

- **Colfax and Dawson, Ghost Towns in New Mexico**

Colfax is now a ghost town located west of the Vermejo River in rich farming country in Colfax County. In 1908, the New Mexico Sales Company advertised *Colfax City* as "on two railroads, near mountains, rich with game, and close to other towns". Over the next 25 years, some plots of land were sold and a few homes, farms, a school, and a hotel were started, but Colfax just faded and now (2002) only ruins remain.

Dawson, also in Colfax County, had rich coal deposits discovered in 1899. Phelps Dodge Corporation purchased the property in 1906 and Dawson ultimately grew to 9,000 residents. Two coal mining disasters happened here, one in 1913 and another in 1923. In the 1950's, the town was razed. Dawson Cemetery, on the National Register of Historic places, remains.

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**Next**

