

taken from NBME OFR 81-4
(1981) See also 81-3 for
geochemical results.

Dolly Varden

(53)

Item 3

1540 0003

The Dolly Varden district covers all of the Dolly Varden Mountains, and includes the old silver-lead occurrences on the southeast flank of the range, the copper property at Victoria, and the gold prospects on the north end of the range near Mizpah Spring.

The earliest activity in the district was at the Dolly and Keystone Mines in 1869. Copper was discovered at Victoria in 1872, and the Mizpah Spring gold veins were discovered in 1905. Most of the district's production has come from the Victoria copper property which has operated intermittently from 1872 to the present. At the time of this visit, Day Mines Company was operating the Victoria Mine and Mill, and mill concentrates were being sent to Kennecott's McGill smelter for treatment. In addition to the Victoria mining operation, exploration was being done in 1980 by Noranda Mines on claims surrounding the Dolly Varden Spring (Keystone-Dolly Mine area) silver area.

Most of the mineral occurrences in the Dolly Varden district are associated with the Melrose stock and its contact area. The Victoria Mine is a breccia filling deposit at the contact of the stock and limestone of the Permian Pequop Formation.

Several small copper prospects occur along the western contact of the Melrose stock on the west side of the range north and south of the Currie road.

To the southeast, near Dolly Varden Spring, silver, lead, copper mineralization occurs in replacement lenses in limestone associated with steep fault zones. Outcrops of these deposits are marked by vuggy, siliceous gossans with jasperoid.

Near Mizpah Spring on the north end of the range, gold-bearing quartz veins cut the Melrose Stock. The vein outcrops are stained with hematite and copper carbonates, and contain jasper, calcite, and quartz.

Most of the geochemical samples taken showed high copper values to be associated with anomalous bismuth. Some samples were high in silver, arsenic, and antimony, and anomalous gold was detected in one sample from the Mizpah area.

Selected References:

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