

Record of the Corso (Corso)
Mining District County⁵⁰ of Inyo State
of California²⁴
by José Miguel Rojas, Recorder (1868-70)
Francisco L. Romero, Recorder (1870-71)
and others.

A document owned by William
A. Chalfant of Bishop, California, and
loaned by him to the Eastern
California Museum Association,
Independence, California.

Translated by Emilyn Chase
at the Southwest Museum,
Highland Park, Los Angeles, California
July 29, 1931.

Page A

Record of the Corso Mining
District of the County of Inyo State
of California.

We the undersigned gather
together today in this Corso Mining
District County of Inyo State of
California today we form our
laws so that they may be respected
in the district under the law of
the United States of North America

Act 1st Any person discoverer
of any mineral vein or who may
have a location on it will be
able to record it in this Corso
Mining District County of Inyo
State of California paying the
necessary taxes which are
applied by the law of the Council
of the above mentioned

Act 2nd Any discoverer who being
on location does not begin work
in the period of thirty days
will lose his right and without
reclamation action.

Act 3rd The person who may be named recorder elected by the Council of the above mentioned will have to keep together the taxes in order to pay them to the capital of the County when it may be necessary and demanded of him by the County of Inyo

Act 4th Any person who may discover a virgin mineral vein will be conceded the position of 400. four hundred feet by right and the members who may form the company 200. two hundred these not exceeding 8 eight persons and being subject to pay the sum of 50¢ fifty cents.

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Page A →

Act 5th If within the claims of said recorded vein there should appear another different one the original owners will enjoy the right to work it fifty feet the rest of the land remaining by legal right to the one whom it may please to take possession.

Act 6th In conclusion: the Council
by common consent elected for
recorder of this mining district
Jose Miguel Rojas which person
is authorized by the same council
to make respected the law of the
records according to how it is
established.

Today the 23rd of March
1868 we sign this Act of Law
remaining subject to that established.

Recorder Jose Miguel. Rojas.

Juan. R. Merino.

Bernabe. Fuentes.

Jose. Salazar -

Juan. Lato.

Pedro Felis.

Jose. Araiza.

Meregildo. Beltran.

Jose. Maria. Xascha

Teodoso. Seleya.

Gerpasio. Seleya.

Dolores. Valencia.

Serino. Sepulveda

Ramon. Molina.

Domingo. Morales.

Pedro. J. Rojas

Jose. Figueroa.

Luis. Fene.

Don't
copy

~~Merezilda. Beltran.~~

~~Jose. Maria. Yeaska~~

~~Teodoro. Alega.~~

~~Sebastian. Alega.~~

~~Dolores. Valencia.~~

~~Benito. Sepulveda.~~

~~Ramon. Molina.~~

~~Domingo. Morales.~~

~~Pedro. Rojas.~~

~~Jose. Torquero.~~

~~Luis. Tere.~~

~~(Page EF 2H) -~~

Record of the Coso mining district county of Inyo State of California signed by the miners today the third of August of 1869 and we approve legally:

No. 3. Section One: ^{Coso} Mining district August 3 1869 there is recorded The gold vein with the name Santa (Rita) a mile and a quarter from the Coso camp situated at the west side of the road which goes to Lone Pine the direction of the vein is from east to west the main opening being in the center

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of its measurements the Company
Santa Rita is recorded and registered
as owner. the names of the
company being Ysidoro Silaya
200 feet, Teodoro Silaya 200 feet
Jose Maria Cañas 200 feet Hipalito
servantes 200 feet - the total being
800 feet of distance from post to
post the measurements were
taken legally by those who
compose the Act under oath of
the law of the United States
of North America the first
measurement commencing with
a measuring tape; the measure-
ment commences from the principal
opening on the west are 11 * Cordes
15 feet each cordel contains 35 feet
total on the west 400 feet
← Back of page (E) Second measurement on the east
11 cordes 15 feet total 400
feet on the east. Its measure-
ments being already legally
proved by those who formed
the Act of law in Coso
today the 3rd of August 1869.

