

## Narrative

The Sunrise Mine and Town Site Historic District encompasses 225.24 acres in the rural high desert foothills of eastern Wyoming, where the Sunrise Iron Ore Mine and company town operated from 1899 to 1980. The now abandoned town of Sunrise, Wyoming, where the mining operations and company town were located, lies on the floor of Eureka Canyon, surrounded by canyon walls on the north, south, and east. The soil in the district is red, due to the large amount of red ochre that accompanies the iron and copper deposits scattered throughout the area. Red dust colors everything in the site, including the trees and buildings. The property is overgrown with native shrubs and grasses in addition to a few coniferous and deciduous trees, and the remains of domestic plantings such as fruit trees, roses, lilacs and perennial flowers.

The district is roughly divided into three sections, each of which is readily distinguishable by the remaining buildings and features: the company town, the railroad and maintenance yard, and the mining area. The company town site is located on the southern side of the canyon, south of Wyoming Highway 318, which leads to the site from Hartville. The town site ends at the end of this highway, which is marked by the remains of an old fence that separated the community from the mine. Across Hwy. 318 to the north are the remains of the rail and maintenance yard, and to the east lies the industrial mining site.

Several archeological sites exist within and just outside the boundaries of the District. The Powars II site, discovered in the late 1930s, is an extensive red ochre mining site dating to the Late Paleoindian Period between 12,000 B.P. and 8,000 B.P. The site is located within the rail yard east of the Paint House. This site is outside the purview of this nomination, but may be individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D.

The contributing structures and sites found within the Sunrise Mine and Town Site Historic District are associated with the Extraction Property Type, and specifically, Mine Development and Exploitation. These property types represent a physical progression in the evolution of mining at a particular site. As stated in the National Register Bulletin *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating and Registering Historic Mining Properties*, examples of Mine Development and Exploitation Property Types include “physical remains of hoisting works such as head frames and hoist engines; excavations such as open pits or shafts or adits; ventilation systems such as air shafts or blowers; power systems such as steam boilers or electric generator houses; drainage systems such as Cornish pumps; water delivery systems; ore bins or tipples; transportation systems such as short-line railroads or ore cart runways; and maintenance and administrative facilities such as blacksmith shops, assay laboratories, offices and workers’ housing.” Sunrise retains physical remains of all of these property types.

The Sunrise Mine underwent many changes from its founding in 1898 until mining operations stopped in 1980. Mine buildings were updated, new shafts were sunk, and electrical power replaced steam power. The company continued to improve the town site, which at first consisted of just a general store and some frame houses. At one time there were 50 houses, six duplexes, a hotel, a store, two schools, a train depot, a gas station and a church. Most of these buildings and many of the mining, railroad and maintenance structures were removed or destroyed when the mine closed in 1980, however enough remains to reconstruct the history of the site, and to give the feeling and association of a mining town. The historic buildings that remain on the site, most of which are constructed of red brick, have not been altered since the period of significance. In spite of some salvage and reclamation work, the layout of the site exists almost as it was when mining operations ended. Existing buildings, structures, foundations and landscape features represent extraction and ore processing and shipping functions from the early 20th century until 1980, as well as residential and community uses.

The Sunrise Mine was primarily used to obtain iron ore, though copper was located there as well. Several mining methods were used at Sunrise, from simply stripping blasted waste material from ore with a rail mounted steam shovel, to the glory-hole method and later block-caving method. Both surface and underground

mining continued until 1941, when surface mining was discontinued and all ore was excavated by underground block-caving methods only (Rosenberg, E, 11). Features representing the second two methods still exist at Sunrise.

The industrial area occupies the eastern section of the property, and includes as its main feature the 44-acre, 650-foot-deep mining pit known as the Glory Hole, where thousands of tons of ore were extracted through the glory hole and block-caving methods of mining. A temporary berm constructed of mine tailings has recently been constructed around the pit, as part of a reclamation project. This berm covers the location of the original shaft (Shaft #1 – Site No. 30). The industrial area includes two large, brick, mining-related buildings. The Boiler House (Building No. 29, 1904) represents the early stages of mining, when power was generated through steam from a boiler. The Hoist House (Building No. 35, 1944) represents the World War II era when increased production at the mine necessitated the sinking of the 700-foot Wright Shaft #3 (Site No. 34).

