

PE
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PE-085-03

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF GEM PROPERTY, ARCHANGEL CREEK, - K x 85-1 x
WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT, ALASKA
August 2, 1938

Location and Accessibility:

The Gem property, consisting of two lode claims, is located one-half mile northeast and across the valley of Archangel Creek from the Fern mine at an elevation of 4,000 feet. A horse trail leads to the showings from the Fern mine road.

Owners:

The present owners are J. Conroy and L. D. Roach of Anchorage, Alaska.

History:

The Gem vein was discovered in 1910 by Robert Hatcher and was later sold to G. Anderson. The present tunnels were driven during 1917 and 1918. These operations were carried on by the Little Gem Gold Mining Company. A small stamp mill was used to mill the very high grade ore during the development. A small amount of high grade was mined and later the property was dropped. In 1935 the property was restaked by the present owners, and since then only assessment work, consisting of re-opening the tunnels, has been done.

Geology and Workings:

The geology of this area may be obtained in U. S. G. S. bulletin 607, "The Willow Creek District, Alaska" by S. R. Capps. The formation within the claim boundaries and the surrounding area is a quartz diorite. A slight alteration of the diorite was noted along the vein walls.

The upper tunnel, elevation 4125 feet, was driven a distance of 79 feet on the Gem vein. The vein averages 6 inches in width and occurs frozen in places on the walls. A thin seam in the vein one-half inch to two inches in width was reported as containing abundant visible gold. This streak had a length of 25 feet beginning at the portal. The remaining portion of the vein appears barren with only a weak mineralization of pyrite in a quartz-calcite gangue.

The middle tunnel, elevation 4100 feet, was driven on two small quartz veins four feet apart. These have an east-west strike and average from 2 to 4 inches in width. They dip 46° N. and the structure is probably jointing. This tunnel has a length of 60 feet.

The lower tunnel, elevation 3910 feet, has a length of 25 feet and has not encountered the vein.

A Buster Brown single stamp mill is still in its original position at the tunnel portal. This mill is the only equipment on the property.