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REPORT OF BRIEF EXAMINATION
OF THE
PRIDE OF THE WEST AND HAMPTON CLAIMS
TOQUART HARBOUR,
VANCOUVER ISLAND, B. C.

To
Mr. B. G. Hawkins,
Standard Bank Building,
Vancouver, B. C.

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

November 6, 1938.

PRIDE OF THE WEST GROUP

INTRODUCTION: About four hours were spent on the property; this was sufficient time to inspect all the known vein exposures and to take a few samples, but not to study the showing in close detail.

SITUATION: The property is situated on the mainland of Vancouver Island at the head of Toquart Harbour, on the north side of Barkley Sound. It is about fifty miles from Port Alberni, and about fifteen northeast of Uclaclet which is the nearest town and post-office. It is in the Alberni Mining Division. The property is easily accessible by launch, and an ample depth of water for freighters extends close to the shore.

PROPERTY: There are two Crown Granted claims in the group, the Pride of the West (Lot 538) and the Hampton (Lot 539), amounting to 87.3 acres. They are held under lease from the Government, with option to purchase, by Mr. B. G. Hawkins and associates of Vancouver, B. C.

HISTORY: These claims were located and a small amount of work was done on them some forty years ago. Later, they reverted to the Government, and were recently leased to Mr. Hawkins.

There are unconfirmed rumors that, in addition to about one hundred feet of tunnel, the "old timers" sunk a shallow shaft from which a small shipment of gold ore was made. The location of this shaft, if it exists, is not now known.

GENERAL CONDITIONS: There is plenty of timber for mine use on the property, and water for camp use on the Hampton claim. The topography is in general rather flat, but at the west end of the Pride of the West claim the slopes are steep, with some cliffs, to an elevation of about a hundred feet along the course of the vein, thence there is a gentle descent to the creek on the Hampton claim. The surface is covered with extremely thick brush, so that traveling is difficult.

DEVELOPMENT: Unless other workings have become lost in the dense brush, development consists solely of a tunnel on the main vein, and an open-cut on a small vein lying about two hundred feet to the north of the tunnel.

The tunnel starts seven feet above high water level, near the No. 1 Post (west end) of the Pride of the West claim and follows a vein S 30° E for 122 feet. At 70 feet from the portal of the tunnel a winze, said to be 16 feet deep, has been sunk; it is now full of water. Approximately the last fifteen feet of the tunnel has been driven recently by the present owners.

GEOLOGY: Government maps show the area to be underlain by interbedded volcanic and sedimentary rocks

of the Vancouver Group which have been intruded by large bodies of diorite, both being of Mesozoic age.

From personal observation, nothing can be said of the geology except in the immediate vicinity of the tunnel. Here, the chief rock is intrusive diorite which is cut by a three or four foot dike of fine grained greenish rock, probably andesite, which strikes about east and west and dips steeply south. This dike is younger than the above mentioned volcanics, and may be of Tertiary age.

VEIN: The vein follows the hangingwall contact of the dike and the diorite and varies from three to five feet in width. It strikes S 83° E and dips 75° to 80° south. It consists of coarsely ribboned quartz, partially silicified rock, and gouge. The quartz is gray to white and frequently shows a foliated comb structure. Rather coarse pyrite grains occur, both scattered through the quartz and in bands parallel to the walls, accompanied by occasional grains of sphalerite and chalcopyrite.

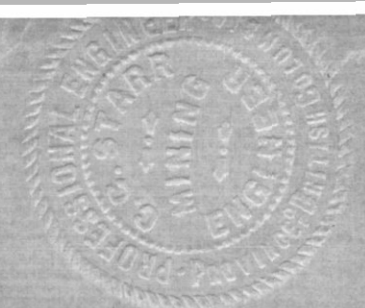
In the recent work a few specimens have been found in the vein, near the footwall, showing a telluride mineral, probably sylvanite. Fine pyrite occurs as a coating on shear-planes in the quartz, and is the latest deposition; it probably does not carry any gold.

The vein walls are strong and regular, with a small clay gouge on both of them, and occasionally some additional inches of crushed rock, quartz, and gouge along the hangingwall. The vein filling is ribboned and crushed and there have evidently been several stages of movement along the plane of the vein. The purest quartz and the strongest metallic mineralization are in the footwall half of the vein.

The vein two hundred feet north of the tunnel is exposed at one point, only, for a few feet. It strikes N 80° E and dips nearly vertical; both walls are diorite. It varies from about an inch wide at the top of the open-cut to six inches at the bottom; there is little or no gouge on the walls. The quartz is similar to that in the main vein; pyrite in rather coarse grains is the only metallic mineral noted.

ASSAYS: Former samples taken from the tunnel are said to have varied from a few cents to six ounces of gold in picked specimens, but the average across the vein is reported to be low.

In the course of the present examination, five samples were taken in the last fifteen feet of the tunnel, two from specimens picked from the muck by the miners, and one from the open-cut on the small north vein, as follows:-



No.	Portal Distnc	Ft. Width	Oz. Gold	Remarks
389	122	3.7	0.05	Near bottom at face. Quartz & pyrite. No hangingwall gouge.
390	122	3.3	0.01	Near top at face. Quartz & spotty pyrite. No hangingwall gouge.
391	122	0.8	0.01	Face; HW gouge, top & bottom.
392	117	3.6	0.03	Across back of drift, quartz & pyrite.
393	107.5	3.7	0.06	" " " " "
394	-	0.4	0.03	In open-cut on north vein; quartz & pyrite.
395	-	Specimens	64.08	Silver 124.32 Oz. Telluride specimen from last 15' of tunnel. (\$2298.52)
396	-	"	0.74	Several large specimens of quartz showing pyrite, sphalerite, & chalcopyrite from last fifteen feet of tunnel.

There is a strong probability that the gold is associated with the telluride, chalcopyrite, and sphalerite, and that the pyrite is comparatively barren.

CONCLUSION: The property, while isolated, has a good location for low operating costs, except that little depth can be obtained by tunneling and any extensive development will have to be by shaft.

The geology is favorable and the vein is exceptionally well defined and strong, lying between good walls of diorite and an andesite dike, with evidence of considerable movement. The vein has only been traced about 150 feet; to the west it goes under the water of the harbour, - to the east it is covered with soil, but can probably be found by a little digging, - according to hearsay it has already been found and lost again.

Channel samples taken in the tunnel show low values, but it is evident from the specimen assays that high grade gold ore is present in the vein in spots, which encourages the hope that further work may uncover a workable oreshoot.

Indications all point to a vein persistent both laterally and in depth and I believe justify further exploration.

I would recommend the tracing and sampling of the vein to the eastward by cross-trenches at fifty foot intervals, so far as the depth of the overburden permits. It would also be advisable to continue the tunnel, say a hundred feet, either at the same time the surface work is being done, or following it.

If this development is at all favorable, it should be followed by sinking a shaft at some point to be determined after the completion of the above work.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. C. Starr

