

August 16, 1960

Mr. William K. Shepherd
Attorney at Law
1125 Failing Building
Portland 4, Oregon

Dear Mr. Shepherd:

The Independent Quicksilver Company has no record of production, although there have been numerous attempts made to operate it for many years. At the present time a small gravity concentration plant is being built on the property.

Should you have any further questions regarding this mine, we would like to suggest that you write our Mr. Howard Brooks, who is making a State-wide survey of all mercury deposits and producers. Mr. Brooks may be reached through our Baker Office, 2033 First Street.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph S. Mason
Mining Engineer

RSM:lk

~~referred -~~

WILLIAM K. SHEPHERD
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1125 FAILING BUILDING
PORTLAND 4, OREGON
CAPITOL 6-2688

August 11, 1960

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, Oregon

Gentlemen:

Kindly advise whether you have a report of the quantity and nature of any mineral or other production of Independent Quick-Silver Company within the last two or three years, and if so, may I have a copy thereof.

Yours very truly,

William K. Shepherd
William K. Shepherd

WKS:sh

(Forward letter after 8-12)

HARVARD SAYS "NO PRODUCTION"

BLOG Sam Hill (GRAVITY) Now

RECEIVED
AUG 17 1960

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY
Salem, Oregon

August 12, 1946

Mr. J. A. Thalliofer
U. S. Forest Service
Prineville, Oregon

Dear Mr. Thalliofer:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 9 requesting information on the Independent Mine in T. 14 S., R. 20 E., sec. 20.

I am enclosing a geologic map of the Round Mountain quadrangle showing the location of the Independent Mine marked with a red crayon. On the back of this map is given a very brief description of the Independent Mine.

I regret to state that this Department has no survey notes and no comprehensive report on the property now because there are no underground openings available for inspection. In 1938 some diamond drilling was done on the property under the supervision of Mr. George Hogg. I have been told that assay results were not obtained from these diamond drill samples but that reliance was placed on panning the samples in order to evaluate the ground penetrated by the drill.

I am enclosing copy of the most recent law passed by Congress relative to exemption of mining claims from annual assessment work. As the war has not been officially declared terminated either by proclamation of the President or by concurrent act of Congress, the exemption from assessment work under the terms given in the law is still in force.

If this Department can supply any further information, please feel free to call upon us.

Very truly yours,

Director

FWL:jr
Encl.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
OCHOCO NATIONAL FOREST,



ADDRESS REPLY TO
FOREST SUPERVISOR
AND REFER TO

PRINEVILLE, OREGON

U
COOPERATION
State of Oregon

August 9, 1946

State Department of Geology
and Soils Mineral Industry
702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

Gentlemen:

Please advise exact location and furnish us with the survey
notes of the Independent Mines in T 14 S, R 20 E, Sec. 20.

We would also appreciate receiving a late copy of the mining
laws in so far as assessment work is concerned. Please advise
if the moratorium regarding assessment work has ended and if
so, when.

Very truly yours,

HENRY C. HULETT, Forest Supervisor

By

J. A. Thalhoffer.
Acting

*Geo J Dreis
2104 NE 37th St
Portland*

RECEIVED
AUG 10 1946
STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY
& MINERAL INDS.



STATE OF OREGON
CORPORATION DEPARTMENT
SALEM

MAURICE HUDSON
Corporation Commissioner

October 23, 1945

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
702 Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

Attention: F.W. Libbey, Director

Re: The Independent Quick Silver Company

Dear Mr. Libbey:

I wish to thank you for your letter of October 18th with regard to the above company. Your cooperation is extremely helpful.

Very truly yours,

Maurice Hudson,
CORPORATION COMMISSIONER.

CHH:C

RECEIVED
OCT 24 1945
STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY
& MINERAL INDS.

October 18, 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Maurice Hudson, Corporation Commissioner
State Corporation Department
Salem, Oregon

Dear Mr. Hudson:

Please refer to your letter dated October 6 concerning the Independent Quicksilver Company.

