

# Maiden

## Montana

### and the Judith Mountains

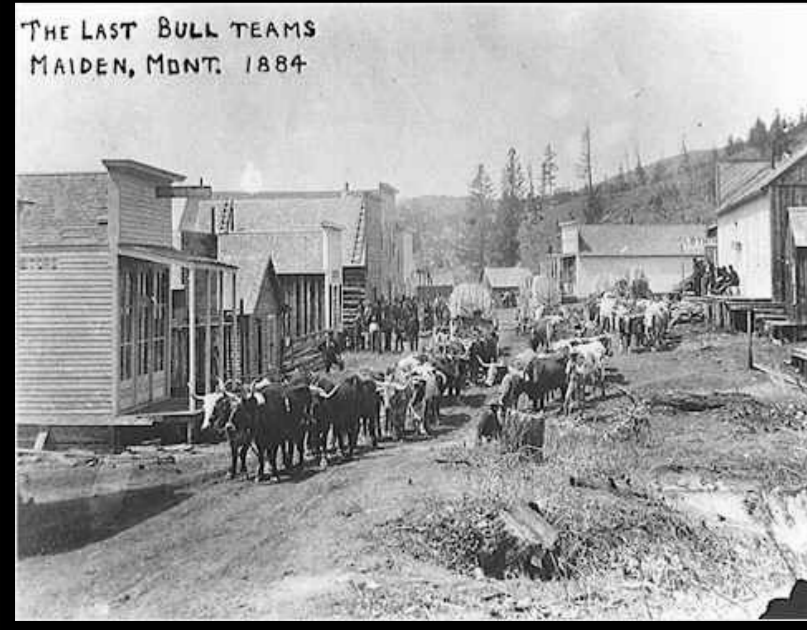


### Maidens Early Years

Maiden dates from April 1881 when Snow and Kemper established a town site. They named the proposed town after the daughter of a friend, Mrs. James H. Conings, who they call the "Little Maiden". The town of Maiden was not platted and surveyed. Rather lots were delineated and claimed by the simple expedient of building fences around them. By 1882 the town boasted a number of log and lumber houses, eight saloons, two clothing stores, five general merchandise stores, a dry-goods store, a butcher shop, a blacksmith, two barbers, a feed stable, a lawyer office, a doctor, a hotel and a restaurant. The attorney was S. C. Edgerton, the son of Montana's first territorial governor (Rocky Mountain Husbandman 1882; Wolle 1963).



