



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Mining Records Curator  
Arizona Geological Survey  
1520 West Adams St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602-771-1601  
<http://www.azgs.az.gov>  
[inquiries@azgs.az.gov](mailto:inquiries@azgs.az.gov)

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PRINTED: 11/19/2001

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: LA ESPERANZA

ALTERNATE NAMES:  
ESPERANZA

PIMA COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 575

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 11 S RANGE 8 E SECTION 15 QUARTER S2  
LATITUDE: N 32DEG 27MIN 24SEC LONGITUDE: W 111DEG 31MIN 55SEC  
TOPO MAP NAME: VACA HILLS - 15 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: UNKNOWN

COMMODITY:  
ZINC  
LEAD  
SILVER

BIBLIOGRAPHY:  
RFC B-544  
ADMMR LA ESPERANZA FILE  
ADDMITIONAL HOLDINGS IN SEC, 21, 27, 28 & 29



Date:

Name of Mine La Esperanza and El Sahuaro

Location Silver Bell M. D. T. 11 - R. 8. S 28-27-29

Operator W. C. Bialcom Em.

Address 837 E. Lee St. Tucson, Ariz.

Metals Produced lead, zinc, copper, silver

Developing  yes

Shipping  no

Financing  wanted

Planning Operations Soon  hope to

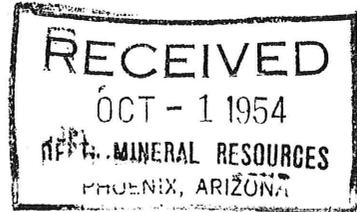
Idle  now

✓

LA ESPERANZA .....

PIMA COUNTY  
SILVER BELLA DIST.  
T11S, R8E, secs 21,29

MILS ESPERANZA #0040190629



September 29, 1954

Department Of Mineral Resources  
Mineral Building, Fairgrounds  
Phoenix, Arizona.

ATTENTION Mr R.I.C. Manning,  
Director

Dear Sir:

This is your authority to send Mr C.J. Powers,  
45 West 28th Street, Tucson, Arizona, copies  
of a report made by W.E. Balcom, 827 East Lee  
street, Tucson, Arizona, on the property named  
La Esperanza and located in the Silver Bell  
mining district about two and one half miles  
north of the old Silver Bell mine.

Yours truly,

Frank E. Cota  
Frank E. Cota.

Present owners,

John P. Kietzman  
John P. Kietzman

ABM Bull. 180, p. 122, 135, 136, 137, 139, 142, 143

October 4, 1954

Mr. C. J. Powers  
45 West 29th Street  
Tucson, Arizona

Dear Mr. Powers:

In accordance with a request by Frank E. Cota and J. P. Keitzman, we are today forwarding you a copy of a report by W. E. Balcom on La Esperanza Mine in the Silver Bell Mining District.

Very truly yours,

R.I.C. Manning,  
Director.

Enc: Report

RICM:lp

C  
O  
P  
Y

W. P. BLAKE  
GENERAL MANAGER  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

W. E. BALCOM, E.M.  
SUPERINTENDENT  
PATAGONIA, ARIZONA

# Salero Mines Company

SALERO AND TYNDALL DISTRICTS

*Prima County* ~~SANTA CRUZ COUNTY~~, ARIZONA, May 4, 1946

Mr. C. H. Dunning,

Director, Arizona Dept. of Mineral Resources,  
# 304 Arizona Title Bldg. Phoenix, Ariz.

DEPT. MINERAL RESOURCES  
RECEIVED  
MAY 4 1946  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Dear Sir, I have just obtained information that a new edition of the Arizona mining laws will be available to residents of the state, therefore I would be pleased to have me a copy to my address, 837 E. Lee St. Tucson Ariz. and greatly oblige.

Yours,

W. E. Balcom,

I'm closed find a copy of my report on La Esperanza mine once reported on by Geo. Balcom very favorably.

Give will please notice heading of this sheet of paper which contains the address <sup>of</sup> our "Humboldt" of our Prof. W. P. Blake the real "trail blazer of California and Arizona mining" a world famous engineer. Also he passed away in May 1910. The date reminded me of my instructor and friend and associate in the field. I was with him 14 yrs.

