

LOBICASA COMPANY (drag-line)

RIDDLE DISTRICT
Douglas County

Operators: Lobicasa Co., owned by Anthur Lord,Bishop
Carlson and Sandberg, Sacramento, California.

Location: South Fork Umpqua River in sec. 19, T. 30 S., R. 5 W.,
and Cow Cr. in sec. 24, T. 30 S., R. 6 W.

Area: Not given.

History: The ground was tested by the Atlas Dredging Company and
turned over to the Lord & Bishop outfit. They worked
the ground on the South Umpqua and then took in Carlson
& Sandberg as partners and moved to Cow Creek. Carlson & Sandberg
dredged Coyote Creek at the Aman placers, previously.

Equipment: $1\frac{1}{2}$ yd. Lima 602 drag-line with a $1\frac{1}{4}$ yd. bucket and a 50
ft. boom which can dig to a maximum of 18 feet. The dredge
has a 1500-2000 yd. per 24 hours capacity. The trommel is
4 ft. x 27 ft., of which 16 ft. has $\frac{3}{8}$ inch to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch openings
with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch bridge. There are 7 sluices, three are 10 ft. long and
four are 8 ft. long; they are lined with expanded metal lath and
carpet. The stacker is 45 ft. There are six steel pontoons, $8\frac{1}{2}$ ft.
wide, 8 ft. long, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft. deep. The plant is powered with a
D8800 Caterpillar Diesel 4 cylinder engine. Other equipment includes
an A.C.S.O. 60 bulldozer.

Development: The dredge worked from May 24th to July 20th on the
Umpqua, dredging about 90,000 cubic yards of gravel.
Operation on Cow Cr. began July 24, and will continue
for about 3 weeks from this date, or until about Oct. 1st.

Geology: Bedrock is very rough, uneven, and hard. Boulders are
scarce, very few of them measuring over 18 inches. The

Geology (continued)

gold is fine in size, and no sizeable nuggets were recovered. There is very little black sand. Most of the gold is on bedrock, and seems to be concentrated in the present stream channel on Cow Creek.

Informant: Leon Ermatinger, dredge master, and Ray C. Treasher,

Visited: Sept. 12th, 1940.

Report by: RCT, 9/11/40

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A brief report on this property was filed some time during the fore part of July, probably under the name of Lord & Bishop, as the company was ~~not~~ known at that time.

As I understand it, The Atlas Dredging Co. tested the ground and found that bedrock was too uneven. The test pits shows good values, if the gold could be secured and recovered. Lord & Bishop took over the ground, and went to work. In July, Mr. Ermatinger, dredge master, when asked if they had tested the ground stated that the Company figured that it was cheaper to move the dredge onto the ground, and use their dredging as testing. That the cost of testing was so great, that it would just about take care of moving the dredge.

Before the outfit left the Umpqua, it was reported to me (Dame Rumor) that a couple of snipers were making "big" money following the dredge and cleaning bed rock.

When the property was visited, during the morning of Sept. 11, 1940, they had the plant shut-down and were using the drag-line to dig some test pits, The only material being tested was that from the bottom of the test pits.

Mr. Ermatinger stated that the Company had lost money on this particular operation, and that the plant would be moved into California when they completed their dredging on Cow Creek in about three weeks.

I noted that bedrock was exposed at the surface, in the channel and on the banks of Cow Creek just above the bridge where the road west from Highway 99 at Ford's Service Station goes to Riddle. Also just upstream from Lobicasa tailings, bedrock is again exposed in a similar manner. It would appear to me that this definitely limited the dredging ground, and that the Cow Cr. venture was a stop-gap at the best.

Ray C. Treasher,
Field Geologist,
September 11, 1940.