

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

Report By: ~~Ray C. Treasher~~  
Date: ~~March 5, 1943~~

Marion County.

## TUFF QUARRY

This small quarry was visited incidental to a clay survey and such data as were available are recorded. Apparently the tuff was quarried for building stone but it appears doubtful if the quality justifies development.

Location; NW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 3, T. 8 S., R. 1 E., west of Silver Creek Falls on the road southeast of Silverton between Silver Creek and Drift Creek. The quarry is 300 feet west of the road and almost a quarter mile north of clay locality #18, Bull. 8, p. 59.

Development: Quarry face is about 75 feet long and 10' high and 30' wide. An access road metalled with dense black basalt opens the quarry. Broken and imperfect stone is stacked around the quarry.

Geology: The rock is a tuff agglomerate. The matrix is very fine grained and slightly clayey. Pumice pebbles up to 2" in diameter are common. Some carbonized wood is present. There is no structure to the stone.

Apparently, the rock is part of the tuff member in this area. Nearby localities prove the tuff is underlain by dense basalt and in spots, overlain by a vericular lava. The tuff is similar to that at Union Hill school, and to Thayer's Fern Ridge tuff.

The rock breaks down easily by flat <sup>spalls</sup> (spavls). I doubt if it would make a satisfactory building material of any sort in a damp climate.

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There are no data on ownership or the use of the stone.

~~The property was briefly visited in conjunction with a clay reconnaissance with H. S. McQueen of this date.~~

Report by:  
Informant: RCT. March 1, 1943.