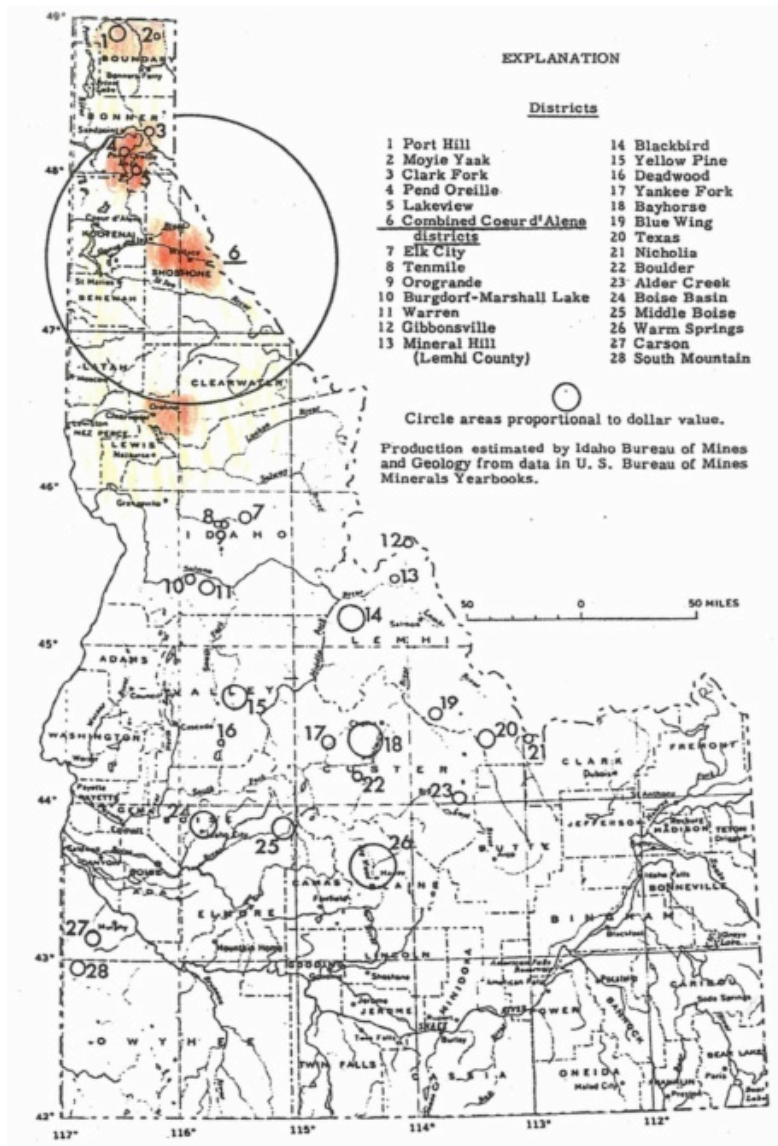


# Northern Idaho



Minerals & Ores in the case are from these Mining Districts:

Coeur d'Alene ● Pend Oreille ● Porthill ● Palouse  
Latah Clay ● Emerald Creek Garnet Districts and Vicinity

The Coeur d'Alene Mining District in northern Idaho is by far the most productive of Idaho's silver, lead, and zinc districts, and has also been a major producer of copper, gold and antimony. It is truly a world class district. The discovery of gold in the area dates to 1882, which was 20 years after the gold discovery in Boise Basin that precipitated Idaho's biggest gold rush.

The discovery of rich lead-silver ores in the Coeur d'Alene District dates to 1884 and since that date the district has produced more than one billion ounces of silver, more than 8 million tons of lead, more than 3 million tons of zinc, several million troy ounces of gold, and over 200,000 tons of copper. Several mines are still producing.

The ore deposits of the Coeur d'Alene District occur in veins, some of which are of exceptional length and also extend to great depth. The deepest mine workings are more than a mile below the surface. The country rocks that the veins occur in are largely quartzites, argillites, and limestones that are part of the Belt Group, an exceptionally thick and regionally extensive suite of fine grained sedimentary rocks of Late Precambrian age. The rocks are mildly metamorphosed and occur over a large region including much of northern Idaho, western Montana, and southern British Columbia. There are only a few small intrusive igneous masses that have intruded rocks of the Belt Group in northern Idaho.

In addition to the Coeur 'd Alene District There are several other less productive lead-zinc-silver districts in northern Idaho, and in addition to the silver and base metals there are occurrences of garnet in the southern part of this region that have been quite productive.

The minerals displayed in this case include a large specimen of rich tetrahedrite-siderite silver ore from the world famous Sunshine Mine in the Coeur d'Alene District as well as high grade lead and zinc ores from several other Coeur d'Alene mines. One rounded boulder specimen of galena is particularly unique, in that it was found in stream gravel a short distance downstream from an outcropping vein of rich lead-silver ore.

## Northern Idaho Mining Districts