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GEOLOGIC REPORT

ON THE

DELAWARE MINE

Gila County  
Arizona

*William E. Mead*

William E. Mead  
Consulting Geologist

August 1, 1955

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GEOLOGIC REPORT ON THE DELAWARE MINE  
Gila County, Arizona

INTRODUCTION

The following report has been prepared at the request of Robert W. Thompson, owner of the Delaware property, and is the result of three days of field examination during July, 1955 and one or two days' work during September of 1954.

The Delaware patented lode mining claim and the eight unpatented claims surrounding it are located in the west central portion of Section 30 of Township 10 North and Range 10 East, Green Valley Mining District, Gila County, Arizona, and are about 5 miles airline distance in a southwesterly direction from the town of Payson. From the gravelled Roosevelt-Payson highway a two-mile dirt road leads to the mine.

CLIMATE AND TOPOGRAPHY

Sharp ravines dissect this upland hill country into an area of moderate relief in which outcrops are rarely exposed through the rather heavy cover of residual mantle. The vegetation consists mainly of grasses, thick undergrowths of oak, and sparse scatterings of juniper and scrub pine. Elevations range from 4300 to 4600 feet above sea level in the immediate area.

Except for intermittent snowfalls of short duration in January and February, which rarely leave a cover for more than 24 hours, the only climatic problem in this region is the rainy season coming at two periods during the year, early Spring and in Mid-Summer. The dirt road to the mine is occasionally in poor condition during such time, but is soon restored to passibility by wind and sunlight.

## HISTORY

Early Spanish inhabitants undoubtedly knew of the existence of precious metals in this locality, but the first historical accounts begin in the year 1875 with the discovery of gold-and-silver-bearing quartz veins by the settlers of the new Territory of Arizona. By 1881, the influx of prospectors and miners had reached its peak--men who had departed from the gold fields of California and Nevada for greener pastures. Between 1881 and 1886, as the shallow, easily-recoverable deposits were worked out, mining activity gradually waned. It was during this period, sometime prior to 1886, when the Delaware property was originally located by a man named Herbert Logan. A patent was granted on the Delaware claim on March 22, 1890, then still in Yavapai County of the Arizona Territory. The eight surrounding claims are also believed to have been located at about this time.

No production is recorded for the Delaware, although it is known that several of the early operators did encounter pockets of high-grade ore which yielded a substantial quantity of nuggets and dust.

The present owner, Robert W. Thompson, acquired the 9 claims of the Delaware group in 1942 and held the deed to the property in the name the Verde Falls Mining Company until January, 1951, at which time the ground was transferred directly to Mr. Thompson.

## DEVELOPMENT

The principal working on the Delaware is a 95-foot single compartment shaft having two North-South crosscuts and two East-West drifts at the bottom of the shaft, and an east drift at the 35-foot level. These laterals off the main shaft aggregated possibly 250 feet prior to the work done by the present owner. Also part of this early development, along with several shallow pits and cuts, was a 60-foot adit crosscut having a 60-foot drift ending in a 40-foot raise. This raise, now caved, formed the "glory hole". Lastly, a vertical shaft 60 feet south of the main shaft was put down at some unknown time in the past to about the same level as the bottom of the main shaft. It is believed that a drift has been driven to the east off this old shaft about 20 feet below its collar, but the length is unknown.

Since the property has been operated by Mr. Thompson, the main shaft has been retimbered, a wooden headframe constructed, the bottom laterals extended an aggregate amount of about 90 feet, an adit crosscut driven 125 feet with a 50-foot drift, and a considerable amount of bulldozer leveling and stripping done. A substantial frame hoist-house with hoist, cable and bucket have been installed and are in good operating condition. A 14' x 16' concrete block house has been constructed about 400 feet south of the mine. A mill building of similar construction now stands containing all necessary components of a 5-ton mill, including jig, amalgamator and concentrating table. Assembly of this apparatus can quickly put the mill into operation.

Erected within the past year on the Delaware claim is a modern residence valued at \$30,000 which commands a superb view of the surrounding countryside. Water from a 220-foot well supplies this domicile and would also meet the needs of the mill. Two Butane-driven, 60 cycle, 110 volt power plants provide the electrical requirements. A reservoir capable of impounding 200,000 gallons of water has been excavated near the mill and concrete block power house.

A complete inventory of equipment and machinery is given on the following page.

### GEOLOGY

Diorite, a pre-Cambrian intrusive, is the predominant rock type in the district, and is typically a medium-to-dark gray, coarse-grained, hornblende-rich diorite that weathers to an olive-drab soil. Intruding the diorite are abundant dikes principally basic in composition. Several miles to the northeast pre-Cambrian granite is the major rock type, while several miles to the southeast, pre-Cambrian Pinal schist predominates. Quaternary gravels and sands form a North-South belt west of the diorite outcroppings. Overlying the several pre-Cambrian formations are scattered remnants of Paleozoic sediments.

*Inventory of Equipment  
Delaware Mine  
Nov. 20, 1957*

-4-

LIST OF EQUIPMENT AT DELAWARE MINE

- 1 Fairbanks Morse mine hoist 15 HP with 350 ft. 7/8" cable
- 1 Portable Sullivan compressor on steel wheels 105-A -
- 1 Five ton Gibson Mill
- 1 Ore Feeder Belt
- 1 Five ton Denver Jig
- 1 Five ton Stephan Concentrating Table
- 1 Sump Pump
- 1 Denver Impact Amalgamator
- 1 400 gallon portable water tank trailer on rubber tires
- 2 High Pressure water tanks for drilling
- Air and Water Hose
- Worm sand Elevators
- Ore Elevator to Hopper
- Ore Loader, (portable) 4 cylinder with gas motor
- 1 High pressure water pump for reclaiming water
- Miscellaneous pipes, valves and fittings
- 1 12" x 20' Portable sand loader on rubber wheels with  
1 HP electric motor
- New Copco air tools and jack leg (hoses and repair parts)
- 1 New High pressure water pump with 1 1/2 HP gas motor
- Pipe, rail, water and air lines
- 100 New hanging rods, nuts and washers
- 1 400 gallon water tank for hoist at mine
- 1 Small ore pulverizer with 1/2 HP motor
- ~~1 2000 ft. roll blasting fuse~~
- ~~500 Blasting caps~~
- 1 Wire or rope puller with 1 1/2 HP motor
- 1 Small Gold Retort
- 1 Onan 10 CW, 1 phase, 60 cycle, 110 or 230 volt power  
plant (Butane driven)
- 1 Onan 3 1/2 KW, 1 phase, 60 cycle, 110 volt automatic power  
plant (Butane driven)
- 1 320 gallon Butane storage tank
- 1 500 gallon high pressure water tank
- ~~1 45 gallon Butane hot water heater~~
- ~~1 Coleman gas furnace with 1 HP electric motor for blower~~
- 1 3 HP Jet water pump, 1 phase, 220 volt
- 1 Cooler and blower with 1/2 HP motor
- 1 1941 Dodge Recon truck
- 2 1 Ton ore buckets
- 1 1 Ton ore car

