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(144)
Item 1

PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE ARGO GROUP

Examined May 10th, 1940

ORE MINERALS: Scheelite (tungsten) and gold.

PROPERTY AND OWNERS:

The Argo Group consits of five unpatented claims; Argo, Argo No. 1, Argo No. 2, Argo No. 3, and Argo No. 4. The three exposed veins are all on the Argo claim. These claims are owned jointly by J. B. Davis of Winnemucca, Nevada and W. O. Cope of Leonard Creek Ranch, Humboldt County, Nevada.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The purpose of this report is only to give a general idea of the possible economic value of this group. The actual values in gold are not now at hand and will have to be added to this report. Tungsten (scheelite) values are only approximations by myself from the reactions of the samples under the ultra-violet lamp.

LOCATION:

The property is on Bartlet Creek, about 6 miles west of the Leonard Creek Ranch, and about 100 miles northwest of Winnemucca. I believe this is the old Varyville Mining District, now sometimes called the Columbia.

HISTORY:

The only work that represents production is a 30 foot shaft from which about 10 feet of drifting has been done. There is practically no ore on the dump therefore it appears that it was all milled in the early days as gold ore. I am told that there were three arrastras on Bartlet Creek and I saw the remains of one myself.

WATER SUPPLY:

Bartlet Creek which carries a good flow of water is about 2000 feet from the 30 foot shaft. There is a small strip of orchard

along this part of the creek which is being irrigated by small ditches from the creek. A ranch on the flat at the mouth of Bartlet Creek also used the water and I believe owns the orchard on the creek.

ROAD CONDITIONS:

The 100 miles from Winnemucca is divided up as follows: 32 miles oil, 41 miles graveled road to Quinn River Crossing (usually fair, depending on amount of county maintainance), 21 miles of good bladed dirt road to Leonard Creek Ranch, 4 miles of fair bladed dirt road, and the last 2 miles are fair automobile trail. I understand this region is fairly open during the winter months and that the roads are only seldom closed with snow. Trucks could be put over this road with no trouble except for the last 2 miles which would have to be bladed if dual wheels were used. The Columbia Mine which did considerable trucking until recently used all but the last 3 miles of this road.

The 30 foot shaft which is the most important point on the property is about 2000 feet from the Bartlet Creek Road. I believe it will take about 3/4 mile of road to put a truck to the collar. The surface is not rugged and therefore the construction of this amount of road should not be high. It could all be built with an angle dozer and little if any powder would have to be used. Grades on such a road would not be steep.

EXPOSED ORE:

Five samples were taken at various places on the property where the three veins are exposed but the only samples that had any favorable showing (scheelite) ~~were~~ Was on the larger of the three veins and where most of the work has been done, therefore this particular part of the property is all that will be mentioned here.

The 30 foot shaft is on a 30 inch vein of quartz with more or less soft oxidized ore. In some places the vein is almost all hard quartz while in others it is made up largely of a porous oxidized ore. The 30 inch width appears to be very uniform all the way down the shaft. Dip of this vein is about 87° east. From a depth of about 15 feet in the shaft a drift has been driven for about 10 feet to the north.

At the time I looked at this property there were a number of large loose slabs on the hanging wall making the task of sampling the shaft too precarious; also all ladders had been removed. Under the conditions it was impossible to get into the drift for samples and too dangerous to try to go down the shaft. A sample was taken across the vein on the south side of the shaft, about 5 feet from the surface by swinging from an improvised sling. This sample appeared to contain about 2% scheelite by its reaction under the ultra-violet lamp. It appears that the granite on the walls of the vein and the softer parts of the vein carry the scheelite values, therefore it may be possible to sort this ore very easily.

The owners claim that three different samples from the shaft have been assayed for tungsten. A chip sample from top to bottom of the shaft showed 7% tungsten; a cut across the vein about half-way down showed a little over 2%. They also state that panned samples from various places on the vein appear to carry $10 to $80 in gold. If the vein carries a little gold a residual concentration in some parts of the vein close to the surface could well be expected; the vein is very porous in spots.

About 200 feet or so in a southwesterly direction from the shaft there is a large cut that was put in for assessment work, this cut shows a number of small quartz stringers in an altered limestone. This is the only limestone that I noticed anywhere on

the property; all of the contry rock is granite except for this one cut. It may be that this spot is the last remnant of the int intruded sediments that once covered the granite.

TERMS:

Tentative terms given me by J. B. Davis were as follows:

Total price $10,000.

No payment due until after the end of one year when a payment of $2,500 is due.

Nothing was said about the distribution of the other payments.

At least 50 shifts of work per month are to be performed.

These terms do not seem to be too definite and could probably be changed slightly to the convenience of any reliable party that is interested in actually putting some work on the property to determine the extent of the ore. The owners are primarily interested in having someone come in and work.

CONCLUSIONS:

Obviously the interest in this property would lie largely in the assay returns (gold and silver) on the samples taken. However from the scheelite showing in the shaft I would consider it advisable to spend more time on the property in order to make a more thorough examination.

The examining party should spend the day looking over the surface geology and barring down the slabs in the shaft. A few hours could then be spent on the ground at nite with a portable ultra-violet lamp to determine the extent of the scheelite and the possibilities of sorting the ore to give a higher grade ore which would pay to ship to a tungsten mill.

Mr. Davis (one of the owners) said that the Nevada Massachusetts Tungsten Mill at Mill City offered to mill the ore if the heads were kept at 2% or better.

Altho a good gold content would make this property look much more favorable, I believe the property worthy of a more complete examination, especially a nite examination with a scheelite lamp.

