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MARICOPA CO. MILS

NUMBER:160A

NAME:BLACK NUGGET

ALTERNATE NAMES:

U.S. GROUP

ATLAS MINING

CURRENT STATUS:PAST PRODUCER MAP NAME:AGUILA - 15 MIN

LATITUDE:N 33DEG 45MIN 40SEC LONGITUDE:W 113DEG 13MIN 19SEC

TOWNSHIP: 5 N RANGE: 9 W SECTION:20 QTR.:NW

COMMODITY:

MANGANESE-(M) PYROLUSITE -
COPRODUCT

MANGANESE-(M) PSILOMELANE -
COPRODUCT

MANGANESE-(M) MANGANITE -
COPRODUCT

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

USGS AGUILA QUAD

ADMR BLACK NUGGET MINE FILE

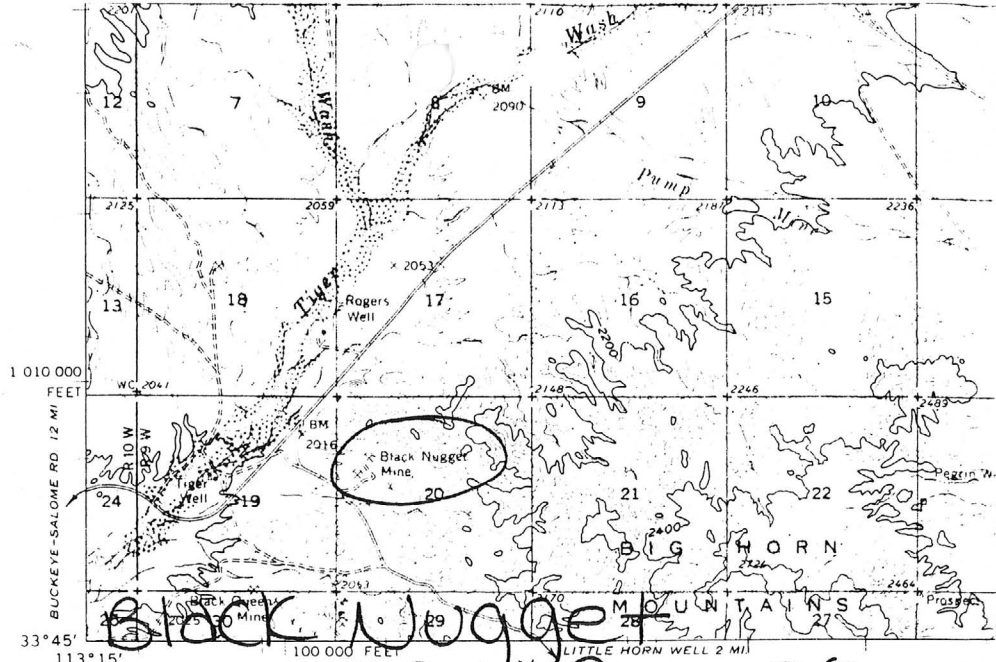
FARNHAM & STEWART USGM IC P 21

ADMR "U" FILE

WILSON E & BUTLER G AZBM BULL 127 P 87

JONES, E & RANSOME F USGS 710-D P 140

IC 7843, p. 21



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photographs taken 1951 and 1960. Field checked 1962

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Arizona coordinate system, central zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 12, shown in blue

APPROXIMATE MEAN
 DECLINATION 1962

LONE MOUNTAIN

Black Nugget
T510 Raw Sec. 20

Aguila, AZ 15'

NAME OF MINE: BLACK NUGGETS

COUNTY: MARICOPA
DISTRICT: VULTURE
METALS: MN

OPERATOR AND ADDRESS:		MINE STATUS	
DATE:		DATE:	
5/1/44	Mrs. M.S. Ponton, 822 W. 6th St., Los Angeles	5/1/44	Closed--RFC loan \$5,000

See: ABM Bull. 127, p. 67 (U. S. Group)
See: I.C. Bull. 7843 - p. 21 - *Ray Staughtel - Sec 20, T5N, R9W*
MILS Sheet sequence number 0040130018 (p. 2921)

March 19, 1943

PROGRESS REPORT
BLACK NUGGETT Mn MINE
Ponton & Webb, Aguila
Operating with \$5,000
RFC Loan

MEMORANDUM

TO: Earl F. Hastings

FROM: Elgin B. Holt

On March 15, 1943, I visited this property in company with owners thereof, Webb and Ponton, who secured an RFC preliminary development loan during November, 1942, and started work about Dec. 15, 1942.

Working accomplished to date of visit consisted of cleaning out 4 shafts, 10', 10', 15', and 20' deep. Also a tunnel and open cut was cleaned out for a length of 125 feet, more or less, and three underhand stopes in this tunnel were also cleaned out from 8 to 10' deep. Also, another tunnel was cleaned out for a length of 100' and two winzes in floor of this tunnel were also cleaned out around 8' deep each.

ORE PRODUCED AND SHIPPED:

Ponton and Webb stated they had shipped 20 tons of Mn ore to the Phoenix stockpile, but assay results had not been received by them at the time of my visit. The said 20-ton lot of ore, per Webb, was obtained from two faces in tunnels, which had been cleaned out, and from two places in shafts, which had also been cleaned out.

MINE NOW ACCESSIBLE FOR EXAMINATION:

This property is now accessible for examination by RFC engineers. I took no assays, so all I can say now is that I saw lenses of Mn ore in the floor of the main tunnel, seemingly of shipping grade; said lenses being about 2 feet wide and from 10 to 40 feet long, more or less. Also, Mn ore shows in the walls of the various tunnels and mine workings. I made no attempt, however, to examine this property with a view to determining its importance, as that is a matter to be looked after by RFC engineers.

Ponton & Webb seem to be considering on making an application for an RFC development loan, and will likely ask for an RFC engineer to be sent to property.

Elgin B. Holt.

cc - J. S. Coupal

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

DEPT. MINERAL RESOURCES
RECEIVED
PHOENIX JAN 11 1942
ARIZONA

GO
C

Mine Black Nugget . Aguila, Ariz.
District Vulture
Subject: Progress since getting the Gov. Loan.

Date Jan 6 th 1943
Engineer A. C. Nebeker

This property is being operated by M. S. Ponton and J. M. Webb with a government loan.

The property is now equiped with a compressor, hoist, jackhammer, building and a pick-up truck.

At present four men are employed cleaning up the old workings. The old works which are of the nature of winzes, drifts and drift tunnels were filled in with muck, and Mr Webb has been cleaning this out so, new faces of ore could be seen and sampled. The fillings along the tunnel has been 5 to 10 feet deep and so far 150 feet of tunnel has been cleaned up and two winzes which were found in the cleaning process, have been cleaned out. In one of these winzes ore was found in place which is claimed will run 35% to 40% Manganese.

