

BUTTE COUNTY.—OREGON GULCH MINING DISTRICT.

LAWS REGULATING PLACER DIGGINS PASSED DEC. 29TH 1855.

At a meeting of the miners held at the store of G. W. Wilmot on Saturday, Dec. 22nd 1855 for the purpose of revising and amending the existing mining laws of Oregon Gulch District.

On motion H. J. Morrison esq. was called to the chair and G. B. Morrison acting secretary.

On motion it was resolved that two committees be appointed to draft laws for the District, one of said committees to draft laws for the government of Placer mining and the other to draft laws for the government of Quartz mining.

The following persons were appointed a committee on placer laws: John Crawford, Wm Hendricks and John J. Smith, and for Quartz Committee John Nisbit, Hammon Bay, James Hitchens and Horatio Wilson were appointed.

Moved: the recorder be authorized to furnish the District books to the Committee during their sessions, when the meeting adjourned to Saturday Dec. 29th 1855, to receive and act upon the reports from the committees.

Pursuant to adjournment the miners again met on the 29th of Dec 1855, at the store of Mr Wilmot. H. J. Morrison called to the chair and J. B. Morrison Secretary.

On motion, it was resolved that the report from Committee be received and the following resolution and by laws were adopted for the government of Placer mining:

SEC. I. *Resolved*, That this District shall embrace all the country within the following boundaries: Commencing at the junction of the Gossburgh Ravine with the main Oregon Gulch, thence in a due East course to the summit of the dividing ridge between Potters Ravine and north Fork of Feather River up said ridge to head waters of said Potters Ravine, then in a westerly direction to the dividing ridge between the waters of Oregon and Spring Valley gulches, along said ridge to the Table mountain, thence west to the centre of said mountain, thence in a southerly direction down centre of said mountain to a point due west from place of commencement, thence east to place of commencement.

SEC. II. *Resolved* (1), That all Placer claims within this District shall be known and classed as Hill and surface claims. (2) That Hill claims are those running in a pitching off from rim under surface or brow of hill or mountain (3) That surface claims shall include all claims heretofore known as Gulch Ravine, Flat Banks etc.

SEC. III. *Resolved* (1), That all surface claims shall be one hundred feet square, located as the claimant may see fit (2) That hill claims shall be one hundred feet front, running from rim, dip or brow of hill or mountain to centre of same with privilege of trail race on unoccupied ground.

SEC. IV. *Resolved* (1), That but one hill claim can be held by the same person, which may be held over and above legal surface claims. (2) That in Surface claims two claims a piece may be held one by pre-emption and one by purchase. (3) That any person or company discovering new diggins separate and distinct from any heretofore worked may claim and hold one extra claim.

SEC. V. *Resolved* (1), That any person or company laying a claim or claims shall be required to place a notice in some conspicuous place thereon, distinct by defining the boundaries of the same. (2) That said notice shall not hold good for a longer term than four days after taking up said claim.

SEC. VI. (1), That a claim shall be considered workable when a ton-head of water can be conveniently obtained without purchase. (2) That after evident indications of working a claim in good faith have been made, a notice may hold good for ten days only. (3) That in case of sickness, a claim may hold good by notice and renewal every ten days until such claimant is able to work it, in which case notice shall specify the reason of such claim not being worked. (4) That after labor has been performed to the amount of Two hundred Dollars to each claim or shall in prospecting for hill diggins said claim or share shall hold good by recording for six months without work or renewal.

SEC. VII. *Resolved* (1): That any person or persons recording a claim or claims shall appear each of them personally before the recorder and sign his own name to the record. (2) That any person or company recording a claim or claims shall be required to specify and distinctly defined the boundaries and location and name, the gulch, ravine, hill or flat, and the particular part of which said claim or claims are located. If not so distinctly described and defined as to be easily found, such record shall be considered worthless.

SEC. VIII. *Resolved*: That unworkable claims may hold good by recording and placing a certificate of record in some conspicuous place on said claim or by ordinary notice renewed every ten days until such claims become workable

SEC. IX. *Resolved* (1): That any person owning two claims may hold them both by representing but one when such claims are in connection.

SEC. X. *Resolved* (1). That any person or company may divert the water from any creek gulch or ravine, for mining purposes, providing that enough water be left in the natural channel to work the bed of such creek, gulch or ravine. (2) That reasonable reservoir claims shall be respected through mining claims may be taken up under them and held as unworkable. (3) That all dams for elevating water for the purpose of working banks or flats shall be considered ditch property.

