PROVINCE OR

PROVINCE OU

British Columbia

OWNER OR OPERATOR/PROPRIÉTAIRE OU EXPLOITANT

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT/DESCRIPTION DU GISEMENT

The host rock is a cherty member of the Palaeozoic Sicker Group volcanics, comprised of thinly branded green, cream, and red cherty tuffs locally containing lenses of massive red jasper. These rocks are cut by a few thin basic dykes near the main workings. The material shipped in 1919-20 probably was mainly oxides, which in mining reportedly gave way to silicates at a depth of about 15 feet. The primary manganese mineral, mainly rhodonite, occurs in roughly lenticular masses ranging from a fraction of an inch to several feet thick, and from a few inches to as much as 40 feet long, parallel to the bedding of the host rock. Picked samples of silicates from below the oxide rich zone ranged from about 14 to 30 percent manganese and are high in silica.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT HISTORIQUE DE L'EXPLORATION ET DE LA MISE EN VALEUR

The property is located at about 2 600 feet elevation on the north side of Cowichan River some 60 km northwest of Victori

N.T.S. AREA 92 B/13

RÉGION DU S.N.R.C.

REF.

RÉF.

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The showing was discovered in the summer of 1918 by C.H. Diekie, of Duncan and associates who staked three claims, the Hill 60, Hill 60 No. 2 and Hill 60 No. 3. The owners formed British Columbia Manganese Company, Limited to develop the property. Ore quarried from open cuts was shipped in 1919 by road and in 1920 by a newly installed tramway. The Hill 60 (Lot 12G) and Hill 60 No. 2 (Lot 13G) were Crown-granted to the company in 1924. In 1939, trainees of the Dominion-Provincial Mining Training Project cleaned out and extended trenches.

The showings were staked in the 1970's or earlier by local interests involved in the lapidary trade and small quantities of rhodonite were removed from the property for processing into jewelry and carwings.

PRODUCT

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION/HISTORIQUE DE LA PRODUCTION

Black manganese oxide was mined from a wedge shaped shoot about 20 feet wide at surface, 40 feet long and 30 feet deep. Shipments in 1919 totalled 530 long tons (2 240 lbs.) averaging 50 % manganese and 19 % silica (Report of Minister of Mines, 1919, p. 237). Total production from 1919-1920 is reported at 1 167 tons (B.C. Dept. of Mines, Index No. 3 to publications). The ore-shoot was mined out in 1920 and no others were found large enough to warrant resumption of mining.

MAP REFERENCES/RÉFÉRENCES CARTOGRAPHIQUES

Geology of Vancouver Island, Sc. 1: 250 000, Open File 463, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1977.

#Map 92 B/13, Duncan, (Topo.), Sc. 1: 50 000.

REMARKS/REMARQUES

Comp./Rev. By Comp./rév. par	DMacR			
Date Date	01-88			

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