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TONOPAH-BELMONT MINE

(The Vulture Mine)

29 miles Southwest of Wickenburg and 14 miles from Old Vulture Mine.

Shipping point is Hassayampa on S.P., 28 miles from mine. Good road to Hassayampa.

The road from Wickenburg is a good graded road as far as the Vulture Mine (15 miles) but, from the Vulture to Tonopah-Belmont, it is ungraded and crosses the open desert with a cross drainage for ten miles, followed by steep pitches in the foothills on the last four miles. This road would be impassable in wet seasons and would be expensive to build and maintain.

It is not likely that the County will build a new road from Vulture to Tonopah-Belmont Camp and there is no chance that concentrates will be hauled to the railroad at Wickenburg.

Mine is producing 60 tons per day so the 75-ton mill is not working to capacity.

Mine is developed by long tunnel and winze in andesite and rhyolite. Ore bodies are irregular and occur in broken up formation.

Ore contains gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc, and is partly oxidized to depth exposed so far, which is 500' below tunnel level. Water level has not been reached. Concentrates contain \$35.00 gold and silver, 40% lead, 7% zinc, 5% copper, 8% iron, 12% Insoluble, and 15% sulphur. Rate of concentration 5 into 1. Sulphidizing flotation is used and a mixed concentrate is shipped to El Paso. A contract for this product has been made with A. S. & R. Co. to Nov., 1930.

If tonnage is materially increased, a zinc concentrate will be made which would be a product for a zinc plant.

Owing to the bunchy occurrence, the future production of this mine is uncertain, as no large reserve of ore is maintained.

G. J. Harbauer

July, 1929.

*the hill w
Washington*
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MCNEILL (or WASHINGTON)

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The road from Wickenburg is a good graded road as far as the vulture Mine (15 miles) but, from the Vulture to Tonopah-Belmont, it is ungraded and crosses the open desert with a cross drainage for ten miles, followed by steep pitches in the foothills on the last four miles. This road would be impassable in wet seasons and would be expensive to build and maintain.

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If tonnage is materially increased, a zinc concentrate will be made which would be a product for a zinc plant.

Owing to the lumpy occurrence, the future production of this mine is uncertain, as no large reserve of ore is maintained.

July, 1929

(signed) G. J. Harbauer.

Wickenburg trip: August 10 to 14, 1926. D. M. Barringer, Jr.

Tonopah-Belmont: visited outcrops & underground workings with Mr. Cole, Mine Supt., and talked with Mr. L. R. Robins, Gen. Mgr. They have a fissure vein in andesite, from 4 to 18 feet wide, carrying Au, Ag, and Pb, with lesser amts of Zn and Cu. A typical analysis of milling ore from the 4th level, submitted to the General Engineering Co. for concentrating tests, ran:

Au. 0.76 oz.; Ag. 7.6 oz.; Pb. 19%; Cu. 21.1%; Zn. 7.0%; Fe. 5.4%; Insoluble, 56.2%.

Two concentrates, one lead and one zinc, were made of this. The Pb concentrate, 30.5% of the weight of the heads, ran:

Au. 1.767; Ag. 19.49; Pb. 56.81%; Cu. 5.60%; Zn. 7.68%; Fe. 2.2%; Insoluble, 4.5%.

Containing: 75% of the Au; 81% of the Ag; 94% of Pb; 82% of Cu.

The Zn concentrate, containing 8% of the weight of the heads, ran:

Au. 0.38 oz.; Ag. 5.6; Pb. 5.7%; Cu. 2.1%; Zn. 46.6%; Fe. 2.9%; Insoluble, 16.8%.

Containing: 4.5% of Au; 6.5% of Ag; 2.6% of Pb; 8.6% of Cu; 59% of Zn.

The mill will be ready to run in about 60 days. Mr. Robins could not say definitely whether a collective or a selective concentrate would be made. If the former, they would willingly consider shipping to Humboldt for separation.

The vein has been followed down in a 300-foot winze from the adit level. On the 150' level in the winze (called 3rd level) It is developed for a length of some 180 feet, averaging 8 feet wide. On the west it is faulted off, and has not yet been picked up. On the east the shoot falls off in grade. On the 300' level (4th level) the vein is badly faulted, and only about 100' of the shoot has been encountered. The faults are post-mineral knife-blade seams, hard to locate, and strike at all angles to the vein. Extensive prospecting with long jackhammer holes, (system developed at Tonopah) will be undertaken.

Parallel to the main vein (Washington vein), and 600 feet north, runs the Uncle Sam vein. Outcrops are 20 to 25' wide, carrying fair values (better than Washington outcrops) in Au - Ag - Pb - and Cu. Crosscutting to this vein on the 300 level will be undertaken shortly.

As a prospect, the property seems to have unusually good promise of making a valuable mine. The company is spending over half a million dollars in developing.

As a producer of lead concentrates for a stack at Humboldt, it should produce from 6 to 10 T. daily in two months, with high values in gold and fair in silver, with good prospects of increasing this amount largely in a year or more.

As a producer of collective lead-zinc concentrates for separation at Humboldt, it seems an unlikely chance that much tonnage will come from it, though it is possible that at least a temporary tonnage of from 8 to 12 T. daily of Zn-Pb concentrates will be available.

The mine is connected with Wickenburg by 30 miles of rotten road, and with Hassayampa, on the S.P., by 26 miles of fairly good road, which has a chance of becoming county road. If shipments were made to Humboldt, the road to Wickenburg would be repaired.

DISTRICT: Wickenburg.

NAME: McNeil Group, or Washington, optioned by Tonapah Belmont Development Company.

LOCATION: 29 miles southwest of Wickenburg. 14 miles from Vulture Mine.

OWNERS: Dan McNeil and Associates.

