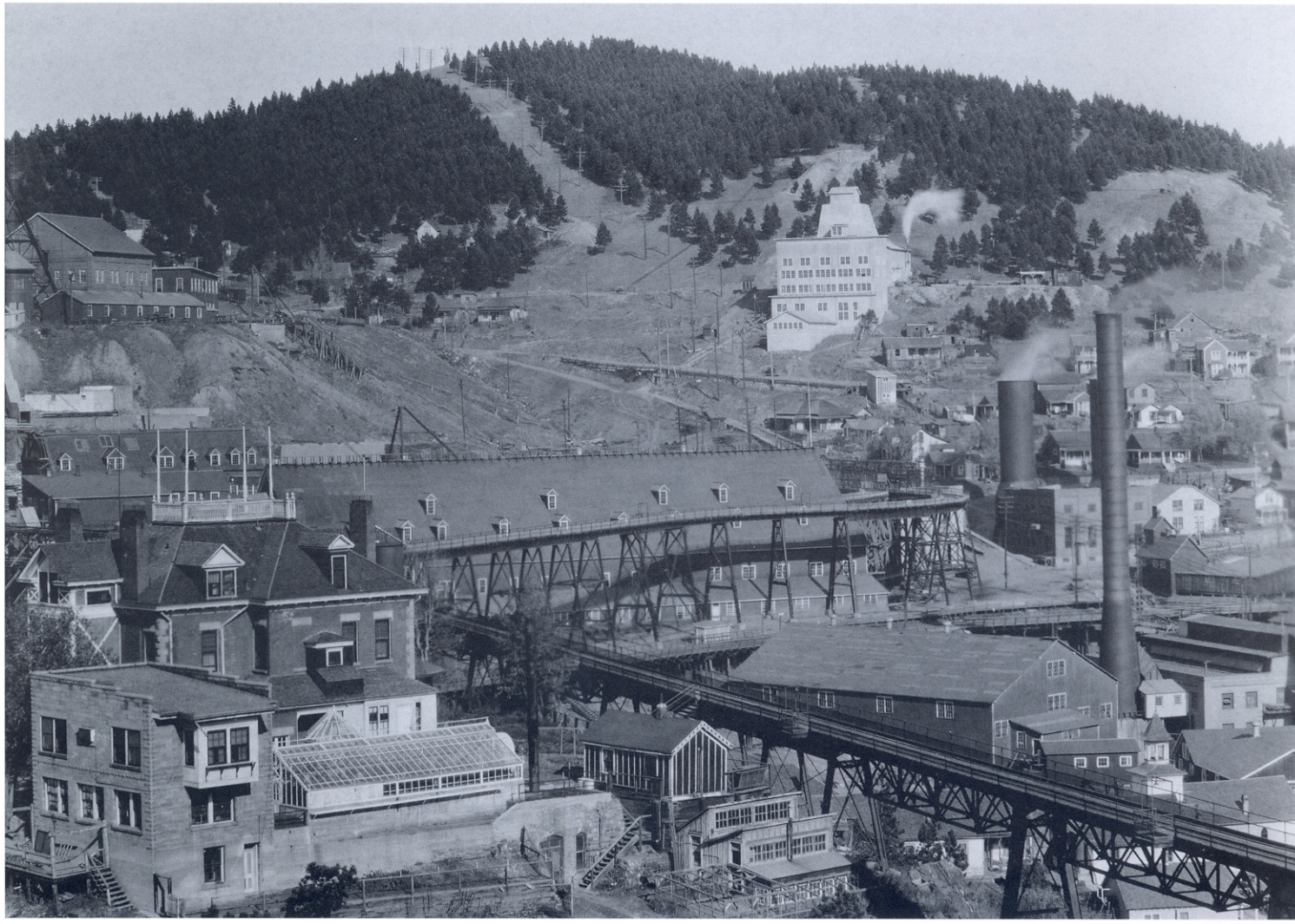
c. 2010 PRESENT

(L-R) Lead City Shop, Ellison Hill, Dental Office, Sawyer, Mill and Bleeker Streets
Foreground: Open Cut and Highway 85

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

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Washington Street Area • View from Ellison Hill



