

(Mineral Co.)
S8,6N,35E

Silver Dyke

W. of 205
Item 9

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The Silver Dyke tungsten consisting of 8 lode claims is on the east flank of the Excelsior Mountains 12 miles southwest of Mina.

The property was located for gold and silver in 1915. Shortly thereafter it became a tungsten producer under the title Silver Dyke Tungsten Mine and continued to produce ore under different operators up to 1956.

The core of the Excelsior Range in the vicinity of the Silver Dyke is intrusive diorite. A great thickness of old volcanics with some intercalated sediments have been invaded by the diorite in the vicinity of the tungsten-bearing veins. The vein system truncates the diorite.

The Silver Dyke vein system ranges from 30 to 140 feet in width and can be traced on the surface for about 4 miles. Within the vein, the scheelite occurs in irregular lenses associated with quartz. The ore varies from 3 feet to 15 feet in width. During the recent operation of the mine, a stoping width of 6 feet was maintained. Since shrinkage stoping was advantageously used the rock stands well and only an occasional stull was required for support.

Development openings consist of a crosscut adit 871 feet long, and a 200 foot winze. The 400-and 500-foot levels were extended from the winze. Drifts were driven 5 by 7 feet in section and usually were un-

timbered. Production was at the rate of 30 tons per day with an average

grade of about 0.83 percent WO_3 . The ore possibilities have not been exhausted, and with additional development the property should be a steady producer for an extended time.

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The Defender tungsten mine in the district, produced a minor amount of tungsten. The Gidis and Wassuck tungsten property (Lucky Four) included in the district had a small production.

USBM Unpubl. data, 1963