

The Sage Hen property consists of 13 unpatented claims situated in the low hills on the west slope of the Seven Troughs Mountains, about 70 miles northwest of Lovelock, the supply center.

The property was first located in 1914 and the early work was done in the search for gold. The claims were abandoned because of their inaccessibility and were relocated in 1949 when a new road into the area was extended from Vernon. In 1952, 2 truck loads of ore were mined and hauled to the Toy mill for testing purposes. On July 14, 1953, the property was secured on a bond and lease arrangement by W.A. Conney, Sr., V.K. Cannon, J.C. Conney and Roy Blair.

The country rocks in the area consist of thin-bedded blue limestones and 143 shale which in places have been converted to hornfels. The sedimentary formations strike N.40°W. and dip 38°SW. Near the crest of the ridge and on the east side, the sedimentary formations are in contact with granite that extends for a considerable distance in a north-south direction. From this intrusive mass, granite extends into the sediments as fingers and sills.

The silicated areas containing the usual contact minerals occur along the major granite contact and in areas where the sediments have been invaded by the granite tongues and sills.

In general, the scheelite-bearing areas occur in metamorphosed limestone ribs that have been altered to tactite. The altered beds are usually separated by 3 to 4 feet of thin-bedded limestone that contain shale partings. Two such ribs are exposed in shallow surface workings. As exposed, the ribs vary from 2 to 4 feet in thickness. They strike with the formations N.40°W. and dip from 38° to 60°SE. In them, scheelite occurs finely disseminated in a gangue of silicified limestone containing varying amounts of epidote, garnet, and quartz, with some iron as limonite.

In addition to several small cuts and pits, development openings on the property consist of an adit 30 feet in length that strikes S.25°E. along the limestone-granite contact, and a 100-foot crosscut adit that bears N.32°W., from which a raise 10 feet back from the face has been extended to a height of 30 feet.

Assay results of samples taken from the exposed mineralized ribs averaged 0.48 percent WO_3 . A grab sample of 2 tons sorted ore on the dump contained 1.3 percent WO_3 . The rib sections sampled averaged about 30 feet in length and 4 feet in width.

Work on the property in 1953 was just getting started. Up to that time, 2 trucks of ore, possible 20 tons, were shipped to Toy for mill testing purposes. The amount of ore eventually produced is not known.