

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon
Gold Hill area

ROXANA QUICKSILVER

The present operators have had no quicksilver experience and only one, Mr. Beard, has had any mining experience. His has been in gold in the Mother Lode area, so he reports. He is quite talkative and is rather certain of his ability and his "connection". According to his story, the Bettles' secured a lease from the owners and were unable to make good. So they secured financing from the Eroy-Strickler et al outfit to continue prospecting and get out some money. The Bettles then began work in the early part of 1942 and according to the story they went around to the numerous cuts and trenches, etc., - wherever there were little bunches of high-grade that had been yarded out, - and retorted this easily available highgrade. They sold 7 flasks thru the Medford bank and it is reported that they peddled a lot of quick to dentists, etc., so that there is no way to check on the total production. When they had finished with the easily accessible highgrade and it became necessary to do some hard work to secure the ore, they folded up.

Beard claims he is supplying the money and the "connections", and I inferred that he would include brains in with the deal. Just how Welling and Alvernaz cut into the deal, I don't know. Anyway, they have hired Bruce Force to do their prospecting work. Force is a hard worker and knows about quicksilver, which is something his employers do not. Force struck me as being quite sincere and honest. He showed Wells and me over the property and his various stories seemed to check and hold water (or cinnabar).

At present, the development consists of sinking a pit at the "north workings". This is the "large pit" of the sketch. Force is down about 15 feet. Cinnabar concentration seems to be very spotty. I cut two samples, one on the northwest wall near the bottom (13') and the other on the southeast wall about four feet above the bottom (11') They represent 60 inch channels.

The operators asked for suggestions, and the suggestions are rather obvious. Principally that they should clean out the old trenches with cut across the hillsides in all directions. At one time the property must have been thoroly prospected, but if the stories are correct, it was never assayed. The property should be surveyed, and an assay map made of the results of the sampling of the various trenches. Other minor points were included, but these were the principle things.

The property is very interesting and it might well be that it would develop into something worth while. It does seem a shame, however, that someone capable of intelligently developing the property hasn't ahold of it. I believe that the present operators only hope is to quickly make a good showing that will impress some of the "connections" who might take over.

Ray C. Treasher,
November 15th, 1942

RIB MINERAL RESOURCES FILE 12

RECORD IDENTIFICATION

RECORD NO..... N055840
 RECORD TYPE..... X1M
 COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION. USGS
 INFORMATION SOURCE... BAILEY, E. H.
 MAP CODE NO. OF REC..

REPORTER

NAME..... PETERSON, JOCELYN A.
 DATE..... 76 08
 UPDATED..... 81 02
 BY..... FERNS, MARK L. (BROOKS, HOWARD C.)

NAME AND LOCATION

DEPOSIT NAME..... ROXANA
 SYNONYM NAME..... HILL TOP MERCURY

MINING DISTRICT/AREA/SUBDIST. MEADOWS

COUNTRY CODE..... US
 COUNTRY NAME: UNITED STATES

STATE CODE..... OR
 STATE NAME: OREGON

COUNTY..... JACKSON
 DRAINAGE AREA..... 17100308 PACIFIC NORTHWEST
 PHYSIOGRAPHIC PRDV..... 13 KLAMATH MOUNTAINS
 LAND CLASSIFICATION..... 40

QUAD SCALE QUAD NO OR NAME
 1: 62500 TRAIL

LATITUDE LONGITUDE
 42-38-59N 122-57-48W

UTM NORTHING UTM EASTING UTM ZONE NO
 4721700.0 503000.0 +10

TWP..... 034S
 RANGE..... 002W
 SECTION.. 05
 MERIDIAN. WILLAMETTE

LOCATION COMMENTS: E/2 SEC 5

ORE MATERIALS (MINERALS, ROCKS, ETC.):
CINNABAR

EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT
STATUS OF EXPLOR. OR DEV. 6
PROPERTY IS INACTIVE
YEAR OF DISCOVERY..... 1919
PRESENT/LAST OWNER..... PAUL MATSON, 1963

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSIT

DEPOSIT TYPES:
MINERALIZED FRACTURE ZONE
FORM/SHAPE OF DEPOSIT:

SIZE/DIRECTIONAL DATA
SIZE OF DEPOSIT..... SMALL

DESCRIPTION OF WORKINGS
SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND

COMMENTS(DESCRIP. OF WORKINGS):
MANY HAND-DUG TRENCHES, 4 SHORT ADITS, 2 SHALLOW SHAFTS

PRODUCTION
YES
SMALL PRODUCTION

CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION (ORE, COMMOD., CONC., OVERBUR.)

