

NAME OF PROPERTY

GOLD BELT

OBJECT LOCATED - Columbia (Lot 8870) adits.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 300. Lat. 49°09'10" Long. 117°08'

Mining Division Nelson District Kootenay

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The property is underlain by Lower Cambrian quartzite, argillaceous quartzite, argillite and limestone of the Quartzite Range and Reno Formations and Laib Group, on the west limb of an anticlinal structure. A quartz porphyry sill 70 feet thick appears to follow the bedding. In general the beds strike about N15°E and dips range from steeply east to steeply west with a good deal of local variation.

A series of fractures cut the bedded rocks. These fractures strike from north-east to about due east. Generally they dip steeply to the south, though at places the dips may be vertical or steep to the north-west. Quartz-filling in the fractures is usually much wider in the quartzites than in the argillites. In the zone of oxidation fine free gold may be panned frequently from the vein-matter. In the unoxidized parts of the veins gold appears to be associated with pyrite, pyrrhotite, galena, and sphalerite sparingly distributed through the quartz.

Associated minerals or products - Silver, lead, zinc.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Gold Belt property covers ground located west of the Motherlode and Golden Belle mines, between Sheep Creek on the south and the south slope of Reno Mountain on the north, some 7 miles southeast of Salmo. The principal claims include the Joint (Lot 8344), Double Joint (Lot 8345), Navada (Lot 8869), and Columbia (Lot 8870).

The initial discovery of a galena-bearing quartz vein in limestone at about the 5,500 foot elevation was staked in or before 1897 as the Joint and Double Joint claims. A 96 foot inclined shaft was subsequently sunk on the Joint claim. Other discoveries in 1905 led to the staking of the Navada and Columbia at about the 4,500 foot elevation. The Joint and Double Joint claims were Crown-granted in 1909 to J.E. Read and associates. The Navada and Columbia were Crown-granted in 1911 to H. Amas and A. Pool. The Columbia had been bonded in 1909 to Warner & associates. An adit was driven 220 feet on one of several narrow parallel veins. A 167 foot adit was driven on the Navada claim. The claims had been inactive for many years when acquired by the Lakes brothers who organized a private company, Gold Belt Mining Company, Limited, which was incorporated in April 1932. This company voluntarily wound up in February 1933 and a public company of the same name was incorporated in March 1933. Work by the companies from June 1932 until the spring of 1935 was concentrated on developing the two upper levels (200 and 600 levels), driven from the corner of the Clyde claim into the Bruce Fr., Sunbeam Fr., and Double Joint claims.

A theory put forth in 1934 that the favorable host rock lay on the crest of an anticline and should occur at depth led to North American Mines, Inc. acquiring an option on a share interest in Gold Belt Mining. At the instigation of North American, several holes were drilled down from the 600 level (altitude 5,046 feet) in the late spring of 1935 to confirm the presence of the quartzites, and in the latter part of that year a long low-level crosscut (1,850 level) was driven at the 3,800 foot elevation to explore these favourable beds. By July of the following year this crosscut had been driven 3,150 feet from the portal and several veins had been intersected. Drifts totalling 945 feet on the 2360 vein, 425 feet on the 2590 vein, and 400 feet on the 3040

see Card 2

Mineral Policy Sector, Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa

503788 *

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

From 1934 to 1966 inclusive 259,489 tons of ore were milled or shipped from this property. From this ore 80,433 ounces of gold, 33,422 ounces of silver, 6,178 pounds of lead, and 5,590 pounds of zinc were recovered.

REFERENCES

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia:

1909, p. 276; 1910, p. 111; 1911, p. 289;
 1916, p. 523; 19 , p. 159; 1928, p. 346;
 1932, pp. 188, 193; 1933, p. 230; 1934,
 p. E 16; 1935, p. G 50; 1936, pp. E 7-E 14 + ;
 1937, p. E 47; 1938, p. 39; 1939, p. 83; 1940,
 p. 68; 1941, p. 67; 1942, p. 63; 1943, p. 66;
 1945, p. 102; 1946, p. 146; 1947, p. 163;
 1948, p. 134; 1949, p. 167; 1950, p. 124;
 1951, p. 138; 1958, p. A 45; 1959, p. A 48;
 1960, p. A 54; 1961, p. A 49; 1963, p. A 49;
 1964, p. 116; 1965, p. 181; 1966, p. 213;
 1967, p. 245.

+++Mathews, W.H.; Geology of the Sheep Creek Camp; Bulletin No. 31, pp. 68, 69, British Columbia Dept. of Mines, 1953.

Walker, J.F.; Geology & Mineral Deposits of Salmo Map-Area; Memoir 172, pp. 33-36, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1934.