SEC. XI. *Resolved* (1): That an election for Recorder may take place at any regular meeting of the miners in the District (2) That he shall have one dollar for recording a single claim and giving a certificate of the same and fifty cents for each additional claim in the same record. (3) That he shall keep two sets of books separate and distinct from each other, one in which to register the laws of the district and the other for recording claims in. (4) That it shall be his duty to number each record with a corresponding number on the certificate, giving each record the date on which it was presented for record. He shall record each record in regular order as presented. (5) That he shall keep these books within the district, and in no instance shall he allow them to go out of his possession, unless upon an order from a court of justice, or a written order from persons who are chosen to arbitrate disputes between miners in which case due precaution shall be taken for their safe and immediate return. (6) That said books shall be open for the free inspection of the miners at all reasonable hours. (7) That he shall act as secretary of all regular meetings of the miners, and keep minutes of all business transacted thereat. (8) That he at any time upon the application of ten miners or more call a meeting by causing notices to be posted up in not less than three public places within the district and giving at least ten days notice therefor and signing the names of persons calling the meeting and setting forth the object of the same.

SEC. XII. *Resolved*: That all recording must be done with the District Recorder.

SEC. XIII. *Resolved* (1): That all laws heretofore existing within the district are hereby repealed. (2) That two copies of the above laws be posted in two public places in the district by the recorder or some person appointed by the miners.

J. J. Smith appointed.

Amendment to Art. I Sec 3rd.

That all surface claims shall be Two hundred and fifty feet in length and one hundred feet in width.

Adopted at a miners meeting held at Oregon City—June 17th A. D. 1861.

JAMES ARMSTRONG *Chairman.*
S. B. MORRISON *Secy.*

Quartz Laws.

[For Preamble see Placer Laws.]

SECT. I. The boundaries of this district shall be the same as those described in the Placer laws.

SECT. II. Each separate claim on a Quartz Vein or Ledge shall be one hundred and fifty (150) feet in length with all its dips and angles banch, veins etc. And any person or persons discovering a Quartz Vein or Ledge, shall be entitled to one extra claims.

SECT. III. Any person or company taking up or making a Quartz claim, shall post a notice in some conspicuous part of the vein, describing the distance and extent of said claim and signed by all the parties interested and bearing date of the time when such claims were located or made, and shall within five days after such time furnish the District Recorder with a true copy of such notice with a full description annexed of the particular location and boundaries of the same.

SECT. IV. Within six months after any Quartz Claims shall have been taken up or made, the holder of each claim shall be required to make some permanent improvement to the amount of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars, such as sinking a shaft running a tunnel or erecting machinery on it, and such holder shall continue to make said improvement to the same value every six months until he shall have expended Five Hundred (\$500) dollars, then it shall be lawful for them to leave their claims or works idle for any length of time not exceeding one year.

SECT. V. No Joint Stock Company shall be obliged to work or improve more than one of their claims at the same time *providing always* That they are all connected together and laying within the same bounds. In all other cases they shall be worked separately and be governed by the preceding resolutions.

SECT. VI. No person except the Discoverer shall be allowed to hold more than one claim, unless it be by purchase and any person or persons laying claims shall immediately file with the District Recorder a certificate of the number of claims, where situated and from whom bought and the possession and working of such claims, shall be governed by the same laws and regulation as all other claims herein provided for.

SECT. VII. All Quartz Notices and certificates put in possession of the District Recorder, shall be filed and retained in his office, for future reference and in no case shall he allow them to go out of his possession unless it be to his successors office, or as evidence in some Court of Justice in this State.

SECT. VIII. All matters of difference arising between different companies of Quartz miners about their claims or privileges in working them shall be referred to and decided by a Jury of six quartz miners, at the office of the District Recorder, at such time as the contending parties shall agree upon. Each of the contending parties shall select three persons, and in case that the Jury cannot agree they shall choose a seventh person to act with them and when they have once delivered their verdict, there shall be no appeal from their decision.

SECT. IX. When contending parties have agreed according to the provisions of the preceeding resolutions, they shall sign an article to be filed in the office of the District Recorder to the effect that they will abide by the decision of the Jury to whom they have submitted their case for trial.

SECT. X. All Quartz laws passed in this district prior to this time and conflicting with the provisions of the above resolutions are hereby repealed.

SECT. XI. The Recorder is requested to keep a separate book the recording of Quartz claims and his fee for recording shall be one dollar (\$1.00) for the first claimants name and 50 cts for the remaining names, and that he shall make a true copy of these laws in the Quartz Record Book. It is resolved that the sum of five dollars (\$5) be paid to the Recorder for every arbitration held in his office by the contending parties.

SECT. XII. In order to call a meeting to repeal, modify or amend any of the above resolutions it shall be necessary for at least ten Quartz miners to sign a petition and deliver it to the Recorder, praying that such a meeting be called, whereupon the Recorder shall give at least ten days notice by posting notice in at least six. of the most public places in the District setting forth the object of the call and the names of the persons requesting it.

Resolved, That the laws regulating Quartz mining take effect thirty days from this date.

H. J. MORRISON, *Chairman.*

S. B. MORRISON, *Secy.*

Amendments to Quartz Laws.

SATURDAY August 13th. (No year specified.)

