

NAME OF PROPERTY **SILVERADO (SILVER KEY)**

OBJECT LOCATED -No. 1 vein outcrop.

UNCERTAINTY IN METERS 150. Lat. 55°55' Long. 129°57'30"

Mining Division **Skeena** District **Cassiar**

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

Country rocks in the Silverado area are crudely bedded, green Hazelton volcanic breccias, conglomerates, sandstones, crystal tuffs, and equivalent quartz-chlorite schists, mylonites, and cataclasites. The rocks form a minor re-entrant along the contact of the Hyder quartz monzonite which at this locality shows a transgressive compositional change from biotite quartz monzonite in the Barney Gulch section southward through biotite granodiorite at Portland Creek to hornblende granodiorite opposite Eagle Point.

All the rocks are cut by the northwest-trending hornblende diorite (lamprophyre) dyke swarms as well as other granitic dykes which include feldspar syenite porphyry near the south end of the ridge at 4,000 feet elevation and several feldspar granodiorite porphyry dykes exposed in gullies below the main mine area.

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Associated minerals or products of value - Lead, copper, zinc, tungsten, gold.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Silverado property is located at about the 3,500 foot elevation on the west slope of Mount Rainey, 2 miles southeast of Stewart. The Silver Key (Silver Range) group adjoins the Silverado on the east and lies at about the 5,500 elevation on the south ridge of the mountain.

The Rainier Fraction claim (Lot 4511) was located in 1904 as part of the 6 claim Hector group, owned by Chambers, Deaville & Co.; open cutting was reported at that time. In 1920 the Silverado group of 5 claims was relocated on the Hector ground by J.W. Stewart and John Haahti, of Stewart. Exploration work was begun in open cuts and one short adit. Later in the year the claims were bonded to J.J. Coughlan of Vancouver, who, in September 1921 formed Silverado Mining Company, Limited, to acquire the Rainier Fraction, Silverado Nos. 1-3, and Silver Bell No. 4 claims. A tram-line 1 mile long was built to the upper camp and 7 tons of rich silver ore were transported to the beach. Some work was done in a short adit on a flat lying vein before operations were discontinued in June 1922; the claims were returned to the owners in December of that year.

Early in 1923 the claims were bonded to Seattle interests. Silverado Mines, Limited, was formed in September 1924 to acquire 19 claims and fractions (Lots 4507-4525, inclusive); the claims were Crown-granted in 1926. During 1924 the company worked on the upper showings, at elevation 4,000 feet extending the original adit to a length of 385 feet; two other short adits were driven on nearby veins. In 1925 exploration work was moved to the lower showings where a drift adit was driven 35 feet and a crosscut was begun. Work in the crosscut, located 165 feet lower than the drift adit, was discontinued in 1926 when company funds were depleted.

An option on 55% of the stock of Silverado Mines Limited was acquired in 1927 by Premier Gold Mining Company, Limited, and under the terms of the agreement, a new company, Silverado Consolidated, Limited, was formed in February 1928. The new company began a long crosscut from south of the slide area and over 2,100 feet of crosscuts, drifts, and raises were driven before Premier Gold relinquished its option in

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HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

During the period 1922 to 1932, 106 tons of ore were reported shipped from this property. From this ore 17 ounces of gold, 22,009 ounces of silver, 2,357 pounds of copper, and 34,675 pounds of lead were recovered.

MAP REFERENCES

- Map 215 A, Stewart, (Geol.), Sc. 1":1 mile - accomp. Memoir 159.
- #Geological Map of the Stewart Area, Sc. 1": $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, Fig. 3, Sheet A - accomp. Bulletin No. 58.
- Stewart Area, Crown-grant claim map, Fig. 15 A - accomp. Bulletin No. 58.
- Plan of the Silverado mine, Sc. 1":100 ft., Fig. 53 - accomp. Bulletin No. 58.
- *Map 193 A, Stewart, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR						
Date	11-74						

REFERENCES

- Grove, Edward W.; Geology and Mineral Deposits of the Stewart Area; Bulletin No. 58, p. 163, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1971.
- Hanson, George; Portland Canal Area, British Columbia; Memoir 175, p. 146, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1935.
- White, W.W.; Big Four Silver Mines; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1946, pp. 74-78.
- Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1920, p. 54; 1921, p. 63; 1922, p. 68; 1923, p. 70; 1924, p. 60; 1925, p. 83; 1926, p. 89; 1927, p. 85; 1928, p. 96; 1929, p. 94; 1930, p. 105; 1932, p. 57; 1939, p. 66; 1947, p. 89; 1955, p. 17; 1965, p. 50.
- Stevenson, J.S.; Tungsten Deposits of British Columbia; Bulletin No. 10 (Revised), p. 56, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1943.
- Mineral Development Sector; Corporation Files: "Silverado Mining Company, Limited"; "Silverado Mines, Limited"; "Silverado Consolidated, Limited"; "Premier Gold Mining Company, Limited"; "Big Four Silver Mines Ltd."; "Cassiar Consolidated Mines Limited".
- Geology, Exploration and Mining; British Columbia Dept. of Mines: 1969, p. 58.

