

TO: Phil Holdsworth, Commissioner of Mines

FROM: Art Glover, Engr.-Assayer

SUBJECT: Reconnaissance Examination in the Vicinity of Tah Bay, Southwest Coast of Prince of Wales Island, Ketchikan Recording Precinct, August 4th, 1954. (Dixon Entrance Quadrangle).

At the request of Mr. John McKee, and accompanied by him, the writer made a trip to Tah Bay for the purpose of investigating certain magnetite outcroppings known to occur in the vicinity, but which Mr. McKee had been unable to find. The trip was made in an Ellis Air Lines' Cessna 180, at Mr. McKee's expense.

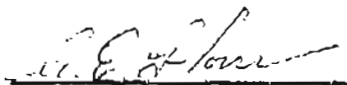
The prospect lies about one-half mile WSW from the head of the southwestern arm of Tah Bay, on the southwest coast of Prince of Wales Island. A blazed trail, somewhat difficult to notice from the beach, starts at a point just south of a small indentation of the west shore, about three hundred yards from the head of the arm. The accompanying sketch shows the approximate location of the area examined and the trail leading thereto.

About 1932, one claim was staked by Kelly Adams and Gene Heath, of Ketchikan, their discovery being located upon the largest magnetite outcrop, which comprises an area about ten by fifteen feet. No subsequent work has been done and apparently the claim has been permitted to lapse. Some forty years ago a short tunnel was driven into the hill about one hundred feet distant from the above discovery post. It is presumed that copper was the mineral sought at that time, but there now appears to be no evidence that copper exists there in any more than trace amounts.

Examination of the vicinity revealed numerous very small lenses and pods of magnetite within the "greenstone", but neither surface inspection or dip needle readings indicate the presence of any magnetite bodies of size.

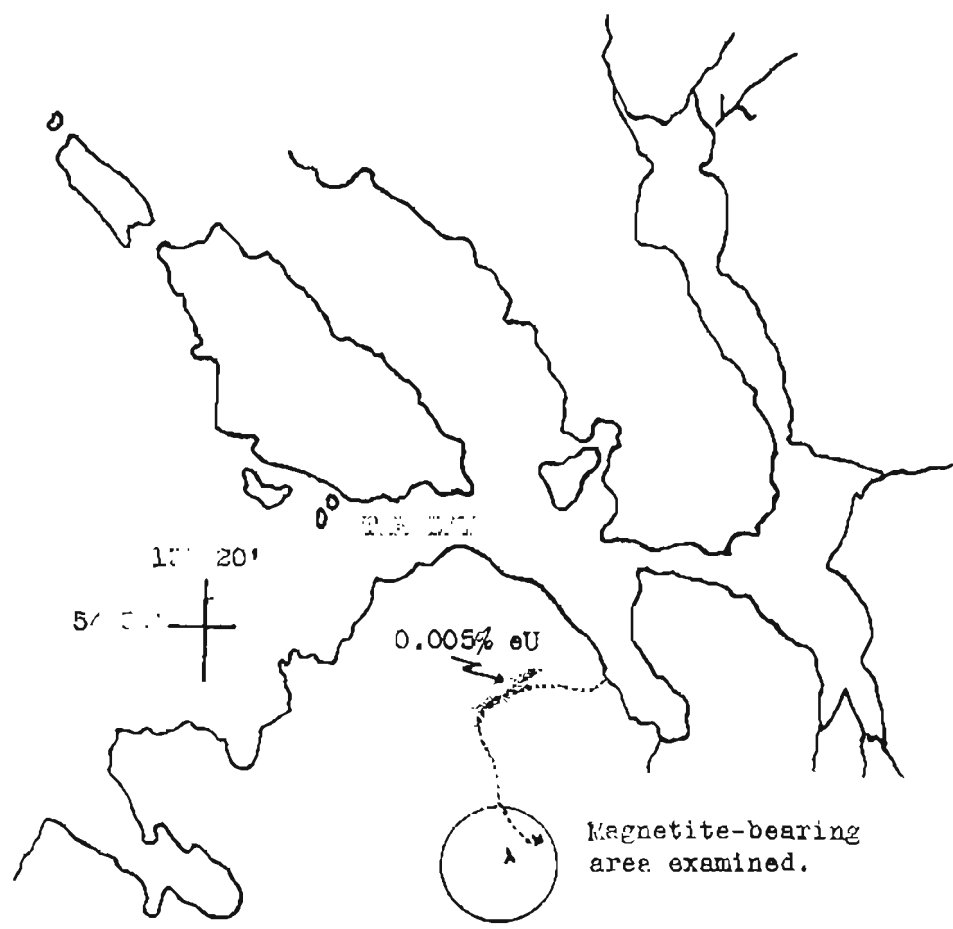
During the course of this visit it was noted that a large mass of andesitic greenstone porphyry, which outcrops along the trail for about one thousand feet, and parallels it in a general way, is mildly radioactive. A careful radiometric reconnaissance of this igneous body failed, however, to reveal any material of a grade above that normal to the mass itself. Samples taken at a number of places over the length and width of the occurrence all show a similar degree of radioactivity, and this average is estimated at 0.005% μ U.

Concentration tests indicate that little or no radioactive heavies are present, and it is suspected that slight thorium mineralization, rather than uranium, is responsible for the increased count. A representative suite of samples was sent to Mr. John Matzko, of the U. S. Geological Survey office, at College, Alaska for additional study. When his report is received a copy thereof will be sent to you so that it may be attached to this communication.


Art Clover, Engr.-Assayer



CORDOVA
BAY



Magnetite-bearing
area examined.

Traced from USC&GS Chart 8145
Scale: 1 inch = 3300 feet.

V I C I N I T Y M A P

showing location
of
TIN BY MAGNETITE

W. H. Glover, Terr. Dept. of
Mines
Oct. 12, 1954