PE-085-02

PE 85-2

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF STILES PROPERTY, REED CREEK, -KX 85-9
WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT, ALASKA
August 1, 1938

Location and Accessibility:

The Stiles property is located on the right limit of Little Susitna River, between Reed and Fishhook creeks at an elevation of 3500 feet. The property is easily accessible to the Fern mine road via trail, less than a half mile up the mountainside.

Owners:

This group of eight claims is held by W. A. Stiles and N. W. Smith of Anchorage, Alaska.

History:

The early history of this group is not known. In the earliest reference* this prospect was called the Shough and the claim group was called Oregon. Development was reported to have been started in the spring of 1913. This consisted of the present adit tunnel 35 feet in length, a shallow shaft and several opencuts. (Note sketch of these old workings). Prospecting continued for the next two years following and the tunnel was driven to a length of 150 feet. Further surface prospecting was done. The following years until 1931 the property was idle. The present owners obtained the property and the present tunnel was driven to crosscut the fault vein zone that shows in the upper large cut. This fault was cut this year at a point 270 feet from the portal.

Geology:

The geology of this area is given in detail in U. S. G. S. bulletin 607, "The Willow Creek District, Alaska" by S. R. Capps. The formation within the vicinity of the workings consists of quartz diorite. In the vicinities of the veins and faults the diorite has been altered to various degrees. The small quartz veins occur as fracture fillings which have been formed by the various fault movements. The showings are located just north of a wide fault zone that has been traced for a distance of two miles. The fault zone found on the surface and in the tunnel is apparently related to the larger zone to the south.

Showings:

Two veins were reported found on the surface. No. 1 vein was in the vicinity of the shaft. This vein was reported striking N. 13°E. and dipping 62° W.** and had a maximum thickness of 15 inches. The other

*U. S. G. S. Bull. 592, "Mineral Resources of Alaska, 1913, pp. 270-271.

**Op. Cit., Bull. 592.

vein was reported in the large cut exposing the fault zone. This was reported striking east and dipping 68° N. Three feet of quartz was reported in this cut, containing values from $54 to $62 in gold per ton. Due to filled condition of the cut and shaft, these veins were not seen by the writer.

Within the tunnel, elevation 3470 feet, four small quartz veins, all less than 12 inches in width, were cut. These strike in a northwest direction varying from N. 20° W. to N. 80° W. The dips of these veins is northeast. They represent fracture fillings. The fractures are no doubt the result of tension between the large fault zone to the south and the fault in the tunnel. The fact is evident that the diorite is more altered south of the tunnel fault than north. Low values were reported in these small veins. At a point 270 feet in from the portal a fault zone measuring 14 feet along the tunnel was cut. This fault strikes N. 70° E. and dips 46° N. The zone consists of bands of colored gouge ranging from white to yellow and blue. The gouge is soft and clayish in appearance.

Mineralization:

The metallic minerals noted in the veins and portions of the altered diorite were pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, copper sulphates and iron oxides. The gangue minerals consist of milky white quartz, talc, and various altered diorite minerals.

All development has been done by hand methods and there is no machinery on the property. Timber is lacking in this vicinity. Water power could be developed only at great cost.