

004551

Property File  
0822 SW 013

REPORT ON THE  
SKOOKUM GROUP OF CLAIMS

on

Newport Creek,  
Vernon, B. C.

By Chas C. Starr,  
Yorkshire Building,  
Vancouver, B. C.

May 3, 1939.

## THE SKOOKUM GROUP

**INTRODUCTION:** About four hours were spent on the property. Little more could have been learned of the main vein with more time, since the incline workings are caved and most of the open cuts somewhat sloughed. There are, however, a number of other veins on the property which were not examined on account of lack of time.

**LOCATION:** The property is situated on Newport Creek, near the head of Okanagan Lake on the west side. It is reached from Vernon, B. C. via the highway down the west side of the lake for twelve miles, then up Newport Creek by trail for four miles.

**PROPERTY:** There are ten claims in the group (see sketch herewith), all of which are held by location. H. J. Blurton, Enderby, B. C. is the owner and original locator.

**HISTORY:** The main claims were located about 1930 and were twice under option to syndicates under whose direction most of the underground work was done.

The following shipments have been made:-

1 Ton Gold	1.65 Oz.	Silver	122.39 Oz.	Lead	2.34
28.9 "	"	0.63	"	20.6	" 0.7
25.6 "	"	0.36	"	15.2	" Tr.

**GENERAL:** The lower part (southern) of the property has been burned over, but there is good mining timber standing on several of the northern claims of the group.

There is ample water for mine and camp use near the workings and probably sufficient for milling purposes well up toward the head of Newport Creek.

Access to the mine is at present by trail which is satisfactory for pack-horses. A road, probably four or five miles long, could be built from the highway without encountering much rock-work or other difficulty.

The topography at the mine is gently sloping to the southward, with flat gulches and low rounded ridges. There is little opportunity to develop the mine by tunnels.

The elevation at the workings is approximately 3800 feet, - roughly 2700 feet above Okanagan Lake.

**DEVELOPMENT:** The main vein has been developed by two inclines thirty feet apart, both of which are now caved and full of water. The west one is reported to have been 30 feet deep, and the east one 80 feet. There is also said to have been a drift from the deeper one, connecting with the bottom of the 30 foot incline.

A crosscut tunnel, not yet to the vein, has been driven 100 feet in the footwall, and should intersect the vein at a vertical depth of 35 feet below the collar of the inclines if advanced approximately 25 feet, assuming

that the vein continues on its dip as observed at the surface. There are also a number of open cuts on several different veins, and a second short crosscut tunnel which has not been driven far enough to reach its objective.

**EQUIPMENT:** There is no equipment except two cabins, one about 18 x 30 feet which is in good condition; and one 10 x 12 feet which is in fair condition.

**GEOLOGY:** The formation in the vicinity is given by Dr. Cairnes of the Geological Survey as "Carboniferous and probably early Mesozoic sediments and volcanics".

The Skookum vein has highly altered and decomposed argillaceous sediments in the footwall. The rock in the immediate hanging wall of the vein is not exposed, but at perhaps a hundred and fifty feet from the vein a fine grained greenish rock outcrops sparingly.

At about 70 feet west of the shaft on the strike of the vein volcanic breccia appears and the vein has not been found beyond this point. It appears probable that the breccia overlies the argillites unconformably, and may possibly also cap the vein, - or the vein may be cut by a fault.

A granite dike was noted some 1500 feet south of the workings.

**THE MAIN VEIN:** Due to caving of the inclines and sloughing of the nearby open cuts, no satisfactory exposures of the main vein, which has been stripped for about ninety feet, could be found.

At the 30 foot incline the vein is about ten feet wide and composed of barren appearing white quartz, except near the footwall, where there is 2½ feet of weakly mineralized quartz. Immediately east of this incline a "horse" of argillite with stringers of quartz appears to come into the vein and split it; this condition continues to the point where the vein is covered with overburden, a few feet east of the 80 foot incline. At this incline, which is sunk in the footwall of the vein, there is a two foot band of solid white quartz on the hangingwall; under this is three or four feet of decomposed argillite with small stringers of white quartz. Below this the vein could not be seen but it is reported to consist of three or four feet of fairly mineralized quartz, with some rich streaks.

Except in the immediate vicinity of the inclines, the vein has not been exposed unless the vein in the two open cuts near the cabins is the same one. The vein here cannot be seen on account of sloughing of the cuts, but the character of the quartz and mineralization on the dump is similar to that at the inclines. If these exposures are parts of the same vein there must be a fault separating them as they do not line up well.

The vein filling is massive white quartz, with occasionally some streaks of decomposed argillite. Erratically

distributed through the quartz are grains and spots of argentiferous gray-copper, with a little pyrite and galena.

There are numerous other veins scattered over the property, few of which were visited. They are mostly assumed by the owner to be low grade on the surface at least. The veins seen consist of massive white quartz with sparse metallic mineralization.

