

The Pinder-Slip Mining Claim Dispute of Santa Rita, New Mexico, 1881-1912

Terrence M. Humble*

There have been many conflicts in the American West over mining properties in general and especially mining claims. The individual miner and prospector has continuously needed to defend his claim against others as well as mining companies and corporations that wish to include the independent miner's property in their larger schemes. This story is about such a mining claim in Territorial New Mexico and the thirty-year period in which individuals battled mining groups for its possession.

The litigation alone on this 1500 by 600 feet claim lasted for ten years from 1899 to 1910, and involved several of the largest mining companies of the territory. The defendants or the plaintiffs, as the case may be, during these disputes, were individuals fighting as best they could against these mining giants, and in the end, gave as good as they took. The name of the mining claim was known alternately as the James Pinder and the Slip until the question of ownership was resolved. The name was often written as Pender and even the original claimants had trouble with the spelling.

The James Pinder/Slip mining claim is located in the southwestern corner of New Mexico, in the Central Mining District of Grant County, near the one-time mining town of Santa Rita (see Figs. 1, 2, and 3). The mining claim's surface area has been engulfed by the present open-pit mine, owned by the Phelps Dodge Corporation. A

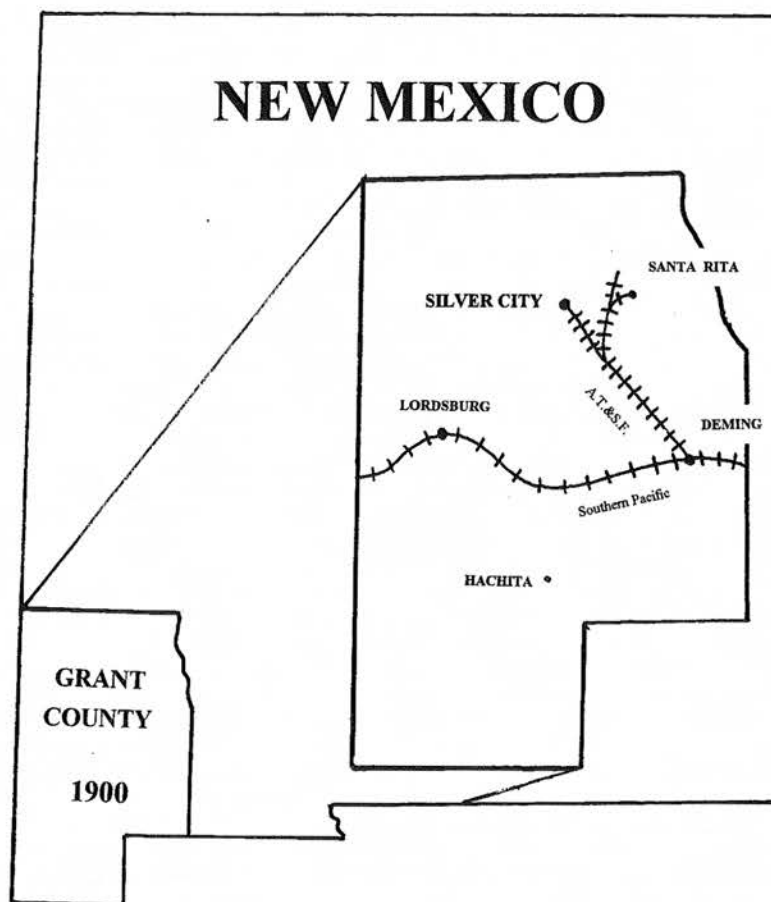


FIG. 1 Location of Santa Rita, New Mexico. T. Humble, 1995.

hundred years ago, it lay on the western edge of a copper deposit which had been known for almost a century before that.

Since the 1870s, the Central Mining District has been known as the richest mining region in New Mexico for the five major metals: gold, silver, lead, zinc, and copper. This district still produces more of these metals, with the exception of zinc which is no longer mined, than anywhere else in the state.¹

The history of copper mining in the area began as

Terrence M. Humble is a heavy equipment mechanic for the Phelps Dodge Corporation, Chino Mines Division, Santa Rita, New Mexico. A native of Santa Rita, he has long been interested in its history and has collected vast amounts of information concerning this colorful mining area.

