PO Box 160; Steamboat Spgs. W. A. BOWES & ASSO. Colorado

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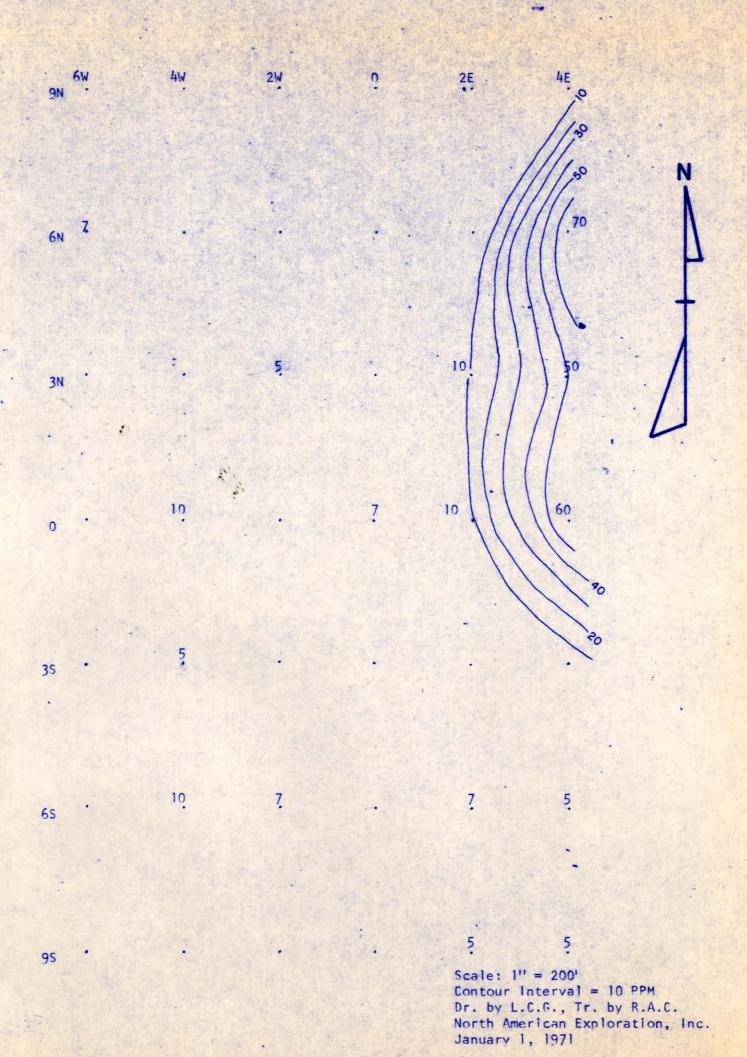
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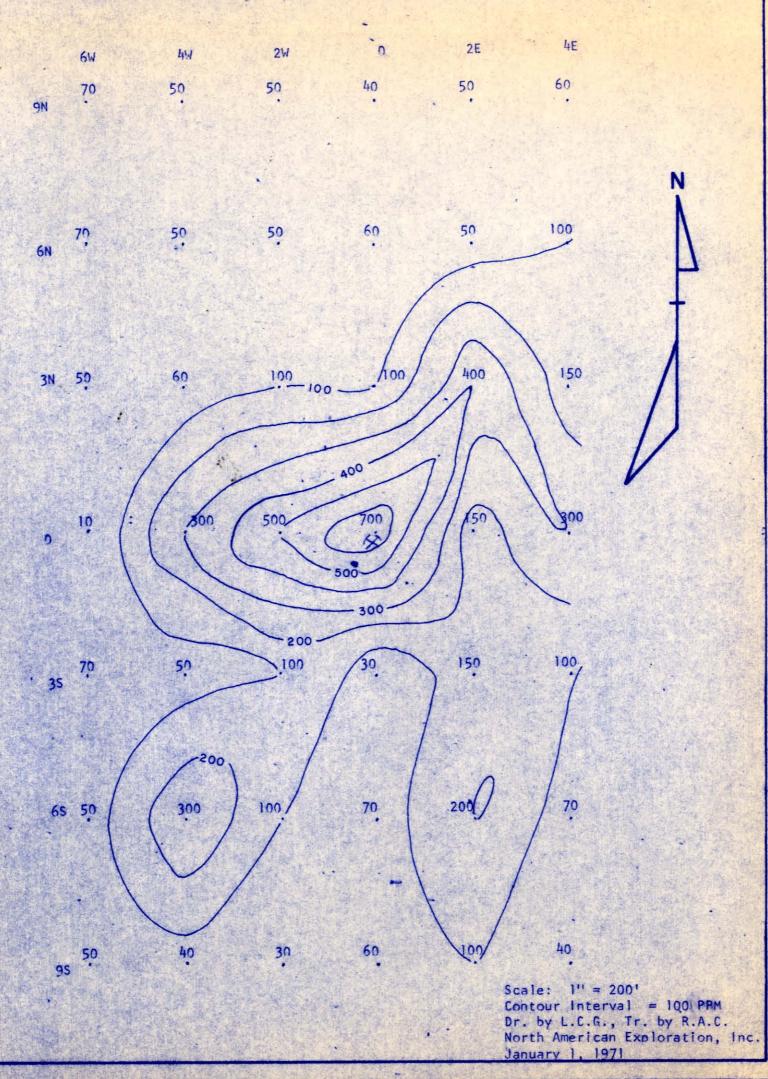
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PROSPECT, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, NEVADA.



DISTRIBUTION OF COPPER VALUES, IRON POINT PROSPECT, HUMBOLDT COUNTY, NEVADA.



Iron Point (044): A series of forty-two rock and soil samples have been taken on the existing grid over the Iron Point Prospect. Samples were taken at 200-foot intervals along east-west lines, with a spacing between lines of 300 feet. These samples have been sent to W. A. Bowes for emission

spectrograph analysis. A property map is being researched and will be forwarded when completed. No additional work is outlined for this area until the geochemical results are returned and studied.

DECEMBRE 1970

Iron Point (044): A property map has been constructed showing various land holders in the area of the Iron Point prospect. Eighteen claims were staked, by location monuments only, to the east of the Purcell group on the basis of results from geochemical sampling. It is recommended that the open portion of Section 12 and the east 1/2 of Section 14 be claimed at once.

Results of 42 samples taken from a grid centered about the present mine in the north-central claim of the Purcell group have been plotted for vanadium, mercury, copper, and molybdenum. Copper values show a maximum of 700 ppm at the mine site; contours of anomalous values are open to the east. Contours of vanadium values also show a pattern open to the east and south with maximum values of 2000 ppm vanadium occurring on the borders of the sample area. Mercury values form a pattern open to the east and have a maximum of 60 ppm in the southwest quadrant of the sample area. Molybdenum values from 10 to 70 ppm occur on the eastern edge of the sample area.

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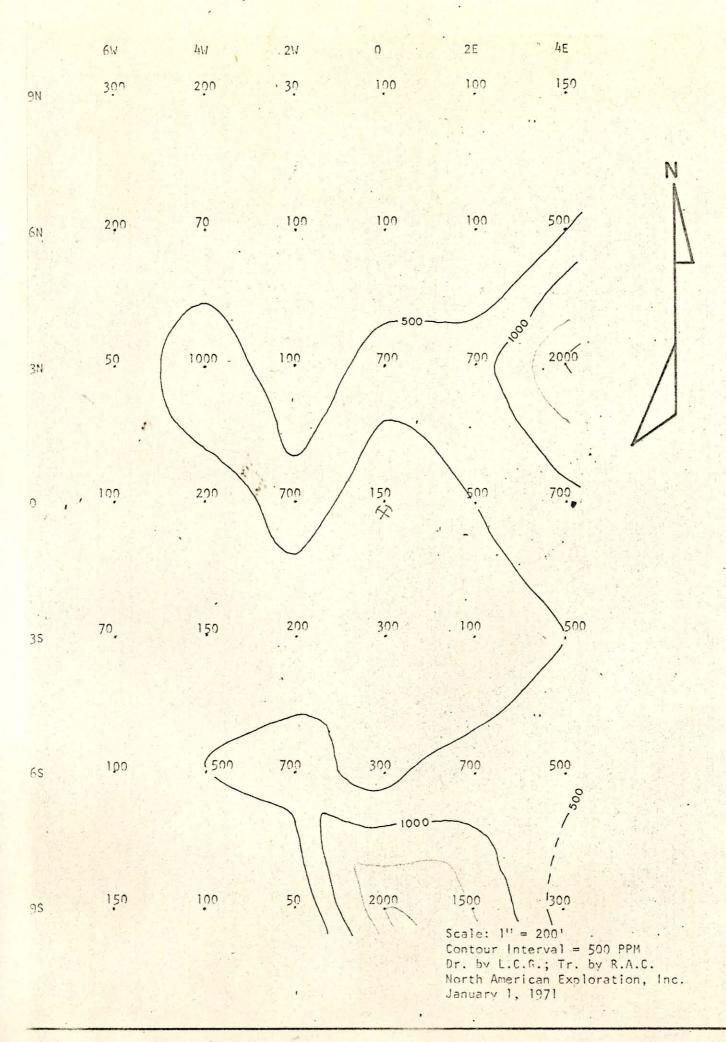
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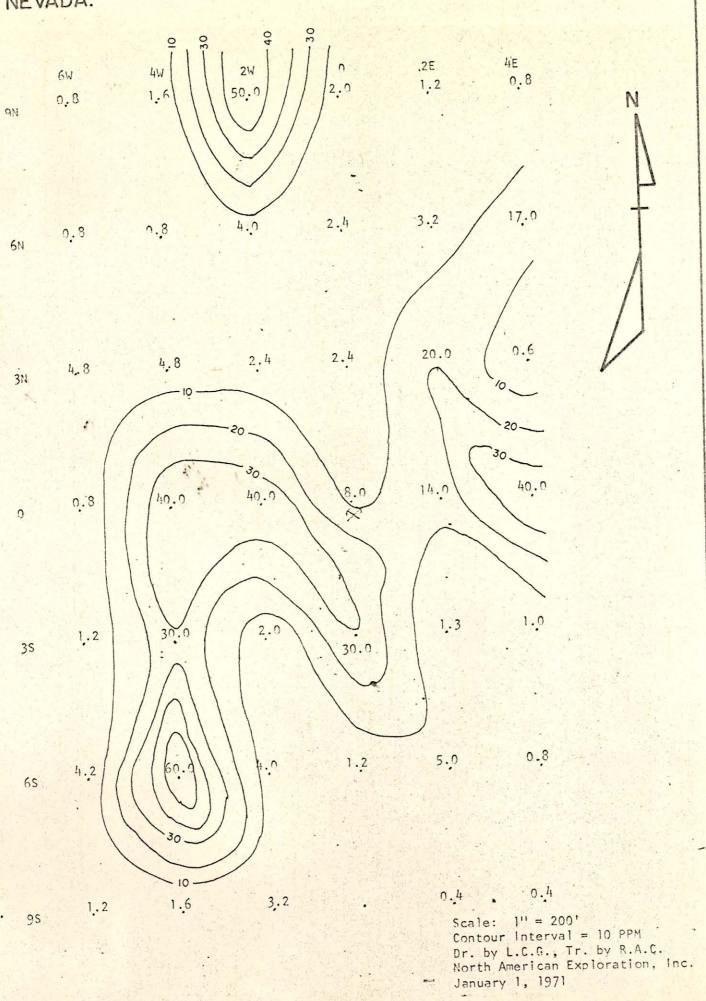
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North American Exploration, Inc. - January 1, 1971

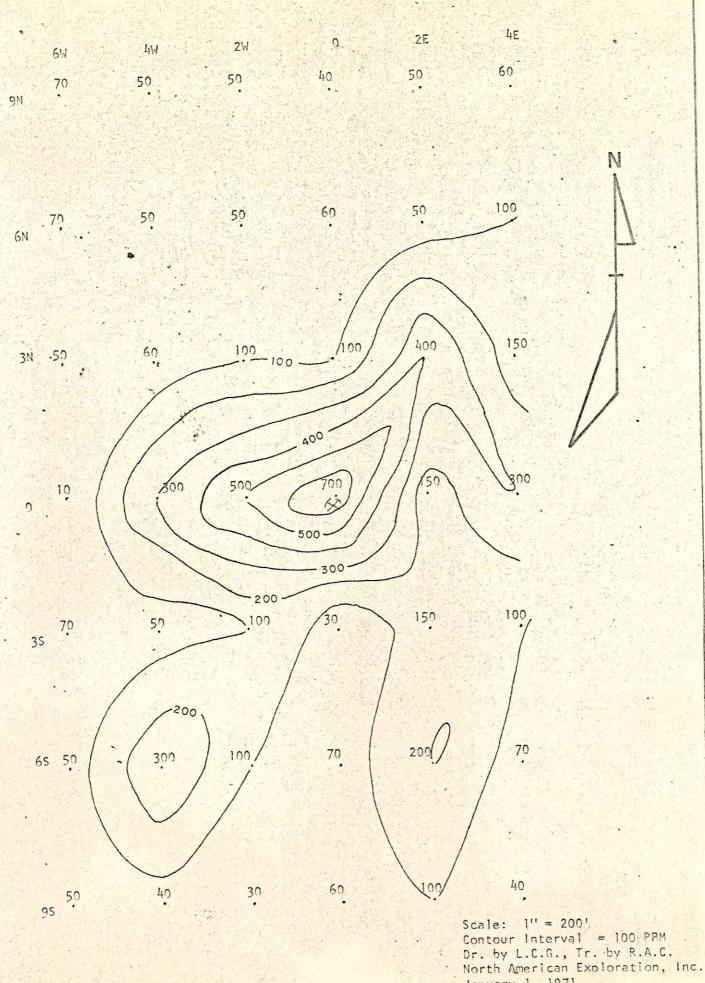
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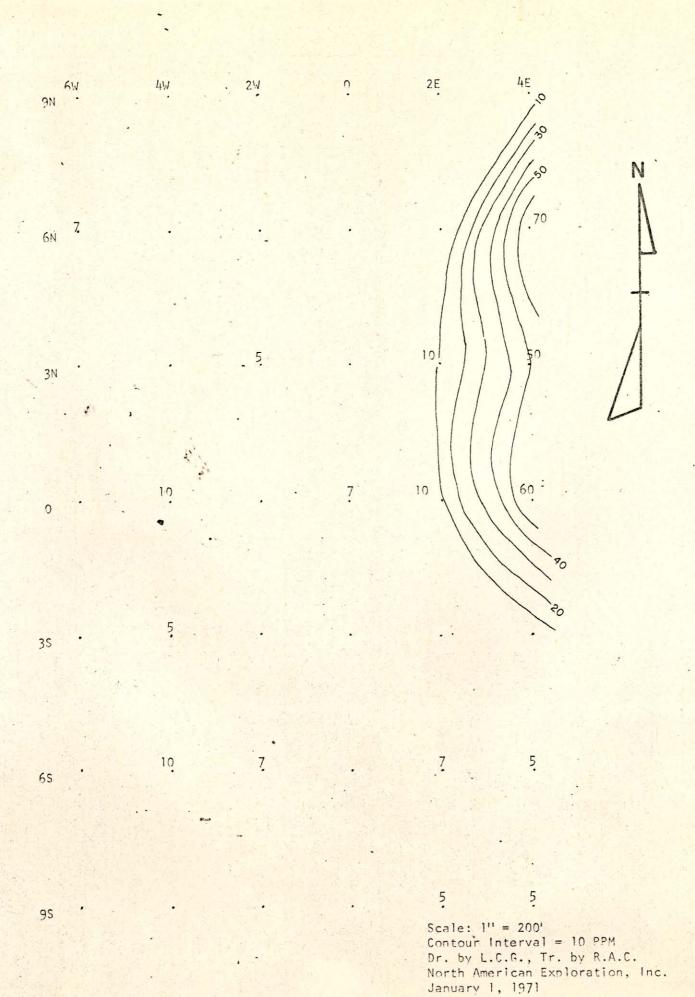
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Presented at Royal Society London symposium on "Volcanism and the Structure of the Earth," Nov. 12-13, 1970. To be published in the Transactions of the Royal Society,

CENOZOIC VOLCANISM AND PLATE-TECTONIC EVOLUTION OF THE
WESTERN UNITED STATES. PART 1: EARLY AND MIDDLE CENOZOIC—
by

Peter W. Lipman, Harold J. Prostka, and Robert L. Christiansen U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

⁻ Publication authorized by the Director, U.S. Geological Survey.

