

## AMENDMENTS

1925—Act Mar. 3, 1925, affected words in first sentence of text, now reading “before the register of the land office.” Such words formerly read “before the register and receiver of the land-office.” Such act is treated more fully in note under section 29 of this title.

**Executive Documents**

## TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Office of register of district land office abolished and all functions of register transferred to Secretary of the Interior, or to officers and agencies of Department of the Interior as Secretary may designate, by Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1946, § 403, eff. July 16, 1946, 11 F.R. 7876, 60 Stat. 1100, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

See also note set out under section 1 of this title.

**§ 41. Intersecting or crossing veins**

Where two or more veins intersect or cross each other, priority of title shall govern, and such prior location shall be entitled to all ore or mineral contained within the space of intersection; but the subsequent location shall have the right-of-way through the space of intersection for the purposes of the convenient working of the mine. And where two or more veins unite, the oldest or prior location shall take the vein below the point of union, including all the space of intersection.

(R.S. § 2336.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2336 derived from act May 10, 1872, ch. 152, § 14, 17 Stat. 96.

**§ 42. Patents for nonmineral lands: application, survey, notice, acreage limitation, payment****(a) Vein or lode and mill site owners eligible**

Where nonmineral land not contiguous to the vein or lode is used or occupied by the proprietor of such vein or lode for mining or milling purposes, such nonadjacent surface ground may be embraced and included in an application for a patent for such vein or lode, and the same may be patented therewith, subject to the same preliminary requirements as to survey and notice as are applicable to veins or lodes; but no location made on and after May 10, 1872, of such nonadjacent land shall exceed five acres, and payment for the same must be made at the same rate as fixed by sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43 for the superficies of the lode. The owner of a quartz mill or reduction works, not owning a mine in connection therewith, may also receive a patent for his mill site, as provided in this section.

**(b) Placer claim owners eligible**

Where nonmineral land is needed by the proprietor of a placer claim for mining, milling, processing, beneficiation, or other operations in connection with such claim, and is used or occupied by the proprietor for such purposes, such land may be included in an application for a patent for such claim, and may be patented therewith subject to the same requirements as to sur-

vey and notice as are applicable to placers. No location made of such nonmineral land shall exceed five acres and payment for the same shall be made at the rate applicable to placer claims which do not include a vein or lode.

(R.S. § 2337; Pub. L. 86-390, Mar. 18, 1960, 74 Stat. 7.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43, referred to in subsec. (a), were in the original “this chapter”, meaning chapter 6 of title 32 of the Revised Statutes, consisting of R.S. §§ 2318 to 2352.

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2337 derived from act May 10, 1872, ch. 152, § 15, 17 Stat. 96.

## AMENDMENTS

1960—Pub. L. 86-390 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

**§ 43. Conditions of sale by local legislature**

As a condition of sale, in the absence of necessary legislation by Congress, the local legislature of any State or Territory may provide rules for working mines, involving easements, drainage, and other necessary means to their complete development; and those conditions shall be fully expressed in the patent.

(R.S. § 2338.)

**Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2338 derived from act July 26, 1866, ch. 262, § 5, 14 Stat. 252.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## SUBMERGED LANDS ACT

Provisions of this section as not amended, modified or repealed by the Submerged Lands Act, see section 1303 of Title 43, Public Lands.

**§§ 44, 45. Omitted****Editorial Notes**

## CODIFICATION

Section 44, R.S. § 2341; act Mar. 3, 1891, ch. 561, § 4, 26 Stat. 1097, provided for extension of provisions of Homestead laws to citizens of United States who had prior to 1874 located on lands designated prior to 1866 as mineral lands, and improved them for agricultural purposes, provided no valuable mineral deposits had been discovered thereon.

Section 45, R.S. § 2342; act Mar. 3, 1891, ch. 561, § 4, 26 Stat. 1097, provided for setting apart the lands as agricultural.

**§ 46. Additional land districts and officers**

The President is authorized to establish additional land districts, and to appoint the necessary officers under existing laws, wherever he may deem the same necessary for the public convenience in executing the provisions of sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43.

(R.S. § 2343.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43, referred to in text, were in the original “this chapter”, meaning chapter 6 of title 32 of the Revised Statutes, consisting of R.S. §§ 2318 to 2352.

