

## State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, OregonOREGON PLACER MINES, INC. (dredge)

## GOLD HILL AREA

Owners: Pearl V. Williams, San Francisco; Sophia Wilson, Portland; Mrs. Carrie O. Puhl & Mrs. Lillie MacKay & associates; Mrs. Gertrude Rosecrans & associates; W. E. Chaffee; A. S. Thornton; D. J. Estremado; of Gold Hill, Oregon.

Operators: Oregon Placer Mines, Inc., leasing. C. C. Zimmerman, pres. Kenneth O. Dills, vice-pres.; W. E. Zimmerman, secretary; Box 568, Gold Hill, Oregon.

Location: Placer ground along Galls Cr., from 1000 feet above mouth to 4 miles upstream. This would include portions of secs. 21, 28, & 33, T. 36 S., R. 3 W., and sec. 4, T. 37 S., R. 3 W.

Area: Four miles long by an average 200 feet wide.

History: There has been no placering along Galls Cr. except small scale hydraulicking and sniping. The hillsides on both sides of the creek are famous for their "pockets". Charles L. Austin brought in a small dry-land washing plant in Oct. 1940. This plant <sup>was</sup> ~~has been~~ rebuilt and is <sup>now</sup> ~~is~~ operating upon skids. *Work has been discontinued.*

Development: Little work was done except prospecting until the first of February, 1941.

Equipment: Northwest gas dragline with a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cu. yd. Paige ~~bucket~~ bucket and a 50 foot boom. The dry-land washing plant is on skids. Hopper: grizzly is 8 ft. by 8 ft. with bars spaced on 10 inch centers. Trommel: 50 inches by 20 ft.;  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet of  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch holes and 3 feet of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch holes. Stacker is 25 feet long with an 18 inch conveyor belt. Fines are pumped by Krogh 8 inch tailings pump through a six inch pipe to sluice boxes. Sluice boxes: five 2-foot by 20 foot boxes equipped with Hungarian riffles and 8 feet of wire screen in each box. The dry-land plant originally was mounted on a Morland 5-ton truck with sluice boxes attached. *Work discontinued*

Geology: Overburden from a few inches to four feet, and becomes less upstream. Gravel depth ranges from 9 feet to 15 feet. Little clay. Few boulders over 18 inches; average size 5 inches. Bedrock is easily dug to depth of 1 foot. Numerous reefs cross the channel and affect gold concentration. Gold is coarse, light colored and has a fineness of 850. About  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of black sand per cubic yard. The channel is about 40 yards wide.

Water: Water is not plentiful. For a portion of the year the Company expects to pump from the Rogue River, a distance of ~~200/1000~~ 2000 feet.

Informant: W. E. Zimmerman and Ray C. Treasher 3/4/31.  
Report by: RCT 3/4/41



September 16, 1941

*State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries*

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702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

OREGON PLACER MINES, INC.

Gold Hill Area

Mr. C. C. Zimmerman, President of this Company, was in this date to advise that their plant has been down since July 1st. Their drag-line tipped over and they had trouble with insurance adjustment. They have not resumed operations and at present are about to close a deal with another company to take over their holdings.

Ray C. Treasher  
Field Geologist  
September 16, 1941



September 16, 1941

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OREGON PLACER MINES, INC.

Gold Hill Area

Zimmerman reports that Spokane money is to take over their ground, - install a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  yard drag-line and Bodinson floating plant. Mr. Grattan H. Lynct, 550 Peyton Building, Spokane, Washington, is the engineer for the outfit. Zimmerman does not know the name of the new outfit.

Ray C. Treasher  
Field Geologist  
September 16, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

Oregon Placer Mines, Inc.

Gold Hill area

Mr. C. C. Zimmerman, pres. of this Co., was in this date to advise that their plant has been down since July 1st. Their drag-line tipped over and they had trouble with insurance adjustment. They have not resumed operations and at present are about to close a deal with another company to take over their holdings.

Ray Orest  
Field Geologist  
Sept. 15, 1941

3 pink tissue sheets.

