

NAME OF PROPERTY      PACKWOOD (BUTLER RIDGE)

OBJECT LOCATED - mine symbol, Fig. 11.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 100.      Lat. 56°06'20"      Long. 122°16'20"

Mining Division    Liard      District      Peace River

County      Township or Parish

Lot      Concession or Range

Sec      Tp.      R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

**DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT**

The property is underlain by the Lower Cretaceous Gething and Dunlevy Formations. The seam on which mining was carried out dips 43-47 degrees west and is on the western limb of the Danish Creek anticline. The coal seam is 4½ to 5 feet thick and contains 2 rock bands in the top 6 inches. An analysis of the coal gave the following: moisture, 1.1%; volatile matter, 21.8%; fixed carbon, 69.3%; ash, 7.8%; sulphur, 0.7%, B.T.U. content, 13,880 per pound. The coal is classified as medium volatile bituminous.

**HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The Packwood mine is located at elevations of 2,300 to 2,600 feet on the north side of the Peace River valley about 6 miles upstream from the Bennett Dam. The mine is now under the waters of Lake Williston.

Coal leases in this vicinity were held prior to 1923 and some development work was apparently carried out during the initial period of exploration. The building of the Alaska Highway gave new impetus to coal mining in the area.

In 1940 lease Nos. 1002 and 1002 A were acquired by George A. Packwood and development work began in a new adit on the coal seam. During the early part of 1943 the mine was operated by R. Melville Smith Company, Limited, contractors on the Alaska Highway. Packwood resumed operations and by 1945 two adits had been driven, the lower about 360 feet and the upper about 200 feet in length. At this point a fault was encountered. The upper adit was extended beyond the fault but the coal seam was so badly crushed that marketable size coal could no longer be recovered and the operation was abandoned.

In 1946 a new mine was opened on what appeared to be the same seam about ½ mile north of the old workings. Reschke Coal, Ltd., was incorporated in December 1947 to continue operating the property. Two adits were driven on the seam and coal mined by a series of 30 foot wide rooms. By 1952 the lower level had been driven 1,050 feet and the upper level 460 feet. By 1956 the lower level had been extended to 1,257 feet. Due to limited markets production in the latter years was confined to the winter months. Mining operations apparently ceased in 1960.

## HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

Production to the end of 1947 totalled about 7,260 tons (Ref. Memoir 259).

## REFERENCES

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1940, p. 127; 1942, p. 123; 1943, p. 121; 1944, p. 129; 1945, pp. 171, 172; 1946, p. 248; 1947, p. 266; 1948, p. 242; 1949, p. 309; 1950, p. 276; 1951, p. 290; 1952, p. 322; 1953, p. 259; 1954, p. 249; 1955, p. 163; 1956, p. 225; 1957, p. 145; 1958, p. 155; 1959, p. 274; 1960, p. 238.

McLearn, F.H., and Kindle, E.D.; Geology of Northeastern British Columbia; Memoir 259, p. 177, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1950.

McLearn, F.H., and Irish, E.J.W.; Some Coal Deposits of the Peace River Foothills, British Columbia; Paper 44-15, p. 14, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Irish, E.J.W.; Halfway River Map-Area, British Columbia; Paper 69-11, p. 88, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

## MAP REFERENCES

Map of Peace River Canyon Coal Area, Sc. 1":1 mile, Fig. 11 - accomp. Memoir 259.

Gething Coal Leases, Sc. 1":2 miles, Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1923, p. 138.

Plan and Sections of Packwood Mine, Sc. 1":50 ft., Fig. 4 - accomp. Paper 44-15.

Map 1232 A, Halfway River, (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles - accomp. Paper 69-11, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Map 803 A, Dunlevy Creek, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

Map 44-19A, Dunlevy-Portage Mountain, (Geol.), Sc. 1":1 mile - accomp. Paper 44-19, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

## REMARKS

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