REPORT ON THE MINING CLAIMS

of

WM. A. SMITH

near the

ROADSIDE MINE

at

SHARP, NYE COUNTY, NEVADA,

by

JAY A. CARPENTER,
E. M.

Tonopah, Nevada,

September 14, 1919.

(262)

Item 8

TONOPAH-NEVADA
September 14, 1919.

Mr. Wm. A. Smith,
Pioche, Nevada.

Dear Sir:

At your request I made an examination on September 11th and 12th of a number of claims adjoining the Roadside Mine, 3½ miles south and east of Sharp P.O. in Nye County, Nevada, and about 75 miles westerly by road from Pioche, Nevada.

The names and location of the claims with respect to the claims of the Roadside Mining Company are as follows: the Millie Ray, an east-west claim, lying north of the Hidden Treasure claim, being thus on the north end of the Roadside property; the Queen, an east-west claim, lying south of the Roadside and West Side claims, being thus on the south end of the Roadside property; the Sunny Tom, a north-south claim connecting the Queen with the Southern Jack and Valley View claims; and then a series of north-south claims end on end for 6000 ft. covering a north-south quartz dike in the limestone, starting with the Southern Jack claim on the south end, followed by the Valley View, Thanksgiving and Yellowstone claims.

I personally found and read the discovery notice on each claim, took note of the discovery work and other work done, saw most of the corners and found no conflicting claims, and I am satisfied that the locators have made valid locations, and can hold the ground as long as they comply with the United States laws governing mineral claims.

Since very little work has been done on these claims, their value at the present time is their location adjoining or near the claims of the Roadside Mining Company on which is an excellent surface mineral showing, that is now under development. A description of this showing and a history of its development is therefore a necessary part of this report.

In June, 1918, your experienced prospector's eye caught sight of an outcrop of iron and manganese oxides in limestone close to the public road leading from Sharp toward Pioche, and your knowledge in the Coeur d'Alene lead-silver district lead you to locate and work on this outcrop. Being war times it was worthy of work on account of the surface showing of manganese oxides, but this soon proved secondary to the lead-silver values that showed up in the first shallow shaft. The attractive feature of the prospect was the high silver content of the lead sulphide or galena, and as you continued to sink the shaft on the ore you sorted out the pieces of galena to make a small shipment by express to pay for the necessary prospector's bacon and beans, and piled on the dump the balance of the ore ready for shipment to the smelters. The high silver value of the galena, the good grade of shipping ore, and the excellent showing in the forty foot shaft, lead to the purchase in March of your group of five claims by strong financial interests.

Four of these claims, the Roadside, the West Side, the New Year and the Black Prince are north-south claims with adjoining side lines, and the Hidden Treasure is an east-west claim lying north of the Roadside and West Side claims.

I visited the property in May, 1919, and was very favorably impressed with its possibilities. On this September trip I was disappointed to find that the only development work accomplished since that time was to sink the shaft from forty feet depth to 100 feet, with no cross-cuts or drifts.

From my limited time on the ground I made the following observations on the Roadside property. The outcrop of iron and manganese oxides occurs in the bottom of an east-west draw, extending for about 150 ft. along the draw with a width of about 50 ft. The outcrop is entirely in a black limestone, the bedding of which has a north-south strike with a dip 45 degrees to the east. From an examination of the shaft the ore does not make along the bedding planes, but apparently along fracture planes with the same north-south strike, but with a dip nearly at right angles being 55 degrees to the west. Naturally the ore will make out from these fractures in favorable places along the bedding planes, giving good lenses of ore. Going north from the outcrop along the limestone I found it considerably altered, showing a great deal of calcite with pieces of iron oxide float. On the Hidden Treasure claim, which lies across the end of the Roadside claim, an eruptive rock outcrops on the surface. This rock contains in a quartz ground mass, small quartz crystals and large feldspar crystals, with a scarcity of other rock minerals. This would class this rock as one of the rhyolite family, and the large feldspar crystals would give it the common rock designation of a porphyry. My stay on the ground was not long enough to trace out the outcrop of this rock to find

