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THE GHEZZI COPPER PROSPECT ON THE

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MACLAREN RIVER, MT. HAYES QUADRANGLE

Mr. A. R. Ghezzi, Sr. has been prospecting intermittently along the north side of the route of the Denali Highway for seweral years.

One of the prospects that he has staked is in the valley of the Maclaren River near the K-M prospect. In Angust, 1957, a TDM examination was made of some outcrops at the K-M prospect, and, at that time, Mr. Ghezzi was at work on his prospect. At his invitation, an examination was made on August 22 of the outcrops on which he was working.

The Ghezzi prospect is in the southwestern part of the Mt Hayes Quadrangle at 63° 14' N latitude and 146° 32' W longitude. It is three miles south of the K-M camp and five miles north of the Denali Highway. It is a few hundred yards west of the Maclaren River on the southeast side of a lake that has been used for landing of small pontoon-equipped aircraft carrying passengers to and from the K-M prospect. There is a road from the lake to the K-M camp that is passable for four-wheel-drive vehicles, and there is a trail from the lake to the Denali Highway that is passable for crawler-type tractors and other track vehicles.

Two lode claims have been staked on the prospect by Mr. Ghezzi.

They are the Locomonya Lode Claim and the Lakeview Lode Claim. The location certificates are recorded in the records of the U. S. Commissioner at Wasilla.

The general geology of the area in which the prospect lies has been described in U. S. Geological Survey Bulletin 498, HEADWATER REGIONS OF GULKANA AND SUSITNA RIVERS, ALASKA, by Fred H. Moffitt.

The prospect is on a hill that rises above the floodplain of the Maclaren River. This hill is composed of Triassic amygdaloidal lava flows, the same formation that forms the wallrock at the K-M prospect. The hill is completely surrounded by Quaternary river deposits. At this place the floodplain of the Maclaren River is one mile wide. The walls of both sides of the valley are composed of the same type of rock as the hill.

The prospect is a mineralized zone in the Trisssic flow rocks. The zone strikes N 450 E and dips vertically. Two hand-dug pits have been made on the zone; these are designated by crosses on the accompanying map, and they are the points from which samples were taken. In the pit at 3030 feet altitude, the mineralized zone is exposed over a width of three feet, and it appears to be wider than the width exposed. In the pit at 3120 feet altitude, more than three feet of width is exposed, and, there too, the zone appears to be wider than the excavation. The primary copper minerals are mostly chalcopyrite and bornite; some malachite is present at least near the surface. There appears to be little or no quartz in the mineralized zone. Mr. Ghezzi reported that he has found some copper mineralization to the northeast in the rocks that outcrop on the east side of the Maclaren River.

Two samples (Nos. 15 and 16) were taken during this examination, and a third sample (No. 17) was taken by Mr. Ghezzi from the floor of the upper pit after the pit had been deepened. All of the samples were assayed at the Territorial Department of Mines Assay Office at

College, and the results were as follows:

Sample No.	Per Cent Copper	Ounces to	er Ton Silver
16	1.22	Tr	0.24
16	2.16	Tr	0.12
17	0.49	Tr	Nil.

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Robert H. Saunders Territorial Mining Engineer.

