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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES FILE DATA

PRIMARY NAME: POSTMASTER

**ALTERNATE NAMES:** 

ORIENTAL MINING CO. PROP.

YAVAPAI COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 1078B

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 12.5N RANGE 1 W SECTION 22 QUARTER NE LATITUDE: N 34DEG 27MIN 18SEC LONGITUDE: W 112DEG 20MIN 33SEC

TOPO MAP NAME: POLAND JUNCTION - 7.5 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: PAST PRODUCER

COMMODITY:

LEAD ZINC **COPPER** GOLD SILVER

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:** 

ADMMR POLAND MINE FILE

LINDGREN, W. ORE DEPTS OF JEROME & BRADSHAW MTN QUADS USGS BULL 782 1926 P 135

ADMMR CARD FILE

CLAIM EXTEND INTO SEC. 24 ADMMR POSTMASTER MINE FILE

ADMMR POSTMASTER MINE COLVO FILE

"YAVAPAICOUNTY
T12.5N R1W Sec22
Ticonderoga Dist.

USBS Bul. 782, p. 135

from the book <u>Picturesque Gold</u>, <u>Silver and copper Mining in Yavapai County</u> Arizona, by A. E. Suppiger, 1903 "50 ton El Pass Mill, concentrating"

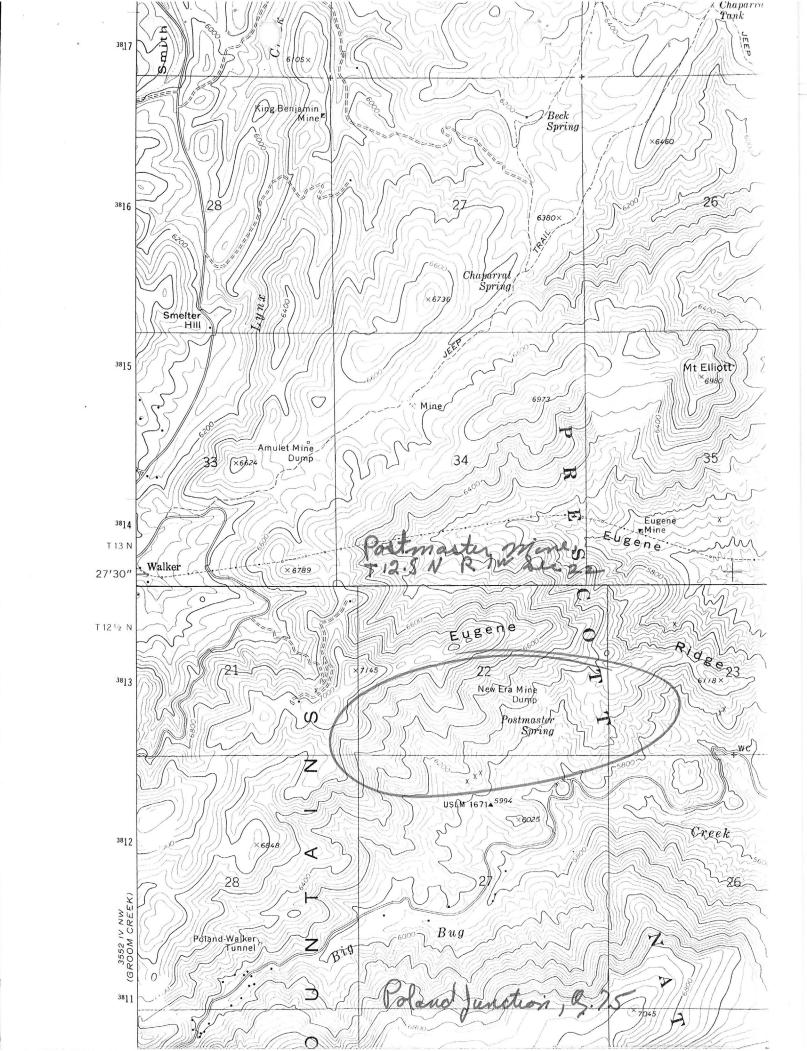
Poland Mine (file)