There has been 20 to 25 tons of approximately 35% ore saved while cleaning out the old lob.

The operators expect to double up their operatings in the next week and will be ready to work on ore. They plan to make their shippments to the Phoenix stock pile.

A. C. Nebeker

PROJECT 31A
 AGUILA, ARIZONA

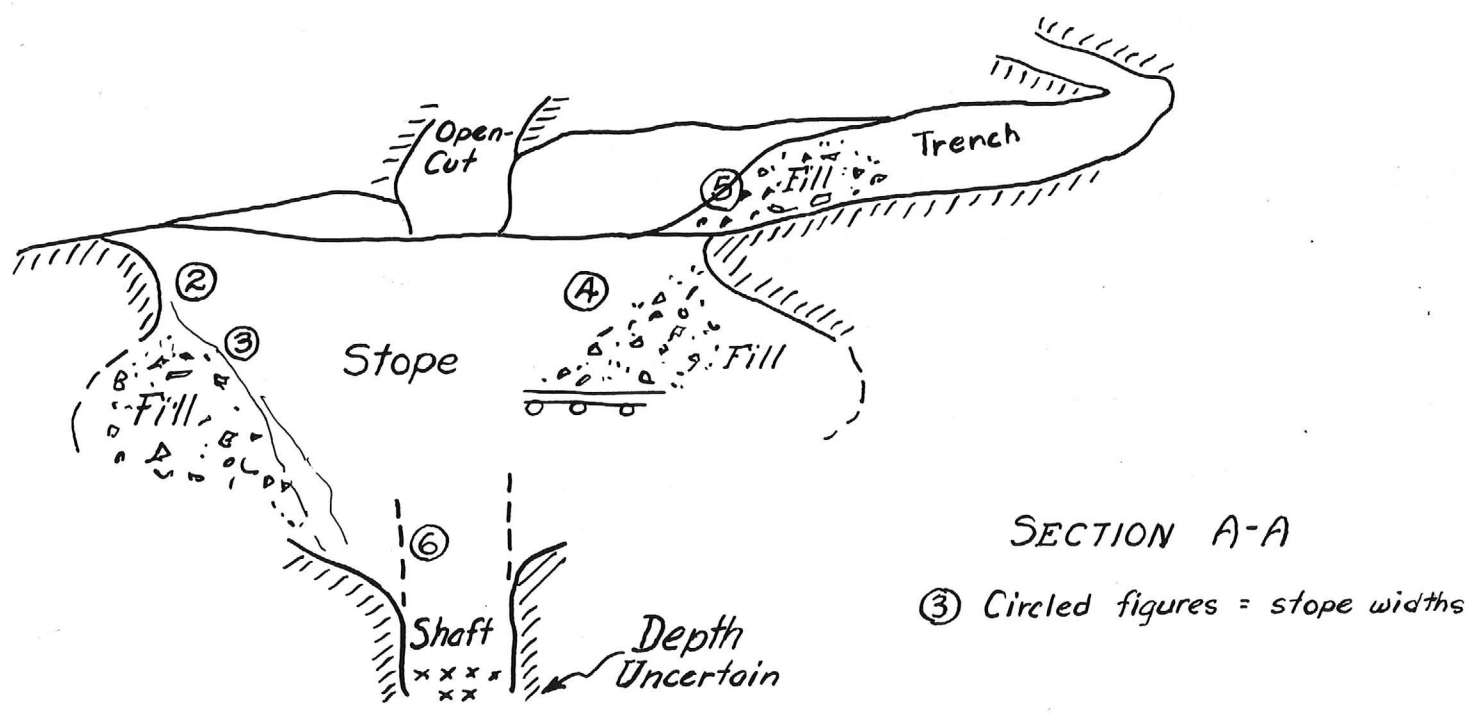
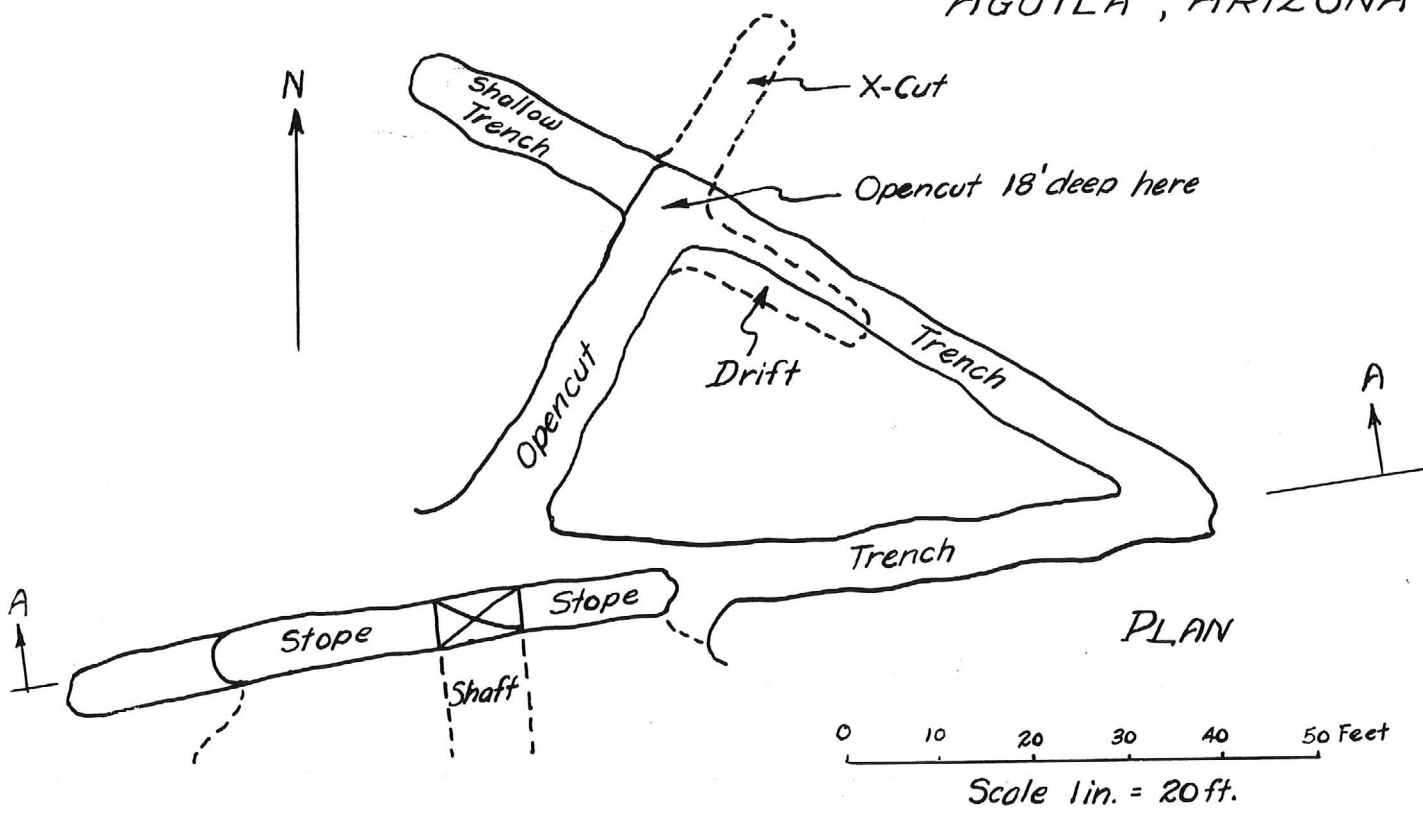