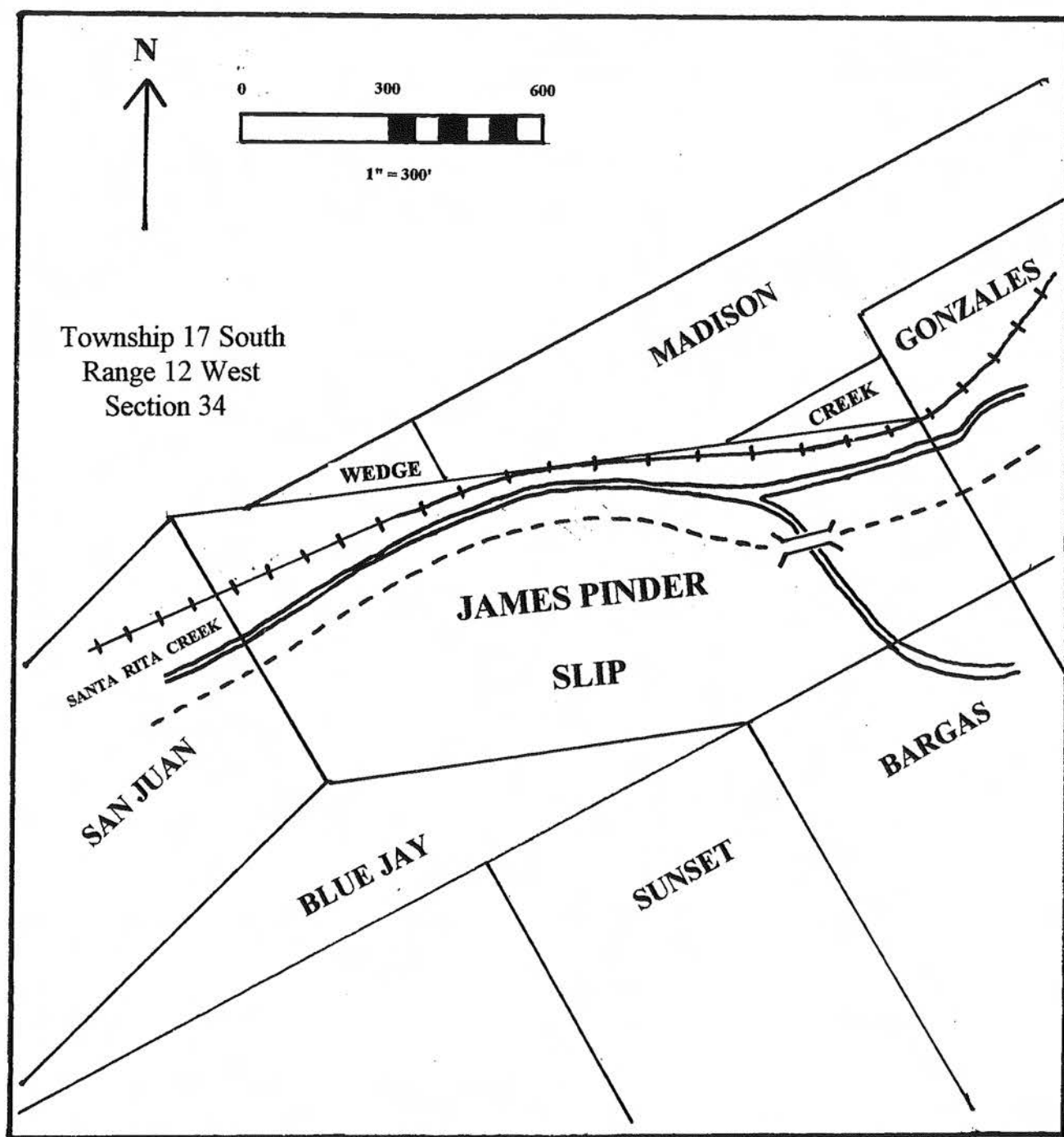


FIG. 2 James Pinder/Slip mining claim. T. Humble, 1995.

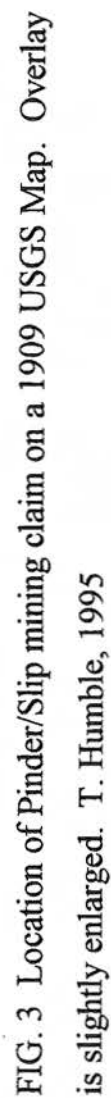


FIG. 3 Location of Pinder/Slip mining claim on a 1909 USGS Map. Overlay is slightly enlarged. T. Humble, 1995

early as 1100 A.D. by the Mogolloñes. However, it was not until the early nineteenth century that systematic mining began. The first non-Indian to view Santa Rita was Lt. Col. José Manuel Carrasco, a Spanish soldier stationed in Janos, Mexico. He was shown this rich copper deposit by an Apache in 1799.² The Spanish established a military fort, or *presidio* at Santa Rita, and convicted laborers were forced to extract copper which was then shipped by mule to Janos, Chihuahua, and on to the Mexico City mint.³ Evidence suggests that most of the metal used in the copper coins minted in Mexico between 1800 and 1840 originated in Santa Rita.