- 1 - Sullivan Staper
- 1 - FR-105A compressor - new wheels
- 1 - 500 gal Butane tank
- 1 - Buffalo forge - 061 061
- 1 - large gold retort
- 2 - Railroad scales, 15 ton
- 1 - set blacksmith tools (unmarked)

- 2 - Sm. bottles of oxy (full)
- 2 - " " acety (1 full)
- 1 - set welding & cutting set
- 10 - 3/4" galv. corr. pipe &  
connectors
- 1 1 1/2 ton chain pull.
- 1 - set wheel pullers.

### GEOLOGY (Continued)

Without known exception, the gold deposits occur in the hornblende diorite, normally where it has been sheared and fractured by the injection of fine-grained basic dikes. In this process, not only the contact zones but also the dikes themselves have been fractured, thus creating favorable channels for the ascent of silica-rich mineral-bearing solutions. These dikes vary in width from a few feet to several tens of feet and at the Delaware have an east or northeast strike. Gold-bearing quartz veins 1/2 to 12 inches in width fill many of the contact zones and fractures complementary to them and therefore they too generally exhibit an east or northeast strike, and may dip either northward or southward at 50 degrees or greater. Post-mineral deformation has resulted in two directions of stress--one which parallels the quartz veins and shears them into a crushed mylonite zone oftentimes several feet wide, and another which transects the mineralized veins, offsetting them from inches to several feet. In both stress directions, the movement is largely horizontal.

### MINERALOGY

In the oxidized portions of the quartz veins, hematite and limonite occupy the spaces once filled with pyrite, and with the earthy oxides remaining to partially fill the cavities, the quartz takes on a cellular, spongy, iron-stained aspect. It is in such places where the native gold has been set free by the process of oxidation, thus rendering it free-milling and frequently detectable by eye. Copper occasionally occurs as the green carbonate malachite, along with the iron oxides and gold.

No significance is attributed to a zone of supergene enrichment in these deposits, because the gold is not affected by such a process except by being freed, and not enough copper is present to be of commercial interest.

As the primary, unoxidized zone is approached, more and more of the pyrite and copper sulfides are present, and the gold remains locked in these other minerals so that physical means of separation can no longer be used. The encountering of this sulfide zone was one of the reasons

for abandoning the early gold deposits. Also, in the Green Valley Mining District as in other mining districts, the water table often coincided with the sulfide zone and necessitated a pumping operation which was normally prohibitive in cost. None of the Delaware workings have reached the water table, and projecting from the position of the water level (220 feet) in the well, and in the spring about 800 feet downstream, the main shaft can be sunk another 50 to 75 feet with reasonable assurance of dry ground the entire distance.

Some silver occurs with the gold in these deposits, but the ratio is usually low and the silver cannot be depended upon to appreciably affect the total unit dollar value of the ore.

Calcite seams are quite abundant in certain places in the mine but do not appear to bear any direct relationship to the gold mineralization. The calcite often fills post-mineral seams and fractures.

Alteration products in the wall rock adjacent to the quartz veins are the usual trio of sericite (alkaline hydrothermal effects), chlorite (alteration of ferromagnesian minerals in the wall rock), and Kaolinite (alteration of the feldspars in the wall rock).

#### CONCLUSIONS

The potentialities of the Delaware mine stimulate the imagination. Nature has been generous with quartz vein mineralization on the property and it can safely be said judging from known outcrops, that an aggregate of several thousand feet of strike length along gold-quartz leads remains undeveloped and virtually unexplored. The Delaware is situated close to the center of the Green Valley Mining District, and is flanked on all compass points by noted producers of the past. Official records show that over \$3,000,000 in gold has come from this district over the past years. It is also well-known that these mines were in almost every case shut down not because

of a loss of values with depth, but rather because of

1. The water disposal problem below the ground water table,
2. The refractory character of the ore below the oxidized zone, and
3. Unfavorable economic conditions.

The Delaware is not hampered by any of these obstacles. The potential in a vertical direction is also promising, with several of the richest veins showing projections to intersection probably well above the water table.

It is well-recognized that gold is spotty in nature, and that the high-grade pockets are connected by lean segments of the vein. Ample evidence exists in the form of assay and panning results, and favorable exposures, that the Delaware can expect to have a profitable frequency of ore pods and shoots along the vein trends. I have personally observed numerous pannings at various places in the workings that show heavy gold values. One may select, almost at random, any of the several dumps and with a bit of diligent searching, find attractive specimens of free gold, almost always in a hematite matrix.

The prevailing attitude in this present age is to frown upon gold deposits as wise investments. Many feel this way without having a sound reason for doing so. Actually the reasoning is fallacious. Admittedly the mineralization is erratic, but so are tungsten, rare earths and uranium, to name a few. It is not coincidence that metals with a high unit value are of this character. The current activity in the fields of these other metals is known to every mining man. To discriminate against gold through broad generalization and unfounded assumptions is not warranted. How often one hears these days, "I'd trade all my uranium holdings for one good small gold mine."

The Delaware offers a good investment possibility to venture capital, even disregarding for a moment the added attractions of a gracious residence and a new mill. I therefore strongly recommend serious consideration of the potentialities of the Delaware to any prospective buyer.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to develop ore reserves at the maximum possible rate at the Delaware, the following recommendations are made in the order of priority deemed most feasible in the opinion of the author:

#### Main Shaft

1. Extend the East drift in the South crosscut in an easterly direction along the 1 to 3 foot crushed quartz zone.
2. Raise on the \$35 ore in which the six-foot winze in the West drift was sunk.
3. Extend the East drift at least 25 feet eastward along the vein structure, to pass beneath the strong quartz lead in the glory hole.
4. Sink the shaft vertically another 40 feet and crosscut southward approximately 30 feet to the intersection of the two main quartz veins and then drift in either direction, preferably East, along this intersection.
5. Extend the West drift.

