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Al Sarena Mine, Jackson Co., Ore.

Location:- In Rogue River National Forest. 46 miles north of Medford (which is on main S.P.), and about 17 miles N by E of Trail. The 46 miles from Medford comprise: 27 miles on paved Crater Lake Highway, to 3 or 4 miles E of Trail; then 13.5 miles N by Elk Creek Co. graveled road; then 5.5 miles by Forest Service road. This road branches, one branch to No.1, one to No.2 tunnel. Map shows property about 5 mi. W by N of Persist. Elk Creek Mining District. Secs.20,21,29, T 31S R2E.

A transmission line of the California-Oregon Power Co. lies 6 or 7 miles from the property, and it is claimed power can be brought in for $17,000

Physiography, Climate, Water, Timber etc.:- No.2 Tunnel gains 500' of backs in 1060'. Considerable relief. There are 20,000,000' of excellent timber on the property, hence exposures are probably rather poor, mapping slow and expensive. Climate said to be mild; but on the 11th April, 1938, they were still having snowstorms, and the road to the mine, presumably the Forest Service road, was closed. Elevation of property roughly 4000'. Water, apparently plenty, is supplied by Swanson Creek, on west side of property, Elk Creek on E.

Claims:- There are twenty claims, see plan.

History, Early:- The claims were first located in the '90s. Parts of various fissures were mined in a small way; the ore was shipped crude except for occasional hand jigging. (The jigging implies coarse sulphides like those seen in Nowland's office).

Geology: Earliest information is from Parks, H.M. and Swartley, A.M.: Handbook of the Mining Industry of Oregon. Oreg. Bur. Mines, Min. Res. Oreg. 2: No.4. 306 pp. 1916. pp178-9. Operated then under lease by Paul Wright of Trail from Pearl Mining Co., W.C. Leever, Pres., J.W. Merritt, Secy-treas., Central Point, Ore. Locally known as the Buzzard Mine.

The ore deposits are in a shear zone in andesite, apparently striking N40°E and dipping about vertically. The vein material is largely gouge with sporadic sulphide stringers running through it. Gold (and some silver) occurs with the sulphides, which are pyrite, ZnS and PbS (from specimen quite coarse-crystalline). The small sulphide stringers sometimes run $400 to the ton. Hand sorting, hand jigging, sacking, shipping. Apparently the entire gouge vein, averaging about 3' in width, can be milled. 3000' of work to date. Stoped in some places to the surface. Four tons of ore shipped in 1915 gave $2100 in smelter returns.

Information furnished Nowland by the present owner: As shown on map, the main mineralization lies in a large intrusion of rhyolite into andesite. The entire body is mineralized, free gold occurring down to the lowest exploration (600' or No.2 Tunnel). The entire mass is impregnated with auriferous sulphides, mostly pyrite and galena. Also some auriferous ZnS. The rhyolite intrusion is said to widen with depth.

Another account says the orebody is in porphyry. The map and accounts show that the main drive, No.2 Tunnel, is along a fissure N40°W, presumably vertical. Numerous other vertical fissures cut the rhyolite in many directions and carry values higher than does the main mass. The rock is soft, non-abrasive and carries much kaolin, especially in the fissures.

