

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

WHITE ELEPHANT GROUP (placer & Lode)

LOBSTER CREEK AREA

Owner: Caroline Wallace, Agness, Oregon. (see also George Dickinson, Gold Beach, Oregon)

Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 4, and east center sec. 5, T. 34 S., R. 12 W. headwaters of Boulder Creek and west of  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ophir Mtn.

Area: Four placer claims.

History: Worked about 1870, and since then, as a placer. Reported to have produced about \$70,000.

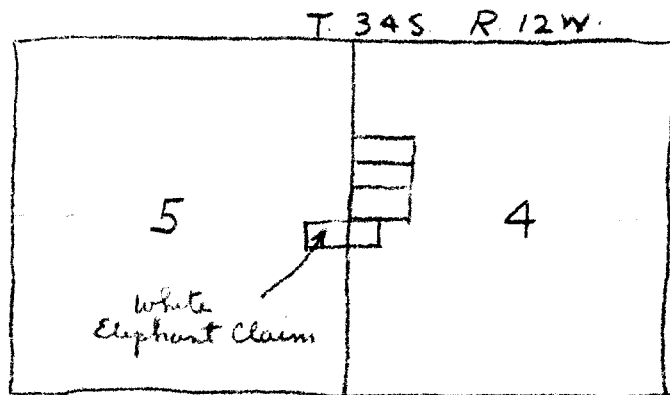
Geology: The White Elephant claim is the most southwesterly, and the west portion of Boulder creek on this claim has a falls about 200 feet high. Immediately upstream of the falls for a distance of about 1000 feet was the good placer ground. The remaining claims cover the headwaters of Boulder Creek, so the placer gold must have come out of this watershed.

Overburden is shallow, from 0 to 5 feet and the gold is concentrated on bedrock. The overburden is subangular  $\frac{1}{4}$  and probably is slump and creep material.

There are several quartz seams that "pan" some gold. One seam has a serpentine gouge wall that "pans" well.

Development: The principal work has been on the one placer claim. There has been no particular testing of placer ground upstream of this point. A small amount of work has been done on a couple of the quartz seams.

Informant: George Dickinson, Gold Beach, 12/18/40  
Report by: RCT 12/20/40



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PROW'S MILL

GRANTS PASS DISTRICT

JOSEPHINE COUNTY

OWNER: Dale Prow; Grants Pass, Oregon

Location: Sec. 23, R.5W., T.36 S.; 4 miles east of Grants Pass.

History: Construction of the mill was completed about the 1st of June, 1940. The mill was constructed by Mr. Prow for the purpose of making mill tests on ores from different mines in southwestern Oregon. The construction of the mill is such that the capacity may be increased by replacing the present machinery with larger size equipment. Approximately 60 tons of ore from several different mines was treated between June 1st, 1940 and December 20, 1940.

Equipment: The milling equipment is listed on the accompanying flow sheet. Power is supplied by 3 engines that burn kerosene; 1  $1\frac{1}{2}$  h.p. , 1 3 h.p. Fairbanks; and 1 15 h.p.. A 750 gallon tank is used for storing the fuel oil. Fresh water from a deep well is stored in a 1200 gallon tank( located high up in the mill building).

