Carpenter

(147)
La-5
Item 65

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RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORPORATION
MINING SECTION
REPORT OF EXAMINING ENGINEER

Docket No. ND-8095
Date Authorization for Exam. Rec'd — February 16, 1943
Date of Examination — February 21, 1943
Date of Report — March 6, 1943

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT

E. S. Mendive
P. O. Box K
Battle Mountain, Nevada

CHARACTER OF PROJECT

The project is concerned with the rehabilitation of an 80 ft. vertical shaft, and the cleaning out of a caved 40 foot drift driven southwest from the bottom. This drift is the only work done in the shaft, and it is supposed to have followed a vein of commercial copper ore.

The property has produced in the past a number of shipments of gold and copper ore but these shipments have all come from other shafts and tunnels which lie some 75 to 100 feet to the southeast of the 80 foot shaft, and not connected with it.

The applicant has no desire to mine or develop the extensive old workings where former shipments were extracted, but only wants to open up the isolated shaft and 40 foot caved drift.

LOCATION OF MINE

The property, consisting of six contiguous unpatented lode claims, is located in Battle Mountain Mining District, Lander County, Nevada. It lies on the northeast foothills of Battle Mountain Range, at an elevation of about 5200 feet. The property is reached by driving west from Battle Mountain, Nevada, over a flat valley floor a distance of 5 miles, and an additional 1½ miles up the slope of the mountain. The property is quite accessible excepting in extreme wet weather when the silty valley floor is muddy and filled with broad shallow puddles. All year operations are possible, as excessive snow does not generally prevail at elevation under 5500 feet. The claims as listed below are all situated in T. 23 N., Range 44 E., M.D.M.&B.

Mining Claims

Angela
Angela No. 1
Angela No. 2
Billy Day
Billy Day No. 1
Billy Day No. 2

APPLICANT

The applicant is a business man of Battle Mountain, Nevada, having operated a grocery store there for a number of years. (His two grown sons now operate it). He is not in the best of health and hardly able to take a very active part in carrying on the project. His sons are busy at the store, and seem little interested in their father's mine. He would likely call on mining partners of some sort to actively do the work. He is a Spanish-American, earnest and straightforward, and typical of the small town store-keeper who has taken a gamble or two in neighboring mining prospects.

LOAN REQUESTED

The loan requested is $5,000.00.

GENERAL FEATURES

A small center of copper mining activity, the Copper Basin Mines, lie 2½ miles to the south of the Mendive claims. Shipments have been made from this District for a number of years. It has been developed by a number of shafts. Lessees in particular have produced from the District. By selective mining they have made profitable shipments of secondary copper ores close to the surface from scatter veins and pockets. The primary ores generally are too low-grade, but in the midst of the large area of low grade primary ores, lessees from time to time uncover enriched secondary ores.

The Mendive property is situated on the extreme northern end of the same general geological formation as the Copper Basin Mines. It is a broad belt of quartzite with intercalated narrow bands of argillaceous sandstones, shale and limey shale. The quartzite and intercalated beds have a general dip of 15° to 40° to the northeast. On the Mendive claims hard fine-grained quartzite predominates. One of the characteristic features is the occasional layers of argillaceous, or limey shale - fine-grained and compact, but softer than the adjacent quartzite. The entire zone has had numerous fault movements, many of which follow the softer shale bands, and into these fault fractures, narrow quartz veins and some copper ore minerals have been introduced. In almost every case on the Mendive Group of Claims, the quartz veins, ranging in size from a few inches to 2 or 3 feet, showed a narrow band of shale on one or both sides of the quartz veins. The quartz veins generally all carry some copper values, and by hand picking of the best pieces, assays of 10% to 15% copper ore may be obtained. However, of the numerous quartz seams over a wide area, few are large enough, or enriched enough, to be profitably mined.

Copper Vein

One of the best, a 2 foot quartz vein, situated on the Bailey Day claim, has been intermittently mined during the past 10 or 15 years. It is known as the "Copper Vein", and most of the shipments of copper ore from the Mendive property have been mined from this vein. (See sketch attached).

Gold Vein

Another vein just a few yards northeast of the "Copper Vein" is a flat dipping quartz vein from which a number of car loads of good gold ore were shipped. The high value of the gold ore shows in the settlement sheets attached to application, and these gold shipments came from this vein. This gold enrichment occurred in the limonite oxidized upper portion of the vein, and is entirely worked out. The gold vein is an isolated case on the Bailey Claim, as most of the vein exposures are of the type of the Copper Vein.

