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H.L.

SAPPLES MOLYBDENITE PROPERTY The Sapples molybdenite property consists of the 82FSW059 Little Keen, Lost Chance and Lucky Jim mineral claims staked in 1932 and owned by Jack Sapples of Salmo.

The location of the property and general geology are as described by Walker (1934, p. 86.) in the following quotation.

"These claims, held on location by Jack Sapples, of Salmo, cover a molybdenite prospect on the west side of Bennett (Bear) Creek, about 500 feet above the Sheep Creek road, and a little less than half a mile distant by trail. Molybdenite occurs in, and close to the contact of, aplitic granite with sediments of the Pend-d'Oreille series. This is presumably the occurrence mentioned by O.E. LeRoy in the explanatory notes on the sketch map of Sheep Creek mining camp.

Several cuts and strippings expose a north-dipping contact between granite and strata of the Pend-d'Oreille series. The granite is fine grained and aplitic at the contact and locally is altered, the alteration being characterized by the development of greenish white talc with which molybdenite appears to be associated. The granite is very rich in quartz, about 30 per cent, and the feldspar is orthoclase or microcline with a relatively small amount of plagioclase. The argillaceous sediments at the contact are highly altered to a mass of pyroxene, amphibole, calcite, and titanite. The intensity of alteration rapidly diminishes away from the contact. The limestone band is in part intensely altered and holds abundant brown garnet and tremolite, considerable molybdenite, and a little pyrrhotite. The less altered limestone has been given a greenish colour.

Disseminated molybdenite occurs in the sediments for a few inches away from the contact, and also along fractures for 1 foot or 2 feet from the contact. The most northerly cut exposes altered sediments, and limestone cut by granite tongues. Molybdenite occurs in a narrow, vertical fissure striking 40 degrees and also along joint planes in the limestone.

It is evident that the molybdenite is closely associated with the granite contact and occurs either in the granite or the enclosing sediments for short distances on either side of the contact.

82FSW059 VICTORY TUNGSTEN.

The workings, consisting of a short adit, open-cuts and strippings, are described below.

The position of the workings will be given in respect of the single short adit which is about 500 feet above the Sheep Creek road.

From a point 80 feet north-eastward down the hill on a 35-degree slope from the short adit, an open-cut, 8 feet wide, has been driven for 12 feet in a direction south 25 degrees west. The face exposes a granite-sediment contact that ranges in strike from south 20 degrees west to south 10 degrees east and dips 45 degrees westerly; the granite lies under the sediments on the south-easterly side of the contact. Although the strike of the contact is locally very irregular, its trace appears to go up the hillside southward toward the adit and nearby workings. No molybdenite was seen in this working.

The adit (as of June 1938) begins as an open-cut that leads in a direction south 25 degrees west for 10 feet to the portal; from here the adit extends in the same direction for 5 feet to the face. The north wall of the working consists of granite and the south wall of sediments. Small amounts of molybdenite occur at the contact and in the granite for 3 feet from the contact. A sample along 2.8 feet of what appeared to be the best grade of material from the contact assayed 1.5 per cent. MoS_2 . Two samples of mineralized granite near the contact taken across 2.9 feet and 1.6 feet assayed respectively 0.9 and 0.3 per cent. in MoS_2 . In this working the sediments contain very little molybdenite.

From a point 18 feet in a direction north 70 degrees west from the mouth of the last open-cut a deep open-cut extends in a direction south 25 degrees west for 17 feet to a rock face; this working seems to be the oldest on the property. The rock in this cut consists of phyllite and limy sediments that have been largely replaced by bands of the lime-silicate minerals diopside, brown garnet, and wollastonite. The sediments strike north 45 degrees west and dip 35 degrees north-easterly.

In this cut molybdenite occurs in a 4-foot diopside-garnet band on the south-east wall at a point 12 feet back from the face; the band is approximately 4 feet thick. A sample taken across it assayed 0.5 per cent. MoS_2 . It is interesting to note that the sediments in the face of this working are cut by an 8-inch, aplite sill. This aplite is in part replaced by pegmatitic quartz and the latter by brown garnet.

From the mouth of the adit open-cut, a stripping extends south-eastward for 45 feet. This exposes only granite.

From the south-east end of this stripping a cross trench extends south-westward for 15 feet to a combined stripping and open-cut that extends 15 feet south-eastward and 25 feet north-westward. This working exposes a contact between granite on the north-east and sediments on the south-west; the contact appears to strike north 70 degrees west and dip 40 degrees south-westerly. Two lenses of molybdenite occur along this contact; one measures 6 feet by 6 inches and a sample across it assayed 3.9 per cent. MoS_2 ; the other measures 2 feet by 18 inches and a sample across this assayed 0.9 per cent. MoS_2 .

Towards the upper or south-easterly end a small amount of molybdenite was seen across a 2-foot width of sediments close to the contact; a sample taken across this assayed 0.3 per cent. MoS_2 .

The rock in this working consists of granite north-eastward of the contact and phyllite south-westward. A small amount of diopside and garnet occurs along the contact.

Several open-cuts have been dug southward up the hillside from the last cut. Although several of these expose a granite-sediment contact, none contain molybdenite other than in traces.

The showings as of June 1938, do not show any mineable bodies of commercial ore.

Reference:

Walker, J.F. (1934) Geology and Mineral Deposits of Salmo Map-Area, British Columbia, Geol. Surv. Canada, Mem. 172.

Property examined June, 1938.

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