ITEM	ACC	AMOUNT	THOUS. UNITS	YEAR	GRADE, REMARKS
15 HG	ACC	0000.007	FL	TO 1963	

SOURCE OF INFORMATION (PRODUCTION).. BROOKS

GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY

AGE OF HOST ROCKS..... PERM-TRI
HOST ROCK TYPES..... SCHISTOSE GREENSTONE (ANDESITE AND BASALT LAVAS AND TUFF; MINOR RHYOLITE); MINOR
MICA SCHIST AND GNEISS

PERTINENT MINERALOGY..... KADLINITE, LIMONITE; CHALCEDONY VEINLETS AND LENSES UP TO 2 FT THICK; MARCASITE

IMPORTANT ORE CONTROL/LOCUS.. BROAD FRACTURE ZONE. FRACTURES STRIKE N20-50W; DIP STEEPLY E OR W

LOCAL GEOLOGY

ROXANA GROUP (quicksilver)

Gold Hill area

Owners: B. O. and Vena Force, E. W. Hewitt, and H. H. Sharp estate. Leased to A. E. and A. J. Bettles. This lease has been assigned to D. M. Broy, W. C. Werle, Letus Strickler, and A. C. Graham. This assignment with option to purchase lease has been transferred to F. H. Welling, A. Alvernez, and H. L. Beard, who had no formal partnership agreement at the time of this report (1942).

Location: Portions of the E $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. 5, T. 34 S.; R. 2 W., on the ridge between Morrison and Evans Creeks, and north of the War Eagle property.

The property may be reached from Medford, Grants Pass, or Gold Hill. At the present time, Camp White activities have closed the road to Medford and Gold Hill by way of Sams Valley. It is necessary to travel by way of the town of Rogue River, up Evans Creek into Sams Valley, and to continue up Evans Creek to an old logging road (about 2 miles beyond

the Morrison Creek crossing) that takes off up the hill to the left. Distance from the town of Rogue River to the logging road is 25.1 miles; it is two miles by logging road up the hill. Gold Hill is the nearest railroad point available in peace-time.

Area: Three unpatented full-sized mining claims and two fractional mining claims.

History: Schuette (38:121) reported as follows:

"North of the War Eagle mine in Sec. 5, T. 34 S., R. 2 W., is the Roxana group of claims owned by E. W. Hewitt, B. O. Force and H. H. Sharp of Beagle, Oregon. Fig. 17 is a sketch map of the location as furnished by Mr. Sharp. The claims are located on a well-timbered ridge between Morrison Creek and Evans Creek.

"These prospects were discovered and located between 1919 and 1937. To date there has been no production as no retort has yet been installed on the property. All claims are held by location. The ore occurs in fractures in the May Creek schist and locally the wall rocks were altered by the mineralizing solutions. The ore-bearing fractures have a northwesterly strike.

"La Vena claim has a good spring of water on it. On this claim ore is exposed by cuts for about 60 feet at the extreme north end.

"Roxana claim has ore exposed by several cuts at the south end for a distance of 150 feet and this continues into the adjoining Hanna property. At the north end of Roxana several cuts expose ore for a distance of 200 feet approximately in line with the exposure at the southern end of the claim.

"Roxana No. 2 claim has ore exposed by cuts at the south center of the claim for about 60 feet and also at the southwest corner which continues into Roxana No. 4.

"Roxana No. 3 claim. On the south end of the claim, ore is exposed by several cuts over a distance of some 200 feet. At the north end a 100-foot tunnel crosscuts the ridge. Fifty feet from the west portal, ore was found and drifted on towards the south for 50 feet. This ore continues into Roxana No. 4. A stringer of ore was cut at the east portal of the tunnel.

"Roxana No. 4. This has ore exposed by cuts over a distance of 800 feet and this runs across the sideline into Roxana No. 2. Some 60 feet below this ore, at the north end, another and parallel ore occurrence is exposed by open cuts.

"Roxana No. 5. This fractional claim has ore exposed but it is not certain whether this is ore in place or a slide from the claim above.

"The cinnabar is the heavy crystalline variety and some beautiful specimens of 'solid cinnabar' have been obtained."

Later the property was leased as indicated under ownership. The Bettles did a small amount of work on the property and used the retort to recover some quicksilver. Recorded production is 7 flasks, produced in the early part of 1942. Some of the quicksilver is reported to have been sold directly to users. The present operators are developing the property to determine whether or not they wish to exercise their option to purchase the lease.