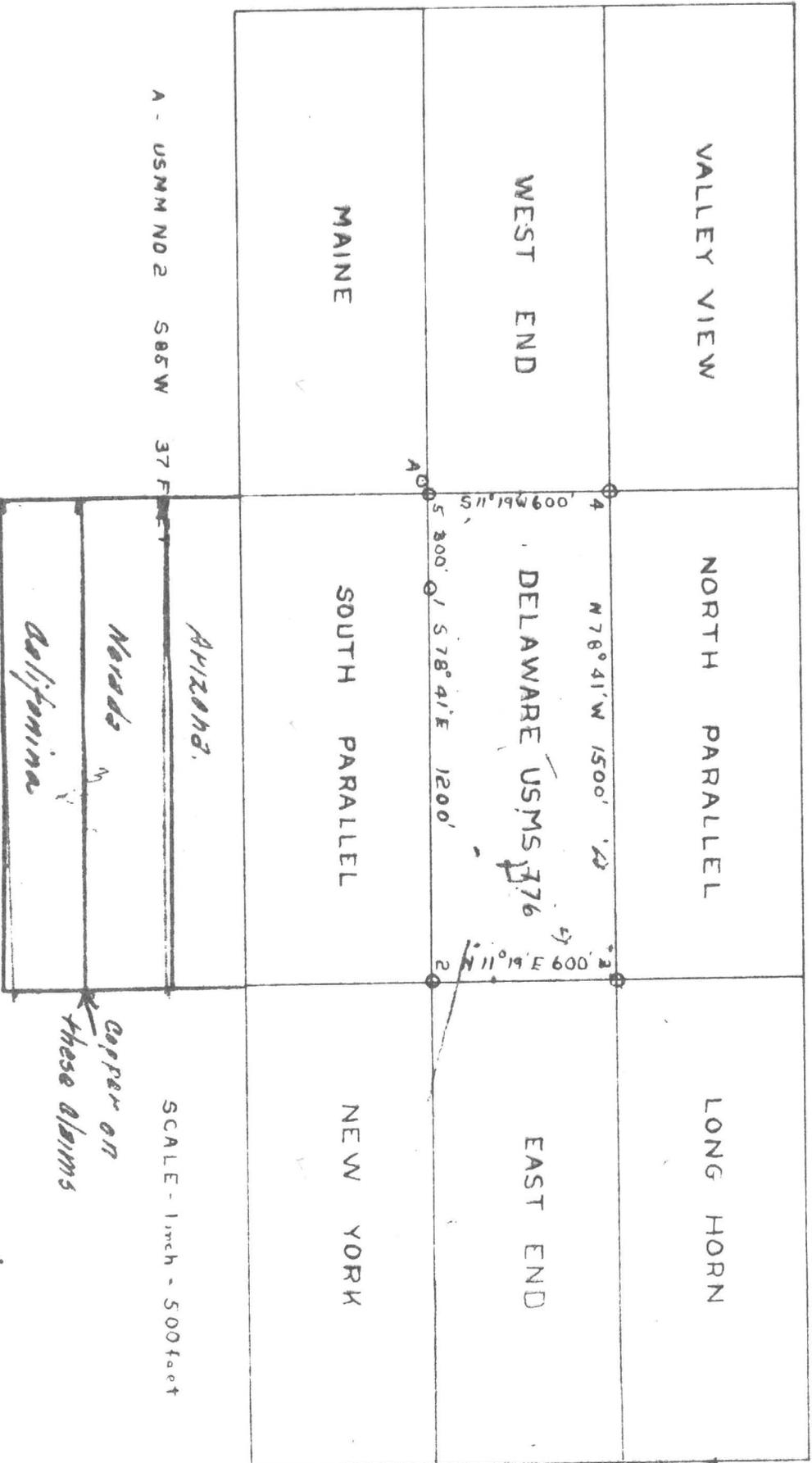
#### Main Adit

1. Extend the East and West drifts to determine the position of the ore shoots so that the East drift off the South crosscut at the 95 foot level in the main shaft may be driven to pass beneath them.
2. Drift westward on the vein in the face of the North crosscut, where the values exceed 1.5 ounces of gold per ton. Later drift eastward on this quartz vein.

#### Surface

1. With a bulldozer, strip the surface exposure at least 100 feet eastward on the vein that is exposed in the glory hole, and on the vein which surfaces just above the main adit (that which has already been trenched at its western extremity).
2. Strip with a dozer the east and west extensions of the quartz vein exposed on the south side of the wash south of the shaft.

