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Golden Shovel

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Golden Shovel

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MISSION

- Provide awareness and increase knowledge of mining, including various types of mines and mining practices.
- Promote the OMA objective of facilitating a balance where industry and the environment can prosper, where a governing practice of scientific fact is the law of the land, and development is tempered with reclamation.
- Feature stories about those who sought their fortune in mining— some made their fortune in gold, others found adventure, and the lucky ones found both.

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STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Fall is in the Air!

Mitch Mortenson

I am pleased to announce that our membership is growing. Please welcome Mackenzie Gravel and Mr. Bob Zimmer our Member of Parliament as Golden Members of our association. We continue to seek members including Gold and Silver corporate memberships throughout the Omineca. It's a big region and we will earn their memberships in time. Its been a covid year in the province as we strive to find some footing in the chaos of change. We have been keeping in contact throughout the pandemic and looking forward to big steps this winter as the season closes out. Since our last newsletter the.

- Annual Report has been filed
- Income Taxes have been completed
- We are cash positive

An Application is being made for the OMA to be recognized and accepted as a member of the BC Placer Miners Association at their next annual meeting. Three questions to pitch to the Minister Of Mines by the OMA have been printed here in the "Letters to the Ministry" section for review.

Mike Morris has shown interest in a placer mining school. He would like to see all the mining associations come together under one banner with their wish list for changes. We encourage everyone to document and photograph gold rush era and later era workings on your claims.

Permitting issues continues to be the new normal with the addition of social distancing. Emergency Response Plans (ERP) must include specific contact information of inspectors for your region. We have been following a free miner who filed a complaint to the Human Rights Tribunal concerning the governments duty to accommodate. We have been discussing the potential to lobby the government for equality under the law as it pertains to mining practices in other Provinces and Territories.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mark Oldenburg

Our history describes Canada as a free country. Free from government interference in our everyday activities. Recently our government seems to have forgotten that, taking seriously and overreaching steps, interfering with and trouncing those rights. For clarity I am referring to the new rules regarding the depth to which we can hand dig a test pit when out prospecting. I would understand such regulations when we are employing people to dig those test pits while involving workers comp and so on, but such is not the case here. We are not employees, but free citizens enjoying our right as free miners to prospect for and mine gold, at our own risk and on our own time. So, I must ask, does the government beaurocracy really have the legal authority to limit a hand dug test pit to 1.2m deep? What comes next, telling us the test pit can only be .6m deep? Maybe the year after that

they will tell us we can prospect, but no digging allowed? There must be a limit on the govt telling us what to do, and this rule among others within update 38 that are an example of government control even in the most subtle ways such as a hand test pit. If we allow this rule to stand, we are essentially giving the government permission to take away any rights we have left at will. Should I want to dig a test pit that is deeper, that my choice, and it is my right to do so. My safety is my responsibility, not the governments. My concern is this government is slowly working at eliminating placer mining as a hobby or occupation by continuing to make the rules so difficult or impossible to meet. Another example of this is permitting process taking so long. As free miners we need to work together more, as a cohesive and strong group to protect our rights, and our occupation as placer miners. The risk we share by doing nothing is the loss of placer mining in BC over politics rather than science. Thank you

Omineca Mining Association

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Wacky Who?



Mitch Mortensen

Recently I had the privilege of conversing with Jim Weins at our local museum. Jim serves as a counselor with the District of Mackenzie as well as the curator of our local museum. I expressed my concern to him about the upcoming election. A concern that many of us have throughout the resource industry in the north. I have observed a relative 50/50 split between the two largest political party's in our province last election. The entire land mass of British Columbia seems to be controlled by sheer population in the south and further held hostage with a small percentile green which became gangrene for BC this past term. Will Mike Morris be successful in carrying forward to developing a placer mining school I have been suggesting? Do the NDP have a platform that will be of any benefit for the North? Are we, in the north only meant to endure another four years of economic alienation because our MLA is Liberal? I have sometimes found that when I am having trouble finding a way forward, I tend to have a look behind me to see what was done by those in history. Its important to know your history but most importantly living history gives you critical insights into subjects and the generation of that era. In this visit Jim Shared some history with me about a BC Social Credit leader named W.A.C. Bennet. This Premier used the railway to open the north. It was ambitious. These railroad expansion projects were high modernism investments in long term infrastructure. This created jobs and opportunities all over the province. Most importantly, these rail line expansions linked communities together and strengthened the province as a whole. No project is without controversy, yet the benefit to the province as a whole was immense. Jim believes that if a political party is seeking province wide support, they may want to examine this part of our history. Further research shows the Pacific Northern Rail expansion was intended to link BC to the Yukon and

on to Alaska. There were several fiascos including one where BC Hydro and the PNR line expansion were double booked on the same real estate near the Stikine river. When the dust settled, both projects were abandoned. However, the railroad project was already in construction with several hundred kilometers of line cleared and likely could be revived and finished. I remember riding the rails from Vancouver into Williams Lake as a young teen. It was a ten hour trip through pristine wilderness and one of the most economical and comfortable means to travel. Considering the surge in commodity prices and the rich mineral wealth in the North West, is it time to continue the PNR rail line expansion into the Yukon

Letters to the Ministry

In a letter dated July 22/2020 to the new Minister of Mines If I were to ask the Minister three questions

- Is it the governments agenda to shut down placer mining and is this intended through over-regulation and high permit fees?
- is the government going to support science regarding placer mining?
- Will you take charge of the ministry by being accessible to free miners and exercise your authority to reign in your inspectors who have been deliberately frustrating permits?

Thank you

Mitch Mortensen

Snowshoe Mountain Resource

GOLD NUGGET

A mine is called a mine because it is mine, NOT yours!
- Dale Colledge

Learned Behavior



Hank Siegel

“Let’s play the game superior and inferior” said the teacher and the kids all cheered at the word “game” but they didn’t understand what it was to be superior or inferior.

“Everyone who has blue eyes is going to move to the desks up front. Everyone who has brown eyes is going to move to the back.”

The children all looked at each other with some confusion but did as they were told.

When a brown eyed student asked her why the brown eyed students were moved to the back of the class, the teacher ignored him.

Next their teacher handed out scarves to the brown eyed students

Again, a student asked why and the teacher continued to ignore him. Finally, a blue eyed student spoke up

“Why are we up front and they are in the back with scarves.

The teacher took this moment to address the entire class. “Because the blue-eyed people are superior to brown eyed people. I have given the brown eyed people scarves, so they know their place within the class. They are the lowest class. They are not allowed to ask questions or talk amongst themselves, they can only use the washroom twice a day, only drink water at recess and lunch and they are the last to eat in the cafeteria.”

Surprised the student asked, “what about the blue-eyed people?” asked the student.

“Blue eyed students are superior. They are free to ask questions and use the washroom or fountain at anytime. Also, they are first in line at the cafeteria.” The teacher finished.

For that school week, the blue-eyed students were made to be superior in any way. They were involved at every level of discussion. They could hear the teacher clearly and follow the lesson plan. However, the brown eyed students could barely hear the teacher. The teacher would not acknowledge brown eyed children unless they spoke to each other. At which point she would expel that student from the class for the remainder of the lesson.

It did not take long for the blue-eyed students to be

indoctrinated and enforce these rules upon the brown eyed students.

The brown eyed students felt helpless and it was not long before they participated less and less in the lesson plan. It was no surprise the brown eyed students failed the written test on Friday.

At the end of the day the teacher told the students that she had lied to them. The brown eyed students were asked how they felt wearing a scarf and treated so unfairly.

“I don’t understand how the color of my eyes makes any difference” One student said.

“Exactly!” The teacher said. “It is the same with a person’s skin color.”

The lesson of superiority is nothing new to civilization. Neither is the fact that systemic Discrimination is something that is learned. For thousands of years man has discriminated against man. These ideologies of superiority impressed upon a young public can be stopped through education.

The privilege of equality rests on hiring you on your merits rather than the color of your skin.

The Omineca Mining Association is a non-profit organization.

THE OMA MISSION

- 🔗 EDUCATE the public, government, and miners in the importance of mining;
- 🔗 RAISE AWARENESS about problems and solutions in the mining industry and government in the Omineca; and
- 🔗 PROMOTE responsible, environmentally sustainable, mining practices, and innovative mining methods and solutions.
- 🔗 ASSIST, SUPPORT, AND ADVOCATE for our members.

OminecaMiningAssociation@gmail.com

Omineca Miner

SATURDAY, SEPT 23, 1911

Developing Placers On Omineca River

The placers of the Omineca river, which in past years produced millions in gold, are expected to yield large returns in the yellow metal in the near future, as the result of the operations of a number of mining men who have acquired ground for dredging purposes.

Probably the most important work is that inaugurated by G. H. Knowlton, the Vancouver operator who has a number of men employed prospecting his leases by means of rotary drills,

Mr. Knowlton, who returned from the Omineca on Monday, states that five miles of ground are already prospected, bed-rock proving to be from twelve to thirty-four feet deep. The result of the work is most encouraging and only better transportation facilities are required to make dredging highly profitable.

Mr. Knowlton, who was accompanied by M. E. Latferty, a dredging expert from Leadville, left for the coast on Tuesday. He will return in the spring, and hopes to have extensive operations under way next season. Efforts are being made to secure the construction of a wagon road

from Tatla lake to the mines, allowing the transportation of a plant, which it is now impossible to take in.

Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the year Ending 31 December 1913 Page 113

G. H. Knowlton and associates, Vancouver, who are the owners of twenty-one placer mining leases on Silver Creek, and the Omineca river, have, during the past season been continuing a wagon road from Takla lake towards Old Hogem, to facilitate the importation of dredging machinery to be placed in operation on their properties.

From Wikipedia – Omineca Gold Rush

In 1868, four of the miners, Ezra Evans “Twelve-foot” Davis, William Humphrey and Gaylord went from Fort St. James up to Takla Landing via the Stuart, Trembleur and Takla Lakes. Along the way they discovered what they initially believed was silver but was actually arquerite, an amalgam of native silver and mercury. They named the creek where they made this discovery Silver Creek

Arquerite is a naturally occurring alloy of silver with mercury. It is a very rare mineral, consisting of a silver rich variety of amalgam, containing about 87% silver and 13% mercury. Arquerite has been reported from only four localities worldwide, two in Chile and two in British Columbia, Canada. Other names for arquerite include argental mercury, mercurian silver, and silver amalgam



Omineca River - Wikipedia

Arquerite Amalgam - wikipedia

The Third Great Devil Dance

Published November 23, 2019 in TheOrca.ca



Daniel Marshall

BC’s gold rush was a rush indeed, as massive numbers of fortune seekers picked up stakes in California and headed north.