FIGURE 6 PRINCIPAL WORKINGS ON MANGANESE
 DEVELOPMENT CO. (VALLEY VIEW) GROUND, AT
 LOCATION "A" IN GENERAL PLAN OF PROPERTY

C. H. JOHNSON

PROJECT 314
 AGUILA, ARIZONA

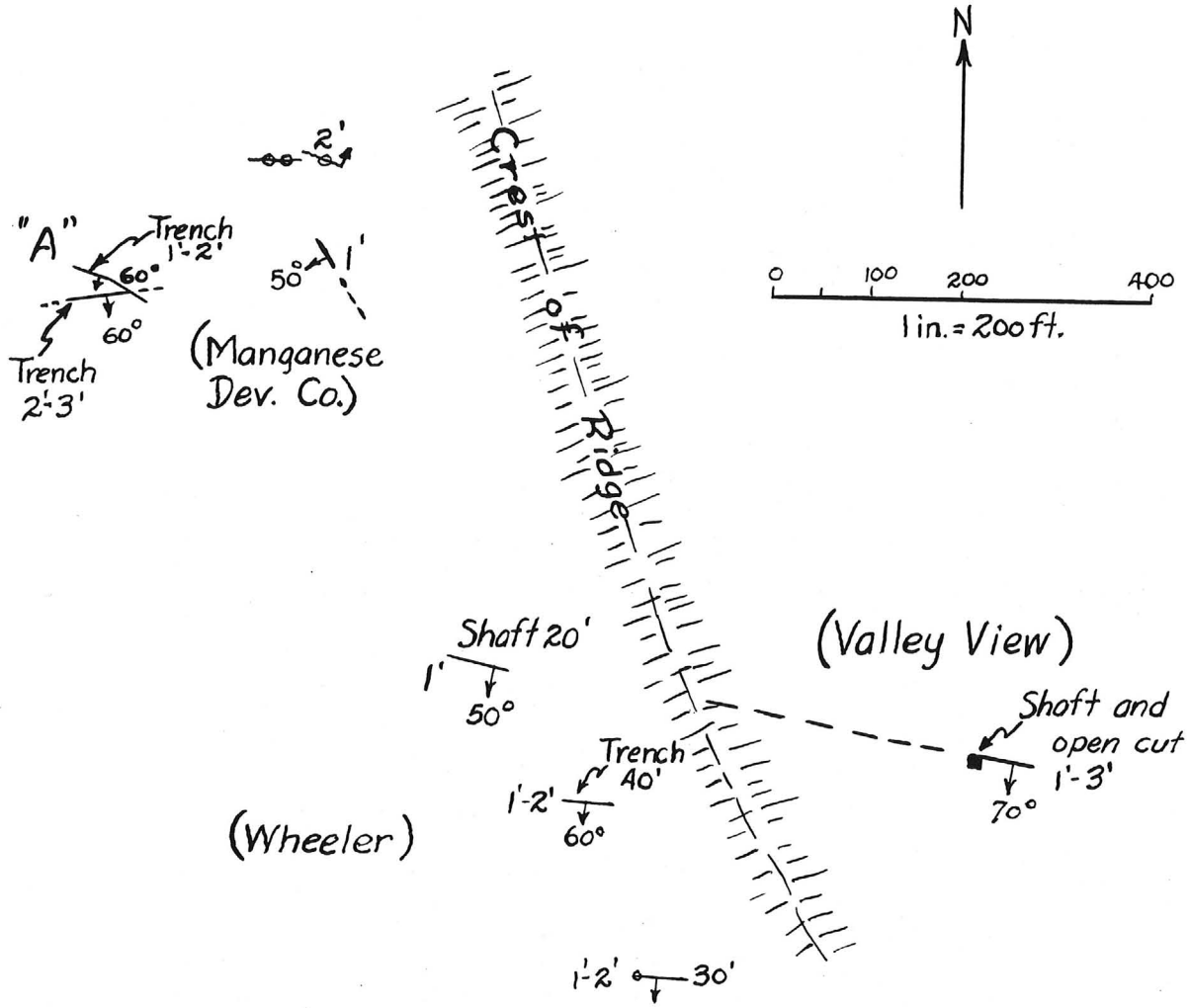
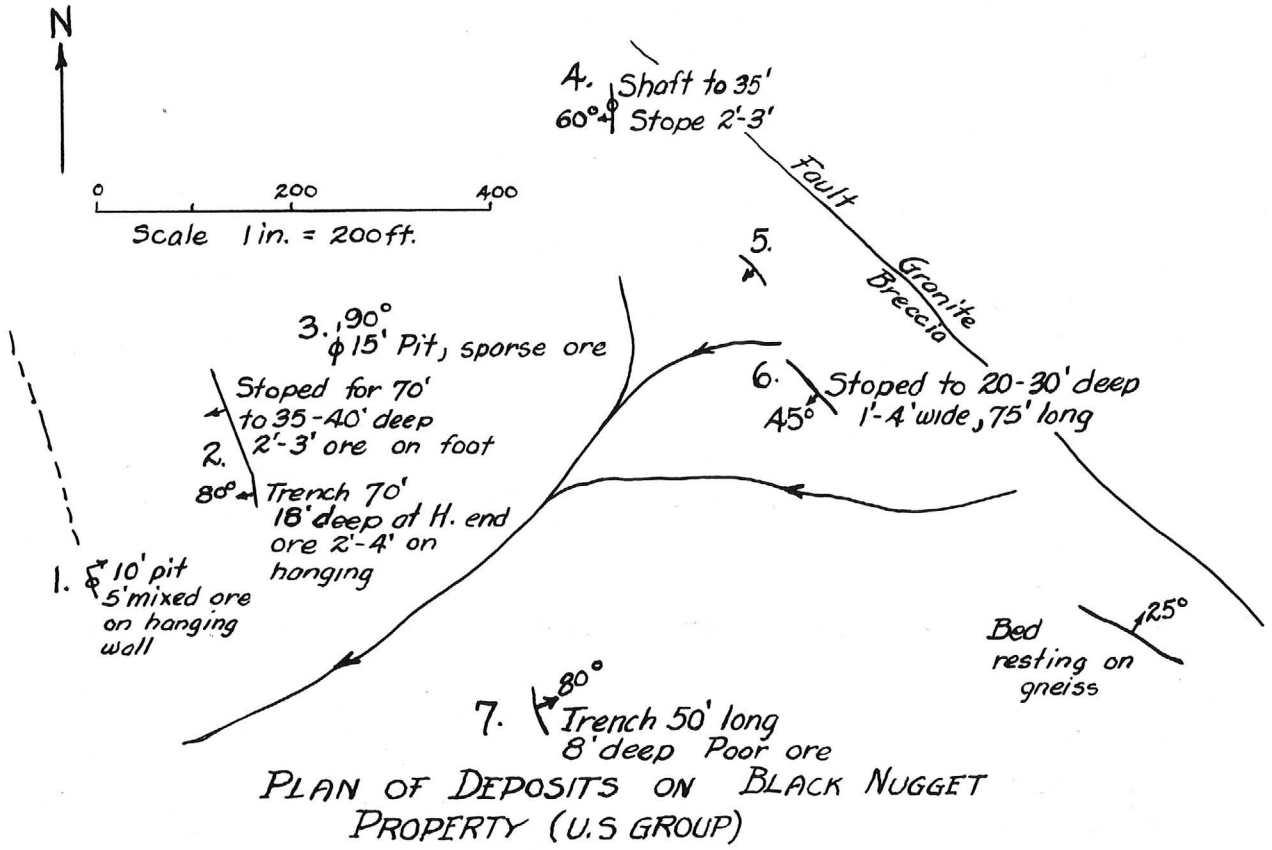


