

# Mahoney, Billy-Gold High Grading

## Tape Catalogue Card

**Phone** 000-0000  
**Address** N. Fir, Telluride, Co. 81435  
**Date** November 1995  
**Place** N. Fir, Telluride, Bo,  
**Interviewer** by Billy Mahoney  
**Phone**

**Tape #** OH 94  
**Location** OH File  
**Length** 30 min.  
**Sides** 1  
**Recorder**  
**Sep Mike**

Time	Names & Places	Subjects covered
00-65	J. Smock	Introduction to High Grading. High grading in the Tomboy as told by John Smock to Billy Mahoney. Various methods of stealing gold from mines.
65-161	Joe Zadra, Carlo Girardi, J. German, Christmas Tree John, Magpie Jones, Charles Fosson	Method of high grading from Boullion Mine. Story of largest high grading operation at Penn Tunnel. High graders sold gold to local business people. Story of processing gold in basement of Roma Bar-12 people were arrested. Miners would buy drinks over the bar at the Coffee Cup Bar with gold that had been high graded. John German, Christmas Tree John and Magpie Jones were a few of the miners that purchased their drinks in this manner. Charles Fosson did time for smuggling gold from Smuggler-two days in town jail.
161-193	Dalle, M. McDonald, D. O'Rourke, Blixt Brothers	Billie started working at the Telluride Mines at the age of 15 in 1943. Story of getting gold out of the gig at the Telluride Mines. Stories of prospecting with Blixt Brothers.
221-243		Billy started working for the Idarado in early 1950's. Many high grading stories of various men and the amount of gold recovered. Speaks of various mines he worked in during the 1950's. Describes process.
243-273	Babe Schuler	Billy purchased a ball mill for sluice operation on Penn Dump in early 50's. Mill was probably used for high grading purposes during the early years. No active mining in the area since the 70's. Memories of operating different stopes in various closed mines.
273-290		Story of theft of gold sponge at the Idarado in early 60's.
290		Summary of tape