# DELAWARE GROUP GREEN VALLEY DISTRICT, ARIZONA

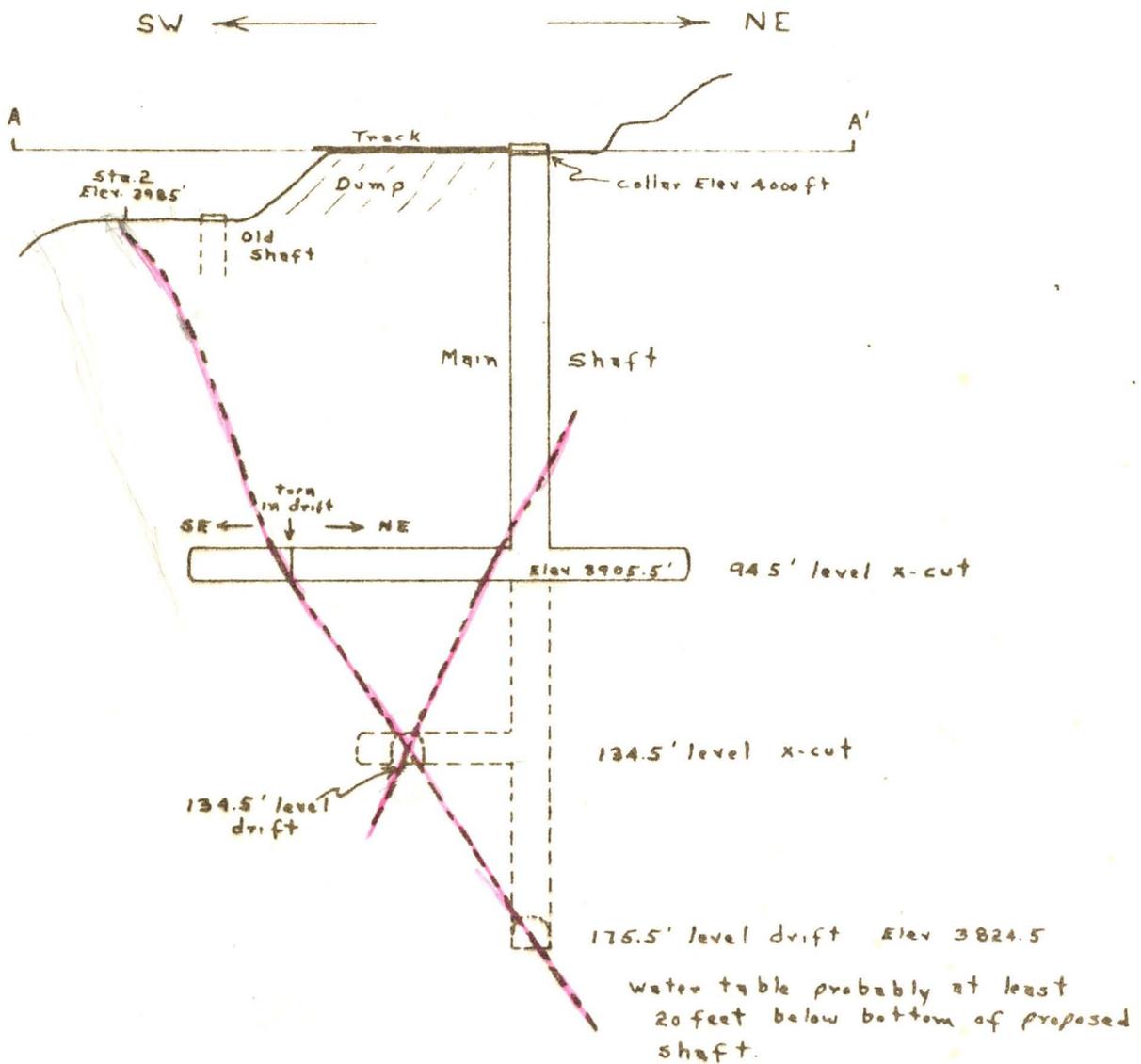


A - USNM NO 2 S 85° W 37 F

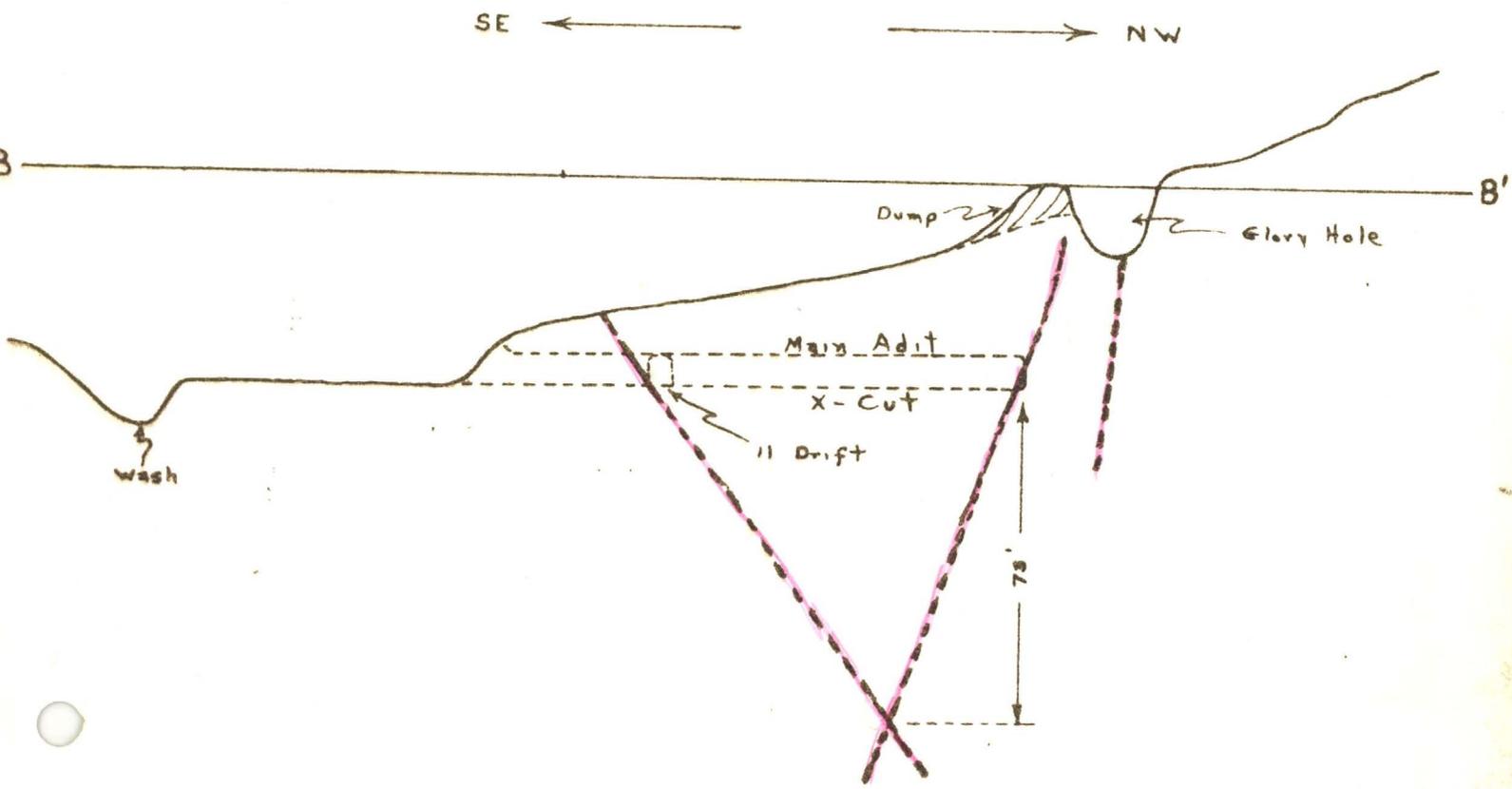
ARIZONA  
Nevada  
California

Copper on  
these claims

SCALE - 1 inch = 500 feet



DELAWARE MINE  
 Section A-A'  
 Proposed Shaft  
 Extensions  
 Gila County, Ariz.  
 Scale: 1in = 40ft.  
 July 30, 1955



DELAWARE MINE  
 Section B-B'  
 Gila County, Ariz.  
 Scale: 1 in = 50 ft.  
 July 30, 1955

