

Lander, Wyoming  
August 13, 1944

Subject: "Big Nugget" GOLD placer claims.

Purpose: To discuss the possibility of immediate operation of placer gold claims and copper lode claims.

Owner: Mrs. S. F. Gillespie, Lander, Wyoming.

Location: The "Big Nugget" placer claims #1,2,3 are at Diamond Springs east of Atlantic City and lie in Secs. 31,32,33, T. 29 N., R. 98 W., and Sec. 6, T. 28 N., R. 98 W., Fremont County, Wyoming, along Strawberry Creek and Big Nugget ditch.

Confidential Information

Mrs. S.F. Gillespie was interviewed at some length and found to be somewhat difficult to deal with and vague in responses. In the first place parts of the placer ground claimed by her has recently been in litigation. It may be inferred she was unable to retain the mineral rights to some of the placer ground on Strawberry Creek. One cannot be sure she has, at present, a legal claim to any or all of the Big Nugget claims #1,2,3, shown on the accompanying map furnished by her.

Mrs. Gillespie's principal objective in writing to Laramie was an impossible one. She wanted the Wyoming State Geological Survey to prospect and test pit the placers to which she, rightly or wrongly, lays claim, with the intention of ultimately suing to dispossess those who according to her, have enroached upon her land to secure grazing.

Mrs. Gillespie's past mining efforts have, apparently, involved many small promotion attempts, none of which have succeeded.

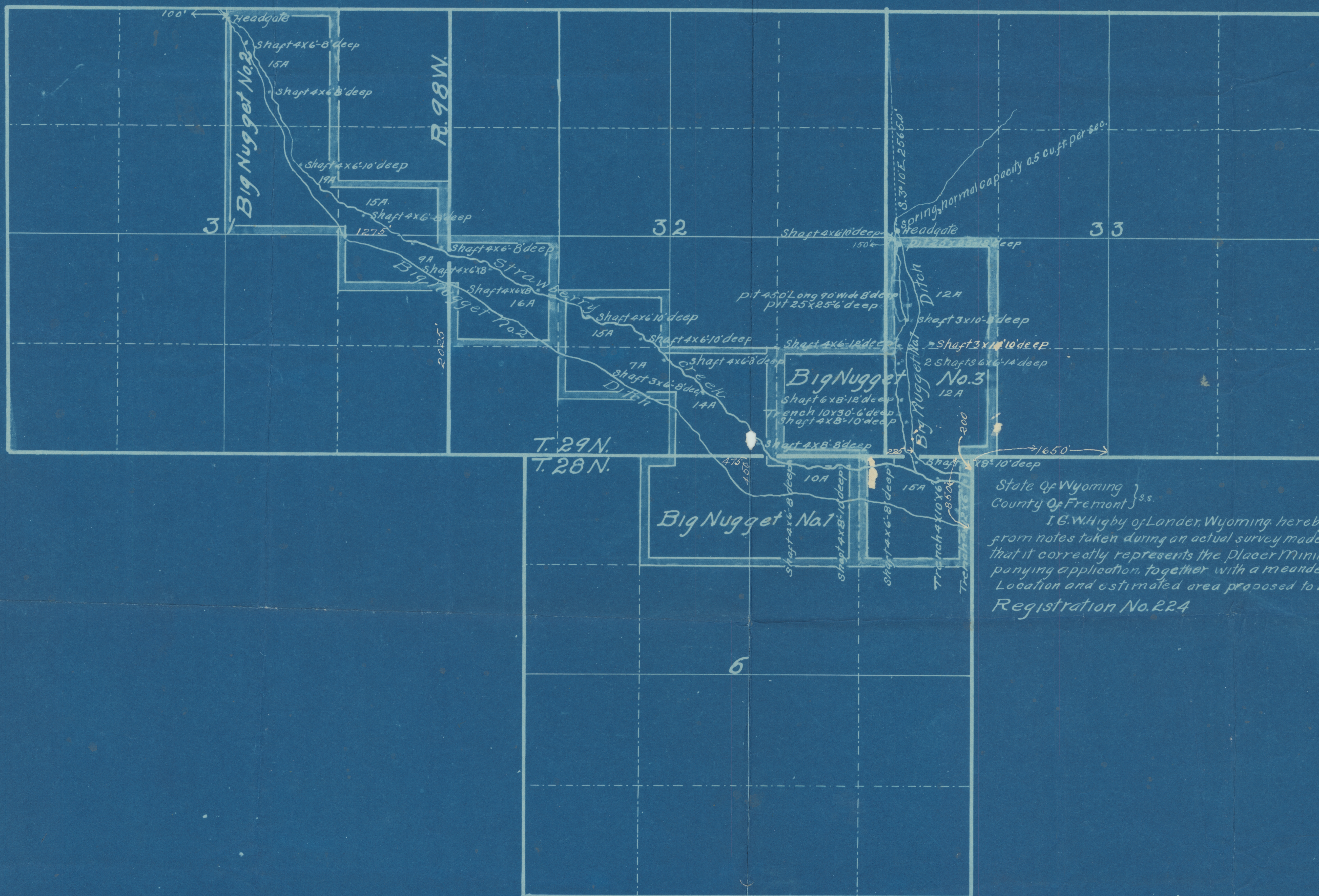
Mrs. Gillespie also maintains that her holdings include copper, tungsten, native mercury, cinnabar, carnotite(autunite?) and uraninite. At the time of my visit she was more infirm than usual and either unable or unwilling to guide or direct me to field exposures. She did exhibit five good-sized gold nuggets supposedly from the Big Nugget workings. The so-called carnotite specimens I examined were merely altered mica. In short none of the specimens available for examination gave grounds for optimism as regards her holdings. All of her