PAST c. 1924

(L-R) Amicus Mill, HMC Electric Substation, B&M #2 Shaft (on hillside), Steam Auxiliary Station (short stacks), Central Boiler Plant (tall stacks), Electric & Steam Lines & Coal Conveyor (foreground)

Credit: Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center, Deadwood, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

B&M #2 Headframe (in the trees), Electric Substation, Dog Park, Twin City Transit Mix, Washington Stree

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

8 Lower Gold Run Creek Area

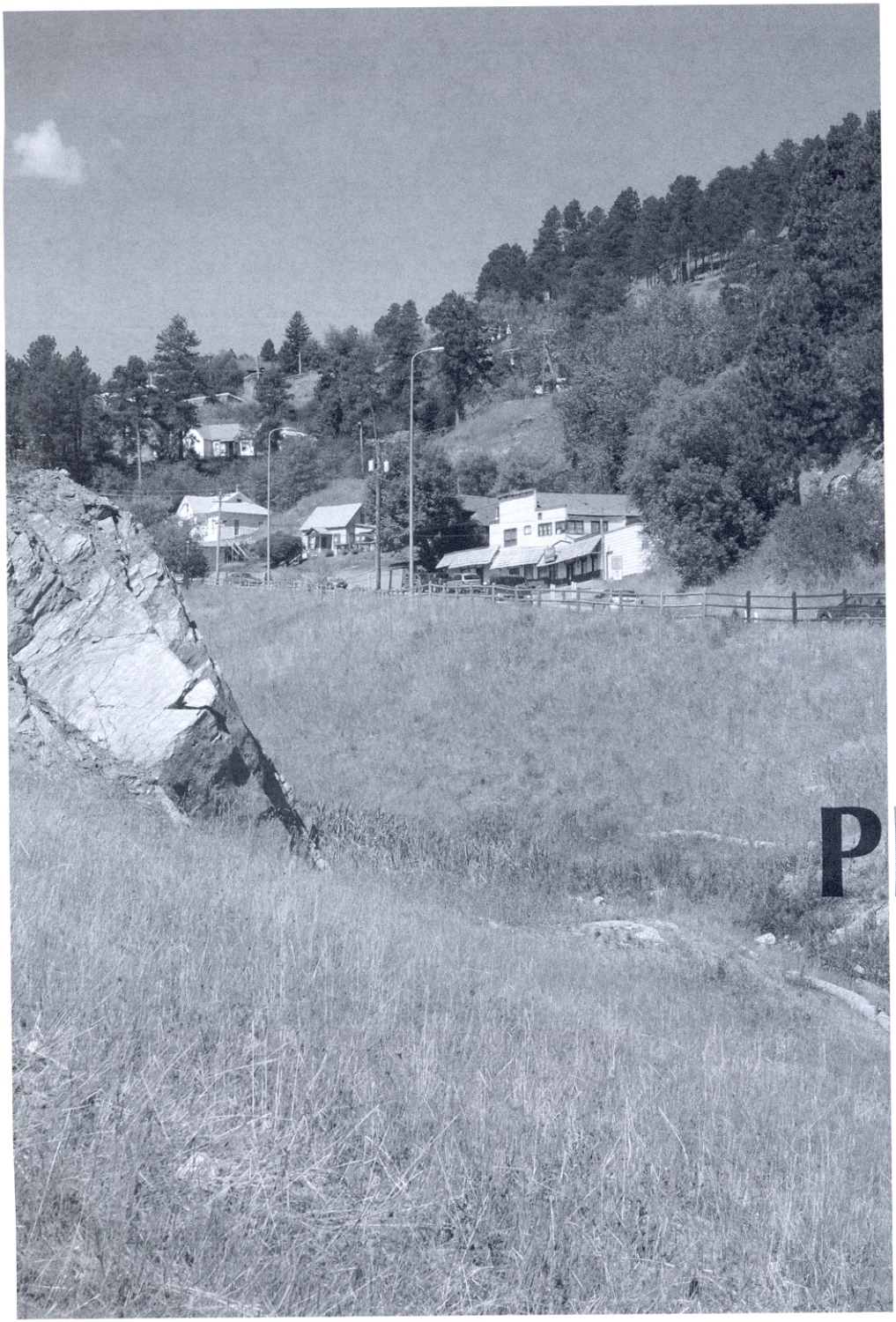
View from HMC Mill Property



PAST
2/8/1930

(L-R) HMC Mill Building, Gold Run Creek, Richardson Bottling Plant and Ice Cream Factory and Store

