

NBMG OFR 83-11
See also 83-12 for
geochemical results.

LIDA DISTRICT

(95)
Item 13

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Mines of the Lida district are located in the vicinity of the town of Lida in the southern Palmetto mountains. Most of the prospects in the district are to the east of the town and north and south of Lida Canyon.

Lincoln, 1923, gives 1871 as the year of discovery of mineralization in the area. Stamp mills were operating in 1875, and additional production was made during the period 1908-21. Recorded production from the district between 1871 and 1940 is given as slightly under \$600,000 (Couch and Carpenter, 1943). As is the case with many old districts, the names of the original producing mines have been lost over the years. None of the mines listed in Couch and Carpenter's 1948 publication can be matched with current mine names.

The ore was mostly hornsilver or silver-bearing galena, although gold and copper occur in varying amounts (Ball, 1906, 1907). The deposits occur in quartz or calcite veins mostly in limestone of the Deep Spring, Poleta, and Harkless Formations (Albers and Stewart, 1972).

The original mines of the district are probably those located to the west of Lida on the east base of Palmetto Mountain. The district shares a boundary and actually some mines with the adjacent Palmetto district, and the occurrences around the Blue Dick mine (Palmetto district) and the Centennial mine (Lida district) may be those mines listed in Lincoln as the original Lida discoveries. Just south of Lida, in the area of the Florida mine, numerous old workings explore quartz veins in brecciated limestone. Fine-grained dike rocks occur in conjunction with the veins. The veins are oxidized to shallow depths; malachite and azurite are seen in the oxidized zone, galena, sphalerite, and chalcopryrite in the deeper workings.

Most of the recent activity in the district has been centered around the Mount Jackson area about six miles east of the old Lida area. Exploration for porphyry-type copper mineralization has been done by several companies, including

Hughes Mining Company and, most recently, by Continental Oil Company. Conoco was active in the area from 1975 through 1977, and conducted a program of detailed geophysical, geochemical, and geological evaluation of the large Mount Jackson claim group. The results of this work are on file at the Nevada Bureau of Mines offices in Reno.

Geochemical sampling and alteration mapping of the property presented the picture of a large area of alteration and quartz veining with high copper and molybdenum values at surface. Drilling, however, apparently failed to confirm the presence of porphyry mineralization.

The area was quiet when visited in 1982.

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