

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF CULROSS GROUP, CULROSS ISLAND,
PORT WELLS DISTRICT, ALASKA
August 15, 1938

Location and Accessibility:

The Culross group of four claims is located at the head of Jack Bay on Culross Island, one mile northwest of the Culross mine. The claims extend from tidewater at the head of Jack Bay northwestward for a distance of four claim lengths. The showings are located on claim No. 3 at an elevation of 700 feet. Thus the property is easily accessible to saltwater transportation.

Owner:

The claim group is owned by Wm. B. Harris of Culross Island.

History:

The discovery was made in the fall of 1911 by Wm. Harris. Two tons of ore was packed to the beach and shipped. Some stripping was done and the tunnel approach was started. Since then the property has been relocated several times, but no work has been done. January 1, 1913 the property was relocated by John Sells, and was known as the Sells prospect. Last year Harris relocated the property and this year in August the property was optioned to Donald J. McRae for \$10,000, the latter representing Canadian interests. Only assessment work has been done this year.

Geology and Showings:

The formations noted within the claim boundaries consisted of interstratified graywacke and slate. These formations have been subject to considerable metamorphism and a schistosity has developed within them. The strike of the schistosity is N. 23° E. and it dips 75 to 80° NW. The geology of this district is given in U. S. G. S. bulletin 592, "Mineral Resources of Alaska, 1913," in the report on "The Port Wells Gold-Lode District, Alaska" by B. L. Johnson. A short description of this prospect is given in the above report at page 236. The showing is described as follows:

"The orebody consists of closely grouped quartz lenses and stringers, paralleling the schistosity of the country rock in strike and dip. Irregular stringers and bunches of quartz also occur in the slates. The widths of the quartz lenses range from 4 to 59 inches and the maximum length exposed of any lense or stringer is about 15 feet. The quartz-veined area is about 200 feet in length and has an apparent width of at least 15 feet. Pyrite was the only sulphide recognized in the ore."

The above-mentioned orebody is shown on the accompanying sketch. Further stripping has revealed more quartz and shows the width of the zone. This sheared zone is located on Culross claim No. 3, elevation 700 feet. The width ranges from 15 to 18 feet, and it is exposed a distance of 1500 feet. The strike is N. 46° E. and the dip 80° NW. This cuts the schistosity of the thinly bedded graywacke schist. Contained within the walls of this zone is mineralized schist and numerous bunches and veinlets of milky white quartz. These bunches vary in size from the largest, 40 feet in length and 10 feet in width, down to mere veinlets. These are most numerous on a small knoll opposite Discovery post of No. 3 claim, alongside a small creek, which cuts the zone (note sketch of this area). Other small bunches were noted of lesser amounts of quartz along this zone. At a point on the west bank of the creek below the knoll outcrop, a tunnel approach 32 feet in length was driven along the footwall of this zone. Along the hanging wall portion of the tunnel which is nearly the center of the shear, a zone ranging from 8 to 12 inches in width shows considerable movement and contains small lenses of a dark banded quartz. This quartz contains a greater amount of pyrite mineralization than the white milky quartz. Visible gold was noted in the blue quartz. This blue quartz band was noted above in the cuts, and it is apparently of a later generation and contains higher values.

Mineralization:

Pyrite and free gold were the only metallic minerals noted. These occur only in small amounts denoting a weak mineralization. Pyrite is contained both in the quartz and the schists. The gangue minerals consist of a grayish blue quartz of the center band, white milky quartz of the bunches, graphite, calcite and altered wall rock.

Two channel samples were taken across the face of the tunnel a total distance of 5 feet 8 inches and only traces of gold and silver were obtained in each.

There is no machinery on the property and buildings consist of one cabin on the beach.