MILS Sheet sequence number 0040251060

MILS Index #1078B

USGS Poland Junction, Az. 7.5 (Included in file)

USGS Bull B-1335, Plate 1



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES

# INFORMATION FROM MINE CARDS IN MUSEUM

### ARIZONA

Yavapai County Big Bug District Postmaster Mine

MILS # 1078B 1-AKA Postmacter (ple) MM-K160

Gold ore

Date Printed: 06/11/93

#### ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES

#### **VERBAL INFORMATION SUMMARY**

Information from: George E. Travis

Company:

Registered Mining Engineer

Address:

125 East Wipple Place City, State ZIP: Prescott, Arizona 86301

Phone:

602-778-4568

MINE:

Postmaster

ADMMR Mine File: Postmaster

Yavapai

County: AzMILS Number:

1078B

#### SUMMARY

Mr. Travis was in to review our file on the Postmaster Mine which included information in the Colvo file. He has been asked by the owner Joseph T. Orchard, 6623 Prestonshire Lane, Dallas, Texas, 75225, to try to find a buyer for the property. Mr. Orchard has no particular interest in the mining potential of the property. George Travis provided us a copy of a 1984 geologist's report by Robert L. Wells on the mine. A small reserve of proven and probable gold ore is given in the report:

11,676 tons 0.23 tr. oz./ton Au and 6.45 tr.oz./ton Ag Proven:

Probable: 86,265 tons 0.35 tr. oz./ton Au and 5.10 tr.oz./ton Ag

Ken A. Phillips, Chief Engineer Date: June 23, 1993

Joseph T. Orchard 6623 prestonshire lane dallas, texas 75225

May 18, 1993

George E. Travis, P.E. 125 E. Whipple Place Prescott, Arizona 86301

Dear Mr. Travis

Re our conversation of last night I am enclosing an engineering report on the Postmaster Mine. Feel free to copy it and make it available to anyone.

Mr. Gerald Weathers (address below), a mining engineer is very familiar with the property in case you want to consult him, and I will notify him I contacted you.

We are open to suggestion.

Gerald Weathers Box 826

Lake Montezuma, AZ 86342

PHONE (602) 567-5798 P.O. BOX 345 LAKE MONTEZUMA, AZ 86342

POSTMASTER MINE
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA
U.S.A.