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Abstract7 Variations in Cenozoic volcanism in the Western United States correlate rather closely with changes in tectonic setting: intermediate-composition rocks and their associated differentiates were erupted through orogenic or fairly stable crust, whereas basaltic or bimodal basalt-rhyolite suites were erupted later--concurrently with crustal extension and normal faulting.

Lower and middle Cenozoic continental lavas, erupted onto post-orogenic terranes, are predominantly intermediate types (andesite to rhyodacite), commonly with closely associated more silicic ash-flow sheets. Compositional zonations in individual ash-flow sheets, from rhyolite upward into quartz latite, record magmatic differentiation in underlying batholithic source chambers. The intermediate lavas probably represent the greater part of these batholiths and the ash-flow tuffs their differentiated tops. Continental volcanic activity of this type was most voluminous in the northwestern United States in Eccene time, but shifted southward Oligocene; contemporaneous sea-floor basalts occur in the Oregon-Washington Coast Ranges.

Largely intermediate-composition calc-alkalic igneous suites that become more alkalic toward the continental interior are characteristic of most of the North and South American cordilleran belt. Similar volcanic associations are forming now around most of the Pacific margin where continental plates override oceanic crust along active subduction systems, marked by Benioff seismic zones and oceanic trenches. A

States until late Cenozoic time. Analogy with chemical variations across active island arcs suggest that early and middle Cenozoic subduction occurred along two subparallel imbricate zones that dipped about 20° eastward. The western zone emerged at the continental margin, but the eastern zone was entirely beneath the continental plate, partly coupled to the western zone below the low-velocity layer.

Predominantly intermediate-composition volcanism persisted throughout the Western United States until the initial intersection of North America with the East Pacific Rise started the progressive destruction of the subduction system.

Introduction

The Pacific margins of North and South America are marked by a belt of Mesozoic and Cenozoic volcanism, plutonism, and tectonism about 500 km wide that grades eastward into terranes of gentle structure and minor igneous activity. In middle North America, however, the belt bulges eastward to form a zone as wide as 1500 km (figure 1)

Figure 1. -- NEAR HERE.

that is characterized by complexly overlapping structures and igneous activity. Within this anomalously wide area, we believe that variations in Cenozic volcanism can be correlated rather closely with tectonic setting. In this and the second part of this paper (Christiansen & Lipman, this volume) we summarize the characteristics of Cenozoic

REPORT ON EXAMINATION IRON POINT MERCURY PROPERTY (40° 55' N -- 117° 18' W) HUMBOLDT COUNTY NEVADA, U. S. A.

Prepared For Purcell Development Co. Ltd.

Prepared By

Angus G. MacKenzie Mining Consultants Ltd.

THE ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS OF ALDERTA PERMIT NUMBER P502

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ANGUS G. MACKENZIE MINING CONSULTANTS LTD.

Calgary, Alberta February, 1971

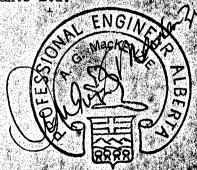
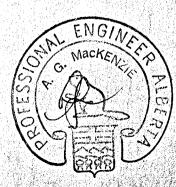


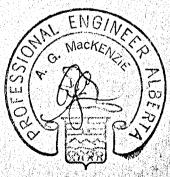
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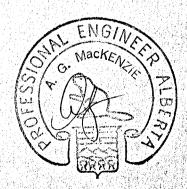
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AUTHORITY

This study of the Iron Point Mercury Property in Humboldt County, Northern Nevada, U. S. A. was authorized by Mr. L. Wilder of Purcell Development Co. Ltd.

We understand that this report may be used as part of a submission to a Securities Commission by Purcell Development Co. Ltd.

This report is the result of a property examination by Angus G. Mac-Kenzie, P. Eng. in February, 1971 and the compilation and reinterpretation of pertinent data from Government reports and Company reports supplied by Purcell Development Co. Ltd.

PROPERTY

The property consists of six full-sized and three fractional, unpatented claims which are contiguous and cover an area of approximately 150 acres. The mineral claims are as follows:

Full Size:

Iron Point No. 1

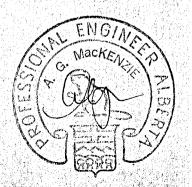
Iron Point No. 3

Nightmare

Nightmare Annex

Annex No. 1

Annex No. 2



Fractional:

Sweet Dreams

Sweet Dreams Fraction

Annex Fraction

Purcell Development Co. Ltd. took over an option on the Nightmare and Nightmare Annex claims from Mr. C. A. Beagle of Sacramento, California. The company subsequently staked the rest of the above claims.

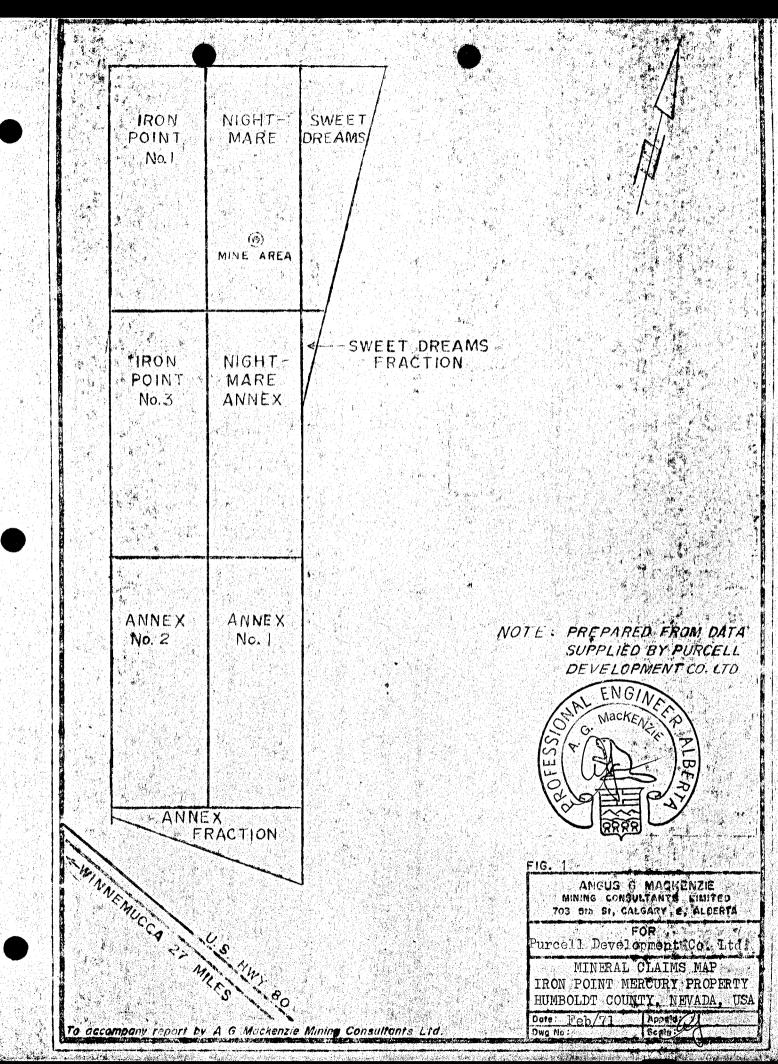
While we did not check on the standing of the claims ourselves, J. M. Dawson, P. Eng. (B. C.) reported that the claims were correctly staked and assessment work has been filed for the year 1970.

In addition to the above claims, Purcell Development Co. Ltd. has obtained a mineral lease from the railroad company (which owned the land south of the group of claims) for an area of one square mile immediately south of the claims. This area has not yet been surveyed nor picketed on the ground.

Figure 1 is a mineral claim map showing the claims.

LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

At present only the location of the group of mineral claims is described but it should be kept in mind that the area of one square mile to the south is also leased by Purcell Development Co. Ltd. and is considered part of the property, inasmuch as potential extension of the deposit southward and an exploration program are concerned.



The group of claims is located in the Gold Run (Iron Point) Mining District, Southeastern Humboldt County, Nevada. The claims occupy portions of Sections 12 and 13, Township 35 North, Range 4 East, and lie just north of U. S. Highway #80. The approximate geographic centre of the group is 40° 55' North Latitude and 117° 18' West Longitude. The village of Golconda is located about 10 miles to the west-northwest (See Figure 2).

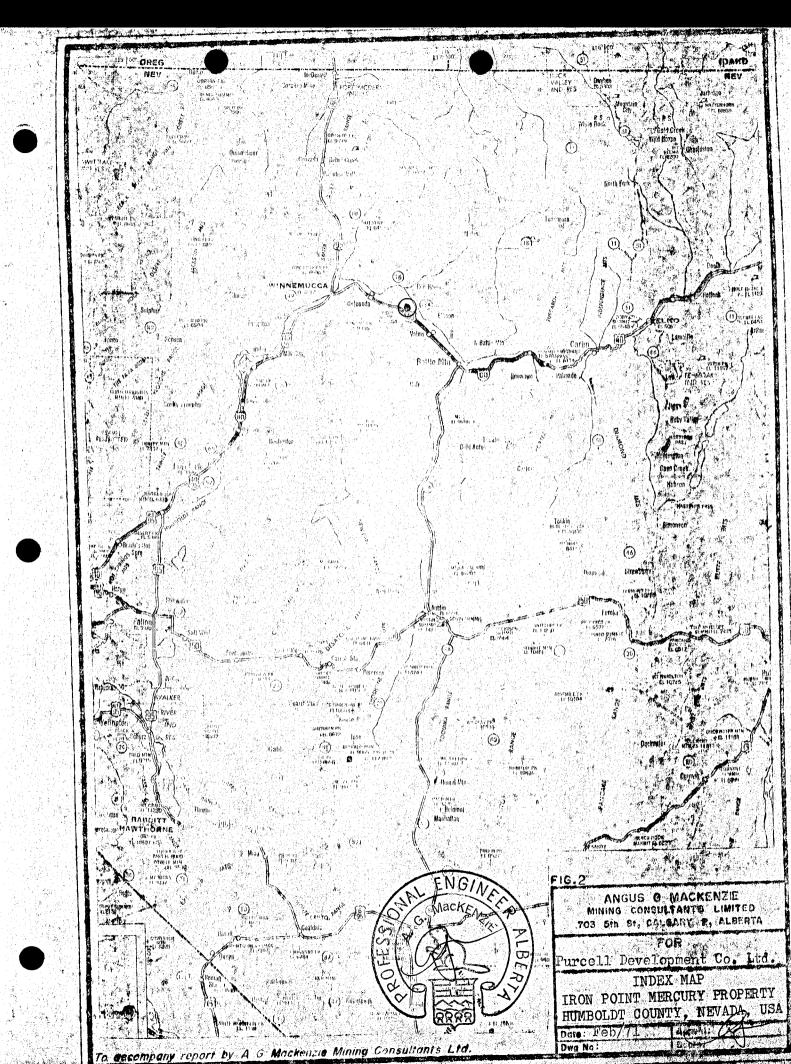
The property can be reached by driving east for 27 miles along U. S. Highway #80 from Winnemucca, Nevada and thence north over an unimproved gravel road for three-quarters of a mile to the property. All parts of the property can easily be traversed on foot.

The town of Winnemucca is not serviced by commercial airlines but a good, paved, landing strip suitable for light aircraft is available about five miles south of the town. Reno, 165 miles south and Elko, 126 miles east, are cities serviced by commercial airlines.

PHYSIOGRAPHY. CLIMATE. VEGETATION

The property is located near the northeast edge of the Edna Mountains, a range of low hills about 15 miles long and from 1 to 6 miles wide. The Edna Mountains are separated from the Osgood Mountains to the north by a narrow valley traversed by the Humboldt River. To the south the Edna Mountains are separated from the Sonoma Mountains by a narrow pass.

The claims cover portions of the east slope of a north trending ridge. There are two east-west gullies across the ridge. Outcrops are relatively scarce but in most places only a thin (one to two feet thick) overburden is present.



Elevations on the property vary from 4,400 to 4,700 feet above sea level. The ground is gently rolling with a maximum relief of about 300 feet.

The climate can be classified as arid. The normal precipitation in Humboldt County varies between 5 and 10 inches. About half of this falls in the winter months and only about one inch in the summer. The general area is characterized by hot summers and cold winters. Summer temperatures can go as high as 100 degrees but the low 90's are more common. The normal daily temperature in the middle of winter is about 15 degrees but temperatures as low as -20 degrees have been recorded.

Vegetation is relatively non-existent, there being only scattered sagebrush and bunch grass on the property.

WATER AND POWER SUPPLIES

There are no creeks on the property nor in the general vicinity. Shallow, high-yield water wells have been drilled in the general area, however. Water for drilling would have to be trucked to the property. For production a well would have to be drilled.

Power lines pass along Highway #80 at the south end of the property.

HISTORY

Mercury mineralization was first discovered on the property in the late 1930's by Mr. Victor Thornton of Reno, Nevada. Thornton dug a shaft at the discovery site and later sank an incline to a depth of 50 feet immediately south of the shaft. At the end of the incline he drove a cross-cut to the

west for a short distance then sunk a winze to a depth of 18 feet. From this he obtained high grade "ore" which he shipped to a local smelter.

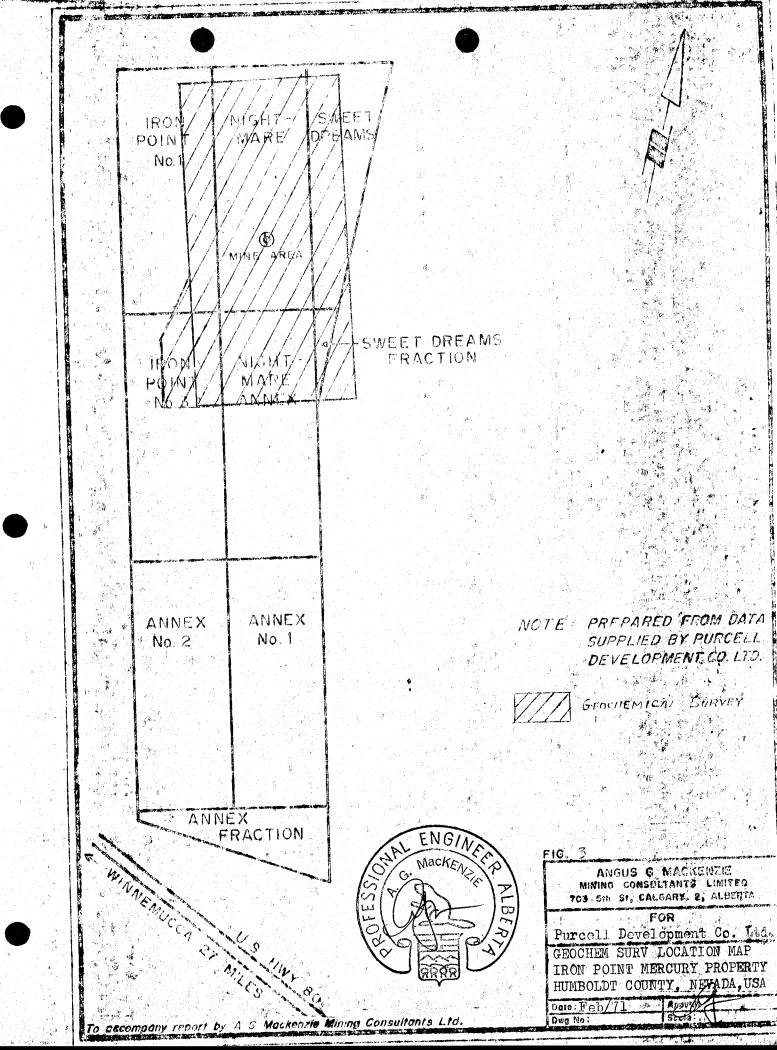
Thornton optioned the property to a Mr. Gould of California during
World War II, who did little with it. It lay idle until 1968 when C. A.
Beagle of Sacramento, California optioned the property from Victor Thornton,
Jr., son of the original staker. Beagle extended the underground workings
to the west and north and mined out the present stope.

