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SILVERLEAF

MINERAL OCCURRENCE # 40 "SILVER LEAF MINE"

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location & Access:

These old workings are located south of 49th parallel, near headwaters of a tributary of Jump Creek, on north slope between Mount Service and El Capitan Mountain.

Access is via Nanaimo Lakes road, then across Nanaimo River, through MacMillan's South Nanaimo River Camp, and then crossing Jump Creek to south side past Jump Creek and then South Nanaimo River junction. Hence about 3 miles along road then taking a branch road up a tributary (east side) and following this road which end just a few hundred feet below the adits, west side of creek. The 3 adits are up a steep talus slope. An old cabin is by the creek, downhill from end of road. Approximate elevation 2,500'.

A medical permission is needed since the workings are in the city of Nanaimo water-shed area.

List of References & Reports:

B.C. Minister of Mines:

Annual Report, 1919, p. 224.
Annual Report, 1921, p. 215.
Annual Report, 1922, p. 243.
Annual Report, 1926, p. 323.
Annual Report, 1927, p. 348.
Annual Report, 1928, p. 376.
Annual Report, 1930, p. 302.
Annual Report, 1937, p. F33
Bulletin 1, 1932, p. 136.
Bulletin 37, 1955, p. 63-65 (by J.T.Fyles)

CPOG Report: The Mineral Resources of E & N Land Grant, P. 81-82 (Matthews).

Gunnex Reports: Geological Report #7, Sept.-Oct., 1964, p. 1 (H. Laanela).

Work done by Gunnex, 1963/64:

The 3 adits there were visited briefly with Mr. Ed Wilson, CPOG geologist in September, 1964. The adits were not entered. Few grab samples, some of good grade, were taken. An old camp (cabin) was seen on the creek below. No other work has been done in the area.

Standing:

The present ownership is not known. The property consists of two

PROPERTY FILE

Crown-granted claims, "Mountain Ash" (L28G), "Silver Leaf" (29G), and "Hemlock" fraction (L30G). According to Matthews (CPOG) they were owned by R.G. Core-Langton and associates, of Duncan. The surface of these claims was sold by E & N Railway Co. over fifty years ago, reserving "coal, oil and fireclay and all mines and minerals".

GEOLOGY & WORKINGS

General Geology (after Fyles):

The Vancouver (Franklin Creek of Fyles) volcanics in Mount Londult, El Capitan, and Mount Service are cut by easterly-striking steeply-dipping shear zones which contain sulphides and gold. A few of the shear zones are as much as a mile long and are exposed over a vertical distance of 2,000 feet, but none of these is known to be mineralized. Shorter zones are much more common and at places contain pyrite, pyrrhotite, chalcopyrite, arsenopyrite, as well as small amounts of quartz and calcite. Gold is reported to be in one of these zones and assays as high as 1 oz/ton have been obtained from samples from a few of them. Rusty zones, or those containing most sulphides, usually contain most gold.

Old workings mentioned in this area are Silver Leaf, El Capitan and Cottonwood (see Fyles, 1955).

Showings (after Fyles):

The showings consist of <u>3 shear zones in Vancouver volcanics</u>, in which occur mineral bearing lenses. The <u>most southerly zone</u>, exposed in # 1 and <u>2 adits</u> and on the surface above the adits, strikes westward and dips 60° S. On the surface a lens of oxidized sulphides in the shear zone is exposed at the portal, of No.1 adit and extends westward up the steep slope above the portal and maintains this width for about 50 feet but tapers to nothing to the west of the main showing. The sulphide zone occurs in No. 1 adit extending from the portal to a shallow winze about 60 feet from the portal. Talus covers the hillside below No. 1 adit, and in No. 2 adit logging covers the walls near the portal, but sulphides are exposed in the back of No. 2 adit a distance of about 20 feet from the portal. No. 2 adit follows the shear zone to the face, about 150 feet from the portal, but very little sulphide was seen in it beyond about 30 feet from the portal. Thus the sulphide zone in general appears to form a lens, thinning to the west and downward.

The mineralized parts of the shear zone contain massive fine-grained sulphides, including pyrite, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, and minor arsenopyrite. Quartz, calcite and sheared basalt make up the gangue. Lenses of greenstone low in sulphides are present in some parts of the sulphide zone. (see assays on map).

<u>No. 3 adit</u>, about 250 feet northwest of No. 1, follows first a westerly trending shear zone for about 20 feet, then follows a zone trending $S60^{\circ}W$ and distance of 150 feet to the face. The westerly trending

zone dips deeply southward and the other zone is vertical.

Sulphides including pyrite, chalcopyrite, and arsenopyrite occur locally across widths of as much as l_2^1 feet. (See assays on map).

The <u>rock chimney</u> above No. 3 portal exposes a shear zone, probably the same one as that trending S60^oW in the adit. The zone ranges from 3 to 4 feet and contains lenses of sulphides as much as 6 inches wide. A sample of this material was taken about 120 feet from No. 3 portal across 4-foot width, and another was taken 250 feet up the chimney from the portal across 3-foot width, they assayed respectively:

Sample #	Width (ft.)	Oz./ton		<u>%</u>	
		Au	Ag	Cu	
10	4	Tr.	Tr.	7.2	
11	3	0.24	Tr.	2.5	

The showings discussed above are on the Silver Leaf (L29G) claim (to the north).

A mineralized zone in Mountain Ash (L28G) is reported to occur at an elevation of 3,100 feet, about 1,000 feet south on No. 1 adit.

1930 Gov't report gives also some assay values:

Width	Descriptions	Au.\$/ton	Ag. oz/ton	<u>Cu%</u>
16"-24"	ore shoot in tunnel on south vein, 50' long, from 16" of Cu-pyrite to 2' of mixed ore		5	9–17
2'	north vein, 50' from mouth o tunnel; 2' oxidized vein wit ribs of chalcopyrite		2.2	16

History:

No production is recorded from this property.

The "Mountain Ash" was staked in 1911, and others shortly after by the late Thos. Service of Lake Cowichan. No. 1 adit was driven before 1923, and the other two are reported to have been driven during the summer of 1945.

In 1929, the property was examined by Mr. G.A. Diron of "Cominco", who concluded that there was some good quality ore on the property but the ore bodies were small and irregular. He recommended further development work.

In <u>1930</u> government report recommendation is made for more work also, possibly in conjunction with work on "El Capitan" to the south.

COMMENTS:

It certainly looks like an interesting showing, although possibly small. Fairly good road leads right to the showing, making access and transportation easy. Other drawback, possibly is its location in city of Nanaimo water-shed area.

> H. Laanels, March, 1965.

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