Oregon Power Mines, Inc.

Gold Hill area.

CONFIDENTIAL

Zimmerman reports that Spokane money is to take over their ground, - install a 3½ yd. dragline and Bodinson floating plant. Mr. Grattan H. Lynch, 550 Peyton Bldg., Spokane, Wash., is the engineer for the outfit. Zimmerman does not know the name of the new outfit.

Ray C. Rescher  
Field Geologist,  
Sept. 15, 1941



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MINERAL INDUSTRIES

329 S. W. OAK STREET  
PORTLAND, OREGON

Replies should be  
addressed c/o State  
Assay Laboratory  
400 E. I Street  
Grants Pass, Oregon

OREGON PLACER MINES, INC.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Austin reports that he has operated this plant, successfully, in California, and that he has a second plant, similar to this one in operation down there. He hopes to bring it to Oregon in the near future. He also reports that he was sent to Oregon by the Glide Foundation when they were on Powderman Cr. and that he quit them as they did not permit him to run the job but wanted to run it for him.

The ground is being tested by means of test pits, and he has tested the full 4 mile length of the stream channel. At present, pits are being sunk to prove out actual working areas. He feels that the ground mined will average 35¢ per yard, and that his recovery costs will be about 12¢ a yard.

The plant is mounted on this truck chassis, and braced with heavy structural steel members. The entire plant is supposed to be as mobile as any large truck will be. He ~~plant~~ plans on moving the equipment, readily and freely; during the Galls Cr. water season he will move to the upper part of the stream, and save the lower end for mining during low water when water will be pumped from the Rogue River.

It seems to me that his bedrock will be quite rough. He states that it is soft and easily dug, and it may be. The "porphyry" is probably more like the meta-sediments of the Applegate series than a true igneous rock -- however there may be igneous rock in here. "Reefs" are numerous in the form of outcrops. If this mobile plants really functions, it is probable that he will be able to sneak in between reefs and clean-up. The pumping of water from the Rogue River is not an attractive feature.

The black sand he has saved from test pits is reported to average 2 lbs. per yard, and assays \$52 a ton in gold. I understand that his black sands will go to Gold Hill for processing. He will save them by means of an undercurrent on the plant.

Austin claims to have operated placer and dredge properties for a number of years. He also claims to be a 1904 graduate of University of Oregon.

Ray C. Treasher,  
October 1st, 1940.



March 4, 1941

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OREGON PLACER MINES, INC.

GOLD HILL AREA

The Zimmerman's have taken over the Company and Austin is no longer connected with it. It was not Austin's money that started operations. They feel that Austin is not an operator but is a good "tester". They claim that the plant was rebuilt 5 times, from the rubber tired truck arrangement to its present set-up.

Note that the sluices are some distance from the plant. This is so the plant may be moved without disturbing the boxes. Water is still a problem, and when they begin pumping 2000 feet it will be an ~~item~~ item.

I suggested settling ponds for settling muddy water and also for re-circulation of water for the washing plant. Gave them data on the muddy water situation.

They have quite a bit of black sand. Dines & Von Goerlich are going to play with their black sands, using a jig.

Ray C. Treasher,  
Field Geologist,  
March 4, 1941.

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OREGON PLACER MINES INCORPORATED

Gold Hill Area

June 18, 1941

This outfit is having a little trouble. The plant was designed as a small, mobile, dry-bank plant and was very inefficient.

Zimmerman took over the outfit, redesigned the plant, and they began digging the forepart of this <sup>1941</sup> year. They have had a deal

of trouble with the plant standing up during operations. At present it is necessary for them to do one of two things: either redesign the plant from top to bottom and continue operations themselves, or to make a deal with some outfit who will put a floating plant on their ground. They prefer to do the latter.

They claim to have about four miles of placer ground along Galls Creek. They seem to have a definite idea that a floating plant can work the ground. It seems to me that the ground is a little steep, but apparently it might be worked out.

Ray C. Treasher  
Field Geologist