As a gold rush historian, I have always been fascinated by the immense excitement and profound mania that swept through mid-19th century gold seekers in California, Australia, and British Columbia. In the 1849 California rush it was referred to as “Gold Fever,” the “California Fever,” the “Yellow Fever,” and “Gold Mania.”

In the Ancient Greek the word mania (μανία) means quite simply madness or frenzy. The Fraser River gold rush of 1858 – considered the third great mass migration of gold seekers in search of a New El Dorado – was no different.

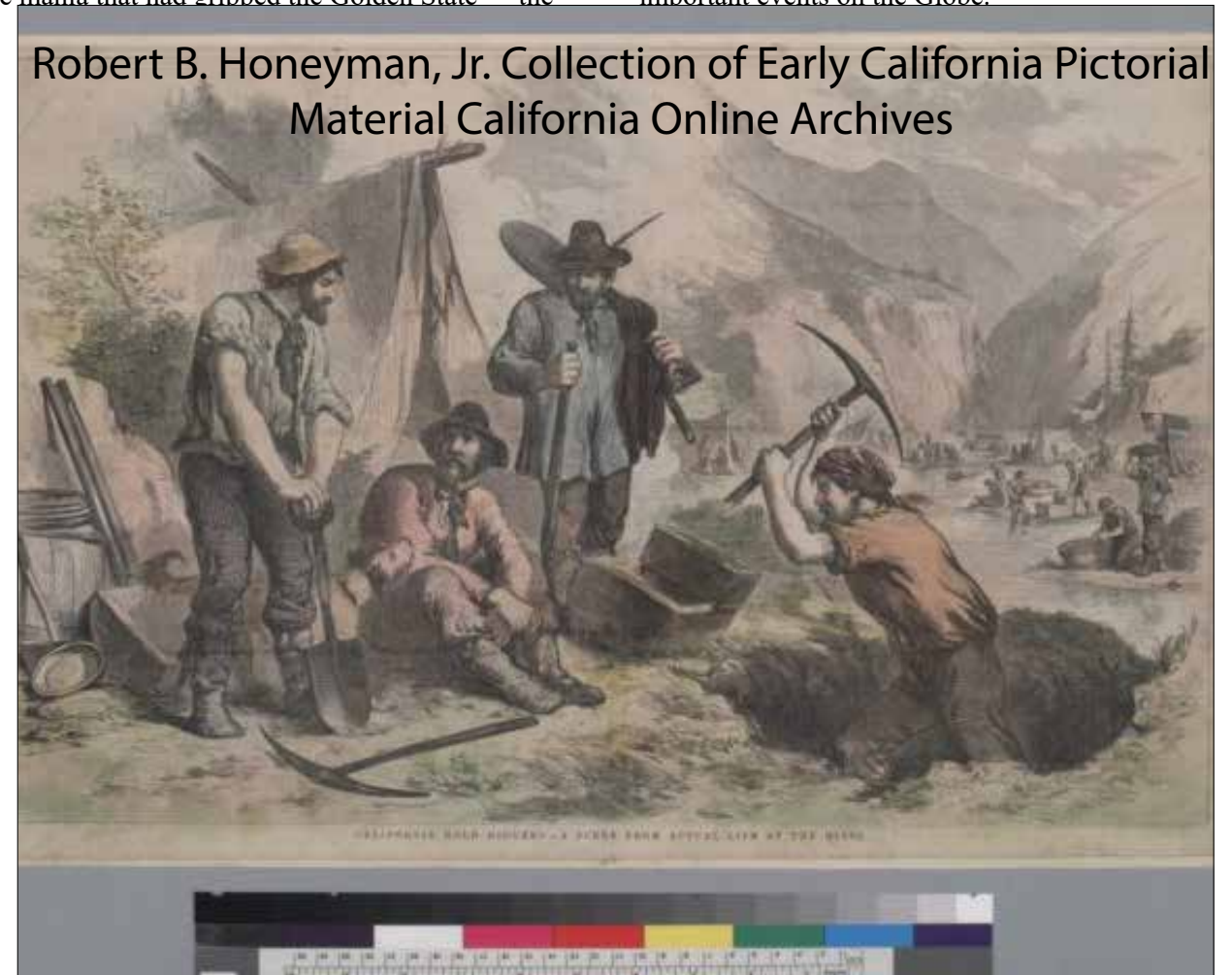
The Californian historian Hubert Howe Bancroft in his late 19-century history of BC wrote of “the infection which spread with such swift virulence in every direction” – an absolute mania that had gripped the Golden State – “the

third great devil-dance of the nations within the decade” following the Californian (1849) and Australian (1852) gold rushes.

“At one leap British Columbia had become the rival if not the peer of California herself,” concluded Bancroft.

“Never, perhaps, was there so large an immigration in so short a space of time into so small a place,” wrote The Reverend R.C. Lundin-Brown. Many in California felt that the delirium was reminiscent, if not exceeding, that of the old glory days of ’49, so missed by thousands of old sourdoughs who had been left behind in the wake of capital-and-labour intensive mining developments.

“The desire to become rich suddenly . . . [had] spread like an epidemic throughout the state,” alerted the San Francisco Bulletin. Abraham Lincoln’s future secretary of war, Edwin Stanton declared, “A marvellous thing is now going on here . . . [that] will prove one of the most important events on the Globe.





California Gold Seeker, c. 1885 (photographer unknown), Crocker Museum CA.

Stanton was not the only American swept up by the excitement of the Fraser River gold rush. Wild suspense continued to build about the “New Yellow Fever” noted the Bulletin, as “knots of old experienced miners, verdant new-comers, excited youths, wild spectators, with a sprinkling of ‘Micawbers’ and bummers, were seen . . . discussing the chances of accumulating a ‘pile’ by a few months of hard toil.”

Nor was the general panic created by BC gold limited to San Francisco. The interior gold camps of California, hundreds of them dotted along the Sacramento, Yuba, and Feather rivers, were on the march by the middle of May 1858.

“In the stage, from Murphy’s to Stockton, little else was talked about yesterday,” exclaimed an excited gold seeker. “And every time the persons inside (several of whom were old miners) passed acquaintances on the way, they were saluted with, ‘Halloa, John, (or Tom), on your way to Frazer River?’”

The general impression [reported the Bulletin] when a man was seen travelling, he must be on the route to the new mines. At Oroville, Marysville, and Sacramento, 10,000 miners were reported as preparing to leave. The San Francisco Newsletter believed that at least 50,000 would join the rush within 90 days.

“These figures are not written at random,” the Newsletter claimed, “but from positive information obtained from the interior of the northern, central and southern sections of this State.”

Californians were not only pouring in, but staying. And the few that did return apparently had “a good deal of gold to exhibit,” which was likened to “oil upon the fire already lighted.”

The result was instantaneous. The Fraser River goldfields were a reality and, according to newspapers of the day, they “created a much more general and violent excitement” than had ever been experienced in the Eastern States during the days of ’49. “Excitement of this kind is infectious,” wrote the Bulletin’s editor, and “A person who does not run out and listen to the talk on the streets, in the bar-rooms, in business stores . . . can have no idea of the alarming state of the Frazer river excitement at the present moment in San Francisco.”

Certainly the San Francisco business community understood the “alarming” state of things and made the most of it. Whisky, wine, beer, pork, picks, pans, shovels,

gold scales, boots, books, packs, maps, medicines, and miracle cures were all re-packaged for special use on the Fraser River.

Charts were immediately offered for sale of varying quality, accuracy, and technical detail. A. C Anderson’s Handbook and Map to the Gold

Fields (1858) would sell an unprecedented 3,000 copies in just three days!

Warm woolens refashioned for the Fraser River’s northern climate became the selling card of many a clothier: “We have a large stock of heavy and coarse Coats, Pea-jackets, Pants, Shirts, Socks, &c, just suitable for . . . miners visiting those mines.” The Quincy Hall Clothing House proclaimed in large, bold type that it was closing out its immense stock: “GOT THE GOLD FEVER AND BOUND FOR FRAZER RIVER!” Grocery stores warned of the scarcity of provisions up north and suggested that miners bound for the Fraser River stock-up with supplies before departing.

Merchants, such as Thomas Hibben, were even more determined to capture the full extent of the new trade. Hibben quickly dissolved his partnership in the “Noisy Carriers’ book & stationary Company” to relocate to Victoria.

Wells, Fargo and Company also established an express headquarters in Victoria, while “Nichols & Co.’s Express for Frazer River” would be just one of several smaller mail carriers to notify Californians of their intended move north.

Even the San Francisco Bulletin would print a timely run of “The Bulletin for The North,” which had as a special feature an extensive, very useful listing of Chinook Jargon with equivalent translations in both English and French.

Clearly, there was money to be made in “mining the miners.” Although the interior reaches of California were hit particularly hard by the sudden outflow, for a time San Francisco profited from the mania. As the main point of departure for the new goldfields, San Francisco and its business community had substantial motivation to fuel the Fraser River Fever, and thus benefit through increased merchandising and transportation of gold seekers.

California was “‘knocked endways’ by this outrageous gold excitement.” Manton Marble in the New York-based Knickerbocker Magazine outlined the frenzied pace of change to his Eastern audience when he wrote:

During this brief period, ten steamers, making the round trip between San Francisco and Victoria in ten days, had been plying back and forth at their best speed, taking five hundred passengers and full freights up, with only thirty passengers and no freights down. Clipper-ships, and ships that were not clipper built, in scores, were crowded alike — the Custom-House sometimes clearing seven in a day. Many of the steamers and vessels went up with men huddled like sheep — so full that all could not sit or lie down together. . . . Nothing else was discussed in the prints, nothing else talked of on the street; all the merchants labelled their goods ‘for Fraser River:’ there were Fraser River clothes and Fraser River Hats, Fraser River shovels and crowbars, Fraser River tents and provisions, Fraser River clocks, watches, and fish- lines, and Fraser River bedsteads, literature, and soda-water. Nothing was saleable except it was labelled ‘Fraser River.’

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For Frazer River.
MESS CALIFORNIA PORK, In small packages. For sale by **J. M. CUSHING,** 137 Clay street. je7-tf

For Frazer River.
SMOKED BEEF, In small packages. For sale by **J. M. CUSHING,** 137 Clay street. je7-tf

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Advertisements from the 1858 San Francisco Bulletin newspaper

Advertisements from the 1858 San Francisco Bulletin newspaper

Friends and family once considered lost were now presumed to have headed for the Fraser River. “On further inquiries about Richard Bullis, the man who mysteriously disappeared on last Friday,” the Bulletin snitched, “we learn that there are reports that he was suddenly taken with the Frazer river fever. . . . As nothing whatever has been learned of him direct, and as he was not exempt from the new contagion, it is probable that young Bullis is now rowing up towards Fort Hope.”