Mr. W. C. Jones of Purcell Development Co. Ltd. visited the property in November, 1969 and in the spring of 1970 an agreement was entered between Mr. Beagle and Purcell Development, whereby the latter took over the option of the property.

In April, 1970 Purcell Development commenced underground and surface geological mapping, detailed underground sampling and also did a geochemical survey over the Sweet Dreams section, most of the Nightmare claim and parts of Iron Point #1, Iron Point #3, Nightmare Annex and Sweet Dreams claims (See Figure 3).

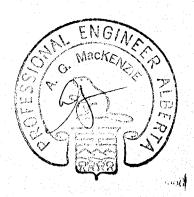
At this time about 1,200 tons of badly diluted "ore" mined by Beagle were shipped to a local smelter. Returns yielded about 2 pounds of mercury per ton. It had been estimated that the "ore" stockpile would run between 4 and 6 pounds of mercury per ton.

In October, 1970 Stampede International Resources Ltd. of Calgary became interested in the property and sent J. M. Dawson of Versatile Mining Services to examine the property. Nothing has been done by way of agreement



or participation by Stampede International and Purcell Development continues to be the operators of the property.

Angus G. MacKenzie Mining Consultants Ltd. was requested by Purcell Development to look at the property in February, 1971. This report is the result of that site visit and the interpretation of data gathered by Purcell Development in their 1970 field work.



GEOLOGY

Lithologic Units

The only available geological map covering the area was prepared by R. Willden at a scale of 1:250,000 in 1963 ("Geology and Mineral Deposits of Humboldt County, Nevada", Nevada Bureau of Mines Bulletin 59). Five units are shown on the geological map (Figure 4) excluding Quaternary alluvium and glacial cover.

TABLE OF FORMATIONS

Pleistocene - Recent

Alluvian-Glacial Deposits

Sand and Gravel

Unconformity

Pennsylvanian

Antler Limestone

Limestone, Shale

Pumpernickel Formation

Greenstone, Limestone, Chert, Argillite

Unconformity

Ordovician

Valmy (Comus) Formation

Chert, Limestone, Volcanics,

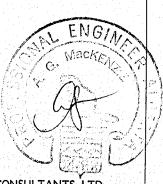
Shale

Fault Contact

Cambrian

Preble Formation

Limestone, Shale



Of these five units only the Valmy Formation is of interest and is the only unit discussed in detail below.

Valmy Formation

On the geological map prepared by R. Willden the general area of the Iron Point property has been mapped as Comos Formation. However, the description of the formation at the type locality north of the mine area does not mention any occurrence of volcanic rocks in the formation. To the south Willden mapped some outcrops of Valmy Formation, which is of the same age as the Comos but contains altered volcanics (greenstone) within the formation. The lithology of the Valmy is essentially similar to the Comos Formation.

Because of the predomincance of volcanic rocks in the mine area we are inclined to believe that the rocks here belong to the Valmy Formation. There is a strong possibility that these rocks are a transitional facies of the Comos and Valmy Formations. This we believe to be the case, since there is more limestone, dolomite, and volcanics present than is apparently characteristic of either.

The Valmy Formation is characterized in the basal portion by a generally light-coloured quartzite, dark chert, siliceous shale, a significant amount of altered volcanic rocks, and an upper portion of principally dark, thinly-bedded chert interbedded by dark shale and little greenstone.

The chert is green and light grey to black and thinly-bedded to massive. Cherts often contain light green, siliceous shale partings occurring as beds up to two feet thick interbedded with limestone and altered yeleans.

The greenstone is altered andesitic lavas and altered pyroclastic materials. Some of the pyroclastic materials have a calcareous matrix.

As mentioned before, the rocks in the mine area fit the description of the Valmy Formation except that there is considerably more limestone to the west of the mine area.

Trachyte(?) porphyry intrusives cut through the Valmy Formation in the area. These occur as narrow dykes following fractures in the formation. No dating has been done on the intrusives but since they cut the Valmy they are definitely post-Ordovician. We believe they are Tertiary intrusives and probably precede the period of mercury mineralization.

STRUCTURE

The main structure in the area is a high-angle, reverse fault which brought the Cambrian Preble Formation in contact with the Ordovician Valmy Formation. This fault can be traced in the area for several miles, trending north to northwest. It has been displaced in several locations by east-west faults.

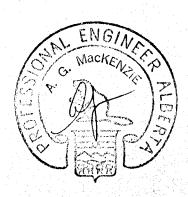
This major fault is probably the oldest and caused the zone of weakness on the east block of the fault where later movements occurred. A smaller and younger fault parallels the major fault about 1,000 to 1,200 feet to the east. It is this smaller fault that appears to have controlled the mineralization. The fault plane of this smaller fault has been strongly mineralized and altered and has acted as an impervious barrier to the mercury-bearing mineralizing solution.

The east-west cross-faults displaced this fault.

Folds

Some tight folding and drag folding have been noted in the underground workings and from outcrops. An interpretive, structural, cross-section is shown in Figure 4. The section cuts the old workings in an east-west direction. These folds are probably much tighter and are broken by many more tension fractures than are shown in the diagrammatic section.

Here we should point out that the trend of the geochemical anomalies follows the trend of the folds. The occurrence of these anomalies (that are presently interpreted as mineral concentrations) over the folds may not be directly associated with the folds but rather with the fractures brought about by the tight folding.



UNDERGROUND MAPPING AND SAMPLING

The present underground workings are accessible. W. C. Jones, P. Eng. who mapped the workings described the underground geology as follows:

QUOTE: "Cinnabar and metacinnabar coat fracture surfaces in the siliceous rock. They vary from a fine, paint-like coating to clusters of small crystals. Locally the mercury sulphides are intimately admixed with clay minerals to yield a pinkish clay. Considerable limonite and hematite are present locally, the former appearing to change in colour on being exposed to sunlight suggesting the presence of calomel (HgCl). Mercury values vary considerably across the ore body exposed underground, relatively small, pipe-like, intensely fractured bodies of very high grade material alternating with areas less brecciated containing much less mercury sulphide. Gypsum occurs locally underground as small anhedral crystals and some copper carbonate staining was observed along the back of the incline. No primary sulphides other than those of mercury were detected." END OF QUOTE

The geology of the underground workings is shown in Figure 5. Based on assay results of sampling done underground, both in the rock samples from the working face and sludge samples taken from eight-foot, jackleg holes, it is indicated that the best mineralization occurs on the western side of the workings and around a trachyte(?) porphyry intrusive. The western side of the workings is more highly fractured than the east side, thus the increase in sulphide content.

Mineralization extends eastward from the intrusive trachyte up to 20 feet. To the west it extends another 20 feet until it butts on barren, un-

Macken

fractured, argillaceous beds which apparently acted as a local barrier or dam to the mineralizing solution. The trend of mineralization appears to parallel the strike of the argillaceous barrier and tends to decrease in value northward where the intrusive also pinches out. To the south where the extent of the intrusive is not yet known the values appear to be increasing.

METALLOGENESIS AND STRUCTURAL ORE CONTROLS

As in almost all other mercury deposits the emplacement of mercury sulphide is about the last of the geological events to transpire. A rough metallogenesis and structural controls bringing about the present deposit is outlined below. Generalization is used because of the limited data available. Such generalization is based on a study by C. N. Schuette of almost all mercury deposits in the United States. It was found that although local differences do occur generalities and similarities are common. Such similarities are:

- 1. Source of the ore is a deep-seated igneous rock magma.
- 2. The "ore" minerals are carried to the point of deposition by hot alkaline solutions ascending through fissures in the rock.
- The ascending mineral-bearing solutions are directed and limited or even dammed at some point in their upward course by relatively impervious rocks.
- 4. Precipitation of the ore minerals is caused by the cooling and dilution of the mineral-bearing solution by loss of pressure or by precipitating agents such as organic matter or gaseous reagents.

- 5. The ore body forms in any pervious rock or in the interstitial spaces of any broken rock mass or in other voids underlying the relatively impervious cap rock.
- 6. The formation of an orebody is caused by the concentration of the ore mineral in a trap formed by the relatively impervious rock. This trap has directed and limited the upward flow of the mineralizing solutions to the porous rock mass below.
- 7. The ore minerals are predominantly primary minerals, secondary minerals being rare and of little importance as ore.

With the above general controls in mind an attempt to interpret the metallogenesis of the Iron Point Mercury deposit is made.

The present highly altered zone was obviously a zone of weakness in the area. Along this zone, movement of rock units has taken place one after the other to relieve whatever stress or strain had been imposed on it. This resulted in the shearing and brecciation of rocks along the zone. In between movements, hydrothermal solutions seeping through fissures along the zone silicified brecciated fragments only to be broken up by the succeeding movements.

Varying degrees of silicification and varying competence of the original rock unit resulted in varying degrees of both brecciation and apparent porosity. Also, the fault planes would not be straight so that certain portions of the bounding rocks would receive more stress and break more readily than other parts. The position of the zone of greatest fracturing could be

MacKEN

prognosticated if enough physical data were collected. Here mineralization will most likely take place. A good example of this is the present underground workings, which are located in the convex side where the west fault plane swings to the left. This variation in apparent porosity provided the element for deposition mentioned in Control No. 5 above.

Certain portions in the fault zone have been highly silicified and become impervious, providing suitable cap rock. The west side (hanging wall) fault face appeared to be such and provided the element of deposition mentioned in Controls 3 and 6 above. The anomalous zone along the west margin of the geochemical survey appears to be located in an area favourable to deposition of sulphides. Other lenticular units in the fault zone itself have taken in strains without fracturing and have also provided adequate damming effect on the rising mineralizing solution. The barren argillaceous beds to the west of the old working on which the mineralized body butts is probably one of those local barriers.

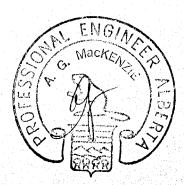
The trachyte porphyry intrusive probably followed fissures along the shear zone. Its presence indicates that an igneous rock magma was present underneath the area at one time (See Figure 4). Control No. 1 is present therefore.

The mineral-bearing solutions probably followed the same course as the dyke either at that time or later or followed other fissures without the intrusives. While this provides No. 2 in the generalized control of mercury deposition, it also explains why concentration of mercury sulphides is near the intrusive body as noted in the underground workings.

Precipitation of ore-bearing solutions is believed to be mainly the loss of pressure through interaction of ground waters seeping downward from the surface which may have also had some effect.

The mercury sulphides noted in the area are mainly "Cinnabar" which is a primary mineral. Cinnabarite only occurs as a coating which may have been brought about by oxidation of the original mercury. The amount of cinnabarite present is apparently only nominal.

It would appear from the discussion above that all elements required for the deposition of commercial quantities of mercury are present in this area.



GEOCHEMICAL SURVEY

The Geochemical survey conducted in 1970 by Purcell Development Co. Ltd. under the supervision of W. C. Jones was done on a 100' x 100' grid. Soil samples were taken at a depth of about 8 inches with sampling equipment, which was cleaned between each hole to avoid contamination. The samples were air dried, sieved and analyzed for mercury content in the Cordero Mining Co. laboratory in Winnemucca using a high sensitivity, atomic absorption unit. The U. S. Bureau of Mines assured us that geochemical analyses made by the Cordero Mining Co. laboratory are reliable.

Results of the survey are shown in Figure 6. The mercury contents are given as parts per billion because mercury content in rocks is very low, averaging only about 80 p.p.b. for ordinary acidic rocks. In this area, which has produced considerable mercury over a period of time, the average background value is about 250 p.p.b. The values of Figure 6 are contoured at 1,000 p.p.b. intervals and are shown in Figure 7.

The present "mine" area does not coincide on the highest points of the anomaly noted over the old workings. This may indicate that stronger mineralization is still unworked. However, in this particular area, the ground has been moved around during the operation of the mine so that the resulting anomalies could be caused by displaced muck from the mine itself.

Another anomaly which is open on the southeast end was detected northeast of the mine workings. The anomaly is about 300 feet long and varies in width from 100 to 200 feet. It has a peak value of 8,400 p.p.b. on the northwest knob and 6,800 p.p.b. on the southeast knob. The ground in this area

has not been prospected or trenched. Displacement will be small because in this area very little ground water is available to move the mercury from its original position in bedrock. It should be mentioned that mercury, being quite heavy, will be displaced by its own weight alone. Most of the anomalies therefore will be displaced to some degree down slope from their original positions by either water movement or gravity.

The most consistent and the strongest anomaly mapped in the survey is along the western margin of the area. This western margin coincides with the hanging wall of the highly sheared and altered rock. To the west is the highly silicified limestone breccia and unaltered limestone.

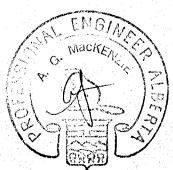
The anomalous trend is 1,500 feet long and varies in width from 200 to 500 feet. It consists of 5 peaks interconnected by the 2,000 p.p.b. contour. The peak values from north to south are 22,000, 7,400, 15,480, 5,700 and 64,300 p.p.b. To the east of the southern and highest peak is another seemingly isolated anomaly which may be an off-shoot along some fracture from the major anomaly.

South of this anomaly is another anomaly with a peak value of 12,110 p.p.b. separated from the above by a fault(?) gully. It is along the same trend as the large anomaly and is open to the south.

Assays of bedrock along old trenches which coincide with anomalous knobs substantiated the existence of the anomaly. For example, there is a trench cut 50 feet south of the highest peak of the anomaly. Samples from this trench assayed .8 pounds per ton and 1.3 pounds per ton. Other trenches along the trend also contain values of mercury although lower. These values may seem

low but it should be remembered that mercury deposits are notoriously very erratic, changing from low grade to high grade in a few feet. The fact that this big anomaly occurs and is substantiated by actual surface values is a very strong indication that a continuous zone of mineralization is present.

It is the purpose of recommended work later in this report to probe this deposit and decide on the economics. Certainly this deposit has all the earmarks of a large scale, low grade mining operation.



MINING ECONOMICS AND PROFITABILITY MARGIN

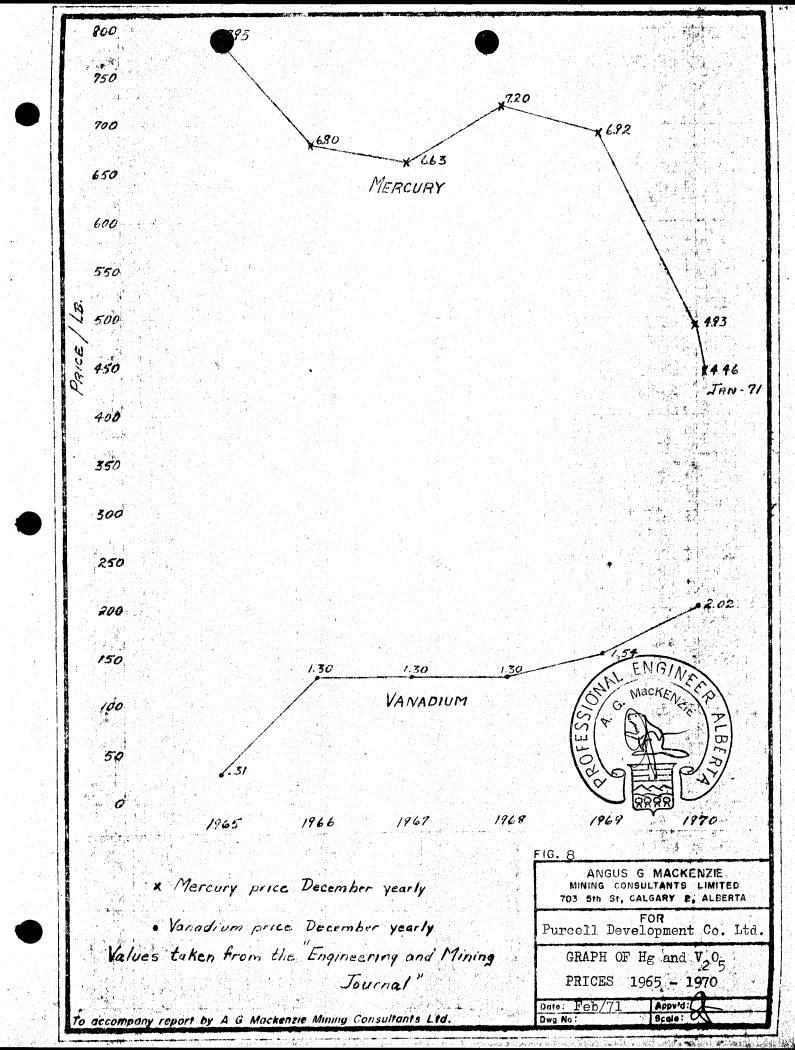
Two factors have developed in the last five years or so which are pertinent to the potential productivity of this mercury deposit: first, the development of the Electrolytic Oxidation process of recovering mercury and secondly, the spiralling of Vanadium prices.