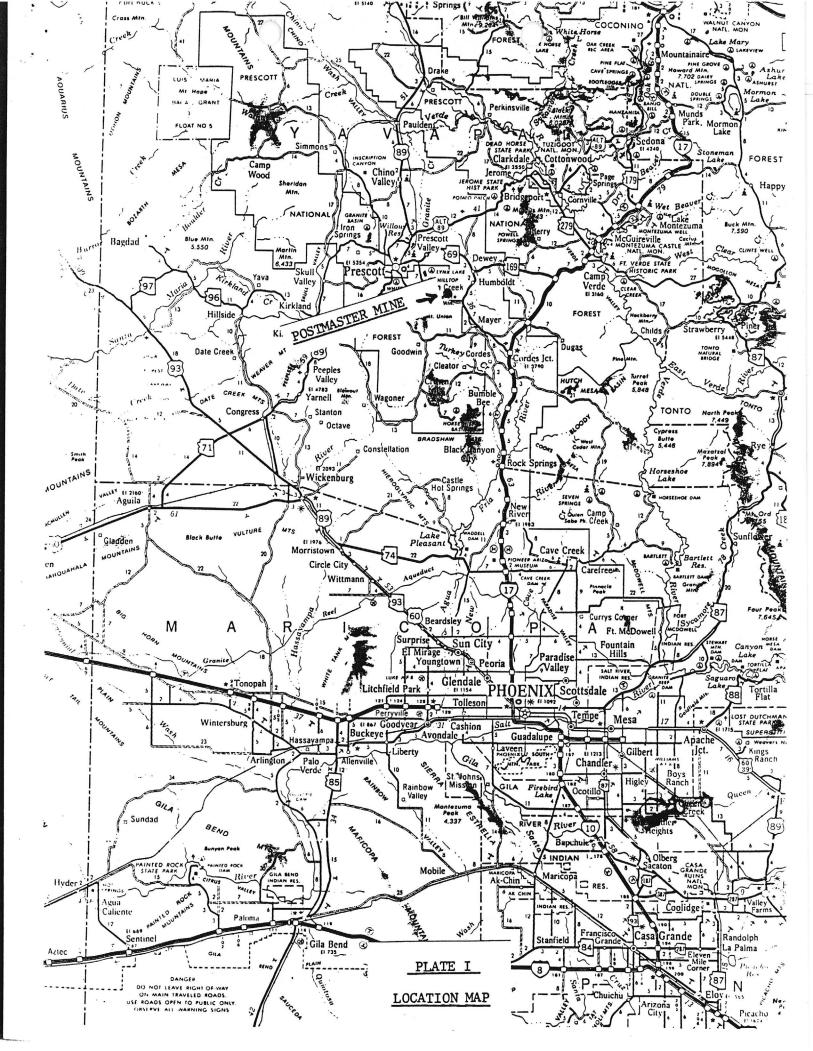
Вy

Robert L. Wells
Geologist

January 10, 1984

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PHONE (602) 567-5798 P.O. BOX 345 LAKE MONTEZUMA, AZ 86342

## POSTMASTER MINE

## YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA

## INTRODUCTION

An investigation of the reserve potential of the Postmaster Mine was made during the first week in January, 1984. The work was done at the request of Little Bear Resources Limited, 805-475 Howe Street, Vancouver, B. C., V6C 2B3.

The Postmaster Mine was last operated in June, 1942, so all of the entrances to underground workings are caved and are inaccessible. Therefore, the data presented here is based on a brief surface examination and on reports, maps and other written information compiled prior to the mine closing. These sources are listed in the Bibliography of this report.

The mine was closed as a result of a governmental order - L 208 - that terminated all gold mining operations during World War II.

#### THE PROPERTY - LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

The property consists of three patented claims and 10 unpatented lode claims and a patented millsite. These claims are located in Sections 22, 23, 26 and 27, T.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  N., R. 1 W., G&S.R. Base and Meridian in Yavapai County, Arizona, and are listed as follows:

Patented Claims	Acres
Sheffield M. S. 1941A	20.66
New Era M. S. 1671	19.83
Postmaster M. S. 1671	19.45
Sheffield Mill Site	1.34
	61.28 Total

Unpatented Claims

B. L. M. Numbers

Era 1 through Era 10

AMC -106065 through AMC -106074

The New Era and Postmaster Claims are recorded on Page 339 in Book 69 of Deeds of the Yavapai County Recorder. The Sheffield and Sheffield Millsite Claims are on Page 378 in Book 75 of Deeds in the same office.

The unpatented Era Claims were located on April 22, 1980 and are recorded on Pages 739 through 748 in Book 1293 in the Office of the Yavapai County Recorder. Each of the unpatented Claims except Era 7 through Era 9, encompass approximately 20 acres. Portions of Era 7, 8 and 9 overlay part of the patented claims. It is estimated that there are approximately 185 acres in the Era Claims outside of the boundaries of the patented claims. This would have to be determined by a mineral surveyor.

The property can be reached by travelling southward from Dewey on State Route 69 to Poland Junction. A county graded, dirt road leads westward into the Bradshaw Mountains for approximately 8 miles to the claims.

The property is situated on the south slope of Big Bug Canyon at elevations ranging from about 5,600 feet in the bottom of the canyon to approximately 6,800 feet at the northwest corner of the Sheffield Claim. The slopes at these elevations are heavily covered with thick oak brush.