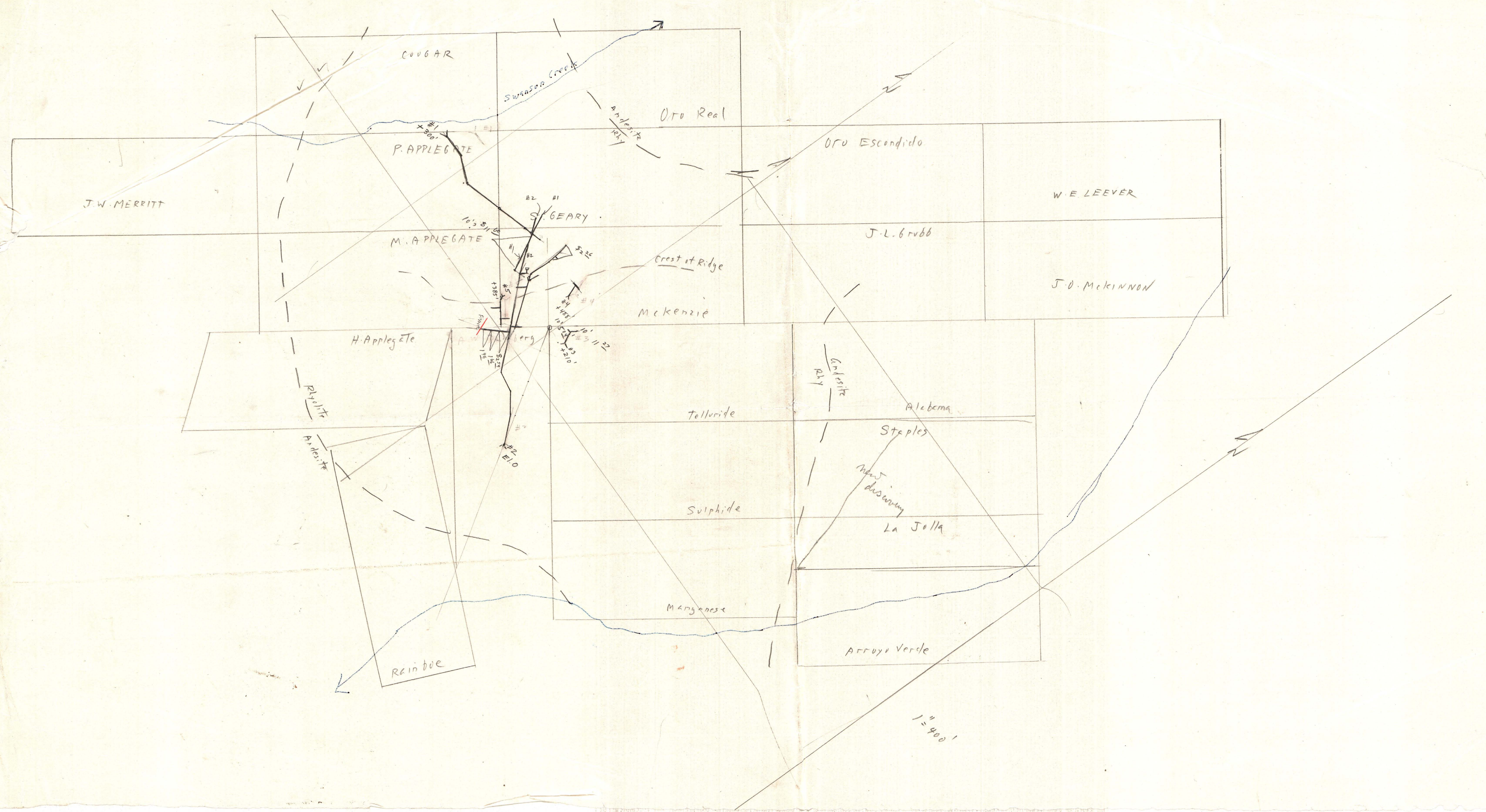
In one stope, probably on main fissure, No.2 Tunnel, the vein is 18"-4' wide and runs $4.00.

Al Sarena Cont.:-

Owners claim overall average $2.00.$4.00 over half the area. 90% Au, 10% Ag.

Mill:- Diesel powered. Designed for 50 tons/day, turns out 85 account of softness of ore and because they crush coarse with short charge of balls. By adding another ton of balls and crushing to 1 1/4" can do 100 tons/day.

Crusher, Marcy Mill, Jig, Dorr Classifier, Kraut flotation machine, tailings over a Wilfley. Iron dropped out of the Kraut, regorund and cyanided. Concantrates contain lead, zinc etc. Pb and Ag supposed to pay for transportation and smelter charges. An appreciable amount of the concentrate is recovered from the jigs..


COUGAR
Swanson Creek
Oro Real
Andesite
Rhy
Oro Escondido
W.E. LEEVER
J.W. MERRITT
P. APPLEGATE
S. GEARY
M. APPLEGATE
J.L. Grubb
Crest of Ridge
J.O. McKINNON
McKenzie
H. Applegate
Andesite
Rhy
Tellurite
Alebama
Staples
new discovery
Rhyolite
Andesite
Sulphide
La Jolla
Manganese
Arroyo Verde
Rainboe
1" = 400'