

starr

Property File

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REPORT  
OF  
PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION  
OF THE  
BANKER & MAESTRO MINES  
AINSWORTH, B. C.

To. Mr. E. A. Julian, Cons. Eng.  
Goldfield Cons. Mines. Expl. Co.

By Charles C. Starr,  
September 23, 1928.

**INTRODUCTION:** About four hours were spent on the property, accompanied by the son of the owner. The maps of the underground workings were examined but no copy was obtained.

**LOCATION:** The property is situated less than a mile southwest of the town of Ainsworth, with which it is connected by a good wagon road.

**PROPERTY:** There are two claims, both Crown Granted, in the group, the Banker and the Maestro. They are owned by H. Giegerich of Kaslo.

**TIMBER, WATER & POWER:** There is a fair amount of rather small timber. During the dry seasons water is rather scarce, and there is no water available for power within several miles.

**TOPOGRAPHY:** The mine is on the east slope of the mountain on the west side of Kootenay Lake at an elevation of 3000 feet (1300 feet above the Lake). The surface shows a number of small flats and escarpments running northerly and southerly, and due to differential erosion of the strata.

**TRANSPORTATION:** A fair road leads from the Canadian Pacific railway dock at Ainsworth to the mine. A short aerial tramway would deliver ore direct to the dock. Freights to Trail are quite low.

**HISTORY:** The claims were located many years ago and the property has been worked at irregular intervals ever since by various owners and leasers. About a year ago a bond was taken on the property by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. who drove a deeper crosscut tunnel to the

Shipments from the MAESTRO Mine  
1907 to 1911

Lot	Tons		Ag.	Pb.	Zn.
1	22	Crude	25.3	60.5	5.5
2	39	"	18.7	45.7	9.1
3	28	"	21.0	46.6	10.2
4	69	"	27.0	50.6	9.8
5	20	"	22.6	52.3	9.0
6	87	"	27.1	66.8	5.5
7	25	"	33.4	66.9	5.7
8	20	"	29.8	64.7	5.1
9	20	"	21.3	58.2	8.2
10	33	"	23.9	60.7	7.8
11	66	"	28.2	57.9	5.0
12	23	"	25.3	50.5	8.5
13	19	"	21.2	58.3	4.0
	<u>471</u>	"			

*numerical avg  
25-57-7*

Lot	Tons	1916 to 1923	Ag.	Pb.	Zn.	Pb. Net Pounds
About	20	Concentrate				29,696
"	30	"				37,173
"	25	"				33,238
14	29	Crude	25.5	54.8	6.9	
15	14	"	10.7	25.1	6.2	
16	23	"	37.5	67.1	2.3	
17	37	"	13.3	66.6	3.7	
18	22	"	20.8	58.1	5.9	
19	10	"	34.6	63.4	3.2	
20	24	"	21.6	51.5	7.5	
21	4	"	22.0	52.1	6.5	
	<u>238</u>					

*66.7% Pb*

*numerical avg  
23-55-5*

MAESTRO and BANKER ( C. M. & S. Lease ) 1912 to 1914.

Mill feed drawn from both Mines. No individual records kept.

1	81	Concentrate	18.2	45.9	10.0
2	75	"	19.3	46.8	10.0
3	134	"	17.2	43.9	8.2
4	188	"	20.2	42.2	12.4
5	147	"	21.9	52.5	4.7
6	37	"	19.3	53.4	4.2
7	151	"	12.9	44.1	4.2
8	74	"	23.7	46.9	7.4
	<u>887</u>				

*numerical avg  
19-47-17*

BANKER MINE.

1909	1	11	Crude	171.7	63.2	1.9
1927	2	17	"	9.6	45.5	2.6
		62	Milling Ore	10.5	27.5	7.4
		41	"	10.2	28.1	7.7

*numerical avg  
13-54-2*

*numerical avg  
10-44-28-7*

MAESTRO	Crude & Conc.	709	Tons
MAESTRO & BANKER	"	887	"
BANKER	Crude	28	"
		<u>1624</u>	"
Banker	Milling Ore	103	"

vein, and drifted on it for several hundred feet.

Previous to 1907 there are no production records, since then production has been as follows:-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Ag.</u>	<u>Pb.</u>	<u>Zn</u>
Maestro, crude ore	634	27	57	6
" , Concentrates	75	?	67	?
Maestro and Banker, concentrate	887	19	47	7
Banker, crude ore	28	13	54	2
" milling ore	103	10	28	7

**EQUIPMENT:** During the recent work by the C. M. & S. Co. the mine was equipped with a portable compressor, ventilating fan and pipe, good blacksmith shop, etc. Tools and machinery are now being removed, leaving the buildings, cars, track, ventilating pipe, etc.

**GEOLOGY:** The country rocks are quartzites, hornblende-schists, and silicious limestones striking north and south and dipping 45° west; they belong to the Josephine formation which is the productive one of the Camp. There are occasional dikes and sills, one of the latter paralleling the Banker vein about twenty feet in the hanging wall.

**DEVELOPMENT:** Development on the Maestro vein consists of several open cuts, several shallow shafts (caved), and a tunnel, now partly caved, about sixty feet below the outcrop. A tunnel about 150 feet below the outcrop has followed the vein for several hundred feet, and stopes from it connect with the level above.

The Banker vein is developed by open cuts; a 150 foot incline shaft, from which two short drifts have been run and some stoping done; and a crosscut tunnel some three hundred feet lower than the outcrop (vertically) with six or seven hundred feet of drifts.

**VEINS & ORE:** There are two parallel veins, some three hundred feet apart, the Banker on the East and the Maestro on the west; both of them conform to the strata in strike and dip. On the Maestro, the ore makes in a quartzite, while on the Banker it appears to be in a silicious limestone. The Maestro vein is three to six feet in width; the stopes are of medium size and of lenticular shape. The ore consists of sulphides of lead, zinc, and iron, and occurs in irregular shoots within the orebody, more especially along the walls of the vein. There is at present little ore visible in the mine, since leasers have cleaned it up thoroughly.

The Banker vein varies from four to eight feet in width, although the outcrop indicates a slightly mineralized width of over twenty feet; the ore minerals are similar to those in the Maestro vein and occur in a brecciated silicious limestone with quartz and calcite.

A little ore now shows in an open cut to the southward over virgin ground, and in the bottom of a stope from the Incline at a depth of about a hundred feet. In the lower

(new) tunnel a little ore has been found in the south drift and has been followed by a raise for a short distance.

In the north drift no commercial ore has been found; the last two hundred feet of the drift is not on the vein, but a crosscut shows the vein to have no values there. The far end of this drift is approximately under the incline from the surface.

**CONCLUSION:** It is usual in the Ainsworth Camp for the

ore to "make" in the flatter parts of the rolls in the strata, and it is true in the case of the Maestro vein. The lower tunnel showed no ore in the drifts, but ore was found in raises a few feet above them where the dips were flatter.

It seems probable, from the relative locations of the workings on the Banker vein, that a flatter part lies between the Incline workings and the lower tunnel, and that ore may be found there. There <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ also good chances of finding ore on both veins further along on the strike, as well as on the Maestro vein by the extension of the lowest (Banker) tunnel crosscut some three hundred feet.

Viewed purely from the point of view of finding ore the property is rather attractive, but from the profit and loss standpoint it is not so attractive. It seems improbable that any money has been made from the mine in the past under conditions of cheap and shallow development, and it does not seem probable that a sufficiently large tonnage of ore is likely to be developed in the future to pay for development and the treatment plant that would be required, especially so since the ore is low in silver.

I do not consider that further consideration of the property is justified at the present time.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chas. C. Starr*