if its general direction was also north and south, but the wide quartz dike to the east of the lime and porphyry outcropping on the Roadside and Hidden Treasure claims, has a north-south course. This dike has been locally termed a "quartzite" but I do not believe it is a sedimentary rock as it has more the characteristics of an intrusive. The fracture planes in the lime on which the ore occurs would meet this quartz dike with depth, and the ascending mineralizing solutions may have come up along this dike, or along the porphyry and followed out into the lime along parallel branch fracturing. The line of the creek flowing northerly and southerly through the Roadside claims is probably an old fissure line, and may possibly be the line along which the mineralizing solutions ascended.

The shaft which has a course ofS.35 degrees W. is now down 100 ft. on a 60 degree incline, giving it a vertical depth of 86 feet. Another 100 ft. will give it a depth of about 175 ft. which will probably be below the oxidized zone into the sulphide zone. A crosscut to the east from this point will crosscut the 55 degree fracture planes in the lime and will in 500 ft. probably encounter both the porphyry and the quartz dike with excellent chances of encountering ore bodies both in the lime and on the contacts.

Whether the ore bodies encountered will be of sufficient size and value to be commercially profitable remains to be seen, and is the risk that all mining companies with a good surface showing must take in trying to develop a producing mine.

Personally I consider the chances of the Roadside

Company developing a paying mine as very good for several reasons.

1. The surface cropping of ore showing only over the whole width of the bottom of the draw, and not on the hillside, gives the hope that this may be just the top of the ore horizon, and that the ore will extend both north and south on development.

2. The solid masses of iron and manganese oxides indicate a heavy mineralizing action that may result in large lenses of solid sulphides with depth.

3. The presence of eruptive rocks and quartz dikes near the lime gives the chance of ore bodies along lime-porphyry contacts, the value of which is known to every miner.

4. The high silver content of the galena means that if large lenses of galena ore are found that the ore will be rich enough to ship at a good profit direct to smelters, or if the galena occurs mixed with lime and pyrite, that when concentrated out it will make a concentrate of high silver lead value for shipping.

5. The absence of zinc, antimony and arsenic makes it an easy ore to concentrate and a favorable ore to market. The manganese while not harmful will undoubtedly decrease with depth, and the iron change to pyrite which is quite easily separated by water and oil concentration from galena giving a high concentrating ratio and a very pure galena product.

6. The location of the property where there is abundant water and timber, and near ranches for food supplies means low operating costs. The worst feature is its distance of 56 miles

from railroad, but it is compensated for partly by the fact that the property is just at the rim of a flat valley with good valley roads leading to the railroad, and that the same favorable smelting and railroad rates can be obtained that the Pioche mines have.

If the Roadside becomes a producer, with timber, water, and the major food supplies nearby, the cost of hauling in the other supplies, and hauling out concentrates of high value per ton by auto trucks will be small compared with large lead-silver mining companies that have had to build and operate spur railroads or costly mountain tramways. Being in Southern Nevada the winters are not long and severe, and the location and elevation of the mine is such that it escapes the desert heat.

To you as the discoverer of the Roadside District, the above description and conclusions as to the Roadside Mine may seemtoo conservative, while to another examining engineer they may seem too optimistic. However, my purpose is to express my own conclusions and opinions, and let time be the judge of their value. To my mind it is one of the best prospects found in Southern Nevada during the war days.

The bearing that the development of the Roadside Mine has on the value of your claims is apparent from the fact that the Millie Ray and the Queen are on the north and south end respectively of the north-south trend of the ore zone in the Roadside property. The development of the Roadside property is thus at the same time developing in a lesser way these two claims.

The location cut on the Hidden Treasure in limestone near the porphyry, shows oxidized, leached material, and the location on the Millie Ray shows the same material. About 300 ft. east of this location cut on a ridge is a wide belt of lime badly iron stained with the porphyry near by. This is a favorable place for development work.