Recorder José Miguel Rojas.
Secretary José L. Romero.
Names who formed the Act

Joaquin Almada
Rosario Acuña
Bernabé Fuentes
Rafael. Ocho.
Santos Salazar
Ygnacio Cardoba
Ramon Satelo
Tomas Portillo
Tiburcio Flores.
Ramon Mendivil
Domingo Alviso
José Chacon

Sale of Santa Rita
and distribution of
the claims + property
of each member
each one in his turn
This division is
found in this number
pages 18 and 19
of the Recorder's book
Coso November 8
1870.

F. L. Romero (Recorder)

Approved under oath.

* Translators note - a cordel in this
manuscript varies. On this page it
is a measurement of 35 feet,
whereas on page 9 it contains
only 25 feet.

Notice

Number 2

which is called Liréna
 Claim this gold vein is
 claimed by José Forguera, said
 vein is located north of this
 camp a mile and a half away;
 Its directions ^{are} from east to west
 the discovering works being on
 the west (100) feet inside of its
 boundary leaving a balance of
 (50) feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo County
 Coso Mining District state of California
 Members José Forguera 400 feet

Pedro J. Rojas 200
 J. Miguel Rojas 200
 Maria A. Rojas 200

Total 1000

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

Notice which is called Resurrección
 Number 3 Claim this gold vein is
 claimed by J. Miguel Rojas Located
 a mile and a quarter north of this
 camp. Its directions are from east
 to west the discovering opening
 being in the center of its
 measurements leaving a balance
 of (50) feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo County
 Coso Mining District State of California
 Members J. Miguel Rojas 400 feet
 Pedro J. Rojas 200
 Jose Forguera 200
 Maria A. Rojas 200
 Total 1000

Recorder
 J. Miguel Rojas

Page 70)

Number 4 Claim of the vein named Sirena^{9.}
this continuation is
claimed by José María Caña
on the east of said vein upon
his taking possession of it its
measurements are taken on
the east leaving a balance
of 50 feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo
County Coso Mining District
State of California

Members José María Caña 200 per
Liodoro Selaya 200
Gervasio Selaya 200
Visiderio Selaya 200
Total 800

Recorder
J. Miguel Rojas

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Number 5 Claim this continuation of the vein called Santa Rita is claimed by J. Miguel Rojas said continuation is located on the west of the aforementioned vein leaving a balance of (50) feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo County
Coso Mining District state of
California.

Members	J. Miguel Rojas	200 feet
	Pedro J. Rojas	200
	Marta A. Rojas	200
	Jose Uribe	200
	Jose Lopes	200
	Total	1000

This mine is claimed by the Company which appears in number 18 by the Buena Ventura Company. Coso August 19-1870 F. L. Romero (Recorder)

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

Translator's note - This page appears crossed out in the original manuscript.

Page R.)

number 6 - Claim this gold vein called Santa Gertrudes is claimed by Epolito servante said vein is located a mile to the east of this camp; its directions from south to north leaving a balance of (50) feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo County
Coso Mining District State of California

Members	Epolito servante	400
Void	Ramon Satels	200
	Jose Chason	200
	Ygnacio Cordova	200
	Antonio Salgado	200
	Total	1200

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas.

In note - This page also is crossed out in the original manuscript

number 6

claim

The Santa Gertrudis Mine is ^(comprised) claimed by the company stated below said vein is a mile to the east of this camp its directions are north and south there being 50 feet on each side December 15 1870 Coso Mining District Inyo County State of Cal.

Recorder	} Members	Ysidro Cilalla	200
F. L. Romero		Teodocio Cilalla	200
		Gervasio Cilalla	200
		Felix Cilalla	200
		Jose Lobo	200
		Total feet	1000

This notice is annulled for abandonment according to the law of this mining district ^(Chompeada) claimed for the third time which will appear on page number 16 of this book Coso April 14 1871.