During the early 1800s, Santa Rita was a favorite stopping place for the mountain men who were trapping beaver on the Gila River to the west. Notable among them was Kit Carson, famous trapper and scout, who worked for a short time at the mine as a teamster.⁴ Santa Rita was also home for Apache chiefs such as Juan José Compa, Mangas Coloradas, and Victorio.⁵ Indian-white conflicts regularly afflicted Santa Rita well into the 1880s. Santa Rita was under Spanish rule until 1821, when Mexico gained its independence.⁶ The Mexicans controlled the town for the next twenty-five years, although the mines were abandoned in 1838 because of Apache resistance.⁷ The Santa Rita copper mines were not worked again until just before the American Civil War.

In 1846, the United States took possession of New Mexico during the early stages of the Mexican-American war. A portion of the Army of the West marched through Santa Rita enroute to California to battle the Mexicans there.⁸ Five years later, in 1851, Santa Rita was used as a base for the United States-Mexico Boundary Commission, which surveyed the boundary between the two nations.⁹

In 1873, the original Spanish owners transferred title to the Santa Rita properties to Matthew Hayes of Denver, Colorado, initiating the era of corporate mining.¹⁰ In September, 1881, J. P. Whitney, a Boston entrepreneur, purchased the property from Hayes, which comprised 61 mining claims throughout the basin.¹¹ Whitney organized two mining companies--the Santa Rita Copper & Iron and the Carrasco Copper--to work the copper deposit, using Santa Rita Creek as the property line dividing them.¹²

Two months before the transaction between Hayes and Whitney, on July 15, 1881, Benjamin F. Harrover and William McBreen first staked the James Pinder mining claim. They then recorded the description in the Grant County courthouse a week later, calling the claim the Jim Pender.¹³ An amended

location was recorded in August, renaming the claim the James Pender.¹⁴ In September, 1881, the claimants changed the name again to James Pinder.¹⁵ The claim lay on the very edge of the property owned by Hayes and, surprisingly, no one had filed on land in this area previously. Santa Rita Creek ran through the length of the James Pinder with the road between Santa Rita and San Jose (present day Vanadium) lying parallel to the creek. Other claims were immediately staked in the vicinity undoubtedly due to the news of the upcoming sale between Hayes and Whitney.

The San Juan claim, bordered on its east end by the James Pinder claim, was also owned by Harrover and McBreen. In November, 1881, they sold both of these claims to Eugene W. Connor who owned numerous claims in the area.¹⁶ Connor, in turn, sold these two claims, along with fourteen others, to J. P. Whitney, for \$1000 the following April.¹⁷ As a result, Whitney controlled the entire area with seventy-seven claims, including all of those mentioned above.

Whitney as owner of these claims (twenty-eight of which were unpatented, including the Pinder) was required to do a \$100 labor assessment on each claim annually to maintain control. When the claim met certain requirements, a patent could be applied for and if granted, the assessment work was no longer necessary. If the assessment work was not done each year, the claim reverted to public domain and became open for new possession. All went smoothly for sixteen years. Whitney's Santa Rita Copper and Iron Company was supposedly doing the required assessment on the Pinder during the years of ownership beginning in 1882.

Perhaps the confusion as to whether or not the Pinder was open for location began when George Hearst, the mining magnate, purchased an option to buy the mines from Whitney in 1897. Three-fourths of the mining claims involved in the option were patented claims and, therefore, exempt from the assessment requirement. Hearst may have thought the Pinder had been patented and did not require assessment work, while Whitney could have assumed Hearst had been doing the assessment work during the option period. Although the sale did not go through, the failure to do the assessment during 1897 created the perfect opportunity for someone else to lay claim to the Pinder.

On April 16, 1898, prospector Ayrus Hamilton located his markers on this apparently unclaimed ground and renamed it the Slip mining claim. He changed the dimensions by a few feet, here and there, from those of Harrover and McBreen, but it was definitely the same piece of ground. He dutifully

registered his claim at the county courthouse and took possession of the land.¹⁸

The first controversy concerning this piece of ground occurred soon after Hamilton's acquisition. After building a home on the land, Hamilton soon opened one of the American West's most volatile institutions, a saloon. On July 18, 1898, a killing occurred. On that day, Juan Biscarra, recently arrived from Mexico, entered the saloon and caused a disturbance, allegedly threatening Hamilton and one of his customers. The owner fatally shot and killed Biscarra in the incident, and a coroner's jury ruled that Hamilton had fired in self defense after the assailant had drawn a large knife.¹⁹

To add to the confusion of land ownership, the railroad arrived. Prior to 1899, the nearest railroad junction was at San Jose, two miles south of the Pinder/Slip. The distance between the rail line and the Santa Rita mines required the worker to haul ore to the junction by horse-drawn wagons. During 1898, the Santa Rita Railroad Company worked on securing a 100-foot-wide right-of-way along Santa Rita Creek.²⁰ The railroad negotiated with the Santa Rita Copper & Iron Company for the land crossing the Pinder/Slip. The grade for the roadbed bordered the northern edge of the Pinder/Slip, which should have alerted the contracting parties of the possibility of disputed ownership.