The electrolytic oxidation process (See Appendix V), which is a new method, does not produce mercury vapours. The overall milling cost is lowered and with lower cost, lower grade ore can be mined economically. The U.S. Bureau of Mines has tested samples from this ore and found that the ore is amenable to this process (See Appendix VI).

The market price for Vanadium Pentoxide has spiraled in the last five years as shown in Figure 8. The sharp increase in price clearly indicates that the demand has increased rapidly. Vanadium occurs in quantities between .08% and .25% as indicated by the assay results taken by J. W. Dawson (See Appendix II). The vanadium may be recovered by adding more extraction cells after the recovery of mercury. At present prices it can be seen that vanadium could be a profitable by-product, increasing the potential profitability. We do not believe the additional metallurgy would be involved or expensive.

The following factors also tend to minimize mining costs:

1. The nature and size of the mercury deposit on the Iron Point property is such that it could be mined by a simple open-pit method. A D-9 bulldozer with a ripper could readily break the rock. A rubber-tired, front-end loader could load and haul the material to the mill. These operations are relatively inexpensive.



- 2. The electrolytic oxidation requires considerable quantities of salt. We understand that an abundant and cheap salt supply is available in the area.
- 3. Power is available locally.
- 4. The property is easily accessible and railroad transportation is available only a short distance away.

The following calculations will give an idea of possible mining costs for a 1,000 ton per day operation. Please note that these figures are illustrative only and local costs of material and wages would have to be carefully checked.

BREAKING AND HAULING COSTS

BREAKING COST

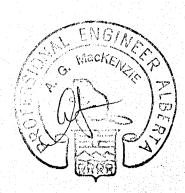
Capital:

Caterpillar D-9 Bulldozer with Ripper \$125,000.00

Depreciates in 12,800 hours (8 years)

Depreciation cost per hour \$ 9.77

TOTAL OWNING COST (FIXED) PER HOUR 13.52 \$13,52



Operating:

Fuel - 18 gal./hour @ \$.18/gal.	\$ 3.24	
Gasoline for starting	.01	
Lubricating oils	.21	
Fillers	.06	
Repairs (100% of depreciation cost)	9.77	
Tip cost	1.40	
Operator (wages, insurance, benefits)	4.25	
TOTAL OPERATING COST PER HOUR	18.94	\$18.94
TOTAL OWNING AND OPERATING COST PER HOUR		\$32.46
BREAKING COST PER TON (Assume total efficiency of		
200 tons per hour)		\$.16/ton

NOTE: The bulldozer-ripper would produce about 1,600 tons (1,400 cu. yd.) in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours. During the balance of the time the Cat would muck broken rock and improve roads and the pit area. This cost has been thrown in to the breaking cost.

HAULING COST

Capital:

Rubber-tired, front-end loader with 15 cu. yd. bucket \$85,000.00

Depreciates in 12,800 hours (8 years)

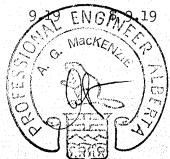
Depreciation cost per hour

\$6.64

Interest, taxes, insurance @ \$.03 per \$1,000.00

2.55

TOTAL OWNING COST PER HOUR



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Operating:

Fuel - 10 gal./hour @ \$.18/gal.	\$ 1.80	
Engine and lubricating oil	•13	
Filters	.13	
Tire cost	2.00	
Bucket cost	2.00	
Repairs (100% of depreciation cost)	6.64	
Operator (wages, insurance, benefits)	4.25	
TOTAL OPERATING COST PER HOUR	16.95	\$16.95
TOTAL OWNING AND OPERATING COST PER HOUR		\$26.14
HAULING COST PER TON (Assume total efficiency of		
200 tons per hour)		\$.13/ton

TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF BREAKING AND HAULING TO ORE BIN OR STOCKPILE = \$.29/ton.

The U. S. Bureau of Mines at Reno, Nevada, who is operating a pilot plant for the electrolytic oxidation process for the recovery of mercury, says that the capital cost of such a plant for a 1,000 TPD mill would be about \$600 or \$800 per ton or around \$800,000.00 for a 1,000 TPD mill. We will use the "rule of thumb" estimate of \$1,000.00 per ton or \$1,000,000.00 capital cost for the mill.

Total Capital Cost for basic mining and milling equipment would then be in the order of \$1,500,000.00 ($1\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars).



MILLING COSTS

Capital:

Mill Value \$1,000,000.00

Depreciates in 1,500 days (5 years)

Depreciation cost per day \$666.66

Taxes, interest, insurance @ \$.24

per \$1,000.00 240.00

ESTIMATED OWNING COST PER DAY \$906.66

COST PER TON AT 1,000 TPD CAPACITY = \$.91

Operating:

Based on rated 1,000 TPD Mill = \$1.50

ESTIMATED TOTAL MILLING COST PER TON = \$2.41

MINING AND MILLING COSTS

Total estimated milling cost per ton \$2.41

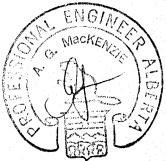
TOTAL ESTIMATED MINING AND MILLING COST 2.70 \$2.70

ADD: Other Allowances

25% for exploration & engineering costs .68

10% for mill losses .27

MINIMUM VALUE OF MINEABLE ORE \$4.33



Cut-Off Grades

Minimum per cent of Mercury per ton in "ore" .054%

Minimum pounds of Mercury per ton in "ore" 1.08 lbs.

We would suggest that the above "horseback" estimate may be considerably lower than the actual cost as the exact costs of the electrolytic method are not yet definitely known (although the U.S. Bureau of Mines has verbally given us some of the "horseback" figures we have used in these estimates).

The price of mercury since 1965 has been erratic as shown in Figure 8. It has never been below \$4.00 per pound, so for our calculations we will use this lower price. A cut-off grade of .075% mercury will be a reasonable value to use in delineating mineable ore grade.

As indicated in all assay results (See Figures 5 and 6 and Appendix III) this cut-off grade is available. However, because of the apparent erratic distribution of values it may be necessary to mix high-grade and low-grade ore to maintain a .075% mercury mill head.

Any Vanadium content will greatly increase the potential profitability at .075% mercury mill head or the mercury mill head could be lowered and still maintain a 25% possible profitability margin.

Ore Reserves

There is not sufficient factual data to calculate a definitive ore reserve. Within the economic limits that we have tentatively assigned (cut-off grades) there is a potential reserve in the block covered by the surface geochemical survey, underground work and surface trenching. We would estimate sufficient to support a 1,000 TPD operation for about 5 years. Certainty of this volume and grade can only be attained by completion of the exploration program we have outlined. Extension of known ore along strike is completely dependent on more surface work and drilling as recommended.

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

After the field examination in February, 1971, Angus G. MacKenzie verbally recommended to Purcell Development Co. Ltd. that certain aerial photography be flown. It was felt that a colour and false infra-red photography combination would be a useful tool toward structural and lithologic interpretation. Two flight elevations were decided on: one at a high level of 10,600 feet A.S.L. (equivalent to a scale of 1"=1,000') and the other at a low elevation of 7,700 feet A.S.L. (equivalent to a scale of 1"=500').

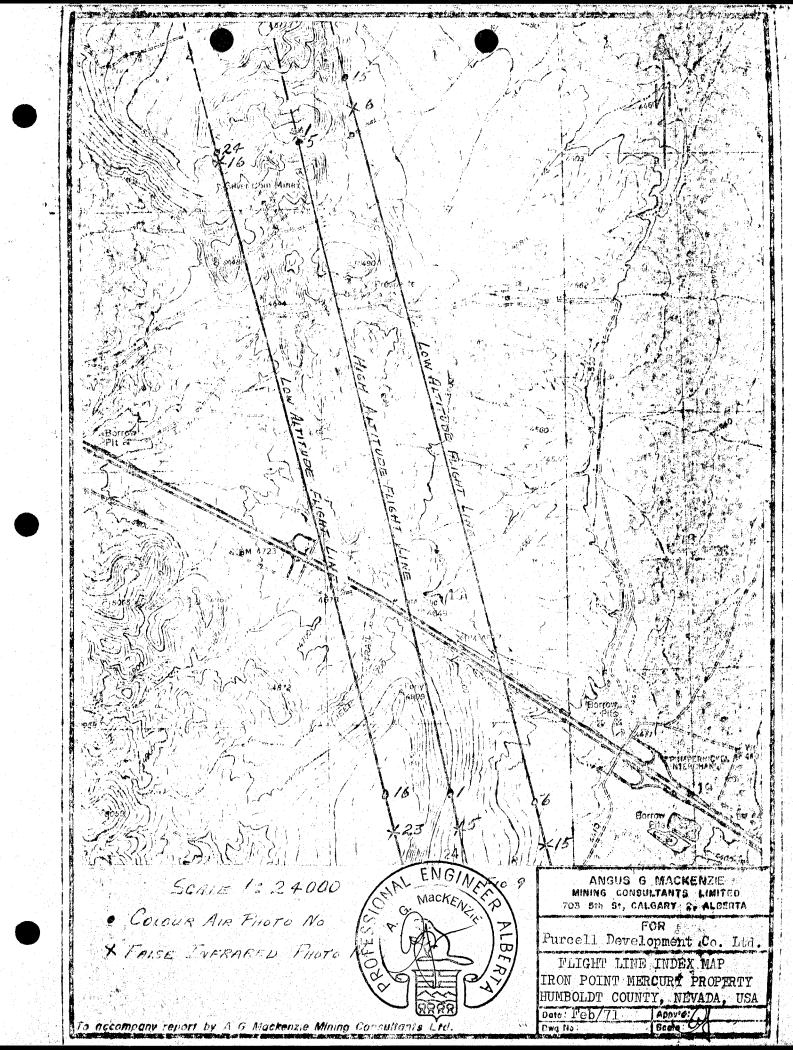
Aerial photography was flown by Machair Surveys Ltd. of Calgary on February 13 and 14, 1971. Photographs were made available to Angus G. MacKenzie Mining Consultants Ltd. on February 17th. Flight lines are shown on Figure 9. Both types of photography turned out to be excellent in scale, clarity and coverage.

Colour Photography

Positive prints were made of the colour photography on both of the abovementioned scales.

The high level photography was used for regional interpretation and the low level photography for local and detailed interpretation. Both scales were found useful.

From the 1"=1,000' scale the Valmy Formation is readily delineated trending almost north-south, bounded by a major fault on the west, and covered by glacial till and alluvium to the east. On the east boundary a strong gossan marks the contact.



Major cross-faults are also very evident in the smaller scale photographs but most of the smaller cross-faults had to be examined more closely in the larger scale to pick up smaller bedding displacements and strike variations. The structural elements shown on the geological map (See Figure 4) are based mainly on air-photo interpretation.

False Colour Infra-Red Photographs

Positive transparencies were the end product of the air photography for false infra-red. No prints were made because of the nature of the film used.

The false colour infra-red photographs were used to follow the continuity and extensions of the mineralized zone. While all the major faults noted in the colour photography can also be picked up on infra-red, this photographic technique also shows some colour differentiation between the mineralized zone and the barren zone.

The mineralized zone shows a weak, bluish tint as compared to the purely greenish background of barren rocks. The zone can be traced northward until the large cross-fault separating the Moly Corp Vanadium-Copper prospect from the Iron Point Mercury-Vanadium prospect is reached. To the south it carries about 1,600 feet from the old workings to another cross-fault. The block to the south of the fault does not show this bluish tint. It appears again on the south side of the next cross-fault where it is apparently stronger. From here it carries southward across the highway and swings south-southwestward under Quarternary-Tertiary basalt cover. It is pertinent to mention here that mercury showings have been noted in the road-cut along the old highway. No

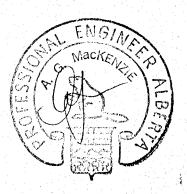
showings have been noted on the block where the bluish tint is absent. In fact, there is only one small test-pit in the whole barren(?) block.

Another area north of the highway (See Figure 4) with the bluish tint has been noted to the west and partly outside the property of Purcell Development Co. Ltd. The area is mostly under cover but four trenches have been cut across a trend which means there must have been something in this area that someone was trying to follow.

The anomalous (mineralized?) zone on the main prospect is along the east portion of the Valmy Formation and is at a relatively lower elevation than the west which is massive and barren. The west boundary of the zone is along a strike fault that has been highly silicified and marks the change of elevation between the east and west portions of the Valmy Formation. This strike fault is only weakly indicated in the photographs but has been detected on the surface. It coincides with the west edge of the bluish tinted area in the false infra-red photograph.

Note that the bluish tint in the false infra-red may not be directly related to sulphide mineralization. The bluish tint could be caused by the difference of water content between the fractured rocks containing minerals and the unbroken nature of the barren rock. This probably explains why the bluish tint is weaker over the known mineralized area than the continuation near the highway. Our reasoning is that the ground around the main showing has been considerably disturbed and consequently the natural water table has been affected.

Regardless of its cause, the bluish tint has been found here to be useful in delineating the mineralized zone. It has been used to extend the mineralized and/or altered zone from known areas of mineralization in the main showing southward across the highway as shown in Figure 4.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Drill the anomalous zones presently delineated by the geochemical survey to test the extension sub-surface. Figure 7 shows the proposed drill hole layout. The holes are presently planned for total depths of 250 feet at -45 degree angles to the east. The reason for this is to get both horizontal and vertical ideas of the extent of mineralization and to gather structural information, especially of the hanging wall contact. This data could be used to pick other areas of possible mineralization.

A total of 30 holes are laid out which, when completed, should give all the information required to plot the form and size of the deposit. Other holes required for planning an open-pit would be filled in between the present hole lay-out. A reserve estimate would then be computed from results of these 30 holes.

The 30 hole layout has been split into two sections. The first priority ones are marked red and the second marked green. In the drilling program the reds should be drilled out first and the results evaluated as drilling progresses.

Based on these results the greens could be drilled as planned or their locations and angles changed to give maximum information. For this reason it is imperative that a supervising professional geologist be on the property during any drilling program.



Additional exploratory drilling will probably be necessary to outline the possible extension of the mineralization to the south. A drilling program for this phase would be laid out on completion of the initial drilling. We believe that the size of the program would be about the same as the one above and the estimates for this could be used for the additional program.

Since the host rocks in the area are shattered a special core barrel would have to be used. The special barrel we refer to is a three-barrel core recovery unit which Longyear has developed to core especially badly broken rocks and unconsolidated sediments. Longyear guarantees satisfactory recovery with this core barrel.

It is also feasible to use the Becker Drill if precautions are taken to cut the dust emission down at the cyclone. Otherwise a considerable amount of mercury sulphide could be lost.

Stripping of the overburden and shallow trenching with a bulldozer should be done so that a systematic surface sampling can be done. Assays of the surface sampling will be used in the computation of "ore" reserves and the designing of an open-pit, in conjunction with the diamond or other type drilling results.

Depending on the economics it might be more advantageous to drill a water well early in the drilling program rather than ferry water into the property. Information on the surrounding water wells would have to be studied to spot the best location for a water well on the property. It is believed that water can be obtained at a reasonable cost from wells in the general area.

Based on presently available geological information the mineralized zone appears to swing westward to the south. The grounds south of the highway are secured by the square mile lease from the railroad company, but ground west of Iron Point #3 and Annex #2 should be acquired if possible.

A cost estimate of a recommended, minimum, initial diamond drilling program and two estimates for a more extensive program follow.

ANGUS G. MACKENZIE MANING CONSULTANTS LTD.

Angus G

Consulting Minim

Mining Geologist

Calgary, Alberta. February 25, 1971.

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INITIAL

DIAMOND DRILLING PROGRAM

A minimum program of diamond drilling may be initiated right away. For this program the total depth of each drill hole may be cut to 200 feet and the spacings between the holes could be larger. The purpose of this initial program will be mainly to test the anomalies to get a rough idea of the size of the deposit. For this program the holes to be drilled will be the primary holes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 12 as shown in Figure 7. The total footage will be about 1,800 feet.

