

003902

REPORT
OF
EXAMINATION
OF THE
OEHM LADE GROUP
Near
Ferguson, B. C.

To-
Frank Eichelberger,
Field, B. C.

By-
Chas. C. Starr,
Sept. 18, 1933.

INTRODUCTION: The property was visited in company with Mr. Joe Flagel who operated the property last summer under lease and bond. Mr. Flagel represented the owner in showing the property.

LOCATION: The property is situated on the top and north slope of the ridge about a mile west of Badshot mountain in the Lardeau district. It lies mostly in the Ainsworth Mining Division, draining to the Duncan River, but extends over the divide into the Trout Lake division. It is about eighteen miles by trail northeast of Ferguson, B. C., the nearest Post Office.

ACCESSIBILITY & TRANSPORTATION: It is reached via Arrowhead at the junction of the C. P. R. branch railway south of Revelstoke, and the Arrow Lakes boat line.

Thence travel is by barge and tug to Beaton, ten miles, then by a fair auto road to Tennile on Gainer Creek (six miles east of Ferguson) a distance of 22 miles. From Tennile a fair, but often steep, packtrail leads over the divide to the mine, about twelve miles. Freight charges from Beaton to the mine are 2½ to 3 cents per pound.

Most of the trail from Tennile leads over ground which is swept by snowslides during the winter, and is unsafe for travel after the heavy snows begin.

PROPERTY: There are six Crown Granted claims in the group:- the Famous, L 4719, Goldenville, L4720, Ophir L 4721, Olive Mabel, L 4723, Foundation, L 4725, and Two and a Half, L 4722. They are incorporated as the Goldenville Mines, Ltd.

HISTORY: During the early years little work was done on the property, but in the summer of 1925 the Goldenville Mines, Ltd. did some trail and development work and installed a small Straub stamp-mill, amalgamating plates, and a concentrating table which they operated for a short time.

In 1932 Joe Flagel and associates took a lease on the property and operated the mill during the summer. It is reported they made a slight loss on the operation.

CLIMATE: At Ferguson (Elevation 3500 feet) the snowfall is from four to seven feet; at the elevation of the Ophir Lade there will be several times as much. Summers are short, and snowstorms are expected every month of the year. It is not possible to get pack-horses to the mine before the first or middle of July, nor after the middle of September or first of October, depending on the season. During this examination many considerable areas of last winter's snow remained on the ground and some of the open cuts were still buried.

TIMBER: Except for the lowest claim - the Famous - the property is above timberline, and bare of timber or brush. On the Famous there is a small amount of balsam of rather small size. Timber for all purposes has to be packed uphill for several miles.

WATER: Water for camp use, or for a small mill, is plentiful during the summer as numerous small creeks from melting snow head on the property. For waterpower in any considerable amount it would be necessary to go several miles to Adams Creek on the north or Gainer Creek on the south.

TOPOGRAPHY: The property lies at an elevation of between 7000 and 8000 feet and extends along the summit of a broad ridge pitching northwest. Both on the east and the west slopes of this ridge the country is very rough and steep, but on the most of the property the slopes are seldom over 20° and reasonably smooth. The elevation at the old cabin on the north end of the Goldenville claim is approximately 7200 feet, and at the mill 7500 feet.

EQUIPMENT: The former cabin has been broken down by the snow and there are now no camp buildings except a dug-out used as a stable. The mill consists of a small jaw crusher and a Straub 5-stamp mill driven by a six H. P. oil engine. Plates are used to catch the gold; a concentrating table formerly used is now wrecked, and half of the mill roof broken in. Capacity of the mill is said to be 6 or 8 tons per 24 hours. There are a few hand mining tools in a generally bad condition.

DEVELOPMENT: There are two tunnels, one 130 feet long running N 75° E, which gains a vertical depth of 30 or 40 feet; one 50 feet long running N 20° E and gaining a depth of about 20 feet. There is also a shaft on the Foundation claim at 8000 feet elevation which is of unknown depth, as it is full of snow below 15 feet. There are also a great number of open cuts, most of them small, scattered over the whole of the property.

GEOLOGY: The Ophit Lade mine is near the base of the Lardeau Series of late Pre-Cambrian age, consisting of various metamorphosed sediments.

The mineralization occurs along the strike of a wide band of green chlorite schists striking N 50° W and dipping 70° to 90° southwest; to the northeast is a thick band of crystalline limestone, and to the southwest more schists.

