

VIDEO SCRIPT

TITLE: Mining Booms And Busts

PREPARED FOR: Dakota Pathways

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PRODUCER: Jim Sprecher

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V I S U A L

A U D I O

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|--|---|
| 1. Open | <u>Open Music Up and Under.</u>
<u>Segue to Music</u> DeWolfe DWCD 0251 Cut 3 "Pig Knuckles"
<u>Music Under.</u> |
| 2. Film: Historical Footprints. Miners walking into Mine. | <u>Narrator</u> – When we hear the word mine in South Dakota, we think of gold. |
| 3. Film: Historical Footprints. Miners pounding star drill | No wonder. For much of the 20 th century, South Dakota led all other states in mining gold, the valuable yellow metal used around the world as money... |
| 4. Black Hills Gold jewelry. | or shaped into jewelry... |
| 5. Gold tipped audio connectors. | or put to work in medicine and electronics. |
| 6. Homestake Building with sign on it. | Most South Dakota gold came from the huge Homestake Mine at Lead... |
| 7. Graphic showing Lead in comparison to the deep shafts. | where miners dug nearly two miles straight down beneath their city, through hard rock. |
| 8. Film: Historical Footprints. Miners picking at big rock. Miners WS drilling wall. | |
| 9. Red Quartzite at Falls Park Sioux Falls. | But there's more to mining in our state than gold. In the late 1800s, South Dakotans were nearly as excited by something they called "pink gold" as they were about the yellow metal. |
| 10. CU quartzite shot in Falls Park. | They also called this pink rock granite, but in fact, |
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MS quartzite and falls.

it was a super-hard stone called quartzite. You can still find it in spots across eastern South Dakota, including Falls Park in Sioux Falls.

11. Quartzite buildings. WS-MS Courthouse and Clock tower in Sioux Falls other buildings in Dell Rapids

You can also see quartzite that was mined—or quarried—and shaped into blocks for sturdy, beautiful buildings. Sioux Falls and Dell Rapids have lots of quartzite buildings.

12. Soaring shot over Dell Rapids Quarry.

13. **POP-UP FACT: "A MINE THAT'S OPEN TO THE SKY, WITHOUT UNDERGROUND TUNNELS, IS OFTEN CALLED A QUARRY."**

14. Photo quarry workers Hubbard Quarry.

That's because workers at Dell Rapids cut a lot of quartzite from the ground...

15. MAP showing location of Ives, SD

and so did Sioux Falls Granite Company employees, in a little town called Ives, just east of Sioux Falls. While everyone agreed quartzite made pretty buildings...

16. Quartzite building

17. Pavers (Courthouse Museum)

turning the stone into pavers made the most money. Pavers were pieces of quartzite cut smooth and narrow...

18. Photo showing streets in Sioux Falls. Cobblestone street.

and then fit together to create a smooth surface for city streets. It wasn't only South Dakota towns that bought these pavers for streets. In 1889, Sioux Falls Granite Company shipped 62 million pavers by trains to Omaha, Kansas City, Chicago, and Detroit.

19. Train wheels shot Tape 91329 @ 2:25:41, moving wheels. Half Dissolve to Map.

20. MAP: Animate & add cities mentioned.

21. Siouxland Heritage Photos:

In the late 1800s, South Dakota quartzite cutters

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Quarrymen group shot and men sitting on ledge.

22. PHOTOS Center for Western Studies. Sam Morrison cutting stone. Lowe Quarry and Street excavating for curbing.

23. Photos: LOC #5a492330 trains and cars on cement street.

24. Photo: CWS Minnehaha County Courthouse 1900..tilt up to clock.

25. BH Mining Museum Photo #11 Miners at work.

26. BH Mining Museum Photo #6 Old ABC Hoist.

27. Historical Footprints film shots Two Miners picking and empty mine tunnel.

28. NARA photo West 020 Packing mule.

29. Abandoned school house and swing in snow.

30. Palisades State Park. Touring boat with people.

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usually worked six days a week, ten hours a day, and made three to six dollars a day. That was considered good money then, and was about the same amount gold miners earned in the Black Hills.

But the good times didn't last. Money was tight all across the United States in the 1890s, and cities stopped buying so many pavers. Then, in the early 1900s, something came along that spelled the end of quartzite streets.

Cement. Even Sioux Falls, right next door to the paver makers, began using cement for its streets in 1912.

MUSIC UP AND UNDER: DeWolfe DWCD 0072 Cut 31 "Sail Away Ladies"

Mining and quarrying are sometimes called boom and bust businesses.

Boom means plenty of stone or metal is being mined, and people are paying good money for it.

Bust means the supply of whatever is being mined runs out—or, as happened to the Sioux Falls Granite Company, customers stop buying. When a bust happens, miners pack up and leave.

MUSIC OUT

MUSIC UP AND UNDER: DeWolfe HRCB5 Cut 18 "Coldwater Canyon Blues"

The town of Ives became a lonely place.

