

(Mineral County)
(6N, 36E)

Gunmetal

USBM Unpubl.
Data, 1963

(205)
Item 10

36000010

The Gunmetal tungsten property consists of 12 and a fraction lode claims, situated on the east flank of the Pilot Mountains, about 20 miles southeast of Mina, the shipping point and distributing center.

The country rocks consist of limestone which has been intruded by granodiorite. The sediments strike northeast and dip 20° NW. Adjacent to the granite contact the flat lying limestone beds have been altered to tactite in bands varying from a few feet to 35 feet or more. Scheelite mineralization in the tactite bands occurs where the beddings are cut by a west trending fault that dips 70° N. Most of the ore bodies are within 200 feet or less of this fault. From the main fault there are a number of adjustment faults that strike $N.60^{\circ}$ to 70° E. and dip north. Some of the minor faults contain considerable scheelite and have the appearance of fissure veins.

In addition to a number of surface pits and cuts, development openings consist of 2 adit levels 150 feet vertically apart. The lower adit, 175 feet long bears west and is entirely in granite. However, some scheelite is exposed in a cross slip, 75 feet from the portal. The upper adit, about 600 feet in length follows the west trending fault on the north side of the granite-limestone contact. As exposed in this working, the limestone beds have been altered to tactite. Scheelite occurred in most of the tactite on the granite contact and in small fissures branching off from the main fault. A considerable amount of ore was mined from inclined drifts that follow the bedding in the tactite. Ore from the fissures was mined by shrinkage stoping.

Production amounted to 9,600 tons from which 1,290 units of WO_3 were recovered.

Sampling of isolated pits and outcrops indicate an ore grade of 0.5 percent WO_3 available for mining. Ore segments in the principal workings