The Old Reliable Mine has been a reliable source of beautiful specimens of libethenite for micromineral enthusiasts for many years. Additional minerals that can also be collected include psuedomalachite, chalcosiderite, torbernite, apatite, malachite, and several others.

The Old Reliable Mine had been mined sporadically by underground methods since 1890. A mineralized breccia pipe outcropping at the surface led to the discovery of the ore body. The old Reliable Mine breccia pipe is one of the many in the district but only a few have been mineralized enough to mine.

In 1974, Ranchers Exploration drove additional tunnels, packed the workings with 4 million pounds of ANFO explosives and blew the side of the hill up. The rubble was terraced and irrigated with acidic solutions to recover the oxide copper by precipitation until 1981. Collectors have been finding specimens in the unleached rubble for years. The claims are currently under the control of Redhawk Resources who hope to resume copper mining in the district.