Informant: Albert A. Lewis

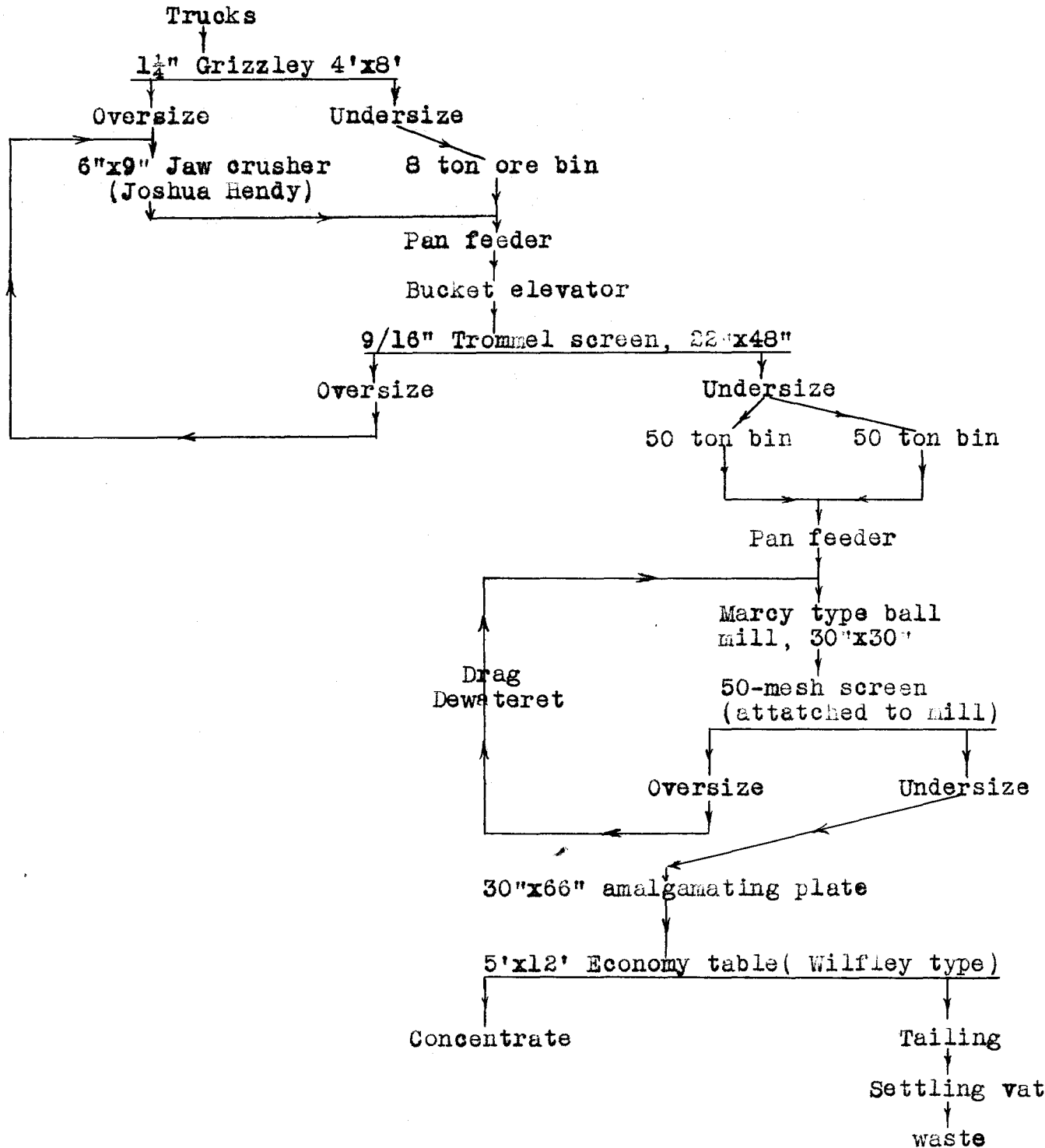
Report by: Albert A. Lewis

Date: December 20, 1940

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## FLOW SHEET OF PROW'S MILL



# Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

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Portland, Oregon

## WHITE ELEPHANT GROUP (placer & lode)

## LOBSTER CREEK AREA

**Owner:** Mrs. Caroline Wallace, Agness, Oregon. (Mrs. Tom Wallace)

**Location:** SW $\frac{1}{4}$  NW $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 4, and east-center sec. 5, T. 34 S., R. 12 W., headwaters of Boulder Creek and west of Ophir Mtn., 8 mi. northwest of Illaha via trail.

**Area:** Four placer claims with a total of 80 acres, held by location.

**History:** Discovered and worked by George Curry and Bill Coy 1874 to 1876. 1876 to 1927 worked intermittently and changed ownership several times. Dan Rowlan owned it in 1927 and sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wallace. With the exception of two years, it has been worked since 1927. According to Mr. Coy, it has produced \$150,000. Another report claims \$70,000. Two acres have been mined.

Other names are: Curry Mine; Bonanza Placer Mine (see 1940 ed. Bull. 14-C, vol. 1, State Dept. G. & M. I.)

**Development:** Ten cuts, the largest being 75 ft. by 600 ft. by 6 ft. deep. Most of the work has been done along Boulder Cr. Practically all of the work has been done on the White Elephant claim. A small amount of work has been done on some of the quartz ledges.

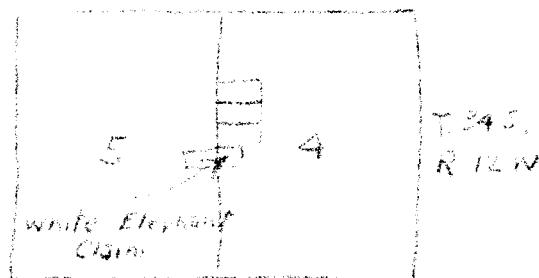
**Geology:** Topography is mountainous. At the west end of the White Elephant claim is a 200 ft. falls, and immediately upstream for 1000 feet was the good placer ground. The source of the gold is reported to be from pockets along a serpentine-porphyrty contact. The gold is fairly coarse, with many 25¢ to 50¢ pieces; seven ounces is the largest nugget.

Overburden is shallow, from 0 to 6 ft. and the gold is concentrated on bedrock. The overburden material is subangular and probably is slump and creep material.

There are several quartz seams that "pan" some gold. One of them has a serpentine gouge wall that "pans" well.

**Mining Conditions:** No water right but plenty of water. One mile is estimated length of ditch to be built to deliver water to property from Boulder Creek and tributaries. No equipment. November to June is the mining season.

