

PRELIMINARY
REPORT OF MINERAL EXAMINATION

Job No. 813

Claimants: Gerald D. and Sharon A. Heden
Route 2, Box 75
Bend, Oregon 97701

Reason for Examination: Mining claim or claims located for
building stone (Oregon Moss type rocks)

Subject: Validity of Mining Claims

Land Status: National Forest land open to
mineral entry.

Lands Involved: Sec. 24, T. 20 S., R. 11 E., W.M. (?),
Fort Rock Ranger District, Deschutes
National Forest, Deschutes County,
Oregon.

Location Data: It is not known at this time how many
claims have been located, just how they
are laid out on the ground, and what
type they are. At the time of the last
check the claim or claims had not been
recorded in the Courthouse.

Mining District: None.

**Mining Engineer and
Date of Examination:** Zean R. Moore
August 10, 1972

Accompanied by: No one

Pertinent Information

On Thursday, August 10, 1972, I visited the area of Sugar Pine Butte.

On Friday, June 22, 1973, a meeting was held at Heden's stone yard in Bend, Oregon, with the following present:

Mr. and Mrs. Heden, claimants
Don Peters, Supervisor's Office
Vern Pritchard, Fort Rock District Ranger
John Pritchard (no relation to Vern Pritchard), a partner of the Hedens
Zean R. Moore

The purpose of this meeting was to try and resolve the following problem. The Hedens have been building stone dealers in the Bend area for years, and in particular they have been selling a flat lava-type rock known in the building trades as "Oregon Moss." (Reference is made to my Report of Mineral Examination on the Foley case, Gifford Pinchot N.F., dated December 18, 1972.) This type of rock is becoming very scarce. It occurs over a wide geographical area but is limited in quantity at any one location. There is one known location in northern California, but this rock is no longer available there. In central and eastern Oregon, the rock is extremely scarce. However, there appears to be a limited amount around the Sugar Pine Butte area. While gathering field data for my report on the Foley case, I examined the Sugar Pine Butte area on August 10, 1972. The material does not look as good as that in the California deposit or on the Foley claims. It also requires a considerable amount of work and patience to gather a truck load. There is a strong demand for this material and it can serve the same purpose as the Foley rock.

It is extremely difficult to estimate the amount of rock material in the Sugar Pine Butte area; however, I believe less than 500 tons are available.

I understand the Sugar Pine Butte area is also the location where the Forest has been selling this rock material to local buyers of this type of rock.

The Hedens have located a mining claim or claims over the area for the purpose of assuring a continuing source of supply. They are, however, willing to take a materials permit, and the local Ranger is trying to work this out with them.

Conclusions

Based on my knowledge of field conditions, economic studies, markets, and occurrences of this particular rock material, there is a small deposit of building stone lava rock in the Sugar Pine Butte area somewhat similar in appearance to the original Oregon Moss rock from northern California.

There is a large market for this type of rock material.

There is a very limited amount available.

The removal of this rock material will do no harm to the local area. The evaluation of whether or not a valuable mineral deposit exists depends on the quantity of the Oregon Moss type rock present in the area.

Recommendations

Every effort within reason should be made to try and work out some form of mineral materials permit for the Hedens to buy whatever rock material they need.

If the materials permit route now being pursued by the Ranger does not solve the problem, then additional field work must be done to determine the quantity of the salable material present.

Date Aug 10, 1973

Zean R Moore
ZEAN R. MOORE, Mining Engineer

APPROVED:

Date 8/15/73

McDonough
Acting Assistant Regional Forester