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(33)
Item 34

Serial Number
Rev-045255

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Area II

CLOSED

MINERAL REPORT

Validity and Mineral
Character Examination

near

Searchlight, Nevada

(Title)

LANDS INVOLVED
Clark County
Mount Diablo Meridian
T. 28 S., R. 63 E.
Lot 6

December 15, 1959

(Date)

By
Alexander M. Peterson,
Geologist

Approved

Charles E. Hume

Introduction -

A validity examination of Lot 8, T. 28 S., R. 63 E., MDM, was assigned to me by Edgar Hollingsworth, Valuation Engineer, on May 12, 1959. One mining claim was known to exist on the land.

This examination is in conjunction with Recreation or Public Purposes Application Nev-045155, Clark County Board of Commissioners.

The subject land is located about 1/2 mile west of Searchlight and is easily reached by two graded roads. The moderate undulating west-sloping surface is dissected by one west-trending and one south-trending wash.

Status and History of Area -

Lot 8 contains 24.75 acres. It is unappropriated and unreserved Public Domain.

The Searchlight District was discovered in 1897 and has produced over \$4,500,000 from vein deposits of gold, silver, copper, and lead. Greatest activity was between 1902 and 1912, but mines continued production up through 1934.

Geology -

"The oldest rock in the district is a granite gneiss exposed in the southern part of the district. It is overlain by a group of andesitic flows and breccias that have been largely converted to hornfels. These rocks were intruded in a most complex pattern by andesite porphyry, but both the andesite porphyry and the earlier rocks were subsequently intruded by a large body of quartz monzonite. The emplacement of the veins followed the invasion of quartz monzonite. Extrusion of another series of volcanic rocks, exposed chiefly in the northwestern part of the district followed a period of erosion. The ages of the different rocks are unknown, though the gneiss is judged to be pre-Cambrian, and the later rocks are considered to be early and late Tertiary. Warping and faulting followed the accumulation of the last group of volcanic rocks."

Rocks exposed on Lot 8 consist entirely of andesite porphyry, which, in a few places, carries some epidote. The only structure exposed is a small fault zone exposed in an incline a few feet north of the central portion of the area. The fault, with a breccia zone of 12 to 18 inches strikes north 10 degrees east and dips 40 degrees to the west. No alteration was seen in the gouge and breccia material or on the mine dump.

Geologic Inference -

According to the literature, most of the veins strike in an east-west direction, however, some are known to strike in virtually a north-south direction. Roughly, 1200-1500 feet due south of the central portion of Lot 8 is situated in the old Cyrus Noble mine. And according to reference

material used in this report "this mine is credited with a small production in 1904-1908, 1914, 1917-1923, and 1928. The shaft and the drifts reveal a gently dipping vein with comb quartz and brecciated country rock, chiefly hornfels, though andesite porphyry appears in several places in the footwall. The vein curves sharply but the average strike appears to be about due north. The mine is reported to have had an unusually high proportion of silver for the district." And again 1200-1500 feet north of the central portion of Lot 8, is located the old Searchlight Parallel mine. This mine produced small quantities of ore from 1905 through 1918. "On account of the low dips of 20 to 35 degrees, curvature of the vein causes a wide variation in strike. Probably the average strike is about north as indicated on the 310 foot level. The vein consists of quartz and shattered altered country rock that is chiefly andesite porphyry." The average dips of the vein here is 23 degrees to the west and that of the Cyrus Noble is 30 degrees to the west. As stated under Geology, the fault-breccia zone observed a few feet north of the central portion of Lot 8 strikes North ten degrees east and dips 40 degrees to the west. No doubt the miners, when they put down this incline and a shaft, located 200 feet to the southeast, were trying to find this same vein described above. However, in observing the dumps located here, I doubt if the vein was ever found. This incline and shaft was inaccessible and therefore was not examined over a few feet below the surface. Evidence, however, is too strong not to assume and infer that the above described vein does not pass through the land examined.

Method of Examination -

From the NW corner of the Cyrus Junior patented claim (marked 5-2091) I followed bearings and distances as described on Mineral Survey Plats - Nos. 2091, 4083, and 3902, utilizing a compass-pacing method, in order to delineate Lot 8. All prospects, shafts, and workings were examined and mapped. I checked for mining claims, took one sample, and photographed the area. Dates of examination were May 22 and September 17, 1959.

Improvements and Sampling -

Improvements consist of 9 pits or cuts and one shaft. Three of the cuts appear to be recent, within a year or two. The remaining improvements are quite old. No mineralization was observed by my visual examination of these improvements. One channel sample was taken from the east portion of the Croppy claim and panning results showed magnetite, epidote, zircon, and other accessory volcanic and granitic minerals.

Mining Claims -

I found two mining claims which cover, in part, or entirely all of Lot 8.

The claims are:

1. Name: King Parciel
Loc. Date: August 23, 1952
Desc: $W\frac{1}{2}SW\frac{1}{4}SE\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$, $NE\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$
portion not covered by Cyrus Jr. No. 2091, $NW\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$
portion not covered by Horseshoe No. 2091, Sec. 34,
containing 20 acres in the Searchlight Mining District.

