



Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

BAKER FIELD OFFICE

1831 FIRST ST., BAKER, OREGON 97814-3442 PHONE (503) 523-3133

Baker County
Greenhorn District

PARKERVILLE PLACER

By Mark L. Ferns, July 31, 1986

Location: About 1 mile north of the north fork of Burnt River in sections 15,16, 21,22; T 10 S, R 35½ E.

Owner: Brandenthaler Estate

Operator: Tony Grindl, 6807 Cornelia, Dallas, Texas 75214

History: This is an old placer property which has been extensively worked in the past. Lindgren (1901) reports a previous production of \$150,000 prior to 1901. Sporadic production since 1901 apparently ended in the mid 1960's when Tony Brandenthaler operated the property. The Grindl operation is the first sustained effort to develop the property since the Brandenthaler operation.

Geology: The geology of the deposit is described in Lindgren (1901) and Pardee and Hewitt (1914). The deposit is a tertiary gravel deposit that is deposited on a melange basement of meta-volcanic and metamorphic rocks and serpentine. The channel is overlain by a basalt flow that is in turn buried by clarno mud-flows (Ferns and others, 1982). Local faulting has progressively dropped the gravels lower to the east.

General: Grindle and Associates currently have a lease on the property. They are exploring the property with the hopes of

recovering enough fine gold to justify putting in a washing plant. Grindl has three people now working at the proerty. As is usual for this type of operation, they have spent more time repairing equipment than processing gravels. What they have processed indicates that the past reports of the Parkerville gold being smaller in size than the placer gold at Winterville are accurate. They don't appear to be getting anything larger than a match head.

They have deepened the pit to the east of bedrock outcrops in section 16, where Brandenthaler had set up a long sluice box. Their test pit has not reached bedrock, indicating that either the bedrock drops sharply to the east or possibly that the bedrock has been downdropped by a fault. The cut exposes at least 40 feet of gravels and sands underlying the cap basalt.

According to Grindl, the sands and silts are essentially barren of gold; most of the gold appears to be coming from a matrix supported, poorly-sorted coarse-gravel which is comprised of rounded pre-Tertiary clasts up to 1 meter in diameter.

Grindl plans to continue testing this summer, at the end of which time they will decide on dropping the property or preparing a washing plant for next year.

Visited: June 26, 1986 - with Leon Esparza, U.S. Bureau of Mines, Spokane, Washington

References: Lindgren (1901); Pardee and Hewitt (1914); Ferns and others (1982).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely belonging to the author of the report, located at the bottom right of the page.