

## NAME OF PROPERTY

TRUE FISSURE, BLUE BELL,  
ST. ELMO, GREAT NORTHERN

OBJECT LOCATED - True Fissure No. 3 adit.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 300. Lat. 50°42'25" Long. 117°29'50"

Mining Division Revelstoke District Kootenay

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

## OWNER OR OPERATOR

## DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The formation consists of carbonaceous schists and phyllites, dark grey siliceous members, and talcose and chloritic schists of the Lardeau Series of Late Precambrian age. Fissures or fault zones cut across the formation at small angles or follow the bedding for short distances. A number of veins, with a general northwesterly strike and northeasterly dip occur in the fault zones. The width of the veins varies from almost nothing to 35 or 40 feet, but the average falls between 3 and 5 feet. The vein filling consists of quartz, calcite, ankerite, and numerous inclusions of partly replaced fragments of the wall-rock. The mineralization, occurring as shoots that may pitch along the vein at sharp angles to the dip, consists of pyrite, sphalerite, galena, and tetrahedrite.

Associated minerals or products - Gold, silver, zinc.

## HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This property is located between elevations of 5,400 and 6,000 feet on the east end of Great Northern mountain about 2 miles northwest of Ferguson. It includes the True Fissure, Blue Bell, St. Elmo, and Great Northern workings. The Broadview mine is to the southeast, across Broadview Creek.

The first showing is reported to have been found in 1890 on ground subsequently located as the Great Northern claim. Other discoveries soon followed, and the entire vein system was located before the turn of the century. Small scale exploration and development was carried on by the locators or bondholders for a number of years.

The Great Northern claim was bonded to a Montana company in 1896. The Great Northern (Lot 1099), Hillside (Lot 1098), and Great Western Fr. (Lot 1102) was Crown-granted to Hugh McPherson and associates in 1898. Additional work in 1913, 1917, and 1928-30 was largely confined to No. 6 adit. In the 1950's the claims were owned by the D. McPherson Estate.

The True Fissure claim (Lot 1097) was Crown-granted to Thomas Downs in 1896. The St. Elmo claim (Lot 4581) was Crown-granted to J.M. Aikins and associates in 1903. The Blue Bell (Lot 5707) was Crown-granted to John Stauber and associates in 1904.

The True Fissure, St. Elmo, and Blue Bell Crown-grants and 4 adjacent claims were bonded by G.F. Park and associates of Cincinnati, Ohio, who incorporated The Ohio Mines Development Company, Limited in October, 1906. The claims were transferred to The True Fissure Mining and Milling Company, Limited which was incorporated by Park and associates in September 1907. Intermittent exploration and development work was carried out by the company or by lessees until 1930. The Latonia Milling Company was formed by the Park interests to install and operate a mill under agreement with the above company. A 100 ton-per-day mill was installed in 1930 at the level of the C (No. 3) True Fissure adit. The mill was completed under the terms of the G.F. Park Will although there was no ore available. No further activity was reported on any of the claims until 1937. True Fissure Mines, Limited optioned 22 claims in 1936 but no work was reported.

New True Fissure Mining & Milling Company, Limited was formed in 1937 to acquire the property; the Great Northern see Card 2 ....

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

507314

## HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

From 1908 to 1944, 5,638 tons of ore were shipped from the True Fissure mine. From this ore 198 ounces of gold, 42,148 ounces of silver, 533,019 pounds of lead, and 286,750 pounds of zinc were recovered. In 1899, 6 tons of ore were reported shipped from the St. Elmo and Yankee claims. From this ore 1 ounce of gold, 624 ounces of silver, and 2,420 pounds of lead were recovered. From 1896 to 1904, 26 tons of ore were shipped from the Great Northern claim. From this ore 55 ounces of gold were recovered.