Cost Estimate

Dismond Drailling

	@ \$7.00 per foot	\$12,600.00	
	Assays at 5-foot intervals - 20 samples per hole @ \$5.00 each	900.00	
	Geological Supervision for 1 month @ \$150.00 per day	4,500.00	
	Room and Board for 1 month @ \$20.00/day	600.00	
	Transportation for 1 month	500.00	
	Total	19,100.00	
	Add: Contingencies	2,865.00	
	Total	21,965.00	\$21,965.00
Repo	ort Compilation and Reproduction		2,000.00
Cons	sulting Fee and Supervision		1,000.00
ТОТА	L ESTIMATED COST	ENGIA,	\$24,965.00

COST ESTIMATE (BECKER)

DRILLING

Pri	.mary	Нo	les	:

3,750 feet @ \$5.00/foot	\$18,750.00	
Assays at 5-foot intervals 750 samples @ \$17.00 each	12,750.00	
Geological Supervision $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$150.00/day	6,750.00	
Room and Board for $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$20.00/day	900.00	
Transportation $(1\frac{1}{2} \text{ months})$	750.00	
Total	39,900.00	
Add: Contingencies	6,000.00	
TOTAL DRILLING COSTS FOR PRIMARY HOLES	45,900.00	\$ 45,900.00
Secondary Holes:		
3,750 feet @ \$5.00/foot	18,750.00	
Assays at 5-foot intervals 750 samples @ \$17.00 each	12,750.00	
Geological Supervision $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$150.00/day	6,750.00	
Room and Board for $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$20.00/day	900.00	
Transportation $(1\frac{1}{2} \text{ months})$	750.00	
Total	39,900.00	
Add: Contingencies	6,000.00	
TOTAL DRILLING COSTS FOR SECONDARY HOLES	45,900.00	45,900.00
REPORT COSTS (compilation, reproduction, drafting, etc.)	ST ENGIA	5,000.00
CONSULTING FEE AND SUPERVISION	G. Machen Col	5,000.00
TOTAL COST OF DRILLING PROGRAM	All I	\$101,800.00

STRIPPING AND SAMPLING

D-8 Cat for 200 hours @ \$32.00/hour \$ 6,400.00

1 Sampler @ \$600.00/month 600.00

Geological Supervision (covered by cost of geologist supervising diamond drilling if done simultaneously)

Total 15,500.00

Add: Contingencies 2,325.00

TOTAL COST OF STRIPPING AND SAMPLING 17,825.00

\$17,825.00

SUMMARY OF COSTS

Drilling Program \$101,800.00

Stripping and Sampling 17,825.00

TOTAL \$119,625.00



COST ESTIMATE (LONGYEAR)

DRILLING

Primary	Holes:

3,750 feet @ \$8.00/foot	\$30,000.00	
Assays at 5-foot intervals 750 samples @ \$17.00 each	12,750.00	
Geological Supervision $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$150.00/day	6,750.00	
Room and Board for $l\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$20.00/day	900.00	
Transportation ($l_2^{\frac{1}{2}}$ months)	750.00	
Total	51,150.00	
Add: Contingencies	7,600.00	
TOTAL DRILLING COSTS FOR PRIMARY HOLES	58,750.00	\$ 58,750.00
Secondary Holes:		
3,750 feet @ \$8.00/foot	30,000.00	
Assays at 5-foot intervals 750 samples @ \$17.00 each	12,750.00	
Geological Supervision $1\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$150.00/day	6,750.00	
Room and Board for $l\frac{1}{2}$ months @ \$20.00/day	900.00	
Transportation $(1\frac{1}{2} \text{ months})$	750.00	
Total	51,150.00	
Add: Contingencies	7,600.00	
TOTAL DRILLING COSTS FOR SECONDARY HOLES	58,750.00	58,750.00
REPORT COSTS (compilation, reproduction, drafting, etc.)	ENGING	5,000.00
CONSULTING FEE AND SUPERVISION	MacKEN	5,000.00
TOTAL COST OF DRILLING PROGRAM	DX 18/12	\$127,500.00

STRIPPING AND SAMPLING

D-8 Cat for 200 hours @ \$32.00/hour \$ 6,400.00

1 Sampler @ \$600.00/month 600.00

Geological Supervision (covered by cost of geologist supervising diamond drilling if done simultaneously)

Total 15,500.00

Add: Contingencies __2,325.00

TOTAL COST OF STRIPPING AND SAMPLING 17,825.00

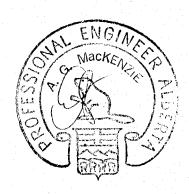
\$17,825.00

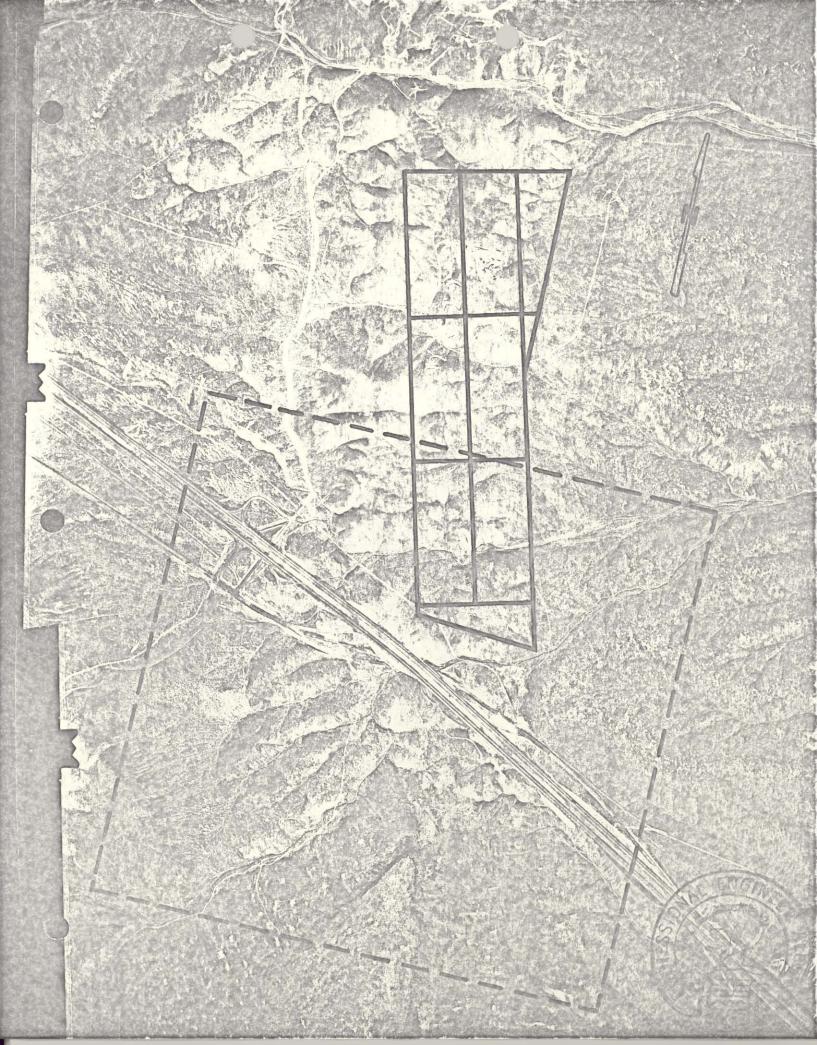
SUMMARY OF COSTS

Drilling Program \$127,500.00

Stripping and Sampling 17,825.00

TOTAL \$145,325.00





Sample Serial 30701-38713

ASSAY REPORT

L. G. HALL, Vice President G. P. WILLIAMS, Treasurer GERALDINE A. WANLASS, Secretary

P. O. Box 1528

Salt Lake City, Utah 841.10

Versatile Mining Services Ltd.

Box 609

Kamloops, BC, Canada

Nov. 6: 1970 RESULTS PER TON OF 2000 POUNDS

SULPHUR INSOL. ZINC IRON LIME. Por Cent Per Cont Per Cent Por Cont Wet on Ore Per Cent Per Conf Ozs. per Ten Ozs. par Ton 1g-168 0.025 ANNEYPI 34738 Grab 250 N % of Post 0.50 0.025 0.035 0.70 0.110 10.140 2.80 34762 8-12 0 19 1900 34743 8-2 6 8 SOME 10.030 0.60 0.040 0.80 34745 S-6 16 0 1 1 1000 0:040 0.80 10.020 n.065 34749 9-13 C 10 Shall

73.00

Charges \$......

Sample Social

ASSAY REPORT UNION ASSAY OFFICE, In

L. G. HALL, Vice President G. P. WILLAMS, Treasurer GERALDINE A. WANLASS, Secretary

Versitile fining Services Ltd. Milion

Famloons, RC, Canada

BE STEEDED TOR OF 2000 POUNDS NOV. 25, 1970

P. O. Box 1528 Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

1000					-			-
CHI DE TOO	Valor Ore	COPPLR To Cont	INSOL.	7ING Per Cent	SUI PHUR Per Cent	IRON Per Conf	LIME Per Cent	Per Cer
						1000 E	15.4. F	V205
								0.20
							No. PA	0.17
						14 The 18		0.20
								0.22
								0.20
								0,25
							14:46	0.14
								0.14
								0.08
								0.14
						建设存		0.14
								0.22
								0.17
	15元金			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
				- YEAR W	1,721			
			17.4			1		
	Che per Ten	Chr. per Ion Wat on Orn	Orr pro Inn. Wat on Orn Por Cant	Chr. per ton Wallon Orn Por Cent Por Cent	Orr per ton Wat on Ore Per Cent Per Cent	Circ per ton Wat on Oro Por Cent Por Cent Per Cent	City per face Wat on Orn Por Cent Por Cent Per Cent Por Cent Por Cent	Over per lon Walco Orn For Cant Per Can

21.00

Purcell Mining Company Inc. Samples by W. C. Jones

Underground Drillings	# I		0.20
Mention makes the second			.,, C,IO
	# 2 # 3		C.IO
	# 4		I.70
	# 5		
			0.30
	7.7	588	0.30
	# 8		0.IO
	# 9		0,20
	,#IO		0.20
	#II		0.IO
	#I2		0.IO
	#I3		I3.80 / - +
	#I4		0.30
	#15		0.90
	#16		5.70 - *
	#17	PENE	0.80
	#T8		0.80
	#19		0.30
	#20		0.40
	#2I		0.IO
	1,22		0.30
		Ar	1.296
		/1/	

Life Bradley

Lyle bradley

April 24, 1970

To: Purcell Developmer Cimited

Prisco, B. C.

Lr. N. C. Jones



File No. 2411

Date Povember 14, 1969

Samples Grab

Sexificate or

LORING LABORATORIES LTD.

629 BEAVERDAM RD., N.E., CALGARY 67 PHONE 277-6797

SAMPLE No.			Hg 6
	# sty / ton	Age #6.20/# Gross Value	
21 276	187.0	# 1159.45	9.35 Piched high grade sample
21277	27.6	\$ 171-12	1.38 Harrow " " vein (underground.)
21278	65.0	# 403.00	3.25 Across E will of Webrilt (20)
2]279	1.8	# 11.16	.09 Across W well in stope- (6')
21 360	2.0	# 12.40	.10 Acres S will in stie (7)
21.271	6.0	# 37.20	.30 Aross E wall in stope (61)
57.585	0.4	\$ 2.48	.02 Wast southerly cut (201)
21 203	0.04	# 0.25	.002 11 northerly cut (near glang hole) (1
21 284	1.4	# 8.88	.07 Arms trench about 300's at inclin
23.285	5.0	#3).00	.25 Pandom dump somple

I Hereby Certify that the above results are those assays made by me upon the herein described samples

ejects Retained one month.

Pulps Retained one month unless specific arrangements made in advance.

Provincial Assayer of British Columbia

CAN TEST LTD.

Tron 14. Mercury.

Random Damil Symple

1650 PANDORA STREET, VANCOUVER 6, B.C. . TELEPHONE 254-7278

Report On	Spectrographic Analysis	File No. 48762-A	
		Report No.	
Reported to.	Loring Laboratories Ltd.	Date Nov. 26,	1969
	629 Beaverdam Road N.E.	P.O. #385	
	Calgary 67, Alberta		

We certify we have tested the sample of ore pulp submitted by you on November 24, 1969, and report as hereunder.

Sample Identification

The sample was labelled "File 2411, #21285".

Spectrographic Analysis

	File 2411		File 2411	
	#21285		#21285	
	P. P. M			P.P.M 40
A1	6.0	Pb	0.004	40
Sb	0.02 200	Mg	0.3	
As	ND	Mn	0.005	
Ba	0.3 Barite(?)	Мо	0.002	20
Be	ND	Nb	ND	
Bi	ND	Ni	0.003	30
В	0.002	Si	Matrix	
Cd	ND	Ag	0.0001	strantianite (?)
Ca	0.5	Sr		strontiunite (1)
Cr	0.003 30	Ta	ND	
Co	ND	Sn	0.002	20 - 1
★ Cu	0.03 300	MATINES SA	0.1	
ີ Ga	0.002 20	W	ND	
Au	Trace	* V	0.03	300
Fe	5.0	Zn	ND •	*
				.6#'s/ton *
		U	ND	
		Th	ND	

CAN TEST LTD.

D. Timuss
Provincial Assayer

TESTING LABORATORIES

ABBOT A. HANKS

ESTABLISHED 1866

P. O. BOX 77265 . SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94107 TELEPHONE (415) 282-8600

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA Minerals Staff

225 Bush Street

San Francisco, California

LABORATORY REPORT

No. 7101

October 27, 1970 Date

File No.

ATTENTION: MR. B. GREIDER

PE	71	my de de de	, in the	Sec. 2.17	4.7
(4, 54	West -				

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	(C) Committee of the same		
Lab No.	Mark	MERCU	JRY Results
26238-1	G-1		0.02%
-2	G-2		0.05%
- 3	G-3	less than	
-4	G - 4	less than	0.01%
-5	G-5	less than	0.01%
-6	G-6	less than	0.01%
-7	G-7		0.04%
-8	G-8		1.25%
-9	G-9	less than	0.01%
-10	G-10	less than	0.01%
-11	G-11		0.12%
-12	G-12	less than	0.01%
-13	G-13	less than	0.01%
-14	G-14		0.06%
-15	G-15		0.46%
			그 사람들 하는 보는 보다 보다 보다는 사람들이 나를 다 가게 되었다.

Page 1 of 3

ABBOT A. HANKS

CHARLES J. TAYLOR

TESTING LABORATORIES

ABBOT A. HANKS

ESTABLISHED 1868

P. O. BOX 77265 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94107 TELEPHONE (415) 282-8600

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA Minerals Staff
San Francisco, California

ATTENTION: MR. B. GREIDER



LABORATORY REPORT

No. 7101

Date October 27, 1970

File No.

Lab No.	Mark		Results	
6238-16	COMPOSITE 1-15	GOLD	Less than 0.005	oz/ton
		TUNGSTIC OXIDE	Less than 0.01%	
		ANTIMONY	0.01%	100 FPM7
		ARSENIC	0.02%	200 PM

Page 2 of 3

ABBOT A. HANKS

Charles J. TAYLOR

ABBOT . HANKS

ESTABLISHED 1006

P. O. DOX 77265 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94107 TELEPHONE (415) 282-8600

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA Minerals Staff 225 Bush Street San Francisco, California LABORATORY REPORT

No. 7101

Date October 27, 1970

File No.

ATTENTION: MR. B. GREIDER

QUALITATIVE SPECTROGRAPHIC ANALYSIS Metals Found and Estimated Percentage Range

	300 \$3000 ppm	Id and Estimated Fercoma	man desperation and the second of the second	1 201/ 1001/
less than .03%	.03 % to .30 %	.30% to 3%	3% 10 30%	30% to 100%
Antimony .02	Magnesium 3	Iron 5.0 ?		Silicon
Boron .ocar	Vanadium .03	Aluminum 6.0?		
Lead .oo4	Titanium	Strontium .4		
Maganese .005	Calcium	Barium .3		
Gallium	16 th 6 th			
Zirconium -				
Sodium (?)				
Chromium .003				
Copper .03(
Silver , occ,				
Nickel .co3				

a No.

