

PRODUCE  
PRODUIT

SILICA

PROVINCE OR  
TERRITORY

PROVINCE OU  
TERRITOIRE

British Columbia

N.T.S. AREA 82 E/4  
RÉGION DU S.N.R.C.

REF. SIA 1  
RÉF.

NAME OF PROPERTY  
NOM DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ

GYPO (OLIVER SILICA QUARRY)

OBJECT LOCATED - Gypo claim (Lot 3098 S),  
OBJET LOCALISÉ

UNCERTAINTY 300 m  
FACTEUR D'INCERTITUDE

Lat. 49°11'45"

Long. 119°33'30"

Mining Division Osoyoos  
Division minière

District  
District

Similkameen

County  
Comté

Township or Parish  
Canton ou paroisse

Lot  
Lot

Concession or Range  
Concession ou rang

Sec  
Sect.

Tp.  
Ct.

R.  
R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR/PROPRIÉTAIRE OU EXPLOITANT

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT/DESCRIPTION DU GISEMENT

A quartz vein about 45 m wide and known strike length of 150 m occurs in a quartz monzonite phase of the Jurassic Oliver Plutonic Complex. Sulphides, mainly pyrite, forming less than 1% of the vein material, are concentrated in small pods up to a few cm in diameter restricted to a thin zone in the central part of the vein. Apple-green fluorite occurs in a series of irregular pods up to 2 m or more in average diameter distributed along a zone that is of more or less uniform distance from the hangingwall. Most concentrate produced had a purity of greater than 99 per cent silica.

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

The property is located 1 mile north of Oliver, 800' to 1,200' west of the highway, and some 20 miles south of Penticton.

The Gypo and Ballarat claims (Lots 3098 S and 3099 S), owned by Oliver residents, were purchased by The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Limited (Cominco) in 1926. In that year the company carried out diamond drilling, drove a 40' adit, and shipped 254 tons of silica flux to the Trail smelter. The claims were Crown-granted to the company in 1927. Work was discontinued in the fall of 1929.

In 1941 R.C. McKay reportedly shipped 43 tons of gold-silver bearing ore from a small vein on the Gypo property that contained scattered sulphides. Also in the early 1940's McKay reportedly shipped about 800 tons of fine-grained mica from a lens alongside a large quartz vein on another part of the Gypo claim (Report of Minister of Mines, 1958, p. 104).

The Interior Contracting Company, Limited, of Penticton, leased the property from Cominco in 1947 and production in subsequent years comprised a variety of products including silica flux, stucco-dash, roofing rock and poultry grit. Stucco Supply Company operated the property under a sub-lease in 1953-54. Interior sub-leased the property to Pacific Silica Limited in 1955 and intermittent operations continued until August 1968 when a large rock slide closed the quarry. Shipments from stockpiles continued into 1972. In 1978-80 the company processed dump material from former operators. Small shipments of fluorspar were made in the 1966-68 period. Production of small tonnages of landscaping chips and similar products continued into the 1980's by Pacific Silica. Ownership of the property changed in 1985.

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION/HISTORIQUE DE LA PRODUCTION

Production of silica materials from 1926 to 1972 is estimated at approximately 600,000 tons. Shipments of fluorspar in 1966-68 total 270 tons. In 1941, from 43 tons of ore shipped from the Gypo claim, 6 ounces of gold and 78 ounces silver were recovered. Feldspar production is listed as 18 tons (Index No. 4, p. 121, BCDM).

REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHIE

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1926, p. 219; 1927, p. 482; 1941, p. 25; 1947, p. 222; 1953, p. 198; 1954, p. 188; 1955, p. 102; 1956, p. 159; 1957, p. 94; 1958, pp. 104-106+; 1959, p. 201; 1960, p. 155; 1961, p. 157; 1962, p. 164; 1963, p. 152; 1964, p. 207; 1965, p. 276; 1966, p. 276; 1967, p. 321; 1968, pp. 300, 331; 1970, p. 511; 1971, p. 478.

Mining in British Columbia; BCDM: 1978-1980, p. 48.

Geological Fieldwork; BCDM: 1983, pp. 246-259++.

Mineral Exploration Review; BCDM: 1985, p. 70.

MAP REFERENCES/RÉFÉRENCES CARTOGRAPHIQUES

Map 15-1961, Kettle River, (W $\frac{1}{2}$ ), (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

General geology of the Gypo deposit area, Sc. 1": $\frac{3}{4}$  mile, Fig. 103, Geological Fieldwork 1983, p. 247.

#Map 82 E/4, Keremeos, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS/REMARQUES

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| Comp./Rev. By<br>Comp./rév. par | DMacR |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date<br>Date                    | 07-87 |  |  |  |  |  |  |