Credit: Homestake Mining Company, Lead, SD



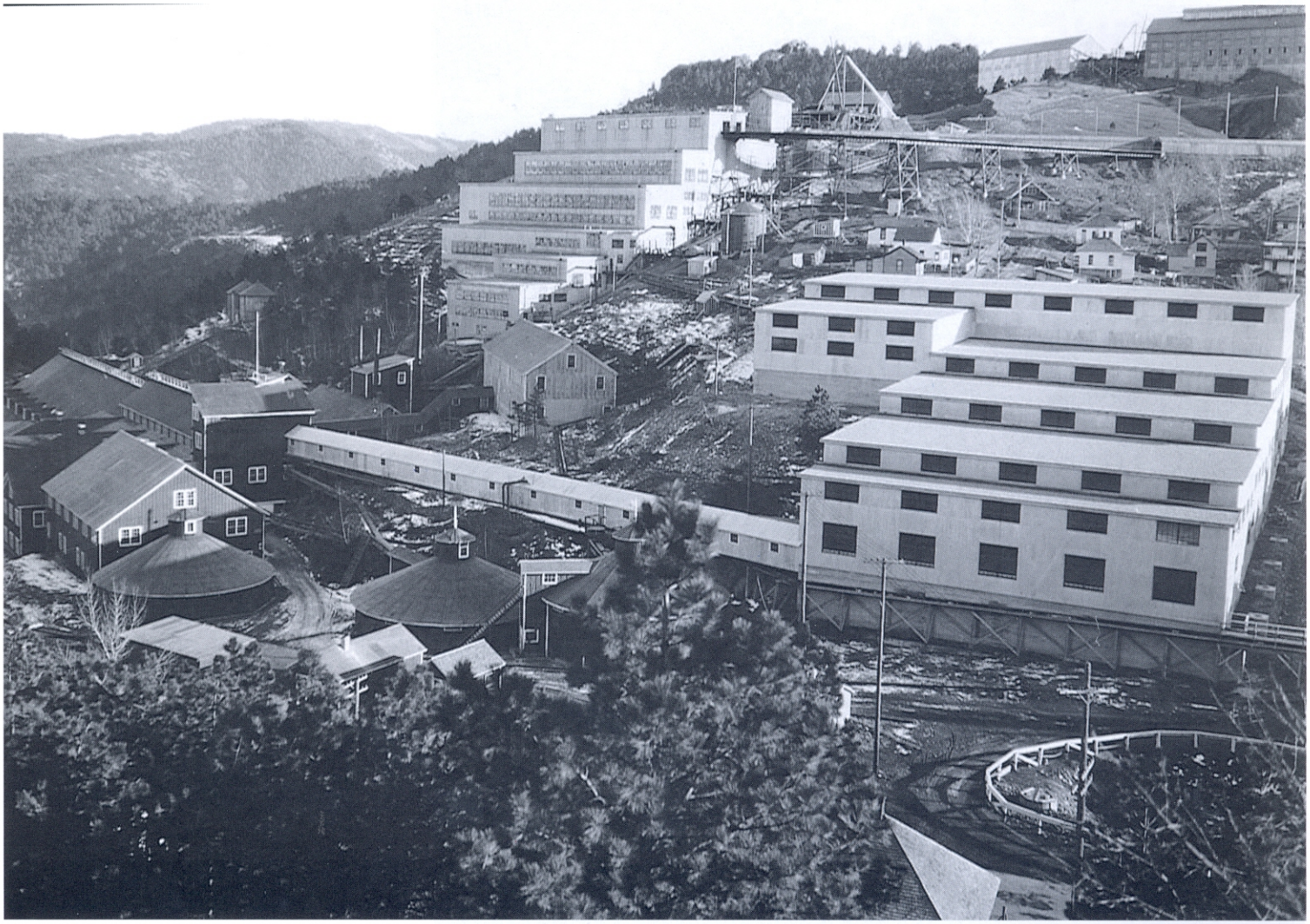
PRESENT
c. 2010

King's Grocery

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

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Homestake Mill Area • View from Washington Street