The climate is good throughout the year and the small amount of snow during the winter months should not seriously disrupt any operations.

### HISTORY AND PRODUCTION

The Postmaster Mine was originally opened and operated by the Oriental Mining Co. from 1898 until 1905. The old reports indicate that the production of 12,500 tons of ore had a value of \$256,000. (No indication of the actual grade of the ore is given, but when converted, using \$20.67 per ounce of gold, the value represents 0.99 ounces of gold per ton without consideration of silver values). Ore values as high as 5 ounces of gold per ton were mentioned by Kent in his letter included in the Lovelace Report. All of the 12,500 tons were apparently shipped directly to the A. S. & R. Smelter in El Paso, Texas.

The next period of operation was by the Postmaster Mining Co. from 1940 until June, 1942. During this time 2,044 tons of direct shipping grade ore having a value of \$62,778.00 was produced. (Converted to gold values without consideration of the silver content, this would be 0.88 ounces per ton. The gold price during this time was \$34.91 per ounce. The appended list of crude ore shipments includes some shipments that were purposely diluted to take advantage of lower shipping rates assessed on lower grade ore.

It was in 1942 that the order L-208, was issued terminating all precious metal production in the U. S.

#### DEVELOPMENT

The Oriental Mining Company sank a 465 foot shaft on the Postmaster vein. From the shaft, drifts were driven on the 100, 165, 250, 300,
375 and 450 foot levels, measured on the dip of the vein. A cross-cut
tunnel was run from the surface to the shaft on the 165 level. Approximately 2,000 feet of drifts were driven on the 165 level according to Kent.

Lovelace has tabulated the development work that he had taken from old maps, as follows:

Drifting	West	East
100 level 165 level 250 level 300 level 375 level 450 level	- feet 780 feet 270 feet 230 feet 140 feet 40 feet	410 feet 570 feet 210 feet 40 feet

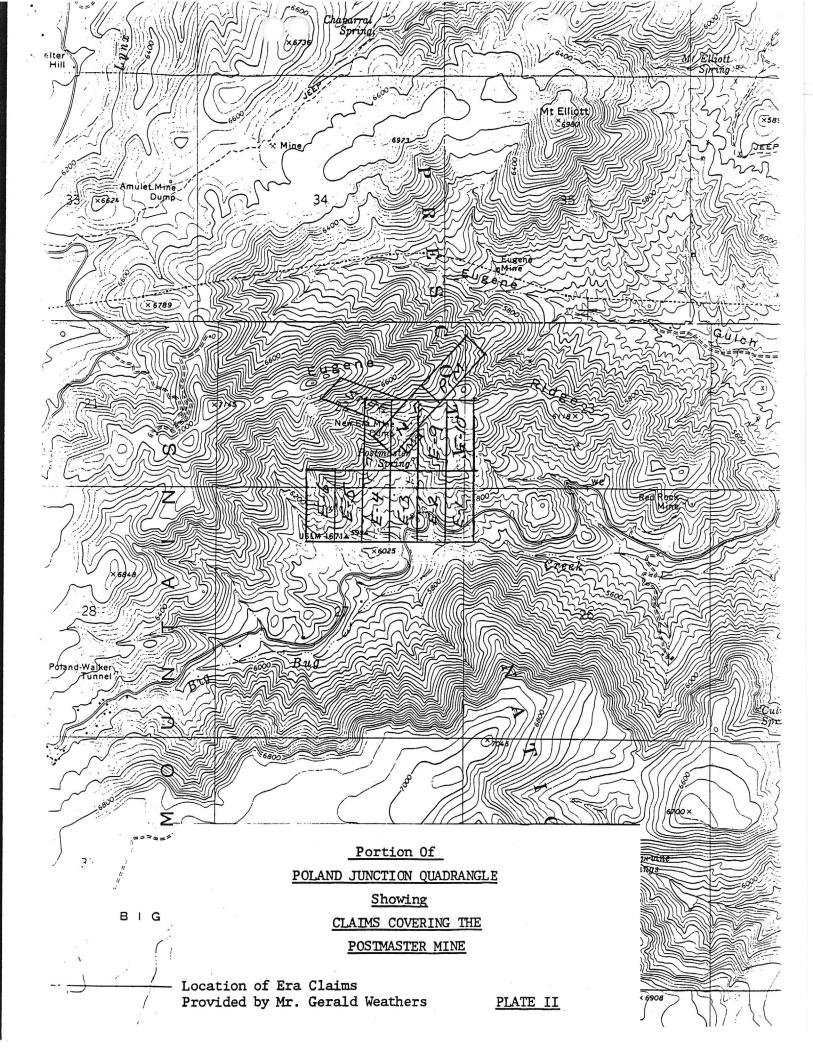
Old maps indicate that the Oriental Mining Company stoped the vein from the 165 level to the surface west of the shaft. There was no stopeing indicated east of the shaft. Griswold (?) reported miners told of 0.58 ounce gold ore 2 feet plus in width for 500 feet in the east drift.

