

The Gold Banks district is 38 miles south of Winnemucca on the east slope of the Sonoma Range a short distance south of the low divide separating Grass Valley and Pleasant Valley. It was discovered by A. P. Smith in 1907. Shortly after its discovery lessees prospected the veins for shipping ore with little success. According to A. B. Anderson, who is familiar with activity in the district since its discovery, the total production of shipping ore has been three carloads averaging about \$25 per ton. There never has been a mill in this area.

Two parallel veins striking nearly north and south and dipping about 50° west are traceable on the surface for several thousand feet. The veins have been explored by a number of shallow shafts. The formation is rhyolite, and the veins average 4 to 6 feet wide. Vein filling is predominantly a hard, iron-stained quartz with fragments of country rock. Values are in gold and silver. Development work comprises several thousand feet of shafts and drifts. All dumps show considerable quartz. When the writer visited the district the only activity was assessment work being done by A. B. Anderson, who owns eight claims on the north end of the district. The main workings are on four claims owned by H. J. Murrish of Lovelock. Water is available in a well 35 feet deep, located 1/4 mile east.

A vein was discovered by Ed Amonett and James Frank in 1933 several miles north of Gold Banks and about 1 1/2 miles west of Mud Springs Ranch. It is a quartz vein 2 to 4 feet wide, and geologic conditions are essentially the same as at Gold Banks. This vein has been prospected by an 80-foot shaft, several short tunnels, and some lateral workings totaling about 500 feet. It is reported that one carload of gold-silver ore was shipped in 1934 from the Amonett and Frank claims. In March 1936 the property was idle. The equipment on the property comprises a 6- by 6-inch compressor, belt-driven by an automobile engine, and a blacksmith shop.

The Gold Banks Mercury mine is 4 miles west of the Gold Banks district. Some development work was done in 1913 and a 10-pipe retort furnace built which, with a D-retort, was operated the following year. In 1915 a 50-ton Herreshoff furnace was erected which operated until 1917, when it was put out of commission by fire. Prospecting and development work continued until 1919. In March 1936 the property was idle.

The ore is cinnabar which occurs in small stringers and disseminations in a hard, quartzitic rock. The principal ore body was an irregular mass about 350 feet long, 100 feet wide, and 20 feet thick. This was mined by open-cut method.

Haystack District

The Haystack district is near Haystack Butte in north Pershing County 22 miles northwest of Inlay by automobile road. Jungo, a station on the Western Pacific Railroad, is 7 miles north.

The principal property is the Lone Star which consists of five unpatented claims owned by George B. Austin of Jungo. Several miles from the Lone Star mine a 5-stamp mill was erected in 1915 and operated for a short time. In 1933 George B. Austin shipped 59 tons of ore to a Utah smelter, which netted him \$950.87. Total production from the district has been small.

In March 1936 the Lone Star property was under lease to Raymond G. Taylor. It has been prospected by several shallow shafts and some lateral workings which total less than 1,000 feet, the deepest shaft being 50 feet.

Quartz veins occur in granite. Veins range from 1 to 3 feet in width and dip 30 to 60°. Values are chiefly gold, with some silver.

Gold ore was discovered in 1935 by Otto Jancke on Alpha Mountain 6 miles east of the Lone Star property on patented railroad land in sec. 11, T. 34 N., R. 32 E.