4990 0002

258
Item 2

NEVADA
NYE COUNTY
UNION (IONE) DISTRICT

COPPER KING PROPERTY

References: USGS PP 322 "Pre-Tertiary Stratigraphy ..... Union District, Shoshone Mountains, Nevada," Silberling, 1959

Nev. Bur. Mines Bull. 50, "Mineral Resources of Nye County, Nevada," Kral, 1951, p. 198

Location and Access: In R. 39 E., T. 12 N., as shown by an adit symbol on the areal map of PP 322 and labelled there "Copper King Mine." Two miles airline due south of Ione. From county road extending south from Ione, a poor dirt road with signpost labelling it Knickerbocker Canyon takes off to mouth of canyon, and a similarly poor dirt road goes around mountain front from there to just below the mine -- a chute made of oil drums extends from the portal down to a landing at the end of the road.

Ownership: Property belongs to a Marvin R. Thompson of Covina, California: Thompson is primarily a construction contractor, apparently, who dabbles in mining. 12 unpatented claims, all Copper King numbers, lying three side-by-side north-south, and four long about east-west. The main diggings, an adit (see accompanying map of workings) is about in middle of the second claim west of the northeast corner of the group. The southernmost claims cover some gold-quartz veins, Thompson says. Old ruins at the mouth of Knickerbocker Canyon are covered by a mill site shown on his claim map as a regular-sized claim; this claim is the southwesternmost of the group.

Geology: The map of PP 322 shows the country rock as the clastic member of the Permian Pablo Formation. The adit workings are entirely in what I mapped as siltstones -- PP 322's tuffaceous argillite -- except the portal area, which is conglomeratic. Bedding in the vicinity is about N. 60 E., 45 SE; I could not recognize any bedding for sure underground, but it must be about the same. There may be some volcanics underground, particularly at the SE end of workings.

The workings shown on the accompanying map are nearly all there are. The winze shown is 32' deep, and at the bottom has about 20' of drift following the vein to the southeast, with vein still in the face -- vein widths and general relations are the same here as on the mapped level, so I did not map it. The shaft that intersects the workings near the southwest end has no mineralization at all in its dump, but has a pile of half a ton or so of high-grade ore that quite obviously is from the mapped vein of the adit. About 600' farther west is another shaft, perhaps 75' deep from the dump, with a ton or two of vein quartz containing local copper staining, very weak. So far as I know, these are all of the copper shows in the vicinity. The mapped adit is probably the one referred to in the Nev. Bur. Mines bulletin; the winze may have been sunk by Thompson in the last few years.

The dominant structure in the workings is the fault striking NE and dipping SE that was drifted for 50' or so; it is probably along a bedding plane, and has several inches of gouge. The vein strikes northwest and dips steeply southwest, and has been drifted about 60 feet beyond the bedding fault. It is a zone up to 1.5' wide of several shears. It is heavily mineralized with chalcopyrite and copper carbonates over this width immediately against the bedding fault, probably carrying here the 10% Cu that Thompson claims for the ore. Away from the fault the mineralization weakens gradually, becoming both narrower in the sheared zone and having less copper, until beyond 30' from the fault there is no copper. The grade picks up again markedly just below the fault striking NE and dipping NW, but about 10' south of this fault it drops off again to nothing, and the last 10' exposed is barren, as is the face of the drift, which contains the structure, still strong. Three is no change in rock type through all this drift, so far as I could recognize. On the winze level most of the ore is chalcopyrite, only partly oxidized.

The vein structure is not recognizable north of the bedding plane fault, but scattered small spots of copper staining continue northwesterly as shown, in about the same direction as the vein but offset a few feet to the NE.

For 100' southwesterly from the vein, there are occasional slips, none appearing of importance, and no trace of copper mineralization. The small northeasterly stringer mapped has some quartz, white clay and calcite, and was mapped because it is the only one noticed of this type.

Near the SW end of workings the faults shown are strong, with up to 1' of gouge and considerable minor subsidiary shearing. The shaft mentioned was sunk on one of these, and has no mineralization on the dump other than salt. No mineralization is visible on the adit level in or near it, though it is parallel to the known vein.

Thompson speaks of his vein as about 20' wide, running northeasterly and dipping steeply southeast; he has crosscut it on the adit level and the 32' winze level to show the thickness of about 20'. He is evidently taking the bedding-plane fault as his footwall, and considering his drifts as crosscuts. He says the ore averages about 10% Cu, $15 in gold and $30 in silver, with some variation in the numbers as he states them from time to time. Says he has shipped 150 tons from the south end of the drift, but doesn't have the smelter returns; to have gotten 150 tons from here he would have had to take nearly all rock broken, to get a grade of about 2% Cu. He figures it will cost about $7,000 to drive in to his vein about 300' below the adit level and 600' westerly, under the westernmost shaft with quartz on dump, and then can be shipping ore regularly, as he drifts over under the adit level.

Recommendations: The vein as shown will make at most 2 tons per foot of vertical depth, not enough for any possible operation. There is almost no other copper mineralization in the vicinity.

