from NBMG OFR 83-9
See also 83-10 for geochemical results.

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Item 8

MARYS MOUNTAIN AREA

2950 0007

Marys Mountain is located in the southern Tuscarora Mountains just south of the Maggie Creek district. The mountain is a north-south elongate ridge composed of two flat-topped peaks which are greater than 7,5000' in elevation. The north peak is underlain by upper plate siliceous sediments of the Ordovician Vinini Formation (Stewart and Carlson, 1976). The southern peak is composed of rhyolitic volcanic or hypabyssal rock. South of Marys Mountain toward Hwy 80, there are a few small, isolated remnants of upper Paleozoic limestones and clastic rocks. Throughout the area, the rocks are deformed by folding and high-angle faulting.

A small prospect located on the Sal claims south of Marys Mountain is developed in siltstones, mudstones and conglomerates cut by a N15W, 65SW fault zone. Mudstone breccia on the dump is cemented and veined by abundant radiating crystals of green malachite (sample 1537B). Some sulfides, mostly pyrite, and gossan were also noted.

The north peak of Marys Mountain is the site of the Cherry Springs (Marys claims) barite vein deposit (Papke , in press). The southeast flank of the peak was recently (within last 5 years) developed by terraced dozer cuts and drilling. The host rocks are shale , siltstone , mudstone and some chert of the Ordovician Vinini Formation. The beds are folded near the minesite and display bedding and fracture coatings of iron and manganese oxides. Iron-stained, grey barite vein was sampled from the floor of the cuts (sample 1541), but no vein material was found in place.

The saddle area between the two peaks is underlain by rubbly, silicified outcrops of Vinini cherts and shales. The outcrops are in part brecciated, folded and cut by minor high-angle faults. Recent trenching and drilling in the area was probably done 3-5 years ago as part of a precious metals exploration

program. Silicic volcanic and possibly shallow intrusive rocks form bold outcrops on the southern peak south of the drill area. Although no obvious mineralization other than minor shows of copper oxides was observed, the volcanic rocks and siliceous sediments display effects of hydrothermal alteration.

Selected References:

Papke , in press, Barite deposits in Nevada: NBMG Bul.

Stewart, J. H. and Carlson, J. E. (1976) Geologic map of north-central Nevada: NBMG Map 50.