SAMPLE DATA

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	3 ft. vein; bottom of old shaft
2	95 ft. level; main shaft; 1-4" quartz vein; E. wall S. drift; 17' from shaft center
3	95 ft. level; main shaft; composite from 5" quartz vein; W. side S. drift; 8' from shaft center
4	95 ft. level; main shaft; 1.5 ft. hematitic quartz; S. wall S. drift; 65' from shaft center
5	95 ft. level; main shaft; 3" swell in quartz vein; E. drift; 52' from shaft center
6	95 ft. level; main shaft; 3" non-hematitic quartz vein; E. drift; 61' from shaft center
7	95 ft. level; main shaft; 2.5 ft. rotten quartz breccia; N. wall S. drift; 71' from shaft center
8	95 ft. level; main shaft; E. tail of vein system; E. drift; 26' from shaft center
9	95 ft. level; main shaft; 8" swell in N. vein; center E. drift; 20' from shaft center
10	95 ft. level; main shaft; 3" vein high in hematite; E. side S. drift; 8' from shaft center
11	95 ft. level; main shaft; 3" quartz vein with 2" hematite; H.W. zone; E. drift; 66' from shaft center
12	95 ft. level; main shaft; 5" quartz vein; S. side E. drift; 12' from shaft center
13	95 ft. level; main shaft; 5" quartz vein; S. side E. drift; 20' from shaft center
14	95 ft. level; main shaft; composite; 3 intersecting gouge seams with sooty calcite; N. X-cut; 19' from shaft center
15	95 ft. level; main shaft; composite from 2" clay seam; face N. X-cut; 37' from shaft center
16	95 ft. level; main shaft; composite from 6" crushed zone; N. X-cut; 23' from shaft center

SAMPLE DATA (Continued)

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
17	95 ft. level; main shaft; composite 4-8" quartz vein; face W.drift; 44' from shaft center
18	95 ft. level; main shaft; 4-8" quartz vein; S.side E.drift; 12' from shaft center
19	95 ft. level; main shaft; 2 ft. cut of vein; S.drift; 50' from shaft center
20	Dump; main shaft
21	87 ft. S78°E. from station 2; 2" quartz vein and 3" red clay on hanging wall; from trench
22	Dump; main shaft
23	Quartz vein S. side of gulch
24	Quartz vein S. side of gulch
25	57 ft. S78°E. from station 2; 2 ft. quartz vein
26	1.0 ft. crushed quartz and wall zone; hanging wall of gouge; 37 ft. in W. drift of main adit
27	109 ft. S78°E. from station 2; 1.0 ft. cut in alteration zone; some quartz
28	21 ft. in W.drift; main adit; 1.0 ft. Fe-quartz; white clay gouge on footwall
29	29 ft. S78°E. from station 2; 1 inch of quartz
30	2.0 ft. crushed quartz; E.side of main adit on S.side of new E.drift
31	129 ft. S78°E. from Station 2; 8" quartz

*Richard E. Mieritz*

MINING CONSULTANT

DELAWARE MINE  
Gila County, Arizona

Mr. R. W. Thompson, owner of the Delaware Mine advised me during a May 24, 1957 conversation that several improvements had been made at the Delaware Mine since my last visit there several months ago.

The following is a short memorandum completed from notes made during the conversation. I have not visited the property to examine these improvements, consequently no personal conclusions can be resolved.

MINE

Surface:

Trenching with bulldozer has been accomplished to expose veins developed by underground work and other veins untouched by such development.

A small ore bin with service road has been installed and constructed at the portal of the East Adit. Approximately six tons of 3 ounce gold ore is in the bin. This production is in part a result of some underground development in the mentioned adit.

The caved shaft, east of the main operating shaft, is currently being cleared of its cave by drawing material from the accessible 100 foot level and lowering from the surface a 36 inch, iron runged, 12 guage galvanized pipe in ten foot sections. When completed this will provide an escape way and a good ventilation shaft. At present the pipe is set at 50 feet below the collar. Solid material from the footwall of this shaft and some "muck" assays from 3 to 13.5 ounces of gold. The quantity available has not been determined.

Underground:

Other than converting the old shaft into an air and escape shaft, no additional work has been done in the main underground workings.

Seventy feet of drifting has been done on the fissure just inside the portal of the East Adit. An

advance of 20 feet to the east and 50 feet to the west has been completed. As of this writing, no drift samples were taken.

#### MILL AND SURFACE

The 5-ton mill is complete except for a coarse crusher unit which apparently has been difficult to find.

A generalized mill flow sheet is as follows:

Crusher  
1" screen (closed circuit)  
Hopper  
30 mesh rolls  
Impact plates-amalgamation  
Jigs-amalgamation  
Table-amalgamation-Conc. off table.  
Retort                      Concentrates  
Bullion.

Two products are made, bullion and concentrates. Some mill "bugs" need correction.

Twenty to thirty tons of ore are stockpiled at the mill site.

Water has been developed on the property. A 251 foot well is now equipped with a 3HP centrifugal pump which is set at 238 feet. Static water level is at 21 feet. The well produces 55 to 60 gpm the first few minutes and declines to a constant pumping rate of 18 gpm, with a pumping water level at 238 feet.

The tailing pond has been dredged and ready for mill operation. A surface water storage pond has been water-proofed by plastering. This tank has a storage capacity of 16,500 gallons.

#### EQUIPMENT

Some equipment has been added to the already complete list in the report. The added equipment is, a 105A I. R. compressor, a 500 gallon Butane storage tank and a Sullivan stoper.

Mr. Thompson also advises a concrete block machine capable of making 1000 blocks per day is available and that he saw no reason why the tailins could not be used as one of the constituents for the cement block mixture.

ASSAY REPORT

ASSAY REPORT

DESCRIPTION	AG	AU	CU	H <sub>2</sub> O
1 4/4/42	6.95	1.50	11.90%	
2 4/29/42	0.56		1.60%	
3 7/4/49	0.80	0.20		
4 10/5/49	11.60	4.00		
5 7/4/77	0.75	.3		
6 1/18/53	0.74	.2		
7 7/01	0.34	.4		
8 7/03	1.85	.3		
9 7/00 2nd cut	1.01	0.3		
10 11/10/53	0.02	.80		
11 7/01	0.06	10.20		
12 7/2 - 102	5.85	4.00	0.30	
13 7/2 - 202	0.54	2.80	0.10	
14 7/2/54	13.50			
15 7/1/54	3.50			

DESCRIPTION	AG	AU	CU	H <sub>2</sub> O
1 10/17/55	1.14			
2 12/21/56	0.36			
3 12/21/55	0.08			
4 12/21/56	0.06		3.90%	
5 6/21/56	6.60	0.60		
6 12/21/53				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14 3-15-57 -	1.60			
15 2-27-57 -	2.60	2.60		
16 4-1-57 -	2.60	2.68		

