NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

1. NAME
COMMON:
Leadfield (H.S.-3)

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
Death Valley National Monument, Titus Canyon Trail
CITY OR TOWN:
Death Valley
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
33 California

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)
District
Site
Object

OWNERSHIP
Public
Private
Both

STATUS
Public Acquisition:
In Process
Being Considered

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
Yes:
Restricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
Agricultural
Commercial
Educational
Entertainment

National Park Service
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Western Region
CITY OR TOWN:
San Francisco
STREET AND NUMBER:
450 Golden Gate Ave., 36063
STATE:
California

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Death Valley National Monument
CITY OR TOWN:
Death Valley
STATE:
California

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY:
STATE:
County
Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
STATE:
CODE:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE:
JUN 1 0 1975

FOR NFS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE:

RECEIVED
NATIONAL REGISTER
OCT 3 0 1974
JUN 1 0 1975
Preservation recommended

Begun in 1925 as a promotion scheme on spurious claims, Leadfield consisted of various wood and tin structures that were used as stores, post office, dwellings, storage sheds, and processing plants. Some of these structures had concrete foundations. There were a number of dugouts, cheap and easily-made desert shelters, and several prospect holes and a main mine shaft.

Today there are remarkably good remains of some of the dugouts, and several tin structures still stand. Prospect holes and the main mine shaft remain, although the entrance to the shaft has fallen in at spots. Concrete foundations are much in evidence.

Class VI lands: 94 acres

Cost estimate for preservation: $900
8. SIGNIFICANCE

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [x] 20th Century
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 19th Century

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)** 1925

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- [ ] Aboriginal
- [ ] Prehistoric
- [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [ ] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [x] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [x] Other (Specify) Fraud

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

3rd Order

Located in Titus Canyon, this mining town began in 1925 as a promotion scheme based on spurious claims. C.C. Julian advertised the town, making exaggerated claims. His advertising posters showed steamboats navigating the Amargosa River to Leadfield, ignoring the fact that the Amargosa River is dry much of the time and does not run within twenty miles of Leadfield.

The mining town sparked to life but briefly, like a flame from a damp match. Julian disappeared and the inhabitants soon became disillusioned and quickly drifted away.

The significance of the site lies in the fact it was an example of one of the get-rich-quick schemes of the wild 1920s. The dugout through the years came to be a typical structure that prospectors and others in Death Valley used for shelter and if restored, would be a useful interpretive exhibit on the Titus Canyon Trail.
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>36° 51' 00&quot;</td>
<td>117° 03' 44&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>36° 51' 06&quot;</td>
<td>117° 03' 30&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>36° 50' 40&quot;</td>
<td>117° 03' 12&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>36° 50' 33&quot;</td>
<td>117° 03' 24&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPRAOXMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 94

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>Inyo</td>
<td>027</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>CODE</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>CODE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: F. Ross Holland, Jr.

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Denver Service Center

STREET AND NUMBER: 7200 W. Alameda Blvd.

CITY OR TOWN: Denver

STATE CODE: Colorado 08

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation: 
☑ Yes
☐ No
☐ None

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is ☐ National ☐ State ☐ Local

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ None

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

DATE: 6/10/75

ATTEST:

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE: JUN 3, 1975
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME
COMMON: Leadfield
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER: Death Valley National Monument
CITY OR TOWN: Death Valley
STATE: California

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT: Death Valley NM
DATE OF PHOTO:
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Death Valley NM

4. IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

#2 Leadfield (neg. #2797)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER.
1. **NAME**
   - COMMON: Le-dfield
   - AND/OR HISTORIC:  

2. **LOCATION**
   - STREET AND NUMBER:  
   - CITY OR TOWN:  
   - STATE:  
   - CODE:  
   - COUNTY:  
   - CODE:  

3. **PHOTO REFERENCE**
   - PHOTO CREDIT:  
   - DATE OF PHOTO:  
   - NEGATIVE FILED AT:  

4. **IDENTIFICATION**
   - DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.:  

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**