

Property File  
92K General

011801

REPORT OF  
EXAMINATION OF THE  
GOLD TOP GROUP  
OF MINING CLAIMS  
SALMON RIVER, B. C.

By  
Charles C. Starr,  
August 20, 1939.

## GOLD TOP GROUP

**LOCATION:** The property is located in the Nanaimo Mining Division, a short distance west of the Salmon River which flows to Johnstone Strait near Sayward Post Office.

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Sayward (otherwise called Salmon River or Kelsey Bay) is reached by Union Steamship Company boats from Vancouver. From the beach the Salmon River Logging Co. railroad may be taken to their upper camp, a distance of about 15 miles. The principal mineral showing on the claims lies four or five hundred feet west of this camp, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level.

**PROPERTY:** The property consists of eight mineral claims, the Gold Top No. 1 to No. 8 inclusive, located in two tiers of four each, and running in a north-northwesterly direction. The principal mineral showings are about a claim length from the northwest end of the group. They are owned by a small syndicate in which are included some of the logging Company officials.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS:** The property is very well situated for cheap operation, being within a few hundred feet of the railway, and camp facilities at hand.

There is ample timber and water close by. The climate is generally mild and the snowfall usually small.

**DEVELOPMENT:** No work has been done on the property except some stripping adjacent to the original discovery where a small creek exposed a part of the mineralized zone.

The area where mineralized bed-rock is now exposed is approximately 25 feet by 30 feet, but this does not cover the full width of the mineralization.

Two short holes were blasted in the stripped area but showed no change.

**GEOLOGY:** The geology of the region has not been mapped by the Geological Survey, and locally the rocks are much obscured by overburden so that it is difficult to obtain a good picture of the geology.

To the northeast of the mineralized zone the rocks are exposed along the steep banks of the small creek crossing the discovery and here they consist of altered flows of andesitic and basaltic greenstone which probably can be correlated with the Valdes formation, occurring along Johnstone Strait, as described by Bancroft in Geological Survey Memoir #23. These rocks are occasionally cut by narrow dikes which appear to be quartz-diorite.

To the southwest of the mineralized zone the surface is generally deeply covered with overburden, and rock outcrops are scarce. Where observable the rocks are about equally divided between greenstone and a light colored, coarse grained quartz-diorite(?) which is probably a part of the Coast Range Intrusives. This suggests the probability that the rocks to the southwest of the mineralized

zone are greenstones cut by many quartz-diorite dikes. Where observable, the dikes have a strike of north-northwest and a steep dip, about parallel to the mineralized zone.

**MINERALIZED ZONE:** There is no true vein exposed on the property, but the mineralization occurs in a broad shear-zone and consists of closely spaced narrow seams of pyrite and quartz, with some pyrite disseminated through the adjoining rock. With the pyrite there are, rarely, a few small grains of chalcopyrite. This mineralization occurs in greenstone which is cut by numerous narrow, irregular, quartz-diorite dikes, and in and along the margins of the dikes themselves.

At the stripping the shear-zone strikes N 15° W and dips 80° to 85° east. Its full width is unknown, - possibly as much as a hundred feet. West of the stripping some thirty or forty feet mineralization is reported to have been found, but this area is now covered by debris from the creek. East of the stripping a few small exposures on the bank of the creek show some weak mineralization for a distance of forty feet, and it is in this area, now mostly covered with gravel from the creek, that the original discovery was made.

On its strike to the north-northwest the shear-zone is nowhere exposed, and within three or four hundred feet probably passes under deep overburden on flat ground.

To the south-southeast the strike indicates the shear would climb diagonally up the hill; at about five hundred feet from the stripping there is an outcrop of rusty, iron-stained rock projecting through the overburden over an area of about six by ten feet. This may, or may not, be the continuation of the shear-zone and work is necessary to prove or disprove it. This outcrop is hard and smooth and requires blasting to expose it for examination or sampling. A few chips broken off show there is some quartz and pyrite present.

At upwards of a thousand feet south of this outcrop weak mineralization is reported in a creek canyon, but could not be found.

**SAMPLES:** Seven samples were taken during the examination; Nos. 513 to 516, across the stripped part of the mineralized shear, were taken by continuous chipping across the shear. No. 518 is picked pieces across the best appearing spots throughout the stripped area, and No. 517 is picked pieces from the few outcrops showing east of the stripping. No. 519 is from the rusty outcrop five hundred feet west of the stripping. It was impossible to obtain a fair sample at this point without blasting on account of the hard smooth surface.



The assays are as follows:-

No.	Feet Width	Oz. Gold	Oz. Silver	Value
513	9.5	0.01	Trace	\$0.35
514	8.5	Trace	Trace	-
515	8.0	Trace	Trace	-
516	4.5	Trace	Trace	-
517	-	0.005	Trace	0.17
518	-	Trace	Trace	-
519	-	Trace	Trace	-

Copper is very low, - probably less than 1/10 of 1%.

**SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS:** All physical features at the property are good and conducive to cheap operation, except that development would have to be by shaft instead of tunnel; also geological conditions are fairly good. The mineralized zone is wide and might be expected to extend considerable distances laterally and vertically. However, the samples taken show practically no values and discourage further exploration.

There seems no valid reason to hope for any important improvement in gold values in depth, as the present showing is fresh and unaltered. Laterally, there is always a chance of somewhere finding a shoot of ore, but this chance seems rather remote.