Yet, the company laid the track, which reached Santa Rita in late May, 1899 without any conflict.²¹ This memorable event, which greatly increased the profit potential of Santa Rita, was completely overlooked by the news media because of two other noteworthy events. The Santa Rita Copper & Iron Company sold the mines to the Santa Rita Mining Company for more than \$5 million,²² and another killing took place at the Pinder, now known as Storzville.²³

Ayrus Hamilton sold his Slip claim to John M. Storz for \$500 on August 29, 1898, although the transaction was not filed in the county courthouse until the following February.²⁴ Storz contracted with Richard Grabe of Silver City to build a new saloon there,²⁵ and allowed Benno Rosenfeld to erect another one-story frame building on the claim to be used as a general store.²⁶ He also made a deal with the Deming, New Mexico, firm of Baker and Wamel, to build a butcher shop and store on the Slip.²⁷ A barber also opened a shop in one of the buildings, giving Storzville the appearance of permanence. It is not known if Storz originally bought the property to mine or to use as a commercial center, but the latter certainly prevailed. One fact is definitely known, the owner of Storzville

did the assessment work on the Slip and faithfully recorded the labor at the county courthouse annually.

When the management of the Santa Rita Copper and Iron Company learned of the sale of the Slip mining claim, the company filed suit against John Storz in the Third District Court in Silver City. First Hamilton's activities, then Storz's, served as a warning of problems to come, so the company decided it was time to resolve matters in court. As complainants, the company called to oust Storz from "their" mining lode and claim, and for the defendant to pay legal and court costs in addition to damages to the tune of \$5000.²⁸

Storz retained James S. Fielder, Silver City attorney, as his lawyer. The exact agreement between them is not known, but must have been effective because the charges were dismissed on August 17, 1899.²⁹ Storz probably paid Fielder with half ownership of the Slip, plus \$100, as recorded in the county courthouse on September 19, 1899.³⁰

During the five months of the litigation, Storz had installed games of chance in his new saloon. Public celebration and a dance accompanied opening night, Thursday, May 19, 1899. The combination of the liquor and gambling set the stage for rabble rousing and, ultimately, for tragedy.

In the early hours of the following morning, after the dance concluded and the crowd was thinning out, George Stevenson, a young man from nearby Central, committed murder.³¹ The inebriated Stevenson was standing outside the saloon in conversation with another man when he pulled a pistol. When the other man admonished him to put it away, Stevenson pointed the pistol over his shoulder and fired several shots behind him, saying he could handle a gun as well as anyone. Billy Woods, who had been a bartender in the area for many years, was asleep in a nearby building. Unfortunately, he was killed instantly when one of the stray bullets struck him in the head.³²

Constable H. J. Hankins immediately arrested Stevenson, and a coroner's jury was convened by the justice of the peace, Cornelius McCarthy. The sheriff of Grant County, James K. Blair, arrived on the scene early in the morning, taking Stevenson into custody and transporting him to the county jail in Silver City, sixteen miles away.³³

Stevenson's life for the next two years had an unusual story of its own (which will not be detailed here). In March, 1900, a judge sentenced him to a five-year term in the territorial penitentiary,³⁴ but he escaped into Mexico before he could be moved to Santa Fe.³⁵ After a "made-for-movies" manhunt and extradition proceedings lasting nearly three months, he



The George Turner & Son store located on the Pinder/Slip mining claim, about 1906. John Turner is the man on the left, and his father George is directly in front of the doorway. (Courtesy, Don Turner)

was recaptured and taken to prison.³⁶ As might be expected, Stevenson's life ended violently on April 17, 1901, when the prison superintendent, H. O. Bursum, shot and killed him during a prison break.³⁷

Meanwhile, Benno Rosenfeld had been elected postmaster of Santa Rita with the post office now located in his store in Storzville.³⁸ Storz had built yet another new saloon building,³⁹ and Baker and Wamel restocked their grocery store after buying out the H. H. Kidder store in nearby Fierro.⁴⁰ The plot further thickened when James N. Upton bought the Slip mining claim.

Upton had purchased James Fielder's half interest in the Slip for \$1000 in September, 1901.⁴¹ In November, he then bought the other half of the claim for \$2000 from John Storz.⁴² Upton then purchased postmaster Rosenfeld's store building with the exception of the portion used as the post office.⁴³ Storz kept his profit-making saloon, and improved the "den of iniquity" with furniture and fixtures acquired from the Cottage Saloon in Silver City.⁴⁴

Still another player entered the Pinder/Slip story in 1902. George L. Turner arrived in Grant County and

rented Wamel & Baker's general merchandise store.⁴⁵ His son John soon joined the firm and they expanded by opening a meat market.⁴⁶ Business was so good that they raffled off an automobile for the 1904 Christmas season. Albert Deegan, an engineer at the company concentrator, and Dr. S. M. Strong, the company physician, tied at the raffle.⁴⁷ How these two men decided their dilemma is not known, but the doctor will figure in our story later.