NAT SOUND Up and Under

Quartzite wasn't the only thing mined in eastern South Dakota. People today think of Palisades

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31. Touring SD boat shot of rocks as we pass by.

32. Girl looking down from viewing platform into gorge.

33. Jewelry

34. Burning coals XCU.

35. MAP South Dakota showing Edgemont

36. NARA Photos from 1930s

37. MAP South Dakota showing Firesteel.

38. Photos of Depression era

39. Video sign at Firesteel

40. Video WS sign and building

41. Video WS thru old drag shovel of building in background.

42. Photos uranium mining

State Park, near Garretson, as a quiet spot to enjoy nature.

But in 1886, silver was discovered here. Miners swarmed to Split Rock Creek, hoping to strike it rich. But the silver boom went bust in just a few years. If you look carefully when you visit the state park today, you can still see where the old Merrimac Lode Mine was dug.

Silver and gold are glamorous metals, because we use them for jewelry.

SFX Burning Coal UP AND UNDER

Coal is valuable in a different way—because it can be burned for warmth and energy. South Dakota coal mines were mostly open quarries, not underground mines. The first began at Edgemont in 1895.

MUSIC UP AND UNDER DeWolfe DWCD 0335 Cut 7
"Windswept"

By the 1930s, 21 coal mines were in business in South Dakota. A state-owned coal mine opened at Firesteel during the winter of 1933-34. Those were hard years: not enough rain, dust storms, and once again tight money. The state mine gave away lots of coal to needy South Dakotans, so they wouldn't freeze in winter. The mine went bust in 1936, because state government decided it could buy cheaper coal from other places.

In the 1950s, another mining product that supplied energy stirred big excitement in South Dakota. There was new technology for making electricity...

MUSIC OUT

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43. Nuclear Power plant. Industcards
"Beaver Valley Penn."

MUSIC UP AND UNDER DeWolfe DWCD 0335 Cut 5 "Arid"

at nuclear power plants. These plants needed a fuel called uranium.

44. Rocky country in the southern
Black Hills near Edgemont. WS
Red Canyon,

Uranium was found in rocky soil in western South Dakota. Because it seemed like nuclear power was a sure bet for the future, plenty of South Dakotans hoped to make millions digging uranium.

45. Train passing through East
Edgemont. (C-Vision
Productions)

46. Photo Uranium rocks (SDSHS)

In 1952, the United States government opened a center for buying uranium at Edgemont.

47. Photo Mining Trucks Zoom out to
WS (SDSHS)

48. Photo Scoop Shovel loading
train (NARA)

49. Photo Edgemont uranium Mill
trucks. Zoom out from sign on
truck.

Trucks full of uranium soil made their way to Edgemont—for just a few years. Then uranium went bust, partly because of western South Dakota's size. For many miners, it cost more to drive a truck to Edgemont than they were paid for their load of uranium soil.

MUSIC OUT

MAP Showing Lead SD

MUSIC UP and Under DeWolfe DWCD 200 Cut 5 "Burndance"

50. Homestake Mine building

But while all this booming and busting was happening other places, Homestake Mine kept digging gold.

51. Dale Baity panning for gold in
creek. BW Dissolve in Color.

52. Custer Expedition Photos: NARA
West #19. Custer 04-1000a

Gold was discovered in the Black Hills in 1874 by an army expedition led by George Custer, and

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53. Photo Lady Bullwacker (SDSHS)

54. Photo NARA West 126 Gold miner. West 125 Gold Panner
West 128 Mountain Prospector
West 156 Log Cabin Deadwood
1876 West 155 Lead Tinshop
Curtis Photo "Hollow Horn"

55. Bull Freight Train Lead SD (SDSHS)

56. George Hearst portrait.

57. POP-UP FACT: "THE BLACK HILLS AREA WAS OPENED TO SETTLEMENT IN 1877."

58. Photo Homestake Mine (SDSHS)

59. Photos (Historical Footprint film) Minners drilling and Mine train.

60. Photo (BH Mining Museum) Early Lead SD

61. Photo (BH Mining Museum) Phoebe Hearst. Super Phoebe Apperson Hearst 1842-1919

62. Photo (Homestake Opera House Society) Hearst Library

63. Photos: (BHMM) Miners group, Italian wedding, Christoforo Colombo Band,

64. Tony Stenovich On Camera with cover photographs from

thousands of people rushed to the area, hoping to strike it rich. They came even though the government said the Hills belonged to the Lakota-speaking people, and outsiders had no legal right to be there.

MUSIC OUT

MUSIC UP AND UNDER Soaring Cut 17 "Old World Memories"

George Hearst wasn't like others hoping to strike it rich. He was already rich—and he used his wealth to buy Homestake in 1877, as well as smaller Lead area mines. Then he hired the best mine builders in the nation, and the latest equipment.