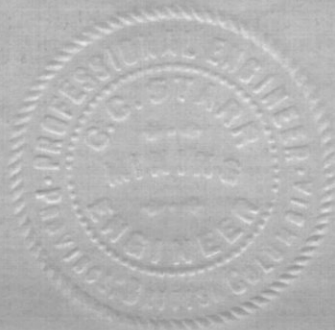
It is perhaps worthy of note that the best samples herewith (0.01 and 0.005 Oz.) came from the eastern side of the zone, and that the first sample taken by the discoverer, said to assay about \$6, is reported to have been taken between the east part of the stripping and the "2 inch hemlock sapling" some forty feet east. This area is now covered with gravel which has washed down the creek. Possibly it would be advisable to strip this area and sample it on the doubtful possibility that the values are better there. Also, it might be well to strip a narrow width across the rusty outcrop five hundred feet south, and put in a few shots to break the surface. This work, while probably justified, is a long gamble.

**CONCLUSION:** The showing is favorable in every way except for the values which, thus far, are practically Nil.

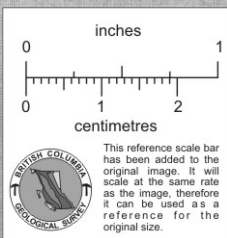
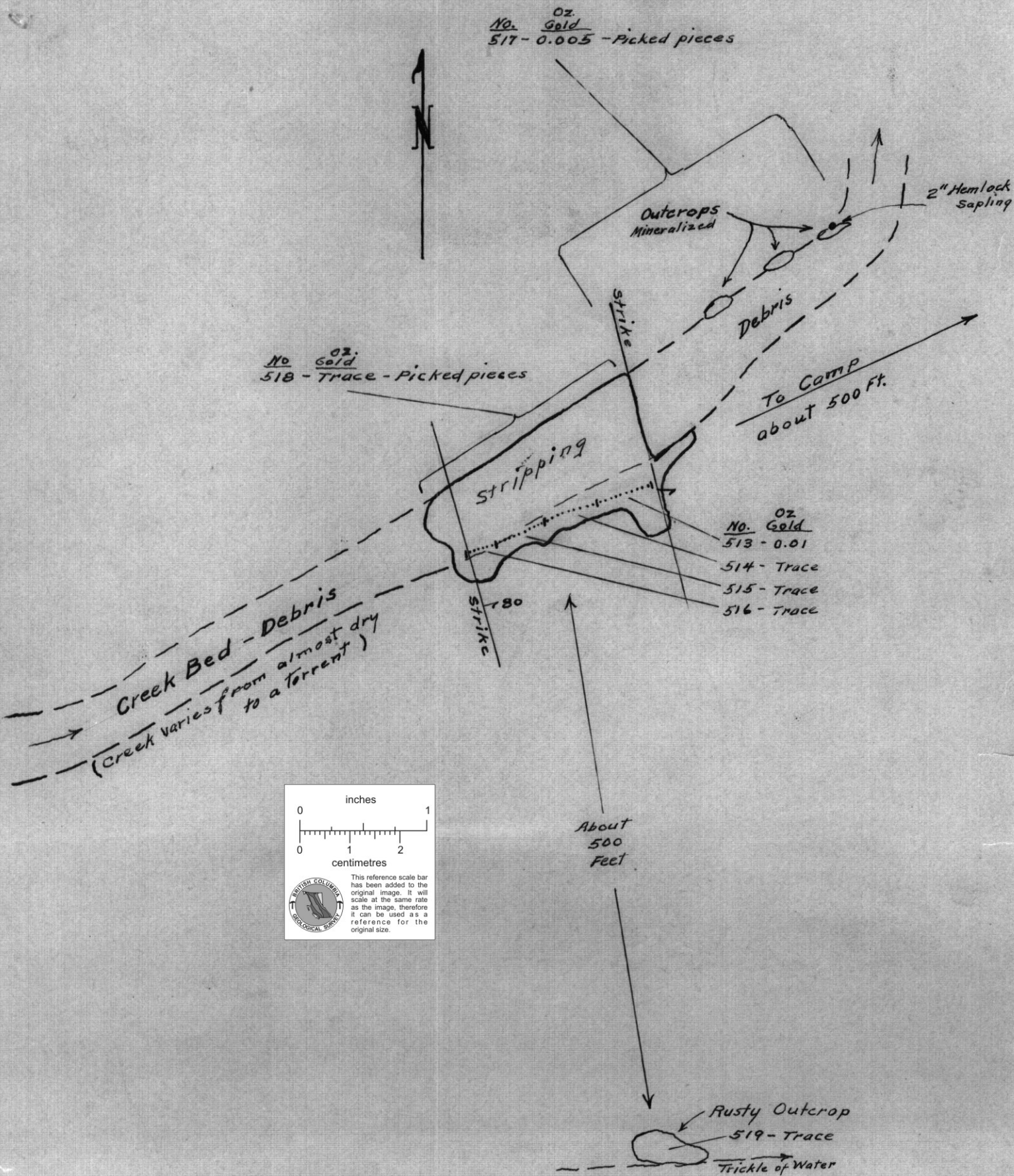
Unless the very small amount of work suggested above results in exposing mineralization with a materially better gold content, there would seem to be no justification for further work, and the property might as well be abandoned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chas. C. Starr*







SKETCH OF  
GOLD TOP STRIPPING AND ASSAYS

1" = 20'