The next big legal battle took place in 1904. Because the description of the Santa Rita Mining Company's Pinder claim differed slightly from Upton's Slip claim, the former made an application to patent the claim. One of the requirements was to publish a notice of their intent in the local newspapers. As soon as Upton learned of the notice, his lawyers filed an adverse to stop the proceedings on the grounds that he owned the land they were trying to patent. He then sued for possession of the claim and asked for additional damages of \$5000, which were intended to deter a repetition by the company to take possession of his land.⁴⁸

Counsel for both sides squared off for the fight.

Attorneys A. H. Harllee and W. B. Childers represented the Santa Rita Mining Company, and Percy Wilson and C. G. Bell served Upton. Childers was from Albuquerque and the other lawyers were from Silver City. The jury trial began in March, 1905, with Judge Frank Parker residing. The proceeding soon became cutthroat, especially after the mining company made Upton prove his U. S. Citizenship.⁴⁹

Both parties introduced documents revealing their annual assessments on the respectively named James Pinder and Slip claims. When all the facts had been presented to the jury, after more than a week, they ruled against the Santa Rita Mining Company. Because evidence revealed that the mining company failed to assess in 1897 or 1898, the ground was free to be claimed by Ayrus Hamilton. Therefore, Upton had made a legal purchase in 1904.⁵⁰

The Santa Rita Mining Company appealed the decision, and the case went to the State Supreme Court in January, 1906.⁵¹ The court upheld the previous decision even though Upton had not received the damages he had requested. Seemingly clear cut,

the legal question of ownership had not been answered completely as future legal battles would demonstrate.

The Santa Rita Mining Company was, of course, distressed over their loss, largely because it did not have complete control of the mining camp of Santa Rita. They did not have, for example, the monopoly over retail sales as they had hoped with their company store, which sold everything from coal to caskets. Clearly, they did not appreciate the competition at Storzville. Further angering the company was the location of the post office which was still in the Turner store. Ideally, from the company's point of view, the post office should have been in the center of their business district.

Therefore, the company began a campaign to boycott the Turner retail establishment, to eliminate competition, and to create a monopoly. Management threatened employees with loss of their jobs and termination of their house leases or rentals if they traded with the Turners. In addition, the company told milk, vegetable, and meat suppliers that if they supplied the Turners, their contracts with the Santa Rita Store Company would be terminated.



A view of the Santa Rita business district about 1909. This is a short distance above the Pinder/Slip location. (Courtesy Terrence M. Humble)

The stage was set once again for another legal battle, a court case that would linger for nearly two years. John W. Turner, whose mercantile business was thriving, had been appointed Santa Rita postmaster in February, 1903.⁵² He and his father, George, operating under the name George L. Turner & Son, filed suit against both the Santa Rita Mining Company and the Santa Rita Store Company on July 14, 1905.⁵³

The Turners looked to the legal system to end the boycott, and asked for \$50,000 in damages. This alleged campaign to ruin the Turner's business and run them out of Santa Rita had begun in early January, 1905, and continued until July when they filed suit.⁵⁴ Bonham and Holt represented the Turners, whereas Harllee & Barnes and W. B. Childers served the mining company. For the rest of 1905, and most of 1906, all known legal strategies were used by both the plaintiffs and the defendants. The plaintiffs filed dismissal motions and were denied, and both sides subpoenaed a multitude of witnesses. The defendants finally requested a change of venue believing they could not get a fair trial in Grant County. After this question of venue change bounced back and forth for several months, it was finally agreed to have the trial in Socorro, New Mexico.⁵⁵

The trial lasted about a week with the jury finally deciding in favor of the plaintiffs, the Turners, who won a \$25,000 judgement. The witnesses for the plaintiffs proved very effective and gave damaging testimony against the company. These included miners who had allegedly been fired after they continued to buy goods from the Turners as revealed in the testimony of a former employee, Mr. Stephenson. Stephenson had been discharged by John Deegan, manager of both the Santa Rita Mining Company and the Santa Rita Store Company, because he had not followed Deegan's suggestions to quit trading with the Turners. Mr. Harwell and Mr. Herman were both given notification to vacate company houses because they did not "go along" with John Deegan, and S. S. Skinner testified he moved off company ground rather than be dictated to by the company.⁵⁶

A. G. Pegler, a miner who also had a goat ranch down the canyon from Turners, testified John Deegan told him to stop furnishing milk to Turners and when he did not, several of his customers, fearing retaliation from the company, stopped buying from him. Another witness, Cliff Howell, gave testimony that he and his partner lost the milk trade of the company boarding house because they also furnished milk to the Turner & Son store. A witness named McKeen

introduced a bit of humor. He told Deegan the only way the company could hurt the Turner business would be to cut company store prices by thirty to forty percent.⁵⁷

Probably the two most damaging testimonies were those of William H. Young and Dr. S. M. Strong. Young testified he was employed by the company to notify all those living in privately owned houses or tents that they were prohibited to trade with Turners and those who were behind in their rent would be forgiven if they followed this notice.⁵⁸ Although it was not mentioned, it would be a good assumption that Young lost his job with the company after giving this testimony.