APPLICANT'S PROJECT - The 80 foot Shaft

The preceding general description of the ore occurrence is submitted simply to show the general character of ore in the District, and for whatever bearing it may have in leading to a proper decision, as to the worthiness of the applicant's proposed project - the cleaning out of 40 foot drift, and resumption of mining from the 80 foot shaft.

The applicant has no assays of the ore said to be in the caved 40 foot drift, nor does he have any smelter settlement sheets of any ore mined from it. He states that he thinks it will go about 4% to 5% copper, $2.80 in gold, and about 2 ozs. of silver. I asked him why he did not concentrate his efforts on mining at some of

the better spots in the accessible Copper Vein workings, but he replied that the rock was too hard in the Copper Vein, but that in the 40 foot drift of the 80 foot shaft, the ore was soft and easy to mine. In reality, there is not much basis to guide one in reaching a decision as to whether the shaft and drift should be reopened or not, and the applicant has little to substantiate his claims as to grade of ore to be found after drift is opened up. His knowledge of the vein in the drift is very vague. However, to partially check on it, the writer took a few samples of the dump, which are listed and described under the following subheading of Sampling.

SAMPLING

Six samples were taken to obtain a general idea of the value of some of the copper showings, three of which were taken from the dump of the 80 foot shaft.

No. 1. A sample of a portion of the 80 foot shaft dump which the applicant thought had come from the 40 foot drift. This assayed 1.98 copper, 3.6 ozs. silver.

No. 2. A large general sample of same dump assayed 1.27 copper and 2.0 ozs. silver.

No. 3. A select sample from dump - this a sample selected by the applicant of numerous pieces of ore on the dump. He selected only what he thought were good ore pieces, and I might add he was quite expert at picking out the best. This sample assayed 12.21 copper 6.0 ozs. silver and .10 ozs. gold.

No. 4. Sample of an 18 foot deep open-cut, which was supposed to have some good gold ore, assayed .03 gold, no silver and .40% copper.

No. 5. Sample across 3 foot quartz vein north edge of stope on "Copper Vein", assayed .02 ozs. gold, 1.6 ozs. silver, 1.63 copper.

No. 6. Sample across 2 foot quartz (same vein as No. 5) at south edge of stope on "Copper Vein", assayed .03 ozs. gold, no silver and 2.13% copper.

(A rough sketch is attached to indicate where each of above samples were taken)

COMMENTS

This application comes under the Preliminary Development loans, as the applicant wishes to apply it to reconditioning of a shaft, and to the cleaning out of a caved drift. There are several now accessible workings, such as at the "Copper Vein", which probably offer as good opportunities for finding commercial ore as at the present inaccessible 80 foot shaft, and the writer can see no reason why the expense of rehabilitating this shaft should be undertaken, particularly with the vague information regarding it at hand. The test assays from the dump at this shaft, although not very dependable, were not especially encouraging.

The shaft is in fairly good condition, excepting the collar set which is partly rotted, and there is some loose broken lagging at the collar and in several places down the shaft. The ladderways need a few landing plats.

The shaft repair and cleaning out of drift, could be done for a few hundred dollars if hoist equipment were on the ground. The mine has been stripped of all machinery and equipment, and to go to the expense of re-equipping the mine for this project hardly seems justified.

RECOMMENDATION

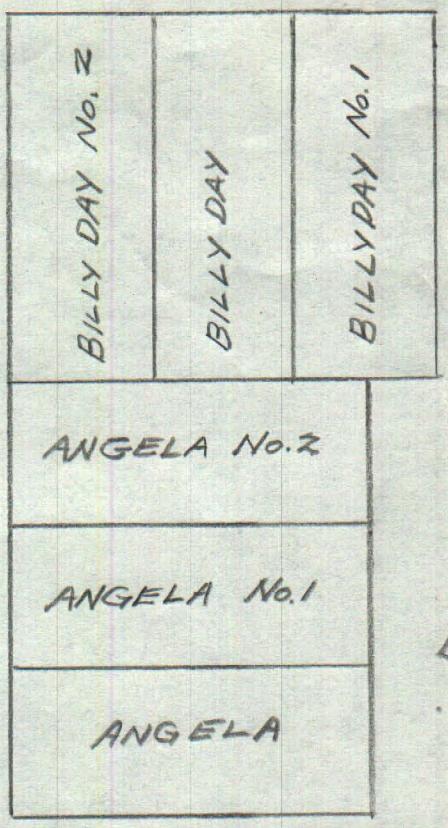
Considering the general character of the copper veins in the District, the lack of any mine equipment on the ground, and the vague information as to the nature and grade of ore in the caved drift, the writer is of the opinion that this loan application should be declined.