Indeed, the Fraser River had captured the imagination of California gold rush society. The San Francisco Newsletter peppered its pages with tantalizing stories of the new diggings: of William Price, “a boy who went fortune hunting,” and told of three men who had taken \$1,800 in the short space of a month; or at Kerrison’s Bar where Saint Marie and Charles Hanna got four ounces in just half a day’s work with a rocker; or at Hill’s Bar, where men anxiously awaited quicksilver in order to accumulate \$10 to \$12 dollars a day, though predictions by old timers suggested the possibility of \$50 to \$100 to the hand; and Captain Daniels’ eyewitness account of a lone Frenchman having made the extraordinary pile of \$10,000 in five quick weeks.”

The editor of the Bulletin declared: “What a tremendous effect will the news now going home have upon the people at the East and in Europe! Talk about \$10, \$20 and \$50 per day to men who work for these sums a whole month or a

year — why, if people get wild here [California], they will run mad there.”

People from every walk of life in San Francisco appeared to be leaving: “The Frazer Infection in the Police Department” sent officers Berham, Hanford, Quackenbush, Guyton, Riley, Dennison, Parks, Bovee, and Captain Donellan, flying north with the greatest of haste, while the “Dwindling of the Fire Department from Frazer Fever” was blamed on two hundred members of the force having bolted. James Moore, a member of No. 8 Fire Company (the “Pacific”) was one of the first Californians up the Fraser River, having taken part in the infamous Hill’s Bar strike. “Give my regards to all of ‘8’s’ fellows,” he wrote to a friend, having also sent a sample of Hill’s Bar gold from the \$10 to \$32 a day he had averaged while there.

Even the notorious Edward McGowan, narrowly escaping the long arm of Californian law, was said to have made “his stealthy exit” on the Sierra Nevada to the foreign gold mines.

While California “dominated the first decade of mining in the West,” states the American historian Duane Smith, “only a few small gold discoveries of local significance, primarily in Washington, Oregon, Arizona, and Nevada, [had] challenged this dominance. Then in the spring of 1858 came news of gold discoveries along the Fraser River in British Columbia.” Smith agrees that the Fraser River fever not only “swept San Francisco and the Mother Lode

country,” but “perhaps more than 30,000 rushed to the new El Dorado; [though] we will never know the exact numbers.”

Smith is correct. There is absolutely no way to accurately determine just how many Californians flooded the Fraser and Thompson River corridors in 1858, but suffice to say that it was well in excess of the 30,000 – 33,000 people given as the usual conservative estimate.

With no colonial government established in New Caledonia, records of the myriad number of miners who chose to travel through the inland corridors of the Pacific Coast have undoubtedly been underestimated. We have been left records from the infamous and literate few, but what of the untold thousands of unknown miners who left no trace? Even many of those who chose to travel using maritime routes of communication are uncounted.

While larger steamships might provide passenger lists (though usually such ships sailed in excess of their recorded capacity), Smith rightly notes that other gold seekers “commandeered anything that would float” — presumably small-scale water craft that were also unrecorded.

For some Californians, it was not even the allure of mineral wealth as much as the sense of joining a rare human adventure of gold seekers who had grown accustomed to excitement.

And so, British Columbia – unlike any other province in the Canadian Confederation – was born of this wide-scale and sweeping mania – the British Columbia gold fever!

A fifth-generation British Columbian, Daniel Marshall is an author, professor, curator, documentarian, and researcher focusing on British Columbia’s relatively untold but rich history. He is a recognized leader and award-winning researcher on historic Native-Newcomer relations, and their evolution and implications on Aboriginal rights today.

His award-winning documentary, Canyon War: The Untold Story, has aired on Knowledge Network, APTN, and PBS. His latest book, Claiming the Land: British Columbia and the Making of a New El Dorado, is available in bookstores across B.C.

Claiming the Land has achieved a rare and possibly unique feat in BC History by winning three major book awards:



Noon on the Frazer, Kinahan Cornwallis. The New EL Dorado, Or British Columbia (1858) - Chinook Jargon



San Francisco 1851

Trail, British Columbia - The History Of Teck



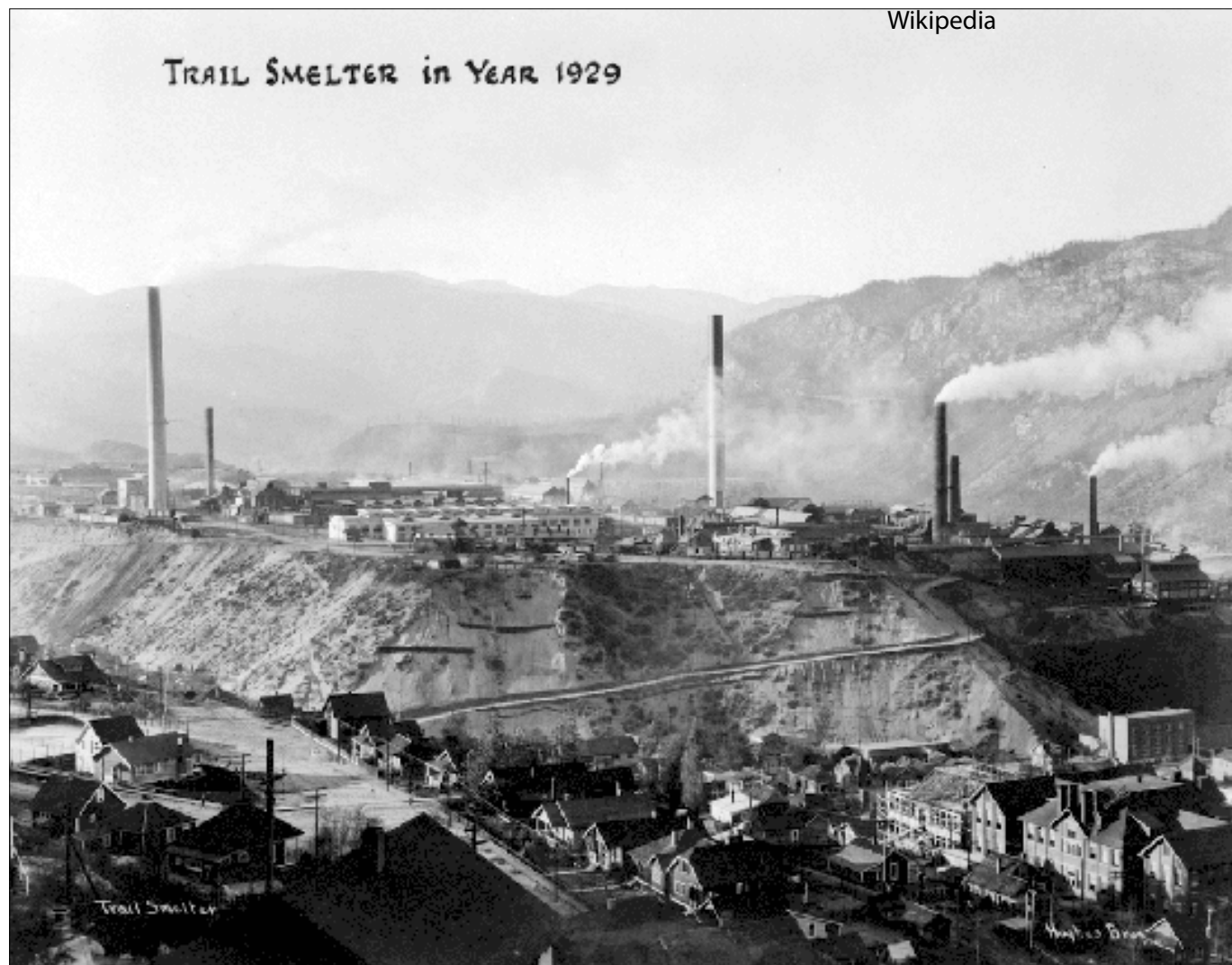
Wendy Tilden Quick

Beginnings

In 1891, the U.S. owned Le-Roi Mining Company in Rossland, B.C. required a smelter locally. This is how the smelter in Trail, British Columbia began as Teck becoming the leading diversified natural resource company, and one of the world's largest zinc and lead smelting plants

in the world. Back in those days the smelter was named Canadian Smelting Works. Frederick Augustus Heinze was enlisted by the company as he had credentials in building a smelter in Butte, Montana, He had several interests other than mining also with the railway industry (mainly lines & charters) and obtaining land grants.

A year later Heinze put the company for sale. The Canadian Pacific Railway bought Heinze's company including mining interests, along with the sale was a new hire Walter Hall Aldridge. He was a smelter manager from Butte, Montana. After Aldridge took over the smelter, it was then known as the Canadian Smelting Works which was owned by B.C. Southern Railway (a C.P.R. Railway subsidiary). Later the smelter again changed its name to Consolidated Mining Company of Canada. Less than 2 years the smelter had doubled its capacity and improved rail facilities. Another railway company had built track to provide a connection for mines in that region. By 1901, 3 lead blast furnaces were installed. Custom ore was supplied from surrounding mines. The bullion was shipped to the U.S. for refining and lead was shipped to Eastern Canada and the Far East. This was the company's first interest overseas.



Wikipedia

TRAIL SMELTER IN YEAR 1929

The smelter began their interest in leasing the Sullivan mine in 1908. This mine had rich resources of lead, silver, and zinc. Some of these resources later were found not to be profitable at the time especially because of the limited need for zinc and ore which was difficult and costly to smelt. By 1910, the Sullivan mine became the largest source of lead in Canada. In 1913 the Sullivan mine was obtained by the Consolidated Mining Company of Canada. This mine was the company's mainstay for many years.

Industrial Impact-

Waste zinc-ore fragments was discovered as being useful during World War I. There was a need for zinc in munitions. Consolidated was contracted to produce 35 tons of zinc daily. But after the war it was found to be cost prohibitive. A metallurgist Ralph Diamond was hired by the smelting company to head the milling operations and to conduct testing at the Sullivan mine. A new development was discovered and used by Diamond to process lower-grade ore, and simplified the sorting process. And then after Diamond developed a differential floatation process which proved to be a big impact on the entire mining industry.

Pollution A Huge Concern-

By 1923, a new concentrator was built in Kimberly, B.C. The following year it was noted that the lead output has risen by 64 percent. Later in the decade, pollution was a huge concern. Emissions that extended from lands along the Columbia River to Washington State, U.S. contaminated the valley. Damages were assessed at \$350,000 in 1927, and in 1941 an additional \$78,000 were awarded. To prevent further damage Consolidated explored alternative uses for the Sulphuric acid. This led to the development of fertilizers and diversifying into a new business form. During the stock market crash in 1929, the need for chemical fertilizers were limited. Consolidated

developed a process to manufacture elemental Sulphur. They regained their interests in fertilizers in 1935 to be used in the Prairies.