Development: The development is much as reported by Schuette (38:121). This work may be summarized by grouping the workings. At the northwest portion of the group (southeast center of Roxana No. 4) is one group of trenches and two pits. About 570 feet to the southeast at the south center line stake of Roxana No. 4 and the north center line stake of Roxana No. 3, there are two small cuts and a short 40-foot adit. At the southeast end of the workings (but north of the La Vena claim) is the 120-foot adit. Scattered about the claims are numerous other showings at outcrops and in small cuts and trenches.

Equipment: Only hand tools have been used. The retort is a two-tube Rossi type, the tubes measuring 18 inches in diameter and 10 feet long. Each tube is reported to have a rated capacity of 750 lbs. of ore.

Geology: The country rock is May Creek schist, as defined by Diller and Kay, 24, and as mapped by Wilkinson, 41. Some of the schist has a gneissic appearance, produced by bands of mafics alternating with bands of lighter-colored minerals, and knots of each "wound up" in the other. Locally hydrothermal (?) solutions have intensely altered the schist. Outcrops are badly weathered and though it is difficult to get any positive picture of the structure, the schist bands appear to strike about N. 34° - 45° W., and dip 55° - 70° NE.

At the "north workings," the larger pit shows intensely altered schist. Some portions have been kaolinized; other portions, silicified. "Iron ribs" of short extent occur in the clayey material. The type of alteration, the iron ribs, and the silicified portions might be compared with those of the Black Butte quicksilver mine, near Cottage Grove. Along the top of the ridge at these "north workings" the schist has been crushed, and alteration has been intense. Feldspar minerals have been kaolinized. Farther south on the ridge the schist is fractured and silicified with chalcedonic boxwork and, in places, the schist minerals have been removed. In the tunnel at the south workings (the 120-ft. adit) the schist has been kaolinized and softened, and some has been silicified. At a point 114 ft. from the portal a small sulphide stringer is reported to assay 80 cents in gold.

Beautiful crystalline cinnabar both coarse and fine is found with the chalcedonic or silicified portions of the May Creek schist. In the larger pit at the "north workings" some cinnabar was seen in the kaolinized schist when the samples were cut. In general however, the cinnabar seems to be more prevalent in the chalcedonic portions than in the kaolinized portions, but careful sampling and assaying will be necessary to verify this statement.

It appears that the May Creek schist has been fractured by northwest-trending shear zones and that hydrothermal solutions produced kaolinization and softening of some portions whereas the solutions silicified and hardened other parts. The cinnabar-bearing solutions may have accompanied one of these epochs of alteration and if the idea that there is more cinnabar in the chalcedony is correct, it is probable that the cinnabar mineralization accompanied an epoch of silicification.

Mining: Prospecting by means of pits and trenches is the only activity at present (1942).

References: Schuette 38:121 (Claim map on p. 118) (quoted)
Wilkinson 40:8

Informants: R.C.T. and F. G. Wells, November 13, 1942.

← Note

leased by

James & Samuel Holtzclaw who are now high grading it & retorting in an iron pipe. Production about 3 flasks a week (at least for 1 week). They (Holtzclaw) have an option to buy in 90 days - no permanent lease.

Refer Informant - J. Holtzclaw

Informant: R.C.T., 1942.

Aug. 26.
Windle

RHOTAN POCKET
see Revenue Pocket

ROGUE RIVER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
see Millionaire Mine

ROGUE RIVER GOLD MINING COMPANY (dredge)

Owner: Rogue River Gold Mining Company, J. H. Perry, manager.

Location: Secs. 1, 2, 11, 12, T. 37 S., R. 4 W., on Right and Left Forks of Foots Creek.

History: The area above the junction of the two forks of Foots Creek was dredged prior to the fall of 1935. The Right fork was dredged to the Lance placer and Left fork was dredged to the first road crossing. The dredge was then moved to Croves Creek, Greenback area, Josephine County. Later the Murphy-Murray dredge dug ground upstream from the point where the Rogue River Gold Mining Co. stopped operations.

Informant: R.C.T., 1940.

ROSE PLACER MINE

Gold Hill area

Owner: John Ross, Route 1, Box 50, Gold Hill, Oregon.

Location: 7 1/2 sec. 13, T. 36 S., R. 4 W., Middle fork of Foots Creek, about 10 miles from Gold Hill. Elevation, 1500 feet.

Area: 50 acres of which 20 acres is placer ground.

General: The placer contains very little clay. There are numerous boulders, and bed rock is rough. The water right dates back to 1866 and consists of 5 a.f.s. from the Middle Fork of Foots Creek. It is reported that values average 50¢ a yard in both coarse and fine gold.

Informant: J.E.H. May 2, 1938

50-13

Nov. 13, 1942



Channel cut main pit

50-14

11/13/42



Main Pit on N.W.

