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Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources Mining Collection

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: APACHE TEARS DEPOSIT

ALTERNATE NAMES:

PINAL COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 76B

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 2 S RANGE 12 E SECTION 8 QUARTER N2
LATITUDE: N 33DEG 16MIN 35SEC LONGITUDE: W 111DEG 08MIN 20SEC
TOPO MAP NAME: PICKETPOST MTN - 7.5 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: PAST PRODUCER

COMMODITY:

PERLITE

GEMSTONE APACHE TEARS

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

ADMMR APACHE TEARS FILE

APACHE TEARS-OBSIDIAN IS PRIMARY PRODUCT

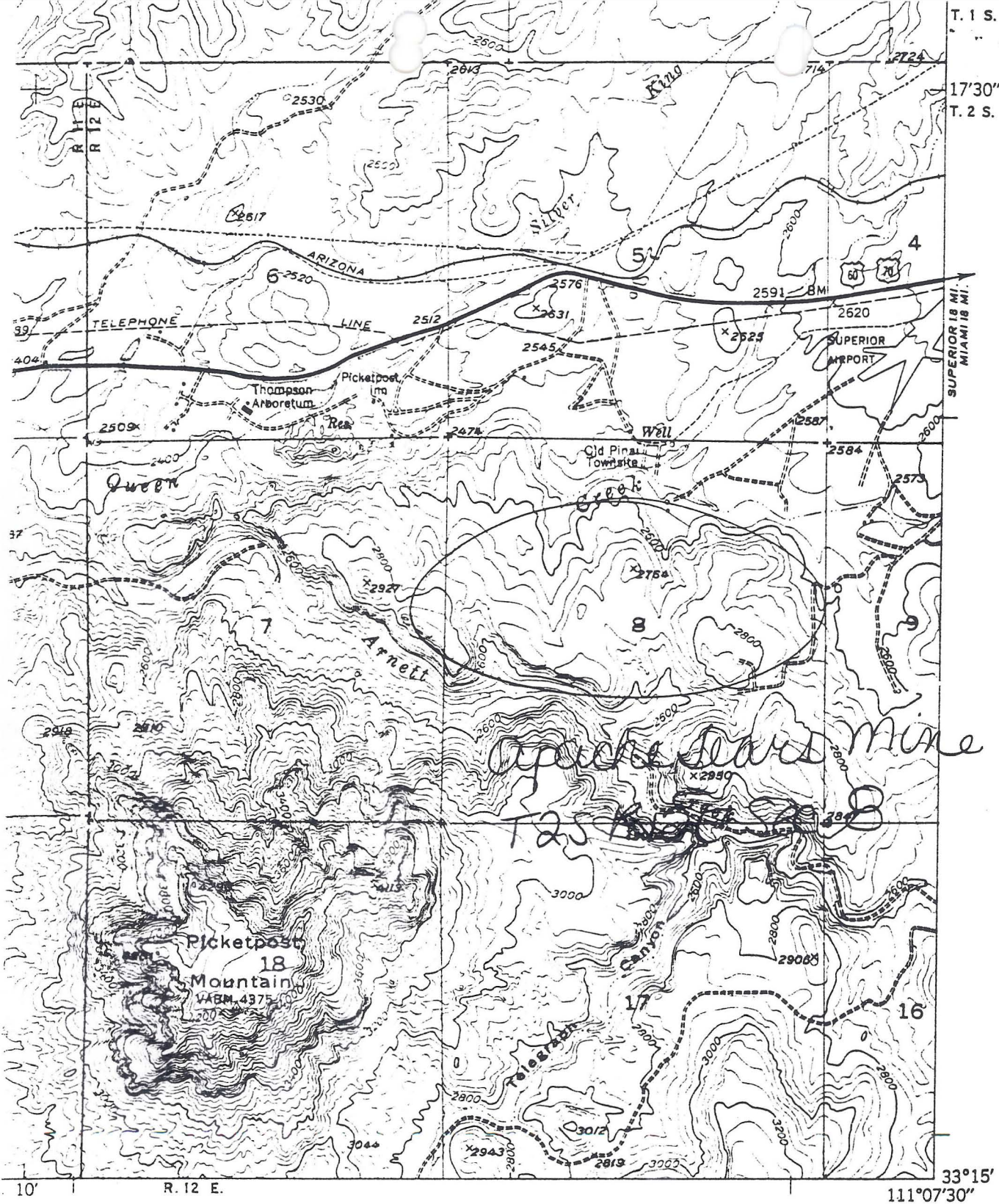
APACHE TEARS MINE

REFERENCES

PINAL COUNTY
PIONEER DIST.
T2S R12E Sec. 8

Pinal County MILS index #76B

Picketpost Mtn., AZ 7.5' Topo (included in file)



T. 1 S.
 17'30"
 T. 2 S.
 SUPERIOR 18 MI.
 MIAMI 18 MI.
 33°15'
 111°07'30"

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

HARD-SURFACE ALL WEATHER ROADS		DRY WEATHER ROADS
Heavy-duty _____	<u>4 LANE 16 LANE</u>	Improved dirt _____
Medium-duty _____	<u>4 LANE 16 LANE</u>	Unimproved dirt _____
Loose-surface, graded, or narrow hard-surface. - - - -		
U. S. Route	State Route	

PICKETPOST MTN, ARIZ.
 N3315 - W11107.5/7.5

EDITION OF 1949

(FLORENCE 11)

Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources

INFORMATION FROM MINE CARDS IN MUSEUM

ARIZONA	MM-3847a	Apache	tear	(Obsidian)	normal
PINAL CO.	3847b	"	"	"	expanded
	3848	"	"	"	"
<u>SUPERIOR</u> (Not Magma Mine)	3849	"	"	"	"
	3850	"	"	"	"
<i>MILS # 76E</i>	3851	"	"	"	"
<i>O-AKA</i>	2953	"	"	"	Normal
	6631	"	"	"	"
<i>Apache Tear; Deposit</i>	6632	"	"	"	"
	6633	"	"	"	"
	6634	"	"	"	"

Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources


VERBAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

May be Reproduced

1. Information from: Field Visit
Address:
2. Mine: "Apache Tears Caves" 3. ADMMR Mine File
4. County: Pinal 5. District
