

Early references to Johnny Harris in the Slocan

Bronson Little in *News from the Silvery Slocan* (unpublished) says the Loudoun claim was filed by Harris on 16 May 1892. This is correct, but I can't find any notices in the newspaper.

The Miner (Nelson), 21 May 1892:
SLOCAN TO THE FRONT ... The Belle Isle, by Chas. J. Sinclair, Evan Jones, and J.M. Harris

Spokane Review, 30 Jul 1892: [T]he mine recently purchased by Wharton Bros of Spokane, Ned [sic] Harris of the Coeur d'Alenes, and a Mr. Kelly, which they claim can not be beaten by anything in camp, as it shows five feet of solid high grade galena.

Spokane Review, 31 Jul 1892 (H.W.C. Jackson): Reco, Slocan, B.C., July 23 – The townsite of Reco, an embryo Slocan mining city, is situated at the junction of Sandon creek with the main artery of this district, Carpenter creek. At present it boasts only the cabins of a dozen or so prospectors, but numerous predictions of its future greatness are heard ... By noon I had reached the hospitable camp of Messrs. Wharton, Harris, and Kelly, in whose cabin I am for the present quartered. Mr. S.N. Wharton is from Spokane and is pretty well known there

among pioneer men. His partner, Mr. John W. [sic] Harris, is from the Coeur d'Alenes and Mr. Fred T. Kelly is from Tacoma, but now claims his residence in Spokane. Since this trio came in this spring they have been rustling hard, and have now got hold of what are reported to be amongst the best claims in the camp. Their most recent purchase is the Rico ..."

Spokane Review, 11 Aug 1892 (H.W.C. Jackson): The Wonderful, which is located on the ridge between Tributary and Miller creeks on the south bank of Carpenter creek, about half a mile below the upper forks, or Reco, as it is called, is one of the best prospects I have seen in the camp ... The camp is full of rumors of a marvelously rich discovery made by a prospector named Ruecan, near the head of Carpenter creek, in the granite belt which cuts across it.

Spokane Review, 4 Sept 1892, quoting Jack Clunan: "The Reco mine, which is owned by Harris, Kelly, and Warton, is yielding large quantities of ore that assay over 200 oz. of silver to the ton. They are working in a clean vein six feet wide."

The Miner, 24 Sept 1892: Messrs. Harris and Kelly are at work on the Reco.

The Miner, 26 Nov 1892: J.M. Harris about seven months ago left Wallace, Idaho for the Slocan district. By diligent prospecting he found several most promising properties. He bonded another

interest and a portion of a group of these claims he has bonded Coeur d'Alene mining men ... The property bonded is known as the Ruecau group or rather, five claims were bonded of the seven which compose the group. Harris and Kelly, owners of two-thirds this week bonded their interests for \$25,000 each, \$2,000 each being paid down.

The Miner, 10 Dec 1892: J.E. Boss, Jim Wardner, G.A. Keefer, J.C. Rykert, J.M. Harris, Hugh Mann, H.W. Bucke, and Harry Kruse were some of the celebrities who visited us during the past week.

The Tribune, 2 Feb 1893: The Climax and Lancaster have been bonded by J.M. Harris to T.E. Jefferson, C.S. Penfred and A.W. Siegel for \$15,000, \$1,500 in cash. This is an advance of \$5,000 on the bond Harris took of the same property from G. Bowerman.

Slocan Times, 6 Oct 1894:
The Times representative was not a day too soon in paying a visit to the Ruecau mine, which is located at the highest altitude of any mining property in the country ... The galena is 8 feet 8 inches wide, and for that distance is solid and clean. The letters J.M.H. are picked out in large letters across the vein, and stand for the initials of J.M. Harris ... Archie Goodenough of Kaslo, Jack Thompson, Charles Kent and the owners of the Ruecau are all interested in this new find.

Slocan Prospector, 19 Jan 1895:

J.M. Harris and Frank Provost came down from the Reco Thursday. They rode their shovels (?) from the mine to Cody creek, making the three miles in about 10 minutes.

Slocan Prospector, 26 Jan 1895:

"Johnny" Harris, manager, started from grass roots on the Reco-Goodenough and has extracted 25,000 oz. of silver at an expense of \$500 or two cents per oz. This will no doubt be kept up for a long time to come as he has 4,000 ft. in length and several hundred feet in depth of such ground.

Slocan Prospector, 9 Feb 1895:

Sandon

Johnnie Harris is doing the assessment work on the claim on which the town is built. It is hoped that he will be able to secure surface rights and sell lots soon.

The Tribune, 30 Mar 1895:

John M. Harris, one of the three owners of the Reco mine in Slocan district, was in Nelson on Wednesday ...

Slocan Prospector, 25 Apr 1895:

J.M. Harris, manager and part owner of the Reco mine, and of the Sandon townsite, is on a visit to his relatives in the east, after being away from home for ten years.

Slocan Prospector, 23 May 1895:

As the two railways point directly to Sandon, that place begins to grow and people wish it were platted and on the

market. The title to the ground will be acquired by Johnny Harris and Judge Sproat who owns the mineral claim Loudoun on which the town is built. Their location was made in '92. The entry carries with it the surface right and apparently all they have to do to obtain fee simple is to apply for a crown grant.

The Miner, 17 Aug 1895:

Mentions J.M. Harris of the Ruecau

The Miner, 12 Oct 1895:

Harris and Kelly of the Rueccau are applying for a water right, the water to be taken from above Cody Creek. This looks as if they contemplated building a concentrator to treat their ores.