Kennedy Mine Gold Production:

Impressive statistics can be provided to show that the Kennedy Mine was the premier gold mine along the world famous Mother Lode. The nearly $54,000,000.00 gold recovered by the combined Kennedy and Argonaut Mines within a span of about one half mile clearly surpasses any other mine or consortium of mines along the Mother Lode. In actuality the Kennedy Mine, as most Mother Lode mines, was a low-grade mine. This means that it found and recovered a relatively small amount of gold per ton of rock crushed. The Mine’s total gold production was possible only because of the depth of its activity into the earth.

Most of the gold was recovered at the Mine while the official price of a pure ounce of gold was priced at $20.67. The purity rate of the gold at the Kennedy between 1886 and 1942 was approximately 83%, which provided the Kennedy Mining and Milling Company with about $17.15 for each ounce produced. The average yield at the mine during this 56 year period was about .38 of an ounce of gold per ton of rock crushed, or a recovery rate of $6.53 of gold per ton of rock crushed. It is thus apparent that the Mine had to be operated with a great degree of efficiency in order to make a profit.

The first two owners of the Kennedy Mine found it difficult to reach the required degree of efficiency in order to generate a profit. However, the Kennedy Mining and Milling Company paid out $5,812,000.00 in dividends to its stockholders from total receipts of $28,205,831.30 during its 56 years of mining operation at the Kennedy Mine.

Thanks to the generosity of many individual and corporate donors, the Kennedy Mine is continuing to make improvements, add to the displays, and preserve California’s Gold Rush heritage. If you would like to volunteer or contribute to this worthy cause, or would like more information, please contact the non-profit Kennedy Mine Foundation. Phone (209) 223-9542 or email info@kennedygoldmine.com. Thank you for your support!