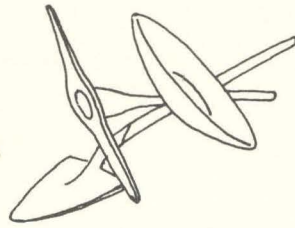


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*Sh. y. Doc.*

Dudley Creek #1, #2, #3  
Crook County



# REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION



FOREST SERVICE  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION



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REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION

Job No. 784

**Claimants:** Mr. Shirley Quant, et al.  
Prineville, Oregon

**Reason for Examination:** Administrative problem. Mining claims will interfere with the Summit Prairie Recreation Area.

**Subject:** Validity of Mining Claims.

**Lands Involved:** Three 20-acre placer claims located for agate in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 30, T. 14 S., R. 21 E., W.M., Big Summit Ranger District, Ochoco National Forest, Crook County, Oregon.

**Land Status:** National Forest land open to mineral entry.

**Location Data:** Dudley Creek #1 was located September 5, 1972, and Dudley Creek #2 and #3 were located on August 5, 1972, recorded in Crook County, Oregon.

**Mining District:** The area of these mining claims is on the extreme southeast side of the Johnson Creek mining district (unorganized), which happens to be a quicksilver district.

**Mining Engineer and Dates of Examination:** Zean R. Moore  
June 19 and 20, 1973

**Accompanied by:** Robert Wintersteen, Ranger  
Lee Simons, Supervisor's office  
Shirley Quant, claimant

### Location and Topography

These claims cover a low, gently sloping hill on the southwest side of Big Summit Prairie, some 49 miles east of Prineville, Oregon.

### Surface Values

Surface values are probably best for timber harvest and recreation.

### Areal Geology

The country rock appears to be a small remnant of the upper member of the Clarno formation of central Oregon. This remnant is resting on the Ochoco lavas. It appears that it may be a rhyolitic section near the top of the Clarno formation.

These rhyolites are usually fine-grained, with only occasional recognizable crystals of quartz and feldspars. The color of the outcrops ranges from shades of red to white, the former predominating. The massive exposures of these rocks show spherulitic and flow structures, often with chalcedony deposits along fracture planes. The surface of the rhyolite is irregular and usually is covered only by a limited soil mantle.

### Pertinent Information

The principal claimant in this case, Mr. Shirley Quant, has been in the rock business in the Prineville area since the 1930's. He has a rock shop in Prineville. He has several other mining claims in the local area and also has several other rock sources.

One of the main ingredients in the successful operation of a rock shop for rockhounds is to have a wide variety of rock material for sale.

Mr. Quant's partner, Maxine Davis, operates the rock shop while he operates a local logging business.

Mr. Quant stated that if the area were ever withdrawn that there would be no problems over these mining claims as he would try to remove whatever agate material was available and then he would give up the claims.

### Economic Geology

These claims lie at the southeast side of the Johnson Creek mining district, formerly known as the "Ochoco Quicksilver district." As the original name implies, the mineral produced is quicksilver (mercury). The production of quicksilver from the area has been small.

The whole area of the Ochoco National Forest has become better known for the occurrence of thundereggs and to a lesser degree, agate.

For some unexplained reason, there has not been any thundereggs found east of Mark's Creek. However, there has been some agate found at various locations in the eastern part of the Forest.

### History and Production

None known.

### Occupancy

None.

### Discovery

The discovery on these three claims is based on the scattered occurrence on the surface of small pieces of agate float. There are the remains of an old Forest Service rock pit on the Dudley Creek #3 claim. This pit is no longer being used. Just to the south and on top of the ridge above the rock pit, there is a large flat area which dips gently toward the south. Former rock pit operators using a bulldozer have scraped away a considerable area of whatever thin topsoil there was in an attempt to find rock for road building.

Mine workings found on Dudley Creek #1 and #2 were shallow bulldozer cuts made recently by Mr. Quant. He stated that he has removed several hundred pounds of agate for sale in his rock shop in Prineville. The selling price is from \$0.25 to \$0.50 a pound. A visit to Mr. Quant's rock shop showed that he had perhaps about 100 pounds of agate material from these claims for sale.

My first-hand observation on these claims showed that there is some agate material scattered over a large area; however, the amount seems to be small.

Certainly, Mr. Quant could not recover a sufficient amount of this agate material to sell and make a living.

### Conclusions

It has not been demonstrated that there is sufficient quantity or quality of agate material present on any of these three claims to meet the prudent man concept.

It is further concluded that Mr. Quant has removed some of the agate material and has sold it at his rock shop. However, I am of the opinion that there is not enough material on these three claims that could be sold which would support any type of mining operation.

I also believe that when and if the time comes for the area to be withdrawn that Mr. Quant will relinquish his three mining claims.

I further believe that so far there has been a minimal amount of damage and what has been done was done by rock quarry operators using the rock material for Forest Service roads. Mr. Quant has dug two small bulldozer cuts which he has agreed to fill.

Recommendations

It is recommended that no action be taken against these claims for the present, as I see no immediate problem.

If and when it is decided that the withdrawal is to be made, then Mr. Quant should be asked to relinquish his claims. If he should change his mind about relinquishing his mining claims between now and then, we should proceed to ask for a hearing to have these claims declared null and void. The charge can be that there has not been a discovery of a valuable mineral deposit within the limits of these three mining claims.

Date Aug 6, 1973

Zean R. Moore  
ZEAN R. MOORE, Mining Engineer

APPROVED:

Date 8/9/73

Wiley H. Suckey  
Acting Assistant Regional Forester