

Harney Co. # 38 *J.A.S.*

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

Report by N.S. Wagner
Date March 24, 1944

VALLEY VIEW PROSPECT (Cinnabar) Geodes, Harney Co. # 38

OWNER Don Robbins, Jordan Valley, ~~Malheur~~ Harney County, Oregon

LOCATION T. 23 S., R. 33 E., S. 11

AREA 640 acres of deeded land

HISTORY Discovered 1941 by Aubrey Harkey and L. B. Tudor of Burns.

DEVELOPMENT Two 20 to 30 feet cuts and several scattered prospect pits. The cuts are open but the pits are sloughed in and reveal nothing.

DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT Fourteen miles to Crane by improved dirt road passable from April 1st to December 31.

WATER Could be developed on flat 600' from property by a well 30 to 40 feet deep as the water table is high here.

TOPOGRAPHY Deposit occurs on the top and west slope of a long, narrow hill bordering the east end of Harney Valley. The summit is about 250 feet above the valley level and is about 4200 feet above sea level.

GEOLOGY The cuts reveal a mixture of clay and hydrothermally altered country rock in which some opalite and silica occurs in small poorly defined masses and in geodes. While comparable material is to be seen in two other less revealing pits several hundred feet distant to the south, they are all separated by large areas in which blocks of unaltered lava, tuff and heavy overburden occur. In the cuts, cinnabar is found in specimen quantities in some of the geodes and sometimes in their clay matrix, but nowhere was there any concentration in the form of stringers or leads showing. Very little cinnabar is to be seen in the pits to the

VALLEY VIEW PROSPECT (Cinnabar) (cont.)

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south. Geodes have been dug extensively by collectors from several locations near the base of this same hill on the north and eastern sides. According to Mr. Robbins no cinnabar has been found in them. In fact, they are dull and colorless compared to those from the cuts -- a fact which doubtless is significant in connection with localization of mineralization which at the present time appears to be confined to the eastern slope in the vicinity of the cuts.

ECONOMICS

All samples assayed have been quite lowgrade with the exception of one sample which was taken from a local slip in the clay. While this is so, grade alone doesn't necessarily rule the property out at the present stage of development as a very considerable amount of work remains to be done to fully reveal the nature of the occurrence. Although prevailing market conditions do not justify any such work on a prospect at this time, Mr. Robbins is considering capitalizing on the geodes for the tourist trade after the duration and plans to conduct his geode exploitation so that it will be tantamount to prospecting. From this standpoint future prospecting is justified as the cut geodes are very colorful and are a type much sought after by collectors.

Valley View, Colorado
RESULTS OF NOTES TAKEN DURING EXAMINATION OF
VALLEY VIEW CINNABAR PROPERTY - ~~Harney~~ COUNTY

Harney

Examination by N. S. Wagner
Date of examination March 21, 1944
Accompanied in field by Don Robbins, Owner

Mr. Robbins is not a mining man, but he is a very intelligent person who until recently worked for the Grazing Service in Colorado. He fully appreciates that he doesn't have a very good prospect of cinnabar and that even if he did, the economic conditions are not favorable. His chief interest was to obtain an analysis of the geologic set-up on the property with especial emphasis on where and how to conduct future prospecting.

Samples taken by Mr. Robbins from the two main cuts and assayed by the Department are as follows:

P 2140 (EB 7)	Hg.	12.6 lb/ton
P 2141 (EB 8)		0.4
P 2142 (EB 9)		0.5
P 2143 (EB 10)		Trace

Mr. Robbins sent duplicates of these samples together with additional ones to the Gem State Assay office, Boise, Idaho, with instructions for said office to send a copy of the returns to me. They are as follows, dated March 3, 1944.

A 3	Hg.	.2% equals four lbs/ton
A 4		.2% " " "
A 5		.1% " two "
A 8		.00% trace
A X		18. equals 36 " "
B 4		.1% " two "
B 6		.1% " " "
B 7		.1% " " "
B 8		.00% Trace

Signed - H.W. Brase, Assayer

These cuts are situated just below the crest of a hill and they run directly into the hill for about 30 feet, exposing about 15' to 18' of rock on their faces. The cuts are side by side and begin quite close together (within 20') diverging slightly in their trends. They show mostly a matrix of yellow clay full of geodes through which cinnabar was erratically scattered. There were no concentrations or clean out stringers or significant structural trends showing.

In trying to broaden our field of knowledge in respect to structural trends, we followed the ridge south 400 to 500 yards climbing from the hill to the valley several times. Practically everywhere fresh, hard lava and tuff were encountered. While many of these were talus blocks, I rather suspect that a substantial number of them were in place and that there is little extension of the mineral formation in this direction. Two small, unmineralized isolated occurrences of geodes were found a considerable distance to the south. My general impression based on this

superficial inspection, is that a main fracture zone, if any exists, more than likely parallels this whole side of the hill and is situated near the base of the hill, with the formation shown in these pits representing local offshoots in gash veins or complementary fractures.

Anyway, I took specimens of the geodes and have given them to various rock hounds who cut them and regard them as being exceptionally fine specimens - so apparently Robbins has the makings of a profitable enterprise of a sort at that.