

## Lincoln County

Cinch — PATTERSON DIST.

The Cinch claims are near the south end of the Shell Creek Range, 2 miles west of U. S. Highway 93 at a point about <sup>45</sup>50 miles north of Pioche, Nevada. The deposit, a few hundred yards north of the road to Cave Valley, is a short distance <sup>EAST</sup>~~west~~ of the main mountain range on a small knoll of bedrock almost completely surrounded by alluvium. The claims were owned in 1943 by Owen Walker, and leased to Crawford and Pollard. Up to June 1943, the lessees shipped 517 tons of ore with an average grade of 0.46 percent of  $WO_3$  to Metals Reserve Co. in Salt Lake City. Exploration consists of 2 short adits amounting to less than 100 feet in all, and a number of pits and open cuts. The ore mined was excavated at the surface.

The tungsten occurs as scheelite in a brecciated quartz vein

that extends about 400 feet in a northerly direction (fig. 113). The

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✓ Fig. 113. ~~Geologic~~ Map of the Cinch property, Shell Creek Range,  
Lincoln County, Nevada.

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quartz breccia, several feet wide, is a well-consolidated mass of angular fragments of quartz vein, limestone, and silicified limestone in a finer-grained matrix of the same material. The scheelite is very fine-grained, and practically all of it is in the fragments of vein quartz. The dip of the breccia cannot be definitely determined, but appears to range from  $10^{\circ}$  -  $60^{\circ}$  E. The adjacent country rock is brecciated limestone in which individual fragments range in size from small grains to blocks 10 or more feet long.

Because of the finely-disseminated nature of the scheelite, entire pieces of quartz fluoresce in ultraviolet light even though the content of  $WO_3$  is not high. A chip sample of highly fluorescent material, taken by S. W. Hobbs of the Geological Survey across the

face of the lower adit, was assayed in the Geological Survey laboratory and found to contain 1.14 percent of WO<sub>3</sub>. The grade of carload lots, of the 15 cars shipped to Metals Reserve Co., ranged from 0.25 to 0.87 percent of WO<sub>3</sub>.

Because of the limited exposures and the broken character of the ore, no reliable estimate of ore reserves can be made. The ore breccia is narrow (1 to 2 feet), structurally complicated, and of low grade; it probably could not be mined successfully by underground methods unless the value of tungsten were much greater than in 1943.