0540 0001

(179)
Item 1

BENWAY MINING DISTRICT

Location. The Benway mining district is in Sec. 12, T. 14 N., R. 28 E., at the south end of a ridge extending southwest from the Desert Mountains (see Army Map Service, Reno topographic quadrangle map), 10 miles north of Shurz and 1 mile west of U. S. Highway 95, in Lyon County.

History and Production. Little is known of the history; production, if any, was small. The values are in copper, silver, and gold.

Developments. The workings are very limited in extent.

Previous Work. Schrader (____), briefly described the geology of the district.

The Rocks. Jurassic-Triassic limestone, shale, and sandstone have been intruded by Mesozoic (?) quartz monzonite having granodiorite and diorite phases. Aplite dikes cut the intrusive and sedimentary rocks, and apparently are a late phase differentiate of the quartz monzonite. All the older rocks are cut by Tertiary dikes and partially covered by Tertiary volcanic rocks.

Veins. Ten or more veins, striking N. 75° E. and dipping steeply south, are mostly in the quartz monzonite and limestone, and are associated with the limestone-quartz monzonite contact. The veins are up to 20 feet wide and up to a mile long. They consist mostly of crushed and altered rock, quartz, and gouge, with argentite, chalcopyrite, and pyrite. Cerargyrite, malachite, hematite, "limonite", and manganese oxides are present in the oxidized portions of the vein.

Molybdenite Minerals. Molybdenite reportedly (Schrader, ____) occurs in the veins.

(1968)
from John Schilling's Notes