USBM unpublished rept. White Pine Co., Mount Wheeler Sec. 14,T12N,R68E Owned by Anaconda Co.

The Mount Wheeler property consists of more than 100 lode claims situated on the crest and west slope of the Snake Creek Range, about 50 miles southeast of Ely, the supply and shipping point on the Nevada Northern Railroad. (33) ITEM 2

In the late 1940's the property was by James Williams for the purpose of developing the St. Lawerence fissure which is evidenced on the crest of the

range by shallow surface workings and a drift of considerable length that trends north from an exposure on the south end of the property. This area is more-or-less inaccessible, except by horse or pack animals, so a cross-cut adit was started from the base of the hill about 7,000 feet west. From this opening tungsten mineralization was encountered and developed during the early 1950's.

Rocks exposed in the area consist of limestones, shales and quartzite that strike east and dip at low angles south. These formations have been broken and displaced by a system of steep north trending faults, along which displacement varies from a few feet to several hundred feet.

The ore bodies occur in scheelite-bearing quartz veins and as nearly horizontal pipe like replacements in limestone. Usually they are found in a favorable limestone member that is contained in the Mt. Wheeler(Combined Metals)beds. The ore bodies pinch and swell along the strike and in thickness they vary from a few inches to 15 feet.

The steep north trending faults and fractures cut the ore bodies. The east side is commonly down-thrown and displacements may be as much as 25 feet. One of the more prominent faults has been named the Sheffield fissure with an inferred displacement of several hundred feet. Most of the north trending fractures are post-mineral, although a few contain scheelite and are pre-mineral.

In addition to scheelite, later work disclosed the ore contained beryllium, orthosilicates(phenacite and bertrandite). In 1961 this was explored and further developed by the Anaconda Co. to determine whether the property could become a producer of beryllium ore. Resulting from this work, the property was acquired by the Anaconda Co. on a purchase plan extending over several years.

Development openings on the property consist of the cross-cut adit 6,800 feet long, from which several thousand feet, drifts, raises, and cross-cuts have been extended.

Tungsten ore produced from development openings has been stock-piled on the mine dump. This ore contains about 0.7 percent $WO_3$. A few carloads of ore was sent to Stockton, Utah for mill testing purposes.

No attempt was made to systematically mine the scheelite-bearing ore sections and more of the ore reserves are still available in the mine workings.