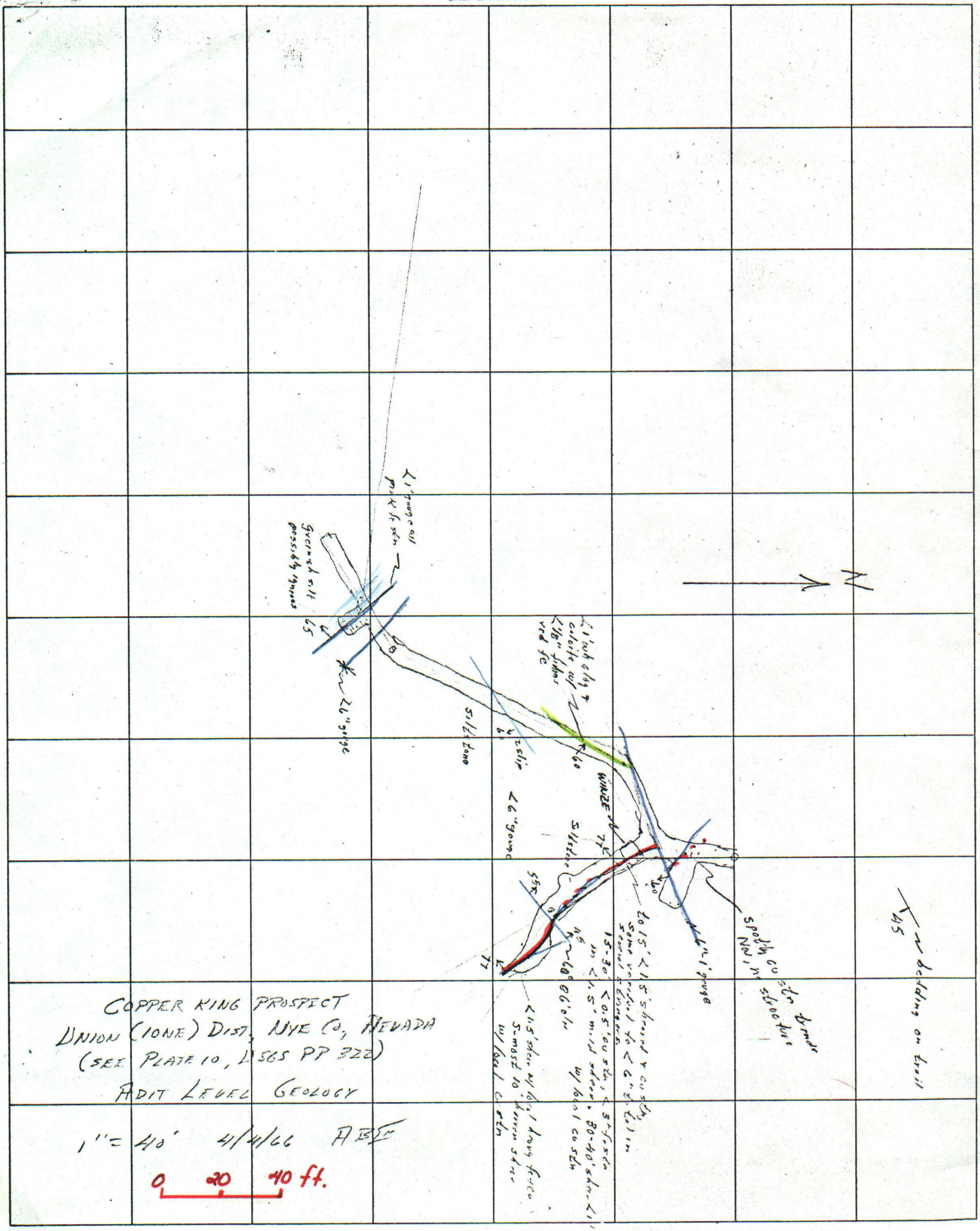
Downslope from the prospect, the outcrops and float are somewhat iron-stained, with local residual limonite after pyrite, mostly in fine stringers. There is an outside chance that this is the edge of an alteration zone mostly hidden by slope wash, extending out under the adjacent valley fill -- the prospect is on the edge of the mountain range.

