

## Chapter 1 : Gold Stocks and Investment Report | Investing News Network

*Exploring and Mining Gems and Gold in the West - documents the personal history of Frederick James Rynerson, and his experiences during the boom years of San Diego's colored gemstone trade in the early 20th Century (ca ).*

When you are planning your next trip anywhere, the first thing we all think about is activities. Sometimes, those are already planned as the reason we are going to said place is for a certain activity or may be a family event. For those of us who have been to the Western North Carolina mountains several times, and enjoy being in the outdoors, let us at Orchard Inn help you by suggestion a very fun activity, gem mining. Being in the mountains, there are so many great opportunities to go gem mining in NC that picking a place to go can be a bit daunting. Let us help you choose a place to go gem mining in NC that is not only great for your trip but convenient too! They have buckets of all prices and sizes as well as a family package for those with kids. Pisgah Forest Gem Mining – If you have a group of people going gem mining in NC, then this one would be a great choice. They have indoor and outdoor options as well as specialty events like black light mining. Crystal Mountain Gem Mining – This one is located in the heart of downtown Brevard and is a great stop during a fun day of exploring that area. Here, like many others, they offer rubies, sapphires, and emeralds that you could potentially find. While you are there, consider having your gems cut for you by their master stone cutter. Chimney Rock Gemstone Mine- If you are looking for a great combo of gem mining and exploring the area where they come from then be sure to go here and then to Chimney Rock Park. Be sure to check out their bucket prices! While you are there, be sure to ask the staff what kinds of rocks you have found in your bucket. Asheville Outdoor Center – This is a great choice if you are looking for multiple activities for the day without having to travel far. At the center, you can go gem mining, go on a river trip, bike ride, and much more. Choose your type of bucket and have some fun by the river! As you can see, when you choose to go gem mining in NC, you can have a fun and educational day. In our hills, there are not only gemstones but shells, fossils, and so much more. Going gem mining can be a great educational opportunity for any age. When you do decide to come to our area for gem mining, as well as other fun activities, consider staying with us at Orchard Inn. We have rooms as well as cottages for those who like their privacy. Each morning, join everyone in the big house for a delightful breakfast before you start your day. Contact us today and start planning your next big trip to the mountains! Want to learn more about our area? Request your free Vacation Guide today!

**Chapter 2 : Exploring & Mining Gems and Gold in the West (CA) - US Geological Supply**

*United States Since , the mining of gemstones U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey Find helpful customer reviews and review ratings for Exploring and Mining Gems and Gold in the West.*

This article is reprinted from LORE magazine vol 39, no. For most people, the mention of gold prospecting is likely to evoke an image of men in slouch hats and western garb, armed with gold pan, pick and shovel and accompanied by a trusty burro packed with supplies for several months in the wilderness. As we know from film and novels, these hardy fellows spend much of their lives combing the hills, for that vein of precious yellow metal which will make them rich. In reality, the modern western prospector typically works for a salary, discovery or not, and he is likely to wear a baseball cap with a company logo. He uses a four-wheel-drive vehicle instead of a burro, usually stays in motels, and his prospecting tools include topographic maps, a plastic garden trowel, cloth bags, compass and tape measure. Even more incongruously, the modern prospector almost never sees the gold he is searching for, even when his work result in a major discovery and the opening of a mine. Gold prospecting, or to use the preferred term in the business, gold exploration, is currently booming in the western states. Two major factors account for this activity. In the early s, the government deregulated the price of American gold. The second major factor to boost the American gold industry has been the development of a gold recovery technique called heap leaching. In this process, crushed ore is spread on concrete pads and drowned in solutions which literally leach the gold from the rock. When operated on a large scale, heap leaching recovers large amounts of gold which cannot be economically obtained by conventional smelting methods. These two factors have revolutionized the definition of economically minable gold ore. Rich veins with visible gold at the ground surface have virtually all been discovered and mined over the past one hundred and forty years. The gold in such deposits occurs as microscopic particles, and millions of tons of rock must be mined to obtain economic results. The search for these large volume, low grade gold deposits has produced a type of prospecting which is quite different from that of years gone by. The first step in modern gold prospecting is the selection of a target area with gold potential. Unlike the old-time prospectors who travelled patiently from one stream or mountain to another, the modern explorationist tries to cut his time and expenses by narrowing the field of search. This is done partly by following the footsteps of the old-timers, for abandoned mining sites are attractive targets for further exploration. The reason for the attention to historical workings is by no means sentimental. High grade gold veins, discovered and mined out long ago, are often an indication of large, low grade gold deposits in the same area. The other method of selecting a target area is more sophisticated and involves the use of geologic theories of ore formation. Gold deposits are formed in far too many ways to review in this article, but one important theory, the volcanic hot springs model, serves as a good example. Volcanos are fed by magma chambers at depth. Magma is molten, semi-liquid rock material, and magma deep in the earth is both a heat source and a "chemical soup" of many elements, both rare and common. In the process of doing this, the magma can produce heated, mineral-laden fluids called hydrothermal solutions. One element in some hydrothermal solutions is gold, and under the right conditions of pressure and temperature, hydrothermal solutions disseminate large amounts of microscopic gold in the rocks through which they pass. This activity occurs hundreds to thousands of feet below ground, but it often has a surface expression as volcanic hot springs. Armed with this theory in the late s, geologists from Homestake Mining Company, a major American gold producer, began exploring a target area in northern California with evidence of ancient volcanic hot springs. This was an area passed over by the forty-niners, and no gold had previously been found within it. In this case, the theory proved correct, and Homestake found a low- grade gold deposit which has been developed into one of the largest gold miners in the country. The successful test of the volcanic hot springs model was a break-through in gold exploration, and areas with similar geology are being actively explored throughout the west. Once a target area for exploration has been selected, the real work on the ground begins. The first step in this work is geochemical sampling. Gold deposits, even when buried below the surface, can leave their signature as trace amounts of metal in the overlying soil. Geochemical soil sampling is a standard

