

June 17, 1944

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Item 19MARKER GEORGE PATENTED CLAIM
Pershing County, NevadaOreanaby
Paul C. Bateman

The Marker George patented claim is on the west flank of the Humboldt Range, Pershing County, Nevada, about $\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Rocky Canyon. It adjoins the Oreana Tungsten Mine on the north. The property is accessible from Oreana by 6.7 miles of gravel and dirt roads.

The claim is owned by George Stoker of Winnemucca. For a brief time in 1940 it was leased to Rare Metals, Inc. From May 1941 to May 1942, the Oreana Extension Company (Carl A. Wagner, president, and C. A. Michaels, secretary and treasurer) explored the property by digging 1200 feet of adits and raises, and numerous trenches. According to W. M. Cooney of Lovelock, who worked for Oreana Extension and who leased the property from August 1942 to February 1943, this company produced \$20,000 worth of tungsten ore at a cost of \$7,000. These figures, however, do not seem reasonable. The property is now idle.

I spent one day, June 17, 1944, at the property with W. M. Cooney.

Scheelite occurs in narrow pegmatite dikes that cut across limestone and hornfels. The beds strike N. W. and dip 20-45° N. E. The dikes also strike N. W., but they dip 60-80° N. E. For the most part, the dikes consist of quartz and feldspar or of quartz alone, but locally they contain crystals of pale blue

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beryl and black tourmaline.

Five pegmatite dikes have been explored by the adits, raises, and trenches. The dikes vary in thickness from 0.5 to 10.0 inches but average about 4 inches thick. The dikes are too widely separated for a drift to explore more than one.

The scheelite occurs sporadically in rich streaks in the dikes and in the adjacent country rock. According to Cooney, the dikes at times are composed entirely of scheelite. The best scheelite I saw was in a dike in hornfels just below a limestone bed. The dike was much thinner in the limestone and in places failed to penetrate it at all. The limestone apparently acted as a trap, for downward the amount of scheelite in the vein decreased rapidly.

Although 1200 feet of adits and raises were dug, there are no stopes, showing that no ore shoots suitable for stoping were found. Most of the ore streaks I saw were only a few inches or a few feet long, and not more than 2 or 3 inches thick.

It is unlikely that additional exploration would result in finding ore shoots large enough for full scale mining operations. The dikes are suitable for leaser methods, and occasional small lots of high-grade ore may be produced.