

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES

The Prince William Sound District.
Valdez Precinct.
May 1925.

The Prince William Sound Region may roughly be divided into two districts. That containing the low grade copper orebodies and the one centering at Valdez which contains the free milling gold quartz fissures.

The copper district centers at Latauche where the only one of these orebodies is being worked at the present time. Interest in these low grade copper deposits is practically nil at the present time and nothing is being done with them.

The Dickey property at Rua Cove on which a good deal of development work has been done in the past year is idle at this time.

The machinery from the Alaska Reynolds property has been stripped and sold piece meal to who ever would buy it.

Doubtless these deposits will become valuable in the future but at the present time the market will not stand the cost of their exploitation, therefore the reason for their lack of development is obvious.

In the gold region things look more promising. At Valdez the Ramsay - Rutherford Mine is producing steadily in a small way.

Some interest is being shown in other of the quartz veins near by and there seems a possibility of this district becoming once more a region of small, regular producers.

The ~~Ramsay~~ Thomas Culross Mine has a small force at work and a test shipment of fifty tons has been sent to the Tacoma Smelter.

There are rumors of both the Cliff and the Granite Mines resuming operations but nothing definite could be learned in the short space of time that I was in Valdez.

Se. Valdez

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[Signature]
Metal Mining Assistant

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In the gold region things look more promising. At Valdez the Ramsey - Rutherford Mine is producing steadily in a small way. Some interest is being shown in other of the quartz veins near by and there seems a possibility of this district becoming once more a region of small regular producers.

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The Valdez Mining Precinct.
1925,

By J. G. Shepard.

The Valdez Mining Precinct may roughly be divided into two districts. The gold bearing country which includes the mountainous shore line of Prince William Sound and the copper bearing country, including the islands and southwestern shore line of Prince William Sound. One exception of this general classification is the copper deposit of the Midas Mine, situated on Soloman Gulch, in the Port Valdez region. A detailed description of the prospects and mines may be found in Mineral Resources of Alaska, 1914.

During the year 1925, but little mining activity was in progress in either the gold or copper zones.

The Beatson Mine on Latouche Island was the only producer of copper. The Dickey property, at Rua Cove on Knights Island, did only assessment work. On Brainbridge Island, Dominic Vietti, extended an adit tunnel, in an attempt to under cut the orebody of the Woods property. The outlook for the resumption of copper development in this district is not promising. ^{KX} 95-34

Interest in gold mining was slightly more pronounced. Considerable prospecting was done. An arrastra was in operation at a small quartz prospect situated on the shore of Harriman Fiord. Sniping was done on a quartz vein, six miles from tidewater, on Shour Glacier. An attempt was made to get the Granite and Cliff mines in shape for resuming operations. A little work was done on some of the properties of the Mineral Creek section. The property of the Valdez Gold Co. was examined by an engineer, for the Treadwell-Yukon Mining Co. The Wameey-Rutherford Mine was operated by leasors. A test shipment of 50 tons was made to the Tacoma Smelter by the Thomas Culross Mining Co. ^{KX-86-43}

Approximately \$ 7000.00 in bullion was produced in the district during the year. The outlook is favorable for some of the properties of this district to become small, but steady producers.

Valdez 1926

THE VALDEZ MINING DISTRICT

-1926-

By J. G. Shepard

During 1926 mining in the Valdez district was confined to very limited operations, with the exception of the Beatson Copper Company at Latouche.

In the Port Wells district three properties were under development. R. J. Merrill, with two men helping, completed a raise connecting the old shaft workings with the adit level at the old Brook-Eaton mine. The Alaska Glaciers Mines Company had a crew of 8 men employed in the operation of the Free Gold property. Bert Carkey, owner of the Granite Mine, maintained a crew of 4 men who installed a pole line system from the mine to Harrison Lagoon in preparation for the installation of hydro-electric power. Mr. Carkey expects to have the mine in operation on this power by July 1927. No work was done at the mine during 1926 but the owner reports that 50,000 of ore of a commercial grade has been blocked out waiting for the installation of cheaper power, it being deemed inadvisable to mill this ore with the expensive gasoline power of former ownership.

See 1926

At the Thomas-Culross mine a few feet of assessment work was done but no ore was exposed despite press notices to that effect.

At Hogg Bay, Bainbridge Island, assessment work was done by Dominick Vietti on the Shoo Fly group. Work to date embraces 410 feet of X-cut tunnel and considerable surface trenching. About 50 feet of tunnel remains to be driven before the orebody will be reached.

The Beatson mine of the Kennecott Copper Company at Latouche operated at full capacity throughout the year. The development work for the new lift from the 300 to the 200 foot level is about one-fourth completed. Ore reserves show a mine life of about 4 years.

A complete and careful sampling was made of the Dickey property at Rua Cove by the Kennecott Co.

No other work besides assessment was done at any of the copper prospects of the district.

See 1926

The Midas mine on Soloman gulch has been definitely abandoned by the Granby Company and all movable equipment is for sale.

The Cameron and Johnson group was surveyed for patent as was also the Sealey-Davis ground. No mine work of any kind except assessment work was done on the prospects adjacent to Shoup Glacier.

The Cliff mine which was under option to Lenehan and associates was not operated, and the option expired during the summer. Lenehan and associates immediately bought the lease on the Ramsey Rutherford mine and started packing supplies to the property, it being planned to start work at the mine about January 1. No work was done at the Valdez mine during the season.

On Mineral Creek, little was done except assessment work. A small amount of tunnel was driven by the Little Giant Mining Company, work being suspended early in the summer. A local company known as the Ethel Mining Company was organized and 3 tons of supplies transported to the prospect which it is aimed to develop. This prospect was originally located by the Reenken Bros. and later known as the Williams and Gentzler prospect. Mention is made of the property in Mineral Resources of Alaska, 1914, U. S. G. S. Bulletin 642. It is intended by the new company to drive several hundred feet of tunnel.

On the whole, the Valdez district has been in a more or less dormant condition throughout the year.