26238-16

Page 3 of 3

ABBOT A. HANKS

Sample Mark:

Composite 1-15

s 1

CHARLES J. TAYLOR

Leen Deem Pegan Ples

PURCELL MINING COMPANY INC. % W. C. Jones
Beagle Property
Pounds Hg./Ton

# 1			4.50
# 2			0.70
# 3			4.10
# 4			4.80 -
# 5			I.20
# 6			0.90
#7			1.90
# 8		A	2.60
#9			0.50
# IO			5.20
	F 642		
	AL		2.630

Grah samples; ere Anny

or a clay folk of the Sor 7008 Minnomicea, lievada. ASSIAY 16. Onl counds lig./Fon

Crushed Ore Furcell by Jones 4/21/70 Uncrushed Ore Furcell by Jones " 9.10

STAR CITY MINES LIMITED Box 1008 Winnerwoos, Nevada. ASSAY AE-OPT Pounds Ng./Ton

Calcine Day surcell Mining Company Inc. 4/27/70 .. Nil Calcine Swing " .. Nil Calcine G-Y " .. Nil

Total Bradley a alley

Jones

STAR CITY MIGHS LIMITED BOX 1008 Winnemucca, Nevada. ASSAY MEPOLE Pounds Hg./Ton

Heads Heads Heads	Purcell	Goregany n	Inc.	4/24/70 4/25/70 4/26/70 4/27/70	3.10 2.00 2.00
Calcina	Swing	88 7 70 3		4/24/70	0.0I 0.0I
Calcina	Swing	0} !!		4/25/70	Nil
Calcine	O-X Day Swing G-Y	148 4 8		4/26/70	0.02 0.02 0.01

Lyle 15, adley
April 27, 1970

Jones

BS

DT-L. CITY NIN S LIMITED
Box 1008
Winnemucca, Nevada.
ASSAY L.PORT
Pounds Hg./Ton

Heads	lurcall	Hining	Company	Inc.	4/23/70	2.2	
Calcine	Day				"	0.0	2
Calcine	Swing	1				0.0	2
Calcine	G-Y	The state of			11 1 Elg#1	0.0	2

Tyle Bradley
April 24. 1970

Jones

Very

S.K.

M. 11 Heads

S.L.

S.L.

S.L.

Mines,

Cras CLTY FIRES LIGITUD BOX 1000 Lineaucca, havasa. ATUAY 14 CKT Pounds hg./Pon

Grab Cample Crushed Ore "Furcell" 1,/22/70 ... 3.10

Ly15/bradley April 22, 1970

Jones

Lightemuced, Ner.

Very S.K.

Mill Heckli

Nam CETY FIRES LUTTED NOW 1008 1008
Linestucca, havada.
AUJAY 14 OKP
Pounds hg./Yon

Grab Sample Crushed Ore "Furcell" 1/22/70 ... 3.10

Toy lo Bacificy

Lyls bradley

April 22, 1970

Jones

Star Coty Minas,

Winnemmed, Ner.

Mill Heads

mends surcell Mining Company Inc. 4/22/70 ... 1.40 Calcins Usy " ... 0.02 Calcins Dwing " ... 0.02 Calcins Calcins G-1 " ... 0.02

Tyle brodler April 23, 1970

10"es

MIII Acadi MUDES.

Contract to the second second

OTAK OTY JAMES LINTED

SON 1008

Annoracca, Nevana.

ACSAY MOTORY

Founds fig./Ton

Hends Furcell Mining Co. Inc. 4/20/70 0.90
Calcine
Calcine
" 3-Y " 0.95

Tyle bradies april 21, 1970

Lage

Ar heads = 1.90 #1)f.

Low Grade: Mostly east workings

Purcell Mining Company Inc.

Dy W. C. Jones
ASSAY REPORT
Pounds Hg./Ton

#	II	4/20/70	 0.10
2000000	12	u .	 0.05
Marie Co.	13	\ n	 0.30
1002 A-311	14		 0.10
ALC: NOT THE	15	and the second	3.10
and the second	16	A STATE OF THE STA	 I.IO
1000	17		 0,90
	18		 0.30
1000	19		0.30
4 300	30	n in the second	0.40
1.55.77			

Ar = 0.665



ANGUS G MACKENZIE MINING COLLTANTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

SAMPLE					CCAY				DESCRIPTION AND	
NO	DEPTH LENGTH	%Hg		lb./ ton				REMARKS		
5238-1			.02		.4				Samples taken by Standard	
5238-2			.05		1.0				Oil Co. of California.	
5238-3			.01		.2				No sample locations are available.	
5238-4			.01		.2				avariable.	
5238-5			.01		.2					
5238-6			.01		.2					
5238-7			•04		8.					
6238-8			1.25		25.0			-1.		
6238-9			.01		.2					
6238-10			.01		.2					
6238-11			.12		2.4					
6238-12			.01		.2					
6238–13			.01		.2					
6238-14			.06		1.2					
6238-15			.46		9.2					
02,70=17			•40		7.6					
	ARITHMETI	C AVERAGE	.14		2.6				Value of Hg at \$4.00/ton =	
									ENGIA	
									ONAL MACKET	
									SS 7 5 5	
									SS S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	



ANGUS G MACKENZIE MINING CONTRACTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

HOLE NO

LOCATION

IRON POINT MERCURY PROPERTY

CODE NO

SAMPLE				Ą	SSAY	RESUI	LTS		DESCRIPTION AND
NO	MERCURY	LENGTH	%Hg	ong gap an anjaran anjar	lb. Mg/to	n			REMARKS
1	\$4.00/1b.		.01		0.2				
2			.005		0.1				Jack leg drill holes - 8 feet deep
3			.005		0.1			1 - 1	o reer acep
4			.085		1.7	1			Assay results taken from
5			.085		1.7				Plan of Underground Working:
6			.015		0.3				by: W.C. Jones (May, 1970)
7 7			.015		0.3				
8			.005		0.1				
9			.01		0.2				
10			.01		0.2				
11			.005		0.1				
12			.005		0.1				
13			.69		13.8				
14			.015		0.3				
15			.045		0.9				ENGIA
16			.285		5.7				(A)
17			.04		0.8				SIN K Z
18			•04		0.8				DALBERT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE
19			.015		0.3				
20			.02		0.4				20 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
21			.005		0.1				
22			.015		0.3				
	ARITIMETI	C AVERAGE	.065		1.3				Value of Hg at \$4.00/ton = \$
								N ₁	



WEIGHTED AVERAGE

SAMPLE RECORD

SAMPLE		(L)			Y RESUI	LTS	DESCRIPTION AND
NO	NXXXX	LENGTH	Ib. IIg	Ib. x(L)	1b. V ₂ 0 ₅	1b.x(L)	REMARKS
34738			•50	.50	4.0	4.0	Grab 250' NE of Post at corners of Iron Point #3
34739	S - 9	50'	.50	25.0	3.40	170.0	Grab sample over 50' in cat trench
34740	S-7	6'	.70	4.2	4.0	24.0	Grab sample over 6' in trench above tunnel
34741	S-11		2.20	2.20	4.4	4.4	Chip sample along wall in old workings
34742	S-12		2.80	2.80	1.0	4.0	Chip sample along wall in old workings
34743	S - 2	25'	•40	10.0	5.0	125.0	Grab sample over 25' in cat :
34744	S - 8	60'	.60	36.0	2.8	168.0	Grab sample over 60' in cat trench
34745	S - 6	20'	.80	16.0	2.80	56.0	Grab sample over 20' in cat - trench
34746	S-3	20'	•80	16.0	1,60	32.0	Grab sample over 20' in cat trench
34747	S-4	45'	•40	18.0	2.80	126.0	Grab sample over 45' in cat trench
34748	S- 5	40'	1.30	52.0	2.80	112.0	Grab sample over 40' in cat trench
34749	S-13	34'	.40	13.6	4.40	149.6	Chip sample over 34! in wall of decline
34750	S-10	45"	.70	31.5	3.40	153.0	Grab sample over 45' in wall of stope
		348'		227.B 348		1128.0 348	
				.66	EN GIA	3.24	WEIGHTED AVERAGE - 1b./ton Value of Hg at \$4.00/ton = \$2.6
				(3) (1)	NACKE,	$ \langle \mathcal{N} \rangle $	Value of V ₂ O ₅ at \$2.00/ton =

ANGUS G MACKENZIE MINING COMPLITANTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

HOLE NO LOCATION IRON POINT MERCURY PROPERTY CODE NO

SAMPLE				ASSAV		JTS		DESCRIPTION AND
NO	DEPRHX	LENGTH	% Hg	lb. Hg	V ₂ O ₅	lb. V _o O		REMARKS
34738			.025	.50	0.20			Grab 250'NE of Post at corners of Iron Point #3
34739	S-9		.025	.50	0.17	3.40		Grab sample over 50' in cat trench
34740	S -7		.035	.70	0.20	4.0		Grab sample over 6' in trench above tunnel
34741	S -11		.110	2.20	0.22	4.40		Chip sample along wall in old workings
34742	S-12		.140	2.80	0.20	1.0		Chip sample along wall in old workings
347 43	S-2		.020	0.40		5.0		Grab sample over 25' in cat trench
34744	S-8			0.60		2.8		Grab sample over 60' in cat trench
34745	S-6			0.80		2.80		Grab sample over 20' in cat trench
34746	S-3		.040	0.80		1.60		Grab sample over 20' in cat trench
34747	S-4		.020	0.40		2.80		Grab sample over 45' in cat trench Grab sample over 40' in cat
34748	S-5		.020	0.40		2.80 4.40		trench Chip sample over 34' in wall
34749	S-13		.020	0.40		3.4C		decline Grab sample over 45' in wall
34750	S-10				y•.!.	7.40 1.20 1.20 1.20 1.20 1.20 1.20 1.20 1.2		stope SAMPLES TAKEN BY J.M. DAWSON
	ARITHMET	IC AVERAGE	•04"	793	ENG	,		Value of Hg at \$4.00/ton = \$5
				100 k	Mach			Value of V ₂ 0 ₅ at \$2.00/ton =
				16/	1	\ <u></u>	BIZ	

ANGUS G. MACKENZIE MINING CONTLIANTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

SAMPLE				ACCAY	RESU:	LTS	DESCRIPTION AND
NO	DERKH	LENGTH	% Hg	lb./ Hg	on		REMARKS
1			.01	0.2			MERCURY ASSAYS WEST OF EDGE "ORE BODY"
2			.005	0.1			Jack leg drill holes
3			.005	0.1			Assay results taken from
4			.085	1.7			"Plan of Underground Working
5			.085	1.7			by: W.C. Jones (May, 1970)
6		Y	.015	0.3			
7			.015	0.3			
13			.69	13.8			
14			.015	0.3			ENO
15			.045	0.9			Sir Mackey Fr
16			.285	5.7			SS & DA
17			.04	0.8			SEESS)
18			.04	0.8			
19			.015	0.3			O BERN
20			.02	0.4			
21			.005	0.1			
	ARTTHM ETTC	AVERACE	.086	1.72			

ANGUS G MACKENZIE MINING COMPLITANTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

MPLE		(I')			SSAY	RESU!	LTS		DESCRIPTION AND
10	DEPTH	(I,) LENGTH	% Не	% x (L)		lb./	lb./; x (L	on	REMARKS
		20'	0.2	4.0		4.1	82.0		FACE SAMPLES
2		341	0.15	5.1		3.1	105 4		Assay results taken from "Plan of Underground Working
3		24'	.055	1.32		1.1	26.4		by: W. C. Jones (May, 1970)
		23'	.09	2.07		1.8	4.14		
		3 8'	.24	9.12		4.8	1824		
)		17'	.045	.765		0.9	15.3		
7		17!	.06	.102		1.2	20.4	1	
3		23'	.025			0.5	11.5		
(17'	.005			0.1	1.7		
10		29'	.015			0.3	8.7		ENGINES Macket
11		24'	.0025				1.2		G. Macken P.
12 13		44 ' 50 '	.005	1.0		0.1	20.0		
			•02			0.4	20.0		
	ARITHMETI	C AVERAGE	.071			1.42			
	WEIGHTE	AVERAGE (1b./ton)		.069			1.34		Value of Hg at \$4.00/ton = \$5

ANGUS G MACKENZIE MINING COLLITANTS LTD

SAMPLE RECORD

HOLE NO LOCATION IRON POINT MERCURY PROPERTY CODE NO

SAMPLE	 T	(L)		AS	CAY	RESUL			DESCRIPTION AND
NO	DEPTH	LENGTH	% 9	6 X		, ,		on	REMARKS
			Hg	(L)		ton_	$^{\mathrm{X}}$ (T)		
1		20'	0.2	4.0		4.1	82.0		MERCURY ASSAYS WEST OF EDGE OF "ORE BODY"
2		34'	0.15	5.1		3.1	1054		
3		24'	.055	1.32		1.1	26.4		FACE SAMPLES Assay results taken from
4		23'	.09	2.07		1.8	4.14		"Plan of Underground Working
5		30'	.24	7.2		4.8	144.0		by: W. C. Jones (May, 1970)
6		17	.045	.765		0.9	15.3		(Samples from face on west
7		17'	.06	.102		1.2	20.4		side of old workings)
8		14'	.025	•350		0.5	7.0		
9		5	.005	.025		0.1	•5		
13		22'	.02	.44		0.4	8.8		
	ARITHMETIC	AVERAGE	.089	}		1.80			
		AVERAGE (lb./ton)		.10			2.0	0	
									A SHORT WINDOWS

CORDERO MINING COMPANY

POST OFFICE BOX 506
WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA 89445
May 5, 1970

Bill Jones F.R. Hoar Beagle Organization 2617 K St., Suite 1 Sacramento, California

Sample No.	Mercury(ppb)	Sample No.	Mercury(ppb)
6N-5E	510	1N-5E	4010
√9N-1₩	250	1N-1E	1850
₹3S-5₩	280	1S-2E	2250
√1S-3W	3170	/ 1N-2E	4450
ON-2E	5250	/1S-2W	5700
√1N-1W	1680	√ ON-1E	2090
4N-1W	628	√2S-4W	3580
ON-1W	1920	√1N-4E	785
√on-3w	2970	√1S-1E	820
√8N-4E	154	v 200S	1350
ON-4E	790	/3s-1w	2000
ON-5E	209	√ on-4w	4130
1N-4W	1310	1S-1W	930
√8N-1W	5550	1005	4320
VON-2W	2610	00+00	2970
1S-3E	1515	1N-3W	15160
√on-3E	725	1N-2W	4740
√1N-3E	900	√100N	2530
√1S-5E	203	√1S-4E	1515
√1S-4W	420	6n-4w	321

Sample No.	. Mercury(ppb)	Sample No.	Mercury(ppb)
/6N-4E	460	3S-5E	1240
6N-1E	700	3S-4E	990
√6N-3₩	139	3S-3E	750
√6N-3E	1730	3S-2E	4570
6N-SE	223	3S-1E	935
√6N-2W	1610	300S	900
6N-1W	4340	3S-2W	2090
/600N	560	/3S-3W	63400
5N-4W	526	38-4W	21600
5N-3W	6360	2S-5E	920
, 5N-2W	7400	2S-4E	595
- 5N-1W	4230	2S-3E	4950
5N-1E	1305	2S-2E	4570
/5N-2E	23 8	2S-1E	7540
5N-3E	4820	2S-1W	56 0
5N-4E	4010	2S-2W	1920
√ 5N-5E	480	2S-3W	3270
500N	990	3N-5E	700
4N-4W	4450	· 3N-4E	4950
4N-3W	4950	3N-3E	1690
4N-2W	5100	3N-2E	2000
4N-1E	270	3N-1E	280
4N-2E	2000	300N	1410
4N-3E	4010	3N-1W	750 87
4N-4E	8400	3N-2W	3170
4N-5E	1480	3N-3W	13920
√ 400N	230	3N-4W	12280