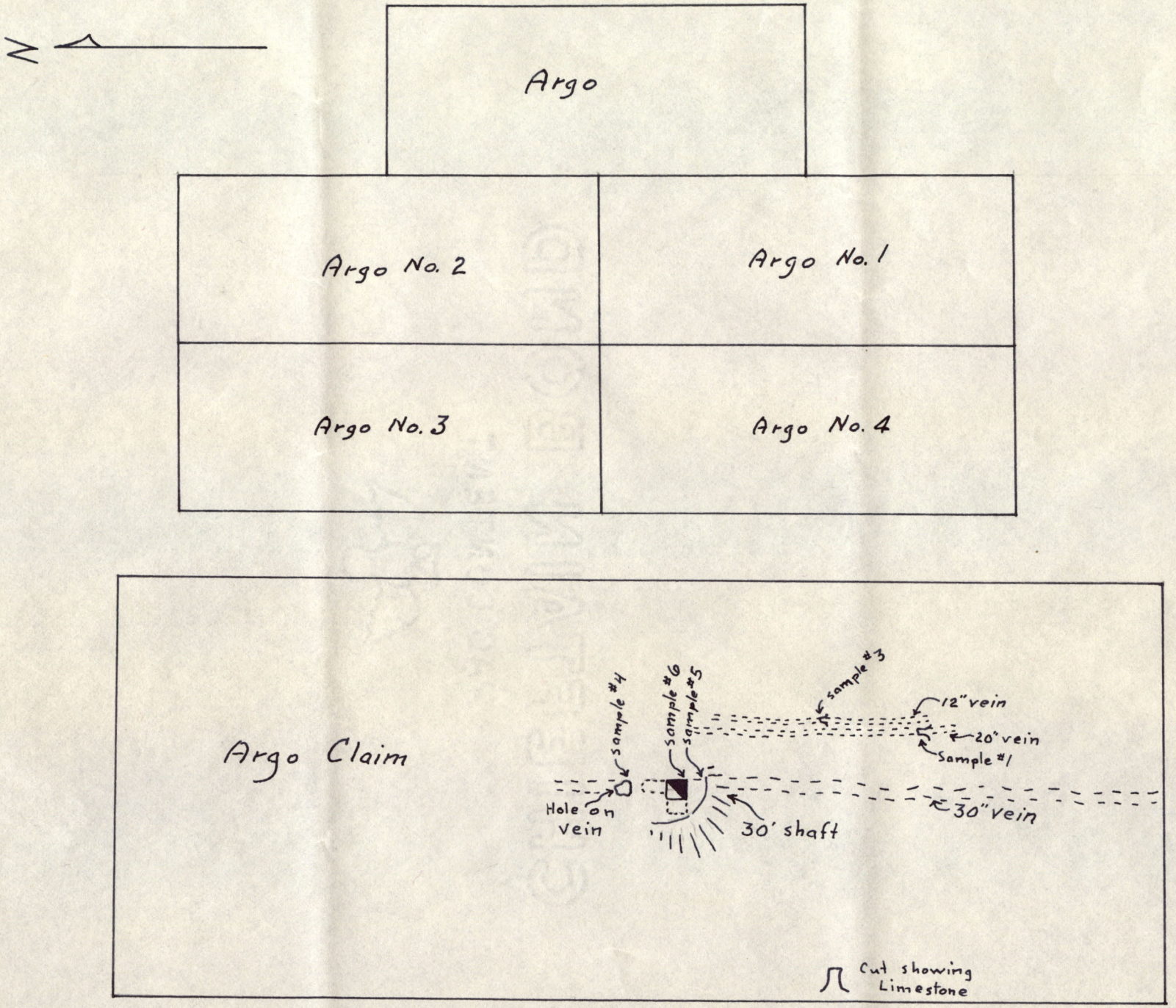
Victor Kral

Victor Kral

Examined May 10th, 1940. Written June 1st, 1940

ARGO GROUP

SKETCH



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UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA

STATE ANALYTICAL MINING LABORATORY

No. 7548

Reno, Nevada

May 31, 1940

Mr. Vic Kral and J.A.C.

Rio Tinto, Nevada

Report on sample or specimen received from you on May 28, 1940, is as follows:

Number	MINERALS OR ROCK	Ounces Per Ton		
		Gold	Silver	
	6 samples under lamp for tungsten, largely quartz and iron oxides.			
1	20" sample in cut on 20" vein			Tungsten-Trioxide Trace
2	Taken on other property			Tungsten-Trioxide Trace
3	12" sample on 12" vein			Tungsten-Trioxide ±0.3%
4	12" of Qtz. 50' north of shaft (on 30" vein)			Tungsten-Trioxide Trace
5	Ore on dump of shaft			Tungsten-Trioxide Trace
6	Across 30" vein in shaft 5' from surface			Tungsten-Trioxide ±1.0%

W S Palmer

Director.

The Laboratory very often receives a letter which does not state definitely what is desired on a given sample or we may misunderstand a request, therefore in case we have not made the determination you desire or you wish further information regarding these samples, please write within a month, and refer to the number of this report.

The State Analytical Mining Laboratory makes free determinations of Nevada ores and minerals only for citizens of the State, on Nevada samples. As satisfactory assays cannot be made on very small single piece specimens, no gold or silver assays are run on specimens under three ounces in weight unless special conditions are shown to prevail. Assays below 20 cents per ton are reported as traces or none.

Please address samples and communications to State Analytical Mining Laboratory, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, and be sure to put your name on your packages; this is often not done and we are unable to return reports and are accused of throwing the samples away.