Stopeing is also indicated between the 165 and 250 levels, but the amount is unknown.

According to the Lovelace report, dated December 15, 1941, the Postmaster Mining Company had performed additional development work:

- A long (1102 feet) crosscut tunnel was driven from the surface to intersect the 375 level about 20 feet west of the shaft.
- 2. The west drift on the 375 level was extended 350 feet.
- 3. The shaft was deepened to the 600 level.
- 4. Drifts were driven eastward on the newly established 500 and 600 levels.
- 5. Raises were driven in ore above the 500 and 600 levels and a small stope was opened on the 500 level.
- 6. A drift was driven eastward on the tunnel 375 level for an indicated 300 feet.

At the time of the Lovelace report, a raise to connect the 500 and 600 levels was about "45 feet above the sill". Also, a raise was being driven from the 500 level to connect with the tunnel (375) level.



Subsequent to Lovelace's report, an unsigned report, referred to here as Griswold (?) dated approximately 1943, listed additional development work:

- 1. The raise from the 500 level to the 375 level had been driven 90 feet with 130 feet to go.
- 2. A Finze was sunk 30 feet below the 600 level.
- 3. The east drift on the 500 had been extended "a few feet".

### GEOLOGY

## General

The Bradshaw Mountain Range extends in a generally north-south direction from Prescott on the north to near Castle Hot Springs on the south. It is composed mostly of the Yavapai series of pre-Cambrian rocks with occasional areas capped by extrusive rocks of Tertiary age.

The predominant rock type, known as Yavapai schist, has been intruded by fairly large bodies of granitic and dioritic rocks, also of pre-Cambrian age. Dikes of acidic igneous rocks have intruded the whole series.

The schist probably consists of meta-sediments and metamorphosed extrusive igneous rocks. Identification of the original rocks would entail detailed microscopic study and it is not considered pertinent to this investigation. Metamorphism has left a series of rocks that range from soft, fissile, mica schist to very dense, hard, phyllite.

Faulting throughout the range has, no doubt, been fairly pervasive and it is along some of these fault fissures that mineralization occurs. The Big Bug District has probably produced more ore than any other district in the Bradshaw range. Mineral values extracted include

gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc. Tables in Arizona Bureau of Mines Bulletin #140 list gold production from the Big Bug District between 1901 and 1933 at \$3,988,689.

## Local

The Postmaster Mine area is underlain predominately by the hard, dense facies of the Yavapai schist. Granitic rocks are exposed along a ridge in the northwestern portion of the claims.

Four veins, roughly parallel to the granitic-schist contact, have been located within the claims: The Postmaster, the New Era, the Sheffield and the Hand Ax veins. Mineralization has been reported from each of the veins but, as Lovelace reports, all of the production has come from the Postmaster vein.