**SAMPLING:** As previously noted, the main vein was in poor condition to be sampled. However six samples were taken as follows:-

No.	Ft. Wid.	Oz. Gold	Oz. Silver	
491	4.5	0.08	9.87	20' west of 80 ft. incline. Fractured quartz with a little argillite. Shows spots of galena and gray copper From hang. wall part; ft. wall covered
492	-	1.93	299.48	20 ft. west of 80 ft. incline. Specimen. Honeycomb quartz with specks of galena and gray-copper.
493	2.4	0.01	1.72	Over 80 ft. incline. Solid white quartz next to hanging wall.
494	3.6	0.01	1.00	Continuation of #493 toward Ft. Wall. Quartz stringers in argillite in center of vein. Ft wall not opened.
495	2.5	0.08	4.03	West edge of 30 ft incline. Next to Ft. wall. Quartz with weak min'l'zn. Barren(?) quartz here to hang. wall.
496	-	0.015	5.46	From open cut by cabin. Vein not exposed; chips from quartz on dump.

**NOTES:** Descriptions of this property may be found in the following:-

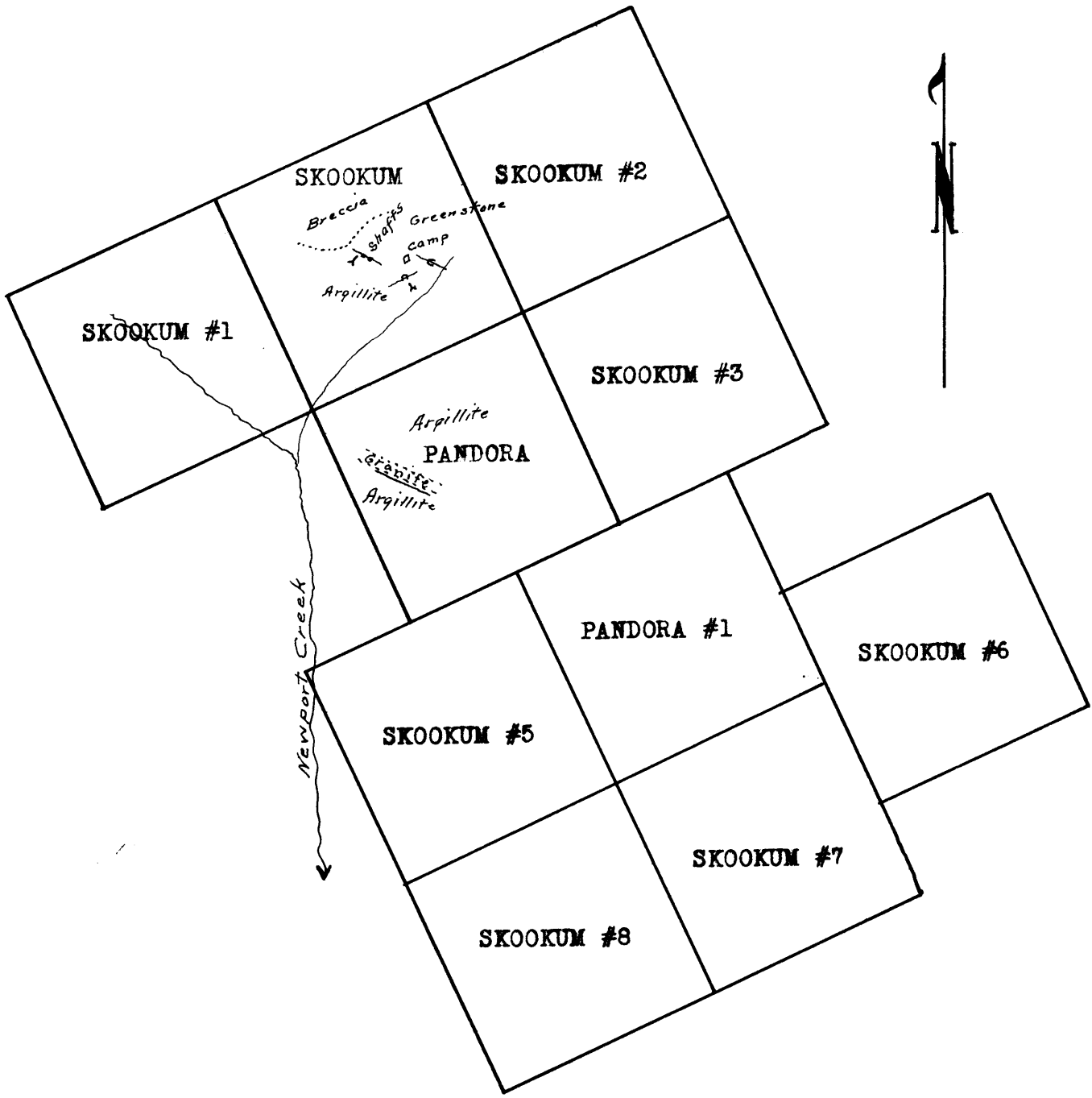
- Dominion Geological Survey Summary Report, 1931.
- Lode Gold Deposits of B. C., 1932.
- B. C. Minister of Mines Reports for 1931-2-3.