### Around Town

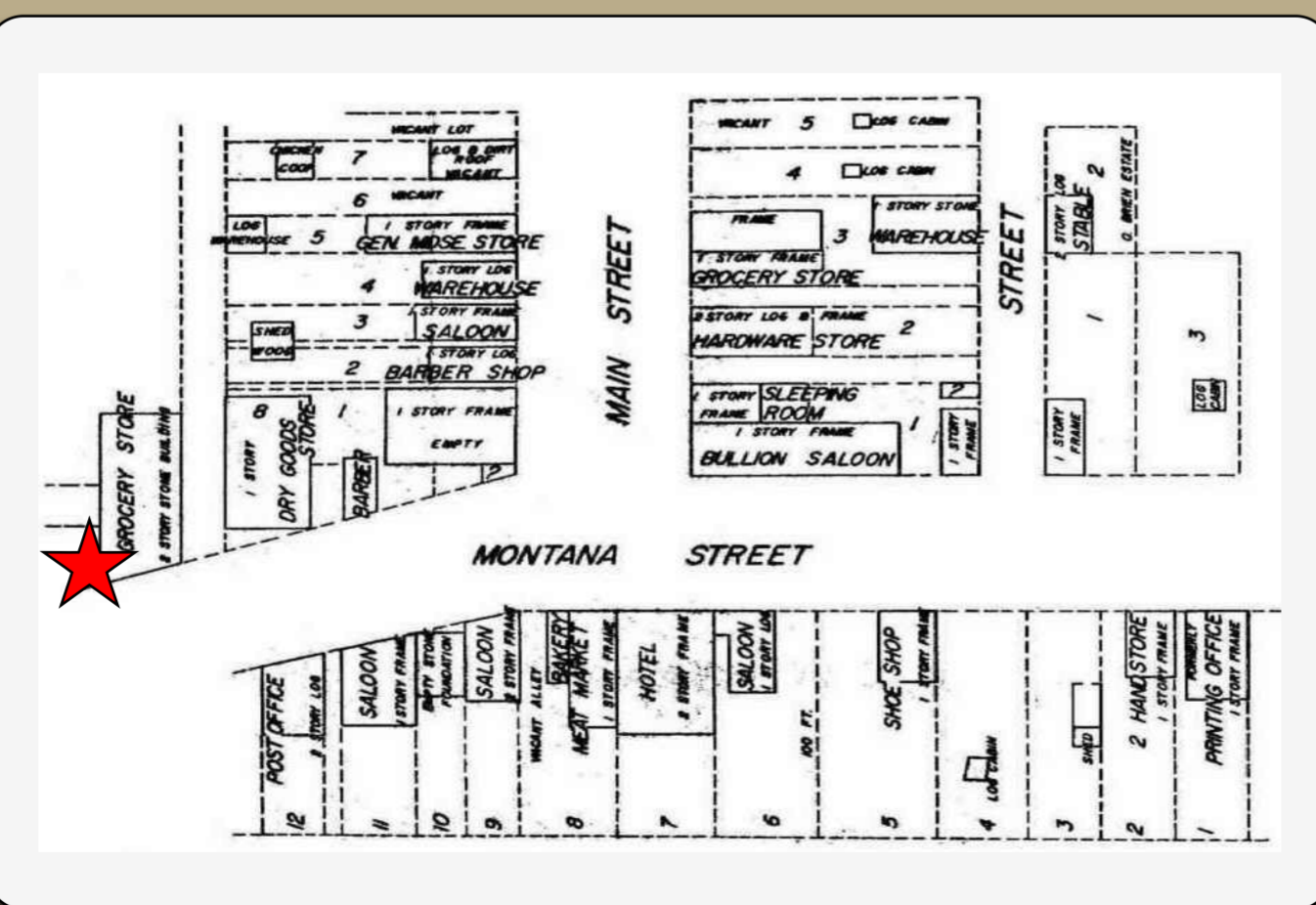


William H. Culver Collection

### Business Establishments-1887

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Samples Grocery Store        | Billy Jenkins Barbershop        |
| Landt Brewery                | Gies Saloon                     |
| Barnes House                 | Peterson's Butcher Shop         |
| Jail                         | Denny O'Brien's Saloon          |
| Lime Rock Wilson's Residence | Beatty Dance Hall               |
| Frenchmen's Smelter          | Poland's Hardware Store         |
| Saunders Livery Barn         | Bullion Saloon                  |
| Belanger's Department Store  | Bushnalt Store                  |
| Bucket of Blood Saloon       | Gies Meat Market and Bakery     |
| Cole's Blacksmith's Shop     | Anderson's Roller Skating Rink  |
| Culver Studio                | Fat Jack's Cabin and Law Office |
| Williams Drugstore           |                                 |
| Maiden Hotel                 |                                 |

