

The State of Wyoming.
Office of State Geologist,
Cheyenne.

1906
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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WYOMING

A REPORT

ON

THE INDEPENDENCE GROUP

NEAR

KEYSTONE, ALBANY COUNTY, WYOMING.

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SITUATION.

This group of claims is situated on Section 15, Township 14 North, Range 79 West, about a mile from Keystone P.O., a point in the Medicine Bow Range of Mountains about 45 miles south west of Laramie, the County seat of Albany County, Wyoming.

The property is now reached by way of the Laramie-Keystone-Holmes stage and county road, through the Centennial valley but the completion of the Laramie, Bahn's Peak and Pacific Railroad to Centennial will put the property within fifteen miles of railroad transportation, and as rails are now being laid for a distance of fifteen miles from Laramie, the whole grade is completed and rolling stock and equipment being purchased, this will soon become an active reality for the whole Medicine Bow Range and the mines therein.

EXTENT.

The Independence group of Lode Claims consists of two full claims and one fraction, as follows:

- The Independence Claim,
- " Monarch "
- " Constock Fraction.

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As noted, the two claims are full claims, each 600' X 1800', and with the Constock fraction (about 14 acres) comprise about 54 acres of land, held by location and discovery under the laws of the United States and the State of Wyoming.

This territory provides ample ground K&A room for all necessary works and is advantageously located for economical work. Other ground may be taken up or secured as needed for various purposes.

OWNERSHIP.

The above ground is held by the Wyoming Gold and Copper Company organized under the laws of the State of Wyoming, capitalized for \$1,000,000.00, divided into 10,000,000 shares, par value ten cents each.

The principal offices are at Laramie, Wyoming.

GENERAL GEOLOGY.

The Medicine Bow Range of Mountains consists principally of granites and schists, with numbers of bands or dykes of diorite and other dyke rocks occurring in the former rocks. The principal mineral showings noted or found in these ranges occur in or near the contact of these granites or schists with the diorite rocks, which latter are often much altered and changed in both appearance and composition in the different portions of the district.

There is a characteristic feature noted in the outcrops of the whole Grand Encampment District and this is a heavy oxidized iron cap overlying the copper deposits in this section and the same general conditions are noted in the Ferris-Haggarty Mine at Dillon, at the Doane-Rambler Mine at Rambler, both in Carbon County, and at the New Rambler Mine at Holmes, in Albany County.

At each of these properties the outcrop or surface ores was a soft brown oxidized iron or limonite, mixed with quartz with some hematite or red oxide of iron and the whole stained to a more or less extent with green or blue copper carbonates. These oxidized ores give place at water level, viz. the level of permanent underground water, to the sulphides of copper and iron, the former predominating and forming the permanent ores of these mines. Chalcopyrite or yellow pyrites of copper is the principal mineral of this section.

In the Keystone vicinity there are a number of gold-producing properties, the gold occurring in quartz veins associated with iron oxides in the surface ores and iron sulphides and copper sulphides in the deeper ores. The gold values here are much higher than in any other portion of the Grand Encampment District and in all mining work and treatment mills here this fact should be given the first and strongest consideration.

THE INDEPENDENCE GROUP.

At this point the formation is composed of grey dioritic granite and fine grained schists and the vein shows a huge quartz outcrop eight to ten feet wide showing copper carbonates and iron oxides on the surface at many places where it outcrops.

Numerous holes and shallow surface workings have been sunk at various times and places on this main lead and on the smaller stringers leading off from it and the continuity and surface extent of the showing fully established.

Many of these surface holes were sunk in the loose wash covering the ground and pan tests on this loose material below the vein outcrop showed placer gold as well as much rich quartz and pieces of rich copper ore that evidently came from this lead.

WORKINGS.

To this time the work done on the Independence Group is as follows:-

Main shaft-----	69 feet.
Drifting from same-----	190 "
Second shaft on vein-----	30 "
Tunnel length-----	<u>185 "</u>
Total development-----	335 "

The main shaft was sunk at a point on the Independence Claim where the vein outcropped and was sunk through the vein to the above depth and drifts run from the shaft to cut the vein at this depth. The material cut showed the characteristic quartz-iron-copper ores of the district, but at this depth is evidently not sufficient to show the permanent ores, as the ore showed a leached and altered condition similar to that of the upper ores of the properties before cited, which later gave place to the sulphide ores of iron and copper carrying gold and silver.

Work on the shaft becoming impossible with the inadequate hoisting arrangements on account of surface water, a tunnel was started at a point on the Monarch Claim about 1400 feet (horizontally) from the above shaft and about 350 feet (vertically) below it.

This tunnel is well located for economical work, dump room etc. and has reached a present length of 185 feet, being well timbered and in shape for permanent work.

DEVELOPMENT.

From the nature of the ground and conditions noted in the shaft and drift work, it is considered that this tunnel should be made the main

work of development for some time at least, or until it has been driven under the present shaft and proper connection by a raise made therewith and it is therefore recommended that, for the present, work be confined to this tunnel and it be driven as rapidly as possible to cut the vein ahead of its present face (estimated to be approximately 100 to 150 feet) and then to follow the vein to the above connections, or as much farther as may be advantageous at that time.

This distance is estimated to be about 1400 feet and in this length on the vein, several ore shoots and intervening barren or low grade spaces may be expected to be encountered, as it is proven that these ores lie in shoots on either wall or side of the vein or ledge, and it is further recommended that cross-cuts be run across the vein at intervals to show and prove the width and grade of the ore as the work progresses.

No machinery plant is necessary for this work, but it is recommended that an air compressor and boiler, with air drills be installed at the mouth of the tunnel, with a proper ventilating fan and air shaft, at convenient points, to push the work with greater speed and safety to those employed.

The claims are covered with timber suitable for all purposes and Douglas Creek flows by the tunnel site, affording water for all purposes.

It is recommended that an accurate survey and profile be made of this property and tunnel, as soon as practicable, and an accurate record be kept of progress and formations encountered.

It is considered that the Independence Group is a first class prospect, that it affords exceptional opportunities for development and that the showings made fully warrant the expenditure necessary to open up and prove the value of these ores as herein outlined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry L. Beeler
State Geologist.

Date of Examination

September 3, 1905.

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