

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

BLACK BEAUTY CHROMITE

See also CF

Illinois River area.

Owners: Pete Neubert and Lou Hammer, Selma, Oregon.

Location: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 21, T. 37S., R. 9W., sixteen miles from Selma on
Oak Flat road. Adits are about 50 feet above the Illinois
River.

Area: Three claims, head by location, dated June 1942.

Development: Surface digging and two adits. One is 40 feet long, and
the other is 30 feet long. One-half mile of road has
been built to the property.

Equipment: Hand tools, wheelbarrows, etc. No powder used.

Geology: Country rock is serpentine that is well fractured and broken
into individual blocks. A few hundred feet eastward is a
narrow tongue of hornblende diorite. Chromite is found in
a zone that varies from a few inches to four feet in thickness. The
ore is "sandy" with occasional masses of hard ore. Some talc is in-
cluded in the ore. The dip and strike of the ore body is so variable
that it is difficult to form any idea of the trend but in general it
dips into the hill.

The hard boulders of ore are surrounded by talcose "ser-
pentite." The hanging wall is quite talcose, with considerable chlo-
rite. Near the contact, the talcose material may be so mixed with
tiny grains of chromite that it looks like ore.

The area seems to represent a landslide in which the block moved
as a mass. The rock was fractured into discrete chunks which main-
tained their relative position. Percolating waters then softened
the serpentine surrounding the chromite grains to produce a "sandy"
ore.

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The serpentine country rock near the contacts was softened ~~to talcose~~ 702 Woodlark Building
material. The attitude of the chrome "vein" suggests some rotation
on the landslide plane.

Portland, Oregon

Several hundred feet eastward is an exposure of hard rock chromite which consists of chromite grains with a small amount of altered dunite. This ore may be the same general type as that mined, except that softening has not progressed to a point where the ore becomes "sandy".

Informant: R.C.T. 10/30/42.

See also Conf

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The deposit was discovered by Neubert who panned chromite "sand" near the river's edge. He traced the ore, by panning, and found no solid chunks. When first opened, the ore was only a few inches wide and was lying quite flat. The ore steepened, got wider, and at the present adit faces, the ore appears to dip steeply into the hill.

If my conclusion that this is a land slide block is correct, the ore will have a very definite downward limit, that of the landslide plane. Neubert recognizes this but states that when he reaches this plane, he will raise 15 feet and strike the solid ore! He claims a lateral extension of 600 feet for his ore could show me nothing to prove it.

The ore and rock is unique in that no powder is required. Plenty of timbering is necessary. Something like 180 tons have been shipped, the grade ranging from 35% to 45%. They plan on operating all winter. No estimate of probable ore is made.

Ray C. Treasher
Field Geologist
November 2, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORD IDENTIFICATION

RECORD NO..... M060540
RECORD TYPE..... XIM
COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION. USGS
MAP CODE NO. OF REC..

REPORTER

NAME..... JOHNSON, MAUREEN G.
UPDATED..... 77 05
BY..... SMITH, ROSCOE M.

NAME AND LOCATION

DEPOSIT NAME..... BLACK BEAUTY

COUNTRY CODE..... US

COUNTRY NAME: UNITED STATES

STATE CODE..... OR

STATE NAME: OREGON

COUNTY..... JOSEPHINE

QUAD SCALE QUAD NO OR NAME
1: 62500 PEARSDOLL PEAK

LATITUDE LONGITUDE
42-20-32N 123-46-21W

UTM NORTHING UTM EASTING UTM ZONE NO
4687847.2 436359.8 +10

TWP..... 37S

RANGE.... 09W

SECTION.. 21

ALTITUDE.. 1120

LOCATION COMMENTS: SE 1/4?

COMMODITY INFORMATION

COMMODITIES PRESENT..... CR

EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT

STATUS OF EXPLOR. OR DEV. 4

DESCRIPTION OF WORKINGS

PRODUCTION

YES

MEDIUM PRODUCTION

ANNUAL PRODUCTION (DRE, COMMOD., CONC., OVERBURD.)

ITEM	ACC	AMOUNT	THOUS. UNITS	YEAR	GRADE, REMARKS
1	DRE	EST	.159	TONS	1942 43% CR203
2	DRE	EST	.122	TONS	1943 42% CR203 & 46% CR203
3	DRE	EST	.030	TONS	1944 43% CR203 & 47% CR203
4	DRE	EST	.015	TONS	1945 45% CR203
5	DRE	EST	.214	TONS	1951 46% CR203
6	DRE	EST	.012	TONS	1952 44% CR203
7	DRE	EST	.006	TONS	1954 47% CR203

CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION (DRE, COMMOD., CONC., OVERBURD.)

21	TOTAL	.558	TONS	44.16 % CR203 (WEIGHTED AVERAGE GRADE)
23	DRE, EST	.558	TONS	1942-1954 44 CR203

GENERAL REFERENCES

- 1) THAYER, T. P., 1974, UNPUBL. DATA