

REPORT ON
Gilsonite In Middle Park, Colo.

By
W. T. Lee,
1917

REPORT FURNISHED BY; U.S.G.S.

LIBRARY
COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
GOLDEN, COLORADO

Colorado -

Grand Co.

13908

Economic Geology
Nonmetals.

W.T.Lee,
1917

GILSONITE IN MIDDLE PARK, COLO.

Colorado - Grand Co.
Middle Park.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY
Non-metals

Willis T. Lee,
Aug. 8, 1917.
Notebook p. 14.

Gilsonite in early Eocene
gravels in Middle Park, Colo.

On August 8, 1917, I visited an abandoned prospect near the head of Willow Creek, north of Granby, Colo., from which a considerable amount of gilsonite had been taken. A large quantity, perhaps 20 or 30 tons of the material, was sacked and stored in a shed. A sample numbered 1270 was mailed to the Washington Office August 9. The entry had caved so that I could not enter the main opening. But in a prospect near the main opening I found a vein 2 feet, 6 inches thick of bright glistening gilsonite. In this prospect the material is shattered so that it occurs as long pencils perpendicular to the sides of the vein. The deposit is roughly banded parallel to the sides of the vein, as if it had been deposited in successive layers on the lateral walls. There are numerous small irregular deposits, some in small veins connected with the main fissure vein; others as irregular masses filling the spaces between boulders.

The deposit is in a mass of conglomerate showing very inconspicuous bedding, supposed to be equivalent to the Denver formation. But it is not confined to this conglomerate, for shaly material on the dump contains impressions of large netted vein leaves. The Dakota and Benton formations were not seen, but according to the geologic map of Colorado they outcrop east of the mine and underlie the conglomerate. They are supposed to have furnished the material from which the gilsonite was formed.

The Denver (?) gravels contain many kinds of rock, including porphyry, andesite, etc., Placer gold occurs in them. Abandoned placer pits are numerous along the west side of Gravel Mountain.

LIBRARY
COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
GOLDEN, COLORADO