The mining area also retains two smaller, but very significant, brick buildings, the Laboratory (Building No. 28-1917) and the “Dry” (or shower house) (Building No. 27, 1906). The remains of the coal bin, a later boiler house and the railroad trestle used for dumping carloads of coal, and the foundations of a beneficiation plant added in 1964, also exist in this area. Other features of the industrial landscape include the widening of the narrow southeast branch of the canyon by 50 feet to accommodate three train tracks, and terraces constructed of stacked rock which divide the area into several levels and provide roads to service the mine. There are also several storage areas for explosives which were cut back into the hillsides and are now closed by iron-bar doors. Three to four million yards of tailings are stacked up at the northeast edge of the industrial area, forming an industrial backdrop just beyond the eastern boundary of the district, denoted by an abandoned county road bed.

In the railroad and maintenance yard, dry stream beds have been lined with rock walls to manage water (these walls extend to the town of Hartville). Original railroad grades and a few railroad ties mark the location of tracks leading from Hartville into the town site and on to the mining site. This area includes the Engine House, where trains could be serviced before continuing up the grade past the open pit, as well as the Paint House (Building No. 5), the Log Barn (Building No. 1) and foundations of the former blacksmith and machine shops (Site no. 7) and oil storage depot (Site No. 8).

The development of Sunrise as a company town began with the construction of a general store in 1899. Soon after, C.F. & I carpenters built a two-story depot that housed offices for the mine’s first superintendent and engineers, and began building the square, four-room, frame houses that were the first residences in Sunrise. By 1902 there were 38 four-room homes, a boarding house with a “seating capacity of 90,” a school house, and a “sociological” building with a hall and reading room. None of the above-mentioned buildings exist today, although the steps that led to the store and the hotel, the foundation of the depot and the foundations of many homes can still be seen.

Sunrise continued to expand during the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with additional houses, schools, a church and by the 1920, automobile garages and a gas station. The newest remaining building in the town site is the Duplex (Building No. 8), built in 1928. By the 1950s, as commuting became the norm, the population of Sunrise gradually declined. As people moved out, the company destroyed the houses. When CF&I vacated the property in the 1980s, all that remained of the town site were the 20 buildings, 14 sites and 5 structures and other features described below.

The Sunrise town site, consisting of residences and commercial and community buildings, begins at the entrance to the district and extends east along Highway 318. Originally buildings lined both sides of the street. On the south side of the highway are the ruins of the Infirmary (Building No. 3), Duplex 9 and 10 (Building No. 9), and the centerpiece of the town, the large, 2-story, red-brick YMCA (Building No. 12). The Y replaced the old Sociological Hall as the community recreation and meeting center. As people moved out of Sunrise, the Y was converted to offices for CF&I.

Along the north edge of Hwy 318 are the Sunrise Boiler House (Building No. 10) , which provided steam heat for the commercial buildings, foundations of the train depot, filling station and oil pit and fire house, and a 13-bay garage (Building No. 15). The oldest buildings remaining in the residential district, the two Bachelors' Quarters built in 1910 (Buildings 25 and 26), are located on a slope to the northeast.

At the eastern edge of the town site, canyon walls were terraced to accommodate a compact residential area, laid out in a grid pattern, with streets running east-west and north-south, alleys, sidewalks and concrete gutters. Terraces are built of stacked rock, and individual yards are marked by a border of concrete into which iron poles were inserted, and fences strung between the poles. Five brick houses (Buildings 19 – 23) are the sole remaining buildings representing several blocks of single-family housing. The concrete foundations of a 65-stall garage extend 650 feet along the eastern edge of the town site.

In addition to the 39 combined sites, structures, and buildings that remain, many terraced walls, roads, foundations, stairs, clothesline poles, iron fence poles, and remnants of individual yards and gardens help to interpret the town site.