Hearst built an amazing underground world...

and an equally amazing community above ground, thanks partly to his wife, Phoebe. She put together a library for Lead, and started a kindergarten.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, people from around the world moved to Lead for Homestake jobs. They brought languages, clothing styles, and customs from England, Italy, Ireland, and eastern European lands they called Slavic nations.

Sound Byte: Tony Stenovich describing how his mother, Nike, left Yugoslavia with her new

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Stenovich and from LOC collection (Boys group, girls walking, school classroom etc.

65. Photo (BHMM) Lighting fuses.

66. Film (HF) Man knocking rock from mine ceiling.

67. Film (HF) Miners walk into mine.

68. Film (HF) Elevator (lift)

69. Film (HF) Miners walking from cage, dressing and walking in tunnel.

69. Film (HF) Cage, lift coil drum, shaft.

70. Film (HF) Drilling WS CU.

71. Photos (BHMM) 14 Early drilling, 13 Miners drilling 1946, 5 Miner lift.

Photos (BHMM) 16 Miners digging. Super words that are underlined over respective photos.

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husband in 1926, bound for Lead. She was intimidated by the English language when she stepped off the ship in New York, but felt entirely comfortable in a Lead neighborhood where her language was spoken, and where there was an ethnic grocery.

Narrator –Work at Homestake was always dangerous. Miners had to be careful around explosives and powerful machinery. The biggest dangers were chunks of rock that could crash down from tunnel ceilings.

Visitors were sometimes surprised by all the teasing and pranks workers pulled on one another. Miners said joking around helped them feel less tense.

Sound byte: Dian Mathisrud re Joking around.

Pranks stopped once the work of blasting and hauling rock began, and miners knew their fellow workers would risk their lives for them if an emergency ever happened.

Homestake workers got underground by dropping thousands of feet in big, rattling elevators they called cages. They entered a world with its own time. Whether they started their work day in morning, afternoon, or night, they called the beginning of the work period "morning."

Just as the town of Lead was a place with languages in addition to English, Homestake had its own language that seemed foreign to visitors.

The tunnels miners blasted—four hundred miles of them—were called drifts. Passages that went up and down were shafts if they went clear to the

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72. Diana Mathisrud with the slusher in the Black Hills Mining Museum's simulated mine.

surface, or winzes if they didn't. The hard work of loading rock after it had been blasted was mucking, and the spot where that work happened was a stope.

73. Film (HF) Conveyor belt, train, ore car dump.

Sound Byte: Diana Mathisrud describing how no one taught you the language; miners picked it up on the job. Also, how miners had to learn about new equipment, how drastically equipment evolved in Diana's 20 years underground, and how all that learning was rewarding for Diana.

MUSIC UP AND UNDER DeWolfe DWCD 0077 Cut 72
"Soldiers Joy".

74. Over aerial shot Black Hills *POP-UP FACT: "SILVER, TIN, BENTONITE, LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, AND GYPSUM HAVE ALSO BEEN MINED IN THE BLACK HILLS ."*

75. Homestake Building with sign, zoom to WS Super Newspaper headline about high prices.

Narrator —For most of Homestake's history, the United States government set prices for gold, and limited who could own big amounts of it. But starting in 1968, the government began removing these rules, and within a few years anyone could own gold and pay whatever they were willing to pay for it. They were willing to pay a lot. The price shot up from \$35 an ounce to several hundred dollars.

76. Surface mines and aerial of the Open Cut.

In the 1980s, gold prices were so good that several new mines began digging. Those were open mines, like quarries. Even Homestake put some of its miners to work on the surface, in an area next to Lead called the Open Cut.

77. Surface Mines continued.

No one knows exactly why, but by the late

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	<p>1980s, and all through the 1990s, people were much less willing to pay big dollars for gold. Prices fell. The new surface mines began going bust—some because they ran out of gold, some because of low prices.</p>
	<p>MUSIC OUT</p>
	<p>MUSIC UP AND UNDER DeWolfe DWCD 0251 Cut 17 "Towards the Dawn"</p>
<p>78. Homestake mill and shaft buildings.</p>	<p>Could the same thing happen to the great Homestake? It seemed unthinkable.</p>
<p>79. Homestake buildings. Headlines on declining gold prices and mine closing, stack over graphic.</p>	<p>But in the year 2000, Homestake said it would close at the end of 2001—after 125 years. Mine leaders said they needed gold to sell at \$325 an ounce for the mine to make money. The day the closing was announced, gold was priced at \$272 an ounce.</p>
<p>80. Oil well pumping.</p>	<p>Today workers take oil and natural gas out of the ground.</p>
<p>81. Gravel quarry.</p>	<p>All across the state gravel is quarried for roads.</p>
<p>82. Surface mine dump trucks</p>	<p>The days of underground mining are over, though, and only a few surface gold mines remain in business.</p>
<p>83. Pull out from Homestake Ross Lift building to WS Lead.</p>	<p>But we celebrate the way mining shaped our lives as South Dakotans, and our history.</p>
<p>84. <u>Close.</u></p>	<p><u>Closing Music.</u></p>