PAST c. 1930s

(L-R) Cyanide Plant #1 (1901), Assay Department, East Sand Plant, South Mill (1920), Ore Tramway into South Mill, Pattern Shop and Foundry (on top of hill), Cyanide #3

Credit: Homestake Mining Company, Lead, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

Gold Run Park, Yates Engine/Hoist Room, Yates Headframe, Homestake Foundry

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

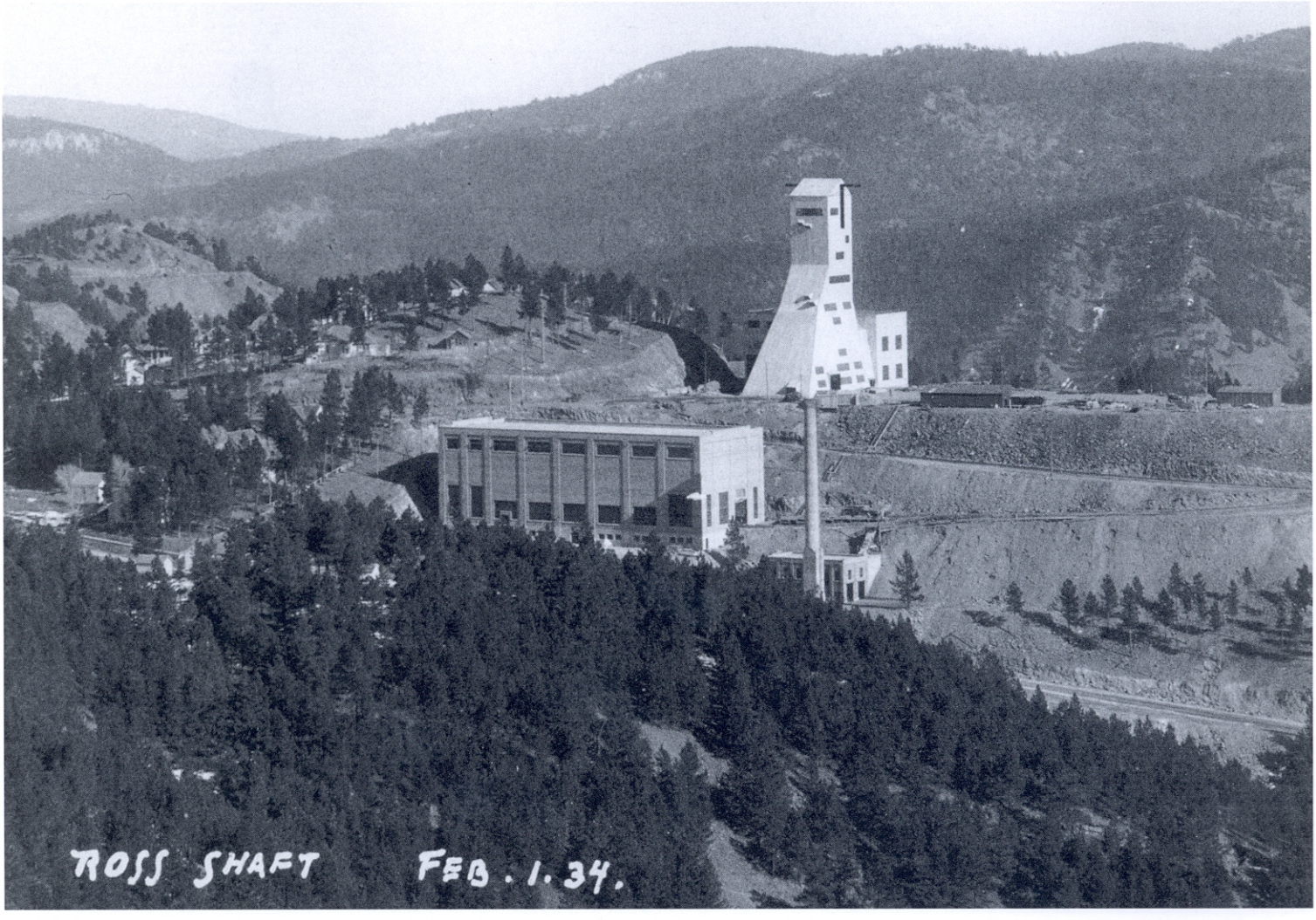


c. 2010 PRESENT

Gold Run Park, Yates Engine/Hoist Room, Yates Headframe, Homestake Foundry

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD

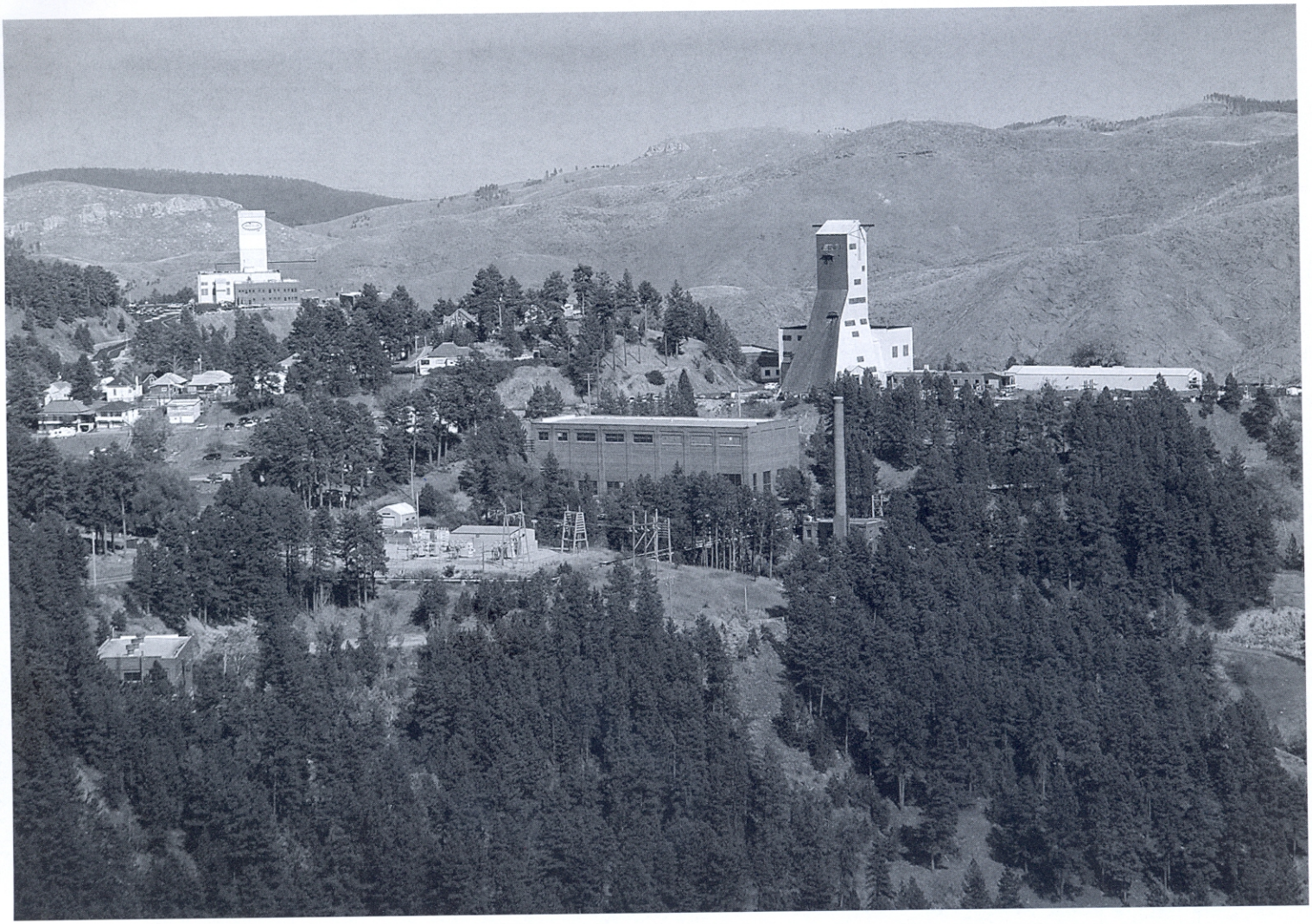
10 Homestake Ross Shaft Complex • View from above Kirk Road



