

Queen of the West Mine

Gold

NAME	OLD NAMES	PRINCIPAL ORE	MINOR MINERALS
near Cornucopia			

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Ore. Metal Mines Handbook 14A pg.30
 Parks & Swartley 16:186
 Swartley 14:54
 Lindgren 01:745

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

T	R	S
..... Baker	COUNTY	
..... Cornucopia	AREA	
..... high	ELEVATION	
.....	ROAD OR HIGHWAY	
..... about 30 mi. Roblnette	DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT	

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) .Cornucopia Gold Mines

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.....

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Address

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.....

.....

OPERATOR

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

Name of claims	Area	Pat.	Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

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WALLOWA
RANGE
CORNUCOPIA
DISTRICT

VEINS WEST OF THE UNION-COMPANION AND LAST CHANCE

On the north side of the curving apex of "Granite" mountain, with its glaciated amphitheater of Bonanza basin, is found a series of parallel veins of which the most easterly is the important Last Chance vein just discussed. Some of the veins west of the Last Chance are in Bonanza basin, also in the granite cliffs at the Queen of the West and up beyond to the very "top of the world" where the Red Cross vein is seen.

On the southern slopes of this mountain there is another series of veins. Some of these undoubtedly are continuations of those to the north, others have not been traced through. Even though the outcrop of the veins were in every case plain to be seen the tracing of each one would be slow and difficult, because of the ruggedness of the mountains.

Queen of the West Mine.—Located to the westward on the opposite side of Bonanza basin from the Last Chance in the almost inaccessible cliffs of the mountain is the Queen of the West vein. Picturesque indeed is the position of its mine buildings; its boarding house is on a narrow cliff where material thrown from its windows falls downward for hundreds of feet. A steady nerve and a sure foot are needed on the trail from the mill to the mine and to explore the cliffs above. With snow on the ground it is impossible, and unless they brave the snowslides of the Bonanza basin trail, miners must remain at the mine for some four or five months in winter.

feet, but generally speaking it decreases in width with the decrease in dip.

The gangue minerals are quartz and calcite containing pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, and sphalerite in bunches. It is said that the zinc, lead, and copper minerals carry most of the gold values. In many places the vein shows included fragments of altered granodiorite, and the granodiorite on each side of the vein for about two feet is badly altered and impregnated with pyrite which is said to contain some values in gold and silver. This vein can be traced for a long distance, reported to be as much as 3,000 feet.

The development has been considerable, but much money has been unwisely spent both underground and in the erection of a mill unsuited to the ore.

Future development plans are to crosscut from the lower tunnel a few hundred feet farther from the Queen of the West vein, to cut the Red Cross vein whose principal outcrop is some 1,500 feet above the lower tunnel. The Red Cross vein is similar to the other veins, but little is known with reference to ore shoots therein.

The mine workings are connected with the mill by an aerial tramway erected under the most difficult conditions. There is also a telephone line, and an air line to the mine from the compressor located at the mill.

Nearly all of the country rock is granodiorite, similar to that at the Union-Companion mine. There are a few fragments of schist in the vicinity of the vein which are remnants of the old roof.

The vein has the usual strike of N. 20° E. and a dip near the surface of about 45°, but at depth this decreases to about 30°. The average width of the vein near the surface is between three and four