The chlorite schists contain innumerable quartz stringers following the dip and strike of the formation and usually only from less than one to four inches wide, but occasionally widening to two or three feet for short distances. The formation is crossed by numerous irregular fissures which trend north-northeast and dip nearly vertical; usually they are filled with irregular quartz and ankerite, with some pyrite, and often accompanied by considerable manganese. These crossfissures are usually short and have not faulted the schists appreciably; they are usually less than a foot in width, but occasionally widen out to two or three feet. Apparently they are "gash veins" - short on the surface and presumably shallow.

A flat quartz vein outcrops near the east end of the Goldenville claim and shows almost continuously for a half mile to near the southwest corner of the Foundation claim. The strike is southeast and the dip 20° northeast; the width varies from one to four feet and averages about two feet. The vein is composed almost entirely of quartz which is coarse and often shows as large clear crystals. It contains rare galena and pyrite, both occurring in large crystals.

This vein is apparently of later origin than the other veins and stringers.

DESCRIPTION OF WORKINGS, & ASSAYS:

The 130 foot tunnel on the Ophir claim was not entered on account of water and ice at the portal. It is said to be a crosscut, except for a short drift at the end, and it is reliably reported that no important values were found. Sample 1909 is a grab from 20 or 30 tons of quartz with ankerite and scanty pyrite piled on the dump; it assays, Gold Oz. Silver Oz

At the 50 foot tunnel, also on the Ophir claim, a considerable part of the ore was stoped in 1932, and most of the ore milled in that year was obtained from there. From the last six days run - probably fifteen or twenty tons - it is reported that \$240 was saved on the plates. As now showing the vein is about 18 inches wide and is reported to have varied from 8 inches to 4 feet.

It strikes northeast and dips steeply northwest, but is extremely irregular in both strike and dip, and the walls are poor. On the surface the vein can be traced some three hundred feet before it pinches out. Sample 1908 is from the face of this tunnel, 18" wide; it assays

The shaft on the Foundation claim, near the summit, is inaccessible; it follows an irregular fissure with quartz and follows the formation, although intersected by a cross-fissure with little quartz. The ore on the dump which showed gold in the pan has been sorted out and milled; that remaining shows quartz and ankerite with some calcite, pyrite, and manganese; bismuthinite is reported here but none was noted. Sample 1905 is a grab from ore on the dump, and assays Gold

Sample 1906 was picked from the dump by Mr. Flagel, and is supposed to be high-grade; it assays Gold

The formation vein on which this shaft is sunk is one of the larger ones and outcrops for several hundred feet.

About the center of the Olive Habel claim a chip sample, 1907, was taken from the outcrop of a cross-vein three feet wide; it assays Gold

No work has been done on this vein which outcrops for several hundred feet, varying from a stringer at each end to three feet wide at the center; it contains quartz, ankerite, limonite, and manganese.

A great number of small open cuts have been dug, scattered all over the property, but none of them show anything of much interest. As a rule they expose cross-veins to a depth of two to four feet; the widths will average about eight inches; the values are generally either unknown or reported to "pan a color or two".

The flat vein has been dug into at three points but is said to be low grade or barren as far as known; the type of quartz it contains is unfavorable to ore.

GENERAL SUMMARY: Nothing but shallow work has been done on the property, and according to all accounts the best values have been obtained from the surface. According to H. C. Gunning of the Geological Survey of Canada, the gold has been concentrated by solution and re-deposited near the surface. This appears to be in accord with the known facts.

It is evident that the gold values are extremely

erratic, that the veins are generally narrow and short, and probably also shallow. It does not appear possible to work the property profitably as a small high-grade mine, even on a somewhat larger scale than has already been tried with indifferent results. Under the given conditions of a large area of frequent quartz stringers and scattered values, it is a matter for thought as to whether the property could be worked on a large scale, mining and treating a considerable part of the stringer zone.

It does not seem to the writer that there is much possibility of this, although there is little definite information on which to base such an opinion. To prove up the property on such a basis would entail an enormous amount of work; even to prove that the most favorable areas are too low grade for profitable operation would entail considerable work and scores of samples. In view of the isolated location of the property, exceptionally severe winter conditions, and the fact that few of the stringers show gold in the pan, I do not believe that work designed to test the possibilities along these lines is justified.