PAST 2/1/1934

Ross Engine/Hoist Room, Ross Headframe

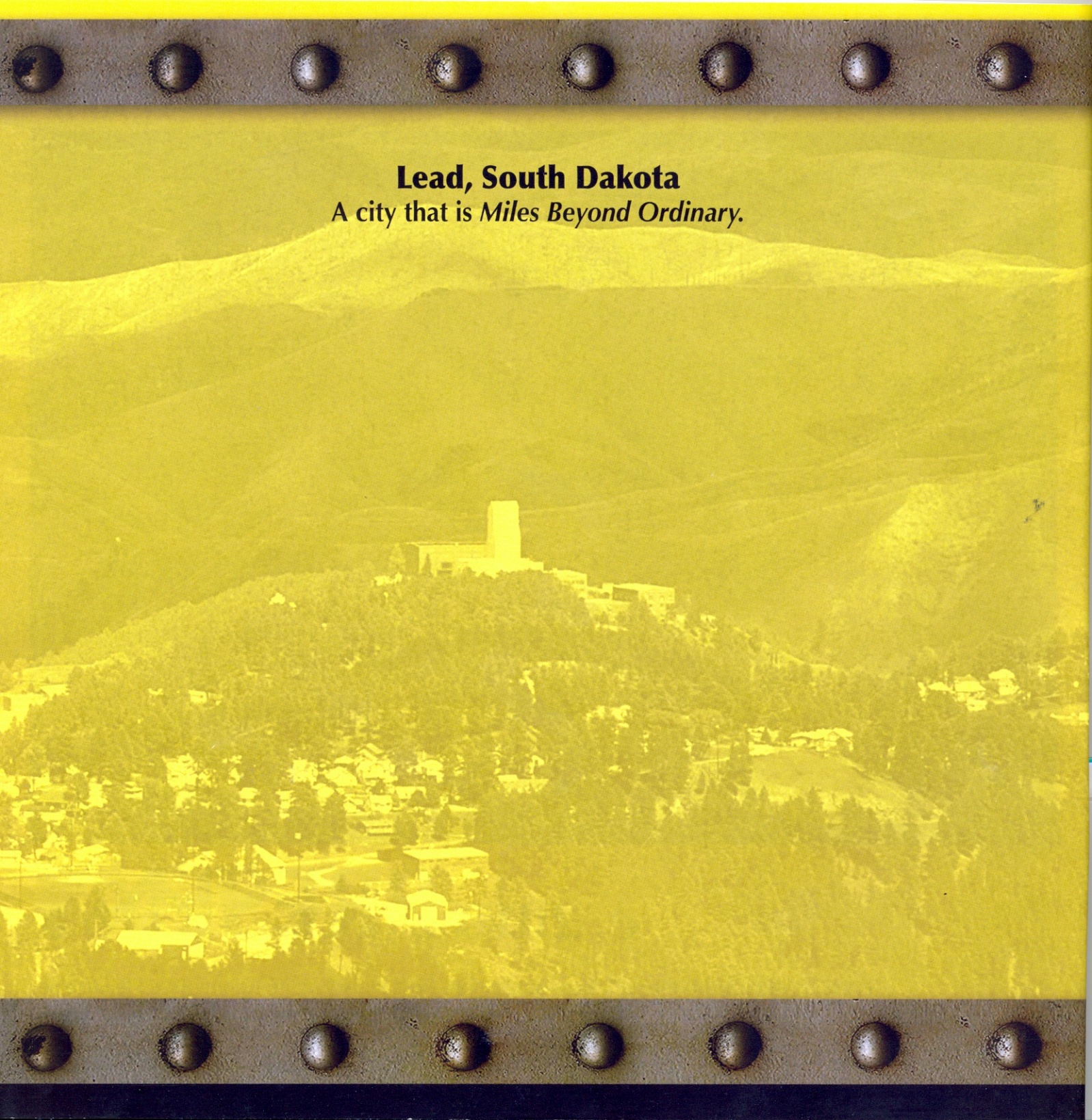
Credit: Homestake Mining Company, Lead, SD



c. 2010 PRESENT

Yates Headframe (to the left), Ross Substation, Ross Hoist/Engine Room, Ross Headframe, Homestake Surface Repair Shops

Credit: Richard Carlson, Lead, SD


Lead, South Dakota
A city that is *Miles Beyond Ordinary.*