DATE

ASSAYER

DATE

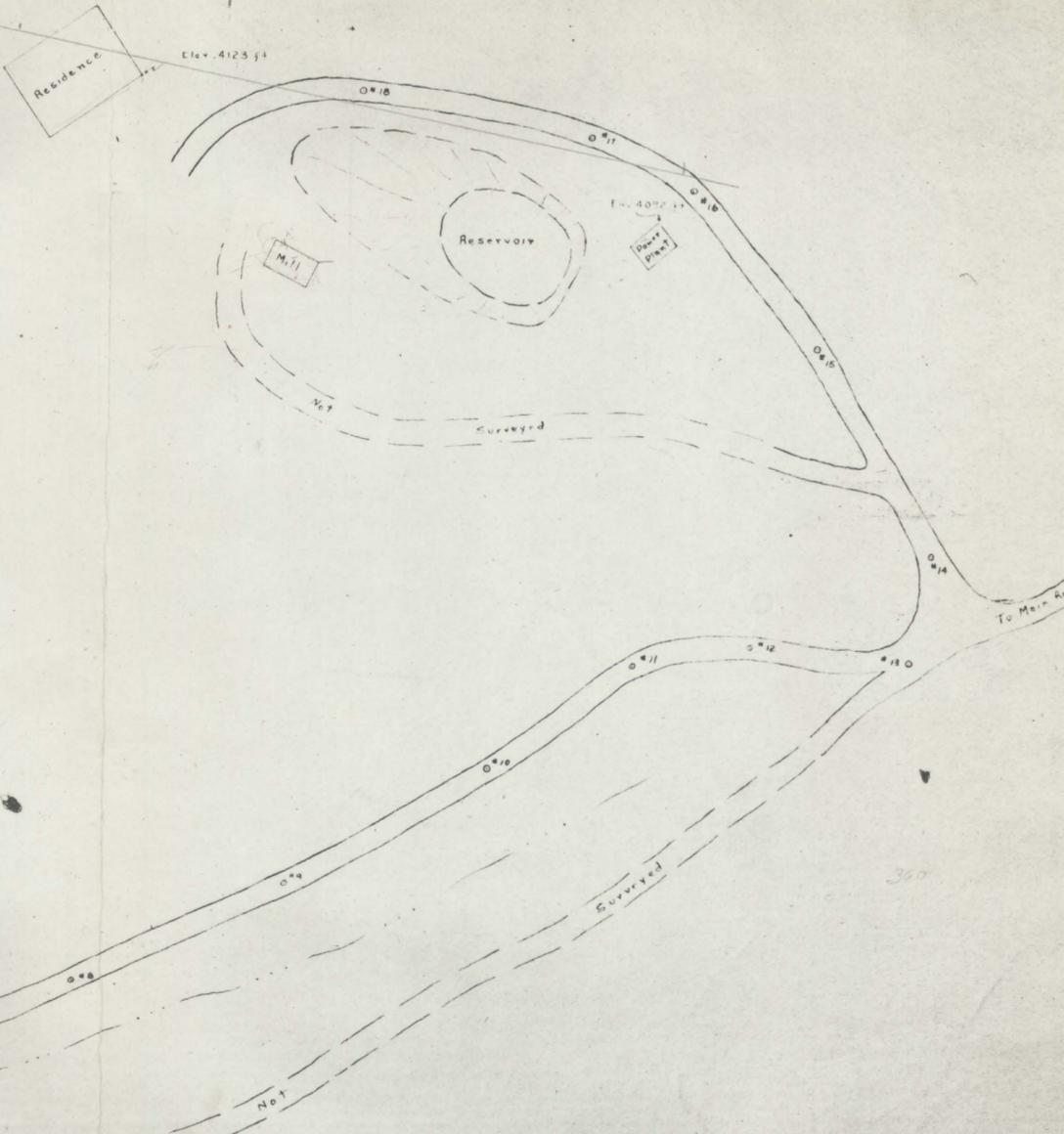
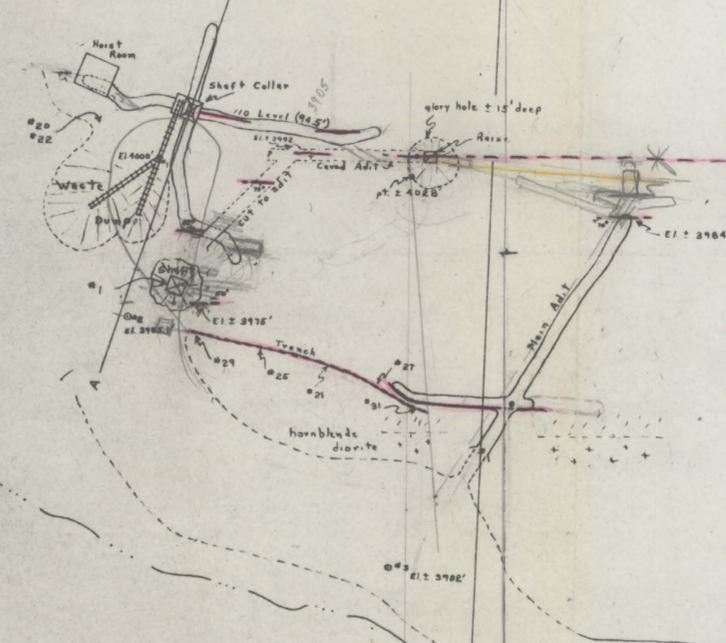
ASSAYER



