

The Quartz Creek Miner

Printed to commemorate the Ymir's 101 Reunion

August 1, 1998



The Ymir General Hospital was built in 1909 on the north edge of town. Funding was provided by the provincial government and private subscriptions, including medical fees of \$1 per month deducted from the pay of mine employees. Charlotte Nicholson was the matron until the hospital burned down in 1929.

Courtesy of Salmo Museum

Judge McColl issues restraining order against locators

Nelson Miner, May 1, 1897

Upon the complaint of the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway company, Justice McColl of the Supreme Court has issued a restraining order against the three Rossland men who recently located the town of Quartz Creek enjoining them from proceeding with the survey of the land, pending the settlement of the dispute.

During the past week a prominent Nelson lawyer has visited Quartz Creek on behalf of the locators.

It is said that the case will shortly be heard before the Supreme Court, but no arrangements have yet been made as to when and where the hearing will take place.

There is reason to believe that the contest will be long and bitterly contested. The locators claim they have a perfect right to acquire the land under the method they have pursued as the railway company has not complied with the terms under which the land was granted by the government. In the meantime, the town of Quartz Creek continues to flourish and promises to become a center of considerable importance.

1860 first mention of Quartz Creek

The earliest mention of people in the Salmon River valley is found in the BC Directory during the 1860's, when placer miners were recorded on Quartz Creek. In 1885, the Hall brothers and their party prospected on Wild Horse Creek. The Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway company laid track through the Salmon River valley in 1893, linking the United States with the Kootenay goldfields. Outcroppings of what would become the Ymir Mine were staked in 1895 and by 1896 the Dundee, Tamarack, Porto Rico and many others had also been staked. Miners were pouring into the area as the news spread.

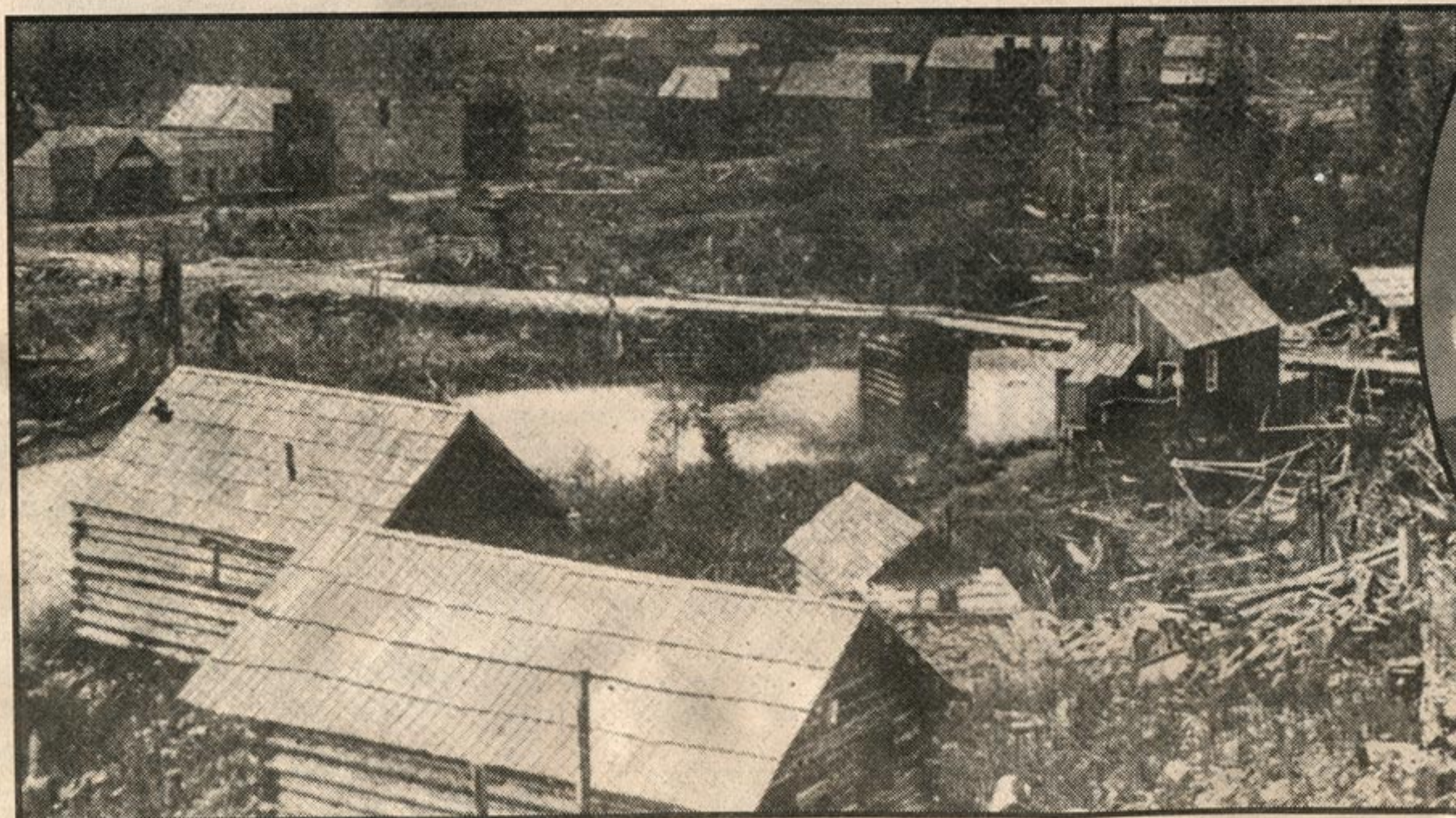
In 1897 three Rossland men, Powell, Blake and Parker, laid claim to 620 acres around the old settlement of Quartz Creek with an eye to cashing in on the mining boom. The Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway quickly responded by applying for a restraining order against the locators and building a station and train siding north of Quartz Creek. The company claimed all the land along the tracks as part of the government grant they had been given to build the railway in 1893. Within two weeks the land was surveyed and 150 lots were sold.

1001 BC Place Names, Akrigg

Ymir . . .

In 1897 when D.C. Corbin president of the Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway put a station here, he named it after the nearby Ymir Range.

The famous geologist G.M. Dawson had earlier named these mountains after Ymir, according to Norse legend the father of giants.



Looking north to Ymir in 1897 with the Salmon River in the foreground.

Provincial Archive Photo

Deposit at Quartz Creek

Nelson Miner, May 1, 1897

A mining man from Quartz Creek who arrived in the city last night stated that the Nelson and Fort Sheppard railway company will shortly commence the erection of suitable depot buildings and the construction of a side track at Quartz Creek. President D.C. Corbin was there last Tuesday and decided that the station will be built as near the center of town as possible.



Mr. and Mrs. E.P. Anderson
First Arrived in 1897
photo courtesy of P. Anderson