Period of Exploration and Expansion-

In the 3rd decade of the 20th century saw Consolidated enter into a period of exploration. Interests in Northern exploration led to establishing an aviation service to transport personnel and supplies to properties in Northern Canada. Consolidated and their air service was later made to form Canadian Pacific Airlines. They found limited success in Northern exploration except for the Northwest Territories. It ended up being the 1st gold mine that went into production there. It was a profitable resource for 50 years until it was sold. After explorations led to discovery of the Campbell Shear Zone and its production in 1956.

During World War II technology and changing needs made it profitable to mine other materials. Two mines in B.C. were erected to produce tungsten for shells, and the provision of coal for the smelter in Trail. There was also an increased need for mercury which was used in bomb detonators. This led to the operation of the Pinchi mine. Consolidated was also contracted by the British government to supply zinc and lead. They acquired authorization to build nitric acid and ammonium nitrate plants near Calgary, Alberta. These elements were used in making explosives. Consolidated switched the plants over to the production of fertilizer grade nitrogen. When they did that a new means of prilling was developed in processing ammonium. In 1942, Consolidated was selected in the production of large quantities of heavy water. They were chosen because it already had an electrolytic hydrogen plant available. The company shipped 100 pounds of heavy water a month to Ohio in the U.S. In 1945, the plant began supplying heavy water to a facility owned by the Canadian government.

Most Active Years in History-Postwar

Technological advances made it possible to operate previously unprofitable mines. For example, the Bluebell mine which was one of the largest lead-zinc mines in the province. This mine was in operation for 20 years. The Pine Point mine was another which was in the Northwest Territories. Consolidated branched out in the 1950's to domestic and international markets. Consolidated in Calcutta formed Binanzi Zinc Ltd. to build a smelter in Southern India and it reached full production in 1969. In 1964, Consolidated joined Mitsubishi Metal Mining Company in Japan to construct a smelter to supply concentrates. Also, during that time Consolidated acquired Western Canada Steel Ltd. which was part of the family



Trail Smelter Management At Rossland Gold Course meeting during the dispute. - wikipedia commons

until 1988 when it was sold.

In 1966, Consolidated established Cominco American Incorporated a subsidiary that had its roots in Montana. Another venture was Cominco Products which was discovered and had brought mining and other activities to the U.S. During that year Consolidated began exploration in mining opportunities in Australia. Cominco Australian Pty Ltd. was established along with Cominco Exploration Pty Ltd., which was a subsidiary. In addition, Consolidated would obtain Aberfoyle Ltd. (mining company) in 1971. Other international activities included areas in the Iberian Peninsula which led to the discovery of zinc-lead-copper deposits in Spain. In 1968, Consolidated officially changed its name to Cominco Ltd. along with Canadian Pacific Investments Ltd. formed Fording Coal Ltd. to develop coal in Southeastern British Columbia. Their interests in C.P. Investments were sold in 1985.

Period of Prosperity-

In 1990, it was discovered there were 2 depositions. A drill hole found mineralization at the Cerattepe copper gold deposit in Turkey and the Pebble copper-gold deposit in Alaska. In 1994, Quebranda Blanca copper mine began production, and the Kudz Ze Kayan zinc deposit was discovered in the Yukon. A year later Cominco found new ore reserves at Red Dog in Alaska. In addition, the company bought the Caja Marquille refinery in Peru.

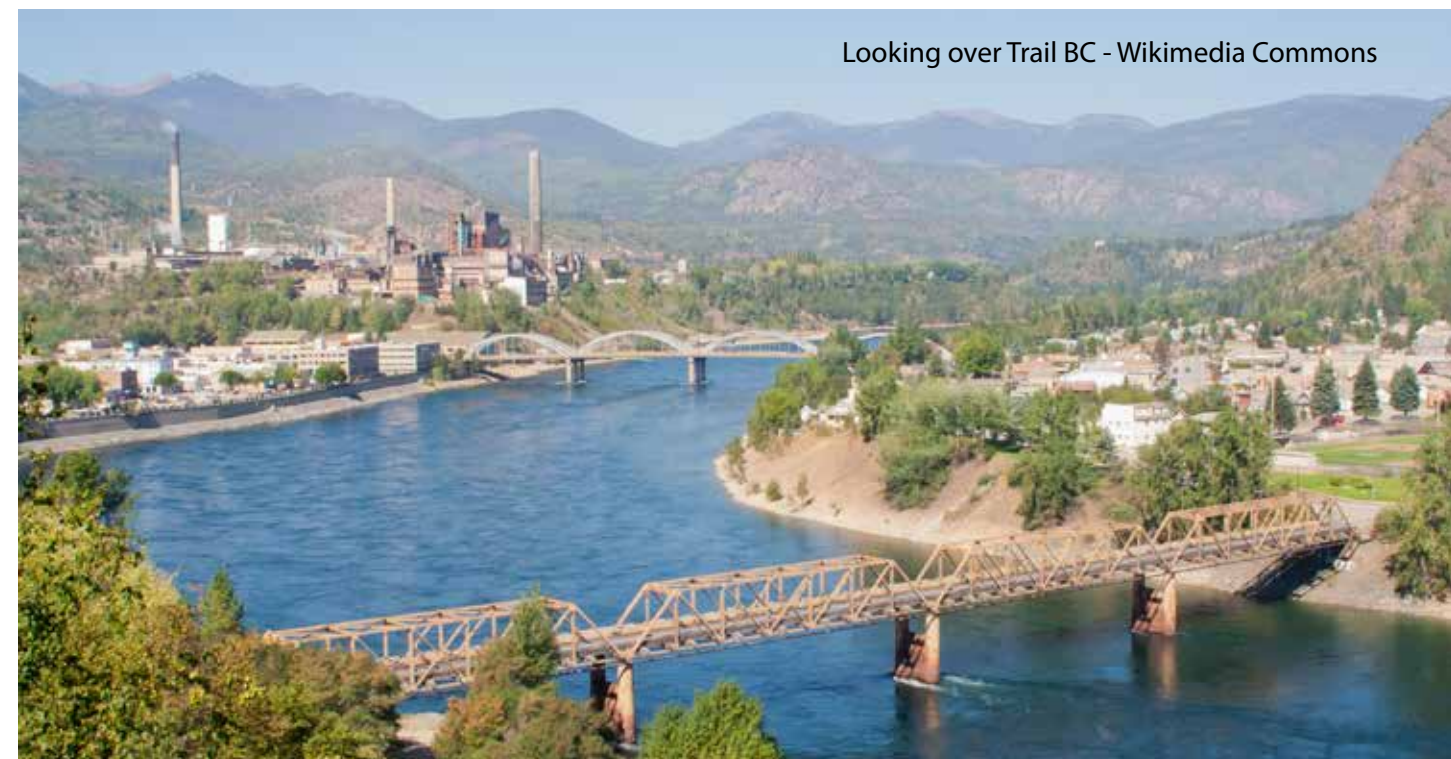
In 1999, Cominco enjoyed net earnings of \$159 million (Cdn.). Many of the mines owned by Cominco achieved record production and zinc rose to a record of 728,000

tonnes. In that year Cominco won 2 civic awards and 1 award for mine safety. Teck Cominco started to rebrand itself as Teck in October 2008 and the company name was officially changed to Teck Resources Ltd. in April 2009.

Recent Times-2020-

Teck had announced as implementing extensive preventative measures across its offices and other operation in order to safeguard the health and safety of its employees. They also temporarily suspended construction activities for the QB2 project, and implemented changes to travel policies regarding the Red Dog mine in Alaska. Production plans with the Fort Hills project was decided to operate there as a single train facility. Ongoing work to assess opportunities to reduce capital spending on the project and market conditions are being monitored to see what adjustments are needed to be made. Teck responded to an April 8th story in the Globe and Mail saying that they were facing calls to shut down coal mines in B.C. over Covid 19 fears. This article reflects untrue allegations and doesn't enter into the fact that extensive safety measures were implemented by Teck. The Antamina mine had temporarily suspended operations as its response to Covid 19. A \$20 million fund from Teck Resources to support Covid 19 and future recovery efforts was created in April. This included procuring 1 million masks to be donated for healthcare in B.C. In May the Antamina mine had resumed operations. Teck was named in 2020 as being one of the top 50 corporate citizens of Canada.

Interesting Fact: In 1897, Canada's first gold ingot, weighing 250 ounces, was poured at the Trail smelter.



Looking over Trail BC - Wikimedia Commons

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The Peace Arm looking west from the WAC Bennett Dam

Go Pound Sand

Mitch Mortensen

Williston Reservoir is the most ambitious Hydro Electric Power project that BC created. This goes back to the “Wacky” Bennet years of the 1960’s. It was a bold project. The reservoir is nearly 1800 square kilometers feeding a generating capacity of 2.79 million kilowatts.

The reservoir opened the region and made it accessible for logging. The reservoir was a cost-effective means of transporting logs to the newly built mills and town of Mackenzie. Mackenzie was only meant to be a “10-year town” but the reservoir, railroad and highway

improvements created a market potential that ensured the towns future for the past 50 years. All this history was long before my time and my generation.

The Mackenzie forest district is of the largest four in British Columbia covering 6.41 million hectares. Its annual cut is about 4.5 million cubic meters. For example, one logging truck holds about 40 cubic meters of wood and that is also about the equivalent to clearing half a hectare for that truck load. Those numbers used as a base equate about 55,000 hectares of land deforested yearly just in this forest district. If they were to haul all the wood out by truck it would be about 110,000 loads yearly. By utilizing the reservoir to boom logs to the mills in Mackenzie and



The Bennett Dam is where the peace arm and Peace River Canyon converge. Top Left is the spillway. A nearby sign reads “Seeking a route to the Pacific Ocean, this resolute fur trader and explorer, with his party of 9 men and a frail bark canoe, portaged nearby in May 1793 to avoid the awesome Peace River Canyon. On July 20 he reached tidewater. By this unrivalled achievement he became the first European to cross the Rockies and continental North America”

rail the finished product to any place in North America including ports on the Pacific Rim, gave and still gives Mackenzie a unique and unmatched edge on the world markets.

What is largely misunderstood is the effect this reservoir has had on the environment, local ecology and most regrettably, the forced relocation of a small group of people to satisfy a larger one.