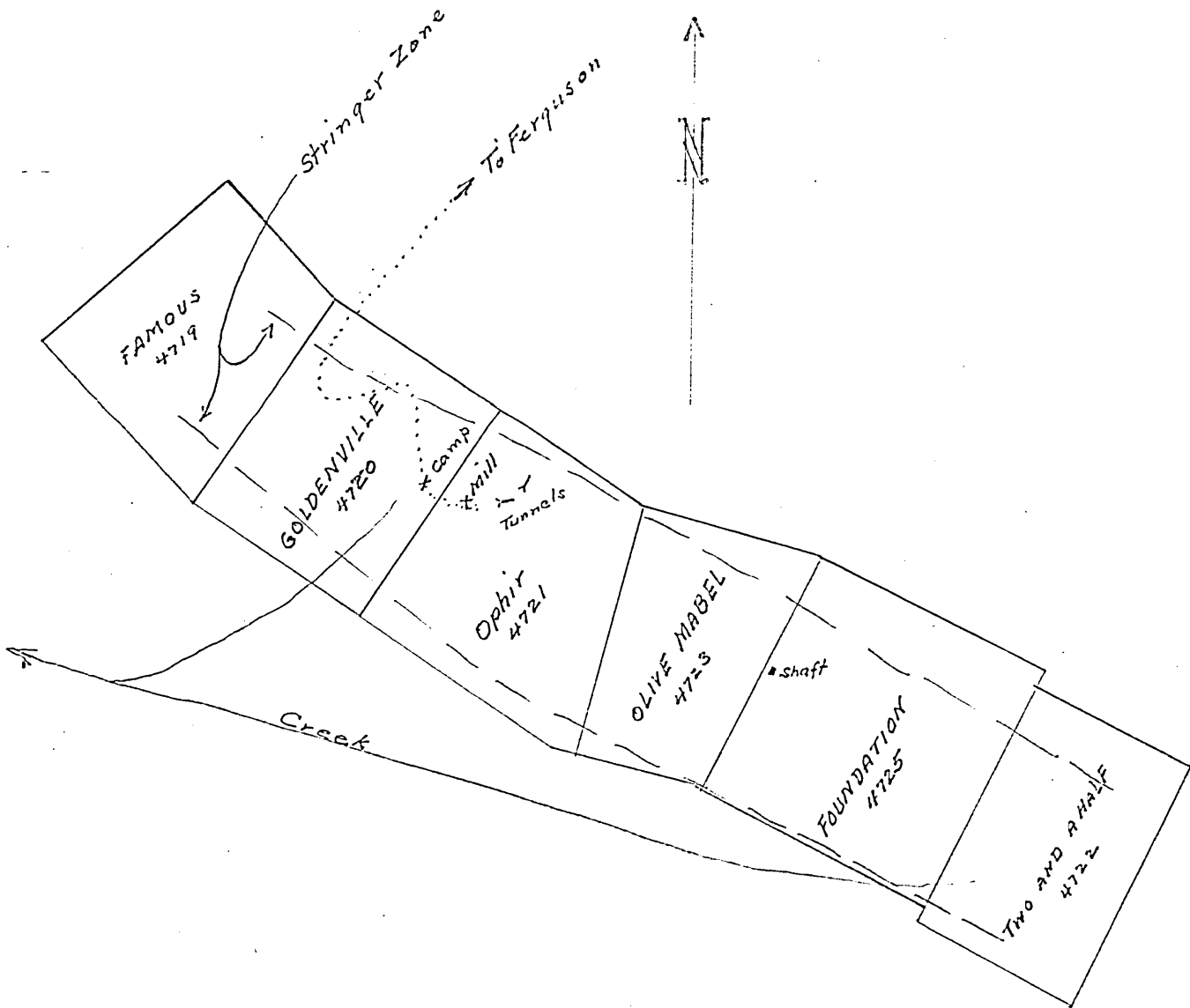
CONCLUSION: It appears that while there is some ore on the property, it is very erratic in value and extent, and that it can not be profitably worked on a small scale for its high-grade; nor is there any particular evidence to show that there is a reasonable possibility of sufficient value in the stringers to permit the stringer-zone to be worked on a wholesale basis. Under the conditions, any further sampling or examination of the property seems

an unjustified expense.

In my opinion the property is of little present or prospective value, and I recommend that your option be dropped.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. C. Starr



OPHIR LADE GROUP
 FERGUSON, B.C.

SCALE: 1" = 1000'