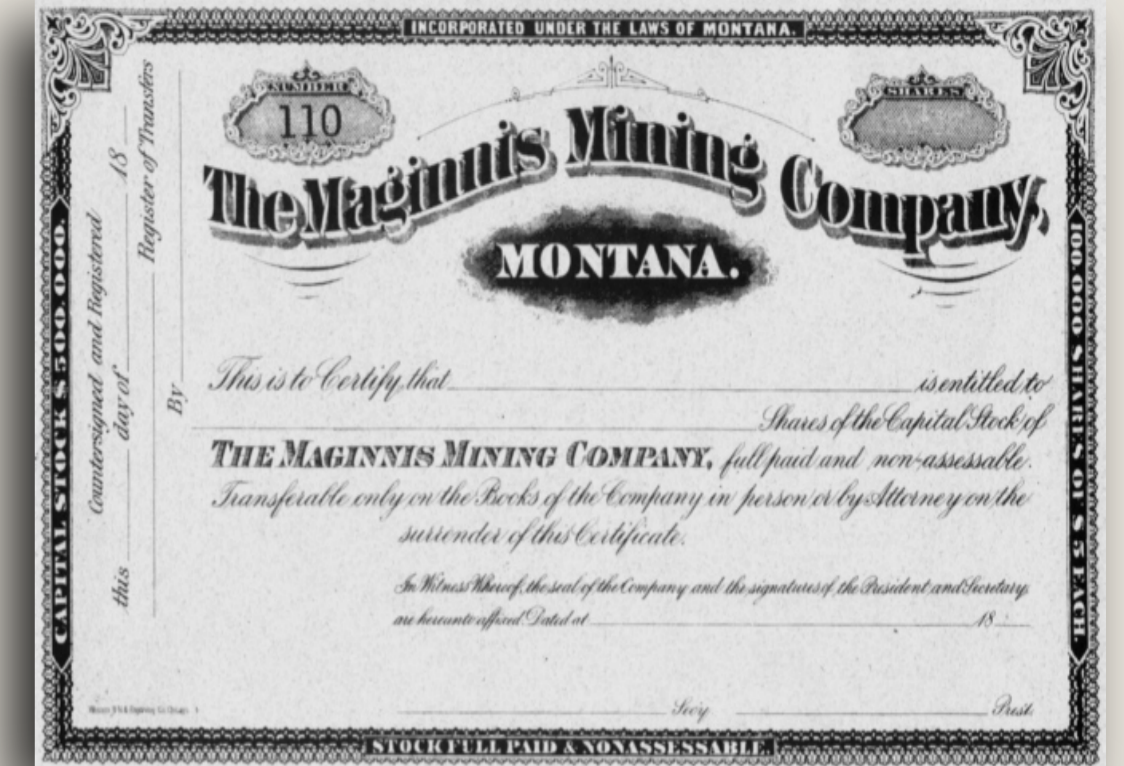
### Town Plat



## The Warm Spring Mining District of the Judith Mountains

The Warm Spring district is located about 11 to 15 miles northeast of Lewistown near the headwaters of Warm Spring and Ford Creeks. The first gold strike occurred on Anderson Creek in the spring of 1880. By June additional discoveries were being worked on Maiden Creek, Alpine Creek, Warm Spring Creek and Ford Creek.

The Warm Spring district contains several small mining communities: Andersonville, Maiden, New Year and Gilt Edge were the most significant while Alpine and Rustle were of lesser stature. Andersonville was named after "Skookum" Joe Anderson, one of the area's original discoverers of gold in 1880. Anderson and David Jones were in the Black Hills in 1879 and from there wandered to the Yogo district and then to the Judith Mountains in the spring of 1880. In June they were joined by C. C. Snow and F. T. McPartlan. The first paying strike in the district occurred in Alpine Gulch on June 10, 1880. A few days later strikes were made on Warm Spring Gulch and then in Maiden Gulch. One prospector, J. R. Kemper, was said to have worked ground that paid \$115 per sluice box (Wolle 1963; Foster 1990).



## Gold and Silver in the Judith Mountains

The **Spotted Horse Mine** (24FR673) is located one mile east of Maiden on the west side of Maiden Canyon. The mine was discovered by Skookum Joe Anderson and David Jones in 1881. After extracting some high grade ore from the discovery shaft, Anderson sold the mine to Perry McAdow and E. Dexter. Although McAdow was confined to a wheelchair, his considerable mining knowledge allowed him to develop the property and by 1883 he was sole owner. Under combined management with his wife, a 10-stamp mill was moved from the **Collar Mine** and erected on the Spotted Horse. Vanners were added to recover values from tellurides and sulphides. A rumored one million dollars of ore was reduced in this mill. Some of the telluride ore was so rich that it was taken out by a spoon and placed directly in small socks. The mine was leased to the Jay Gould Company in 1892, but they were not able to manage it properly and ended their effort deep in debt. The mine reverted to McAdow who then reportedly took out another million dollars (Lincoln 1911; Lyden 1948; Wolle 1963; Munson 1988).

In 1883 the mine was sold to the **Maginnis Mining Company** of Hauser and Holler. They spent \$80,000 on a new 20-stamp mill and \$20,000 on other mine improvements. The 2-compartment shaft sunk to 250 feet with three levels. The mine and mill employed 20 men and the mill was kept in constant operation. Despite these improvements, the mine could not pay its way (Munson 1988).