Before the Bennet Dam and Williston Reservoir, there was a massive multi river system (ten rivers and creeks) that drained into what is known now as the Peace River. This river system was part of a vast trading network connecting the various tribes over thousands of years and into the days of the fur trade and gold rush.

The geology in the region was originally explored for gold and silver in the Manson creek Germanson area. Little interest was given for anything else. However, the Omineca does host some rare earth minerals too. Like any region rich in mineral wealth, there will also be toxic naturally occurring elements such as mercury, lead or arsenic discharging into the water. The natural flow of water dilutes impurities and toxins in a general nature. The expression “the solution to pollution is dilution” describes in a general sense what nature has taught us. The rivers in this region do have naturally occurring mercury. The flow of those rivers maintained a consistently low parts per billion (PPB) level until the reservoir was created. Then, naturally occurring mercury stored in the organic material (soil, plants etc.) was released into the environment and the levels climbed.

During construction of the dam, a massive tree crusher was

used to knock down the trees in what would be flooded into the reservoir today. Little to no consideration was given to for example the relocation of burial grounds and other sites of archaeological significance. No pre study appears to have been done that addresses significant erosion risks post construction. The purposeful and seasonal raising and lowering of the lake introduces an unstable element of liquefaction with the sand. Just the current itself will causes significant erosion and displacement of sands and sediment.

There is a story going back to the 1990’s about the transporter keeping a channel open on the lake in winter. The transporter was a massive barge that traveled the lake end to end. During that time, a herd of woodland caribou tried to cross the reservoir and drowned. For thousands of years their instinct would have taken them across what was once a river system. The only difference between Caribou and Reindeer is that reindeer are domesticated. It is a vulnerable species that is only protected in large numbers. The future of BC caribou may rest in the success of semi-domestication of the endangered herds.

Back when printed maps were the norm, I enjoyed looking at the adventure of exploring what may exist in such a remote area as Fort Ware. The remoteness of northern BC as it stretched to the Yukon had limited details and information. Only my imagination could fill in the details of adventure in a such a land. It seemed to be where someone could lose civilization and go back in time to where life was so much simpler.

I got closer to the Omineca in 2007 when I moved to Mackenzie and finally in 2018, I had an opportunity to



Bennett Dame



Worlds Largest Tree Crusher

see the north end of the reservoir. I was impressed with the scenery, but I was also overwhelmed to be of the generation born after the construction of the reservoir. I was not prepared for a lot of things at first including the experience of driving the forestry roads or more seriously the cultural tensions that exist.

In my experience most people in the lower mainland, other than turning a switch do not fully appreciate where the electricity comes from nor the real cost. They just know that if they can pay the bill, they will have electricity.

Others who know more about the history of the reservoir may view the forced relocation (flooding out) of the indigenous people here as a dark page in our history.

What is darker is that this forced relocation happened in the 1960's not the 1860's. Few like myself have had the

opportunity to see the truth of this place and the lasting effects of this history in a person's eyes.

From Mackenzie I got onto the Causeway FSR. This road crosses Williston Reservoir via a causeway and links up to the Finlay. In the early days there was a barge that you boarded near the mills to cross the reservoir and land at what is now 32.5km on the Finlay

All the forestry roads are radio controlled. It is important to pay attention to your radio and call your marker board as required. Always give the big trucks the right of way, watch for those without a radio and remember to change the channel at the right spot. Most of all, settle in because it is a long drive.

I was fortunate enough to have someone to follow on this first trip. I only knew the Finlay up to the turnoff to

Manson Creek. After that it was completely unknown to me.

We stopped at a camp at the Mesilinka air strip (200km Finlay/0km Chunamon) for a sandwich and coffee before continuing to Tsay Keh Dene. The Finlay FSR had a lot of potholes but fairly wide. The Chuanamon had places that were incredibly narrow and dangerous.

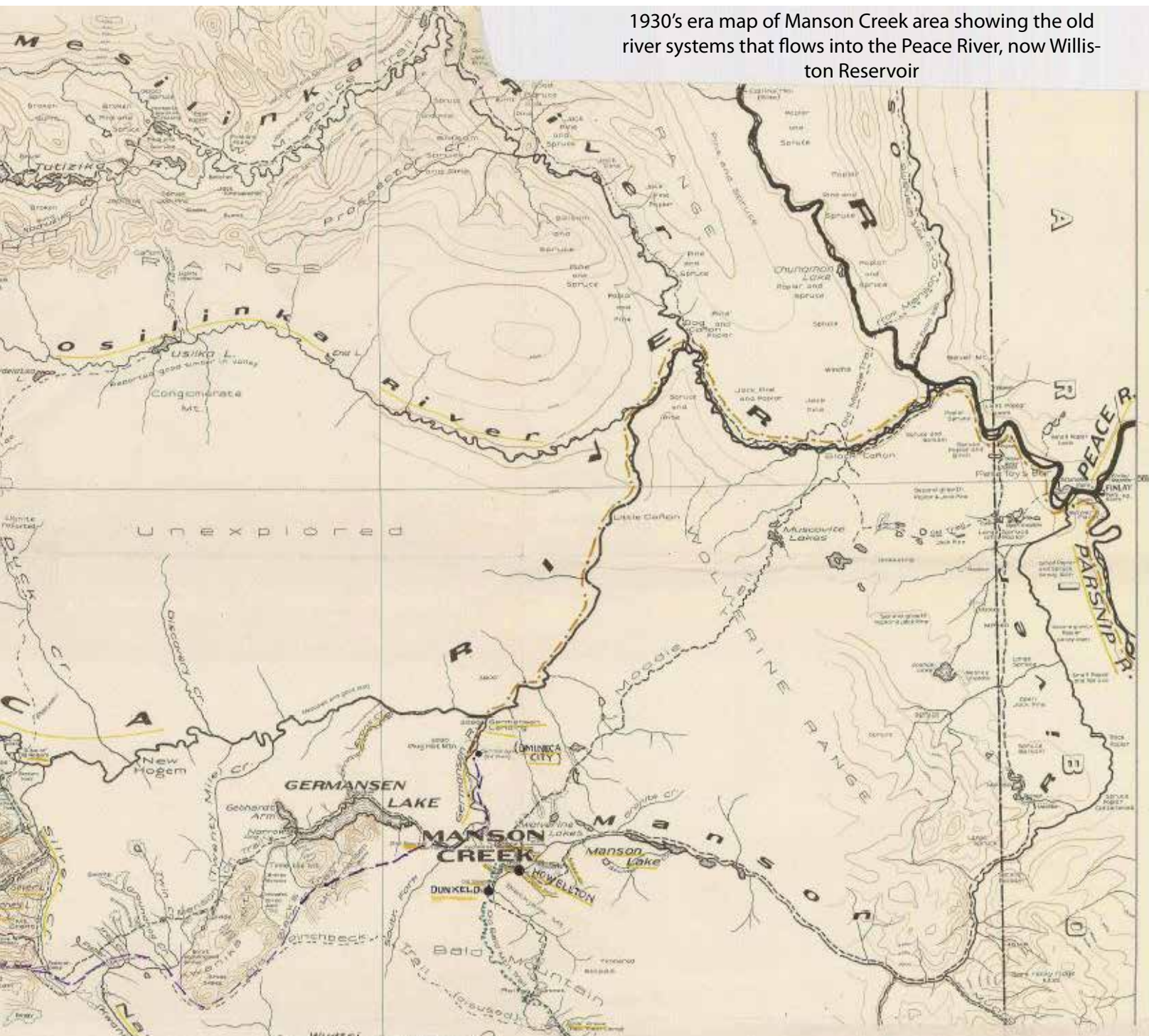
It is a little Ominous seeing wrecked vehicles obviously abandoned. A few were mounted in the trees. A sobering reminder to be cautious and measure the risks. There is no Triple A or BCAA out here. A breakdown could be fatal in the winter. In summer, a person could stay with the vehicle or chance a long walk for help through Grizzily country.

It was getting late in the day when we reached the Tsay Keh Dene Village. The "City Center" sign gave me a

chuckle as I knew there were only a few hundred people living here. It was impressive though what this community has for the population. It has the usual small-town general store, gas station, post office but this village also has a medical clinic, an RCMP detachment and an GPS approach airstrip.

We then turned south along the east side of the lake towards the Ospika river. The road was getting narrow from brushed in. Our destination was Collins camp. I was exhausted from taking in the details of my surroundings. From just enjoying the beauty of the scenery to the curious eye of geology and river systems, I had attempted to take it all in.

Over the course of the few days I had to get familiar with the area, I found myself looking at a massive resource of



1930's era map of Manson Creek area showing the old river systems that flows into the Peace River, now Williston Reservoir



sand. So much of a resource though that people seem to be completely desensitized to the potential value of it. What is more, many of the problems with this reservoir rest on resolving the problems caused from the abundance of sand.

One of the problems is a medical condition known as Silicosis. It is defined as a lung fibrosis caused by the inhalation of dust containing silica. There is no effective treatment for this condition. The symptoms are similar to COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) but the crystalline silica is also considered to be a carcinogen. At the head of the lake there are dust storms that pick up the sand along the beaches and makes the risk of this medical condition a reality to the residents.

My suggestion has been to mine the sand. Removing the sand will not entirely prevent more erosion but if it is mined properly, using a bucket dredge, the sand will be removed, and the tailings will contour the bottom with gravels and large rocks. Any contaminated material such as mercury in soil and other organic material can also be removed at the same time.

On a small scale this can be done in the areas at the head of the lake. This can mitigate the resident's risk of exposure to silica. On a larger scale, bucket dredging the reservoir and selling the sand as construction grade on the pacific market could pay for the cost of environmental clean up of the reservoir.

Sand is known as the second most consumed natural resource. We use about 50 billion tonnes every year planet wide and that number has an acceleration curve. In simpler language. The more people, the more sand being used. Our entire civilization is built from sand being mixed into concrete or melted into glass. In the oil patch specific types of sand are used in fracking operations. On the pacific rim, countries like Singapore have expanded their land from importing sand. China has used more sand in the past 5 years than all North America in the entire 20th century.



One of many sand bars exposing massive construction grade aggregate.

Poyang, China is the largest sand mine on the planet producing 236 million tons of sand yearly. In India, the amount of construction grade sand use has tripled since 2000. What has been happening with sand mining in just the past five years globally is unprecedented in history.

The sheer number of rivers flowing for tens of thousands of years and several glacial periods into the Rocky Mountain Trench created a massive resource of sand. The reservoir again holds potential as a primary transport for sand mining operations. In addition, the sand resources appear to be much larger than the reservoir itself. In some places it may span several kilometers wide.

