

Smith, A.M., 1957

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Item 23

RESOURCES REPORT

ELKO COUNTY

NEVADA

1957

Report in Elko Co. General File

The Office Of

George W. Malone

United States Senate

Nevada

Alfred Merritt Smith
Administrative Assistant

Mimeographed - 161 pages

References: Paper by Alfred Merritt Smith for Nevada State Bureau of Mines, 1933, unpublished.

Geology: Granite rocks traversed by pegmatite dykes.

Location: The beryl discovery was made 4 miles north of the Merkley Ranch which is on Gilbert Creek at the E. end of Mound Valley, 40 miles south of Elko. Prospecting by C. W. Enke, C. D. McNabb and others from Elko disclosed beryl in pegmatite dyke outcrops at 5 separate places on the high mountain slopes near the head of Gilbert Canyon at elevations of about 8,000 feet, and over an area about 1 mile wide and 2 miles long. About 35 lode claims had been located in 1933 by Clayton, Enke and Associates.

The beryl crystals are light green, opaque, and from 1/8 to 1/2 inch in diameter and 1 to 3 inches long, excepting at one location where some larger crystals were observed. Where exposed, the dyke outcrop may average about one-half of 1 percent beryl. One crystal weighing 14 1/2 pounds had been found.

The beryl crystals appear to be loosely cemented in the dyke matrix. These deposits should be explored further, as the prevailing prices of beryllium metal are high due to a strong demand for use as nuclear shielding material. (See Dawley Canyon, where conditions are similar).

W. side of
Green Mtn.
E. of Jiggs