## MAP REFERENCES

- Map 235 A, Lardeau Area, (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles - accomp. Memoir 161.
- Geological Map of the Ferguson Area, Sc. 1": $\frac{1}{2}$  mile, Fig. 2, Sheet A, Bulletin No. 45, British Columbia Dept. of Mines.
- #Geological Map of the True Fissure Mine Area, Sc. 1":200 ft., Fig. 12, Bulletin No. 45.
- Plan of Workings, True Fissure, Sc. 1":200 ft., Fig. 4, Memoir 161.
- \*Map 82 K/11 W, Trout Lake, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.
- Map 82 K/12 E, Beaton, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

## REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR						
Date	10-78						

## REFERENCES

- +++Fyles, J.T. & Eastwood, G.E.P.; Geology of the Ferguson Area, Lardeau District, B.C.; Bulletin No. 45, pp. 79-85, British Columbia Dept. of Mines & Petroleum Resources, 1962.
- ++Walker, J.F. & Bancroft, M.F.; Lardeau Map-Area, B.C.; Memoir 161, pp. 70-75, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1930.
- Mines Branch, Ottawa; Investigations in Ore Dressing and Metallurgy; 1935, Rept. 771, p. 222; 1946, Investigation No. 1987.
- Mineral Policy Sector; Corporation Files: "The True Fissure Mining and Milling Company, Limited; "True Fissure Mines, Limited"; "New True Fissure Mining & Milling Company, Limited"; "Codan Lead & Zinc Company, Limited"; "Comara Mining & Milling Company Limited"; "Columbia Metals Corporation Limited".
- Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1893, p. 1049; 1895, p. 694; 1896, pp. 541, 561; 1897, p. 550; 1898, pp. 1065, 1069, 1190; 1899, p. 683; 1900, p. 825; 1901, p. 1019; 1903, p. 244; 1904, p. 295; 1905, p. 154; 1906, p. 138; 1907, p. 93; 1908, p. 101; 1909, p. 117; 1913, p. 127; 1914, pp. 294-297; 1916, p. 200; 1917, p. 191; 1918, p. 156; 1921, pp. 161-163 + ; 1922, p. 217; 1923, p. 233; 1924, p. 208; 1925, p. 263; 1926, p. 272; 1927, p. 293; 1928, p. 315; 1930, pp. 264-266; 1937, p. E-56; 1938, p. E-44; 1939, p. 94; 1940, p. 79; 1943, p. 73; 1944, p. 40; 1945, p. 109; 1946, p. 169; 1947, p. 173; 1948, p. 149; 1952, p. 189; 1955, p. 67; 1966, p. 229; 1967, p. 264; 1968, p. 264.
- Geology, Exploration, and Mining; British Columbia Dept. of Mines: 1969, p. 341; 1970, p. 465; 1971, p. 429; 1972, p. 77.

George Cross News Letter: 1986, No. 250; 1987, No. 240.

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## HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (cont)

Sibola Mines Ltd. in 1986-87 obtained options to acquire the True Fissure and adjacent Broadview properties.

## HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

claim was optioned later in the year. The mill was operated during the winter of 1937-38. Development work was carried on in 1939 and the company ceased operations in 1940. Codan Lead & Zinc Company, Limited shipped ore from the dumps in 1943-44.

Comara Mining & Milling Company Limited acquired 43 claims in 1945 and completed 2,200 feet of surface diamond drilling on the True Fissure and St. Elmo claims. In 1949 the company holdings were transferred to Columbia Metals Corporation Limited. The Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company, Limited was engaged to carry out exploration work during 1952 and some 3,000 feet of diamond drilling was done on the True Fissure No. 2 and 3 levels.

The True Fissure mine includes 4 adit levels, and two raises connecting Nos. 2 and 3 levels; the Blue Bell workings consist of two adits and a connecting raise; the St. Elmo workings comprise two unconnected adits and, reportedly, a winze from the upper adit; the Great Northern workings include six adits.

No further development was undertaken until 1966. An induced polarization survey revealed an anomaly which more or less coincides with the projection of the main True Fissure vein toward the Broadview. A program of drifting and diamond drilling was begun in the True Fissure No. 2 adit. This program was resumed late in 1967 and continued through 1968. A 125 ton-per-day mill was installed at the portal of the Morgan (True Fissure No. 4) adit. Overburden was stripped from a portion of the True Fissure vein in preparation for open pitting. The mill only operated for several days during the period June to September 1971 due to inadequacy of the mill installation and ecological problems related to tailings disposal. Exploration work during 1972 included electromagnetic and self potential surveys covering the St. Elmo, Blue Bell, True Fissure and Great Northern claims, and 3,616 feet of diamond drilling in 54 holes.

Reserves were reported at proven 37,000 tons averaging 9 ozs silver per ton, 6.3% lead, and 7.4% zinc, and probable 57,000 tons averaging 9.5 ozs silver per ton, 6% lead, and 7.6% zinc (Northern Miner, June 21, 1973).

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