Quartz Laws, Sect. 4th was amended to read as follows:

That within six months after any Quartz Ledge shall have been taken up the shareholders or company making the location shall be required to expend on said claim five days work per month during the first six months after said location and said shareholders or company shall continue to make permanent improvements to the value of one hundred dollars every six months thereafter until they shall have expended five hundred dollars in permanent improvements. Then it shall be lawful for them to leave their said claim or works idle for any length of time not exceeding one year.

Sect. 11. was amended as follows:

Resolved: That the fee of the Recorder for recording shall be fifty cents for the first claim and twenty-five cents for each additional claim in the same record.

At a meeting of the miners held at Oregon Gulch on Monday June 17th 1861 for the purpose of revising and amending the existing laws governing hill diggings of Oregon Gulch District Jos. Armstrong chair S. B. Morrison sec'y.

Report of the committee appointed to revise and draft laws governing Hill claims, J. M. Nash, E. C. Rider Ed. Seymore, Thomas Belew, G. R. Fitzgerald.

Resolved:

Art. 1st. That a Hill claim shall be one hundred and fifty feet front running to centre of Table mountain.

Art. 2nd. That in all Hill Diggins in the district each person may hold but one claim by pre-emption.

Art. 3rd. That all Hill claims may be recorded by the District Recorder. Each claimant shall be required to perform five days labor on the said claim after he takes it up within thirty days and three days every succeeding thirty days until labor is done to the amount of fifty dollars after such labor is performed he or they shall hold the same for six months, after that period of time such claim shall be held good for six months.

That for the first record of each claim. The recorder be allowed one Dollar for recording a single claim and giving a certificate of the same and fifty cents for each additional claim in the same record, and half of the above price for each renewal of the same record.

Art. 5. That it shall be the duty of the recorder to go with each person locating a claim or claims in the Table land in this District and set the stakes for such person or persons.

Art. 6. That all laws heretofore existing within this district governing hill claims are hereby repealed.

On motion of Ed. Seymore S. B. Morrison was elected recorder.

JOS. ARMSTRONG *Chairman*

G. B. MORRISON *Secy.*

On the third Saturday of February 1872. The following amendments were adopted at a miners meeting

Resolved 1st. That Gulch and Flat claims will consist of 250 feet square and Hill claims 150 feet front running to the centre of the hill or mountain. Said hill claim defined as Tunnel and Drift mine.

2nd. Gulch and Flat claims may be located by posting a notice on the same describing the number and extent of the claims or may be held by working without recording as long as he is in possession. In the event of leaving or not working in thirty days it will be necessary to record the same. Otherwise it will be considered abandoned. After expending \$100.00 in labor on the claims and recording them, he may remain in possession for 12 months without doing any additional work

3rd. *Resolved*, That Section third passed at the meeting of June 17th A D 1861 be amended so as to allow six months in which to expend \$50.00 on such claim. Also that the word (shall) be substituted for the word (may) be recorded in the same section.

All laws or parts of laws conflicting with the above are hereby repealed.

SISKIYOU COUNTY.—ORO FINO DIGGINGS MINING DISTRICT.

MINERS LAWS.

At a meeting of the miners of the *Oro Fino* Diggings Scott Valley Siskiyou County Cal held *February 6th* 1856, Joseph Barker was elected chairman and Robert Atherton secretary and the following laws were passed.

First. The Gulch claims now held by Mr Joseph Barker and the flat purchased by him with the ditch be respected as his property

Second. Each miner shall be allowed one claim of one hundred Yards in length and fifty yards in width on the gulches and flats by location, and as many as he wishes to purchase provided he works them when in a workable condition. The boundaries of all claims must be distinctly designated by stakes or some other visable marks and when not worked, by notice.

Third. Claims shall be considered in a workable Condition when water can be procured, and every claim must be worked at least one day in seven unless prevented by some unavoidable circumstances.

Fourth. Each claim must be recorded by a recorder Elected for that purpose who shall not charge more than one dollar for his services.

Fifth. That these laws be sent to the County Clerk to be recorded by him.

JOSEPH BARKER, *Chairman.*

R. ATHERTON, *Secretary.*

Filed for record February 8th 1856 By Mr Chase at 12 o'clock, m.

H. G. FERRIS, *Recorder*
JONAS W. BROWN *Dep.*

Recorded February 9th 1856 at 8 o'clock a m.

H. G. FERRIS, *Recorder.*
E. M. ANTHONY

YUBA COUNTY.—ODD FELLOWS AND OHIO FLAT MINING DISTRICTS.

OHIO FLAT DISTRICT

Persuant to notice the people of Oddfellows District held a meeting at the store of L. Wesson on the 8th March 1856 for the better security of their mining interests, the following motions were adopted W. W. Ferguson appointed Chairman and T. A. Steel secretary.

1st. Motioned that the District formally called Oddfellow District be divided, which was adopted.

2nd. Motioned that the line of fence dividing the Ohio Flat and New York Ranch be the line dividing said district and that the western part be called Ohio Flat District including Ohio Flat, Garden Ranch and all the streams running into them which was adopted.