

PRODUCT COPPER  
PRODUIT

PROVINCE OR PROVINCE OU British Columbia  
TERRITORY TERRITOIRE

N.T.S. AREA 92 F/14  
RÉGION DU S.N.R.C.

REF. CU 1  
RÉF.

NAME OF PROPERTY MT. WASHINGTON (DOMINEER 22)  
NOM DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ

OBJECT LOCATED - Open pit on Domineer 22 claim.  
OBJET LOCALISÉ

UNCERTAINTY 300 m  
FACTEUR D'INCERTITUDE

Lat. 49°45'40" Long. 125°18'  
Lat. Long.

Mining Division Nanaimo  
Division minière

District  
District

Comox

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

Karmutsen Formation volcanics of Triassic age occur on the lower slopes of Mount Washington and Upper Cretaceous Nanaimo Group sediments on the upper slopes. The core of the mountain is a Tertiary quartz diorite intrusive. The deposit mined on Domineer 22 claim is a near horizontal quartz-filled vein or shear zone 7 to 15' thick and 250' x 600' in area. It occurs near the contact between sedimentary beds and porphyry sills. Mineralization in the shear includes chalcopyrite, bornite, covellite, arsenopyrite and pyrite. Exploration indicates a limited tonnage of ore grade material extends out from the open pit but the strip ratio prohibits profitable extraction. Small, isolated high-grade occurrences of chalcopyrite are randomly exposed in all rock types and widely distributed over the property. They are frequently associated with steeply-dipping shear zones.

Associated minerals or products  
Minéraux ou produits associés

- Gold, silver.

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

Mount Washington is located 18 miles south of Campbell River and lies within a land grant to the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, the owner of the base metal occurrences; control of the company was eventually acquired by Canadian Pacific Limited.

Gold-quartz veins were discovered in the early 1940's (see 92 F/14, AU 1). The search for low-grade porphyry copper on the lower parts of the mountain began in the 1960's (see 95 F/14, CU 2 and CU 3).

High-grade copper mineralization in shear zones near the summit of the mountain were the centre of activity in the 1950's. Mt. Washington Copper Co. Ltd. was formed in 1956 by prospector G.C. Murray to acquire a Mineral Lease from the railway company and 96 recorded claims to acquire title to the precious metals. Noranda Exploration Company Limited optioned the property in 1957. Geophysical and geochemical surveys, trenching and diamond drilling were carried out in the vicinity of the future open pit.

Qualicum Mines Limited was incorporated in June 1960 by Mt. Washington Copper Co. (65%) and Noranda Exploration (35%). Work in the Domineer 22 area included an electromagnetic survey, trenching and over 7,000' of drilling. Stripping was done on the ore zone at the 4,400' elevation,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile northwest of the summit, to prepare for open pit production. An adit just east of the open pit was completed to a length of 800' in 1962.

Mount Washington Milling Company Ltd. was incorporated in August 1962 by Mt. Washington Copper (50%) and Consolidated Woodgreen Mines Limited (50%) to put the property into production; the latter company name was changed in 1964 to Cumberland Mining Company Limited. A 600 ton per day mill owned by Cumberland was installed at the 2,400' elevation on the east side of the mountain 4.5 miles by road from the open pit. Mining was on a seasonal basis and stockpiled ore supplied the mill during winter months. The mill was put into operation in January 1965 and continued until the end of March 1967 when reserves were depleted and the company placed in receivership. The mill was removed from the property in 1968.

Mt. Washington Copper resumed exploration in 1970 when further geophysical and geochemical surveys were carried out. Drilling in 1972 totalled 1,132'.

## HISTORY OF PRODUCTION/HISTORIQUE DE LA PRODUCTION

From January 1965 to March 1967 inclusive, 377,639 tons of ore were milled. From this ore 4,128 ozs gold, 224,570 ozs silver and 7,592,186 pounds of copper were recovered.

## REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHIE

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1957, p. 69; 1959, p. 135; 1960, p. 111; 1961, p. 102; 1962, p. 105; 1963, p. 103; 1964, p. 155; 1965, p. 235; 1966, p. 71; 1967, p. 72; 1970, p. 281; 1973, p. 236; 1974, p. 183; 1978, p. E 131.

Stevenson, W.G.; Mt. Washington Copper Co. Ltd. Geological Conception as Porphyry Copper Deposit; Western Miner, Nov. 1967, pp. 35-40.

Sinclair, A.J.; Report on Canadian Pacific Oil and Gas Mineral Lease No. 2, for Mt. Washington Copper Co. Ltd., 26/05/71 - in Mt. Washington Copper Statement of Material Facts 21/06/71.

Muller, J.E. and Carson, D.J.T.; Geology and Mineral Deposits of Alberni Map-Area, British Columbia; Paper 68-50, p. 42, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1969.

Carson, David; Tertiary Mineral Deposits of Vancouver Island; CIM Bulletin, May 1969, p. 511.

Mineral Policy Sector; Corporation Files: "Mt. Washington Copper Co. Ltd."

Exploration in British Columbia; BCDM: 1980, p. 175; 1983, p. 209.

## MAP REFERENCES/RÉFÉRENCES CARTOGRAPHIQUES

Map 2-1965, Comox Lake Area, (Geol.), Sc. 1":2 miles, Geol. Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Map 17-1968, Alberni, (Geol.), Sc. 1:250,000 - accomp. Paper 68-50.

#Mt. Washington Copper, (Geol.), Sc. 1":600', accomp. Report by Stevenson.

Mt. Washington Copper, (Plan of showings), Sc. 1":250', Fig. 23, Report of Minister of Mines, B.C., 1959, p. 136.

Geology of the Mount Washington Area, Sc. 1":1.7 miles, Fig. 2, Report by Carson, p. 514.

\*Map 92 F/14, Oyster River, (Topo.), Sc. 1:50,000.

## HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT (continued) HISTORIQUE DE L'EXPLORATION ET DE LA MISE EN VALEUR

Imperial Oil Limited optioned the property in 1973. Work on the upper levels of the mountain in the period 1974-76 inclusive included an electromagnetic survey and diamond drilling. Heap leaching studies were in progress in 1978-80. The option was given up in 1980. The company name (Mt. Washington Copper) was changed in June 1983 to Velocity Development Corporation.

Better Resources Ltd in 1984 optioned a 75% interest in the property (MWC 234 and adjacent claims) and in 1984 acquired the remaining 25% interest from Velocity in exchange

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for shares. Better obtained rights to gold and silver only, the base metal rights being held by Fording Coal 50%) and Imperial Metals Corp (50%). Geochemical soil surveys were carried out in 1983.

Comp./Rev. By Comp./rév. par	DMacR	DMacR					
Date Date	05-84	11-86					