In speaking with Metro Testing, they are unaware of any analysis of the sands in the Rocky Mountain Trench. The closest report on sand sources in this area is a "Preliminary assessment of potential hydraulic fracture sand sources and their depositional origin, Northeast BC"

The demand for hydraulic fracture proppant ("frac sand") in northeast British Columbia has increased because of the enormous volume of frac sand required to develop unconventional shale gas resources. The increased North American demand on existing frac sand sources and the tremendous cost of transporting the product to northeast British Columbia means that local sand sources once deemed marginal or unsatisfactory may be economic despite the expense of processing.

There appears to be a variety to the types of sand for different applications. Several samples I have taken in the Mackenzie area show construction grade sand at minimum. Within the sands is also potential for minerals too. Everything from gold and silver to magnetite and titanium, to name a few. There is also the potential for rare earth minerals.

We have all the infrastructure to support such an enterprise but the cost of transporting via rail is still too much. I wonder if freight to Prince Rupert would be feasible if



A greeting at the entrance to the village.

BC still had its own rail line? I did some market research attempting to piece together a hypothetical sand mine that could be meant as a base idea. I was unimpressed with the quote I received from the railroad for freight costs to Prince Rupert from Mackenzie. They probably thought my request for a quote was as ridiculous as the quote provided to me. I am thankful to them though for at least entertaining the idea.

When I approached BC hydro about bucket dredging the reservoir, Bob Gammer's response was "never heard that one before". At a meeting of District Council in Mackenzie, their response to my request for a letter of support to change legislation to allow bucket dredging in the reservoir was to refine my request to be more specific to what legislation needs to be changed. The BC Minister of Mines has been consistently inaccessible for anything since late 2017 and with the recent election I suspect it will be more of the same. When I heard Pattison Group was offering a billion dollars for Canfor, I contacted Pattison Group and countered with a an offer to invest 100 million and bring them and BC into a multi billion dollar per year aggregate market. Pattison Group response was they are

not familiar with mining. However, some people within the Ministry of Mines and the Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resources were a big help to me in understanding the dynamics of aggregate mining at the size and scope I was proposing.

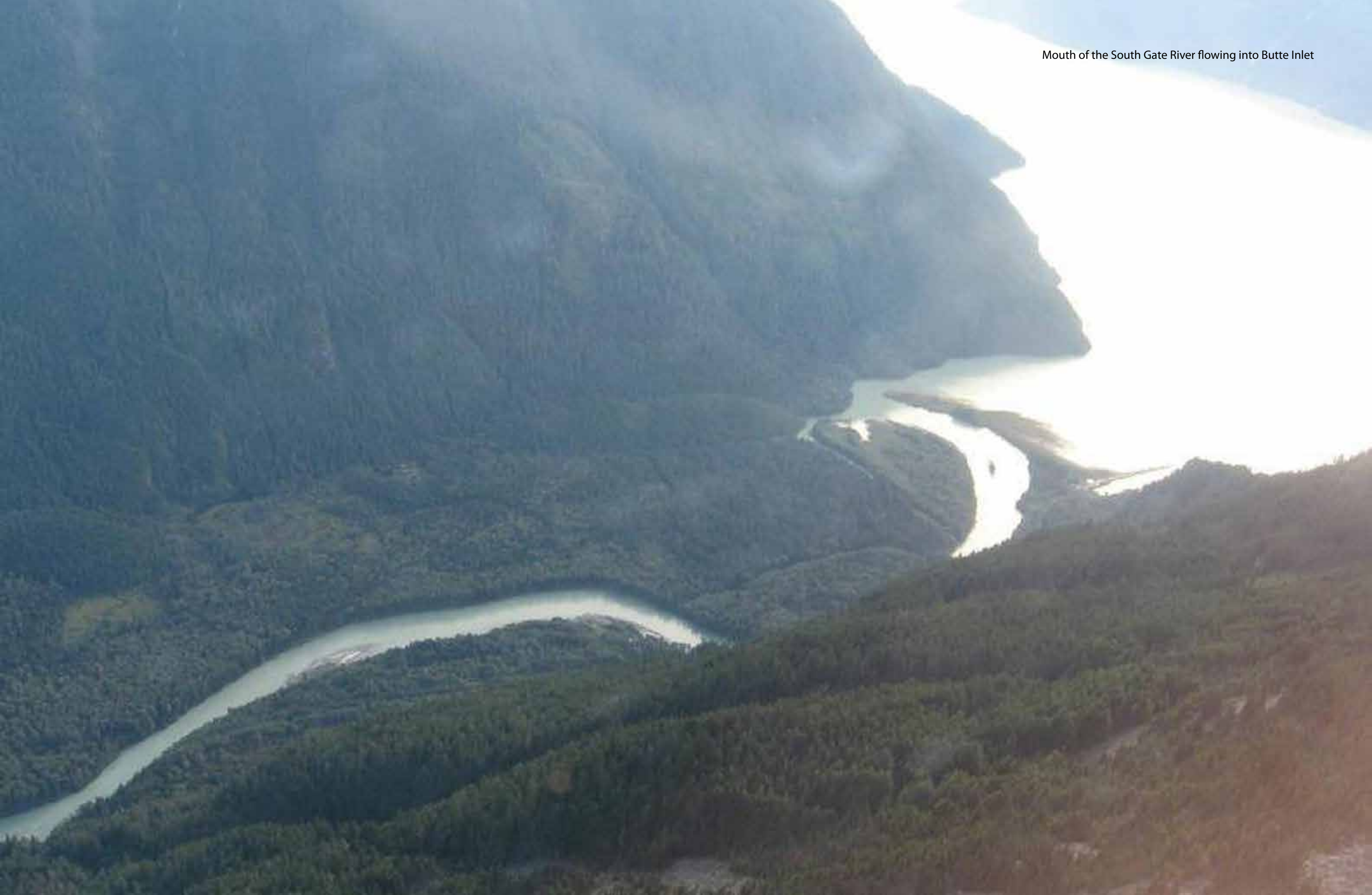
I am disappointed though with the BC government (both parties) and the apathy towards truly resolving the environmental problems associated with the Reservoir. Contrary to the 2015 report hydro claims mercury levels are now within acceptable limits as per their 2018 report. I suspect that there is too much current in the reservoir to settle out the mercury levels and any results should be challenged and verified. The problems will not go away by themselves and are only indications that the reservoir remains unfinished and was left to the next generation to resolve.

As the sunset faded away into the first stars of the evening, the waters of the reservoir were calm. The light breeze went still for a moment and I could feel a silence around me. It had been a long wait to get here. It was decades...but for a moment I was able to lose the bonds of civilization and enjoy the freedom.



Sunrise at Tsay Keh Dene

Mouth of the South Gate River flowing into Butte Inlet



The Vanishing of Jack Mould and Decoding the Lost Spanish

Mitch Mortensen

“Nika memloose, mine memloose” (“When I die. Mine dies”) were reportedly Slumachs last words on the Scaffold in New Westminster before being hanged in 1891. 116 years later in the summer of 2007, a man would go missing at his gold claims on the Southgate river. Did his search for Slumachs gold end in finding his curse instead? What happened to Jack Mould and the lost Spanish mine rumored to be on Southgate Peak?

The internet concludes that Jack Mould drowned in the Southgate river, yet his body was never found. He had taken his vehicle the gravel pit where he could access the river to gather drinking water. It was only a hundred feet or so to the waters edge on level ground.

The car doors and truck were wide open and the three or four water jugs were sitting neatly on the ground beside his

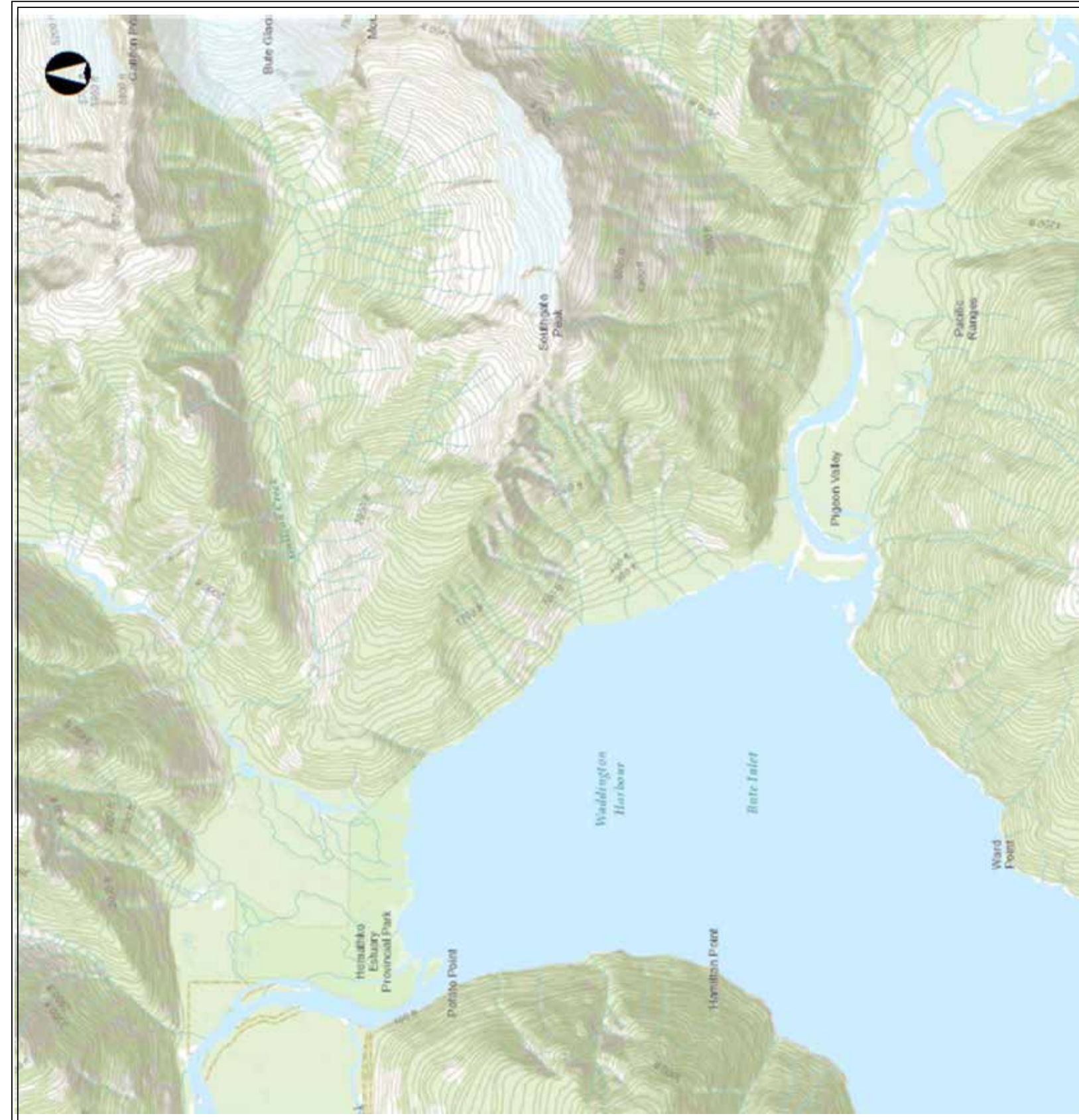
car. His shotgun was found leaning against the trunk and a game trail was nearby. There were no signs of an animal attack or struggle of any kind. Jack Mould had simply vanished.