FIGURE 5 GENERAL PLAN OF VEINS AND WORKINGS ON MANGANESE DEVELOPMENT CO. WHEELER (VALLEY VIEW) PROPERTY SEE FIGURE 6 FOR DETAILS OF WORKINGS AT "A"

PROJECT 314
AGUILA ARIZONA



No. 2 DEPOSIT

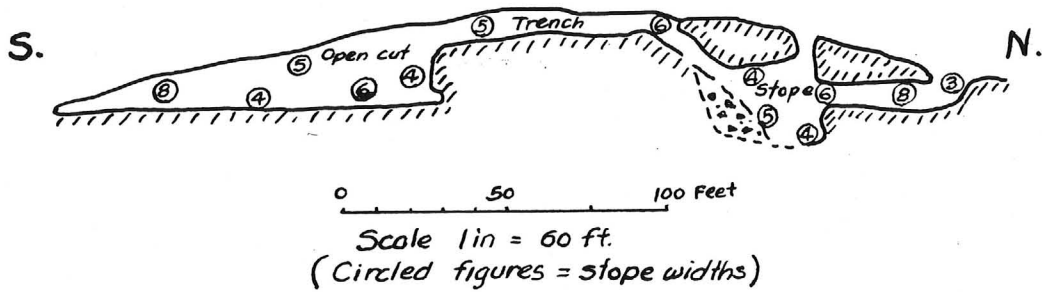


FIGURE 4. BLACK NUGGET (U.S.) MANGANESE
PROPERTY AGUILA.