The Postmaster vein varies from 1.5 feet to 10 feet, with an average width of 4 feet. It can be traced on the surface for 1500 feet east of the shaft with a bearing of N.  $45^{\circ}$  -  $65^{\circ}$  E. and dipping  $70^{\circ}$  to the northwest. (Some old maps show the vein dips from  $55^{\circ}$  to  $65^{\circ}$  underground). Obviously the vein also extends westward from the shaft because it has been stoped between the 165 level and the surface in that area. No distance for the western extension has been recorded.

The vein filling consists of soft, somewhat gougy, brecciated wall rock. Mineralization consists of quartz, calcite, pyrite and the ore minerals - gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc.

The New Era vein is about 50 feet south of the Postmaster vein in the shaft area. It is roughly parallel in strike to the Postmaster vein, but has a steeper dip causing a divergence of the veins with depth.

At the surface this vein appears to be stronger and wider than the Postmaster vein and it can be traced for 2,000 feet eastward from the shaft. As far as is known it has not been explored by any underground workings. However, mineralization has been reported from a test pit 20 feet deep on the Postmaster claim about 200 feet northeast of the boundary between the New Era and Postmaster Claims. The mineralization is in a 5 foot vein containing 2 feet of vuggy, porous quartz with iron oxide and values in gold and silver visible by panning.

The Sheffield and Hand Ax veins remain, for the most part, unexplored. It is recorded, however, that the Hand Ax vein is roughly parallel to the New Era and Postmaster veins and that it has been traced for 3,000 feet on the surface.

The Lovelace report has presented a fairly comprehensive description of the structure, mineralization, alteration and the oxidation seen in the Postmaster Mine.

#### Ore Shoots

The greatest production from the Postmaster vein has been derived from ore shoot number 1. It consists of a zone at least 600 feet long and 340 feet wide with an average thickness of 3.5 feet. This shoot rakes 45° to 55° northeastward. This is supported by the fact that no ore was found on the 400 level west of the shaft directly under high grade mined on the 165 level.

Lovelace states that "There is small doubt that undiscovered shoots exist further east along the strike of the vein. This fact is partially proven by drifts on the 500 and 600 levels which are in ore beyond the eastern limits of Number 1 shoot. Furthermore, both the Postmaster and New Era veins east of the shaft are mineralized on the surface".

Griswold (?) reported that two cars of direct shipping ore from the 30' winze below the 600 level had these values:

- 1. 0.46 Au, 21.55 Ag., 1.385 Cu., 0.4 Zn.
- 2. 9.40 Au, 14.10 Ag, 0.63 Cu., 0.5 Zn.

This indicates that the shoot extends below the depth that Lovelace included in his length of the shoot.

## RESERVES

A summary of the gold and silver reserves, as calculated by Lovelace on Decemger 15, 1941, is as follows:

Proven Ore	Tons	Au. Oz.	Ag. Oz.
	11,676	0.23	6.45
Probable Ore			
	86,265	0.35	5.10

Subsequent development work as reported by Griswold (?), indicates that in at least one case the grade of the rock was greater than that suggested by Lovelace.

## CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The Postmaster Mine is located near the center of the Big Bug Mining District, which has produced substantial values of gold and silver.
- 2. The Postmaster vein has produced a total of over \$4,000,000.00 during the periods 1898-1905 and 1941-1942. These values were derived primarily from gold and silver with minor amounts of copper, lead and zinc.
- 3. Previously developed reserves still remain in the Postmaster vein.
- 4. The Postmaster vein has not been fully explored nor has the full extent of the mined ore shoot been developed.

5. At least three other veins - New Era, Hand Ax and Sheffield have not been explored even though surface mineralization has been reported.