Respectfully submitted,

Jasper T. Robertson

JASPER T. ROBERTSON
Engineer

Docket No. ND8095



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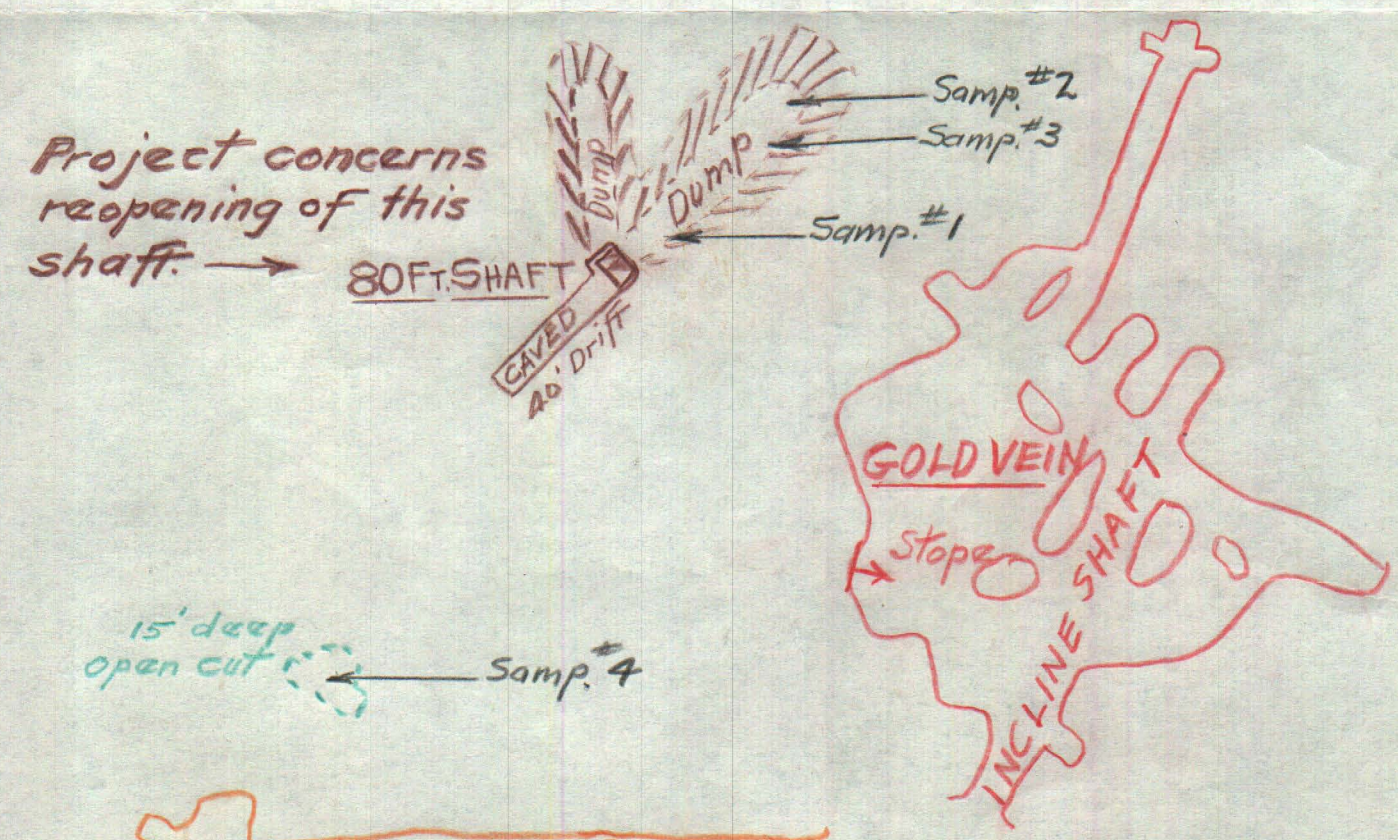
MENDIVE GROUP
BATTLE MOUNTAIN DIST.,
.6 mi. SW. of Battle Mountain.
Lander County, Nev.
1" = 800'

SKETCH Scale 1" = 40 ft.
WORKINGS ON BILLY DAY CLAIM.



ASSAYS	AU. oz.	AG. oz	CU. %
#1 GRAB Dump	Trace	3.6	1.98
#2 " "	.01	2.0	1.27
#3 Select "	.10	6.0	12.21
#4 open cut	.03	No	0.40
#5 3' Qtz. Copper Vein	.02	1.6	1.63
#6 2' Qtz Copper Vein	.03	No	2.13

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