entry-level job in the mining industry. A small hole is dug and about a pound or so of dirt is placed in a new cloth sample bag. A plastic garden trowel is used for digging, and the person taking the sample is allowed to wear no metal rings of any kind. Such care is necessary to prevent contamination of the sample. The bag of soil is sent to an assay laboratory, and using a technique called neutron activation analysis, which identifies gold from its atomic properties, the laboratory determines the amount of any gold in the sample. Gold content of the sample is measured in parts per billion or parts per million of the total soil. Other elements which are associated with gold deposits, such as silver and mercury, are often analyzed as well. Besides taking the sample, the modern prospector also plots its location precisely on a topographic map. The first phase of geochemical sampling often covers areas of one hundred square miles or more. Based on the initial survey, those areas with the most promising soil values are visited again, and a second phase sampling program is begun. In this second phase, tape and compass are used to lay out a grid upon the ground, and soil samples are taken every one hundred feet at the corners of the grid. Geochemical soil sampling is unglamorous work, often conducted in extremes of weather and topography, and it requires the collection of thousands of samples to be effective. The end result of a geochemical sampling program is a map on which all sample values are plotted and areas of highest soil values for gold or other elements are identified. Such areas, called soil anomalies, usually cover a few acres or less, and they often identify the location of gold ore bodies at depth. Rock outcrops around the anomalies are also sampled and mapped in detail. These prospecting activities are conducted by a team of geologists. Target areas and application of geologic theories are determined by a senior company geologist. A crew chief is employed to coordinate field activities, a specialized geologic mapper may be employed in the business as needed, and several young geologists, typically fresh out of college, are hired to take the soil samples. Another aspect of the work is the staking of federal mining claims on favorable areas. Claims are usually staked between the first and second phases of geochemical sampling, long before any decision to actually mine an area has been made. Depending on the size of the target area, from one to three field seasons are required for the prospecting and claim staking. All of this activity is directed toward the final and most critical phase of gold exploration, which is drilling. No legitimate mining company ever begins a mine without drilling, a fact which is often unknown to the investors who fall prey to gold scams. Drilling, of course, provides a direct sample of the subsurface rock, and it is the ultimate test of the presence or absence of minable gold ore. Drilling is also, however, the most expensive part of an exploration program, and the whole purpose of the initial geologic investigation and geochemical sampling is geared to picking the most favorable drill sites. Like other business people, gold explorationists work within the limits of a budget, and before the drill rigs arrive on a property, great care must be taken to see that available funds for drilling are efficiently spent. Two basic forms of drilling are used in gold exploration. The least expensive of the two is called rotary drilling, and a single hole is drilled to depths of anywhere from a few feet to several hundred feet, depending on geologic features of the target area. Rotary drilling crushes the rock as the drill bit moves through it, and the material brought to the surface consists of rock chips one half inch or less in size. Chips are collected for every five to ten foot interval of the hole, and samples are sent to an assay laboratory for the same type of gold analysis performed on soil samples. Rotary drilling is relatively fast; a good crew can drill through several hundred feet of rock per day, but downhole contamination of chips is sometimes a problem, and the geologic information which can be obtained from chips is often limited. Core drilling is much more expensive, and generally less than one hundred feet of drilling is accomplished per day. Core drilling, which yields excellent geologic information, produces solid rock cores from one to two inches in diameter. The core is split into sections which are also analyzed for gold content each five to ten foot interval of the hole. A modern gold exploration program is an expensive proposition, and well over a million dollars are generally spent from the time of target area selection to drilling. As a rule of thumb, a drilling program is considered a success if several holes penetrate rock with gold values of five one-hundredths of an ounce or more per ton. Even at this stage of exploration, the gold particles are usually too small to be visible, and assay results determine if the rock is minable ore. All serious gold exploration culminates in drilling, but fewer than one in ten projects result in discovery of an ore body. A successful drilling program, the dream of every new west gold prospector, is followed by development of a large open pit mine, which is another story