He had over a 1000 sheets of this paper so I am using it now.

W. E. B.

*led*

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF ARIZONA  
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine La Esperanza ✓

Date October 19, 1942

District Silver Bell

Engineer George A. Ballam

Subject: Production Possibilities Survey

This property is located in the eastern foothills of the Silver Bell Mts., 52 miles from Tucson via Redoak, and somewhat less by the Silver Bell Road. It is accessible to within one mile by fairly good road, and a trail leads to the shaft which can be sufficiently improved to give good access with little difficulty.

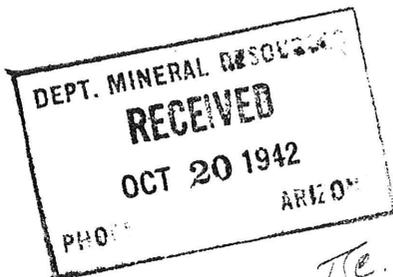
There are six claims held by location by Francisco Cota, George Lopez, and Jesus Miranda, all of Tucson. The property was leased on Oct. 15, 1942, by George Sandegrin of Tucson, for the sum of \$6,000 per year payable in cash or royalty, sale price \$36,000.

The prevailing rock is a limestone complex intruded by large masses of monzonite and andesite. On No. 1 Claim of the Esperanza group, the ore minerals occur as replacements in limestone, values being in galena, sphalerite and chalcopryrite. The outcrop can be traced from east to west for a distance of 7000 feet, over five of the claims.

Development on No. 1 claim consists of a 55 foot shaft with a drift at 35 ft. about 40 ft. to the east. *level* On this ~~point~~ level the sulfides are coming in across two feet. Below this level the shaft is full of water. There are several tons of ore on the dump from the lower part of the shaft which carry high values in gopper, lead, zinc, gold and silver. The owner, Miranda, who sank the shaft, reported an assay in 1934 of \$92.78 without mention of zinc, and another in 1935 of Cu 4%, Pb 8%, Zn 36%, 36 ozs. Ag and \$5 in gold. These were taken across two feet of vein. There is no equipment on the property.

The lessee desires to apply for a \$5,000 preliminary development loan, his purpose being to unwater the shaft, sink about 50 ft. and drift both ways on ore. While this is a rather good prospect, the contract with owner is pretty stiff, and of course, the ore is a milling proposition, and would have to bear a \$5 ton milling charge if handled by the Jacobs mill in Tucson. If the ore assays anywhere near the figure reported, it could be managed, however. The lessee, a life-long miner and a good worker, believes that he could get in to production within 60 days, since the development proposed would be in ore.

*George A. Ballam*



DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF ARIZONA  
FIELD ENGINEERS REPORT

Mine LA ESPERANZA, Cu., Pb., Zn.

Date November 24, 1942

District Silver Bell

Engineer Earl F. Hastings

Subject: Reconstruction Finance Corporation  
Preliminary Development Loan.

Docket No.

C-ND-Phx. 88

Date Application Received

November 7, 1942

Date of Report

November 22, 1942

1. Name and address of applicant (correspondent):  
George Sandegrin. 164 So. Main Street, Tucson, Arizona.
2. Character of project and estimated cost thereof:  
Unwater No. 1 shaft from the 35 to 50 foot level, sink an additional 50 feet and drift on the vein. \$5,000.00.
3. Location of property:  
Silver Bell Mining District, Pima County, Arizona.
4. Applicant's interest in or ownership of property:  
Applicant holds Lease and Option @ 10% royalty.
5. Loan requested:  
\$5,000.00.
6. Loan recommended:  
None (See 7-C).
7. Comments:
  - (A) Attached to the docket is a report by George Ballam, Field Engineer, Department of Mineral Resources, dated October 19, 1942.
  - (B) There is only 20 feet of the shaft and possibly 30 feet of drifting under water to be made accessible. The main expenditure, as outlined by the applicant, consist of the extension of existing workings. These conditions do not fit the interpretation of the purpose of the Preliminary Development Loan.
  - (C) While the claims are favorably located in respect to productive mines, and apparently have interesting mineralization, this loan cannot be recommended. The incomplete data should be reviewed as a "B" or Development Loan Application.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

  
Earl F. Hastings  
Assistant Director and  
Projects Engineer

C

October 30, 1942

DEPT. MINERAL RESOURCES  
RECEIVED  
NOV 2 1942  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

*Handwritten initials: H, S, C*

MEMORANDUM

To: Director, Dept. Mineral Resources  
From: George A. Ballam

Supplementing recent report on this property in the Silver Bell District, the ~~owner~~<sup>lessee</sup>, Sandegrin, informed me today that he had negotiated a new and more favorable lease with the owner. As it stands now, there is a possibility of operating the property at a profit, in the event that it comes up to expectations in other respects.