The doctor's statement was very unusual as it was actually one of hearsay, he being in New York. Formerly employed under contract with the company as their physician, Dr. Strong and his family were living in a house belonging to the company. In January, 1905, John Deegan had outlined to him the policy they intended to pursue to put the Turners out of business. The doctor believed he was at liberty to trade wherever he pleased and informed Deegan he was also the family physician for the Turners. Deegan then told Strong if he persisted in patronizing the plaintiff's store, his professional services would no longer be retained by the company. Two months later the doctor severed his connection with the company.⁵⁹

The Santa Rita Mining Company and the Santa Rita Store Company appealed the decision and the case went before the U. S. District Court in Las Cruces in April, 1907. The defendants called twenty-two witnesses to be examined while the government called only thirteen, but to no avail. The jury found the mining company and the store guilty of conspiracy to restrain trade in the territory of New Mexico under the Sherman Anti-trust Act. The Turners' jubilation was cut short, however, when Judge Parker announced \$1000 fines for the two companies, money that would go to the court. This amount was a reduction from the \$25,000 settlement reached by the Socorro jury in favor of the Turners. Furthermore, the court denied the defendants motion for a new trial.⁶⁰

Two years later another player became part of the lore of the contested mining ground. Al Owen, an experienced Missouri miner, entered the Pinder/Slip picture in 1908. He had been in Santa Rita since 1896 and knew all of the participants. He was, in fact, a good friend of John Deegan, manager and superintendent of the Santa Rita Mining Company. "Johnny" approached Owen, asking him to try and buy the Slip from James Upton. Upton had turned down a \$25,000 offer from the company. When Owen



Sinking a shaft with a horse-drawn whim. This is the Ruelas lease on the Chino claim of the Chino Copper Company about 1909. (Courtesy, Benito R. Rodriguez)

agreed to try, Deegan went into the Santa Rita Store, got \$200 in cash and handed it to Owen "for expenses," telling him to "buy that claim." Deegan then authorized him to write a check for the full amount of the cost if he could convince the owner to sell.⁶¹

Owen approached Upton about a possible purchase, and was surprised when the owner offered the property at \$15,000. Owen knew, however, that he could not write a check on the spot or Upton "would smell a rat." Consequently, he gave Upton the \$200 with a 30-day option to buy the claim. The two men then drove to Silver City in Owen's "rubber tired buggy," and wrote a contract.⁶² Owen wrote him a check for \$5000 a few days later as part of the payment schedule they had agreed upon.

Owen and Upton filed the transaction in the courthouse on October 5, 1908, giving Owen ownership to the Slip. On October 21, Owen conveyed the title to Deegan who then signed it over to the Santa Rita Mining Company on November 10, 1908.⁶³ Finally the company had possession and control of this small piece of ground. Or did they?

When the company ordered everyone on the mining claim to vacate, the Turners refused. The Santa Rita Mining Company, therefore, filed another suit for possession in district court on February 6, 1909, against the Turners and the firm of Baker & Wamel.⁶⁴

A small portion of the Slip, where Turner's store was located, did not belong to the Santa Rita Mining Company, but to William T. Wamel of Deming. He, in partnership with Benjamin Baker, had purchased a small lot measuring approximately 50 by 150 feet from John Storz in 1899, and had built a general merchandise store. Baker & Wamel rented the store to George and John Turner on February 22, 1902, and had continued to rent to them up to the time of the 1909 suit. Baker & Wamel had dissolved their partnership in August, 1903, and Wamel became the sole owner of the lot and buildings.⁶⁵

Shortly after the mining company filed the suit, another company, the Chino Copper Company bought the Santa Rita property. John Sully, the manager and superintendent for the new company, replaced Deegan on February 20, 1909.⁶⁶ Because Sully had been examining the property since 1905 for the General

Electric Company and the Rockefeller syndicate, he was well aware of the controversy over the Pinder/Slip claim.⁶⁷