in itself. Cored section of low-grade gold ore from the Mohave Desert of California. This rather unspectacular rock is rhyolite tuff breccia, and the microscopic gold which it contains can be detected only in an assay laboratory. Large volumes of such low grade ore form the foundation for modern western gold mining. Core diameter is approximately 3 inches. High-grade gold ore from Colorado. Phot of museum specimen enlarged to show detail. Rotary drill rig at work on a gold exploration project in Nevada. Powered by Create your own unique website with customizable templates.

**Chapter 3 : Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology**

*Exploring and Mining Gems & Gold in the West is the autobiographical account of his adventures, discoveries, and thoughts during this latter year period of his life.*

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**Chapter 4 : Where is the Best Gem Mining in NC? | The Orchard Inn**

*Exploring and Mining Gems & Gold in the West: 54 Years of Prospecting, Digging and Gem-Cutting by Fred Rynerson*  
Gold and gems have fascinated men since time immemorial, and few men have hunted, mined and cut them over such a long and adventurous period of time as has Fred J. Rynerson, one of the last of the great western prospectors and miners.

Tingley in Nevada Geology, no. The three sections of this report follow mining in Nevada from the time of hand-dug turquoise and salt mines through the Comstock era of deep underground silver mines to the Carlin era of huge bulk-mineable gold and silver mines. Modern mining began in Nevada in with the discovery of placer gold in a stream flowing into the Carson River near the present town of Dayton. Other mining activities in Nevada, however, predated the Comstock discovery by many centuries. Deposits of obsidian, opalite, chalcedony, agate, jasper, and quartz occur throughout the state and were utilized by the earliest inhabitants, the American Indians, to fashion arrowheads, spear points, and various cutting and scraping tools. Much later, about A. Thomas, now covered by waters of Lake Mead in eastern Clark County. Evidence of Indian turquoise mining and processing was also found at Crescent Peak in southern Clark County. When this deposit was "discovered" by modern prospectors in or , stone chisels, wedges, and hammers were found scattered at the site and a huge quantity of tiny turquoise fragments was found along with rubbing and polishing stones in what must have been a lapidary shop. This site is reported to have been worked and abandoned about A. This would seem to indicate that the Indians knew of the metal deposits and perhaps made some use of the materials found in the outcrops. Spanish mining in southern Nevada may be more myth than fact but, around , a Spanish exploring party is said to have been sent by the Franciscan missionary Father Junipero Serra to mine placer gold, turquoise, and silver deposits in Clark County. This account is generally discredited, however, and most historians do not place Spanish exploring parties in the state until when another missionary, Father Francisco Garc6s, may have crossed the southern tip of Nevada. There are accounts, again possibly fictional, of Mexican miners recovering placer gold from deposits in the Tule Canyon district in Esmeralda County prior to , A few years later, in the spring of , lead deposits were found by Mormons in the southern Spring Mountains west of the old Las Vegas Mormon Mission. Ore from the mines was hauled to Las Vegas where it was smelted in a crude furnace said to be the first "smelter" built and operated west of the Missouri River. The first section of Special Publication 15, written by Francis Church Lincoln in , describes American Indian mining activity in Clark County, mentions rumors of Spanish mines in the same area, then summarizes the frenzy of precious metals prospecting and mining generated by discovery of the Comstock Lode in Precious metals dominated the time, but important deposits of lead, zinc, copper, tungsten, and iron also were found during this period. In his writing, Lincoln described two boom-bust cycles: During the Nevada Centennial year of , Robert C. In his section, Horton described a mineral industry dominated by base metal production. A long period of war-driven economy followed by post-war industrial expansion provided the incentive and Nevada produced significant amounts of copper, lead, zinc, iron, and tungsten. Since the start of the Comstock boom, only recorded less production of gold and silver than These s discoveries were all occurrences of "invisible gold," and were the first to be found and mined in the state of what later was to be called the Carlin-type deposit. The Carlin gold discovery in was one of the most significant events of this time and may be second only to the discovery of the Comstock in importance to Nevada mining. The Carlin trend, a belt extending northwest and southeast from the original discovery, now contains more than 20 mines and is one of the major gold-producing regions of the world. The final section of Special Publication 15, written by Joseph V. Tingley in , follows Nevada mining from through As if marking a turn of fortune, signaled the revival of precious metals mining in Nevada. At the close of , copper and by-product mercury were the only base metals being recovered in the state. After declining some between and , precious metal exploration remained relatively constant through to the end of the decade. Nevada gold production peaked at 8. Due to the low price of gold over the last several years, a number of mines of have closed or been put on care and maintenance, and exploration activities sharply curtailed. In addition to the low gold prices, an increase of state and federal