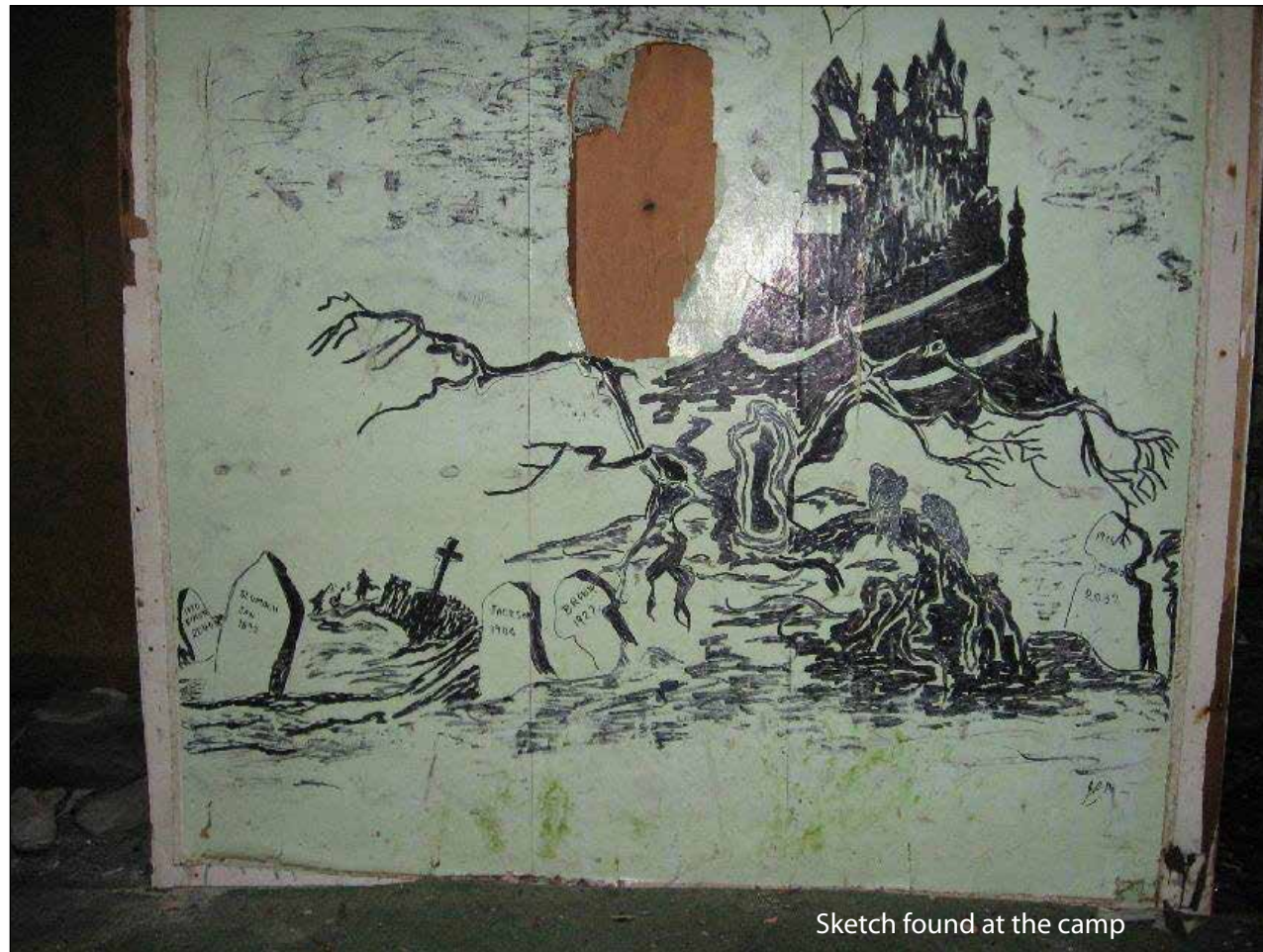
People who had investigated Jack’s disappearance learned that his health was failing. He was suffering from congestive heart failure (CHF). It is believed that he wandered off to die, accidentally fell into the river or the young guy staying with him knocked him over the head for his gold. At the time of his disappearance the salmon were beginning a spawning run up the river. There were a lot of bears in the area, but none had to be dispatched with a rifle. Floating the river revealed nothing. A thorough check of any log jams was made to no avail. There is zero visibility in the river. The murky greenie grey glacial silt obscured any view of the river bottom.

“It is very unusual for someone’s last conversation to start with “If I disapear...” and then they do
- Jack Mould’s Investor



Gold at Bute Inlet, British Columbia





Sketch found at the camp

The only witness leading up to Jack's disappearance was a young fellow described as a scrotty low life skid. When interviewed, he paints a story that Jack was getting weaker everyday. The CHF was so bad that Jack could not walk far without being out of breath and he was sleeping in his chair. All the classics of CHF and that it was getting worse and worse. The young fellow's answer sounded like someone who is limited in understanding medical conditions lending credence to investigators that he was providing an honest account. However, two weeks prior to Jack's disappearance, the RCMP arrested the young fellow for shooting at boats that were coming by.

Did he bump the old guy off and then wait a few days, bury em and report him missing thinking he would get the mine? Nobody knows for certain. What is known is the kid stuck around for a bit afterwards. The police investigated him then and later and were unable to come up with anything to substantiate a charge.

On Jack's last trip into civilization, he said to a few people including his investor "If I disappear. Look across the river. The hells angels have a grow op there". A subsequent search found no grow operation in the area. It should be noted that it is very unusual for someone's last conversations to start with "If I disappear..." and then they

do.

Interviews at that time revealed that Jack was recovering enough gold to maintain his operations. The lack of machinery onsite indicates that he was hand mining. His claims were mineral (hardrock) but it is possible he was working placer deposits out of the gravel pit where his car was found. There was evidence of recent disturbance in the gravel pit but there did not appear to be any type of mining methods relating to hard rock mining. Jack was also flying his gold out via a helicopter. There are no exact numbers or description if the gold was placer or processed ore, but helicopters are expensive.

At the time of Jack's disappearance gold was starting a bull run from the five-hundred-dollar level it had been holding for years. There was also the assumption that he was hiding much of his gold on site. If the kid harmed Jack it is believed he would not have been smart enough to be able to hide the gold. His profile was the sort who would have been on a spending spree if he had obtained Jack's gold.

Within weeks J&S Kulta Mining of Nanimo (Jack Molds Investor) pushed forward with permits to explore for gold. Suddenly Its all business as usual or so it seems. All these years later and Jack's investor is still there running crews. They are reportedly in gold but not like when Jack was

there.

An investigative article written by Judith M Williams helps clarify some interesting points about the history of Jack and his father.

Jack's father Charlie Mould was convinced that the lost mine of Slumach was in this area. Charlie Mould was photographed in 1926 by trapper August Schnarr. He had repeatedly told tales of tracking a native man over a big nugget. Was this native man Slumach?

The one possible route was the eulachon trail that led from the interior to the coast. This was a trading route to the interior. One trail led to the interior Chilco Lake via Deschamps Creek, the only route from the Southgate Valley skirting a glacier. A Chilcotin name, Anaqox tsen Gwaiadten describes a spot near where the headwaters of Deschamps Creek flow into Franklin Arm at the southern end of Chilco Lake. It is said to translate as "trail towards Butte inlet". If Slumach had made the trip from the New Westminster, this would have been the route. He was 80 years old when he was hanged.

John Jackson's letter from May 28 1924 to a friend that his cache of gold was buried under a tent-shaped rock facing a creek that came straight out of a mountain, bubbled in places over bedrock bright yellow with gold and disappeared. This site, he wrote, could be found by lining up three specific peaks. He died three years later. Volcanic Brown disappeared looking for Jackson's Tent Shaped Rock, but 11 ounces of gold was discovered in a jar at his last camp.

When his son Jack was a teenager, Charlie took him up to Bute to see a wood framed "Spanish Cave", hewn out to enlarge its natural size. A wooden door carved with what



Hand Drawn Map and Notes

he said were "Spanish helmets" and a hide-lined bucket of the kind used for smelting.

According to Jack, all this was destroyed and buried in with the creation of the Southgate logging road.

Jack had accepted his father's claims that gold had been found prior to 1792 mapping of the inlet by Vancouver's survey. That the Spanish had mined and smelted gold. Spanish commanders, somehow informed of eminent arrival of British ships, scuttled a gold loaded galleon in the mud of Waddington Harbour. No date has been found for the naming of Galleon Creek nor has any official discovery of the ship been made.

Is it possible that this sunken galleon be related to the Nootka Sound Controversy that erupted in 1789 when Spain seized four British trading vessels? The risk was war over Spain's papal grant of 1493. Spain's military was not strong enough to stand against the British and they yielded to their demands in the Nootka Sound Convention.

An investigative article by the globe and mail reports that Spain has no record of any lost expeditions in Canada. A Dr. Stan Copp suggests it is entirely possible that a Spanish patrol had traveled up the Columbia river and into the Okanagan. The ancient rock paintings in the Okanagan including one depicting what appear to be slaves bound together is strong evidence the Spanish were this far north.



Jack Mould's Tent Shaped Rock

Some of the weapons (swords) found date to as early as the 16th century.

As early as 1542, Spanish ships had sailed as far north as San Diego Bay and by the 1700's they had reached Alaska. There are several places along the coast of British Columbia that has early Spanish presence.

Scott Williams says that galleons were often blown off course as they crossed the Pacific from Asia, headed for the coast of California. Native accounts of two different wrecks substantiate that there are several Spanish ships that vanished while on exploratory trips up the west coast. Some of which we may know nothing about.

Jack Mould claimed to have a document that he found in Seville that revealed a lost Spanish Galleon at the head of Butte Inlet. He also claimed that a few days after using grapple hooks to drag the bottom of the inlet, a door washed up on shore that he believed was from the old galleon. It is possible that a ship from that era could survive being buried in silt in Butte Inlet.