(Tr. Note - The word "Chompeada" appears several times in the manuscript. It is not used today and does not appear in the old dictionaries - It has been translated here as "claimed". However, in Spanish, it resembles the English word "jumped" and may have been adapted from that word.)

(Back of page R)

No 7 Claim the continuation of Santa Rita is claimed situated on the east by Francisco Chacon its measurements are on the east of said mentioned vein there being (50) feet on each side.

August 7 1869 Inyo County
Coso Mining District state of California

Members Francisco Chacon 200 feet

Jose Chacon	200
Agustino Cordova	200
Epolito Servante	200
Luisiano Martinez	200
Antonio Salgado	200

Recorder
J. Miguel Rojas

Total 11200

sale by José Chacon the ownership ¹³
of (200) feet in the claim of the
east. Continuation of Santa Rita number
7: to Hipolito Cervantes for the
sum of (\$200) stamped gold of the U. S.
to his entire satisfaction today the
5 of June 1871 Coso Inyo County
State of California

José ^{my} + Chacon
mark

(Recorder)

F. L. Romero

Page V)

Number 8 Claim this vein is claimed
by owner by Mr. Rosario Acuña
said possession being contiguous with
the vein Resurreccion on the north
said gentleman takes possession of
it for being abandoned by the
americans. its directions are
from east to west the discovering
opening being in the center;
there being fifty feet on each
end.

August 7, 1869 Inyo County
Coso Mining District State of California

Members. Rosario Acuña 200 feet 74
Jose Reducindoheles 200
Bernave fuente 200
Total 600

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

Back of Page V)

Number 9 Claim This possession is
claimed by Pedro Alvares which
is between the vein Santa Rita
and the continuation on the east;
the possession of (200) feet is
conceded by the council the 3 of
August 1869 in Coso District
Inyo County State of California
Member Pedro Alvares 200 feet

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

Page 1)

Number 10 Claim this second continuation
is claimed by Mr. Ygnasio Tarazona
said continuation is contiguous with
the first continuation on the west
August 7 1869

Coso Mining District Inyo
County State of California

Members

Ygnacio Tarazona	200
Bernabe Fuente	200
Francisco Cordova	200
Juan Lagos	200

Total 800 feet

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

Page 3 - No 11 Claim this vein is claimed on this date by John William with the above name of John* it runs from east to west with the ownership granted by the statutes of the Coso Mining District Inyo County State of California 1000 feet

Discoverer

Coso Mining
District DC 29
1869 Inyo
County State of
California

John William	400
Ypolito Cerova.	200
Jed Red.	200
Gen. Red.	200
one thousand feet	<u>1000</u>

Recorder

J. Miguel Rojas

* In Note - This name is so illegibly written that it is hard to say whether it most resembles John or Denso.

Number 12 Claim This mine is claimed
by Jon Wollian on this date
with the name Cristal Pique
it runs from East to West
with the ownership the statutes
of this district grant him 1000
feet as follows

(names abbreviated & illegible)

Coso Mining	Jon Wollian	300
District DC 29	Jon Cunt	300
1869	Jon Rede	220
State of California	Jon Rid	200
Recorder	one thousand feet	1000
J. Miguel Rojas		

(This page scratched out & blotted - difficult to read)

(Page 6)

Coso April 1 1870

Claim this possession is claimed
on this date with the name
of Mina Grande by Juan Rojas
it is on the West of this Mineral
district

We apply to this mine the
conditions and ... that the
laws of the United States
of the North concede as

J. M. Rojas

Juan Rojas 200
Gugenio Salcedo 200
Rafael Ochoa 200
Tiburcio Teyruz 200

Number 14 Claim this vein is recorded and claimed with the date expressed below and with the name San Silverio this vein being on the west of this mineral district its directions are from east to west the discovering opening in the center of its location the total being 1800 feet of center and 100 on the sides approved in the Coso District 29th of July 1870