prospecting has undoubtedly been undertaken in the Pre-Cambrian which crops out for several miles around Diamond Springs. The springs themselves are reported by Mrs. Gillespie to contain lithium and radium and their waters are supposed to have been tested at the University in Laramie sometime in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

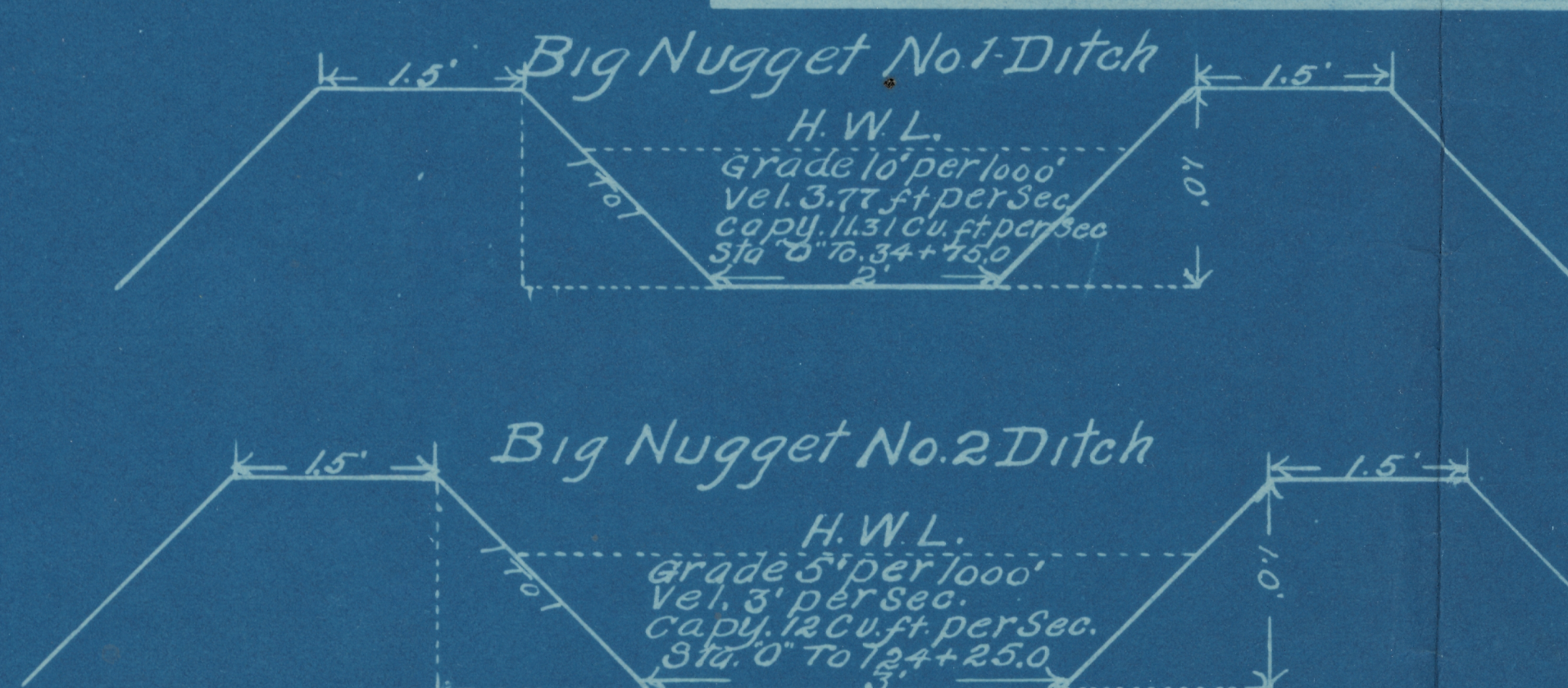
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. B. [unclear]", with a large loop at the end.





State of Wyoming } ss.  
 County of Fremont }  
 I, G. W. Highby of Lander, Wyoming, hereby certify that this map was made from notes taken during an actual survey made by me on May 12-13, 1937, and that it correctly represents the Placer Mining Works described in the accompanying application, together with a meander of streams, and shows the location and estimated area proposed to be mined in each subdivision  
 Registration No. 224

*G. W. Highby*  
 Engineer.



Map  
 To accompany Application For  
 Big Nugget Nos. 1 & 2 Placer Mining Ditches  
 applicant  
 Mrs. S. F. Gillespie, Attorney In Fact For Locators  
 Lewiston, Wyo.  
 Scale 1-inch=1000 feet