

2/7/38.

JCR.

(9.9, 12.6)

PE-112-11

124°56'W
S5°42'N

112-11

KY 112-22

Tacoma Group

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF BONANZA GROUP, SAWMILL CREEK, BERNERS BAY DISTRICT, ALASKA,
June 24, 1937.

Location and Accessibility:

The Bonanza group of six claims is located one and one-fourth miles inland from the mouth of Sawmill Creek, on the east shore of Berners Bay. The mouth of Sawmill Creek may be reached by boat, and a trail leads from the beach across Sawmill Creek in a southerly direction to the group between elevations of 300 to 1,000 feet. A small cabin is situated near the beach on Sawmill Creek.

Owners:

Bonanza Nos. 1 and 2 claims are owned by P. J. Hussie. Bonanza Nos. 3 and 4 claims are owned by H. E. Thompson. Bonanza Nos. 5 and 6 claims are owned by H. Jahnke. All owners live in Juneau, Alaska.

History and Development:

The discoveries on this group were made in 1901 by Messrs. Wahl and Johnson. It became known as the Tacoma group and intermittent assessment work was done up until 1914. Since that time the property has lain idle until 1936 when a small amount of assessment work was done. Prior to 1935 the property had been staked by Jack Langseth of Juneau.

A sawmill was operated near the mouth of Sawmill Creek during the operation of the Jualin Mine, prior to 1914. This was known as the Knowles mill.

Three short tunnels and several old and new cuts represent the total amount of development upon this group.

Geology and Showings:

The formations on this group consist of black to clay slates, with interbedded sills of augite melaphyre greenstones. The slates are folded, schisted, and contain stringer zones which contain a small amount of mineralization. The melaphyre sills are fractured, with the fractures extending mainly across at right angles to the strike of the sills. These fractures are filled with silica and occur as stringers and veins. The smaller sills are schisted and contain considerable pyrite mineralization. These sills vary in width from a few feet to 150 feet. The strike of the formation is N. 30 to 40° W., with a steep dip to the northeast. The formations are covered with a thick mantle of moss, glacial overburden, and timber. They are exposed mainly along the banks and in the beds of the creeks.

The lowest showing is along the bed of a small creek, 1,000 feet above its junction with Sawmill Creek, at an elevation of 390 feet. This consists of a cut along the east bank over 200 feet in length across a contact of slate and melaphyre. Small interlaced stringers occur in the highly folded slates, and stringer zones up to 15 feet across were noted. These occur on the hanging wall of the melaphyre in the slates. In the melaphyre several various sized stringers and veins were noted. There has not been sufficient work to determine their extremities. A 10-foot sample across the best looking stringer zone gave only a trace of gold and silver.

Following up the creek to an elevation of 1,020 feet, a distance of over 2,000 feet from the above showing, a tunnel is located on the west bank, 20 feet above the creek level. This tunnel is located on the Bonanza No. 2 claim, 300 feet south of the discovery post. Its length is 72 feet. It was driven in slate and near a band of melaphyre. The tunnel follows the schistosity of the slate, in which numerous bunches of heavily mineralized quartz occur interfolded with the slate. These bunches are irregular, varying from a few inches to four feet in width, and appear to have no definite structure other than interlaced in the schistosity of the folded slates. The foldings appear to have been since the quartz deposition as the quartz bunches are folded, shattered, and contain an irregular schistosity. Massive bunches of sulphides occur in the quartz and this mineralization is decidedly different from all the other showings. It consists of large to fine pyrite, arsenopyrite, galena, sphalerite, with gold values.

The gangue minerals are white quartz, calcite, graphite and slate pieces. A sample taken across four feet of quartz, along the northeast wall at a point 45 feet in from the portal, gave only a trace of gold and 1.2 ounces of silver per ton.

Following the slope of the mountain to the northwest, a distance of 1,000 feet, and at elevations of 680 and 780 feet, two short tunnels were found. The upper tunnel, at an elevation of 780 feet, cuts across 8 feet of quartz at the portal and turns, following the vein for a distance of 29 feet. This quartz lense has been folded and the quartz is highly fractured. Pyrite appears to be the only mineralization noted. Four channel samples were taken at 10 foot intervals, and only traces of gold were obtained by assay.

The tunnel, vertically 100 feet below the above, has a length of 18 feet and shows a small fault vein 2 to 4 inches in width which contains a gouge only. These tunnels are located on Bonanza claim No. 4.

Mineralization:

Other than the above mentioned mineralization in the quartz bunches in the upper tunnel on Bonanza claim No. 2, the general mineralization of the other showings is a yellow pyrite. This no doubt contains traces of gold and silver.

The gangue minerals other than the milky white quartz varies as to formation. In the slates considerable calcite, graphite and slate pieces occur. In the melaphyre and greenstone schists, calcite and chlorite with pieces of wall rock occur.

Water Power:

A 20-foot fall is located on Sawmill Creek 400 feet inland from the beach. This would develop a small amount of water power.

Timber is abundant on the property and surrounding vicinity.