PROJECT 314
AGUILA, ARIZONA

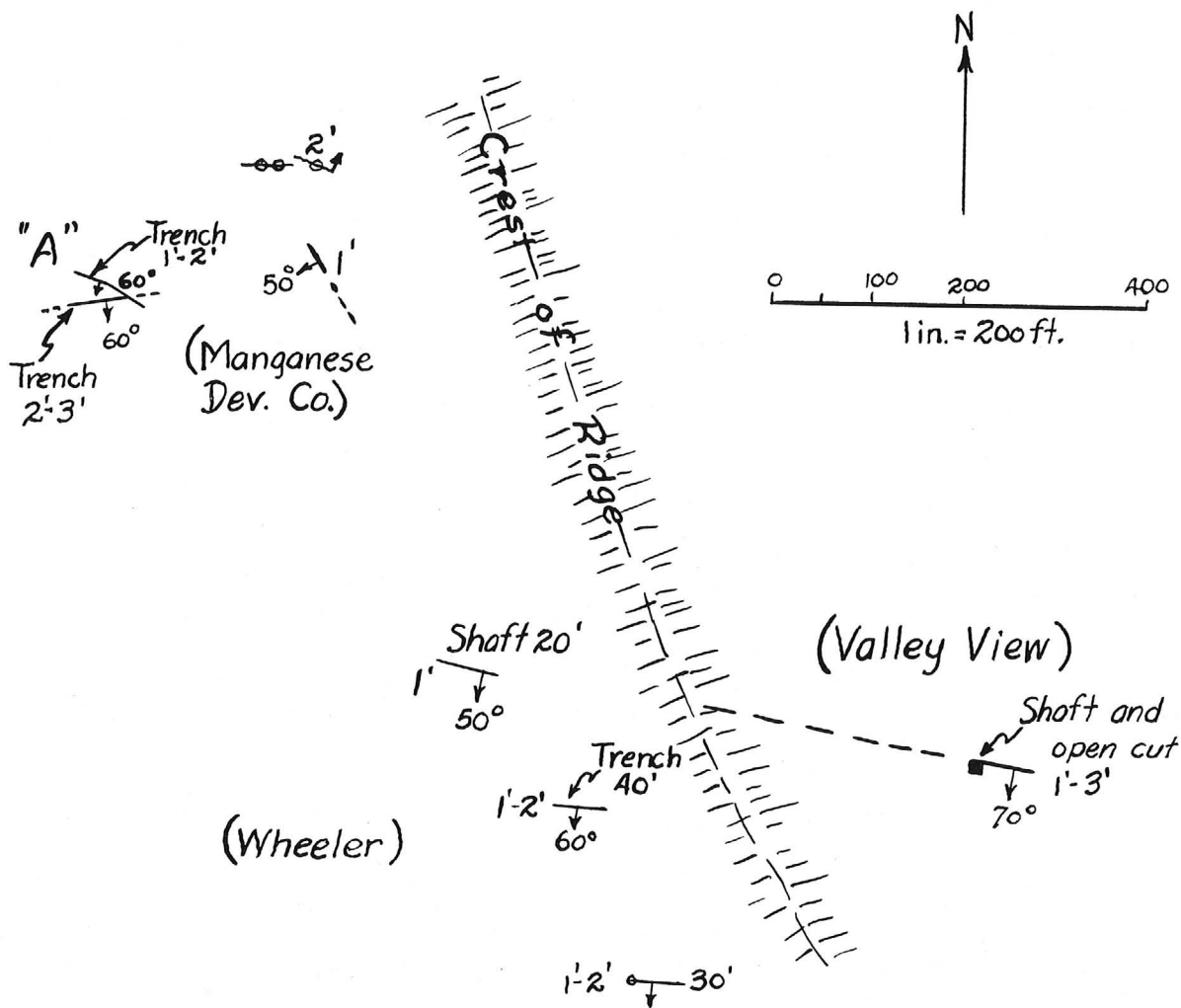
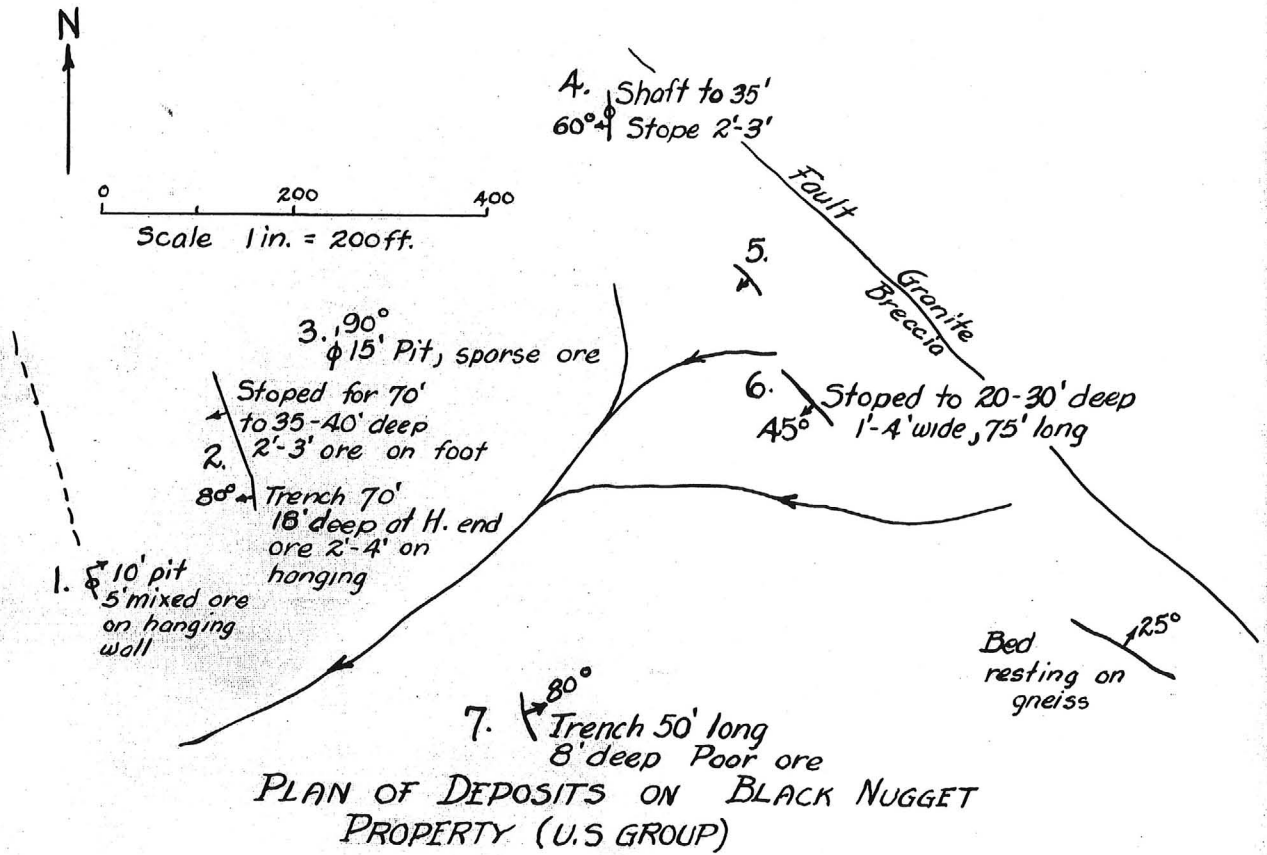


FIGURE 5 GENERAL PLAN OF VEINS AND WORKINGS ON MANGANESE DEVELOPMENT CO. WHEELER (VALLEY VIEW) PROPERTY SEE FIGURE 6 FOR DETAILS OF WORKINGS AT "A"

PROJECT 314
AGUILA ARIZONA



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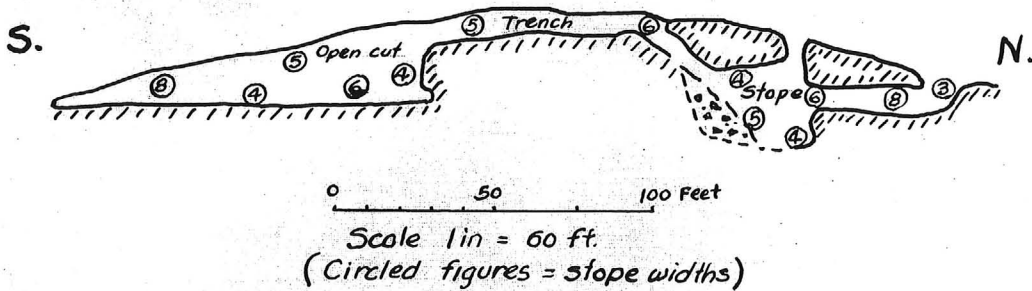


FIGURE A. BLACK NUGGET (U.S.) MANGANESE PROPERTY AGUILA.