Mineral Policy Sector; Corporation Files: "Gold Belt Mining Company, Limited"; "North American Mines, Inc."; "Goldbelt Mines Inc."

++McGuire, R.A.; Sheep Creek Gold Mining Camp; The Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, Transactions, Vol. XLV, 1942, p. 187.

MAP REFERENCES

#Geological Map of the Sheep Creek Mining Camp, Sc. 1": 1,500 ft., Fig. 1 - accomp. Bulletin No. 31, B.C. Dept. of Mines.

Map 1145 A, Salmo, (Geol.), Sc. 1":1 mile, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1965.

Map 299 A, Salmo Sheet, (Geol.), Sc. 1":1 mile, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Map 8479 G, Salmo, (Aeromag.), Sc. 1":1 mile.

*Map 82 F/3 E, Salmo, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR	JL					
Date	9-79	07-82					

NAME OF PROPERTY

GOLD BELT

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

vein revealed no orebodies; with few exceptions the assays indicated subcommercial grade. After almost 5,000 feet of workings on the 1850 level had yielded no ore, the management was reluctant to expend more money on exploration, but one other vein zone exposed in the crosscut was tested. This vein zone had been intersected 1,500 feet from the adit portal in argillaceous schists, and it would be necessary to drift westward for several hundred feet before favourable wallrocks would be encountered. The sole encouragement for this work was the fact that a small amount of ore had been recovered from surface workings (the Columbia adits) in what appeared to be this vein zone. The distance from the crosscut to the quartzites proved even greater than had been anticipated, amounting to slightly more than 850 feet, but a few feet beyond the eastern edge of the quartzites, on what is now known as the 8000 vein, the drift entered a low-grade oreshoot, and a few hundred feet farther west higher-grade ore averaging almost 4 feet in width was encountered. The results of development on this vein and on a parallel vein 200 feet to the north were so encouraging that another crosscut, the 2100, was driven from the 3,600 foot elevation and 2,000 feet southwest of the 1850 level to explore these veins 250 feet lower. This crosscut intersected another vein, the 6600, which had been prospected in the early part of the century, and which had yielded a few tons of ore from the Nevada adit. The 8000 vein at the 2100 level contained three orebodies, but the work on the 8200 vein disclosed only subcommercial grades. A 150 ton per day cyanide mill was put into operation in October 1938. The development work from 1935 and mill construction were financed by North American under the option agreement, giving them a controlling interest in Gold Belt Mining. In 1941 work began to drive a raise from the 1400 level to connect with the old 600 level but was not completed before the suspension of development work in July 1942. The mine closed in July 1943 due to wartime conditions. Development work during the period 1939-42 totalled about 20,000 feet of drifts, crosscuts and raises.

In the fall of 1945 about 1,000 feet of drifting and crosscutting was carried out on the 600 level. A raise from 1400 level was advanced 500 feet to the 600 level. Development work in 1946 included 1,642 feet of drifting, 1,507 feet of crosscut-

continued above

ing, and 470 feet of raise. This work exposed an ore shoot for 170 feet on 1100 level on 3500 vein between 1400 and 1100 levels. In 1947 about 1,000 feet of drifting and crosscutting was done in exploring the 3,040 and 3,500 veins westward on the 1100, 1400, and 1600 levels. The mine closed at the end of March 1947. The mill equipment was sold in 1948 and the mill building demolished by a snowslide in 1949.

Gold Belt Mining Company, Limited was dissolved in 1950 and all its assets transferred to the parent company North American Mines, Inc. Lessees shipped small amounts of ore in 1950. A. Burgess & associates of Salmo mined a small amount of ore from 3500 vein east on No. 14 level in 1951. Lessee A. Endersby mined small remnants of ore during the period 1958-1967.

Goldbelt Mines Inc. was incorporated in July 1976 to acquire the property. By 1929 the company had paid the entire purchase price under the option agreement with North American Mines, Inc. Work to 1980 included rehabilitation of the workings, the installation of equipment, and raising on one of the veins. Probable and possible reserves in the 3,500-ft. vein were estimated in 1978 at 17,260 tons at 0.439 oz/t Au (NM 10/04/80). About 1,000 tons of ore were shipped to Trail in 1979 and by April 1980 about 4,000 tons were stockpiled. In 1981, 3 new levels were being driven on the 3,500 vein and a start was made in shipping 7,000 tons grading 0.25 ozs Au/ton to the nearby HB mill of David Minerals Ltd. Exploration outlined 40,000 tons of proven ore grading better than 0.50 ozs Au/ton. (N.M. Dec. 17, 1981). In April 1982, operations were suspended after 10,000 tons were stockpiled.