

LITTLE HILL MINE

LOWER BURNT RIVER

BAKER COUNTY

Supplemental report to Bulletin 14A.

OWNER: Mrs. Ida M. Bowen, 2235 Fourth St., Baker, Oregon

OPERATORS: , Mr. Buck La Fran and his two sons, Joe and Jim, Durkee, Oregon

AREA: Three unpatented claims, the Little Hill, Southern Hill, and Treasure Hill.

GEOLOGY: See Bulletin 14A. The present vein is from 2 to 4 inches wide and runs from \$60 to \$100 per ton. The ore is mined with hand steel, sorted from the biotite granodiorite country rock, and sacked in the stopes. It is then carried to the mill.

REMARKS: According to the La Fran brothers, the mine production varies from \$300 to \$500 per month. They are buying the mine for \$2000 and pay a 15% royalty until the purchase price is paid.

INFORMANT: La Fran Brothers 8/31/40.

Hugh K Lancaster

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STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY
& MINERAL INDS.

LITTLE HILL MINE

Weatherby Dist

Lower Laurent River
Chicken Creek District
Baker County

Owners: Ida M. Bowen and Frank L. Bowen, 2235 Fourth Street, Baker.

Location: Elevation about 4800'. Near center of section 15, T 12 S, R 44 E.
About 5 miles from highway #30 at Weatherby. Near headwaters of Hogback Creek.

Area: 3 mining claims, lode, unpatented.

History: Discovered in 1882, but it has not been in any considerable operation since 1916, less than 100' of work in all. Said to have produced \$200,000 (but I doubt this statement very much).

Equipment: 2 stamp mill and small building. Powered by the truck that brings the ore from the Gold Cluster Mine (rear wheel drive). 3' and 7' copper plates, silvered, for amalgamation of ore that passes through 40 mesh screen. Ore from the Little Hill now being mined is being trucked all the way to Baker and milled in Leon Brown's small mill in town here. It is said to make better recovery.

shoots
Geology: The country rock is a biotite granodiorite cut by small quartz stringers rarely over a foot in width. The system carrying the values seems to strike N 65° W and dip towards the south. The quartz has in places been ground up by post mineral movements to a fine sugar quartz associated with gouge of clay and sericite. The rather sparse spots of yellow iron oxide are not a necessary indication of values, which are said to be very spotty and in thin stringers, the ~~chutes~~ being quite narrow. Some sulphides are said to be found in the lower levels, and a panned concentrate showed fine pyrrhotite crystals. The ore is free milling and is said to yield about \$60.00 in the present operation, which is only 3 tons per week. Scheelite is said to occur at a depth of 20' in a shaft in the creek bottom.

Conditions affecting mining: Timber is very scarce, being brought a distance of over 4 miles. Water is not abundant but is sufficient for camping purposes and for a small mill. Snowfall is moderate in spite of the elevation, and all year operation is possible. Roads are poor and impassable for three or four months of the winter.

Development: Two of the three tunnels are caved. They are said to be 200' and 250' long. The main tunnel on the upper level is about 300' long, being quite irregular, as the old course along the vein is partly caved and the mine was re-entered by a tunnel around the old cavings. Its general trend is S 65° E into the hill. Raises reach the surface at several points with from 20 to 40' of backs. One winze approaches the lower tunnel level. Across the creek to the northwest another tunnel and a 60' shaft have explored the vein.

Economics: The mine is being operated on a two-man basis, only the high-grade streaks being developed. Ore reserves are simply taken out as they are developed, and only one face is worked at a time. This mine is similar to the others in the Chicken Creek district--it is a fair job for two or three men to make good wages.

Informant: Much of this information was given by Mr. Frank Bowen, owner of the mine.

June 15, 1938

John Eliot Allen, Field Geologist

Little Hill

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NAME

OLD NAMES

PRINCIPAL ORE

MINOR MINERALS

125

44E

15

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PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Parker & Smith 16:192
Ozama 14A.

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Baker COUNTY

Lower Burnt Rock AREA

1800 ELEVATION

..... ROAD OR HIGHWAY

5 miles from Weatherby DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) .. Leon Brown

Address .. Baker, Oregon

OPERATOR nm

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY .. nm