C. H. JOHNSON

PROJECT 31A
AGUILA, ARIZONA

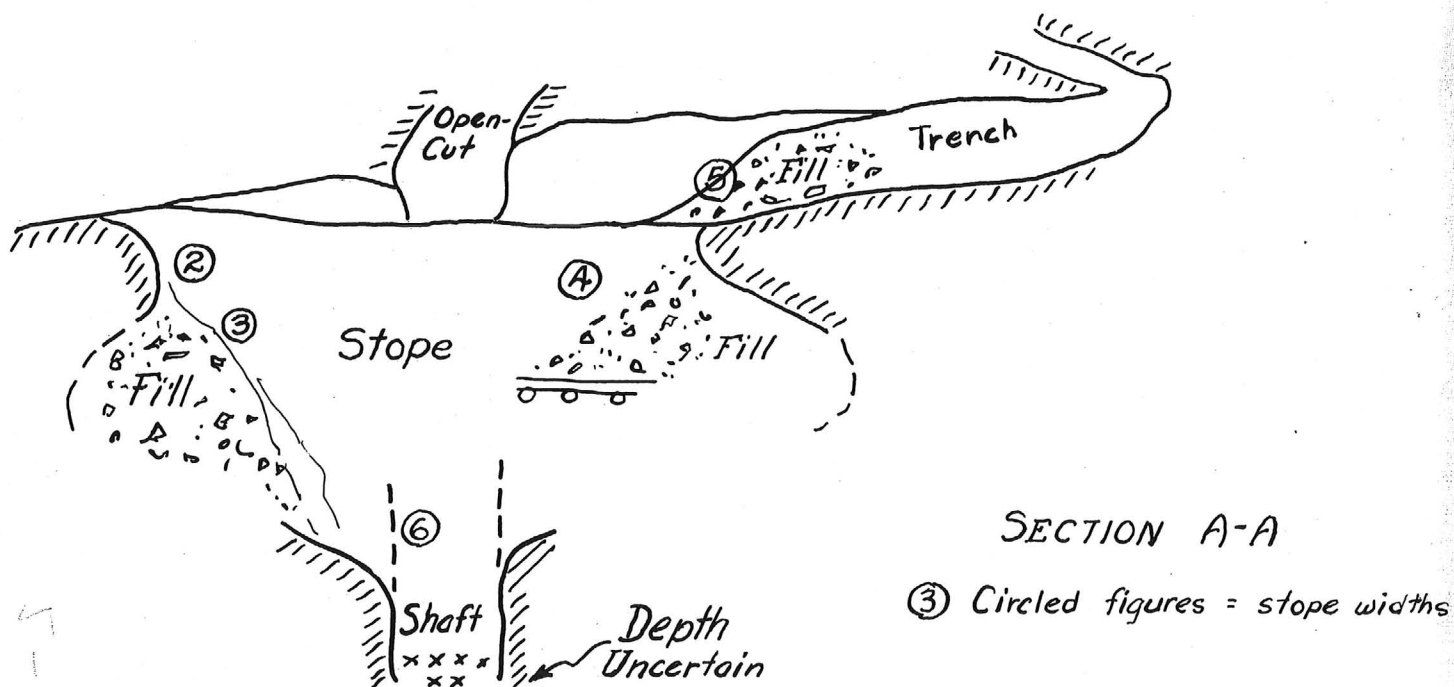
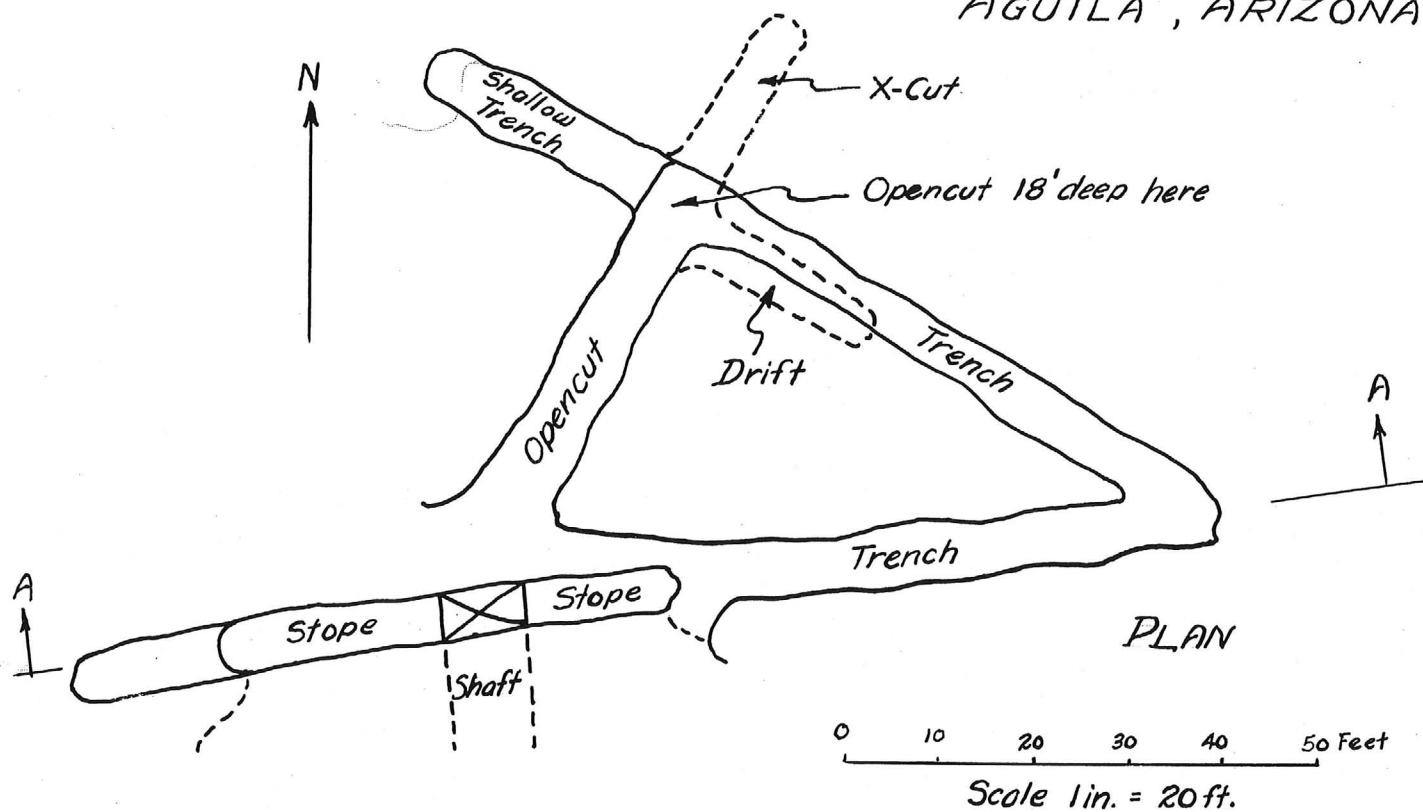


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DEVELOPMENT CO. (VALLEY VIEW) GROUND, AT
LOCATION "A" IN GENERAL PLAN OF PROPERTY

