

STATE GOVERNING BOARD

W. H. STRAYER, CHAIRMAN, BAKER  
ALBERT BURCH . . . . . MEDFORD  
E. B. MACNAUGHTON . . . . . PORTLAND



STATE ASSAY LABORATORIES

400 E. 1 ST., GRANTS PASS  
RAY C. TREASHER  
FIELD GEOLOGIST

EARL K. NIXON  
DIRECTOR

F. W. LIBBEY  
MINING ENGINEER

JOHN ELIOT ALLEN  
GEOLOGIST

STATE DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND  
MINERAL INDUSTRIES

702 WOODLARK BUILDING  
PORTLAND, OREGON

Grants Pass, Oregon,  
Sept. 21st, 1943.

2102 COURT ST., BAKER  
HUGH K. LANCASTER  
FIELD ENGINEER

To: F. W. Libbey

From: RCT

Subject: Douglas Co. Mines Catalog, South Umpqua Mining Co.,  
Tiller-Drew area  
Correction.

Wells has just advised me of an error in our Mines Catalog, Bull.  
14-C, Vol. 1, p. 129, South Umpqua Mining Co.

Between 3rd and 4th paragraphs, "Shenon 34:43 gives the following  
information", should go between 6th and 7th paragraphs.

Between 3rd and 4th paragraphs, insert --

Parks & Swartley 16:24 reported as follows:

Under References, Shenon 34:43, add "(quoted)"  
ADD Parks & Swartley 16:24 (quoted)

Sincerely,

Ray C. Treasher,  
Field Geologist.

RECEIVED  
SEP 22 1943

STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

February 26, 1951

Mr. Norman Hermans  
Route 2, Box 179  
Forest Grove, Oregon

Dear Mr. Hermans:

I want to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 14 concerned with the Silver Butte mine near Riddle.

I do not know that I can add very much to Mr. Mason's letter to you since the type of equipment required would depend on scale of operations. I should certainly think that you would need the larger compressor that you mention and even that would hardly do very much more than handle a couple of drills.

In regard to insurance, the State Industrial Accident Commission would handle the accident insurance required by law. I am not quite sure what you mean about insurance to protect property owners.

The cost of production for small mines would vary so much that I would hesitate to give you any representative figures. Moreover operating costs have been increasing a great deal over the past ten years. This is due both to increase in wages and costs of materials.

I believe that the Silver Butte mine warrants a very thorough examination and this examination should include some development work. Upon this examination and development work an opinion could then be given on whether or not the mine warrants deep development.

Very truly yours,

Director

FVL: jr

February 15, 1951

Mr. Norman Hermens  
Route 2, Box 179.  
Forest Grove, Oregon

Dear Mr. Hermens:

Your letter addressed to Mr. Libbey has been handed to me for reply since Mr. Libbey is currently in the Midwest attending a State Geologists' conference. He will return on February 26, and you may expect a reply from him shortly thereafter.

The questions you raise concerning size of pipe and compressor for the Silver Butte mine can not be answered too satisfactorily without a firsthand knowledge of the set-up. In general, it is wiser to use 2-inch pipe since this size cuts down friction losses and creates a certain storage capacity as well. There are no manufacturers of wedges to my knowledge in western Oregon, and it has been my experience that some wood working shop has to make a special run.

George W. Gleeson is Dean of the School of Science at Corvallis, and any questions concerning mining engineering should be addressed to him.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph S. Mason  
Mining Engineer

RSM:ik

Route 2 Box 179  
Forest Grove, Oregon  
February 14, 1951

Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries  
702 Woodlark Bldg.  
Portland, Oregon

Attn: Mr. F. W. Libbey

Gentlemen:

I have an opportunity to take over the Silver Butte Mine, Riddle, Oregon under liberal initial terms. Can you help me with a few problems regarding starting up the mine and regarding the mine itself?

I should like to know what minimum size of compressor I would need and what size pipe to operate one drill if I can salvage about 200' of 4" and 250' of 2" if I have an air receiver tank within 50' of the heading and need about 100' more pipe to reach the heading. Shall I use 1" pipe that is on hand or buy 2"? Will a 105 or a 210 compressor do the job?

Are there any manufacturers of wedges in Western Oregon?

Who is the present head of the State College of Mines at Corvallis?

What type of insurance would I need to protect both property owners and personnel? Do you have any cost of production per ton figures from small mines available?

Do you believe the Silver Butte Mine warrants deep level development, and exploration work?

I would certainly appreciate every bit of help and advice you can give me. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



Norman Hermens

RECEIVED  
FEB 15 1951

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

March 7, 1951

Mr. Norman Hermens  
Route 2, Box 179  
Forest Grove, Oregon

Dear Sir:

Your letter of February 27 to Dean George W. Gleason, School of Science, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon, was forwarded to this office to be answered.

U. S. Geological Survey Circular No. 2 entitled "Copper deposits in the Squaw Creek and Silver Peak districts and at the Alameda mine, southwestern Oregon with notes on the Pennell & Farmer and Banfield prospects" by P. J. Shenon (1933) describes in some detail the orebodies of the Silver Peak mine (the same as the Silver Butte Mining Company which you mention). This circular is out of print, but reference copies are available at this office or the Portland Public Library. I am enclosing a copy of excerpts for the portion of this circular that describes the orebodies explored on this property. Some assays are included and this information should be helpful to you in forming an opinion regarding this property.

In your letter you state that you have been informed that the vein on this property extends for miles in each direction. I do not believe that information thus far available proves that this is absolutely true. However, information from prospecting in the area indicates that there probably are individual mineralized shear zones somewhat similar to those at the Silver Peak mine along the same general trend (northeast-southwest) as the zone at the Silver Peak mine.

Sincerely yours,

David White  
Geologist

DW:lk  
Encl.

Route 2, Box 179  
Forest Grove, Oregon  
February 27, 1951

Dean George W. Gleeson  
School of Science  
Oregon State College  
Corvallis, Oregon  
Dear Dean Gleeson;

I am wondering if you or possibly some member of the faculty of the school of Mines or Geology could give me some sort of opinion regarding the ore-body under lying the property of the Silver Butte Mining Co., Riddle, Douglas County Oregon?

I am able to obtain this property under liberal initial terms and a number of people in that district have informed me that this vein has been traced on the surface for several miles in each direction, but I am not in a position to carry on any exploration at a deeper level prior to taking the property. Can you tell me if this property shows any indication of warranting a deep level development program ?

Sincerely yours

*Norman Hermens*  
Norman Hermens

*Pare*

RECEIVED  
FEB 28 1951  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.