On the Queen claim iron stained float can be traced close to the north side line, which is the south end line of the Roadside claim and a dike of a greenish fine grained siliceous igneous rock can be traced through it into the Sunny Tom. While the Queen claim is covered to a great extent with wash, trenches should be cut along its north side line south of the ore outcrop on the Roadside claim.

The Southern Jack claim has along its north-south lode line a prominent quartz dike about 50 to 75 feet wide, which is apparently an intrusive in the black lime. The quartz is very fine grained, but is specked with a fine black mineral that might class it as one of the very siliceous igneous rocks, but it is the same rock as the quartz dike on the Roadside property.

In a cut 200 ft. north of the discovery notice and on the east side of the dike, the nearly vertical contact with the lime shows up very plainly with the quartz dipping at over 70 degrees to the west. The lime is very badly altered and silicified, showing iron and manganese stains.

The dike stands up above the lime and is easily traced. On the Valley View another cut shows the same altered

limestone. On the Thanksgiving claim, there are several cuts on the lime quartz contact showing oxidized material. One shaft that reaches a depth of 30 ft. shows only oxidized material. However, another cut not far away shows little stringers of galena, and the leached iron stained lime looked like a good prospect. Another cut in soft quartz on the west side of the dike looks quite favorable, an assay being taken from it also. A distinct clay gouge shows up between the lime and quartz on the Thanksgiving denoting faulting and the mineralizing solutions probably ascended along this fault. On the Yellowstone claim the quartz dike gradually decreases in width until the discovery cut on the Yellowstone shows only a few inches width of quartz, which is more of a transparent "water" quartz. The same leached limestone lies next to the quartz.

The contact between the quartz and the lime both on the footwall and hanging wall of the dike is worthy of considerable development work in the way of cuts and trenches with the idea of trying to locate a good surface showing on which to sink below the oxidized zone.

The samples that I took were as follows, the assays being made by the Tonopah Assay Office.

(See next page).

Sample No.	Description	Oz.Gold	Oz.Silver	% Lead.
1	Cut sample Oxidized Ore Roadside Shaft	.01	39.0	4.0
2	Picked Piece showing galena	.01	84.0	13.3
3	Cut Millie Ray Discovery	Nil	0.7	None
4	Oxidized Lime 300 ft. East of #2	Nil	.1	None
5	2½ ft. sample in cut 200 ft. north of Southern Jack location	Trace	1.5	None
6	Sample of Quartz Dike at #5	Nil	0.1	
7	3 ft. Sample in Cut 200 ft. south of Location Thanksgiving Claim	Nil	0.2	None
8	18 in. Sample in Cut on Iron Gossan about 70 ft. north of Discovery Thanksgiving Claim	.01	1.3	None
9	Sample showing streak Galena Near #8	.01	15.0	1.5
10	Quartz from Yellowstone Discovery	Nil	0.4	

These samples show the presence of some silver in all the oxidized surface croppings. Since the galena that carries the silver is very rich in silver it is natural that these samples that carry but very little silver show no lead, it being the more easily oxidized and leached metal of the two.

The samples from the Roadside show from seven to ten ounces of silver to each percent of lead, which is a very high ratio. A good galena concentrate running 40 to 50 per cent lead would carry about 400 ounces of silver, giving a total value of about $500.00 a ton. The sample from the Thanksgiving that had a streak of galena in it showed the same rich ratio of ten ounces of silver to one per cent of lead, and indicates that if ore bodies are found along the big quartz dike that the same favorable conditions for mining, concentrating and marketing will apply to it as to the Roadside property.

CONCLUSION.

As you state your options call for very reasonable payments, I would advise that you exercise your options and start development work in a modest but sensible manner of trenching across the contacts between the lime and other formations, and across any leached iron showing in the lime formation with test pits on favorable showings. If you have not the means to take up your options, and do this work, I believe you can interest outside capital, as the amount to be expended would be small, and if favorable showings like that on the Roadside are developed, the property could be sold for many

times the outlay on it, or more capital could be raised to sink to considerable depth on the most favorable showing in the expectation of making a producing property.

E. M.