

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

Steens Mountain Mine Fields Area Harney County
Locally known as Stephenson and Bradley Mine

OWNERS & OPERATORS: Glenn Stephenson, Andrews, Oregon, and Efeard Bradley, Folly Farm, Oregon

LOCATION: The property is located 6 miles south of the Alvard Ranch on Toughey Creek in Sections 29 and 30, T. 34 S., R. 34 E., W. M.

AREA: Six unpatented claims known as Steens Mountain Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

HISTORY: The claims were located by Glenn Stephenson in October, 1938. The Horse Heaven Mine took two year option at the time which expired in the fall of 1940 and was not renewed. At present Stephenson and Bradley are operating the mine. Production for the year 1941 to date is 12 flasks.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The mining claims are located on steep slopes on either side of Toughey Creek. There is no timber in the vicinity of the claims, but small junipers and sage brush grow on the slope west of the mine. These are used to fire a small tube retort on the property, but not suitable for mine use.

One small spring at the mouth of Toughey Creek furnishes enough water for drinking purposes.

The claims are rather inaccessible. Supplies must be packed into camp by horse for the last mile. A road could be built into camp if development work justifies it. Roads in this section of the country are almost impassable in February and March.

GEOLOGY: Assessment work has been done on all the claims but the major working is on claim 5. This consists of 180 feet of tunnel and 50 feet winze (See sketch).

The country rock is a ribbon or banded rhyolite. The tunnel on claim 5 was started in a broken zone containing cinnabar striking N 20° E and dipping E. This zone did not improve and cross cuts were driven, which intersected high grade cinnabar in narrow seams (1" to 3") along the fault. These narrow stringers (1" to 3" wide) vary in value from 50 to 200 lbs. per ton. At times the rhyolite walls are impregnated. From the underhand stope in the west drift 12 flasks of quicksilver were retorted from 12 tons of sorted ore. Low grade ore is piled in the west drift for future use.

West of the claims, above Toughey Creek, dacite flows are exposed.

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

REMARKS:

This is a promising prospect, but not enough work has been done to properly evaluate it.

Hugh K. Lancaster,
Field Engineer
July 30, 1941.