

Mining Recorder. He must mark the line by blazing or post-planting, and place a post where he discovered rock "in place," and as near as possible to the four corners of the claim. He is entitled to all minerals within the claim. The claim is not to be recorded without an affidavit that mineral has been found "in place" on the claim, that the legal notes and posts have been put up, that ground is unoccupied, &c. A location made on Sunday or a holiday is not invalid. Where from the nature of the ground the location cannot be thus marked, posts may be set as near as possible and the direction and distance recorded. The free miner shall record his claim with the Mining Recorder within 15 days, if his office is within 10 miles, with an additional day for every additional 10 miles. A claim recorded by error in the wrong district may be recorded anew in the right district with the original date. If left in the Recorder's absence the applicant is entitled to a record of that date. The claim may be held from year to year on a certificate by the Gold Commissioner, or Mining Recorder, that work has been done on it to the value of \$100. A free miner or partners having adjoining claims may work them together, and may obtain certificates for all the claims for sufficient work done on one. A free miner may, in lieu of work, pay \$100 to the Mining Recorder. Disputes as to titles are determined by priority.

No free miner can hold (except by purchase) more than one claim on the same vein or lode, but he may hold by location a claim on any separate vein or lode. He may abandon his claim by notice in writing to the Recorder and may remove his machinery and extracted ore; he cannot relocate the same claim (or one which he has not recorded in time) without written permission from the Gold Commissioner.

Lodes discovered in a tunnel to develop a lode may be marked out as a mineral claim and recorded by the owner. The interest of a free miner in his claim is deemed a chattel interest.

The lawful owner of a mineral claim is entitled to a Crown grant on payment of \$500 to the Government in lieu of expenditure and after having obtained a certificate of improvements from the Gold Commissioner. With a certificate of improvement the owner need not take out a free miner's certificate, or work on the claim to hold it.

With a certificate of improvement the owner of a claim outside the railway belt is entitled to a Crown grant, and inside the railway belt on payment of \$5 an acre to the Mining Recorder.

The claim for the grant must be made within three months. The issue of the grant does not invalidate any previous lien. The grant covers all minerals except coal.

Conveyances, mortgages, &c., of mineral claims shall be recorded or shall not be good against third parties, and transfers must be in writing. A free miner's claim shall not be open for location during his last illness, nor for twelve months after his death. The Gold Commissioner and official administrator administer miners' estates.

A mill site may be located by a free miner, not over five acres in extent, on unoccupied and unreserved Crown Lands not known to contain minerals. He may obtain a lease for one year, during its continuance, on proof of having expended \$500 on machinery, and shall be entitled to a Crown grant for \$5 an acre. This applies to former leases also. Minerals are not included in the grant.