Sandegrin informed me that your office had been furnished with these facts by the owner.

*Handwritten signature: G. A. Ballam*

✓

REPORT ON LA ESPERANZA MINE

by  
W. E. BALCOM, E.M.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:-

LOCATION:

La Esperanza Mine is in a group of five full sized claims, located in Township 11, South, Range 8 East, in Sections 21 and 29, in the Silver Bell Mining District, Pima County, Ariz.

The mine lies about 16 miles in a southerly direction from Redrock, a station on the Southern Pacific Railroad, which is 35 miles west of Tucson, making a distance of 51 miles; 35 miles of paved state highway, and 16 miles over the old Silver Bell railroad bed, an earth road, but in good condition, making transportation easy of access to and from the mine.

La Esperanza Group lies about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of the Silver Bell Mine, in about the same formation and with the same character of ore which is a complexed primary sulphide ore, argentiferous lead, zinc, copper and gold, a 12 foot fissure vein with good slickend walls giving good evidence of a true fissure vein, with a dip under the amountain of about 80 degrees from the horizontal, which is to be seen from present developments in form of a 50 foot vertical shaft sunk on the vein, and a 60 foot drift along the vein easterly from the shaft, which is all in ore. The ore seams occur in lenticular bodies.

### HISTORY OF PROPERTY:

About thirty years ago ore of high values in silver was found by a prospector, who sunk a shaft on the out-crop to about 40 feet when at that depth the silver vein dipped to the north and out of his shaft, so it was abandoned and re-located about ten years ago by the parties with whom I am associated as a part owner. They knew of the ore in the old shaft and being good judges of formation they found the same vein of ore - and from present developments they sunk their 50 foot shaft on what is the foot wall of the main fissure, which exposure shows out-crops of a 20 foot fissure, or more, with the hanging wall not in sight yet.

### PRODUCTION:

Work was started about 1936 on the 50 foot 6 x 6 foot vertical shaft, all ore, and sunk to fifty feet, when a sample was sent somewhere for treatment, and returns report on it showed too much zinc, with the advice to ship the ore to Colorado for concentration, which of course was too much for the old mine owners to do. So, they left all the ore from both shaft and drift piled on the dump as there was no flotation concentrator near, and went away to hunt a job, thinking no one would ever bother the ore as it was high up on the side of the mountain and would have to be packed down a half mile to a truck. While the old prospectors were away someone got the ore packed down

the mountain side and loaded it on his trucks, hauled it some where, and sold it, and then skipped into Mexico. When the old miners returned they found only two or three tons of the poorest ore left, out of over 150 tons. No one was any place near the mine, so there was no way to find out who the ore-thief was.

When I made my first visit to the property I was in quite a quandary to know what became of the ore and waste, as there was no waste dump to be seen. I asked the owner what they did with it and his answer was, "We had no waste rock. It was all ore." So I looked around, and just over the side ten or twelve feet from the shaft were the fines of the ore that were shoved over the side. I took a fair sample of these which gave an assay value of \$25.00 in lead, zinc and silver.

On the dump there are now two or three tons of ore that were left by the ore-thief, and gave by assay very valuable showings.

After my examination I concluded to take the property over and am now driving a 350 foot, 6 x 7 foot tunnel to cut the vein 125 feet below the shaft.

We have installed a very nice new 105 portable compressor, jack hammer, etc, and are driving a 6'x7' tunnel 300 feet in to cross-cut the vein about 150 feet below the old shaft, and are now in over 150 feet in the hardest formation ever, a fine grained basaltic rock about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in the scale of hardness,

which eats the bits as if they were made of lead.