Arthur Baker III

Prospect examined 4/4/66

SALT LAKE BLUE

FORM 1006



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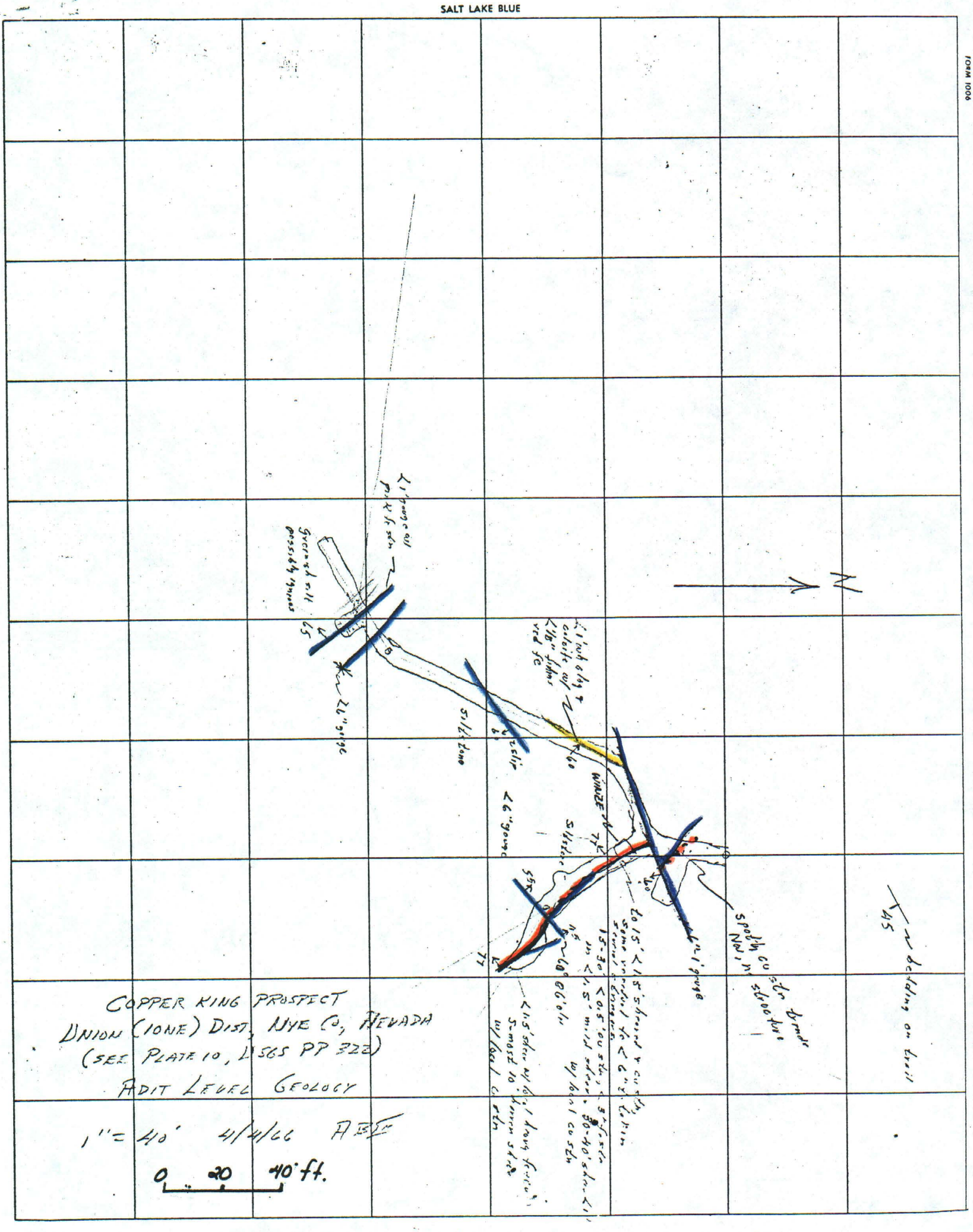
FORM 1006



COPPER KING PROSPECT
UNION (IONE) DIST, NYE CO, NEVADA
(SEE PLATE 10, USGS PP 322)
ADIT LEVEL GEOLOGY

1" = 40' 4/4/66 ABE

0 20 40 ft.

Inspection trip - May 1951
A. M. Smith (NBM)
with Jay Carpenter (NBM)

(258)
Item 4

Austin, like Eureka, is now inactive, so after greeting old friends there we drove on to Ione.

The Union District, in which Ione is located, is active in a small way. Mr. Glenn Mills has a lease on the old Bolwer Mine near Berlin, and is building a small Ellis mill at Ione, where he will haul and reduce his ore. Mrs. Marie Schweble and son, John Schweble, are down 50 feet with a shaft on the Diana Claim adjacent to the Berlin Mine. Johnny Dick, Indian, is setting up a retort on his mercury prospect which is west of the old Mercury Mines, and south of Shamrock Canyon. At Ellsworth James Corlett is building a small tungsten concentrator, for which the old Wm. Hales mill is being moved from its location east of the Gooding Ranch in Reese River Valley.

BROKEN HILLS

The final stop was at the Baxter Fluorite Mine in Broken Hills District. It is located about 5 miles west of the town of Broken Hills, about on the line between Churchill and Mineral Counties.

The general formation consists of Tertiary porphyries. The main fluorite vein presents a continuous outcrop for a distance of at least 3,000 feet, on a strike of N 44° E, having a dip of about 57° SE. The vein width varies from 10 inches to 4 feet, with an average width of about 20 inches. Along the outcrop are some 15 openings in the form of cuts, pits, trenches, and two shafts. Considerable fluorite has been mined and shipped.

An incline shaft sunk on the vein is about 100 feet deep. Half way down is a 40-foot drift to the south on the vein, which is from 3 to 4 feet wide, but contains horses of waste. At the bottom of the shaft drifts about 100 feet long have been north and south on the vein, which