C. H. JOHNSON

PROJECT 314
AGUILA, ARIZONA

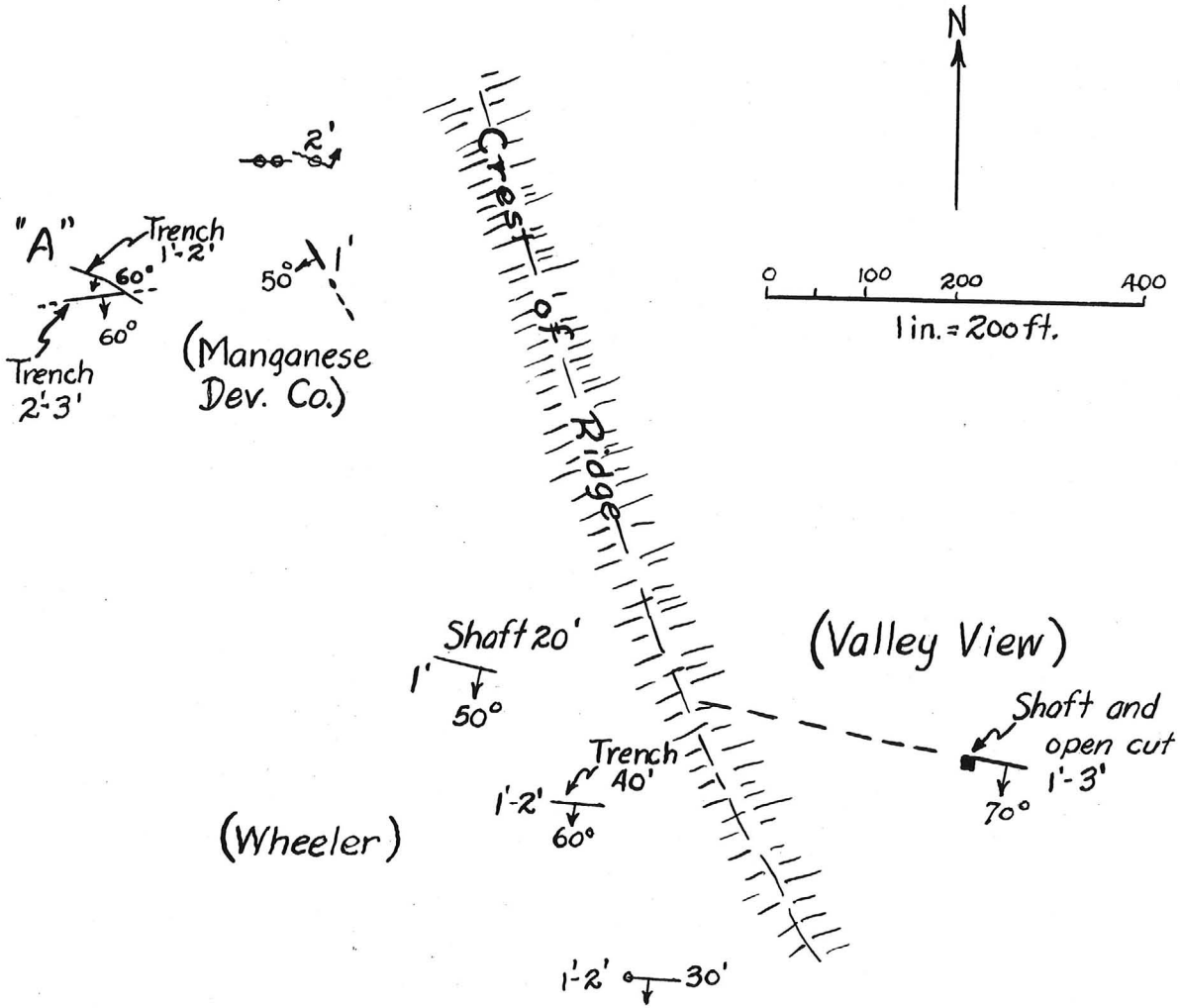


FIGURE 5 GENERAL PLAN OF VEINS AND WORKINGS ON MANGANESE DEVELOPMENT CO. WHEELER (VALLEY VIEW) PROPERTY SEE FIGURE 6 FOR DETAILS OF WORKINGS AT "A"

5-2-8

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ARIZONA

FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

MANGANESE SURVEY

Holt copy

Mine BLACK NUGGETT - Nos. 1 & 2

Date June 24, 1942

District Vulture Dist., Maricopa Co.

Engineer Elgin B. Holt

Subject:

B R I E F R E P O R T

OWNERS: Mrs. M. S. Ponton, 822 W. 6th St., Los Angeles, Calif., & J. B. Webb, Aguila, Arizona. Ponton & Webb located these two claims during 1939; but the same were relocated during 1940 by M. A. Smithwick, et al, of Aguila. At the time of visit, June 23, 1942, both of these claims were in litigation.

METALS: Manganese: manganite, pyrolusite and psilomelane.

LOCATION: Property is located 15 miles south of Aguila, a station on the Santa Fe railroad, and is reached from that point over a county maintained dirt road in good condition.

BLACK NUGGETT NO. 1 CLAIM: This claim lies on the flank of a low ridge of red biotite andesite. The vein covered by this claim is from 3 to 8 feet wide; striking N. 30 degrees W. and dips 45 degrees SW. It is opened by surface stopes and open cuts from 10 to 20 feet deep at intervals for 700 feet, which may be considered the length of the ore shoot. At the NW end of the shoot is a shaft on vein 50 feet deep all in manganese ore, assaying 25 per cent in that metal, per Mr. Webb.

BLACK NUGGETT NO. 2 CLAIM: On this claim there are two veins: the East vein and the West vein, 100 feet apart and paralleling each other. The strike of these veins is from north to south; the East vein dipping 80 degrees west and the West vein 80 degrees east. The East vein was developed by an open cut ending in a tunnel for a total length of 150 feet, above which is another open cut and tunnel on vein with a combined length of 80 feet. Vein averages from 2 to 6 feet wide. At top of hill is a shaft 12 feet deep on vein, showing 3 feet of manganese ore in place. Length of ore shoot, so far opened, approximates 250 feet. The West vein is 12 feet wide and has manganese ore in croppings for a length of 500 feet. This is a most excellent showing of manganese ore; but unfortunately this vein has not been explored except by a few shallow test pits, showing ore estimated to run from 8 to 15 per cent manganese.

ORE SHIPMENTS: Mr. Webb stated that around 25 car loads of manganese ore were shipped from this property during 1918 by Wm. M. Ebner; said ore averaging around 43 per cent manganese, low in deleterious metals, except calcite which is abundant in the ore. However, the ore is low in silica and iron.

ORE RESERVES: There are ~~around~~ ^{about} 300 tons of ore on dumps averaging around 20 per cent manganese. No ore has been blocked out in the workings of property. The ore showings on the surface, however, warrant the expenditure of around \$75,000 to be spent in sinking two working shafts 200 feet deep each and blocking out the three ore shoots mentioned to that depth.

