

0100 0007

Lander County
Item 10

TURQUOISE IN NEVADA

Turquoise has been discovered recently in Lincoln County in southeastern Nevada at the foot of Sugar Loaf Peak. The country rock is mica schist. The zone in which the turquoise is found is about 1/2 mile wide and a little more than a mile long. In this zone there has apparently been no fissuring with the exception of the intrusion of one large dyke which is about 250 ft. wide and shows clearly for 4500 ft. in length. The largest and purest specimens of turquoise are found in this dyke, sometimes showing on the surface. Nodules which vary from the size of a pin head to an average walnut. Mr. Geo. Simmons of Vanderbilt, California, from whom we have received this information, reports that he has found several prehistoric workings and numerous stone implements. All these workings have been filled in and the only way to detect them was by the shrinkage of the loose earth and the numerous tiny particles of turquoise which it contained.

Two crosscuts have been driven to open the turquoise-bearing rock, one at a depth of 35 feet and the other at about 20 feet. A shaft 25 ft. deep has also been sunk, besides several 10-ft. holes. The turquoise from this place has been marketed at Denver, New York and Los Angeles.

The largest of the stones sold up to date weighed 64 carats, ^{with} ~~six~~ others ranging from 10 to 22 carats.

Specimens of the stone which we have seen are of a rather light blue color.

Development work is at present being carried on at the property by 4 men, but it is expected to increase the force before winter.