Discoverer

Jesus Gonzales

Anastacio Gonzales

Fran.^{co} GonzalesFran.^{co} 2.^o GonzalesFran.^{co} G.^{les} Moreno

Antonio Salgado

Antonio Morroy

Ramon Mendivil

Recorder

Fran.^{co} L. Romero

Members

This esprim* is claimed + recorded under the laws which protect the citizens of the U. S. said esprim is (4) miles ^{and 1/2} from this mining district it is on the left side of the road that goes to Lone Pine on the slope of the Sierra in the same western direction from this mining district of Coso Inyo County State of California.
August 3. 1870

Recorder (Void) Juan Lagos
Fran^{co} L. Romero

This notice of the claim of the above mentioned esprim by Mr. Juan Lagos is annulled and without right by the Town of Coso today 6 of August 1870

Recorder
Fran^{co} L. Romero

* Tr. note- The word esprim seems to be an invented word. It is unknown today. It is the opinion of the translator that it was derived from the word esprimis and means an outcropping of ore. However, it may have been the Spanish version of the time for the English word "esprim".

Number 15 Claim this vein is claimed

by the Mina Grande Company and measured legally according to the laws of the State of California, County of Inyo precinct of Coos its measurements are taken from the main opening on the north this being its position and location

1st measurement N. are 20 cordels each cordel is 25 feet Total distance N. (500) feet second measurement on the South 20 cordels (500) feet south direction its measurements being legal and approved today 1st of April 1870 Coos Mines Inyo County State of California

Recorder
Franc^{co} L. Romero

} Members } ^{my} Juan + Rojas 200 feet mark

~~Fibero Jimenez 200 "~~

Rafael ^{my} + Ocho 200 mark

Eugenio ^{my} + Salsedo 200 mark

~~Yunco + Seiva 200~~ ^{my} mark

Total 1000

Purchase by Juan Rojas of the Mina Grande Co. of J. Jime + y Seiva's interests and (100) feet from E. Salsedo, Salsedo keeping (100) feet and R. Ocho having (200) feet May 15, 1871

F. L. Romero (Recorder) Number (10)

Page 11

number 16 Claim this vein is claimed (Chompeada) by the Co. stated below. it carries the name of the (Abenturera) contiguous with the Mina Grande on the east its direction and location is from east to west the principal opening being in the center and (50) feet on the sides and the rest free Coso 5 of August 1870

Recorder	(Members)	Feet
Fran ^{co} L. Romero	Luz Sierris	200
	Hypolito Cervantes	200
	Fran ^{co} L. Romero	200
	Luciano Martinez	200
	Antonio Salgado	200
	Antonio Reyes	200
	Teodoro Hilaya	200
	Laura Velasquez	200
	total	1600

Notice by the Town

This espremit is worked & owned
by the Mining Town of Coso Inyo
County State of California not
cutting off the use of the water to
any beast or cattle except the
sheep who will have no right to
the use of the water to drink nor
for the benefit of said ^{the Mining Town of Coso} sheep having
done the first work the 20th
of July 1876 and taken possession
the 6th of August of the same year
and inclosed and taken possession
the 8th of August 1876

Secretary & Recorder
Francis L. Romero

Town Judges
Joaquin Almada
A. Rigande

Representatives of the Town
Libencio Jayme
Rafael Ochoa
Eugenio Salcedo
Jose M^a Cañas
Juan Rojas

~~number 17~~

Claim the continuation of the mine Santa Rita is claimed by the Co. below stated said continuation is on the west of Santa Rita and carries the name (Buena Ventura) there being (50) feet on each side of the vein Mining District of Coso County of Inyo State of California November 19, 1878

Recorder
F. L. Romero

Members	
F. L. Romero	200 feet
Rosalio Verdusco	200
Manuel Peña	200
Miguel Morales	200
Fernando Salazar	200
Total	1,000 feet

Tr. Note - This page is crossed out
thus in the manuscript.