Approx. position NW corner  
S 78° 41' E  
NORTH PARALLEL

Enlarge to 5 25/32 inches

DELAWARE USMS 776



SOUTH PARALLEL

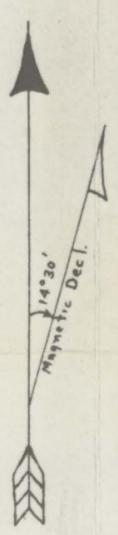
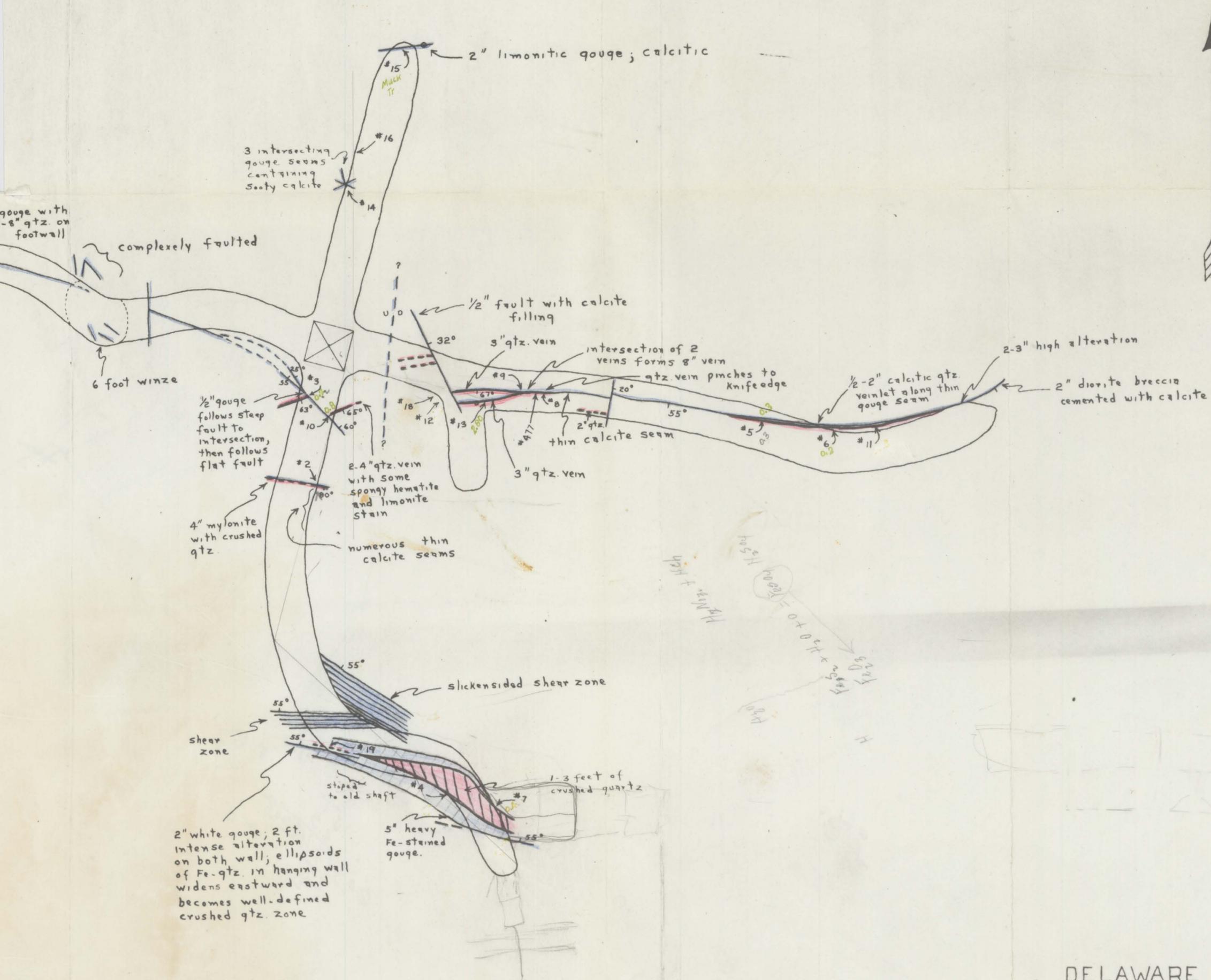
concrete block house

El. 3971  
El. 3982  
El. 3984  
El. 3985  
El. 3986  
El. 3987  
El. 3988  
El. 3989  
El. 3990  
El. 3991  
El. 3992  
El. 3993  
El. 3994  
El. 3995  
El. 3996  
El. 3997  
El. 3998  
El. 3999  
El. 4000

- Hornblende Diorite
- Fine-grained Basic Intrusive
- D.P. Strike symbol
- Quartz Vein

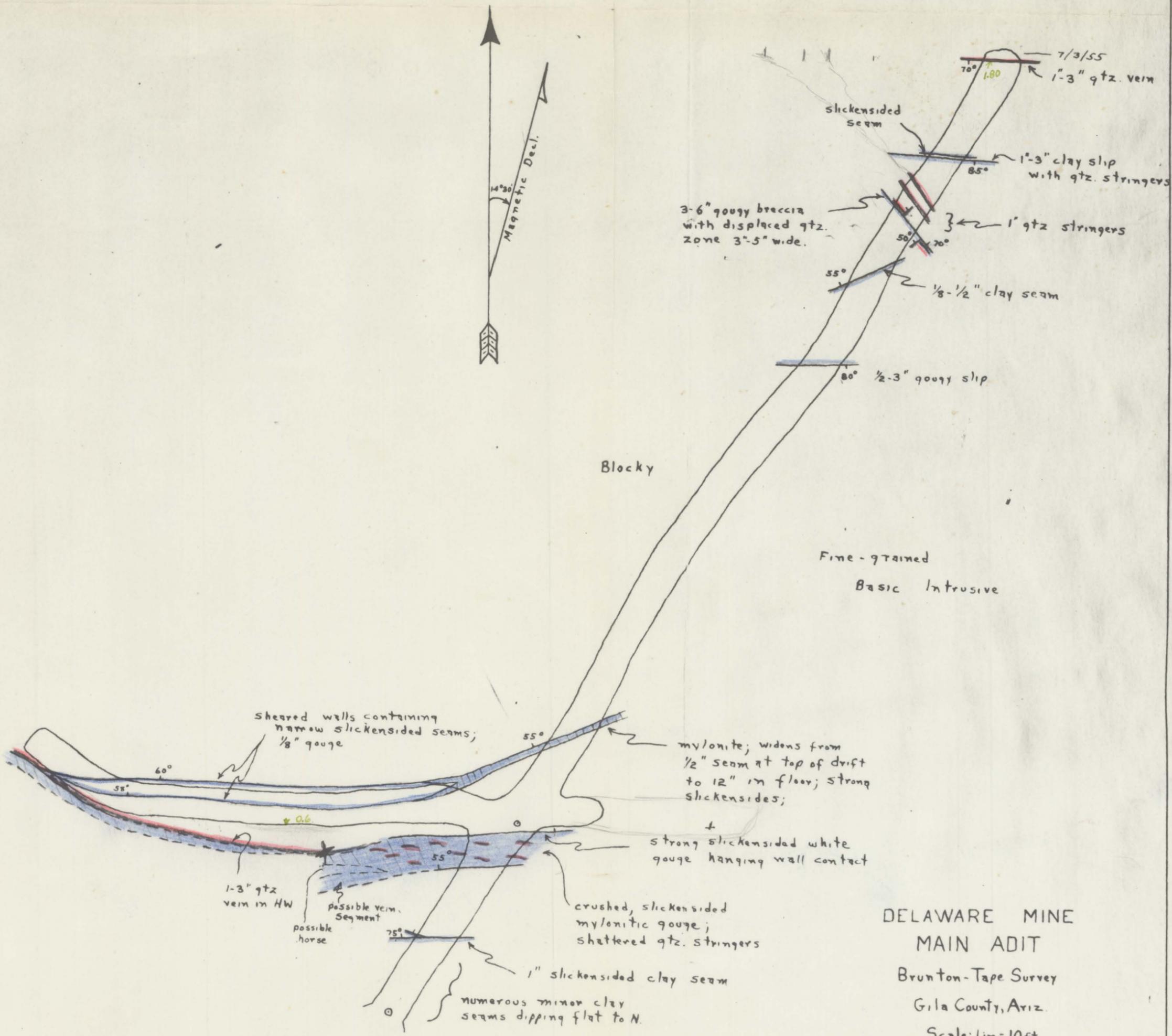
DELAWARE MINE  
AND VICINITY  
Brunton-Tape Survey  
Gila County, Ariz.  
Scale: 1 in = 58 ft.  
July 19, 1955  
W.E. Mead