### **Integrity**

The Sunrise Mine Historic District retains integrity in all areas required for listing on the National Register. Its location and setting are intact, with no modern intrusions. Design, materials and workmanship are all evident in the buildings and other features that define the site. The site retains sufficient evidence to understand and interpret the history of the mine and company town, including examples of almost every property sub-type of the Mine Development or Exploitation Property Type. Most of these consist of intact buildings representing the important stages in the history of the mine and community. Because of its layout and the physical remains, the site strongly conveys the feeling and association of a historic industrial site.

Some deterioration to buildings has occurred due lack of maintenance and weather, and several buildings are in need of new roofing and window glass. Reclamation work in the industrial area has changed the look of this landscape since 1955, but the area still reads like an industrial landscape.

### **Methodology**

Initially, each structure in the district was surveyed by University of Wyoming American Studies students under the direction of Mary Humstone, using WYSHPO architectural survey forms, and following the guidelines outlined in the National Register Bulletins *Guidelines for Identifying, Evaluating and Registering Historic Mining Properties* and *Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes*. In addition, digital photographs were taken of the site as a whole, as well as each structure and significant feature, to document overall design and significant elements. Using the WYSHPO survey forms, photographs and on-site inspection, narrative descriptions of the site and each individual structure and feature were composed. Dates and other historical information were determined from research conducted at the University of Wyoming's American Heritage Center and Coe library, Goshen County Library, the Wyoming State Archives, and the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company Archives at the Bessemer Historical Society in Pueblo, Colorado, as well as through oral interviews conducted on site at Sunrise and in Hartville, Wyoming. In most cases, building construction dates were documented by the company. In other cases, approximate dates were ascertained by historic photographs and maps.

Identification and evaluation of property types followed the "Multiple Property Documentation Form for Copper and Iron Mining in the Hartville Uplift, Goshen, Platte and Niobrara Counties, Wyoming, 1879-1980" (Rosenberg, 1995).

**Duplex 9 – 10 (1928):** This the only remaining of six duplexes built west of the YMCA in 1928. The building originally housed administrative and mine workers. It is located on the south side of the street in what would have been downtown Sunrise, near the depot, infirmary, gas station, and fire house. All of these other buildings

have been reduced to foundations, leaving the duplex as the second largest building in the Sunrise community. There were originally four additional duplexes to the east of Duplex 9 – 10 (between it and the YMCA), and one to the west. Stairs lead from the sidewalk to the foundations of the other duplexes.

The duplex is on a city lot with a sidewalk and asphalt street in front. Two cottonwoods grow along the west side and one in the front yard. The front yard is enclosed by a 3-foot-high concrete retaining wall along the sidewalk. Three-step concrete stairs and concrete walkways lead from the sidewalk to each of the two entrances.

The duplex is a 50-foot by 40-foot, two-story, rectangular building constructed of common bond red brick on a partial basement with a low, poured-concrete foundation topped by a rowlock-brick water table. The facade (north elevation) of the building is symmetrical with 4 bays. On the first floor, in the west and east bays, are small, hipped-roof porches, supported by brick piers. Although historic photographs show that the porches originally had steps leading directly down to the sidewalk in the front, today the porches are entered from the east and west, respectively, by a two-step stoop. The base of the piers, the stoop, and the deck of the porches are poured concrete. Three-foot-high brick walls extend between the piers and around the perimeter of the porches. The entrance doors face to the north. Both porches have been partially enclosed.

All windows in the building are wood framed, double-hung, six-over-one sash with brick lug sills and plain wood molding. Each of the two center bays of the facade has paired windows on both the first and second floors. The second floor east and west bays have single, smaller windows above the ridges of the porch roofs.

The east and west elevations of the building are the same. Each has a shed-roofed, enclosed, wood porch extending from the south half of the wall, accessed by a two-step stoop at the south end. The porches have half walls sided with 3" vertical beadboard, with the upper parts glazed in different variations of stationary sash. The porch windows are removable to allow for summer screens. The north halves of the both east and west elevations have three six-over-one windows on the first floor, with the window nearest the center being half the size of the other two. The second story has three symmetrically placed six-over-one windows.

The south elevation has four bays. The outside bays on both stories have single, windows, while the center bays have paired windows on the first story, and smaller, single sash on the second. Two 4-light windows light the basement. Two openings covered with steel doors, originally coal chutes for the basement furnaces, are between the two sections of the duplex.