number 18

Claim

The continuation of Mine Santa Rita which is on the west of said mine is claimed ^(Chompeada) its length is 1000 feet the same who support the Co. signed below being in possession of 50 feet on each side and the rest for the benefit of him who should like it said continuation carries the name Buena Ventura situated on the west of Santa Rita at one mile from this camp on the west Coss Mining District County of Inyo, State of California November 16 1870

Recorder

(members) (7 set)

F. L. Romero

Manuel Grozi 200

F. L. Romero 200

Ramon Mendibil 200

Lorenzo Bufanda 200

Juan Ballesteros 200

total feet 1000

(note to secretary -
 Pages 24-29 are found on the back of
 pages 23-17)

Notice

The Mine Santa Isetrudis is
 (~~Chompasada~~) for the third time by
 F. L. Romero said vein is on
 the east of this camp and
 a mile more or less distant.
 Its directions are from east to
 west there being (50) feet on each
 side in favor of said mine.
 Mining District of Inyo County
 April 14 1871

Recorder

F. L. Romero

(Members) feet

Fran^{co} L. Romero 200

Carmen C. Romero 200

Lorenzo Bufanda 200

Number 19

Claim

This gold vein is recorded by Ysidorio Cilaya and Co. with the name (Dicierto) said vein is on the south of this mining district and is five miles distant. Its directions are from North to South with the concession of the statutes of the mining district of Coss, Inyo County State of Cal. April 26 1871.

	Members	feet.
Recorder	Ysidorio Cilaya	400
F. L. Romero	Rafael Rodriguez	200
	Teodosio Cilaya	200
	Jose Lobo	200
	Servasio Cilaya	2
	Felix Cilaya	2
	Ramon Lobo	2
	Joaquin Lobo	2
	Total	1800

Grant

I give from my ownership that I have in the Dicierto Mine a claim of 200 feet to Franco L. Romero there remaining in my favor 200 feet by my own free will. Coss 26 of April 1871 Ysidorio + Cilaya
mark

By the present be it known that I have sold a claim of the ownership that I have in the Santa Rita mine said ownership consists of 200 feet and I have sold it to Don Ramon Mendivil for the sum of \$400 in gold bullion to my entire satisfaction and so that it may be registered I sign in the book of the Recorder page 18 ^{Coso Mining} District County of Inyo State of California November 25 1869

F. L. Romero (Recorder)

Teodocio ^{mi} Cilalla
marca

Sale Number 2

By the present be it known that I have sold half of a claim in the Santa Rita mine said claim consists of 200 feet 100 feet being sold to Don Hipolito Cervantes for the sum of \$200 in gold bullion to my entire satisfaction and so that it may be registered I sign in the book of the Recorder page 18 ^{Coso Mining} District County of Inyo State of California

November 25 / 1869

Francisco L. Romero (Recorder)

Ysidorio ^{my} + Cilalla
mark

Sale Number 3

By the present be it known that I
have sold 100 feet that I
bought from Don Ysidorio Cilalla
said 100 feet I have sold to
Don Fernando Salazar for the
sum of \$200 in gold bullion to
my entire satisfaction and so that
it may be registered I sign in the book of
the Recorder page 18. Coso Mining
District County of Inyo State of California
November 25

Francisco L. Romero
(Recorder)

Hipolito ^{my} + Cervantes
mark

The Santa Rita mine records its extension marked by large stakes from east to west, its length being 800 feet of which 700 feet are divided among the existing members who are

José M. G. Cañas 175 feet to Don Ramon Mendivil 175 feet to Don

Ysidorio Cilalla 87½ feet to Don Fernando Salazar 87½ feet to Don

Santos Salazar 87½ feet to Don Hypolito Cervantes 87½ feet total

700 feet there remaining 100 feet undivided on the east because of the pillars of the ore-bearing rock being taken away and it is for the benefit of the Co. and if one of the members should put work on these 100 feet and it should be profitable

and another one should wish to take possession he will have to pay the expenses to the first one and if he doesn't pay him the expenses he will not be able to take possession.

