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MOUNT ROYAL COPPER PROSPECT,
LIBERTY COUNTY, MONTANA

References:

- 1) Montana Bureau of Mines Bulletin 28, April 1962, Page 27.
- 2) Personal communication with Willis Johns, Montana Bureau of Mines, July 27, 1971
- 3) TOPO - USGS Haystack Butte, 1:24,000 scale quadrangle.

Based largely on comments by Willis Johns of the Montana Bureau of Mines, a trip was made by J.K. Jones on August 4, 1973, to the copper prospects on the southwest flank of Mt. Royal near the head of Ribbon Gulch in the Sweetgrass Hills, Liberty County, Montana. The property is about 20 miles north of Chester and about 10 miles south of the Canadian border, in the east half of Section 25, T.36N., R.4E.

A syenite porphyry stock exposed on the higher slopes of Mt. Royal intrudes and upturns Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks. In the west portion of the stock are several small roof pendants of altered silicated limestone containing pyrite and copper oxides and sulfides. These mineralized areas are not large enough to justify additional investigation.

It is reported that the Anaconda Company examined the property in 1957, and on the ground is evidence of considerable road construction and geophysical work. Only one drill hole was found, however. Exploration of this occurrence would have to be predicated on the very speculative possibility of major changes in the sulfide and copper content of the intrusive at depth or on the chance for replacement mineralization in a favorable sedimentary unit at depth adjacent to the intrusive. While such possibilities cannot be completely ruled out, the absence of widespread alteration in the area is discouraging.

J.K. Jones
August 15, 1973