

IK 195-4

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Report of Investigations by Howard M. Fowler
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in the Wrangell, Petersburg, & Skagway Mining Precincts, Alaska
July 14 - August 3, 1949

July 14 -

To Wrangell. Hank Wells, Box 708, Wrangell, Alaska reports that he is going to LeConte Bay about July 25, 1949. He states that on previous trips into LeConte Bay he has obtained high counts of up to 300 with a geiger counter. Most of these high counts were obtained over stream beds. Mr. Wells wanted to check the area more closely before requesting an examination by the Department.

Mr. L. C. Berg of Sitka is continuing his diamond drill program in Berg Basin. The program is still being conducted by Peterson.

July 15 -

To Petersburg. A request was made by Mr. James G. Taylor, City Clerk of Petersburg, for assistance in locating suitable road building material. The request was forwarded on to Juneau for a decision by Mr. Stewart since the work involved was actually of a prospect nature rather than an examination nature.

July 16 - To Juneau.

July 17 - 19 - At Juneau.

July 20 - To Petersburg.

July 21 - 23 -

At Petersburg in an attempt to locate a suitable road building material for the city. Deposits of glacial

117
Petersburg
gravel were examined at Twin Creek, eight miles from Petersburg. These deposits were alongside the road, but were unsuitable because of the large percentage of mud, clay, etc., and small percentage of gravel.

It was decided to concentrate the search for a suitable rock in place. Since all rock in place exposed along the road consisted of unsuitable slates, shales, and schists, and in view of the large amounts of quartz diorite float in evidence, it was decided to make a reconnaissance up the mountainside. Two trenches were cut into the mountainside several hundred feet from the road, but neither exposed bedrock. The reconnaissance further up the mountain, however, determined that the entire core of the mountain was of quartz diorite, and that with a suitable access road of approximately one-half mile, the City of Petersburg and the Bureau of Public Roads would have all the road material that could be used. This was duly reported to Mr. Taylor of Petersburg, and to the Bureau of Public Roads in Juneau.

July 24 - To Juneau.

July 25 - 26 - At Juneau.

July 27 - To Skagway.

July 28 -

To Clifton on the White Pass and Yukon Railway to examine a molybdenite prospect. 42-109.53

60. Skagway 10.9
This occurrence is at about 970 feet elevation, about 1,000 feet north of Clifton Station, and 9 miles from Skagway. The molybdenite occurs as irregular inclusions in Alaskite, and by visual determination, appears to occupy about one one-thousandth of the rock mass. A tunnel 35 feet long was driven on the west side of the track and about 20 feet below track level. The tunnel crosses under the track with a strike of S 35° E. About 80 feet north along the track and on the east side a winze has been sunk. About 5 feet of winze was visible. It was flooded and loose muck filled the bottom. Mertie reports the winze as 15 feet deep. A series of several circles were cut above the track in an attempt to locate additional exposures, but although the bare rock was exposed in most places, no additional mineralization was found. It must be concluded that this prospect is not worthy of further examinations.

July 29 -

An attempt was made to examine the Inspiration Point Mine, but because of extremely foggy weather, it could not be found.

July 30 -

A visit was paid to the Inspiration Point Zinc-lead Mine. This property is located on the mountain opposite Inspiration Point on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad. It is at an elevation of about 3,500 feet and about 4 miles from the railroad section house at White Pass on the Canadian Boundary. Three small buildings, including the mill building, were standing. KX-109-9

The ore occurs along sheared joint planes and fractures of the Coast Range diorites. Some inclusions of limestone are evident, indicating that the ore occurs near a pre-existing contact with the overlying sediments.

Part of the workings had caved, and the shaft was flooded. Little ore was in evidence. Return to Skagway.

July 31 -

A visit was made to the Frolander lead prospect on the edge of Skagway. This prospect was located on the edge of the road right-of-way, and a short tunnel was driven under the road. It would not be practical to work this property unless the road were moved. As this would be expensive, and since the visible mineralization is weak, Mr. Frolander was advised not to continue his tunnel.

To Haines in the afternoon.

August 1 -

A visit was made to Klukwan to investigate the staking program of the Alaska Iron Company. This company is staking a large number of lode and placer claims on a magnetite in hornblende. At the time of the visit, 120 claims had been staked and the staking program was continuing. Plans were for well over 200 claims. KX-109-52

Company officials include Mr. A. E. Schrimpf, President; Mr. Calvin H. Barkdull, and Mr. C. E. Russell. Only Mr. Barkdull was present at the time of the visit. He stated that the company had located in a vein of solid magnetite of about 6 feet wide besides a large low grade body. He added that as soon as the staking program was complete, arrangements would be made with a major steel company for development. He indicated that the negotiations were already under way, but did not name the company.

A reconnaissance by the writer failed to locate any 6 foot vein of magnetite, but did disclose several small lenses or kidneys not over 2 feet in largest dimension. Some float magnetite about 1 foot in diameter was found, together with a large area of hornblende having a weak magnetic pull.

Offers by the U. S. Bureau of Mines to assist in an exploratory program were reported declined by Mr. Schrimpf.

August 2 - At Haines.

August 3 - Return to Juneau.

C O N T E N T S

P A G E

Alaska Iron Co. (Klukwan).	3
Clifton.	2
Frolander lead Prospect (Skagway).	3
Inspiration Point Zinc-lead Mine	3
Twin Creek (Petersburg).	2