

REPORT ON
THE Bimetallist-Hawkeye Claims,

San Juan Region,
Ouray County, Colorado.

By

R. H. Downer.

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BIMETALLIST-HAWKEYE

LOCATION:

This property is situated in the San Juan region, Ouray Co., Colorado, about seven miles from Ouray in a south-westerly direction, on the south-east slope of Mt. Potosi. It is in the same district as the Camp Bird, Virginus, Revenue and other great producers; distant from the first named about two miles and from the Revenue tunnel perhaps a mile.

ACCESS:

Ouray is the terminal point on the stub of the Denver & Rio Grande R. R. and the property is reached from this point by wagon road and trail.

AREA. ETC:

The property consists of two patented claims, covering nearly two-thousand feet of the outcrop, the Bimetallist, a fraction four hundred and seventy (470) feet in length and the Hawkeye, fifteen hundred (1500) feet in length adjoining the Bimetallist on the southeast end, both claims having a width of three hundred (300) feet.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES:-

The formation traversed by the Bimetallist vein is identical with that throughout the greater part of the San Juan region and is known as the San Juan andesite, a flow-breccia having a thickness of more than two thousand feet in some parts of the district and proven productive through this great depth in a number of the large producers, notably: the Camp Bird, Revenue, Tomboy, Smuggler-Union, etc.

The Bimetallist vein is a well defined zone of fissuring, having a width of twenty feet in places, the chief vein filling being quartz with kaolinite resulting from alteration of the country rock, accompanied by varying amounts of pyrite, silver sulphides, native silver and free gold.

The vein has a north-easterly course and dips about 75° west as shown by the workings on the Hawkeye, and is probably the extension in a northerly direction of the Wheel of Fortune vein, one of the earliest producers in this section; considerable ore having been freighted from this property to Del Norte (a wagon haul of nearly one hundred and fifty miles) before the advent of a railroad, the values in the Wheel of Fortune carrying a lower proportion of gold to the silver than is shown in the Bimetallist vein.

DEVELOPMENT:-

The workings on this property are shown on the accompanying sketch-map and consists of a shaft and several drifts and tunnels aggregating about 1100 feet.

From the shaft, which was sunk about 40 feet from the southwest end line of the Bimetallist to a depth of 150 feet, two levels have been run; one at 60 feet, marked (drift "B") extended 200 feet in a northerly and 40 feet in a southerly direction and connected with the surface by a short crosscut. On the second or 100-foot level, drifts marked ("C") were run 100 feet northerly and 30 feet southerly from the shaft.

No stoping has been done above this level.

The shaft is a continuation of the discovery work under which this claim was located, and was sunk on the ore which was taken out as shown by the stoped area on the accompanying sketch map; ore of a good milling grade, however, continued to the bottom of the shaft, the main ore shoot having a rake to the north and passing out of the shaft at a depth of about 60 feet.

Development on the Hawkeye claim consists of two tunnels on the vein, shown on the map as tunnel 'E' and drift 'D'. The former was an extension of the discovery work on this claim according to the terms of the bond and lease under which the claim was acquired by the present owners.

Drift 'D' was run for the purpose of opening the vein at a deeper level and in a more economical way than by working through the shaft, which developed a considerable flow of water at the bottom and required the installation of a hoist and pumping plant if sinking was to continue. This drift is about 515 feet in length, beginning at a point 1200 feet south-west of the shaft at a depth about 375 feet below the collar of the shaft and extending toward it with the intention of continuing to a point below the shaft and raising to the latter as the best means of development, offering the advantages of drainage, ventilation and economy in operation besides prospecting the vein at this depth.

ORE EXPOSED, SHIPMENTS, ETC.:-

The ore streak as opened by drift 'D' is practically continuous throughout its length, having an average width of twelve to fifteen inches and average value about fifteen dollars per ton; assays ranging from four or five dollars to ten ounces gold and up to several hundred ounces silver per ton.

An examination of the property by an engineer for eastern parties gave as the result of his samples, taken in twenty-five-foot lengths and consisting of fifty to two hundred pounds each, an average width of ore for this drift of fourteen inches and average value of seventeen dollars per ton.

Tunnel 'E' was not driven on the ore-streak all the way, but where broken into shows a width of ten to twelve inches of about fifteen dollar ore.

From the Bismetallist shaft ore was shipped carrying nearly one hundred ounces gold and one thousand ounces silver per ton. The general ratio of one ounce gold to ten of silver, holds fairly well throughout the property.

In drift 'C' the ore streak is exposed for a distance of fifty or seventy-five feet and shows values as indicated by assays and a mill-run, of twenty to thirty dollars per ton.

From the shaft below drift 'C' the last six assays averaged over one ounce gold per ton, the ore streak here showing about one foot in width.

Statements of shipments of ore from the Bimetallist Mine

<u>Net pounds</u>	<u>Oz. Gold</u>	<u>Oz. Silver</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1959	8.16	91.6	
7766	10.67	112.3	\$155.94
7248	65.24	575.03	
5052	97.63	944.52	\$6,808.01
18725	22.62	197.8	
20035	11.93	178.6	\$8,544.67
20457	11.23	281.37	\$3,153.25
20350	20.97	298.41	\$3,339.90
19907	22.84	281.35	\$5,830.70
19882	22.517	207.65	\$5,947.21
22242	6.15	60.85	\$5,368.18
			\$1,490.08
Ore Taken from Dump:			
17780	3.33	40.2	
16434	3.00	31.0	\$662.93
18926	1.82	30.0	\$483.66
20810	1.94	25.6	\$336.07
19190	2.36	25.2	\$348.06
20684	1.28	17.7	\$416.17
18451	2.12	47.4	\$192.97
			\$476.24
Shipments later by Wm. Hall			
29307	Net value per ton	\$165.81	
15249		\$280.96	\$2347.09
			\$2107.2
Shipment by O. J. Davis			
19130	Net value per ton	\$317.13	\$2979.56

The property was worked in a small way for four years, during which time ore having a gross value of about sixty thousand (\$60,000) dollars was extracted. This ore was mainly taken from the stopes above the sixty-foot level and was in part very high-grade. Shipments were made to Denver, the total expense of mining, freight and treatment being about twenty-two thousand (\$22,000) dollars.

A copy of statement showing the tonnage and value of shipments made from the property is attached and may be verified when so desired.

In addition to the shipments, a mill run was made at Ouray on a fifteen-ton lot, most of which came from drift 'C', the returns from which were about thirty dollars per ton.

The only ore taken from drift 'D' was a mill-run of thirty five tons which came from the first one hundred and fifty feet of the tunnel. Returns from this lot gave fifteen dollars per ton in gold and several ounces silver.

A lack of milling facilities at the property during its operation caused the loss of considerable low-grade ore, part of which was left in the stopes and part thrown over the dump.

MILL-SITES, POWER, ETC.:-

A mill-site at the foot of the mountain is available with sufficient water for all purposes except power.

The vein may be opened at a depth of three hundred to four hundred feet below drift 'D' by an adit tunnel, eight hundred to a thousand feet in length if desired.

Timber for mining purposes may be obtained in the vicinity.

No attempt is made here to estimate the amount of ore in the property on account of the nature and limited extent of the work done, but in consideration of the size and persistence of the vein, the continuity of the ore streaks and the remarkable grade of some of the ore shipped, the proposition should certainly be an attractive one for more extensive development.

(Signed) E. H. Downer E. M.