

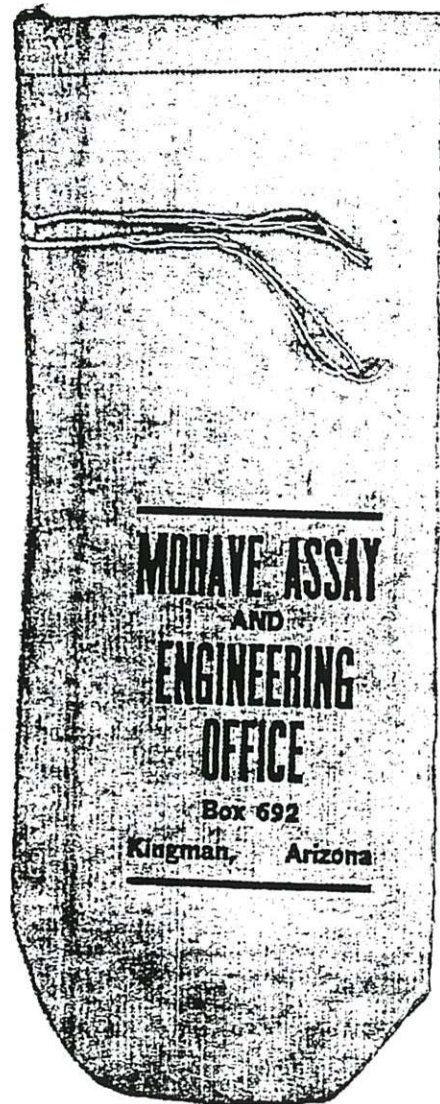
Assayer's Sample Bags

by Ted Bobrink

Assayer's bags were sold or given away by local assaying companies to the mines or miners they did assaying for. A prospector locating a new claim or a mining company opening up a new ore body had to take samples of their ore and have it assayed. These samples were put into small cloth bags about 14" long and 6" wide. Two sample bags are illustrated below. Most of the assayer's bags were unmarked, and the ones that were stamped with the assay company are rare and sought after by mining collectors.



Jim Steinberg Collection



Ted Bobrink Collection