We have built a nice graded road up to the tunnel site one half mile from the foot of the mountain, with a very easy grade.

We have, up to date, invested over \$15,000.00 on the project in equipment and development, with 200 feet to go yet to cut the ore, which we hope to complete in about 60 days.

When the vein is out I am going to drift on it, in both directions, and run an up-raise to tap the old shaft, which will give circulation of air, then carry on stoping and developing of the ore bodies.

To store the ore we intend building an ore bin large enough to hold 50 or more tons, as we are going to have to send our ore to a flotation plant for concentration, as the ore is primary complexed sulphide ore. Our nearest concentrator is located at Sahuarita, 19 miles south of Tucson, which makes the haul 70 miles by truck or rail, over good trucking roads. We have two roads leading from Tucson to the mine; one over the old Silver Bell wagon road across, as a short cut over the valley land 45 miles, affording a rather pleasant drive, used by many now as a change from paved highways and change of scenery.

Our altitude is about 2400 feet above sea-level; the climate the same as Tucson and quite well protected from dusty winds.

To date we have financed everything with our own money, even doing work on the oldest public road in the Southwest to a mine. Neither Pinal, nor Pima County would help us one dollar's worth, so we had to hire a dozer from the Cavanaugh Company, at \$10.00 per hour to do the work.

Just now we want more funds to complete our work on this property, and on another, a large zinc and lead fissure 100 feet, with a most wonderful outcrop exposing much zinc ore.

This zinc property consists of a group of 4 claims all on the same fissure joined end to end. I have great hopes for this prospect, and am trying to get finances to sink on it by shaft not less than 200 or more feet, and make cross-outs from wall to wall every 50 feet, and drift on any ore-shoots discovered.

This property is located in my name with associates who leave everything to me to negotiate any deal with any outside parties or investors. Seeing is believing, and I have something in this prospect to see.

This report was written May 1, 1946, by

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W. E. Balcom, E.M.  
837 East Lee St. Tucson, Ariz.

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

REPORT TO <sup>027</sup> ON ACTIVE MINING PROJECT

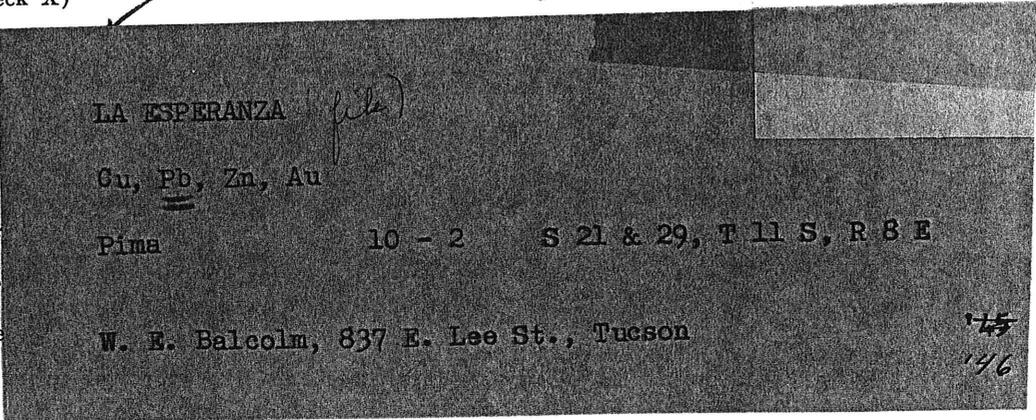
Date: 7/21/45  
Name of Mine: La Esperanza  
Owner or Operator: W. E. Balcolm  
Address: 837 E Lee St Tucson  
Mine Location: Silver Bell Dist

Filing Information

File System: \_\_\_\_\_  
File No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
This chart to be used for gallons of gasoline required per month.

PRESENT OPERATIONS: (check X)

Production.....; Deve  
Experimental (sampling)  
Other (specify).....



PRODUCTION: Past and Future

Approx. tons last 3 mo  
Approx. present rate per  
Anticipated rate next 3

If in distant future check (X) here

EQUIPMENT OPERATED:

Type	Quantity or Horse Power	Miles or Hours Per Month	Gallons Required Per Month <sup>qtr</sup>
Personal Cars			
Light or Service Trucks	Radio Truck		1200
Ore Hauling Trucks			
Compressors			
Other Mine or Mill Eqpt.			