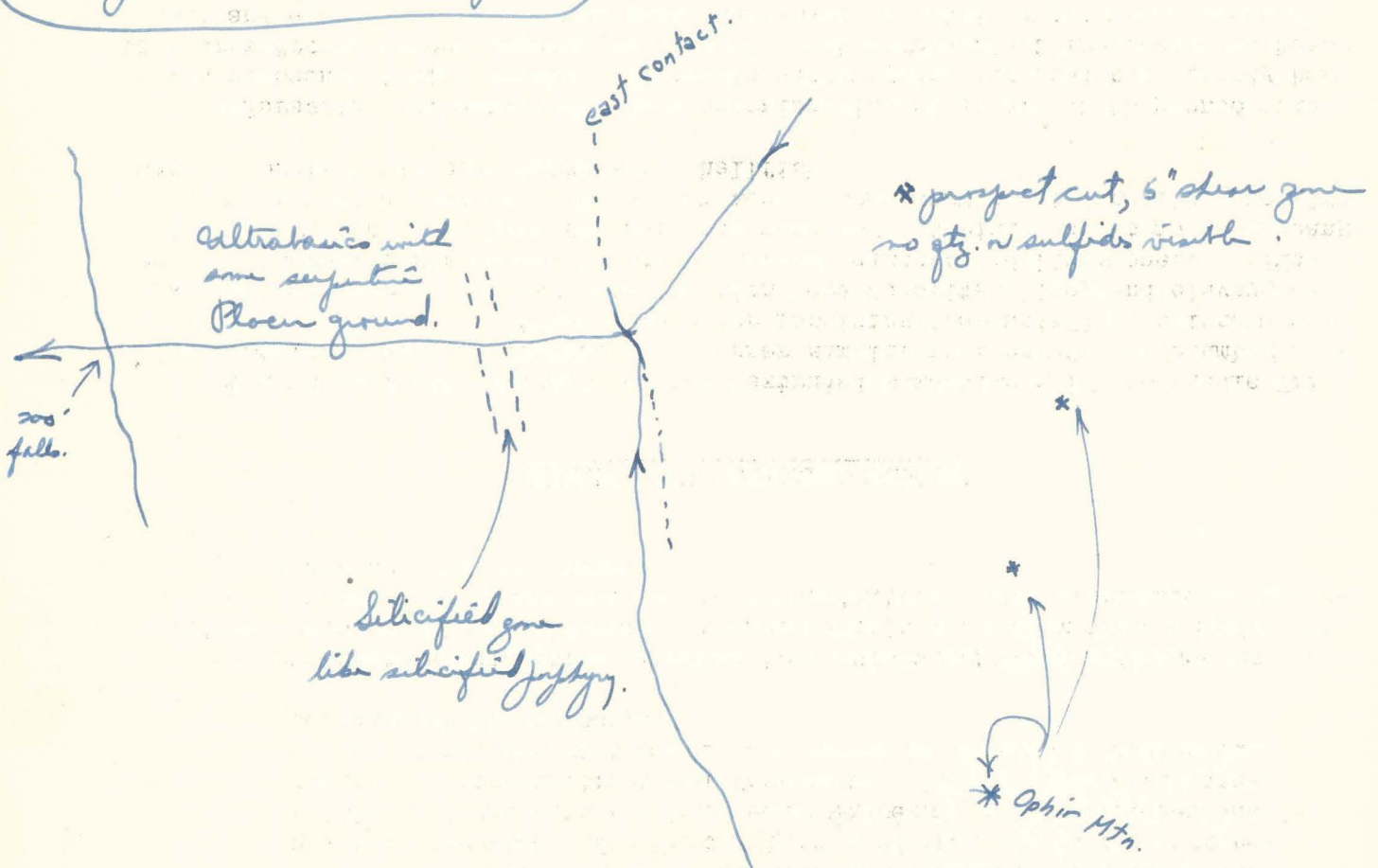
**Informant:** J.E. Morrison, '38; George Dickinson (Gold Beach) 12/18/40  
**Report by:** RCT 12/20/40



White Elephant Group (placer + lode)  
(see also Curry Mine; Bonanza Placer)

Lobster Creek Area

Geology: According to the Port Arford folio, an area of Cretaceous (?) sediments is intruded by ~~gabbro~~ a small body of gabbro. The west contact of the intrusive causes a 200 ft. fall in the stream. The gabbro appears to be more like the ultrabasics of the Illinois River country. It is sheared, and considerable serpentine has developed. and the east contact with sediments





## Geology:

The Port Arford folio shows this area as underlain by serpentine in which a small gabbro body has been intruded. The lower (west end) of the placer is bounded by a 200' fall of Boulder Creek. Upstream, placering has exposed ultrabasic rock that is serpentinized, in part. A "vein" of highly silicified rock that appears to be a meta-porphyr, cuts across the upper end. The upper (east) end is bounded by a contact of serpentine and sandstone (?), perhaps Myrtle fm.

The source of the placer gold is reported to be from pockets ~~also~~ in the general area. The gold is fairly coarse, with many nuggets averaging 25¢ - 50¢; 7oz. is the largest nugget. Overburden is shallow, from 0-6 ft. + the gold is concentrated on bedrock. The placer channel is not over 100 feet wide. It is reported that the placer has been very rich. Each year snipers work it and "do right well" in a series of small "hot spots."

The east end contact is represented by an 18" shear zone that is exposed by the creek. Assays by a "special, secret method" are said to run #150. No work has been done on this seam. Up the hill to the northeast, a large cut exposes another shear zone that is reported to carry gold. None of these exposures had the appearance of offering promise.