The medium-pitched hipped roof, as well as the porch roofs, are sheathed with wood shingles with metal ridge caps. The eaves are open with exposed rafter ends. A brick chimney is located in the center of the rear slope of the roof.

Behind the building is a 4-foot-high, stacked-rock retaining wall and a small yard with two wooden clothesline poles. Above this wall is an old road bed, with another rock retaining wall on the south side of the road, where worker housing and a hotel once stood.

The duplex is in fair condition. All the windows are intact, and it is one of two buildings with working utilities. Rating: contributing 3.

**YMCA Building (1917):** The YMCA was designed by architect William W. Stickney for the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, and constructed in 1917. The building was designed to include bowling lanes, a combination auditorium/movie theater/gymnasium, a card room, a reading room and a sewing room. The imposing, Italian Renaissance Revival-style brick building was and still is the centerpiece of the Sunrise community. It was used as the community gathering place and recreation center until 1966, when it was converted for offices of C.F.& I. All buildings in immediate proximity to the "Y" have been dismantled and removed; however several foundations still exist.

The two-story, 90-foot-by-40-foot “Y” is located on the south side of the main highway. The walls are common-bond brick with a single-row, soldier-brick water table resting on a 4-foot high, poured-concrete foundation, and a full basement.

The north-facing, five-bay façade is symmetrical, and is dominated by a 25-foot by 10-foot porch in the central bay. The porch is topped by a medium-pitched gable roof with wood brackets at the eaves and the gable end. The front of the porch consists of a central round archway springing from concrete cushions on top of brick piers, flanked by narrower, 2/3-height round arches. The outside walls of the arches are battered, and extend down to a 1/3-height brick wall capped with concrete that extends around the perimeter of the porch. Drainage openings topped with rowlock-brick round arches pierce the front wall of the porch wall on either east and west sides. The porch ceiling is covered in beadboard.

Staircases from both the east and west converge on a landing from which a single staircase continues up to the porch deck, forming a T-shaped entry. Abutting the sidewalk is a concrete wall with a flat top and sloped sides that follow the angle of the stairs and shield them from view in the front. A ghost sign reading “Sunrise Mine, CF&I Corp.” appears on the front of the wall. A wooden sign reading “Mine Office – Salesmen and Suppliers Must Check in Here. CF&I Steel Corp.” is attached to the top of the concrete wall.

The entrance consists of double doors with 2/3-height sidelights above wooden panels, topped by a 7-over-7-light transom. The doors each consist of two vertical panels below a single light. The eastern sidelight is a 1-over-1, double-hung window with a shelf as a sill, serving as a ticket window. A wooden sign board with double glass doors hangs beside this window. All windows in the building are double-hung wooden sash, of varying dimensions, with concrete lug sills. Window tops are either three-row, rowlock segmental arches with concrete corner blocks, in-filled below the arch with common-bond brick; flat arches of brick with concrete corner blocks; or plain brick.

The two outside bays on the main floor each have a single eight-over-eight sash flanked by six-over-six sash, each with a separate concrete lug sill and the grouping topped by a segmental arch. Flanking the entrance are single eight-over-eight windows each topped with a flat arch.

The three center bays of the second story have triple sets of nine-over-nine sash with individual concrete lug sills and no arches. The outer bays each contain two six-over-six sash, each with a concrete lug sill and topped with a flat arch. There are a total of ten basement windows on the façade, including four along the eastern half of the porch perimeter (two facing north and two facing east).

On the rear (south) elevation, the three central bays of the second floor match those of the façade. The outside bays have fire escapes, each with a door of five horizontal panels topped with a 4-light transom, with eight-over-eight windows to the outside of each door. Doors and windows in the side bays are topped with flat arches. Metal staircases extend straight down from the doors to the ground. Fenestration on the main floor is irregular. At the center is a composite window consisting of a center six-over-six sash flanked by very narrow, vertical two-over-two lights. The window is topped by a segmental arch like those on the facade. A similar composite window, lacking the arch, lies to the west. A total of three small, four-over-four sash are on either side and between the two composite windows. The westernmost bay contains two eight-over-eight sash, and the easternmost bay has a rear entrance door with a four-light transom, topped by a gabled hood supported by wood brackets, and to the east, four six-over-six sash. All first floor windows have concrete lug sills, and all but the central window have plain brick surrounds. There are eight basement windows on the south elevation.