PRODUCT

SILVER

PROVINCE OR
TERRITORY

British Columbia

N.T.S. AREA 103 P/13

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REFAG 20

NAME OF PROPERTY

SILVERADO (SILVER KEY)

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT (continued)

Apart from the main Silverado Creek fault and minor shear zones, the rocks are well jointed and the rather gently dipping bedding planes predominate. The numerous steep gullies, chimneys, and chutes on the west slope are developed along an easterly fracture set with irregular spacing.

Early development on the Silverado was initiated on the lower slopes at elevation 1,800 feet on the Rainier claim in the Silverado canyon area where at least four high-grade quartz-sulphide veins lie in the bedding and the shears. Minerals found include quartz, pyrite, galena, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, and erratic ruby silver, and some native silver. Later work in the nearby canyon at an elevation of 1,750 feet exposed a zone of sub-parallel quartz veins 3 to 6 inches wide in schist which contained small amounts of scheelite.

The main veins developed by the Premier Gold Mining Co. Ltd. and later leasors were quartz fissure veins confined to narrow shears. These narrow quartz lenses contained high-grade silver ore, which constituted the main production. Minerals in these veins included pyrite, massive galena and sphalerite, scattered chalcopyrite, tetrahedrite, pyrargyrite, and native silver. Country rocks in this general area have been variably silicified, weakly pyritized, and epidotized.

In 1968, several of the small, flat-lying, quartz-tetrahedrite veins located south of the main workings were sampled and high silver values reported, but their extent is not known.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

1930. The crosscut intersected several shear zones which showed no commercial values. A drift was run on one of these, believed to be the downward continuation of No. 1 vein, 550 feet on the plane of the vein below the surface, but only a few specimens of galena with low silver values were encountered. A raise was driven 200 feet and 450 feet of drifting done on this second level. The raise was continued upward for 145 feet on the plane of the vein where No. 1 level was established and 148 feet of drifting done. The raise was continued further and low grade ore was encountered 60 feet above No. 1 level; a sublevel was started here and 100 feet of drifting done disclosing low grade ore over narrow widths. In 1932, John Haahti leased the property and mined about 134 tons from the upper adit at 3,688 feet and the veins at 3,750 feet just below the glacier toe. The lower workings on the canyon vein at 1,860 feet elevation on the Rainier Fraction were explored in 1939 by John Stewart.

In the early 1940's the claims were held by the Rainier Syndicate, Incorporated, of Victoria; scheelite was discovered at this time in the old workings by A. Cameron, of Stewart.

Eight claims of the Silverado group were acquired by a new private holding company, Silverado Consolidated, Limited, which was formed in February 1946 with the same name as the company that held the property in 1928. The remaining 11 claims, including those on which Premier Gold carried out its exploration work, were acquired by Arrow Silver Mines, Ltd., which was formed in January 1946; other adjoining claims in the Silver Key group (Lots 5113-5122), were also acquired by Arrow Silver. The Silver Key group had been Crown-granted to Silver Range Consolidated Mines Limited in 1930.

Arrow Silver Mines, Ltd., subsequently acquired the Porter Idaho and a 76% interest in the Prosperity property, which adjoins the Silver Key group on the southeast. The company name was changed in 1946 to Big Four Silver Mines, Ltd.

During 1946 a tramline 4,000 feet long was built to the lower mine adit (No. 3 adit) at 2,955 feet elevation and underground Zero-level was advanced 55 feet. In 1947

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the company continued Zero-level a few feet, started a raise, and diamond drilled the No. 2 shear. By a subsequent agreement with The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited, the Big Four properties were transferred to a new company, Cassiar Consolidated Mines Limited, which was formed in May 1951. A number of shares of Cassiar Consolidated were under option to Cominco, which was to supply the funds for further work on the properties.

Most of the activity during the following years was confined to the Prosperity-Porter-Idaho group on the southeast slope of the mountain. During 1969 showings on the west slope of the mountain were prospected, trenched, and sampled. The Flat Vein adit on the Silver Bow claim at elevation 4,230 feet was mapped and sampled.