Locator: Richard K. Queen
Box 133, Searchlight, Nevada

2. Name: Croppy
Loc. Date: November 28, 1958
Desc: 300 feet easterly and 300 feet westerly of Valley end
lines ... center westerly and about 300 feet northerly
and southerly...center end lines of Valley claim is
approximately 300 feet easterly of disc. part.

Locators: Joe Reynolds, Henderson, Nevada
A. C. Hoffsommer, Henderson, Nevada

I was unable to find Mr. Queen, and after checking with the postmistress at Searchlight, I was advised that he and his family had moved. The postmistress would not give his address, but would forward mail on to him.

Recorder's Office -

I was unable to find any record of the King Parciel having been recorded. The Croppy mining claim, however, was recorded December 8, 1958 in Book 180 and Instrument No. 146720.

Discovery -

A. King Parciel claim.

Because of the relatively thin alluvial cover and lack of valuable placer minerals, no discovery has been made within meaning of mining laws.

B. Croppy Claim.

No discovery was observed. However, I was unable to examine the shaft located on this claim.

Conclusion -

1. Lot 8 is mineral in character.
2. King Parciel placer claim is invalid.
3. The Croppy mining claim is invalid.

Recommendations -

I recommend that the King Parciel placer claim and the Croppy mining claim be contested on the following charge:

1. Minerals have not been found within the limits of the claims in sufficient quantities to constitute a valid discovery.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander M. Peterson

Alexander M. Peterson, Geologist

Reference: "Geology of the Searchlight District Clark County Nevada"
Geological Survey Bulletin 906-D



Photo No. 10 - View of sample site, face cleaned prior to sampling.



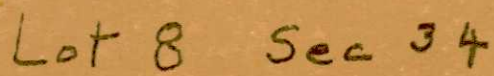
Photo No. 11 - View of channel and material to be quartzed.



Photo No. 12 - View of sacked sample.



Panoramic view of Lot 8, looking SSW to NW. View is from east boundary of area.



Lot 8 Sec 34

(See 34) 285 63E

CLOSED

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Memorandum for the Record (Supplemental Report)

November 4, 1960

This memorandum is being written as a supplement to a Mineral Report written by A. M. Peterson on December 15, 1959. Peterson's report involves a "Validity and Mineral Character Examination near Searchlight, Nevada". This memorandum report concerns the Croppy mining claim. The Croppy is one of the two claims examined by A. M. Peterson during the prosecution of the assignment.

Peterson had originally intended to validate the claims on the strength of favorable geologic conditions surrounding the area examined. No actual discovery was observed on the claim and the examiner was unable to contact the locators of the claim for the purpose of obtaining additional information concerning it.

Because of the numerous decisions, opinions and releases regarding the use of "geologic inference" in establishing the validity of a mining claim, I suggested that the author of the original report change his recommendation and contest the claim.

Complaints were sent to the locators of the claim, but were returned unclaimed because of the inadequacy of the address. A diligent search revealed a current address and personal service was effected.

On October 4, 1960 Mr. Reynolds visited the State Office and asked that we withdraw the charges. He revealed that he was operating a mine on a patented claim adjacent to the Croppy and felt that the values found in the mine extended over to the Croppy claim. Mr. Reynolds had apparently reopened an old mine after Peterson's examination.

Mr. Reynolds claimed that one of the dozer cuts described by Peterson exposed a mineralized structure comparable to the one being exploited in the above-mentioned mine. According to Reynolds' statement, the reason Alex didn't see the exposure is because it was covered over when he made his examination. The cut was immediately adjacent to a county road and the county commissioners, considering it a hazard, requested that Reynolds fill it in.

During his visit to the State Office, I agreed to meet Mr. Reynolds on October 14, 1960 for the purpose of examining his mine and determining its relationship to the subject claim.

On October 14, 1960 Mr. Egan of the Area 2 Minerals Staff and I, in the company of Mr. Reynolds and his son, examined the mine.

The mine is developed through an inclined shaft extending S. 54 degrees W for 395 feet at a dip of approximately 28 degrees. The incline follows the dip of the fault zone in which the mineralization is confined.

ft levels are established at fifty-foot intervals along the inclined shaft. Its extend along the strike of the fault for at least 200 feet on either side of the shaft and several levels were extensively stoped. So far as could be determined, none of the levels had been thoroughly explored along the strike of the fault and the deposit, from what could be observed during brief examination, was far from being depleted.

The value of the ore varies from \$15.00/ton to around \$200.00/ton and averages about \$40.00/ton.

Because of haulage problems encountered in the present workings, the owners of the mine intend to sink a shaft on the Croppy claim with the intent of intersecting the extension of the ore structure that is now being mined. They expect to start sinking after the first of the calendar year.

The Recreation and Public Purpose Application was filed on March 25, 1957 and apparently predates the mining claim reported to have been located November 28, 1958. Mr. Reynolds explained that the Croppy claim was located many years ago and the reported date is actually the date of an amended notice of location, ^{filed} filed to reflect a change in the ownership of the claim. Mr. Reynolds did not have the quit claim deed with him at the time we discussed the matter, but he agreed to furnish us with a copy if so requested.

As a result of the interview with Mr. Reynolds and the examination of his mine I recommend that the charges against the Croppy mining claim be withdrawn, the contest dismissed and Recreation and Public Purpose Application Nev-045155 rejected.

E. A. Hollingsworth