

# MINING TODAY

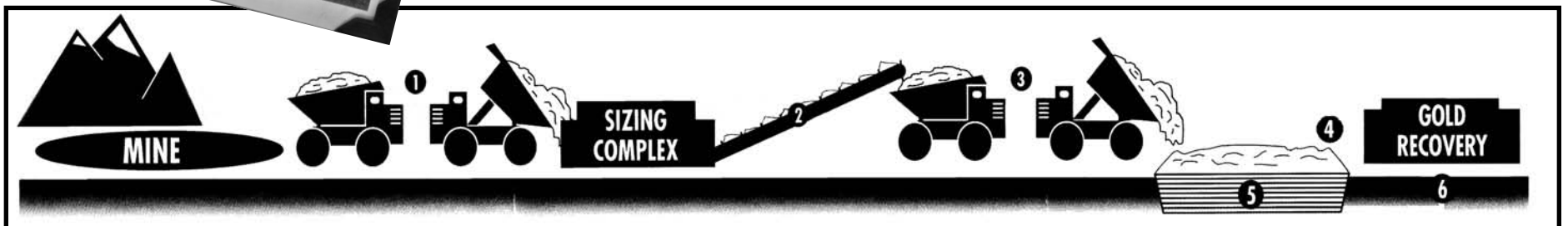
## MODERN METHODS



The Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company ("CC&V") operates the current-day surface gold mine, the largest in Colorado, just between Cripple Creek and Victor. Driving through the area you will see signs of active mining in just about every phase. From the valley fill/gold recovery operation along Highway 67 near the Little Grouse Mountain Overlook, to the surface mine seen from the American Eagles Scenic Overlook, you will gain a perspective of the modern-day methods keeping Victor's gold mining legacy alive.

CC&V works with the local community to preserve structures remaining from the historic mining operations. At one time over 400 mines operated in the District, and the remnants of those mines can be seen throughout the area. Visitors must be aware that these old mine sites can be dangerous, so please enjoy them from the established roads and trails in the area.

CC&V is a proud member of the community; our employees donate over 3,000 hours of their time annually to volunteer for local organizations. CC&V also has an active donation program to contribute to community activities and organizations.



The Mining Process - Rock with traces of gold is removed from the mine (1) and hauled to the two-stage crushing facility where it is processed into small gravel size material. (2) From the crushing facility, it is transferred by conveyor, then transported by truck (3) and placed on the Valley Leach Facility (VLF), which is an area designed with a triple liner to contain the gold recovery solution. After placement, the gold recovery solution (4) is applied through drip irrigation pipes to separate and remove the gold from the rock. (5) Under the ore is a drainage system to collect the solution now containing gold, and a triple-lined barrier to protect the environment. The gold-laden solution is pumped to the gold recovery building. (6) Once the gold is separated from the solution through a carbon adsorption process, it is poured into "buttons" that contain gold and some silver to be shipped for final refining. The recovery solution is recycled and reapplied to ore on the VLF. The entire operation is self-contained and solutions are recycled to maximize water conservation.

## TAKE A TOUR OF MODERN MINING

Each Wednesday and Friday morning in the summer months, a special tour departs downtown Victor and shuttles visitors through the modern mining operations of CC&V. See giant haul trucks, shovels and drill rigs. Watch boulders being crushed into gravel and learn about the modern refining methods while helping to preserve the 1890's history - tour proceeds go to the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum in downtown Victor.

Tours leave from the Museum on the corner of Victor Avenue and 3rd St. at 10 a.m. from June to late August and sometimes into the fall. Additional 1 p.m. tours are offered if the demand warrants.

Reservations are required and may be made by calling 719-689-4211.

To ensure visitors' safety, several policies

must be followed:

- ✦ Maximum on each tour is 13
- ✦ If the 10 a.m. tour fills, it may be possible to add a 1 p.m. tour
- ✦ Cost of the tour is \$5 per person, paid at the Museum
- ✦ All tour participants must sign a release form; parents of children under 18 must sign release. Please arrive early to sign.
- ✦ Arrive at the Museum by 9:45 as everyone is required to sign in, fill out release forms and view a safety video.
- ✦ Tours leave from the Victor Lowell Thomas Museum PROMPTLY at 10 a.m.
- ✦ No children under 5 allowed on tours
- ✦ Tour participants must have closed toe shoes, and will be required to wear hard hats and safety glasses provided by CC&V.
- ✦ Please be advised that CC&V is an active mining operation; tours may be limited by mining operations.

### Moving Tons of Rock

The Euclid Hitachi EH 4500 haul truck is capable of hauling up to 315 tons of rock. The truck tips the scale at nearly 1 million pounds when fully loaded. The truck tires stand 12-feet 6-inches tall and the trucks are 24-feet tall with the bed down; and 47 feet tall when the bed is up for dumping. Each tire costs \$30,000. The trucks are loaded with the Hitachi 5500 shovels, each with a bucket capacity of 40 cubic yards of rock. A tire from one of these trucks can be viewed at the trailhead of the Little Grouse Mountain Trail. Trucks and other equipment can be seen in operation at the American Eagles Scenic Overlook and the Vindicator Valley Trail north of Victor.

