

82K/6E

82K/5W-96

Ray Macnachie
1941

004352

SILVER CREST OR OLD MOBBS PROPERTY.

This group of claims is at present owned by Alex Robb of Poplar and under lease and bond to F. Bews and associates of Revelstoke.

The property is located approximately three-quarters of a mile by trail south of the C. P. R. railroad at a point $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles ^{South} east of Gerrard in the Lardeau district. From the railroad track the property is accessible by a good trail on gradual grade. The camp and workings are approximately 600 feet above the track, at an elevation of 2750 feet above sea level. The north easterly slope of the mountain on which the workings are located has an average slope of approximately 20 degrees. On this surface there is an adequate stand of timber for all domestic and mining purposes. Camp buildings consist of two small log cabins, adequate for four to six men. Domestic water is obtained from a nearby spring. Any greater supply of water could only be from the Lardo River, at the elevation of the railroad track.

The property is accessible either from the head of the Arrow Lakes, through Beaton, Trout Lake and Gerrard or from the head of Kootenay Lake through Lardo. By the first route, 12 miles of fair road connects Beaton and Trout Lake; launch service is available down the 16-mile length of Trout Lake and the C. P. R. maintains train service once a week between Gerrard and Lardo. By the second route it is possible to reach Lardo once a week by boat from Nelson. This boat makes connections with the train service between Lardo and Gerrard.

PROPERTY FILE

The rocks exposed on the property are typically slates, phyllites and schists, black in colour, intruded by fine-grained dikes, typically grey to green in colour. The schists are commonly carbonated. The general strike of the rocks is north 35 to 45 degrees west and the dip steeply south west.

Little work was done on the property between 1914 and 1939. A complete description of the workings in 1914 is given in the Annual Report Minister of Mines, British Columbia for that year. Additional work done since that year has been in the No. 1 and No. 2 West adits and in a new low level adit, known as No. 2 East. In the No. 1 West working, at 175 feet from the portal, a crosscut was driven in a north westerly direction for 50 feet. Here a vein was intersected and drifted upon for 22 feet. This vein strikes at north 5 degrees west, dips 55 degrees west; its width varies from 12 to 18 inches. The vein, which consists of ribboned quartz gangue containing a small amount of pyrite, is well defined, quite strong and attractive in appearance. Plotting of this exposure indicates that it is probably the downward extension of the No. 2 West vein. Close to the main No. 1 West adit, a raise has been driven on the north easterly side of the crosscut on an irregular exposure of quartz. This raise is reported to have reached a height of 60 feet. The exposure upon which this raise was driven may or may not be a part of the defined quartz vein exposed at the end of the crosscut as described above. The quartz in the raise appears to conform roughly in strike and dip to the enclosing sediments. Leaving the north easterly wall, the quartz exposure crosses

the back of the crosscut and enters its south westerly wall. It may be possible that the strike of this irregular exposure of quartz swings to the north behind the south westerly wall of the crosscut and has assumed the strike of the vein at the end of the crosscut. It is more likely that these two exposures of quartz are unrelated. It is reported that in 1939, approximately 16 tons of vein material were mined from the vein exposure at the end of the crosscut. This quantity must have constituted practically all the vein material which was removed in the course of development work as no stoping has been done.

In the No. 2 West adit a winze was sunk on the No. 2 West vein to a depth of 12 feet in 1939. In this working free gold is reported to have been seen. As lateral extension of the winze some underhand stoping was conducted along the drift. It is reported that two test shipments, one of 1600 lbs. and one of 3000 lbs. were made of the vein material obtained from this working.

At the present time, a considerable tonnage of vein material is sacked at the portals of No. 1 and No. 2 West adits. As far as the writer can ascertain this was mined during or since 1939 which suggests that the trial shipments were disappointing.

Most of the recent work has been done in the No. 2 East adit. The portal of this working is some 430 feet north easterly of the portal of No. 1 East, at an elevation of 130 feet lower than that of No. 1 East. From the Annual Report Minister of Mines, British Columbia for 1920, it appears that this adit was probably driven originally to inter-

sect and downward extension of the showings of the G vein. However, by extension of this working, the present operators hope to develop at greater depth the showing of the vein in the No. 1 East adit. In July, 1940, the No. 2 East adit had been driven slightly over 300 feet in a south westerly direction. From the end of it there was an extension for 50 feet in a north westerly direction. In these workings, the sedimentary rocks are naturally less weathered than in the older workings but apart from this superficial difference the rocks in the older and newer workings appear to be very similar. At the lower horizon there appear the same typical stringers of quartz and small gouge seams parallel to the formation which appeared in the upper, older workings. Approximately 270 feet from the portal of the No. 2 East adit there is exposed a very narrow rusty seam which strikes north 30 degrees east, dips 80 degrees west. In this seam there is a small amount of quartz but little or no visible sulphide mineralization. The extension of the working to the north west is parallel to the strike of the slates.

In July, 1941, the writer again visited the property. The workings had then been extended for 60 feet in a south easterly direction, almost opposite to the north westerly extension of the previous year. In this south easterly extension there is no exposure which can be recognized as extension of the No. 1 East vein. In addition, the main adit had been extended for 100 feet, on line, to the south west. This last extension exposed two interesting conditions. From 25 to 55 feet from the south easterly crosscut there is exposed a strong shearing,

composed of four principal planes of movement which are in general parallel. These four planes of movement strike north 50 degrees west, north 44 degrees west, north 29 degrees west and north 50 degrees west respectively. In all cases, the dip is generally vertical. The first and last given strikes are those of the limiting north easterly and south westerly planes of movement. Along the north easterly one there occur irregular bunches of quartz. Altogether this zone may be considered as capable of being responsible for considerable relative movement of the rock masses on the two sides of the zone. At 65 feet from the south easterly crosscut, just beyond this zone of shearing, the extension of the main adit intersected a vein on the right wall. This vein, strikes north 26 degrees east, dips from 85 degrees to the east to vertical. It is seldom over 4 inches in width and is mineralized sparsely by pyrite and small amounts of galena and sphalerite.

As may be seen from the accompanying plan this vein exposure may possibly be the downward extension of that in No. 1 East adit. It is unfortunate that the exploratory crosscutting to the north west and south east from No. 2 East adit was attempted before the presence of the zone of shearing was exposed, as this zone is sufficiently strong to cause enough movement on its north easterly side to prevent extension of the vein on that side as determined by its exposure in the No. 1 East adit.