Arbitrary datum of 4000 feet elevation taken at mine shaft collar



DELAWARE MINE  
 110 FOOT LEVEL  
 Brunton-Tape Survey  
 Gila County, Ariz.  
 Scale: 1 in = 10 ft.  
 July 19, 1955

W.E. Mead



DELAWARE MINE  
 MAIN ADIT  
 Brunton-Tape Survey  
 Gila County, Ariz.

Scale: 1 in = 10 ft  
 July 25, 1955

W.E. Mead

1998-2002

Shop No. 1936 MI  
File No. 1936 MI

VALUES  
Latest Quotation

1 oz. Gold .....  
1 oz. Silver .....  
1 lb. Copper .....  
1 lb. Lead .....  
1 lb. Zinc .....

THIS CERTIFIES  
samples submitted for assay  
contain as follows:

15 OCT 1956

CHAS. A. DIEHL

Phone AL 3-4001

Phoenix, Arizona

# Arizona Assay Office

815 North First Street

P. O. Box 1148

MR. ROBT. E. MERTTZ

Short Ton - - - - 2000 Lbs.  
Short Ton Unit - - - 20 Lbs.  
Long Ton - - - - 2240 Lbs.  
Long Ton Unit - - - 22.4 Lbs.

M A R K S	SILVER PER TON		GOLD PER TON		TOTAL VALUE PER TON of Gold & Silver	PERCENTAGE		REMARKS
	Ozs.	Tenths	Ozs.	100ths		VALUE	VALUE	
1			.10	\$ 3.50				Feo Sam - one piece of south rock
2			.08	\$ 2.80				
3			TRACE					mark piece of lead
4			.56	\$ 19.60				Take from w. drift addit
5			1.80	\$ 63.00				- 1/2" qtz sam - face of rock

Charges \$ 7.50 PAID

Assayer ARIZONA ASSAY OFFICE

○ Samples from Delaware Mine

#1 - S. crosscut & Dr. 3rd curve.  
12" Main fissure 55° N - N. W.  
Talc etc - Ft. & H.W. Qtz - Fe.

#2 - W. Dr. - Face - E.W. 65° N. 8" Fissure  
Qtz - Fe talc.

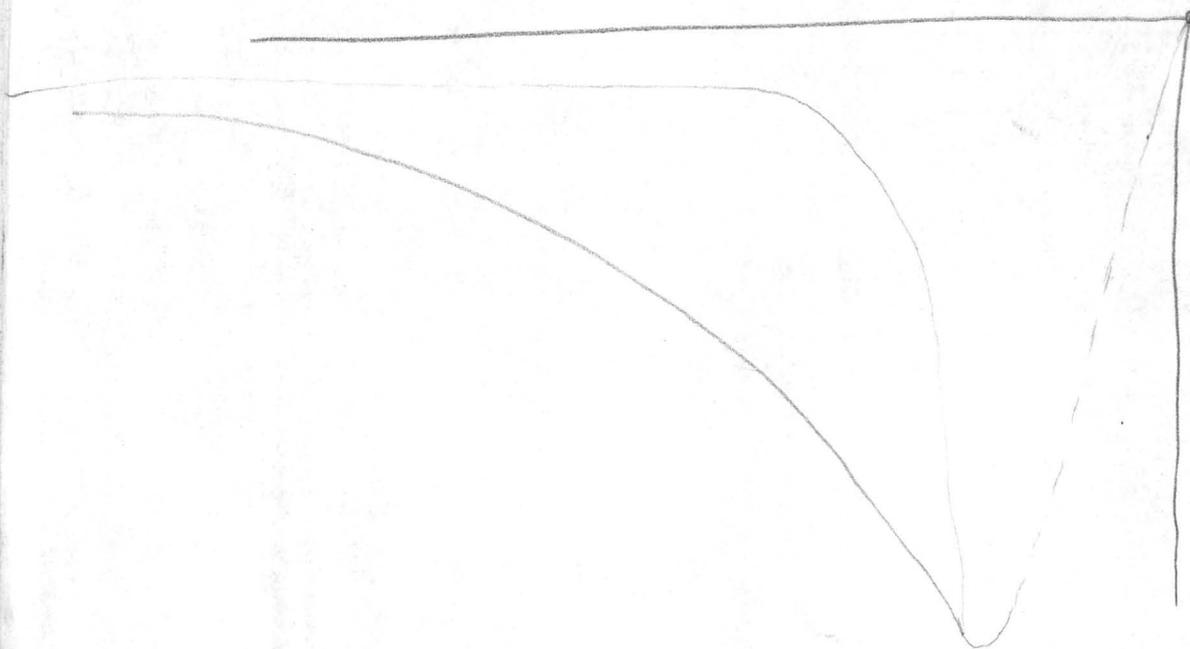
#3 - Mackpile N. Dr. E.W. Vert. Fissure  
18 or so Talc - H.W. Qtz - Fe.

○ #4 20 ft. from Adit crosscut  
N 80° W 12" samp - Main fissure  
4' F to H.W. 57° N. Qtz Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>

#5 - Adit Face 2" Qtz seam FeO.  
N. 85° W Rt. 85° S - 1/2 ft. Vert.

 8 4000	3000 Y 4000
3000 X 4000	3000 Y 4000

Time



Bob/m