6. A comprehensive exploration and development program is warranted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that a comprehensive, phased, exploration program be initiated on the Postmaster Mine Property. This program should be designed to (1) verify the existence of remaining reserves; (2) explore the possible extension of the existing reserves; (3) explore the New Era,

Verification of existing reserves can only be accomplished by diamond drilling. Prior to any drilling, roads and drill pads will have to be constructed. Simultaneously, the lower cross-cut tunnel should be opened. It is expected that only the portal area is caved and that the remainder of the tunnel will be open to the Postmaster vein. By survey, then, the location of the veins on the 375 level will be established allowing more accurate targeting of the drill holes.

Hand Ax and Sheffield veins both on the surface and underground.

The high grade (9.40 oz. Au) zone in the bottom of the 30 foot winze below the 600 level should be the initial drill target. Direction, dip and depth of a hole to reach this target will be determined by the location of the new access roads. Hard outcrops on the steep slope will, to some degree, determine the road locations if they are to be constructed without blasting.

Two additional holes should be drilled into the same zone but designed to intersect the vein about 150 feet on each side of the first hole. These holes will verify and expand the reserves at that level.

Consideration should also be given to exploration of the Postmaster vein eastward from Number 1 ore shoot. This should be done, initially, on the surface using a dozer, where possible, to improve exposures for mapping and sampling. This phase will lead to additional diamond drilling, the location of which will be determined by the results of the mapping.

An attempt should be made to accurately locate and sample the surface exposures of the New Era, Sheffield and Hand Ax claims. Based on information derived from this program, these veins can then be evaluated by dozer work for better exposures and by diamond drilling. It may be possible to explore the potential of these veins by drilling from the crosscut tunnel or other drill sites established underground.

The cost of the initial phase - 3 drill holes, reopening the cross-cut tunnel, road construction and other surface work - is estimated to be about \$100,000. Evaluation of the data gathered during the first phase will determine the magnitude and cost of subsequent exploration and development.

January 10, 1984

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. ELSING, M. J. & Heineman, R.E.S., 1936 Arizona Metal Production, Arizona Bureau of Mines, Economic Series No. 19, Bulletin No. 19
- 2. FINLAYSON, D. R., Mining Engineer, No date Postmaster Mining Property (2 Pages).
- 3. GRISWOLD (?)., 1943 (approx) Postmaster Mine, Big Bug District, Yavapai County, Arizona.
- 4. LOVELACE, M. B., December 15, 1941 Report on the Postmaster Mine, Yavapai County, Arizona.
- 5. MILLS, H. F., January 29, 1939 Letter report addressed to Mr. Ed Blake.
- 6. POMEROY, W. E., E. M., September 5, 1938 Postmaster Group of Mines (2 pages).
- 7. Various maps and level plans in file. No names or dates.

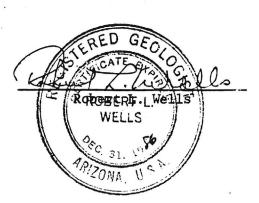
PHONE (602) 567-5798 P.O. BOX 345 LAKE MONTEZUMA, AZ 86342

## CERTIFICATE

I, Robert L. Wells, hereby state that:

- 1. I reside at Lake Montezuma, Arizona and that the mailing address shown on the letter lead is correct.
- I received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from the Mackay School of Mines, University of Nevada at Reno, Nevada, in 1950.
- 3. I have practiced my profession of Mining Geology continuously since my graduation.
- 4. I am a Registered Geologist in Arizona and California.
- 5. My report on the Postmaster Mine, Yavapai County, Arizona, U.S.A. is based on field examination and study of all available production records and reports covering the subject property.
- 6. I have no interest in either the Postmaster Mine or any other properties of Brace Resources Limited and it's subsidiaries, nor do I hold any shares of Brace Resources Limited or it's subsidiaries, and I do not expect to receive any such interest.

