

5320 0005

NW-24-3
Hg

163

Item 4

Wild
Mining District: ~~WHITE HORSE~~
(Mercury)

T. 23-24 N., R. 40 E.
Churchill and Lander Counties, Nevada
Millett AMS Map Sheet 1955

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Mercury was first discovered in the area in 1916, and by the end of 1943, 992 flasks of metal had been produced. The two principal mines, the McCoy and Wild Horse are located respectively in sections 15 and 20, T. 23 N., R. 40 E.

The district has yielded over 6,000 tons of selected ore having an average grade of 0.5 percent mercury. Value of production through 1940 was over \$130,000. The bulk of production came from the Wild Horse Mine.

GEOLOGICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA

The district is underlain by sandstone, shale and limestone of Lower and Middle Triassic age. The older rocks are unconformably overlain by Tertiary conglomerates and volcanics. The Triassic rocks are partly to intensely silicified and cinnabar occurs in and around the silicified rock, particularly the silicified limestone.

At the McCoy Mine cinnabar occurs as fracture fillings and as crystals in calcite veins in sandstone and sandy shale. Cinnabar at the Wild Horse Mine occurs in limestone as crystalline aggregates and in sandstone as crusts in fractures.

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT

The mercury ore bodies discovered so far in the area were generally small and not well defined. Average ore tenor was about 10 pounds of mercury per ton, and when the properties became idle most of the material in site was low grade.

Undoubtedly additional ore bodies exist at depth in the McCoy and Wild Horse mines. As is typical in mercury operations, these bodies could possibly be worked profitably only when the price of quicksilver is considerably higher than the present \$229 per flask. However, the cost of finding additional ore bodies could even then be in excess of anticipated profits. The potential for development at these properties in the near future is therefore generally considered to be remote.

Bennett, 1975

COMPANIES AND CLAIMANTS ACTIVE IN AREA

Unknown.

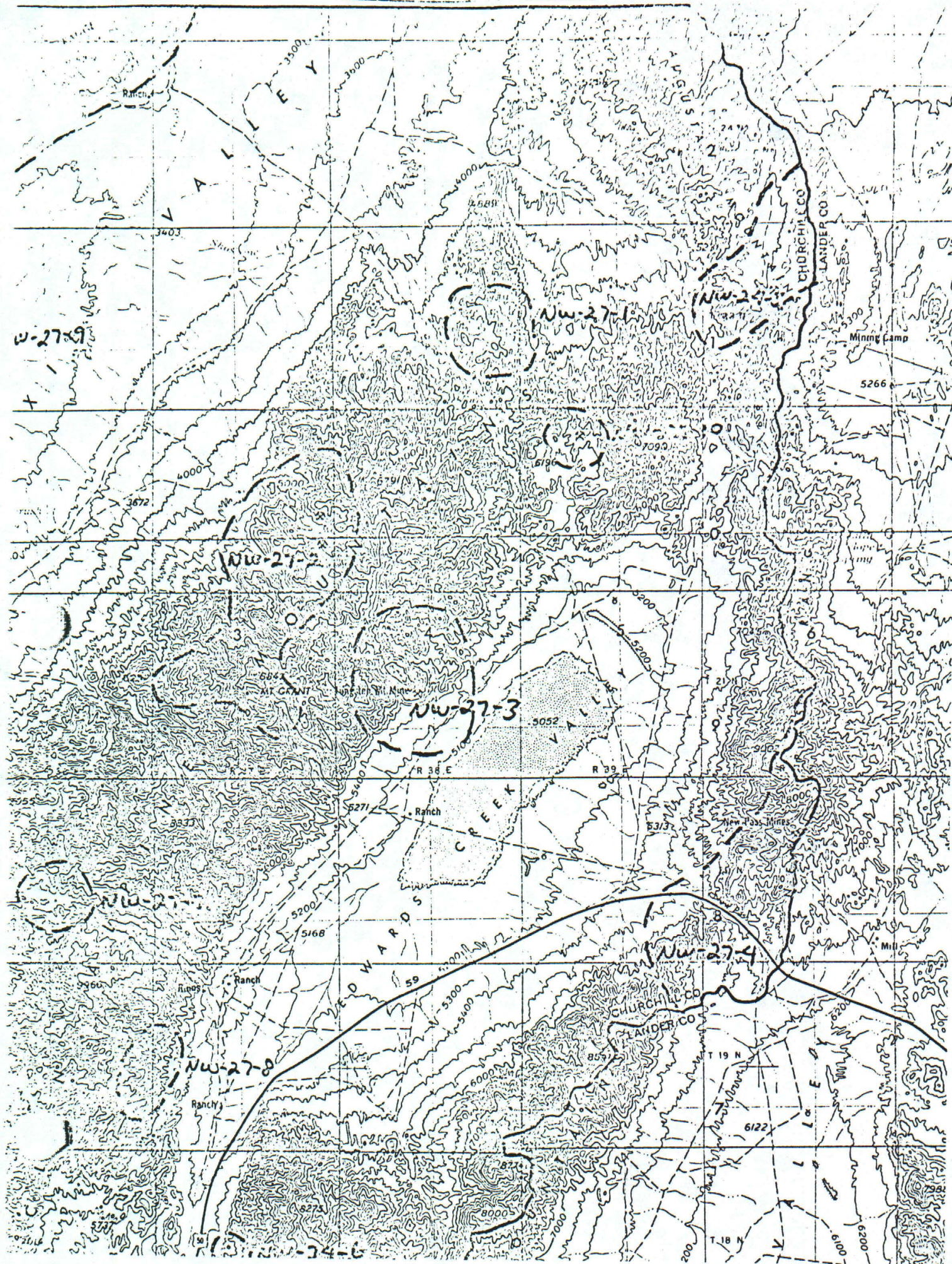
SELECTED REFERENCES

1. Bailey and Phoenix, 1944, Quicksilver deposits in Nevada.
2. Dane and Ross, 1942, The Wild Horse Quicksilver district, Lander County, Nevada.

FIELD EXAMINATION

Not Examined.

Bennett, 1975



Taken from:

Mineral Resources Inventory and Analysis
of the

Clan Alpine Planning Unit

Carson City District

by

R. E. Bennett and C. L. Hoke

1975

*for complete introduction
see Churchill Co.-general
files Item 17*