DATE VISITED: April 17, 1926

NOTES: country rock, andesite and rhyolite. Two parallel veins, with big bold outcrops containing some galena and lead carbonates, with copper stain. As the Company were not working in their shaft, I was unable to get underground. Mr. Cole, mine foreman told me that they were down 265 feet, and had 12 feet of ore. Unable to find out assay value. The Tonapah Belmont people are excavating for a power plant, and expect to build a 50 ton mill within a short time. Mr. Thompson, their general master mechanic, told me that they expect to have 15 to 20 tons of concentrate a day. They expect to have a force of men at work on the road to Wickenburg at once, and to construct a telephone line. I did not see Mr. Robins, their manager, but Mr. Thompson says that they are favorably disposed to ship their product to Humboldt.

The southwest extension of the McNeil group has been optioned by the Jim Bulter Mining Company. A good surface showing is said to exist on that property.

J. S. Hazen.

McNEILL -- OF WASHINGTON

Later called TONOPAH BELMONT

Note by G. M. Colvocoresses,

October, 1937.

This mine was extensively operated by the Tonopah Belmont Company from 1926 to almost 1932, and concentrates were shipped steadily but it is reported that a heavy operating loss was sustained while the better grade of ore was all worked out.

The mine has now reverted to the owners, who are again planning to operate, but in view of information which I have received from several engineers, I greatly doubt if they will be successful unless they should succeed in finding some entirely new ore bodies.

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The hall

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J.S. Hazen

McNeill

District	Property	Location	Owners & Operators	Date Visited
Wickenburg (cont'd)	Independence or Washington	29.1 mi. S.W. Wickenburg. 14 mi. from Vulture Mine. Elevation 2300'.	Dan McNeil Jesus Diaz & C T Walker, owners. Earl C. Rogers of Salt Lake City now has lease and bond but has done no work. <i>ac 17</i> Now in name of J D B Alexander, Dan McNeil, and Dan McNeil as administrator for estate of T. C. Willicutt, deceased.	March 17 1917

(Independence)

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Notes

Andesite and rhyolite country rock. Two parallel veins of brecciated material on fault planes. Several cross faults. Galena and lead carbonates in bunches with some chalcocite and copper carbonates. Crosscut running NW cuts E-W vein at 180', and continues beyond but does not reach second vein. Winze 80' on first vein. Slickensided cross faults along crosscut. Upper adit is about 100' connected with lower tunnel by winze. Brecciated material with pebbles and boulders of galena and some copper. Apparently a fault cut off the ore a few feet in, as drift shows no ore beyond to breast. My sample of pile of "low grade" ore from winze and drifts (H55) assayed:- Au. 0.16; Ag 3.88; Pb 8.2%; Cu 0.76%. At top of bluff two streaks of hard siliceous rock, mostly silicified breccia, with iron on hanging wall side, showing galena and a little malachite and chalcocite. My sample (H53) across 7' assayed:- Au 0.11; Ag 4.70; Pb 6.4%; Cu 1.54%; Fe 4.4%; Insol. 68.4%. A sample of three sacks of copper stained siliceous ore showing little lead assayed Au 0.06; Ag 16.74; Pb 4.85%; Cu 4.24%; Onsol. 67%. McNeil states that 38 sacks of mixed sorted ore, mostly solid galena, shipped to the Arizona Sampling & Reduction Co., assayed 63 ounces silver and 52% lead. The mill, installed by J. B. Livezey's Company, which failed, consists of Dodge Crusher, 2 sets Rolls, Elevator, Stebbins Dry Concentrator, Blower, Shaking Screen, 2 Foos Gas Engines and Gardner-Rix 8 x 21 Compressor, all practically new. The office, bunk houses, etc., have been little used. Rogers, who has obtained lease and bond by payment of \$100.00, apparently has little money, but proposes to organize a company and expects to be able to ship high grade lead-copper ore without further development. Mine is a possible producer of lead-silver-copper ore and concentrates, but not profitably without further development.

Wickenburg
(Continued)

Independence
or
Washington
(Continued)

October 12,
1917

Letter Dan McNeil, May 15, 1917, says Rogers had spent \$2,000.00 and could not raise more money. Sunk winze about twenty feet, all in iron, with about a foot of copper stained ore along the side.

A shipment made in May, 1917, by Rogers, assayed Au 0.18 oz; Ag 14.2 oz; Cu 3.5%; Pb 15.6%; Insol. 47%. He has now forfeited his lease and option, after doing a little prospecting and development work. The following samples were taken by me, where fresh faces had been exposed since my former visit:-

S W breast of 10' drift, 118' in ~~new~~ main crosscut (elevation 2375') across 4' brecciated material showing galena in spots (272) Au 0.05 oz; Ag 2.45 oz; Pb 6.4%; Cu 0.55%. N E breast 87' from main crosscut across 5' brecciated material at vertical contact of andesite (W) and rhyolite (E) (273) Au 0.13 oz; Ag 2.20 oz; Pb 1.68%; Cu 2.11%. From bottom of 30' winze, across 5' at S W end, iron and copper stained brecciated material, with galena in nodules (274) Au 0.30 oz; Ag 5.20 oz; Pb 25.32%; Cu 3.57%. A sample of a small pile of ore from this winze assayed (275) Au 0.23 oz; Ag 10.80 oz; Pb 36.2%; Cu 8.68%. A sample of the outcrop (elevation 2600) of the second vein, 5' wide, which has not been reached by the crosscut assayed (276) Au 0.06 oz; Ag 7.14 oz; Pb 13.9%; Cu 9.60%.

The little work done by Rogers has made no practical difference to the property, which still appears to be worthy of development with a view to the possibility of opening up a commercial ore body, but attempts to produce small amounts of shipping ore, without further development, are not likely to be successful.

L. F. L. H.