January 10, 1984



REFERENCE 1	FI ( NSBS BEDL. MAT
REFERENCE 2	F2 < 11565 Bull 8-1336, Plate 1
REFERENCE 3	F3 < USBM - ABGMT FILE BATA
REFERENCE 4	F4 < USGS BULL 782, 0.135
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	(last, first, middle initial)  (last, first, middle initial)  (last, first, middle initial)  (last, first, middle initial)  SITE NAME A10 ( POSTMASJER MINE
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ALTHOUG	

\* GENERAL REFERENCES

<sup>\*</sup> ESSENTIAL INFORMATION + ESSENTIAL SOMETIMES OR HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

COMMODITIES PRESENT ORE MINERALS COMMODITY SUBTYPES GEN. ANALYTICAL DATA COM. INFO. COMMENTS	C30 < GOLD, ARGENTI SALENA, CHALCOALENE, SPH S C41 < A C43 <	MEDIE >
* SIGNIFICANCE		
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PRESENT/LAST OWNER		
PRESENT/LAST OPERATO EXPL./DEV.COMMENTS		
	DESCRIPTION OF D	EPOSIT
BEPOSIT TYPE(S)	C40<_ VEIN	
DEPOSIT FORM/SHAPE	MIO TABULAL	
DEPTH TO TOP		MUM LENGTH M40 (
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DEPOSIT SIZE	M15(SMALL) M15(MEDIUM) M15(LARGE) (circle one) MAXII M70( N 50 E	MUM THICKNESS M60 (
STRIKE DIRECTION OF PLUNGE		PLUNGE M90
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	GEOLOGY	
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SECOND FM AGE	N354	
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YAVAPAI COUNTY T12½N R1W Sec. 22

TPL WR 5/26/62: Learned that Gib Mauk is owner of the Postmaster Mine, 5 miles W of Humboldt - now idle.

	OR DEPARTMENT OF LIBRA AND ARCHIVES
Specimen No, collected by	Date Nov 28-19.  a substantial bag, separately, with a number he number on this card)
Name of ore S  Minerals contained Colher Hold	Name of mine or claim Postmaster Silve Group
	District Big Bug
Gangue Blue gouge	County yarahar
Depth at which taken 475	Location (distance and direction by highway from what town)
Approximate mineral content (in terms average per ton):	Owner of property
Quantity or % Yalue	Operator LM White
Copper 52 \$ 3950	Mine active or inactive active
Gold H's Oz	If inactive, when operated
Silver 363 Ofg	Specimen presented by LM White
	Notes:
the state of the s	If more space is desired for notes, use other side

STATE OF ARIZONA

#### DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

MINERAL BUILDING, FAIRGROUNDS
PHOENIX 7, ARIZONA



April 13, 1962



Mr. Axel L. Johnson P.O. Box 5047 Tucson, Arizona





Mr. Claude H. Apperson who runs a store at Humboldt writes about the Postmaster Mine as follows:



Mr. Knight -"I talked to several of the fellows who might know and you may be able to get in the tunnel, but the workings below would be full of water - I understand they had an underground hoist and winze and were working below the tunnel level the last time it was worked."

This should reach you Monday and give you time to pass the information to Arthur Jacobs before coming over here.

We have no data on this mine in our files or publications.

Very truly yours,

FRANK P. KNIGHT Director

FPK/H



#### STATE OF ARIZONA

## DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES

MINERAL BUILDING, FAIRGROUNDS
PHOENIX 7, ARIZONA





April 5, 1962

Mr. C. H. Apperson Humboldt, Arizona

Dear Mr. Apperson:

We are asked whether the Postmaster Mine 6 to 7 miles northwest of Mayer is accessible for examination or cavedin. Travis Lane, our field engineer for your area is just out of the hospital and we won't have a man available for a visit there until the last of this month. So, if you could give us any information it would be appreciated.

An envelope is enclosed for your reply, for which we thank you.

Sincerely yours,

FRANK P. KNIGHT

Director

FPK/H

Encl.

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Claude H Sepperson