6. Township Range Sec(s)
7. Location:
8. No. of Claims - Patented Unpatented
9. Owner (if different from above)
10. Address:
11. Operating Company:
12. Pertinent People and/or Firm:
13. Commodities:
14. Operational Status:
15. Summary of information received, comments, etc.:

Attempted to reach Apache Tear fee collected area. Road is blocked with locked gate and has a sign saying - closed.

Date: Feb. 5, 1990


Signature

ADMMR

APACHE TEARS MINE

PINAL COUNTY

KAP WR 12/6/85: While on the Dec 5, 1985 Forest Service field trip, we visited the Apache Tears Caves operated by Guzman Construction. The gemstone collecting site is opened every day of the year except Christmas. The charge is currently \$2.00 to collect a 1 gallon bucket of tears. The Apache Tears can also be purchased at the little rockshop at the site. The local Forest Service District Ranger has contended for years that the rockshop and collecting fee collecting site are not legal uses of a mining claim, but it has remained intact as a long time Arizona rockhound tradition.

Apache Tears

Apache tears are obsidian, a clear volcanic glass, known since before the time of Christ. Polished Apache tears are used in jewelry, and very large stones are prized as paperweights,

The Apache Tears Mine is open seven days a week during daylight hours. It is located between Superior and the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, just off Highway 60. There are two roads in, both well marked, about one and one half miles west of Superior.

THIS IS A FEE AREA. For one dollar, you may fill a small bucket with tears. Smaller stones may be picked from the rubble on the ground. More ambitious miners are advised to bring their own hammer and chisel or sturdy screwdriver to dig the tears out of the soft volcanic rock. Because this area is in the desert, digging can be hot work, so it is recommended that visitors wear a wide-brimmed hat and bring plenty of drinking water. Two shaded picnic tables have been provided at the site.