BLACK NUGGET MINE (continued)

ESTIMATED PRODUCTION: It is believed if the above work could be carried out, under intelligent management, around 200,000 tons of ore would be uncovered with an estimated value of 15 per cent manganese; this estimate being merely a rank guess. Also, if this estimate should materialize, the property would probably produce around 100 tons of ore for the proposed Parker plant over a period of several years.

Σ per day

Elgin B. Holt.

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine BLACK NUGGETT - Nos. 1 & 2

Date June 24, 1942

District Vulture Dist., Maricopa Co.

Engineer Elgin B. Holt

Subject:

BRIEF REPORT

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mp

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
STATE OF ARIZONA
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine Black Nugget and Victory Group

Date Sept 1st, 1942.

District Aguila

Engineer A., C. Nebeker

Subject: Development Loan

Mr Orem did not arrive, so I drove on out to the Webb camp which is 15 miles south of town, and from there went on out to the Black Nugget which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles farther out, and went to the ~~Black Nugget~~ Victory group which is 4 miles farther out, and both on a rough road.

It appears that the owner wanted to receive some encouragement and advice in getting data for the application on development loan.

I explained to them how to cut the assays and make an assay map, and also how to make a Plan map of their workings and claims. Advised them to be accurate and to include all data they could get together, including settlement sheets of ores shipped.

Mr. E. B. Holt (Engineer) having spent considerable time on this property, and having made a report, I did not make a detailed study of the properties.

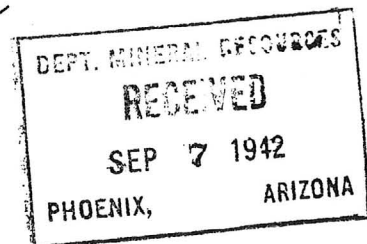
I did observe that the Manganese made in a large fractured fault fissure having walls of a reddish-mica- andesite (Latite) and this crushed zone is 4 to 8 feet thick. The owners have made workings on five or six places in the vein, some are shallow while others followed by trenching approximately 100 feet and to a depth of about 25 feet.

There are a few strong croppings which the owners have not yet prospected and warrant digging into.

The main country rock is granite.

I was informed that the ore shipped averaged around 42% manganese, and there is a few piles now on the dump, which no doubt will assay around 42%. There is a large tonnage on both properties of lower grade ore, some of which will make a good grade by sorting and cobbing the same.

A. C. Nebeker



Granted

NUGGETS NO. 1 & NO. 2

September 30, 1942

Vulture Mining District

J. S. Coupal

Reconstruction Finance Corporation
Preliminary Development Loan

Docket No.	C-ND-Phx (57)
Date Application Received	September 26, 1942
Date of Field Examination	(Elgin B. Holt, Dept. Engineer) June 24, 1942
Date of Report	September 30, 1942

1. Name and address of applicant (correspondent):
Mrs. M. S. Ponton, 822 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, California.
2. Character of project and estimated cost thereof:
Mucking out and sampling 1420 feet of mine drifts and open cuts on ore.
Estimated cost, \$5,000.
3. Location of property:
15 miles south of Aguila, a Santa Fe Ry. point in Vulture Mining District, Maricopa County, Arizona.
4. Applicant's interest in or ownership of property:
Applicant owns a one-half interest, has option on a one-third interest and working agreement with remaining one-sixth interest on these two unpatented mining claims.
5. Loan requested:
\$5,000.
6. Loan recommended:
\$5,000.
7. Comments:
 - (A) Production records of 40 percent and better manganese shipments during World War No. 1 and reports by engineers indicate that sufficient ore of commercial grade should be exposed by the work outlined to repay loan.
 - (B) Metallurgical tests show that the lower grade ore can be beneficiated by orthodox methods to make a commercial grade of ore.
 - (C) Engineers estimates in probable ore which may be developed are of sufficient tonnage to warrant contemplation of a treatment plant.
 - (D) With the old workings cleaned so as to permit of accurate sampling it is probable that certain high grade shoots of shipping ore will be uncovered from which early production may be obtained.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

J. S. Coupal, Director

December 9, 1942

H.

Office of Defense Transportation
Security Building
Phoenix, Arizona

Attention of Mr. Miller

Dear Mr. Miller:

Mrs. M. S. Ponton, operating the Black Nuggets Manganese Claims, has received a Reconstruction Finance Corporation Preliminary Development Loan, Docket No. C-ND-7819, and is developing this manganese property for production.

According to recent arrangements with the WPB Mining Branch officials in Washington, small mines operating under Reconstruction Finance Corporation Mine Loans are eligible for preference ratings under Order P-56 which gives them a preference rating next to arms and ammunitions. I am aware that the P-56 does not relate to tires, but it does establish the fact that the mining of manganese is one of the critical requirements of the war effort, and I believe this establishes the fact that the operators under the mine loans are fully qualified for receiving tires and supplemental gas rationing.

Development operations at this property are being seriously hampered by the lack of tires and of supplemental gas rationing due to misunderstandings on the part of local boards.

Any assistance you can render Mrs. Ponton will be appreciated by this Department and will be in the interest of the general war efforts.

Very truly yours,

J. S. Coupal, Director

JSC:kk

C

Black Nugget Mine

Aguila 15'

Sec. 20, T. 5N., R. 9W.

Maricopa County

references: Arizona Dept. of Mineral Resources
Black Nugget Mine Maricopa County (file)
and Manganese Deposits of Western Arizona
by L. Z. Farnham and L. A. Stewart
Bureau of Mines Information Circular 7843
U.S. Dept. of the Interior 1958 p. 21

present owner: ?

History of the mine:

The property was formerly known as the U.S. group and was first worked during World War I. In 1918 production totaled 222 tons of ore averaging 39% Mn. In 1924, 42 tons of ore containing 48.6% Mn were shipped.

The claims were relocated in 1939 as the Black Nugget group. A small amount of ore may have been produced during WWII. The property remained inactive until 1952 when it was purchased by Roy V. Waughtel of Aguila. Production resumed and during 1953 and early 1954 several thousand tons of mill ore was produced. Part of the ore was shipped to Wenden, and part was concentrated in the custom mill at Aguila.

minerals: manganite, pyrolusite, psilomelane

Black Nugget (cont)

geology: Irregular areas containing a network of narrow fractures filled with Mn-oxides occur in the brecciated andesite surrounding the two west veins.

ore: The ore is mined from three veins or fracture zones cutting andesite. The veins strike north and dip moderately to steeply, and range 3 to 10 feet in width. The fractures have been mined in open cuts and underground workings.