I have given the matter considerable thought and have looked up such records as we have in our office. The potential quicksilver mining area in the Ochoco Mountains is quite extensive and considerable exploration work has been done but I do not know of any profitable quicksilver mining operations in that area except two or three small-scale projects which were worked by the owners themselves on small high-grade stringers. Whenever a company has attempted to work in the Ochocos, even on a moderate scale, a failure has resulted because I believe that when such projects attempt to mine ore in quantity, they find that the ore is much lower grade than they anticipated. One project I know of resulted in failure more because of improper planning than in quality of ore found, but even with an experienced company properly financed, I should not be too optimistic on chances of successful operating on orebodies which I know about. Of course, it is always possible that exploration properly carried out will find something new which would be much larger and higher grade than any ore so far found. There is always that element of chance in most mining projects.

It does not seem to me that the mining reports I have seen on the Independent Quicksilver Company give a reliable picture of the property as I view it. In other words, the reports which I have read appear to me to be unduly optimistic considering the evidence on which the opinions were based.

As you may know, the domestic quicksilver industry in general is in rather a bad way because of the large amount of Spanish quicksilver which has been dumped in this country since the end of the European war. The market price of the metal has been consistently declining in recent months and at last accounts was below \$100 a flask. It is my information that quicksilver producers are not able to find a ready market for their metal at the so-called market price, and stocks in the hands of producers have been piling up. If

(over)



STATE OF OREGON
CORPORATION DEPARTMENT
SALEM

RECEIVED
OCT 9 1945
STATE DEPT OF GEOLOGY
& MINERAL INDS.

MAURICE HUDSON
Corporation Commissioner

October 6, 1945

Mr. F. W. Libbey, State Director
State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Woodlark Building
Portland 5, Oregon

Re: The Independent Quicksilver Company

Dear Mr. Libbey:

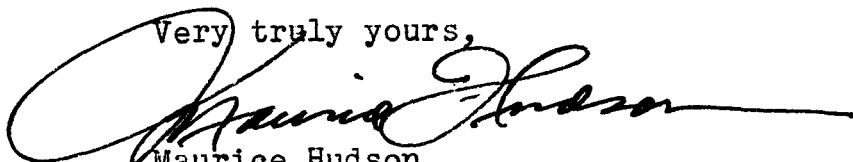
The above company seeks registration of the sale of \$200,000 worth of its \$1 par value Common Stock at par. It appears that it owns some 22 mining claims in the Ochoco National Forest Reserve in Sections 17 and 20, Township 14 South Range 20 East, in Crook County, Oregon. It appears that this country has been thoroughly geologized and in all likelihood your department is familiar with the claims owned by this company.

There has been submitted with this application a number of reports made over the past 15 years by George C. Hogg, F. G. Johnson, A. J. Hoffman, L.D. Johnson, H. F. Byram and Fred J. Rosenberg.

If it is possible for you to do so, we would appreciate a great deal any comments you may wish to make concerning these properties and the reliability of the geological reports of the above named persons.

It appears that the management of these properties is controlled by A. H. Mealey, Gresham, George J. Dreis, Portland, A. W. Dant of Reedville and J. Enginger, Jr., and J. West, Portland. If you have any knowledge of the ability and integrity of these persons with respect to this matter, we likewise would appreciate your comments concerning such. You may be assured that if desired, any information you see fit to submit will be treated as confidential.

Very truly yours,


Maurice Hudson,
CORPORATION COMMISSIONER.

CHH:C

Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building
Portland, Oregon

16 October 1945

Memorandum: Independent Quicksilver Mine, Crook County.

The main workings of the Independent Quicksilver Mine are located in the northeast corner of section 21, T. 14 S., R. 20 E., at an elevation of about 5300 feet. The mine is on a forest road, 9 miles south of the Ochoco Highway no. 28, at a point 28 miles east of the town of Prineville.

