PROPERTY NAME: Great Western Claims
OTHER NAMES: Cave Valley Workings
MINERAL COMMODITY(IES): Pb, Cu
TYPE OF DEPOSIT: Quartz veins & replacement (along shear)
ACCESSIBILITY: 

OWNER(SHIP: Location monument in southern part of workings reads - Great Western claims, located by Will & Eva Hendrix on Sept. 26, 1969.

HISTORY: 

DEVELOPMENT: Several shallow prospect pits & shafts (less than 20' deep) in SE part of small hill. 2 NW striking adits also. Many more workings than shown on map. 1 deep shaft & small prospect NW of main workings (Sample location 818)
ACTIVITY AT TIME OF EXAMINATION: None - but old assessment trenches in alluvium near location monument

GEOLOGY: Prospects & shafts are located on southern part of low hill just west of the south Schell Creek Range in Cave Valley. The host rock is the Pioche Shale which is mainly composed of red siltstone within area of prospects. The mineralized rocks are silicified & replaced limestone which outcrop in thin beds at prospects. These beds occur in the basal portion of the Pioche Fm above a basal quartzite unit.
Shale fragments on the dump have micaceous coating on the platy surfaces. & quartz veinlets. The replaced limestone on the dump contains galena & tetraedrite? In some cases the galena has replaced the ovoid Algal Girvanella (as was observed at the Jerry claims). The ore minerals also occur in quartz veinlets & dispersed in the silicified limestone. Limonite stains & Cu oxides are common in these rocks.
Massive unmineralized quartz vein was also noted on dumps. Some veins noted in outcrop were 1-2" wide. Very little gossan on dump.
Dark grey weathered limestone bed (Characterized by Girvanella) lie below the workings. These beds strike N50E with dip to SE?. Discontinuous quartz stringers parallel the strike of the bedding & are .1mm to 1cm wide. This limestone bed is ≈90' thick & is mapped as Pole Canyon in the county report but is actually probably a transition between Pioche & upper Pole Canyon.
Most of the workings in southern part of hill are oriented to the strike of the limestone beds. These workings may be exploring N striking quartz veins or are trying to hit the mineralization at depth between the limestone and shale beds.
Sample 816 was collected from the adits dump. The shafts above the adits are inclined and explore locally hornfelsed (micaceous coatings) Pioche shale. The bedding at the shafts measure N60E, 37SE & a brecciated quartz vein cuts the bedding at N5E, 45W. The vein has sharp contacts & contains fragments of siltstone & limestone. Working lie along strike of this vein. Replaced limestone occurs next to sheared vein. The vein was probably emplaced along a shear which provided a channel for mineralizing fluids(?)
A deep shaft on ridge west of above workings is in quartzite which strikes N50E, 25SE(measure in saddle). A near vertical fracture with slicks exposed at shaft is N25E, 70°W vertical. Samples collected here (818 A & B) show Cu oxides. The quartzite host rock may be part of the basal Pioche.

SAMPLES:
815 -
816 - Quartz vein breccia. Quartz pseudomorphs after calcite in vugs. Cu oxides
817 - Quartz veined limestone & quartzite with Pb, Cu cerussite
818 - Silic limestone with quartz vein & quartzite with Cu oxides

REFERENCES:
Photos.

EXAMINER: Bentz/Smith
DATE VISITED: 6/13/81