



GHOST TOWN CLUB

OF COLORADO

Exploration, enjoyment, and preservation of historical sites

Field Trip Name: Huerfano County Coal Towns

Date of Trip: 5/20/2023

Time (start & end time): 10:00am-4:00pm

Leader: Ashley Doty

History:

We are headed south to see the foundations of once booming coal camps in Huerfano County. CF&I was the largest coal company in Colorado and owned many of the coal camps in Huerfano County. However, we will only be seeing one CF&I camp on our trip, the town of Tioga. Tioga was established during the coal boom, in 1907, but lived a double life, also serving as a livestock shipping point. We will then head on to the town of Badito, the site of the first post office in the county and held the county seat at one point. Badito was not a coal mining town but may have been established as a settlement on the Taos Trail, possibly as early as the 1850s. Our final stop of the day, Alamo, was developed later by the Oakdale Coal Company in 1922. Not much remains of the original town today, except foundations due to being dismantled in 1941 to have materials moved to Butte Valley or other company mines in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties.

Description of the day:

We will start off by meeting at the Walsenburg Mining Museum in Walsenburg at 10:00 am. We will then head out of Walsenburg to visit the remains of Tioga, Badito, and Alamo. We will eat lunch at Badito. Our last town we will visit is Alamo and then head back to Walsenburg.

Itinerary:

Meet at the Walsenburg Mining Museum at 10:00 am, please park just across the street.

Address: [112 W 5th St A, Walsenburg, CO 81089](#)

Coordinates: [37.624513, -104.782851](#)

Ghost Town Coordinates:

Tioga: [37.7007737, -104.9237003](#)

Badito: [37.727479, -105.014398](#)

Alamo: [37.6560419, -104.9600886](#)

Ghost Town Club of Colorado · May 20th, 2023- Huerfano County Coal Camps

Meet at the Walsenburg Mining Museum around 10:00 am for sign in and waivers. The club will then be leaving Walsenburg at 10:30 am to head towards Tioga. We will explore the remains of Tioga, a previous CF&I coal town. We will then continue to the remains of Badito, once the county seat of Huerfano County.

We will be eating lunch at Badito around 12:30 p.m., please bring your own lunch.

Once we finish exploring Badito and eating lunch we will head back towards Tioga to the Oakdale Coal Company Town of Alamo. We will be traveling on Highway 69 and then on county dirt roads that are maintained. There should be no problem for any cars to make it to the three locations.

The weather forecast will be about 70 for that day, so please dress accordingly, but keep an eye on the weather. There is no sun protection from any trees in the area, so please wear sunscreen and/or a hat. Please bring water and any other items you may need. Also, please watch your step as there is always a possibility of rattlesnakes.

Once we are done visiting Alamo we will head back to Walsenburg. On our way to these coal towns, we will see remains of other towns including Calumet and Strong on the side of Highway 69. Also, just past the remains of Badito, is the remains of Farisita on Highway 69. An old church remains at this site that we can take a quick detour to visit, if the group is up for it.

Accessibility:

The ground is relatively flat with a maintained dirt road leading to the sites. There is some debris due to building deterioration and uneven ground so not the most suitable terrain for strollers or wheelchairs, or persons not in good physical health or have difficulty walking.

Cancellation:

If you signed up for the trip and are unable to make it, please just let Ashley know by emailing, calling, or texting her.

If you are interested in participating in this field trip or have any other questions, please contact Ashley Doty (information below).

Ashley Doty

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