

## Mining Terms

**Adit:** The opening/passage in a hill side to provide access to the tunnel.

**Amalgamation:** The process of gold contacting and binding with mercury, also called Quick Silver.

**Bedrock:** The underground rock base under the earth's crust.

**Breast:** The face/mining area of the underground working.

**Caves:** Commonly called cave-ins that could collapse the roof of a tunnel.

**Cement:** Ore that is in a concrete-like mass of sand and gravel that must be broken apart by milling.

**Crosscut:** A tunnel that is driven across another tunnel.

**Drift:** A close-to-level tunnel that follows a gravel vein.

**Drift Mine:** Also called a Placer or Gravel Mine the tunnel follows an ancient river channel.

**Free:** Ore that is like common river gravel.

**Grizzly:** A steel grate that catches larger rocks as it allows sand and gravel pass through.

**Lagging:** Small timber planks placed on timbering to support the tunnel roof.

**Placer:** A Spanish word for free gold found in sand or gravel.

**Portal:** The opening of a tunnel, adit.

**Quartz Mine:** Also called a Hard Rock Mine, where the gold is in its original form incased in rock.

**Raise:** An inclined or vertical passageway that was dug from the bottom upward.

**Shaft:** A vertical passageway, often beginning a ground level.

**Stope:** An inclined, upward or vertical passageway where ore is being gathered.

**Tailings:** The sand, gravel, dirt waste material left after the valuable minerals are saved.

**Timbering:** Groups of timber/prepared wood props placed in a tunnel to support the roof and prevent caves.

**Tunnel:** The horizontal passage from the adit to the breast.

**Winze:** An inclined, upward or vertical passageway that goes downward.