Darryl Friesen has posted that Jack found the Spanish Mine in 1989 as well as a Spanish helmet. Stories shared by Jack is that there is rock shelters and a cave that were hewn out of the rock somewhere on Southgate Peak. Judith Williams discounts Jack's account of finding archaeological evidence of Spanish presence and instead points out evidence of local indigenous burials in these areas. Is it possible that the native burials are from a later period and that the cave assumed to be natural is in fact a Spanish mining operation in origin?

Early mining methods in Spain were impressive hydraulic operations consisting of canals and aqueducts to supply water to the mining operations. Overburden was removed and the gold bearing material was washed through sluice boxes. Hard rock mining was just as elaborate with the Las Medulas mine in Spain. The Romans used a mining technique called Ruina Montium (wrecking of mountains) whereby narrow cavities would be bored into the rock and filled with water causing enough pressure to fragment

thick rock walls.

There seems to be some confusion as to the validity of Jack's stories. Most describe Jack as someone who tells a good story but that is all it is...a good story. I find it amusing that people do not understand that Jack is someone who was attempting to hide in plain sight. He had desensitized people with his tales that he could be telling the truth, and no one would believe him. The art of the modern-day prospector is securing funds to mine your fortune without fully revealing its true location. To do so would introduce unstable elements that can result in a missing person's case and your investor mining your fortune.

Obviously, the gold was real enough for the Moulds to spend the better part of a century including two generations hand mining in this area.

In 1998, Slumach Jackson Mines Ltd. Staked a block of claims north of the Southgate river. Mustang Resources Inc stated that this ground covered a high grade source of gold mined in the 1700's and 1800's. (Mustang Resources Inc. News releases, February 1 and 13, 1990), entered into an agreement to acquire these claims.

A search of Mustang Resources turned up an expired FMC as of December 31, 1984. It is possible that the deal fell through or the claims were put into someone's personal name who was affiliated with Mustang Resources.

The earliest recorded mineral exploration in the upper Bute inlet area was in 1967 by Rio Tinto Canadian exploration Limited who explored a porphyry-style copper target northeast of the confluence of the bishop and Southgate Rivers (BC Minister of mines report 1967 p58). Swiss Aluminum Mining CO. of Canada Ltd. Explored the same area in 1971.

There are several min files including common mineral associations such as copper, gold, silver, and zinc. However, there is also Magnetite, iron and Titanium in this area as well.

One common type of gold deposit is one where the gold

is associated with the mineral magnetite where the gold is formed in skarns of granular magnetite. The local minfiles support the potential for rich Skarn type gold deposits that are the source of Spanish gold.

What happened to Jack? Was his death simply an accidental drowning from falling into the river while getting water or was he murdered for the location of his gold? His body didn't surface in the inlet and the only disturbance observed was in the gravel pit where his car was found.

Below are three technical reports relating to the known geology in the area. One is an assessment report by a James Allain in 2008. James Allain report lists "To Look for sign of Spanish Occupancy"

Assessment Report 30841

This document appears to be a full attempt to verify the location of the Spanish Cave. Day one details a hike up the west side of Southgate peak to approx. 1200 feet elevation to establish a base camp. There was an old heli-pad just north of them. As they approached, they discovered a boulder that was seen to contain several different veins of quartz. Seams of a black schist type rock up to two inches in width and slightly magnetic run parallel to the quartz veins. Malachite. They moved towards three distinct fractures that can be seen on the westerly slope of Southgate Peak.

Day Two

The purpose of this prospect was to try and locate and reach a hole or cave opening that can be seen from the water on the South facing slope of Southgate Mtn. and behind Southgate camp. Several different attempts were made to try and climb to higher elevations to try and reach the areas seen from the water with no success at this time. We then continued in an easterly direction to see if we could locate and gain access to a Spanish cave that seems to be in this area by looking

at a photograph which was supplied by J&S Kulta Mining Inc. The photo does not have any coordinates

On Day five while cutting some brush to blaze a trail, they found at the top of a slide what looked to be an old used trail., after studying the trail for some time they agreed that someone had at one time did a lot of work on the trail such as digging out steps and in some places even building steps out of flat rocks.

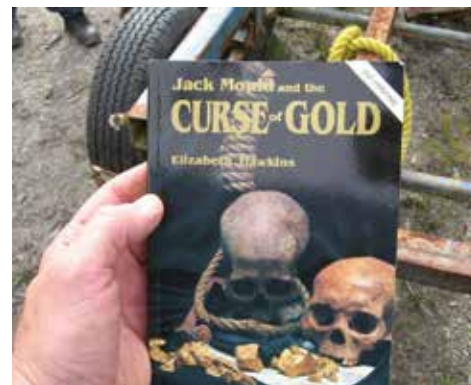
Lat 53, 905'N Long 124 46, 927'

The trail which comes out of the Gully cuts an old trail that heads towards the old heli pad area.

Technical Report 21236

Trench 90-2 Prior to trenching, in 1990, the zone was evident on surface in a slumped subcrop. Pyrite, chalcopryite, pyrrhotite, sphalerite and galena occur in a gangue of quartz, clay, carbonate, chlorite and rare barite. The sulphides are massive in appearance. Wallrock alteration consists of variable silicification and pyritization, extending up to 5 metres and are deeply weathered forming gossans. The sulphides have been traced for 100 metres along a strike of 120 degrees.

Sulfides exposed in Trench 90-2 represent the western limit of the trenching on the Big Andy horizon. The sulfide zone is 0.45 m wide with a 0.40 m quartz-pyrite altered zone in the structural hanging wall. Sulfides within the zone appear banded, with concentrations of chalcopryite, pyrrhotite, and possibly sphalerite. A 0.50 m galena-bearing quartz vein parallels the zone within the hanging wall alteration.



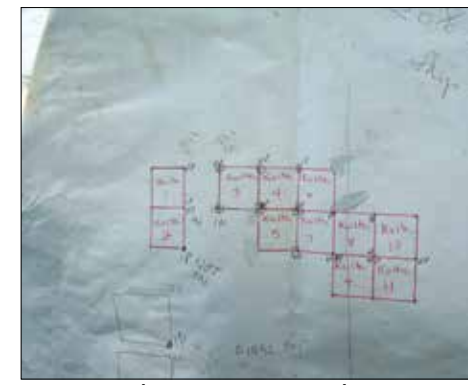
Curse of the Gold by Elizabeth Hawkins



Filled out Claim Tag. Claim Name "Kulta8". Locator Sulo Poystila. 28 Mar 04



Hand Drawn Map and Notes



Hand Drawn Map and Notes



Search and Rescue Helicopter

The sulfide zone, quartz vein, and host sedimentary rocks have been gently folded and plunge 75° toward 40 degrees. Sediments in the footwall are variably sheared with the dominant shear direction parallel to bedding. Weighted averages of continuous chip samples across the sulfide lens returned analytical results up to 0.7% Cu, 0.24% Zn, 0.01% Pb, 10 ppm Ag, and 170 ppb Au across a true width of 0.85 m. Rocks hosting the sulfides in Trench 90-2 are identical to those mapped in 90-1.

Gold contents in rock samples range from less than one to 1950 ppb (0.052 oz/t) with nine samples exceeding 500 ppb Au. Eleven samples returned greater than 34.3 ppm (1.0 oz/t) Ag, with a range of less than 0.1 to 75.1 ppm Ag.

Gold concentrations in soil range from 0.2 to 249.5 ppb and Ag ranges from less than 0.1 to 6.7 ppm Ag. Base metal contents range from 2 ppm to 1987 ppm Cu, 6 ppm to 810 ppm Zn, and 2 to 294 ppm Pb. Cadmium in soil samples ranges from 0.2 to 5.5 ppm and As ranges from 2 to 268 ppm.

A total of eight panned concentrate stream sediment samples were collected from the Teaquahan River area (North Claim Block). Samples were panned from sediments deposited in eddies along the banks of the river with an average of eight to ten pans of sediment comprising, each sample. Samples were panned until composed of approximately greater than 80% heavy minerals. The samples consisted of 75 percent magnetite with lesser amounts of pyrite, pyrrhotite, garnet, rutile, and sphene. Geochemical analyses of the samples averaged 26 percent iron. Sample 9057201 returned 971.7 ppb gold with no other anomalous metals. Closely spaced conventional stream sediment samples and follow up panned concentrates failed to reproduce the anomalous gold value.

An analyses of stream sediment samples indicate the strongest correlation exists between Cu and Ag

A number a narrow, extremely high amplitude magnetic anomalies are observed across the survey grid. The anomalies are either single line features or extend for 200 to 300 m in length. The sources are interpreted as narrow, magnetite-rich lenses, dikes, or sills. Filtering of the high amplitude anomalies reveals subtle trends in the magnetic data. One such trend is a large, well-defined band of low magnetic field strength through the center of the grid that separates two distinct magnetic domains and therefore probably reflects different geological units. The upper contact of this feature is coincident with known sulfide mineralization (Big Andy Zone). The trend of the anomaly is in part at an oblique angle to the known geological strike and is likely influenced by local topography. Magnetic highs map diorite intrusions in the northern portion of the

grid.

At the Boat showing, copper and iron oxide staining closely follow a subvertical stratigraphic horizon in a zone of marble, schist and gneiss exposed near a vertical gully. Sample 057302 yielded 0.87 per cent copper and 12.3 grams per tonne silver from quartz and calcite with 2 to 5 per cent pyrite and chalcopryrite with extensive malachite staining (Assessment Report 21236). This zone may represent either partly remobilized, skarnified, stratabound base metal accumulations or skarn-type mineralization in Gambier Group rocks.

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The placer iron occurs as magnetite within unconsolidated quartz sands. These were deposited along the deltaic and estuary areas by the Southgate River as it built up the present flood plain. The magnetite has not been traced back to its source. from the mineralogy of the sands and from the regional geology the source is inferred to be in the biotite granite; quartz diorite, and granodiorite intrusive rocks which comprise large portions of the Coast Range Mountains

Partial magnetic extraction by a simple hand method gave an average of 5.4% magnetite per sample. The average assay of the concentrate was 56.2% iron and 0.7% Titanium testing to 5.5 feet in one area.

Unconsolidated sands of an unknown thickness occur throughout the flood plain near the mouth of the river. Sections along the banks of the river indicate that the blanket of sand is in places more than 50 feet thick. These sections also contain structural evidence, such as compositional handling and crossbedding, which suggest a fluvial mode of deposition. Layers of clay occur in minor amounts, and these are restricted to parts of the tidal area.



Voyage of the "Sutil" and "Mexicana"

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