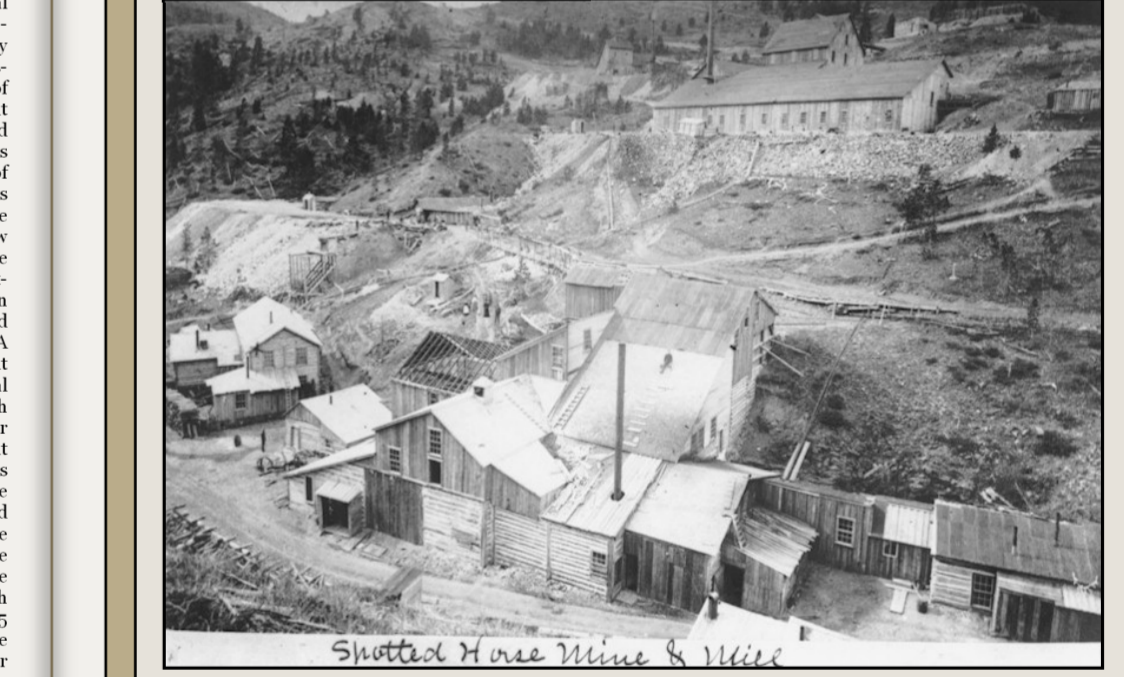
By 1891, McAdow had repossessed the mine and was in the process of once again making it a fabulous producer. He radically expanded operations and soon had 200 men working around the clock and receiving a payroll of \$23,000 per month. In 1893 a \$100,000 gold brick from the Spotted Horse was proposed to head the Montana Exhibit at the World's Fair (Lincoln 1911; Lyden 1948; Wolle 1963; Munson 1988).

In 1893 the mine finally left McAdow's hands and became the property of the Double Eagle Mining Company. In 1893 a body of rich free-milling ore worth \$20,000 was extracted from an open quarry. Free gold was observed in large masses imbedded in irregular shaped masses of fluorite. The ore was peculiar in that it did not contain lead. The Double Eagle Mining Company did well with the property, but a crooked manager skipped with the mill's profits. The property landed in the hand of its creditors, the Bank of Fergus County and the Power Mercantile Company of Lewistown. M. L. Poland then managed the mine until 1896 when it was sold to J. L. Bright of Columbus, Ohio. The property changed hands several more times until the St. Paul Montana Company acquired it as part of a larger deal with the Johanna Gold Mining Company. The St. Paul company was primarily interested in the Whiskey Gulch and New Year properties; the **Spotted Horse** was thrown in to complete the deal. As a result the mine languished. However, a 40 ton cyanide plant was erected to recover

### Maginnis Mine



### Spotted Horse Mine



### Collar Mill

