

After the Lead is Out



From smelting to shipping. Learn what happens to lead ore after it is taken out of the mine.

Use the consonants below to complete the words.

_ a _ e _ a, the lead ore mined in the southwestern corner of Wisconsin, is a mixture of _ ea _ and _ u _ _ u _ . Once the ore was out of the ground, the next step, was to wash it to separate the ore from rock and dirt. At the _ _ e _ _ e _ or _ u _ _ a _ e, the ore along with _ _ oo _ and _ _ oa _ _ were piled on the hearth of the furnace, and the fire lit. The furnaces were often built along

_ _ _ ea _ _ or _ i _ e _ _ . The bellows blew air on the fire which made the fire burn hotter. The high _ e _ _ e _ a _ u _ e melted the lead and burned the sulfur off. The _ o _ _ e _ lead ran into a pot where workers ladled it into _ o _ _ _ . Once cooled, these molded chunks of lead were called _ i _ _ and weighed about 70 pounds.

The lead was taken by wagons to Galena, I _ _ i _ oi _ . Lead is very heavy and eight or more o _ e _ were needed to pull one wagon. The roads were just plain _ i _ _ ; deep mud in the spring thaws and clouds of dust in the dry summer weather. From Galena the lead was shipped by _ _ ea _ _ oa _ _ and _ _ _ _ oa _ _ on the _ i _ _ i _ _ i _ _ i _ e _ to Saint Louis and New Orleans and then to cities on the East Coast. After a few years, some the of the lead was carried to _ i _ _ au _ ee by ox wagons and then shipped on the _ _ ea _ _ a _ e _ .

The lead mined here was very important to the rest of the country. For many years almost half of the lead used in the U _ l _ e _ _ _ a _ e _ came from this area.

List of Consonants

ld	grt	whl	mlwk	chrcl	tmprtr
wd	lks	frnc	rvrs	smltr	mssssp
xn	ntd	llns	slfr	strms	
drt	pgs	mlds	stts	fltbts	
gln	rvr	mltn	bllws	stmbts	