The Mother Lode mine, largest producer in this district, is located on the same northeast trending zone of mineralization as the Independent, about three-quarters of a mile to the west. Several other mines and prospects lie from one to 3 miles to the northeast.

The mine lies in badly faulted andesites of the Clarno (Eocene) epoch. The contact with the overlying Ochoco lavas lies immediately above and east of the property. These lavas are not mineralized, having flowed out over the Clarno surface after the period of cinnebar deposition.

Development consists of several old, now-caved tunnels, raises and stopes, most of which were reportedly driven by the Cram Inc. Co. In a report by George Hogg in 1941, it is reported that "In all an excess of 3,000 feet of development work has been performed on the property, and ~~an~~ approximately 5,000 tons of ore mined, from which possibly 500 flasks of quicksilver has been removed".

Cinnebar occurs in the mineralized zone in thin seams, forming a stockwork, occasionally closely spaced, but usually several feet apart. In a few places concentrated bunches occur.

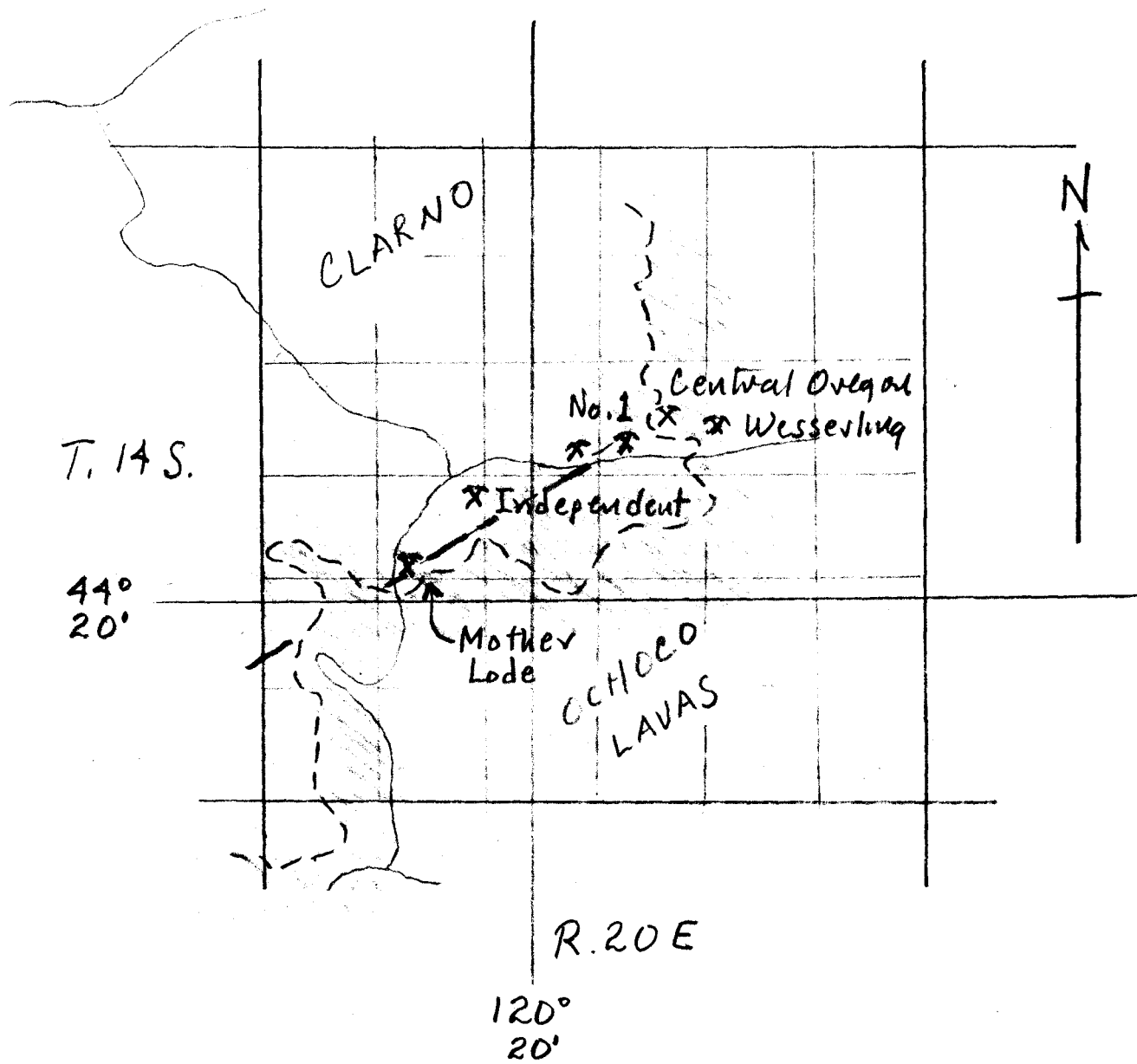
Extensive surface prospecting by means of bulldozer trenches and 8 diamond drill holes from 120 to 180 feet deep was done previous to 1940, but failed to show any but low grade ore.