PRODUCT PRODUCED OR CONTEMPLATED: Name metals or minerals.

Copper lead zinc

REMARKS:

Due to error Mr Balcolm's application covered only one quarter. I have examined this property & am familiar with current operation. In my opinion Mr Balcolm will need 1200 gal per quarter as long as present status held

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

By

George A. Bellan

# DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

## REPORT TO OPA ON ACTIVE MINING PROJECT

Date..... 3/10/45  
 Name of Mine..... La Esperanza  
 Owner or Operator..... W. E. Balcom  
 Address..... 837 E Lee St Tucson  
 Mine Location..... 55 mi N W Tucson Silver Bell

**Filing Information**

File System.....  
 File No.....  
 This chart to be used for gallons of gasoline required per month.

**PRESENT OPERATIONS:** (check X)

Production.....; Development.....; Financing.....; Sale of mine.....;  
 Experimental (sampling).....; Owner's occasional trip.....;  
 Other (specify).....

**PRODUCTION: Past and Future.**

**Tons**

Approx. tons last 3 months .....  
 Approx. present rate per 3 months .....  
 Anticipated rate next 3 months .....  
 If in distant future check (X) here .....

**EQUIPMENT OPERATED:**

Type	Quantity or Horse Power	Miles or Hours Per Month	Gallons Required Per Month
Personal Cars	.....	.....	.....
Light or Service Trucks	<u>Dodge 1942</u>	.....	.....
Ore Hauling Trucks	<u>WC 25 Army</u>	<u>3000 for next qtr</u>	<u>500 ton for balance 1st qtr</u>
Compressors	.....	.....	.....
Other Mine or Mill Eqpt.	.....	.....	.....

**PRODUCT PRODUCED OR CONTEMPLATED:** Name metals or minerals.

Lead zinc copper

**REMARKS:**

I have examined this mine. Mr. Balcom is prepared to open it up and this application is recommended for approval.

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES**

By.....

George A. [Signature]

January 4, 1943

C

MEMORANDUM

LA ESPERANZA MINE

TO: George A. Ballam

FROM: Earl F. Hastings

I wish to quote comments relative to the above property, which were made when returning the applicant's docket to the RFC.

I understand that Mr. Sandegrin is progressing at his own expense on some of this work. In the event that the favorable mineralization is accessible for an examination I suggest he ask that he have his docket reviewed, after adding additional information, as a "B" loan.

Quoted from review:

- (A) Attached to the docket is a report by George Ballam, Field Engineer, Department of Mineral Resources, dated October 19, 1942.
- (B) There is only 20 feet of the shaft and possibly 30 feet of drifting under water to be made accessible. The main expenditure, as outlined by the applicant, consist of the extension of existing workings. These conditions do not fit the interpretation of the purpose of the Preliminary Development Loan.
- (C) While the claims are favorably located in respect to productive mines, and apparently have interesting mineralization, this loan cannot be recommended. The incomplete data should be reviewed as a "B" or Development Loan Application.

November 12, 1942

MEMORANDUM

TO: ~~A. C. Nebeker~~ *Ballou*

FROM: Earl F. Hastings

George Sandegrin, 164 South Main St., Tucson, Arizona, has made application for a Class "C" loan on the La Esperanza mine in the Silver Bell District. The data accompanying the application is incomplete and inconclusive.

If you have occasion to investigate that area will you please check on this property.

October 30, 1942

DEPT. MINERAL RESOURCES  
RECEIVED  
NOV 2 1942  
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

*Handwritten initials and a checkmark.*

MEMORANDUM

To: Director, Dept. Mineral Resources  
From: George A. Ballam

Supplementing recent report on this property in the Silver Bell District, the ~~owner~~<sup>lessee</sup>, Sandegrin, informed me today that he had negotiated a new and more favorable lease with the owner. As it stands now, there is a possibility of operating the property at a profit, in the event that it comes up to expectations in other respects.

Sandegrin informed me that your office had been furnished with these facts by the owner.

*Handwritten signature of George A. Ballam.*