1890 0017

NEVADA
HUMBOLDT COUNTY

DUTCH FLAT DISTRICT

About 18 miles north of Golconda on the west slope of the Hot Spring Range. Placer gold found in 1893. For several years following discovery, about 20 men were employed by working the gravel in rockers, with good results. First year production totaled $75,000. Water was hauled from a well in Spring Canyon about one mile. Total production to 1937 amounts to $100,000

WENDEL group, 11 placer claims, in 1904 tried by a Salt Lake firm, the DUTCH FLAT GOLD MINING COMPANY, tried to work the placers with power equipment. 20 acres samples out at 375,000 yards at $0.37 per yard as 20.37 gold values. Averagedepth of gravel was 15 feet Failed because of lack of adequate water supply.

1909-1910 ground leased to Chinese placer miners. In later years a very small scale operation .

Placer area is about 1½ miles long and ranges in width from 300 to 2000 feet. There is no regular channel wherein the gold is concentrated, and good values have been found on the hillside adjacent to the ravine as well as in the ravine itself. Over 100 shafts have been sunk on the property in former operations. These shafts vary in depth from 6 to 22 feet and average about 12 feet to bedrock. The bed rock is composed of SCHIST, RHYOLITE AND GRANITE.

The gravels are a mixture of detrital material consisting of angular rock fragments and sand which in places is cemented with clay. The largest rock fragments are less than 6 inches in diameter. The greatest concentration of gold is on bedrock, the pay streaks varying from 6 inches to 3½ feet thick. Both fine and coarse gold are present. The coarse gold is rough and angular and some of it is attached to a quartz matrix, indicating that it has not travelled far. The largest nugget ever found in the placer had a value of $180. A large amount of black sand and some cinnabar is associated with the gold. The gold has an average fineness of 940.

The exploitation of the placer with power equipment depends largely upon the development of an adequate water supply. Probably water can be obtained fromwells sunk in the little Humboldt River valley, a short distance east of the placer ground. This water would have to be pumped to the placer area.

From Bull 41, Nev.Bur.Mines 1944

The DUTCH FLAT MINING COMPANY, organized in 1940, installed a small furnace to treat ores in S.8, T38N, R40E, and produced 70 flasks of Quick before quitting in 1941. Two areas about 500 feet apart, both probably on same structure, were developed. Northern workings carried to 125 feet of depth and southern to less than 75. Both on a N45E shear zone dipping 35 southeast. Highly altered volcanic rocks in both areas. Cinnabar as disseminations in altered volcanics and as veinlets and veins along shear zone. Mined ore consisted mostly

(over)

of a narrow vein along the shear zone, but locally included also mineralized wall rock. A rough estimate based on production and the size of the calcine dump indicates the retored ore, which may have been handsorted averaged about 20 pounds.

The unexplored part of the shear zone between the two shafts probably contains several hundred flasks of quicksilver, but the amount of exploration needed to find the local 'hot spots' may be excessive.

LAST CHANCE PROSPECT

In Se. 21, T38N, R40E, this prospect which consists of three claims, about 2 miles southeast of Dutch Flat mine, has been developed by a shallow shaft and surface cuts, and has produced one flask. The Geology is not known.

The RED DEVIL PROSPECT in S.5, T37N, R40E on the south end of the Hot Springs Range about eight miles south of the Dutch Flat, also produced only one flask of mercury. Workings consist of a 20 foot shaft and surface cuts. Ore occurs in altered volcanics.