

The old Surf Inlet gold mine is located 115 kilometres south of Kitimat. The mine area has recently been restaked and represents one of many gold showings in the coastal area south of Prince Rupert including those on Banks Island. Underground development work at the mine totals some 15,240 metres. Matachewan Consolidated Mines Ltd. acquired the assets of the company in 1966. Reserves on the Pugsley group were estimated in 1961 at 47,250 tons probable and possible, grading 0.35 to 0.45 oz. per ton gold.

The mine area has been completely overgrown. The dump area exhibits the principle rock types including the mineralized pyrite-quartz-ankerite veins. The ore bodies are large pyritized veins in a zone of intense shearing in gneissic quartz diorite of the Coast Range batholith. The Surf Inlet ore bodies are on the north of a U-shaped valley and the Pugsley on the south side. Apparently the veins at Surf Inlet have a maximum length of 305 metres and a width of 12 metres.

Other minerals present include chalcopyrite, bornite, hematite, molybdenite and malachite.

A grab sample of pyrite-chalcopyrite-quartz ore from the dump assayed 33 ppm gold, 25 ppm silver and 1.12% copper.

[Ref.: Geological Survey of Canada, Summary Report, 1921, Part A, pp. 30-35; MDI - 103H-G27].