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James Doyle Sell Mining Collection

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AMERICAN SMELTING AND REFINING COMPANY
Tucson Arizona

June 18, 1969

TO: J.H. Courtright

FROM: J.D. Sell

Wilhoit Red Hills
Kirkland (15') Quadrangle
Yavapai County, Arizona

East and west of the hamlet of Wilhoit are a number of small reddish hills adjacent to alluvial cover. Previous examination of U.S. 89 road cuts in the area showed no alteration in the granitic rock and suggested that the color was the result of weathering breakdown of the contained ferromagnesium minerals.

However, in a discussion with B.W. Copeland during examination of the Slate Creek area, some samples of altered granite with quartz-sericite containing copper stain and melaconite-looking mineralization was shown to me and stated to be from the Red Hills area.

On June 13, the area was checked with Mr. Copeland and Mr. Fred Jack (owner of the Burro Inn at Wilhoit, located on patented mining claims). The mineralized spots found are restricted to narrow (3 feet or less) zones of apparent limited extent (20-30 feet) and only three spots were found in the traverse of several miles. Elsewhere, the granite is variably stained red by the ferromagnesium breakdown with no apparent alteration features. Also very hard, fresh appearing, granite is found.

East of Wilhoit is a shaft reported to be 87 feet deep with a drift off the bottom. The shaft area is now caved and is being used as a garbage dump. Specimens of chalcopyrite-hematite masses in quartz are available, reportedly from the shaft, but the exposed structure is narrow and the adjacent granite is unaltered.

No samples were cut in either the mineralized structures or the weathered granite as the area does not appear to have any potential of widespread mineralization.

James D. Sell

JDS:lzb
Encl.