The Turners presented the same evidence which had been shown in the previous trials, Judge Parker's eyebrows surely raised on seeing these same contestants in his courtroom. As was common in legal cases pitting individuals against corporations, the Turners were represented by only one lawyer, while the Chino Copper Company had four. One of the company lawyers was Percy Wilson who had actually changed sides as he had worked for Upton in 1904, 1905, and 1906. The evidence showed that even though the Slip had gone through several owners, each one -- Storz, Fielder, Upton, Owen, Deegan, and the Santa Rita Mining Company -- had known of the Wamel property. Successful attempts by both parties to amend complaints and for postponements prolonged the case throughout the 1909 court term.⁶⁸

In the meantime, the mining company employed another tactic to remove the Turners. Deegan petitioned the U. S. Postal Department for the appointment of a new postmaster in Santa Rita to a more centrally located building in the town. Deegan also argued that the post office should not be housed in the same building with a saloon. The petition failed because there was not a vacancy for a postmaster.⁶⁹ As a result, John Turner remained as postmaster in Santa Rita until August, 1912.

The court case between the Turners and the company was finally settled almost a year after it began. In February, 1910, The Chino Copper Company bought the Wamel building for \$800 which included a relinquishment from Wamel of any property claim. The company then became more amicable with the Turners, advancing them a lease for \$40 a month until December 1, 1910.⁷⁰ The legal suit between the two was dismissed at the plaintiff's cost on March 9, 1910.

In conclusion, several ironies should be brought to the reader's attention. One of them is the fact that no ore was ever shipped from the Pinder/Slip mining claim and the only mining done was the annual assessment work. It seems strange that there were so many thousands of dollars spent in legal fees to gain possession of a small piece of land that never produced any copper. In March, 1911, the assessment shaft reached 50 feet in depth and being so close to the Santa Rita Creek, began furnishing 200 gallons per minute of water.⁷¹ This water was a source for the mining operations for many years to come and was known as the Pinder Well. Water instead of copper became the principal product of this mining claim.

The ground was finally patented as the Slip claim on August 26, 1912, by the Chino Copper Company,⁷² even though it is still called the Pinder to this day.

Today, the Pinder lies on the very edge of the open-pit copper mine of the Phelps Dodge Corporation. Its original surface area is entirely gone, having been dug up by giant electric shovels, and a small amount of low-grade copper has actually been extracted from this area. As the pit expands in size, a deeper cut will be taken from the Pinder and perhaps even a little more copper produced. Yet one must still wonder if the Pinder has seen its last court battle considering its controversial and colorful history.

NOTES

1. U. S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Mines. *New Mexico Minerals Yearbook*, 1992. Washington, D.C.: U. S. GPO, 1992, 374-76. The latest statistics are from 1992, but nothing substantial has changed since then.
2. Letter, translated by the author, from Carrasco to Deputacion de Minería, Cobre, 3 January 1805. University of Texas at El Paso library, Archivos del Ayuntamiento de Chihuahua 491, reel 154. Helen J. Lundwall and Terrence M. Humble, "Santa Rita del Cobre, Copper Mining in Apacheria, 1799-1838," (unpublished essay), 83.
3. John Russell Bartlett, *Personal Narrative of Explorations and Incidents in Texas, New Mexico, California, Sonora, and Chihuahua, Connected with the United States and Mexican Boundary Commission during the years 1850, '51, '52 and '53*. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1854, 228; John Sully, "The Story of the Santa Rita Copper Mine." *Old Santa Fe* 3(1916): 135; T. A. Rickard, "The Chino Enterprise," *Engineering and Mining Journal* Vol. 116, No. 18: 3 November 1923, 754.
4. C. Blanche, ed., *Kit Carson's Own Story of his Life*, Taos: Santa Fe New Mexican Publishing Co., 1926, 11. Sully, "Santa Rita," 6-7.
5. William B. Griffen, "The Compas: A Chiricahua Apache Family of the Late 18th and Early 19th Centuries." *The American Indian Quarterly* 7:2 (1983): 21-49; Bartlett, *Personal Narrative*, 300.
6. Lundwall and Humble, "Santa Rita del Cobre," 83.
7. *Ibid.*, 188-89; Bartlett, *Personal Narrative*, 229; *Mining Life*, 5 July 1873.
8. W. H. Emory, *Notes of a Military Reconnaissance, From Fort Leavenworth, In Missouri, To San Diego, In California, Including Parts of the Arkansas, Del Norte, and Gila Rivers*. Washington, D. C.: U. S. GPO, 1848, 58-59; Dale Collins, "Frontier Mining Days in Southwestern New Mexico." Master's thesis, Texas Western College, 1955, 21.
9. Bartlett, *Personal Narrative*, 227-39; Sully, "Santa Rita," 138; Collins, "Frontier Mining," 21.
10. Record of Deeds. Grant County, New Mexico. Book 1, 27 October 1873, 543; Rickard, "Chino," 757; Sully, "Santa Rita," 139; Collins, "Frontier Mining," 208.
11. Mining Locations. Grant County, New Mexico. Book 11, 19 March 1883, 396; Sully, "Santa Rita," 140; Rickard, "Chino," 757.
12. From the original map, belonging to the author, showing the property of the Santa Rita Copper & Iron Co., and the Carrasco Copper Co., Grant County, New Mexico. 1881.
13. Mining Locations. Book 5, 21 July 1881, 323-24.
14. *Ibid.* Book 4, 6 August 1881, 690-92.
15. *Ibid.* Book 5, 19 September 1881, 410-11.
16. Mining Locations, Book 8, 11 November 1881, 169-73.