An exterior brick chimney with concrete base, shoulders and cap rises at the center of the east elevation. The chimney is flanked by paired six-over-six windows with individual concrete lug sills and a single segmental arch over each on the first floor, and single six-over-six windows with flat arches on the second story. It is also flanked by a pair of boarded-up windows trimmed in plain wood on the basement level.

The central bay of the west elevation is offset one-half story, and has one eight-over-eight sash next to an entrance door on the lower story, two tall, nine-over-nine sash between the first and second stories, and two small, six-pane sash at the eave. The eight-light-over-wood-panel-door is accessed by a 4-step concrete stoop and leads to stairs on the inside that go up to the first floor, or down to the basement. The top windows light the projection room. The outside bays match those of the east elevation. Basement windows match those of the east elevation, flanking the stoop.

The building is topped with a medium-pitched, hipped roof with wood shingles and two louvered eye-brow dormers accenting both the front and rear slopes. The eaves are bracketed.

Main interior points of interest include the second story combination auditorium/movie theater/gymnasium with a stage, wooden movie screen and projection room. On the main floor the meeting room at the east end of the building has a prominent brick fireplace. In the basement, one of the three original bowling lanes remains intact, with its manual pin setter. The building is structurally sound with no apparent signs of damage to the roof, foundation, porch or chimney. Several windows are missing. Rating: contributing 3.

**Sunrise Garage (1917):** This garage, located east of and across the road from the YMCA, was originally rented out to residents of Sunrise as they began to acquire automobiles. The south-facing facade borders the street and is a very substantial contributor to the Sunrise streetscape.

The garage is built of the same red brick found in most of the buildings at Sunrise. The foundation is very low, and sloped to allow cars to enter the 13 garage bays. The facade is symmetrical with five bays on either side of a center bay. Two bays were added to the west end before 1950 (noted on a 1950 map). Three-foot-high steel posts set three feet from the walls separate each drive, guiding the cars into the bays. All of the bays have double wooden doors, painted red and numbered. Historically all of the original 22 doors had 8-light windows above a slanted, tongue-and-groove panel with a 2" x 6" diagonal cross. Today some of the original muntins exist, but all windows are covered.

Starting at the west end, bays 3, 12 and 13 are missing doors. Bays 4 and 5 have wooden replacement doors. Bay 8 (the original center bay before two bays were added to the west end) has an ornate, Tudor-styled stepped parapet which extends over and above a small, intersecting gable.

The eave-front, medium-pitched, gabled roof is covered in corrugated metal and is in poor condition. Three brick stepped parapets capped with concrete, one at each end and the third marking the original west end of the garage, extend above the roof.

The west and east elevations both have bricked-in windows with segmental brick arches. The foundation on the west end is ten feet high. The north elevation has two vertical tongue-and-groove, overhead garage doors in the west addition. The westerly most door has a sign reading "Ambulance." All windows on this elevation have brick segmental arches, and have been in-filled with brick. The building is in good condition. Rating: contributing 3.

The community of Sunrise once had a population of over 500 people. The majority of the homes, which were constructed of wood, have been removed or destroyed. The only remaining single-family residences are five brick houses, one of which is occupied by the owner of Sunrise. The construction and style of these homes are the same; their condition ranges from good to poor. Three of the homes sit together at the south end of the easternmost street, on the west side of the street (facing east). The other two homes are located near the entrance to the mining area, and face south. The two sets of houses are separated by the remains of the Residential Garage. The brick houses were built in 1918, during the period when C. F. & I. made a concerted effort to improve housing conditions in their mining camps.

House #1 (Building No. 23) is described in detail below. For the other four houses, only differences from House # 1 are described.