Croco Mining District
November 8 1870

F. L. Romero (Recorder)

(Members of Santa Rita)

Ramon ^{my} + Mendivil

José ^{mark} ~~NA~~ ^{my} + Cañas

Hipolito ^{mark} ~~my~~ + Cilalla

Hipolito ^{mark} ~~my~~ + Cervantes

Santos ^{mark} ~~my~~ + Salazar

Fernando ^{my} ~~mark~~ + Salazar

The division of Santa Rita
according to its claims continues
on page 20 and 21.

Page 20

Number 4 (Santa Rita Mine)

The claims of Santos Salazar and
of Don Joaquin Almada are independent
said ^{claims} independent of all the Co. to our
satisfaction said claims consist of
175 feet being adjacent and they
are situated in the middle of that
of Don Hipolito Cervantes which is
on the west and that of Don
Ramon Mendivil ^{and y. Salazar} on the east being
neighbors in both directions ^{said gentlemen}

Besides this we are subject not to pull down the support which divides us on the east with Mendivil and Silaya until the last of August 1871 and if before the agreed time someone should wish to pull down the support he will have to make up the expenses and the damages of said support half of all its length belongs to Don J. Almada and J. Salazar on the West and the other half on the east to Messrs. Mendivil and Silaya we sign in Coso Mining District, County of Inyo, State of California January 18, 1871

Joaquin Almada

Recorder

F. L. Romero

Lantos Salazar
Ramon Mendivil
Ysidorio ^{my} + Cilaya
mark

Number 5 (Santa Rita Mine)

The claims of R. Mendivil and y. Cilaya are independent and together said claims consist of $140\frac{1}{2}$ feet in union contiguous on the west with messrs. Almaden and Salazar and on the west with the unpillared part which consists of 100 feet by the Company Santa Rita Coyo Mining District County of Inyo State of California January 18 1871

Recorder F. L. Romero

Be it known by the present that I Facundo Salazar have sold to Don Teodosio (?) Salalla all my shares and interests that I have in the Santa Rita Mine and in the continuation and also those of my brother Santos with all the --- and tools of the mine for the amount of one hundred fifty dollars which I received to my satisfaction, my uncle D. Mascano P. Tessano being witness.
Coyo May 2, 1872 Facundo Salazar

In the Coso Mining District, County of Inyo, State of California, the seventh day of the month of November one thousand eight hundred and seventy two we who sign below, members in the Mines Santa Rita and Continuation, are gathered together with the object of naming a Recorder there being none, since Don Francisco L. Romero, ^{who had this office,} left this mining district and being aware of the fact that it is necessary to appoint a person who will be capable of recording the transfers that frequently occur, also of making sales and determining whatever other distinction relating to the examination of boundaries and in accordance with the rules and laws of the United States of the North, to which laws we remain subject and offer to respect in all their parts and aspects and being aware of the various virtues which characterize Don Ramon Mendibit and of the qualities of knowing how to read and write, we have seen well to name him Recorder of this mining district authorizing him moreover to judge

and give decision in the differences that there may be among the members of other neighboring districts for reason of damages, debts, or offences of any nature p. 24 trying to establish ^{always} among all the miners peace and good feeling thus is it agreed and we sign for witness

M. P. Serrano

Ypolito Servantes
X

Ramon Mendibil

Decidererio Selaya
X

Felix Selaya
+

In the Coso Mining District
County of Inyo State of California
before me Ramon Mendibil elected
Recorder there appeared D. Mariano
P. Serrano declaring that having
bought from D. Joaquin Lopez
one hundred feet of mine in the
—— Continuation he asked that
a decision should be rendered which
in effect I do in view of the

transfer which in correct form
said D. Serrano presented to me dated in
Cerro Isordo the 14th day of August 1872
and in the presence of the other
members who agreed that it was
sufficient and legal which to
witness I sign. Recorder

Ramon Mendivil.