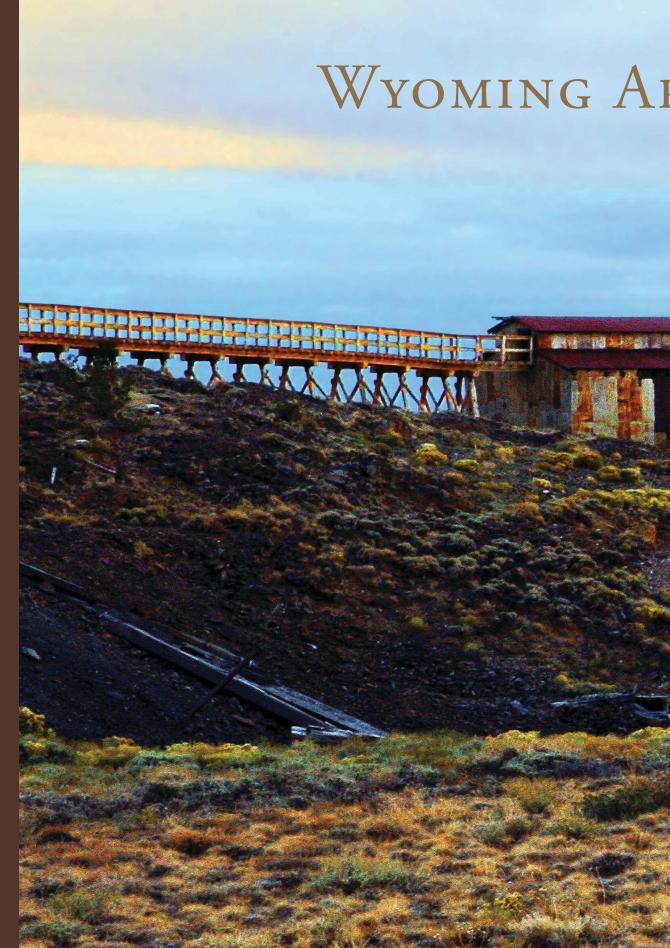
## Sweetwater Gold Mining District

The discovery of the Carissa Lode in 1867 launched the South Pass gold rush, the largest of Wyoming's 19th century gold mining booms. Prospectors and miners swarmed gulches and hilltops in hopes of locating a new El Dorado. As the boom gained steam, the Carissa sat at the center of mining development, serving as the primary economic force for the region.

Ghost towns and deserted mines now echo the triumphs and failures of the masses of prospectors that populated the area throughout the gold rush years.

Sponsors: Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office; U.S. Bureau of Land Management; Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist; Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites, and Trails; Wyoming Army National Guard; U.S. Forest Service; National Park Service; Western Area Power Administration; U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Wyoming Department of Transportation; High Plains Macrobotanical Services; SWCA Environmental Consultants; Western Archaeological Services; ASM Affiliates; Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.; TRC Environmental Corporation; Cardno ENTRIX; HDR Environmental, Operations and Construction, Inc.; Kyak Marook Heritage Research; USU Archeological Services, Inc.; University of Wyoming Department of Anthropology; Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists; Wyoming Archaeological Society.

> Photo by Richard Collier, Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources Graphic design by Mariko Design LLC/Elizabeth Ono Rahel



## Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month 🛠 September 2014