**House #1 (the southernmost of the 3 east-facing houses):** The 30-foot by 30-foot, common-bond, red brick house sits on a medium-height, poured-concrete foundation, with a soldier-course brick water table. The east-facing facade is asymmetrical with 4 bays. The low-pitched, hipped roof shelters an inset, poured-concrete porch with square brick columns, which occupies one third of the façade, offset to the north. The porch leads to a north-facing entrance. A 3-foot-high wood railing extends across the north end of the porch. Standard windows on the façade and other elevations are eight-over-one, double-hung, wood sash with plain brick lug sills. Three of these are symmetrically placed across the façade.

The north elevation has two standard windows to the west of the front porch. The west (rear) elevation has four bays, with the north bay containing an entrance with six poured-concrete steps and a steel pipe railing leading to a wood door with a 9-light window. A bulkhead cellar entrance with concrete steps leading to a partial basement is located at the center, with a covered entrance with a shed roof pitched towards the house. This entrance is sided in plain plywood with boxed wood eaves all painted white. The other two bays contain standard windows. A concrete pad extends from the rear of the house serving as a patio.

The south elevation is separated into two sections by a large brick chimney projecting one brick length from the wall and extending through the eave past the peak of the roof. This chimney is damaged and has fallen to the level of the roof. In the west section are two sets of six-over-one paired windows with a plain brick sill extending the length of each pair. The east half contains a standard window.

The low-hipped roof is covered in wood shingles. A small, gabled dormer with a wooden louvered opening extends from the center of the pitch on the front and rear elevations. The rafters are exposed, with a fascia board covering the rafter ends. The house is in poor condition. Rating: contributing 3.

**House #5:** The northern house of the west-facing pair is identical to House #1, except its chimney is intact. This home is in good condition and is being used as a residence by the owner. Rating: contributing 3.

**House #4:** The southern house of the west-facing pair is identical to House #1, with an intact chimney and an uncovered bulkhead cellar door. This home is in fair condition. . Rating: contributing 3.

**House #3:** The northernmost east-facing home is identical to House #1 except that the chimney is not damaged. The home is in fair condition. Rating: contributing 3.

**House #2:** Identical to House #1. Rating: contributing 3.

**East and West Bachelor Quarters (1910):** The two Bachelor Quarters are on the south slope of the canyon above the road leading from the community to the mine. These are the last residential buildings before the mine entrance. The buildings were originally quarters for single working men, and in later years were used to store core samples. Currently both buildings are filled with shelves full of core samples. The structures sit higher in elevation than all buildings but the Hoist House. From the front porches, the bachelors could have watched most of the workings of the mine and community.

These originally identical 60-foot by 24-foot buildings are constructed of poured concrete, and sit on poured-concrete foundations. To the north, just below and parallel to the buildings, runs a three-foot-high, stacked-rock wall which extends beyond the buildings to the east and west. The roofs are medium-pitched, hipped, covered with wooden shingles and have boxed eaves. Windows are 4-over-4-light, double-hung wood sash, with plain wood trim. Window and door openings are topped with segmental arches. Originally these buildings were

separated into four apartments with separate stoves all leading to a corner chimney. Despite the floor to ceiling drawers of core samples, and the fact that entrances and windows have been covered on several exterior walls, the old quarters can still be made out.

**West Bachelor Quarters:** The east and west elevations are the same, with two symmetrically placed windows. The south elevation has four asymmetrical bays, with two windows and two entrances, one of which is double-sized, and neither of which have doors.

The north elevation is symmetrical with 8 bays. Starting from the east, bays 1, 3, 6, and 8 are doorway entrances, with no doors in bays 1 and 8. The opening in bay 3 is covered with horizontal boards, and the opening in bay 6 has boards on the bottom and a window in the top. Bays 2 and 4 contain boarded-up windows, and bays 5 and 7 have standard windows. Concrete steps and stoop lead up to the entrance in bay 8. A 5-foot wide wooden deck with no railing extends the length of the north elevation.

There are three symmetrically placed brick chimneys, one at the center of the building, and one at each end of the ridge. The building is in poor condition. Rating: contributing 3.

**East Bachelor Quarters:** This structure sits slightly higher in elevation. The west elevation has two symmetrically placed windows. The east elevation has two symmetrically placed windows which have been in-filled. The south elevation has four asymmetrical bays, with two windows (in-filled) and two doorways. The entrance near the southwest corner has a five-panel wooden door with plain wood trim, and the entrance east of center has no door.