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2343 derived from act July 26, 1866, ch. 262, § 7, 14 Stat. 252.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## SUBMERGED LANDS ACT

Provisions of this section as not amended, modified or repealed by the Submerged Lands Act, see section 1303 of Title 43, Public Lands.

**Executive Documents**

## DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS

For delegation to the Secretary of the Interior of authority vested in the President by this section, see Ex. Ord. No. 10250, June 5, 1951, 16 F.R. 5385, set out as a note under section 301 of Title 3, The President.

**§ 47. Impairment of rights or interests in certain mining property**

Nothing contained in sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43 shall be construed to impair in any way, rights or interests in mining property acquired under laws in force prior to July 9, 1870; nor to affect the provisions of the act entitled “An act granting to A. Sutro the right-of-way and other privileges to aid in the construction of a draining and exploring tunnel to the Comstock lode, in the State of Nevada”, approved July 25, 1866.

(R.S. § 2344.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 48, 50 to 52, 71 to 76 of this title and section 661 of title 43, referred to in text, were in the original “this chapter”, meaning chapter 6 of title 32 of the Revised Statutes, consisting of R.S. §§ 2318 to 2352.

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2344 derived from acts July 9, 1870, ch. 235, § 17, 16 Stat. 218; May 10, 1872, ch. 152, § 16, 17 Stat. 96.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## SUBMERGED LANDS ACT

Provisions of this section as not amended, modified or repealed by the Submerged Lands Act, see section 1303 of Title 43, Public Lands.

**§ 48. Lands in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota; sale and disposal as public lands**

Except as otherwise provided in chapter 3A of this title, the provisions of sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 47, 51, and 52 of this title and section 661 of title 43 shall not apply to the mineral lands situated in the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, which are declared

free and open to exploration and purchase, according to legal subdivisions, in like manner as before the 10th day of May 1872. And any bona fide entries of such lands within the States named since the 10th day of May 1872 may be patented without reference to such sections of this title. Such lands shall be offered for public sale in the same manner, and at the same minimum price, as other public lands.

(R.S. § 2345; Mar. 3, 1891, ch. 561, § 4, 26 Stat. 1097; Feb. 25, 1920, ch. 85, § 1, 41 Stat. 437.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 21, 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 47, 51 and 52 of this title and section 661 of title 43, referred to in text, were in the original “the preceding provisions of this chapter”, meaning chapter 6 of title 32 of the Revised Statutes, consisting of R.S. §§ 2318 to 2344.

## CODIFICATION

R.S. § 2345 derived from act Feb. 18, 1873, ch. 159, 17 Stat. 465.

## AMENDMENTS

1920—The exception clause has been inserted at beginning of this section because of act Feb. 25, 1920, which provided that deposits of coal, phosphate, sodium, oil, oil shale, or gas, and lands containing such deposits owned by the United States, shall be subject to disposition in the form and manner provided by this act.

**§ 49. Lands in Missouri and Kansas; disposal as agricultural lands**

Except as otherwise provided in chapter 3A of this title, within the States of Missouri and Kansas deposits of coal, iron, lead, or other mineral are excluded from the operation of sections 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 35, 37, 39 to 42, and 47 of this title, and all lands in said States shall be subject to disposal as agricultural lands.

(May 5, 1876, ch. 91, 19 Stat. 52; Feb. 25, 1920, ch. 85, § 1, 41 Stat. 437.)

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 35, 37, 39 to 42, and 47 of this title, referred to in text, were in the original “the act entitled ‘An act to promote the development of mining resources of the United States’ approved May tenth, eighteen hundred and seventy-two”, meaning act May 10, 1872, ch. 152, 17 Stat. 91, popularly known as the Mining Act of 1872. That act was incorporated into the Revised Statutes as R.S. §§ 2319 to 2328, 2331, 2333 to 2337, and 2344, which are classified to sections 22 to 24, 26 to 28, 29, 30, 33 to 35, 37, 39 to 42, and 47 of this title. For complete classification of R.S. §§ 2319 to 2328, 2331, 2333 to 2337, and 2344 to the Code, see Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

1920—The exception clause has been inserted at beginning of this section because of act Feb. 25, 1920, which provided that deposits of coal, phosphate, sodium, oil, oil shale, or gas, and lands containing such deposits owned by the United States, shall be subject to disposition in the form and manner provided by such act.