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Item # 14

- a. Aurora (Esmeralda) district, Mineral County, Nevada.
- b. Geographic coordinates: 38°17' N., 118°52' W.
- c. Status of exploitation: Discovered in 1860, boomed by 1864 and declined by 1869, but remained productive to 1882. Operated from 1914 to 1918 then shut down. \$27,000,000 to \$30,000,000 bullion was shipped from 1861 to 1869. From 1910 to 1920 the district produced \$1,882,861 in gold and 128,808 oz. silver. 1861-1869: \$30,000,000; 1910-1920: 128,808 oz. Ag; 1915-1917: 490,000 tons valued at \$1,435,415.
- d. References: Lincoln, F. C., 1923, Mining districts and mineral resources of Nevada: Nev. Newsletter Pub. Co., Reno. p. 137-138. Vanderburg, W. O., 1937, ____: U. S. Bur. Mines Inf. Circ. 6941.
- e. Adequacy of our present knowledge:
- f. Topographic coverage: Adequate; Aurora 1956, 15-minute quad. 1:62,500, Hawthorne 1909, one degree map, 1:250,000.
- g. Major mineralogic and geologic features: Tertiary(?) volcanic rocks on basement of porphyritic granite. Biotite-quartz-latite, andesite, and rhyolite flows. Basalt flows on top up to 600 ft. thick. Ore deposits are quartz veins filling fissures in the latite and andesites. The veins have interlacing branches and the country rock is altered. Quartz, adularia, argentiferous tetrahedrite, pyrite, chalcopryite, and a bluish gray mineral that may be a gold-silver-selenium mineral. Free gold occurs in rich ore.

Cu-0
Pt-0
Zn-0
Ag-1
Au-3

Silver in the United States

(Data sheets for individual mining districts, prepared in conjunction with metallogenic map for 1960 International Geological Congress.)

Authorship:

E. T. McKnight - All districts west of the Mississippi River, except most of those silver-producing districts containing less than 1,000 tons of lead or zinc in the following states: Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. Also the following silver districts in 4 of the states mentioned: Vulture, and Helvetia, Ariz.; *Ash Peak, Miami, Globe,* Apache, Black Range, Chloride Flat, Georgetown and Lake Valley, New Mexico: Ashwood and Granite, Oregon; Deertrail, Nesselam and Ruby-Conconully, Washington. *White Pine district, Michigan.*

A. V. Heyl, Jr. - All districts east of the Mississippi River (except *White Pine, Mich.*)

Harry Klemic and W. L. Newman - Silver districts not associated with lead or zinc, in Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington (except as listed above).

Size categories of deposits (as penciled in left margins)

	0	1	2	3
Cu	Less than 1,000 tons	1,000 to 50,000 tons	50,000 to 1,000,000 tons	More than 1,000,000 tons
Pb	"	"	"	"
Zn	"	"	"	"
Ag	Less than 100,000 oz.	100,000 to 5,000,000 oz.	5,000,000 to 50,000,000 oz.	More than 50,000,000 oz.
Au	Less than 10,000 oz.	10,000 to 100,000 oz.	100,000 to 1,000,000 oz.	More than 1,000,000 oz.

(NOTE: Categories for Au are less certain than for others.)

District No. on metallogenic map penciled at lower right.