At the northeast corner of the north elevation, four stairs lead up to a concrete stoop with a metal pipe railing, which leads to an entrance similar to those on the south side. A single straddle-ridge brick chimney rises from the west end of the roof. The structure is in poor condition. Rating: contributing 3.

### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

The Sunrise Mine Historic District is a 225-acre property containing buildings, foundations and landscape features representing 80 years of iron-ore mining, with an associated company town.

The district is a part of the Hartville Uplift, an area in southeastern Wyoming that connects the southern Black Hills with the Laramie Range. From Rawhide Buttes and Guernsey to its northeastern point at Lusk, the Hartville Uplift covers parts of Goshen, Platte, and Niobrara counties. The district is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its contributions to the historical understanding of mining in Wyoming and the region. The district is also significant in the areas of community planning and development, ethnic heritage, social history and commerce. The period of significance is 1898 – 1955.

Sunrise Mine was the principal source of iron used at the Colorado Fuel and Iron plant in Pueblo, Colorado, from 1899 and until its close in 1980, making it an important contributor to the economy of Colorado as well as Wyoming. During this 80-year period, several new engineering techniques were pioneered at Sunrise, including a steel headframe built in 1903, glory-hole and block-cave methods of mining, and a 199-foot-tall headframe built in 1945 that was the highest steel headframe in the United States at that time. Sunrise is also significant for the community planning and development that occurred under the direction of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, especially the improvements that were constructed as a direct response to the Ludlow Massacre of 1913. Workers' housing, a hospital, water and sewage systems, a school, a YMCA and other facilities were constructed to maintain a steady source of local labor, foster a sense of community and ensure labor relations did not deteriorate. Many considered Sunrise a model company town, and the YMCA and its amenities were unprecedented in the state.

The Sunrise Mine was important in the social and ethnic history of the region. The unskilled workers at Sunrise included Italians, Greeks, Syrio-Lebanese, Japanese, Scandinavians, and English. The ethnic

diversity not only affected Sunrise and Hartville, but nearby Guernsey as well. The heritage of the European workers is reflected in the ethnic diversity in the region today. Sunrise was equally important for its contributions to the commerce and business of the local and regional economy. The copper boom begun at Sunrise in the 1880s created the town of Hartville, and spurred increased exploration and subsequently exploitation that led eventually to commercial iron ore extraction, as well as a rail connection to the rest of Wyoming and beyond. Beginning with the copper boom of the 1880s, the Sunrise Mine sustained nearby communities and economies, until well after its period of significance.

The historic context for Sunrise Mine is based in part on Robert Rosenberg's National Register Multiple Property Nomination for "Copper and Iron Mining in the Hartville Uplift, Goshen, Platte, and Niobrara Counties, Wyoming, 1879-1980," prepared as part of a cultural resource inventory for the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality/Abandoned Mine Lands Program in 1995 (Carender et al), but never formally submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office or the National Park Service. These documents and others reveal the district's importance in the five major areas of significance defined above.

The historic context encompasses three main mining processes and their associated property types: extraction (the removal of the ore from the ground), beneficiation (the upgrading of the ore by removing impurities), and refining (further enhancement of the ore resulting in a pure or almost pure state). Only the first two processes are represented at Sunrise Mine. Refinement occurred in Pueblo, Colorado and not on the Sunrise site.

There are four major periods of mining in the Sunrise district: the prehistoric period when the land provided stones for tools and red hematite for paints; the copper era from 1880-1887 during which small deposits of copper led to increased interest in the area; the iron discovery or prospecting period immediately following the copper era and lasting until 1897; and the commercialization period of iron extraction from 1898-1980. The prehistoric period is beyond the scope of this nomination, and should be addressed in a separate nomination. Because there is very little evidence remaining from the pre-commercialization period, the period of significance for this nomination begins with commercial iron-ore mining era in 1898 and extends to 1955, ending at the latest date permissible under National Register criteria.

The Sunrise Mine retains a high degree of integrity, especially for a historic mining site. Extant buildings and foundations represent the important stages in the history of the mine and community. Because of its layout and the physical remains, the site strongly conveys the feeling and association of a historic industrial site.