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REPORT ON LA CHOLLA PLACER

This property was visited by H. F. Mills, J. A. Wilcox, and Tom Newell, with Mr. Tom Young of Phoenix, on November 21st. 1949

Mr. Young controls in excess of ~~1000~~ 2400 acres, the only part of which has been prospected is the Gold Standard claim of 160 acres. On this is the vertical Anderson shaft, 130 feet deep, from which a small amount of development work was done, and the gravel from which is reported to have yielded values comparable to those from the Wilson shaft. About 800 feet S. W. of the Wilson shaft is an exposure of bed rock and quartz upon which some early surface placer work was done. U. S. Smelting Company is reported to have done some drilling in the vicinity of this outcrop with disappointing results.

The Wilson shaft, just S. W. of the property controlled by Mr. Young, is 110 feet deep, and some 20000 yards were extracted from somewhat irregular shaped openings extending eastward about 500 feet and northward to connect with the Happy Day shaft, which is 100 feet deep. Recovery from this gravel was $4.62 per yard.

The gravel bed seen at the Wilson and Anderson shafts is typical of detrital placers of arid regions. It is underlain by a bed rock of slate. Some small veins and veinlets of quartz occur in the bed rock. The bed rock surface is quite regular and dips easterly and northerly at a flat angle.

The gravel shows only partial stratification, most of the pebbles are sub-angular and only several inches in size. Rocks over 12" are very infrequent. These pebbles are cemented by a limy material to the extent that moderate blasting will be required before loading. At 12 to 14 feet above bedrock the bed consists chiefly of small flat fragments of schist with quite a distinct cleavage parting. This normally will form the roof of extractive workings, and values in it are said to be too low grade to work. Above this is about 100 feet of caliche-cemented detritus in places not unlike the lower gravel bed, but in general it is better bonded by caliche filling.

One quarter mile west of the Happy Day shaft the mountain slope shows evidence of slumpage and flow toward the valley fill. About three miles west of the Wilson shaft is an area of strong upthrust; The beds on the mountain slope west, north and south of this depression all dip steeply away from it. To the east a valley containing several small prospects opens out on the La Cholla placers.

A regional fault striking N to W is presumed to cross the property about 3500' N. E. of the Anderson shaft.

While the nature of this property can be determined by exploration, it may be assumed that the slate bed rock was planed by erosion on gentle grades to a more or less plane surface. Upthrust of the mountains to the west, perhaps accompanied by the major NW fault, created favorable conditions for new erosion. Flash floods moved surface detritus, sometimes containing disintegrated vein crops with gold values, down on the valley floor. This flow could occur as mass slides of water-soaked detritus. Weathering and washing between flood periods resulted in enrichment by removal of rock powder by water or wind. Retardation in rate of building of valley fill is the result in part of lessening the gradient between mountain slopes

and valley fill. The lower gradient is partially responsible for the decrease in gold values in the upper horizons of the fill.

WATER

While dry washing for gold is satisfactory for certain types of placer, my opinion is that it would be difficult in this deposit containing large amounts of clay and lime cementing materials, especially so if the gravel were not thoroughly dried before treatment.

Tyson Wash, crossing the property in a NS direction in its east end, drains the country for 20 miles south. Granite Mt. acts as a dam across the north end of the area and there is probably a basin of water which would furnish sufficient wash water by production from a number of wells, pumping this water two miles against a static head of about 200 feet. The regional fault also offers good possibilities for adequate water, but in any event a suitable supply of water must be developed before this ground could be worked to advantage. With careful conservation and recovery, a ton of water (1/6 g.p.m.) will treat one yard.

There is a strong possibility that the bed rock between the outcrop and the Yum Yum mine may be higher than normal and that a channel originating several miles west of the Wilson shaft will be found between the Wilson shaft and the Yum Yum mine and swinging northerly. This channel may extend to or through the New Day claim. A series of 12 initial holes at 1000' centers, as shown, will give good evidence of bed rock and approximate gravel values. These holes would probably cost about $7500. If results are favorable, the interval can be halved by nine more holes, as shown. Gravel values should be further proved by sinking a prospect shaft near hole 17 and mining say 500 yards. This, with several hundred yards from the Wilson shaft, and a like amount from the Anderson shaft, treated in a small portable washing plant, should provide information adequate to determine whether an operating plant should be installed and of what capacity; contingent of course upon being able to develop adequate water.

The proposed test area embraces some 250 acres which may contain 5 million yards of gravel. Possibly 60% of this may be extracted, leaving the remainder for roof support.

