

The Sawtooth district is in northern Pershing County 12 miles east of north from Scossa by automobile road.

Placer gold was discovered in this area in 1931 by Rufus Stevens as a result of prospecting stimulated by the discovery of gold veins at Scossa. During the summer of 1931, 35 or more men were dry-washing in the district with encouraging results. It is said that some individuals recovered as much as \$35 per day. In 1932 the Oregon-Nevada Mining Co. acquired about 300 acres and attempted to work the gravels on a large scale. According to John G. Huntington, mining engineer, production of placer gold has been valued at about \$12,000.

The Oregon-Nevada Mining Co. used a caterpillar tractor and scraper to haul the top gravel to a washing plant which comprised a trommel screen with 3/4-inch holes and a disintegrating machine equipped with wooden paddles. After the material was disintegrated, it was treated on two home-made concentrating tables. The concentrates from the tables were cleaned with a hand rocker. This plant was unsuccessful, and the holdings of the company were taken over by A. A. Goehring of Sawtooth. In March 1936 Goehring was planning to lease the placer ground to individuals on a rental basis of 25 cents per day for each hand-driven dry washer used.

An unusual feature of the placer is that the best values are found at shallow depths - 8 inches to 3 feet above a false clay bedrock. The gravel is rough and angular, and considerable clay is present. The clayey material has to be dried and pulverized before satisfactory saving can be made with dry washers. The gold is coarse and rough and averages about 880 fine. Nuggets worth as much as \$4.50 have been found.

Scossa District

The Scossa district is in the Antelope Range 50 miles by road north of Lovelock and 23 miles west of Inlay. It was discovered in 1930 by James and Charles Scossa. The value of the ore shipped to smelters or treated locally is estimated to be about \$30,000. Seven carloads of ore shipped from the Dawes property are said to have averaged \$50 per ton. From 1934 to March 1936, \$9,000 in bullion was recovered from ore treated in a small mill owned by Olsen brothers and their associates. The nearest water is in Rosebud Canyon, 2 miles north of Scossa, where wells have been sunk.

The formation comprises slates and mica schists irregularly interbedded with strata of limestones and sandstones. The slates are intruded by small quartz-diorite dikes. The ore occurs in quartz veins 1 foot to 6 feet wide. The dips range from 50° to 75°. The values are chiefly in gold with some silver.

The Scossa strike was made on the North Star claim of a group owned by the Dawes Gold Mine, Inc. Rich ore was found at a place on the surface where the vein is about 6 feet wide. About 18 inches of the hanging-wall part of the vein contains stringers of gold-bearing quartz of high value. For a time after the initial discovery there was considerable activity. The deepest shaft in the district is the Dawes shaft, 400 feet deep as measured on the incline. Total development work is estimated to be about 4,000 feet.

The Dawes property consists of three claims. Lateral workings from the Dawes shaft total 1,000 feet. In 1935 the company erected a mill 2 miles north of Scossa that operated only a short time. Mill equipment consists of a jaw crusher, a 4-foot-diameter ball mill of the Ellis type equipped with 125-pound steel balls, a 6- by 4-foot amalgamating plate, and a small concentrating table. The power for