In conclusion, it may be said that although no large bodies of ore have been located on this property, it does lie in a mineralized zone along which other properties have been developed, and it is not impossible that further prospecting, perhaps with the assistance of magnetometer survey, such as those of the Taylor Ranch and No. 1 mines, might show up such mineralized areas.

John Eliot Allen, geologist.

Bibliography:

- Unpublished report by George A. Hogg, 1941
- Geologic Map of the Round Mountain Quadrangle, No. 3, Dept. Geol & Min. Ind., W.D. Wilkinson, 1940.
- Quicksilver in Oregon, Bull. 4, Dept. Geol & Min. Ind., C.N. Scheutte, 1938.



January 2, 1960

Mr. Frank B. Polson, Forest Supervisor
Ochoco National Forest
Prineville, Oregon

Dear Mr. Polson:

I have just been discussing with Mr. Hogg, engineer of the Independence quicksilver property east of Prineville, the question of trying to make an arrangement with the Forestry Department for use of some of their equipment on a few occasions this winter when the road over the hump, southeast of the Ochoco ranger station, may be blocked by snow. I have just talked with Mr. Franklin in this regard and gather that the principal embarrassment of the Forestry Department in considering such an arrangement is the fact that they have no money for operation and maintenance and would be unable to carry any out-of-pocket expense. The equipment, I gather, would probably be available if outside parties could supply the necessary money to cover gasoline, operation, and maintenance. I raised the impression from Mr. Franklin that he would be inclined to approve any reasonable arrangement which could be worked out between you and the local parties.

I am reasonably familiar with the road from the ranger station to the Mother Lode, Independence, and Blue Ridge and do not believe that any great amount of bulldozer work would be involved in keeping these few miles of road open so that the 40 or 50 men employed by the operations in question can carry on through the season. We are particularly interested, of course, in encouraging the production of quicksilver, a strategic war mineral, and we are equally interested in seeing the miners employed and the mines developed.

I am suggesting to Mr. Hogg that he take up with you the question of out-of-pocket expense which would be entailed under the arrangement that you would furnish a bulldozer and other parties—the mine operators and perhaps the county—cover the current costs.

Would you be kind enough to give this matter careful consideration? If an arrangement could be worked out to keep these mines going, I am sure that your part in the program would be very much appreciated indeed by the miners, by the county, and by this Department.

With best wishes for the New Year, I am

Cordially yours,

RE: 11-12

Director

*Independent
Quicksilver Co.*

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Mr. George Dreis, Secretary,
Independent Quicksilver Co.,
712 Swetland Bldg.,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

I herewith submit a brief report of your Company's holdings, having gained the following information while in your employment, directing the exploratory and drilling operations at your property since June, 1939, to the present time.

The report consists of twenty-five pages and six plates. It has been prepared in triplicate, one original and one copy have been delivered to you, and one copy has been kept for my personal files.

Very respectfully submitted,

(Signed): GEORGE HOGG.