NOTES ON PROPOSED OPERATION FOR LA CHOLLA

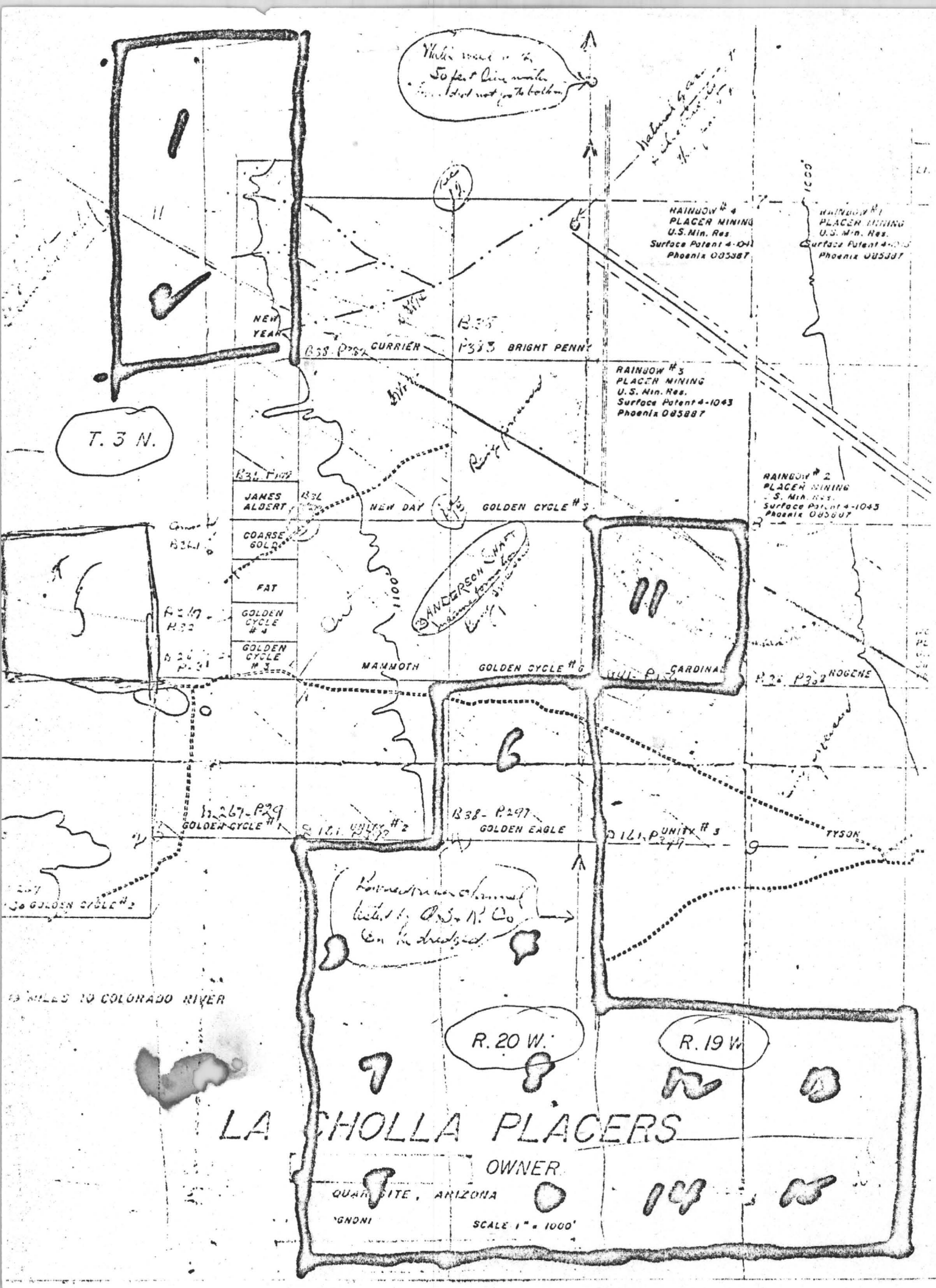
For extractive purposes, let us assume a convenient working block 2400 feet long by 1800 feet wide, to be serviced by an incline 16' wide 400' inclined length from surface, and a vertical ventilation shaft to surface. This block will have a double haulage entry 2400' long and two double room entries 1200' apart and 600' from the ends of the block. Rooms will be 30' wide and 50' - 60' centers, 600' long.

12000 feet of entries must be driven.

The block will contain 800 yds. x 600 yds. x 4 yds. high - 1,920,000 yards.

It may be possible to extract 65% of the area, leaving the balance for pillar support or even low grade gravel, so that 1,250,000 yards may be extracted.

At 2000 yards a day (approximately 3000 tons) the entries must be advanced at least 20 feet a day and will produce 100 yards a day.


T. 3 N.
R. 20 W.
R. 19 W.
RAINBOW #4
PLACER MINING
U.S. Min. Res.
Surface Patent 4-1043
Phoenix 085887
RAINBOW #1
PLACER MINING
U.S. Min. Res.
Surface Patent 4-1043
Phoenix 085887
RAINBOW #3
PLACER MINING
U.S. Min. Res.
Surface Patent 4-1043
Phoenix 085887
RAINBOW #2
PLACER MINING
U.S. Min. Res.
Surface Patent 4-1043
Phoenix 085887
NEW YEAR
CURRIER
BRIGHT PENNY
JANES ALBERT
NEW DAY
GOLDEN CYCLE #5
COARSE GOLD
FAT
GOLDEN CYCLE #4
GOLDEN CYCLE #3
MAMMOTH
GOLDEN CYCLE #6
CARDINAL
ROGENE
GOLDEN CYCLE #1
GOLDEN EAGLE
UNITY #3
TYSON
GOLDEN CYCLE #2
ANDERSON SHAFT
MILES TO COLORADO RIVER
LA CHOLLA PLACERS
OWNER
QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA
SCALE 1" = 1000'