17. Ibid. Book 8, 23 April 1882, 765-69.
18. Ibid. Book 17, 16 April 1898, 300.
19. *Silver City Enterprise*, 22 July 1898. *Silver City Independent*, 26 July 1898.
20. Miscellaneous Deeds, Book 37, 11 May 1898, 165.
21. Christopher J. Huggard, "Environmental and Economic Change in the Twentieth - Century West: The History of the Copper Industry in New Mexico." dissertation, University of New Mexico, 1994, 48.
22. Mining Deeds, Book 36., 19 May 1899, 568-69, 20 May 1899, 573-73, 17 July 1899, 630-33, Book 38, 26 July 1900, 338-43.
23. *Enterprise*, 26 May 1899. *Independent*, 23 May 1899.
24. Proof of Labor Deeds, Book 36, 2 February 1899, 486-87.
25. *Enterprise*, 26 May 1899.
26. Mining Deeds, Book 40, 30 September 1902, 434.
27. *Independent*, 16 May 1899.
28. Santa Rita Copper and Iron Co. vs. John Storz, New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Third Judicial District Court, Grant County, Civil Docket Book E., (1899), Case No. 3476, 787.
29. Ibid.
30. Mining Deeds, Book 38, 19 September 1899, 26-27.
31. *Enterprise*, 26 May 1899. *Independent*, 23 May 1899.
32. Ibid.
33. Ibid.
34. *Enterprise*, 23 March 1900. *Independent*, 20 March 1900.
35. *Enterprise*, 6 April 1900, 20 April 1900.
36. *Enterprise*, 25 May 1900. 22 June 1900.
37. *Enterprise*, 19 April 1901, *Independent*, 23 April 1901.
38. *Enterprise*, 27 July 1900.
39. *Enterprise*, 5 April 1901.
40. *Independent*, 3 September 1901.
41. Deeds, Book 40, 23 November 1901, 224.
42. Ibid., 18 November 1901, 221.
43. Deeds, Book 40, 30 September 1902, 434-36.
44. *Enterprise*, 17 October 1902.
45. *Enterprise*, 4 April 1902.
46. Ibid., 7 October 1904.
47. Ibid., 23 December 1904.
48. James N. Upton vs. Santa Rita Mining Co., Santa Fe Archives, Civil Docket Book F., (1904) Case 3948, 460.
49. Ibid.
50. Ibid.
51. *Enterprise*, 19 January 1906.
52. Richard W. Helbock, *Post Offices of New Mexico*. Las Cruces, N. M.: Richard W. Helbock, 1981.
53. George L. Turner & Son vs. Santa Rita Mining Co. and Santa Rita Store Co., Santa Fe Archives, Civil Docket Book F, Case 3997, 509.
54. Ibid. *Independent*, 18 July 1905.
55. Turners vs. Santa Rita Mining Co., et al., case 3997; *Independent*, 25 December 1906.
56. Turners vs. Santa Rita Mining Co., et al., Book J, case 5159, 274-284. *Enterprise*, 8 February 1907.
57. Ibid.
58. Ibid.
59. Ibid.
60. *Independent*, 16 April 1907. *Enterprise*, 19 April 1907.
61. Taped interview of Al Owen by Lou Blachley, February 1952, Tapes 221-24, Blachley Tapes, Western New Mexico University Museum, Silver City, New Mexico.
62. Ibid.
63. Deeds, Book 52, 38-39, 51, and 71.
64. Santa Rita Mining Co. vs. George L. Turner & Son, Wamel & Baker, et. al., Civil Docket Book F, Case 4224, 736.
65. Ibid.
66. Santa Rita Mining Co., *Weekly Report #456*, 27 February 1909. (Author's collection).
67. Sully, "Santa Rita," 142. Rickard, "Chino," 804-05. Huggard, *Environmental and Economic Change*, 103-05.
68. Santa Rita Mining Co. vs. Turner & Son, et al., Case 4224.
69. Letter from John Sully to Percy Wilson, 25 June 1909. (Author's collection).
70. Letter from John Sully to Dan Jackling, 1 June 1910. (Author's collection).
71. Chino Copper Company, *Interim Annual Report*, 25 March 1911.
72. Mining Patent, Book 49, 30 September 1912, 464.