regulations affecting mining, and increased uncertainty concerning long-term access to federal lands for mineral development have also contributed to the decline in exploration. Silver production peaked around 25 million ounces in and has also been declining. Some of these may prove to be subeconomic and may never be mined, but reserves probably are sufficient to sustain the gold mining industry for at least another 15 to 25 years. Copper production enjoyed a comeback in the late s, but has almost ceased with the closure of the Robinson Mine near Ely and the Yerington and McArthur Mines in Lyon County. Industrial minerals production has fluctuated during the s with a slow rise at the end of the decade.

**Chapter 5 : Exploring & Mining Gems and Gold in the West (CA) - Amateur Geologist, Inc**

*Exploring and Mining Gems and Gold in the West 5 out of 5 based on 0 ratings. 2 reviews.*

Ten years later Fred held a gem tourmaline crystal in his hand for the first time. These days, in the s, we tend to think nothing of piling into a 4-wheel-drive vehicle and traveling to remote collecting sites in air-conditioned comfort -- grabbing refreshment at our choice of various fast food restaurants along the way. None of these conveniences existed when Fred Rynerson started prospecting and mining in the early s. Roads were, more often than not, dirt trails. Rynerson relates accounts of many prospecting trips he made using horses, with or without a buckboard, and a string of burros for transportation and hauling. In later years, he acquired a Hupmobile which eased the situation somewhat -- but not without some measure of additional adventure. The difficulty and discomfort of making these trips apparently did not deter him from spending a great deal of time in the field. Although he appears to have ranged over most of San Diego, Imperial, and Riverside Counties in the search for gem material and gold, the majority of his time seems to have been spent at the major gem-bearing pegmatite mines which we know of today -- the Himalaya, Esmeralda, Fano, and various Pala mines, to name a few -- mining relatively prodigious quantities of gem tourmaline. In his book, he describes not only the alternating thrill and tedium of mining, but also relates the rigors of living and working in isolated mining areas for months at a time. At one point he writes: Yes it is at first. After several weeks of this the thrill is gone. Then a few days of making a new exploring hole, and you are ready to be thrilled again. Every time I dipped my hand in, I brought out one or two tourmaline crystals. This continued until I had taken out about thirty pounds of fine crystals, all pink; the largest about three inches long by one and a quarter inches thick. In addition to what we would regard as "standard" gem and jewelry fabrication and repair, much of his work consisted of making buttons and other ornaments out of gem tourmaline for shipment to China. A prize watermelon tourmaline, sliced-up and made into buttons, was worth two to three times the value of the original crystal. The book is divided into 36 individually-titled chapters. The temptation is to select and read first those chapters for which the titles hold special interest; however, the chapters are meant to be read in order since each frequently refers to topics covered in the previous ones. Rynerson writes in a clear, easy to read, yet articulate, style. The mental imagery evoked by his descriptions is supported by numerous, historical, black-and-white photographs presented throughout the book. Although the book was published posthumously through the efforts of his wife, the manuscript appears to have been completed before his death. Beulah Rynerson did the southern California gem, mineral, and mining community a great favor when she published this book. The only thing I would have liked would have been for it to have an index; but this omission is only a minor deficiency. This volume should find a place on the bookshelf of every mineral collector, lapidary, and historian in San Diego County.

**Chapter 6 : Fred Rynerson (Author of Exploring and Mining Gems & Gold in the West)**

*Book Description An old time prospector and gem cutter relates his fifty-two years of adventure with verve and humor, tells about how things were done, the mines he worked, packing burros, and odd characters among men and animals.*

**Chapter 7 : Book Review: Exploring and Mining Gems & Gold in the West**

*Get this from a library! Exploring and Mining Gems and Gold in the West. Vol. [Fred Rynerson] -- Annotation An old time prospector's adventures in the early s told with verve and humor with useful hints on how to locate minerals and gems from San Diego to Yuma, Arizona.*

**Chapter 8 : Finders Keepers: 6 Places to Hunt for Bling | Gem Mining Vacations - MiniTime**

*If searching for a book Exploring and Mining Gems and Gold in the West (Exploring & Mining for Gems & Gold in the*

*West) by Fred Rynerson in pdf form, then you have come on to faithful site.*

**Chapter 9 : Gold Prospecting in the New West - Casper, Wy Chapter Of The GPAA.**

*Maps one through four features gold, silver and gem deposits. The fifth map, side one, shows gold occurrences taken from an map. Side 2 is a page outlining the history of Oregon's mining operations and how to find and mark your own gold deposits.*