These reports vary considerably in their descriptions of the vein as to size, attitude, probable continuity, etc. Under present conditions of caving etc. it is impossible to definitely check any of them. Little definite can be learned about the main vein without further work on the surface and underground. From the foregoing it is evident that the present examination, and the conclusions to be drawn from it are by no means conclusive.

**CONCLUSION:** The property lies in a well mineralized region which has a reputation, possibly well earned, for spotty bunches and streaks of high-grade ore, and badly faulted veins without much continuity.

It is to be inferred from observations at the Skookum workings that the good ore there is of limited extent, although it is not proven.

Further work is necessary to prove continuity of

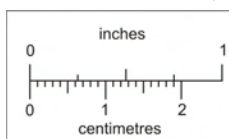


**SKOOKUM GROUP**

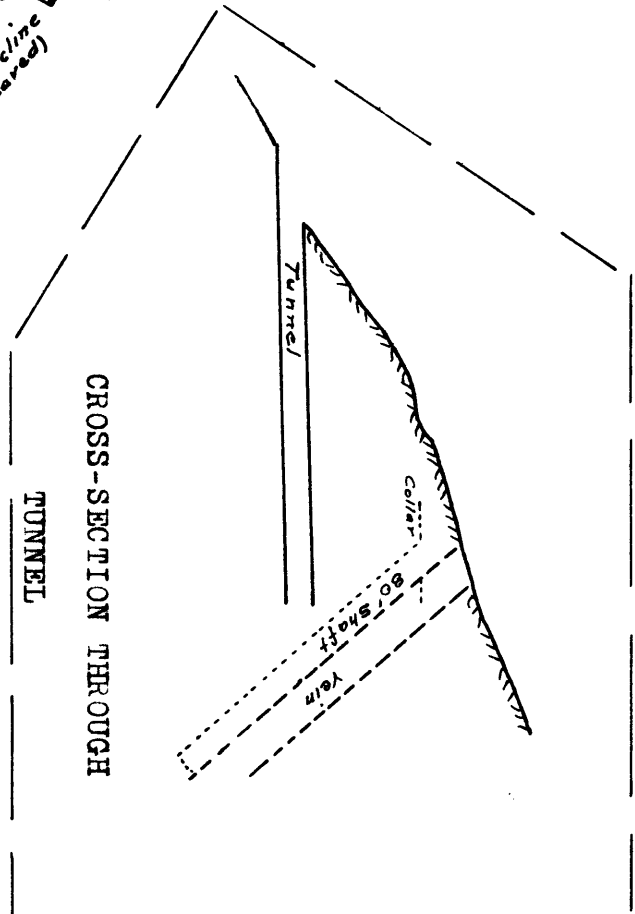
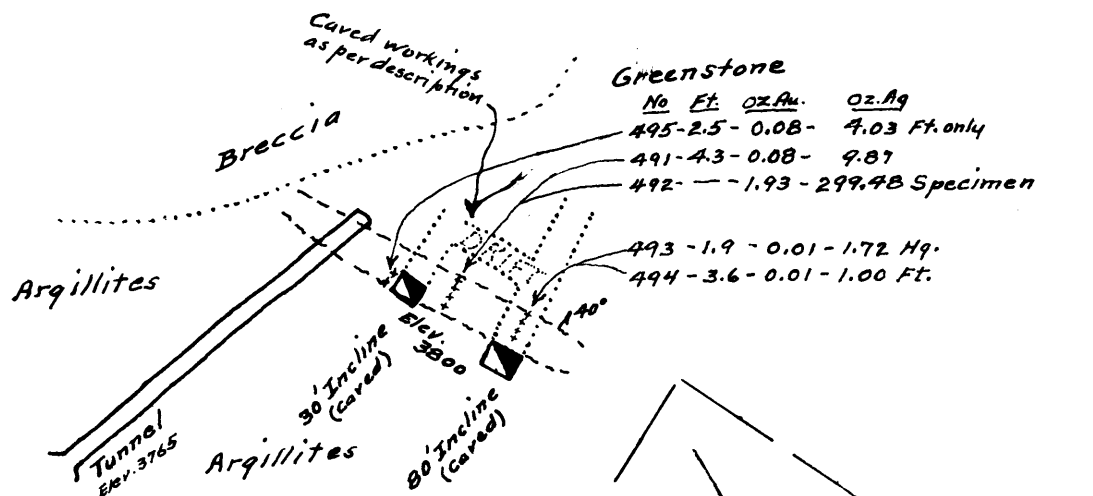
**Northwest of**

**VERNON, B. C.**

**Sketch map, only. Scale 1" - 1000'.**

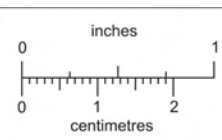


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SKOOKUM GROUP  
SHOWING MAIN WORKINGS

Scale: 1" = 50'



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