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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Blum 15 + 281

item 3

Memorandum on the Neil and McKay fluorspar prospect,
Pershing County, Nevada, by R. E. Wallace, 1957.

The Neil and McKay fluorspar prospect is located in the Stillwater Range in a part shown on the geologic map of the Mt. Tobin quadrangle, U. S. Geological Survey quadrangle map series, 1951. The prospect, first staked in the fall of 1956 by Joe Neil and Charles A. McKay, is in T. 26 N., R. 37 E., about 40°06'N., 117°51'W. It consists of 12 claims, in a block six long by two wide, extending from a point about 3 miles S. 15° W. of the mouth of Grayson Canyon northeast six claim lengths. The exposures examined are between 5,300 and 5,600 feet altitude in the area mapped by Muller, Ferguson and Roberts as Grass Valley formation.

It is claimed that fluorspar was found in all 12 claims, but I examined only 11 spots in three claims. The fluorspar is in small veinlets and irregular pods in dolomitic beds that are interstratified with dark grey limestone. All beds are nearly flat-lying or dip at low angles to the west. The dolomite beds where mineralized are fractured and brecciated. cursory examination suggested that there are at least two distinct beds that contain fluorspar. At one locality there are two small veinlets striking N. 10° E. and having steep dips that may be unrelated to dolomitic beds. Of 11 pits and exposures of fluorspar examined, the largest body of fluorspar "ore" consisted of a pod 5 to 6 feet thick by 10 to 12 feet long, with veinlets and small vugs of fluorspar constituting not more than 20 percent (at the most) of the rock. Most of the "shows" were no more than veinlets $\frac{1}{2}$ -2 inches wide by 3 or 4 feet long. No specimens in float or on dumps showed vein widths of pure fluorspar over 6 inches wide. Fluorspar float, however, was rather widespread.

According to Neil there are other fluorspar claims to the south of his, staked by a man named Hay and another named Inman.