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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: PALMER PLACER

ALTERNATE NAMES:

YAVAPAI COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 447

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 9 N RANGE 5 W SECTION 12 QUARTER E2
LATITUDE: N 34DEG 07MIN 20SEC LONGITUDE: W 112DEG 43MIN 20SEC
TOPO MAP NAME: SAM POWELL PEAK - 7.5 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: EXP PROSPECT

COMMODITY:
GOLD PLACER

BIBLIOGRAPHY:
ADMMR PALMER PLACER FILE
ALSO IN SEC 7, 18 & 19 T9N-R6W AND
SEC. 24 T9N-R5W

RECONNAISSANCE GEOLOGICAL VISIT TO THE PALMER PLACER GOLD PROPERTY SOUTH-WEST OF OCTAVE, ARIZONA.

The writer, as directed by Mr. Howard S. Gable, box 946, Kansas City, Mo. 64141, and accompanied by Mr. Les Palmer, Phoenix, Arizona 936-6842, (and his friend Mr. Harold Halpin, Phoenix, Arizona) visited the placer claims owned by Mr. Palmer (and associates) for the purpose of making a reconnaissance geology evaluation of the property. This trip was made on March 8, 1976. The claims begin a short distance Southwest of Octave, Az.

Mr. Palmer pointed out the extent of the property as we traveled thru the area, and indicated sample pits and road building which he had accomplished in the past. He stated that he would furnish the undersigned a map outlining the claims and sampling data in the immediate future, but this was not done. Mr. Palmer stated that he had 2000 acres under claims and that most of them were 80 acre placer claims, but he did not remember the exact number of claims, but would find out from his records. Incl. No. 1 (attached) is a map prepared by the writer, outlining the area pointed out by Mr. Palmer.

No samples were taken for this cursory examination, as the writer is familiar with the general area and had sampled the similar adjoining Davenport claims, the previous year. And then, the expected Mr. Palmer data should have included some sampling data, but this was not received.

GEOLOGY. The claims are in an alluvial fan deployed from Weaver and Antelope creeks which, in high water periods, continue to carry detrital material from the upper areas (Near "Rich Hill") down thru the fan area. The age of the fan (or apron) is Cenozoic. The gold, of course, has weathered out of the rocks (mostly quartzites) and carried down thru the fan area by fluvial action along with other sands, gravels, and rocks. Most of the gold found is fines in particle size, which are associated with the black sand (magnetite). The present mountains (Weaver) in the vicinity of the claims are Monzonites and schists of the Yavapai series (PreCambrian), which have many quartz dykes and other large formations of altered igneous rocks formed during the Larimide. These appear to be the original gold bearers. Most of the alluvial material is from mountain formations, which were on top, and on the sides, of the present mountains that one sees, and which was removed by erosional action over millions of years.

The terrain of the Palmer property is typical sedimentary desert with many small washes, such as the Orofino and the Slaughter house washes which have been worked many places on a small scale in mostly unsuccessful dry operations, in recent years. It is to be understood that small operations 75 or more years ago were largely unsuccessful, even though the creeks were running water in those days and wet type processing was used. In the alluvium between these creeks and gulches which compose the bulk of the area, few if any, of the early miners attempted to work the detrital material there.

The major reason for the poor recovery is due to the particle sizes that has to be worked. In an average cubic yard, the writer estimates that 50% of the material are coarse sands, down thru sand, to minor clays, and the other 50% are pebbles up thru cobbles and boulders. Some of the latter goes up in size to a ton or more (infrequently). The gold values are in

the fines, but all of this material has to be dug out and removed from the pits (and this can be very costly).

A rather complete and detailed study of the general Stanton-Octave placer area was made by Mr. John S. Nicol, Consulting Engineer, San Francisco, in 1926. The writer happens to have a copy of this old report. Mr. Nicol covered the old Upton placer claims, which includes a large part of the present Palmer property. Mr. Nicol's conclusions follow:

STRUCTURE: It is a delta of Quaternary gravels with part reconstruction of Tertiary gravels, and possibly underlying bedrock area of Pre-Tertiary gravels. Gravels have been reconcentrated into three types by gulch waters:

1. Primary gravels, deep-- over 100 feet.
2. Secondary gravels forming flats in bottom of lower gulches. These are dredgable gravels
3. Actual loose gulch wash.

VALUE OF GRAVELS: \$.30 to \$1.50 per Cu. Yd. (based on gold at \$20.67 Tr. Oz).

His estimated average is \$.50 per cubic yard. (with present gold price of \$133.00 per Troy ounce, this would be about \$3.33 per Cu. Yd. nowadays).

Note: The undersigned believes these figures are too high. Mr. Nichols based some of his estimates and calculations on several small operations which were then going on in what I would call the richer areas. But as time went on, all of these operations "folded up".

The writer made a geological study of the Davenport claims that adjoins the Palmer property on the West, about a year ago. The terrain is practically identical on both properties. The samples taken on the Davenport claims averaged about \$2.40 per cubic yard, based on today's price of gold (\$133.00). Iron in the form of Magnetite was estimated at about 2%.

CONCLUSIONS.

The findings outlined in the preceding paragraph are believed to be also applicable to the Palmer property.

In the past 10 years, the writer has seen two(2) major (large) dry type gold operations, and many 2 or 3 men operations in the placer area in the vicinity of Stanton and Octave. None of them made a profit to the extent that they continued operations over a long period of time. Practically all of the "operations" have been abandoned, even though gold reached levels of near \$200.00 per troy ounce in the past. Now and then, a new operation is commenced, usually by individuals unfamiliar with the placer situation. Typical has been a 1 to 3 man operation where they all made the equivalent to wages for awhile. Then the auriferous bearing material became on the lean side, or their equipment broke down and required costly repairs, and the operation was abandoned. It should be emphasized that only the best areas were worked (the small stream beds). Usually, the mentioned individuals retained their placer claims, hoping that "something" might happen, or they try to sell their claims. The above situation speaks for itself relative to the potential value of the claims.

Should anyone be interested in acquiring the so called "Palmer" property, a thorough title search should be accomplished to assure that Mr. Palmer (and his associates?) have valid claims.

If a large volume of water could be brought into the area, the gold and iron situation should be re-examined (from an economic viewpoint). Wet type gold recovery is much more efficient and less costly.

MELVIN H JONES, geologist.