Sample No.	Mercury(ppb)	Sample No.	Mercury(ppb)
/7N-5E	540	≥ 10N-5E	129
7N-4E	450	10N-4E	490
7N-3E	460	10N-3E	3690
·7N-2E	725	10N-2E	2970
7N-1E	295	*10N-1E	1770
700N	3070	1000N	648
7N-1W	2520	10N-1W	1805
7N-2W	7000	10N-2W	450
7N-3W	262	1.0N-3W	785
7N-4W	56	2N-5E	6800
8N-5E	390	2N-4E	121
√8N-3E	121	2N-3E	1410
/8N-2E	530	2N-2E	86 0
/8N-1E	5250	2N-1E	223
/8 00 N	4230	200N	4700
/8N-2W	22200	2N-1W	246
√8N-3W	930	2N-2W	400
9N-5E	1020	2N-3W	1 <i>5</i> 48 0
√9N-4E	665	2N-4W	630
√9N-3E	340	4s-5E	127
√9N-2E	900	4s-4E	665
/ 9N-1E	595	4S-3E	560
• 9 00 N	4130	4S-2E	36 0
9N-2W	5520	4S-1E	820 NA
√9N-3W	1515	400S	8640/5/29
			Can / /

ENGINEER MACKENERS

Sample No	Mercury(ppb)	Comple No Monage 1
4S-1W	8100	Sample No. Mercury(ppb)
45-2W	2780	6S-4W 4950
4s-3W	8400	6S-5W Slough 31000 from open cut
48-4W	29600	6S-6W 1805
4S-5W		7S-5E
	500 2440	7S-4E 210
5S-5E		7S-3E 220
5S-4E	430	7S-2E 1030
5S-3E	990	'7S-1E 700
58-2E	700	70 9 S
45S-1E	1380	7S-1W
′500S	1920	7S-2W 1850
5S-1W	900	7S-3W 1440
5S-2W	1350	7S-4W 3070
5S-3W	4950	7S-5W 380
5S-4W	3600	7s-6W 81
5S-5W	7200	7S-7W
√ 5S-6W	72	8S-5E 195
6S-5E	1210	8s-4e 79
6S-4E	238	8s-3E 150
· 6S-3E	530	8S-2E 135
6s-2E	1020	8S-1E 930
6S-1E	1180	800\$
600S	490	8s-1W 630
6S-1W	510	85-2W 262 ENG/A
65-2W	3170	8S-2W 262 ENGINER STORY OF MACKEN PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF
6 s- 3W	990	85-4W 180 7 2 E
		85-4W 80 7 FB
		うに認り

Sample No.	Mercury (ppb)		Mercury(ppb)
8s-5W	672	10S-3W	665
8s-6W	7400	10S-/:W	209
8s-7W	1080	10S-5W	1080
98-5E	210	10S-6W	4700
9S-4E	180	10S-7W	7870
9S-3E	240		
9S-2E	280		
9S-1E	468		
9 0 0S	173		
9S-1W	280		
√98-2W	48		
9S-3W	300		
'9S-4W	118		Polyr generally i North 50 t
′9S-5W	12120		The Speed of A
98-6W	2700		
√9S-7W	510		
10S-5E	118		ON ENGINER NACKEN
10S-4E	386		
10S-3E	140		[3() E
10S-2E	595		NE PORTONIA DE LA CONTRACTION
10S-1E	120		うと関う
1000S	135		
10S-1W	340		
			그 그는 그 것 같아 하는 사람들이 하는 사람들이 되었다. 그런 사람들이 하는 사람들이 되었다.

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10S-2W

FOR MERCURY RECOVERY

by

B. J. Schemer, ¹ R. E. Lindstrom, ² D. E. Shanks, ³ and T. A. Henrie ⁴

ABSTRACT

means of providing an effective and economical hydrometallurgical technique for extraction of mercury from its ores, particularly those too low in grade to allow economical metal recovery by retorting or furnacing techniques. Oxidation was accomplished by electrolysis of ore slurried with brine. Cinnabar was dissolved by oxidation of the insoluble sulfide to soluble mercuric salts. The mercury ion in a brine solution forms a stable tetrachloro complex. Typical laboratory experiments required 1 to 7 hours of electrolysis at 35-percent pulp density in a brine solution that contained 4 to 20 weight-percent sodium chloride (NaCl). Power consumption ranged from 10 to 50 kwhr/ton of dry ore. Mercury extraction values between 90 and 99 percent were obtained with all of the ores investigated. Subsequent mercury recovery from leach solutions was readily accomplished by precipitation on zine.

Pilot mill experiments in a 100- to 200-lb/hr extraction plant are in progress to quantify power and reagent requirements, and extraction and recovery data obtained to date closely parallel those obtained in the laboratory.

INTRODUCTION

An aqueous exidation treatment process developed by the Bureau of Mines has been shown to be effective for treating carbonaceous gold ores to improve gold recovery. Ozone, chlorine, sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl), and calcium hypochlorite [Ca(OCl)], were all shown to be effective reagents for exidizing the carbonaceous material in the ore. However, generation of exidizing conditions in the ore pulp by electrolysis of brine was the most efficient and offered the lowest operating cost. During the course of development of the exidation sequence for carbonaceous gold ores, it was observed that most of

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² Chemist.

⁴Research director.

All authors are with the Reno Metallurgy Research Center, Bureau of Mines, Reno, Nev.

the mercury present in the carbonaceous ore was dissolved. Investigation of this phenomenon showed that the very small amount of HgS mineral present in the ore was oxidized to a soluble salt during electrolysis. The effectiveness of electrooxidation in extracting the mercury in the parts-per-million range from carbonaceous gold area indicated that a sequence based on electrolysis of cinnabar ore, slurried with brine, would be effective in extraction of mercury from low-grade sources.

Many geologists and mill operators think that extensive deposits of low-grade mercury (1 to 2 lb/ton) exist in Nevada. This thought is confirmed by a University of Nevada study. Mercury recovery from these materials by retorting and furnacing techniques has generally been considered questionable from the economic standpoint, because of either untenable operating costs or excessive mercury losses in eff gases.

Hydrometal furgical processes for treating mercury ores are not new. The use of aqueous chloring solutions for leaching mercury was reported by Glaeser⁶ in a patent as early as 1927; however, no commercial use of the process was ever made. In the most recent patent, which appeared in 1969, by Parks and Baker,⁷ a hypochlorite system was used to leach mercury from the ore, and the dissolved mercury was recovered from solution by activated carbon. Although much of the chemistry involved is similar, electrolytic oxidation differs from hypochlorite addition in the following ways: (1) The chloride concentration is substantially higher, which facilitates formation of the stable and highly soluble ugCi₄ species, and (2) comparable data show that electrooxidation is more efficient than the addition of an equivalent amount of hypochlorite for dissolving mercury, which indicates that considerable exidation of the mineral occurs in the proximity of the anode.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Preliminary lectrockidation experiments were conducted on a variety of ores from the Clear Lake Region in California and the Tonopah district, the Midas region, and the Winnemucea and Reno areas of Nevada to evaluate the oxidation system. This investigation represented a wide range of host rock, varying from clay to hard opalite. The grade of the ore ranged from 0.6 to 20 lb mercury/ton. Extractions of 90 to 99 percent were obtained on all of these ores with 10 to 50 km/r/ton.

Important parameters in the electrooxidation process include temperature, salt concentration, current density, type of electrodes, electrode spacing, treatment rate (amp/ton of ore), and particle size of ore. Ore from the Goldbanks district, Nevada, was selected as a standard, and optimum operating conditions were studied for this ore. The ore occurs in volcanic rock and is opalitic in nature. The cinnabar is disseminated through the opalite rock and

Bailey, Edgar H., and David A. Phoenix. Quicksilver Deposits in Nevada. Nevada State BuMines, v. 38, No. 5, December 1944, p. 27.

⁶Glaeser, W. Method of Producing Mercury. U.S. Pat. 1,637,481, Aug. 2, 1927.

⁷Parks, G. A., and R. E. Baker. Mercury Recovery. U.S. Pac. 3,476,552,

Nov. 4, 1969.

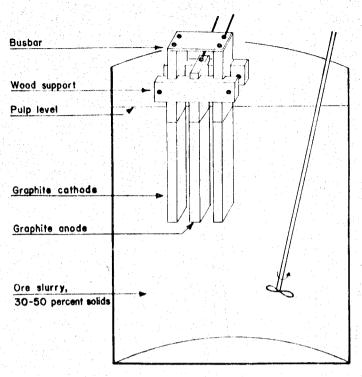


FIGURE 1. - Laboratory Scale Electrooxidation Cell and Agitation Vessel.

coats fragments and line fractions in the brecciated chalcedonic rock. The ore sample treated contained 2.5 lb mercury/ton.

Laboratory experiments were conducted in the following manner: (1) 1,350 grams ($^{\circ}$ 3 pounds) of ore, 300 grams of NaCl, and 2,500 ml of water were slurried together in a 4-liter beaker; (2) the temperature was held constant; (3) the electrodes were immersed in the ore slurry; and (4) the direct current was adjusted to the desired amperage. Figure 1 shows the reaction system. (The electrolytic cell dimensions are out of proportion so that the anode-cathode relationship can be shown.) The following conditions were chosen for initial runs, based on preliminary experiments and experience gained from development of the carbonaceous gold process: Ore size, 100 percent minus 35 mesh; treat-

ment rate, 5 amperes; current density, 0.3 amp/in²; pulp density, ~35 percent; salt concentration, 10 percent; reaction temperature, 30° C; and graphite-graphite electrodes. The possible cell reactions and overall oxidation and solution reactions are presented below. The hypochlorite ion is produced in the proximity of the anode, with equivalent production of hydroxyl ions and hydrogen gas at the cathode. The hypochlorite or oxidizing species then decomposes with the following oxidizing reactions:

$$0C1^{-} \rightarrow 0 + C1^{-},$$
 (1)

$$HgS + 40 \rightarrow HgSO_{\alpha}$$
, (2)

and

$$3 \lg SO_4 + 2 \lg_2 O \rightarrow \lg SO_4 \cdot 2 \lg O + 2 \lg_2 SO_4 .$$
 (3)

These two products have limited solubility in relatively neutral aqueous solutions. However, the tetrachloro mercury complex is very soluble in brine solutions. Therefore, the following reaction is proposed:

$$HgSO_4 + 4NaC1 \rightarrow Na_2 HgCl_4 + Na_2 SO_4$$
 (4)

or

$$HgSO_4 \cdot 2HgO + 12NaC1 + 2H_2O \rightarrow 3Na_2HgC1_4 + Na_2SO_4 + 4NaOH.$$
 (5)

If some direct oxidation of cinnabar takes place at the anode, it could be represented by the following equation:

$$HgS + 40^{-} - 8\varepsilon \rightarrow HgSO_{4}.$$
 (6)

Reactions 3 and 5 are included because the basic mercuric sulfate is known to exist in the oxidation sequence of cinnabar.

The effect of salt concentration on the power consumption required to attain 90- to 95-percent mercury extraction was the first parameter investigated (fig. 2). Salt concentrations of 5, 10, 16, and 20 percent were studied. Figure 2 shows a sharp decrease in required power for 90- to 95-percent extraction if the salt concentration is increased from 5 to 10 percent. The curve levels off between 10 and 20 percent salt. The data indicate that 10 percent salt is an adequate concentration to obtain high conductivity with the graphitegraphite electrode system. Because salt consumption is an important economic factor, selection of the salt concentration to be used in a commercial operation depends on several factors, such as the price of salt versus the cost of power at the millsite, the amenability of the particular ore to low-cost liquid-solid separation and washing schemes, and the attendant salt loss in the tails. For example, if operations were being conducted on an ore that filtered poorly and was located in close proximity to low-cost salt, a countercurrent decantation washing circuit would be favored. Conversely, if the filtering and washing characteristics of the ore were good, comparatively high prices could be paid for both power and salt because high salt concentrations

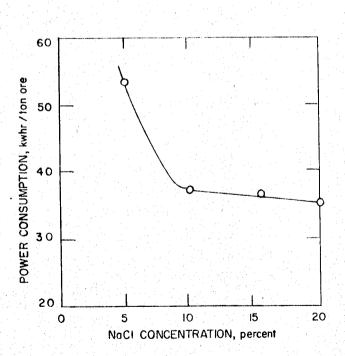


FIGURE 2. - Effect of NaCl Concentration on Power Consumption Required to Attain 90- to 95-Percent Mercury Extraction.

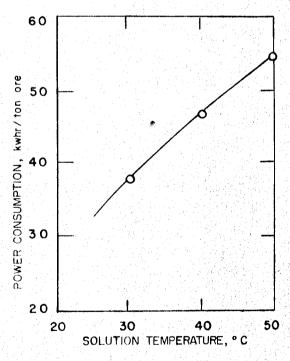


FIGURE 3. - Effect of Temperature on Power Consumption Required to Attain 90- to 95Percent Mercury Extraction.

could be used to reduce power consumption and the salt could easily be recovered for recycle.

Experiments are presently being conducted with a different electrolysis cell which incorporates a lead dioxide (PbO₂) anode-iron cathode electrode system. Data obtained with this cell indicate that effective oxidation is generated with half the salt concentration required for graphite-graphite electrodes. Successful development of this system will add considerable flexibility to the process in that salt and power costs will contribute much less to overall operating costs.

The effect of temperature on mercury extraction was determined at 30°, 40°, and 50° C. Figure 3 shows a sharp increase in power consumption as the temperature increases. The optimum temperature appears to be 30° C; moreover, a temperature of 30° C can be sustained in the system under the power conditions without external temperature control. Operation at temperatures much lower than 30° C would be impractical, because the heat generated during electrolysis would require cooling of the pulp. As temperature is a function of the conductivity of the electrolyte and the power required to accomplish the oxidation, both the electrode spacing and salt concentration are critical in maintaining desired temperature. Generally speaking, electrode spacing should be as close as is consistent with good pulp flow between the electrodes. The effect of increasing electrode spacing on voltage-amperage relationships is shown in figure 4. Spacings of 3/8, 5/8, and 1-1/8 inches, a pulp density of 40 percent, and a salt concentration of 10 percent were used for the experiments. As expected, the resistance drop across the electrodes increased directly with an increase in electrode spacing. Generally, the use of lower pulp density enables the use of closer electrode spacing, which in turn allows the use of lower salt concentrations. However, exploitation of these favorable effects is limited by lower concentrations of the oxidation agent and consequent slowing of reaction rates, difficulty in suspending solid particles in the agitation system, and increased complexity in solid-liquid separation.

The effect of treatment rate (amperes) on the mercury extraction, obtained at a total treatment of 17.5 amp hr, was determined in a series of experiments in which the ore was treated with current loads of 2.5, 5, and 10 amperes (fig. 5). The treatment rate of this particular ore appears to be a 5-ampere load, which corresponds to 3.5 hours of treatment time. If the treatment time is doubled to 7 hours (2.5 amperes), no change in the power consumption per ton is observed; but if the treatment time is halved (10 amperes), the power required for 90- to 95-percent extraction is increased nearly 20 percent. Because the treatment rate affects the sizing and capital cost of almost all the plant equipment, the increased cost of rectification and operation for higher treatment rates should be carefully balanced against the cost of smaller agitators and supplemental equipment.

Current density is a critical operating parameter in that excessive current densities tend to increase the temperature and decrease the efficiency of the desired chemical reactions at the electrode-electrolyte interface. Figure 6 shows the effect of increasing the current density from 0.15 to 1.0 amp/in² on the power required to give 90- to 95-percent mercury extraction at

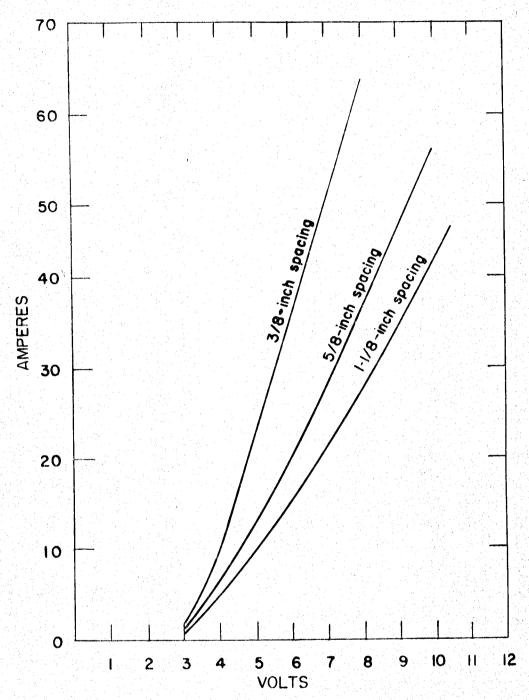
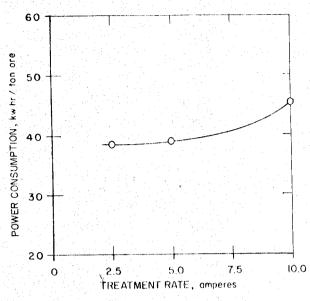


FIGURE 4. - Voltage-Amperage Relationship of Graphite-Graphite Electrode System at Various Electrode Spacings in 40-Percent Pulp Density Slurry.

a constant temperature of 30° C. The data show that current densities of <0.40 amp/in² should be used for maximum efficiency; however, the tonnage of a mill and the agitator size required are important considerations in projecting the practical number of cells that can be employed.



