



GHOST TOWN CLUB

OF COLORADO

Exploration, enjoyment, and preservation of historical sites

Field Trip: Snowshoe Trip to Boston

Date of trip: 02/26/2022

Meet at 10:00AM at Mayflower Gulch trail-head parking area

Leader: Josh Robinson

Snowshoe trips are fun. Snowshoe trips to Ghost towns are infinitely more so. Boston was never a big community, its relationship to the nearby towns of Robinson and Kokomo kept it small but based on the ruins at the site it certainly had its short time in the sun. The ruins are interesting and well preserved, not to mention its truly breathtaking setting. This is a site especially magical when seen in snow.

Description of the day:

We will start off by meeting at the Mayflower Gulch Trail head parking area on highway 91 going from Copper to Leadville. (Near the site of Robinson/Kokomo) From the parking area we will get on our gear and begin the one-mile snowshoe trip to Boston. When we reach the site, we will discuss the ruins found and the general layout of the town site. From there we will snowshoe up several hundred feet past the town site to the ruins of three houses and the beautiful, ruined surface buildings and ariel tram at the Boston mine. From there we will head back down the way we came up. For anyone interested we will search out a nearby restaurant to relax and enjoy good food and good company.

The ruins we will see:

The Boston town site is incredibly picturesque. The ruins are equally so.... Especially in snow. Along the road to Boston, we will pass one partially roofed house just off the road, as last seen this building still had remnants of furniture in it. Boston did have a street grid of 2 parallel streets running roughly north south with at least one cross street. Along the primary street are several log buildings. In this count are two of particular note: A roofless still standing 2 story log boarding house or Hotel. I suspect the ground level was a commercial use. Across the street from that is the single completely roofed house (also of log construction). This looks to have been at some point "spruced up" in the 20th century. This is where we will eat lunch. From there we will head along main street and visit two more houses, one with roof, and another roofless with near full height walls. From there we will begin to walk to the Boston Mine. At the mine we will find a still hanging aerial tram and fly the drone up to the actual mine high above. At the lower site we will see the star of the trip, an incredible log building built with logs dovetailed together like a piece of furniture. This is an unusual log building and a rare find at such high elevation.

Itinerary:

Meet at 10:00AM

Location: Mayflower Gulch trail head parking area (along the east side of highway 91 near the site of Robinson/Kokomo.)

Leave Mayflower gulch parking area at 10:30PM, Begin 1 mile snowshoe trip to Boston:

Roughly a 1-mile snowshoe. The road to Boston is gradual. While there is a continual grade, it is mild. Note: you will need snowshoes, and poles.... however, I imagine skis would work too. The road to Boston is today a popular trail head and will likely be hard packed up to the town site. However, the short hike above the town site to the mine will likely not be packed and we will be breaking fresh trail.

Arrive near the site, begin walk:

Once we arrive at the site, we will walk around the site and explore/discuss. Lead by Josh
Note this is a true ghost town and will require hiking gear (winter gear/Snowshoes). Also, bring along snacks and drinks. And whatever else you will need. Remember dress in layers, as we shoe you will get warm and want to shed some layers.

Snowshoe rating.... Hiking rating as a 3+

The ground is a natural setting with debris, and unmaintained roads and paths, hilly inclines. Not suitable for strollers or wheelchairs, or persons not in good physical health. Or difficulty walking.

Once at the site Josh will lead a talk discussing the history with a focus primarily on the architecture and archeology found at the site today.

Eat lunch at Boston:

Around 12:00 we will eat lunch at the "roofed house in town." Pack your own lunch, drinks and snacks, or whatever else you will need.

Snowshoe to the surface buildings at the Boston Mine:

After Lunch, we will snowshoe to the Boston Mine, along the way stopping to see one roofed house and a second roofless building. off to the side of the road. At the Boston mine we will explore its surface buildings and its lower tram terminus.

Head back down to the parking area:

3:00 head back down to the parking area

DINNER SOMEPLACE!!! – Italian?

To sign up for the trip, or any questions, call Josh Robinson for more information:

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