

NAME OF PROPERTY MURRAY SEAM, PEACE RIVER COAL MINE

OBJECT LOCATED - Mine symbol on Fig. 11.

UNCERTAINTY IN METRES 300. Lat. 56°01' Long. 122°11'40"

Mining Division Liard District Peace River

County Township or Parish

Lot Concession or Range

Sec Tp. R.

OWNER OR OPERATOR AND ADDRESS

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

The mine was developed in the Murray seam in the lower part of the Lower Cretaceous Gething Formation. A section across the seam was reported as follows: roof, shale; shale-band 3 inches which parts readily from the main roof; coal 2 ft.; clay-ironstone band 4.5 inches; coal, 2 ft. 3 inches; clay-ironstone band 6 inches; coal 2 feet; floor, shale. An analysis of the coal by the British Columbia Dept. of Mines gave the following: moisture, 1.5%; volatile matter, 19.3%; fixed carbon, 72.7%; ash, 6.5%; B.T.U. content 13,830 per pound.

HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

This property comprised Lots 1025 and 1026 on the west side of Portage Mountain near the head of the Peace River canyon. The workings are on the east side of the river near the Bennett Dam.

A number of coal mining leases in this vicinity were held by a Syndicate formed by George Aylard, Neil Gething, and R.F. Green from prior to 1923. An adit was apparently driven on this coal seam by the Syndicate. The seam was uncovered in 1943 in a trench excavated on the edge of the high, east Canyon wall, just south of Larry Creek. Peace River Coal Mines, Ltd., incorporated February 1944, leased the property from the Aylard Estate. The mine, known as the Canyon No. 1 mine, was developed from a 7 degree decline driven for 178 feet. Two levels were driven east from the main slope, the lower level some 980 feet and the upper level 832 feet, to provide access for room and pillar mining. One of the openings, No. 6 incline, was driven through to the surface for ventilation. Mining operations continued until July 1951 when the mine was closed and abandoned.

Because of its proximity to the Portage Mountain dam site the mine was re-opened in 1962 and the main travelways and slopes retimbered. In 1962 the mine passageways and rooms were completely filled with washed sand.

HISTORY OF PRODUCTION

Production to the end of 1947 was reported at 7,935 tons (Ref. Memoir 259).

REFERENCES

Reports of Minister of Mines, British Columbia: 1944, p. 128; 1945, p.174; 1946, p. 248; 1947, p. 266; 1948, p. 241; 1949, p. 308; 1950, p.275; 1951, p. 289; 1962, p. 278; 1963, p. 264; 1964, p. 325.

McLearn, F.H., and Kindle, E.D.; Geology of Northeastern British Columbia; Memoir 259, p. 168, Geol. Surv. of Canada, 1950.

McLearn, F.H., and Irish, E.J.W.; Some Coal Deposits of the Peace River Foothills, British Columbia; Paper 44-15, p. 7, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

McLearn, F.H.; Peace River Coal Area, B.C.; Summary Report 1922, Pt. B, pp. 1-46, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Galloway, C.F.J.; The Coal-Measures of Peace River Canyon; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1912, pp. 125-136.

Galloway, John D.; Peace River Mining Division; Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1923, p. 136.

MAP REFERENCES

Map of Peace River Canyon Coal Area, Sc. 1":1 mile, Fig. 11 - accomp. Memoir 259.

Gething Coal Leases, Sc. 1":2 miles, Report of Minister of Mines, British Columbia, 1923, p. 138.

Map 1232 A, Halfway River, (Geol.), Sc. 1":4 miles - accomp. Paper 69-11, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

Map 44-19A, Dunlevy-Portage Mountain, (Geol.), Sc.1":1 mile - accomp. Paper 44-19, Geol. Surv. of Canada.

REMARKS

Comp./Rev. By	DMacR						
Date	5-76						

305 443-16