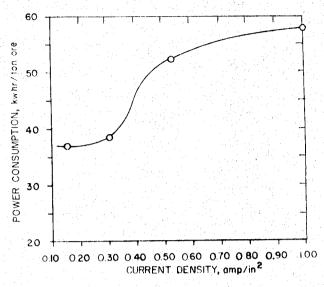


FIGURE 5. - Effect of Treatment Rate on Power Consumption Required to Attain 90- to 95-Percent Mercury Extraction.

FIGURE 6. - Effect of Current Density on Power Consumption Required to Attain 90-to 95-Percent Mercury Extraction.

Grinding is an important part of any hydrometallurgical process because it is necessary to release the mineral from the host rock so that it can come in contact with the reactants. The effect of particle size on mercury extraction was investigated using several ores with different host rocks. A coarse grind of 100 percent minus 35 mesh was shown to be sufficient for all ores tested. However, excessive grinding resulted in an 80 percent minus 200-mesh pulp and caused a decrease in mercury extraction. The decline in mercury extraction with fine grinding was attributed to a loss in oxidizing efficiency caused by consumption of oxidant by other minerals in the gangue material. A grind of 100 percent minus 35 mesh should not be construed as a standard grind required for the process, because each ore would have to be tested individually to determine the optimum particle size for reaction.

Precipitation of the mercury from leach solutions was investigated in the laboratory, with active metals such as zinc, iron, and aluminum. Zinc was the most effective for precipitation, followed by iron and finally aluminum which gave poor results under all conditions investigated. A pH of 2 to 3 gave the best results in the precipitation step. Because the ore buffered the recycle barren solutions, only a small amount of brine was required to maintain an electrolysis pH of 7 to 8. Iron does not amalgamate with mercury; consequently, experiments with iron as the precipitant resulted in recovery of part of the mercury as finite droplets and the remainder as a black iron-mercury sludge containing 30 to 50 weight-percent mercury. The only problem encountered with iron was that it became passive with time and a zinc scavenging step was required to obtain barrens in the 1- to 10-ppm range. The effect of pH and the amount of zinc in contact with solutions on mercury recovery is shown in table 1.

TABLE	1.	-	Effect	of p	H on	mercury	precipi	itation	with zir	ic dust
-------	----	---	--------	------	------	---------	---------	---------	----------	---------

Run	pH^1	Zinc dust in contact	Barrens,	Precipitation,
		with Hg, 1b Zn/1b Hg	ppm Hg	percent
1	5.0	1.30	530	3.7
2	4.0	1.30	260	52.8
3	3.0	1.30	5	99.1
4	2.5	1.30	21	96.2
5	3.0	1.06	78	98.6
6	3.0	.80	31	94.4
				···

¹pH adjusted with H2SO4.

The data indicate that near optimum pH for precipitation appears to be close to 3.0 with a ratio of 1.3 lb zinc/lb mercury in contact with the pregnant solution. Mercury recovery was 99.1 percent under these conditions, and zinc consumption per pound of mercury recovered was 0.5 pound. Since amalgamation with zinc starts immediately on contact with the pregnant solution, vigorous stirring is important.

A process flow diagram, based on laboratory data, is shown in figure 7. The conceptual plant would consist of a crusher; a ball mill; four agitation tanks for electrolytic oxidation; a digestion tank; provision for solid-liquid separation such as a filter, centrifuge, or thickeners; a clarifier; and a mercury precipitator. This general flow scheme was utilized for additional experiments conducted in the 100- to 200-lb/hr pilot mill shown in figure 8. Mercury ore from a hot-spring deposit containing 1.4 lb mercury/ton was used

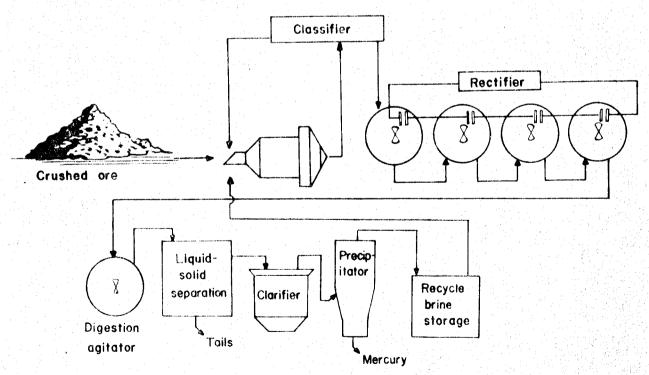


FIGURE 7. - Conceptual Plant Layout and Flow Diagram Based on Laboratory Data.

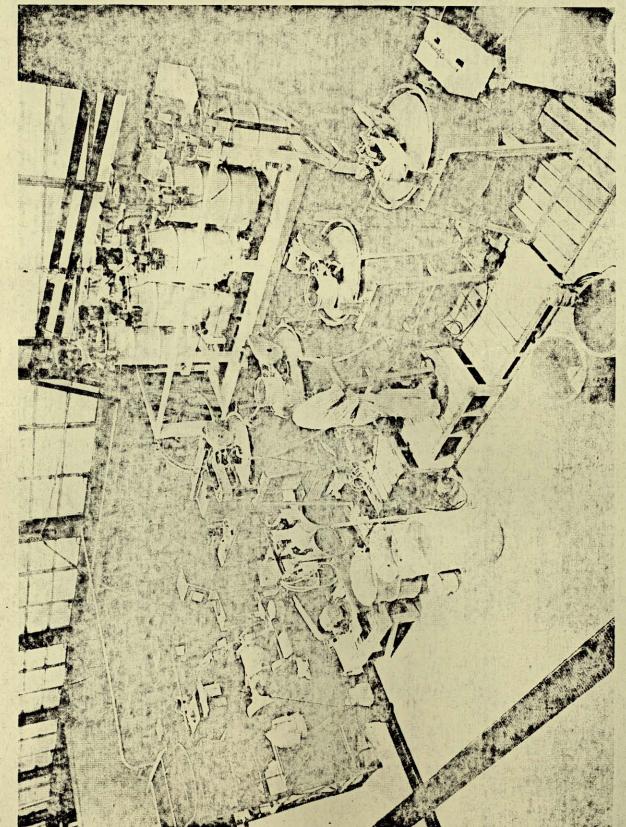


FIGURE 8. - Pilot Mercury Extraction Mill at Reno Metallurgy Research Center.

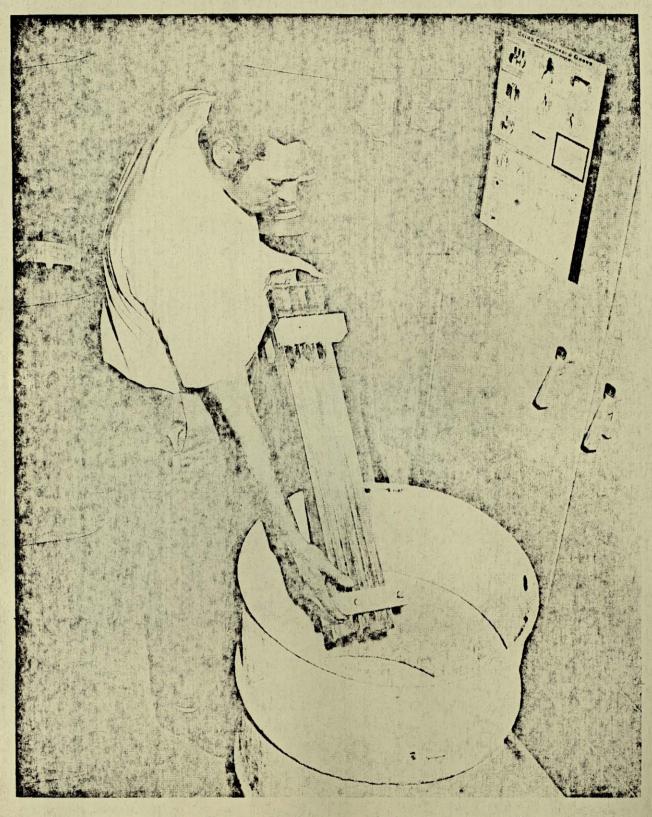


FIGURE 9. - Pilot Plant Oxidation Tank and PbO₂-Iron Electrolytic Cell.

for initial pilot mill experiments. The ore was ground to 100 percent minus 20 mesh and oxidized with a power consumption of 12 kwhr/ton of ore. Figure 9 is a closeup view of an oxidation tank, showing the PbO2 anode-iron cathode electrolytic cell utilized for the experiments. Total mercury recovery was 96 percent. The ore was filtered, and the filter cake was washed with a displacement wash. Total salt loss in the filter cake was 26 lb/ton of ore. pregnant solution was acidified with H2SO4 to a pH of 2.3 to 2.5 and recovered from leach solutions by two methods, including precipitation on detinned cans, followed by a scavenging precipitation on zinc shavings and precipitation with zinc dust. Barren electrolyte solutions were recycled to the ball mill. Precipitation on detinned cans closely paralleled laboratory experiments in which the iron was coated with mercury and became passive with time, thus requiring a zinc scavenging step to obtain low barrens. The use of a 30 percent excess of zinc dust for precipitation resulted in >99 percent (1 to 4 ppm barrens) mercury recovery as zinc amalgam. Distillation of the mercury for the zinc at 550° C resulted in complete recovery as metal. The precipitation procedure is being optimized at present.

CONCLUSIONS

The Bureau of Mines Reno Metallurgy Research Center has developed a hydrometallurgical process for low-grade mercury ores. Mercury recovery of 90 to 99 percent was obtained in the laboratory by electrooxidation of mercury ore pulps at 30° C with a 10-percent salt solution as the electrolyte. Power consumption ranged from 10 to 50 kwhr/ton ore. Operation of the process in a 100- to 200-lb/hr pilot mill substantiated laboratory data in demonstrating the feasibility of the process. Precipitation of mercury from solution in a sequential iron-zinc treatment was shown to be feasible; however, zinc was more effective as a precipitant in achieving low barren solutions. Pilot mill experiments are continuing with emphasis on evaluating a variety of different ores and optimizing the precipitation step. The use of PbO₂ anode-iron cathode electrode systems that show promise for effectively oxidizing the cinnabar minerals at salt concentrations in the 4- to 5-percent range is also presently under investigation.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF MINES

1605 EVANS AVENUE RENO, NEVADA 89505

July 23, 1970

Mr. W. C. Jones
Purcell Development Co., 1td.
Brisco, P. C.
Canada

Dear Mr. Jones:

We have completed laboratory scale study on the amenability of the ore sample you submitted from your Iron Point Mine property.

Analysis of the sample showed your ore to contain 16.3 pounds mercury per ton of ore. Treatment of the ore by electrooxidation at 3.2 volts and 5 amperes for 6 hours resulted in 96 percent extraction of the mercury contained in the sample. Sodium chloride concentration in the electrolyte solution was 200 pounds per ton solution. Pilot scale practice has shown that recovery of dissolved mercury from electrolysis solutions is readily accomplished by precipitation on zinc.

The test on the sample submitted indicates that the ore is amenable to mercury recevery by this technique.

Sincerely yours,

R. E. Lindstrom

Supv. Chemical Research Engineer

cc:

Mr. Lloyd M. Wilder, Purcell Mining Company, P. O. Box 579, Invermere, B. C., Canada

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Dawson, J. M.: Report on the Iron Point Mercury Property, Gold Run District, Humboldt County, Nevada, U.S.A. for Stampede International Resources Ltd., 1970
- Jones, W. C.: Iron Point Mercury Property, 1970
- Lovering, T. S.: Physical Factors in the Localization of Ore; Ore Deposits as Related to Structural Features; edited by W. H. Newhouse, pp. 5 to 9
- Newhouse, W. H.: Structural Features Associated with Ore Deposits Described in this Volume; Ore Deposits as Related to Structural Features; edited by W. H. Newhouse, pp. 9 to 53
- Schuette, C. N.: Occurrence of Quicksilver Orebodies; Transaction of the A.I.M.M.E., 1931, pp. 403 to 488
- Willden, Ronald: Geology and Mineral Deposits of Humboldt County, Nevada; Nevada Bureau of Mines, Bulletin 59, 1964



DECLARATION OF QUALIFICATIONS

OF

ANGUS G. MACKENZIE, P. ENG., MCIM

- 1. I, Angus G. MacKenzie, hereby certify that I am a Consulting Mining Engineer Mining Geologist. I am a graduate (B. E.) in Mining and Metallurgy of Nova Scotia Technical College, Halifax, N. S. and I have taken post-graduate economic geology at Dalhousie University.
- 2. I have spent the past thirty years in the Mineral Industries as a Mining Engineer and/or Mining Geologist and have maintained responsible positions in these fields at mining properties in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, the Yukon and Northwest Territories. I have also had considerable experience in the U.S.A. and Mexico.
- 3. I am a Registered Professional Engineer in the Provinces of Alberta and Manitoba and the Yukon Territory and am licensed to practise in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. I have been registered in Nova Scotia, Quebec and in the State of Colorado, U. S. A.
- 4. I have no personal interest directly or indirectly in the property herein reported on, nor in the securities of Purcell Development Co.

 Ltd. or any of its associated companies, nor do I expect to receive any such interest.

- 5. This report is the direct result of a property examination by myself and a review of all pertinent literature for the area, in addition to photo-geologic interpretation from colour and infra-red photography.
- 6. I have made this report at the request of Mr. L. Wilder of Purcell Development Co. Ltd.

Angus G. MacKenzie

Consulting Mining Engineer Mining Geologist

Calgary, Alberta. February 25, 1971.

September 18, 1970

Mr. Patrick Darcy
Parnasse Delaware Co. Inc.
Lenart Building, Suite 209
7000 East Camelback Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85215

Dear Patrick:

Re: Iron Point Hg Deposit, Winnemucca, Nevada

Conversations with the owners indicate that the property noted above may be of real interest to Penarroya. (Location map attached.)

The property is now held by a Canadian company under their American subsidiary, Purcell Mining. Contact with Mr. L. M. Wilder, the president, was made through the French Consulate who is a friend of Jean Merlo. The Canadian parent company, Purcell Developments, also holds three properties in Canada. It is a private company with three principals. Mr. L. M. Wilder of Invermere, B.C., W. Wolfender, and W. C. Jones. The latter two reside at Brisco, B.C.

W. C. Jones, their geologist, says that the ore is in fractured and silicified limestone with cinnabar occurring mainly along fractures. It is not the "opalite" type of cinnabar ore. They believe an open pit mining operation is possible. The grades reported are incredibly high and if we could see a few million tons open pit reserve it could be quite profitable. Testing by rotary or percussion drilling is proposed.

Jones also mentioned that a new mercury concentrating process appears to be practical for their deposit. This was discovered

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by the U.S.G.S. Eareau of Mines while working on the Cortez gold ores and a report on the process can be obtained from the Bureau of Mines. The author and discoverer is Dr. T. A. Henry.

Mr. Wilder will be going to the United States next week and there will be an opportunity to see the property at that time. If you wish to contact him, his home phone number is 604-342-9544 at Invermere, E.C.

There is a possibility of a joint venture association with Purcell Development in B.C., however on present evidence their most attractive property is in your area of jurisdiction.

I do not have any reports or further information on this property but Jones will have these available during his visit to the property. There may be a record of the old Iron Point Mines available in Nevada.

Best regards.

Yours truly,

PB/ia encl.

cc. P. de Bretizel

P.T.B

Philip T. Black Chief Geologist

